



**EWELL CASTLE
SCHOOL**

GUIDE TO SIXTH FORM AND OPTIONS

FOR SEPTEMBER 2024

Inspire • Engage • Excel



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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Ewell Castle School's Sixth Form is going from strength to strength. The results in summer 2023 saw many of our students surpassing expectation and gaining acceptance into their first-choice university. This year over two thirds of students were offered places at Russell Group and other top-ranking universities. We aim to help students find the right path for them, and recently we have had students achieve places on the highly sought after degree apprenticeships at British Airways and PWC. The Sixth Form is a thriving hub of academic excellence with a wealth of enrichment and co-curricular opportunities available to students.

Teaching groups are small, allowing us to work closely with individuals to personalise learning and progress as well as generating momentum in discussions and seminars. Our commitment to co-education is an excellent preparation for adult life, developing social and emotional intelligence; our vertical tutor groups enable a much closer bond between Year 12 and Year 13 students.

We have a dedicated team of highly qualified teachers, tutors, educational support staff and Sixth Form leaders, who are passionate about ensuring our young people achieve their own individual success stories. Whilst our students are given more space to develop personal responsibility and inter-dependence, their academic progress is closely monitored and intervention is provided, if required. This is a crucially important and formative time in their lives, and we provide a creative and academically challenging atmosphere, empowering our Sixth Formers with high expectations of themselves, confident to make the leap from School into life beyond.

Central to our Sixth Form provision is the deepening of students' intellectual curiosity and our dedication to our central values: personal integrity, mutual respect, social responsibility and lifelong resilience.

I look forward to welcoming you into our Sixth Form community.

Silas Edmonds

Principal of Ewell Castle School



INTRODUCTION

Life after GCSEs is very different to life in Years 10 and 11 and you will be considering the 16+ stage in your education in the months ahead. A Sixth Form student at Ewell Castle School must take more responsibility for the management of their time and for the organisation of their work and life in general, than they have in the past. The Sixth Form can be viewed as a transition between the rigid structure of courses in Year 11 and the flexibility of a college or university course. Sixth Form students must be self-motivated, but on the other hand they can expect the full support and guidance of staff at the School.

Our aim at Ewell Castle School is to provide both structure and support for the individual, whilst allowing a student to make choices for themselves. This approach allows our students to learn to manage their time effectively and acquire work skills and habits that will serve them well in the future.

This document provides a flavour of what is available at Ewell Castle School in the Sixth Form. However, it could never convey all the challenges and opportunities that a student here can experience. Sixth Form students at Ewell Castle School embark upon an engaging, challenging and stimulating academic programme, whilst enjoying significant status and leadership roles within the School.

In the Sixth Form you will typically choose three courses. This could be three A-level courses or it could be a mix of A-levels and Business BTEC. It is expected that, as you have chosen these courses from a wide selection, you will be fully committed to them. Fifteen hours of work outside of lesson time, split equally between your subjects, should be regarded as the absolute minimum to achieve any level of success in the examinations.

Success in academic subjects must take priority, but a healthy co-curricular involvement and the ability to take responsibility are features of school life that employers, colleges and university admissions tutors view with increasing interest. Students are encouraged to make the most of the opportunities on offer in these areas which include: Model United Nations, Duke of Edinburgh Award, sports, music, drama and a range of overseas trips. Furthermore, our bespoke Enrichment Programme equips students with the tools and knowledge to help them when they leave the School.

A feature of life at Ewell Castle School is the close academic and pastoral support of students by staff and from peers. Students are supported by the Director of Sixth Form, the Careers Advisor and the team of Sixth Form Tutors. The Prefect body is led by the Head Students, assisted by the Senior Prefects, Deputies and Student Leaders.

Sixth Form facilities include: a common room and dedicated cafeteria, Wi-Fi access, our new classrooms and study/breakout areas in Fitzalan House, and a Sixth Form study room with computer suite. Located in beautiful grounds, our thriving Sixth Form operates a vertical tutor group system which enables Year 12 students to benefit from the knowledge and UCAS application experience of Year 13 students.

The Sixth Form dress code consists of a black, navy or charcoal grey suit reflecting the business-like attitude and role-modelling leadership that is characteristic of the Sixth Form.

OUR MISSION

We will inspire our children and young people to thrive, engaging them to excel in a creative and academic environment. We will instill a growth mind-set to develop confidence, contentment and emotional intelligence.

AIMS AND ETHOS

We are a vibrant learning community, inspiring every child to thrive:

- Discovering strengths
- Deepening intellectual curiosity
- Cultivating wellbeing

WE LIVE BY OUR SHARED VALUES:

- Personal Integrity
- Mutual Respect
- Social Responsibility
- Lifelong Resilience

“This is an exciting stage of your life when you are able to develop many of the personal and leadership skills vital for your future. Take full advantage of the opportunities in Houses, clubs and societies to expand your horizons. I did, and I had the best time imaginable as well as attaining fantastic grades at A-level.”

Former Ewell Castle School Sixth Form Student

“I would always encourage prospective students to talk to members of staff and current students to fully appreciate the outstanding experience of being a Sixth Form student at Ewell Castle School. If I were still at the Sixth Form, I would be recommending the exceptional co-curricular programme and the enrichment sessions as well as the staff who are passionate about their teaching.”

Former Ewell Castle School Sixth Form Student

SIXTH FORM VISION

Our Sixth Formers leave Ewell Castle School as well-rounded young people and experience achieving their potential.

STUDENTS LEAVE:

- ✓ Committed to their ongoing academic and social development
- ✓ Communicating and behaving appropriately in a range of situations
- ✓ Carrying forward shared memories and experiences
- ✓ Belonging to the Old Ewellian alumni network with access to bespoke events
- ✓ As the best version of themselves

KEY AREAS OF SIXTH FORM LIFE:

- Academic achievement (Grades, Targets, Subjects)
- Academic transition from GCSEs to A-levels and/or BTECs
- School transition: managing time, approaching adulthood
- School involvement: being a role model and participating in the community
- Parents/guardians: support from home
- Future: university, degree apprenticeships and careers



THE SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM

It is expected that all students will take either three two-year linear A-level courses over their two years of Sixth Form study or a mix of A-levels and Business BTEC. Individual situations do, of course, vary greatly and the number and type of examinations taken by each student will depend upon decisions made in conjunction with tutors, parents/guardians and other appropriate members of staff.

In general terms, to qualify for the Sixth Form we would expect a student to have achieved at least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including English and Mathematics, with at least grade 6 in the subject to be taken at A-level/BTEC (or a related subject if the subject undertaken has not been previously studied). For Mathematics, the Sciences and Modern Foreign Languages, we expect a student to have achieved at least grade 7 at GCSE. Pupils should achieve an A-level pass in each chosen subject in Year 12 summer assessments in order to progress to Year 13 study.

In addition, all students will pursue an Enrichment Programme and participate in core Games lessons.

BTEC LEVEL 3 DIPLOMAS

BTEC stands for the Business and Technology Education Council. They are specialist work-related qualifications. Ewell Castle offers the **BTEC Nationals Extended Certificate Level 3** in Business Studies which allows the student to combine practical learning with subject and theory content. You can study a BTEC alongside A-levels as they are regarded an equivalent qualification accepted by 90% of universities: the Russell Group universities usually ask for a Distinction. It has the advantage of being 50% examination and 50% coursework, and all examinations can be re-taken once. The entry requirement to study BTECs is usually the same as A-level, which is a 6 in both Mathematics and English, although there may be some flexibility. They allow the student to apply to university or for degree apprenticeships.

UCAS comparison points

BTEC	A-LEVEL
Distinction*	A*
Distinction	A
Merit	C
Pass	E

GAMES AND ACTIVITIES

During Sixth Form studies, all students are expected to take part in compulsory Wednesday afternoon Games sessions.

The School runs Under 18 (Senior) teams in a variety of sports for both girls and boys. Students who are identified by the PE and Games Department as having competency in the major game of the term will represent the School in weekly competitive fixtures or training sessions.

Those students who are not selected for competitive School fixtures will be able to participate in one of a variety of activities during their weekly Games session. Students will be expected to select which activity they would like to participate in on a half termly basis. This will be done on a first come, first served basis for those students not selected for the School teams.

Activities may include the following: dance, gym, golf, football, rugby, cricket, netball, hockey, rounders, tennis, badminton, athletics, circuit training and basketball.

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

The Enrichment Programme is designed to assist students in developing the skill sets that are needed for Sixth Form study and for life after School, be it at university or in the world of work. Activities include:

- Leadership & Teamwork Skills
- Careers Education
- Employability and Network Building
- Interview Skills
- Coping at University inc. basic cookery
- Model United Nations Conferences
- Citizenship and Equality
- Study Skills & Research Techniques
- Presentation Skills
- Public Speaking
- Debating
- Road Safety
- Relationship & Sexual Health Education
- Mental Health Awareness

The programme includes access to a wide range of outside speakers as well as visits to places of interest and events that support Higher Education and career choices.

Students will have the opportunity to engage with the taught element of the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), which will include, amongst other topics, study and research skills that will be of benefit both during the Sixth Form and in Higher Education. There will then be the chance for some students to undertake the EPQ if deemed appropriate. Further details will be made available to students during the first term in the Lower Sixth.

All Sixth Form students participate in team building activities at the start of each academic year and have the opportunity to undertake Duke of Edinburgh Silver and/or Gold Award.

SPORT & PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMIES

The Ewell Castle Sports Academy allows students to combine intensive specialist sports training with their academic education. Sports currently offered are Cricket and Tennis. Similarly, the Ewell Castle Performing Arts Academy offers the opportunity to combine academic subjects with timetabled training in Dance, Drama and Music. For further information please see the **School website** or contact **Admissions** for more information.

UCAS AND CAREERS

The overwhelming majority of students move on to university after completing their Sixth Form studies. The application process is managed by the Sixth Form Leadership Team and the Careers Advisor, with the assistance of tutors. All students have individual meetings with the Careers Advisor to develop a plan for their future. Students are encouraged to visit universities whenever possible and attend a UCAS Exhibition during the spring term of the Lower Sixth. Higher Education guidance is provided for both students and parents/guardians during this term and advice is made available online. We are proud that most students achieve their first choice of university.

For those students who wish to take a Gap Year there is a wealth of information available and speakers from Gap organisations regularly visit the School. Equally, students who decide to enter the world of work, rather than enter Higher Education, are supported comprehensively. We encourage and support students applying for the very competitive School Leaver Programmes with 'blue-chip' companies as well as a range of degree apprenticeships. Full advice on these routes is available from the Careers Office.

Although most students will have undertaken work experience at the end of Year 11, we encourage all students to engage in work experience, employment, or volunteering during the Sixth Form. This is of particular importance to those who wish to undertake vocational degrees where evidence of appropriate work experience is often necessary for university applications.

Students move on from Ewell Castle School to the best universities in the UK, but more importantly, they progress to the course, institution or career that is most appropriate for them as individuals.

SIXTH FORM SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

(Full details available on the School website)

Sixth Form Scholarships are available for the two years of the Sixth Form. Retention of an award, at any level and in any field, is dependent upon a student maintaining appropriate commitment to their particular field: Academic, Music, Drama, Sport, Art, Photography, Dance and Design and Technology. Awards are made up to 25% of the School fees – dependent upon financial resources and standards.

Qualification for consideration of an award is by examination and assessment. For Academic awards, all candidates will be examined in two of the subjects they typically wish to follow at A-level. For other awards, the process will involve presentation of a portfolio or by audition/performance assessment.

Applications for Scholarship awards should be made to the Registrar by no later than Friday 20th October 2023. Examinations and all Scholarship assessments take place on Thursday 23rd November. For more information, click [here](#).

Bursaries are available – subject to financial resources. The Governors of Ewell Castle School are committed to increasing access to the School, particularly for students whose parents may not be able to afford full School fees. Applications for bursaries must be made by 20th October 2023. Application forms are available from the Bursar's Office or email bursar@ewellcastle.co.uk, click [here](#) for more information. The maximum award is 50% of the school fees.

WELLBEING AND SUPPORT

Support comes in many forms and from many different directions. Wellbeing support at Ewell Castle School is rated "Outstanding" and in the Sixth Form this is led by the Sixth Form Leadership Team and tutors. Academic support is provided by subject teachers, Heads of Department, the Deputy Head (Academic) and tutors. The welfare, health and safety of students is at the centre of what we do and pastoral teams, School Counsellor, ELSA, Learning Support Department and many others work to ensure that students are fully supported as they mature and develop into high achieving young people.

SUBJECT TEACHERS

The main focus is to develop a productive working relationship with your teachers. They will be inquisitive and take a greater interest in your academic progress than you perhaps may have experienced, to date. They will be highly motivated and make sure that you understand the structure of the course you have embarked upon.

TUTOR

Your tutor has an overview of your life at School and is there to help you cope with the demands of Sixth Form life. Do not be afraid to seek their advice on any matter, and make them the first point of contact if problems arise.

HEADS OF HOUSE

You will be expected to lend your support to your House either by participation or by assistance at events. You will be required to lead some activities and to mentor new students who are members of your House.

DIRECTOR OF SIXTH FORM

Mr Woolford will monitor your progress and supervise the smooth running of your timetables and private study. The Sixth Form Team arrange the Enrichment Programme and private study, and are responsible for assisting in the development of your study skills. Along with the Careers Advisor, he will also oversee the UCAS procedure. Most importantly, he is your key contact during your Sixth Form career. At times, he will also need your assistance during School functions and events. Mr Woolford is supported by our Careers Advisor, and team of Sixth Form tutors.

EXAMINATIONS OFFICER

Deals with all aspects of examination entries and results.

UCAS SUPERVISOR

Your UCAS supervisor (most likely your tutor) will supervise the various stages of your application to higher education, coordinating with the Director of Sixth Form and Careers Advisor.

SCHOOL COUNSELLOR

The School employs the services of a professional counsellor, should any student wish, or need, to take advantage of that service. Counselling can be helpful in a range of circumstances, and the approach can be tailored as such to support each individual.

ELSA (EMOTIONAL LITERACY SUPPORT ASSISTANT)

Our ELSA, Mrs Greensmith, is available to work with students on a variety of areas, both individually and in small groups, in areas such as: conflict resolution; social and emotional reflection and self-awareness; facilitating ways forward with friendship issues; building up confidence and self-esteem.

CAREERS RESOURCES

Our Careers Advisor, Miss Monk, will help you to make use of the wealth of resources available and is an essential point of contact when considering your post-School experience. You will have an individual meeting with her in Year 12 before making university/apprenticeship applications.

CHOICE OF SUBJECTS

SUBJECT	PAGE
Art and Design (Fine Art)	13
Biology	14
Business BTEC	15
Business A-Level	16
Chemistry	17
Classical Civilisation	18
Computer Science	19
DT/Product Design	20
Drama and Theatre	21
Economics	22
English Literature	23
French	24
Geography	25
History	26
Mathematics	27
Further Mathematics	28
Music	29
Music Technology	30
Art and Design (Photography)	31
Physical Education	32
Physics	33
Politics	34
Psychology	35
Religious Studies (Philosophy, Theology and Ethics)	36
Sociology	37
Spanish	38

We will ask students to choose **THREE** subjects.

ART & DESIGN (FINE ART)

Exam Board:	AQA	
Course Code:	A-level:	7202
Component 1	7202/C	Personal Investigation (Portfolio of work)
Component 2	7202/X	Externally set assignment
General overview of course	<p>Component 1: Personal Investigation (Portfolio of work) Weighting: 60% Marks: 96 Length of exam: No time limit</p> <p>Coursework involves students selecting and presenting work which demonstrates their strengths across areas of knowledge and a range of skills. These must show an ability to sustain lines of enquiry independently. The examination involves the student bringing together and making connections between contextual art, experimenting with different materials/skills and applying these by responding to a theme.</p> <p>Year 1: Coursework for the portfolio of work develops skills and techniques within two projects based on different themes and artists. The students need to show a selection of thoughtfully presented work that demonstrates the depth and breadth of the course. These projects culminate in two 5-hour, unaided, supervised exam to produce final outcomes, one in December and one in May.</p> <p>Year 2 (until January 31st): Coursework for the portfolio of work sees students develop a personal investigation/practical project based on an idea, issue, concept or theme, supported by a written element of 1000-3000 words. This project will culminate in a 10-hour, unaided, supervised exam to produce a final outcome in December.</p> <p>Component 2: Externally Set Assignment Weighting: 40% Marks: 96 Length of exam: Prep time + 15 hours exam time</p> <p>Exam: Students select a question title from the exam board which acts as a starting point when they receive their exam papers on 1st February. There will be a 15-hour time limited, unaided, supervised exam in the summer term. Candidates produce a clearly defined selection of work which will lead to a finished piece and be handed in at the end of their exam.</p>	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including English and Mathematics. Grade 6 or above is preferred in Art at GCSE. Students must also have an ability to independently research a theme thoroughly. They should already have used a wide range of materials.	
This subject goes well with:	Music, Drama, Psychology, Design Technology and Photography.	
Possible Careers:	Architect, Freelance Artist/Sculptor, Illustrator, Animator, Photographer, Therapist, Art Historian, Gallery Curator and Design.	

BIOLOGY

Exam Board:	OCR	
Course Code:	A-level:	H420
Component 1	H420/1	Biological processes: Modules 1, 2, 3 and 5 from specification.
Component 2	H420/2	Biological diversity: Modules 1, 2, 4 and 6 from specification.
Component 3	H420/3	Unified Biology: Content from all modules.
General overview of course	<p>Component 1: Biological processes Weighting: 37% Marks: 100 Length of paper: 2 hours 15 minutes</p> <p>Section A: Multiple choice questions Section B: Structured questions covering theory and practical skills</p> <p>Component 2: Biological diversity Weighting: 37% Marks: 100 Length of paper: 2 hours 15 minutes</p> <p>Section A = Multiple choice questions Section B = Structured questions covering theory and practical skills</p> <p>Component 3: Unified Biology Weighting: 26% Marks: 70 Length of paper: 1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>Structured questions and extended response questions covering theory and practical skills.</p> <p>The A-level Biology course aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of the subject and how they relate to each other. • Develop and demonstrate a deep appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of scientific methods. • Develop competence and confidence in a variety of practical, mathematical and problem-solving skills. • Develop interest in and enthusiasm for the subject, including developing an interest in further study and careers associated with the subject. • Understand how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society. 	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including a 7 in Biology or a 7-7 in Combined Sciences. Pupils must also have at least a grade 6 in English and Mathematics.	
This subject goes well with:	Chemistry, Mathematics, Geography and PE.	
Possible Careers:	Botanist, Ecologist, Medicine, Pharmacology, Radiology, Sports Science, Biological Research, Midwifery and Dentistry.	

BUSINESS BTEC

LEVEL 3 NATIONAL EXTENDED CERTIFICATE

Exam Board:	Pearson Edexcel	
Course Code:	BTEC Level 3	BYPV7
Unit 1	31462H	Exploring a Business (Fully coursework)
Unit 2	31489H	Developing a Marketing Campaign (Externally assessed)
Unit 3	31463H	Personal and Business Finance (Externally Assessed)
Unit 8	31466H	Recruitment and Selection (Fully Coursework)
General overview of course	<p>4 units of which 2 are external.</p> <p>External assessment (58%) Internal Coursework (42%)</p> <p>BTEC Nationals are widely recognised by industry and higher education as the signature vocational qualification. BTEC Business embodies a mature, fundamentally student-centered approach with a unit-based structure applied in separate, project-based assessments. They focus on the development of the practical, interpersonal and thinking skills required to be able to succeed in employment and higher education. Two units are coursework based, and two units are assessed externally, with one re-take allowable.</p> <p>For more information visit: https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/BTEC-Nationals/Business/2016/specification-and-sample-assessments/9781446938218_BTECNationals_Bus_ExCert_Spec_Iss3C.pdf</p>	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	<p>At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, grade 6 in English Language or Literature, and Mathematics. Business BTEC requires precise mathematical skills for calculating and interpreting financial ratios. Literacy skills are also key to gaining high grades for this subject, as there is a wide variety of written coursework. The ability to write well, using learned business vocabulary is very important. Students aiming for a Distinction * grade, need to be able to write well-reasoned judgments supported with detailed analysis of case study businesses and highly evaluative reasoned judgements.</p>	
This subject goes well with:	<p>Mathematics, ICT, English and any of the Social Science courses (e.g. Geography, History, and Government & Politics). Students who studied GCSE Business are expected to have gained a '6' grade or higher (or equivalent).</p>	
Possible Careers:	<p>The BTEC Business will help meet objectives whether you decide to study further, go on to work or an apprenticeship, or set up your own business. Possible careers include Business Management, Financial Management, Marketing, Human Resource Management, Retailing, Accountancy and Law.</p>	

BUSINESS A-LEVEL

Exam Board:	AQA	
Course Code:	A-level:	7132
Component 1	7132/01	Business 1
Component 2	7132/02	Business 2
Component 3	7132/03	Business 3
General overview of course	<p>Component 1: Business 1 Weighting: 33% Marks: 100 Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <p>Component 2: Business 2 Weighting: 33% Marks: 100 Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <p>Component 3: Business 3 Weighting: 33% Marks: 100 Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <p>By taking a holistic approach to the subject, we demonstrate the interrelated nature of business using business models, theories and techniques to support analysis of contemporary business issues and situations to provide a dynamic specification.</p> <p>Our content is designed to engage students through topics and issues that are relevant in today's society – they will study key contemporary developments such as digital technology and business ethics, and globalisation is covered throughout the topics.</p> <p>Students will develop the knowledge and skills needed to analyse data, think critically about issues and make informed decisions – all skills that are needed for further study and employment.</p>	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	<p>At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, grade 6 in English Language or Literature, and Mathematics. A-level Business requires precise mathematical skills for calculating and interpreting financial ratios. Literacy skills are also key to gaining high grades for this subject, as there is a wide variety of written coursework. The ability to write well, using learned business vocabulary is very important. Students aiming for an A*-B grade, need to be able to write well-reasoned judgments supported with detailed analysis of case study businesses and highly evaluative reasoned judgements.</p>	
This subject goes well with:	<p>Mathematics, ICT, English and any of the social science courses (e.g. Geography, History, and Government & Politics). Students who studied GCSE Business are expected to have gained a '6' grade or higher (or equivalent).</p>	
Possible Careers:	<p>Possible careers include Business Management, Financial Management, Marketing, Human Resource Management, Retailing, Accountancy and Law.</p>	

CHEMISTRY

Exam Board:	OCR	
Course Code:	A-level:	H432
Component 1	H434/01	Periodic table, elements and physical chemistry
Component 2	H434/02	Synthesis and analytical techniques
Component 3	H434/03	Unified chemistry
Non-exam assessment	H434/04	Practical endorsement in chemistry
General overview of course	<p>Component 1: Periodic table, elements and physical chemistry Weighting: 37% Marks: 100 Length of paper: 2 hours and 15 minutes</p> <p>Component 2: Synthesis and analytical techniques Weighting: 37% Marks: 100 Length of paper: 2 hours and 15 minutes</p> <p>Component 3: Unified chemistry Weighting: 26% Marks: 70 Length of paper: 1 hour and 30 minutes</p> <p>Practical skills are assessed in the written examinations and in the practical endorsement (component 04). All components include synoptic assessment.</p> <p>MODULES OF STUDY</p> <p>AS Modules 1-4 A2 Modules 1-6</p> <p>Module 1: Development of practical skills – covers practical skills that students should develop throughout the year.</p> <p>Module 2: Foundations in Chemistry covering atoms, moles, acid-base and redox reactions, electrons bonding and structure.</p> <p>Module 3: Periodic table and Energy covering the periodic table, Group 2 and the halogens, Qualitative analysis, Enthalpy Reaction rates and equilibrium.</p> <p>Module 4: Core organic Chemistry covering basic concepts, hydrocarbons, alcohols, halo alkanes, organic synthesis and analytical techniques.</p> <p>Module 5: Physical Chemistry and Transition Elements covering reaction rates and equilibrium, pH and buffers, enthalpy, redox and transition elements.</p> <p>Module 6: Organic Chemistry and Analysis covering aromatic compounds, carbonyl compounds, carboxylic acids and esters, nitrogen compounds, polymers, organic synthesis, chromatography and spectroscopy.</p>	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including a 7 in Chemistry or a 7-7 in Combined Sciences. Pupils must also have at least a grade 6 in English and Mathematics.	
This subject goes well with:	Mathematics, Physics and Biology.	
Possible Careers:	Medicine, Veterinary Science, Law, Research Scientist in the Pharmaceutical or Food industry and Banking.	

CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

Exam Board:	OCR	
Course Code:	A-level:	H408
Component 1	H408/11	The World of the Hero
Component 2	H408/22	Greek Drama
Component 3	H408/33	Politics of the Late Republic
General overview of course	<p>Component 1: The World of the Hero Weighting: 40% Length of paper: 2hrs 15</p> <p>We study the Odyssey and the Aeneid, in depth. The start point of both books is the Trojan War. We will be analysing the literature and considering the definition of heroism for both a Greek and Roman audience. We will be studying the very different characters of Odysseus and Aeneas. Both books deal with the human side of war and the suffering of the victims and raise issues relevant to today.</p> <p>Component 2: Greek Drama Weighting: 30% Length of paper: 2hrs 15</p> <p>We look at Greek Drama generally and the conventions and symbolism behind it. We will study specific artefacts, including pottery and sculpture. We also focus on three very different Greek plays: Oedipus Rex by Sophocles, Bacchae by Euripides and Frogs by Aristophanes.</p> <p>Component 3: Politics of the Late Republic Weighting: 30% Length of paper: 2hrs 15</p> <p>This was a time of upheaval and violence characterised by power struggles between ruthless, ambitious men. In particular, we focus on the careers of Marcus Porcius Cato ('Cato the Younger'), Gaius Julius Caesar, and Marcus Tullius Cicero. We study the societies these men came from and how far their careers are an inspiration (or perhaps a warning) for us today. The literature component is the letters of Cicero.</p> <p>Each component is assessed by examinations. All exams consist of short and essay format questions. There is no coursework requirement. Further Information: http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-classical-civilisation-h008-h408-from-2017</p>	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including English and Mathematics. You do not need to have studied Classics or History for GCSE. Candidates without a Grade 6 (or equivalent) in English may find the subject difficult. However, individual cases are looked at on their own merits. The course does not involve the learning of ancient languages – all the work is in English.	
This subject goes well with:	Classical Civilisation goes well with most subjects, but the usual combinations include History, English, Philosophy (RS) and Politics.	
Possible Careers:	A-level Classical Civilisation is highly regarded by universities and employers. It develops the skills of analysis, written English and independent research which are invaluable in a wide variety of academic disciplines and careers.	

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Exam Board:	OCR	
Course Code:	A-level:	H446
Component 1	H446/01	Computer Systems
Component 2	H446/02	Algorithms and Programming
Non-exam assessment	H446/03	Programming Project
General overview of course	<p>Component 1: Computer Systems Weighting: 40% Length of paper: 2 hours 30 minutes</p> <p>This component will introduce students to the internal workings of the Central Processing Unit (CPU), the exchange of data between computer systems and will also look at software development, data types and legal and ethical issues.</p> <p>Component 2: Algorithms and Programming Weighting: 40% Length of paper: 2 hours 30 minutes</p> <p>This paper will cover topics such as computational thinking and understanding the benefits of applying computational thinking to solve a wide variety of problems. It will also cover the principles of solving problems by computational methods and the use of algorithms to describe problems. This course will use the Python programming language to implement algorithms.</p> <p>Component 3: Programming Project Weighting: 20% Non-exam Assessment</p> <p>The non-exam assessment assesses the student's ability to use the knowledge and skills gained through the course to solve or investigate a practical problem.</p>	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including English and Mathematics. Preferably you will have taken GCSE Computing and achieved Grade 6. If you did not take GCSE Computing, you must have achieved Grade 7 in Mathematics and you will be required to sit an internal Programming Assessment to be considered for this course.	
This subject goes well with:	Computing is a subject which can be combined with subjects of a creative and analytical nature – Mathematics, Product Design or Art, but also with Scientific or Economic subjects.	
Possible Careers:	Students may elect to follow various courses at university, but also open to them is a vocational route in Computing, IT support or networking.	

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY - PRODUCT DESIGN

Exam Board:	Pearson Edexcel	
Course Code:	A-level:	9DTO
Component 1	9DT0/01	Principles of Design and Technology
Non-exam assessment	9DT0/02	Independent Design and make Project
General overview of course	<p>Component 1: Principles of Design and Technology Weighting: 50% Marks: 120 Length of paper: 2 hours 30 minutes</p> <p>Content overview</p> <p>Topic 1: Materials Topic 2: Performance characteristics of materials Topic 3: Processes and techniques Topic 4: Digital technologies Topic 5: Factors influencing the development of products Topic 6: Effects of technological developments Topic 7: Potential hazards and risk assessment Topic 8: Features of manufacturing industries Topic 9: Designing for maintenance and the cleaner environment Topic 10: Current legislation Topic 11: Information handling, Modelling and forward planning Topic 12: Further processes and techniques</p> <p>Non-exam assessment: Independent Design and make Project Weighting: 50% Marks: 120</p> <p>Assessment overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The investigation report is internally assessed and externally moderated. Students will produce a substantial design, make and evaluate a project which consists of a portfolio and a prototype. • The portfolio will contain approximately 40 sides of A3 paper (or electronic equivalent). • There are four parts to the assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Part 1: Identifying and outlining possibilities for design. Identification and investigation of a design possibility, investigation of client/end user needs, wants and values, research and production of a specification. – Part 2: Designing a prototype. Design ideas, development of design idea, final design solution, review of development and final design and communication of design ideas. – Part 3: Making a final prototype. Design, manufacture and realisation of a final prototype, including tools and equipment and quality and accuracy. – Part 4: Evaluating own design and prototype. Testing and evaluation. 	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including English and Mathematics. Grade 6 or above in Design & Technology.	
This subject goes well with:	Art, Business, Geography, Physics, Maths and subjects that make use of research and analytical skills and/or a creative approach to problem solving.	
Possible Careers:	The design and engineering industries – Product/Industrial Design, Automotive and Transport Design, Furniture Design, Graphic Design, Film and TV, Fashion and Textiles, Architecture, Interior Design and all Engineering areas.	

DRAMA AND THEATRE

Exam Board:	Pearson Edexcel	
Course Code:	A-level:	9DR0
Component 1	6DR01	Devising
Component 2	6DR02	Text in Performance
Component 3	6DR02	Theatre Makers in Practice
General overview of course	<p>Component 1: Devising Module Weighting: 40% Marks: 80 marks</p> <p>A practical and written component which is internally assessed and externally moderated. Devise an original performance piece using one key extract from a performance text and a theatre practitioner as stimuli.</p> <p>Performance route - There are two parts to the assessment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A portfolio of 3000 words (60 marks) 2) The devised performance (20 marks) <p>Component 2: Text in Performance An externally assessed performance exam Weighting: 20% Marks: 60 (Group performance: 36 marks, monologue or duologue: 24 marks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A group performance of one key extract from a performance text. • A monologue or duologue performance from one key extract, from a different performance text. <p>Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice Weighting: 40% Marks: 80 marks Length of paper: 2 hours 30 minutes</p> <p>Live theatre evaluation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical exploration and study of a complete text, focusing on how this can be realised for performance. • Practical exploration and interpretation of another complete performance text, in light of a chosen practitioner, focusing on how this text could be re-imagined for a contemporary audience. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Section A: Live Theatre Evaluation: 20 Marks – Section B: Page to Stage: Realising Performance Text: 36 marks. – Section C: Interpreting a Performance Text: 24 marks. 	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including English and Mathematics. In addition, a minimum of Grade 6 in GCSE Drama is required. Grade 6 in English GCSE is preferred, although not essential.	
This subject goes well with:	English, History, Politics, Psychology, Philosophy (RS), Classical Civilisation, Music, Art and Design & Technology	
Possible Careers:	This subject can lead to a career in broadcasting and the Performing Arts industry, with the study of Drama providing a strong platform with which to audition for Drama schools. In addition, the soft skills taught provide a solid foundation for developing strong communication skills, imperative in all careers and perhaps in particular: Sales, Marketing, Journalism and Law.	

ECONOMICS

Exam Board:	Pearson Edexcel	
Course Code:	A-level:	9EC0
Component 1	9EC0/01	Markets and Business Behaviour
Component 2	9EC0/02	The National and Global Economy
Component 3	9EC0/03	Microeconomics and Macroeconomics
General overview of course	<p>The course is structured into four themed parts. Students build knowledge and understanding of core economic concepts in Themes 1 and 2 during Year 12, then progress to more complex concepts in Themes 3 and 4 during Year 13.</p> <p>Theme 1: Introduction to markets and market failure.</p> <p>This component focuses on microeconomics: how markets work in theory, why they often fail to work well in the real world and the methods used by governments to correct market distortions, including outright market failure.</p> <p>Theme 2: The UK economy - performance and policies.</p> <p>Students develop an understanding of the whole economy in respect to measures of economic performance, aggregate demand and supply, national income, economic growth, and macroeconomic objectives and policy of the UK government.</p> <p>Theme 3: Business behaviour and the labour market.</p> <p>Students gain an understanding of fundamental issues affecting business and labour markets from an economist's perspective. Key strands of study include business objectives, business growth, the theory of cost, revenue and profit, business behaviour in different market structures and methods of government intervention used to regulate both business and labour markets.</p> <p>Theme 4: A global perspective.</p> <p>Students cover international economics, emerging and developing economies, poverty and inequality, the role of the financial sector in a global economy, and the effectiveness of national and supra-national government agencies in managing economic development.</p> <p>More information: http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/economics-a-2015.html.</p>	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, grade 6 in English Language or Literature, and Mathematics. A-level Economics does not involve a large amount of Mathematics, although a reasonable aptitude for logical thinking and ability to consider several variables and how they interact is important. Ability to develop precision writing skills is essential for achieving a high A-level grade.	
This subject goes well with:	Any STEM course (e.g. Mathematics, Physics, ICT, etc.), English and any of the social science courses (e.g. Geography, History, Government & Politics, etc.).	
Possible Careers:	Economist, Business Management, Financial Management, Accountancy, Banking, Insurance Broking and Underwriting, Law, Teaching, Lecturing, Civil Service and Journalism.	

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Exam Board:	OCR	
Course Code:	A-level:	H472
Component 1	H472 (01)	Drama and poetry pre - 1900
Component 2	H472 (02)	Comparative and contextual study
Component 3	H472 (03)	Literature post - 1900
General overview of course	<p>Component 1: Drama and poetry pre - 1900 Weighting: 40% Marks: 60 Length of paper: 2 hours 30 minutes</p> <p>Closed text exam on Shakespeare: <i>The Tempest</i>, Christina Rossetti: Selected Poems, Ibsen: <i>A Doll's House</i>.</p> <p>Component 2: Comparative and contextual study Weighting: 40% Marks: 60 Length of paper: 2 hours 30 minutes</p> <p>Closed text exam on Angela Carter: <i>The Bloody Chamber and Other Stories</i>, Bram Stoker: <i>Dracula</i>, and other texts both studied and unseen in The Gothic genre.</p> <p>Component 3: Literature post Weighting: 20%</p> <p>Learners will study 3 literary texts for this component (one poetry, one prose, one drama) and write 2 pieces of coursework responding to them.</p> <p>In addition to the texts above, students are encouraged to read widely, critically analyse and explore the context and others' interpretations of literature.</p>	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including Mathematics, with Grade 6 in both English Language and English Literature.	
This subject goes well with:	Most subjects but many students also choose Classical Civilisation, History, Religious Studies or Politics as there is some overlap with these subjects.	
Possible Careers:	English is regarded as one of the key facilitating subjects and is highly regarded by universities and employers. It marks students out as having excellent written, verbal communication and analytical skills. Many students thinking of studying Law find English an ideal subject choice.	

FRENCH

Exam Board:	Pearson Edexcel	
Course Code:	A-level:	9FR0
Component 1	9FR0/01	Listening, Reading and Translation
Component 2	9FR0/02	Written Response to works and translation.
Component 3	9FR0/03	Speaking
General overview of course	<p>Component 1: Listening, Reading and Translation Weighting: 40% Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <p>This paper draws on vocabulary and structures across all four themes, which are based on French society and culture.</p> <p>Component 2: Written Response to works and translation Weighting: 30% Length of paper: 2 hours and 40 minutes</p> <p>This paper draws on the study of two discrete French works: either two literary texts, or one literary text and one film.</p> <p>Component 3: Speaking Weighting: 30% Length of exam: Total assessment between 21 and 23 minutes, which includes 5 minutes formal preparation time</p> <p>Exam is internally conducted and externally marked.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task 1 draws on vocabulary and structures across all four themes. • Task 2 is based on independent research selected and carried out by the student. <p>The research may be based on one of the themes, or on the student's own subject of interest related to French society and culture.</p>	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including English and Mathematics. Grade 7 GCSE French is strongly recommended, although Grade 6 will be considered.	
This subject goes well with:	English, Business, Spanish, Geography, ICT, History, and Politics.	
Possible Careers:	Modern Languages qualifications are becoming increasingly sought after in the commercial world. A Modern Language leads to a wide range of career options, such as: Business, Banking & Finance, Journalism, Law, Public Relations, Travel and the Civil Service.	

GEOGRAPHY

Exam Board:	Pearson Edexcel	
Course Code:	A-level:	9GEO
Component 1	9GE0/01	Dynamic Landscapes
Component 2	9GE0/02	Dynamic Places
Component 3	9GE0/03	Physical Systems and Sustainability
Non-exam assessment	9GE0/04	Human Systems and Geopolitics
General overview of course	<p>Component 1 Weighting: 30 % Marks: 12 and 20 mark questions Length of paper: 2 hours and 15 minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tectonic Processes and Hazards • Coastal Landscapes and Change and The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity • The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security <p>Component 2 Weighting: 30 % Marks: 12 and 20 mark questions Length of paper: 2 hours and 15 minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Globalisation / Superpowers • Regenerating Places • Migration, Identity and Sovereignty <p>Component 3 Weighting: 20 % Marks: 8, 18 and 24 mark questions Length of paper: 2 hours and 15 minutes</p> <p>Externally assessed written examination, comprising three sections which will all draw synoptically on knowledge and understanding from compulsory content drawn from different parts of the course.</p> <p>Non-exam assessment Weighting: 20% Marks: 70</p> <p>The investigation report is internally assessed and externally moderated. The student will produce a written report of 3000–4000 words.</p> <p>In addition to the details given above, students will also undertake a compulsory field trip and will be issued with a reading list.</p>	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including English and Mathematics. At least Grade 6 GCSE Geography (although Grade 7 or higher would be preferable). Grade 6 in Biology and Mathematics is also beneficial.	
This subject goes well with:	Politics, History, Chemistry, Biology, Music Tec, Art, DT, Economics, Photography, Psychology, P.E., Business, Mathematics, English and Spanish.	
Possible Careers:	Geography is one of the most employable degrees (Guardian 2010). It cultivates a wide range of employable skills from numeracy and analytical through to teamwork and advanced computer skills.	

HISTORY

Exam Board:	AQA	
Course Code:	A-level:	7042
Component 1	7042/1C	Unit 1: The Tudors: England, 1485–1603
Component 2	7042/2L	Unit 2: Italy and Fascism 1900 – 1945
Component 3	7042/3	Unit 3: British Rule in India 1854 – 1947
General overview of course	<p>The first chronological half of Units 1 and 2 are studied in Year 12; the second in Year 13, at the end of which students sit two exams (1C and 2L). In Year 13, they also research and prepare an extended essay (Unit 3).</p> <p>Component 1: The Tudors: England, 1485–1603 Weighting: 40% Length of paper: 2 hours 30 minutes</p> <p>Starting with the Battle of Bosworth, we look at the reign of Henry VII and his son Henry VIII; and the reigns of his children Edward VI, Mary I and Elizabeth, ending with her death in 1603. This is a crucial period of English History replete with dramatic change, conflict and colourful characters.</p> <p>Component 2: Italy and Fascism 1900 – 1945 Weighting: 40% Length of paper: 2 hours 30 minutes</p> <p>We look at the problems in Italy at the start of the 20th century, Italy's role in WW1 and the problems in Italy after WW1. We examine Mussolini's dictatorship and consider his handling of the economy, his attempts to reform Italian society and his relationship with the Roman Catholic Church. We also look at his foreign policy and the decision to enter WW2, which directly led to the collapse of Fascist Italy.</p> <p>Component 3: British Rule in India, 1854 – 1947 Weighting: 20% Length of Essay: 3000-3500 words</p> <p>Students prepare an essay on the topic of British rule in India, 1854 - 1947. They can select their own titles (subject to guidance) and will be responsible for much of their own reading and research. Although most students will write on British India, if a student wished to research and write on a different period, the request would be considered on its merits.</p> <p>Further Information: http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/history/as-and-a-level</p>	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including English and Mathematics. GCSE History is useful but not essential. If it has been taken, we expect a minimum of Grade 6. However, individual cases are looked at on their own merits.	
This subject goes well with:	History goes well with most subjects, but the usual combinations include: Classical Civilisation, English, Philosophy (RS) and Politics.	
Possible Careers:	A-level History is highly regarded by universities and employers. It develops the skills of analysis, written English and independent research, which are invaluable in a wide variety of academic disciplines and careers.	

MATHEMATICS

Exam Board:	Pearson Edexcel	
Course Code:	A-level:	9MA0
Component 1	9MA0/01	Pure Mathematics 1
Component 2	9MA0/02	Pure Mathematics 2
Component 3	9MA0/31/32	Statistics and Mechanics
General overview of course	<p>Students are required to take Pure Mathematics, Statistics and Mechanics as part of their A-level course.</p> <p>Component 1: Pure Mathematics 1 Weighting: 33% Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <p>Proof, algebra and functions, coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane, sequences and series, trigonometry, exponentials and logarithms, differentiation, integration and vectors.</p> <p>Component 2: Pure Mathematics 2 Weighting: 33% Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <p>Further proof, further algebra and functions, further coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane, further sequences and series, further trigonometry, further differentiation, further integration and numerical methods.</p> <p>Component 3: Statistics and Mechanics Weighting: 33% Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <p>Statistical sampling, large data sets, data presentation and interpretation, probability, statistical distributions and statistical hypothesis testing. Quantities and units in mechanics, kinematics, forces, Newton's Laws and moments.</p>	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including English, with Mathematics at Grade 7 or higher.	
This subject goes well with:	Scientific subjects and Social Sciences.	
Possible Careers:	Financial services, Accountancy, Engineering and those that require a numerical background. Pure Sciences, Social Sciences, Engineering and Computing. There are also uses in the Arts, such as Sculpture, Drawing and Music. Mathematics will therefore facilitate an almost unlimited number of opportunities for you and open doors that few other subjects can.	

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

Exam Board:	Pearson Edexcel			
Course Code:	A-level:	9FM0		
Component 1	9FM0/01	Core Pure Mathematics 1		
Component 2	9FM0/02	Core Pure Mathematics 2		
Component 3	9FM0/3A-3D	Further Mathematics Optional Papers		
Component 4	9FM0/4A-4D	Further Mathematics Optional Papers		
General overview of course	<p>Further Mathematics students are expected to take Pure Mathematics, Statistics, Mechanics and Decision. This is completed over the 2 years with an option to specialise.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Component 1: Pure Mathematics 1</p> <p>Weighting: 25% Length of paper: 1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>Proof, Complex numbers, Matrices, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus and Further vectors.</p> <p>Component 3: Mathematics Option 1</p> <p>Weighting: 25% Length of paper: 1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>Students take one of the following four options:</p> <p>3A: Further Pure Mathematics 3 3B: Further Statistics 1 3C: Further Mechanics 1 3D: Decision Mathematics 1</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Component 2: Pure Mathematics 2</p> <p>Weighting: 25% Length of paper: 1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>Complex numbers, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus, Polar coordinates, Hyperbolic functions and Differential equations.</p> <p>Component 4: Mathematics Option 4</p> <p>Weighting: 25% Length of paper: 1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>Students take one of the following seven options:</p> <p>4A: Further Pure Mathematics 4 4B: Further Statistics 1 4C: Further Statistics 2 4D: Further Mechanics 1 4E: Further Mechanics 2 4F: Decision Mathematics 1</p> </td> </tr> </table>		<p>Component 1: Pure Mathematics 1</p> <p>Weighting: 25% Length of paper: 1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>Proof, Complex numbers, Matrices, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus and Further vectors.</p> <p>Component 3: Mathematics Option 1</p> <p>Weighting: 25% Length of paper: 1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>Students take one of the following four options:</p> <p>3A: Further Pure Mathematics 3 3B: Further Statistics 1 3C: Further Mechanics 1 3D: Decision Mathematics 1</p>	<p>Component 2: Pure Mathematics 2</p> <p>Weighting: 25% Length of paper: 1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>Complex numbers, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus, Polar coordinates, Hyperbolic functions and Differential equations.</p> <p>Component 4: Mathematics Option 4</p> <p>Weighting: 25% Length of paper: 1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>Students take one of the following seven options:</p> <p>4A: Further Pure Mathematics 4 4B: Further Statistics 1 4C: Further Statistics 2 4D: Further Mechanics 1 4E: Further Mechanics 2 4F: Decision Mathematics 1</p>
<p>Component 1: Pure Mathematics 1</p> <p>Weighting: 25% Length of paper: 1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>Proof, Complex numbers, Matrices, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus and Further vectors.</p> <p>Component 3: Mathematics Option 1</p> <p>Weighting: 25% Length of paper: 1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>Students take one of the following four options:</p> <p>3A: Further Pure Mathematics 3 3B: Further Statistics 1 3C: Further Mechanics 1 3D: Decision Mathematics 1</p>	<p>Component 2: Pure Mathematics 2</p> <p>Weighting: 25% Length of paper: 1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>Complex numbers, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus, Polar coordinates, Hyperbolic functions and Differential equations.</p> <p>Component 4: Mathematics Option 4</p> <p>Weighting: 25% Length of paper: 1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>Students take one of the following seven options:</p> <p>4A: Further Pure Mathematics 4 4B: Further Statistics 1 4C: Further Statistics 2 4D: Further Mechanics 1 4E: Further Mechanics 2 4F: Decision Mathematics 1</p>			
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including English, with Mathematics at Grade 7 as a minimum (although 8 or 9 would be preferable).			
This subject goes well with:	Scientific subjects and Social Sciences. Universities require Further Mathematics for Physics, Engineering and other scientific subjects. Many of the elite universities offering Economics, would prefer at least AS Level Further Mathematics.			
Possible Careers:	Financial Services, Computer Programming and Engineering and those that require a numerical background.			

MUSIC

Exam Board:	Eduqas	
Course Code:	A-level:	A660PA/B
Component 1	A660PA/B	Performing
Component 2	A660PA/B	Composing
Component 3	A660 PA/B	Appraising
General overview of course	<p>Component 1: Performing Weighting: 25% or 35% Assessed live by visiting examiner Option A: 35% of course 10-12 minute recital performed live in front of a visiting examiner. Minimum of three pieces</p> <p>Option B: 25% of course 6-8 minute recital performed live in front of a visiting examiner. Minimum of two pieces</p> <p>Component 2: Composition Weighting: 25% or 35% Externally assessed coursework Option A: 25% of course Total duration of compositions should be 4-6 minutes long. Two compositions: one in a Western Classical style and the other a free composition.</p> <p>Option B: 35% of course Total duration of compositions should be 8-10 minutes long. Two compositions: one in a Western Classical style, one in the style of another area of study and a free composition.</p> <p>Component 3: Appraising Weighting: 40% Externally assessed written examination paper (2 hrs 15 mins) The paper is grouped into three areas of study: The Development Of The Symphony; Musical Theatre; Into The Twentieth Century and comprises a range of aural tests on unprepared extracts of music, analysis of pre-prepared set works (one symphony and two shorter 20th century pieces) and an essay to demonstrate their understanding of historical context. This paper is sat at the end of Year 13.</p>	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including English and Mathematics and a 6 in Music. Grade 5+ on first instrument. Grade 5 Music Theory may be considered in place of GCSE Music.	
This subject goes well with:	Drama, Art, Music Technology and as an accompaniment to musical performance outside School.	
Possible Careers:	Musician, Music Journalism, Artist Relations, PR, Event Management, Music Teaching, Orchestral Management, Music Production, Music Publishing, Copyright Law, Commercial Law.	

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

Exam Board:	Edexcel	
Course Code:	A-level:	9MT0
Component 1	9MT01	Recording (20%)
Component 2	9MT02	Tech-based Composition (20%)
Component 3	9MT03	Listening and Analysis (25%)
Component 4	9MT04	Producing and Analysing (35%)
General overview of course	<p>Music technology plays a key role in music across the world. This qualification is designed to open up a range of exciting and useful tasks to a wide candidature, and to encourage students to learn about the subject. Students, including those who do not play a traditional instrument, are encouraged to explore their musicality and create original materials using technology.</p> <p>Component 1: Recording Students will use technology to explore a range of techniques for capturing, editing and manipulating sound which will help them understand the impact of music technology on creative processes in the studio. They will then produce a completed mix.</p> <p>Component 2: Tech-based Composition Students will use technology to explore a range of techniques for developing ideas. They will then turn their ideas into completed technology-based compositions. Students should develop in-depth knowledge and understanding of musical elements and musical language, and apply these, where appropriate, to their own technology-based compositions.</p> <p>Component 3: Listening and Analysis This component gives students the opportunity to identify, analyse and evaluate a range of creative music production techniques, as applied to the unfamiliar commercial recordings supplied in the examination. As well as identifying effects and their associated settings, students will explain the principles behind the choice of the effects heard on each recording, and their sonic character, in a series of written responses. Through the deconstruction and analysis of a final, commercial product, students will expand their knowledge of the recording and production practices associated with a number of historical eras.</p> <p>Component 4: Producing and Analysing The examination will assess the ability to process and correct these materials using a range of production skills, culminating in a series of audio bounces/exports for individual instrumental/vocal parts, plus a final stereo mix. Students will refine and combine pre-existing 'ingredients' of a mix to form a convincing final product. Students will also comment on sonic characteristics of the materials provided, interpreting the underlying theory associated with these as well as justifying decisions they have made in respect of selecting processes and parameters when undertaking the practical tasks.</p>	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including English and Mathematics. Candidates should have achieved a minimum of Grade 5 in Mathematics, Physics or Double Award Science GCSE, with some piano/keyboard facility and an interest in popular music and technology.	
This subject goes well with:	Music, Drama, Physics, Art, and as an accompaniment to musical performance or production outside of School.	
Possible Careers:	Music Production, Music Engineering, Musician, Music Journalism, Artist Relations, PR, Event Management, Music Teaching, Orchestral Management, Music Publishing, Copyright Law, Commercial Law.	

ART & DESIGN (PHOTOGRAPHY)

Exam Board:	AQA	
Course Code:	A-level:	7206
Component 1	7206/C	Personal Investigation (Portfolio of work)
Component 2	7206/X	Externally Set Assignment
General overview of course	<p>Component 1: Personal Investigation (Portfolio of work) Weighting: 60% Marks: 96 Length of exam: No time limit</p> <p>Coursework involves students in selecting and presenting work, which demonstrates their strengths across areas of knowledge and a range of skills. These must show an ability to sustain lines of enquiry independently. The examination involves the student bringing together and making connections between contextual art, experimenting with different techniques / skills and applying these by responding to a theme.</p> <p>Year 1: Coursework for the portfolio of work develops skills and techniques within two projects which are based on different themes and photographers. The students need to show a selection of thoughtfully presented work that demonstrates the depth and breadth of the course. There is a 5-hour exam in December at the end of the first term and another 5-hour, unaided, supervised exam to produce final outcomes in May.</p> <p>Year 2 (until January 31st): Coursework for the portfolio of work sees the students develop a personal investigation/ practical project based on an idea, issue, concept or theme, supported by a written element of 1000-3000 words. This project will culminate in a 10-hour, unaided, supervised exam to produce a final outcome in December.</p> <p>Component 2: Externally Set Assignment Weighting: 40% Marks: 96 Length of exam: Prep time + 15 hours exam time</p> <p>Exam: Students select a question title from the exam board which acts as a starting point when they receive their exam papers on February 1st. There will be a 15-hour time limited, unaided, supervised exam in the summer term. Candidates produce a clearly defined selection of work which will lead to a finished piece and be handed in at the end of their exam.</p>	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	<p>At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including English and Mathematics. A Level 6 in GCSE Art or Photography is required or a portfolio of work that demonstrates the ability to work at that level.</p> <p>Availability of a digital SLR camera is necessary.</p>	
This subject goes well with:	Music, Drama, Psychology, Design Technology and Art.	
Possible Careers:	Architect, Freelance Artist/Sculptor, Illustrator, Animator, Photographer, Therapist, Art Historian, Gallery Curator and Designers.	

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Exam Board:	AQA	
Course Code:	A-level:	7582
Component 1	7582/1	Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport
Component 2	7582/2	Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport
Non-exam assessment	7582/3	Practical performance in physical activity and sport
General overview of course	<p>Component 1: Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport Weighting: 35% Marks: 105 Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section A: Applied Anatomy and Physiology • Section B: Skill Acquisition • Section C: Sport and Society <p>Component 2: Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport Weighting: 35% Marks: 105 Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section A: Exercise Physiology and Biomechanics • Section B: Sport Psychology • Section C: Sport and Society and Technology in Sport <p>Components 1 and 2 are examined through a variety of question types: multiple choice, short answer and extended answer.</p> <p>Non-exam assessment Weighting: 30 % Marks: 90</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students assessed as a performer or coach in the full sided version of one activity. • Written/verbal analysis of performance. • Internal assessment, external moderation. 	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including English and Mathematics. Grade 6 in GCSE PE.	
This subject goes well with:	Sciences, Mathematics, Geography, History, Psychology, English and Business.	
Possible Careers:	Physiotherapy, Sports Science, Teacher, Coach, Nutritionist and Nursing.	

PHYSICS

Exam Board:	AQA Physics A	
Course Code:	A-level:	7408
Component 1	7408/1	Sections 1-6.1 (Particles, radiation, quantum phenomenon, waves and optics, mechanics and materials, electricity and periodic motion)
Component 2	7408/2	Sections 6.2, 7 and 8 (Thermal physics, fields and their consequences, nuclear physics plus assumed knowledge from component 1)
Component 3	7408/3	Section A (Compulsory Section: practical skills and data analysis) Section B: Students enter for ONE optional module, with choices including astrophysics, turning points in physics and engineering physics.
General overview of course	<p>Component 1: Sections 1-5 and 6.1 (Periodic motion) Weighting: 34% Marks: 85 Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <p>25 multiple choice questions; plus, additional short and long answer questions.</p> <p>Component 2: Sections 6.2 (Thermal Physics), 7 and 8 (and assumed knowledge from sections 1 to 6.1) Weighting: 34% Marks: 85 Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <p>25 multiple choice questions; plus, additional short and long answer questions</p> <p>Component 3: Section A (Compulsory section): Practical skills and data analysis Section B: Students enter for one of sections 9, 10, 11, 12 or 13 Weighting: 32% Marks: 80 Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <p>Short and long answer questions on practical experiments and data analysis, as well as on the students' optional topic.</p> <p>The course is about looking in more detail at our physical environment, from a more mathematical point of view. Students will acquire adequate knowledge to enable them to pursue further studies in any Physical Science field and Engineering. They will learn about waves, mechanics, electricity, particle physics and radiation, quantum physics, thermal physics, gravitational, electric and magnetic fields, and nuclear physics as core topics.</p> <p>The optional module will be decided based on the expertise of the teachers and interests of pupils in each cohort.</p>	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including a grade 7 in Physics or a 7-7 in Combined Sciences. Pupils must also have at least a grade 6 in English and a grade 7 in Mathematics.	
This subject goes well with:	Mathematics, Chemistry, and Computer Science. It is strongly advised to take Mathematics A-level if you wish to take Physics. Please speak to your teacher if you do not intend to continue studying Mathematics.	
Possible Careers:	There is an inexhaustible list of careers associated with Physics, which ranges from Engineers, Medical Scientists, Physicists and Geophysicists to Logistics, Financial Analysts, Computer Game Programmers and Software Engineers.	

POLITICS

Exam Board:	Pearson Edexcel	
Course Code:	A-level:	9PLOA
Component 1	9PLO/01	Paper 1: UK Politics and Core Political Ideas
Component 2	9PLO/02	Paper 2: UK Government and Non-Core Political Ideologies
Component 3	9PLO/3A	Paper 3: Comparative Politics - US
General overview of course	<p>Component 1: UK Politics and Core Political Ideas Weighting: 33% Marks: 84 Length of paper: 2 Hours</p> <p>Unit 1: UK politics and government, providing them with a core set of knowledge and understanding about politics. Assessments will develop students' skills in critical thinking and analysis, using a variety of question types, sources and materials. We look firstly at how people are involved in politics and democracy, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media, and three core political ideas.</p> <p>Component 2: UK Government and Non-Core Political Ideologies Weighting: 33% Marks: 84 Length of paper: 2 Hours</p> <p>Unit 2: We study constitution, parliament, prime minister and cabinet, the relationship between the branches, and one optional ideology, nationalism. Assessments will focus on the ability of students to analyse source information and to evaluate and balance arguments. They will need to be able to use contemporary political issues in their essays.</p> <p>Component 3: Comparative Politics - US Weighting: 33 % Marks: 84 Length of paper: 2 Hours</p> <p>Unit 3: The government and politics of the USA. Students will explore the US Constitution and the arguments surrounding this guiding document of US democracy. In learning about the key institutions of government in the USA and analysing the manner in which they achieve this power and exercise it over their citizens, students will judge ultimately whether 'liberty and justice for all' has been achieved in the USA. Students will be expected to highlight the debates on the nature of democracy in the USA and evaluate the extent to which it remains an issue. Some comparison between UK and US institutions will also be undertaken.</p>	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including English and Mathematics. History GCSE is also helpful. Students should have an interest in current affairs.	
This subject goes well with:	Economics, History, Geography, English, Business and Religious Studies.	
Possible Careers:	MP, Political Advisor, Civil Service, Business, Journalism and Teaching.	

PSYCHOLOGY

Exam Board:	AQA	
Course Code:	A-level:	7182
Component 1	7182/1	Paper 1: Introductory Topics
Component 2	7182/2	Paper 2: Psychology in Context
Component 3	7182/3	Paper 3: Issues and Options
General overview of course	<p>Component 1: Introductory Topics Weighting: 33% Marks: 96 Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Influence • Memory • Attachment • Psychopathology <p>Component 2: Psychology in Context Weighting: 33 % Marks: 96 Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approaches in Psychology • Biopsychology • Research Methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Section is worth more on this paper – Concepts applied across all other papers <p>Component 3: Issues and Options Weighting: 33% Marks: 96 Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues and Debates (compulsory) • Three optional topics chosen internally: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Relationships – Schizophrenia – Forensics 	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	<p>At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including minimum grade 6 in English and Mathematics.</p> <p>Helpful: Grade 6 or above in Sciences.</p>	
This subject goes well with:	Biology, Business, Economics, Geography and Physical Education	
Possible Careers:	Psychologist (and related: e.g. forensics, criminology, sports psychology, human resources), Economist/ Market Research (and related: e.g. Business Analyst).	

RELIGIOUS STUDIES (PHILOSOPHY, THEOLOGY & ETHICS)

Exam Board:	OCR	
Course Code:	A-level:	H573
Component 1	H573/01	Philosophy of Religion
Component 2	H573/02	Ethics
Component 3	H573/03	Theology (Developments in Christian Thought)
General overview of course	<p>Component 1: Philosophy Weighting: 33% Marks: 120 Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <p>From Ancient Athens to Artificial Intelligence, via the likes of Plato, Aquinas, Hume and Wittgenstein, this first unit covers a wide range of topics and thinkers such as: Greek philosophy; the mind/body problem; the existence of God; the nature of God; whether a good God is compatible with our experience of evil and suffering; religious experience and the problems of language.</p> <p>Component 2: Ethics Weighting: 33% Marks: 120 Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <p>What makes an action right or wrong? How do we decide how to behave? Just because we can, should we?</p> <p>This unit is all about moral behaviour and language. You will cover: normative ethical theories such as Utilitarianism, Kantian Ethics and Situation Ethics, apply them to issues such as abortion, euthanasia and sex, and discuss the very language we use to define 'good' and 'bad'.</p> <p>Component 3: Theology (Developments in Christian Thought) Weighting: 33% Marks: 120 Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <p>Who goes to heaven? How should Christianity respond to questions about gender in the 21st century? How is Jesus understood in non-Western cultures? How does God reveal Himself?</p> <p>This unit delves into questions arising from and within the Christian tradition, looking closely at the difficulties of biblical interpretation and how religion adapts to its times and surroundings.</p>	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including Mathematics, with English and a related subject at Grade 6 (RS is useful but not necessary. Other essay writing subjects are very useful, such as History or Classics). It is academically rigorous with an emphasis on reading primary texts so excellent reading and writing skills are required.	
This subject goes well with:	History, English, Classical Civilisation, Psychology; the Sciences, Maths, Economics. Philosophy provides a basis of critical thinking and logical argument.	
Possible Careers:	<p>Students gain critical and evaluative skills sought by higher education and employers – particularly in Law, Education, Politics, Computing, Medicine and the Media.</p> <p>Any institution of Higher/Further Education will value an ability to consider and assess complex arguments, and to express a clearly reasoned argument. Philosophy/RS is widely considered by universities to be a good choice for those going on to further academic study, and students of Philosophy and Religion have one of the highest rates of employment nationally.</p>	

SOCIOLOGY

Exam Board:	AQA	
Course Code:	A-level:	7192
Component 1	7192/1	Education with Theory and Methods
Component 2	7192/2	Topics in Sociology
Component 3	7192/3	Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods
General overview of course	<p>Component 1 Weighting: 33% Marks: 80 Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education • Methods in Context • Theory and Methods <p>Question format: Education: short answer and extended writing, 50 marks Methods in Context: extended writing, 20 marks Theory and Methods: extended writing, 10 marks</p> <p>Component 2 Weighting: 33% Marks: 80 Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families and Households • Beliefs in Society • Question format <p>Question format: Families and Households: extended writing, 40 marks Beliefs in Society: extended writing, 40 marks</p> <p>Component 3 Weighting: 33% Marks: 80 Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime and Deviance • Theory and Methods <p>Question format: Crime and Deviance: short answer and extended writing, 50 marks Theory and Methods: extended writing, 30 marks</p>	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including minimum grade 6 in English.	
This subject goes well with:	Psychology, Politics, Religious Studies, Geography.	
Possible Careers:	<p>Particularly good base for degrees such as Sociology, Criminology, Law, Social Policy, Anthropology, International Relations.</p> <p>Careers involving: Policing, research posts in the field, education, journalism, media, management, social care, the caring professions, and many others due to the variety of areas covered during the course.</p>	

SPANISH

Exam Board:	Pearson Edexcel	
Course Code:	A-level:	9SP0
Component 1	9SPO/01	Listening, Reading and Translation
Component 2	9SPO/02	Written Response to works and translation
Component 3	9SPO/03	Speaking
General overview of course	<p>Component 1 Weighting: 40% Length of paper: 2 hours</p> <p>This paper draws on vocabulary and structures across all four themes, which are based on Spanish society and culture.</p> <p>Component 2 Weighting: 30% Length of paper: 2 hours and 40 minutes</p> <p>This paper draws on the study of two discrete Spanish works: either two literary texts, or one literary text and one film.</p> <p>Component 3 Weighting: 30% Length of exam: Total assessment between 21 and 23 minutes, which includes 5 minutes formal preparation time</p> <p>Internally conducted and externally marked.</p> <p>Task 1 draws on vocabulary and structures across all four themes.</p> <p>Task 2 is based on independent research selected and carried out by the student.</p> <p>The research may be based on one of the themes, or on the student's own subject of interest related to Spanish society and culture.</p>	
Which qualifications do you need to study this subject?	At least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5, including English and Mathematics. Grade 7 GCSE Spanish is strongly recommended, although Grade 6 will be considered.	
This subject goes well with:	English, Business, French, Geography, ICT, History, and Politics.	
Possible Careers:	Modern Languages qualifications are becoming increasingly sought after in the commercial world. A Modern Language leads to a wide range of career options, such as: Business, Banking & Finance, Journalism, Law, Public Relations, Travel and the Civil Service.	





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