

PRIOR'S FIELD

GODALMING SURREY



GSA Girls' Boarding and Day School | 11 - 18



LOGIC WILL GET YOU FROM A TO B
IMAGINATION WILL TAKE YOU EVERYWHERE

Albert Einstein



SIXTH FORM OPTIONS BOOKLET 2016-2017



PRIORSFIELD SIXTH

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Other courses in English and Mathematics may be added to the curriculum if the need arises.

Other GCSE and IGCSE subjects may sometimes be taken after consultation with the Head of Sixth Form.

Welcome to the Sixth Form

The Sixth Form House is a lively, vibrant place where our students have a voice. Our young adults are given considerable freedom to organise their own lives whilst retaining the support and guidance of an excellent team of tutors and House staff. Sixth Form personal tutors offer guidance, advice and encouragement throughout the two years. Girls meet their tutors daily in groups and individually; they speak openly about their progress and discuss targets and plans to achieve them.

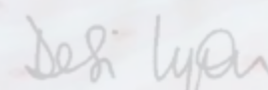
We have an excellent reputation for high quality UCAS references and the detailed and knowledgeable applications we submit for each girl. A full 'Beyond A levels' application advice and skills programme, is offered at the end of the Lower Sixth year. Detailed applications to universities in the UK and abroad, foundation courses, gap year and apprenticeship applications are made in the following Autumn Term.

The Sixth Form at Prior's Field encourages girls to take responsibility for themselves, their learning and development, so they become confident young women. Our sixth formers take the lead in all elements of school life. As prefects, school mentors, House and sports captains; sixth formers learn to lead, manage and inspire younger girls.

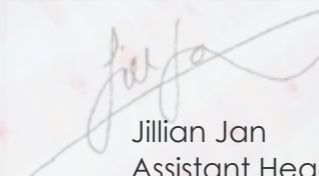
We offer a wide range of A Level subjects as well as Btec in IT and Music Technology. At a time when A levels are undergoing a period of change, we offer an enviably bespoke package. Most girls will study four subjects in their first year and three in the Upper Sixth although an increasing number may choose three A levels plus an EPQ. Smaller groups and tutorial style teaching allow for informed discussion and individual attention, as well as providing vital preparation for university. Results are excellent: in recent years our value added has placed us in the top 1% of all sixth forms in the country. The majority of girls gain places at their first choice university and go on to study at a wide range of institutions including Oxbridge.

An exciting lecture series is central to our commitment to raising social, cultural and political awareness in our students. We bring in a wide range of speakers from a Chief Executive with a major advertising agency to poets, novelists, journalists and explorers. In addition, we offer life-coaching and social evenings. Our students learn in an environment that encourages initiative and they have the opportunity to gain commercial and industrial experience during their work experience and enterprise opportunities. We offer all of our students both a TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) qualification as well as an accredited qualification from the CMI (Chartered Management Institute) as part of our inclusive, enrichment for all. Gold Duke of Edinburgh and World Challenge are further opportunities for developing personal leadership skills.

To further support our students in their learning for life we have launched unique package of benefits from which the girls can choose; driving lessons, an ipad, contribution towards a school trip and a range of options that will benefit their wider learning. Please talk to the girls themselves: they are the best people to give you a real sense of all that we have to offer. We are very proud of our sixth form and look forward to welcoming you.



Desi Lyon
Head of Sixth Form



Jillian Jan
Assistant Head of Sixth Form

ART & DESIGN: FINE ART

AQA AS Level Fine Art 7202

"Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time."
Thomas Merton

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS
1	Portfolio	No time limit	Internally set and marked by the centre	60%
2	Externally set assignment	Preparatory period and 5 hours supervised	Externally set Internally marked by the centre, moderated by AQA	40%

Style of work

The course structure will enable students to explore a wide variety of experiences exploring a range of media and techniques.

The students will explore images, artefacts and resources relating to a wide range of art, craft and design, from the past and recent times. They will respond to these through practical and critical activities. All students will explore visual ideas through workshops, trips to galleries, weekly individual tutorials, discussions and practical exploration.

Course prerequisites:

The course is designed to provide progression for students who have studied Art at GCSE but will accommodate those who are new to the subject. It will serve as a basis for further study in higher education.

Why study Art & Design?

This course gives a strong foundation for those interested in studying Art and Design based degrees or foundation courses. The course is also suitable for those with an interest in the visual world, enjoying, responding to and exploring art in its wider context.



ART & DESIGN: FINE ART

AQA A Level Fine Art 7242

"I dream my painting and I paint my dream."
Vincent Van Gogh

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
1	Personal Investigation	No time limit	Internally set and marked Externally moderated	60%
2	Externally set assignment	Preparatory period and 15 hours supervised	Externally set Internally marked by the centre, moderated by AQA	40%

Style of work

The course structure will enable students to explore a wide variety of experiences exploring a range of art media and techniques.

The students will explore images, artefacts and resources relating to a wide range of art, craft and design, from the past and recent times. They will respond to these through practical and critical activities. All students will explore visual ideas aided by various activities including life drawing, workshops and trips to galleries and places of interest. Students work in a structured course which includes weekly personal tutorials, demonstrations, discussions and practical exploration.

Course prerequisites:

The course is designed to provide progression for students who have studied Art at GCSE /AS Level but will accommodate those who are new to the subject. It will serve as a basis for further study in higher education.

Component 1 – Personal Investigation

Students choose one of the titles for study throughout the A- level course. This is a practical component supported by written material and should be linked with some aspect of contemporary or past practice of artists, designers or craftspeople. The written material should be linked to the practical work.

Component 2 – Externally set assignment

Students will select one question from an examination paper. The work submitted for this unit will include preparatory work and the work produced under the examination conditions.



ART & DESIGN: PHOTOGRAPHY

AQA AS Level Photography 7206

"In photography there is a reality so subtle that it becomes more real than reality."
Alfred Stieglitz

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS
1	Portfolio	No time limit	Internally set and marked by the centre	60%
2	Externally set assignment	Preparatory period and 5 hours supervised	Externally set Internally marked by the centre, moderated by AQA	40%

Style of work

The course structure will enable students to explore a wide variety of experiences exploring a range of media and techniques including traditional dark room techniques, studio lighting and a range of cameras.

The students will explore images, artefacts and resources relating to a wide range of art, craft and design, and photographers from the past and recent times. They will respond to these through practical and critical activities. All students will explore visual ideas through workshops, trips to galleries, weekly individual tutorials, discussions and practical exploration.

Course prerequisites:

The course is designed to provide progression for students who have studied Art at GCSE but will accommodate those who are new to the subject. It will serve as a basis for further study in higher education.



ART & DESIGN: PHOTOGRAPHY

AQA A Level Photography 7246

"There are always two people in every picture: the photographer and the viewer."
Ansel Adams

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
1	Personal Investigation	No time limit	Internally set and marked Externally moderated	60%
2	Externally set assignment	Preparatory period and 15 hours supervised	Externally set Internally marked by the centre, moderated by AQA	40%

Style of work

The course structure will enable students to explore a wide variety of experiences exploring a range of art media and techniques including traditional dark room techniques, studio lighting and a range of cameras and ways of working.

The students will explore images, artefacts and resources relating to a wide range of art, craft and design, from the past and recent times. They will respond to these through practical and critical activities. All students will explore visual ideas aided by various activities including life drawing, workshops and trips to galleries and places of interest. Students work in a structured course which includes weekly personal tutorials, demonstrations, discussions and practical exploration.

Course prerequisites:

The course is designed to provide progression for students who have studied Art or photography at GCSE or AS Level but will accommodate those who are new to the subject. It will serve as a basis for further study in higher education.

Component 1 – Personal Investigation

Students choose one of the titles for study throughout the A-level course. This is a practical component supported by written material and should be linked with some aspect of contemporary or past practice of artists, designers or craftspeople. The written material should be linked to the practical work.

Component 2 – Externally set assignment

Students will select one question from an examination paper. The work submitted for this unit will include preparatory work and the work produced under the examination conditions.



ART & DESIGN: TEXTILE DESIGN

AQA AS Level Specification 7244

"Fashion is very important. It is life-enhancing and, like everything that gives pleasure, it is worth doing well." Vivienne Westwood

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS
1	Portfolio	No time limit	Internally set and marked by the centre	60%
2	Externally set assignment	Preparatory period and 10 hours supervised time.	Externally set and marked by the centre, moderated by AQA.	40%

The course structure will enable students to have a variety of experiences that explore a wide range of textile media and techniques both traditional and new.

The students will explore images, artefacts and resources relating to a wide range of art, craft and design, from the past and recent times. They will respond to these through practical and critical activities. All students will explore visual ideas in several areas of Textiles during workshop demonstrations, discussions and practical exploration.

Printed and/or dyed fabric and materials

Mono/screen printing, tie-dye, batik, silk painting and transfer printing.

Constructed and installed textiles

Weaving, knitting, felting and stitching.

Fashion and/or interior design

Design, fashion/interior illustration, and garment construction.

Course Prerequisites:

The course is designed to provide progression for students who have studied Textiles at GCSE but will accommodate those who are new to the subject. It will serve as a basis for further study in higher education.

Why study Textile Design?

The AS level course not only creates opportunities for those interested in Textiles related degrees which could include fashion, fashion journalism, interior design, textiles manufacture and retail marketing but will also ignite a life long interest in working with fabric.



ART & DESIGN: TEXTILE DESIGN

AQA A Level Specification 7204

"Fashion is not something that exists in dresses only. Fashion is in the sky, in the street, fashion has to do with ideas, the way we live, what is happening." Coco Chanel

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
1	Personal investigation	No time limit	Internally set and marked by the centre	60%
2	Externally set assignment	Preparatory period and 15 hours supervised time.	Externally set and marked by the centre, moderated by AQA.	40%

Style of Work:

The course structure will enable students to have a variety of experiences that explore a wide range of textile media and techniques both traditional and new.

The students will explore images, artefacts and resources relating to a wide range of art, craft and design, from the past and recent times. They will respond to these through practical and critical activities. All students will explore visual ideas in several areas of Textiles during workshop demonstrations, discussions and practical exploration.

Printed and/or dyed fabric and materials.

Mono/screen printing, tie-dye, batik, silk painting and transfer printing

Constructed and intalled textiles

Weaving, knitting, felting and stitching

Fashion and/or interior design

Design, fashion/interior illustration, and garment construction

Course prerequisites:

The course is designed to provide progression for students who have studied Textiles at GCSE or AS but will accommodate those who are new to the subject. It will serve as a basis for further study in higher education.

Component 1 – Personal Investigation

This is a practical investigation supported by written material and should be linked with some aspect of contemporary or past practice of artists, designers or craftspeople. The focus of the investigation should be identified independently by the student and lead to a finished outcome. The written material should be linked to the practical work.

Component 2 – Externally set assignment

Students will select one question from an examination paper. The work submitted for this unit will include preparatory work and the work produced under the examination conditions.

BIOLOGY

Salters-Nuffield Advanced Biology SNAB Edexcel AS Level Specification 8BN0

"An understanding of the natural world and what's in it is a source of not only a great curiosity but great fulfilment." David Attenborough

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS
1	Lifestyle, Transport, Genes and Health See Topics 1 & 2	1 hours 30 minutes	Written examination paper	50%
2	Development, Plants and the Environment See Topics 3 & 4	1 hours 30 minutes	Written examination paper	50%

SNAB presents the key biological concepts in context, combined with a structured approach to learning the wider skills needed by the modern Biologist.

Classes are small, allowing a good deal of individual attention and feedback during both theory and practical lessons. All teaching takes place in well-equipped laboratories, including a purpose built A level student laboratory.

Students wishing to take AS Biology should consider taking AS Chemistry as a companion subject. This is particularly useful to those considering a career in Science. The AS Biology specification comprises half of the topics studied within the A Level (AL) Biology specification, and hence AS and AL Biology can be co-taught.

Course Content:

Topic 1: Lifestyle Health and Risk – with reference to the cardiovascular system and heart disease

Topic 2: Genes and Health – including protein synthesis and genetic diseases

Topic 3: Voice of the Genome – exploring gene expression, development and stem cell research

Topic 4: Biodiversity and Natural Resources - including the use of plants as a source of medicinal products and the conservation of endangered species.

Skills:

Skills developed include experimental techniques, data analysis, critical evaluation of information, communication and collaborative work. Developing these types of skills is an integral parts of the SNAB course. Independent learning is a valuable personal attribute which students will develop as a result of carrying out the activities.

The minimum recommended for entry to AS Biology is grade B in both GCSE Core and Additional Science. Other equivalent qualifications may be acceptable.



BIOLOGY

Salters-Nuffield Advanced Biology SNAB Edexcel A Level Specification 9BN0

"It seems to me that the natural world is the greatest source of excitement; the greatest source of visual beauty; the greatest source of intellectual interest. It is the greatest source of so much in life that makes life worth living." David Attenborough

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting of total A2
1	The Natural Environment and Species Survival See Topics 1-6	2 hours	Written examination paper	33.3%
2	Energy, Exercise and Coordination See Topics 1-4, 7 & 8	2 hours	Written examination paper	33.3%
3	General and Practical Applications in Biology See Topics 1-8	2 hours	Written examination paper	33.3%
4	Science Practical Endorsement See Topics 1-8	Throughout the course	Teacher assessment	None*

*The Endorsement does not contribute to the overall grade.

The AL Biology specification contains all of the topics studied within the AS Biology specification, and hence AS and AL Biology can be co-taught.

Girls can expect to achieve a good understanding of modern biology which would prepare them for many different university courses and can lead to careers in medicine, veterinary science, physiotherapy, environmental science, agriculture, embryology, forensics, oceanography, to name but a few. Also, the qualification may stand as a good academic AL for entry to other non-biological courses and careers.

Course content:

Topic 1: Lifestyle Health and Risk – with reference to the cardiovascular system and heart disease

Topic 2: Genes and Health – including protein synthesis and genetic diseases

Topic 3: Voice of the Genome – exploring gene expression, development and stem cell research

Topic 4: Biodiversity and Natural Resources - including the use of plants as a source of medicinal products and the conservation of endangered species.

Topic 5: On the Wild Side - investigating photosynthesis, ecosystems, evolution and speciation.

Topic 6: Immunity, Infection and Forensics – delving into forensic biology and DNA profiling, infectious diseases and immunology.

Topic 7: Run for your Life – covering the musculoskeletal system, respiration and the response of the body to exercise.

Topic 8: Grey Matter – investigating the function of the nervous system, visual development, learning and memory, and neurological disorders.

The minimum recommended entry to AL Biology is a pass grade at GCE AS level Biology.

BUSINESS

Edexcel AS Level Specification 8BS0

"I never dreamed about success. I worked for it." - Estée Lauder

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS
1	Marketing & People	2 hours	Written examination Data response questions, extended open response questions	50%
2	Managing Business Activities	2 hours	Written examination Data response questions, extended open response questions	50%

Style of Work:

AS level Business will be taught using a mixture of data response, problem solving, independent research, presentation, essay writing and group discussion. The focus will be heavily on the use of up to date business case studies and examples.

The AS level Business course is based around two core themes:

Theme 1 - Marketing & People	Theme 2 - Managing Business Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting customer needs The market Marketing Mix & Strategy Managing People Entrepreneurs & Leaders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raising Finance Financial Planning Managing Finance Resource Management External Influences

Course Prerequisites:

An interest in current affairs and at least a Grade C in GCSE English and Mathematics.

Why Business Studies?

Business is front page news. The way companies operate is under greater scrutiny than ever before. AS level Business enables students to engage with, explore and understand business behaviour and develop a critical understanding of what business is and what it does.



BUSINESS

Edexcel A Level Specification 9BS0

"If you are small and face overwhelming opposition, you must find a way to spend half the effort and obtain twice the result." Chin-Ning Chu

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
1	Marketing, People & Global Business	2 hours	Written examination 2 data response questions broken down into a number of parts, including one extended open-response question. Questions are based on unseen case material.	35%
2	Business Activities, Decisions & Strategy	2 hours	Written examination 2 data response questions broken down into a number of parts, including one extended open-response question. Questions are based on unseen case material.	35%
3	Investigating Business in a Competitive Environment	2 hours	Written examination 2 data response questions broken down into a number of parts, including one extended open-response question. Questions are based on unseen case material.	30%

Style of work: A level Business will be taught using a mixture of data response, problem solving, independent research, presentation, essay writing and group discussion. The focus will be heavily on the use of up to date business case studies and examples.

A Level studies centre on:

Theme 1 - Marketing & People	Theme 2 - Managing Business Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting customer needs The market Marketing Mix & Strategy Managing People Entrepreneurs & Leaders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raising Finance Financial Planning Managing Finance Resource Management External Influences
Theme 3 - Business Decisions & Strategies	Theme 4 - Global Business
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business objectives & strategy Business Growth Decision Making techniques Influences on business decisions Assessing competitiveness Managing Change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Globalisation Global Markets & Business expansion Global Marketing Global Industries & companies (multinationals)

For Course prerequisites see page 13.

CHEMISTRY (A)

OCR AS Level Specification H032

"To think is to practice brain chemistry."
Deepak Chopra

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS
Paper 1	Breadth in Chemistry	1hr 30 mins	Multiple choice and structured questions.	50%
Paper 2	Depth in Chemistry	1hr 30 mins	Structured questions including some longer answer questions.	50%

Style of Work:

Practical work, problem solving and analysis of data are all major elements of the work in this subject.

The AS Chemistry course starts by extending concepts from GCSE, but also introduces many new topics. Practical work and interactive whiteboard software are used regularly to support understanding. Active learning is encouraged and homework is set in almost every lesson. You will be expected to work hard.

Why Study AS Chemistry?

If you enjoyed Chemistry at GCSE then you will enjoy AS Chemistry even more. There is a greater variety of practical work and you will use advanced level equipment on a regular basis. Some of the topics covered will be familiar from GCSE, but you will study them in much greater depth so that you really understand chemical concepts. Many university courses including Medicine, Veterinary, Environmental Science and Forensic Science will require you to have Chemistry as one of your A level subjects.

Course Prerequisites:

Grade B in GCSE Chemistry or Additional Science is required. The course includes a significant element of calculation work so students with a good grounding in Mathematics will have an advantage. 20% of exam marks will assess maths skills. Grade B in GCSE Mathematics is recommended but you don't have to be brilliant at maths to take AS Chemistry. You will often have to read from textbooks and scientific papers. The Depth in Chemistry exam (Paper 2) includes some longer answer questions so students with very weak English are likely to struggle, however, there is no essay writing in this course.



CHEMISTRY (A)

OCR A Level Specification H432

"To think is to practice brain chemistry."
Deepak Chopra

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
Paper 1	Periodic table, elements and physical chemistry	2hr 15 mins	Short answer and longer structured questions.	37%
Paper 2	Synthesis and analytical techniques	2hr 15 mins	Structured questions including some longer answer questions, theory, practical skills	37%
Paper 3	Unified Chemistry	1hr 30 mins	Structured questions including some longer answer questions. The paper is synoptic	26%
Non-Exam	Practical endorsement for chemistry		Complete a minimum of 12 practical activities to demonstrate practical competence.	

In the second year of A level Chemistry you will learn about the important contribution that the chemical industry makes to global prosperity. Concepts from AS will be extended and many new chemical ideas will be covered.

You will learn about the reactions and properties of transition metals, and the many colourful compounds that transition metals produce. Some of the most spectacular reactions in the course are in this section, and at A level you of course do most of the experiments yourself rather than simply watching!

In the A level Chemistry exams your skills in extracting data, interpreting information and written communication will be assessed in the exams, as well as your knowledge and understanding of ten units of work. Five of these units of work are common to AS Chemistry and there are five additional units for students continuing to A level Chemistry. There is a strong emphasis on practical work, and your understanding of 12 key experiments will be assessed in the final exams.

20% of the marks in the A level Chemistry exams will involve calculations, so students will require a good understanding of Maths (grade A in GCSE Maths will be sufficient). It is not essential to also study AS or A level Maths, unless you are considering continuing Chemistry to degree level.

CLASSICAL CIVILISATION AQA AS Level Specification 1021

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS
CIV 1	An introduction to an aspect of Classical Civilisation 1 Art and Sculpture	1 hour and 30 minutes	Written Examination 65 marks Candidates study one topic from a choice of six Format of the questions Candidates answer one structured, source-based question (from a choice of two) and one short essay on their chosen topic.	50% of AS Level 25% of A Level

Classical Civilization

If you study classical civilisation you are able to **make sense of the modern world**, you are able to **make links with all of your other A level subjects** and you are able to **see the foundation of Literature, Philosophy, History and Science.**

When you study Classical Civilisation you will realise that the classical world is the foundation of much that we now see around us in modern Europe.

European art, architecture, science, engineering, medicine, law and politics all trace their origins back to the Greeks and Romans.

Classical Civilisation gives access to the world of the Greeks and Romans, including the study of ancient history and society.

In addition, an A level in Classical Civilisation involves the study of a wide range of material (different types of literature, history, material culture), so it helps you develop a wide range of intellectual skills which are of interest to employers. These include:

- independence of thought
- capacity for critical reflection and judgment
- ability to gather, memorize, organise and deploy information
- ability to extract key elements from data and identify and solve associated problems
- ability to marshal argument and present material both orally and in written form

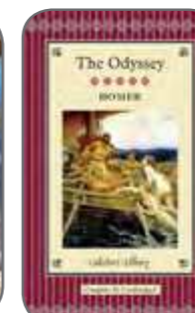
A study of Classical Civilisation complements many other popular A levels, including English Literature, History, Art, Drama, Government and Politics, History of Art, Philosophy and a study of the classical languages.

This A level does not require any previous study of a classical subject or knowledge of the Classical Greek or Latin language. However, the choices available enable candidates who have studied a classical subject to GCSE broaden and deepen their knowledge and understanding of classical culture.

The study of this A level enables the candidates to develop the critical and evaluative skills which will enable them to go on to Higher Education to study a wide range of courses. The knowledge gained in following the course will, or course, enable candidates to go on to Higher Education to study Classics or Ancient History.

CLASSICAL CIVILISATION AQA A Level Specification 2021

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
CIV 2	An introduction to an aspect of Classical Civilisation 2	1 hour and 30 minutes	Written Examination 65 marks Candidates study: Homer Odyssey Format of the questions Candidates answer one structured, source-based question (from a choice of two) and one short essay on their chosen topic. We will arrange a trip to ancient Greece and the British Museum in London.	50% of AS Level 25% of A Level
CIV 3	A study of an aspect of Classical Civilisation 1	1 hour and 30 minutes	Written Examination 75 marks Candidates study Greek Tragedy. Candidates answer one structured, source-based question (from a choice of two) and one extended essay on their chosen topic.	25% of A Level
CIV 4	A study of an aspect of Classical Civilisation 2	1 hour and 30 minutes	Written Examination 75 marks Candidates study Socrates and Athens. Candidates answer one structured, source-based question (from a choice of two) and one extended essay on their chosen topic.	25% of A Level



DRAMA & THEATRE STUDIES

Edexcel AS Level Specification 7261

"There was never yet an uninteresting life. Such a thing is an impossibility. Inside of the dullest exterior there is a drama, a comedy, and a tragedy." Mark Twain

Unit	Unit Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS
1	Set text Evaluation of Live Theatre	Written Exam 1 hour 45 mins	40%
2	Extract of text Portfolio	Performance and written portfolio	60%

The subject content details the knowledge, understanding and skills that students are expected to develop throughout the course of study.

The subject content for AS Drama and Theatre is divided into two components:

Interpreting drama
Process and performance

In the practical component students may specialize in performing, lighting, sound, set, costume, puppets and/or directing.

Component 1

Questions

Section A: one two part question (from a choice) on a given extract from the set play chosen (25 marks per part, 50 marks in total)

Section B: one question (from a choice) on the work of theatre makers in a single live theatre production (30 marks)

Component 2

What's assessed?

Practical exploration and theatrical interpretation of two extracts (Extract 1 and 2) each taken from a different play

Methodology of a prescribed practitioner must be applied to Extract 2

Extract 2 is to be performed as a final assessed piece (students may contribute as performer, designer or director)

Portfolio evidencing interpretive process and analysis and evaluation of performance

How it's assessed?

- Performance of Extract 2 (30 marks)
- Portfolio (30 marks)

DRAMA & THEATRE STUDIES

AQA A Level Specification 7262

"What is drama but life with the dull bits cut out."
Alfred Hitchcock

Unit	Unit Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting
1	Drama and Theatre	Written exam	40%
2	Creating Original Drama	Working notebook Devised drama	30%
3	Making Theatre	Performance Supporting notes	30%

Component 1

What's assessed?

Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre
Study of two set plays, one chosen from List A, one chosen from List B
Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers

Questions

Section A: one question (from a choice) on one of the set plays from List A (25 marks)
Section B: one two part question on a given extract from one of the set plays from List B (25 marks)
Section C: one question on the work of theatre makers in a single live theatre production (30 marks)

Component 2

What's assessed?

Process of creating devised drama
Performance of devised drama (students may contribute as performer, designer or director)
Devised piece must be influenced by the work and methodologies of one prescribed practitioner
How it's assessed
Working notebook (40 marks)
Devised performance (20 marks)

Component 3

What's assessed?

Practical exploration and interpretation of three extracts (Extract 1, 2 and 3) each taken from a different play
Methodology of a prescribed practitioner must be applied to Extract 3
Extract 3 is to be performed as a final assessed piece (students may contribute as performer, designer or director)
Reflective report analysing and evaluating theatrical interpretation of all three extracts
How it's assessed
Performance of Extract 3 (40 marks)
Reflective report (20 marks)

ECONOMICS

Edexcel AS Level Specification 8EC0

"In all recorded history there has not been one economist who has had to worry about where the next meal would come from" **Peter Drucker**

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS
1	Markets and Market Failure	2 hours	Written examination Multiple choice, short answer, data response	50%
2	The UK Economy – performance & policies	2 hours	Written examination Multiple choice, short answer, data response	50%

Style of Work:

Through written work, group discussion, presentation, data response and multiple choice, students will recognise the value and limitations of economic models as a means of explaining and evaluating the performance of firms and governments in the real world.

AS studies centre on:

The AS level Economics course is based around two core themes. Theme 1 focuses on microeconomic concepts: the study of decisions that people, businesses and governments make regarding the allocation of resources with emphasis on supply, demand and the impact of various factors such as prices. Theme 2 focuses on macroeconomic concepts: the study of the economy as a whole and how it is affected by changes in key indicators such as unemployment, trade, interest rates, growth, and price levels

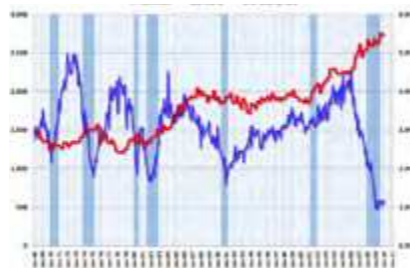
<p>Theme 1: Introduction to markets and market failure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature of economics • How markets work • Market failure • Government intervention 	<p>Theme 2: The UK Economy – performance and policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures of economic performance • Aggregate Demand & Supply • National Income • Economic Growth • Macroeconomic objectives & policy
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Course Prerequisites:

An interest in current affairs is essential and at least a Grade C in GCSE English and Mathematics.

Why Economics?

Economics has become very high profile. Issues such as the credit crunch, bankers' bonuses and fears of a Euro meltdown have thrown light on the importance of, and divisions within, the study of Economics. Studying Economics gives students an understanding of the issues that surround them daily.



ECONOMICS

Edexcel A Level Specification 9EC0

"In all recorded history there has not been one economist who has had to worry about where the next meal would come from" **Peter Drucker**

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
1	Markets & Business Behaviour	2 Hours	Written examination Multiple choice, short answer, data response	35%
2	The National & Global Economy	2 Hours	Written examination Multiple choice, short answer, data response	35%
3	Microeconomics & Macroeconomics	2 Hours	Written examination Data response	30%

Style of work:

Through written work, group discussion, presentation, data response and multiple choice, students will recognise the value and limitations of economic models as a means of explaining and evaluating the performance of firms and governments in the real world.

A2 studies centre on:

The A level Economics course is based around four core themes. Themes 1 & 3 focus on microeconomic concepts: the study of decisions that people, businesses and governments make regarding the allocation of resources with emphasis on supply, demand and the impact of various factors such as prices. Themes 2 & 4 focus on macroeconomic concepts: the study of the economy as a whole and how it is affected by changes in key indicators such as unemployment, trade, interest rates, growth, and price levels.

<p>Theme 1: Introduction to markets and market failure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature of economics • How markets work • Market failure • Government intervention 	<p>Theme 2: The UK Economy – performance and policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures of economic performance • Aggregate Demand & Supply • National Income • Economic Growth • Macroeconomic objectives & policy
<p>Theme 3: Business Behaviour and the labour market</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business growth • Business Objectives • Revenues, costs & profit • Market structures • Labour market • Government intervention 	<p>Theme 4: A global perspective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International economics • Poverty & inequality • Emerging & developing economies • The financial sector • Role of the state in the macro economy

Course Prerequisites:

An interest in current affairs is essential and at least a Grade C in GCSE English and Mathematics.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Edexcel AS Level Specification 8ETO

"It is the mark of an educated man to be able to entertain an idea without accepting it." Aristotle

This is both an exciting and demanding qualification that is universally respected by universities and a perfect springboard for thousands of different career choices. Unlike GCSE, the focus is firmly on you – your ideas, your opinions, your interests. You will be encouraged to read widely and independently, texts that have been selected for you and those which you choose yourself. You will develop your skills of critical and creative engagement acquiring the confidence to present your own opinions and personal responses. This is a challenging course but one of the most rewarding A levels you could choose.

Unit	Unit Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS
1	Unseen Poetry and Drama Students study: * Poetic form, meaning, language, style and conventions in a wide range of poetry. * One drama text (either tragedy or comedy)	2 hour written examination Open book – clean copies of the texts can be taken into the exam. Section A – Unseen poetry: one essay question on an unseen modern poem. Section B – Drama: one essay question	60%
2	Prose Students study: * Two prose texts from chosen theme. One text will be pre-1900	1 hour written examination Open book – clean copies of the texts can be taken into the exam. Students answer one comparative essay question from a choice of two.	40%

What do I need to know or be able to do before taking this course:

You are strongly recommended to have GCSE in English and English Literature at grade B or above.



ENGLISH LITERATURE

Edexcel A Level Specification 9ETO

"It is the mark of an educated man to be able to entertain an idea without accepting it." Aristotle

Unit	Unit Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
1	Drama Students study: * One Shakespeare play and one other play (either tragedy or comedy) * A collection of essays and critical essays related to their set texts.	2 hour written examination Open book – clean copies of the texts can be taken into the exam. Section A – Shakespeare: one essay question Section B – other drama: one essay question	30%
2	Prose Students study: * Two prose texts from chosen theme. One prose text must be pre-1900.	1 hour written examination Open book – clean copies of the texts can be taken into the exam. Students answer one comparative essay question from a choice of two.	20%
3	Poetry Students study: * Poetic form, meaning, language style. * Study a range of poetry by a named poet or from a literary period.	2 hour written examination Open book – clean copies of the poetry texts can be taken into the exam Section A – unseen poetry: one question on an unseen modern poem (written post 2000) Section B – prescribed poetry: one essay question.	30%
4	Coursework Students study: * 2 texts that they have not studied in components 1, 2 or 3. * They may be linked by theme, author or literary period and can be poetry, drama, prose or literary non-fiction.	One extended comparative essay referring to two texts. OR One recreative piece on one literary text plus an analytical commentary AND one comparative essay referring to both texts.	20%

FOOD, NUTRITION AND HEALTH OCR AS Level Specification H111

"One of the very nicest things about life is the way we must regularly stop whatever it is we are doing and devote our attention to eating." Luciano Pavarotti

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS (A2)
1	Society and Health	Throughout the year	90 minute examination	50%
2	Resource Management	Throughout the year	90 minute examination	50%

Why Study Food, Nutrition and Health

Society is ever changing and evolving; this course gives you the skills to understand human needs and how to manage resources, (including your own finances). We look at population trends and the implication of these patterns in the United Kingdom. We look at changes in family structure, the reasons for this and how and why our nation's eating trends have changed since WW2 and what the predictions are for the future. This course would be beneficial to those students looking to eventually find employment in a wide range of businesses including the food industry, local government, medicine, social services, the hospitality industry and the health industry.

Course Content

(1) Society and Health:

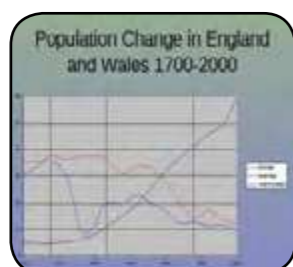
The topics covered in this unit are demography, family and society, key issues for society, environmental, health and social issues.

(2) Resource Management:

Managing resources and finance, food provision, consumer rights, food preparation and equipment, food safety and hygiene.

Course Prerequisites

It is advisable, although not essential, that students have studied Food and Nutrition at GCSE and have achieved a minimum grade B.



FOOD, NUTRITION AND HEALTH OCR A2 Level Specification H511

"There is no love sincerer than the love of food"
George Bernard Shaw 1903

This course aims to provide students with the skills they will need to adapt to an ever changing, diverse society. It will explore the rapid technological changes and growth of scientific knowledge and understanding in the food industry.

During the year they will study two units:

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
	Investigative Study	Throughout the year	3000 word assignment	25%
	Nutrition and Food Production	Throughout the year	90 minute examination	25%

The Food, Nutrition and Health A Level builds upon the skills and knowledge gained from the AS.

Students will study two units, one of which is an independent investigation that will include practical work culminating in a 3000 word assignment. Using their depth of experience students choose to study an area that they feel will be of most interest and of most benefit to them. For example, if a student was considering medicine or nutrition at university they might choose to explore how teenagers can make changes to their diet to try to reduce their risk of coronary heart disease or diabetes type two later on in life. Alternatively they might like to choose a topic that particularly appealed to them such as, evaluating different slimming diets, creating dishes for someone they know who suffers from coeliac disease, exploring how they can encourage children to eat more fruit and vegetables, investigating Fair Trade, or genetically modified foods or perhaps examining how families who live in poverty can eat healthily on a tight budget. The choices are limitless.

Students will also study a second unit: Nutrition and Food Production. This unit encompasses nutrients and energy; nutritional and dietary needs of different groups of people; properties of food; design; development and production of food and advances in the Food industry.



GEOGRAPHY

AQA AS Level Specification

"The study of geography is about more than just memorising places on a map. It's about understanding the complexity of our world, appreciating the diversity of cultures that exists across continents. And in the end, it's about using all that knowledge to help bridge divides and bring people together." - President Barack Obama

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS (A2)
1	Physical Geography and people and the environment	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination Multiple choice, structured questions and extended writing	50%
2	Human Geography and Geography Fieldwork Investigation	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination Multiple choice, structured questions and extended writing	50%

Style of work:

There is a wide variety of approaches to work in lessons and for prep. These include independent research, group discussions and presentations, fieldwork, data presentation and analysis, writing data response and longer, guided essay questions and using ICT, including geographical information systems (GIS).

AS Studies

This is a diverse qualification which covers a wide range of contemporary topics, including those of current significance. Physical topics studied include coastal systems and landscapes and hazard management. Human topics focus on global systems and governance. Fieldwork includes a residential trip to the world Heritage Site of the Jurassic Coast, Dorset. This enables students to put theory into practice and develop their skills for the written papers. Students will also become members of the Guildford Branch of the Geographical Association and therefore be eligible to attend relevant lectures from a wide variety of speakers.

Course Prerequisites

A GCSE grade of a B or above is an advantage. However, students who have a keen interest in the world around them and who have not studied GCSE Geography may also consider this course.

Why Geography?

A level Geography is a highly regarded qualification by universities and employers and has applicability in many related fields such as economics, history, politics, biology and chemistry. Geography forms the bridge between the natural and human world and the science and arts disciplines. Geography is a subject for our times, highly valued for its academic rigour, it is inherently multidisciplinary in a world that increasingly values people who have the skills needed to work across the physical and social sciences.



GEOGRAPHY

AQA A Level Specification

"Geography is one of the most relevant courses you could choose to study. Whatever your passion for the world - fascination with landscapes or concerns about inequality - Geography will provide you with knowledge and transferable skills that will reward you personally and advance you professionally." Dr Rita Gardner, RGS

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
1	Physical Geography	2 hours 30 minutes	Written examination Multiple choice, structured questions and extended writing	40%
2	Human Geography	2 hour 30 minutes	Written examination Multiple choice, structured questions and extended writing	40%
3	Geographical Investigation	Coursework	Investigative report Teacher-assessed	20%

Style of work:

A diverse range of activities are used in lessons and for prep. These include independent research, group discussions and presentations, ICT and GIS and essay-writing skills. Students will also complete their own fieldwork investigation developing their statistical, graphical and analytical skills. Fieldwork includes a residential trip to the world Heritage Site of the Jurassic Coast, Dorset. This enables students to put theory into practice and develop their skills for their own investigation. Students will also become members of the Guildford Branch of the Geographical Association and attend relevant lectures from a wide variety of speakers.

A2 Studies focus on

There are four core themes. The Physical themes are the water and carbon cycles and physical environments, with a focus on coastal landscapes and hazard management. The Human themes focus on global systems and governance, changing places and population and the environment.

Course Prerequisites

A GCSE grade of a B or above is an advantage. However, students who have a keen interest in the world around them and who have not studied GCSE Geography may also consider this course.

Why Geography?

To quote a major employer: "Geographers are stars in many respects, as they have a unique insight into the relationships between human and physical phenomena." Geography is intellectually challenging and helps develop cultural agility which is the most desirable graduate skill cited by multinational employers. It is also proven to improve literacy, numeracy and communication skills. Geography graduates have one of the highest employment rates and end up in a diverse range of careers from law, consultancy and investment banking to environmental management, insurance and town planning. Many other A level Geography students benefit from their unique blend of skills even when specialising in other areas such as medicine or architecture.

HISTORY

AQA AS Level Specifications

“A country without a memory is a country of madmen” - George Santayana

Module	Content	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS
Unit 1H	The Fall of Tsarist Russia, 1855-1917	1 hr 30 mins	One written exam	50%
Unit 2S	The Making of Modern Britain, 1951-1979	1 hr 30 mins	One written exam	50%

The Fall of Tsarist Russia, 1855-1917

Trying to preserve autocracy, 1855–1894

- The political, social and economic condition of Russia in 1855 and the impact of the Crimean War
- Alexander II; emancipation of the serfs and attempts at domestic and military reform
- Alexander II and Alexander III as rulers; attitudes to and imposition of autocracy; key developments
- Russification; treatment of ethnic minorities and Jews
- Opposition: ideas and ideologies; individuals; liberals and radical groups and the Tsarist reaction
- Industrial developments and the land issue; social divisions; nobles, landowners and position of the peasantry; the cultural influence of the Church

The collapse of autocracy, 1894–1917

- Nicholas II as ruler: political developments to 1914; 1905 Revolution; Duma government
- Industrial and agricultural growth and change to 1914
- Change and conditions of working and living in towns and countryside; social divisions; cultural changes
- Opposition: ideas and ideologies, liberalism, socialism; Marxism; individuals and radical groups
- The political, economic and social problems of Russia during the First World War; opposition and the collapse of autocracy; the political developments of 1917
- The Bolshevik takeover and the establishment of Bolshevik government by December 1917; opposition

The Making of Modern Britain, 1951-1979

The Affluent Society, 1951-1964

- Conservative governments and reasons for political dominance
- Economic developments: post-war boom; balance of payments issues and 'stop-go' policies
- Social developments: rising living standards; the impact of affluence and consumerism; changing social attitudes; class & 'the Establishment'; the position of women; attitudes to immigration; racial violence; youth culture
- Foreign relations: EFTA & the EEC; USA and USSR; the nuclear deterrent; Korean War; Suez; decolonisation

The Sixties, 1964-1970

- Wilson and the Labour governments
- Liberal reforming legislation: the end of capital punishment; the legalisation of abortion & homosexual relations
- Social and cultural change: the expansion of the mass media; growth in leisure activities; the impact of scientific developments; the reduction in censorship; progress towards female equality; youth culture; anti-Vietnam war riots
- Relations with & policies towards USA, particularly issue of Vietnam; response to world affairs and Europe

The end of Post-War Consensus, 1970-1979

- Heath's government
- Labour governments of Wilson & Callaghan: political, economic & industrial problems; Northern Ireland
- Society in the 1970s: progress of feminism; the Sex Discrimination Act; race and immigration; youth
- Britain's entry into and relations with Europe; the 'special relationship' with USA; attitudes to USSR & China

HISTORY

AQA A Level Specifications

“History is filled with the sound of silken slippers going downstairs and wooden shoes coming up”- Voltaire

Module	Content	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
Unit 1H	Tsarist and Communist Russia, 1855-1964	2 hr 30 mins	One written exam	40%
Unit 2S	The Making of Modern Britain, 1951-2007	2 hr 30 mins	One written exam	40%
Unit 3	Historical investigation	n/a	One 3,000 – 3,500 word essay	20%

Content as for AS, plus...

Tsarist and Communist Russia, 1855-1964

The emergence of Communist dictatorship, 1917–1941 Political authority and government: new leaders and ideologies; Lenin, Stalin's rise

- Political authority and government: Bolshevik authority and the Stalinist dictatorship
- Economic developments: Lenin's decrees; the Stalinist economy; collectivisation & the Five Year Plans
- Social developments: effect of Leninist/Stalinist rule on class, women, young people, minorities; propaganda Opposition: faction; the Red Terror and the purges

The Stalinist dictatorship and reaction, 1941–1964

- Political authority, opposition and the state of the Soviet Union in wartime
- Political authority and government to 1953: High Stalinism; the revival of terror; destruction of 'supposed' opposition and cult of personality; the power vacuum on Stalin's death
- Political authority and government: Khrushchev's rise to power; deStalinisation; political & party change
- Economic and social developments: changes in industrial organisation from Stalin to Khrushchev; Virgin Lands scheme
- Opposition: cultural dissidents; communist divisions; hardliners and reformers

The Making of Modern Britain, 1951-1979

The impact of Thatcherism, 1979-1987

- The Thatcher governments: Thatcher as leader; ministers; support and opposition; electoral success
- Thatcher's economic policies & their impact: monetarism; privatisation; deregulation; issues of inflation
- Impact of Thatcherism on society: sale of council houses; miners' strike; poll tax; extra-parliamentary opposition
- Foreign Affairs: the Falklands; the 'special relationship' with USA; moves to end the Cold War; Thatcher as an international figure;

Towards a new Consensus, 1987-1997

- Fall of Thatcher & her legacy; Major as leader; economic developments, including 'Black Wednesday' & its impact
- Labour Party under Kinnock, Smith and Blair; reasons for Labour victory in 1997
- Social issues: the extent of 'social liberalism'; anti-establishment culture; the position of women and race-relations
- Foreign affairs: relations with Europe; interventions in the Balkans; the end of the Cold War

The Era of New Labour, 1997-2007

- The Labour governments: Blair as leader; constitutional change; domestic policies; Brown & economic policy
- The Conservative Party: leaders and reason for divisions; reason for electoral failures in 2001 and 2005
- Social issues: workers, women & youth; the extent to which Britain had become a multicultural society
- Foreign affairs: attitudes to Europe; the 'special relationship' with USA; military interventions and the 'war on terror';

Historical investigation Independent investigation into a period of approximately 100 years of history. Presented in the form of a piece of extended writing and making use of a combination of primary and secondary sources.

HISTORY OF ART

AQA AS Level Specification 1251

"Thanks to art, instead of seeing one world, our own, we see it multiplied, and we have at our disposal as many worlds as there are original artists, worlds that differ more widely from each other than those that revolve in infinite space, worlds which – whether their names be Rembrandt or Vermeer – send us their special radiance centuries after the fire from which it emanated was extinguished." Proust

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS
1	Visual Analysis and Interpretation	1 hour	Written examination	40%
2	Themes in History of Art	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination	60%

Style of Work: 30% visual analysis, 30% research art historical contexts, 20% essay technique, 20% discussion.

AS studies centre on:

- Developing an ability to analyse and interpret a variety of works, including paintings, architecture and sculpture
- To consider works in their contexts, what influenced them and who they went on to influence
- An understanding of some of the major themes in the history of art.

The visual analysis that students carry out in unit one is an essential element which they use throughout the course. The art historical aspect of the course will be studied thematically, eg, subjects and genres, social and cultural, gender, nationality and ethnicity. Students will be strongly encouraged to visit galleries to see original works where possible.

Course Prerequisites:

An interest in Art and History would be useful. Also, students should have GCSE English at grade C or above.

Why History of Art?

This is a particularly useful subject if applying for arts based subjects at university. The course fits well with English Literature, History and Religious Studies. Students opting Art and Photography would be suitable as they would have a trained eye when carrying out visual analysis.



HISTORY OF ART

AQA A Level Specification 2251

"Every great work of art has two faces, one toward its own time and one toward the future, toward eternity." Daniel Barenboim

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
3	Visual and Interpretation (1)	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination	25%
4	Visual and Interpretation (2)	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination	25%

Style of work:

20% visual analysis, 30% research art historical contexts, 30% essay writing, 20% discussion and presentation.

A2 studies centre on:

- Selected art historical periods from a choice for four optional topics in each unit
- Questions test knowledge and understanding of art and architecture from choices made
- Workshops on essay writing will be a key theme to success at A2 level
- Incorporating visual analysis from unit one into essays for A2

At A2 level students choose two areas of extensive art historical study, ranging from medieval times to the present day. It is important that students visit first hand works which they are studying where possible.

Course Prerequisites:

Students should have gained at least a grade D at AS level.

Why History of Art?

This is a particularly useful subject if applying for arts based subjects at higher education level. Students opting for more practical based subjects, such as Art and Photography, would also be a good combination. If you are considering a career in a gallery or museum this could be a suitable subject choice.



INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

BTEC National Subsidiary Diploma

"Computers are useless. They can only give you answers." Pablo Picasso

This two-year course provides a practical "hands-on" approach to modern day Information Technology and carries the same UCAS points and weight as a practically orientated A Level course. Alongside an appropriate choice of other courses, it gives progression to university as well as expertise and skills for IT and for business more broadly.

In the first year the work includes producing a working website and building a computer system. There are also optional units based on the individual interests of the student.

In the second year the work involves producing a graphical image, an animation and a computer game. The activities are structured around the idea of working for a simulated on-line games company, with the tasks tied into work such a company would be doing. You need to be able to write good English and you will need to have (or develop) strong organisation and time management, as well as good spoken communication.

BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma is equivalent to one A Level. It is assessed through six coursework assignments (there are no examinations).

Optional units for study include:-

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of the Use of IT on Business Systems • Managing Networks • Software Design and Development • Organisational Systems Security • e-Commerce • Computer Networks • Data Analysis and Design • Developing Computer Games • Human Computer Interaction • Controlling Systems Using IT • Maintaining Computer Systems • Mathematics for IT Practitioners • Web Server Scripting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication Technologies • Systems Analysis and Design • IT Technical Support • IT Systems Troubleshooting and Repair • Event Driven Programming • Object Oriented Programming • Procedural Programming • Project Planning with IT • Database Design • Computer Systems Architecture • Client Side Customisation of Web Pages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website Production • Installing and Upgrading Software • Digital Graphics • Computer Animation • Networked Systems Security • Supporting Business Activity • Business Resources • Digital Graphics for Interactive Media • Computer Game Platforms and Technologies • 2D Animation Production • Interactive Media Authoring • Web Animation for Interactive Media • Computer Game Design • 3D Modelling • Spreadsheet Modelling • Multimedia Design
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STATISTICAL METHODS

Edexcel Level 3 Award AST30

(70 UCAS points)

"Facts are stubborn, but statistics are more pliable." Mark Twain



"Lies, damned lies, and statistics" is a phrase describing the persuasive power of numbers, particularly the use of statistics to bolster weak arguments.

This is a course for those wishing to complement or support their A Level choices with a statistics unit. It is designed to help you develop proficiency in statistics that will support your university studies or later in the workplace. The course is additional to your A Level options and will run from January 2017 for one year. The time commitment is 2 hours of class time and 1 hour of prep each week. The examination (2 hours) being taken in January 2018 does not clash with your A level examination sitting. The qualification is awarded at pass or unclassified.

The course is a mix of methods and calculation techniques to enhance analytical work. Handling data methods include the use of stratified sampling, histograms, stem and leaf diagrams, seasonal variation analysis, Venn diagrams and the interpretation of chain base index numbers. Statistical calculation techniques that you will be taught include standard deviation, geometric means, Spearman's coefficient of rank, the product moment correlation coefficient and using the Normal distribution as a model.

MATHEMATICS

Edexcel AS Level Specification 8371

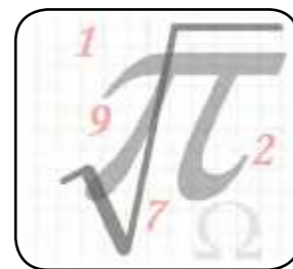
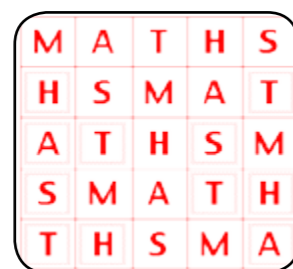
"Mathematics is, in its way, the poetry of logical ideas." - Einstein

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS
C1	Core 1	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination	1/3
C2	Core 2	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination	1/3
S1	Statistics 1	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination	1/3

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
C3	Core 3	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination	1/3
C4	Core 4	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination	1/3
D1	Decision 1	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination	1/3

We hope you will experience wonder in Mathematics for its significance, influence and grace. If you are reading this you probably are a logical thinker, enjoy problem solving and are choosing a career that uses Mathematics. The process of 'doing' mathematics is far more than just calculation. Mathematics is diverse and you will be dealing with data to learn techniques that help us understand the world around us.

Mathematics involves you acquiring structured knowledge and you will develop problem-solving techniques throughout the AS and A2 courses. You will follow the Edexcel specifications.



MATHEMATICS

Edexcel A2 Level Specification 9371

"Mathematics is, in its way, the poetry of logical ideas." - Einstein

AS Mathematics will be gained in Year 12 after studying two Pure Mathematics units (C1 & C2) and one Applied Mathematics unit (Statistics S1). Mathematics at AS level is a stimulating and enjoyable subject to study in its own right. It is valued by universities and employers as an essential component of many degree courses and careers. You will have the opportunity to attend the Inspiration Theatre Show in the Autumn Term that will suggest fields of work or further study linked to Mathematics.

A Level Mathematics can be gained in Year 13 after studying two more Pure Mathematics units (C3 & C4) and one Applied Mathematics unit (Decision 1).

The course will develop and extend the knowledge and skills learnt at GCSE level. It is challenging, some of the formulae and ideas can initially be hard to grasp and you need to be interested in the beauty of Mathematics. A minimum of a grade A in GCSE is advisable. The course complements a wide range of other A-levels and is helpful to balance Arts or Humanities options.

If you are considering applying for a university course involving Mathematics (or if you really love the subject and are very good at it), then you should think seriously about taking Further Mathematics.



MATHEMATICS & FURTHER MATHEMATICS

Two separate A Levels in 2 Years

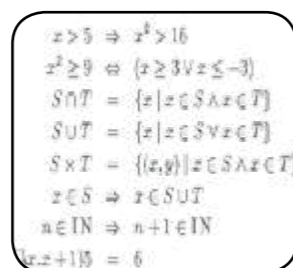
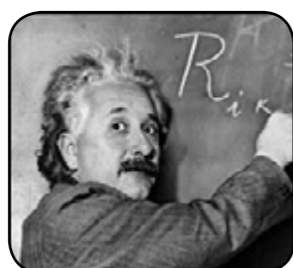
Lower Sixth: Mathematics A Level Edexcel 9371

Upper Sixth: Further Mathematics Edexcel Specification 9372

Edexcel A level specification 9371 1st Year

"Mathematics is, in its way, the poetry of logical ideas." - Einstein

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting L6
C1	Core 1	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination	1/6
C2	Core 2	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination	1/6
C3	Core 3	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination	1/6
C4	Core 4	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination	1/6
M1	Mechanics 1	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination	1/6
M2	Mechanics 2	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination	1/6
FP1	Further Pure Mathematics 1	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination	1/6
FP2	Further Pure Mathematics 2	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination	1/6
FP3	Further Pure Mathematics 3	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination	1/6
S1	Statistics 1	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination	1/6
S2	Statistics 2	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination	1/6
D1	Decision 1	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination	1/6



MATHEMATICS & FURTHER MATHEMATICS

Two separate A Levels in 2 Years

Upper Sixth: Further Mathematics Edexcel Specification 9372

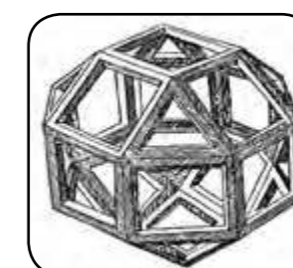
"Mathematics is, in its way, the poetry of logical ideas." - Einstein

The school is registered as part of the National Further Mathematics Support Programme and has access to resources and revision days at the University of London, University of Reading and University of Southampton

Further Mathematics is regarded by many universities as a pre-requisite for studying Mathematics, Engineering or Physics degrees. You will have the opportunity to attend the Inspiration Theatre Show in the Autumn Term of the Lower Sixth that will suggest fields of work or further study linked to Mathematics.

Qualifications in Further Mathematics require study of the units C1, C2, FP1, D1, M1 and S1 in Year 12 to gain AS Mathematics and AS Further Mathematics level. In Year 13 the remainder of the units will be examined to gain A Level Mathematics and A Level Further Mathematics.

You will also have the opportunity to take part in the Senior UK Mathematics Challenge and, if successful, to go through to the Olympiad. The Further Mathematics class have the opportunity of attending a Master Class at Oxford or Cambridge University at the end of the Summer Term of the Lower Sixth to introduce a topic suitable for further independent learning or take part in collaborative problem solving activities.



MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES: FRENCH AS Level Specification 7651

“Скільки мов ти знаєш - стільки разів ти людина “
“How many languages you know - that many times you are a person.” Pavlo Tychyna

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS
Paper 1	Listening, reading and translation	1 hour 45 minutes	Written examination containing written and taped stimulus	40%
Paper 2	Translation and writing	1 hour 15 minutes	Written examination	30%
Paper 3	Speaking	27-29 mins	Oral examination	30%

This stimulating and culturally enriching course is designed to build up linguistic competence and to promote knowledge and understanding of many aspects of the society and culture of French-speaking countries.

The AS course builds on the language skills acquired at GCSE. It is conducted almost entirely in French and the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing will be developed mainly through the study of topics in context and through up-to-date current affairs in French speaking countries.

The general topic areas at AS are:

- The changing nature of family
- Cyber - society
- The place of voluntary work
- A culture proud of its heritage
- Contemporary Francophone music
- Cinema: the 7th art form

You will also be able to explore other areas you feel passionate about by doing some independent research on French cultural subjects for your oral examination. Our digital Language Laboratory, multimedia materials, and personalised teaching, will allow you to truly enjoy a new French environment. The language experience is the closest to French life that we can provide at Prior's Field. Of course, our fun European work experience programmes feature highly on the list of learning to "live as the French do in France". A new world of cultural adventures will open in front of your eyes.

Why French? This qualification will be of value in many areas of employment and will open a whole new world of opportunities in both a working and social environment. It goes without saying that fluency in French will allow doors to open in the future.

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES: FRENCH A Level Specification 7652

“Language exerts hidden power, like a moon on the tides.” Rita Mae Brown

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS
Paper 1	Listening, reading and translation	2 hour 30 minutes	Written examination containing written and taped stimulus	40%
Paper 2	Writing	2 hours	Written examination	30%
Paper 3	Speaking	26-28 mins	Oral examination	30%

Building on the knowledge and skills acquired at AS level, this course studies in greater depth aspects of contemporary society and the cultural heritage of French speaking countries.

Listening, reading, speaking and writing skills as well as topical knowledge of the world around you, will continue to be developed through the study of the themes below in addition to the topic areas sampled at AS.

We shall explore the A2 general topic areas:

- Positive features of a diverse society
- Life for the marginalised
- How criminals are treated
- Teenagers, the right to vote and political commitments
- Demonstration, strikes - who holds the power?
- Politics and immigration
- Literature/film

You will study further areas of grammar and will write essays and participate in discussions in French in which you present information, organise arguments, provide opinions and analyse ideas. Fun European work experience programmes offer a chance to live like the French.

The use of the Language Lab will allow you to be in direct contact with the French speaking world and immerse yourself in French culture around the globe. This course will be excellent preparation for university study or for work in or with French-speaking countries.

Course prerequisites: a good grade in AS French is highly recommended.

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES: SPANISH AQA AS Level Specification 7692

"Die Grenzen meiner Sprache bedeuten die Grenzen meiner Welt."
"The limits of my language are the limits of my universe." Ludwig Wittgenstein

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS
Paper 1	Listening, reading and translation	2 hour 30 minutes	Written examination containing written and taped stimulus	40%
Paper 2	Writing	2 hours	Written examination	30%
Paper 3	Speaking	26-28 mins	Oral examination	30%

This stimulating and culturally enriching course is designed to build up linguistic competence and to promote knowledge and understanding of many aspects of the society and culture of Spanish-speaking countries.

The AS course builds on the language skills acquired at GCSE. It is conducted almost entirely in Spanish and the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing will be developed mainly through the study of topics in context and through up-to-date current affairs in Spanish speaking countries.

The general topic areas at AS are:

- Immigration
- Racism
- Integration
- Today's youth, tomorrows citizens
- Monarchies, republic and dictatorships
- Popular movements
- Literature/film
- Individual research topic

You will also be able to explore other areas you feel passionate about by doing some independent research on Spanish cultural subjects for your oral examination. Our digital Language Laboratory, multimedia materials, and personalised teaching, will allow you to truly enjoy a new Spanish environment. A new world of cultural adventures will open in front of your eyes.

The language experience is the closest to Spanish life that we can provide at Prior's Field. Of course, our fun European work experience programmes feature highly on the list of learning to "live as the Spanish do in Spain".

Why Spanish? This qualification will be of value in many areas of employment and will open a whole new world of opportunities in both a working and social environment. It goes without saying that fluency in Spanish will give you an edge in your future career.

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES: SPANISH AQA A Level Specification 2696

"Kolik jazyků znáš, tolikrát jsi člověkem."
"You live a new life for every new language you speak. If you know only one language, you live only once." Czech Proverb

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
SPAN3	Listening, Reading and Writing	2 hours 30 minutes	Written examination containing written and taped stimulus	35%
SPAN4	Speaking	35 minutes	Oral examination	15%

Building on the knowledge and skills acquired at AS level, this course studies in greater depth aspects of contemporary society and the cultural heritage of Spanish speaking countries.

Listening, reading, speaking and writing skills as well as topical knowledge of the world around you, will continue to be developed through the study of the themes below, in addition to the topic areas sampled at AS.

We shall explore the A2 general topic areas:

Environment	Cultural Topic Choice of studying two from:
Pollution Energy Protecting the Planet The Multicultural Society Immigration Integration Racism Contemporary Social Issues Wealth and poverty Law and Order The Impact of Scientific and Technological Progress	A Spanish language-speaking region/community A period of 20th century history from a Spanish-speaking country/community The work of an author from a Spanish-speaking country/community The work of dramatist/poet from a Spanish language speaking country/community The work of a director/architect/musician painter from a Spanish language speaking country/community

You will study further areas of grammar and will write essays and participate in discussions in Spanish in which you present information, organise arguments, provide opinions and analyse ideas. Fun European work experience programmes offer a chance to live like the Spanish.

The use of the Language Lab will allow you to be in direct contact with the Spanish speaking world and immerse yourself in Spanish culture around the globe. This course will be excellent preparation for university study or for work in or with Spanish-speaking countries. Course prerequisites: a good grade in AS Spanish is highly recommended.

MUSIC

AQA AS Level Specification 7201

"Music is enough for a lifetime, but a lifetime is not enough for music." Rachmaninov

Unit	Unit Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
1	Appraising music	Exam paper with listening and written questions using excerpts of music.	40%
2	Performance	Solo and/or ensemble performing as an instrumentalist, or vocalist and/or music production	30%
3	Composition	Composition 1: Composition to a brief (25 marks) Composition 2: Free composition (25 marks)	30%

Appraising Music

The areas of study provide an appropriate focus for students to appraise music and demonstrate an in-depth knowledge and understanding of musical elements and musical language. The areas of study can also provide a rich source of material to work with when developing performance and composition skills.

There are seven areas of study. Students must study Area of Study 1 and choose ONE from Areas of Study 2 – 7.

1. Western classical tradition 1650 – 1910 (compulsory)
2. Pop music
3. Music for media
4. Music for theatre
5. Jazz
6. Contemporary traditional music
7. Art music since 1910

Course Prerequisites: A good result at GCSE is essential. Students must adopt a keen interest in a broad range of styles.

Why Music?

- I want to broaden my general knowledge in the arts
- I want to make my career in music and want to engage in the subject in depth by developing my already confident musical skills.

MUSIC

Edexcel A Level Specification 727

"Where words fail, music speaks." Hans Christian Andersen

Unit	Unit Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
1	Appraising music	Exam paper with listening and written questions using excerpts of music.	40%
2	Performance	Solo and/or ensemble performing as an instrumentalist, or vocalist and/or music production (via technology).	35%
3	Composition	Composition 1: Composition to a brief (25 marks) Composition 2: Free composition (25 marks)	25%

Appraising Music

The areas of study provide an appropriate focus for students to appraise music and demonstrate an in-depth knowledge and understanding of musical elements and musical language. The areas of study can also provide a rich source of material to work with when developing performance and composition skills.

There are seven areas of study. Students must study Area of Study 1 and choose ONE from Areas of Study 2 – 7.

1. Western classical tradition 1650 – 1910 (compulsory)
2. Pop music
3. Music for media
4. Music for theatre
5. Jazz
6. Contemporary traditional music
7. Art music since 1910

Course Prerequisites: A good result at AS is essential and a keen interest in a wide range of musical styles and drive to develop performing, composing, analysis and research skills.

Why Music?

- I want to broaden my general knowledge in the arts, whether or not I plan to study music further at university.
- I want to make my career in music and want to engage in the subject in depth by further developing my already confident musical skills.

BTEC MUSIC TECHNOLOGY Edexcel Level 3 (Production)

"People today are still living off the table scraps of the sixties"
Bob Dylan

This vocational qualification links directly to current practice in today's music industry.

The Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Music Technology (Production) is a 60-credit qualification that consists of **one** mandatory unit **one** specialist unit **plus** optional units that provide for a combined total of 60 credits (where at least 45 credits must be at level 3 or above).

Mandatory unit

Music Production Techniques

Developing an awareness of the equipment and techniques used in recording studios so that you can produce a complete studio recording.

Specialist unit

Sequencing Systems and Techniques

Developing learners' knowledge of music sequencing software and the transferable skills that facilitate the realisation of musical ideas in both audio and MIDI environments. Learners will develop the skills to set up, use and discuss sequencing systems and techniques.

Optional units

Delivering a Music Product

Enabling learners to experience the process of creating and delivering a product, probably a CD recording within guidelines typical within the music industry.

The Sound and Music Industry

Enabling learners to gain a knowledge and awareness of where their careers choices fit into the big picture of the industry and gain skills in creating a business plan. It includes an examination of working conditions, practices and approaches to employment.

Entry requirements: It is expected that students will be proficient on at least one instrument and/or vocals.

Course assessment: All units are internally assessed through many practical projects and some written assignments. Grade of Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction* are awarded which are equivalent to A levels for the purpose of university entrance. Continuous coursework assessment throughout the year.



BTEC MUSIC TECHNOLOGY Edexcel Level 3 (Production)

"Rock and roll isn't a career or hobby - it's a life force...it's just something I have to do"
The Edge



PHYSICAL EDUCATION AQA AS Level Specification 7581

"Champions keep playing until they get it right."
Billie Jean King

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
1	Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport	2 hours	Multiple choice, Short answer, Extended writing.	105 marks 35% of A level
Non-exam assessment: Practical performance in physical activity and sport		Ongoing throughout course and submitted at the end	Internal assessment of practical and final external moderation	90 marks 30% of A level

Style of Work:

Practical activity, written work – structured note taking, questions and essays, class discussions, independent research tasks.

Those choosing to study Physical Education at ALevel will discover how broad and interesting this subject is. The aim of the specification is to develop students' knowledge and understanding of the factors influencing participation in physical activity and sport. The first year of the course is made up of three different but related areas of study. **Applied Anatomy and Physiology** focuses on how body systems change prior and during exercise of different intensities and also during recovery. Topics include the cardiovascular, respiratory and muscular systems. **Skill Acquisition** focuses on how skill is acquired, and the impact of psychological factors on an athlete's performance. Topics include: skill and ability, teaching and practice of skills, guidance and feedback. The final section, **Sport and Society**, includes the study of barriers to participation and globalisation of sport in 21st Century.

Practically, the students are assessed as a performer or a coach in the full sided version of one activity. There is also a written or verbal analysis of performance. There is a wide range of sports to choose from.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION AQA A Level Specification 2581

"I've missed more than 9000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. 26 times, I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed." Michael Jordan

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
2	Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport.	2 hours	Multiple choice, Short answer, Extended writing.	105 marks 35% of A level
Non-exam assessment: Practical performance in physical activity and sport		Ongoing throughout course		90 marks 30% of A level

Style of Work:

Practical activity, written work – structured note taking, questions and essays, class discussions, independent research tasks.

The second year of study develops students' knowledge of the issues which affect all athlete's optimal performance in sport. There are three main areas of study. In **Exercise Physiology and Biomechanics** students will learn about diet and nutrition, preparation for and methods of training, as well as biomechanics. In **Sports Psychology** students learn the theories and techniques to optimise performance and overcome pressure and anxiety in sport. Finally, students will study **Sport and Society and the role technology plays in developing performance**.

In the practical performance, the students will perform in one competitive sport or performance. There is also a written or verbal analysis of performance. There is a wide range of sports to choose from.

Course Pre-requisites

GCSE PE is required to Grade B or above. Students must also demonstrate excellent sporting ability in their chosen sport.

Why PE?

Sport and fitness is a huge industry, and you can be apart of it! If you're keen on sport you can make a healthy living from your passion. Whether that's working for a sports club, as a personal trainer at the local gym, or training to be a physiotherapist, there are lots of opportunities. From professional sport through to amateur teams, and individuals who just want to get in shape, sport and fitness is a fast growing business. Best of all, you could be in a career doing something that you love. This A Level also opens up a whole number of career options, like becoming a sports scientist, physiotherapist working for a national governing body or maybe even a PE teacher!

PHYSICS

OCR AS Level Specification H156

"Imagination is more important than knowledge." Albert Einstein

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS
1	Development of practical skills in physics	Breadth in physics (01) 70 marks 1 hour 30 minutes		50%
2	Foundations of physics			
3	Forces and motion	Depth in physics (02) 70 marks 1 hour 30 minutes		50%
4	Electricity, waves & photons			

The study and understanding of Physics is of increasing importance in today's technological society. The laws and concepts of Physics help us understand the world around us and applications of Physics are made use of widely in everyday life, in medicine and in industry and commerce.

Candidates for AS Physics should have achieved A*, A or B in GCSE Physics or a minimum of Grade B in both Core and Additional Science at GCSE. Certification or other suitable qualifications. They should be confident in applying Mathematics to solve problems and a minimum grade B in GCSE Mathematics is also essential.

Together with A Level Physics, the course is excellent preparation for anyone wishing to study Physics or a related degree at university. It is also essential for other science/technology degrees such as Engineering and useful for the medical sciences. In addition, it provides a very good general preparation for employment, since success at A level Physics shows that you are a good logical and coherent thinker, with good practical and creative skills.

Physics can be taken in combination with any other subject but especially Mathematics, the other Sciences, Languages and Psychology.

Style of work: Lessons will be a mix of theory and demonstrations/practical experiments. Each week, 2/3 problem solving exercises/practical write-ups will be set for homework. In addition, further independent study will be needed to learn, for example, definitions theories and equations and descriptions of key experiments.

The AS course covers the same content as the A Level in Physics and form the final part of the A Level course although it is also a stand alone qualification.



PHYSICS

OCR A Level Specification H556

"Imagination is more important than knowledge." Albert Einstein

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
1	Development of practical skills in physics	Modelling physics (01) 100 marks - 2 hours 15 minutes written paper, assessing content from units 1,2, 3 & 5		37% of the total A level
2	Foundations of physics			
3 & 4	Forces and motion and Electrons, waves and photons – these units are covered at AS but are assessed separately for A level.	Exploring physics (02) 100 marks - 2 hours 15 minutes written paper, assessing content from units 1, 2, 4 & 6		37% of the total A level
5	Newtonian world and astrophysics			
6	Particles and medical physics	Unified physics (03) 70 marks - 1 hour 30 minutes written paper, assessing content from all units 1 - 6		26% of the total A level

The A level course builds on the AS units of foundations of physics, forces and motion and electrons, waves and photons. The A level units include the study of Newton's laws and forces and fields as well as covering some of the fundamentals of astrophysics including theories of the origin of the Universe and its final fate.

The emphasis at A level is to show how the laws of Physics can be applied to understanding the mysteries of the Universe and its evolution. Important applications of Physics are studied in particular the use of Physics for medical imaging, diagnosis and treatment.

Practical skills are assessed on an ongoing basis throughout the course and students are required to maintain a record of key practical work. This is then submitted as evidence for the additional Practical Endorsement award which is separately certificated.

Style of work: Lessons will be a mix of theory and demonstrations/practical experiments. Each week 2/3 problem solving exercises/practical write-ups will be set for homework. In addition, further independent study will be needed to learn definitions, theories, equations and descriptions of key experiments.

PRODUCT DESIGN AQA AS Level Specification

Why study Product design?

Product design brings together your creative side with a little science, in this course you will learn to focus on what people want, what they think they want, to understand their needs and ultimately design and make a high quality product for them. You will be trained to Analyse a product in depth to understand why designers have chosen materials, how they affect the product and your emotions towards the product.

In the first half of the course you have the opportunity to design and manufacture a working prototype of a product of your choice, this can be anything at all as long as it is sufficiently challenging and is of more than one material. Generally this will take one and a half terms to complete including the design folder.

In the second half of the course you will look at the Materials, components and manufacturing in great depth, this will aid you in better material and component selection for future designs and prepare you for the final exam.

Other subjects that would go well with Product Design are Physics, Math and Art.

AS Examinations

Unit 1 – PROD1 Materials, Components and Application

50% of AS, 25% of A Level

2 hour written paper

80 marks

Based primarily on Materials and Components and consisting of three sections:

Section 1 contains compulsory limited response questions

Section 2 offers a choice of one question from two

Section 3 contains one compulsory question

Available June only

Unit 2 – PROD2 Learning Through Designing and Making

50% of AS, 25% of A Level

Coursework – approx 50 hours

80 marks

Written (or electronic) design portfolio

Manufactured outcome(s)

Coursework may take a number of forms: a simple design-and-make project, two smaller projects or a portfolio of work

Available June only

Product Design AQA A Level Specification

The AQA, A2 level in Design Technology is a culmination of all your technical knowledge. It comprises of a final product, which must be challenging and be made up of different materials, as well as a written exam. As in the AS level both pieces are 25% of the total A level.

The final exam focuses on design and market influences,

- Product life cycle
- The role of the designer
- Marketing
- Design methods
- Human factors
- Safety
- Legislation

Processes and manufacturing methods,

- ICT applications
- Manufacturing systems
- Product development

A Level Examinations

Unit 3 – PROD3 Design and Manufacture

25% of A Level

2 hour written paper

84 marks

Based primarily on Design and Manufacture and consisting of two sections

Candidates answer three questions: one question from three in each section, plus a final question from either section.

Includes synoptic assessment

Available June only

Unit 4 – PROD4 Design and Making Practice

25% of A Level

Coursework – approx 60 hours

85 marks

Written (or electronic) design folder

Manufactured outcome

Candidates submit evidence of a simple, substantial designing and making activity

Available June only

PSYCHOLOGY

AQA AS Level Specification 1181

"I have really enjoyed this course because it is so relevant to real life."

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS
1	Social Influence Memory Attachment	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination, structured questions and short essays	50%
2	Approaches in Psychology (including biosychology) Psychopathology Research Methods	1 hour 30 minutes	Written examination, structured questions and short essays	50%

Psychology is currently one of the 'hottest', most studied and most sought after disciplines in the world. It is fundamental to unraveling the mysteries of what makes us human and our future development. Psychologists study how events cascade from genes to thoughts and behaviours, why people behave in the way they do and how our thinking affects our emotions. Psychologists are at the centre of the most contested race in science at present. Following on from the successful decoding of the human genome, global research is now trying to develop detailed mapping of human brain systems and activity. "Understanding the human brain is one of the greatest challenges facing 21st century science. If we rise to the challenge, we can gain profound insights into what makes us human, develop new treatments for brain disease and build revolutionary new computing technologies." **(Human Brain Project, European Commission)**

The AS course provides a fantastic grounding in many different types of psychology. We will be studying psychological abnormality and we will visit a psychiatric hospital to learn about the history and treatment of mental illness. We will also study social Psychology, developmental psychology and biopsychology, looking at the structure and working of the brain. We will also study cognitive psychology, looking particularly at our understanding of memory and how this has influenced police interviewing techniques.

Whether a student is looking for a career in business or sport, politics or medicine, law or child development, ecology or art therapy, neuroscience or psychology itself, studying A Level Psychology provides an understanding of the mind which is an advantage for many degree courses and careers. It is understandably a popular A Level choice. Students learn to 'analyse like a scientist and argue like a lawyer'; skills that are valued by employers. They explore traditional tried and tested theories of behaviour right up to contemporary neuroscience helping us to understand the brain. Psychology is a respected A Level for all UK universities. Exciting, thrilling and fundamentally important, this is a subject worth studying!

Course prerequisites:

Psychology combines well with Science, Arts and Humanities. It is often taken alongside subjects such as English, Biology, Religious Studies and Maths. Business Studies and Photography also work well with Psychology, and are a good preparation for entrance into marketing type courses.

PSYCHOLOGY

AQA A Level Specification 2181

"I really enjoy this course because it is so relevant to real life."

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
3	Compulsory Section - Issues and Debates We will choose one topic from each of the following sections: Relationships/Gender/Cognition and development Schizophrenia/Eating Behaviour/Stress Aggression/Forensic Psychology/ Addiction	2 hours	Four Sections Combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions	25% each section

At A2 level we study several new topics and engage in interesting and lively debates about issues in Psychology. We will look at gender, including whether we are born or made masculine or feminine, and the possible causes of gender identity disorder. We will then look at eating behaviours and explanations for an eating disorder, probably anorexia nervosa. We will study aggression, and whether people are born or made aggressive. We will also be looking at theories of institutional aggression such as in prisons.

We will also study OCD and biopsychology, which involves understanding more about the brain. We will continue to work on research methods, carrying out practical activities and collecting and evaluating data.



RELIGIOUS STUDIES: Philosophy, Ethics and New Testament

EDEXCEL AS Level Specification 8RSO

Because "The unexamined life is not worth living" (Socrates c.470BC-399BC)

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at AS
8RSO/01	Philosophy of Religion	1 hour	Written Examination	33.33%
8RSO/02	Religion and Ethics	1 hour	Written Examination	33.33%
8RSO/03	New Testament Studies	1 hour	Written Examination	33.33%

This fascinating course explores the fundamental questions addressed by philosophers and religious traditions about the nature and origins of human existence, questions of morality, purpose, destiny and God. Through discussion and careful analysis of the key secular (non-religious) and religious viewpoints, students will not only enjoy debating questions of ultimate significance but also develop the capacity for coherent and well-balanced argument. They will also further their skills of written and verbal expression. Students sit three papers in the AS course.

Philosophy of Religion

- Philosophical Issues and Questions: We examine and critique three famous arguments for the existence of God; the Cosmological Argument, The Design Argument and the Ontological Argument. We study the successes and failures of these arguments and debate whether or not they make a convincing case for the existence of God.
- The Nature and Influence of Religious Experience: We examine different types of religious experiences, such as near death experiences, hearing voices of God and miracles. We study other potential explanations for these experiences and try to establish whether or not they make a successful case for the existence of God.
- Problems of Evil and Suffering: We study the ongoing problem caused to believers by the issue of evil and suffering and critique the various solutions that have been offered to this problem.

Religion and Ethics

- Significant concepts in issues or debates in religion and ethics: an exploration of ethical problems such as equality issues including race, gender and disability and the environment.
- A study of three ethical concepts: Exploring the successes and failures of Utilitarianism, Situation Ethics and Natural Moral Law – we ask "are these useful theories to live life by"
- Application of ethical theories to issues of importance: studying current ethical problems such as war and peace and sexual ethics.

New Testament Studies (this is a new skill for A level and offers students the chance to develop textual analysis skills. It is particularly useful and compatible with History, English and MFL)

- Social, historical and religious context of the New Testament: Historical background to the Jewish ideas of messiah and the world in which Jesus was born into.
- Texts and interpretation of the Person of Jesus: Textual analysis of key points of John's Gospel including the prologue and the "I am" sayings
- Interpreting the text and issues of relationship, purpose and authorship: ways of interpreting text including different types of literary criticism. Exploring issues surrounding the authorship of the Fourth Gospel and scholarly views on this matter.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES: Philosophy, Ethics and New Testament

EDEXCEL A2 Level Specification 9RSO

Because 'The unexamined life is not worth living' (Socrates c.470BC-399BC)

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
9RSO/01	Philosophy of Religion	2 hours	Written Examination	33.33%
9RSO/02	Religion and Ethics	2 hours	Written Examination	33.33%
9RSO/03	New Testament Studies	2 hours	Written Examination	33.33%

The full A level course contains the exact material as on the AS course but an additional three topics are covered within each paper. Whilst each paper is out of 50 marks at AS, the paper is out of 80 marks at A level. This means that the AS related material is not tested in as much depth as at A level. The additional topics on each paper are:

Philosophy of Religion

- Philosophical Language: Exploration of ideas of analogy and symbol, the verification and falsification debates and the problem of using religious language.
- Works of Scholars: An examination of the critiques of religious belief including a comparison of the views of Karl Marx and Sigmund Freud.
- Influences of developments in religious belief: An exploration of the different religious and non-religious views on life after death, including views on reincarnation, rebirth, immortality of the soul and resurrection.

Religion and Ethics

- Ethical language: An examination of meta-ethics and the problems of using language in ethical situations and the relationship between God and morality.
- Deontology, Virtue Ethics and the works of scholars: An exploration of Kant and Aristotle's ethical theories.
- Medical Ethics: the beginning and end of life: Examining medical ethical problems such as abortion and euthanasia.

New Testament Studies (this is a new skill for A level and offers students the chance to develop textual analysis skills. It is particularly useful and compatible with History, English and MFL)

- Ways of interpreting the scripture: An examination of different ways in which the Bible is interpreted such as literal, allegorical and moral interpretations and a critique of these methods.
- Texts and interpretation: The Kingdom of God, conflict and the death and resurrection of Jesus: Aspects of Luke's Gospel including the reasons for Jesus' death and the crucifixion/resurrection narratives of the Gospels.
- Scientific and historical-critical challenges, ethical living and the works of scholars: scientific challenges to the existence of God in the Bible, such as miracles, including the resurrection. The work of key scholars, such as Frank Morison's "Who Moved the Stone?" that investigate the viability of the story of Jesus.

SOCIOLOGY

OCR AS Level Specification H180

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
1	Introducing socialisation, culture and identity		90 minute examination	50%
2	Researching and understanding social inequalities		90 minute examination	50%

Course Content

Unit 1 Socialisation, culture and identity

Section A

- What is culture?
- What is socialisation? Including the family, peer group, media, religion, education and the workplace,
- What is identity? Including concepts of identity including ethnicity, nationality, gender, class, age.

Section B

Families and relationships including:

- Family diversity
- Family ideology
- Roles and relationships within families

Unit 2. Researching and understanding social inequalities

Section A

- Theory and methods of sociological research
- Key concepts and methods in the research process

Section B

- Patterns and trends in social inequality and difference
- How can patterns and trends in social inequality and difference be explained?

Why study Sociology?

In an ever changing world, Sociology gives you an exciting opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the society around you and to reflect on social issues that are often relevant to your own social experiences. It opens up the possibility for fascinating discussions on the changing roles of men and women, the power of the media and education in shaping who we are and the impact of digital forms of communication on social relations. You will acquire knowledge and a critical understanding of contemporary social processes and social changes. You will also have the opportunity to develop a broad set of key desirable skills, including the ability to analyse and formulate clear, logical arguments with scope for extensive evaluation from a range of theoretical perspectives. Developing strong critical thinking skills and being able to consider issues with a global outlook will be of huge benefit to you when you leave school and enter the next stage in your lives.

Course Prerequisites

It is advisable, although not essential, that students have 5 GCSE's at C level or above.

SOCIOLOGY

OCR A2 Level Specification H580

Unit	Unit Title	Duration	Mode of Assessment	Weighting at A2
3	Power and Control	1 hour 30 minutes	Written Examination	25%
6RS04	Implications	1 hour 15 minutes	Written Examination	25%

A2 Sociology is designed to enable candidates to build on the sociological understanding they acquired in AS Sociology and to develop an understanding of the A2 core themes of power, control and social inequality and differences. It is strongly synoptic and candidates are encouraged to make links between topics, sociological thought, methods of sociological enquiry and contemporary social policy using higher-order skills than at AS. These include a wider range and greater depth of knowledge and understanding and more highly developed skills of application, analysis, interpretation and evaluation. Candidates are encouraged to carry out their own small scale research projects as a way of enhancing a sociological understanding of methodology. Candidates are encouraged to think holistically and develop their skills of thinking as a sociologist.

Developments

Sociology of Crime and Deviance

- The definition and measurement of crime and deviance
- Trends, patterns and explanations of crime and deviance
- Patterns and explanations of victimisation
- The role of agents of social control in the construction of crime and deviance
- Solutions to the problem of crime

Exploring Social Inequality and Difference

1. Social inequality and difference illustrated by the study of gender, class, ethnicity and age
 - Patterns and trends of inequality and difference related to social class, gender, ethnicity and age
 - Theoretical explanations of the patterns and trends including functionalist, Marxist, neo-Marxist, feminist, Weberian and post-modern views
 - The changing class structure
2. Exploring sociological research on social inequality and difference
 - Concepts including research studies, sampling techniques, value freedom, access
 - Methodological issues and concerns including positivist, interpretivist, realist and feminist

Why Study Sociology at A2?

Sociology prepares you for a lifetime of change, developing an appreciation of diversity, a love of learning, writing and study skills, as well as knowledge of human behaviour, social organization, and culture. It makes you more aware that there are many different kinds of people in the world who do not necessarily think the way you do and increases your ability to see the world from other people's perspectives. If you are the type who doesn't necessarily follow the crowd (but are fascinated by their behaviour), the type who is truly interested in what is going on in the world, then sociology will interest you.

A LEVEL EXAMINATION COURSES

SUBJECT	BOARD	CODE	
		AS	A
Art & Design: Fine Art	AQA	7202	7242
Art & Design: Photography	AQA	7206	7246
Art & Design: Textiles Design	AQA	7244	7204
Biology	Salters	8BN0	9BN0
Business Studies	Edexcel	8BS0	9BS0
Chemistry	OCR	H032	H432
Classical Civilisation	AQA	1021	2021
Drama and Theatre Studies	AQA	7261	7262
Economics	Edexcel	8EC0	9EC0
English Literature	Edexcel	8ET0	9ET0
Food, Nutrition and Health	OCR	H111	H511
Geography	AQA	tbc	tbc
History	AQA	tbc	tbc
History of Art	AQA	1251	2251
ICT	BTEC		
Mathematics	Edexcel	8371	9371
Further Mathematics		8372	9372
Modern Languages: French	AQA	7651	7652
Modern Languages: Spanish	AQA	7691	7692
Music	AQA	7201	7272
Music Technology	BTEC		
Physical Education	AQA	7581	7582
Physics	OCR	H156	H556
Design Technology - Product Design	AQA	tbc	tbc
Psychology	AQA	1181	2181
Religious Studies	Edexcel	8RSO	9RSO
Sociology	OCR	H180	H580

Background Research, Ideas & Preps

Here are a few ideas about things you could do to find out more about the subject or give yourself a headstart for September 2015

Art, Design & Photography

Visits to galleries & art exhibitions.
Spend time working in your sketch book and see 'History of Art'.

Art & Design: Textiles

Visits to V&A, Fashion & Textiles Museum in London, Bath Museum Of Costume.
Subscribe to Vogue Magazine, Glamour or Selvedge magazine.

Surf through websites such as:
www.twistedthread.com
www.thetextiledirectory.com
www.selvedge.org

Biology

Visits to museums such as the Natural History Museum, Pitt Rivers Museum & Down House.

Read publications such as BBC Wildlife & New Scientist Magazine. Read: CGP "Head Start to AS Biology", available to order at the end of the fifth form.

Watch TV programmes such as BBC documentaries, including Planet Earth, anything with Professor Lord Robert Winston, Spring Watch and Autumn Watch.

Surf through websites such as:
www.antartica.ac.uk
www.noc.soton.ac.uk

Business & Economics

Find business information and inspiration by following some of the top UK entrepreneurs on Twitter. Good examples are Richard Reed (Innocent Drinks), Martha Lane Fox (Last minute.com & UK digital champion, Sahar Hashemi (Skinny Candy & Coffee Republic), James Caan (Serial entrepreneur & Dragon's Den investor).

Keep up to date with developments in Economics and Business by reading a good quality newspaper. Download the BBC News App.

Keep an eye out for TV Programmes such as *The Fixer*, *The Apprentice* and *Dragon's Den*.

Chemistry

Read "Head Start to AS Chemistry" CGP, available to order at the end of Fifth Form.

For AS/A2 Chemistry the most accessible source for background reading is a magazine called 'Chemistry Review'. This is available in the school library. Reduced price individual subscriptions are available if ordered through school. A2 students will gain a deeper understanding by reading 'New Scientist' which is also available in the school library.

Students wishing to have extra prep will find questions on every main topic in both their AS or A2 Chemistry Revision Guide. There is also a Student Unit Guide for each of the exam modules. These have additional notes and questions.

Copies of these resources can be purchased through the school.

Classical Civilisation

Read *The Iliad* and *Odyssey*. Greek Myths and Legends. Any play by Aristophanes.

Drama

Don't just go and see the West End Musicals – buy the Guardian 'Guide' each week and go and see some more unusual performances.

Sign up to the mailing list for the National Theatre and for The Royal Court Theatre – there are always educational events in the summer.

Have you auditioned for National Youth Theatre? Why not? What else will you be doing in the summer?

Read the review section of a variety of publications, examine the language in which New theatre is appraised.

Aim to read one British play from each century, starting with 16th.

Try reading or watching, a 20th century play by: Tennessee Williams, Henrik Ibsen, Anton Chekhov and Steven Berkoff.

Background Research, Ideas & Preps

English Literature

Read, read, read!

Try: Birdsong, Sebastian Faulks; Saturday, Ian McEwan; Mr Pip, David Lloyd; Oranges are not the only Fruit, Jeanette Winterstone; The Poisonwood Bible, Barbara Kingsolver; plus Charles Dickens, Thomas Hardy, Evelyn Waugh, Mary Shelley, F Scott Fitzgerald.

Visit theatres and see as many productions as you can. Try The Globe and The National for cheap tickets and high quality drama.

Check out literary festivals and conferences at www.literaryfestivals.co.uk

Geography

Make the most of the world you live in! You are experiencing geography when you are shopping, at the beach or climbing a mountain.

Watch TV and surf the internet to keep up-to-date with current events from local issues to global events.

Read a broadsheet newspaper and take a look at some of the links from:

<http://alevelgeog.pbworks.com>

History of Art

Read one of the following: 'Teach Yourself Art History' - Pooke & Whitham; 'Looking at Pictures' - Woodford; 'Ways of Seeing' - John Berger

Visit as many galleries as possible - there are many to choose from in London, eg, the National Gallery, Tate Britain, Tate Modern, the Royal Academy of Arts. You could look at their websites to see what the current exhibitions are and visit ones of personal interest to you.

There are also numerous TV programmes on art and artists, many of which are well worth viewing.

If you have a personal interest in a particular artist or movement in art you could do some personal research and present it in the group when the course commences.

History

Spend time browsing through: www.schoolhistory.co.uk

Look out for Early Modern History. There are some very good historical novels which will help you get a feel for the period: Hilary Mantel, Wolf Hall.

The Shardlake Trilogy by C.J Sansom about a Tudor lawyer.

The Tudors on DVD - Any museum with an Early Modern section, for example the V&A London.

ICT/Computing

Read PC Pro magazine
Subscribe to ICT news feeds, forums or twitters.

- Immerse yourself in, and be aware of, current and emerging technologies
- Browse current magazines such as PC pro, Stuff or PC advisor
- Surf online sites such as the www.bbc/technologywebsite or www.teach-ict.co.uk/news
- Watch technology programs such as 'click' (viewable on BBC i-player)
- Blog - how is your own blog going? If you haven't got one yet then set one up.

Mathematics

Use the website: www.MyMaths.co.uk to revisit the algebra A* topics at GCSE. Try the nrich website for puzzles.

Read 'Why do Buses come in Threes?' by Rob Eastway and Jeremy Wyndham.

Visit St Paul's Cathedral, London for a maths trail.

MFL: French

Explore French cultural themes such as France under German occupation and WWII literature with 'Sac de Billes', following two young boys escaping to the Free Zone under Nazi occupation.

Enjoy French TV, <http://www.tf1.fr>
<http://www.france2.fr>

Enjoy French films, art, theatre and cultural experiences and work experience. <http://www.workexperienceabroad.co.uk>

Background Research, Ideas & Preps

MFL: Spanish

Relish Spanish drama and poetry by the mesmerising author Garcia Lorca in order to understand one of the most crucial parts of Spanish history: The Civil War, which generated some of the most striking art in Spain.
<http://londres.cervantes.es> www.lab.org.uk

Music & Music Technology

Broaden your experience of music by:

- Learning new pieces
- Improvising
- Listening to unfamiliar styles
- Developing a reasonable sense of chronology of styles and composers - over the past 1000 years!
- Visiting the British Music Experience at the O2 Arena
- Attending concerts. Try investigating the huge variety on offer at London's Southbank.
- Listening to compilation CD's of all musical styles

Physical Education

There are many books you could dip in and out of including:

"The Complete Guide to Sports Nutrition", Anita Bean; "Training for Speed", Agility and Quickness, Brown&Ferrigno; "Sport Stretch", Michael J Alter; "Sport and the British: A Modern History", Richard Holt, "Applying Psychology to Sport", Barbara Woods. Any autobiographies of sports stars. Read the Sports pages of a broadsheet newspaper. Use of online PE resources through Kerboodle, an excuse to watch Sky Sports! Sign up to sports newsletters online, follow sports stars on Twitter.

www.bbc.co.uk/sport
www.brianmac.demon.co.uk

Trips to:

- ATP Tour Tennis Finals
- Surrey Storm Netball matches
- GB Olympic hockey preparation matches
- Surrey Sports Park Sports Science Fitness testing

Assist with coaching/umpiring younger students.

Physics

Read "Head Start to AS Physics" CGP, available to order at the end of the Fifth Form. BBC Science Focus Magazine has many articles of interest to potential AS Physics students. It is published monthly.

Surf around: www.thestudentroom.co.uk;
www.s-cool.co.uk/alevel/physics.html;
www.revisesmart.co.uk/physics

Psychology

You can gain a brilliant insight into some of the key studies in Psychology by reading 'Opening Skinner's Box' by Lauren Slater.

Also, have a look at <https://bps-research-digest.blogspot.com> and <http://www.s-cool.co.uk/a-level/psychology>. The BBC News website will also bring up lots of interesting and contemporary articles if you type in 'Psychology' as a search term. Try to watch any documentaries that are shown on television with a psychological theme. There is usually something relevant on every week.

Have a look at www.bbc.co.uk/science/humanbody/mind/articles/psychology.shtml for a good overview and some interesting tests to try out.

Religious Studies

Read Sophie's World by Jostein Gaardner – ask yourself the question, "What is truth?"

Watch The Matrix – ask yourself the question, "What is real?"

Visit <http://www.philosophersnet.com/games/> and play some of the games online.

Watch a war film (We were soldiers, The Thin Red Line, Saving Private Ryan) and ask yourself the question, "War this war for the right reasons?"

Read "The pig that wants to be eaten" by Julian Baggini and answer some of the ethical problems.

Watch "The Truman Show" and consider if we could construct a world as complicated as this one?

Read "The God Delusion" by Richard Dawkins and consider his views on why people believe in God.

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