



Empowered to Learn



Sixth Form Options Booklet

2016

A Welcome Message from Ashby School Sixth Form

Welcome to a new stage of life

We feel Ashby School will offer wonderful opportunities at the next stage in your education. We have a passion for learning and our students agree that we create a fantastic atmosphere for this to happen. Many of our students go onto university but others also use it as a successful stepping stone to apprenticeships and amazing jobs. We provide a caring pastoral environment and a most supportive team of 110 teachers who have proven skills at Post-16 level.

As one of the top schools in the county and offering 30 different subjects we strive to give students a great experience.

Our Sixth Form welcomes students who have been in our Year 11 and students who wish to join us from other schools. The nature of our Sixth Form is all students work well together.

We have a wide range of extra-curricular activities, which along with a supportive environment and examination courses, set young people on the road to success in their future careers.

If you have any queries please contact Sara Brennan in the Sixth Form office s.brennan@ashbyschool.org.uk or myself m.hawksworth@ashbyschool.org.uk



Miss Hawksworth – Director of Post-16 Studies

Meet the Sixth Form Team



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Contents

<i>Entry Requirements</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Selecting Advanced Level Subjects</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Independent Study Requirements</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Sixth Form Opportunities</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Subject Requirements 2016 Entry</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Combination of Subjects</i>	<i>6 & 7</i>
<i>Leavers Destinations</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Art & Design – Fine Art (GCE)</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Biology (GCE)</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Business Studies (GCE)</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Business Studies (BTEC Level 3)</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Chemistry (GCE)</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Computing (GCE)</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Core Mathematics</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Design & Technology – Product Design (GCE)</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Design & Technology – Textiles (GCE)</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Drama & Theatre Studies (GCE)</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Economics (GCE)</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>Engineering (GCE)</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>English Language (GCE)</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>English Literature (GCE)</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>Extended Project Qualification (GCE)</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>Film Studies (GCE)</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>Food Technology & Hospitality (BTEC Level 3)</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>French (GCE)</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>Further Mathematics (GCE)</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>Geography (GCE)</i>	<i>28</i>
<i>German (GCE)</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>History (GCE)</i>	<i>30</i>
<i>Mathematics (GCE)</i>	<i>31</i>
<i>Media Studies (GCE)</i>	<i>32</i>
<i>Music (GCE)</i>	<i>33</i>
<i>Music Technology (GCE)</i>	<i>34</i>
<i>Physical Education (GCE)</i>	<i>35</i>
<i>National Extended Certificate in Sport (BTEC Level 3)</i>	<i>36</i>
<i>Physics (GCE)</i>	<i>37</i>
<i>Psychology (GCE)</i>	<i>38</i>
<i>Religious Studies (GCE)</i>	<i>39</i>
<i>Travel & Tourism (BTEC National Level 3)</i>	<i>40</i>

INFORMATION IS CORRECT AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS, BUT MAY ALTER DUE TO CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE NEW YEAR 12 INDUCTION WILL TAKE PLACE ON 4th JULY 2016 SO PLEASE TRY AND KEEP THIS DATE FREE.

THERE MAY BE SOME EXCEPTIONS TO THESE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES THAT WILL BE DISCUSSED WITH YOU BY THE DIRECTOR OF POST-16 STUDIES.

*FURTHER COPIES OF THIS BOOKLET CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM OUR WEBSITE:
ASHBYSCHOOL.ORG.UK.*

Entry Requirements

Nationally, A levels are changing over the next few years to a linear pattern and most students will take all their exams at the end of Year 13. Students study 4 subjects in Year 12 and may reduce this to 3 in Year 13. The one they drop they will take as an AS at the end of Year 12. If students are only intending to stay one year they will take all their AS exams in the summer of Year 12.

Advanced Level courses are demanding: experience shows that students with fewer than 5 GCSE Grades A-C (including English Language and Mathematics) are unlikely to succeed at A Level.*

The admission criteria at Ashby School is as follows:-

- 1. You will need a minimum of 5 GCSEs (or equivalent) Grade C or above.*
- 2. You will need to have obtained at least a Grade C at GCSE Level in English Language and Mathematics. If there are special circumstances why this will not happen please talk to the Director of Post-16 Studies.*
- 3. You must meet individual subject requirements as outlined on the course information sheets.*
- 4. You will need a satisfactory interview and references.*
- 5. The Sixth Form expect an attendance of at least 95%.*

Selecting Advanced Level Subjects

One of the best ways of choosing the right course is to seek advice from a number of sources such as your family, the staff in school, particularly those who teach you; they will be able to give you help based on knowledge of your strengths and weaknesses.

How do you choose?

Sixth Form courses are more specialised and you need to make your choice on the basis of interest, ability and future aspirations.

Before making your choice of Sixth Form subjects you should consider the following points very carefully:

a. Choose subjects that you enjoy.

Interest in the subjects is of prime importance. You will need to devote many hours of study to each of your subjects. Unless you are interested, you will find it hard to maintain the motivation necessary to achieve your best possible grades. The grades you achieve will have a direct effect on your future plans and decisions.

b. Choose subjects at which you can succeed.

You should have the ability to carry on studying your subjects to a high level, therefore, it is sensible to choose subjects in which you have already succeeded and are confident. When choosing new subjects look carefully at their requirements; do they match your strengths?

c. Choose subjects that are relevant to future plans.

If you have a clear idea of your future aspirations at 18, choose subjects which are required by Higher Education Institutions or employers in order to fulfil those intentions. Investigate the various options and choose relevant and useful combinations of subjects. Make use of the Careers Library. Consider having a careers interview.

d. Choose subjects which suit your style of working.

Think whether you prefer more or less coursework, examinations etc. Look carefully at the skills, study patterns and styles of work required by each subject.

e. Choose subjects which are compatible with each other.

Ensure your subjects fit well together and appear a sensible grouping for your future career or education.

Independent Study Requirement

The workload in the Sixth Form is challenging and substantial and requires self-discipline and organisation. At Ashby you select 4 subjects. A few students may also do the Extended Project Qualification. In Year 13 students are expected to continue with at least 3 subjects.

Most students will decide in the spring which subject they will take as an AS in the summer of Year 12. If a student is only staying in the Sixth Form for one year they will take all their AS subjects at the end of Year 12.

All students will be timetabled for at least one supervised study period.

Since University applications are made very early in Year 13, your achievements from Year 12 are very important and will influence your reference. It is essential that you join the Sixth Form prepared to work independently and utilise non-timetabled sessions for personal study and wider reading.

Sixth Form Opportunities

It is our aim to develop confidence, independence, initiative and maturity in our Sixth Form Students. Here are the opportunities we offer:

- ❖ *Senior Team Head Boy/Head Girl*
- ❖ *House Leadership Opportunity*
 - ❖ *Prefecting*
 - ❖ *Maths Leaders*
 - ❖ *United Nations*
- ❖ *Public Speaking Competition*
- ❖ *National Engineering Competition*
- ❖ *3 day Skills for Success Conference*
- ❖ *Wide range of extra-curricular activities*
- ❖ *Field trips in Biology, Geography, Art & Music*
 - ❖ *Theatre trips*
- ❖ *Trips abroad e.g. China, Borneo, Iceland, America, France, Germany*
 - ❖ *Ski trips*
 - ❖ *Quizzes*
- ❖ *Fancy dress days*
- ❖ *National Citizen Service*
 - ❖ *Cakes sales*
 - ❖ *Open mic nights*
 - ❖ *School concert*
- ❖ *Medic group meetings*
- ❖ *Higher achievers support*
- ❖ *Links with major companies e.g. Ashfield in2 focus, Rolls Royce, KP, Land Rover, Siemens, Dyson, EON, David Wilson Homes*
 - ❖ *Strong university links*
 - ❖ *Drama productions*
 - ❖ *Post 16 Ball*
 - ❖ *Villiers Park*
 - ❖ *Year Book*
 - ❖ *Awards evening*
 - ❖ *University visits*

Subject Requirements – 2016 Entry

FOR ALL SIXTH FORM COURSES 5 A* - C at GCSE or Equivalent – including Mathematics & English Language	PLUS MINIMUM EXTRA REQUIREMENTS...
Art	C in Art (if taken)
Biology	B in Biology unit 2 of GCSE additional Science or a Distinction in BTEC Science
Business Studies	C in Business (if taken)
Business Studies (BTEC)	
Chemistry	B in Chemistry unit 2 of GCSE additional Science or a Distinction in BTEC Science. All students need a B in Mathematics
Computing	C in Computing (if taken)
Core Maths	C in Mathematics
Design – Product Design	C in a Design subject
Design – Textiles	C in Textiles
Drama & Theatre Studies	C in Drama (if taken)
Economics	C in Economics or Business (if taken)
Engineering	C in a Design subject and B in Mathematics is desirable
English – Language	C English Language & C English Literature
English – Literature	C English Language & B English Literature
Extended Project	
Film	C in Film (if taken)
Food Technology & Hospitality (BTEC)	C in Food (if taken)
French	B GCSE French
Further Mathematics	A Mathematics
Geography	C Geography (if taken)
German	B GCSE German
History	C History (if taken)
Mathematics	B Mathematics
Media Studies	C in Media (if taken)
Music	C in Music and/or achieved Grade 5 standard
Music Technology	C GCSE Music or BTEC Music or must complete an interview
Physical Education	C GCSE Physical Education (if taken) and C GCSE Science
Sport BTEC National	C GCSE P.E. (if taken) or Pass BTEC P.E. (if taken)
Physics	B in Physics unit 2 of GCSE additional Science or a distinction in BTEC Science. All students need a B GCSE Mathematics
Psychology	C Psychology (if taken)
Religious Studies	C Religious Studies (if taken)
Travel & Tourism BTEC National	Pass in BTEC Travel (if taken)

Please note that the above replaces all other issued Subject Requirement documentation.

Information is correct at going to press, but may change due to staffing and budgetary considerations.

Combination of Subjects

An 'A' level combination does not have to be all Arts or Sciences. Choosing a mixture of subjects can show flexibility and may avoid over-specialisation. In Year 12, there should be a wide variety of combinations available to enable a broader study. Generally, students will be expected to continue at least three courses to completion in Year 13.

MIX AND MATCH

Don't forget, you may wish to combine BTEC and Advanced GCE. Advanced GCE is a more teacher led course (plus individual work) with a lot of examinations and some coursework. BTECs are more coursework based: you must be able to organise yourself and your work and meet tight deadlines; there are fewer exam marks. A combination of the two can be ideal training for University, Apprenticeships (and life!).

ARTS/HUMANITIES

a) Non-Language

The combination of subjects is often not crucial for career or course, therefore could be chosen because:

- i) they are a means to an end (obtaining approved subjects)
- ii) you enjoyed them pre-16
- iii) you want to take 'new' subjects

b) Languages

Courses and careers including languages usually specify the particular language(s) required. Some courses allow the study of a language from scratch.

c) Arts/Humanities used as a Science

Geography 'A' level can be used as an alternative to a science subject in some geology, agriculture and environmental science courses.

d) Arts/Humanities

Subjects used where science 'A' levels are normally required. It is possible to get on to science courses with Arts 'A' levels, although the first Year is normally in addition to the main degree and is used to bring candidates up to 'A' level standard in Mathematics and other required science subjects.

ENGINEERING/DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Design and Technology is a very versatile course keeping options very much open. Combined with Mathematics and Physics, it is the ideal combination for an engineering degree. An alternative is to combine it with other courses and progress into careers such as Architecture, Product Design or Graphic Design.

For example

ENGINEERING/DESIGN TECHNOLOGY	Engineering, Design, Mathematics/Further Mathematics and Physics are required
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SCIENCE SUBJECTS

- a) Generally the combination of subjects is very important if it is to be used to get on to Scientific or Technical Careers.
- b) The best combination for keeping open as many options as possible is Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry. As long as it is passed at GCSE, either as Biology or as part of Double Science, Biology is the least required science at 'A' level. The exceptions to this guideline are veterinary science, agriculture, horticulture and some biological science courses for which 'A' level Biology is required.

Some examples where combination is important:

BIOLOGY	Must be combined with Chemistry for Biology degrees. Often Chemistry is the most important subject
PHYSICS	Mathematics required for Physics degrees
CHEMISTRY	Mathematics or Physics required
MEDICINE PHARMACY DENTISTRY VETERINARY	Three Sciences probably Biology, Chemistry and Physics most acceptable but Mathematics and Biology interchangeable. Chemistry is often the most important.

USEFUL INFORMATION IF THINKING OF APPLYING TO UNIVERSITY

Admissions tutors and employers look first at a candidate's GCSE results for evidence of breadth and depth of ability. Grade Cs in English and Mathematics are mandatory for most degree courses. Students are advised to use the UCAS website for other specific course requirements, especially if they already have particular degree courses or careers in mind.

Some general guidelines are given below but obviously students would be strongly advised to consult current editions of 'University Entrance / UCAS Big Book' or 'Occupations' etc. for specific course requirements.

"The Times Good University Guide"

"University Degree Course offers" by Brian Heap

www.prospects.ac.uk

www.ucas.com - allows access to all universities individual websites.

2015 Year 13 Leaver Destinations

DESTINATIONS	%
<i>HE Course (including year out)</i>	69%
<i>Employment or Training</i>	6%
<i>Other education</i>	2%
<i>Apprenticeships</i>	9%
<i>Gap</i>	6%
<i>Other</i>	1%
<i>Unknown</i>	7%
TOTAL	100%

ART & DESIGN

(FINE ART)

EXAMINATION BOARD

AQA

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. Students will also require a Grade C in Art if taken.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

This course enables students to develop visual personal responses to ideas, observations, experiences, environments, themes and cultures through the medium of fine art. Involving a range of two dimensional and three dimensional approaches, you will be looking into visual communication, site specific and public display of works of art and appreciating, understanding and practically interpreting the work of other artists, designers and craftspeople.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED?

At the end of the course, your work will be externally assessed by the exam board. You will need to make sure that your coursework portfolio and exam work is fully organised, selected and presented. Decisions on your entry for the AS or the A2 qualification will be made by the end of February during Year 12. The course (including the examination), is usually completed just after the Easter holidays. The theme for the second year is launched just before study leave in June. You will need to produce a body of coursework practical preparation from June to September to secure your place on the second year.

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can take this course to complement many other advanced level subjects. This could lead to higher education in areas of Art and Design or more general or combined higher education courses. Students may choose a career related to Art and Design, of which there are a vast number in this multi-billion pound creative industry. Art will take time to complete due to the practical nature of the subject; you need to consider what other courses you are taking e.g. Students can find it challenging balancing two or more practical subjects. You will need to be organised and focused and use your study periods effectively.

The GCE is a recognised qualification that will encourage students to explore their creativity and develop a variety of practical, theoretical, organisational, communication, negotiation and problem solving skills. Therefore utilising an understanding and knowledge that many employers across lots of industries are looking for.

BIOLOGY

EXAMINATION BOARD

AQA

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. Students should also have a B in Biology 2 unit of GCSE Additional Science or Distinction in BTEC.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

This course focuses on a range of topics including Biology and disease, the variety of living organisms, populations and environment, and controlling cells and organisms. Both the human and ecology sectors are studied as part of this course.

Over the two years the core content of the course includes:

Biological molecules

Cells

Organisms exchanging substances with their environment

Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms

Energy transfer in and between organisms

How organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments

Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems

The control of gene expression

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can take this course with other advanced level courses to prepare for higher education.

WHAT CAREER OPTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

The skills developed during this course are much sought-after by employers. Biology students can choose from a variety of career options, such as becoming a doctor, vet, laboratory research technician, teacher or entering another Science-related profession. A Biology A level is highly valued, opening doors into a whole range of careers and degrees.

BUSINESS STUDIES

EXAMINATION BOARD

Edexcel

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. There is no need for any prior knowledge of the subject.*

Students who have studied Business at GCSE are expected to have achieved a Grade C or above. The right attitude to the subject is vital along with an interest in current affairs, politics, industry and enthusiasm to know more.

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

A level Business Studies aims to look at the questions arising in business and how decisions are made in business. The new Edexcel syllabus covers 4 themes which are assessed in 3 external exams at the end of the two-year course.

Themes

- 1) Marketing and people*
- 2) Managing business activities*
- 3) Business decisions and strategy*
- 4) Global Business*

Examinations

There are three external exams assessed at the end of Year 13:

*Paper 1: Marketing, people and global businesses
35% of the qualification*

*Paper 2: Business activities, decisions & strategy
35% of the qualification*

*Paper 3: Investigating business in a competitive environment
30% of the qualification*

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can take this course to complement other advanced level courses such as Accounting or Economics. This could lead to higher education in areas of business studies, marketing, accounting or more general higher education courses.

With further training, students may choose a career related to business studies, such as marketing, finance and accounting, human resources or public relations.

This is a recognised qualification that would support a trainee management course within a company and helps students to develop the skills, understanding and experience to work towards management level. Students can go on to degree courses with either BA or BSC qualifications.

WHAT CAREER OPTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

This course gives students an opportunity to choose from a wide range of professions including law, finance, the Stock Market, insurance or management.

BTEC LEVEL 3: BUSINESS STUDIES

EXAMINATION BOARD

Edexcel

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A* - C, including Mathematics and English Language.

There is no need for any prior knowledge of the subject.

Students who have studied Business at GCSE are expected to have achieved a Grade C or above. The right attitude to the subject is vital along with an interest in current affairs, politics, industry and enthusiasm to know more.

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

The BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Business aims to look at the questions arising in business and how decisions are made in business. The new Edexcel syllabus covers 4 units which are assessed both internally and externally during the two years of the course.

Units

- 1 Exploring business
- 2) Developing a marketing campaign
- 3) Personal and business finance
- 4) Recruitment and selection process

Assessment: 58% external assessment, 42% internal assessment

- Unit 1: Exploring business 25% of the qualification
Internal assessment - coursework
- Unit 2: Developing a marketing campaign 29% of qualification
External assessment - Set task
- Unit 3: Personal and business finance 29% of qualification
External assessment - examination
- Unit 4: Recruitment and selection process 17% of qualification
Internal assessment - coursework

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can take this course to complement other advanced level courses such as Travel and Tourism or Economics. This could lead to higher education in areas of business studies, marketing, accounting or more general higher education courses.

With further training, students may choose a career related to business studies, such as marketing, finance and accounting, human resources or public relations.

This is a recognised qualification that would support a trainee management course within a company and helps students to develop the skills, understanding and experience to work towards management level. Students can go on to degree courses with either BA or BSC qualifications.

WHAT CAREER OPTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

This course gives students an opportunity to choose from a wide range of professions including law, finance, the Stock Market, insurance or management.

CHEMISTRY

EXAMINATION BOARD

AQA

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. Students should also have a Grade B in Chemistry 2 GCSE Additional Science or a Distinction in BTEC Science and students need a Grade B in GCSE Mathematics.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

The A level Chemistry course covers a broad range of topics. The main modules studied are;

- *Physical Chemistry.
To include atomic structure, amount of substance, bonding, energetics, kinetics and equilibria.*
- *Inorganic Chemistry.
To include periodicity, Group 2, Group 7, and Transition metals.*
- *Organic Chemistry
To include many of the common organic groups, organic analysis and optical isomerism.*

Students are assessed in practical skills assessments and written examinations.

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can take this course to complement other advanced level courses which could lead onto higher education in Science-related subjects or more general higher education courses. Chemistry is normally an essential A level for many degree courses including medicine and dentistry.

WHAT CAREER OPTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

Chemistry is usually an essential A level for careers in medicine, pharmacy, dentistry and veterinary science. Other possible careers include chemical engineer, biochemist, forensic scientist, materials technologist, airline pilot, nurse, oceanographer and environmental health officer.

COMPUTING

EXAMINATION BOARD

OCR

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. The courses studied at GCSE are not important although this is a rigorous course that requires the ability to think systematically and logically. Candidates should have a competent mathematical grounding.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

Computer technology continues to advance rapidly and the way that technology is consumed has also been changing at a fast pace over recent years. The growth in the use of mobile and web related technologies has exploded, resulting in new challengers for employers and employees. As a result most organisations today require a number of technologically aware individuals. Computer Science is a practical subject where students can apply the academic principles learned in the classroom to the real-world systems. It's an intensely creative subject that combines invention and excitement, and can look at the natural world through a digital perspective. You will be looking at: the different hardware components that make up a computer system; how computer systems connect to each other and the internet; how the internet works; how computer systems make a difference in the current society and you will be developing your own pieces of software using either 'Visual Basic.NET' or 'C#'.

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can take this course with other advanced level courses which could lead onto higher education or employment.

This course is ideal for those students that wish to study a Computer Science related degree at University. Additionally various careers could come out of this course (with further training) including: ICT Technician, Software Engineer, Website Developer and Data Administrator.

CORE MATHS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language.*

WHAT IS CORE MATHEMATICS

Core Maths is a course for those who want to keep up their valuable maths skills but are not planning to take Mathematics. At the end of the two-year course, you will come out with a level 3 qualification – similar to an AS. The qualification is assessed by two final examinations.

WHY SHOULD I STUDY CORE MATHEMATICS

Core Maths has been designed to maintain and develop real-life maths skills. What you study is not purely theoretical or abstract; it can be applied on a day-to-day basis in work, study or life and includes a financial maths element. It will also help to support the mathematical content of some other A-level subjects.

The skills developed in the study of Mathematics are increasingly important in the workplace and in higher education; studying Core Maths will help you keep up these essential skills.

WILL IT BE RECOGNISED BY UNIVERSITIES & EMPLOYERS

Core Maths is a recognised level 3 qualification equivalent to an AS.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

(PRODUCT DESIGN)

EXAMINATION BOARD

AQA

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics, English Language and a Design and Technology subject.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

This course aims to offer students the opportunity to develop a broad view of Design and technology, and to develop their capacity to Design and make products. They will develop an understanding of the relations between Design, materials, manufacture and marketing between two main areas.

It will develop research, Design communication, computer aided Design, manufacturing, and evaluative skills based around previous experiences in Design and Technology.

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can take this course to complement other Advanced level courses or to prepare for the A2 in Design and Technology. This could lead to higher education in areas of Design, Technology or more general higher education courses.

With further training, students may choose a career related to Design and Technology.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

(TEXTILES)

EXAMINATION BOARD

AQA

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. Students should also have a Grade C in Textile Technology.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

Textile Technology gives candidates the opportunity to develop knowledge and understanding, using contemporary and historical sources from the fashion industry.

The course incorporates Designing, technical skills, awareness of the fashion industry, use of a variety of fabrics, and ICT.

Students are encouraged to develop and create their own innovative styles of products in either fashion or interior Design.

Text 1 Materials Components and Application – 25% of AS level – two hour written paper. Materials and components; Design and market influences; Design in practice; communication methods; Design in the human context; individual and commercial practice; systems and control.

Text 2 Learning through Designing and Making – 25% of AS level, centre-assessed component. This is the Design and make unit – coursework project where knowledge of the AS subject content is applied to the Design and making of the candidate's own projects.

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Textile Technology provides an ideal foundation for the study of Textiles and related subjects, leading to Foundation Art and Design courses. Students can then progress to BA courses in Fashion Design, Fashion Product Development, Fashion Retail Management, Embroidery, Surface Textile Design and Costume Design.

DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES

EXAMINATION BOARD

WJEC

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

This course places an emphasis on Drama and Theatre Studies as a practical, intellectual and artistic subject.

We explore the theatre process and develop our understanding of acting and design through practical workshops. These are focused around the exploration of theatrical play text and developing original devised drama.

We consider a variety of theatre practitioners' work and often work physically within an ensemble. The ability to provide written evidence and produce analytical essays is essential.

Performance within Live productions is an essential part of the course and there are opportunities to develop your skills both on and off stage. Students can achieve marks through design or technical theatre.

There is an expectation to fully participate in the rehearsal process.

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can take this course to complement any other advanced level courses in particular ones that may be related to the performing arts.

With further training, students may choose a career related to the performing arts such as working in the theatre, film or television industries. Students may also consider joining a theatre group to increase their drama and theatre experience.

The course provides students with invaluable skills, understanding and knowledge that many employers from lots of industries are looking for.

ECONOMICS

EXAMINATION BOARD

Edexcel

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A* - C, including Mathematics and English Language. Students who have taken Economics or Business Studies at GCSE are expected to have achieved a Grade C or above.

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

Students do not need prior knowledge of the subject or to have studied GCSE Economics. Any student from a good GCSE background is usually accepted. The right attitude to the subject is vital, along with an interest in current affairs, politics, industry and an enthusiasm to know more. During the course, students will be expected to apply economic theory to the 'real world'. Current issues studied include how firms compete with rivals in the market, e.g. supermarket price wars; arguments for and against being in Europe; the advantages and disadvantages of the privatisation of the Post Office; whether the Chancellor should cut taxes or spend more on Education, should we have a minimum price for alcohol. Students are not expected to know about these events, but should be willing to find out. The new Edexcel syllabus covers 4 themes which are assessed in 3 external exams at the end of the two-year course.

Themes

- 1) Introduction to markets and market failure
- 2) The UK economy – performance and policies
- 3) Business behaviour and the labour market
- 4) A global perspective

Examinations - There are three external exams assessed at the end of Year 13:

Paper 1:	Markets and business behaviour	35% of the qualification
Paper 2:	The national and global economy	35% of the qualification
Paper 3:	Microeconomics and macroeconomics	30% of the qualification

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can take this course to complement other advanced level courses. This could lead to higher education in areas of Economics, Business Studies, Accounting, Marketing or more general higher education courses.

WHAT CAREER OPTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

Students can go to degree courses with either BA or BSC qualifications. This course prepares students for careers in a wide range of professions, such as law, finance, the Stock Market, insurance or management.

ENGINEERING

EXAMINATION BOARD

Edexcel

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A* - C, including Mathematics and English Language. Students wishing to study this course at Advanced Level must also have a Grade C in a Design & Technology subject and a B in Mathematics is desirable.

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

Do you want to change the way we live our lives as Brunel has done? Maybe you see yourself pushing the boundaries of technology and innovation like Dyson? Does a career that involves problem solving, creativity and teamwork appeal to you? Then this is the perfect course. The course aims to provide students with the essential skills, knowledge and understanding of engineering principles to help them to make an informed choice of career in the engineering sector. At AS level, students will look at engineering materials, processes and techniques; the role of the engineer; and principles of Design, planning and prototyping while developing strong practical skills and creative flair along with an appreciation of modern technologies and their application.

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can take this course to complement other advanced level courses or to prepare for the A2 part of an Advanced GCE in Engineering. This could lead to all levels of higher education, which equips students with the skills to succeed in professions such as:

- Aeronautical Engineering
- Agricultural Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Architecture
- Teaching
- Automotive Engineering
- Chemical Engineering
- Electrical Engineering

WHAT CAREER OPTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

This course is ideal for students looking for a career in Engineering. Combined with Mathematics or Physics, it gives students an extensive understanding of the subject. Combined with Design and Technology, it provides an excellent springboard for a range of careers.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

EXAMINATION BOARD

Edexcel

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature must be at a 'C' or above.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

The English Language course enables students to develop and apply their understanding of the concepts and methods appropriate for the analysis and study of language. Students explore an exciting and varied range of written, spoken and multimodal data, allowing them to understand how and why we use language in different situations to create different effects. The varied and interesting components encourage students to engage creatively and critically with our language. Students will explore how children acquire language and how language choices can help to create personal identities. Learners will also explore language variation from Early Modern English to the present day. As well as developing their ability to interpret different forms of language, students have the opportunity to demonstrate their creative writing skills in the independent coursework unit.

*Component 1: Language Variation (Exam)
Component 2: Child Language (Exam)
Component 3: Investigating Language (Exam)
Component 4: Crafting Language (C/W)*

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can take this course to complement any other advanced level courses in either Arts or Science subjects.

WHAT CAREER OPTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

Both English courses are highly valued A levels, opening doors into a whole range of careers such as publishing, journalism, law, teaching and the media.

A few students may be sure they wish to study English at university and both English courses may be chosen

ENGLISH LITERATURE

EXAMINATION BOARD

OCR

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. GCSE English Language must be at a 'C' or above and English Literature must be at a 'B' or above.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

The English Literature course aims to encourage learners to develop their interest in and enjoyment of literature. Students will engage critically and creatively with a substantial and exciting body of texts which includes plays, poetry and prose by influential writers such as Ibsen, Shakespeare, Wilde and Chaucer. Students are required to study a minimum of eight texts on this course so a passion for reading is a must! Learners will develop and effectively apply their knowledge of literary analysis and evaluation in writing and explore the contexts of the texts they are reading in order to better understand the intentions of the authors. As well as studying texts for exams, students will have the opportunity to produce their own creative or analytical coursework based on texts of their choice.

*Component 1: Shakespeare & Drama and poetry pre-1900 (Exam)
Component 2: Close reading in chosen topic area & Comparative and contextual study (Exam)
Component 3: Critical/recreative writing piece with commentary & Comparative essay (C/W)*

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can take this course to complement any other advanced level courses in either Arts or Science subjects.

WHAT CAREER OPTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

Both English courses are highly valued A levels opening doors into a whole range of careers such as publishing, journalism, the law, teaching, the arts and media in general.

A few students may be sure they wish to study English at university and both English courses may be chosen

EXTENDED PROJECT

EXAMINATION BOARD

AQA

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. There are no specific entry requirements but students must be prepared to put in a lot of work. The Extended Project is only available as an A2 qualification. It is also available to both Year 12 and 13 students.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

The Level 3 Extended Project gives students more control over their studies. Students can choose to explore a further aspect of a subject they are studying, or another subject.

The finished project can be a written report, a performance, a piece of art, a community project, a CD or DVD, or even computer software.

Students must show that they can identify, design, plan, and complete their project. They must also demonstrate effective research and use of resources and skills, including new technologies. Students must be able to evaluate outcomes.

WHAT CAREER OPTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

Students can use the learning experiences gained during the Extended Project to support their aspirations for higher education and career development.

FILM STUDIES

EXAMINATION BOARD

WJEC

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. Film Studies is very similar to English as a subject, focusing on your ability to analyse and discuss the meaning created by filmic texts. It is also a highly creative subject so having a passion for film and audio visual media will be an asset.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

During AS Film Studies you will study two units. FM1, which focus on the micro aspects of film such as cinematography, editing, sound, mise en scene and performance. You will explore how these elements are used by film makers to create meaning for the spectator. Students will then write a micro analysis of a film extract of their choice, to demonstrate their understanding of film form and its impact on the spectator. Students will then use this skill to create their own short film, using micro features to make a comment on contemporary society, reflecting upon their success in a short written evaluation.

FM2 is the second unit and is preparation for the written examination. Students will study three topics, British Horror, Audiences and Producers (a focus on the history of film making and production from early cinema to today's digital age) and a comparative analysis of two US films. Each aspect of the exam considers a different aspect of film theory, from spectatorship and audience models, the validity of Hollywood's mainstream values and the future of British cinema and a national art form. Students will have the opportunity to develop debating skills, use critical reading to develop their understanding as well as explore culturally diverse cinema.

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students will have the opportunity to film on location, as well as consider other industry roles such as costume, make up, lighting, script writing and directing. Students also have the skills required to take part in the schools performances, create promotional films and work in a multi-media way to explore the possibilities of audio visual and digital art.

BTEC LEVEL 3: FOOD TECHNOLOGY & HOSPITALITY

EXAMINATION BOARD ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Edexcel

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A* - C, including Mathematics and English Language.

Students do not need prior knowledge of the subject or to have studied GCSE Food Technology. The Diploma is ideal for anyone with an interest in food and how to manage a business. The Hospitality Diploma equips learners with a broad understanding of the sector and the way in which it works. With an emphasis on practical, hands-on skills it provides a valuable taster of the wide range of opportunities and job roles that exist within hospitality. Some major topics include: customer service standards; sales and marketing; running a hospitality business; food and beverage service; food preparation and cooking; and health and safety. The Diploma would be ideal for a learner who is particularly interested in pursuing a career as a chef, working in tourist services or holiday parks, or wishing to study hotel management. As well as exploring issues such as the importance of customer service, managing resources and setting up in business, the Hospitality Diploma also covers a range of vital life skills such as healthy eating and food safety. At Advanced level students will study:

20445B	Principles of Supervising Customer Service in Hospitality
20828C	The Hospitality Industry
20829C	Providing customer service in Hospitality
20836C	Contemporary World Food
20844C	Planning and organising a hospitality event
20852C	Advanced skills and techniques in producing patisserie and petit fours
20834C	European Food

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

Advanced Diploma in Food Hygiene and Safety with Environmental Health, Certificate in Food Hygiene and Safety. Students could combine BTEC Food Technology with a range of other subjects. It can be taken with:

- Business Studies, by those interested in a career in the hospitality Industry
- English to go into food journalism
- History for a career as a food historian
- Science to become a dietician, food technologist or enter another health related/medical profession
- An Art or Design related subject to explore a career in food product Design
- Any other A levels to become a Food Technology teacher
- PE to explore a career in Sport Science and Nutrition

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

WHAT CAREER OPTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

Students can go to degree courses either BA or BSC qualifications. This course prepares students for careers in a wide range of professions, such as business, hospitality, teaching, food journalism, food technologist, dietician, food historian, food photographer, or any career that is health related.

FRENCH

EXAMINATION BOARD

WJEC

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. For this course, students should also have a Grade B or above in GCSE French.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

French is taught for 10 hours per 2 week cycle. Students are also required to spend up to 30 minutes each week with a French language assistant to improve confidence in the oral element of the examination. The course teaches students to communicate in the written and spoken language. There is also a strong emphasis on developing an understanding of the social, cultural and commercial background of France.

Students are assessed at the end of the academic year through a 15 minute oral examination (30 per cent), a 2½ hour listening, reading and translation examination (50 percent) and a 1 hour 15 minute writing examination (20 per cent) based on a film or novel.

Lessons are interactive with a strong emphasis on speaking and writing skills. Extended writing tasks are frequently set for homework, relating strongly to work covered in class. Students are also encouraged to read and listen to French independently and travel to France, if possible.

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can take this course to complement other A level courses. This could lead onto higher education in French, other languages or more general higher education courses.

WHAT CAREER OPTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

An A level language may lead to further study at University level as a pure or combined language degree.

Many universities offer combined courses such as French with Business/ Management, English, Law, Accountancy, Engineering and Sciences. Living in the European and Global community, languages are highly sought after by employers across a wide spectrum of careers.

Languages are particularly useful in Business, Teaching, The Travel and Tourism Industry, Marketing, Translation, Law, Civil Service, Exports, Work abroad or Bilingual Secretary work.

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

EXAMINATION BOARD

OCR

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. For Further Mathematics, students must have a minimum of an A in GCSE Mathematics.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

The course is challenging and enjoyable but does require consistent hard work. It comprises: Pure Mathematics, which covers the structures and techniques of Mathematics including algebra, calculus, trigonometry and graphs; Statistics, including probability distributions; Mechanics, which is the application of Mathematics to mechanical problems involving forces, motion, energy and power; Decision Mathematics, which deals with such things as finding the shortest path between two places and maximising profits under a given set of conditions. The course is modular and consists of 12 modules: six core modules which cover the Pure Mathematics content, two modules in Statistics and three modules in Mechanics and one module in Decision Mathematics. It is taught over two years. The scores of six of the modules, which are equally weighed, are aggregated for AS Grades in Mathematics and Further Mathematics at the end of Year 12. The results of all 12 modules are aggregated for two A levels, Mathematics and Further Mathematics, at the end of Year 13. This structure enables students and teachers alike to get an accurate idea of the progress being made, thus helping with decisions about Higher Education and future employment.

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can take this course to support entry to higher education in Mathematics and is now almost universally a requirement at top universities for Mathematic degrees. Related areas such as engineering, economics and science or more general higher education courses find it highly desirable, with some universities asking for an AS in Further to support an application. With further training, students may enter a career related to Mathematics covering a wide spectrum of modern jobs in almost every field. This is a recognised qualification that will help students to develop the skills, understanding and knowledge sought by employers across many industries, especially in the science, technology, economic and engineering sectors.

WHAT CAREER OPTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

An A level qualification in Mathematics is highly regarded by prospective employers and universities alike, as being a good indicator of a logical and analytical mind. Mathematics and Further Mathematics are almost essential for students wishing to follow a Mathematical degree course, but both A levels are valuable for all Science and Engineering courses. Mathematics A levels are applicable for the following career areas: engineering, actuarial work, meteorology, finance, medicine, nursing, sports, the transport industry, computing, including writing games, accountancy, economics, business, banking, air traffic control, retail management, architecture, surveying, cartography, Psychology, teaching and more.

GEOGRAPHY

EXAMINATION BOARD

Edexcel

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. For this course, students should also have a Grade C in Geography (if taken). Geography students are generally more successful if they are interested in places, enjoy studying maps and have a concern for the natural environment.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

This course builds a solid, geographical foundation through popular, familiar topics while pushing forward the frontiers of A level Geography. It sets the tone for future curriculum development in geography nationally. This four-unit specification allows a balance between students' own particular physical, human and/or environmental interests and key geographical topics that provide them with the knowledge, understanding and skills for further study at higher education or for employment.

This course has been designed to allow geographers the flexibility to build programmes that suit their own particular interests and needs. Fieldwork and research skills are a key feature of both the AS Unit 2 and the A2 Unit 4. These units offer flexibility with varying and diverse fieldwork resources and approaches.

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can take this course to complement other advanced level courses, or to prepare for the A Level which could lead on to a range of higher education courses.

GERMAN

EXAMINATION BOARD

WJEC

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. For this course, students must have passed GCSE German at Grade B or above.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

German is taught for 10 hours per 2 week cycle. There will also be allocated time with a German speaker to prepare for the Speaking examination.

The course teaches students to communicate in the written and spoken language. There is also a strong emphasis on developing an understanding of the social, cultural and commercial background of Germany. Students are assessed at the end of the academic year through a 15 minute oral examination (30 per cent), a 2½ hour listening, reading and translation examination (50 per cent) and a 1 hour 15 minute writing examination (20 per cent) based on a film or novel. Lessons are interactive with a strong emphasis on speaking and writing skills. Extended writing tasks are frequently set for homework relating strongly to work covered in class.

Students are also encouraged to read and listen to German independently and travel to Germany if possible.

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can take this course to complement other A level courses or to prepare for the A Level in German. This could lead onto higher education in German, other languages or more general higher education courses.

WHAT CAREER OPTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

Living in the European and Global community, languages are highly sought-after by employers across a wide spectrum of careers.

An A Level language may lead to further study at University level as a pure or combined language degree.

Many universities offer combined courses such as German with Business/Management, English, Law, Accountancy, Engineering or Sciences. Languages are particularly useful in Business, Teaching, The Travel and Tourism Industry, Marketing, Translation, Law, Civil Service, Exports, general work abroad or Bilingual Secretary work.

HISTORY

EXAMINATION BOARD

AQA

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. Students also require a Grade C in History (if taken).*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

Students who study AS History at Ashby School focus on the following periods:

Breadth Study: Unit 1K The making of a Superpower: USA, 1865–1975

A Depth Study: 2B The Wars of the Roses, 1450–1499

These Units are worth 50% each at AS or 40% each at A2.

If History students pursue their studies into Year 13 they will also have the opportunity to complete a Personal Study, which is a piece of coursework analysing change and continuity over a 100 year period. This will be undertaken towards the end of Year 12 and beginning of Year 13.

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can take this course to complement other advanced level courses. This could lead to a degree in History or related subjects such as Archaeology, American Studies, English, Law, Politics, Sociology or more general degree courses.

With further training, History provides an excellent foundation for careers in Archaeology and Conservation, Business, Education, Law, Politics and the Media.

As the respected ‘Which?’ consumer guide commented in ‘Which Subject? Which Career?’

Historians are regarded as having an education that trains their minds to assemble, organise and present fact and opinion and this is a very useful quality in many walks of life and careers ... History is an excellent preparation for very many jobs and careers.

WHAT CAREER OPTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

A History A Level is a valuable qualification, highly regarded by university admissions tutors and employers. It provides an excellent foundation for careers as diverse as Architecture, Broadcasting, Business, Conservation, Education, Law, Management and the Media.

MATHEMATICS

EXAMINATION BOARD

OCR

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. To study Mathematics, students must have at least a Grade B in Mathematics at GCSE.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

This course is challenging and enjoyable but does require consistent hard work. The AS-level is modular and consists of three modules. It is comprised of two core mathematics modules, covering the structures and techniques of Mathematics including algebra, calculus, trigonometry and graphs and a module in Statistics and Probability.

The three modules that are studied in Year 12 count towards the aggregation of the final grade for A2 maths in Year 13, which is obtained through a further three modules. These include two more core mathematics modules alongside a further applied module, either in Mechanics or Decision Mathematics.

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can take this course to complement other A level courses or to prepare for the A2 part of an Advanced GCE in Mathematics. This could lead onto higher education in Mathematics-related areas such as Engineering, Economics, Physics or more general higher education courses.

WHAT CAREER OPTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

An AS level qualification in Mathematics is highly regarded by prospective employers and Universities alike as being a good indicator of a logical and analytical mind. Mathematics AS level is useful for any university course involving Mathematics, Science, Business, Technology or Engineering. Mathematics is also useful for Arts and Humanities subjects as it teaches some techniques used in these subjects and indicates a breadth of study. Mathematics is applicable for the following career areas: engineering, actuarial work, meteorology, finance, medicine, nursing, sports, the transport industry, computing, including writing games, accountancy, economics, business, banking, air traffic control, retail management, architecture, surveying, cartography, Psychology, teaching and many more.

MEDIA

EXAMINATION BOARD

WJEC

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. Media Studies is very similar to English as a subject, focusing on your ability to analyse and discuss the meaning created by Media texts. It is also a highly creative subject so having a passion for media products such as magazines, gaming, radio, digital media and audio visual media such as television and film will be an asset.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

During AS Media Studies you will study two units. MS1, which focus on examination process. Students will explore different case study media texts in order to be able to answer questions about the media industry, audience response and media production. Students will consider a variety of different media theories that address issues of narrative, character, sexuality and ethnicity. Students will also learn about the construction of media products, considering visual and audio codes and how language is used to manipulate and position audiences. This knowledge will then be applied through a range of activities that encourage students to consider the meanings created from the media products that flood contemporary society.

MS2 is the second unit and is where students complete their coursework. This is split into three sections, Pre-production, Production and an Evaluative Report. All three of these components must connect so the research and focus explored through pre-production must be realised in the media product created. This will be an audio visual piece centred on the music industry. Students will research into existing products, analyse their meaning and then use that information to structure their own music video. Student will then write a report that identifies the strengths and weaknesses of the piece in relation to critical theory.

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students will have the opportunity to film on location, as well as specialise in the area of the media they feel most passionate about. Media Studies can lead to careers in journalism, fashion, news reporting, editing, directing, cinematography, web design and other creative media jobs. The possibilities are endless!

MUSIC

EXAMINATION BOARD

Edexcel

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. To study Music at AS level, students should have a Grade C in GCSE Music and/or have achieved Grade 5 standard in performance and the ability to read music.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

Students follow several units. These include Performing, Developing Musical Ideas, Listening and Understanding, Analysing Music.

Students will be assessed on their practical, interpretative, creative and aural skills, as well as their knowledge and understanding of the subject.

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can take this course to complement other advanced level courses and to prepare for the A2 part of an Advanced GCE in Music, which could lead onto higher education to study Music related courses or more general higher education courses.

With further training, students may choose a career related to Music. Alternatively, students may wish to use their music ability for recreational purposes.

The AS GCE is a recognised qualification that will provide students with skills, understanding and knowledge that employers in various industries may be looking for.

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

EXAMINATION BOARD

OCR

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. The general entry requirements for studying Advanced level apply: a minimum of Grade C in Music GCSE or BTEC equivalent (if taken), or Grade 5 instrument. Grade 3 theory is recommended but not essential. Students may be asked to complete an interview to assess popular music understanding and music theory. This course is open to students who have a keen interest in developing their skills in live audio recording and every aspect of digital production and engineering, as well as arranging and composing using music technology. In addition, students will be tested on their listening and analysing skills.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

This course places an emphasis on Music Technology and the overall aspect of Music Production. It must be stressed that this course is not suitable for students who are only interested in 'Rock' music and performance. The knowledge of basic music theory is essential; simple notation and chord formation, plus the ability of aural perception; listening to music with a critical ear.

Students will be expected to attend a short interview with the Head of Music Technology in June as well as take a theory test in September, in order to ascertain their suitability for the course.

Musical performance is defined as an interpretative and creative skill using music technology.

Practical aspects include digital sequencing, composition and live recording, as well as arranging and improvising using technology. Students are also required to produce written work to illustrate their listening and analytical skills, focusing on musical styles and technological developments.

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can use the knowledge and experience gained during this course to pursue their musical ambitions in a range of fields, including live sound engineering,

IT based music composition, recording studio production, live sound mixing, advertising, media music editing and composition and musical post-production.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

We are offering two courses at Key Stage 5. The first is A Level Physical Education and the second is a BTEC National Extended Certificate in Sport (details of both courses follow). When you apply your teachers will be able to guide you as to which course you would be more suited to. If you have undertaken GCSE PE at Key Stage 4 you need to achieve at least a C to undertake either course. If you have undertaken BTEC PE at Key Stage 4 you will only be allowed to opt for the BTEC course at Key Stage 5 unless your teacher advises you otherwise. You will also need at least a Level 2 Pass. If you have not undertaken either then you would still be allowed onto either course if you are able to demonstrate the other entry requirements (see below).

EXAMINATION BOARD

OCR

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

To study PE, students must have a C or above in GCSE Additional Science and be able to demonstrate participation in sporting activities. Students do not have to have taken GCSE PE but, if so, should have achieved a Grade C.

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

This course provides in depth study of many factors surrounding sport and Physical Education with a practical and coursework element which is worth 30 per cent of the final marks.

Theoretical modules that will be covered include – Applied Anatomy & Physiology, Exercise Physiology, Biomechanics, Skill Acquisition, Sports Psychology, Sport & Society and Contemporary Issues in Physical Activity & Sport.

For the practical component students will be assessed in one practical activity and they will have to complete an evaluation of performance.

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can take this course to complement other A level courses such as Biology. The course could lead to higher education in areas of Sport Studies, Recreation, Exercise and Science or more general higher education courses.

With further training, students may choose a career related to Physical Education such as becoming a physiotherapist, teacher or exercise and fitness trainer.

Some students choose to go straight into employment.

This is a recognised qualification that will help students to develop the skills, understanding and knowledge sought by many employers across a range of industries, especially in the sporting and health sectors.

BTEC LEVEL 3: NATIONAL EXTENDED CERTIFICATE IN SPORT

EXAMINATION BOARD

Edexcel

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students do not have to have taken PE GCSE or BTEC previously but if they have, students must have a Grade C or above in GCSE PE or a Merit or above equivalent grade in BTEC PE. They must also be able to demonstrate regular participation in sporting activities.

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

The BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate offers a specialist qualification that focuses on particular aspects of employment within the appropriate vocational sector. The BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate is a qualification which can extend a learner's programme of study and it gives vocational emphasis. The BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate is broadly equivalent to one A Level. Over the two years learners will cover four units:

- *Anatomy & Physiology*
- *Professional Development in Sport*
- *Fitness Training & Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being*
- *Application of Fitness Testing*

ASSESSMENT

The assessment approach for the BTEC National Extended Certificate in Sport allows learners to receive feedback on their progress throughout the course as they provide evidence towards meeting the unit assessment and grading criteria. Students will be continually assessed through a variety of methods depending on the module. These include; coursework, a case study and a written exam. Students will be rewarded with either a Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction for each module.*

PHYSICS

EXAMINATION BOARD

AQA

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. Students should also have a grade B in Physics 2 of GCSE Additional Science or a Distinction in BTEC Science and students need a Grade B in GCSE Mathematics.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

The A level Physics course covers a broad range of topics. The main modules studied are;

- *Particle Physics and Current Electricity*
- *Mechanics, Materials and Waves.*
- *Fields Oscillations and Further Mechanics.*
- *Thermal Physics and Nuclear Physics*
- *Turning points in Physics.*

Students are assessed in practical skills assessments and written examinations.

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

The rigour and demands of an A level Physics course enables students to develop skills which are highly prized by higher education in areas such as engineering, both mechanical and electrical, electronics, architecture, materials engineering and metallurgy.

WHAT CAREER OPTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

The particular demands of studying Physics to A level provide students with analytical and problem-solving abilities which are relevant to a wide range of disciplines. A Physics qualification is highly respected and recognised as being of value both to the individual and to any organisation to which they belong.

PSYCHOLOGY

EXAMINATION BOARD

AQA

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. Students also require a Grade C in Psychology (if taken).*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

Psychology is the study of the mind. A Level Psychology introduces students to key areas of the subject. These are Social Influence, Memory, Attachment, Psychopathology, Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology, Research Methods, Relationships, Schizophrenia, Aggression and Issues and debates in Psychology.

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

Students can take this course to complement other A level courses such as a Science or to prepare for the second year of an Advanced GCE in Psychology. This could lead onto higher education to study Psychology or more general higher education courses.

With further training, students may choose a career related to Psychology such as becoming a counsellor, nurse or psychologist.

Some students choose to go straight into employment.

This is a recognised qualification that will help students to develop the skills, understanding and knowledge sought by many employers across a range of industries.

WHAT CAREER OPTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

Psychology opens up many career and Further Education opportunities. Psychology complements any career that involves people, as well as more specific careers such as those in clinical Psychology, forensic Psychology and educational Psychology.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

EXAMINATION BOARD

OCR

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. Students also require a Grade C in Religious Studies (if taken).*

This course aims to encourage an interest in, and promote the study of, religion. In particular, students should:

- *develop knowledge and understanding appropriate to a specialist study of the Philosophy of Religion and Religious Ethics*
- *use an enquiring, critical and empathic approach to the study of religion*

The six objectives of the course are:

1. *Recall, select and deploy specified knowledge*
2. *Identify, investigate and analyse questions and issues arising from the course of study*
3. *Use appropriate language and terminology in context*
4. *Interpret and evaluate Religious concepts, issues, ideas, the relevance of arguments and the views of scholars*
5. *Communicate, using reasoned arguments substantiated by evidence*
6. *Develop the skill of making connections between the areas of study chosen and other specified aspects of human experience*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

Students can take this course to complement other A level courses. This could lead to higher education to study Philosophy, Theology or Religious Studies. With further training, students may choose a career related to Religious issues and theology such as becoming a social worker or counsellor. Some students opt to go straight into employment. This is a recognised qualification that will help students to develop the skills, understanding and knowledge sought by many employers across a range of industries, especially in sectors where people are the main focus. A qualification in Religious Studies is a valuable qualification widely recognised in Higher and Further Education as well as by professional training bodies.

WHAT OTHER LEARNING COULD YOU DO?

WHAT CAREER OPTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

A qualification at this level can help students to progress to a wide range of degree courses and careers, in areas such as law, medicine, social work and teaching.

BTEC LEVEL 3: TRAVEL AND TOURISM

EXAMINATION BOARD

Edexcel

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For all Sixth Form courses, students must have five GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grades A - C, including Mathematics and English Language. To succeed in Travel and Tourism, students need a lively and enquiring mind, an interest in the travel and tourism industry, a willingness to explore new ideas and an ability to communicate ideas effectively. Students that have studied a BTEC Level 2 Travel and Tourism or GCSE Leisure and Tourism would be expected to have achieved at least a Pass Grade or a Grade C in order to take this BTEC National Course.*

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

Students will:

- Gain a broad understanding of the travel and tourism industry and be able to study selected areas in more depth*
- Develop skills, knowledge and understanding in travel and tourism*
- Have an opportunity to apply learning in a practical and realistic way*
- Follow a programme of study that enables progression to both higher education and employment within business*
- Develop key skills that are highly valued by employers and universities*
- Gain confidence through developing independent learning skills*

COURSE STRUCTURE

Unit 1 Investigating the travel and tourism sector

Unit 2 The business of travel and tourism

Unit 3 The UK as a destination

Unit 4 Customer service in travel and tourism

Unit 5 Marketing travel and tourism products and services

Unit 6 Responsible tourism

WHAT CAREER OPTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

Students can progress to FE or HE courses in Leisure services or employment in a sector of the travel and tourism industry.

