

St. Edward's

Church of England School & Sixth Form College

A Level & BTEC Prospectus





St Edward's C of E School and Sixth Form College

Students of St Edwards Sixth Form College may follow a wide variety of courses by following one of the main pathways in the Sixth Form:

<p><i>PATH WAY 1</i> International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme</p>	<p><i>PATH WAY 2</i> A Level Route</p>	<p><i>PATH WAY 3</i> BTEC and A Level Route</p>
<p>Subjects:</p> <p>Students take 6 subjects – three at standard level and three at higher level. Students select one subject from each of the following groups:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. English Literature 2. A Foreign Language 3. Humanities 4. Sciences 5. Mathematics 6. The Arts <p>Alternatively, students have the option of taking two subjects from groups 2-5 instead of a group 6 subject.</p>	<p>Subjects:</p> <p>Students take 3 A Level subjects from the subject list on the next page.</p> <p>Plus</p> <p>1 stand-alone AS qualification from the same subject list.</p>	<p>Subjects:</p> <p>Students take the BTEC in Sport and Exercise Science.</p> <p>Plus</p> <p>1 A Level from the subject list on the next page.</p> <p>Some students may seek to take 1 stand-alone AS qualification from the same subject list in addition to the above.</p>
<p>Additional Requirements:</p> <p>There are three 'Core' elements to the IB including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theory of Knowledge (TOK) • Creativity, Action and Service (CAS) • Extended Essay 	<p>Additional Requirements:</p> <p>All students follow the St Edward's Enrichment Programme (S.T.E.P) including 40 hours community service.</p>	<p>Additional Requirements:</p> <p>All students follow the St Edward's Enrichment Programme (S.T.E.P) including 40 hours community service.</p>
<p>Course Length:</p> <p>2 year programme with exams at the end of Year 13.</p>	<p>Course Length:</p> <p>A Levels are taught over 2 years with all exams at the end of Year 13.</p> <p>AS Level courses are examined at the end of Year 12.</p>	<p>Course Length:</p> <p>The BTEC is a 2 year programme with no exams.</p> <p>A Levels are taught over 2 years with all exams at the end of Year 13.</p>
<p>Entry Requirements:</p> <p>6 A*-B including English, Maths and Science. Must meet minimum subject requirements for each of the 6 subject choices.</p>	<p>Entry Requirements:</p> <p>6 A*-C including English and Maths. Must meet minimum subject requirements for each of the 4 subject choices.</p>	<p>Entry Requirements:</p> <p>5 A*-C including English, Maths and PE. Must meet minimum subject requirements for accompanying A-Level courses.</p>
<p><i>Further information is provided in the separate IB prospectus.</i></p>	<p><i>See rest of this prospectus for full details on all A Levels on offer.</i></p>	<p><i>Full details of the BTEC course are covered on page 4.</i></p>

A Levels:

St Edward's offers a range of different A Level courses as well as free standing AS qualifications in all of the subjects below:

- Accounting
- Applied Science
- Art
- Art Textiles
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Classical Civilisation
- Design and Technology – Product Design
- Drama and Theatre Studies
- English Language
- English Literature
- Ethics and Philosophy
- Food, Nutrition and Health
- Further Mathematics
- Geography
- Government and Politics
- Health and Social Care
- History
- ICT
- Mathematics
- Media Studies
- Modern Foreign Languages (French, German and Spanish)
- Music
- Music Technology
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Psychology
- RS - Christian Studies
- Sociology

Entry requirements for A Level courses are indicated on the opposite page.

BTEC in Sport and Exercise Science:

This is a level 3 qualification.

It is the equivalent of 2 A Levels.

It is assessed by coursework throughout the 2 year course. It is designed to provide specialist work-related qualifications in a variety of different sectors, giving learners the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to prepare them for employment.

Students are expected to take a minimum of 1 A Level in conjunction with this qualification.

St Edward's Enrichment Programme (S.T.E.P)

The Sixth Form will also follow the St Edward's Enrichment Programme alongside their studies which consists of the following activities and additional qualifications:

- 40 hours Community Service
- EPQ (see below)
- AS General Studies
- Study Skills
- PSHE
- University and Careers support

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ):

The Extended Project was designed with guidance from Universities. It has 2 components. Students will be taught key skills that can be transferred into all areas of study such as presentation skills. They will also have the opportunity to develop a project from an area of personal interest or activity outside their A Level option or expand on work from one of their A Level subjects. They can choose to produce a product, an artefact or a report.

Students will, with supervision;

- choose an area of interest
- draft a title and aims of the project for formal approval by their supervisor in school
- plan, research and carry out the project
- deliver a presentation to a specified audience
- provide evidence of all stages of project development and production for assessment.

It is the equivalent of an AS Level and is graded from an A*-E meaning UCAS points will be awarded too.

Entry Requirements for St Edward's Sixth Form College 2015

Students must achieve the following at GCSE for their intended pathway in the Sixth Form:

IB Pathway: 6 A*-B including English, Maths and Science. Must meet minimum subject requirements for each of the 6 subject choices.

A Level Pathway: 6 A*-C including English and Maths. Must meet minimum subjects requirements for each of the 4 subject choices.

BTEC and A Level Pathway: 5 A* - C including English, Maths and PE. Must meet minimum subject requirement for accompanying A Level course.

The subject specific entry requirements for the A Level course are listed below. This information is also available within the individual subject comments of the prospectus.

Subject	Minimum GCSE Entry Requirements
Accounting	Grade B in Mathematics. A GCSE in Business Studies would be helpful and if studied should be at least a Grade B
Applied Science	Grade C in both Core and Additional Science and also Grade C in both Mathematics and English
Art	Grade B in Art
Art Textiles	Grade B in Art/Art Textiles
Biology	Grade B in both Core and Additional Science or Grade B in Biology as well as Grade B in Mathematics
Business Studies	If GCSE Business Studies has been studied it should be a Grade B, otherwise Grade C in Mathematics and English
Chemistry	Grade B in both Core and Additional Science or Grade B in Chemistry, as well as Grade B in Mathematics
Classical Civilisation	Grade C in English Language
Design & Technology - Product Design	Grade C in a technology based subject, as well as Grade C in English
Drama and Theatre Studies	Grade C in both English Language and Literature
English Language	Grade B in English Language
English Literature	Grade B in English Literature
Ethics and Philosophy	Grade C in an English
Food Nutrition and Health	Grade C in Science
Further Mathematics	Grade A* in Mathematics
Geography	Grade B in full course or short course Geography
Government and Politics	Grade B in English Language
Health and Social Care	Grade C in English Language and Grade C in Child Development if studied
History	Grade B in History
ICT	Grade C in ICT or Grade B in Business and Communication Systems
Mathematics	Grade A in Mathematics
Media Studies	Grade C in Media Studies (if taken) or Grade C in other subject combinations
MFL	Grade B in the relevant language
Music	Grade B in Music
Music Tech	Grade C in Music
PE	Grade B in GCSE PE and also Grade B in Biology/Science
Physics	Grade B in both Core and Additional Science or Grade B in Physics, as well as Grade B in Mathematics
Psychology	Grade B in English Language, as well as a Grade C in Mathematics and Science
RS – Christian Studies	Grade C in English
Sociology	Grade B in English Language and Grade C in Mathematics and Science

Option Guidance/Support:

- **Thursday 16th October 2014:** Sixth Form Open Evening - Staff will be available to discuss post-16 choices
- **October - December 2014:** Students from other schools can arrange a tour of the school
- **December 2014:** Applications forms will be available on the school website.
- **Friday 6th February 2015:** Admission forms should be submitted to Mrs Ager either in person or to the following email address: JAger@steds.org.uk.
- **February - April 2015:** Guidance meetings with Sixth Form Leadership Team to discuss options in light of mock GCSE examination results
- **Thursday 2nd July and Friday 3rd July 2015:** Sixth Form Induction. This provides the students with the opportunity to experience a trial lesson to see if the subjects chosen suit their interests

Examination results and University destinations are available on the school website

BTEC in Sport and Exercise Science

Exam Board:

Edexcel

Course Requirements:

It is expected students will achieve **5 GCSEs at grades at A*-C including grade C in Maths and English Language**. As this course builds on the topics covered in the GCSE Physical Education course, exploring them in greater depth, students also need to achieve at least a **grade C or above in GCSE PE**, and be a keen sportsperson regularly participating in competitive sport outside of school. Although the course has a practical unit, the majority of lessons will be classroom based.

Course Content:

The BTEC is a two year course. Over that time you will study 12 units including: Anatomy for Sport and Exercise, Sport and Exercise Physiology, Sport and Exercise Psychology, and Practical Individual and Team Sports.

It is designed to provide specialist work-related qualifications in a variety of different sectors, giving students the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to prepare them for employment. We expect students to pick 1 A Level course to complement this course.

Assessment:

There is no written examination paper involved in the BTEC. Instead, assessment tasks and coursework are regularly submitted throughout the two year course. Tasks will be set and marked by a member of the PE staff. Each task is collated by the candidate into an evidence portfolio which is marked by a PE moderator and externally verified by the exam board. Portfolios are marked as **Pass, Merit, or Distinction**. BTEC is the equivalent of two A Level grades. Students will also have the opportunity to obtain other qualifications including coaching awards and first aid awareness.

Career Opportunities/Progression:

Physical Education and Sports Science are one of the most popular subjects at university. The sports industry is also one of the most rapidly increasing business sectors.

The course could lead to:

- **Higher Education:** this provides a sound basis for progression to a range of HE courses, e.g. physical education teaching, sports journalism, physiotherapy, human physiology, nursing, sports science or any sport based course;
- **Employment:** the BTEC is specifically aimed to prepare candidates for employment with a variety of work based learning opportunities. Possible employment avenues include sports coaching, recreational management, sport and leisure services, outdoor education and many more.

*For further information please contact: Mr Norley
on mnnorley@steds.org.uk*

Accounting

Exam Board:

AQA

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students should have achieved at least a **GCSE grade B in Maths** and feel comfortable working with figures. No prior knowledge of Accounting is required although a GCSE in Business Studies would be helpful and if studied should be at **grade B**.

Course Content:

You will develop knowledge and understanding of the accounting information system, accounting procedures, techniques and concepts; the role and limitations of accounting in decision making.

The course makes candidates aware of the effects of economic, legal and technological change in accounting, and of the social implications of accounting decisions

You will acquire a range of skills in decision making and problem solving.

You will need to understand the main features of published accounts of limited companies.

The course requires students to be aware of the different structures of final accounts for sole traders, partnerships, limited companies, manufacturing organisations and non-profit organisations.

You will develop an understanding of how accounting can provide valuable information for measuring and monitoring business performance, and for planning and decision making.

Assessment:

By examination only

Units have equal weighting

A Level

Unit 1 - Introduction to Financial Accounting

Unit 2 - Financial and Management Accounting

Unit 3 - Further Aspects of Financial Accounting

Unit 4 - Further Aspects of Management Accounting

Career Opportunities/Progression:

Follow a degree course in Accounting Economics, Business Studies, Politics or other Humanities.

Take an HND course in a Business/ Finance related area

Take professional qualifications in Accounting

Enter employment in accounting, banking and finance, insurance, local government or business related careers.

*For further information please contact: Miss Metcalf
on mmetcalf@steds.org.uk*

Applied Science

Exam Board:

AQA

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved a **GCSE grade C or above in both Core and Additional Science** and also **GCSE grade C in both Maths and English**.

Course Content:

This course is designed to develop and sustain an interest in, and enjoyment of, science. You will investigate how science develops and the impact it has in present day society.

The course allows students to develop practical skills relevant to science and enables them to appreciate the importance of science as a human endeavour which interacts with social, philosophical, economic, environmental and industrial matters. It will involve some elements of input from local industry and Science related employers. You will:-

- follow a programme of learning which is practically-based and which improves your practical skills;
- follow a balanced science programme covering biology, chemistry and physics;
- visit scientific workplaces;
- work independently on a number of projects;
- learn about the work of different types of people using science and the scientific skills that they use;
- gain ideas about employment opportunities in science;
- prepare for courses in higher and further education;
- keep track of your progress and achievement throughout the course by a programme of continuous assessment.

Assessment:

By examination and coursework

Each unit is equally weighted

A Level

- Unit 1 - Investigating Science at Work - Portfolio assessed
- Unit 2 - Energy Transfer Systems - Written Exam (1hr 30mins)
- Unit 3 - Finding out about Substances - Portfolio assessed
- Unit 4 - Planning and carrying out a Scientific Investigation - Portfolio assessed
- Unit 5 - Medical Physics - Written Exam (1hr 30mins)
- Unit 6 - Sport Science - Portfolio assessed

Career Opportunities/Progression:

Higher Education: the Advanced awards provide a sound basis for progression to a range of HE courses, e.g. biochemical science, chemistry, food technology, human physiology, materials science, medical physics, nursing, sports science or any science based course;

Employment: the specification aims to maintain and support the recognised standards demanded for science education and training in order to meet the requirements of various science sectors: chemical industry, health care, leisure and associated industries, medical and laboratory. This course is linked to the medical profession, industry and scientific disciplines. The course will make students aware of the opportunities that exist for scientific careers in the modern world.

For further information please contact: Mr Tomlinson on stomlinson@steds.org.uk

Art

Exam Board:

Edexcel

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved at least a **grade B** in Art at GCSE.

Course Content:

A Level Art and Design is a practical course with some written content which allows students who have interest and aptitude in the subject to further their studies in art, craft and design.

This art course offers a range of opportunities for students to explore and experiment with a wide variety of materials and processes and study the work of a variety of artists, craftspeople and cultures.

You will study 4 units at A Level:

- Unit 1 - Exploration and discovery of new techniques and media leading to a personal project relating to a set theme using your own choice of media.
- Unit 2 - Externally set assignment from the Exam Board.
- Unit 3 – Development of a personal project and extended personal study relating to a set theme.
- Unit 4 - Externally set Assignment from the Exam Board

Assessment:

By continual assessment and a controlled assessment within school

All units are assessed and graded internally by the school and a visiting moderator from the exam board.

The coursework units comprise 60% of the overall mark and the externally set piece 40%.

A Level

- Unit 1 - Coursework
- Unit 2 - Externally Set Assignment
- Unit 3 - Coursework
- Unit 4 - Externally Set Assignment

Career Opportunities/Progression:

Students who wish to further their studies in an art related field can either apply by means of a portfolio interview straight to university for degree courses or choose the traditional route of BTEC foundation in Art and Design at college or university. Careers that require an Art and Design qualification include:

Graphic Design, Illustration, Photography, Textile Design, Fashion Design, Interior Design, Computer Animation, Sculpting, Film Making, Art Restoration, Advertising, Video Art, Art Therapy, Automotive Design and Design of Theatrical Scenery.

For further information please contact: Mrs Maullin on smaullin@steds.org.uk

Art Textiles

Exam Board:

Edexcel

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved at least a **grade B** in Art/Art Textiles at GCSE.

Course Content:

A Level Art Textiles is a practical course with some written content which allows students to develop their skills in producing art based textiles. It involves the creation, selection and manipulation of textiles and contemporary practice that combines a variety of methods freely, often embracing both traditional and modern practices.

The course covers surface pattern, printed textile art constructed textile pieces and mixed media outcomes. Initial ideas will be explored using traditional art materials and techniques such as pencil, oil pastel, paint and photography but these will be developed into textile experiments and a final outcome. You will study a variety of textiles techniques such as fabric painting, screen printing, batik, weaving, appliqué felt making and hand embroidery and embellishment. You will also be required to research traditional textile techniques and textile artists and fashion designers and make links to your own work.

Assessment:

By continual assessment and a controlled assessment within school

All units are assessed and graded internally by the school and a visiting moderator from the exam board.

The coursework units comprise 60% of the overall mark and the externally set piece 40%.

A Level

Unit 1 - Coursework

Unit 2 - Externally Set Assignment

Unit 3 - Coursework

Unit 4 - Externally Set Assignment

Career Opportunities/Progression:

Students who wish to further their studies in an art/textiles/fashion related field can either apply by means of a portfolio interview straight to university for degree courses or choose the traditional route of BTEC foundation in Art and Design at college or university. Careers that require an Art and Design qualification include: Fashion illustration, Textile Design, Fashion Design, Interior Design, Sculpting, Theatrical Scenery and costume design, Visual merchandising, Fashion Buying

*For further information please contact: Mrs Maullin
on smaullin@steds.org.uk*

Biology

Exam Board:

AQA

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved a **GCSE grade B or above in both Core and Additional Science or grade B in Biology**. During the course, students will be expected to handle and interpret data so it is also expected that students will have achieved a **GCSE grade B in Mathematics**.

Course Content:

You will develop greater understanding of biological facts together with an appreciation of their significance in new and changing situations.

You will develop greater expertise in the area of practical work and the link between theory and experimental work. You will continue to enjoy and further develop a personal interest in the study of living organisms.

You will examine the recognition of the responsible use of Biology in society and the awareness of developments in Biology in an ever changing world.

Assessment:

By examination and internal practical skills assessment A Level

Unit 1 - Biology and disease (16.7%)

Unit 2 - The variety of life (23.3%)

Unit 3 - Investigative and practical skills (10%)

Unit 4 - Populations and environment (16.7%)

Unit 5 - Control in cells and in organisms (23.3%)

Unit 6 - Investigative and Practical Skills (10%)

Career Opportunities/Progression:

Follow a degree course in Biology, Environmental Science, Medicine, Nursing, Dentistry, Physiotherapy, Psychology or Pharmacy. This is just a small selection of the courses with direct links to Biology. It can also be used to support applications for Higher Education courses in non-scientific subjects.

Employment in the area of the health professions, biotechnology, catering, and land management.

*For further information please contact: Ms Feeley
on afeeley@steds.org.uk*

Business Studies

Exam Board:

AQA

Course Requirements:

The course provides a smooth transition from GCSE Business Studies to A Level, but GCSE Business Studies is not necessary to take this subject at this level. It is expected that students who have already studied **Business at GCSE have obtained at least a grade B, otherwise grade C in Maths and English is necessary** to cope successfully with the financial and written aspects of the course.

Course Content:

You will:

- develop a critical understanding of organisations, the markets they serve and the process of adding value. Consider the internal workings and management of organisations, in particular the process of decision-making in a dynamic external environment
- become aware that business behaviour can be studied from the perspectives of a range of stakeholders including customers, managers, creditors, owners/ shareholders and employees
- be aware of the economic, environmental, ethical, governmental, legal, social and technological issues associated with business activity
- acquire a range of skills, including decisionmaking and problem-solving in the light of evaluation and, where appropriate, the quantification and management of information

- be aware of the current structure of business and business practice in different sectors and environments, including large and small organisations, manufacturing and service industries, local, regional, national and multinational, profit and non profit-making entities
- be expected to use Information Technology throughout the course as a tool to aid understanding of the subject content

Assessment:

By examination only

A Level

Unit 1 - Planning and Financing a Business (20%)

Unit 2 - Managing a Business (30%)

Unit 3 - Strategies for Success (25%)

Unit 4 - The Business Environment and Managing Change (25%)

Career Opportunities/Progression:

Take a degree course in Business Studies or any business related area such as Administration, Finance, Human Resource Management or Marketing, (some top Business courses require a high level of Mathematical ability so

A level Maths would be an advantage for some students)

Take an HND in any business area.

This will support direct entry into employment in any area of business.

*For further information please contact: Miss Metcalf
on mmetcalf@steds.org.uk*



NB: The above subject descriptions are subject to change pending the implementation of the proposed changes to A Levels by the DFE

Chemistry

Exam Board:

AQA

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved a **GCSE grade B or above in both Core and Additional Science or grade B in Chemistry**. During the course, students will be expected to handle and interpret data so it is also expected that students will have achieved a **GCSE grade B in Mathematics**.

Course Content:

You will stimulate and sustain your interest in, and enjoyment of chemistry. You will also gain greater knowledge and understanding of chemistry and to appreciate the inter-linking patterns present in the subject. The course shows the relevant application and value of chemistry to society and how it may be used responsibly. You will have the opportunity to develop your skills in laboratory procedures and techniques and develop your ability to acquire knowledge by means of practical work.

The course also provides opportunities for you to bring together knowledge of how different areas of chemistry relate to each other.

Assessment:

By examination and internal practical skills assessment

A Level

Unit 1 - Foundation Chemistry (16.7%)

Unit 2 - Chemistry in Action (23.3%)

Unit 3 - Investigative and Practical Skills (10%)

Unit 4 - Kinetics, Equilibria and Organic Chemistry (16.7%)

Unit 5 - Energetics, Redox and Inorganic Chemistry (23.3%)

Unit 6 - Investigative and Practical Skills (10%)

Career Opportunities/Progression:

Follow a degree course in Chemistry, Environmental Science, Medicine and Pharmacy. Follow a Higher National programme in Applied Chemistry and related programmes, such as Sport Studies, Beauty Therapy, Applied Biology, Engineering, Agriculture, Animal Management, Countryside Management, Environmental Science, Equine Management or Horticulture.

Employment in the area of pharmacy and biotechnology.

Employment in the area of the health professions, biotechnology, catering, and land management.

*For further information please contact: Mr Macallan
on jmacallan@steds.org.uk*

Classical Civilisation

Exam Board:

AQA

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved at least a **GCSE grade C in English Language**. You would need to be interested in learning about the history and literature of the Ancient Greek and Roman worlds. The course does not require you to study Latin or Classical Greek.

Course Content:

You will learn how to read and understand primary sources, classical sources and secondary sources. This will help you learn and appreciate the history, literature, culture and achievements of the Romans and the Greeks.

You will develop your communication skills as you communicate your knowledge and understanding of the subject in writing and speaking.

Assessment:

By examination only

Each unit has equal weighting

A Level

Unit 1 - An introduction to an aspect of Classical Civilisation 1 (Women in Athens and Rome)

Unit 2 - An introduction to an aspect of Classical Civilisation 2 (Homer's Odyssey)

Unit 3 - A study of an aspect of Classical Civilisation 1 (Greek Tragedy)

Unit 4 - A study of an aspect of Classical Civilisation 2 (Tiberius and Claudius)

Career Opportunities/Progression:

Go to university to study Classical Civilization or Ancient History. Take any Arts or Humanities degree with a deeper understanding of the roots of the subject.

Be a better informed person who appreciates the origin of many features of modern European life.

If you intend to take History at university you should give serious consideration to taking Classical Civilisation alongside History at A Level.

*For further information please contact: Mr Bennett
on pbennett@steds.org.uk*

Design & Technology - Product Design

Exam Board:

Edexcel

Course Requirements:

This course is suitable for anyone who has enjoyed and studied any of the following subjects or areas; Graphic Products, Resistant Materials or Product Design. It is expected that students will have achieved a **grade C or better in these courses, as well at least GCSE grade C in English**. It is possible to take this course if you have not studied these subjects but you will need a lot of determination and self-motivation and some proof of your design ability in the form of a small portfolio. The A Level in Product Design offers two pathways, Resistant Materials Technology and Graphic Products, each with its own specific content. The structure of the specification allows students to develop a range of skills and outcomes, demonstrate their creativity and apply these to a design. The specification seeks to develop students' knowledge and skills in designing products. They will also develop their research, analysis, product development, project planning and evaluation skills.

Course Content:

Students are given the opportunity to develop their creative, technical and practical skills through a series of product investigation, design and manufacturing activities. Students will produce one portfolio with three distinct sections which will demonstrate their creativity and flair when investigating, designing and making products. Depending on the route students are studying, their products must comply with the

requirements of **either** a resistant materials technology product or a graphic product. This course has been designed to be as flexible as possible, offering students a wide range of valid approaches in producing their portfolio of creative skills.

In addition students will develop their knowledge and understanding of a range of modern design and manufacturing practices and contemporary design issues. The modern designer must have a good working knowledge of the use of ICT and systems and control technology in the design and manufacture of products. They must also be aware of the important contributions of designers from the past which may provide inspiration for future design. It is increasingly important that students develop an awareness of the impact of design and technological activities on the environment. Sustainable product design is a key feature of modern design practices.

Assessment:

By examination and coursework

A Level

Unit 1 - Coursework (30%)

Unit 2 - Written exam 1 ½ hours (20%)

Unit 3 - Coursework (30%)

Unit 4 - Written exam 2 hours (20%)

Career Opportunities/Progression:

Advertising, Architecture, Construction and Building Trades, Graphic Design for magazines, Engineering, Interior Design, Art, Illustration, Game Design, Product Design, Fashion Design, Teaching, Exhibition Designers and many more.

*For further information please contact: Mrs Saville
on bsaville@steds.org.uk*



NB: The above subject descriptions are subject to change pending the implementation of the proposed changes to A Levels by the DFE

Drama and Theatre Studies

Exam Board:

AQA

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved at **least C grades in both English GCSEs** before you start the course. It is useful to have taken Drama at GCSE but not essential and it is important that you are interested in gaining a greater understanding of how theatre and plays work, and that you are keen to be involved in practical work as both actor and director.

Course Content:

The course demands practical, creative and communication skills in almost equal measure. You will extend your ability to create theatre in performance. You will also be required to write about theatre and to develop your powers of analysis, becoming an informed critic. The course will involve creating your own piece of theatre as well as studying plays, playwrights and theatre practitioners through practical and written work.

Assessment:

The structure of the specification is a mixture of written and practical units.

A Level

Unit 1 - Live Theatre Production Seen and Prescribed Play (30%)

Unit 2 - Presentation of an Extract from a Play with Supporting Notes (20%)

Unit 3 - Further Prescribed Plays including Pre-Twentieth Century (30%)

Unit 4 - Presentation of Devised Drama with Supporting Notes (20%)

The written units are externally set and marked.

The practical units are internally assessed by the teacher and externally moderated by a visiting moderator.

Career Opportunities/Progression:

Higher Education at degree or HND level. It can be used as part of your course to broaden your studies and may lead on to a career in the performing arts industries. Theatre Studies A Level complements a range of subjects and is useful in building confidence and improving presentation skills in a range of careers.

For further information please contact: Mrs Allen on sallen@steds.org.uk



English Language

Exam Board:

AQA

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students have **achieved a B grade in GCSE English Language** as this course builds on some of the knowledge and understanding of GCSE English.

It would also be helpful if you have an active interest in language. During the course, students will need to be able to communicate effectively, research information from a variety of sources and express themselves clearly and fluently in written form.

Course Content:

You will study a wide range of topics such as how issues of gender, power and the growth in communication technology affect language use. You will also develop an understanding of how children acquire language and how and why language changes over time.

During the course you will learn to select and apply a range of linguistic methods and show critical understanding of a range of concepts and issues relating to meaning in spoken and written language.

You will be able to:

- Analyse and evaluate the influence of contextual factors in both written and spoken language.
- Show knowledge of the key parts of language.
- Demonstrate expertise and creativity in the use of English in a range of different contexts which show your linguistic knowledge

Assessment:

By examination and coursework.

The coursework units comprise 40% of the full A Level and the examinations 60%.

A Level

Unit 1 - Categorising texts

Unit 2 - Creating texts (coursework)

Unit 3 - Developing Language

Unit 4 - Investigating Language (coursework)

Career Opportunities/Progression:

You could go on to study linguistics at university or most courses at degree level. You could use this A Level as proof of your good written communication skills. A Media career. Use language more effectively both orally and in writing in any career.

For further information please contact: Mr Delaney on jdelaney@steds.org.uk

English Literature

Exam Board:

AQA

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students have **achieved a B grade in GCSE English Literature** as this course builds on some of the knowledge and understanding of GCSE English Literature.

During the course, students will need to communicate effectively, research information from a variety of sources and express themselves, giving clear opinions about texts, supported with well developed arguments. You will read a range of prose, drama and poetry as well as critical works. Success at A Level is dependent on you sustaining a wide range of personal reading.

Course Content:

You will:

- learn to articulate creative, informed and relevant responses to literary texts, using appropriate terminology and concepts, and coherent, accurate written expression
- demonstrate a detailed critical understanding in analysing the ways in which structure, form and language shape meanings in literary texts
- explore connections and comparisons between different literary texts, informed by interpretations of other readers demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received.

Assessment:

The specification is a mixture of written exams and coursework.

The units will involve studying the following:

A Level

Unit 1 - Aspects of Narrative

Unit 2 - Dramatic Genres

Unit 3 - Texts and Genres

Unit 4 - Further and independent reading

Career Opportunities/Progression:

Literature is welcomed as a qualification for many careers and provides a wide range of opportunities for courses in the Arts, Humanities, Media and Communication as well as teaching, law and journalism.

For further information please contact: Mr Delaney on jdelaney@steds.org.uk

Ethics and Philosophy

Exam Board:

OCR

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved **at least a grade C in GCSE English**. No prior knowledge of Religious Studies is required although a student may find this helpful.

Course Content:

This is a challenging thought provoking course centred around the Christian and secular responses to moral issues. Students will also develop their skills in Philosophical discussion. You will study:

- Basic Philosophy looking at Classical Greek thought in Plato and Aristotle, their thoughts about body, soul, goodness, cause and purpose; the Judaeo-Christian ideas of God as creator, good and active in the world; traditional arguments for the existence of God and challenges to religious belief.
- Ethical terms like good, bad, right and wrong; an introduction to various ethical theories. Situation and Virtue ethics, Natural Law. Thinking of Immanuel Kant, Utilitarianism, Religious Ethics, absolute and relative morality. These are applied to various contemporary moral issues; abortion, euthanasia; right to life; right to a child; genetic engineering and embryo research.

Assessment:

By examination only

Each unit has equal weighting

A Level

Unit 1 - Philosophy of Religion

Unit 2 - Religious Ethics

Unit 3 - Philosophy of Religion

Unit 4 - Religious Ethics

Career Opportunities/Progression:

With a qualification in Religious Studies, you can go on to higher education at College or University or seek employment.

The skills developed would be useful for careers in law, education, social work, politics, medicine, business administration and the media.

For further information please contact: Mr Welsby on nwelsby@steds.org.uk

Food, Nutrition and Health

Exam Board:

ACR

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved **at least a GCSE grade C in English Language; also grade C in either Catering or Child development** would be helpful but not essential.

This course builds on some topics and practical skills covered in both GCSE Food Technology and also Catering exploring them in greater depth, although it is not necessary to have studied these at GCSE to do the course.

Students will develop an understanding of issues relating to society and health, resource management, nutrition and food production. It includes practical elements so is suited to students who enjoy a more hands on approach to learning.

Course Content:

The course consists of two areas: society and health and resource management.

In Society and Health students learn about factors that influence trends in the UK, the family, environmental and social issues and the health of the population in the UK.

In Resource management students will learn about food provision, food safety and hygiene, food preparation and cooking equipment. It is a requirement of the syllabus that students undertake a range of practical activities to satisfy this part of the course. Students will also learn about resource management.

Assessment:

By a mixtures of examination and coursework A Level

Unit 1 - Society and Health (written paper)

Unit 2 - Resource management (written paper)

Unit 3 - Food, nutrition and health: investigative study - coursework: students select their own content and develop their own tasks.

Unit 4 - Nutrition and food production - written paper

Career Opportunities/Progression:

This course provides a suitable foundation for the study of academic or vocational courses in higher education, including careers in Food Technology, Nutritional Science, Sports Science and Diet, Consumer Protection, and Food retail and manufacture.

For further information please contact: Mrs Perry on rperry@steds.org.uk

Further Mathematics

Exam Board:

OCR MEI

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved an **A* grade in GCSE Mathematics**.

Course Content:

Further Mathematics A Level not only builds on work you will have met at GCSE, and the work you will be covering within the Mathematics A Level, but also involves new ideas that are not covered in any other part of the maths curriculum.

At A Level you will study Further Pure 1, Mechanics, Decision Maths 1, Mechanics 2, Decision 2 and Further Pure 2.

Assessment:

By examination only

The units are equally weighted

A Level

Unit FP1 - Further Concepts for Advanced Mathematics

Unit M1 - Mechanics 1

Unit D1 - Decision Mathematics 1

Unit FP2 - Further Methods for Advanced Mathematics

Unit M2 - Mechanics 2

Unit D2 - Decision Mathematics 2

Career Opportunities/Progression:

A Level Further Mathematics is very useful as a supporting subject to many courses at A level especially in the Sciences, Geography, Psychology, Sociology and Medical courses. There are also many areas of employment that see a Mathematics A level as an important qualification and it is often a requirement for the vocational qualification related to these areas.

Higher Education courses or careers that either require A level Further Mathematics or courses that are strongly related include: Engineering, Electronics, Maths, Computing, Statistics.

For further information please contact: Mr Thomas on lthomas@steds.org.uk



Geography

Exam Board:

AQA

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved a **grade B at full course or short course GCSE Geography**.

It is also important that you have a lively and enquiring mind, an interest in the environment and current affairs, a willingness to explore new ideas and an ability to communicate your ideas effectively.

Course Content:

Throughout this course you will be learning about the relationship of human populations to each other over space and time and their relationship with their physical environment at a variety of scales from the local to the global.

All units specified offer opportunities for candidates to consider their own roles, values and attitudes in relation to themes and issues being studied, and the roles, values and attitudes of others including decision makers.

At A Level, the course focuses on the following areas:

- The core physical section:
 - Rivers, floods and management
- Optional physical topics:
 - Cold environments, coastal environments and desert environments
- The core human section:
 - Population change
- Optional human topics:
 - Food supply issues, energy issues, health issues
- Hazards related to climate and plate tectonics
- Investigation into geographical issues surrounding contemporary conflict and the challenges of globalisation

Assessment:

By examination only

A Level

Unit 1 - Physical and Human Geography (35%)

Unit 2 - Geographical Skills (15%)

A2 Unit 3 - Contemporary Geographical Issues (30%)

A2 Unit 4B - Geographical Issue Evaluation (20%)

Career Opportunities/Progression:

You will have access to a wide range of possible career and higher education possibilities. You will have learnt and used a variety of transferable skills throughout the course, for example collecting and analysing and interpreting data. These skills are in great demand by employers and universities and can lead to a wide range of employment opportunities such as law, accounting and journalism.

*For further information please contact: Mrs Tubridy
on dtubidy@steds.org.uk*

Government and Politics

Exam Board:

Edexcel

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved at least a **grade B in GCSE English Language** to cope with the written aspects of the course.

You do not need to have studied Government and Politics or History at GCSE in order to take an A Level course in the subject. It is more important that you should have a lively and enquiring mind, an interest in politics and current affairs and a desire to explore new ideas.

Course Content:

You will study:

- how to develop a critical awareness of the nature of politics and the relationship between political ideas, institutions and processes
- what the structures of authority and power are within the political system of the United Kingdom, and how these may differ from those of other political systems, especially the USA
- what the rights and responsibilities of individuals are
- how to develop personal effectiveness through a critical awareness of political events and issues, an understanding of the main political viewpoints and the skills required to argue a case with relevance and coherence
- a clear understanding of the theories, motives and values that underpin governmental decisionmaking and the role of institutions in resolving conflicts and allocating scarce resources
- in particular, you will learn about political institutions such as Parliament, the Prime Minister, the Cabinet and the judiciary. You will study political parties, pressure groups and political ideas.

Assessment:

By examination only

A Level

Module 1 - People and Politics

Module 2 - Governing the United Kingdom

Module 3 - Representative Processes in the USA

Module 4 - Governing the USA

Career Opportunities/Progression:

Government and Politics combines well with a range of other subjects to lead to university courses in such areas as business, economics, law, media, philosophy and, of course, politics.

*For further information please contact: Mrs K Hart
on khart@steds.org.uk*

Health and Social Care

Exam Board:

Edexcel

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved **at least a GCSE grade C in English Language also grade C in Child Development** would be helpful but not essential.

A Level Health & Social Care has been designed to be delivered through work-related contexts, allowing students to develop an understanding of the diverse and complex nature of the health and social care sector. A Levels in Sociology and Psychology would work well alongside Health and Social Care.

Course Content:

This course allows students to build skills as well as technical knowledge. It gives them a broad base of understanding whilst allowing them also to focus on the four specialist areas:

- Health
- Early Years (Care and Education)
- Care of Older People
- Individuals

Internally assessed assignments allow students to study in one of the above areas although two is recommended. Work would include research and observation in at least one of the settings above.

Assessment:

All units for A Level have equal weighting. The specification is a mixture of written papers and assessed coursework.

A Level

- Unit 1 - Human growth and development
(written examination)
- Unit 2 - Communication and values
(internally assessed coursework)
- Unit 3 - Positive care environments
(internally assessed coursework)
- Unit 4 - Meeting individual needs
(written examination)
- Unit 5 - Promoting health and well-being
(internally assessed coursework)
- Unit 6 - Investigating disease
(internally assessed coursework)

Career Opportunities/Progression:

Social care is and will continue to be a fast growing sector with a number of training and employment opportunities.

Students who successfully complete the qualification will be well equipped to move onto degrees or BTEC Higher National Diplomas.

Employment opportunities include social care, social work, health promotion and work with children.

For further information please contact: Mrs Perry on rperry@steds.org.uk



History

Exam Board:

Edexcel

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have **achieved a B at GCSE History** in order to take an A Level course in the subject. It is important that you have an enquiring mind, an interest in the past and its relevance to current affairs and an ability to communicate your ideas effectively.

Course Content:

You will study:

- the significance of events, individuals, issues and societies in history
- how and why societies have changed over time.
The theories of historians and the language they use to discuss their ideas
- the nature of historical evidence and the methods used by historians to analyse and evaluate it
- how the past has been interpreted and represented
- your own historical ideas confidently and effectively.

This will include presenting ideas in seminars, in debates and discussions and in writing.

Assessment:

A Level - by examination and coursework

Units have equal weighting at AS

Unit 1 - Module 1- Stalin's Russia 1924 - 1953

Unit 1 - Module 2 - Pursuing Life and Liberty:

Equality in the USA, 1945-1968

Unit 2 - Henry VIII: Authority, Nation and Religion

Unit 3 - From Kaiser to Fuhrer: Germany 1900 – 1945

Unit 4 - Historical Enquiry Coursework: Crime and Punishment in Britain 1830 – 1965

Career Opportunities/Progression:

History provides an excellent foundation for a number of popular careers including: journalism, law, the civil service, personnel and most vocations in the business world.

*For further information please contact: Mr McLeod
on amcleod@steds.org.uk*

ICT

Exam Board:

WEJC

Course Requirements:

The course provides a smooth transition from GCSE ICT to A Level. It is expected that students that students will have achieved **at least a grade C in GCSE ICT or grade B in Business and Communication Systems.**

Course Content:

This course provides opportunities for students to develop an understanding of spiritual, moral, ethical, social and cultural issues as they relate to the designer or user of ICT systems. They will consider social issues, acceptable use of ICT and legislation, consideration of security strategies and auditing, and effects upon communities.

The presenting information task and relational database project serve to extend understanding of these issues in order that a balanced appreciation of the conflicts and dilemmas involved in the design and implementation of ICT systems may be encouraged.

The course helps students to identify the establishment of links with other areas of study, particularly those involving problem solving and the practical use of ICT.

Assessment:

By examination and coursework

A Level

Unit 1 - Information, Systems and Applications (Exam: 30%)

Unit 2 - Structured ICT Tasks (Coursework: 20%)

Unit 3 - ICT Systems, Applications and Implications
(Exam: 30%)

Unit 4 - ICT Project (Coursework: 20%)

Career Opportunities/Progression:

The ICT A-Level is related to a broad area of the world of work and is designed to allow a student to progress to a course in Higher Education or a responsible level of employment.

*For further information please contact: Miss Metcalf
on mmetcalf@steds.org.uk*



Mathematics

Exam Board:

Edexcel

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved at least a **grade A in GCSE Mathematics** and you will have studied the higher tier.

Course Content:

The focus of the course is to encourage you to acquire knowledge and develop your mathematical skill base and to apply mathematics and recognise its significance in a wider context. The focus is also to develop your understanding of mathematical reasoning and to provide you with a foundation for the further study of mathematics or related subjects.

AS and A Level is a course worth studying in its own right. It is challenging but interesting. It builds on work you will have met at GCSE, but also involves new ideas that some of the greatest minds have considered. It serves as a very useful support for many other qualifications as well as being a sought-after qualification for the workplace and courses in Higher Education.

Assessment:

By examination only

All units have equal weighting

A Level

Unit 1 - Core 1

Unit 2 - Core 2

Unit 3 - Statistics 1

Unit 4 - Core 3

Unit 5 - Core 4

Unit 6 - Statistics 2

Career Opportunities/Progression:

A Level Mathematics is very useful as a supporting subject to many courses at A Level and degree level, especially in the Sciences, Geography, Psychology, Sociology and Medical courses.

Higher Education courses or careers that either require A level Mathematics or are strongly related include: Economics, Medicine, Architecture, Engineering, Accountancy, Teaching, Psychology, Environmental Studies, Computing, Information Technology.

*For further information please contact: Mr Thomas
on lthomas@steds.org.uk*

Media Studies

Exam Board:

WJEC

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved **at least a C grade in GCSE Media Studies**, but individual consideration will be given to students with appropriate grades in any two of the following subjects: English, Art, ICT, Graphics and Business Studies if it has not been studied.

Course Content:

Media Studies is a vibrant, exciting and diverse course that will develop students' knowledge and understanding of a variety of Media issues, skills and techniques across a range of Media; Film, television, radio, music, newspapers, magazines, Internet, computer games and advertising.

You will:

- develop your critical awareness and enjoyment in media texts and become active readers
- examine the development of media institutions, their practices and output
- analyse the ways in which different media represent the world
- examine critically the ways in which media texts have been produced, circulated, consumed and interpreted by audiences and with application to your own production work.
- critically appraise the historical development and current organisation of selected media institutions
- develop investigative and research skills and apply them to the analysis of media
- use this knowledge and understanding of different media texts to explore comparisons and connections between them

Assessment:

By practical coursework and examination.

All units have equal weighting

A Level

Unit 1 - Media Representations and Responses (Exam)

Unit 2 - Media Production Processes (Coursework)

Unit 3 - Media Investigation & Production (Coursework)

Unit 4 - Media – Text, Industry and Audience (Exam)

Career Opportunities/Progression:

Media; Film, television, radio, music, newspapers, magazines, Internet, computer games and advertising.

*For further information please contact: Mrs Gillman
on hgillman@steds.org.uk*

Modern Foreign Languages French, German & Spanish

Exam Board:

AQA

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved at least the equivalent of **GCSE grade B in the relevant language before taking this course**. It is essential to make your subject teacher aware as early as possible that you are considering continuing with a language to A Level and seek advice.

Course Content:

The course is split into 4 areas: reading, writing, speaking and listening.

Reading: You will be able to read, understand and extract information from written passages in the target language that are taken from authentic sources, such as magazines and newspapers, reports or books.

Listening: You will be able to listen to, and understand contemporary spoken language and answer questions on what you have heard. The passages that you will learn to listen to will be taken from a range of sources such as news reports on the radio or TV, weather forecasts, announcements, interviews and discussions.

Speaking and Writing: You will learn how to write essays or longer pieces and to hold conversations and discussions in the target language. You will learn all the appropriate grammar, words and phrases that will help you to:

- Present information in the target language
- Organise your arguments
- Provide opinions
- Analyse your ideas

Students will have the opportunity to complete work experience and go on a study trip abroad.

Assessment:

By examination and speaking exam

A Level

Unit 1 - Young People Today (35%)

Unit 2 - People & Society (Speaking Exam 15%)

Unit 3 - Contemporary Issues (35%)

Unit 4 - Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow (Speaking Exam 15%)

Career Opportunities/Progression:

Some students choose to do degree courses in languages; others choose to pursue a Higher Education course in another subject, but choose a language option alongside it. Having a language at A level will certainly improve your employability, in particular in companies which have international branches.

For further information please contact: Mr Fritsch on sfritsch@steds.org.uk

Music

Exam Board:

Edexcel

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved at least **GCSE grade B in Music**.

This course is suited to enthusiastic musicians, who are keen to strengthen their knowledge and explore new ideas. You need to be of at least a grade 5 standard by the April of your first year, although you do not have to have taken any grade exams.

Course Content:

The course demands performing, composing, listening and analytical skills in almost equal measure. You will improve your skills in performing and composing in a range of styles. You will listen to a wide variety of music and develop a more informed appreciation of how and why it was written and/or performed.

Assessment:

**By examination, performance and a composition
A Level**

Unit 1 - Performing (15%)

Unit 2 - Composing (15%)

Unit 3 - Developing Musical Understanding (20%)

Unit 4 - Extended Performance (15%)

Unit 5 - Composition and Technical Study (15%)

Unit 6 - Further Musical Understanding (20%)

Career Opportunities/Progression:

This A Level in Music can lead to further study in Music or Performing Arts in Higher Education at degree or HND level. Music can be used as part of your course to broaden your studies and may lead on to a career in the music industry.

For further information please contact: Mrs Yeomans on syeomans@steds.org.uk



Music Technology

Exam Board:

Edexcel

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved at least **GCSE grade C in Music**.

This course is suited to students who are interested in learning about recording, sequencing and the development of music technology and its applications. Students should be proficient in at least one instrument, and should be able to read music. GCSE music is preferred, though not essential, but students should be able to prove that they are competent musicians before they will be accepted onto the course.

Course Content:

This course is designed to develop your knowledge of music technology software such as Cubase and Sibelius, as well as teaching you the rudiments of the recording studio, and how to produce live recordings.

You will produce performances using sequencing software in a range of musical styles and develop the skills required to make high quality recordings of musical performances. You will learn how to compose and arrange using technology and develop your knowledge of the principles and development of music technology.

Assessment:

By examination and coursework

A Level

Unit 1 - Music Technology Portfolio 1 (35%).

Unit 2 - Listening and Analysing (15%).

Unit 3 - Music Technology Portfolio (30%)

Unit 4 - Analysing and Producing (20%)

Unit 3 builds on skills acquired in Unit 1. Tasks are extended to include a composition and involves detailed study of The Development of Music Technology. In addition to three coursework tasks, students also undertake a 2 hour written examination to assess musical understanding and a practical test to measure ability to produce a balanced stereo mix.

Career Opportunities/Progression:

Further study of music technology

Performing arts at Higher National or degree level

Careers in the music industry or technology/computer orientated professions.

*For further information please contact: Mrs Yeomans
on syeomans@steds.org.uk*

Physical Education

Exam Board:

OCR

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved **at least a grade B in GCSE PE and also grade B in Biology/Science**.

The course builds on the topics covered in the GCSE Physical Education course, exploring them in greater depth. Students must also be a keen sportsperson regularly participating in competitive sport outside of school.

Although the course does have a practical unit, but the majority of lessons will be classroom based.

Course Content:

At A Level you will study and gain in depth understanding of Anatomy and Physiology, Movement skills, Socio-Cultural Issues in Sport and Performance and Critical Analysis, plus a further three units selecting from, Exercise and Sport Physiology, Historical Studies, Comparative studies, and the Psychology of Sport Performance.

Assessment:

There will be a written and practical; exam in the A Level

2 hour examination paper = 70% of final grade

Practical unit including: Practical Activities (20%) and Oral Evaluation of Performance (10%) = 30% of final grade.

Career Opportunities/Progression:

Physical Education and Sports Science are one of the most popular subjects at university. The sports industry is also one of the most rapidly increasing business sectors.

The course could lead to:

- Higher Education: the A Level course provide a sound basis for progression to a range of HE courses, e.g. physical education teaching, sports journalism, physiotherapy, human physiology, nursing, sports science or any sport based course;
- Employment: Possible employment avenues include, sports coaching, recreational management, sport and leisure services, outdoor education and many more.

*For further information please contact: Mr Norley
on mnorley@steds.org.uk*

Physics

Exam Board:

AQA

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved a **GCSE grade B or above in both Core and Additional Science or Grade B in Physics**, as well as a **GCSE grade B in Mathematics**, as numeracy and mathematical skills are an important part of Physics.

Course Content:

You will sustain and develop your enjoyment of, and interest in, physics. You will:

- develop the skills needed for the use of this knowledge and understanding in new and changing situations
- appreciate how physics has developed and is used in present day society
- show how physics links with social, philosophical, economic, industrial and environmental matters
- recognise the quantitative nature of physics
- understand how mathematical expressions relate to physical principles

Assessment:

**By examination and internal practical skills assessment
A Level**

Unit 1 - Particles, Quantum Phenomena and Electricity (16.7%)

Unit 2 - Mechanics, Materials and waves (23.3%)

Unit 3 - Investigative and practical skills (10%)

Unit 4 - Fields and further Physics (16.7%)

Unit 5 - Nuclear Physics, Thermal Physics and a topic (23.3%)

Unit 6 - Investigative and Practical Skills at A2 (10%)

Career Opportunities/Progression:

Use Physics to support other qualifications or progress onto further studies or employment.

This can range from a Higher National programme (HNC & HND) to degree level.

In courses ranging from Physics, the Sciences, Medicine to Engineering.

In Chemical Engineering and related programmes.

*For further information please contact: Mr Tomlinson
on stomlinson@steds.org.uk*

Psychology

Exam Board:

AQA

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved at least a **grade B in GCSE English, as well as a C grade in Maths and Science**. You do not need to have studied Psychology at GCSE in order to take an A Level course in the subject. It is more important that you should have a lively and enquiring mind, an interest in human behaviour and experience and a desire to explore new ideas. Due to the nature of the course, you need to be able to learn and understand large amounts of material mostly in essay style questions.

Course Content:

The course covers the following:

- Cognitive Psychology including the study of the modes of memory.
- Developmental Psychology focusing on attachment and early social development.
- Biological Psychology which focuses on stress and its effects on the human body.
- Social Psychology looks at conformity and obedience
- Abnormal Psychology begins to address what 'abnormal' psychology is and how mental illness can be explained and treated.
- Research Methods in Psychology
- Sleep
- Aggression.
- Eating Behaviour
- Obsessive Compulsive Behaviour
- Media Influence

Assessment:

By examination only

All units have equal weighting

A Level

Unit 1 - Cognitive Psychology, Developmental Psychology and Research Methods

Unit 2 - Biological Psychology, Social Psychology and Individual Differences

Unit 3 - Topics in Psychology

Unit 4 - Psychopathology, Psychology in Action and Research Methods

Career Opportunities/Progression:

A level Psychology give students some understanding of the complexities of human behaviour. This course is extremely beneficial for careers in health, welfare, medicine, law, teaching, marketing, general management, the police and the media.

A level Psychology is an excellent foundation for further study in this subject or related subjects in higher education.

*For further information please contact: Ms Daniels
on adaniels@steds.org.uk*

RS: Christian Studies

Exam Board:

OCR

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have achieved **at least a grade C in GCSE English**. No prior knowledge of Religious Studies is required although a student may find this helpful.

Course Content:

Welcome to the world of A Level Religious Studies.

This course gives you an opportunity to study some of the fundamental questions which people have always asked about life. Why are we here? How should we behave? What happens to us when we die? The courses have been based on what was previously provided and reworked into a modular format.

You will:

- develop an interest and enthusiasm for a rigorous study of Christianity
- treat the subject as an academic discipline by developing your knowledge and understanding appropriate to a specialist study
- make use of an enquiring, critical and empathetic approach.

Assessment:

By examination only

Each unit has equal weighting

A Level

Unit 1 - The New Testament

Unit 2 - Developments in Christian Theology

Unit 3 - The New Testament

Unit 4 - Developments in Christian Theology

Career Opportunities/Progression:

With a qualification in Religious Studies, you can go on to higher education, at College or University or seek employment straight away. The skills developed could be particularly useful for careers in law, education, social work, politics, medicine, business administration and the media.

*For further information please contact: Mr Welsby
on nwelsby@steds.org.uk*

Sociology

Exam Board:

AQA

Course Requirements:

It is expected that students will have **achieved a grade B in GCSE English Language** and **at least a grade C in Mathematics and Science**.

Course Content:

This course will allow candidates to acquire the essential knowledge and understanding of central aspects of sociological thought and methods, together with the application of a range of skills. It has also been designed to allow the integration of sociological themes, such as socialisation, culture and identity. Specifically students will focus on Sociology around the family and the impact of mass media on society.

Assessment:

By examination only

A Level

Unit 1 - Families and Households (20%)

Unit 2 - Education and Sociological Research Methods (30%)

Unit 3 - Beliefs in Society (20%)

Unit 4 - Crime and Deviance with theory and methods (30%)

Career Opportunities/Progression:

The course develops students' analytical and investigative skills as they question the beliefs and perceptions surrounding them.

Sociology is extremely useful in contemporary life in understanding why things are as they are; it is also an advantage for students pursuing careers in social work, health and welfare, medicine, law, teaching, the police and the media.

A level Sociology lays a good foundation for future studies in this subject and related subjects.

*For further information please contact: Ms Daniels
on adaniels@steds.org.uk*



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