

Sixth Form Prospectus 2024/25

“Be The Best You Can Be”

📧 info@abbey-school-faversham.co.uk

📞 01795 532633



The Abbey
School



Table of Contents

A Message From The Headteacher	3
The Abbey Sixth Form - Vision	4
What Do You Need To Think About When Making Your Choices?	7
Dover Athletic Football Academy	8
Core Learning and Enrichment	9
Application Process	10
Entry Requirements	11
Timetable for 2024-2025	12
A-Level, BTEC and Diploma Courses	13
A Level Art & Design.....	14
Business A Level	15
Business Studies BTEC Extended Certificate	16
Children's Play, Learning and Development BTEC Extended Certificate	17
Creative Digital Media Production BTEC Extended Certificate	18
Criminology Diploma.....	19
Dance A Level.....	20
Economics A Level.....	21
English Literature A Level.....	22
Geography A Level	23
Health and Social Care BTEC Extended Certificate	24
History A Level	25
ICT BTEC Extended Certificate	26
Politics A Level	27
Psychology A Level.....	28
Religious Studies A Level.....	29
Spanish A Level	30
Sport BTEC National Extended Certificate (Single Award).....	31
Sport BTEC National Diploma (Double Award)	32



A Message From The Headteacher

Welcome to the Sixth Form. We are a vibrant and inclusive community which supports our young people to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to make the successful transition to the next stage of their education or employment.

Being a successful sixth former requires a different set of attributes to those needed in the lower years within the school. Our programme of learning is designed to ensure that our students develop the necessary habits of mind and character traits on their journey throughout these important years of their education. We want our students to become confident, articulate and well-rounded individuals with the ability to think both creatively and independently.

Academic achievement is an important component of life within our sixth form. Good grades are often a prerequisite in order to make the transition to university, an apprenticeship or a career. Consequently, we place emphasis on our students working hard and putting in maximum effort at all times. This is reflected in our most recent exam results which show that the A-Level and Vocational sixth form grades are at historically strong levels, with students choosing highly prestigious destinations for future study.

We offer a wide variety of courses, both academic and vocational, at Level 2 and Level 3. Many of the vocational courses can also be taken in combination with our traditional 'A' level courses. Moreover, we are unique in that we host a popular and successful Football Academy in partnership with Dover Athletic FC.

To encourage personal and social development, our students also take careers lessons to help them with university, college and job applications. Many of our Sixth Form students successfully move on to university or higher education.

We provide students with many enrichment opportunities including a structured PSHE programme, leadership opportunities, independent careers guidance and coaching, and fitness instruction qualifications. They are encouraged to take part in a variety of extra-curricular activities including sport, performing arts and dance. In addition, they have the opportunity to visit a variety of European countries through our Erasmus project.

Above all, the Sixth Form is about helping students to achieve their potential, whatever it is. We want all of our students to be successful and happy, whether this is at university, in their chosen career, or in developing their wider potential. By the time our students leave the school they will be aware of all of the opportunities available to them in the next stage of their journey and will retain an enjoyment in learning.

We hope that you are looking forward to the stimulation and challenge and are ready to take advantage of everything that The Abbey Sixth Form has to offer. We are equally excited about sharing these opportunities with you.



The Abbey Sixth Form - Vision

The Abbey Sixth Form is a community with a clear focus on ensuring that every student entering the Sixth Form will leave with a wide mix of opportunities to choose from as they look to their future.

To achieve this vision, we have three clear aims:

- To provide a wide range of academic and vocational subjects to support students looking to extend their experiences in subjects they find invigorating, challenging and enjoyable.
- To ensure that students develop through their Sixth Form experience into fully rounded, driven individuals, prepared to ask questions to help themselves improve in an environment that nurtures and develops their independence.
- To leave at the end of Year 13 or 14 with a clear destination in mind, where the clarity of that destination has been informed through a mix of seminars, individual and group work led by a wide range of external providers mainly with university or apprenticeship expertise. This sits alongside the independent careers advice provided to all Sixth Formers which is delivered by CXK.

Each year we have students gain entry to Russell Group universities and many of our students go on to University of Kent and Canterbury Christ Church University; we are very proud of the work we do in supporting our students to higher education. Particularly pleasing is the range of students who secure exciting apprenticeship opportunities at Level 3 and Level 4, with key highlights being students gaining apprenticeships in the Houses of Parliament and the Ministry of Defence.

Your experience at The Abbey Sixth Form will be one where you are given an exceptional opportunity to thrive and develop into a confident, happy, successful adult, where you choose the future you want.



Caring



Challenge



Successful

Be the Best you can be



Respect



"Your boys are a credit to you. Very courteous and respectful to our staff."

Leadership



Communicators



Opportunities



Community



Ready for the workplace



COMMUNICATION WITH SIXTH FORM

Sixth Form Destinations Newsletter w/c – 04/07/23

Please see below a list of key dates and information that may be of use to you. If you have any questions or queries, please do come and see me in the Sixth Form Office.

Mock results morning 04th July

For those year 12's whom took part in mock exams recently, we arranged for them to have a results day morning where they were presented with an envelope with their results all printed out.

This gave students the opportunity to experience how A-Level results day would be and a chance to reflect and look forward to next year.



This does not define your time in sixth form! For those with good results, keep working hard – this is not the time for slacking!

For those with lower than expected grades, think about how you can make improvements for next year – think time management, independent learning and note taking.

Work Experience Week

As you may or may not know, we have our year 12 work experience week from 17th July – 21st July. Students have been encouraged to arrange their own work experience in a field that they are interested in. Please do speak to your child and ensure they have arranged this and you have signed the relevant form or they will end up having to stay at school doing menial tasks that are likely to have no relevance on their chosen career.

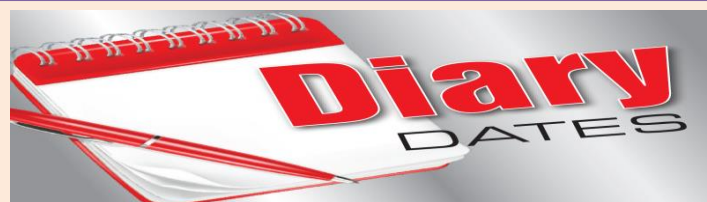
Thank you for your support in this.

Summer tips

Although it is coming up to the Summer holidays, it is hugely important that students take time to go over their topics from year 1 and get their notes in order, ready for their return in year 13. By doing this, it gives them a good start to their studies leading up to their A-Levels.

Having said that, it is also important that students rest and take some time out to relax their minds.

Have a great summer!



17/08/23 – A-Level results day

24/08/23 – GCSE results day

Next Year dates

01/09/23 – Inset day

04/09/23 – Year 12 enrolment day

05/09/23 – Year 12 and Year 13 1st day back

27/09/23 – Year 13 student finance talk 17:30 – 18:30

Bursary

Please remember that your child may be entitled to financial help through our bursary. Forms are available from the office.

For the 16+ travel saver bus pass please see here.

[KCC 16+ Travel Saver - Kent County Council](#)



What Do You Need To Think About When Making Your Choices?

1. Are you great at exams or alternatively thrive when completing coursework?
2. Are you curious about a mix of different subjects and want to find out what the Advanced in A-level actually means?
3. Are you really strong in one BTEC subject but also like a couple of other subjects?
4. Do you think you have the capability to work independently and after some early direction will thrive with that responsibility?
5. Do you like being stretched and challenged to think outside your comfort zone?

If the answer to these questions is positive, then the Sixth Form at The Abbey is the right place for you.

What about the following statements?

1. I'll only do the subject if I have a particular teacher who I really like.
2. The free time is really important to me.
3. I don't expect to work outside class time.
4. I want to do something really vocational that immediately leads to an obvious job.

If the answer to these statements is positive, then the Sixth Form at The Abbey may not be the right place for you.

Students at The Abbey Sixth Form thrive when they do their best.

Students at The Abbey Sixth Form succeed when they acknowledge the work commitment – 4 hours of out-of-class learning per subject each week will lead to success.

Students at The Abbey Sixth Form excel when they take responsibility for their learning and find out for themselves how to improve.

There are no 'average' students at The Abbey Sixth Form. There are lots of individuals with great stories to tell.



Dover Athletic Football Academy



In partnership with  y School Sixth Form

Dover Athletic Football Academy are a licensed Football Academy and play in the National Youth League, the highest league outside professional status. The Academy players train every day like professionals, improving their knowledge of the game in order to take them to the next level. The Academy players also study a range of A Level and BTEC courses at The Abbey School sixth form, continuing with their education to gain the necessary qualifications to take them further in their chosen career.

Entry Requirements

- Completing two football trials held during February and Easter half term (dates TBC)
- 5 x 9-4 grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Mathematics

Course Outline

- Academy players study 3 A level/BTEC Qualifications across a range of courses alongside their football commitments
- The Football Academy represents Dover Athletic FC in the **National Youth League**, the highest league outside of professional status
- Games programme on Wednesday afternoons in The National Youth League, National Youth Alliance and The Kent Schools Academies League
- Coaching from **UEFA 'A' licensed coaches with professional experience**
- Training daily, including full gym access and programmes

Further Progression

- Dover Athletic Professional Contracts
- Non-League and Professional Football Club Contracts
- Top University Progression, including American Scholarship Opportunities
- Apprenticeship Progressions
- Leisure Industry Employment

Please contact msandmann@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk or go to Dover Football Academy webpage (<http://www.abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk/450/about-us-1>) for more information.



Core Learning and Enrichment

Alongside our academic offer, we provide our students with opportunities to develop their life skills and to broaden their understanding of the wider world. This takes the form of:

- Core Learning lessons
- Talks
- Trips
- Work experience and placements
- Careers advice
- Mentoring and extracurricular events
- Internal leadership qualification

Our Core Learning programme consists of 6 lessons a fortnight and focuses on the following areas:

PSHE – Personal, Social, Health and Economic learning. Students engage in the issues that affect them as individuals and as a society.

Careers and Destinations – Students use these lessons to prepare themselves for their next steps after 6th form. They investigate the pathways open to them and make informed decisions about their Post 18 choices. Students will also learn employability skills which will support them in their part-time work and future careers.

Personal Finance – Students learn how the economy operates and how to manage their finances in the short term, medium term and long term - ready to leave us as financially literate young people.

Study Skills – Students learn and apply the skills needed to be independent, confident learners.



Application Process

Kent based students

Please apply via Kent County Council's www.kentchoices.com website.

Please include the following information:

1. Your existing GCSE grades and predicted results for your GCSEs you'll be sitting in 2024.
2. A personal statement.
3. A referee if you are an external candidate.

Non-Kent based students

Please phone the school directly on 01795 532633 to confirm how to apply.

Next steps

1. Internal students will be given an offer for the 6th Form if they meet the entry criteria and not be interviewed, unless their choices, attendance or behaviour mean they would benefit from an interview.
2. If you are offered a place, this will be sent to you on www.kentchoices.com. This will be a conditional offer based on you obtaining the entry requirements for your subjects.
3. External students will be invited for an interview and tour.
4. Dover Athletic Football Academy trials will take place in Terms 3 and 4.
5. There will be an induction into the Sixth Form in July 2024.



Entry Requirements

All A-level, BTEC and Diploma subjects require a minimum of 5 9-4 grades at GCSE or the equivalent, including English and Mathematics. Most subjects have specific entry requirements which are shown on each individual page and are summarised below.

Subject	Additional Entry Requirements
Art A Level	X5 9-4 GCSEs. Grade 4 in GCSE Fine Art or 3D Art and Design
Business A Level	Distinction* in BTEC 1 st Award or 6 in GCSE Business
Business BTEC Ext. Cert.	Merit in BTEC 1 st Award in Business or 5 in GCSE Business.
Children's Play, Learning and Development BTEC Ext. Cert.	5 9-4 Grades at GCSE or the equivalent, including English and Mathematics
Creative Digital Media BTEC Ext. Cert.	Merit in BTEC 1 st Award in Media (if studied)
Criminology Diploma	5 9-4 Grades at GCSE or the equivalent, including English and Mathematics
Dance A Level	Students must achieve a 5 in GCSE Dance If students have not taken GCSE Dance as a subject they must have experience in Dance outside of school.
Economics A Level	A minimum of Grade 6 in English and Mathematics
English Literature A Level	Grade 5 in GCSE English Language and English Literature
Geography A Level	Grade 5 in GCSE English Language, Mathematics and 5 in GCSE Geography (if taken)
Health & Social Care BTEC Ext. Cert	5 9-4 Grades at GCSE or the equivalent, including English and Mathematics
History A Level	5 in GCSE History or Grade 5 in GCSE English Language and Literature if History not taken at GCSE
ICT BTEC Ext. Cert.	Grade 4 in GCSE ICT or Computer Science or equivalent or a Merit in a BTEC course.
Politics A Level	Grade 5 in GCSE History, GCSE Geography or Grade 5 in English Language and Literature.
Psychology A Level	5 in GCSE Mathematics, 5 in GCSE English Language and 5 in Combined Science
Religious Studies A Level	5 in GCSE English Language and Literature.
Spanish A Level	Grade 7 in GCSE Spanish
Sport BTEC Ext. Cert. or Diploma	Grade 5 in GCSE Physical Education or Merit in BTEC/CNAT in Sport



Timetable for 2024-2025

Below are the proposed blocks for 2024-2025. Courses will run if there are an adequate number of students who select the option.
In this model, you can only pick one subject from each block.

BLOCK A	BLOCK B	BLOCK C	BLOCK D	BLOCK E
Media BTEC (Single) Extended Certificate	ICT BTEC (Single) Extended Certificate	Business BTEC (Single) Extended Certificate	Sport Science BTEC (Single) Extended Certificate	Dance A level
Child Development BTEC (Single) Extended Certificate	Sport Science BTEC (Double) Diploma	Sport Science BTEC (Single) Extended Certificate	Criminology Diploma	Dover Football Academy
History A level	Criminology Diploma	Health and Social Care BTEC (Single) Extended Certificate	Politics A level	
Geography A level	English Literature A level	MFL (Spanish) A level	Psychology A level	
Art A Level	Economics A level	Business A level		
	Religious Studies A Level			



A-Level, BTEC and Diploma Courses



A Level Art & Design

Entry Requirements

X5 9-4 GCSEs. Grade 4 in GCSE Fine Art or 3D Art and Design

Course Outline

The Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Art and Design consists of two components, both teacher assessed and externally moderated by Edexcel.

Component 1 (60% of the total qualification) allows students opportunities to generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas towards producing personal resolved outcome(s).

Component 2 (40% of the total qualification) allows students the same opportunities as Component 1 in response to an **externally set theme**.

Assessment

Assessment of Component 1 incorporates three major elements: **supporting studies, practical work, and a personal study**. Supporting studies and practical work will comprise a portfolio of development work and outcomes based on themes and ideas developed from personal starting points. The personal study is evidenced through critical written communication showing contextual research and understanding in a minimum 1000 words of continuous prose, which may contain integrated images. The personal study comprises 12% of the total qualification.

Assessment of Component 2 incorporates two major elements: **preparatory studies and the 15-hour period of sustained focus**. Preparatory studies will comprise a portfolio of practical and written development work based on the Externally Set Assignment. During the 15-hour period of sustained focus under examination conditions, students will produce final outcome(s) extending from their preparatory studies in response to **the Externally Set Assignment**.

Further Progression

On completion of the A Level you could progress onto a foundation course in general Art and Design and later a Degree or Higher National Diploma. You could ultimately gain employment in various fields such as Graphic Design, Animation, Film, Illustration Design and many more.

Contact

Please contact Miss E Jones



Business A Level

Entry Requirements

A minimum of a Distinction* in BTEC Business or Business GCSE Grade 6 or a minimum of a Grade 6 in English if Business isn't studied already

Course Outline

Students will consider how a range of organisations in a variety of contexts (e.g. large/small, UK/global, service/manufacture) operate in today's increasingly global business environment.

Topics to be studied include business basics – such as the different ownership types, external influences on business, business aims and objectives – as well as leadership and decision making, marketing, operations management, financial planning and human resources management. The course further focuses on strategic decision making and how businesses cope with - and plan for - change.

Assessment

Assessment is by three (A level) examined units in the summer of 2024. The units contribute equally to the final grade.

Further Progression

You could take this course to complement other advanced level courses. It could lead you onto higher education or NVQ Levels 3 and 4 in areas of business such as business, management, economics and marketing.

Contact

Please contact Mr R Forrest



Business Studies BTEC Extended Certificate

Entry Requirements

A minimum of Merit in BTEC in Business/Enterprise OR a Grade 5 in GCSE Business Studies, or Grade 4 in English.

Course Outline

The Extended Certificate is for learners who are interested in learning about the business sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in business-related subjects. It is designed to be taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A Levels.

The qualification consists of four units across the two years, three of which are mandatory and two external.

Units

Unit 1: Exploring Business

Unit 2: Developing a Marketing Campaign

Unit 3: Personal and Business Finance

Unit 8: Recruitment and Selection Process.

Assessment

Internal Assessment takes the form of two coursework units, one of which is mandatory and one of which is optional. This constitutes 42% of the final grade.

External Assessment consists of one exam and one controlled assessment and constitutes 58% of the final grade.

Further Progression

Students completing this Certificate can progress to University or College to study BTEC Higher Qualifications (Level 4/5). Due to the vocational nature of this qualification, students will also be able to build the skills necessary to seek employment in a business related industry.

Contact

Please contact Mr R Forrest



Children's Play, Learning and Development BTEC Extended Certificate

Entry Requirements

5 x 9-4 Grades at GCSE or the equivalent, including English and Mathematics.

Course Outline

The Extended Certificate is for learners who are interested in learning about the childcare sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in childcare studies.

The qualification consists of four units across the two years, three of which are mandatory and one optional.

Unit 1: Children's Development (external)

Unit 2: Development of Children's Communication, Literacy and Numeracy Skills (external)

Unit 3: Play and Learning (external)

Unit 5: Keeping Children Safe (internal)

Unit 6: Children's Physical Development, Care and Health Needs (internal)

Unit 8: Working with Parents and others in Early Years (internal)

Unit 11: The Early Years Foundation Stage (internal)

The course requires a minimum of 50 hours work placement.

Assessment

Internal Assessment takes the form of two coursework units.

External Assessment consists of one exam and an externally set task.

Further Progression

Students completing this Certificate can progress to University or College to study Higher Qualifications (Level 4/5).

Contact

Please contact Mrs S Murphy



Creative Digital Media Production

BTEC Extended Certificate

Entry Requirements

A minimum of a Merit in BTEC 1st Award in Media (if studied)

5 x 9-4 Grades at GCSE or the equivalent, including English and Mathematics.

Course Outline

The Extended Certificate is for learners who are interested in learning about the Media and the issues and debates with it as well as developing practical media skills, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in the media.

The qualification consists of four units across the two years, three of which are mandatory and two external.

Unit 1: Representations

Unit 4: Pre-production Portfolio

Unit 8: Responding to a Commission

Unit 10: Film Production Fiction.

Assessment

Internal Assessment takes the form of two coursework units, one of which is mandatory and one of which is optional. This constitutes 42% of the final grade.

External Assessment consists of one exam and one controlled assessment and constitutes 58% of the final grade.

Further Progression

Students completing this Certificate can progress to University or College to study BTEC Higher Qualifications (Level 4/5). Due to the vocational nature of this qualification, students will also be able to build the skills necessary to seek employment in a media related industry.

Contact

Please contact Mr Dannell



Criminology Diploma

Entry Requirements

5 x 9-4 Grades at GCSE or the equivalent, including English and Mathematics.

Course Outline

Criminology is the study of crime and punishment, the theories behind what makes somebody a criminal and the punishments that work alongside it. Not all crimes are the same and we look at what kind of crimes take place within our society and crimes we know little about. We also look at the criminal justice system and how effective it is at controlling and preventing crime.

The topics we look at are Changing Awareness of Crime, Criminological Theories, Crime Scene to Courtroom and Crime and Punishment.

Assessment

Criminology is a Level 3 Diploma, students have four main areas of study - 50% is examined with 2 examinations of Criminological Theories and Crime and Punishment. The remaining 50% is controlled assessment on Changing Awareness of Crime and Crime Scene to Courtroom. Both parts are spread over the two year course.

Further Progression

Recognised and well respected by universities and employers, Criminology can offer students a number of skills in critical thinking and judgement as well as research skills and understanding how to form an argument effectively.

Criminology can lead to a diverse range of jobs, this can include Policing, Social Work, CSI Units, Forensics and the Legal Profession.

Contact

Please contact Mr T Purnell



Dance A Level

Entry Requirements

Students must achieve a Grade 6 in GCSE Dance and Grade 5 in English.

Course Outline

A-level Dance is a dynamic qualification which encourages students to develop their creative and intellectual capacity, alongside transferable skills such as team working, communication and problem solving. All of these are sought after skills by higher education and employers and will help them stand out in the workplace, whatever their choice of career. The A-level Dance specification requires students to develop, demonstrate and articulate practical and theoretical knowledge.

Students will have the opportunity to take part in regular work experience within the dance/teaching industry as part of the course

Assessment

Component 1: Performance and choreography:

- Solo performance linked to a specified practitioner within an area of study
- Performance in a quartet
- Group choreography
- Practical exam = 80 marks = 50% of A-level

Component 2: Critical engagement

- Knowledge, understanding and critical appreciation of two set works
- One compulsory set work within the compulsory area of study
- One optional set work within the corresponding area of study, from a choice of four.
- Practical exam = 80 marks = 50% of A-level

Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes = 100 marks = 50% of A-level

- Section A: short answer questions (25 marks) and one essay question (25 marks) on the compulsory set work/area of study.
- Section B: two essay questions on the second set work/area of study (25 marks for each essay)

Students will undertake 2 hours of work experience per fortnight as part of the course

Further Progression

This specification provides a suitable foundation for the study of dance within the performing arts industry. However, the creative nature, group work ethos and communication skills developed can help to provide students with the tools required within a vast range of employment opportunities.

Contact

Please contact Miss S Nunn



Economics A Level

Entry Requirements

A minimum of Grade 6 in English and Mathematics

Course Outline

In GCE Economics you'll look at the fundamental forces which affect our lives, such as employment, prices, international trade and poverty. Economists are often in healthy debate with each other over these issues. It is this controversy which makes Economics lively and interesting and which allows you the opportunity to make your own judgements and form your own opinions. There are several definitions of economics, with each trying to encapsulate the essence of the subject. However, most textbooks seem to agree that economics concerns the allocation of society's scarce resources in a world where wants are infinite. Economics is a fascinating subject because it includes the study of how people behave and interact with each other. The dynamic between consumers, manufacturers and government makes economics a vibrant subject.

In year one you'll focus on both Microeconomics and Macroeconomics. Microeconomics addresses issues such as: "Why are house prices so high?", "Can pollution effectively be controlled?" and "Should governments interfere with markets?" The macroeconomic issues covered include: "Why does the Government have an inflation rate target and how does it affect us?", "What happens to the economy if people decide to spend more?" and "How are we affected by the Chinese and Indian economies?" In year two you'll build on your micro and macro knowledge and study key topics related to specific themes in economics.

Assessment

In year two you'll have three written papers to complete.

Papers 1 and 2 are both worth 35% and Paper 3 is worth 30%. Papers include a mixture of multiple choice, short answer questions and an extended response.

Further Progression

A level Economics can also prepare learners to take up employment in the applied banking and finance sector, either directly after achieving the qualification or via higher education. A degree in Economics can open doors to employment as an Actuarial Analyst, Chartered Accountant, Economist, Auditor, Risk Manager, Statistician, Stockbroker, Data Analyst, Management Consultant, Diplomatic Service Officer, Quantity Surveyor.

Contact

Please contact Mr P Stucken



English Literature A Level

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE English Language and English Literature.

Course Outline

Paper 1 'Love Through the Ages' exam: Students study one poetry and one prose text, of which one will be pre-1900, and one Shakespeare play.

Paper 2 'WW1 and its aftermath' exam: Students study one prose, one poetry and one drama text, of which one will be post-2000.

Coursework: Comparative critical study on a theme of your choice of two texts, one of which must have been written pre-1900.

Assessment

Paper 1: Love through the Ages

- Written exam: 3 hours, three sections each worth 25 marks; 75 marks overall
- 40% of A Level
- Section A: Shakespeare (closed book): One passage-based question with linked essay;
- Section B: Unseen Poetry (closed book): One essay question on two unseen poems;
- Section C: Comparing texts (open book): One essay question linking two texts

Paper 2: WW1 and its aftermath

- Written exam: 2.5 hours, two sections, the first worth 25 marks, the second worth a total of 50 marks (25 marks of each of the two questions)
- 40% of A Level
- Section A: Set texts (open book): One essay question on a set text;
- Section B: Contextual Linking (open book): One essay question on an unseen extract and one essay question linking two texts.

Non-exam assessment (coursework): Independent Critical Study: Texts Across Time

- One extended essay of 2500 words and a bibliography
- 20% of A Level
- 50 marks.

Further Progression

Further Education opportunities include BA Hons in English or English Literature and will allow you to apply for Joint Honours degree courses with English/ English Literature being one area of study. This qualification is also useful when considering careers in journalism, media and office jobs.

Contact

Please contact Mr A Tear



Geography A Level

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE Geography (if taken), Mathematics and English Language

Course Outline

In A Level Geography we strive to challenge perceptions and stimulate investigative and analytical skills. This dynamic and topical course gives students the opportunity to:

- Engage with the relationship of human populations to each other over space and time;
- Study the relationship between human populations with their physical environment at a variety of scales from the local to the global;
- Consider their own role in relation to themes and issues being studied, and the roles, values and attitudes of others including national and international policy makers;
- Fieldwork experience is compulsory and informs both the exams and the non-examined assessment;

You need not have studied GCSE geography to apply, although it is useful. Numeracy (particularly statistics) and literacy are intrinsic throughout the course as well as use of ICT. Presentation and communication skills will be developed, as will teamwork on field trips.

Assessment

Component 1 will focus upon physical geography, including topics such as tectonic hazards and coastal systems. Component 2 will focus on human geography, including contemporary topics such as global governance and population and the environment. Both of these exams constitute 40% each of the final A-Level grade. The third component consists of an independent geographical investigation, where students develop their own hypotheses, carry out data collection on fieldwork and complete a 4000 word report, this is started at the end of year 12 and submitted in March of year 13. This constitutes 20% of the final A-Level grade.

Further Progression

The Geography course develops necessary skills, such as data handling, GIS cartography and analysis of inter-relationships of global patterns and trends. This provides students with an informed understanding of our changing world that employers look for. Success in the course leads towards University courses of Human Geography (BA), Physical Geography (BSc), Geology and Environmental Science.

There are a range of careers where Geography is a fundamental driving force. Potential roles include cartographer, volcanologist, town planner, environmental scientist, GIS specialist and meteorologist to name a few.

Contact

Please contact Mrs H Finney/Mr P Stucken



Health and Social Care BTEC Extended Certificate

Entry Requirements

5 x 9-4 Grades at GCSE or the equivalent, including English Language and Maths

Course Outline

This course is intended for students who have an interest in the caring professions.

It offers a wide choice of options that will meet your interests, skills and ambitions whilst allowing you to gain qualifications that will allow you to access University.

You will be able to gain many skills associated with the caring professions such as effective communication, how to promote good health, human development, anatomy and physiology, nutrition and working in health and social care.

You will study three mandatory units across the two years and a fourth unit which is not mandatory.

Assessment

BTEC is assessed through a mix of exams, controlled assessment and internally assessed coursework. Two of the units are externally assessed.

Further Progression

A Health and Social Care qualification will support a wide range of settings such as teaching, nursery work, nursing, midwifery, care assistant, social work and health promotion.

Contact

Please contact Mrs S Murphy



History A Level

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE History **OR** minimum Grade 5 in GCSE English Language and Literature (applicable if GCSE History not studied).

Course Outline

Exam Board – Edexcel

Unit 1 - Breadth study with interpretations - Option 1G: Germany and West Germany, 1918–89

Unit 2 - Depth Study - Option 2G.1: The rise and fall of fascism in Italy, c1911–46

Unit 3 - Paper 3- Aspects in breadth and depth - Option 35.1 – Britain: losing and gaining an Empire, 1763-1914

Unit 4 – Coursework – Origins of the Cold War

Assessment

Unit 1

Written examination, lasting 2 hours 15 minutes (60 marks).

- Students answer three questions: one from Section A, one from Section B and one from Section C.
- Sections A and B comprise a choice of essays that assess understanding of the period in breadth
- Section C comprises one compulsory question that assesses the ability to analyse and evaluate historical interpretations

Unit 2

Written examination, lasting 1 hour 30 minutes (40 marks).

- Students answer two questions: one from Section A and one from Section B.
- Section A comprises one compulsory question for the option studied, based on two sources. It assesses source analysis and evaluation skills
- Section B comprises a choice of essays that assess understanding of the period in depth

Unit 3

Written examination, lasting 2 hours 15 minutes (60 marks).

- Students answer three questions: one from Section A, one from Section B and one from Section C.
- Section A comprises one compulsory question for the option studied, assessing source analysis and evaluation skills
- Section B comprises a choice of essays that assess understanding of the period in depth
- Section C comprises a choice of essays that assess understanding of the period in breadth

Unit 4 – Coursework

Students complete a single 4000 word assignment on a question set by the teacher on the Cold War, Civil Rights in the USA or the Holocaust

- The assignment will assess the ability to analyse and evaluate historical interpretations

Further Progression

You could take this course to complement other A-level courses which could lead onto higher education in History or countless other subjects such as English, American Studies, Politics, Archaeology or more general degree courses.

Contact

Please contact Mr W Kenning/ Mr M Labrou



ICT BTEC Extended Certificate

Entry Requirements

Grade 4 in GCSE ICT or Computer Science or equivalent or a Merit in a BTEC course.

Course Outline

The ICT BTEC Extended Certificate is designed for learners who are interested in an introduction to the study of creating IT systems to manage and share information alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in IT.

IT is a subject that most employers now expect from all their employees. This course will enable you to gain skills to work within the IT industry or use IT effectively within other employment sectors.

You will study four units across the two years, with three mandatory and two external.

Unit 1: Information Technology Systems

Unit 2: Creating Systems to Manage Information

Unit 3: Using Social Media in Business

Unit 6: Website Development. (Optional unit and therefore subject to change)

Assessment

Internal Assessment takes the form of two coursework units, one of which is mandatory and one of which is optional. This constitutes 42% of the final grade

External Assessment consists of one exam and one controlled assessment and constitutes 58% of the final grade.

Further Progression

This course can lead to higher education on an HND or Degree in Computer Studies. Or alternatively employment in one of the following areas; Software Developer, Games Designer, Website Developer, Technician, Network Manager, Computer Systems Analyst, ICT help desk, PC Maintenance or Programmer.

Contact

Please contact Mr R Forrest



Politics A Level

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE History **OR** GCSE Geography **or a minimum** Grade 5 in English Language and Literature (applicable if neither History or Geography has been studied)

Course

Outline

Component 1: UK Politics and Core Political Ideas

Political Participation, students will study: Democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media.

Core Political Ideas, students will study: Conservatism, liberalism, socialism.

Component 2: UK Government and Non-core Political Ideas

UK Government, students will study: The constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches of power

Non-core political ideas, students will study: One idea from the following: anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism, nationalism

Component 3: Comparative Politics

Global Comparative Politics: Sovereignty and globalisation, global governance: political and economic, global governance: human rights and environmental, power and developments, regionalism and the European Union, comparative theories

Assessment

Exam Board – Edexcel. All assessment is comprised of a written examination lasting 2 hours, with 84 marks. Each paper is weighted equally at 33 ⅓ %.

Component 1	Component 2	Component 3
Section A: Political Participation One 30-mark question from a choice of two (each question uses a source) One 30-mark question from a choice of two Section B: Core political ideas One 24-mark question from a choice of two	Section A: UK Government One 30-mark question from a choice of two (each question uses a source) One 30-mark question from a choice of two Section B: Non-core Political Ideas One 24-mark question from a choice of two	Section A: One 12-mark question from a choice of two Section B: One compulsory 12-mark question focused on comparative theories Section C: Two 30-mark questions from a choice of three

Further Progression

Politics A-Level is an exciting subject that investigates a range of contemporary and classical political issues and delves into a variety of theoretical and practical topics. The knowledge gained through the course would greatly complement other humanities subjects such as history, and aspects of geography. Studying Politics A-Level could also support a path into higher education in subjects such as Politics, International Relations, Philosophy Politics and Economics, and History. Alternatively, the analytical skills that are developed would support pursuit of employment in sectors such as management, finance, government, and industry and business environments.

Contact

Please contact Mr W Kenning



Psychology A Level

Entry Requirements

5 in English Language

5 in Combined Science and GCSE Mathematics

Course Outline

Psychology is the study of human behaviour. It aims to understand how our minds process information such as memories and moods. Psychology uses principles from many other disciplines such as sociology, biology, maths and philosophy to determine what causes an individual or society to act in a certain way.

Studying psychology can provide you with a scientific toolkit to collect and analyse evidence about questions about memory, attachment, psychopathology and social influence. Students will then have the opportunity to consider the options of looking at gender, forensic psychology and Schizophrenia and how it links to our brains.

Assessment

Students follow the AQA syllabus. Students complete 3 papers in total, Paper 1 is an Introductory Topic in Psychology. Paper 2 looks at Psychology in context, looking at different approaches to Psychology, for example; cognitive, biological and psychodynamic. Paper 3 is about Issues and Options in Psychology as well as building on existing knowledge. Each exam is 2 hours long and each paper contributes a third towards the final overall grade.

Further Progression

Many with a psychology qualification have careers in: Art, Drama, or Music Therapy, Counselling, Mental Health Nurse, Physiotherapy, Social Work, Retail, Education, Marketing, Medicine, Politics, and the Public Services.

Contact

Please contact Mr T Purnell



Religious Studies A Level

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE English Language and Literature.

Course Outline

Exam Board – AQA

Philosophy and Ethics coupled with Religion gives you the opportunity to explore a wider range of issues that are experienced in society. You will be able to critically question and learn the skills to develop academic arguments and to challenge other people's arguments. This is an active subject whereby your criticality, values, and beliefs matter.

Component 1: Philosophy of Religion and Ethics: Arguments for the existence of God, evil and suffering, Religious experience, Religious language, Miracles, Self and life after death, Ethical theories, Issues of human life and death, Issues of animal life and death, Introduction to meta ethics, Free will and moral responsibility, Conscience, Bentham and Kant.

Component 2: Study of Religion and Dialogues: Christianity: Sources of wisdom and authority, God/gods/ultimate reality, Self death and the afterlife, Good conduct and key moral principles, Expression of religious identity, Religion, gender and sexuality, Religion and science, Religion and secularisation, Religion and religious pluralism.

Assessment

Component 1

Written exam lasting 3 hours (100 marks)

Section A: Philosophy of religion – two compulsory two-part questions, each worth 10 marks (AO1) and 15 marks (AO2).

Section B: Ethics and religion – two compulsory two-part questions, each worth 10 marks (AO1) and 15 marks (AO2).

Component 2

Written exam lasting 3 hours (100 marks)

Section A: Study of religion, two compulsory two-part questions, each worth 10 marks (AO1) and 15 marks (AO2)

Section B: The dialogue between philosophy of religion and religion, one question from a choice of two (25 marks) (AO2)

Section C: The dialogue between ethical studies and religion, one question from a choice of two (25 marks) (AO2)

Further Progression

You would be able to further your study by completing a degree in Philosophy, Ethics or Religion. Alternatively, courses within the Humanities field could also be a good destination: Law, Criminology, History, Government and Politics and English just to name a few.

Contact

Please contact Mr M Green



Spanish A Level

Entry Requirements

Grade 7 in GCSE Spanish

Course Outline

Exam Board – AQA

The course is split into the following four topics:

1. **Social Issues and trends:** Modern and Traditional values, Cyberspace, Equal rights, Immigration, Racism, Integration.
2. **Political and artistic culture:** Modern day idols, Spanish regional identity, Cultural heritage, Today's youth, tomorrow's citizens, Monarchies and dictatorships, Popular movements.
3. **Grammar**
4. **Literary Text and Film:** Students will study *La Casa de Bernarda Alba* by Federico Garcia Lorca and *Volver* directed by Pedro Almodóvar.

Assessment

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing (50% of A-Level)

Written examination, lasting 2 hours 30 minutes.

What's assessed:

- Listening and responding to spoken passages from a range of contexts. (30 marks)
- Reading and responding to a variety of texts written for different purposes. (30 marks)
- Translation into English (10 marks)
- Translation in Spanish (10 marks)

Paper 2: Writing (20% of A-Level)

Written examination, lasting 2 hours.

What's assessed:

Students must write two, 300-word essays.

- One question in Spanish on the book *La Casa de Bernarda Alba* (40 marks). Students select one of two questions.
- One question in Spanish on the film *Volver* (40 marks). Students select one of two questions.

Paper 3: Speaking (30% of A-Level)

Oral examination, lasting 21-23 minutes including 5 minutes preparation time.

What's assessed:

- Discussion of a theme from the course based on a stimulus card. The student studies the card for 5 minutes at the start of the test. (25 marks)
- Presentation and discussion of individual research project. (35 marks)

Further Progression

This course could lead onto higher education in Spanish or to be combined with many other subjects as part of a joint honours course at university. This course can complement many other A-Levels such as Geography, Politics and History.

Contact

Please contact Miss L Pointer



Sport BTEC National Extended Certificate (Single Award)

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE Physical Education or Merit in BTEC/CNAT in Sport.

Course Outline

This is a theoretical and practical course for students who are able to demonstrate a high level of knowledge and understanding of the different areas of sport science such as anatomy and physiology, fitness testing, sports leadership, training programmes and career development.

You will have the opportunity to develop a range of skills and techniques and personal skills and attitudes essential for successful performance in working life and at university.

You will need to study the following mandatory units across the two years:

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being
- Professional Development in the Sports Industry
- Application of Fitness Testing

Chosen alongside 2 further A Levels

Assessment

You will be assessed through an external examination in Unit 1 (Anatomy and Physiology), a controlled assessment task in Unit 2 (Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being) and through a series of internally assessed coursework assignments.

Further Progression

BTEC Sport gives you the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised qualification to enter employment in the sports sector or to progress into higher education.

Contact

Please contact Mr J Nuttall



Sport BTEC National Diploma (Double Award)

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE Physical Education or Merit in BTEC/CNAT in Sport.

Course Outline

This is a theoretical and practical course for students who are able to demonstrate a high level of knowledge and understanding of the different areas of sport science such as anatomy and physiology, fitness testing, sports leadership, training programmes and career development.

You will have the opportunity to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal skills and attitudes essential for successful performance in working life and at university.

You will need to study the following mandatory units across the two years:

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being
- Professional Development in the Sports Industry
- Sports Leadership
- Application of Fitness Testing
- Sports Injury Management
- Investigating Business in the Sport and Active Leisure Industry
- Skill Acquisition in Sport
- Rules, Regulations and Officiating in Sport.

Chosen alongside 1 further A Level

Assessment

You will be assessed through an external examination in Unit 1 (Anatomy and Physiology), a controlled assessment task in Unit 2 (Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being) and through a series of internally assessed coursework assignments.

In the Diploma course, you will have three further internally assessed units and one externally assessed unit - Unit 22 (Investigating Business in Sport and the Active Leisure Industry).

Further Progression

BTEC Sport gives you the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised qualification to enter employment in the sports sector or to progress into higher education.

Contact

Please contact Mr J Nuttall