



Nunthorpe Academy

SIXTH FORM



PROSPECTUS 2024-25

www.nunthorpe.co.uk/sixth-form



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Course Information

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Head of School

Kate Kell
Head of School

Hello and welcome to Nunthorpe Academy Sixth Form

We are part of a high performing 11-19 Academy that prides itself on our inclusivity and support and guidance given to every one of our students. At the core of our ethos are the valued positive relationships between staff and students and we are proud of our friendly and purposeful culture and atmosphere.

Our aims are simple, we want to provide you with the excellent education which equips you with the knowledge, skills, experiences and characteristics required to succeed in adult life and be the 'best version of you, you can be'

Our post-16 provision is exceptional and has been awarded Ofsted 'Good' in every inspection since its inception in 2008

1. Our students consistently achieve excellent examination results. In 2024, 20% of our grades were A or A* and 50% were grade B or above.
2. We offer a wide, inspiring and engaging curriculum which suits a range of interests and aspirations.
3. Our staff care – we value your wellbeing and provide the support you need to be happy and successful here.
4. Our teaching is superb. The lessons are creative, engaging, and relevant to the real world and will support you to achieve your best.
5. Our personalised careers, apprenticeship and university application guidance will help you find the right pathway for you.
6. We treat our young people like adults and coach you to be independent.
7. Our modern building and facilities provide the resources and equipment that you need.
8. Our Student Leadership Group is led by you and influenced by your ambition and desire to support each other and create a positive influence on the immediate and wider community around you.

I hope you find this guide useful and informative. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with one of my colleagues in the Sixth Form team (see next page) if you have any questions!

Looking forward to meeting you at our Open Evenings and taster days to try us for yourselves!

Take care and be ambitious

Kate Kell
Head of School

The Sixth Form Team

We are part of a high performing 11-19 Academy that prides itself on our inclusivity and support and guidance given to every one of our students.



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A student perspective

Picking your next step into higher education isn't easy. Trust me I've been there. So why not make your decision easier and see why Nunthorpe Academy Sixth Form is the place to be.

A typical morning will start with a double lesson followed by an interactive session delivered by your form tutor. Our form tutors provide pastoral support throughout your entire time here at the Sixth Form, constantly going above and beyond to be there for you and address any of your worries or concerns; think of them like your Sixth Form parents. They run SMSC (social, moral, spiritual and cultural development) activities, community builders and 1-to-1 meetings with students regarding academic progress, personal well-being and careers support for the future. Alternatively, many mornings can start off with collective meetings delivered by another member of our devoted pastoral team to update us on future deadlines (regarding UCAS) or opportunities to broaden our academic horizons (such as the Sunderland Summer School Scheme). Personally, I aspire to apply to a prestigious university and our Sixth Form mentor is persistently looking out for me and others in my community by hosting Oxbridge meetings and weekly catch-ups.

As well as these more career-driven activities, many members of staff also selflessly coordinate enrichment opportunities or extracurriculars. For example, I personally participated in the school musical and the Junior Sports Leadership Program. Some of these enrichment opportunities additionally can be a crucial asset to a university application by offering valuable UCAS points (the points needed to achieve a university offer). A popular one is the EPQ (Extended Project Qualification). In addition, these activities can enrich the personal development of every student here at the Sixth Form as they enter adulthood.

"I couldn't have asked for a better learning environment, constantly motivating me to be my best self"



“

From its excellent exam results to its diligent staff and friendly students, there was no doubt in my mind that Nunthorpe Academy Sixth Form was the perfect place for me."

As part of the Sixth Form everyone feels part of one supportive family, constantly looking out for each other and letting each other be their true authentic selves. There is absolutely no tolerance of any kind of discrimination or bullying and that is made evident every single day. At the Sixth Form you also have the freedom of working anywhere in the building with independent study periods every week to offer students the privilege to complete important work or research for each of their subjects in school time. There are many different facilities and study spaces to accommodate each student's needs. Whether that's a quieter study space such as the computers upstairs near our library, or a chattier learning space such as downstairs for those group projects/presentations, or perhaps our sofas for a study period filled with reading. Furthermore, there are plenty of laptops available to borrow for facilitated access to online resources.

If you are looking for an education filled with dedicated teaching staff, a supportive environment and a plethora of opportunities for you to thrive and prosper, then Nunthorpe Academy Sixth Form is the place for you.

I hope I've made your decision crystal clear.

I can't wait to see you there!

Ali Mousavi

Destinations of our students!

We are delighted that four of our students gained entry to Oxford this year.

They worked exceptionally hard to gain entry to such a prestigious institution, and we are so proud of them. We provide guidance and support for all destinations and encourage our students to have the confidence to apply where they most desire. Our Oxford students from last year's cohort are now studying:

- German
- Medicine
- Mechanical Engineering
- Law

Alongside this, 26% of our students gained a place at other top universities. Those entering Russell Group universities are studying a wide range of courses including Newcastle for Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Manchester for Biochemistry, Glasgow for Law with English Literature and Nottingham to study Medicine.

We are also proud that one of our leavers gained a place at Sunderland University to study Medicine and another Durham to study Psychology.

*26% of our students
gained a place at other
top universities*



Life in Sixth Form

At Nunthorpe Academy Sixth Form, high quality academic and pastoral support are our key strengths, which set us apart from other providers. We recognise that each student is unique and aim to cater for the ever changing individual needs of each person. We have a positive, vibrant atmosphere where students feel safe and well-supported. We have been graded 'good' by OFSTED and we are very proud of all our past and present students and their achievements.

Pastoral Programme

We have designed a comprehensive, 2 hours per week, pastoral programme, ensuring students are fully prepared for life after Sixth Form. The programme will focus on:

- Careers
- Study Techniques
- University and Apprenticeship Applications
- Transferable Skills
- Guest Speakers
- Living Away from Home
- Real Life Issues / Topical Matters
- Preparing for the World of Work

Academic Support

In addition to the pastoral programme, a personal tutor will act as an academic mentor to offer advice and guidance to their tutees, to ensure that you are thriving on your courses. The tutors will work with students in areas such as:

- Study Skills
- Meeting Coursework Deadlines
- Future Choices
- Termly Academic Progress Reports
- One-to-One Meetings to Set and Review Targets
- Oxbridge Applications
- Applying for courses in Medicine
- University Admission Tests
- Interview Practice (often with Alumni)

Enrichment

All students are encouraged to complete at least one hour per week of an enrichment activity.



Options include:

- Volunteering in the Community
- Sixth Form Student Council
- Student Ambassadors
- Peer Mentoring
- Reading Buddy Scheme
- EPQ (Extended Project Qualification)
- The Meserani Project (fundraising and then working in a school in Tanzania for 3 weeks)

University and Careers support

In the Sixth Form we have a strong emphasis on helping our students make the right decisions for their next steps post-18. This includes:

- Guidance and support on personal statement writing
- Guided job application support.
- Work Experience
- Mock interviews with local employers
- Guest speakers from a range of sectors.
- Unifrog – access to the latest careers information.



Facilities

Students have access to a modern, welcoming building with a wide range of high quality facilities. You will have everything you need to be comfortable, happy and focused.

- Spacious and comfortable communal work spaces and classrooms.
- Purpose built labs and classrooms for specialist subjects.
- Range of food and drink choices.
- Cutting edge technology.
- Great IT provision

Our Curriculum

Here, at Nunthorpe Sixth Form, our students and staff strive for excellence. I could leave it at that, except there's so much more to our Sixth Form from our academic success to our strong pastoral system.

As well as the range of subjects on offer, we are looking to offer additional courses in order for students to gain additional skills which will make them stand out from other potential applicants as well as giving them additional UCAS points - which could make the difference between securing an offer at their first choice of university. The courses include:

- EPQ (16 UCAS points)
- Sports Leadership Qualification
- Core Maths L3

Our EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) allows students to demonstrate their research skills by writing a comprehensive piece of approximately 5000 words.

Core Maths is equivalent to an AS qualification and really helps students to improve their mathematical ability in order to meet the demands of the mathematical components in other A levels such as psychology, geography and biology.

Sports Leadership Qualification again allows students to top up their UCAS points as well as be enriched by gaining a qualification in a sports course.

**All of the above are subject to numbers.*

As we are moving forward, we will become part of the Arete Learning Trust and as part of this we are excited to be able to offer further subjects in order to further fulfill the needs of all our students. These include:

- Applied Science
- Computer Science
- Economics
- Fine Art/Photography
- Sociology

**Again, these would be subject to numbers*



My Form tutor monitors my progress regularly and helps me set new goals and targets."

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Art and Design

Why should I choose this?

In the past 20 years the creative industries world-wide have created more jobs and revenue than any other. In the last year creative jobs in Britain have grown almost twice as fast as the rest of the British economy. Many establishments now look for creative individuals who have that independent and inquisitive nature to make the difference. While Art continues to be a desirable option for students wishing to pursue 'traditional' creative careers, such as Architecture, Interior Design or Fine Art related professions, the internet has seen an explosion of exciting, new roles emerge.

What are the progression opportunities?

Successful A Level Art students can go on to study on a range of Art & Design foundation and degree courses, nationally and internationally, and train in their area of specialisation, before going on to become an Artist, Designer, Architect, or Arts Professional in a broad variety of specialist areas

What is involved?

The Art & Design course encompasses every aspect of expressive drawing, painting and design. Opportunities will be given to study drawing and painting, which is essential for developing the visual and practical skills needed by Art students. Students are expected to have a mature and independent approach to their work and should be capable of personal research through drawings, designs, critical analysis and technical making skills. Knowledge of the work of other artists is developed through critical and contextual studies, which is integrated as part of practical work. There will also be opportunities to develop Art & Design ideas through new media, such as digital photography and Photoshop.



Biology

Why should I choose this?

A Level Biology is a captivating subject area, the study of which will see you learn about the biological world. A-level Biology is an in-depth study into the fascinating world of Cellular Biology and the intricate detail of cellular processes. You will learn how the nervous and endocrine systems function to allow the co-ordination of these cells to cooperate as an organism; and you will study the impact of human activities on the wider world. Outside of the classroom, new discoveries in Biology are increasingly important in global medicine and food security and in the lessons you will study the most recent advancements in Biological Sciences including cloning, and gene technologies.

What are the progression opportunities?

As a highly valued STEM A-level this course will allow you to demonstrate a range of desirable skills which are applicable to most further education settings including; practical techniques, critical thinking, mathematical and analytical skills. Students who are successful at A-Level Biology, often go onto careers in Medicine, Nursing and Midwifery, biotechnology and other STEM careers, but also into careers not directly related to Biology such as Accounting, Journalism and Marketing.

What is involved?

- Module 1** Development of practical skills in Biology
- Module 2** Foundations of Biology
- Module 3** Exchange and transport
- Module 4** Biodiversity, evolution and disease
- Module 5** Communication, homeostasis and energy
- Module 6** Genetics, evolution and ecosystems

All assessment is 100% exam based at the end of Year 13. There is also a practical element to the course which you are required to pass.



Business Studies

Why should I choose this?

A-level Business allows students to use an enquiring, critical and thoughtful approach to the study of business, to understand that business behaviour can be studied from a range of perspectives. Students are introduced to business in Themes 1 and 2 (Marketing & Finance) through building knowledge of core business concepts and applying them to business contexts to develop a broad understanding of how businesses work. This A Level allows students to gain a real life perspective of businesses in areas such as calculating cashflow, profits and understanding how appropriate sources of finance are vital to allow the business to be successful. Another element delves into the world of marketing and how balancing these allows for business owners to trade with less risk.

What are the progression opportunities?

Business A level allows you to continue into higher apprenticeships or university courses. There are a wide range of university courses that could develop your knowledge and understanding such as Accounting & Finance, Business Management, Business & French, Marketing and HR to name but a few!

What is involved?

Students will develop an understanding of meeting customer needs, the market, marketing mix and strategy, managing people, entrepreneurs and leaders. Alongside this students will gain knowledge of raising finance, financial planning, managing finance, resource management, and external influences. In the final year of study the course focuses on trading globally and accounting techniques.



The compact and modern Sixth Form building creates a fun, relaxing atmosphere – perfect for studying."





“

I know there's nowhere else that would push me, motivate me to learn, and help me achieve my goals.”

Chemistry

Why should I choose this?

No, you won't be blowing things up, sorry! At least not if it all goes to plan. We do, though, do a lot of practical, more than you are used to as it is an integral part of the course. We build on most, but not all aspects of GCSE- atoms, electrons, bonding, molecules, calculations, organic chemistry, rates, equilibrium, energy, the periodic table and take those to a much higher level.

You will need to be precise with your language and develop the ability to apply knowledge in unfamiliar contexts, as well as link ideas from different areas of the curriculum.

What are the progression opportunities?

Chemistry is a required A level for a number of degrees (anything with chemistry or chemical in the title! e.g. Chemistry, Biochemistry, Chemical Engineering), and a highly recommended one for lots of others (like medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine). It is a valuable A Level for a very wide range of subjects at university and a good grade in this will open a lot of doors. This is because by studying chemistry you demonstrate that you are able to acquire and apply knowledge, solve problems and analyse information.

What is involved?

- Module 1** Practical Skills
- Module 2** Foundations in Chemistry
- Module 3** Periodic Table, Energy and Rates
- Module 4** Basic Organic Chemistry
- Module 5** Physical and Inorganic Chemistry
- Module 6** Organic Chemistry

All assessment is 100% exam based, with 3 papers at the end of Year 13.

Drama and Theatre Studies

Why should I choose this?

Drama and Theatre Studies is an exciting and creative A-Level which allows you to study all facets of performing; not just what it is like to be an actor on stage! It's all about the medium of performance, the way in which we can shape and express meaning through theatre and evoke a response from an audience. Across your time on the course, you will look at what it is like to create and direct performance, as well as design for the various aspects of theatre from sound to costume, lighting to set. You will also have the opportunity to explore a number of different and highly varied styles of performance from the heaviness of 'Theatre of Cruelty' to the upbeat 'Commedia dell'arte'. There really is something for everyone.

What are the progression opportunities?

The course will allow you to refine your performance abilities whilst developing a number of transferable skills inclusive of teamwork, creative problem solving, communication and time management. Students who have taken Drama & Theatre Studies have gone on to become teachers, psychologists, councillors and of course; performers. There are a number of successful alumni from Nunthorpe Academy who have made it into some top conservatoires up and down the country.

What is involved?

You will be assessed through two practical components and one theory module which is a written exam at the end of Year 13. These break down as follows:

- Component One: 'Drama & Theatre' Written examination, study of two set texts and live theatre performance.
- Component Two: 'Creating Original Drama' Practical examination with working notebook. Students will devise an original piece of performance in the style of a chosen practitioner. They can be assessed as a director, designer or performer.
- Component Three: 'Making Theatre' Practical examination with reflective report. Students will perform extracts from separate play texts and look at different performance styles.



English Language

Why should I choose this?

English Language is a highly valued and desirable A level that requires a range of valuable skills. It challenges and explores: how meaning is created and transmitted in everyday life; how we acquire the ability to speak, read and write; how we adapt and change our language to suit different social situations and how our language is affected by gender, occupation, age or social grouping. You will need to be able to explain, apply and challenge existing theories and be able to apply some of these ideas to your own work.

What are the progression opportunities?

The course is highly regarded by both universities and employers, due to the critical thinking skills you develop and its analytical and discursive nature. It fits in well with a variety of other subject areas, including; law, economics, sociology and history. Furthermore, it provides an excellent academic foundation for careers in the media, teaching, law, social work, the civil service, local government and research.

What is involved?

There are two exams that account for 80% of the total mark. Paper one looks at language and representation and child language acquisition and paper two at language in social contexts and creative writing. There is a coursework element that looks at creating an article for a newspaper and an investigation into an aspect of language that you find particularly interesting.



English Literature

Why should I choose this?

English Literature is a highly valued and desirable A level that requires a wide range of valuable skills. We study a wide range of texts starting with works by Williams, Rossetti, Carter and Shakespeare in Year 12 and then moving onto Webster, the Gothic and back to Shakespeare in Year 13. We read the texts and explore the meaning, context, critical responses and how these texts fit into the times that they were written and the messages that the writers wanted to share. The texts provide a fascinating insight into the canon of English literature and the course is engaging and enjoyable.

What are the progression opportunities?

The course is highly regarded by both universities and employers, due to the critical thinking skills you develop and its analytical and discursive nature. It fits in well with a variety of other subject areas, including; law, economics, sociology and history. Furthermore, it provides an excellent academic foundation for careers in the media, teaching, law, social work, the civil service, local government and research.

What is involved?

There are two exams that account for 80% of the total mark. Paper one looks at Shakespeare/Webster and Rossetti. Paper two looks at Carter and the Gothic. The assessment objectives are very similar to GCSE with the addition of AO4, comparison and AO5, critical interpretation. There is also a coursework element worth 20% that allows you to try and write a scene in a play and to compare two texts that you have really enjoyed.

“

I have no regrets in choosing to come to Sixth Form. The teachers are supportive, the atmosphere is great and the subjects are interesting.”

French

Why should I choose this?

French is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world and A-level French is a highly-desired qualification in many sectors. In the new 'Global Britain' we all need to reach out, within and beyond Europe, to maintain and improve our economic position, to develop and extend our cultural relationships and to strengthen our international influence by connecting with people around the world. In order to do this, we all need to embrace the enormous advantages that multilingualism can bring. Many students choose to combine a language with another subject in Higher Education, such as Law, Economics, Business, Geography, English, Maths and many more and in this Post-Brexit Britain, businesses and employers are always looking to employ people who can offer a language skill.

What are the progression opportunities?

In the wider world, languages are essential for trade, business and the economy and an A Level in a language demonstrates analytical thinking, discussion and evaluation techniques, all of which are highly-desired skills by employers. An A Level in French helps set you apart from your peers as only 5% of A-level students study a language. It also gives you the edge over your contemporaries when it comes to applying for university courses, employment or apprenticeships, as well as being valued by the military. French graduates go on to work in a wide variety of sectors, including finance, law, teaching, travel and tourism, marketing, journalism, investment and many more.

What is involved?

This two year course is split into Year 12 and Year 13 with different topics studied each year. In the first year of study, students will cover topics such as: The changing nature of family, The 'cyber-society', A culture proud of its heritage, and contemporary francophone music and cinema. Alongside this, students will also study a film in French.

In Year 13, students study a range of topics including: Teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment, and positive features of a diverse society. Students will also study a novel in the target language.

Exams consist of 3 papers at the end of Year 13: Paper 1 (50% of the grade) covers Listening, Reading and Translations, Paper 2 (20% of the grade) Written paper, two essays on the book and the film and Paper 3 (30%) Speaking exam.

Further Maths

Why should I choose this?

Further Maths is desired by many top universities if you plan to study a Mathematics degree and mandatory for Durham University. It will also benefit anyone considering Science, Engineering courses, Computing and Economics. It is studied alongside A Level Mathematics. You should consider Further Mathematics only if you are a very able mathematician. You explore concepts not covered in A Level Maths and delve more deeply into other topics taught at A Level Maths.

It is strongly encouraged that Further Maths be taken as a 4th A Level in Year 12. Then, at the start of Year 13, you may choose to drop an A Level, after sitting one or two AS exams.

What are the progression opportunities?

People who have studied A Level Further Maths have an excellent choice of careers, many of which involve very well-paid professions. Further Mathematicians are often considered to be the elite of mathematicians and can pursue careers in many sectors including corporate banking, be an Actuary (someone that compiles and analyses numbers and statistics to forecast long-term costs),

Engineering and Cyber Intelligence. Maths graduates have the highest starting salaries.

What is involved?

The course is split into 2 parts; Pure worth 2/3 of the course and Applied worth 1/3. Applied consists of Discrete and Mechanics.

Specific areas of study in Pure include aspects such as complex number, matrices, polar coordinates and hyperbolic functions. Discrete maths is a very different branch of mathematics containing topics such as networks, game theory and introduces the idea of algorithms. Mechanics in further maths builds upon the mechanics studied in regular maths as well as introducing topics such as energy, power, dimensional analysis and centre of mass.

You sit three 2 hour papers at the end of Year 13. Paper 1 and 2 are 100% Pure, Paper 3 is 50% Discrete & 50% Mechanics.

Geography

Why should I choose this?

Geography is not only up-to-date and relevant, it is one of the most exciting, adventurous and valuable subjects to study today. So many of the world's current problems boil down to geography, and need the geographers of the future to help us understand them. Such as, global warming, sustainable food production, natural disasters such as earthquakes and tsunamis, the spread of disease, the reasons for migration and the future of energy resources are just some of the great challenges facing the next generation of geographers.

What are the progression opportunities?

An A Level in geography is recognised for its academic 'robustness' and, most importantly, it also helps young people into the world of work. So many employers prize the knowledge and skills that studying geography can provide, be it knowing how the world works, planning, research, report writing, working in a team, using new technologies, communication skills and much more. You will find geographers working in a wide range of jobs, from the City to planning, working in the environment to travel and tourism, or in international charities or retail.

What is involved?

Paper 1 – Tectonic Processes and Hazards, Coastal Landscapes, Water Cycle and Water Insecurity, Carbon Cycle and Energy Security

Paper 2 – Globalisation, Regenerating Places, Superpowers, Migration Identity and Sovereignty

Paper 3 – Synoptic Paper, core content will be examined in relation to a geographical issue presented in a resource booklet

Coursework – Independent Investigation into an area of your choice which links to the course

Assessment is 80% examinations based, with three papers at the end of Year 13.

The other 20% of the qualification is coursework, which is completed in Year 13.

German

Why should I choose this?

Around 130 million people worldwide speak German as their mother tongue. German is the most widely spoken mother language and an official language in four countries in the European Union: Germany, Austria, Belgium and Luxembourg. German is also an official language in Switzerland and Liechtenstein. Moreover, around 7.5 million people in 42 countries worldwide belong to a German-speaking minority. It is also the second most commonly used scientific language so an A Level in German is a highly-desired qualification in many sectors. In the new 'Global Britain' we all need to reach out, within and beyond Europe, to maintain and improve our economic position, to develop and extend our cultural relationships and to strengthen our international influence by connecting with people around the world. In order to do this, we all need to embrace the enormous advantages that multilingualism can bring. Many students choose to combine a language with another subject in Higher Education, such as Law, Economics, Business, Geography, English, Maths and many more and in this post-Brexit Britain, businesses and employers are always looking to employ people who can offer a language skill.

What are the progression opportunities?

In the wider world, languages are essential for trade, business and the economy and an A Level in a language demonstrates analytical thinking, discussion and evaluation techniques, all of which are highly-desired skills by employers. An A Level in German helps set you apart from your peers as only 5% of A-level students study a language. It also gives you the edge over your contemporaries when it comes to applying for university courses, employment or apprenticeships, as well as being valued by the military. German graduates go on to work in a wide variety of sectors, including finance, law, teaching, travel and tourism, marketing, journalism, investment and many more.

What is involved?

This two year course is split into Year 12 and Year 13 with different topics studied each year. In the first year of study, students will cover topics such as the changing nature of family, the digital world and youth culture in the German-speaking world. Alongside this, students will also study a film in German.

In Year 13, students study a range of topics including: multiculturalism and aspects of political life in German-speaking society. Students will also study a novel in the target language.

Exams consist of 3 papers at the end of Year 13: Paper 1 (50% of the grade) covers Listening, Reading and Translations, Paper 2 (20% of the grade) Written paper, two essays on the book and the film and Paper 3 (30%) Speaking exam.



Although A Levels provide a challenge, the staff at Nunthorpe Sixth Form are extremely supportive at helping you achieve your full potential"

Government & Politics

Why should I choose this?

Politics has an enormous impact on our lives and this course will equip you with a strong understanding of how power is exercised in this country. Furthermore, it will equip you with the knowledge and skills to play a full part in the political process. You will also develop other important qualities such as critical thinking and effective writing skills. You will study a wide range of areas, giving you a broad understanding of political systems and political ideologies. You will focus on topics such as democracy and participation, electoral systems and political parties. You will also have the opportunity to study the main ideological traditions in this country; conservatism, socialism and liberalism. Finally you will gain an insight into how government and politics in the UK compares with the USA.

What are the progression opportunities?

The course is highly regarded by both universities and employers, due to the critical thinking skills you develop and its analytical and discursive nature. It fits in well with a variety of other subject areas, including; law, economics, sociology and history. Furthermore, it provides an excellent academic foundation for careers in the media, teaching, law, social work, the civil service, local government and research (e.g. think-tanks or MPs).

What is involved?

Paper 1: Political participation and core political ideas

Students will study the following: democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media, conservatism, liberalism, socialism.

Paper 2: UK Government and Non-core political ideas

Students will study the following: the constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches, nationalism.

Paper 3: US Politics

Students will study the following: The US Constitution and federalism, US Congress, US presidency, US Supreme Court and civil rights, democracy and participation, comparative theories.

Each paper is a written exam worth 33% of the total grade. Each exam is 2 hours. The exam is a combination of source analysis questions and extended writing questions.

Health and Social Care

Why should I choose this?

Over 3 million people in the UK work in health and social care, which is equivalent to 1 in every 20 people. Demand for both health and social care is likely to continue to rise due to the ageing population, so it is sure to continue to play a key role in UK society highlighted during the COVID pandemic. The demand for people to fill these vital jobs will continue to increase. Our courses provide the opportunity to discover a wide range of Health and Care topics and develop the key skills, such as empathy and resilience to work in this rewarding industry.

What are the progression opportunities?

This course will help learners to develop key transferable skills and knowledge such as self-evaluation, analytical and research skills essential for many Careers. Students who are successful at BTEC Health and Social Care often go onto careers in Nursing, Midwifery, Physiotherapy or Social Work. Many go on to study Childhood and Youth Studies at University, leading to a career working with children.

What is involved?

- Unit 1** Human Lifespan Development (Exam)
- Unit 2** Working in Health and Social Care (Exam)
- Unit 5** Meeting Individuals Care and Support Needs
- Unit 12** Supporting Individuals with Additional Needs

Diploma (as above plus)

- Unit 4** Enquiries into Current Research in Health and Social Care (Exam)
- Unit 7** Principles of Safe Practice in Health and Social Care
- Unit 8** Promoting Public Health
- Unit 19** Nutritional Health

Extended Diploma (as above plus)

- Unit 3** Anatomy and Physiology for Health and Social Care (Exam)
- Unit 6** Work Experience in Health and Social Care
- Unit 9** Infection Prevention and Control
- Unit 14** Physiological Disorders and their Care
- Unit 18** Assessing Children's Development Support Needs



History

Why should I choose this?

History is a highly valued A Level that helps you to understand the world and society that we live in. We will investigate key developments in the past, and discover how events such as the fall of communism and World War I have shaped events in the modern world. Throughout the course you will learn how to conduct an historical investigation, analyse sources and interpretations, and support judgements using precisely selected evidence. This course will help you identify which sources of information can be trusted, and which should be treated with caution!

What are the progression opportunities?

This course will help you to develop research, analytical and writing skills that are highly valued in a huge range of careers. Students who are successful at A-Level History often go onto careers in management, law, business, journalism, teaching, media and museum curator.

What is involved?

Paper 1 – Russia 1917-91; From Lenin to Gorbachev

Paper 2 – Mao's China, 1949-76

Paper 3 – The British Experience of Warfare, 1790-1918

Coursework – The Arab-Israeli Conflict

Assessment is 80% examinations based, with three papers at the end of Year 13.

The other 20% of the qualification is coursework, which is completed in Year 13.





Law

Why should I choose this?

Law is an exciting and dynamic subject that governs every aspect of our lives from conception to exhumation. It is a vital discipline and one which is respected by many universities because of the essential skills it develops. You will learn how the legal justice system operates in both civil and criminal law and study key criminal offences/defences. During this course you will study key aspects of the English Legal System such as the legal professions – Who are our 'lawyers'? What work do they do and how do they train? We'll also look at more discursive elements such as law and morality – is it the function of the law to impose morality? And whether the Rule of Law is respected. We will also focus on areas of 'substantive law' such as the law of Tort covering negligence and occupiers' liability, as well as Criminal Law, examining topics such as murder, non-fatal offences and property offences.

What are the progression opportunities?

Law will develop essential academic skills such as effective reading, analysing factual scenarios, problem solving and formulating and presenting effective argument. Law is a respected A Level by many universities and contrary to popular belief, this includes those offering law programmes. Many of our students go on to become barristers or solicitors, but law could also lead to work in the legal departments of local government or large companies, teaching, or the criminal justice services and much more.

What is involved?

Paper 1: Nature of the law and the English legal system 25% Criminal law 75%

Paper 2: Nature of the law and the English legal system 25% Tort 75%

Paper 3: Nature of the law and the English legal system 25% Contract 75%

Each paper is a written exam worth 33% of the total grade. Each exam is 2 hours. The exam is a combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions.

Maths

Why should I choose this?

If you have a natural flair for numbers and logical thinking, then you should consider studying Maths at A Level. Maths can play an integral part of many careers, and can provide numerous opportunities, both academically and career-wise. Maths is one of the Russell Group universities' 'facilitating' subjects, so-called because choosing them at A Level allows a wide range of options for degree study. Sciences such as Biology, Chemistry and Physics use many mathematical techniques, and subjects such as Geography, Psychology and Sociology are also likely to have components which will be far more easily mastered by those with prior study of Mathematics. By studying maths A Level you'll gain and work on skills such as problem solving, logic and statistics.

What are the progression opportunities?

Universities value Maths and it is a pre-requisite subject for a good number of degrees. Engineering and physics to name but two. People who have studied A Level Maths have an excellent choice of careers, many of which involve very well-paid professions. Mathematicians are in demand across a range of sectors and employment opportunities are commonly found in, engineering, finance, petroleum & nuclear industries and space science & astronomy.

What is involved?

The course is split into 2 parts; Pure worth 2/3 of the course and Applied worth 1/3. Applied consists of Statistics and Mechanics.

Specific areas of study in Pure include aspects such as algebra, differentiation, vectors and trigonometry. Statistics is statistical sampling and testing and probability. Mechanics is kinematics and forces.

You sit three 2 hour papers at the end of Year 13. Paper 1 is 100% Pure, Paper 2 is 50% Pure & 50% Mechanics and Paper 3 is 50% Pure & 50% Statistics





Media Studies

Why should I choose this?

Media studies will teach you to think critically about the media products that you see every day. You will learn about the choices made by media producers, how they encode meaning, how audiences are developed and created and how the media industry works. You will learn practical skills to design and create your own media products. This is a great subject if you have an opinion and want to express it. When analysing media products there are no right and wrong answers: you are encouraged to think critically and develop your own opinion. Media studies gives you the understanding and vocabulary to be able to analyse any media product.

What are the progression opportunities?

Media is valuable qualification that can be developed in to studying or working in graphic design, journalism, film and photography, public relations, marketing and many more subjects.

What is involved?

The course is 70% examined and 30% non-examined assessment. Students complete two exams at the end of Year 13 each worth 35% of the final grade. The exams focus on 18 Close Study Products. These are products set by the exam board and include newspapers, video games, TV programs, websites, advertising and online social and participatory media. To complete their NEA students select one of six briefs and complete this in Year 13. New briefs are released every year but typically include print elements and online elements that should include audio or video.

“

I came to Sixth Form from a different school and the transition was seamless, now after a year I'm progressing in all of my subjects and achieving my goals”

Philosophy & Ethics

Why should I choose this?

'What is the purpose of life?' 'What happens when you die?' 'Why would a god let evil exist?' 'How do we know what is right or wrong?' These are philosophical and ethical questions many of us ask at times in our life. If you enjoy debating these types of issues, trying to find solutions and reading up on how previous deep thinkers have answered these questions, this is the course for you. You will develop clear thinking skills and learn how to construct well-reasoned, analytical arguments: skills which are essential in all future careers. It is also a creative course where you will get the chance to produce videos, give presentations, participate in debates and create learning displays.

What are the progression opportunities?

A Level Philosophy and Ethics is an academic A Level highly regarded by universities and helps students to develop many key skills essential for higher education or the world of work. Students will embed transferable skills such as problem solving, communication, tolerance, independence and teamwork. Many students go on to study for careers linked to Law, Sociology, Psychology, Management and Journalism. A high number of students combine Philosophy and Ethics with their study of Chemistry, Biology and Maths in order to apply to Medical Schools - due to the emphasis on ethics crucial in the field of healthcare.

What is involved?

Paper 1: Hinduism

Origins of Hinduism; relevance of sacred texts; Gandhi's influence
Hindu teachings on the self, karma and reincarnation, caste system, non-violence
Social developments in Hinduism, eg role of women, migration, Hare Krishna movement
Hindu festivals, worship and attitudes to medical ethics

Paper 2: Philosophy of Religion

Arguments to prove the existence of God
Challenges to religious belief (suffering, atheism, psychology)
Religious experience (visions, miracles, prayer, mysticism)
Religious language (how to meaningfully discuss God)

Paper 3: Religion and Ethics

Metaethics (what we mean by words like good/bad, right/wrong)
Natural Moral Law
Utilitarianism and Situation Ethics
Determinism and Free will
Assessment is 100% examinations based, with three papers at the end of Year 13.

Physical Education

Why should I choose this?

Studying A Level Physical Education will give you a fantastic insight into the amazing world of sports performance. Not only will you have the chance to perform or coach a sport through the non-exam assessment component, you will also develop a wide ranging knowledge into the how and why of physical activity and sport. The combination of physical performance and academic challenge provides an exciting opportunity for students. You can perform, and then through the academic study improve your performance or coaching through application of the theory. Physical Education is studied through a range of different contexts and the impact it has on both ours and other's everyday lives. You will learn the reasons why we do things, why some people out perform others, mentally and physically. You will also delve into the ethical considerations behind the use of drugs and also the influence that modern technology is having in and on physical activity and sport.

What are the progression opportunities?

A Level Physical Education gives students the possibility of pursuing a career in many areas due to the fact that sport, nutrition and health are huge topics of discussion in the world today, and as the fight against obesity and sedentary lifestyle issues continue, the knowledge you gain from a course such as this will only grow in importance and relevance.

A Level PE enables you to apply for higher education courses in sports science, sports management, healthcare, or exercise and health. It can also complement further study in subjects such as biology, human biology, physics, psychology, nutrition and sociology.

A Level PE can open up a range of career opportunities including: sports development, sports coaching, physiotherapy, sports journalism, personal training or becoming one of the next generation of PE teachers.

The transferable skills you learn, such as decision making and independent thinking, are useful in any career path you choose to take.

What is involved?

Paper 1 Physiological Factors effecting performance (90 marks) 30% of final grade

Paper 2 Psychological Factors effecting performance (60 marks) 20% of final grade

Paper 3 Socio Cultural issues in physical activity and sport (60 marks) 20% of final grade

Coursework element of the course - Evaluating performance (30 marks) 15% of final grade

Practical element of the course - practical performance in chosen sport (30 marks) 15% of final grade



Physics

Why should I choose this?

Physics is a highly valued A-Level that helps you to understand the universe, from the smallest particle to the largest galaxy. It explains the forces which govern nature and how and why things move and behave in the way they do. You will learn about the life cycle of stars, medical applications and the strange world of quantum particles and you will see how this knowledge applies to technology and the real world in a variety of exciting contexts.

What are the progression opportunities?

This course will help you to develop mathematical, problem solving and analytical skills that are highly valued in a huge range of careers. Students who are successful at A-Level Physics often go onto careers in Medicine, astronomy, engineering, meteorology and computing.

What is involved?

- Module 1** Development of Practical Skills
- Module 2** Foundations of Physics
- Module 3** Forces and Motion
- Module 4** Electrons, Waves and Photons
- Module 5** Newtonian World and Astrophysics
- Module 6** Particles and Medical Physics

Assessment is 100% examinations based, with three papers at the end of Year 13.



Product Design

Why should I choose this?

Design Technology is all about using your individuality, intellect and creativity to address problems in the world around us. You will learn about materials, techniques, skills both practically and theoretically. Yes we do make things. In this way we will increase your understanding of how careers within design technology influence the world in which we exist. As a designer/maker you will learn how your individuality can make a difference to the world around us. We pride ourselves on creating individuals with a dynamic future in the constantly developing world of design and manufacture. The course allows you to explore your strengths within design and technology and exposes you to new and emerging skills and technologies that are now in their infancy but will be mainstream careers by the time you are qualified. 250 new and exciting jobs will be created within the field of design and technology by the time you are looking for a career according to the Design Council and the Institute of Engineering.

What are the progression opportunities?

Design and Technology makes up two of the four STEM areas, Technology and Engineering and Applied Science and Mathematics in a practical way. The two year course enables you to continue into apprenticeship, university or into the workplace. Apprenticeships in design and engineering are increasingly looking for creative and imaginative individuals who are capable of taking on challenging tasks. University allows those students to explore the world of design and engineering through a varied route from product design, to sports engineering and beyond. With the internet opening a huge range of opportunities we are now finding design engineers not only working and studying from home but also running businesses. Increasingly we are seeing self-motivated designers setting up and developing their own products which can ship worldwide.

What is involved?

Paper 1 Technical principles. Written exam: 2 hours 30 mins, 120 marks, 30% of A Level, a mixture of short and extended response.

Paper 2 Design and making principles. Written exam: 1 hour and 30 minutes, 80 marks, 20% of A Level.

Non exam assessment, Practical application of technical principles, designing and making principles. Substantial design and make project, 100 marks, 50% of A level, Evidence, Written or digital design portfolio and photographic evidence of final prototype.

Psychology

Why should I choose this?

Psychology is an ever-evolving subject that helps you to understand human behaviour and mental processes. We study the theories of great psychologists and seek to understand the various approaches and methods used to examine behaviours, thoughts and feelings. You will learn the value of Psychology in everyday life and how it can impact on everyone, from how attachments are formed through to how Psychology has influenced interview techniques used by police when speaking to eyewitnesses or from learning about different functions of parts of the brain to how phobias are developed and maintained.

What are the progression opportunities?

This course will help you to develop mathematical, essay-writing and analytical skills that are highly valued in a huge range of careers. Students who are successful at A Level Psychology often go onto careers in Criminology, Teaching, Counselling, Nursing and Law.

What is involved?

Paper 1- Introductory Topics in Psychology: Social Influence, Memory, Attachment and Psychopathology

Paper 2- Psychology in content: Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology and Research Methods

Paper 3- Issues and options in Psychology: Issues and debates in Psychology, Relationships, Schizophrenia and Aggression

Assessment is 100% examinations based, with three papers at the end of Year 13.



Spanish

Why should I choose this?

Spanish is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world and A-level Spanish is a highly-desired qualification in many sectors. In the new 'Global Britain' we all need to reach out, within and beyond Europe, to maintain and improve our economic position, to develop and extend our cultural relationships and to strengthen our international influence by connecting with people around the world. In order to do this, we all need to embrace the enormous advantages that multilingualism can bring. Many students choose to combine a language with another subject in Higher Education, such as Law, Economics, Business, Geography, English, Maths and many more and in this post-Brexit Britain, businesses and employers are always looking to employ people who can offer a language skill.

What are the progression opportunities?

In the wider world, languages are essential for trade, business and the economy and an A-level in a language demonstrates analytical thinking, discussion and evaluation techniques, all of which are highly-desired skills by employers. An A Level in Spanish helps set you apart from your peers as only 5% of A Level students study a language. It also gives you the edge over your contemporaries when it comes to applying for university courses, employment or apprenticeships, as well as being valued by the military. Spanish graduates go on to work in a wide variety of sectors, including finance, law, teaching, travel and tourism, marketing, journalism, investment and many more. Spanish is also the language of choice in the USA, and is the second largest Spanish-speaking country in the world, ahead of Spain itself.

What is involved?

This two year course is split into Year 12 and Year 13 with different topics studied each year. In the first year of study, students will cover topics such as, Traditional and Modern Values, Cyberspace, The influence of Idols, Art, Music, Food and Languages. Alongside this, students will also study a film in Spanish.

In Year 13, students study a range of topics including: Immigration and Racism, Young People in the Spanish-speaking world, Monarchies and Dictators and Popular Movements. Students will also study a novel in the target language.

Exams consist of 3 papers at the end of Year 13: Paper 1 (50% of the grade) covers Listening, Reading and Translations, Paper 2 (20% of the grade) Written paper, two essays on the book and the film and Paper 3 (30%) Speaking exam.

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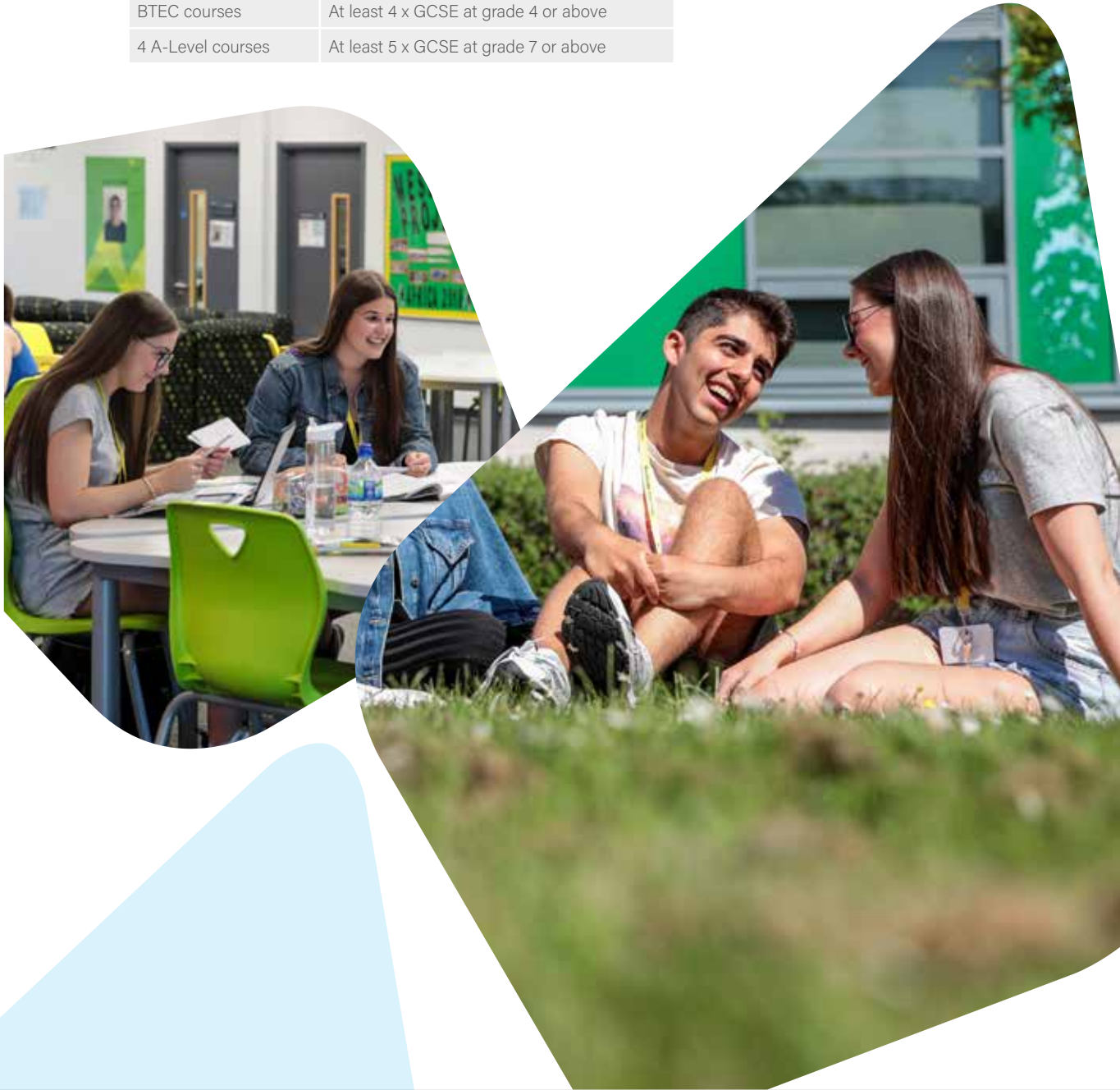
The Sixth Form provides great opportunities for everyone, amazing support when applying to university, and an enjoyable working environment”

Summary

Subject	Type of course	Entry requirements			Exam board / specification details
		GCSE Maths	GCSE English	Further preferences	
Art and Design	AS and A-Level	n/a	4	5 in GCSE Art	AQA
Business Studies		5	5	5 in GCSE Business (if taken)	Edexcel
Biology		5	5	Triple Science 6/6/5 or Combined Science 6/5	OCR
Chemistry		5	5	Triple Science 6/6/5 or Combined Science 6/5	OCR
Physics		5	5	Triple Science 6/6/5 or Combined Science 6/5	OCR
Drama and Theatre Studies		n/a	5		AQA
English Language		n/a	5	6+ in Language or Literature	AQA
English Literature		n/a	5	6+ in Language or Literature	OCR
French		n/a	5	6+ in GCSE French	AQA
Further Maths		7	4	8+ in GCSE Maths	AQA
Geography		5	5	5 in GCSE Geography if taken	Edexcel
German		n/a	5	6+ in GCSE German	AQA
Government and Politics		n/a	5		Edexcel
History		n/a	5	6+ in GCSE History	Edexcel
Law		n/a	5		AQA
Maths		6	4		AQA
Media		n/a	5		AQA
Philosophy and Ethics		n/a	5		Eduqas
PE		n/a	5	5 in GCSE PE if taken. Participation in competitive sport	OCR
Product Design		5	5	5 in GCSE Design and Technology	
Psychology		5	5	4/4 in GCSE Science	AQA
Spanish		n/a	5	6+ in GCSE Spanish	AQA
Health and Social Care	BTEC (single, double or triple)	n/a	4	4/4 in GCSE Science	Pearson / Edexcel

General requirements

Selection	Requirements / strong preferences
1-3 A-Level courses	At least 4 x GCSE at grade 5 or above
BTEC courses	At least 4 x GCSE at grade 4 or above
4 A-Level courses	At least 5 x GCSE at grade 7 or above





**RAISING STANDARDS
& IMPROVING LIFE CHANCES
OF YOUNG PEOPLE
WITHIN THEIR OWN
COMMUNITIES**

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