



**Cheam High
Sixth Form**
COURSE GUIDE 2024

**"An Outstanding
School"**
OFSTED 2015, 2010 & 2007



**CHEAM
HIGH SCHOOL**



Our aims

Our aim is the pursuit of excellence for all. We strive for the development of individual potential in a stimulating and inspiring school that is at the heart of the local community.

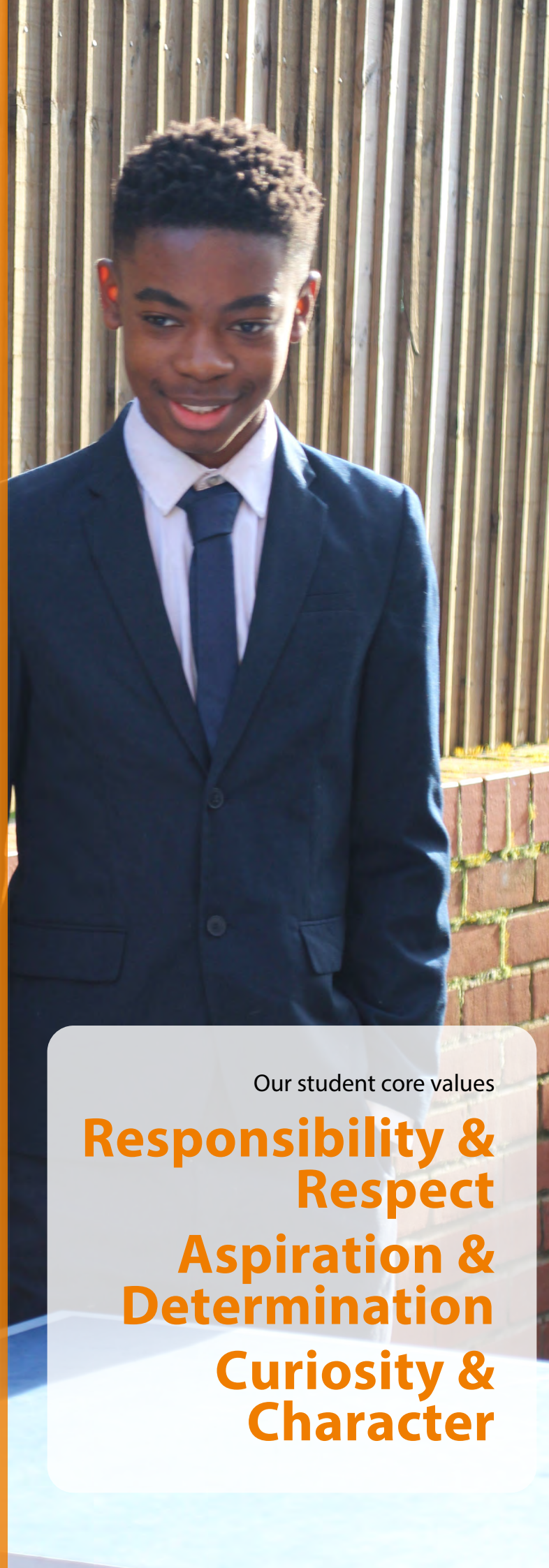
Cheam High School aims to create a welcoming and exciting learning environment where we:

- Provide a rich, diverse and challenging education through excellent and innovative teaching and learning
- Celebrate success, promote a 'can do' attitude and inspire each student to achieve their best
- Support personal development, social responsibility and a sense of self-worth
- Develop the attitudes and skills that support a healthy and fulfilled life together with the confidence for a lifetime of learning
- Work as partners in learning with students, parents/ carers and the community
- Provide a safe, supportive and well-ordered environment where students and staff are happy and confident as they aspire to achieve.

Cheam High Sixth Form values each unique individual, offering suitable courses to meet the needs of these individuals.

We aim to create an environment that allows all students to reach their full potential. We expect students to dress smartly, be on time and be well behaved.

We want our students to value their education and be good citizens, making the most of all available opportunities at Cheam High School.



Our student core values

**Responsibility &
Respect**

**Aspiration &
Determination**

**Curiosity &
Character**

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Course entry requirements 2024

A LEVEL COURSES

Students must have achieved 5 GCSEs (or equivalent) at grade 9-4 including 4+ in GCSE English or Maths as well as meeting individual subject course requirements.

All students study at least three subjects in Year 12. Some students may wish to study a fourth course if they have a particular talent in the subject area and/or have a strong academic track record (such as a GCSE Average Point Score [APS] greater than 6.8 from full GCSEs only).

LEVEL 3 VOCATIONAL COURSES

Students must have achieved 5 GCSEs (or vocational courses) at grade 9-4 including a 4+ in GCSE English or Maths.

Students with non UK qualifications will be assessed on an individual basis.

PLEASE NOTE:

In order for students to continue into Year 13 they are required to have high attendance and to have made good progress through Year 12.



SUBJECT	ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS
SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS	
A Level Mathematics	GCSE grade 7+ in Maths
A Level Further Mathematics	GCSE grade 7+ in Maths
A Level Biology ⁺	GCSE grade 6 in Combined Science plus Biology, GCSE grade 5+ in Maths and GCSE grade 5+ in English
A Level Chemistry ⁺	GCSE grade 6 in Combined Science plus Chemistry, GCSE grade 6+ in Maths and GCSE grade 4+ in English
A Level Physics ⁺	GCSE grade 6 in Combined Science plus Physics and GCSE grade 6+ in Maths and GCSE grade 4+ in English
BTEC Science Certificate/Diploma**	See Sixth Form Level 3 Vocational Course entry requirements plus GCSE grades 4:4 in Combined Science
⁺ To take more than one Science students must show a strong academic record of APS 6 or greater ** Students choosing BTEC Science Diploma should also select Science in Block 1	

BUSINESS EDUCATION	
A Level Accounting	GCSE grade 5+ in English and Maths
A Level Business	GCSE grade 5+ in English and Maths
CTEC Business	See Sixth Form Level 3 Vocational Course entry requirements
BTEC Travel & Tourism	See Sixth Form Level 3 Vocational Course entry requirements

ART AND TECHNOLOGY	
A Level Art - Fine Art	GCSE grade 4+ in English and GCSE grade 6+ in Art or a Distinction in BTEC Art
A Level Art - Graphic Design	GCSE grade 4+ in English
A Level Design & Technology	GCSE grade 4+ in English and Maths and GCSE grade 4+ in Design & Technology if taken
A Level Fashion Textiles	GCSE grade 4+ in English and Maths and GCSE grade 4+ in Textiles if taken
WJEC Food Science & Nutrition	See Sixth Form Level 3 Vocational Course entry requirements including GCSE grade 4+ in English
A Level Photography	GCSE grade 4+ in English

Course entry requirements 2024

SUBJECT	ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS
ICT	
A Level Computer Science	GCSE grade 6+ in Maths and GCSE grade 6+ in Computer Science
BTEC Computing	See Sixth Form Level 3 Vocational Course entry requirements plus Computer Science GCSE grade 4+ if taken
BTEC Information Technology	See Sixth Form Level 3 Vocational Course entry requirements

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

A Level French	GCSE grade 7+ in French
A Level German	GCSE grade 6+ in German
A Level Spanish	GCSE grade 6+ in Spanish

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND DANCE

A Level Dance	GCSE grade 4+ in English and Dance or a Dance background
A Level Physical Education	GCSE grade 5 in English, Science and PE if taken and <i>you must also be training and competing regularly in one sport</i>
BTEC Sport	See Sixth Form Level 3 Vocational Course entry requirements

ENGLISH AND HUMANITIES

WJEC Criminology	See Sixth Form Level 3 Vocational Course entry requirements including GCSE grade 4+ in English
CTEC Digital Media	See Sixth Form Level 3 Vocational Course entry requirements including GCSE grade 4+ in English
A Level English	GCSE grade 6+ in English Literature and English Language
A Level Film Studies	GCSE grade 6+ in English
A Level Geography	GCSE grade 5+ in English and Geography
A Level History	GCSE grade 6+ in English or History
A Level Media Studies	GCSE grade 6+ in English and GCSE grade 6+ in Media Studies if taken
A Level Philosophy, Religion & Ethics	GCSE grade 5+ in English and Religious Education if taken
A Level Politics	GCSE grade 5+ in English
A Level Psychology	GCSE grade 5+ in English and Maths
A Level Sociology	GCSE grade 5+ in English

PERFORMING ARTS

A Level Drama	GCSE grade 5+ in English and Drama
BTEC Music Performance	See Sixth Form Level 3 Vocational Course entry requirements
BTEC Music Technology - Sound Engineering	See Sixth Form Level 3 Vocational Course entry requirements

OTHER APPLIED COURSES

CTEC Health & Social Care	See Sixth Form Level 3 Vocational Course entry requirements
BTEC Uniformed Protective Services	See Sixth Form Level 3 Vocational Course entry requirements

Timetabling

The table below shows the subject blocks which you will also find in the application form. The blocks indicate where the subjects fall on the timetable. It is important to look at the blocks when selecting your subjects.

Choose three or four* subjects

only. You can only study ONE subject in each block. This is due to timetabling as the lessons run at the same time within the same block.

PLEASE NOTE

*Not all students are eligible to be able to take four subjects. The

eligibility is dependant on your GCSE results.

You will not be allowed to take any subjects in Block 4 if you need to retake either English or Mathematics GCSE.

BLOCK 1	BLOCK 2	BLOCK 3	BLOCK 4	BLOCK 5	BLOCK 6
			GCSE English		
			GCSE Maths		
CTEC Business Studies	BTEC ICT Information Technology	WJEC Criminology	BTEC ICT Computing	CTEC Media Studies	WJEC Criminology
WJEC Criminology	BTEC Sport	BTEC Music Technology	BTEC Music Performance	BTEC Travel & Tourism	BTEC Science (Diploma - Double) Note: you must also select BTEC Science in Block 1
BTEC Science (Certificate - Single)			BTEC Health and Social Care	WJEC Food Science & Nutrition	BTEC Uniformed Protective Services
A Level Accounting	A Level Business Studies	A Level Business Studies	A Level Biology	A Level Accounting	A Level Drama
A Level Fine Art	A Level Dance	A Level Chemistry	A Level Computer Science	A Level Physical Education	A Level English
A Level Film Studies	A Level Graphic Design	A Level Design & Technology	A Level English	A Level Further Mathematics Note: you must also select A Level Mathematics	A Level Geography
A Level Sociology	A Level Physics	A Level German	A Level Mathematics	A Level Media Studies	A Level Mathematics
A Level History	A Level Psychology	A Level Mathematics	A Level Photography	A Level Textiles	A Level Sociology
A Level Mathematics	A Level RS (Philosophy, & Ethics)	A Level Sociology	A Level Politics		A Level Spanish
A Level Psychology			A Level Psychology		
			A Level French		
			A Level Sociology		

A-LEVELS

A Levels

An 'advanced level' or A Level is a qualification available across a range of subjects to school-leavers – graded A* - E.

A-levels are studied across two years and A-level grades are determined by your final exam results at the end of year 13.

Cheam High Sixth Form offer 28 different A Levels, so there are many options to choose from, depending on your abilities and interests.

Accounting

EXAM BOARD

AQA.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 5+ in English and Maths.

ABOUT THE COURSE

No other course gives you such a thorough understanding of finance. Accounting is at the heart of the business world; being able to record, summarise and interpret financial transactions are vital commercial skills and planning techniques such as budgeting and investment appraisal are vital to financial success. Gaining an understanding of accounting techniques will also help prepare you for a wide range of careers and for some, will enhance your ability to run your own business.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Accounting Records

Income Statements and Balance Sheets

Purpose of Accounting

Types of Business Organisation

Sources of Finance

Ratio Analysis

Budgetary Control

ASSESSMENT

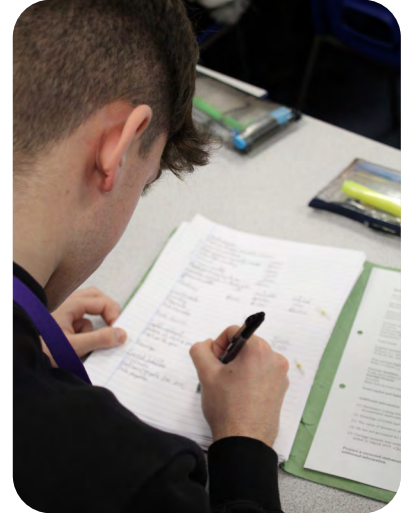
Two three hour exams taken at the end of Year 13.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Financial record-keeping and aspects of double-entry book keeping
- The preparation and interpretation of financial statements
- The ability to make judgements and justified recommendations
- The ability to solve financial problems.

PLEASE NOTE

All external exams take place at the end of Year 13.



"Accounting is a subject which can offer multiple pathways and opportunities in the future. It enables individuals to have a strong understanding of how

money works and can give a strong insight into how to manage a business. Accounting will give you stability for your next steps after Sixth Form."

NIRESH, ACCOUNTING AMBASSADOR

Art-Fine Art

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 4+ in English, GCSE grade 6+ in Art or Distinction in BTEC Art.

ABOUT THE COURSE

Are you imaginative, creative and self-motivated as well as having a high level of practical skill to produce exciting artwork? If so, you should study the specialism of Fine Art. We will help you to further develop your visual and practical skills and to use a range of materials and techniques to produce your own exciting, diverse and original artwork. This course is an excellent opportunity to develop the drawing skills necessary for fashion design and architecture.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Component 1 – Coursework

Component 2 – Exam.

ASSESSMENT

Coursework and the Exam module are assessed under the same criteria. The coursework makes up 60% of the overall mark and the exam unit (which consists of exploring a theme over a period of

approximately 15 – 18 weeks and creating a final piece in exam conditions over 15 hours) makes up 40% of the overall mark. There is also a personal study (contextual essay) which makes up 18 of the 90 marks on offer for coursework.

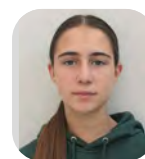
SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- To think creatively and develop original ideas
- Using 2D, 3D and multimedia art techniques
- An understanding and appreciation of artists' work
- How to create powerful visual imagery inspired by both your artist research and from your own observations
- Critical thinking skills.

PLEASE NOTE

Other opportunities available are;

- Visits to a variety of art galleries
- Life drawing and portfolio preparation
- Display your own work in an exhibition in the local community.



"Fine Art helps to express creativity through many different types of media and techniques that students learn within the sixth form. You learn

the technical and resourceful skills to research new artists and combine their artwork with your own ideas."

LUCY, FINE ART STUDENT

Art - Graphic Design

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 4+ in English.

ABOUT THE COURSE

Are you creative, self-motivated and have a good level of practical skill to produce exciting design and illustrative work? If so, you should study the specialism of Graphic Design. We will help you develop your visual and practical skills, to use new techniques using art media, photography and computer software, to produce your own exciting and original designs and illustrations.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Component 1 – Coursework

Component 2 – Exam.

ASSESSMENT

Coursework and the Exam module are assessed under the same criteria. There is also a personal study (contextual essay) which makes up 18 of the 90 marks on offer for coursework. The coursework makes up 60% of the overall mark with the

exam unit (which consists of exploring a theme over a period of approximately 15 – 18 weeks and creating a final piece in exam conditions over 15 hours) making up 40%.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- To think creatively and develop original ideas
- How to use a wide range of 2D and multimedia art techniques, relevant to all creative related careers
- An understanding and appreciation of illustrators and graphic designers' work
- How to create powerful visual imagery inspired by both your research and the world around us
- Critical thinking skills.

PLEASE NOTE

Other opportunities available are;

- Visits to a variety of art galleries
- Use of the IT and photo studio
- Display your own work in an exhibition in the local community.



"Picking A Level Graphic Design has allowed me to build on my various skills and has even given me new skills that I can use in the future. It has facilitated my work and aided me in thriving in a design environment. I would urge anyone who is interested in working in graphic design in the future to take this subject as it gives you every piece of knowledge and skill needed to progress in a design career."

RYAN, GRAPHIC DESIGN STUDENT

Biology

EXAM BOARD

OCR.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 6 in Combined Science plus Biology and GCSE grade 5+ in Maths and English.

ABOUT THE COURSE

Put simply, Biology is the scientific study of life. It encompasses the investigation of living organisms and life processes from the molecular, cells and individual organisms to populations and whole communities of animals and plants.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Foundations in Biology

Cell structure, biological molecules, nucleic acids, enzymes, cell division.

Exchange and transport

Exchange and transport in animals/plants.

Biodiversity, evolution and disease

Communicable diseases, immune system, biodiversity and evolution.

Communication, homeostasis and energy

Excretion, neuronal communication,

photosynthesis and respiration.

Genetics, evolution and ecosystems

Patterns of inheritance, manipulating genomes, cloning, ecosystems and populations.

ASSESSMENT

Three exams at the end of Year 13 will decide the final grade. Practical work is assessed and counts towards the practical endorsement.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Practical scientific skills
- Problem-solving skills
- Accuracy and attention to detail
- Excellent communication skills.

PLEASE NOTE

Many people ask about studying Maths with Biology. Whilst not necessary, you will need very good maths skills to thrive in Biology. Year 12 and 13 use GCSE Level Maths; there are some new mathematical ideas in both years.



"A Level Biology has provided me with a deeper understanding of how the world works. It also opens various career opportunities and helps develop a range of skills."

YASEEN, BIOLOGY AMBASSADOR

Business

EXAM BOARD

AQA.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 5+ in English and Maths.

ABOUT THE COURSE

Business is a subject that is relevant to all of us as we spend much of our lives dealing with businesses, either as employees or potential customers. Gaining an understanding of how businesses operate will also help equip you for a wide range of careers and develop your ability to run your own business. Learning about the environment in which businesses operate helps all of us understand and deal with the social, legal, economic, political and technological factors that affect our lives.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Topics such as:

What is business?

Managers, leadership and decision making

Decision making to improve: marketing

performance, operational performance, financial performance and human resource performance

ASSESSMENT

Students will sit three two hour papers in Year 13.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

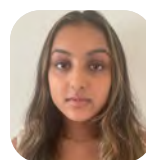
Analysis - you will be able to break down real life businesses and concepts to look at the possible positives and negatives.

Numerical skills - business requires students to be competent with numbers such as profit calculations.

Leadership skills - students will look at leadership styles and will develop their own.

PLEASE NOTE

This is a two year course with all external assessments undertaken at the end of Year 13.



"Business Studies is extremely functional, teaching a variety of useful skills, including innovation, analytical skills and teamwork."

Business is not only informative about the everyday workings of a business but it is also the perfect pathway to careers involving entrepreneurship and management."

ELLA, BUSINESS AMBASSADOR

Chemistry

EXAM BOARD

OCR.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 6 in Combined Science plus Chemistry and GCSE grade 6+ in Maths and GCSE grade 4+ in English.

ABOUT THE COURSE

Chemists are very much involved in tackling the problems faced by our modern society. On a given day, a chemist may be studying the mechanism for the recombination of DNA, measuring the amount of insecticide in drinking water, developing a biodegradable plastic, comparing the protein content of meats, developing better pollution controls, developing a new antibiotic or analysing a moon.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Development of practical skills in chemistry

Foundations in chemistry

Periodic table and energy

Core organic chemistry

Physical chemistry and transition elements

Organic chemistry and analysis.

ASSESSMENT

Three exams at the end of Year 13 will decide the final grade. Practical work is assessed and counts towards the practical endorsement.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Handling data will be key, requiring numeracy and ICT
- Learning stems from experimental work, you will need to develop team participation and leadership skills
- As you become more skilled, you will take responsibility for selecting appropriate qualitative methods and recording your observations accurately, as well as critically analysing and evaluating the methodology, results and impact of investigative activities.

PLEASE NOTE

Many people ask about studying Mathematics with Chemistry. Whilst not necessary, you will need very good maths skills to thrive in Chemistry. Year 12 uses GCSE Maths; there are some new mathematical ideas in Year 13.



"The skills you gain in Chemistry A Level are relevant to the majority of university degrees and apprenticeships as they provide you

with organisation, time management and problem solving. There are many interesting practicals in the course and the teachers are very supportive."

SHRIYA, CHEMISTRY AMBASSADOR

Computer Science

EXAM BOARD

OCR.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE 6+ in Maths and 6+ Computer Science.

ABOUT THE COURSE

Computer Science is a practical subject where students can apply the academic principles learned in the classroom to real world systems. Students will engage with a variety of technical topics that shape our everyday lives through technology. Students will learn core skills in problem solving and logical thinking.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Hardware and Software

Exchanging data

Legal, moral, cultural, and ethical issues

Computational thinking

Problem-solving

Data structures

Algorithms

Programming skills

ASSESSMENT

Component 1 - Computer Systems exam worth 40%.

Component 2 - Algorithms and Programming exam worth 40%.

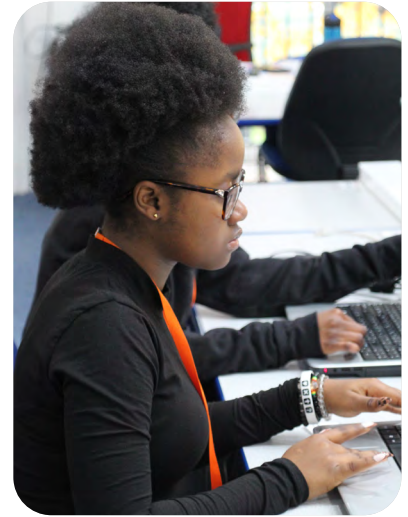
Component 3 - Programming project worth 20%.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Problem-solving skills using computational thinking, logic and reasoning
- Programming skills for a variety of contexts and applications
- Understanding how computer systems function.

PLEASE NOTE

You don't need to have taken Computing at GCSE in order to take this subject.



"Computer Science is vital because it teaches many skills such as problem solving and critical thinking which are essential in our

digital world"

**MARIAM, COMPUTER SCIENCE
AMBASSADOR**

Dance

EXAM BOARD

AQA.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 4+ in English and GCSE grade 4+ in Dance or a Dance background.

ABOUT THE COURSE

If you can imagine how dance would portray human emotions and stories, this course is for you. Step inside the world of dance and gain knowledge and understanding of the dancer in action and the skills involved in performance. Through the analysis, interpretation and evaluation of dances you will gain an appreciation and understanding of their historical and cultural context. You will take your first steps in developing your own creativity as a dancer and choreographer, not to mention keeping fit and trim.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Component 1 - Performance and Choreography.

Component 2 - Critical Engagement.

ASSESSMENT

Solo performance, performance in a quartet and group choreography – External examiner.

Written exam.

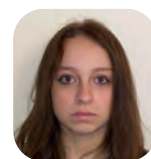
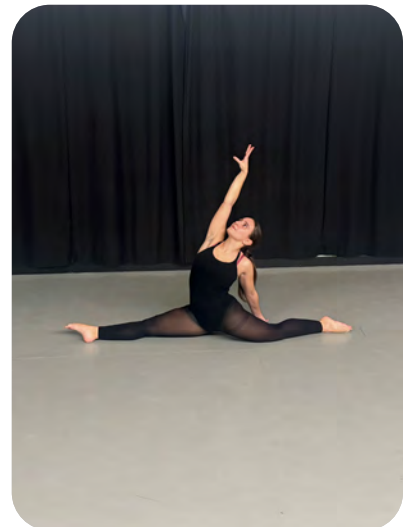
SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Performance Skills
- Choreographic Skills
- Technical Skills
- Analytical Skills

PLEASE NOTE

Typical trips would be;

- Sadler's Wells and other professional dance venues
- The Laban Centre and The Royal Academy of Dance
- Workshops led by The Royal Academy of Dance



"Dance is a great subject for anyone who wants to express themselves and grow in confidence. We learn about dance history and where styles of dance

we perform have been developed. Everyday we learn new skills. We also have huge involvement with the annual dance show, supporting lower school students with choreography and performances."

ROSE, DANCE AMBASSADOR

Design & Technology

EXAM BOARD

AQA.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 4+ in English and Maths and GCSE grade 4+ in Design & Technology if taken.

ABOUT THE COURSE

Are you independent with a keen interest in design? Creativity could be described as creating original ideas which add value. In Product Design A Level we work to understand the necessary technical knowledge but we experience this practically with the projects we make.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Product Design is about addressing larger questions; How do we interpret the iconic designs and designers of past and present History? Is cultural diversity a secret superpower in Product Design? How does our natural environment function and how will it function in the future? Where do our raw materials and energy resources come from, will this change? How do we manufacture viably, profitably and beautifully to protect our world?

ASSESSMENT

Design and make project: 50% of A Level.

Technical Principles Assessment - two hours and 30 minutes: 30% of A Level.

Designing and making principles Assessment - one hour and 30 minutes: 20% of A Level.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Materials, Modelling & Prototyping, Health & Safety
- Protecting Design & Intellectual Property, Manufacturing, Maintenance, Repair & Disposal
- Business, Marketing & Graphic Communication
- Computer Aided Design & Computer Aided Manufacture (CAD/ CAM)
- Design & Making Principles, Designers, Design Styles & Design Movements
- Social & Economic Change and its impact on design
- Iterative Design Process, Tool & Material selection and accuracy
- Product Lifecycle, Social, Moral & Ethical considerations

PLEASE NOTE

Includes elements of practical Maths and Science.



Drama

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 4+ in English and GCSE grade 4+ in Drama.

ABOUT THE COURSE

Drama is a creative course that offers students the opportunity to develop practical, creative and communication skills. These are attributes keenly sought after in the commercial world.

Students will experience live theatre both locally and in the West End. Students will also work alongside professional actors and perform to live audiences.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Component 1 - Devising

Component 2 - Text in Performance

Component 3 - Theatre Makers in Practice

ASSESSMENT

Component 1 students are assessed on devising an original performance piece and their portfolio submission.

Component 2 is an externally assessed performance examination.

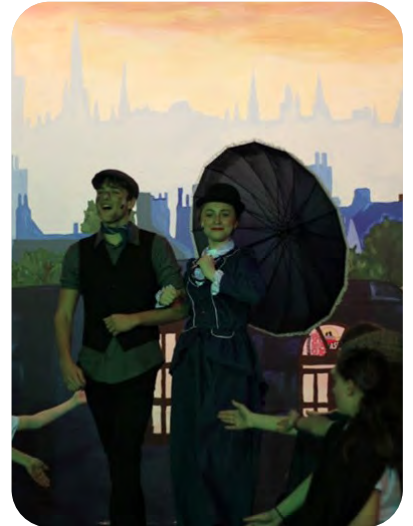
Component 3 is a two hour 30 minutes written paper.

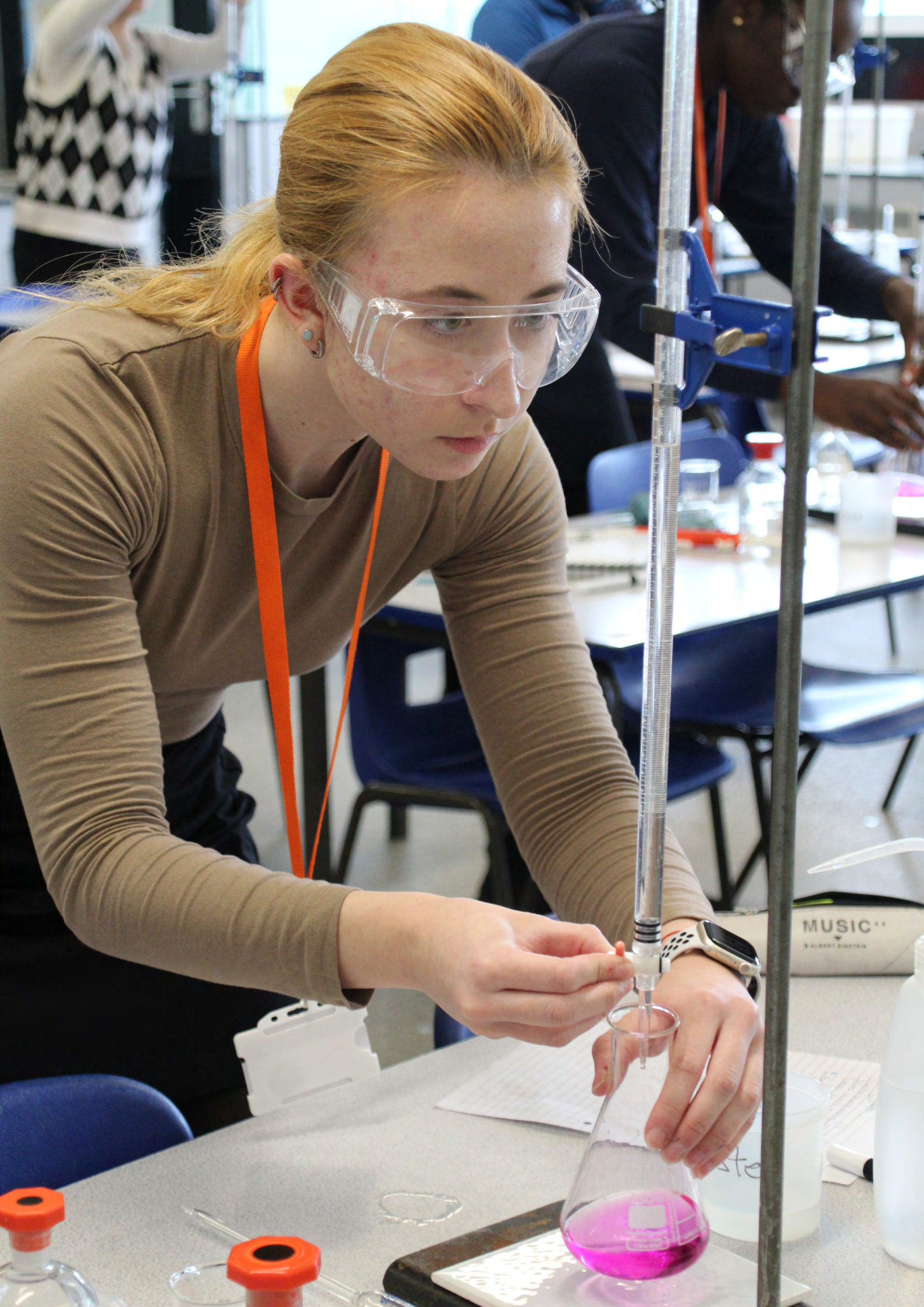
SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Group work and cooperation
- The history of theatre
- Performance skills
- Problem solving

PLEASE NOTE

Edexcel GCE Drama and Theatre Studies is a two year course consisting of two coursework components and one externally examined paper. Students have five lessons a week and complete theory and practical tasks.





English

EXAM BOARD

OCR.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 6+ in English Literature and
GCSE grade 6+ in English Language.

ABOUT THE COURSE

English Literature and Language exposes students to a host of ideas that shape our understanding of the world. The exploration of novels, plays, poems and non-fiction texts provides opportunities for provocative discussion and debate about social, political and moral issues. This course will also provide students with the opportunity to understand how language is shaped to create desired stylistic effects as well as giving students the chance to produce their own original writing.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Unit 1 - Exploring non-fiction written and spoken texts

Unit 2 - The language of poetry and plays

Unit 3 - Reading as a writer; writing as a reader

Unit 4 - Independent study.

ASSESSMENT

Three examined units and one non-examined unit. To be assessed at the end of the course.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- The ability to analyse a wide range of texts
- The ability to communicate excellently, both orally and in writing
- A secure understanding of the constituents of the English language.

PLEASE NOTE

Students will have opportunities to:

- Attend theatre trips to see relevant plays in performance (subject to availability)
- Help encourage wider reading across the school.



"English A Level has helped to improve my quality of writing and also my subject knowledge of the language. English A Level has challenged me as I

have noticed my general vocabulary has improved. I have learnt how to develop my ideas and studying English has helped me to improve my written ability across all 3 A Level subjects."

ISABEL, ENGLISH AMBASSADOR

Fashion Textiles

EXAM BOARD

AQA.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 4+ in English and Maths and
GCSE grade 4+ in Textiles if taken.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

You will develop knowledge and understanding of materials, processes and technologies around Fashion and Textiles. This will be through a variety of sketchbook based projects, where work will vary from designing, drawing, analysing, evaluation, investigating, experimenting and making. You will look at historical and contemporary developments and different styles and genres. Make reflections on feelings and meanings around artefacts relating to social, environmental, cultural and/or ethical, and to the time and place in which they were created.

ASSESSMENT

Component 1 - Personal investigation, no time limit, 96 marks and 60% of A-level.

Component 2 - Externally set assignment, preparatory period plus 15 hours supervised time, 96 marks and 40% of A Level.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Textile design and illustration skills focusing on shape, line, scale, colour, texture, pattern, contrast and more
- The ability to respond to an issue, concept or idea, working to a brief or answering a design need
- Understanding a variety of textile methods, such as: 3D fabric manipulation, fabric printing, screen printing, tie-dye, batik, spraying and transfer, fabric construction, stitching, appliqué, patchwork, draping on the stand, quilting and embroidery
- Analysing and evaluating fashion items and artefacts.

PLEASE NOTE

Textiles is a design and theory based subject that allows students to develop creative skills in fashion.



"Textiles A Level allows you to not only develop your creativity, but has also given me the ability to develop key skills such as patience, care,

individuality and in-depth thinking. Textiles is a creative subject which requires you to spend time both in and outside lessons on your projects."

EVIE, FASHION TEXTILES AMBASSADOR

Film Studies

EXAM BOARD

Eduqas.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 6+ English.

ABOUT THE COURSE

Film is one of the main cultural innovations of the 20th century and a major art form of the last hundred years. Film Studies offers the opportunity to investigate how film works both as a medium of representation and as an aesthetic medium. Students are introduced to a wide variety of films in order to broaden their knowledge and understanding of film as well as the range of responses films often generate.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Component 1

Vertigo and Alien

La La Land and Boyhood

Trainspotting and This Is England

Component 2

City of God and Pan's Labyrinth

Amy

Sunrise

Cleo from 5 to 7

Component 3 - Coursework

This component assesses one production and its evaluative analysis.

ASSESSMENT

You will produce:

- Either a short film (four - five minutes) or a screenplay for a short film (1600 – 1800 words) plus a digitally photographed storyboard of a key section
- An evaluative analysis.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

The academic study of film allows you to develop critical, analytical and research skills which can be transferred into any employment.

PLEASE NOTE

You must enjoy a wide variety of films from a broad range of genres and styles.



"Film Studies enables you to study stories that aren't your stereotypical blockbuster, allowing you to broaden your tastes in films and analyse and explore a variety of interesting and unique approaches to filmmaking."

CHARLOTTE, FILM STUDIES AMBASSADOR

French

EXAM BOARD

AQA.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 7+ in French in the Higher Tier.

ABOUT THE COURSE

The benefits of learning any language are profound. As well as gaining the ability to write and converse in a foreign tongue, you also learn about the structure of language, syntax and grammar and how these interact with your own language. Proficiency in French will broaden your cultural horizons and enhance your cultural opportunities.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Social issues and trends

Aspects of French-speaking society

Political and artistic culture

Artistic culture in the French-speaking world

Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world.

ASSESSMENT

There are three components:

Component 1 Listening, Reading and Writing Paper

Component 2 Essay (the study of one book and one film)

Component 3 Speaking Exam.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Proficiency in another language
- The ability to think critically and reflect about contemporary and historical social issues from an international perspective
- The ability to debate and appreciate different opinions
- The ability to understand different approaches to life and different cultures

PLEASE NOTE

Other opportunities available are:

- 1:1 conversations with a native French speaker
- Visit to a conference in Paris on living, working and studying in the EU.



"Studying French at A Level allows you to learn more about many aspects of life within French culture, whilst learning to be more fluid in speaking the language. It provides you an insight into French culture, and how it differs from our own."

LUCA, FRENCH AMBASSADOR

Geography

EXAM BOARD

AQA.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 5+ in English and GCSE grade 5+ in Geography.

ABOUT THE COURSE

More and more students are taking this subject at A level, due to geography being a subject for our times.

Geographers learn data analysis, they learn about Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and how they can turn maps from a 2D representation of a country's physical contours into a tool that illustrates social attributes or attitudes: not just where people live, but how, what they think and how they vote.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Paper 1 - Physical Geography, Water & Carbon Cycles, Hot Deserts & Ecosystems under stress (40%)

Paper 2 - Global Systems and Governance, Changing Places and Population (40%)

Coursework, Independent Investigation

(20%) (where fieldwork includes a four day trip).

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1 - two hours 30 minutes (120 marks).

Paper 2 - two hours 30 minutes (120 marks).

Coursework, Independent investigation (60 marks).

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- ICT and numeracy skills
- Problem solving and working with others
- The ability to think, reflect and communicate
- Studying outside the classroom: four days compulsory fieldwork.

PLEASE NOTE

Other opportunities include;

- Lectures and conferences
- Trip to Iceland.



"Taking A Level Geography has allowed me to understand the world, whether it is learning about the ecosystems of the Amazon Rainforest

or the bustling metropolises of Asia. The coursework element of Geography has enabled me to research a part of the specification I like in depth which has allowed me to be more independent."

HEMMANTH, GEOGRAPHY AMBASSADOR

German

EXAM BOARD

AQA.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 6+ in German in the Higher Tier.

ABOUT THE COURSE

Proficiency in German is a valuable asset in any career especially since Germany has the largest economy in Europe and it is the most widely spoken language in Europe. Studying German will broaden your cultural and historical knowledge, develop your mind, and of course, enhance your linguistic skills, as our lessons are very interactive.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

An award winning film called The Lives of Others

Aspects of German-speaking society, including digitalisation and the family Multiculturalism in German-speaking society

A timeless, tragic, comedy play called The Visit

Aspects of political life in the German-speaking world

Germany since reunification

German music and architecture.

ASSESSMENT

There are three components:

Component 1 - Listening, Reading and Writing Paper 50%

Component 2 - Essay Paper (the study of one book, one film) 20%

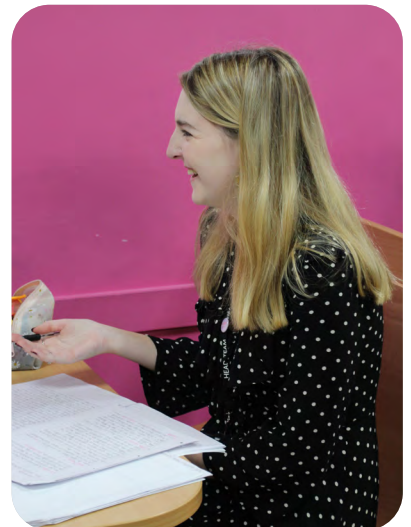
Component 3 - Speaking Exam 30%

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- The ability to think critically and reflect about contemporary and historical social issues, from an international perspective
- The ability to appreciate many sides of an argument
- The ability to understand a different approach to life and a different culture
- Proficiency in another language
- The ability to research a topic of interest independently and develop clear opinions, backed up by evidence

PLEASE NOTE

- Other opportunities available are: Visits to the British Film Institute's seminars to view and discuss German films
- Berlin trip/Christmas Market trip.



History

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 6+ in English or GCSE grade 6+ in History.

ABOUT THE COURSE

History affects all of our lives. It is a well respected academic subject and useful to study as it helps build skills of analysis, evaluation, explanation and interpretation. History will enable you to study the past and to make judgements about key events. It is important that you have an enquiring mind, an interest in the past and its relevance to current affairs and the ability to communicate your ideas effectively.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Paper 1 - The American dream: USA 1917-1996

Paper 2 - Indian Independence

Paper 3 - The Tudors

Coursework - Historical Interpretation

ASSESSMENT

The course is assessed with three exams at the end of Year 13, which include both source analysis and essay questions. There is also a coursework essay that counts towards the final grade.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- The ability to interpret a range of historical sources
- The ability to assess information and make an informed judgement
- The ability to write a formal essay, supported by relevant historical examples
- The ability to argue and debate controversial issues

PLEASE NOTE

You will be expected to complete wider reading as part of your study to ensure your contextual historical knowledge is strong.



"Choosing History at A Level allows you to develop a variety of skills that other subjects cannot. History has helped me with critical thinking, whilst also expanding my knowledge of Tudor England and the Indian Independence. It is also a highly respected subject, perfect for university applications."

PHOEBE, HISTORY AMBASSADOR

Mathematics

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 7+ in Maths.

ABOUT THE COURSE

This is a highly demanding course and for those who have a conscientious attitude and the desire to work independently. All students take an entry exam in the first week to confirm their suitability for the course and students will be able to download a study pack during the summer to help prepare themselves for this.

It is vital that students have a hardworking attitude to succeed on this course as the content is much more demanding than at GCSE and the pace is relatively quick.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Pure Maths: Algebra and graphs, calculus, sequences and series, trigonometry and radian measure.

Statistics: Analysing large data sets, probability, the binomial and normal distributions.

Mechanics: Force, acceleration, friction and more.

ASSESSMENT

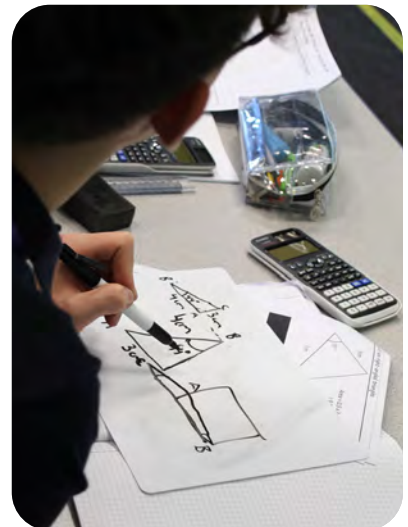
There will be an internal assessment at the end of Year 12. Students are assessed by three examinations at the end of Year 13. Each of these are two hours long. Papers 1 and 2 will contain only Pure Maths content. Paper 3 will contain a mixture of Mechanics and Statistics.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- A wide range of mathematical techniques used in maths, science and engineering degrees
- Experience of thinking creatively when faced with new and unusual problems
- A rigorous approach to communicating mathematically

PLEASE NOTE

Due to the difficult nature of this course, we strongly advise work to be done in the holidays before the course begins. This will be available on the website.



"A Level Maths allows for many career opportunities and challenges you to solve problems whilst developing skills. The teachers provide support and help to keep on top of the workload."

NAIRAH, MATHS AMBASSADOR



Further Mathematics

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 7+ in Maths.

ABOUT THE COURSE

Further Maths is a course that not only requires a great deal of application but also a real desire to study some challenging mathematics. It is held in very high regard by all universities and can prove to be a great differentiator when applying to the most prestigious ones.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Pure Maths: Matrices, complex number analysis and proof, conics, vectors

Mechanics: Work and energy, elasticity and collisions.

ASSESSMENT

There will be four papers at the end of Year 13. Three of these will be on Pure Maths, the final one on Mechanics. They are all 90 minutes long.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

A broad exposure to extended problem solving. This is the primary skill that the best universities are looking for in their undergraduate mathematicians and we focus on it when dealing with the different topics on the course.

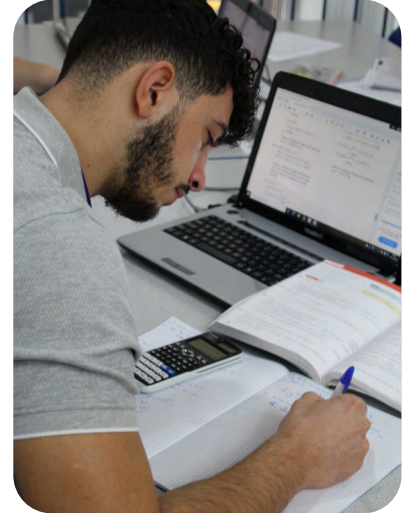
CAREER PATHS

Students who are considering taking degrees with significant mathematical content, such as engineering, software development, and any of the sciences will benefit greatly from taking Further Maths.

Employers are looking for people who can think logically, analyse a situation rigorously and then make rational decisions on the basis of their conclusions. Further Maths will help with all of these transferable skills.

PLEASE NOTE

Further Mathematics can only be taken by students also studying the A Level in Mathematics.



"Maths provides me with a number of challenges. I enjoy always thinking about the next step, solving problems and using my skills to work out which formula or equation to use in order to get the correct answer."

ARIYAN, FURTHER MATHS AMBASSADOR

Media Studies

EXAM BOARD

OCR.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE 6+ in English and 6+ Media Studies if taken.

ABOUT THE COURSE

A Level Media Studies introduces learners to the role and influence of the media. The main focus of the course is the media today, both nationally and globally. In order to fully understand the fast moving pace of the media industry, students will be required to study the broader history of the media and its impact socially, politically, culturally and economically within domestic and global spheres. Students will complete a practical project.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

The key theoretical frameworks – media language, representation, audience, industries and contexts.

Theoretical Perspectives of Media Studies
News and Online Media
Magazines, Advertising & Marketing and Music Videos
Radio, Video Games and Film Industries

Long Form Television Drama
Learners will create a cross-media product in response to a set brief.

ASSESSMENT

There are three components:

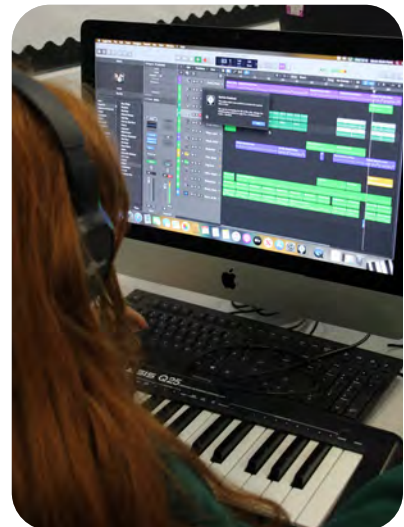
- Component 1** - Media Messages – Written Paper, 35% of total A Level
- Component 2** - Evolving Media – Written Paper, 35% of total A Level
- Component 3** - Making Media – Non Exam Assessment, 30% of total A Level.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Analyse critically and compare media products
- Use and critically reflect upon a range of complex theories
- Debate key questions relating to contexts of media through sustained writing
- Apply and develop their understanding through both analysing and producing media products.

PLEASE NOTE

We offer Media as an A Level and a vocational course.



"Media allows you to understand the importance it has in our society. It teaches you how to work effectively as a team and form collaborative ideas. It helps you to understand the significance of each media sector from film, music and TV."

JESS, MEDIA STUDIES AMBASSADOR

Philosophy, Religion & Ethics

EXAM BOARD

AQA.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 5+ in English and GCSE grade 5+ in Religious Education if taken.

ABOUT THE COURSE

Philosophy is the search for the solutions to questions that other subjects cannot answer: Why are we here? What is the purpose of life? Why is there suffering in the world?

Ethics is concerned with right and wrong; whether it be for you, as an individual, or the whole world. What are the rules that help us make choices between good and evil? Is murder ever justified? What's more important: the act or the outcome?

By choosing Philosophy, Religion & Ethics, you will be joining the oldest family of academic studies in the world and begin to unlock the secrets to existence.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Arguments for the existence of God
Evil and Suffering
Religious Experience and Language
Miracles and Afterlife
Free Will and Moral Responsibility
Conscience
Deontological and Teleological Ethics
Applied Ethics.

ASSESSMENT

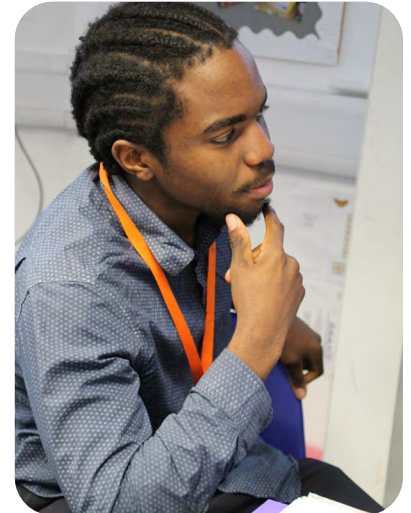
Two three hour exam papers

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Verbal Communication skills
- Academic written communication skills
- Analysis
- Critical thinking

PLEASE NOTE

This subject will teach you to think clearly and logically and to make well balanced and reasoned judgements. It has one of the fastest growing uptakes and Oxbridge favour it as a rigorous academic option subject.



“ ”

**JOSHUA, PHILOSOPHY,
RELIGION & ETHICS
AMBASSADOR**

Photography

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 4+ in English.

ABOUT THE COURSE

Are you imaginative, creative, self-motivated and have a desire to produce exciting photographs?

If you choose Photography A Level we will help you to develop your visual, analytical and practical skills, to produce original photographs of the things that inspire you in the world around you. These skills are also valuable to numerous employers or in many careers that are unrelated to art and design.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Component 1 - Coursework

Component 2 - Exam

ASSESSMENT

Coursework and the Exam module are assessed under the same criteria. There is also a personal study (contextual essay) which makes up 18 of the 90 marks on offer for coursework. The coursework makes up 60% of the

overall mark with the exam unit (which consists of exploring a theme over a period of approximately 15 – 18 weeks and creating a final piece in exam conditions over 15 hours) making up 40% of the overall marks.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- The ability to think creatively and develop original ideas
- Develop a deeper knowledge of how to use Digital SLR cameras with a range of lenses and equipment
- How to process images in the darkroom
- Develop a deeper knowledge of how to edit images using Photoshop
- How to use lighting in the photographic studio creatively

PLEASE NOTE

Other opportunities available are:

- Visits to a variety of art galleries
- Use of the IT and photo studio
- Display your own work in an exhibition in the local community.



“Photography has opened my mind to new possible horizons such as expanding my creative knowledge. I have really enjoyed studying

photography and the teachers have been very supportive.”

KATRINA, PHOTOGRAPHY AMBASSADOR

Physical Education

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 5+ in English and Science and GCSE grade 5+ in PE if taken you must also be training and competing regularly in one sport.

ABOUT THE COURSE

Physical Education is a relevant and interesting subject for anyone with an interest in sport. It is an exciting course which broadens your understanding of sport on a number of different levels. You will develop your knowledge and understanding of the human body and how it reacts to the demands of sport. You will develop an understanding of skill acquisition and the psychology of sport and a knowledge of the historical development and contemporary issues facing modern day sport.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Component 1 - Scientific principles of PE

Component 2 - Psychological and social principles of PE

Component 3 - Practical performance

Component 4 - Performance analysis and personal development programme.

ASSESSMENT

Component 1 and 2 will be assessed through written examinations (70%).

Component 3 will involve a practical moderation and the completion of two pieces of written coursework (30%).

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Evaluation
- Discussion
- Analysis
- Planning

PLEASE NOTE

You will need to be playing one sport regularly at club level and you will be assessed in this environment.



"Through studying A Level PE, I have broadened my knowledge of the human anatomy as well as my understanding of the

psychological and societal impact on sport. The techniques learnt will further benefit my future at university and throughout my career."

JEDD, PHYSICAL EDUCATION AMBASSADOR

Physics

EXAM BOARD

OCR.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 6 in Combined Science plus Physics and GCSE grade 6+ in Maths and GCSE grade 4+ in English

ABOUT THE COURSE

Discoveries in Physics over the last century have revolutionised not only how we live but also how we think about the world around us. This course encompasses everything, from the smallest, briefest sub-atomic particles to structures composed of galaxies spanning light years and the history of the Universe.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Foundations in Physics - Measuring and analysing data

Forces and Motion - Forces in action, Materials for engineering, Newton's Laws of Motion

Electrons, Waves and Photons - Charge, current and circuits, Wave phenomena, Quantum Physics

Newtonian World and Astrophysics

- Thermal Physics, Oscillations and circular motion, Astrophysics and Cosmology

Particles and Medical Physics -

Capacitors, Electromagnetism, Nuclear Physics and Radiation, Medical Imaging.

ASSESSMENT

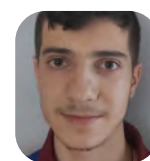
Three exams at the end of Year 13 will decide the final grade. Practical work is assessed in the final exam and counts towards the practical endorsement.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Excellent numeracy skills
- Practical investigatory skills
- Researching physics phenomena
- Organisation and problem solving

PLEASE NOTE

Many people ask about doing Mathematics with Physics. Whilst not necessary, you will need very good maths skills to thrive in Physics. The level of maths used in Year 12 is GCSE; there are some new mathematical ideas in Year 13.



"Physics is an interesting subject where practicals are linked to real world problems and we can relate it back to what we do in lessons. Physics is

also a well-respected subject that can lead and benefit you when studying a university course. Physics is the bridge that links Mathematics to real-world problems."

BURAK, PHYSICS AMBASSADOR

Politics

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 5+ in English.

ABOUT THE COURSE

In this subject you will learn all about the British political system, how it works, who has 'the power' and whether this is the fairest system of government. The course asks that you are interested in politics or are at least curious. The lessons are engaging and involve debates, newspaper analysis, ICT, quizzes and student presentations. The subject works well with History, Law, Media Studies, Sociology, Business Studies and English. Politics is also a respected subject at university.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Component 1 - UK Government and Core Political Ideas

Component 2 - UK Government

Component 3 - Comparative Politics: US Politics.

ASSESSMENT

There are three exams at the end of Year 13, covering the three components covered throughout the course. The exams are essay based.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- The ability to argue a case
- Present information in a logical way
- Express your opinion in a supported way
- Understand current affairs and what is going on in the world.

PLEASE NOTE

Other opportunities available are:

- Year 12 visit the Houses of Parliament for a guided tour
- Political conferences
- Our local MP often visits the class for a Q&A session.



"Politics enhances my knowledge on current affairs and has helped me develop my ability to write essays and think critically."

NICOLE, POLITICS AMBASSADOR

Psychology

EXAM BOARD

AQA.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 5+ in English and Maths.

ABOUT THE COURSE

Why are 65% of the population willing to give what they think are lethal electric shocks to innocent people when told to do so? Why is somebody in a room with a mirror less likely to pick up and pocket a £20 note lying on the floor than somebody in a room without a mirror? Why, if four people stand on the pavement and look skywards, do others join them and also look upwards, but if only one person does then no one else joins in? Psychology is the study of the human mind and behaviour. A level Psychology is a stimulating subject that will help you to understand not only why we all behave so differently, but also why so often we behave so predictably.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Paper 1 - Introductory Topics in

Psychology

Paper 2 - Psychology in Context

Paper 3 - Issues and Options in Psychology.

ASSESSMENT

The course is assessed through three two hour examination papers in Year 13. Each paper, of roughly equal weighting, contains a mixture of short answer and extended writing questions.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

Psychology is a practical, research based subject, grounded in scientific method. You will develop skills of literacy, numeracy, application, analysis, evaluation and critical thinking. You will learn quantitative and qualitative research skills and develop a good grasp of statistics.

PLEASE NOTE

Psychology is a Science subject and lends itself to other STEM subjects and Sociology. Enrichment includes: Psychology Society, Social Science Clinic and trips.



"Studying A Level Psychology helps us dive into a deeper understanding of life. Combining all social sciences, Psychology is an interesting subject that helps you gain skills such as debated, critical thinking, basic mathematics and essay writing."

POPPY, PSYCHOLOGY AMBASSADOR

Sociology

EXAM BOARD

AQA.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 5+ in English.

ABOUT THE COURSE

How are relationships, bullying and 'screen time' associated with children's well-being? Is the media the 'dark web' responsible for increases in crime? Why do most of the top jobs in society go to students who have been educated at private schools and Oxbridge? Sociology is the systematic study of society and human behaviour. Sociology is an exciting and lively subject. It encourages you to question some of the ways in which society is organised and to realise that things are not always what they seem.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Paper 1 - Education with Theory and Methods

Paper 2 - Topics in Sociology

Paper 3 - Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

ASSESSMENT

The course is assessed through three two hour examination papers at the end of Year 13. Each paper is of equal weighting and contains a mixture of short answer and extended writing questions.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

Sociology is a research based subject, grounded in scientific and non-scientific method. You will develop skills of literacy, numeracy, application, analysis, evaluation and critical thinking. You will learn quantitative and qualitative research skills.

PLEASE NOTE

Sociology supports other Social Science subjects such as Psychology. Enrichment includes: Social Science Clinic, trips and conferences.



"A Level Sociology not only helps students develop their essay writing skills but also offers a deep insight into various issues and debates within society, or even the wider world, from the education system within the country to the change in childhood experiences in both the East and West. This not only enables students to understand more about society before creating constructive arguments but also deepens their analytical and critical thinking skills."

ALLISON, SOCIOLOGY AMBASSADOR

Spanish

EXAM BOARD

AQA.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 6+ in Spanish.

ABOUT THE COURSE

The benefits of learning any language are profound. As well as gaining the ability to write and converse in a foreign tongue, you also learn about the structure of language, syntax and grammar and how these interact with your own language.

The particular benefits of learning Spanish over any other language are numerous. Spanish is widely spoken across Central and South America and Europe.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Social Issues and Trends

Aspects of Hispanic Society

Multiculturalism in Hispanic Society

Artistic Culture in the Hispanic World

Aspects of Political Life in the Hispanic World

ASSESSMENT

There are three components:

Component 1- Listening, Reading and Writing Paper

Component 2 - Essay (the study of one book and one film)

Component 3 - Speaking Exam.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Proficiency in another language
- The ability to think critically and reflect about contemporary and historical social issues from an international perspective
- The ability to debate and appreciate different opinions
- The ability to understand different approaches to life and different cultures

PLEASE NOTE

Other opportunities available are:

- Lessons with native teachers
- Visits to the 'Instituto Cervantes', exploring the opportunities for studying Spanish at further education.



"Learning the Spanish language allows you to discover the culture, diversity and traditions within Hispanic history.

Apart from all the engaging aspects of learning, knowing and studying any language increased the changes of attracting future employers and benefitting your personal statement and CV. Languages highlight your ability to learn a new language and communications skills."

HANA, SPANISH AMBASSADOR



EXTENDED PROJECT

Extended Project

EXAM BOARD

AQA.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Selected students will be invited to take this course based on their GCSE results.

ABOUT THE COURSE

This AS qualification is available to selected students only. The specification allows each student to embark on a self-directed project with teacher supervision. Students start by taking responsibility for choice and design of an individual project and learn to:

- Become critical, reflective and independent learners
- Increase planning, research, analysis, evaluation and presentation skills
- Required Evidence
- Project product in the form of a research report, production or artefact
- Written report

- Presentation of completed project
- Completed production log (diary of EPQ journey).

PLEASE NOTE

EPQ is completed during Year 13 and this qualification counts towards UCAS points and is recognised by universities.



VOCATIONAL COURSES

Vocational Courses

Within the Sixth Form we offer a range of vocational courses across 14 different subject areas. Vocational qualifications are assessed differently to A Levels as they have a particular focus on regular coursework assessment as well as exams. They are all Level 3 qualifications.

FAQS

Q: What is the difference between a CTEC/BTEC/WJEC qualification?

A: The only difference between these qualifications are their examining boards.
BTEC: Business and Technology Education Council

CTEC: Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate

WJEC: Welsh Joint Education Committee

Q: Do vocational courses have exams?

A: Yes – All vocational courses have compulsory exam units alongside coursework.

Q: How do I know if I should chose A Levels or vocational courses?

A: Vocational courses are great for students who thrive at coursework and who may

find exams more challenging.

Q: Can I go to University if I do vocational courses?

A: Yes! Most Universities do accept vocational subjects, but certain universities or courses will state if they do not accept these qualifications.

Q: Are vocational courses and A Levels seen as equivalent?

A: Vocational courses and A Levels are recognised as the same and are worth the same UCAS tariff points when coming to apply for university.

Applied Science

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students must have achieved 5 GCSEs (or vocational courses) at grade 9-4 including a 4+ in GCSE English and Maths and 4:4 in Combined Science.

ABOUT THE COURSE

This is an exciting vocational course which has portfolio based assessments with a limited amount of exams, covering a wide variety of scientific subjects. The Extended Certificate is the equivalent of one A Level and the Diploma is the equivalent of two. They are both two year courses.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Certificate:

Unit 1 - Principles and Applications of Science I

Unit 2 - Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques

Unit 3 - Science Investigation Skills

Unit 9 - Human Regulation and Reproduction

Diploma:

Unit 4 - Laboratory Techniques and their Application

Unit 5 - Principles and Applications of Science II

Unit 6 - Investigative project

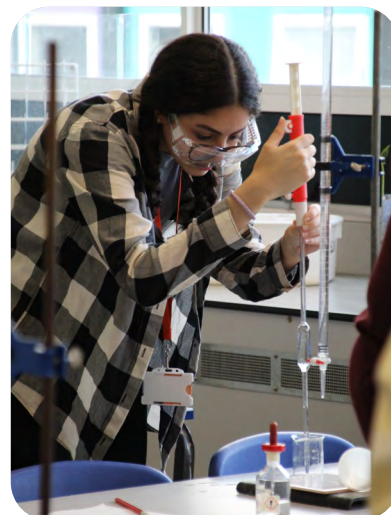
Unit 15 - Electrical Circuits and their Applications.

ASSESSMENT

The course is assessed by a mixture of exams, internal assessments and practical based assessment.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

This course allows students to gain organisational and time management skills needed for university or the workplace. It also allows students to gain the practical skills required for employment or work in a university laboratory, something required for many jobs and courses. As there are internally assessed components it also builds up a student's ability to plan for deadlines as well as consolidate an understanding of the academic aspect of the subject.



"The course is very similar to GCSE science as you study a combination of Chemistry, Biology and Physics. There is an interesting coursework section which means you have less exam revision."

TREVIN, APPLIED SCIENCE AMBASSADOR

Business

EXAM BOARD

OCR.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students must have achieved 5 GCSEs (or vocational courses) at grade 9-4 including a 4+ in GCSE English or Maths.

ABOUT THE COURSE

On this two year course students will gain an understanding of key aspects of business that impact consumers and society every day. This course is the equivalent to an A Level and is held in high regard by employers, FE colleges and Universities alike. The course provides students with an understanding of the wider external contexts in which businesses operate and of internal business functions and their interdependencies. Students will appreciate how legal, financial, ethical and resource constraints can effect business behaviour and the influence that different stakeholders can have and how businesses must respond. The subject lends itself to all types of learners and is a mix of

independent study, teacher led activities and group projects.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Unit 1 - The Business Environment

Unit 2 - Working in Business

Unit 4 - Customers and Communication

Unit 5 - Marketing and Market Research

Unit 8 - Introduction to Human Resources.

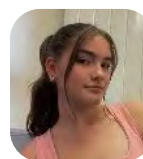
ASSESSMENT

Exam Units 1 and 2.

Internal coursework Units 4, 5 and 8.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Financial record keeping
- Analytical skills as students on this course are taught to break concepts down in order to make usable business decisions
- Strategic Decision Making.



"Choosing CTEC Business has allowed me to build on my time management skills to ensure I meet deadlines. It has also allowed me to have a deep understanding on creating my own business. I would highly recommend this subject to anyone looking for a coursework-based subject."

EVIE, BUSINESS AMBASSADOR

Computing

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students must have achieved 5 GCSEs (or vocational courses) at grade 9-4 including a 4+ in GCSE English or Maths plus Computer Science GCSE grade 4+.

ABOUT THE COURSE

This qualification is designed to support students who are interested in learning about the computing sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in the computing sector.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Mandatory

Unit 1 - Principles of Computer Science

Unit 2 - Fundamentals of Computer Systems

Unit 7 - IT Systems Security and Encryption

Optional

Unit 14 - Computer Games Development.

ASSESSMENT

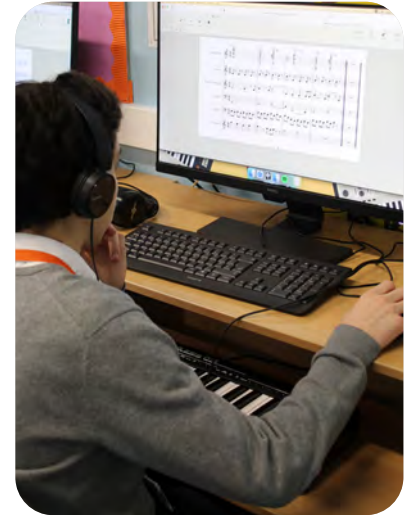
Unit 1 – two hour examination. Students are assessed on their ability to apply their computational-thinking skills to solve problems.

Unit 2 – one hour 45 minute examination. Students are assessed on their knowledge and understanding of how computer systems work.

Unit 7 and the additional optional unit are internally assessed assignments.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Development of computational thinking skills to solve problems
- Understanding the features and concepts of effective computer programming
- Understanding the fundamental principles of how computer systems work.



Criminology

EXAM BOARD

WJEC.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students must have achieved 5 GCSEs (or vocational courses) at grade 9-4 including a 4+ in GCSE English.

ABOUT THE COURSE

An understanding of criminology is relevant to many job roles within the criminal justice sector, social and probation work in addition to sociology and psychology. The course has been designed to encourage students to succeed through the acquisition of knowledge and understanding in purposeful contexts linked to the criminal justice system.

Criminology supports other subjects such as Sociology and Psychology. Enrichment includes social science clinics as well as trips and conferences.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

You will study different types of crime, influences on perceptions of crime and why some crimes are unreported, gain an understanding of why people commit

crime and develop an understanding of the criminal justice system from the moment a crime has been identified to the verdict. Learners will apply their understanding of the awareness of criminality, criminological theories and the process of bringing an accused to court in order to evaluate the effectiveness of social control to deliver criminal justice policy.

ASSESSMENT

The final grade awarded will range from an A* – E. The course is assessed both internally through assignments and external examinations.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Research skills
- Critical thinking
- Analysis and evaluation skills



"Studying Criminology has allowed me to study the different types of crimes and how they are handled and dealt with within the UK justice

system. It has allowed me to understand why crimes occur and the reasons behind them."

SHANIA, CRIMINOLOGY AMBASSADOR



Digital Media

EXAM BOARD

OCR.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students must have achieved 5 GCSEs (or vocational courses) at grade 9-4 including a 4+ in GCSE English.

ABOUT THE COURSE

Our Digital Media course provides an exploration into the role of digital media in our society, as well as considering how sectors of the industry work together. The course focuses both on practical and theoretical skills, much sought after in the media industry. With digital media becoming more and more prominent, we believe students should understand and question what they see in the world around them.

Students complete a range of tasks that will allow for achievement through to Distinction*, which is equivalent to gaining an A at A Level and provides the same UCAS points.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

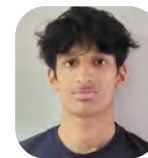
Media products and audiences
Pre-production and planning
Create a media product
Advertising media
Plan and deliver a pitch for a media product
Cross-media industry awareness.

ASSESSMENT

There will be an external exam in both Year 12 and Year 13 which will account for 50% of the course. The remaining units will be internally assessed through a mixture of practical and theoretical assignments.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- The ability to research, plan and develop a range of media products for different audiences and purposes
- Planning and pre-production skills for digital media production
- Experience of handling industry equipment such as camera and editing software.



"Media helps with camera work and marketing, whilst giving you a better understanding of the world around us, in which technology is always growing and developing. I would recommend other students to study digital media as it is an engaging and really enjoyable subject."

SHAOOR, DIGITAL MEDIA AMBASSADOR

Food Science and Nutrition

EXAM BOARD

WJEC.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students must have achieved 5 GCSEs (or vocational courses) at grade 9-4 including a 4+ in GCSE English.

ABOUT THE COURSE

An exciting course which will allow students to learn about the relationship between the human body and food as well as developing practical skills linked to experimental work and the cooking and preparation of food.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

The qualification will be delivered over two years and is made up of three units:

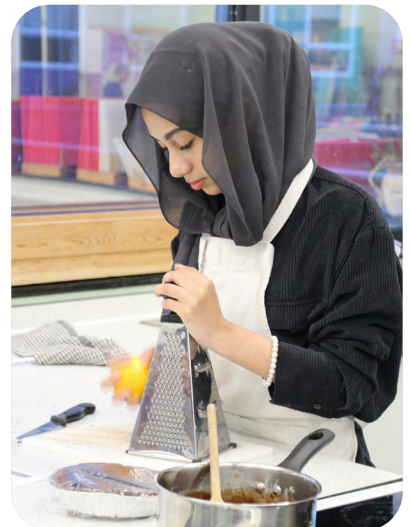
Meeting the Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups
Ensuring Food is Safe to Eat
Experimenting to Solve Food Production OR
Current Issues in Food Science and Nutrition.

ASSESSMENT

The WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition is assessed through a combination of a written exam and external assignment set and marked by WJEC and two centre marked assignments. Students will be involved in weekly practical sessions and will build on the skills and knowledge developed at GCSE Level.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Knowledge of Food Science
- Knowledge of Nutrition
- Practical skills in food preparation for example filleting fish and deboning chicken
- Presentation skills
- Investigation and research skills.



"This course has allowed me to express my passion and creativity for food in various forms. It has also provided me with a lot of cooking experiences and catering skills which will open multiple doors for me in my future."

TARUN, FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION AMBASSADOR

Health and Social Care

EXAM BOARD

OCR.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students must have achieved 5 GCSEs (or vocational courses) at grade 9-4 including a 4+ in GCSE English or Maths.

ABOUT THE COURSE

The OCR Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate (CTEC) has great potential for all students who have an interest in working with people in any environment as the key topics are easily transferable to a wide range of employment opportunities. Full UCAS points are awarded.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Mandatory

Building Positive Relationships in

Health & Social Care

Equality, Diversity and Rights in

Health & Social Care

Health, Safety and Security in

Health & Social Care

Anatomy and Physiology for

Health & Social Care

Optional

Two to be completed from the following list of Optional Units:

Infection Control

Nutrition for Health

Sexual Health, Reproduction and Early Development Stages

The Impact of Long-Term Physiological Conditions

Psychology for Health and Social Care

Sociology for Health and Social Care

Public Health

Supporting people with mental health conditions.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment requirements are divided equally between externally set examinations and internally assessed, externally moderated evidence.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Research skills and the effective use of information
- Ability to apply knowledge to a range of situations
- Interpersonal skills – self-management, communicating and working with others
- Problem solving skills



"Studying Health and Social Care has broadened my understanding of how people build relationships and the impact key workers have on society. I am excited to pursue a career in healthcare."

**ANOUSKA, HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
AMBASSADOR**

Information Technology

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students must have achieved 5 GCSEs (or vocational courses) at grade 9-4 including a 4+ in GCSE English or Maths.

ABOUT THE COURSE

From smartphones and Wifi, to hashtags and instant messaging: over the last 20 years technology has dramatically changed the way in which we live and communicate. Does your interest in technology extend beyond the hardware? Are you curious about how digital information is spread? Maybe you just want to know more about computers and how, when and why people use them? If so, ICT is the course for you. This qualification aims to develop your knowledge, understanding and skills of the principles of IT and Global Information Systems. Students will gain an insight into the IT sector as they investigate the pace of technological change, and the flow of information on a global scale,

and the importance of legal and security considerations.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Mandatory Units

Unit 1 - Information Technology Systems

Unit 2 - Creating Systems to Manage Information

Unit 3 - Using Social Media in Business

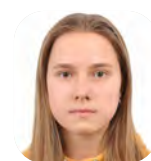
Unit 6 - Website Development

ASSESSMENT

One written external examination and one controlled assessment task plus two internally assessed assignments.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

You will develop practical skills for database security and networks. Plus, ICT is great at helping you build project management and numeracy skills, and it will also encourage you to think logically in order to solve problems. You will also gain a range of generic skills guides covering topics such as Communication, Research Skills and Exam Techniques.



"IT is one of my favourite subjects. While studying IT, I gained many new skills which I will be able to use within my career within the future.

In particular the techniques learned creating, developing and designing a website."

**YULIA, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
AMBASSADOR**

Music Performance

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students must have achieved 5 GCSEs (or vocational courses) at grade 9-4 including a 4+ in GCSE English or Maths.

ABOUT THE COURSE

Always got your headphones blasting out some music? LOVE discovering new music to listen to? Got a song for every occasion on your play lists? Get a buzz from performing? If yes, you will thrive studying Music in the Sixth Form. This course is the equivalent to one A Level. Make sure you are ready to expand your musical ear, be prepared to be taken out of your comfort zone and make a start at becoming a great musician.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

The programme covers a wide area of study in music with a focus on four units of work. These include composing music, understanding how the industry works as well as performing to a high standard in both group and solo work.

Prepare yourself for studying the following aspects of music:

A variety of musical genres, not just the ones you are used to performing in now

Performing as a soloist and as a member of a group

Musical theory - reading music and understanding key words eg: chords, sharps, flats, naturals, key signatures, time signatures, melody, harmony, note values, treble and bass clef

Composing your own music in a variety of styles and instruments.

ASSESSMENT

Four units over two years. Two internally assessed, two external.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Music genre knowledge
- Solo and group performance skills
- Music theory
- Music industry understanding
- Knowledge of various Digital Audio Workstations.



"Music performance is a very engaging and interactive course that allows you to develop your musical brain through composition and performance. It gives you the opportunity to learn new instruments, how to play within an ensemble, as well as opportunities to take part in school-related events."

NIKESHA, MUSIC PERFORMANCE STUDENT



Music Technology

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students must have achieved 5 GCSEs (or vocational courses) at grade 9-4 including a 4+ in GCSE English or Maths.

ABOUT THE COURSE

Technology and its place within music, has of late become more integral and in itself, an innovative instrument and new skill. During this course you will develop your already grounded knowledge of music and apply that in a technological medium. The techniques and knowledge you will learn throughout this course provide you with the skill set required to create, record, mix and lastly publish your own music through Cubase, Logic Pro X and Noteflight Digital Audio Workstations.

This is a BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Sound Engineering and is the equivalent to one A Level.

Students must have previous music experience to enrol onto this course.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Advanced Cubase and Logic Pro X programming skills related to recording and sequencing

Live recording techniques using

industry standard studio equipment

Original composition and arranging in Noteflight

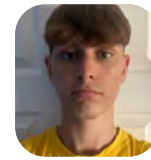
Audiology.

ASSESSMENT

Five units over two years. Three internally assessed, two external.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Knowledge of various digital audio workstations (DAW)
- Live recording skills
- Live playing skills
- Audio and production management
- Theoretical knowledge
- Music theory
- Understanding of Audiology



"The Music Technology course here is bound to unlock your creative brain to its fullest potential, learning to master your craft on Logic Pro, as well as how to effectively set up equipment in the studio and a live setting! It gives you great experiences in using the school's studio with professional standard equipment unlike any other school, teaching for live events such as school musicals and concerts, as well as being able to visit venues and studios - and you don't even need to be a musician to do the course!"

HARLEY, MUSIC TECHNOLOGY AMBASSADOR



Uniformed Protective Services

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students must have achieved 5 GCSEs (or vocational courses) at grade 9-4 including a 4+ in GCSE English or Maths.

ABOUT THE COURSE

This course is a good starting point for any students wishing to enter into a career in the Protective Services, such as the Police, Fire Service or Army. It is also relevant for students interested in further developing their leadership, teamwork and communication skills. The course is assessed via a combination of exams and coursework tasks. The extended certificate is equivalent to one A Level and is a two year course.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Unit 2 - Behaviour and Discipline in the Uniformed Protective Services

Unit 5 - Teamwork, Leadership and Communication in the Uniformed Protective Services

Unit 10 – Skills for Outdoor Activities and the Uniformed Protective Services

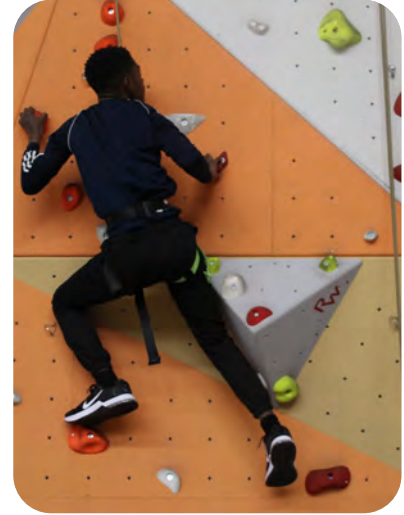
Plus one other unit.

ASSESSMENT

The course is assessed via a combination of exams and internal assessments carried out in school. It is broken down into different units, which make it more manageable when revising for exams and meeting deadlines for the coursework.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

This course allows students to gain organisational and time management skills needed for university or the workplace. It develops student's communication when working as part of a team which is a vital skill needed in any protective service. It will also develop student's leadership skills and abilities when working with individuals or in small teams. As there are internally based assessments, a student will gain skills in planning for deadlines and managing workload effectively.



"UPS is a great way to learn about discipline, teamwork and leadership skills. Learning through hands on experiences through

the coursework is an interesting way to learn, helping us to put the theory learned into practice."

MEGAN, UNIFORMED PROTECTIVE SERVICES AMBASSADOR

Sport

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students must have achieved 5 GCSEs (or vocational courses) at grade 9-4 including a 4+ in GCSE English or Maths. Please note: this course does not involve any practical activity.

ABOUT THE COURSE

This is an exciting vocational course that is recommended to those students who wish to obtain a qualification in Sport but prefer less exam pressure and a more coursework based approach to their studies. This course does not require you to have taken GCSE PE or to be participating in sport in or out of school. You will develop a knowledge of the human body, how to design fitness programmes tailored to different physical abilities as well as studying career paths within the sports sector. The extended certificate is equivalent to one A Level and is a two year course.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Unit 1 - Anatomy and Physiology

Unit 2 - Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Wellbeing

Unit 3 - Sports Industry Professional Development

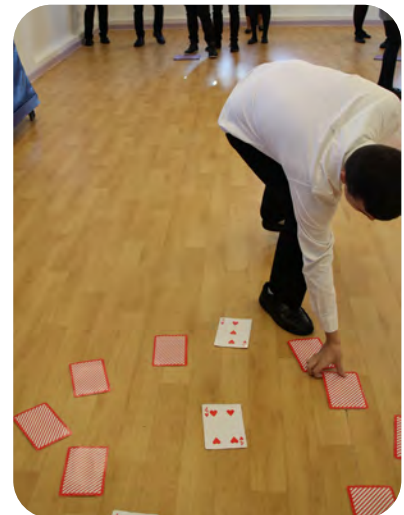
Unit 4 - Sports Leadership.

ASSESSMENT

The course is assessed via a mixture of exams and internal assessments carried out in school. It is broken down into different units, which make it more manageable when revising for exams and meeting deadlines for the coursework.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

This course allows students to gain organisational and time management skills needed for university or the workplace. It allows students to develop research skills and apply these in a practical setting, which is often needed for many jobs or courses within the health and fitness industry. You do not need to be practically strong at sport but have more of an ability to analyse performance and data related to this. As there are internally based assessments, a student will gain skills in planning for deadlines and managing workload effectively.



Travel and Tourism

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students must have achieved 5 GCSEs (or vocational courses) at grade 9-4 including a 4+ in GCSE English or Maths.

ABOUT THE COURSE

When we think of the term 'travel and tourism' different ideas spring to mind, such as holidays, excursions, flights and destinations. Making sense of these and putting them into context is an important process in the study of Travel and Tourism. This industry is huge and comes up in most students' top ten jobs. This course is designed to give students a greater understanding of the workings of the industry and is a great stepping stone to a career in travel and tourism or degree course at university.

WHAT YOU WILL STUDY

Example units

Unit 1 - The World of Travel & Tourism

Unit 2 - Global Destinations

Unit 3 - Principles of Marketing in Travel & Tourism

Unit 9 - Visitor Attractions

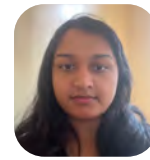
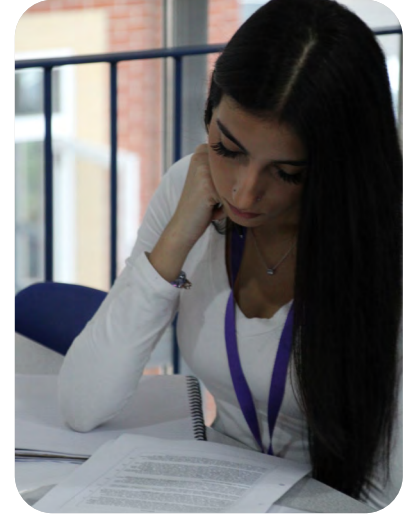
ASSESSMENT

Two externally assessed: Units 1 and 2. Unit 1 is a one and a half hour exam worth 75 marks. Unit 2 is a three hour supervised assessment worth 60 marks.

Two internally assessed: Units 3 and 9.

SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

- Communicate effectively, in a variety of situations, using a wide range of techniques
- Work well with others, individuals or teams, so that work can be properly planned and targets met
- Manage your own development, so that you are always ready to take on challenges, such as change and diversity in society
- Solve problems in a variety of situations
- Improve literacy, numeracy and ICT skills
- Increase leadership skills in a variety of situations.



"Studying Travel and Tourism has enabled me to have a deep understanding of the industry, helping me to make a career

choice related to this industry. Travel is interesting, enjoyable and is a brand-new subject I have never learned about before."

**SARANIYA , TRAVEL AND TOURISM
AMBASSADOR**



GCSE Retakes

ENGLISH GCSE

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL.

COURSE DETAILS

The English Language GCSE involves a:

- Reading examination
- Writing examination
- Speaking and listening endorsement

MATHS GCSE

EXAM BOARD

EDEXCEL.

COURSE DETAILS

We offer a GCSE Mathematics resit class for students who have a grade 3 or below at GCSE.

PLEASE NOTE

- Students must have GCSE Grade 4 in both Maths and English in order to obtain any further education qualifications
- If students have not already achieved their Grade 4 in either Maths or English GCSE, they have the opportunity to resit in Year 12 and Year 13.
- Students must already have achieved Grade 4 in either Maths or English in order to be eligible to attend Cheam High Sixth Form since they can only resit one of these subjects.
- The GCSE resit classes are for Sixth Form students only
- You will not be allowed to take any subjects in Block 4 if you need to retake either English or Mathematics GCSE.



CHOOSING YOUR COURSE

Tips for choosing the right course

- Choose a course you will enjoy, not because your friends have chosen it.
- Meet the entry requirements.
- Choose a course you will be successful at.
- Look at www.ucas.co.uk and search for any special requirements for university courses.
- Look at apprenticeship.com to see if any apprenticeships require anything specific.
- Find out all the assessment methods.
Do they fit your skills?
- Speak to subject staff or the Sixth Form Team.
- For most courses all you need is three good grades to secure a university place.
- For medicine at university some courses require an additional test eg: BMAT, LNAT, UKCAT
- All courses require a minimum of five hours study outside of lessons per week. There are NO easy Level 3 Courses!





Cheam High School

"An Outstanding School"

OFSTED 2015, 2010 & 2007

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