



ECKINGTON SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS





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The best part of sixth form is the teachers and their constant delivery of 1-1 support and feedback, which really assists in developing both your approach to studying and your overall grades.

Year 12 student

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I enjoyed all the opportunities you could get involved with, the many different trips over the years were very useful and enjoyable.

Year 12 student

WELCOME TO ECKINGTON SIXTH FORM

Whether you are joining us from another school or have been with us since Year 7, I would like to thank you for your interest in Eckington Sixth Form.



Selecting a Sixth Form is one of the most important decisions you will make after your GCSEs. At Eckington, we are proud to offer an environment where students can thrive academically, socially and personally. Our recent Ofsted inspection in March 2026 recognised that **“leaders have developed a post-16 provision that gives students a calm and purposeful place to learn”** and that **“students speak positively about their lessons and the support they receive.”**

Our success is centred on the close relationships between the Sixth Form Team, teachers and students. The Head of Sixth Form, Deputy Head of Sixth Form, a team of tutors and a Pastoral Support Assistant work together to ensure that students’ progress and wellbeing are closely monitored, with support provided whenever it is needed. Our students enjoy learning with highly experienced, supportive and caring staff who are committed to helping every individual achieve their potential.

I am enormously proud of our Sixth Form and our students. Our successful young adults are becoming increasingly influential within the school, serving as role models to younger students and playing an integral part in our wider community. Students in our Sixth Form “say they feel part of a close community” which is a vibrant and happy place for students to learn, develop and grow as individuals.

Preparing students for life beyond Sixth Form is at the heart of what we do. Alongside excellent teaching and pastoral care, students are supported to make informed choices about higher education, apprenticeships and employment.

This prospectus offers a glimpse of our rich learning environment and the wealth of opportunities available to our students.

I look forward to welcoming you to our Sixth Form in the future.

Mrs K Needham,
Associate Assistant Headteacher – Sixth Form

WHY ECKINGTON?

We have everything you need to make a success of your time in Sixth Form.

The only missing ingredient is you!

**Strong
results**

**Exciting
subjects**

**Gain
independence**

**Be
yourself**

**Beautiful
location**

**Friendly,
inclusive,
supportive**

**Support
for next
steps**

**Dedicated
Sixth Form
facilities**

**Dedicated
Sixth Form
pastoral
support**

**Supporting
aspiration**

**Excellent range
of enrichment
opportunities**

**Excellent
teaching**



Week
1



STUDENT LIFE



Eckington Sixth Form is a friendly, lively community based in its own dedicated sixth form centre. To support them with their studies, students have access to well-equipped facilities including designated sixth form classrooms and study areas with IT facilities. Some practical subjects have sixth form specific facilities to support independent work in these subjects.

We expect students to study a minimum of three and a maximum of four subjects, each with five hours' teaching per week. This should be matched with the same amount of independent learning outside the classroom.

Sixth form students have exclusive use of a common room where they can relax at break and lunchtimes. The common room has its own 'Snack Shack' and vending machines where students can buy a variety of snacks and drinks. Students also have access to our school canteen.

Communication with both our students and parents is key to success. We send a weekly bulletin to both parents/carers and students via email to keep everyone informed of key messages and information.

Support and wellbeing

Every student is allocated a personal tutor who will work with all students in their tutor group to support them and their studies. Students have the chance to have one-to-one tutorials for expert guidance and support.

Our 'Building Futures' programme enables our experienced team to support students through their time in sixth form, so that they can thrive and flourish academically, emotionally and personally.



I've made lots of great friends and enjoyed the social and extracurricular aspect of sixth form too including Student Leadership!

Year 12 student

BUILDING FUTURES

At Eckington Sixth Form, our 'building futures' programme ensures students thrive and flourish both academically and personally so that they are ready for the challenges after sixth form.

YOUR ENGAGEMENT	Sixth form students take more responsibility for their own progress and development academically, emotionally and professionally, with the support of the Sixth Form Team.
YOUR CAREER	We hold the Career Mark Gold Award for effective careers education, information, advice and guidance. We enhance our students' employability skills through a wide range of opportunities including industry mentoring, work experience, a variety of university visits and workshops, apprenticeship and career talks, workshops, our on-site careers fair, access to qualified careers advisors and engagement in opportunities provided in conjunction with Business Link, UCAS, and the National Citizenship Service (NCS). Our dedicated Employer Engagement Manager supports students with accessing industry experience and links and apprenticeship information. We guide students through the university or apprenticeship application process, including specialist support for applicants to Oxbridge and to early application courses such as medicine, dentistry and veterinary sciences.
YOUR GROWTH	The enrichment and student leadership programmes we offer allow students opportunities to explore, learn, grow and to develop the softer skills valued by employers as well as enhancing applications for university, apprenticeships and employment. • Leadership opportunities: Our student leader programme enables students to lead on whole school issues, input to departmental and school events, support younger students and coordinate the student committee. • Six For Sixth: we encourage all students to try six new cultural experiences, choosing from the numerous curriculum and year team visits, local and international trips, experiences and a wide range of extracurricular activities. • Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs): time is given to students to complete a number of MOOCs allowing them to learn about a specific subject or skill in more detail. • Extended Project Qualification (EPQ): students are supported through this course, which is highly regarded by universities and employers, and involves an independent piece of research on a topic of interest to them. • Reading and debating: we encourage students to research and discuss a range of contemporary topics and issues. They also have the opportunity to support key stage 3 students with their reading. • University programmes: our close links with both universities in Sheffield give access to regular talks and visits. In partnership with the University of Sheffield outreach programmes, students may have the opportunity to receive lower offers. We also work with the Social Mobility Foundation, the Sutton Trust and The Talent Tap to support students in attending summer schools and residential courses, regardless of their social or economic background.

YOUR TOOLKIT	Eckington Sixth Form team help our students develop good routines and practices that will enable them to cope with the demands of A-level study and allow them to be successful on their chosen pathway.
YOUR MORAL COMPASS	Students will learn about a variety of issues and topics that will affect them in the future and will hear from a range of visitors from different faiths and political parties.
YOUR BALANCE	Our sixth form community runs many events and social activities to help everyone get the most from sixth form life. These include weekly fun Fridays, the Autumn Ball, Christmas celebrations, the beach party and Leavers' Prom.



I've had a great time at sixth form and been given great support from the Sixth Form Team, especially with personal statement, interviews, and pastoral support.

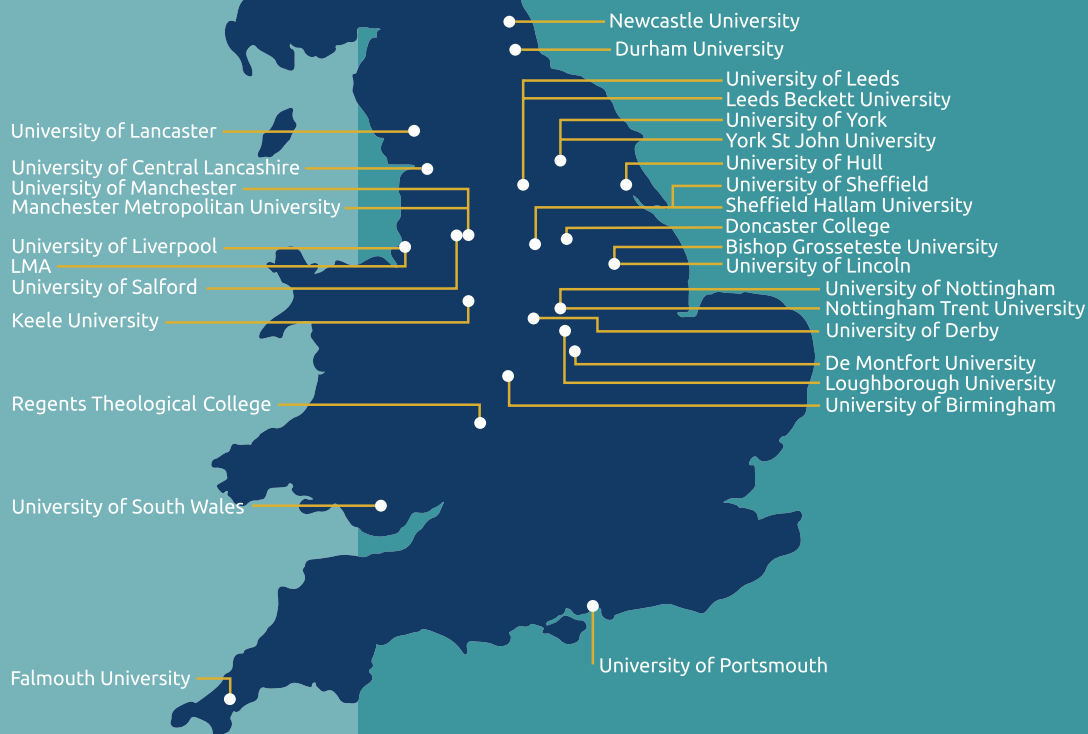
Year 12 student

DESTINATIONS

Eckington Sixth Form students progress to a wide range of destinations including apprenticeships, employment and the university destinations shown here.

I appreciate the freedom we get while also continuously being motivated by teachers to do our best and make the most of lessons and free periods.

Year 12 student



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE



The 16 to 19 bursary fund is money from the government to provide for students who need financial help to stay in education.

There are two types of 16 to 19 bursary:

1. A discretionary bursary for young people on free school meals or with a household income below the threshold.

2. A vulnerable bursary for young people in one of the following groups:

- In care.
- Care leaver.
- Receiving Income Support or Universal Credit.
- Receiving Employment Support Allowance.
- Receiving Disability Living Allowance.

Students are advised to apply for the bursary at the start of term in September, as the funding is limited. Applications can be made throughout the year if their household circumstances change; however, it is not guaranteed there will be sufficient funds. Please note that funding is not backdated and commences from the point of the application being successful. Application is via a form available to download from our website.

Further details are available at:

www.eckington.chorustrust.org/sixthformfinancialsupport



APPLY TO ECKINGTON SIXTH FORM

Entry criteria

To qualify for a place at Eckington Sixth Form, students must meet both Sixth Form and individual subject entry requirements:

- Sixth Form entry requirements: at Eckington Sixth Form there are three different pathways with the following general criteria for entry:
 - 4 A-levels: 5 subjects at grade 7 or above including English and maths (grade 5 or above).
 - 3 A-levels: 5 subjects at grade 5 or above including English and maths.
 - Level 3 vocational courses: 5 subjects at grade 4 or above including English and maths.
- Individual subject entry requirements as stipulated in the course information.

Priority access

Students who are predicted to meet the general minimum requirement for 5 subjects at grades 4 to 9 (plus any subject specific entry requirements) and who attend a school within Chorus Education Trust will get priority over other non-Eckington/Chorus students.

Students who meet the entry criteria will be offered a place at Eckington Sixth Form. If students do not meet the entry requirements for a course they have applied for, they will be offered alternatives.

Wednesday 21 October 2026
Sixth Form Open Evening:
5.30pm – 7.30pm



Friday 18 December 2026
Application deadline for Eckington
Year 11 students



Sunday 31 January 2027
Application deadline for external
applicants



**January 2027: Internal Sixth Form
Interviews**
**March 2027: External Sixth Form
Applicant Interviews**



**Tuesday 22 and Wednesday 23
June 2027**
Year 12 Induction Days



Thursday 19 August 2027
GCSE results day/enrolment
at Eckington Sixth Form



September 2027
Start at Eckington Sixth Form

TO APPLY

Eckington and Derbyshire students

Apply online at www.eckingtonsixthform.org

External Sheffield students

Apply via www.sheffieldprogress.co.uk

Scan the QR code for
details and to apply



*I have liked making new friends
and being a part of the sixth
form. I really enjoyed doing Fun
Friday and having our own area
to sit in.*

Year 12 student





COURSES

Art, Craft & Design	16
Biology	17
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Option blocks

We do not create option blocks in advance of applications, preferring instead to create the blocks around student choices. This enables us to offer the majority of students their first choice subjects.

ART, CRAFT & DESIGN

Qualification:	A-level
Awarding body:	Pearson
Course code:	9AD0
Course leader :	Miss H Partridge and Miss E Pickard
Entry requirements :	GCSE in art & design (grade 5)

Our A-level art, craft and design course is designed to support a range of student interests, learning styles and aspirations for progression. We offer:

- Choice in project development.
- A variety of teaching and learning experiences catering for different learning styles.
- Aspirations for progression into the creative industries.

A-level art, craft and design encourages students’ creativity and risk taking, using investigative, analytical and experimental techniques. They develop independence of mind and become more able to communicate their ideas. Students should have an interest in, enthusiasm for and enjoyment of art, craft and design and should have experience of working with a broad range of media. They will develop an understanding of the interrelationships between art, craft and design and knowledge and understanding of art, craft, design from today and historically.

Future pathways

Art, craft & design enables entry to a variety of post-18 options:

- Further education courses such as the BTEC level 3 foundation diploma in art and design (QCF).
- Higher education courses such as BTEC higher national diplomas in art and design subjects, or a BA honours art and design degree such as fine art, graphics, architecture, product design and fashion design.
- Apprenticeships or other training.
- Employment in a related sector.

Assessment			
✓ Exam: 40%		Time	%
9AD0/02	Externally set assignment	15 hrs	40%
✓ Non-examined assessment: 60%			
9AD0/01	Personal investigation	–	60%

Topics

Through introductory and in-depth individual personal projects, students develop integrated knowledge, skills and understanding, specifically:

- Engagement with aesthetic and intellectual concepts through the use of traditional and/or digital media, materials, techniques and processes.
- Communication of ideas and messages about the observed world, the qualities of materials, perceptions, or preconceptions.
- Exploration of personal and cultural identity, society and how we live, visual language, and technology.
- Reflection on our individual and collective place in the world.

BIOLOGY

Qualification:	A-level
Awarding body:	OCR
Course code:	H420
Course leader :	Mrs H Streets
Entry requirements :	GCSEs in science (grade 6/5) or biology (grade 6); English (grade 5); and maths (grade 6)

Studying A-level biology allows students to unlock the secrets of life. It helps them understand how living things work, from tiny cells to entire ecosystems. This subject not only teaches about genes, bodies, and ecosystems but also sharpens thinking skills. A-level biology is practical and shows students the real-world impact of biology on medicine, the environment, and more. It's not just about memorising facts; it's about understanding the world around you. Plus, it opens exciting career paths in medicine, research, and environmental science.

Future pathways

Biology is a popular option for students considering medicine, dentistry or veterinary science.

Other career pathways include: nursing, biochemistry, biomedical science, genetics, molecular biology, forensic science, pathology, sports science, environmental science, optometry and physiotherapy.

Topics

- **Module 1:**
development of practical skills.
- **Module 2:**
foundations in biology.
- **Module 3:**
exchange and transport.
- **Module 4:**
biodiversity, evolution and disease.
- **Module 5:**
communication, homeostasis and energy.
- **Module 6:**
genetics, evolution and ecosystems.

Assessment			
✓ Exam: 100%		Time	%
Paper 1	Biological processes	2 hrs 15 mins	37%
Paper 2	Biological diversity	2 hrs 15 mins	37%
Paper 3	Unified biology	1 hr 30 mins	26%
✓ Non-examined assessment: 0%			
Practical endorsement	Delivered throughout the course and includes dissection, microscopy, research, enzyme controlled reactions and ecological studies.		

BUSINESS

Qualification:	A-level
Awarding body:	Pearson
Course code:	9BS0
Course leader :	Mr J Trueman
Entry requirements :	GCSE in maths (grade 5); and business (grade 5) preferred but not essential

By studying A-level business, students will learn how businesses work by building knowledge of core business concepts and looking at how these are applied in a range of different contexts. This knowledge is then developed through investigation of a wider range of more complex business information. Students will learn to take a strategic view of business opportunities and issues.

Students are encouraged 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 and to challenge assumptions.

Future pathways

If successful, A-level business provides access to extremely wide range of possible careers, including law, management, accountancy, politics, finance, economics and sport management.

Students will learn valuable transferable skills such as presentation skills, communication skills, analytical thinking and the ability to make supported judgements.

A-level business will open up many and varied opportunities at degree level, in addition to providing superb employability skills needed for today's dynamic economic conditions.

Topics

• Theme 1:

Marketing and people: customer needs, marketing activity, demand and supply concepts in addition to human resources.

• Theme 2:

Managing business activities: financial and resource planning and management.

• Theme 3:

Business decisions and strategy: objectives, growth and decision making.

• Theme 4:

Global business: globalisation, global marketing and multinational organisations.

Assessment

✓ Exam: 100%		Time	%
Paper 1	Marketing, people and global businesses	2 hrs	35%
Paper 2	Business activities, decisions and strategy	2 hrs	35%
Paper 3	Investigating business in a competitive environment	2 hrs	30%
✗ Non-examined assessment: 0%			

CHEMISTRY

Qualification:	A-level
Awarding body:	OCR
Course code:	H432
Course leader :	Mrs H Streets
Entry requirements :	GCSEs in science (grade 6/5) or chemistry (grade 6); English (grade 5); and maths (grade 6)

Studying A-level chemistry uncovers the secrets of how things work at a molecular level. It's not just about mixing chemicals; it's about understanding why and how reactions happen. This subject teaches you the basics of atoms, molecules, and reactions, giving you a solid foundation for everyday life. A-level chemistry also helps sharpen your problem-solving skills. Plus, it's not just theoretical – it has real-world applications in medicine, materials, and the environment. So, if you're curious about the building blocks of everything around you and want to solve practical problems, A-level chemistry is a fascinating and useful choice.

Future pathways

A-level chemistry is a much sought-after qualification for entry to a wide variety of full-time courses in higher education. It will also gain you access to a wider choice of courses after sixth form.

Many areas of employment see this course as an important qualification. It is often a requirement for vocational qualifications with a scientific element and for related higher education courses and careers.

Degrees for which it is strongly recommended include medicine, chemistry, natural sciences, chemical engineering.

Assessment			
✓ Exam: 100%		Time	%
Paper 1	Periodic table, elements and physical chemistry	2 hrs 15 mins	37%
Paper 2	Synthesis and analytical techniques	2 hrs 15 mins	37%
Paper 3	Unified chemistry	1 hr 30 mins	26%
✓ Non-examined assessment: 0%			
Practical endorsement	Delivered throughout the course and includes titrations, enthalpy determination, synthesis of organic liquids, rates of reaction and qualitative analysis.		

Topics

- **Module 1:**
Development of practical skills in chemistry.
- **Module 2:**
Foundations in chemistry.
- **Module 3:**
Periodic table and energy.
- **Module 4:**
Core organic chemistry.
- **Module 5:**
Physical chemistry and transition elements.
- **Module 6:**
Organic chemistry and analysis.

CRIMINOLOGY

Qualification:	Level 3 applied diploma
Awarding body:	WJEC
Course code:	601/6248/X
Course leader :	Mr J Trueman
Entry requirements :	GCSE in English language (grade 4)

Criminology is the study of crime and criminals and through this course students have the opportunity to study crimes from their inception through to punishment.

Students initially gain an understanding of what types of crime take place, why so little is known about certain crime, changing public perceptions of crime and will gain the skills needed to plan a campaign for change. They then learn how we decide which behaviours are criminal and what the difference is between crime and deviance, looking at what makes a criminal.

Through the second year, the focus is on the various personnel who are involved when a crime has been detected. Students learn about the roles of forensics, the Crown Prosecution Service and the jury in bringing about a verdict. They also study the role of punishment in our society and the theories behind its use. Student investigate how the criminal justice system in England and Wales operates to achieve social control, assessing its level of success.

Future pathways

The criminology course has been designed specifically to support access to higher education degree courses such as: criminology, psychology, law, sociology, social work and criminal justice. Alternatively, this qualification gives students the skills necessary for employment roles within the National Probation Service, the Courts and Tribunals Service, National Offender Management Service or Police.

Topics

- **Unit 1:**
Changing awareness of crime.
- **Unit 2:**
Criminological theories.
- **Unit 3:**
Crime scene to courtroom.
- **Unit 4:**
Crime and punishment.

Assessment			
✓ Exam: 50%		Time	%
Unit 2	Criminological theories	1 hr 30 mins	25%
Unit 4	Crime and punishment	1 hr 30 mins	25%
✓ Non-examined assessment: 50%			
Unit 1	Changing awareness of crime	–	25%
Unit 3	Crime scene to courtroom	–	25%

DIGITAL FILM & VIDEO PRODUCTION

Qualification:	BTEC level 3 extended certificate
Awarding body:	Pearson
Course code:	603/1910/0
Course leader :	Mr C Mellors
Entry requirements :	GCSEs in English (grade 4); and maths (grade 4)

This course is for students who are creative, imaginative and have an interest in filmmaking. You will learn to plan and create audio-visual material in line with film industry practices. We will cover the essentials of lighting, planning, filming and editing, and you will work both in teams and individually on a variety of projects.

Future pathways

This course provides good preparation if you are considering an apprenticeship in the creative and design route. When taken alongside further level 3 qualifications, it also supports access to a range of higher education courses in film and video production, and the wider media industry.

The course could lead to jobs within the film/gaming and animation industry which is the fastest growing sector in British industry at the moment.

Topics

- **Unit 3:** Digital media skills.
- **Unit 10:** Film production.
- **Unit 18:** Storyboarding.
- **Unit 21:** Film editing.
- **Unit 23:** Stop motion animation.

Assessment			
✓ External assessment: 20%		Time	%
Unit 3	Digital media skills	24 weeks	20%
✓ Internal assessment: 80%			
Unit 10	Film production	12 weeks	20%
Unit 18	Storyboarding for digital media	12 weeks	20%
Unit 21	Film editing	12 weeks	20%
Unit 23	Stop motion animation	12 weeks	20%

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Qualification:	A-level
Awarding body:	AQA
Course code:	7702
Course leader :	Mrs L Thompson
Entry requirements :	GCSE in English language (grade 6); or literature (grade 6)

Our A-level English language qualification is a popular choice for many students as it is full of engaging topics and issues which surround the way we use language. We look at how we each use language differently as a representation of our identity and the social and historical nature of why and how our language changes over time. In lessons, we read, discuss and write analytically about a range of texts. Outside the classroom, students are encouraged to take an interest in reading widely about the language world around them and to think critically about the perspectives and motivations of the writers. Students should have an interest in current affairs and how language is used to convey a range of opinions and viewpoints. The non-examined assessment (NEA) involves a creative writing folder and an in-depth investigation into an area of language of interest.

Future pathways

English literature and English language are both very well respected A-levels. They would be an excellent foundation for any degree involving essay writing, media or communication.

In terms of future employment, English can lead to a very wide range of careers including teaching or lecturing, writing, editing, publishing, journalism, working in the media or anything where communication or working with people is important.

Topics

- Child language acquisition and language change.
- Language production and variation through different forms.
- Language diversity: social groups, occupation, gender, religion and ethnicity.

Assessment			
✓ Exam: 80%		Time	%
Paper 1	Language, the individual and society	2 hrs 30 mins	40%
Paper 2	Language diversity and change	2 hrs 30 mins	40%
✓ Non-examined assessment: 20%			
Tasks 1 and 2	Language investigation and original writing	–	20%

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Qualification:	A-level
Awarding body:	AQA
Course code:	7712
Course leader :	Mrs L Thompson
Entry requirements :	GCSE in English language (grade 6); or literature (grade 6)

Our A-level English literature qualification is a challenging and engaging course. It is a very popular subject and students enjoy studying a wide range of plays, novels and poems from the 1600s to the present day. Classroom activities challenge students to become mature, thoughtful participants with class discussions, presentations and developing written analytical skills, all crucial parts of their lessons. Outside the classroom students are encouraged to be independent learners with termly book clubs for their wider reading, essential for the course, structured homework tasks and trips to see lectures or performances.

Students should have a passion for reading and an interest in how writers' methods can create meaning. They should also be interested in exploring how writers have been influenced by their own lives, socially, historically and politically.

Future pathways

English literature and English language are both very well respected A-levels. They would be an excellent foundation for any degree involving essay writing, media or communication.

In terms of future employment, English can lead to a very wide range of careers including teaching or lecturing, writing, editing, publishing, journalism, working in the media or anything where communication or working with people is important.

Assessment			
✓ Exam: 80%		Time	%
Paper 1	Shakespeare, Unseen poetry, poetry and prose comparative essay	3 hrs	40%
Paper 2	Modern prose, unseen prose, drama and poetry comparative essay	2 hrs 30 mins	40%
✓ Non-examined assessment: 20%			
	Comparative essay	–	20%

Topics

- **Paper 1:**
Love through the ages
 - Shakespeare (Othello).
 - Unseen Poetry.
 - Comparing texts (poetry and prose).
- **Paper 2:**
Texts in shared contexts:
Modern times
 - Handmaids Tale.
 - Unseen Prose.
 - Drama (A Streetcar Named Desire).
 - Poetry (Feminine Gospels).

FILM STUDIES

Qualification:	A-level
Awarding body:	WJEC
Course code:	A670QS
Course leader :	Mr B Lewis
Entry requirements :	GCSE in English language (grade 6); or literature (grade 6); or media studies (grade 6)

A-level film studies encourages students to engage with the most innovative art form of the twentieth century and explore how cinema continues to develop. Students are given the specialist vocabulary necessary to articulate complex ideas about film, alongside social, cultural, political, historical and institutional contexts, to debate the place and significance of film within wider society.

We are passionate about films of all genres, from silent cinema to modern Hollywood, and forms, from experimental to documentary; contemporary British films are studied alongside examples from world cinema. We encourage students to embrace the opportunity to deconstruct our set films, which have recently included La La Land, Pulp Fiction, Amy, Shaun of the Dead and Some Like it Hot and apply their understanding to construct a film of their own.

Future pathways

This course will appeal to those who wish to carry on studying analytical subjects such as film, media studies, English literature and law at university, as well as those who wish to enter into jobs that require analysis or creativity.

Due to the practical element of the course students will develop filming and editing techniques which can lead on to a career in the film/media industry.

Assessment			
✓	Exam: 70%	Time	%
Component 1	Varieties of film and filmmaking	2 hrs 30 mins	35%
Component 2	Global filmmaking perspectives	2 hrs 30 mins	35%
✓	Non-examined assessment: 30%		
Component 3	Production	–	30%

Topics

• Varieties of film and filmmaking

- Hollywood 1930-1990.
- American film since 2005 /2012.
- British film since 1995.

• Global filmmaking perspectives

- Global film.
- Documentary film.
- Film movements – silent cinema.
- Film movements – experimental film (1960-2001).

• Production

- Produce either a short film (4-5 minutes) or a screenplay for a short film (1600-1800 words) plus a digitally photographed story-board of a key section from the screenplay.
- Produce an evaluative analysis (1600 - 1800 words).

FRENCH

Qualification:	A-level
Awarding body:	Pearson
Course code:	9FR0
Course leader :	Mrs D Atkin and Miss O Scullion
Entry requirements :	GCSE in French (grade 5)

A-level French provides students with enhanced language skills, essential for effective communication in an increasingly globalised world. Study of A-level French also deepens cultural understanding, allowing students to explore the rich literature, history, and contemporary issues of French-speaking countries, fostering global awareness.

Whether for higher education, career advancement, or personal enrichment, A-level French equips students with the language skills and cultural insights needed to succeed in an interconnected world.

Future pathways

Three quarters of employers responding to the Confederation of British Industry's education and skills survey said they needed their employees to have some foreign language skills. Mastering a language unlocks many career opportunities.

Here are just a few: interpreter, translator, broadcast journalist, secondary school teacher, international aid development worker, logistics and distribution manager, marketing executive, tour manager, hotel management, advertising, airline services, subtitles and voice-overs, import / export specialist, foreign civil service, event management.

Assessment			
✓ Exam: 100%		Time	%
Paper 1	Listening, reading and translation to English	2 hrs	40%
Paper 2	Written response to works (literary text and film) and translation to French	2 hrs 40 mins	30%
Paper 3	Spoken discussion of a theme followed by a presentation and discussion based on the student's independent research project	16-18 mins plus 5 mins preparation	30%
✗ Non-examined assessment: 0%			

Topics

- **Theme 1:**
social issues and trends in France.
- **Theme 2:**
political and artistic culture expressed through music, festivals and traditions in Francophone countries and communities.
- **Theme 3:**
immigration and the multi-cultural society in France.
- **Theme 4:**
the occupation and the French resistance.

GEOGRAPHY

Qualification:	A-level
Awarding body:	AQA
Course code:	7037
Course leader :	Mr B Jessop
Entry requirements :	GCSEs in geography (grade 5); English (grade 5); maths (grade 5); and science (grade 5)

Geography at Eckington empowers students to understand the world they live in – and the world they will shape. Our aim is to develop informed, confident global citizens who can interpret the complexity of modern life, appreciate diverse cultures, and recognise how environmental and human changes influence our future.

Throughout the course, you will explore real-world issues such as climate change, globalisation, natural hazards, and urban development. You'll build a strong set of analytical, investigative, and communication skills by asking challenging questions, evaluating evidence, and expressing your ideas clearly. These abilities are essential for understanding global challenges and making thoughtful decisions about the world around you.

By the end of your studies, you will have a deep awareness of your place in the world and the ability to apply a spatial and analytical perspective to your choices. Geography prepares you not only for academic success but also for life as a responsible, engaged global citizen.

Future pathways

A Level Geography is valued by universities and employers because it develops strong research and problem-solving skills. Geographers progress into a wide range of careers like environmental consultancy, conservation, planning, or surveying. Others pursue roles in international development or sectors such as tourism, logistics, finance, and education, with some choosing to become geography teachers.

Geography gives you the flexibility and confidence to shape a future that matches your ambitions.

Assessment			
✓ Exam: 80%		Time	%
Paper 1	Physical geography	2 hrs 30 mins	40%
Paper 2	Human geography	2 hrs 30 mins	40%
✓ Non-examined assessment: 20%			
Field-work	Minimum of four days' fieldwork and submission of a geography fieldwork investigation of 3000 to 4000 words	–	20%

Topics

- Water and carbon cycles.
- Coastal systems and landscapes.
- Hazards.
- Global systems and governance.
- Changing places.
- Contemporary urban environments.
- Geography fieldwork investigation.

GEOLOGY

Qualification:	A-level
Awarding body:	OCR
Course code:	H414
Course leader :	Mr B Jessop
Entry requirements :	GCSEs in science (grade 5); English (grade 5); maths (grade 5); and geography (grade 5)

A Level Geology develops a strong understanding of Earth's structure, processes, and resources, exploring how different branches of geoscience connect – from civil and engineering geology to hydrogeology, mining, and petroleum geology. Students build practical skills through observing, collecting, and analysing geo-located field data, working in the lab and classroom, alongside developing mathematical, investigative, and problem-solving abilities essential to scientific study.

The course also helps students understand how society makes decisions about geological issues and how geoscience supports the economy, infrastructure, and environmental management. You will be introduced to current research and real-world applications, gaining insight into how new discoveries continue to reshape our understanding of the planet.

Future pathways

Geology is a recognised science A Level, opening routes into a wide range of STEM degrees and careers. Many students progress into geoscience-specific fields such as environmental consulting, mining, geotechnical engineering, hydrogeology, petroleum geology, geophysics, geochemistry, and palaeontology. Others use the qualification as a springboard into broader scientific, environmental, or engineering pathways.

Geology equips students with analytical thinking, fieldwork experience, and scientific confidence – skills that are highly valued across the STEM landscape.

Assessment

✓ Exam: 100%		Time	%
Paper 1	Fundamentals of geology	2 hrs 15 mins	41%
Paper 2	Scientific literacy in geology	2 hrs 15 mins	37%
Paper 3	Practical skills in geology	1 hr 30 mins	22%
✗ Non-examined assessment: 0%			
Practical endorsement	Delivered throughout the course and includes minerals and rocks, seismology, crystalline and sedimentary processes, fossils, geological sequences, orogenic processes, fluid movement, geological resources and research skills.		

Topics

- **Module 1 :**
Development of practical skills in geology.
- **Module 2:**
Foundations in geology.
- **Module 3:**
Global tectonics.
- **Module 4:**
Interpreting the past.
- **Module 5:**
Petrology and economic geology.
- **Module 6:**
Geohazards.
- **Module 7:**
Basin analysis.

GERMAN

Qualification:	A-level
Awarding body:	Pearson
Course code:	9GN0
Course leader :	Mrs D Atkin
Entry requirements :	GCSE in German (grade 5)

A-level German provides students with enhanced language skills, essential for effective communication in an increasingly globalised world. Study of A-level German also deepens cultural understanding, allowing students to explore the rich literature, history, and contemporary issues of German-speaking countries, fostering global awareness.

Whether for higher education, career advancement, or personal enrichment, A-level German equips students with the language skills and cultural insights needed to succeed in an interconnected world.

Future pathways

Three quarters of employers responding to the Confederation of British Industry's education and skills survey said they needed their employees to have some foreign language skills. Mastering a language unlocks many career opportunities.

Here are just a few: interpreter, translator, broadcast journalist, secondary school teacher, international aid development worker, logistics and distribution manager, marketing executive, tour manager, hotel management, advertising, airline services, subtitles and voice-overs, import / export specialist, foreign civil service, event management.

Topics

- **Theme 1:**
social issues and trends in Germany.
- **Theme 2:**
political and artistic culture expressed through music, festivals and traditions in German speaking countries and communities.
- **Theme 3:**
immigration and the multi-cultural society in Germany.
- **Theme 4:**
the reunification of Germany.

Assessment

✓ Exam: 100%		Time	%
Paper 1	Listening, reading and translation to English	2 hrs	40%
Paper 2	Written response to works (literary text and film) and translation to German	2 hrs 40 mins	30%
Paper 3	Spoken discussion of a theme followed by a presentation and discussion based on the student's independent research project	16-18 mins plus 5 mins preparation	30%
✗ Non-examined assessment: 0%			

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

Qualification:	Level 3 alternative academic qualification (extended certificate)
Awarding body:	Pearson
Course code:	610/3964/0
Course leader :	Mr J Trueman
Entry requirements :	GCSEs in English (grade 4); and maths (grade 4)

Level 3 health and social care provides a comprehensive understanding of key topics such as human development, health and safety, and the social and psychological needs of individuals.

The course enables students to apply theory in practical contexts and fosters critical thinking, empathy, and communication skills. All of these are crucial for effectively supporting vulnerable individuals and promoting well-being. The study of health and social care equips students with the necessary tools to make a meaningful impact in people's lives while offering diverse career opportunities in a growing sector.

Future pathways

Health and social care jobs account for one in ten jobs in the UK. Therefore, health and social care is a really useful course for anyone wishing to study further, go on to work or have an apprenticeship in any of the following areas: nursing, social work, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, nursing, youth work, social work and teaching.

Topics

- **Unit 1:**
Human lifespan development.
- **Unit 2:**
Human biology and health.
- **Unit 3:**
Principles of health and social care practice (Pearson set assignment).
- **Unit 5:**
Promoting health education (Pearson set assignment).

Assessment

✓ External assessment: 50%

Unit 1	Human lifespan and development	1hr 30 mins	25%
Unit 2	Human biology and health	1hr 30 mins	25%

✓ Internal assessment: 50%

Unit 3	Principles of health and social care practice (Pearson set assignment)	–	25%
Unit 5	Promoting health education (Pearson set assignment)	–	25%

HISTORY

Qualification:	A-level
Awarding body:	AQA
Course code:	7042
Course leader :	Mr W Berriman
Entry requirements :	GCSE in history (grade 5) preferred but not essential

A Level History offers a rigorous exploration of English and Russian history, encouraging students to engage critically with major political, social, and ideological changes.

Paper 1 examines the emergence of Russia as a European power during the age of absolutism and Enlightenment, where authority was both asserted and challenged. You'll follow the reigns of Peter the Great; the Romanov family with their power struggles and ruthless bids for power; all the way through to Catherine the Great.

Paper 2 investigates the dramatic upheavals of 1625–1660. This period of conflict, change, and bold ideas saw England torn apart by civil war and transformed forever. You'll follow the dramatic clash between King Charles I and Parliament, explore how religious tensions and political ambition ignited a nation, and witness the extraordinary rise of figures like Oliver Cromwell.

Throughout the course, students develop advanced analytical skills, learning to evaluate differing interpretations, assess the reliability of historical sources, and construct well-argued, discursive essays. By the end, you'll have fostered a sophisticated understanding of how historians interpret the past.

Future pathways

History is respected as a rigorous academic discipline and complements a range of subjects. It provides an excellent foundation for careers in law, journalism, international relations, public services, business, education, and the media, as well as any field requiring strong analytical and communication skills.

Assessment			
✓	Exam: 80%	Time	%
Component 1	Breadth study: Russia in the age of absolutism and enlightenment, 1682-1796	2 hrs 30 mins	40%
Component 2	Depth study: English Revolution, 1625-1660	2 hrs 30 mins	40%
✓	Non-examined assessment: 20%		
Component 3	Coursework: First World War or Collapse of Tsars (3500 - 4500 words)	–	20%

Topics

- **Paper 1:**
Russia in the age of absolutism and enlightenment.
- **Paper 2:**
the English Revolution 1625-1660.
- **Historical enquiry:**
piece of research work which may be done on a variety of topics.

MATHEMATICS

Qualification:	A-level
Awarding body:	Pearson
Course code:	9MA0
Course leader :	Mr A Hylan
Entry requirements :	GCSE in maths (grade 6)

A-level mathematics is one of the most popular A-levels. At Eckington School, enthusiastic and experienced teachers guide and support students throughout the two-year course. The course builds upon prior learning, extending topics from key stage 4, as well as introducing areas of new mathematics for students to study. Regular topic tests and termly assessments inform the students and teachers of progress being made and the areas in need of more attention. The course is made up of a main core element of pure maths and modules of mechanics and of statistics and these are taught over five lessons per week. The curriculum is ambitious, and we encourage our students to consolidate their learning with independent study as they work hard to achieve their best.

Future pathways

With an A-level in mathematics you can go on to study mathematics at degree level at university. A mathematics degree can lead to a career in accounting, medicine, engineering, forensic pathology, finance, business, consultancy, teaching, IT, games development, scientific research, programming, the civil service, design, construction, astrophysics and many more.

The study of mathematics will equip you with many transferable skills such as analytical, research and problem-solving skills. Mathematics is a facilitating subject that will support your study in lots of other areas.

Topics

- Proof.
- Algebra and functions.
- Coordinate geometry in the (x, y) plane.
- Series and sequences.
- Trigonometry.
- Exponentials and logarithms.
- Differentiation
- Integration.
- Numerical methods.
- Vectors.
- Statistical sampling.
- Data presentation and interpretation.
- Probability.
- Statistical distributions.
- Statistical hypothesis testing.
- Quantities and units in mechanics.
- Kinematics.
- Forces and Newton's laws.
- Moments.

Assessment

✓ Exam: 100%		Time	%
Paper 1	Pure mathematics 1	2 hrs	33.33%
Paper 2	Pure mathematics 2	2 hrs	33.33%
Paper 3	Statistics and mechanics	2 hrs	33.33%
✗ Non-examined assessment: 0%			

MATHEMATICS (FURTHER)

Qualification:	A-level
Awarding body:	Pearson
Course code:	9FM0
Course leader :	Mr A Hylan
Entry requirements :	GCSE in maths (grade 7); and study of A-level maths

Further mathematics A-level supports students sitting A-level mathematics. It can only be taken if a student is also sitting A-level mathematics.

Future pathways

Students who seek to take degrees in fields that desire A-level mathematics find their applications much supported by further mathematics A-level and can find they have access to a wider choice of courses following sixth form.

Many areas of employment see this course as an important qualification. It is often a requirement for vocational qualifications with a mathematical element and for related higher education courses and careers.

Degrees for which it is strongly recommended include: economics, medicine, architecture, accountancy, teaching, psychology, physics and computing.

Topics

Pure core topics are:

- Proof.
- Complex numbers.
- Matrices.
- Further algebra and functions.
- Further calculus.
- Further vectors.
- Polar coordinates.
- Hyperbolic functions.
- Differential equations.

Optional topics will be decided by the teacher.

Assessment			
✓ Exam: 100%		Time	%
Paper 1	Core pure mathematics 1	1 hr 30 mins	33.33%
Paper 2	Core pure mathematics 2	1 hr 30 mins	33.33%
Paper 3	Optional topic paper	1 hr 30 mins	33.33%
✗ Non-examined assessment: 0%			

PHOTOGRAPHY

Qualification:	A-level
Awarding body:	Pearson
Course code:	9PY0
Course leader :	Miss H Partridge and Miss E Pickard
Entry requirements :	GCSE in photography (grade 5)

A-level photography supports a range of interests, learning styles and aspirations for progression. We offer choice in project development, a variety of teaching and learning experiences and aspirations to progress onto university courses and creative careers.

Students develop:

- Intellectual, imaginative, creative and intuitive capabilities.
- Investigative, analytical, experimental, practical, technical and expressive skills, aesthetic understanding and critical judgement.
- Independence in developing, refining and communicating ideas, intentions and outcomes.
- An interest in, enthusiasm for and enjoyment of photography.
- Experience of photography related media, camera techniques and Photoshop skills.
- An understanding of the interrelationships between photography and other art processes.
- Understanding of media and technologies in contemporary and cultures.
- An awareness of different roles, functions, audiences and consumers of photography.

Future pathways

Students can progress to a range of further and higher education courses. With A-level photography, students may also progress to an apprenticeship or employment.

Assessment			
✓	Exam: 40%	Time	%
	Component 2 Externally set assignment (9PY0/02)	15 hours	40%
✓	Non-examined assessment: 60%		
	Component 1 Personal investigation (9PY0/01) incorporating supporting studies, practical work and a personal study (minimum 1000 words)	–	60%

Topics

- Principles of digital photography, including digital processing.
- Viewpoint, white balance, composition, focus, aperture, shutter speed, exposure, shooting modes.
- Use and qualities of image acquisition hardware and software, image manipulation and analogies between digital and other forms of photography.
- Relationships between colour and tone for screen and print-based media, screen calibration and file formats.
- Use of a range of source material, software and hardware in the generation and development of ideas.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Qualification:	A-level
Awarding body:	OCR
Course code:	H555
Course leader :	Mrs S Clarke and Mr R Roberts
Entry requirements :	GCSEs in English language (grade 5); science (grade 5); and PE (grade 5) preferred but not essential

This course suits students who are actively competing in one sport and want to share their passion for sport, linking it to the theoretical aspects of PE. The course teaches students how performers excel in sport and helps them to relate this theory to their own performance.

We teach students how performers excel in sport and help them to relate this theory to their own performance. When participating in this course, students are able to share their passion for sport and link it to the theoretical aspects of PE.

Future pathways

If you have a real interest and enthusiasm for sport and physical education, then this course is suited to you. As part of the course you will study human movement and performance, and contemporary issues in sport. This is excellent preparation for many professions in sport including:

- Physiotherapy.
- Sports science research.
- Leisure management.
- Sports development/coaching.
- Teaching.

Topics

- Applied anatomy and physiology.
- Exercise physiology.
- Biomechanics.
- Skill acquisition.
- Sports psychology.
- Sport and society.
- Contemporary issues in physical activity and sport.

Assessment			
✓ Exam: 70%		Time	%
Paper 1	Physiological factors affecting performance	2 hrs	30%
Paper 2	Psychological factors affecting performance	1 hr	20%
Paper 3	Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport	1 hr	20%
✓ Non-examined assessment: 30%			
	Practical performances in one sport	–	15%
	Evaluating and analysing performance for improvement	–	15%

PHYSICS

Qualification:	A-level
Awarding body:	OCR
Course code:	H556
Course leader :	Mrs H Streets
Entry requirements :	GCSEs in science (grade 5/6) or physics (grade 6); maths (grade 6); and English (grade 5) preferred but not essential

Studying A-level physics allows students to begin to discover the rules that govern the entire universe: how things move, why they stay still, and what happens when forces come into play. A-level physics explores the fundamental principles that shape the world, from the smallest particles to the vastness of space. This subject not only satisfies curiosity about the natural world but also hones problem-solving skills. It is practical and applicable, with insights into technology, energy, and the way the world works. Students intrigued by the mysteries of motion, energy, and the cosmos, will find A-level physics an exciting journey that provides both knowledge and a new perspective on the world around them.

Future pathways

Physics involves a combination of theoretical and practical modelling and problem solving that is recognised by employers and higher education establishments. It is an enabling A-level for a range of courses in physical sciences, computing and engineering. Many students who go on to study medicine will also be glad they studied physics.

Many of our students choose physics because they want to study physics or related subjects at university. Others choose it along with mathematics as it offers an opportunity to apply their knowledge. Some even choose it because they really like it even if their other subjects are unrelated!

Assessment			
✓ Exam: 100%		Time	%
Paper 1	Modelling physics	2 hrs 15 mins	37%
Paper 2	Exploring physics	2 hrs 15 mins	37%
Paper 3	Unified physics	1 hr 30 mins	26%
✓ Non-examined assessment: 0%			
Practical endorsement	Delivered throughout the course and includes motion, properties of materials, electrical circuits, waves, quantum effects, ionising radiation, gases, capacitors, simple harmonic motion and research skills.		

Topics

- **Module 1:**
Development of practical skills.
- **Module 2:**
Foundations in chemistry.
- **Module 3:**
Forces and motion.
- **Module 4:**
Electrons, waves and photons.
- **Module 5:**
Newtonian world and astrophysics.
- **Module 6:**
Particles and medical physics.

PSYCHOLOGY

Qualification:	A-level
Awarding body:	Pearson
Course code:	H567
Course leader :	Mr J Trueman
Entry requirements :	GCSEs in maths (grade 5); and science (grade 5)

Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour. Through the A-level in psychology, students study a variety of human behaviours including: obedience, how memory can be influenced, regions of the human brain and how our morals develop. Through the second year of the A-level, students focus on mental health, child psychology and criminal psychology in order to develop a deeper understanding of specific areas within the subject. Underpinning all of the psychology A-level is a focus on research methods and developing an understanding of how psychologists plan, conduct and analyse research.

Future pathways

Psychology is an extremely useful A-level to have for a wide range of careers and destinations. In particular psychology may be useful if you intend to work or study in any of the following areas: medicine, neuroscience, psychiatry, marketing, sports coaching, child development, nursing, the police force.

Assessment			
✓ Exam: 100%		Time	%
Unit 1	Research methods	2 hrs	30%
Unit 2	Psychological themes through core studies	2 hrs	35%
Unit 3	Applied psychology	2 hrs	35%
✗ Non-examined assessment: 0%			

Topics

• Research methods:

How research is conducted in psychology and students have the opportunity to carry out their own research.

• Core studies:

Twenty core studies from psychology and what they tell us about human behaviour. Particular areas of focus include: obedience, memory and regions of the brain.

• Options in psychology:

More in-depth study focusing on mental health, child psychology and criminal psychology.

SOCIOLOGY

Qualification:	A-level
Awarding body:	OCR
Course code:	H580
Course leader :	Mr J Trueman
Entry requirements :	GCSE in English language (grade 5)

Sociology is the study of how society is organised and how we experience life. Through the A-level in sociology, students acquire knowledge and critical understanding of a range of contemporary issues which affect modern society. The first year of study introduces students to the concepts of socialisation, culture, identity and social inequalities which exist in society. In the second year, students apply their knowledge to study how globalisation and digital communication impact society as well as studying the popular subject of education.

Future pathways

A-level sociology is very good preparation for university, where strong essay writing skills are very important. Universities recognise that sociology A-level provides students with a very good foundation in social, political and policy knowledge. Sociology is regarded as a demanding and rigorous A-level which combines well with any other combination of subjects. Sociology students go on to a wide range of jobs in policing, research, teaching, medicine, politics and civil service as well as taking jobs in the service sector.

Topics

- Crime and deviance.
- The impact of globalisation.
- The nature of social relationships.
- Different forms of social inequality.
- The impact of new forms of social media.
- Social research in a range of social contexts.

Assessment			
✓	Exam: 100%	Time	%
Component 1	Socialisation, culture and identity	1 hr 30 mins	30%
Component 2	Researching and understanding social inequalities	2 hrs 15 mins	35%
Component 3	Debates in contemporary society	2 hrs 15 mins	35%
X	Non-examined assessment: 0%		

SPORT & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Qualification:	Single Award-Extended Certificate Level 3 in Sport and Physical Activity
Awarding body:	Cambridge Technical
Course code:	360 GLH 601/7094/3
Course leader :	Mrs S Clarke and Mr R Roberts
Entry requirements :	GCSEs in English (grade 4); maths (grade 4); and PE preferable but not essential

Many students enjoy sport and want to develop career in a sports related field. This course allows that as it will develop skills and knowledge in areas such as training, fitness and development and coaching. It is assessed mainly through assignment work, and so suits all learning styles. The course includes hands-on practical experience based upon real life scenarios. It is worth the equivalent of 1 A level and the UCAS points available at level 3 allow progression to higher education. This course suits students who enjoy independent learning and individual research tasks.

Future pathways

Cambridge technical level 3 sport and physical activity provides a qualification suitable for careers in leisure management, coaching, teaching and sport development. It is excellent preparation for many professions.

Topics

- **Unit 1:** Body systems and effects of physical activity.
- **Unit 2:** Sports coaching and activity leadership.
- **Unit 3:** Sports organisation and development.
- **Unit 5:** Performance analysis in sport and exercise.
- **Unit 8:** Organisation of a sports event.

Assessment			
✓ Exam: 42%		Time	%
Unit 1	Body systems and effects of physical activity	1 hr 30 mins	25%
Unit 3	Sports organisation and development	1 hr	17%
✓ Non-examined assessment: 58%			
Units 2, 5, 8		–	58%





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