KAB6

King's Academy Binfield Sixth Form

Opportunity and success on a global stage

www.kgabinfield.uk

BE REMARKABLE

We are delighted that you are expressing an interest in our sixth form here at King's Academy Binfield

Mrs C Jackson-Foot
Director of KAB6

At KAB6 our vision is to provide our students with a broad and varied range of post 16 courses set in an environment which will enable you to succeed and leave education ready to step into the next phase of your life.

At KAB6 our vision, ethos and values are for all students to 'be remarkable'. We actively celebrate our unique all through community providing a richer experience for you. We want to inspire you to reach your academic and personal goals during your time with us. Students are encouraged to work hard academically but also to ensure full immersion in the life of the school and all phases of our community.

We take great pride in knowing our students as individuals and guide and support their needs, strengths and ambitions as they move through this vital phase of education.

KAB6 offers a wide range of A level courses, led by subject specialist staff. In addition, we offer a range of extended qualifications, high-quality experiences of universities and professional life beyond the classroom that enable you to achieve your ambitions and interests.

We want all our students to be able to reflect on their time with us with happy memories, great friendships and a sense of success and fulfilment. Our focus on mental health and wellbeing along with many enrichment opportunities gives our students a sense of belonging and community – and with these will come outstanding achievement.

WELCOME TO KAB6

Message from the Executive Head

Miss Kerri-Anne Leavy
Executive Principal

It is a genuine privilege to welcome you to KAB6. As Executive Principal, I am proud to lead a vibrant, inclusive and ambitious community where students are placed at the heart of everything we do.

At KAB6, we build on the strong foundations of our school - a culture shaped by determination, aspiration, respect and enthusiasm. These values drive everything we do, fostering an environment where every student is encouraged to aim high and realise their full potential.

We believe that success grows from a culture of high expectations, mutual respect and genuine care. Our dedicated staff work alongside students to nurture both academic excellence and personal growth, ensuring that every individual feels valued and empowered.

Our values of Honesty, Faith and Courage guide everything we do. They underpin our vision of "Opportunity and Success on a Global Stage" and prepare our young people to thrive in a rapidly changing world. Through outstanding teaching, rich enrichment opportunities and a calm, purposeful atmosphere, we aim to develop confident, resilient and well-rounded young adults, ready to take their next steps with pride and ambition.

We are incredibly proud of our Sixth Form community and the opportunities it offers. I warmly invite you to explore what makes KAB6 such a special place to learn, grow and succeed.

WHY CHOOSE KAB6?

Outstanding sixth form teaching. Staff are highly qualified and committed to enabling student achievement.

Two bespoke purpose-built study rooms enabling independent or collaborative learning.

Outstanding pastoral support including a dedicated DSL trained KAB6 administrator.

Storage lockers so personal electronic devices and Chromebooks can be charged and stored securely.

A Curriculum offer developed in partnership with students and staff.

Excellent range of social and extra-curricular activities to inspire and engage.

Specific targeted support for our most able students to ensure that all our students achieve their full potential.

High specification, brand new facilities in the KAB6 common room, social spaces and work rooms.

A thriving collaborative partnership across the KGA network of Sixth Forms.

CHALLENGE & CHOICE – The Academic Offer

KAB6 offers a breadth of subject choice, taught by highly qualified, experienced and specialist teachers in a challenging yet supportive environment. Students are developed as individuals and provided with the educational foundation to go forward and achieve to the best of their ability in either higher education or the workplace.

Teaching takes place in specialist rooms and teaching groups are kept small. This allows students to receive attention and support which is tailored to their individual needs and capabilities. KAB6 tutors and academic mentors assist students to set academic goals and develop potential. Attainment and progress is monitored closely. KAB6 are encouraged to think independently and are prepared for the self-directed learning that is expected of students in higher education.

The Aspire Programme:

The Aspire programme is designed to support ambitious and high achieving students who wish to pursue competitive university destinations, professions and apprenticeships. Designed for students who have achieved highly in their GCSEs and who aim to achieve the highest grades at A-Level, this programme gives the opportunity to develop wider skills in interpersonal communication, presentation and networking, setting them apart from others they will be competing with as they progress on leaving KAB6.

PERSONALISED SUPPORT

– Pastoral

Happiness is key to academic excellence, which is why we prioritise the wellbeing of our students.

KAB6 tutors are an experienced team who work together to offer in-depth support, advice and encouragement. Through Year 12 and 13 collaborative activities, students are encouraged to work together as a cohesive Sixth Form body and as part of our wider KAB6 community. This positive and co-operative atmosphere is reinforced by our community action programme in which students volunteer 30 hours of their time.

The pastoral care for every Sixth Former offers personalised advice both for students' academic and pastoral growth. The Tutors adopt a holistic approach to ensure each student's all-round progress. Our 'Be Remarkable' Lecture series runs alongside our tutor sessions to deepen student understanding of current issues in society, alongside personal development.

CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

– Enrichment

We have a vast number of academic enrichment opportunities at KAB6 which are constantly evolving to meet the suggestions and needs of our students.

One of our most exciting academic enrichment opportunities is the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) This qualification, which is highly respected by universities, allows students to develop their independent research skills in an area of personal interest to them. The research title is related to subject choices at A-Level or beyond, and involves learning how to source, reference and produce an extended piece of writing with the support of a Supervisor. Students then present their research to a large non-specialist audience.

At KAB6 we believe it is vitally important for our students to be confident and coherent communicators. KAB6 offers the Advanced Certificate of Speech which is a highly regarded qualification designed by the English Speaking Board for Sixth Form students. It is valuable both for those going onto Higher Education and for those who will be entering the workplace. Evaluation focuses on the ability to marshal thoughts, present them cogently and clearly, and argue persuasively from a basis of intelligent and perceptive listening.

Examples of other enrichment activities include:

- Duke of Edinburgh
- Work experience
- Oxford and Cambridge visits and Open Days
- Visits to university lectures
- Senior Maths Challenges
- UCAS application support
- Community outreach including the 'Primary Connect' programme

ENRICHING OPPORTUNITIES

– Extra-Curricular

Where is always something going on at KAB6, with a variety of clubs and activities from all faculties, there is plenty to choose from to occupy students during our timetabled enrichment slot, each Wednesday afternoon.

At KAB6 our students have the opportunity to keep playing the sports they enjoy. Whether students wish to play for fun and fitness or to compete at the highest level, we offer students a wide range of high-quality sporting opportunities through our PE Department. Importantly, students don't have to be studying a sports-related course to take part in our sporting provision. KAB6 has excellent facilities and grounds that can accommodate many sports depending on the season including football, rugby and cricket pitches, tennis and netball courts, dance studio and sports hall. There are plenty of opportunities to enjoy sport through the curriculum, teams, competitions and clubs. With an engaging fixtures programme and talented and committed teachers, KAB6 students can continue to represent the school with pride and enthusiasm. In addition to sports there are a number of cultural trips ranging from visiting the Royal Albert Hall to trips to Berlin and Iceland and the ever popular winter sports trip.

At KAB6 Performing and Creative Arts clubs and opportunities provide students with an expressive outlet to continue exploring their interests in the arts. Art, dance, choir, musical theatre are just a few of the clubs open to our sixth form students.

Socially, students can apply for positions on the Student Leadership

Team to develop leadership and management skills. The Student Leadership Team will play an active role in organising and running socials for our sixth form students alongside liaising with the student council lower down in the school.

INSPIRED & PREPARED

– Post 18 Pathways

There are many decisions to be made by students once they have completed their A-Level and/or BTEC Level 3 studies.

At KAB6 our aim is to make sure those decisions are as informed as they can be. Options to be explored include applying to university through the UCAS process, apprenticeships, employment and gap year projects.

In Year 12, students are provided with guidance through the university application process. Mock interviews with a variety of professionals are arranged to help students prepare.

Personal and academic tutors offer in depth support to students on completing their personal statement and university application forms. Visits to Higher Education fairs allow pupils to explore the options available to them. Specialist advice is also be available through KAB6's partnership links with Brasenose College, Oxford, for potential Oxbridge candidates.

Our partnership with Wellington College as members of the Wellington Alliance enables us access to high quality support for example participation in the Oxbridge programme.

Preparation for the more practical elements of university life are covered in the enrichment programme such as personal finance and cooking for oneself. For those students considering other post-18 opportunities, there is a dedicated Post 18 Advisor. One to one expert careers advice is available with an accredited independent careers advisor. Students develop a Career Action Plan which we are then able to support. Professional apprenticeship providers supply a wealth of information regarding apprenticeships in the local area. Employment opportunities will be targeted at

individuals we know have an interest in each particular field and students are supported with their curriculum vitae, letters of application and any interview preparation. We have many and varied careers talks available to students and include careers and further education guidance through our superb tutor programme.

OUR FACILITIES

– State-of-the-art

Students studying at KAB6 are fortunate to have access to a wide range of state-of-the-art facilities designed to support their independent studying and to make their social time relaxing and enjoyable within a dedicated sixth form space.

There are two Study Rooms which have been designed for the sole use of our Sixth Form students. There is an Onsite Study Room which has been designed with private study in mind. Students have timetabled opportunities to work in this room. In this space, students are encouraged to work through any independent learning that has been set by staff, alongside working to complete applications. To support the digital working of the students, secure storage and charging facilities for students' own personal electronic devices is available.

There is an individual Quiet Study Room adapted for private study. In addition to the Study Rooms, students have access to the Library. sporting adventure or quiz night.

The KAB6 facility is completely new! Students will have access to a Costa Café franchise, serving a range of food, which can be prepared to order, and drinks, both hot and cold. There is a good sized Sixth Form social area, exclusively for use by the KAB6 students, which was developed to provide a bespoke area for our students to relax and socialise in.

KAB6 is delighted to have partnered with Change Please, a franchise where social enterprise and coffee expertise are blended for meaningful change. To find out more about Change Please visit their website at https://changeplease.org/

SCAN ME

CHANGE Please COFFEE

OUR COURSES

BTEC APPLIED SCIENCE

You will have the opportunity to develop your investigation skills as you research, conduct and analyse data from your own scientific study.

Course Content

You will study the principles and applications of biology, chemistry and physics, as well as practical scientific procedures and techniques. You will also have the opportunity to develop your investigation skills as you research, conduct and analyse data from your own scientific study.

Biology content covers structure and function of cells and tissues; biological molecules; enzymes and their role in organisms. Biology practicals cover skills and concepts such as colorimetry and serial dilutions; plant tissues and organs; plant growth and ecological sampling.

Chemistry content covers structure of the Periodic Table and its implications on physical and chemical properties of substances, through analysis of different bonding methods. Chemistry practicals cover skills and concepts such as titrations and preparing standard solutions; chromatography and melting point determination.

Physics content covers waves and their applications; force principles and their application in transportation and construction of electrical circuits. Physics practicals cover skills and concepts such as energy transfers and cooling curves; circuits and calibration of equipment to measure resistance.

Exam Board

Pearson

Assessment

There are three one hour externally assessed exams, each worth 50 marks. The papers are for each of the three scientific disciplines: unit 1 – biology, unit 2 – chemistry and unit 3 – physics. These are all sat in January of Year 13 and each paper is worth 1/6 of the total qualification and contributes to your final grade.

There are also two internally assessed and externally moderated units: unit 4 - practical scientific procedures and techniques and unit 5 - scientific investigation skills. Each of these is worth 25% of the total qualification and contributes to your final grade.

Subject Linking

Many subjects link well with BTEC Applied Science. Applied Science would be well complemented with Environmental Science, Psychology, Mathematics, Physical Education, Geography, Computing and Sociology. It is not typically studied alongside an A-level in Biology, Chemistry or Physics, however this can be discussed on a case by case basis.

Progression

BTEC Applied Science is an alternative academic qualification designed for students with an interest in science who are aiming to progress to higher education as a route to graduate level employment.

This qualification could lead you to studying degrees such as applied sport and exercise sciences, nursing or science education. BTEC Applied Science could take you to careers such as an engineer, biomedical scientist or laboratory technician.

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in two science GCSEs. A grade 5 in Maths is recommended.

BIOLOGY

The study of life itself, A-Level Biology explores the theories and principles involved in living systems, in all their intricate beauty.

Course Content

In year 1 students will build on their knowledge from GCSE focusing on the topics of biological molecules, cells, exchange surfaces and genetics. Year 2 focuses on energy transfers in organisms, ecology, evolution, ecosystems and gene expression. The specification provides numerous opportunities to use practical experiences to link theory to reality, and equip students with the essential practical skills they need to pursue a career in a science related industry.

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment

Students will sit 3 papers with paper 1 and paper 2 accounting for 35% of the overall grade and paper 3 being worth 30%.

Question style includes short answers as well as extended responses and will include questions based on practical skills and critical analysis of data.

Students will also complete 12 required practicals during the course through which they need to demonstrate 5 key competencies in practical work.

Subject Linking

Many subjects link well with Biology. Biology is commonly studied with Chemistry, Psychology, Mathematics, Physical Education, Geography, Physics and Fine Art.

Progression

A-Level Biology is a highly respected academic A-Level and it makes an excellent choice, offering you access to a wide range of university courses and careers. You'll need biology for most degrees in medicine, biology, biomedical sciences, dentistry, dietetics, physiotherapy, orthoptics and veterinary medicine. Biology is usually required or recommended for courses in biochemistry, environmental science, nursing, occupational therapy, optometry, pharmacy, sports science, physiology and speech therapy.

Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in two science GCSE's. A 6 in Maths and a 5 in English are recommended. *Thinking of studying more than one A-Level Science subject or taking A-Level Science with A-Level Mathematics? We would strongly recommend that students wishing to study more than one A-Level Science subject or an A-Level Science and A-Level Mathematics subject have grades 7 or above in their GCSE Science subjects and GCSE Mathematics.

BUSINESS – CAMBRIDGE TECHNICALS EXTENDED CERTIFICATE

This is a Level 3 vocational qualification (for students aged 16+) designed to provide applied learning in the business sector — i.e., not purely academic theory, but knowledge, skills and understanding geared towards business contexts.

Course Content

The qualification consists of 5 units in total:

3 mandatory units (for all learners)

The Business Environment (120 GLH) – exploring the wider external contexts in which business operates.

Working in Business (60 GLH) – how a business functions internally, roles, processes etc.

Customers and Communication (60 GLH) – covering customer interactions, communication methods, business communications.

2 optional units (choose from a range) – some examples include:

- Marketing and Market Research
- Introduction to Human Resources
- Accounting Concepts
- Principles of Project Management
- Responsible Business Practice
- International Business
- Business Events
- Being Entrepreneurial – Evaluating Viable Opportunities

The units combine to give both core knowledge (business contexts, functions, communication) and specialist/optional topics for further depth depending on interest.

Also emphasised are transferable skills: planning, time-management, research, data handling, decision making.

Exam Board

Cambridge OCR

Assessment

You will be assessed through both coursework and external unit examinations over the 2-year period.w

Progression

Completing the Extended Certificate can prepare students for higher education, apprenticeship, or heading into the world of work. Possible future careers include: Marketing, Accounting and Finance or HR Management.

Entry Requirements

Grade 4 in GCSE Business or
Grade 4 in GCSE English Language.

BUSINESS STUDIES

Business Studies offers students the opportunity to explore the world of work before entering into it fully and equips them with an understanding of how to start a business, how larger corporations operate, and how decisions are made and why.

Course Content

Business Studies offers students the opportunity to explore the world of work before entering into it fully and equips them with an understanding of how to start a business, how larger corporations operate, and how decisions are made and why.

During the course students will study a broad range of topics including Marketing, Finance, Operations and Business Strategy, as well as the business environment in which businesses operate.

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment

The Business Studies A-Level course covers 10 units, which will be assessed at the end of the course through three written papers of 100 marks each. You will be required to draw together their knowledge, skills and understanding from across the full course of study and provide extended responses.

Units covered:

- What is business?
- Managers, leadership and decision making
- Decision making to improve marketing performance
- Decision makes to improve operational performance
- Decision making to improve financial performance
- Decision making to improve human resource performance
- Analysing the strategic position of a business
- Choosing strategic direction
- Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies
- Managing strategic change

Progression

A-Level Business is a pragmatic and useful subject. It is the foundation to a degree in any aspect of business but can also support an Art, ICT or Graphics career if you are looking for a practical way to use your skills and passion in those areas. It also provides a balance to more theoretical subjects and this is why so many students choose and enjoy it as a third or fourth option. Many students who study A-Level Business Studies will go on to complete a degree at University. Possible future careers include: Marketing, Accounting and Finance or HR Management.

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE English Language and Mathematics. Or a Grade 5 in GCSE Business.

CHEMISTRY

The 'central science' – a compulsory choice for anyone wishing to pursue medicine, dentistry and veterinary science , as well as chemistry-based degrees, such as pharmacy, pharmacology, and biochemistry.

Course Content

OCR's A Level in Chemistry (A) builds directly on the foundations of GCSE but moves far beyond it. At GCSE you often focus on what happens, but at A Level you will begin to ask why and how chemical processes occur. This makes the step up challenging, but also hugely rewarding, as you develop a deeper, more connected understanding of chemistry.

The course is built around three main strands:

- Physical chemistry – exploring the fundamental principles that underpin chemical behaviour, from atomic structure and bonding to energetics and kinetics.
- Inorganic chemistry – studying the properties and reactions of elements across the periodic table, including transition metals and their real-world applications.
- Organic chemistry – examining the vast field of carbon-based compounds, reaction mechanisms, and the chemistry of life and industry.

Alongside these strands, you will develop advanced practical skills, strengthen your mathematical fluency, and learn to analyse data with precision. This blend of theory and practice provides excellent preparation for university and a wide range of careers.

Exam Board

OCR

Assessment

There are two 100 mark papers (Papers 1 and 2) and a 70 mark paper (Paper 3.)

Paper 1 examines modules 1, 2, 3 and 5

Paper 2 examines modules 1, 2, 4 and 6

Paper 3 covers all 6 modules.

There is also the practical endorsement, which whilst not examined and therefore does not count towards the grade, needs to be completed to a high standard in order to be awarded.

Subject Linking

Many subjects link well with Chemistry. It is commonly studied with Biology, Mathematics, Physics and Geography.

Progression

Chemistry is one of the most respected and versatile A Levels you can study. It is essential if you want to progress into medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, pharmacy, or biochemistry, but it also provides a strong foundation for many other science, technology, and engineering pathways. As the "central science," chemistry gives you the flexibility to move into emerging fields such as sustainable energy, climate technology, advanced materials, and data-driven life sciences. Beyond science, the logical reasoning, problem-solving, and analytical skills you develop are highly prized by universities and employers in an ever-changing career landscape.

Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in two science GCSE's. A 6 in Maths and a 5 in English are recommended. *Thinking of studying more than one A-Level Science subject or taking A-Level Science with A-Level Mathematics? We would strongly recommend that students wishing to study more than one A-Level Science subject or an A-Level Science and A-Level Mathematics subject have grades 7 or above in their GCSE Science subjects and GCSE Mathematics.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Our computer Science course cover the fundamentals of programming, data structures, algorithms, and object-oriented programme design.

Course Content

A-Level Computer science is split into two complementary sections, programming and theory. On the programming side of the course, students can learn a programming language (chosen by your teachers from C#, Java, Pascal/Delphi, Python and VB.Net).

You will cover the fundamentals of programming, data structures, algorithms, and object-oriented programme design. The theory side of computer science teaches about the internal workings of a computer, right down to the basics of how all data is stored using binary, whether that data consists of numbers, text, pictures or even music. It goes on from there to cover aspects of computer architecture, showing exactly how data is accessed from main memory using assembly language instructions and the fetch-execute cycle. As well as covering programming the course aims to promote good programming practices such as avoiding global variables, sensible variable naming, structured programming, good re-use of code through procedures and functions, and proper commenting of code. It also covers higher level concepts such as the social and legal impact of computers, and how to go about breaking down a big problem into individual programmable steps.

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment

The course is assessed by exam and practical work.

Exams account for 80% of your grade with an independent project for the remaining 20%.

Students are able to choose their own topics for their project which can be any practical application of Computer Science (subject to department and approval)

There are two exam papers, one focused on the theory of computing and the other on the practical aspects of the subject.

The coursework will assess your ability to take on a significant project and you will be assessed on your analysis, design, code and system validation.

Subject Linking

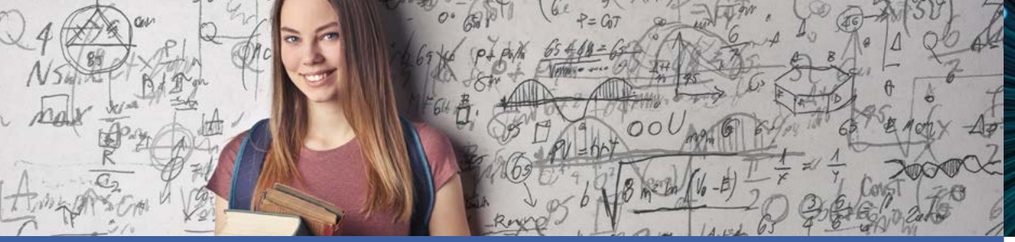
Students considering Computer Science as a degree should be aware that many universities also require A level Mathematics.

Progression

A-Level Computer science is naturally a strong subject to take if you wish to go on to do computer science at degree level, and although most computing-based degree courses don't require Computer science A-Level there are a number of software engineering courses which do. There are also other degree courses such as information technology and information systems which will be served well by a Computer science A-Level. Future pathways include: Software engineering, Business Information Systems, Computer Networks or Computer Science.

Entry Requirements

Students considering taking this course should have minimum Grade 6 GCSE in Computer Science or ICT at a Grade 6 as long as the ICT GCSE content included programming in a high level text based programming language, and a Grade 6 in Maths at GCSE.



CORE MATHEMATICS

Maths is for everyone. It is diverse, engaging and essential in equipping students with the right skills to reach their future destination, whatever that may be.

Course Content

The Core Maths qualification is designed to support and enable students to engage with, explore, enjoy and succeed in maths. Studying Core Maths helps students develop their quantitative and problem-solving skills. This is valuable preparation for the quantitative skills they will need for many degree courses, particularly subjects such as psychology, geography, business-related courses, sports and social sciences, and natural science courses that do not require AS/A Mathematics.

The Core Maths content includes:

- interpreting solutions in the context of the problem
- understanding sources of error and bias when problem-solving
- working with data
- understanding risk and probability
- understanding variation in statistics
- using exponential functions to model growth and decay
- percentage change
- interpretation of graphs
- financial maths
- using standard units
- Fermi estimation
- the Normal distribution
- correlation, knowing it does not imply causation
- making and evaluating assumptions when modelling or problem solving

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment

Paper 1 – 90 minutes
Students will be expected to develop and demonstrate confidence and competence in the understanding and application of mathematical modelling in the solution of problems related to the use of statistical techniques.

Paper 2 – 90 minutes
Students will be expected to draw on the mathematical content of Paper 1. Students will be expected to develop and demonstrate confidence and competence in the understanding and application of mathematical modelling in the solution of problems related to decision making and the planning of projects.

Progression

Core Maths will help you to better understand the quantitative aspects of the other A-Levels that you may be taking, such as Biology, Geography and Psychology. This is important for tasks such as interpreting and exploring data and graphs, using diagrams and calculations, and selecting appropriate statistical techniques.

Core Maths is useful for those who are interested in university courses or apprenticeships that involve a lot of quantitative data analysis but do not require AS/A-Level Mathematics, such as psychology, sports and social science, and natural science and business-related courses.

Entry Requirements

Core Maths is intended for students who have passed GCSE Mathematics at Grade 5 or better, but who have not chosen to study AS or A-Level Mathematics. It can be taken alongside A-Levels or other qualifications, including vocational courses.

ECONOMICS

The course is designed to capture and inspire interest in making links to modern life and the world around you. It provides you with the opportunity to study a wide range of economic concepts which can be applied in a variety of regional, national and international contexts.

Course Content

Economics is directly relevant to the modern world; its topicality will develop an understanding of your role in society.

The stimulating content will encourage you to develop skills as an independent learner, critical thinker and decision maker – all personal assets that will make you will need as you progress to higher education and/or the workplace

A-Level Economics is divided into two parts: Microeconomics and Macroeconomics. Microeconomics explores the concept of an ideal free market economy, based on perfect competition, and compares it with the complexity and inefficiency of real modern market phenomena. Macroeconomics looks at economics from a national point of view and explores themes like Inequality, Unemployment and Immigration, Economic Growth and Trade/Budget deficits.

After doing an A-Level in Economics, you will understand the assumptions behind economic terms such as 'free markets', which increasingly dominate political debate. You will realise the bluntness of economic policy tools and the extent to which economic concepts and methods help us understand and tackle issues such as climate change, inequality, and racism. You will discover that many popular 'economic arguments' are actually political arguments couched in economic terms. You will then be equipped to reason out and debate the merits and demerits of each argument and to choose an option that suits your own beliefs.

Exam Board

Edexcel

Assessment

The course is assessed through three exam papers. This is a mixture of short answer questions (often focused Maths based or interpreting data e.g. graphs and tables) and essay style questions. The essay questions will often require you to draw your own diagram to help explain your argument.

Paper 1 Markets and market failure (microeconomic issues). A section of data response questions, and a section of essay questions.

Paper 2 National and international economy. (macroeconomic issues) Same question structure as Paper 1.

Paper 3 Economic principles and issues (a synoptic paper which can test any part of the A-Level).

Progression

As well as leading into Economics-based degrees, A-Level Economics is a good background to a wide range of other degrees, such as Humanities, Politics & Law. Be aware that top Economics degree courses may well also require A-Level Maths. Economics students often go on to work in a range of businesses, finance, government or law.

Entry Requirements

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Maths; English Grade 5

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The English language A-level allows students to develop their curiosity and interest in the use of English, through learning about its structures and functions.

Course Content

By learning all about the mechanics of English language and the linguistic frameworks for the study of language, they are able to investigate how language is used in the world around them. English language is a suitable A-level for anyone who is interested in how understanding the nuances of language can shape and change meaning. It will also allow them to develop linguistic, analytical and investigative skills.

Unit 1: Language, the Individual and Society

Section A – Language, the individual and society

In this unit you will explore different text types and understand how to apply methods of language analysis to explore audience, purpose, genre, mode and representation. Section B - Children's Language Development. In this unit you will explore how children develop their spoken and written skills.

Unit 2: Language, Diversity and Change

Section A – Diversity and Change. In this unit you will explore how language changes over time and according to different social, occupational, ethnic and gender groups (including global English). Section B – Language Discourses. In this unit you will explore how texts are produced to convey views and opinions about language issues.

Unit 3: Language in Action (Non-exam assessment). You will carry out research into an area of language of personal interest and produce an accompanying piece of original writing

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment

Paper 1: Language, the Individual and Society

A written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
100 marks 40% of A-level

Paper 2: Language Diversity and Change

A written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
100 marks 40% of A-level

(NEA) Non-exam assessment: Language in Action Language Investigation

- Original Writing
- Methods of language analysis are integrated into the activities

Word count: 3,500 words 100 marks
20% of A-level

Assessed by teachers and then moderated by AQA

Students produce:

- a language investigation (2,000 words excluding data)
- a piece of original writing and commentary (1,500 words total)

Progression

English Language and Literature complement most A Level subjects and higher education choices. It will help students develop and refine their use and understanding of English Language in the real work and in literature. It provides a good foundation for further studies in any communication subject along with careers in areas such as journalism, publishing, law, teaching, foreign languages or speech therapy.

Entry Requirements

GCSE Grade 6 or above in English Literature and in English Language.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

The English Literature course develops students' enjoyment of: Tragedy; Crime Fiction and an Independent Study of Critical Theory.

Course Content

This course is suitable for students who enjoy reading widely, critically and independently across centuries, genre and genders. The course explores a wide range of texts spanning a range of time periods which students will study both individually and comparatively by theme and genre.

Exam Board

AQA Specification B

Assessment

This is a two year course and you will achieve an A-level qualification at the end.

Paper 1
Option 1A Aspects of tragedy

Study of three texts: one Shakespeare text; one Drama text and one further text, one must be written pre-1900.

Assessed

Written exam: 2 hours and 30 minutes

Closed book. 75 marks. 40% of your A-level

Questions

Section A: One passage- based question on a set Shakespeare text (25 marks)

Section B: One essay question on a set Shakespeare text (25 marks)

Section C: One essay question linking two texts (25 marks).

Paper 2: Texts and genre
Option 2b: Elements of political and social protest writing

Study of three texts: one post-2000 prose text, one poetry and one further text, one which must be written pre 1900

Examination will include an unseen passage.

Assessed

Written exam: 3 hours
Open book. 75 marks
40% of A Level

Section A

One compulsory question on an unseen text (25 marks)

One compulsory question on a set text (25 marks)

One essay question which links two texts (25 marks).

Non-exam assessment: Theory and independence

Assessed

Study of two texts: one poetry and one prose text, informed by study of the Critical Anthology

Two essays of 1250–500 words, each responding to a different text and linking to a different aspect of the Critical anthology.

Assessed

50 marks
20% of A-level

Assessed by teachers and Moderated by AQA

Progression

A-Level English is looked upon favourably by Colleges and Universities. Students could consider a career in teaching, journalism, editing, advertising, marketing or any career requiring excellent communication skills. For students considering a career in business or commerce, A-Level English demonstrates good analytical and comprehension skills which are beneficial in this area.

Entry Requirements

GCSE Grade 6 or above in English Literature and in English Language.

FINE ART

This course involves exploring, researching and acquiring techniques and developing skills, knowledge and understanding in a range of media specific to Fine Art.

Course Content

This course involves exploring, researching and acquiring techniques and developing skills, knowledge and understanding in a range of media specific to Fine Art.

Year 1: Coursework Portfolio, Personal Investigation & Mock Controlled Assessment

Year 2: Personal Investigation (continued) & Controlled Assessment

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment

Year 1: Coursework Portfolio & Personal Investigation

Students will undertake a series of projects in order to build up a coursework portfolio. Beginning with a theme, students will develop skills and knowledge by exploring a wide range of media and techniques including drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture and photography. Students will also be required to undertake research and explore the ideas surrounding an artist's work and methods, and relate this to their own work. Year 1 is like a foundation course where students are encouraged to build on strengths learnt at GCSE and begin to specialise in one area.

Students will also be starting to work on their Personal Investigation. This will be supported throughout this process. A written component is also expected to support the practical component, which is a great way of demonstrating & understanding your creative process.

Mock Controlled Assessment

This takes the form of a timed assessment responding to a theme of interest. Students will have ten hours of controlled time to develop their idea into a final outcome.

Year 2 Personal Investigation- Continued (60%)

This comprises the major practical project developed on an individual basis which should have personal significance and direction. Students will choose their own media and themes in consultation with staff. Students will explore and investigate a personal topic which also involves a written 1000 - 3000 word essay supporting the practical work.

Controlled Assessment (40%)

This takes the form of a timed assessment responding to a question set by the exam board. Students will have eight weeks to prepare and fifteen hours of controlled time to develop their idea into a final outcome.

Progression

Our aim is to expose students to as broad a range of methods and approaches as we can. We will encourage students to develop their work in line with their own interests and strengths as well as equipping students with a solid foundation of skills. This enables students to build a strong portfolio of work both for examination and for entry to art related courses post 18. Successful A-Level Art students can go on to study on a range of Art & Design foundation and degree courses, nationally and internationally, and train in their area of specialisation, before going on to become an Artist, Designer, Architect, or Arts Professional in a broad variety of specialist areas.

Entry Requirements

GCSE Art, Textiles or Graphics Grade 5. GCSE English Grade 4 or above.

There is a small annual charge (currently £25) levied on this course to pay for all necessary materials to successfully complete this course.

FRENCH

A-Level French will allow you to develop a good command of vocabulary and grammar, to be able to translate into and out of the language, and to speak it confidently.

Course Content

A-Level French includes studying social issues and trends in relation to any Francophone country. You will also study political and artistic culture and look in detail at literature and films written in French. Studying literature and film really brings the language to life and also consolidates your understanding of culture and society that is so important for other topics you study. Underpinning all of those topics is work in advanced grammar and the vocabulary which will increase your fluency and ability to communicate in that language.

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment

All exams will take place at the end of the course and there are three papers:

Paper 1 Listening, reading and French into English translation

Paper 2 Written response to a book and a film and translation into French

Paper 3 Involves speaking live on two tasks: discussion on a sub-theme (on a given stimulus card); independent research presentation; discussion on independent research.

Progression

Universities value students who have taken a modern language at A-Level. An A-Level in a modern language provides a particularly good foundation for a degree in History, English, Politics, or Law and also opens the door to doing a joint honours degree (for example English and French or Law and French). Having an additional language can enhance your employability in a world which increasingly depends on global relationships.

Entry Requirements

Grade 6 or above in GCSE French.

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

This course builds on the knowledge you have already gained from GCSE Maths and the knowledge you are gaining from the A-Level Mathematics course to go further into abstract concepts.

Course Content

This course needs to come completed alongside the Mathematics A-Level.

In Further Mathematics you will study Core Pure and Applied modules.

All students will have to complete Core Pure 1 which includes: Proof, Complex numbers, Matrices, Further algebra and functions, Further Calculus, Further Vectors.

In addition to this, students will take the two following options:

Decision 1: Algorithms and graph theory, Algorithms on graphs, Critical Path Analysis and Linear programming.

Further Pure 1: Vectors, Conic Sections, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus and numerical methods.

Exam Board

Edexcel

Assessment

This is a linear qualification and you will four exam papers. All papers are out of 75 marks and are equally weighted.

Paper 1 – Core Pure 1

Paper 2 – Core Pure 2

Paper 3 – Optional Content – Decisions will be made based on the interested of the cohort

Paper 4 –Optional Content – Decisions will be made based on the interested of the cohort

Progression

Further mathematics is considered to be a prestigious qualification by all universities. It may be particularly useful to any students considering studying Mathematics, Statistics, Physics, Computer Science, Engineering or any other numerate degree at one of the UK's leading universities.

Entry Requirements

Grade 7 or above in GCSE Mathematics.

A-Level mathematics is compulsory for students who wish to study A-Level Further Mathematics.

GEOGRAPHY

A-Level Geography will study overlapping topics within both human and physical geography allowing students to apply their knowledge to a worldwide context.

Course Content

Geography students will develop skills in extended writing, research and presenting throughout the course.

Physical Geography topics will include:

Water and Carbon Cycles - investigating the major stores of water and carbon at or near the Earth's surface and their dynamic interaction.

Glacial Systems and Landscapes - studying this dynamic ecosystem and their interaction with changes in past and present climate conditions.

Hazards - exploring the lithosphere and atmosphere and how the natural hazards can dramatically impact the human population.

Human Geography topics will include:

Global Systems and Governance – focusing on globalisation and how the economic, social and political changes are driving forces of the global economy.

Changing places – considering people's engagement with places, their experience of them and the qualities they ascribe to them.

In addition, students will also carry out coursework which will be centred around their own Geographical fieldwork investigation.

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment

The course ends with 2 exams. One paper covers the physical Geography elements and one paper covers the human Geography. There is then the coursework element which is a 3000–4000 word essay based on your fieldwork.)

Fieldwork

All students are required to undertake four days of fieldwork looking at both human and physical geography, this will be based within the UK. There is also the potential of an overseas non-compulsory field trip.

Progression

Students who gain a Geography degree are the most employable graduates across all degrees with the exception of career specific degrees. This is due to the transferable skills and wide understanding of the world they develop. A degree in Geography opens the door to careers such as meteorology, town planning, law, surveying, conversation & the environment, politics & charity work.

Entry Requirements

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Geography. If you have not studied Geography then a Grade 5 or above in English or another humanities would be required.*

*Considered on a case by case basis.

HISTORY

A-Level History allows you to go deeper into your study of history, creating more sophisticated arguments and encountering increasingly interesting sources and stories from the past.

Course Content

A-Level History allows you to go deeper into your study of history, creating more sophisticated arguments and encountering increasingly interesting sources and stories from the past.

Topic 1: Tudors 1485–1603: This will build on students learning in KS4 as we trace religious conflict, global exploration and European rivalry over the course of the Tudor dynasty.

Topic 2: Democracy and Nazism: Germany 1918–1945. Students will learn about the dramatic events of the early 20th century in Germany, tracking political, social and economic changes that transformed a leading democracy into a totalitarian state under the Nazi Party.

Topic 3: Coursework enquiry. Students will be able to undertake their own enquiry and research around a topic of their choice. This allows students to be hands-on in researching and questioning events and people in the past that interest them, as well as preparing students for independence in the workplace as well as mirroring undergraduate studies.

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment

The course ends with 2 exams based on topics you have studied. This will include a range of question-styles, including essays, source analysis and responding to historians' interpretations.

The course also has coursework which is a research piece presented in a 3000-4000 word essay on a topic you have chosen.

Progression

History is regarded as a top tier subject by Universities. It can lead to further study of the Humanities subjects but also a range of other subjects which value the research and writing skills given by History. This includes law, economics, journalism and even Maths/ Sciences! History can lead to a range of career options, it is seen as a 'door-opening' subject. History students go on to work in businesses, finance, journalism, government, law and a range of other careers.

Entry Requirements

Grade 6 at GCSE History.

MATHEMATICS

The logic and reasoning skills developed by studying A-Level Mathematics makes it a widely respected qualification even in non-mathematical fields.

Course Content

In Year 12 you will study Pure and Applied Maths.

In Pure maths you will cover: Proof, Algebra and Functions, Coordinate Geometry in the Cartesian plane, Sequences and Series, Trigonometry, Exponentials and Logarithms, Differentiation, Integration and Vectors.

In Applied maths you will cover both Statistics and Mechanics. The Statistics element consists of: Statistical Sampling, Data presentation and interpretation, Probability, Statistical distributions and Statistical hypothesis testing. The Mechanics element consists of: Quantities and units in mechanics, Kinematics and Forces and Newton's laws.

In Year 13 you will study more Pure and Applied Maths.

In Pure Maths you will cover the same topics listed in Year 12 but in more depth in addition to Numerical Methods.

In Applied Maths you will cover the same topics as above but in more depth, further to this you will study Moments which is additional to the Mechanics element.

In Applied Maths you will cover the same topics as above but in more depth, further to this you will study Moments which is additional to the Mechanics element.

Exam Board

Edexcel

Assessment

This is a linear qualification and you will have three exam papers. All papers are 100 marks long and are of equal weighting. Two of the three papers will be based on Pure Mathematics and the third is on Statistics & Mechanics.

Subject Linking

Many subjects link well with Mathematics. Mathematics is commonly studied with Physics, Business Studies, Economics, Chemistry, Biology, Psychology or Computer Science.

Progression

An A-Level in Mathematics enables access to a wide range of career and Higher Education opportunities. Possible further career paths include those in science and technology, computing, engineering, medicine, business and management, finance and accountancy, architecture, law and teaching.

Entry Requirements

Grade 7 or above in GCSE Mathematics. There is no requirement to have studied Further Mathematics or Statistics at GCSE.

MEDIA STUDIES

A-Level Media Studies will introduce you to many different media and encourages theoretical considerations across all platforms studied.

Course Content

Audience reception, representation, regulation and ownership and gender theory are just some of the theories you will learn about. A-Level Media Studies allows you to question the validity of the information you receive on a daily basis and to be aware of bias within the media so that by the end of the two-year period you should have an even better understanding of the world we live in. You will also have the opportunity to consolidate your learning into a creative cross-media project.

Exam Board

EDUQAS

Assessment

Component 1: Media Products, Industries and Audiences

Written examination:
2 hours 15 minutes (35%)

The examination assesses media language, representation, media industries, audiences and media contexts. It consists of two sections:

Section A: Analysing Media Language & Representation

Section B: Understanding Media Industries & Audiences

Component 2: Media Forms and Products in Depth

Written examination:
2 hours 30 minutes (35%)

The examination assesses media language, representation, media industries, audiences and media contexts. It consists of three sections:

Section A: Television in the Global Age

Section B: Magazines: Mainstream and Alternative Media

Section C: Media in the Online Age

Component 3: Cross Media Production

NEA (30%)

An individual cross-media production based on two forms in response to a choice of briefs set by WJEC, applying knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework and digital convergence.

Progression

This qualification allows students to investigate and explore media industries and their products, apply this knowledge to their own media productions and develop critical faculties which enable them to interpret and interact with the global media on a sophisticated level. Progression to a wide range of higher education courses linked to media production and academies study is possible together with opportunities in media industries and apprenticeships.

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Literature.

MUSIC

A-Level Music is designed to allow you to pursue your own musical interests.

Course Content

You will develop skills in the three distinct but related disciplines of performing, composing and appraising, whilst having flexibility to specialise in either performing or composing. You may choose to apportion 10% of your assessment to either performing or composing as an in-depth study.

Exam Board

EDUQAS

Assessment

Component 1: Performing

Option A: Total duration of performances: 10-12 minutes Option A: 35% of qualification Option B: Total duration of performances: 6-8 minutes Option B: 25% of qualification

Component 2: Composing

Option A: Total duration of compositions: 4-6 minutes

Option A: 25% of qualification

Option B: Total duration of compositions: 8-10 minutes

Option B: 35% of qualification Component 3: Appraising

Written examination: 2 hours 15 minutes (approximately)

40% of qualification

Progression

The possibilities are endless. Music will enable you to demonstrate many skills which employers, colleges and universities will be looking for. It can also give you opportunities to travel, meet people and get the most out of life. You could continue to study Music at Music College, or Universities or you could explore any other subject of your choosing including Medicine, Journalism and Education.

Entry Requirements

A GCSE Music Grade 6 is recommended in addition to being able to play an instrument to Grade 5 standard. Skills in Numeracy/Mathematics, Literacy/English and Information Communication Technology will provide a good basis for progression to this Level 3 qualification. This specification builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills established at GCSE.

LEVEL 3 BTEC IN PERFORMING ARTS (EXTENDED CERTIFICATE)

Course Content

Level 3 Performing Arts is for students who are interested in learning about the performing arts sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, including but not exclusively in performing arts. This qualification gives a broad introduction to the performing arts sector with an emphasis on core knowledge and fundamental skills which are transferable across other sectors (including communication, presentation, physical and creative skills).

Assessment

There are a variety of mandatory and optional units which will be tailored to suit you and your strengths. The course is assessed through a mixture of internally moderated units and externally moderated units. The assessment will take place over the course of the two years and will involve written and performance assessments / examinations.

Exam Board

Pearson

Progression

In addition to the performing arts sector-specific content, this qualification provides you with the opportunity to develop all-round performance skills and transferable skills such as self-confidence, self-presentation, personal discipline, time management and organisational skills which are highly regarded by higher education and employers. All of the content in the qualification will help prepare you for further study whether that be in performing arts or another subject.

Entry Requirements

A Grade 5 or above in GCSE English is recommended. You will also need to have studied any Performing Arts subject at Level 2 / GCSE and achieved a Grade 5 or above.

PHILOSOPHY

Studying Philosophy, at any level, introduces individuals to the world of critical thinking.

Course Content

Studying Philosophy, at any level, introduces individuals to the world of critical thinking. Philosophy at A-level grounds core philosophical ideas and methodology while facing some of the biggest questions through a secular lense. With a general study of epistemology, metaphysics and moral philosophy, this A-level course provides an exciting introduction into a deeper understanding of knowledge, morality and argumentation.

Students will study four distinct areas:

Epistemology: how do we know what we know? What is perception and what is reality?

Moral Philosophy: the debated meaning of good, bad, right and wrong and learning the moral frameworks that can be used to determine these.

Metaphysics of God: the concept and nature of God across different beliefs. Arguments around the debate about the existence of God.

Metaphysics of mind: what do we mean by mind? How can our mental states be explained and justified.

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment

Two written papers take place at the end of the course. These are essay-based exams and there is no coursework.

Paper 1: Epistemology & Moral Philosophy

Paper 2: The metaphysics of God & the metaphysics of mind

Progression

Philosophy is widely appreciated as a flexible subject. Regardless of whether you are chasing a career in law, economics or politics, philosophy is considered a 'preferred' subject for many universities due to its universal and critical nature.

Entry Requirements

No prior study of RS is necessary. GCSE English 6+ and GCSE Maths 6+.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography is a means of communicating in a visual way. It should challenge the way we think about the world, and encourage us to think about the work of photographers and other lens-based artists.

Course Content

The emphasis of this course will be on using photography as a creative and expressive means to communicate ideas, thoughts and feelings.

Year 1 – Coursework Portfolio

Students will undertake a series of projects in order to build up a coursework portfolio. Beginning with a theme, students will develop skills and knowledge by exploring a wide range of media and techniques including the ability to explore elements of visual language, line, form, colour, pattern and texture in the context of photography awareness of intended audience or purpose for their chosen area(s) of photography. Students will develop their ability to respond to an issue, theme, concept or idea; work to a brief or answer a need in photography; build an appreciation of viewpoint, composition, aperture, depth of field, shutter speed and movement appropriate use of the camera, film, lenses, filters and lighting for work in their chosen area(s) of photography. Students will also develop their understanding of techniques related to the production of photographic images and, where appropriate, presentation and layout.

Mock Controlled Assessment:
This takes the form of a timed test responding to a theme of interest. Students will have ten hours of controlled time to develop their idea into a final outcome.

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment

Year 2 – Personal Investigation (60%)

This comprises a major practical project developed on an individual basis, which has personal significance and direction. Students will choose their own themes in consultation with staff. Students will explore and investigate a personal practical topic which also involves writing a 1000 - 3000 word essay supporting the practical work.

Controlled Assessment (40%)

This takes the form of a timed test responding to a question set by the exam board. Students will have eight weeks to prepare and fifteen hours of controlled time to develop their idea into a final outcome.

Progression

Digital Photography is a course which enables students to progress to foundation arts courses, university degrees in areas such as Fashion, Advertising, Journalism or Film Photography.

Entry Requirements

A GCSE in Art or Photography is not essential however it is useful for students to have a good English GCSE Grade 4 or above.

*Please note you may be required to provide a portfolio of your work at interview.

PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology is the 'scientific study of the mind and behaviour', and the A-Level offers an introduction to six 'core' areas of the discipline.

Course Content

In year 1 students will explore different approaches in psychology including learning approaches, biopsychology and psychopathy as well as learning more about memory, social influence and attachment. Year 2 involves a number of optional units ranging from relationships and gender to aggression and forensic psychology. Throughout the course students will also study research methods and statistical analysis of data.

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment

Students will sit 3 papers in total each lasting 2 hours and worth 33.3% of the final grade.

All papers include a mixture of multiple choice questions, short answer and essay based questions.

Paper 1: Introductory topics in psychology

Paper 2: Psychology in context

Paper 3: Issues and options

Subject Linking

Biology, Sociology & Mathematics

Progression

An A Level in Psychology provides an excellent foundation for further study at university, particularly for degrees in Psychology and related fields such as Criminology, Neuroscience, and Education. It is the first step towards professional careers including clinical, forensic, occupational, or educational psychology. However, the subject also develops transferable skills in research, critical thinking, data analysis, and communication, which are highly valued across a wide range of career paths. Psychology A Level is therefore equally relevant for progression into areas such as law, business, healthcare, social work, marketing, and teaching, offering students flexible opportunities for the future.

Entry Requirements

GCSE Grade 5 in English, Maths and 5-5 in Science.

PHYSICS

A-Level Physics enables students to build on their knowledge of the laws of physics, applying their understanding to solve problems on topics ranging from subatomic particles to the entire universe.

Course Content

A-Level Physics enables students to build on their knowledge of the laws of physics, applying their understanding to solve problems on topics ranging from subatomic particles to the entire universe.

They also have the opportunity to develop all the relevant practical skills throughout the course.

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment

The whole of the A-Level Physics course is examined at the end of the full course. There are three theory papers and a practical skills assessment. Your grade is determined by how well you do on the theory papers. Your result in the practical is noted as an endorsement alongside your A-Level grade.

The papers are: 2 papers each covering about half of the main course content.

A third paper with data response / synoptic questions which can come from any part of the specification, plus questions on the option topic (see earlier).

The practical skills assessment involves performing a series of twelve experiments in class time which are assessed.

Progression

Physics is a highly respected A-Level. A good grade in A-Level Physics demonstrates to an employer that you have analytical and mathematical skills that you can apply to real life situations. There are many possible career paths that it will create for you, for example: Engineering, Medicine, Forensic Science, Astronomy, Cosmology, Electronics, Power generation, Finance and many more.

Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in 2 science GCSEs, Grade 6 in Maths and Grade 5 in English is recommended. If you would like to take A-Level Physics, we could also recommend taking A-Level Mathematics or Core Mathematics, as these subjects support each other very well. *Thinking of studying more than one A-Level Science subject or taking A-Level Science with A-Level Mathematics? We would strongly recommend that students wishing to study more than one A-Level Science subject or an A-Level Science and A-Level Mathematics subject have grades 7 or above in their GCSE.

SPANISH

A-Level Spanish will allow you to develop a good command of vocabulary and grammar, to be able to translate into and out of the language, and to speak it confidently.

Course Content

A-Level Spanish includes studying social issues and trends in relation to any Spanish speaking country. You will also study political and artistic culture and look in detail at literature and films written in Spanish. Studying literature and film really brings the language to life and also consolidates your understanding of culture and society that is so important for other topics you study. Underpinning all of those topics is work in advanced grammar and the vocabulary which will increase your fluency and ability to communicate in that language.

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment

All exams will take place at the end of the course and there are three papers:

Paper 1 Listening, reading and Spanish into English translation

Paper 2 Written response to a book and a film and translation into Spanish

Paper 3 Involves speaking live on two tasks: discussion on a sub-theme (on a given stimulus card); independent research presentation; discussion on independent research.

Progression

Spanish has strong cross curricular links with many other subjects and is highly valued by Universities and future employers. An A-Level in a modern language provides a particularly good foundation for a degree in History, English, Politics, or Law and also opens the door to doing a joint honours degree (for example English and French or Law and French). Having an additional language can enhance your employability in a world which increasingly depends on global relationships. University courses such as Medicine and Engineering favour students who have studied languages as it shows an ability to communicate and provides the opportunity to study/ work abroad and/ or work for an international company. Studying a language improves understanding of your own language and develops appreciation of other cultures.

Entry Requirements

Grade 6 or above in GCSE Spanish

LEVEL 3 SPORT & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Course Content

Students will cover three mandatory units and 1 optional unit.

Unit 1: Body systems and the effects of physical activity (Exam) – in this unit you will gain an understanding of the structures and functions of the key body systems, how these support and impact performance in sport and physical activity and the effects that physical activity, training and lifestyle can have on them.

Unit 2: Sports Coaching and Activity Leadership (Coursework) – this unit gives you an understanding behind the theory of what makes good sports coaches and activity leaders and methods that can be employed to improve the performance of participants.

Unit 3: Sports Organisation and Development (Exam) – you will gain an understanding of the organisation involved in sport in the UK, their roles and responsibilities and how they work together. You will also gain an understanding of Sports Development, including organisations involved, who sports development is targeted at and why, how sports development is carried out and how the success of sports development initiatives can be measured.

Optional Unit to be confirmed.

Exam Board

OCR Cambridge Technical

Assessment

2 Written examinations

2 pieces of NEA

Progression

Degree level at university. NCFE Level 3 certificate in Personal Training, NVQ Diploma in Personal Training, NVQ Diploma in Outdoor Programmes. NGB outdoor coaching or instructor qualifications. NGB coaching awards. Apprenticeships in various sectors in sport, physical activity & leisure.

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 or above in GCSE Physical Education or a Merit in Level 2 Sport. A Grade 5 in English would also be beneficial.

SOCIOLOGY

Sociology is the study of society - how people interact in groups. A-Level Sociology examines social behaviour from a variety of perspectives: how it originates and then develops, and the ways people are organised into groups according to distinctions such as class, gender and race.

Course Content

A-Level Sociology also looks at the institutions and forces which shape and are shaped by groups within a society, such as the media, religion and education. A-Level Sociology focuses on contemporary society, providing an awareness of the importance of social structure and actions in explaining social forces and issues.

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment

Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods

- 2 hour written exam
- 80 marks
- 33.3% of A-level

Questions:

- Education: short answer and extended writing, 50 marks
- Methods in Context: extended writing, 20 marks
- Theory and Methods: extended writing, 10 marks

Paper 2: Topics in Sociology

- 2 hour written exam
- 80 marks
- 33.3% of A-level

Questions:

- Section A: extended writing, 40 marks
- Section B: extended writing, 40 marks

Paper 3: Crime & Deviance with Theory & Methods

- 2 hour written exam
- 80 marks
- 33.3% of A-level

Questions:

- Crime and Deviance: short answer and extended writing, 50 marks
- Theory and Methods: extended writing, 30 marks

Progression

Sociology provides an excellent starting point for any social science degree from Economics, Psychology, and Politics to Criminology and Philosophy. You do not need to have an A-Level in Sociology to take Sociology at university, though it helps. A degree in Sociology can lead to many career options including teaching, advertising, research, marketing and business. Sociology is an academic subject teaching you transferable skills so really it's up to you which area of work you choose to go into afterwards.

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 or above in English is desirable.

TEXTILES

Our aim is to expose students to as broad a range of methods and approaches as we can.

Course Content

You will be investigating various techniques & makers throughout the course creating a personal investigative & portfolio to allow you to become an independent maker in your own right. You will also be expected to write a personal investigation linking to your practice.

Year 1: Coursework Portfolio & Mock Controlled Assessment

Year 2: Personal Investigation & Controlled Assessment

Exam Board

AQA

Assessment

Year 1: Coursework Portfolio

Students will undertake a series of projects in order to build up a coursework portfolio. Beginning with a theme, students will develop skills and knowledge by exploring a wide range of media and techniques including drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture and photography. Students will also be required to undertake research and explore the ideas surrounding an artist's work and methods, and relate this to their own work. Year 1 is like a foundation course where students are encouraged to build on strengths learnt at GCSE and begin to specialise in one area.

Mock Controlled Assessment

This takes the form of a timed assessment responding to a theme of interest. Students will have ten hours of controlled time to develop their idea into a final outcome.

Year 2 Personal Investigation (60%)

This comprises the major practical project developed on an individual basis which should have personal significance and direction. Students will choose their own media and themes in consultation with staff. Students will explore and investigate a personal topic which also involves a written 1000 - 3000 word essay supporting the practical work.

Controlled Assessment (40%)

This takes the form of a timed assessment responding to a question set by the exam board. Students will have eight weeks to prepare and fifteen hours of controlled time to develop their idea into a final outcome.

Entry Requirements

GCSE Art Textiles, GCSE D&T Textiles at Grade 5 or above are desirable. However, having a GCSE 5 or above in Art, Craft and Design, Fine Art, photography or D&T Product Design or Graphics is also sufficient.

Progression

We will encourage students to develop their work in line with their own interests and strengths as well as equipping students with a solid foundation of skills. This enables students to build a strong portfolio of work both for examination and for entry to design related courses post 18. Successful A level Textiles students can go on to study on a range of Art & Design foundation and degree courses, nationally and internationally, and train in their area of specialisation, before going on to become a Textile Artist, Textile Designer, Architect, or Arts Professional in a broad variety of specialist areas.

A portfolio of evidence showing their technical skills and abilities can be considered at interview if a student has undertaken sewing and textiles projects at home.

Materials

Students are asked to provide the basics to enable work to be completed outside the department. A voluntary contribution is also asked for at the beginning of each academic year. It is recommended that students invest in their own sewing kit and sewing machine to use at home if they are able.

KAB6

King's Academy Binfield
St. George's Park , Binfield, Bracknell, Berkshire RG42 4FS

Telephone: +44 (0)1344 306983
Email: admin.bi@kingsacademies.uk

www.kgabinfield.uk

King's Academy Binfield