



Leventhorpe
A Business and Enterprise Academy



SIXTH FORM COURSE GUIDE

2020 - 2021

KEY DATES FOR APPLICANTS

Deadline for Application Forms: 14th December 2020

Conditional Offers: By end of January 2021

Sixth Form Induction: June 2021 – date tbc

GCSE Results Day/Sixth Form Admissions Day: Thursday 27th August 2021

First day of Term: Thursday 2 September 2021

CONTENTS

Subject Entry Criteria:

A summary of all available subjects, with a brief guide on deciding which subjects to study.

Subjects:

A separate page for each subject available, in alphabetical order, as listed in the following Subject Entry Criteria pages detailing:

- Exam Board
- Course and Assessment Structure
- Entry Criteria
- Career Opportunities
- Contact person for further subject details

Additional Fourth Option Subject:

- Further Maths

Enrichment Offer*:

- Core Mathematics
- Extended Project Qualification
- Financial Studies
- Mathematics GCSE (Retake)
- English GCSE (Retake)

*All students will be given the opportunity to study an enrichment qualification alongside their A Level or BTEC offer.

A Levels from September 2018:

In 2018, the government made changes to the structure of A Levels. All A Levels are now fully linear meaning that most students will study three A Level subjects in our Sixth Form. Full details may be found on the following pages.

Admission Criteria:

The ethos of our sixth form is welcoming and inclusive, but we are committed to academic excellence and to ensuring that students follow appropriate courses and so we apply admission rules to courses to ensure that applicants have reached a sufficiently firm foundation for success. Applicants will need to reach specific grades or levels in order to be able to choose particular subjects and in addition will need to score 25 points or more across their best five qualifications. We are a full-time only sixth form and so an applicant has to have the grades to pick three main level three subjects if they are to join us.

Online Applications:

If you wish to apply to Leventhorpe Sixth Form for a place in September 2021, please follow the link to the application form on the 'Entry to the Sixth Form' page of our website: www.leventhorpe.net

SUBJECT ENTRY CRITERIA

In choosing your Sixth Form subjects, you should consider what you enjoy, what you are good at, the right combination for your chosen degree or career and whether your predicted grades qualify you to study those subjects. The broad range of subjects we offer is designed to deliver a personalised programme of study, providing excellent standards of learning and teaching, enabling greater support and ultimately successful outcomes for your future.

In order to gain a place at Leventhorpe Sixth Form, applicants need to score 25 points or more from their best five qualifications. In addition to this minimum threshold, subjects also have minimum requirements as detailed below.

Entry Requirements for Individual Subjects

Subject	Entry Requirement
Art and Design	Grade 6 in GCSE Art
Art Photography	Grade 5 in Art or Design Technology
Biology	Grade 6 in GCSE Biology or Combined Science
Business Studies	Grade 6 GCSE Business or English Language
Chemistry	Grade 6 in GCSE Chemistry or Combined Science
Computer Science	Grade 6 in GCSE Computing (if Computing not taken at GCSE at least a Grade 6 in GCSE Maths)
Design and Technology – Product Design	Grade 6 GCSE in any Design and Technology subject or Grade 6 in Art
Drama and Theatre Studies	Grade 6 in GCSE Drama
Economics	Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics
English Language	Grade 6 in GCSE English Language
English Literature	Grade 6 in GCSE English Literature
Enterprise (double option - BTEC)	25 points across your best five qualifications
Fashion and Textiles	Grade 6 GCSE in Design and Technology Textiles or grade 6 in Art or Art Textiles
French	Grade 6 in GCSE French
Geography	Grade 6 in Geography

Government and Politics	Grade 6 in a GCSE Humanities subject (Geography, History, Philosophy or RS)
History	Grade 6 in GCSE History
ICT - Cambridge Tech Level 3 (single option)	25 points across your best five qualifications
Mathematics	Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics
Music	Grade 6 in GCSE Music
Physics	Grade 6 in GCSE Physics or Combined Science or Maths
Psychology	Grade 6 in a GCSE Science subject
Religious Studies	Grade 6 in GCSE Philosophy or English Language
Sociology	25 points across your best five qualifications
Spanish	Grade 6 in GCSE Spanish
Sport and Exercise BTEC (double option)	Grade 6 in GCSE PE or Combined Science or Biology

Additional Fourth Option Subject

Further Maths	Grade 8 in GCSE Mathematics as well as electing to take A Level Mathematics
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Enrichment Offer*

Extended Project Qualification

Financial Studies

Core Mathematics

Mathematics GCSE (Retake)	Must be taken if grade 4 in Mathematics was not achieved
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English GCSE (Retake)	Must be taken if grade 4 in English Language or English Literature was not achieved
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*All students will be given the opportunity to study an enrichment qualification alongside their A Level or BTEC offer.



ART & DESIGN & ART PHOTOGRAPHY

Exam Board AQA

Course and Assessment Structure

We offer a broad based course in both Art and Photography, exploring practical and critical/contextual work through a range of processes and media. Our aim is to encourage students to develop their intellectual, imaginative, creative and intuitive capabilities in addition to their investigative skills. In addition we encourage the development of their knowledge and understanding of the interrelationships between art, craft, design and media and technologies in contemporary and past societies and cultures.

Students follow an introductory skills based course in both areas of study followed by short personal developments of an idea. This leads to a full in depth and extended personal investigation. In addition life drawings, still life work and visits to galleries are an integral part of the development of our students of art and design and photography.

Component 1: Personal Investigation

60% of A Level

A personal investigation supported by written element of 1000-3000 words, set and marked by the centre and moderated by AQA

Component 2: Externally set assignment

40% of A Level

Work produced will be marked by the centre and moderated by AQA

The contents of each component portfolio will be determined by the nature of the course of study, whether it is Art Craft and Design or Photography. Students should produce a collection of materials which exemplifies work carried out during the A level course.

Entry Criteria

Art & Design: GCSE Grade 6 in Art

Art Photography: GCSE Grade 5 in Art or Design Technology

Career Opportunities

Fine Art, advertising, printing, fashion/textiles design, pattern cutting, interior design, product design, photography, architecture, theatre design, costume design, jewellery design, art history, antiques, graphic design and marketing, art education, art therapy, museum studies, conservation studies, restoration, typography, furniture making, digital media, software design, millinery, book illustration, book making, film making, computer visualisation and animation, creative sound design, performance art, fashion promotion/marketing, industrial design and marketing, model making, ceramics, printmaking, web design, 3D computer modelling, glass blowing and letter cutting.

For further information, please contact Mrs Lucy White, Head of Faculty.

BIOLOGY

Exam Board OCR

Course and Assessment Structure

The study of Biology at A Level is a desirable and often necessary requirement for studying a very large range of higher education courses. Biology is a natural science concerned with the study of life and living organisms, including their structure, function, growth, evolution, distribution and taxonomy.

Year 12

Students will study four modules during the first year which will include topics such as cell structure, biological molecules, exchange and transport as well as biodiversity and evolution. Practical skills will be developed throughout the year.

Students will be expected to attend a field course trip to Epping Forest which will complement the biodiversity topic.

Year 13

Examination: 100% and a practical endorsement.

There are three examined components that cover all elements of the 2 year A Level course.

In addition to those covered in Year 12, topics in the second year of the course include communication and homeostasis, excretion, neuronal and hormonal communication, photosynthesis, respiration, inheritance, ecosystems and cellular control.

The practical endorsement consists of a series of experimental activities designed to help students develop all aspects of their practical skills, data analysis, investigative planning and conclusion/evaluation of the entire experimental process. This is reported separately to the subject grade and is either a pass or fail.

Entry Criteria Grade 6 in GCSE Biology or Combined Science

Career Opportunities

Veterinary medicine, medicine, all health care fields, research, teaching, environmental careers. Biology combines well with other subjects, but for further study Chemistry, Geography or Psychology is recommended.

For further information, please contact Mrs Hazel Cunningham, Head of Faculty.

BUSINESS

Exam Board Edexcel

Course and Assessment Structure

Students will be introduced to Business through the building of knowledge of core business concepts and by applying this knowledge to a variety of contexts, for example, large/small, UK-focused/global, service/manufacturing, to develop a broad understanding of how businesses work.

The topics covered in this course lend themselves to studying and engaging with the business world. Students will be encouraged to follow business developments and think critically about contemporary business issues. Most of the assessment material is based on real business situations. By examining and thinking critically about real business situations as students study the subject, they will gain an insight into different contexts which will help them to understand the key issues in any situation and enable them to develop strategic solutions.

There are four broad themes:

Theme 1: Marketing & People

Theme 2: Managing Business Activities

Theme 3: Business Decisions and Strategy

Theme 4: Global Business – Case Study/Research

The above themes are examined as follows:

Paper 1: Marketing, people and global business (35%)

Themes 1 & 4

2 hours

100 marks available

Paper 2: Business Activities, Decisions and Strategy (35%)

Themes 2 & 3

2 hours

100 marks available

Paper 3: Investigating Business in a Competitive Environment (30%)

Assess across all four themes

2 hours

100 marks available

Entry Criteria Grade 6 GCSE Business or English Language

Career Opportunities

Business combines well with all subjects. It is useful in all careers, particularly for all kinds of management as it relates to banking, insurance, accountancy, hotel management, retailing, advertising, human resources, marketing and business start-ups.

For further information, please contact Mr James Daws, Head of Faculty.

CHEMISTRY

Exam Board OCR

Course and Assessment Structure

Students will study Chemistry in a range of different contexts, which will convey the excitement of contemporary chemistry. Ideas are taught in a spiral way with topics introduced early and reinforced later.

Year 12

In the first year, students will study the fundamental aspects of chemistry: the periodic table, energy and core organic chemistry. In addition we will develop practical skills that underpin the whole of the specification. These skills are reinforced throughout the two year course.

Year 13

Examination: 100% and a practical endorsement.

There are three examined components that cover all elements of the 2 year A-level course.

In the second year, the topics introduced in Year 12 are studied in more depth and further ideas such as physical chemistry, transition elements and quantitative chemistry are developed. The A level concludes by extending the organic chemistry content and looking at methods used to analyse organic compounds.

The practical endorsement consists of a series of experimental activities designed to help students develop all aspects of their practical skills, data analysis, investigative planning and conclusion/evaluation of the entire experimental process. This is reported separately to the subject grade and is either a pass or fail.

Entry Criteria Grade 6 in GCSE Chemistry or Combined Science

Career Opportunities

Chemistry is usually a prerequisite for medicine and supports a huge number of other careers including biochemistry, veterinary science, dentistry, pharmacology, petro-chemistry, and teaching. Chemistry also provides team-working, analytical, problem-solving, communication and numeracy skills, which are sought in many other professions including Law, but which will support your success in any field.

Chemistry combines well with many subjects and supports the study of the other sciences.

For further information, please contact Mrs Hazel Cunningham, Head of Faculty.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Exam Board OCR

Course and Assessment Structure

Computer Science is an exciting course that seeks to help students understand the core academic principles of computer science. It focuses heavily on problem-solving, mathematical reasoning and engineering-based thinking.

The aims of this qualification are to enable learners to develop:

- an understanding of computer systems
- a broad range of programming skills across various paradigms
- the ability to apply computational thinking skills to a wide range of problems

Unit 1 Computer systems

Exam Type: 2 hours 30 minutes written examination

40% of total A Level

Unit 2 Algorithms and programming

Exam Type: 2 hours 30 minutes written examination

40% of total A Level

Unit 3 Programming Project

Exam Type: Non-exam assessment

20% of total A Level

Entry Criteria Grade 6 in GCSE Computing (if Computing not taken at GCSE, at least a Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics)

Career Opportunities

Computer Science is beneficial for a wide range of careers, including software design, game development, business, IT, finance, engineering, education, research and entrepreneurship.

For further information, please contact Miss Sarah Cane, Lead Teacher.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY: Product Design

Exam Board Edexcel

Course and Assessment Structure

This course encourages students to develop their knowledge and understanding of a range of modern design and manufacturing practices and contemporary design issues. The modern designer must have a good working knowledge of the use of ICT and systems and control technology in the design and manufacture of products. They must also be aware of the important contributions of designers from the past which may provide inspiration for future design.

Students on this course will:

- Use creativity and imagination when applying iterative design processes to develop and modify designs, and to design and make prototypes that solve real world problems, considering their own and others' needs, wants, aspirations and values
- Identify market needs and opportunities for new products, initiate and develop design solutions, and make and test prototypes
- Develop an in-depth knowledge and understanding of materials, components and processes associated with the creation of products that can be tested and evaluated in use
- Be able to create and analyse a design concept and use a range of skills and knowledge from other subject areas, including mathematics and science, to inform decisions in design and the application or development of technology
- Have a critical understanding of the wider influences on design and technology, including cultural, economic, environmental, historical and social factors

Students will submit a design and make portfolio as a non-examined assessment worth 50% of the A level. Students will sit one examination at the end of the course which is 2 hours and 30 minutes in duration. This is worth 50% of the A Level.

Entry Criteria Grade 6 GCSE in any Design and Technology subject or grade 6 in Art

Career Opportunities

Higher education courses in a variety of design areas, for example, courses in engineering, jewellery design, product design, graphic design, architecture, interior design, furniture or 3D design and structural design.

For further information, please contact Mr Mike Chittick, Head of Faculty.

DRAMA & THEATRE STUDIES

Exam Board Eduqas

Course and Assessment Structure

The Drama and Theatre course at Leventhorpe will teach students how to analyse texts, evaluate live theatre and perform in a vast range of styles. Students will work together to develop their knowledge of practitioner based theory whilst putting this into practice regularly in a workshop style environment. Students will learn to become dynamic directors and designers as well as well-rounded, highly knowledgeable performers.

Students on this course will:

- Study two set texts. The first, representing significant drama through the ages and the second representing 20th and 21st century drama.
- Apply knowledge of performance, direction and design to the set texts during analysis.
- Analyse and evaluate the work of live theatre makers.
- Create devised drama from stimulus material.
- Apply knowledge of practitioner theories to devised work.
- Keep a working notebook outlining key moment of the rehearsal process and creation of the piece.
- Perform extracts from multiple texts, applying practitioner theories to each.
- Partake in practical exploration of the texts in a workshop style environment.
- Keep a detailed portfolio outlining interpretive process and analysis.
- Submit a reflective report, which analyses and evaluates the theatrical interpretation of the extracts performed.

Whilst studying on the course, students will have the opportunity to visit the theatre to see a range of plays and productions on trips that we run regularly. This enriches the students' knowledge of live theatre as well as contributing to their course. Students also have the opportunity to get involved in extracurricular activities that we offer such as the upper school production and co-directing the lower school production. Students will also be offered the opportunity to develop valuable leadership skills through working with younger students in their drama lessons and at drama club.

Entry Criteria Grade 6 in GCSE Drama

Career Opportunities

A route into the performance and creative arts, Drama & Theatre Studies develops confidence and the organisational, interpersonal and presentation skills required for law, medicine teaching, human resources and hospitality.

For further information, please contact Miss Megan Reeve, Subject Leader

ECONOMICS

Exam Board AQA

Course and Assessment Structure

This course enables students to use economic models to help them understand the world around them. Students will also use data to help them analyse markets and economies, and how governments try to influence both of these through policy setting. Students will be exposed to aspects of economic history and develop an understanding of economic issues.

Key areas of content

The operation of markets and market failure
Individuals, firms, markets and market failure
The national economy in a global context
The national and international economy

Paper 1 Markets & Markets Failure
Paper 2 National & International Economy
Paper 3 Economic Principles and Issues

Entry Criteria Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics

Career Opportunities

A Level Economics is extremely useful and relevant to most careers. As well as leading to a variety of careers in the City of London and in business, Economics is also very useful preparation for relief work, social work and the Civil Service. Many professional qualifications include an element of economics. It is a subject that opens doors to many different career opportunities. If you are considering studying Economics at university, please be aware that many courses will also require A Level Maths.

For further information, please contact Mr James Daws, Head of Faculty.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Exam Board AQA (B)

Course and Assessment Structure

This course will teach students how to analyse everyday written and spoken language in detail, using the linguistic methods: Lexis & Semantics, Discourse Structure, Grammar & Syntax, Graphology, Phonology and Pragmatics. Students will learn about the ways in which language varies across regions, occupations and other social groups. They will also develop their own skills as writers, producing non-fiction articles.

In the first term of the course, students will discover how the English language has changed over time. They will also study the ways in which children acquire spoken and written English.

The course is assessed in two 150-minute exams and one coursework module. In the first exam, students will be asked to analyse and compare two texts before writing about children's language development; in the second, they will write about language diversity and language change. The coursework module is comprised of a 2,000 word language investigation and a piece of original writing, accompanied by a commentary.

Entry Criteria Grade 6 in English Language

Career Opportunities

There are many opportunities to study English Language related courses after A Levels, for example journalism, media, education, law, human resources, whether at university or college. Many employers appreciate the analytical skills which students of English have developed.

For further information, please contact Mr Mark Robertson, Head of Faculty

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Exam Board OCR

Course and Assessment Structure

English Literature at Leventhorpe is a course suited to anyone who enjoys reading, questioning and analysing the world in which they live. The units are filled with a diverse range of texts, and the lessons are structured around developing skills which will aid students in any path that they choose. Our students leave with not only a superb understanding of some of the most important texts in English Literature, but also the ability to write clear and concise essays; analyse and evaluate a range of different material and to debate and articulate their answers at a very high level.

Component 1: Drama and Poetry Pre-1900

- Students will study Shakespeare's tragic play, 'Hamlet', Ibsen's play 'A Doll's House', and poetry by Christina Rossetti.

Component 2: Comparative and Contextual Study

- This component provides students with the exciting opportunity to study the Gothic genre at length. From the literature this diverse movement produced, to the architecture, and even the presence of The Gothic within popular culture, no stone is left unturned. Students will study Mary Shelley's 'Frankenstein' and the collection of Angela Carter's short stories 'The Bloody Chamber'. They will then be invited to read their own choice of Gothic novels and will also read and analyse some of the most prominent Gothic literature.

Coursework

- This component provides students with the opportunity to study three texts across the three main forms: prose, play and poetry. Students will read Philip Larkin's collection of poems, Tennessee Williams's 'A Streetcar Named Desire' and Khaled Hosseini's 'The Kite Runner'. In consultation with their teacher, students will write their own questions, plan, draft and produce two essays.

Examination 80% Coursework 20%

Entry Criteria Grade 6 in English Literature

Career Opportunities

There are many opportunities to study English-related courses after A Levels and for careers in, for example, journalism, media, education, law, human resources and publishing.

For further information, please contact Mr Mark Robertson, Head of Faculty

ENTERPRISE AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP BTEC

Exam Board Edexcel

Course and Assessment Structure

This course teaches students how to set up a supply chain, learn how to communicate with customers and offers the opportunity to work closely with a business. Students will gain experience dealing with real business issues and have the opportunity to plan, set up and run their own business through a structured programme of learning.

Unit 1: Enterprise and Entrepreneurs

Unit 2: Developing a Marketing Campaign

Unit 3: Personal and Business Finance

Unit 4: Launch and Run an Enterprise

Unit 5: Survival and Growth

Unit 6: Business Decision Making

Unit 7: Social Enterprise

Unit 8: Entrepreneurship and Intrapreneurship in Practice

Unit 9: Innovation and Enterprise

The course is assessed in three (3) formats as follows:

- Written examination (externally assessed - Unit 3 – 17%)
- Controlled assessment based on a pre-release case study (externally assessed - Units 2 & 6 – 30%)
- Written report (internally assessed – all other units – 53%)

During the course, students will get the chance to apply for an interest free business loan from the Peter Jones Foundation, and compete in Tycoon in Schools. Students will trade for 8 weeks, and whatever profit they make, they can keep. Students will also be given the responsibility of running the book fair in school, as well as many other opportunities to get some real hands on business experience.

This is a two year course where students receive a Diploma worth two A Levels.

Entry Criteria 25 points across your best five qualifications

Career Opportunities

This course is for those who are interested in a career in business or the world of commerce. At the end of the course you may wish go onto further study at university or you may wish to move directly into employment.

For further information, please contact Mr James Daws, Head of Faculty

THE EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)

Exam Board AQA

Course and Assessment Structure

This qualification is designed as a "stretch-and-challenge" opportunity, in addition to the standard three choices of subject, to investigate a topic beyond the normal confines of an A Level qualification. It demonstrates that students have some of the key skills required for university study and provides good evidence to include in a UCAS personal statement. It indicates that students can work independently, research, plan, argue and present. Most applicants claim to have these skills, but an Extended Project shows specific evidence to which students can relate these claims.

Submission is early in the summer term of Year 12. It forms a great basis for university and job applications in Year 13. The Extended Project carries UCAS points equivalent to an "unreformed AS Level". An A* grade can be achieved.

In terms of the kind of project that can be undertaken, there has to be a tangible outcome, which could be an extended essay on any topic, with a presentation during which students talk about their project and answer questions from a non-specialist audience.

Alternatively, the outcome could be a play, a piece of art, a model or a film, accompanied by the presentation. For example, if the project were to create a work of art, this could be exhibited and the artist could answer questions about the work. Above all, the project should be in an area of personal interest about which students are keen to learn more.

There is no examination. This is 100% coursework, internally marked and externally moderated.

Entry Criteria 25 points across your best five qualifications

Universities value students who undertake an Extended Project, mainly because the skills involved are those which they believe are important for students to access degree courses successfully. Past students who have achieved an A/A* grade in their EPQ projects have received lower entry requirements for their university applications.

For less competitive universities, the points count fully, whilst for more competitive universities, the Extended Project could be the deciding factor when it comes to making an offer to an applicant.

For further information, please contact, Mrs Eleanor Gower-Pimenta, Head of Year 12

FASHION AND TEXTILES

Exam Board AQA

Course and Assessment Structure

This course enables students to participate successfully and with confidence in an increasingly technological world. Students will learn from the wider influences on the subject including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors.

Study will focus on core technical and designing and making principles, in the context of fashion and textiles and the development of additional specialist knowledge in order to prepare students for progression into either higher education or careers in this sector.

- Students will use their creativity and imagination to design and make prototypes that solve real and relevant problems, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values.
- Students will learn about contemporary technologies, materials and processes, as well as established practices.

Students will sit all of their exams at the end of the two years.

25% written exam: 2hrs

25% written exam: 2hrs

There is a full design and make project to be completed during the second year of the course which accounts for 50% of the final exam.

Entry Criteria Grade 6 GCSE in Design and Technology Textiles or grade 6 in Art or Art Textiles

Career Opportunities

Design and Technology is an academic subject and is accepted by any university for admission to a degree course. It is an excellent subject to study if you are considering a career in design of any type, including marketing, fashion business management, costume, fashion buying, interior design, printed textiles and is also a route into fashion-based business courses.

For further information, please contact Mrs Charlotte Astwood, Subject Leader

FINANCIAL STUDIES: Cefs and DipFS

Exam Board LIBF

Course and Assessment Structure

Financial Studies at Leventhorpe are offered as an additional fourth option subject.

Certificate in Financial Literacy (Cefs)

This course is equivalent to one AS level. It allows students to gain an appreciation of their individual needs, wants and aspirations. Students studying this course should learn the value and purpose of money, different types of financial products, money management and impact of legislature and regulation on earnings along with understanding income tax and national insurance.

Students will follow a course of study covering the following units:

Unit 1 - Financial Capability for the Immediate and Short Term

Unit 2 – Financial Capability for the Medium and Long Term

Diploma in Financial Studies (DipFs)

This course builds on knowledge gained in the Cefs and is equivalent to an A Level. Here students learn how to create a personal financial plan and explore the financial services market, discussing the aims and objectives of the various stakeholders in the industry.

Students will follow a course of study covering the following units:

Unit 3 – Sustainability of an individual's Finances

Unit 4 – Sustainability of the Financial Services System

Entry Criteria Five or more GCSEs at grade 5

Career Opportunities

Financial literacy is a core life skill for participating in modern society. We live in an increasingly complex world and students as young adults will need to know how to budget and make wise financial choices for everyday living as they eventually take charge of their own financial future.

For further information, please contact Mr James Daws, Head of Faculty

FRENCH

Exam Board Edexcel

Course and Assessment Structure

Topics studied:

- Changes in French society (family, education, the world of work)
- Political & artistic in French speaking countries (music, media, festivals & traditions)
- Immigration & French multicultural society (immigration & integration, the Front National)
- Occupation & Résistance

Paper 1: Listening, reading and translation

Written examination: 2 hours

40% of the qualification

Paper 2: Written response to works and translation

Written examination: 2 hours and 40 minutes

30% of the qualification

Paper 3: Speaking

Internally conducted and externally assessed

30% of the qualification

Entry Criteria Grade 6 in GCSE French

Career Opportunities

Languages are regarded by Russell Group universities as “facilitating” subjects and also offer enjoyment and intellectual stimulation and a level of fluency which is a lifelong reward in itself. Languages also:

- foster an awareness and understanding of the cultural, social, commercial and political background of the countries in which they are spoken.
- are highly regarded by universities
- are valued by employers in fields such as law, travel and tourism, publishing, exporting, marketing, journalism, education, banking, insurance.

For further information, please contact Mr John McGee, Head of Faculty

GEOGRAPHY

Exam Board Edexcel

Course and Assessment Structure

Year 12

Unit 1: Dynamic Landscapes provides students with the opportunity for an in depth study of Tectonic Processes, understanding why some parts of the world are vulnerable to earthquakes and volcanoes and why the risk to some regions and communities is much greater than to others. They will also explore the processes of formation and change within coastal Landscapes and there will be an opportunity for fieldwork in Norfolk as part of this area of study.

Unit 2: Dynamic Places - students will study Globalisation, which focuses on the key factors shaping the world in the 21st Century and why some people and places have benefitted from this process, whilst others have lost out. A second area of study is a topic called Shaping Places which looks at the distinctive nature of places at a range of scales and how they are shaped by forces such as people, capital and resources. This topic will be supported by fieldwork in North Wales.

Year 13

Students will build upon their studies in Year 12 by developing their knowledge and understanding of Dynamic Landscapes through the further study of The Water Cycle and Water Security and The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security. A more in depth exploration of Dynamic Places will be provided through the study of the role of Global Superpowers and patterns of Global Development and Connections.

Unit 3 provides a synoptic framework which allows students to assess the role of the key players, their actions and future uncertainties/scenarios for each of the topics studied in Year 12.

In Unit 4 students will have the opportunity to select and study an area that reflects their particular geographical interests. They will carry out an independent investigation through the collection of fieldwork and the production of a detailed report which analyses and evaluates their findings.

Units 1 and 2 are assessed in the form of 2 x 2 hour exams. Unit 3 is examined by a 1.75 hour exam for which a resource booklet will be issued in advance of the exam. Unit 4 will be marked internally by teachers at the school and moderated externally.

Entry Criteria Grade 6 in GCSE Geography

Career Opportunities

Studying Geography enables students to maintain a wide choice of career options.

For further information, please contact Mr Clare Male, Head of Faculty

GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

Exam Board AQA

Entry Criteria

A Level Government and Politics will enable you to understand how the UK and US governments work as they make day-to-day decisions about the running of the country. The course will draw on up to the minute modern politics and will challenge you to critically reflect on current political issues. You should have an interest in political matters and current affairs and a willingness to think deeply and analytically. You should be prepared for independent study and to read around the course. You do not need to have any prior knowledge of politics to study this course.

This is a highly respected qualification which would open doors to any higher education degree. You will develop a broad knowledge of both UK and US political systems including a European dimension:

Contemporary Government and Politics of the UK

Units include:

Political parties; PM and the Cabinet; election systems; voting behaviour; the EU; Parliament; the Judiciary; the Constitution; Devolution; democracy and participation; pressure groups

Political Ideas

Units include:

Liberalism; Socialism; Conservatism; one other ideology

US Government and Politics and Comparative Politics

Units include:

Elections; democracy and participation; civil rights; the Presidency; Supreme Court; the Constitution; pressure groups; legislature.

There are 3 two hour exams. One on UK Government and Politics, one on US Government and Politics and one on Political Ideas. The written exams include short answer questions, questions based on sources and traditional essays.

Entry Criteria Grade 6 in a GCSE Humanities subject (Geography, History, Philosophy, RS)

Career Opportunities

A very well-regarded academic qualification, the subject complements many others well. It offers range for students who take a more scientific route and consolidation for those students who follow essay-based subjects. The course teaches important transferable skills which are highly valued in all spheres of work, including critical analysis, argumentation and communication.

For further information, please contact Mrs Eleanor Gower-Pimenta, Subject Leader

HISTORY

Exam Board AQA

Course and Assessment Structure

This course provides students with an exciting mix of Early Modern and Modern History, with both aspects of the A Level chosen to give students not only an introduction to the discipline of history, but also a deeper insight into the events in the past have shaped modern Britain and the modern world.

Year 12:

Henry VII and Henry VIII: The consolidation of the Tudor Dynasty. This component focuses on different interpretations of various themes of monarchy in the Tudor period: The king's power and the governance of England and the English people.

Russia: the Russian Revolution and the Rise of Stalin. This unit focuses upon the nature of evidence available to historians studying Russian history, its value and how far it can be relied upon to give a full picture of events.

Year 13:

Students continue the two year 12 courses with the study of the later Tudor Monarchs: Edward, Mary I and Elizabeth I alongside the Soviet Union under Stalin's rule. Students continue to examine historians' interpretations of events in Tudor England, and the difficulties faced by historians in interpreting the available evidence on the Russia during this period.

Year 13 students also complete a Non-Examined Assessment (20%). Students study the African American Civil Rights movement. Within this topic they choose a question that interests them and are required to research independently and write a 4000 word essay answering a question of their own devising. The 2 examined components on Tudor England, 1485-1603 and Russia and the Soviet Union 1917-1953 are each worth 40% of the final A Level. Component 1 (Tudors) will comprise 2 essay questions and 1 question examining interpretations. Component 2 (Russia) comprises 2 essay questions and 1 question examining sources of evidence. The A Level examinations require knowledge from the across both years of the A Level Course. Students in both year 12 and year 13 will be assessed across the year using exam style questions for each component.

Entry Criteria Grade 6 in GCSE History

Career Opportunities

History is an established and well-recognised academic qualification dovetailing with most other subjects. It offers range for students who take a scientific route and consolidation for those who follow essay-based subjects. The study of History provides opportunities to develop expertise in critical thinking, dealing with detail and developing sustained and substantiated arguments; these are well-regarded skills in every area of work.

For further information, please contact Miss Julie Wright, Subject Leader.

IT LEVEL 3 CAMBRIDGE TECHNICALS

Exam Board OCR

Course and Assessment Structure

The Cambridge Technicals Level 3 qualification is designed to provide highly specialist work-related qualifications in a range of vocational sectors. It provides students with the knowledge, understanding and skills that are needed to prepare for employment. The 360 guided learning hours (GLH) Introductory Diploma offers a specialist qualification that focuses on particular aspects of employment within the appropriate vocational sector.

This qualification is broadly equivalent to one GCE A level. The course is designed to give students practical experience using common software and hardware, providing solutions to simulated real world situations. Evidence will be provided by a combination of examined, written and observed assessment.

Units:

Fundamentals of IT (exam)

Global information (exam)

Product development (coursework)

Social media and digital marketing (coursework)

Application development (coursework)

The first two units are externally assessed with the other units internally assessed, based on the achievement of specified learning outcomes and are graded at Pass, Merit or Distinction. Within these assessments are four grading domains:

Application of knowledge and understanding

Development of practical and technical skills

Personal development for occupational roles

Application of generic skills

Entry Criteria 25 points across your best five qualifications

Career Opportunities

This course can lead on to degree courses in multimedia, computing, interactive media, games design, 3D graphics, animation and digital marketing. Employment opportunities include jobs requiring high level IT skills as well as any technical work where ICT plays an important role.

For further information, please contact Miss Sarah Cane, Head of Faculty

MATHEMATICS

Exam Board Edexcel

Course and Assessment Structure

The course consists of pure and applied content in a 2:1 ratio. The applied content is divided further into half statistics and half mechanics. All three strands (pure, statistics and mechanics) are taught throughout Year 12 and 13.

Pure maths will build on the content studied at GCSE with particular emphasis on algebra, geometry and trigonometry, as well as introducing the very important strand of calculus. The statistics will look at probability, cumulative frequency, measuring average and spread and probability distributions. Mechanics is the study of how things work in the real world by looking at forces, moments, speed and acceleration.

The course is assessed by three exams taken at the end of Year 13. Papers 1 and 2 are both pure mathematics with content which can be taken from anything studied during Year 12 and Year 13. Paper 3 is the applied content with half mechanics and half statistics. All three papers are equally weighted and each exam is two hours long.

Entry Criteria Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics although a Grade 7 or above is highly recommended.

Career Opportunities

The subject of Mathematics is highly regarded by both universities and employers, and it is widely accepted that having a mathematics qualification improves your potential earnings!

Mathematics is used in many other A Level subjects and higher level qualifications:

Students going on to study subjects such as Geography, Biology and Psychology at university will find that they need a working knowledge of statistics

Pure Mathematics is required in the study of Engineering and Architecture

Many ICT courses require A Level Mathematics.

For further information, please contact Ms Gemma Nicholson, Head of Faculty.

MATHEMATICS (CORE)

Exam Board AQA

Course and Assessment Structure

This course is available only as a fourth subject for students not taking A Level Maths. Core Mathematics is a Level 3 qualification equivalent to an AS Level, but it is studied throughout the full two years of the Sixth Form.

The course consists of nine optional units and four compulsory units:

Analysis of data

Maths for personal finance

Estimation

Critical analysis of given data and models

In Year 12, two of the compulsory modules alongside elements of the optional units are studied. In Year 13, the remaining two compulsory units and the remainder of the optional units required are studied. In total seven of the thirteen available units are studied and examined by two written examinations of 90 minutes each. The optional units will be decided during the course and are dependent on the teachers' specialisms.

The course is designed to complement other subjects which require mathematical skills, such as Psychology, Biology, Geography, Business Studies, but where A Level Mathematics is not being taken.

Career Opportunities

Core Mathematics is designed to complement other A Levels, seamlessly allowing students who are not studying A Level Mathematics to stay 'current' and not to lose those skills that will become essential in many of the undergraduate courses to follow.

For further information, please contact Ms Gemma Nicholson, Head of Faculty.

MATHEMATICS (FURTHER)

Exam Board Edexcel

Course and Assessment Structure

Students study pure and applied topics. The pure topics complement what students learn in the standard A-level, as well as introducing new concepts, such as matrices and complex numbers. The applied modules are Decision Maths (which covers the mathematics of algorithms and decision-making) and Further Mechanics (which extends ideas from the standard A-level and introduces new topics such as the effects of collisions).

There are four 1 hour 30 minute examinations (two pure exams and two applied) taken at the end of Year 13,. Each contributes 25% to the final grade.

Career Opportunities

Further Mathematics A Level is hugely rewarding and held in very high esteem by universities. It is designed for those with a genuine passion for mathematics who want to discover more about the subject.

Students should select both Mathematics and Further Mathematics on their application form and choose two more subjects.

Mathematics opens many doors and is regarded highly by both employers and universities. Further Mathematics is particularly important for any student wishing to study Physics or Engineering at university. Decision Mathematics techniques are used in Business, and Statistics is used in many subjects, particularly Biology, Geography and Psychology.

Entry Criteria Grade 8 in GCSE Mathematics as well as electing to take A Level Mathematics is required.

For further information, please contact Ms Gemma Nicholson, Head of Faculty.

MUSIC

Exam Board Eduqas

Course and Assessment Structure

Component 1 Appraising Music

40% of A Level Listening and written examination 120 marks

The areas of study provide an appropriate focus for students to appraise and develop and demonstrate an in-depth knowledge and understanding of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language.

Component 2 Performance

35% of A Level 10-12 minutes 50 marks

Students must be able to perform music using one or both of the following ways:

- instrumental/vocal: as a soloist, and/or as part of an ensemble
- production: via music technology.

Students must deliver a substantial performance.

Students on the course are eligible for an individual instrumental or vocal tuition free of charge. These lessons are paid for by Leventhorpe. Candidates will be expected to perform in Leventhorpe's concert programme.

Component 3 Composition

25% of A Level 50 marks (25 per composition)

Students must learn how to develop musical ideas and compose music that is musically convincing through two compositions. One must be in response to an externally set brief and the other a free composition.

Entry Criteria Grade 6 in GCSE Music.

Career Opportunities

Music specialist courses are incredibly varied, ranging from music technology and sound production to specialist degrees in performance, academic and composition. Careers include, within the music industry itself: songwriter, producer, sound engineer; the media: DJ, studio manager, presenter, music journalist, music researcher; arts-related jobs such as arts administrator, arts director or concert organiser and teaching.

Music can also be a path to other careers including accountancy, business, Law and many others.

For further information, please contact Mr Justin Reece, Head of Faculty.

PHYSICS

Exam Board OCR

Course and Assessment Structure

The study of physics at A Level is a desirable and even necessary requirement for studying a very large range of higher education courses in the physical sciences, advanced technologies and engineering. Physics is the study of the universe, its components and its past, present and future. It explores the concepts and models that we use to describe and explain these aspects.

Year 12

Topics covered in the first year include electrical circuits, properties and structures of materials, waves and quantum theory, and dynamics. Skills that will be developed include practical skills and data analysis as well as problem-solving techniques.

Year 13

Examination: 100% and a practical endorsement.

There are three examined components that cover all elements of the 2 year A-level course.

In addition to those covered in the first year, topics in the second year of the course include creating models, cosmology, thermodynamics, electromagnetism, electric fields, particle physics, and ionising radiations.

The practical endorsement consists of a series of experimental activities designed to help students develop all aspects of their practical skills, data analysis, investigative planning and conclusion/evaluation of the entire experimental process. This is reported separately to the subject grade and is either a pass or fail.

Entry Criteria Grade 6 in GCSE Physics or Combined Science or Maths

Career Opportunities

These could include physicist, astronomer, astronaut, research scientist, a medical/veterinary career, medical physicist, radiographer, dentist, optometrist, forensic scientist, materials scientist, archaeologist, lawyer, meteorologist, electronic/sound/mechanical/design/software engineers, recording technologist, environmental scientist, teacher, journalist, computer scientist, physiotherapist, biomedical scientist.

Physics combines with other A Levels for potential higher education and career options: Mathematics for Physics and Engineering, Chemistry and Biology for Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Medicine, Chemistry and Biology for further scientific study.

Whilst it is not compulsory to study A Level Maths alongside physics it is strongly recommended.

For further information, please contact Mrs Hazel Cunningham, Head of Faculty.

PSYCHOLOGY

Exam Board AQA

Course and Assessment Structure

Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology

Students will research, design, conduct and analyse under the headings of:

- Social Influence : Conformity and Obedience – studying research by Asch, Zimbardo and Milgram.
- Memory : Types of memory including eyewitness testimony.
- Attachment: The study of children and their development especially research by Bowlby, Lorenz ,Harlow and Ainsworth.
- Psychopathology : diagnosis and treatments for phobias, depression and Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder

Paper 2: Psychology in Context

Students will develop an understanding of psychological concepts, theories, research, methodologies and ethics and apply those skills under the headings of:

- Approaches: Research by Wundt, Pavlov, Skinner and Bandura. Learning approaches, cognitive, biological, psychodynamic and humanistic psychology, comparison of approaches
- Biopsychology : localisation of function in the brain, ways of studying the brain, biological rhythms
- Research Methods : data collection and data handling

Paper 3: Issues and Debates in Psychology:

Issues and Debates: Gender and culture in Psychology, debates in Psychology and ethical implications of research studies and theory. Options in Psychology: Students will study the following three topics in depth: Schizophrenia, Gender and Forensic Psychology.

All 3 papers are examined (100% examination) at the end of Year 13. Each paper is 2 hours and makes up 33.3% of final A Level total.

Entry Criteria Grade 6 in a GCSE science subject

Career Opportunities

Psychology combines well with a range of other subjects as it is classified as a science and develops the ability to construct and evaluate arguments both verbally and in writing. Apart from studying Psychology at university as an academic course, psychology is often taught as part of many other courses, including the study of how children learn in education degrees, or the psychology of sport in sports science degrees. Other careers could be Occupational and Physiotherapy, HR, Prison and Police services, Sports Motivation and Therapy and eventually Clinical Therapist and Counselling or Educational Psychologist.

For further information, please contact Miss Kiran Kooner, Subject Leader.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Exam Board OCR

Course and Assessment Structure

This course is a broad subject that covers a wide range of philosophical, theological, and ethical ideas and beliefs. Philosophically there are a variety of topics including an exploration of early Greek “founding fathers” Philosophers such as Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle. The nature of the mind, body and soul is explored as well as if it is possible to prove or disprove the existence of God. The problem of evil is debated and its implications for those who claim to believe in a God.

In Ethics students study “normative” ethics, different theories that have been developed in order for us to understand what the “right” way is to act in different situations. Along with this we will apply these theories to contemporary issues such as euthanasia and business ethics. Later we look at the idea of “conscience” and if we have one, and sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious belief.

In Theology students study Christianity, looking at key figures in its history such as Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the different Christian beliefs on death and the afterlife, Christian moral principles and how they have been formed and how Christians claim to have knowledge of God’s existence.

There are three two hour exam papers at the end of Year 13. There is no coursework.

Entry Criteria Grade 6 in GCSE Religious Studies or English Language.

Career Opportunities

The subject is beneficial in a wide range of careers, especially those where analytical, discursive and evaluative skills are necessary, for example law, publishing or journalism, or for those requiring understanding of and effective communication with others, including education, personnel or social work.

For further information, please contact Mr Simon Curran, Subject Leader.

SOCIOLOGY

Exam Board AQA

Course and Assessment Structure

Sociology is the study of society. Most people take the way the world works for granted, but sociologists like to look beyond “common sense” explanations and ask questions to help explain why things happen. Sociological questions include “What different types of family exist in modern Britain?”, “Why has the divorce rate risen?”, “Has the role of women really changed?”, “Why are girls achieving more at school?”, “Does social class affect educational achievement?”, “Is the crime rate rising and if so, why?”, “Why is religion declining in western society?”

Sociology teaches students how to interpret and analyse information, to reach a conclusion based on careful evaluation of evidence, to recognise bias in evidence, and to be able to evaluate evidence critically. Students also learn research skills and how to structure their written thoughts in a logical fashion.

Throughout the two year course students study a range of topics leading to three final examinations at the end of Year 13. Each exam is 2 hours long and consists of the following:

- Paper 1 Education with Theory and Methods (33.3% of total exam)
- Paper 2 Topics in Sociology: Section A - Families and Households and Section B - Beliefs in Society (33.3% of total exam)
- Paper 3 Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods (33.3% of total exam)

Entry Criteria 25 points across your best five qualifications

Career Opportunities

Sociology is a popular choice which fits well with a range of other subjects. Many students take Sociology with English, a Humanities subject, or study both Sociology and Psychology.

A Level Sociology prepares students for the study of this subject at degree level; a popular option is to combine Sociology with Criminology at university. Many degree courses have a sociological component. The study of Sociology also prepares the way for a wide variety of academic or vocational subjects at degree level.

Sociology gives the types of skills sought by employers and is useful for a career in management, politics, the media, advertising, nursing, social work, youth work, the police, law and education.

For further information, please contact Mr Craig Chester, Subject Leader.

SPANISH

Exam Board Edexcel

Course and Assessment Structure

Topics studied:

- Changes in Spanish society (family, education, the world of work)
- Political & artistic in Spanish speaking countries (music, media, festivals & traditions)
- Immigration & Spanish multicultural society (immigration & integration)
- Dictatorship of Franco and the Transition to Democracy

Paper 1: Listening, reading and translation

Written examination: 2 hours

40% of the qualification

Paper 2: Written response to works and translation

Written examination: 2 hours and 40 minutes

30% of the qualification

Paper 3: Speaking

Internally conducted and externally assessed

30% of the qualification

Entry Criteria Grade 6 in GCSE Spanish

Career Opportunities

Languages are regarded by Russell Group universities as “facilitating” subjects and also offer enjoyment and intellectual stimulation and a level of fluency which is a lifelong reward in itself. Languages also:

- foster an awareness and understanding of the cultural, social, commercial and political background of the countries in which they are spoken.
- are highly regarded by universities
- are valued by employers in fields such as law, travel and tourism, publishing, exporting, marketing, journalism, education, banking, insurance.

For further information, please contact Mr John McGee, Head of Faculty.

SPORTS & EXERCISE SCIENCE: BTEC LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA (Double Award)

Exam Board Edexcel

Course and Assessment Structure

Throughout the course students will complete 8 units that will cover some of the following areas. The units covered closely mirror the degree structure for a subject such as Sports Science which is why we have chosen this route as an alternative to A Level.

A double award in Sports Science is most appropriate for those students who are specifically interested in following a sports route Post-18.

Three units are externally assessed

Unit 1: Exercise Physiology for Sport and Exercise - 2hr Written Exam

Unit 2: Anatomy for Sport – 2hr Written Exam

Unit 3: Sports Psychology – 2hr Controlled assessment

Five Units are internally assessed through coursework.

This can include written assignments, presentations, project work and some limited practical work. There is no assessment of practical/athletic performance in sport.

On average, students will complete one assignment each half term.

Unit 4: Field and Laboratory Testing

Unit 5: Research Methods in Sports and Exercise Science

Unit 9: Research Project in Sports and Exercise

Unit 11: Sports Massage

Unit 6: Sports Coaching

The course will provide students with the equivalent grades of two A-Levels, and the ability to apply for a sports-related course at most universities.

Entry Criteria

Grade 6 in GCSE PE or Combined Science or Biology

Suggested A-Levels to be taken alongside: Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Maths, Psychology (these are preferred A-Levels that will promote entry onto a Sports Science Degree)

Career Opportunities

This course is highly suited to students who wish to progress onto a degree at university in disciplines such as Sport & Exercise Science, Strength & Conditioning, Teaching, Sports Therapy.

Career paths include Sports Science, Physiotherapy, Teaching, Sports Coaching and the Health & Fitness Industry.

For further information, please contact Mr Simon Lawrence, Head of Faculty.