Chestnut Grove Academy

Sixth Form Course Guide

2027 Entry

The Chestnut Grove curriculum provides a rigorous, knowledge-rich, transformational education, encapsulated through our PROUD (Positive, Resilient, Open-minded, Unified, Determined) values, which prepares our students to succeed at university, thrive in employment and lead fulfilling lives. It is the embodiment of our ethos of a creative learning community, which marries traditional with dynamic approaches to teaching and learning.

Dear Applicant,

Success at Key Stage 5 is about selecting the right courses for your skills, strengths, interests and career aspirations. We have produced this booklet to help students, and their families, select appropriate pathways to unlock their futures.

This booklet outlines our likely provision for 2027-2029 and contains information about courses that we **hope** to be able to offer next academic year. This will depend on the popularity of the course, staffing availability, timetabling constraints and decisions made by the Department for Education regarding the future of specific courses (primarily vocational courses). For each course, we have outlined the structure of the course, the type of qualification which will be attained, entry requirements, the method of assessment and the number of lessons per week a student can expect to be taught.

There is expert advice available to help students choose the right course. Speaking with subject teachers is a good place to start. At the interview stage in January, each applicant will be able to have a full discussion with a member of Sixth Form Leadership about the feasibility of their preferred subject choices, based upon their predicted GCSE grades. Following offer and acceptance of a place, each applicant will be invited to attend a compulsory Taster Day later in the year where students can experience sample lessons in their chosen subjects. In addition, our ethos, expectations and enrichment are explained in greater detail, including expectations of attendance and punctuality.

Of course, the sixth form experience goes beyond the lessons in the classroom. The courses of study are complemented with an exciting programme of academic, cultural and sporting enrichment; details of the enrichment programme are provided at the start of each year and include a range of subject extension talks, debates, external speakers, sixth form society, Duke of Edinburgh award, and extensive opportunities for student leadership (including a thriving sixth form student council).

Communication with families:
There are formal opportunities to meet with the Sixth Form tutor team at Parent-Tutor evening, and with subject teachers at Progress Evening. Subject teachers and tutors will also communicate with families regarding academic and pastoral issues that arise; academic progress is rigorously monitored to ensure that any issues are identified early, so that we can work together to resolve them. Academic and pastoral approaches are intertwined to ensure that students are supported in the round to achieve their potential.

Ethos:
The Academy's ethos of inclusivity and support is matched with our ambition to create an intellectually exciting and socially enriching experience for all. Our moral purpose is to produce intellectually curious young adults, equipped to deal with the demands of a fast-changing world, and confident enough to play a full and active part as citizens within it.

Available pathways in 2027: *Students may choose from the following options -*

- 4 A Levels (Highest achievers at GCSE only)
- 3 A Levels and an EPQ (Extended Project Qualifications)
- 3 A Levels
- A mixed pathway of two A Levels and a vocational course
- A vocational pathway

Please be advised that students are better off achieving 3 high grades at A Level, rather than 4 diluted ones. This is specific guidance from the Russell Group of universities.

Entry requirements:
For most A Level or vocational courses, we would expect students to have achieved at least five GCSE passes at grades 9-4, including a minimum grade 4 in either English Language or Mathematics GCSE. Students who have not achieved a grade 4 in both English Language and Mathematics will not normally be eligible to enrol on sixth form courses.

For their chosen subjects, applicants will normally require at least a grade 6 at GCSE in the relevant subject, or a Merit at BTEC Level 2, although some subjects, such as Mathematics and Further Mathematics, may require higher grades.

These entry requirements reflect the demands of the courses. The entry requirements are subject to small amounts of change depending on a variety of factors. While exceptions may be considered in cases of extenuating circumstances, admission cannot be guaranteed.

Deadline for receipt of completed application forms:
The deadline for completed application forms to be returned by is **Tuesday 1st December 2026.** Applications received after this date will be considered on a case-by-case basis, with names added to a waiting list. Application forms are available online at the Chestnut Grove Academy website

https://chestnutgrove.applicaa.com/sixthform2027

We hope you will carefully consider what we have to offer at Chestnut Grove Academy and that you will submit an early application.

Applied Science (AAQ)

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Pearson Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification BTEC National in Applied Science 1 A Level equivalent
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE, including English Language and Mathematics and a grade 5-5 in Combined Science or 2 grade 5s in Triple Science
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	Internally and externally assessed units
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Mandatory units – students complete and achieve all units.

Unit number	Unit title	GLH	Type	How assessed
1	Principles and Applications of Biology	60	Mandatory	External
2	Principles and Applications of Chemistry	60	Mandatory	External
3	Principles and Applications of Physics	60	Mandatory	External
4	Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques	90	Mandatory	Internal

Optional units – students complete and achieve one unit.

Unit number	Unit title	GLH	Type	How assessed
1	Scientific Investigation Skills	90	Optional	Internal
2	Contemporary Issues in Science	90	Optional	Internal

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

• Fundamental scientific principles and applied knowledge relating to biology, chemistry and physics
• Laboratory techniques, including health and safety assessment, and associated professional practice
• Problem solving.
• Scientific Research skills including researching and planning methodologies, primary data collection and analysis, drawing justified conclusions.
• Secondary research skills including collecting information from a range of sources, its evaluation and interpretation, and its use to draw reasoned conclusions.
• Transferable skills such as critical thinking, taking personal responsibility and written communications.

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

The AAQ in Applied Science provides a route to employment into various sectors including health care, sport and science. This qualification can also lead to progression to the following degrees: BSc (Hons) Applied Sport and Exercise Sciences, BSc (Hons) Nursing, BSc (Hons) Secondary Science Education.

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

Psychology, Sociology, Geography

A Level Art

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Edexcel A Level Art
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE; grade 6 in Art
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	Examination and coursework
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Level	Unit	Title	Grade Weighting
A Level	Unit 1 (Coursework)	Personal Investigation	60%
A Level	Unit 2 (Exam)	Externally set exam question	40%

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Knowledge and understanding of contextual studies
- Ability to work with a range of artistic processes and techniques
- Ability to write analytically about artists' work
- Ability to develop personal investigations from a range of different sources
- Ability to explore the limitations of processes and ideas through experimentation and testing

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- Set designer (film/theatre)
- Architect
- Interior designer
- Artist
- Teaching
- Fashion industry
- Illustrator
- Games designer
- Graphic designer

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- English
- History
- DT
- Film Studies
- Media Studies
- Music
- Performing Arts

A Level Biology

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	AQA A Level Biology
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE; grade 6-6 in Combined Science or 2 grade 6s in Triple Science including a grade 6 in Biology and a grade 6 in Mathematics
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	Written examination and practical endorsement
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

N.B. There is a compulsory field trip to complete practical work as part of the Biology course that takes place in year 12 - average cost of £300 per student (excluding student fundraising requirements).

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Year covered	Unit	Title
Year 12	Unit 1	Biological molecules
Year 12	Unit 2	Cells
Year 12	Unit 3	Organisms & exchange
Year 12	Unit 4	Genetic information, variation & relationships between organisms
Year 13	Unit 5	Energy transfers in and between organisms
Year 13	Unit 6	Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
Year 13	Unit 7	Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
Year 13	Unit 8	The control of gene expression

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Problem solving
- Application of mathematical techniques
- How to present data
- Ability to evaluate & draw conclusions from data
- Practical techniques

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- Zoologist, park warden
- Environmental work, plant scientist
- Health care
- Government and Civil Service

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- Chemistry
- Maths
- Physical Education
- Psychology

Business: BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate

Selecting double Business will mean completing the Extended Certificate AND the Diploma.

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Business 1 A Level equivalent (single award)
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE, including English Language and Mathematics
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	Coursework and external assessment
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Level	Unit	Title	Guided Learning Hours
Level 3	Unit 1	Exploring Business (coursework)	90
Level 3	Unit 2	Developing a Marketing Campaign (controlled assessment)	90
Level 3	Unit 3	Personal Business Finance (external examination)	120
Level 3	Unit 22	Market Research (coursework)	60

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Communication skills
- Presentation skills
- Mathematical skills
- Time management skills
- Organisational skills

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

The BTEC Extended Certificate in Business provides a route to employment into the many diverse areas of business. These could include: roles in specialist areas such as management, marketing, finance, customer service or human resources in large organisations. When combined with other qualifications, the BTEC Extended Certificate is also a route of entry into university.

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

IT/Computer Science, Core Maths, Media, Sport

Business: BTEC Level 3 Diploma

Selecting double Business will mean completing the Extended Certificate AND the Diploma. You cannot just take the Diploma.

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Business 2 A Level equivalent (double award)
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE, including English Language and Mathematics
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	Coursework and external assessment
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 10 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Level	Unit	Title	Guided Learning Hours
Level 3	Unit 1	Exploring Business (coursework)	90
Level 3	Unit 2	Developing a Marketing Campaign (controlled assessment)	90
Level 3	Unit 3	Personal and Business Finance (external examination)	120
Level 3	Unit 4	Managing an Event (coursework)	90
Level 3	Unit 5	International Business (coursework)	90
Level 3	Unit 6	Principles of Management (controlled assessment)	120
Level 3	Unit 8	Recruitment and Selection in business (coursework)	60
Level 3	Unit 22	Market Research (coursework)	60

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Communication skills
- Presentation skills
- Mathematical skills
- Time management skills
- Organisational skills

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

The BTEC Diploma in Business provides a route to employment into the many diverse areas of business. These could include: roles in specialist areas such as management, marketing, finance, customer service or human resources in large organisations. When combined with other qualifications, the BTEC Diploma is also a route of entry into university.

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

IT/Computer Science, Core Maths, Media, Sport

A Level Chemistry

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	AQA A Level Chemistry
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE; grade 6-6 in Combined Science or 2 grade 6s in Triple Science including a grade 6 in Chemistry and a grade 6 in Mathematics
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	Written examination and practical endorsement
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Year covered	Unit	Title
Year 12	Unit 1	Physical Chemistry
Year 12	Unit 2	Inorganic Chemistry
Year 12	Unit 3	Organic Chemistry
Year 13	Unit 1	Physical Chemistry
Year 13	Unit 2	Inorganic Chemistry
Year 13	Unit 3	Organic Chemistry

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Problem solving
- Application of mathematical techniques
- How to present data
- Ability to evaluate & draw conclusions from data
- Practical techniques

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- Doctor/dentist/vet
- Forensics
- Pharmacology
- Biochemistry
- Toxicologist

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- Mathematics
- Biology
- Physics
- Psychology

A Level Computer Science

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	OCR A-Level Computing
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE; grade 6 in GCSE Computer Science, Mathematics and grade 6 in Physics and at least 5 in Biology and Chemistry.
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	Written examination and programming project
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Year covered	Unit	Title
Year 12	Component 01	Computing principles *
Year 12	Component 02	Algorithms and problem solving *
Year 13	Component 03	Programming Project

* Some content is covered in Year 13

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Problem solving
- Application of mathematical techniques
- Practical application of programming techniques
- Thinking creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically
- Evaluate the individual (moral), social (ethical), legal and cultural opportunities and risks of digital technology

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- Programmer including website development
- Cyber Security
- Computer games Development.
- Network management
- Database administration
- Artificial intelligence
- Banking and Financial application of Computer Science

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- Physics
- Chemistry
- Mathematics
- Digital Arts
- Engineering

Level 3 V Level in Digital Systems and Data

Level 3 applied vocational qualification for students aged 16–19 in England.
The qualification is:

- equivalent in size to one A Level;
- based on broad, classroom-based vocational learning;
- designed to combine applied learning with practical assessment; and suitable for study alongside A Levels, other V Levels or eligible Level 3 qualifications.

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Level 3 applied vocational qualification for students aged 16–19 in England.
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE; grade 5 in Mathematics & English Language
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	balance of examinations, practical assignments & other assessed tasks will be confirmed when the approved qualification specification is published
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	two years, studied during Years 12 and 13 - approximately 360 guided learning hours.

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Year covered	Unit	Title
Year 12	To be confirmed	Digital systems and data: introductory & foundational content
Year 12	To be confirmed	Applied digital knowledge and practical skills
Year 13	To be confirmed	Advanced and synoptic digital systems and data content*

* Some content may be introduced in Year 12 and completed or assessed in Year 13. The final teaching sequence will be determined by the school after publication of the approved specification.

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Understanding how digital systems and data are used - Collecting, organising & interpreting data
- Applying knowledge to realistic vocational situations - Analytical and logical thinking
- Digital problem-solving - Planning and developing appropriate solutions
- Safe, responsible and ethical use of technology - Communicating technical information clearly - Evaluating and improving completed work - Independent study and time management - Project planning and organisation - Working collaboratively

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- Data analysis – Cybersecurity – Networking - Cloud technologies - Software or application development - IT and technical support - Information systems - Database administration
- Digital project management - Business systems analysis - Digital technology apprenticeships
- Computing, IT or data-related degree courses

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- Mathematics - Computer Science – Business – Economics – Physics - Design and Technology
- Media Studies – Geography – Psychology - Other V Level or A Level subjects

Core Mathematics

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	AQA Level 3 Certificate in Mathematical Studies 1 AS Level equivalent
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE; grade 5 in Mathematics and a grade 4 in English Language
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	100% written examination
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 3 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Level	Unit	Title	Grade Weighting
AS Level	Paper 1	Compulsory Content	50%
AS Level	Paper 2	Option Paper 2B: Critical Path and Risk Analysis	50%

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Problem-solving
- Deductive reasoning
- Numerical reasoning
- Abstract thought
- Critical analysis
- Data analysis

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- Business
- Accounting
- Biology/biochemistry
- Psychology
- Medicine & nursing
- Forensics

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- The sciences
- Psychology
- Computing
- Geography

A Level Design and Technology (3D Design)

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Edexcel A Level Design and Technology
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE; grade 6 in DT or 3D Design
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	Coursework
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Unit	Title	Grade Weighting
Component 1	Personal Investigation (*A practical investigation supported by written material*).	60%
Component 2	Externally Set Assignment (*with preparatory work and a 15-hour final outcome*).	40%

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Knowledge and understanding of different areas in D&T (engineering, illustration, product, furniture design etc.).
- Ability to analyse products and work by other designers at a more advanced level.
- Knowledge and understanding of materials and processes at a more advanced level.
- Learn and develop design and making skills required for design-based courses at university.

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- Engineering
- Graphic designer
- Illustrator
- Architect
- Product designer
- Furniture designer
- Jewellery designer
- Stage and set design
- Stage and film prop design and making

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- Science (especially physics for engineering)
- Art
- Mathematics
- Performing Arts

A Level Economics

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	AQA A Level Economics
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE; grade 6 in both English Language and Literature, and 6 in Mathematics
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	Written examinations
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

Level	Title	Grade Weighting
A Level	Paper 1: Markets and market failure	33.3%
A Level	Paper 2: National and international economy	33.3%
A Level	Paper 3: Economic principles and issues	33.3%

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

Students develop the knowledge and skills needed to understand and analyse data, think critically about both microeconomic and macroeconomic issues, and make informed decisions. They will also build upon their quantitative skills and appreciate that, when evaluating arguments, both qualitative and quantitative evidence are important.

Students will develop strong analytical, problem-solving and evaluation skills, enabling them to construct balanced arguments and make well-supported judgements. They will learn to interpret and present economic data, communicate complex ideas clearly in both written and verbal form, and undertake independent research using real-world economic issues and current affairs. These transferable skills are highly valued by universities and employers and provide an excellent foundation for a wide range of careers.

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- Economist
- Economic researcher
- Financial risk analyst
- Data analyst
- Financial planner
- Financial consultant
- Accountant
- Investment analyst

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- Geography
- Mathematics
- Psychology
- Sociology
- History

A Level English Literature

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Edexcel A Level English Literature
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE; grade 6 in both English Literature and English Language
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	80% written examination, with 20% coursework
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Unit	Title	Grade Weighting
Paper 1	Drama	30%
Paper 2	Prose	20%
Paper 3	Poetry	30%
NEA	Coursework (Extended essay)	20%

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Ability to analyse texts: how meaning is constructed through language, form and structure.
- An appreciation of plurality of perspective in literature.
- A richer understanding of the significance of historical and literary contexts.
- An understanding of how different theoretical perspectives (e.g. Marxist, feminist, etc.) influence interpretations of texts.
- Ability to think critically and justify your views, marshalling an effective argument
- Ability to write with precision, coherence and clarity of expression.
- Ability to use secondary reading to aid and develop interpretation.

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- Law
- Education
- Journalism and the media
- Communications and public relations
- Entertainment and creative industries
- Politics, civil service, and local government

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- Film Studies
- Media Studies
- Performing Arts
- History
- Religious studies / PBE
- Modern foreign languages
- Psychology
- Sociology

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Freestanding qualification – half an A level at Y13 standard
LEVEL OF ENTRY	Targeted at high achieving students at GCSE, with 6+ grades across all subjects
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	5000 word written report or produce an artefact plus a 1000 word written report
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	30 taught hours, plus 120 guided learning hours of additional independent research completed by the student

COURSE STRUCTURE:

- 30 guided learning hours – taught element
- 120 guided learning hours – independent research working with a supervisor

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Time management
- Problem solving
- Critical analysis of sources
- Constructing logical arguments
- Decision making, reflection, planning, critical thinking
- Creativity and tenacity
- Ethical practices

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- Entry into the Russell Group of universities
- Any which require project development and execution, resilience and perseverance

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- The EPQ exists for all, with no specific subject combinations preferable

A Level Film Studies

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Eduqas A Level Film Studies
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE; grade 6 in Film Studies if taken; grade 6 in English Language and English Literature
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	70% written examination and 30% coursework
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Level	Unit	Title	Grade Weighting
A Level	Component 1	Varieties of film and film-making	35% (exam)
A Level	Component 2	Global film-making perspectives	35% (exam)
A Level	Component 3	Production: either an individual short film or an equivalent screenplay with a digitally photographed storyboard	30% (coursework)

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Research skills in the history of European and US film
- Analytical skills when 'reading' for meaning in film
- Critical thinking when evaluating auteurism and viewing experience in contemporary cinema
- Resilience and independence when conceiving, planning and producing your own short film
- Practical skills in the production of a short film, using specialist equipment and digital editing software

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- Film Production
- Film criticism and journalism
- Creative industries, marketing and advertising

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- Media Studies
- English Literature
- History
- Art
- Drama and Theatre/Performing Arts

A Level Further Mathematics

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Edexcel A Level Further Mathematics
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE, with grade 8 in Mathematics. Students wishing to study Further Mathematics must also study A level Mathematics (Double Maths option).
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	100% written examination
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week (in total you will have10 hours of maths lessons a week)

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Unit	Title	Grade Weighting
Paper 1	Core Pure Mathematics 1	25%
Paper 2	Core Pure Mathematics 2	25%
Paper 3	Further Mathematics Option 1 • Further Pure Maths 1	25%
Paper 4	Further Mathematics Option 2 • Further Pure Maths 2	25%

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Problem-solving and deductive reasoning
- Numerical reasoning
- Abstract thought
- Critical analysis and data analysis

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- Accounting, Finance and wealth Management
- Teaching
- Engineering
- Natural sciences
- Software engineering and games development

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- Computing
- Mathematics (taking Maths A level alongside Further Mathematics is a requirement)
- Psychology
- Sciences

A Level Geography

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Edexcel A Level Geography
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE (with English Language and Mathematics at grade 5); grade 6 in Geography
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	A Level written examination 80% and coursework (fieldwork investigation) 20%
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Unit	Title	Grade Weighting
Unit1	Dynamic landscapes and Physical Systems and Sustainability	30 %
Unit 2	Dynamic Landscapes and Humans Systems and Sustainability	30%
Unit 3	Synoptic Paper	20%
Unit 4	Geography fieldwork investigation	20%

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Focus on communication and analytical skills
- Critical awareness of human and natural world processes
- Ability to interpret and analyse data
- Ability to explain and evaluate complex geographical concepts and global issues
- Evaluative skills and decision making for the future of the planet

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

Geographers have one of the highest rates of graduate employment, pursuing a wide range of career paths. It's often said that there is no such thing as a geography job; rather there are multiple jobs that geographers do. Particular career areas include, but are not limited to:

- Civil service
- International organisations such as United Nations
- Environmental consultancy/urban planning and sustainability
- Geographical information systems officer
- International aid/development sector
- Risk catastrophe researcher/analyst
- Law
- Media

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- Politics
- Biology
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Economics

Health & Social Care (AAQ)

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Pearson Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification BTEC National in Health & Social Care 1 A Level equivalent
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE, including English and Mathematics and a grade 4-4 in Combined Science or 2 grade 4s in Triple Science
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	Internally and externally assessed units
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Mandatory units – students complete and achieve all units.

Unit number	Unit title	GLH	Type	How assessed
1	Human Lifespan and Development	90	Mandatory	External
2	Human Biology and Health	90	Mandatory	External
3	Principles of Health and Social Care Practice	90	Mandatory	External

Optional units – Unit 5 has been chosen for students

Unit number	Unit title	GLH	Type	How assessed
5	Promoting Health Education	90	Optional	Internal

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

Students will develop the following knowledge and skills from the mandatory units:
• Professional values and skills expected of professionals, including communication and listening skills
• Organisational and critical thinking skills
• Cultural and social intelligence when working with individuals across the lifespan with different needs, alongside methods of managing challenging situations.

Students will develop the following knowledge and skills from the optional units:
• Interpersonal skills required when working with others, including compassion and empathy
• Responsibilities of professionals to be adaptable and innovative in delivering care
• Management of own time and learning
• Academic skills such as research.

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

The AAQ in Health and Social Care provides a route to employment into various sectors including health care and youth work. This qualification can also lead to progression to the following degrees: BSc (Hons) Social Work, BSc (Hons) Nursing and BSc (Hons) Psychology.

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

Psychology, Biology, English

A Level History

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Edexcel A Level History
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE; grade 6 in History
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	Written examination and coursework
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Unit	Title	Grade Weighting
Unit 1	Britain transformed, 1918-97	30%
Unit 2	The USA, 1955-92: conformity and challenge	20%
Unit 3	The Spanish Golden Age, 1474-1598	30%
Unit 4	Coursework: interpretations of history	20%

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Critical analysis
- Critical interpretation
- Communication skills
- Extended writing skills including referencing and bibliography
- Organisational skills

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

The critical approach of studying history and broad nature of the subject means that numerous career pathways can be followed; you will find historians in all walks of life. Particular career areas include, but are not limited to:

- Law
- Politics
- Education
- Media
- Heritage Industry

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- English Literature
- Religious Studies
- Geography
- Sociology
- Economics
- Any Modern Foreign Languages

Information Technology (AAQ)

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Pearson Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification BTEC National in Information Technology 1 A Level equivalent
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE, including English Language and Mathematics
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	Internally and externally assessed units
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Unit number	Unit title	GLH	Type	How assessed
1	Information Technology Systems	120	Mandatory	External
2	Cyber Security and Incidents	120	Mandatory	External
3	Website Development	60	Mandatory	Internal
4	Relational Database Development	60	Mandatory	Internal

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

Students will develop the following knowledge and skills:

- Digital Skills - Digital skills are required in every industry as well as in everyday life and, with the acceleration of automation and AI in industry it is critical for students to understand how digital technologies are relevant and applied in the context of the sector they are studying.
- Problem Solving – The use of digital tools to analyse and solve problems.
- Digital Collaboration and Communication – Using digital tools to communicate and share information with stakeholders
- Transacting Digitally – Using digital tools to set up accounts and pay for goods/services
- Digital Security – Identify threats and keep digital tools safe
- Handling Data Safely and Securely – Follow correct procedures when handling personal and organisational data

Students also have the opportunity to develop other transferable skills such as:
• written communication to support the design and creation of digital solutions using technical and non-technical language in user and technical documents.
• critical thinking skills which will be beneficial when students encounter group analytical tasks in higher education.

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

This qualification can lead to progression to the following degrees: BA Business Studies, BSc Information Systems and BSc Computer Science.

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- Business
- Mathematics
- Psychology
- Art & Design

A Level Languages: French, Italian, Spanish

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Edexcel A Level French / Italian / Spanish
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE; minimum grade 6 at GCSE in the relevant language
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	Written and spoken examination
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Paper	Title	Grade Weighting
Paper 1	Listening reading and translating	40%
Paper 2	Written response to works and translation	30%
Paper 3	Speaking	30%

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Ability to communicate confidently, clearly and effectively in the target language for a range of purposes
- Ability to communicate with speakers of the language
- Ability to use the target language accurately to express facts and ideas , and to present explanations, opinions and information in both speech and writing
- Ability to understand and apply the grammatical system and a range of structures in the target language
- Ability to transfer meaning from English into the target language and/or vice versa.

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- Translating
- Interpreting
- Work for international organisations
- Teaching
- Journalism and media

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- English Literature
- History
- Sociology
- Music
- Art

A Level Mathematics

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Edexcel A Level Mathematics
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE; grade 7 in Mathematics
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	100% written examination
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Unit	Title	Grade Weighting
Paper 1	Pure Mathematics 1	33.33%
Paper 2	Pure Mathematics 2	33.33%
Paper 3	Statistics & Mechanics	33.33%

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Problem-solving
- Deductive reasoning
- Numerical reasoning
- Abstract thought
- Critical analysis
- Data analysis

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- Accounting and finance
- Teaching
- Wealth Management
- Engineering
- Natural sciences
- Psychology
- Medicine
- Business
- Consultancy
- Software engineering/games development
- Architecture and construction

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- Further mathematics
- Economics
- The sciences
- Psychology
- Computing
- Geography
- Music

A Level Media Studies

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Eduqas A Level Media Studies
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE; grade 6 in English Language and Literature and a grade 6 in Media if taken at GCSE
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	70% examination and 30% coursework
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Unit	Title	Grade Weighting
Component 1	Media Products, Industries and Audiences (examination)	35%
Component 2	Media Forms and Products In Depth (examination)	35%
Component 3	Cross-Media Production (non exam assessment)	30%

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Research skills when exploring a range of media texts and their associated contexts
- Analytical skills when evaluating the ways media texts are produced to convey meaning and engage specific audiences
- Critical thinking when considering media texts from a wide range of perspectives
- Practical skills when producing your own media texts using a range of digital editing software
- Resilience and independence when conceiving, planning and producing your own media texts

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- Journalism and editing
- Creative industries, marketing, advertising and digital publishing
- Education

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- Film Studies
- English Literature
- History
- Art
- Performing Arts

A Level Music Technology

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Edexcel A Level Music Technology
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE; grade 6 in English Language and Literature and a grade 6 in Music or Music Technology if taken at GCSE
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	40% coursework, 25% written exam, 35% practical exam
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Unit	Title	Grade Weighting
Component 1	Recording (coursework)	20%
Component 2	Technology-based composition (coursework)	20%
Component 3	Listening and analysing (written exam)	25%
Component 4	Producing and analysing (practical exam)	35%

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Practical and technical skills in recording, sequencing, editing and mixing audio, including music production techniques and industry-standard software.
- Composition skills, using music technology, including synthesis, sampling and sound design. ·
- Analytical skills, applied to the history and development of recording and production.
- Creative and technical skills needed to communicate effectively as music technologists.
- Awareness of the music technology industry and its role in contemporary music-making.
- Collaborative working skills through practical projects with professional applications.
- Critical evaluation skills.

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- Music Producer
- Sound Engineer, Live Sound Engineer, Broadcast Engineer
- Recording Studio Technician
- Audio Post-production Specialist
- Game Audio Designer, Film/TV Soundtrack Composer
- Music Teacher
- Event/Stage Manager
- Radio Producer
- Arts/Creative Industries Administrator

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- Music, Physics, Computer Science, Media Studies, Film Studies, Art & Design, Business

Drama: BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Performing Arts

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	BTEC
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE, including English Language and Mathematics; 6+ in Drama or a 6+ in English
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	Written examination, controlled assessment and coursework. Performance examination.
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Level	Components	Title	Guided Learning Hours
Level 3	Unit 1	Investigating Practitioners	90
Level 3	Unit 2	Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance	90
Level 3	Unit 3	Group Performance Workshop	120
Level 3	Unit 19	Acting Styles	60

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Performance and interpretive skills
- Confidence, independence, and public speaking
- Creativity, problem solving and devising
- Critical analysis of relevant theoretical research, processes and practices involved in creating theatre
- An understanding and appreciation of how the social, cultural and historical contexts of performance texts have influenced the development of theatre

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- Actor
- Theatre related jobs e.g. director, producer, casting director, designer, stage manager, dramaturg etc
- Education, the police force, management, leisure and tourism, journalism, business and retail

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- English
- Media Studies
- Film Studies
- Sociology
- Psychology

A Level Philosophy, Beliefs and Ethics (Religious Studies)

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	OCR A Level Philosophy, Beliefs and Ethics
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes; grade 6 in English Language and a grade 6 in Religious Studies
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	100% written examination
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Unit	Title	Grade Weighting
Unit 1	Philosophy of Religion	33.3%
Unit 2	Religion and Ethics	33.3%
Unit 3	Developments in religious thought	33.3%

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Ability to explain and evaluate complex theories and ideas
- Awareness of different religious and non-religious beliefs
- Historical context of religion and factors, such as Marxism, that have affected its growth and decline
- Focus on written communication and analytical skills
- Discussion and debate skills
- Moral development as the course is focused on normative ethical theories
- Abstract and higher-order thinking

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- Medicine
- Law
- Politics
- Academia
- Civil service
- Education

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- History
- English
- Psychology
- Science
- Sociology
- Maths
- Politics

A Level Physics

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	AQA A Level Physics
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE; grade 6-6 in Combined Science or 2 grade 6s in Triple Science including a grade 6 in Physics and a grade 6 in Mathematics. It is also a requirement that you take A-level Maths alongside A-level Physics.
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	Written examination and practical endorsement
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Year covered	Unit	Title
Year 12	Unit 1	Particles and radiation
Year 12	Unit 2	Waves
Year 12	Unit 3	Mechanics and materials
Year 12	Unit 4	Electricity
Year 12	Unit 5	Further mechanics and thermal physics
Year 13	Unit 6	Fields and their consequences
Year 13	Unit 7	Nuclear Physics
Year 13	Unit 8	Option module (Astronomy)

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Problem solving
- Application of mathematical techniques
- How to present data
- Ability to evaluate & draw conclusions from data
- Practical techniques

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- Engineering
- Geophysicist
- Meteorologist
- Patent attorney
- Investment analyst

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- Maths (It is a requirement to take Maths alongside Physics)
- Further maths
- Chemistry

A Level Politics

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Edexcel A Level Politics
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE; grade 6 in English Language and a grade 6 in History or Geography
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	Written examinations
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

Unit	Title	Grade Weighting
Component 1	UK Politics (and core political ideas)	33%
Component 2	UK Government (non- core political ideas)	33%
Component 3	Global Politics	33%

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Critical analysis
- Critical interpretation
- Communication skills
- Extended writing skills
- Engagement in politics through news media
- Ability to make synoptic links
- The ability to participate in politics

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

Particular career areas include, but are not limited to:

- Civil Service, Diplomatic Service, Local Government
- Government social research officer; politician's assistant
- Political risk analyst; Public affairs consultant; public relations
- Social researcher
- Politician
- Finance and Business: Business development manager, Human resources,
- Forensic accountant
- Marketing: Market researcher, Marketing executive
- Journalism

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- Geography
- English Literature
- History
- Religious Studies
- Sociology
- Economics
- Any Modern Foreign Languages

A Level Psychology

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	AQA A Level Psychology
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE; grade 6 in Biology/Combined Science and grade 6 in Mathematics
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	100% written examination
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Unit	Title	Grade Weighting
Paper 1	Paper 1 Introductory Topics in Psychology	33.3%
Paper 2	Paper 2 Psychology in Context	33.3%
Paper 3	Paper 3 Issues and options in Psychology	33.3%

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Mathematical and scientific skills
- Problem-solving and higher-order thinking skills
- Understanding of a range of factors that affect behaviour
- Ability to write with precision, coherency and clarity of expression
- Able to describe, evaluate and apply themes to questions.

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- Psychology
- Teaching and Education
- Social Work
- Human Resources
- Marketing
- PR officer

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- Mathematics
- Philosophy, Beliefs and Ethics (Religious Studies)
- Economics
- Science
- English Literature
- History
- Sociology

A Level Sociology

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	AQA A Level Sociology
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE; grade 6 in English Language & Literature and Grade 5 in Science and Mathematics
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	Written examinations
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

Unit	Title	Grade Weighting
Unit 1	Education with Theory and Methods	33.3%
Unit 2	Topics in Sociology: Families and Households and Beliefs in Society	33.3%
Unit 3	Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods	33.3%

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Critical analysis
- Critical awareness of contemporary social processes and change
- Communication skills (including debate)
- Extended writing skills
- Research methods

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- Politics (policy writer)
- Charity sector/ international development
- Education (including community and youth work)
- Media
- Civil Service
- Social services

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- History
- Religious Studies (PBE)
- Geography
- English
- Psychology
- Economics
- Politics

Sport: BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate

TYPE OF QUALIFICATION	Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Sport 1 A Level equivalent
LEVEL OF ENTRY	5+ 9-4 passes at GCSE; 5-5 grade in Combined Science, or two grade 5s in Triple Science. L2 pass or above in Sport Science if studied at GCSE level
METHOD OF ASSESSMENT	Written examination, controlled assessment and coursework
LENGTH OF COURSE & NUMBER OF LESSONS PER CYCLE	2 years, with 5 lessons per week

COURSE STRUCTURE:

Level	Unit	Title	Guided Learning Hours
Level 3	Unit 1	Anatomy & Physiology	120
Level 3	Unit 2	Fitness, Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well Being.	120
Level 3	Unit 3	Professional Development in the Sports Industry.	60
Level 3	Unit 5	Application of Fitness testing	60

N.B. Please note that students should be playing competitive sport outside of school to achieve well in this subject.

WHICH SKILLS WILL YOU ACQUIRE?

- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Communication and presentation skills
- Self-management and resilience
- Team work and leadership
- Reading technical texts and effective writing

WHICH CAREER PATHWAYS EXIST AFTER STUDYING THIS SUBJECT?

- The qualification is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to meeting admissions requirements for many courses if taken alongside other qualifications.
- Further training in fitness based qualifications such as personal training / gym instructor
- Further training in sports based qualifications such as coaching / leadership / officiating
- Employment in the sports and leisure industry.

WHICH SUBJECTS COMPLEMENT THIS COURSE?

- Biology
- Business
- English
- Mathematics
- Psychology