



Course Guide

St Andrew The Apostle

SIXTH FORM



RUSSELL EDUCATION TRUST



St Andrew The Apostle SIXTH FORM

Make history by being part of the early cohort of students at St Andrew the Apostle Sixth Form, as you start your personal voyage to higher education or the world of work. You will help to shape our Sixth Form in much the same way as many of you did when the school first started. You will set the standards by which others will be measured and lead the school by your example.

The Sixth Form will be built around some key features:

- Academic success based on a strong work ethic, supported by specialist teaching
- A range of A Levels that are valued by universities and employers
- One-to-one working and structured small group learning to assist independent learning
- Opportunities for extra-curricular activities and volunteering in the community to build social skills and an impressive CV.

Through outstanding teaching and support, we will equip you with the tools to succeed in your chosen subjects and ensure that you enjoy your time in our Sixth Form. We will provide you with the perfect environment for your studies, and provide you with brand new facilities equipped with the latest technology. You will also have a spacious and comfortable common room to allow you to relax and enjoy the company of your peers.

Start your journey with St Andrew the Apostle Sixth Form by reading through the course booklet to identify the best courses for you; take time to consider the options. We have specialist Sixth Form advisers to help you make sure your choices will take you where you want to go and we will organise bridging experiences before and after GCSE exams so you are better prepared for life in sixth form.

More information can be found at www.standrews6th.org.uk. You can also email 6thform@standrewtheapostle.org.uk or call 02031955444 to speak to one of the Sixth Form team.

A Level Courses *

Biology

Business Studies

Chemistry

Classical Civilisation

Drama (Theatre Studies)

Economics

English Literature

Fine Art

French

Geography

Government & Politics

History

Latin

Maths

Further Maths

Media Studies

Modern Greek

Physics

Product Design

Psychology

Religion & Philosophy

Sociology

BTEC Level 3 Courses *

Applied Science

Business

Health & Social Care

Physical Education

Additional Course *

EPQ

**all courses are dependent on demand*

Entry Requirements

We expect students entering the Sixth Form to achieve 5 GCSEs with Grades 4-9 with specific requirements for each course. Some courses and combinations of courses will require a minimum GCSE Grade 5 in English and maths.

Biology

Why choose this course?

Biology A Level will give you the skills to make connections and associations with all living things around you.

Possible degree options: According to bestcourse4me.com, the top seven degree courses taken by students who have an A Level in Biology are:

- Biology • Psychology • Sport and exercise science • Medicine • Anatomy • Physiology and Pathology Pharmacology • Toxicology and Pharmacy Chemistry.

Possible career options: Studying A Level Biology at university gives you all sorts of exciting career options, including:

- Doctor • Clinical molecular geneticist • Nature conservation officer • Pharmacologist • Research scientist • Vet • Secondary school teacher • Marine biologist • Dentist.

Course Fundamentals

Module 1: Development of practical skills in biology.

Module 2: Cells, chemicals for life, transport and gas exchange.

Module 3: Cell division, development and disease control.

Module 4: Energy, reproduction and populations.

Module 5: Genetics, control and homeostasis.

Examination/Assessment

Paper 1: 2 hour 15 minutes written exam.

Paper 2: 2 hour 15 minutes written exam.

Paper 3: 1 hour 30 minutes written exam.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 in Double Science and English Language.



Business Studies

Why choose this course?

This course is designed for those that have an interest in business and entrepreneurship. During the course you will have the possibility to develop transferrable skills such as problem-solving, creative thinking, research, evaluation, communication, personal development and decision making.

A Level business feeds into numerous degrees including:

- Accountancy • Human Resources • Marketing • Law • Finance • Economics • Politics • Psychology • Philosophy • Sociology.

It can lead to careers in:

- Banking • Insurance • Sales • Distribution • Accountancy • Law • Central And Local Government • Consultancy.

Course Fundamentals

- Enterprise
- Human resources
- Environmental factors
- Marketing
- Ethics
- Law
- Accounting and finance
- International trade
- Economics
- Production
- Digital age
- Change management.

Examination/Assessment

100% Exam

3 x 2 hour papers taken at the end of the course

Exams based on real life case studies of 1 local, 1 national and 1 international business

Questions vary between, multiple choice, short answers and extended writing

The emphasis on these exams is problem- solving and decision making.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 in Business Studies.

GCSE Grade 5 English and Maths.

Chemistry

Why choose this course?

A Level Chemistry attempts to answer the big question 'what is the world made of' and it's the search for this answer that makes this subject so fascinating. From investigating how one substance can be changed drastically into another, to researching a new wonder drug to save millions of lives, the opportunities that chemistry provides are endless.

Possible degree options: According to bestcourse4me.com, the top five degree courses taken by students who have an A Level in Chemistry are:

- Chemistry • Biology • Pre-clinical medicine • Mathematics • Pharmacology.

Possible career options: Studying an A Level Chemistry related degree at university gives you all sorts of exciting career options, including:

- Analytical chemist • Chemical engineer • Clinical biochemist • Pharmacologist • Doctor • Research scientist (physical sciences) • Toxicologist • Chartered certified accountant • Environmental consultant • Higher education lecturer • Patent attorney • Science writer • Secondary school.

Course Fundamentals

Module 1: Development of practical skills in chemistry.

Module 2: Foundations in chemistry.

Module 3: Periodic table and energy.

Module 4: Core organic chemistry.

Module 5: Physical chemistry and transition elements.

Module 6: Organic chemistry and analysis.

Examination/Assessment

Paper 1: 2 hour 15 minutes written exam.

Paper 2: 2 hour 15 minutes written exam.

Paper 3: 1 hour 30 minutes written exam.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 in Double Science and English Language.

Classical Civilisation

Why choose this course?

Classical Civilisation A Level students will be given the opportunity to explore the ancient world through the study of diverse material, which will allow them to experience of literature, mythology, history, drama and art. Development of critical thinking and analytical skills are two of the key objectives of this course. Classical Civilisation A Level is often taken with modern or ancient languages as well as History, Geography, Religious Studies and Art.

Course Fundamentals

Anyone who is interested in the Ancient World and enjoys History, Politics or literature should consider studying this course. It is open to any students no matter what their GCSE subjects. All texts are studied in translation so no other language besides English is required.

In Year 12, students will study two components. In Component 1, they will study Homer's Odyssey. They will examine the way the epic was composed and the religious, cultural and social values and beliefs of its society. Component 2 is about Greek theatre. They look at the nature of drama and the social, political and religious themes of comedy and tragedy.

In Year 13, students study two more topics. They study a second text in Component 1; Virgil's Aeneid. Similar to the Odyssey, they examine the literary techniques, political background and its social, cultural and religious context.

In component 3, they study the concept of democracy; what this meant to the Athenians and its positive and negative aspects.

Examination/Assessment

Component 1: The World of a Hero 2 hour 20 minutes Written Paper

Component 2: Culture and the Arts 1 hour 45 minutes Written Paper

Component 3: Beliefs and Ideas 1 hour 45 minutes Written Paper.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 English Language.

Drama (Theatre Studies)

Why choose this course?

Do you love new and exciting theatre? Do you want to make new and exciting theatre? Can you challenge yourself physically and emotionally? Do you want to collaborate with others produce original drama? Will you take risks in theatre making and experiment in a wide range of performance opportunities?

Course Fundamentals

In A Level Drama you will explore the world of making theatre as a performer, director or if you have an artistic flare, as a designer. It is essential that you have a burning passion for this art form. Drama A Level is not for the faint hearted! Your curiosity, commitment and collaboration are key to success. Seeing live performance is integral to the skill development necessary for this course. *evening shows are expected.

Examination/Assessment

You will build on the three key assessment areas as in GCSE Drama;

The course is made of 3 areas;

Component 1: Devising 40% of the qualification

You will take part in a demanding physical theatre workshop introducing you to the world of the chosen theatre practitioner. From this you will devise an original performance fusing a performance text (script) with the style of the influential theatre practitioner. From this you will produce a short written portfolio documenting and reflecting on the exploratory process and the skills and techniques developed.

Component 2: Text in Performance 20% of the qualification

You will develop and demonstrate outstanding theatre-making skills as a performer or designer. Performing or designing a monologue, a duologue and a group performance from chosen texts.

Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice 40% of the qualification

This is your written examination. You are required to be confident with the language of drama and explain how as an actor, director or designer you intend to create effects on stage. You will critically analyse and evaluate how different theatre makers create impact.

1) A live theatre evaluation.

2) Page to stage: realisation of a complete performance text.

3) How you would Interpret a text, in the style of our chosen practitioner for a contemporary audience.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 Drama and English.

A Level Courses

Economics

Why choose this course?

This course will introduce you into the world of Economics building knowledge of core micro and macro economics linked to real life businesses and the environment in which they operate.

In order to be successful in this course it is essential that you have a real interest in the economy and how this affects, local, national and international events.

An A Level in Economics and lead you to numerous careers and undergraduate degrees including but not limited to:

- Economics • Management • Law • Social sciences.

Course Fundamentals

- Market, consumers and firms
- The wider economic environment
- The global economy
- Making markets work.

Examination/Assessment

Paper 1: Markets, consumers and firms 2 hour exam.

Paper 2: Competing in the global economy 2 hour paper.

Paper 3: The economic environment and business 2 hour paper.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 Maths.

GCSE Grade 5 English.



English Literature

Why choose this course?

English Literature is without doubt the premier written A Level subject and sits alongside further Mathematics in terms of its credibility. Studying literature is perfect for anyone with a passion for reading literary texts from any era or movement. It allows you to develop your understanding of the intricacies of language and identify waves of meaning, both above and below the surface. You will develop a wider appreciation of the importance of context, exploring the factors that shape a text, whether that is when it was written or why, or how different eras have interpreted the same text differently. You will be able to engage in dynamic class discussions, learning to explore through debate and critical questioning.

As one of the big traditional subjects, English Literature is welcomed by universities and employers. It shows that you are reflective, thoughtful and capable of intense analytical thought. It provides access to a wide and disparate range of degree courses. It is also useful in applying to enter the world of media and journalism, or other interpretative or creative fields.

Course Fundamentals

The qualification requires students to study eight literary texts. Three of these have to be pre-1900 texts (including one Shakespeare play), plus one text first published or performed post-2000.

Examination/Assessment

Component 1: Written examination, lasting 2 hours and 15 minutes.

Component 2: Written examination, lasting 1 hour.

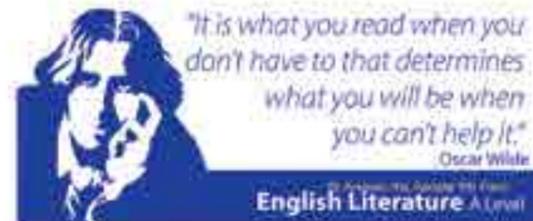
Component 3: Written examination, lasting 2 hours and 15 minutes.

Component 4: Non-examination assessment.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 English Language.

GCSE Grade 5 English Literature.



Fine Art

Why choose this course?

This course is designed for those that have an interest in Fine Art, craft design, illustration, still life, mixed media, installation art as well as Graphic Design.

During the course you will learn and develop skills in drawing, mixed media, developing independence in personalised projects as well as Art history and research in order to create a portfolio of evidence for future applications, college and degrees.

A Level Fine Art feeds into numerous degrees including:

- Art and Design • Fine Art, • Illustration • Graphics • Graphic Design • Performing Arts • Photography • Architecture • Advertising • Fashion and Textiles.

It can lead to careers in:

- Architecture • Product Design • Graphic • Illustration • Teaching • Curating exhibitions • Lecturing • Interior Design • Fashion • Advertisement • Media • Forensic profiling.

Course Fundamentals

Portfolio:

- Work shop based lessons
- Drawing focuses
- Mini projects
- Personal investigations
- Art history
- Realising a final outcome
- Journey taking in order to create an outcome
- Life drawing.

Exam Assessment: Base work upon a theme to go through a journey from research to experimentation and development of idea and then to realise a final outcome or outcomes. 10 hour exam is the final outcome.

Examination/Assessment

Portfolio: 60% (Internally set) 96 marks Compulsory life drawing element.

Exam: 10 hours (externally set by AQA) Unlimited preparatory period 96 marks 40%.
New specification as of June 2018.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 in Art and/or Design Technology if previously studied.

Portfolio needed to be shown in interview.

French

Why choose this course?

This specification will help to prepare students for higher education and enhance their employability profile. It has been designed specifically to enable students to develop an advanced knowledge and understanding of the French language, the culture of France and other Francophone countries, as well as practical and valuable language and transferable study skills. Moreover, this courses puts an emphasis on wider spontaneity through grammar; independent application of knowledge and creativity. Building on the understanding developed at Key Stage 4, this course gives students the opportunity to learn and apply important transferable skills in critical thinking and analysis, enabling them to make a smooth transition to the next level of study.

Course Fundamentals

A Level is all about diving into the culture of France and the French-speaking world, through authentic and popular materials (films and books) and topics which are relevant to our current society – politics, arts and culture, immigration, identity, as well as occupation and resistance during World War II.

Examination/Assessment

Paper 1: Listening, reading and translation: Written examination: 2 hours

Paper 2: Written response to works and translation: Written examination: 2 hours and 40 minutes

Paper 3: Speaking: Internally conducted and externally assessed. Total assessment time: between 21 and 23 minutes, which includes a single period of 5 minutes' formal preparation time. 30% of the qualification.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 French.

Geography

Why choose this course?

This course offers a mixture of physical and human geography which compliments both the sciences and arts. Physical geography has links with biology, ecology, maths and statistics, while human geography overlaps with politics, economics and sociology. This helps to keep your options open when applying for University courses.

Also, as Geography covers the greatest number of skills, a University degree in this subject can lead to any possible career, except medicine. Geography is the most sought-after degree by employers as Geography graduates have a large range of transferable skills for the workplace.

Course Fundamentals

Candidates study the following topics:

Core Physical Geography:

- Hydrology and fluvial geomorphology
- Atmosphere and weather • Rocks and weathering

Core Human Geography:

- Population • Migration • Settlement dynamics

Candidates then study two options from:

Advanced Physical Geography Options:

- Tropical environments • Coastal environments • Hazardous environments
- Hot arid and semi-arid environments

and two options from:

Advanced Human Geography Options:

- Production, location and change
- Environmental management • Global interdependence.

Examination/Assessment

Paper 1: Core Physical Geography: 1hr 30min exam.

Paper 2: Core Human Geography: 1hr 30min exam.

Paper 3: Advanced Physical Geography Options: 1hr 30min exam.

Paper 4: Advanced Human Geography Options: 1hr 30min exam.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 Geography.

Government & Politics

Why choose this course?

This course is designed for those that have an interest in both UK and US politics. The course is very modern and up-to-date which means that anything that has been happening in the lead up to the exam could be a topic within it. As it is based in current affairs, you would be expected to have an interest and knowledge of the world around you.

The politics course can lead to a wide range of degrees ranging from Politics and Economics to History and beyond.

Career paths can lead to: • Local/National Government • Business / Consultancy • Law • Humanities Based Careers.

Course Fundamentals

- Democracy and participation • Political parties • Electoral systems
- Voting behaviour and the media • Liberalism, Conservatism and Socialism
- Constitution • Parliament • Prime Minister and executive
- Relationship between branches • The US Constitution and federalism
- US Congress • US presidency • US Supreme Court and US civil rights
- US Democracy and participation • Comparative theories.

Examination/Assessment

3 x 2 hour exams

UK Politics paper

UK Government paper

Comparative Politics USA paper.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 English Literature.

GCSE Grade 5 History if previously studied.



A Level Courses

History

Why choose this course?

History helps you develop critical thinking and understanding, making sense of the modern world and challenging 'fake news', whilst deepening your appreciation of the human story.

History is also a highly respected A Level, listed as a 'facilitating subject' by the Russell Group. This means it is more frequently required for entry to degree courses than some other subjects. It is academically rigorous and shows a deep commitment to real study. It is useful for a career in the Law, Media, PR / Advertising, Civil Service and many other areas. It is also fascinating and will be taught by outstanding teachers, using exceptional resources and deep subject knowledge.

The purposes of this qualification are to:

- Define and assess achievement of the knowledge, skills and understanding that will be needed by students planning to progress to undergraduate study at a UK higher education establishment, particularly (although not only) in the same subject area
- Set out a robust and internationally comparable post-16 academic course of study to develop that knowledge, skills and understanding
- Enable UK universities to accurately identify the level of attainment of students
- Provide a basis for school and college accountability measures at age 18
- Provide a benchmark of academic ability for employers.

Course Fundamentals

Students are taken through familiar and new elements of History in our A Level course. Martin Luther King, John F Kennedy, The Vietnam War, Bloody Mary, Henry VIII, the Civil Right Movement. Students will develop key reading and essay-writing skills, alongside engaging in a high level of debate and argument. In short, if you liked GCSE History, you will love A Level.

Examination/Assessment

Two exams and one coursework piece.

Paper 1: Tudor England, 1485–1603.

Paper 2: The American Dream: reality and illusion, 1945–1980.

Coursework: 3000-3500 essay on a topic chosen by you and guided by teachers.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 History.

GCSE Grade 5 English.



Latin

Why choose this course?

This course has been designed to help learners develop their understanding of the Latin language and the related ancient literature, values and society. OCR's A Level in Latin engages learners, develops a desire within them to continue learning Latin and helps develop a lifelong enthusiasm for the Classical world.

More specifically, OCR's A Level in Latin will enable learners to:

- Develop an appropriate level of competence in the language studied.
- Develop an interest in, and enthusiasm for, the literary, historical and cultural features of the ancient world.
- Develop the language and literature skills needed to progress to studying Classics at undergraduate level.
- Develop linguistic skills which will help both in the study and application of English and other languages.

Course Fundamentals

Unseen Translation & Prose Composition or Comprehension: Learners build their knowledge of vocabulary and linguistic structures through reading and studying prose and verse texts in Latin. Learners study texts written by a range of prose authors and the verse unseen author to develop linguistic competence.

Prose Literature: Learners study two Latin Prose Literature set texts in depth. Learners also study additional literature in translation in order to understand the context from which the set texts have been taken.

Verse Literature: Learners study two Latin Verse Literature set texts in depth. Learners also study additional literature in translation in order to understand the context from which the set texts have been taken.

Examination/Assessment

Unseen Translation & Prose Composition or Comprehension:

1 hour 45 minute written paper.

Prose Literature: 2 hour written paper.

Verse Literature: 2 hour written paper.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 in Latin or another Language.

Maths

Why choose this course?

Mathematics at A Level builds on work you will have met at GCSE, but also involves many new ideas. If you enjoy maths, have a strong work ethic and relish the challenge of problem solving then this is the course for you.

The skills developed through the study of Mathematics are in high demand from employers. In addition to developing the ability to solve problems and think logically, the study of Mathematics provides opportunities to develop team-working skills, resilience, effective communication of complex ideas and the ability to use your own initiative. The vast range of degree courses and careers that require solid mathematical skills ensures that taking Mathematics to AS level or beyond will open doors to a world of opportunities!

Course Fundamentals

Pure Maths: Proof • Algebra and functions • Coordinate geometry in the (x, y) plane

• Sequences and series • Trigonometry • Exponentials and logarithms

• Differentiation • Integration • Numerical methods • Vectors

Statistics: Statistical sampling: • Data presentation and interpretation

• Probability • Statistical distributions • Statistical hypothesis testing

Mechanics: Quantities and units in mechanics: • Kinematics

• Forces and Newton's laws • Moments.

Examination/Assessment

Paper 1: Pure Mathematics 1

Paper 2: Pure Mathematics 2

Each paper is a 2 hour written examination

Paper 3: Contains questions on topics from the Statistics and Mechanics content.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 Mathematics.

Further Maths

Why choose this course?

Further Mathematics is taken in addition to A Level Mathematics and together they provide the prestigious combination that the best universities will be looking for. This really is the gold plated course for ambitious and talented mathematicians to thrive. It enables enthusiastic mathematicians to broaden and deepen their subject knowledge through studying additional more challenging topics in pure Mathematics as well as a wider range of topics in applied Mathematics. Further Mathematics is suitable for students who are thinking of studying for a Mathematics, engineering, physics or similar degree. It is also for those students who love Mathematics and want to devote more time to the studying wider aspects of the subject

This may lead to the following career pathways

finance and banking, operational research, computer game design, engineering, health, education, teaching, accounting, aerospace and defence, environmental industry, pharmaceutical industry, healthcare, food and drink industry, bioscience, medicine.

Course Fundamentals

Year 12:

- Decision maths 1
- Decision maths 2
- Further pure maths 1

Year 13:

- Further pure maths 2
- Mechanics 2
- Statistics 2

Assessment is entirely through terminal examinations.

Examination/Assessment

Paper 1: Core Pure Mathematics 1

Paper 2: Core Pure Mathematics 2.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 7 Mathematics.

Media Studies

Why choose this course?

Are you creative? Do you have a passion for all forms of media? Are you interested in creating and editing your own material? An interest in film, television, magazines and advertising and marketing is advisable, and a good grade in English and English literature GCSE is essential.

Course Fundamentals

Students of Media Studies will:

- demonstrate skills of enquiry, critical thinking, decision-making analysis, a critical approach to media issues and a critical understanding of the media and their role both historically and currently in society, culture, politics and the economy
- develop an understanding of the dynamic and changing relationships between media forms, products, industries and audiences and understanding of the global nature of the media
- apply theoretical knowledge and specialist subject specific terminology to analyse and compare media products and the contexts in which they are produced and consumed and make informed arguments, reach substantiated judgements and draw conclusions about media issues
- engage in critical debate about academic theories used in Media studies and appreciate how theoretical understanding supports practice and practice supports theoretical understanding
- demonstrate sophisticated practical skills by providing opportunities for creative media production.

Examination/Assessment

Component 1: Meanings and Representations in the Media Written examination: 2 hours 30% of qualification.

Component 2: Media Forms and Products in Depth Written examination: 3 hours 40% of qualification.

Component 3: Cross-Media Production Non exam assessment 30% of qualification.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 in both English language and English literature.

Modern Greek

Why choose this course?

This course should be taken by students that have an interest to further develop their Greek language.

This course has been developed to inspire students to have an appreciation of the language, literature, film and culture of Greece and Cyprus. This course can lead to further education in Greek or humanity subjects such as history, classics and ancient history.

Course Fundamentals

- Enhance their linguistic skills and promote and develop their capacity for critical thinking on the basis of their knowledge and understanding of the language, culture and society of Greece and Cyprus
- Develop control of the language system to convey meaning, using written skills, including an extended range of vocabulary, for both practical and intellectual purposes as increasingly confident, accurate and independent users of Greek
- Develop their ability to understand language in spoken and written form and to interact effectively with users of Greek in writing
- Develop language skills and strategies, including comprehension strategies such as using contextual clues and cues, and communication strategies to build fluency and confidence in writing, develop speaking skills as part of their courses of study, although there will be no assessment of those skills
- Translate texts from English into Greek, and from Greek into English.

Examination/Assessment

Paper 1: Translation into English, Reading comprehension and Writing (research question) 2 hours 30 minutes.

Paper 2: Translation into Greek and Writing response to work 2 hours 40 minutes

Paper 3: Listening, reading and writing 2 hours and 15 minutes.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 in Greek.

A Level Courses

Physics

Why choose this course?

Physicists explore the fundamental nature of almost everything we know of. They probe the furthest reaches of the earth to study the smallest pieces of matter. Join them to enter a world deep beneath the surface of normal human experience.

Possible degree options: According to bestcourse4me.com, the top seven degree courses taken by students who have an A Level in Physics are:

• Mathematics

• Physics • Mechanical Engineering • Computer Science • Civil Engineering

• Economics • Business.

Possible career options: Studying A Level Physics offers an infinite number of amazing career opportunities including:

• Geophysicist/field seismologist

• Healthcare scientist, medical physics • Higher education lecturer

• Radiation protection practitioner • Research scientist (physical sciences)

• Scientific laboratory technician • Secondary school teacher • Meteorologist

• Structural engineer • Acoustic engineer • Product/process development scientist

• Systems developer • Technical author.

You can also move into: • Engineering • Astrophysics • Chemical Physics

• Nanotechnology • Renewable Energy and more, the opportunities are endless.

Course Fundamentals

Module 1: Development of practical skills in physics.

Module 2: Foundations of physics.

Module 3: Forces and motion.

Module 4: Electrons, waves and photons.

Module 5: Newtonian world and astrophysics.

Module 6: Particles and medical physics.

Examination/Assessment

Paper 1: 2 hour 15 minutes written exam.

Paper 2: 2 hour 15 minutes written exam.

Paper 3: 1 hour 30 minutes written exam.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 Double Science.

GCSE Grade 6 Maths.



A Level Courses

Product Design

Why choose this course?

This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives you the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers, especially those in the creative industries. You will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put your learning in to practice by producing products of your choice. You will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers.

Product design allows you to focus on a range of specialisms; mixing contemporary and traditional approaches to manufacture, whilst learning about the complex relationships between designs, materials, manufacturing and marketing. There are various specialisms involved, including textiles, graphics and resistant materials.

It is an increasingly digital and multi-skilled subject, requiring a degree of proficiency in a range of multi-media, as well as traditional skills of making. As such, product design is perfect for those who want to combine theory and practical activities. It is for students who enjoy exploring new and innovative techniques in design and creating objects that have a positive effect on people's lives.

The world of product design is an ever-changing environment with exciting and innovative possibilities. Developing your problem-solving skills, logical judgment and an awareness of the world we live in. It offers a pathway into a broad range of creative and diverse degree courses.

Course Fundamentals

The course intertwines theoretical design principles with the development of a deep-rooted understanding of materials and their application. This will be achieved through a range of focused practical tasks, live design briefs and independently selected projects. Practical lessons will make full use of the specialist workshops.

Examination/Assessment

There are two main examinations at the end of Year 13.

Exam paper 1: Technical principles (30%)

Exam paper 2: Designing and making principles (20%)

During Year 13 you will complete a substantial design and make project to demonstrate the real-life application of your technical knowledge and skills while working with a client. This will involve the creation of a design portfolio and high quality physical product.

Non-exam assessment: Substantial design and make project (50%).

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 in Product Design or GCSE Grade 5 in Art.

Psychology

Why choose this course?

Psychology is a popular subject which is attractive to students because it develops a range of valuable skills, including critical analysis, independent thinking and research. These skills are particularly relevant to young people and are transferable to further study and the workplace.

Studying psychology at university can give you a whole host of exciting career options, including:

- Marketing
- Business development
- Accountancy
- Human resources
- Forensic psychology
- Occupational therapy
- Clinical psychology
- Nursing
- Teaching

Course Fundamentals

Social influence: • Memory • Attachment • Approaches in psychology • Biopsychology • Psychopathology • Research methods

Compulsory content: • Issues and debates in psychology

Optional content:

Option one: • Relationships • Gender • Cognition and development

Option two: • Schizophrenia • Eating behaviour • Stress

Option three: • Aggression • Forensic psychology • Addiction

Examination/Assessment

At A Level there are three exams, each account for one third of your A Level. The three exams last 2 hours and are worth 96 marks each. The exams consist of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 Science.

GCSE Grade 5 English.



Religion & Philosophy

Why choose this course?

Religious Studies A Level allows you to examine the most important questions about life and evaluate the possible answers. If you like questioning why things are the way they are, this is the subject for you! It is valued by universities as a course that demands knowledge, understanding and analysis of complex themes. It is suitable for a range of pathways, with Law and Medicine being two differing but popular post A Level university courses.

Course Fundamentals

There are three sections to the course:

- Philosophy of Religion, including: arguments for God's existence, the problem of evil, the existence of the soul, and the validity of Religious Experience.
- Ethics and Religion, including: embryo research, capital punishment, assisted suicide, animal rights, cloning, free will, and conscience.
- Study of Religion (Christianity) and Dialogues, including: the afterlife, moral principles, the role of the Church, gender and sexuality, and secularism..

Examination/Assessment

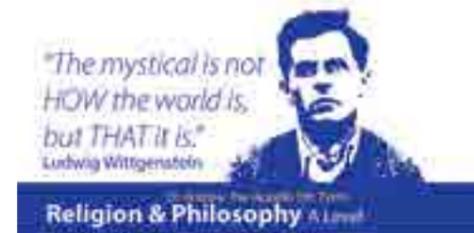
At A Level, there are two exams at the end of the second year:

- Philosophy of Religion and Ethics: 3 hours,
- Study of Religion and Dialogues: 3 hours,

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 in Religious Studies.

GCSE Grade 5 English.



Sociology

Why choose this course?

Sociology is a relevant, exciting and current course that provides an insight into how our behaviour is shaped by the world around us. The topics covered on the A Level course help to explain why people are no longer choosing to marry, why middle class students achieve better grades in school, how religion can unify and divide a society and why crime is concentrated in inner city areas. If you are inquisitive and keen to understand these points, Sociology is the course for you.

Studying Sociology provides an excellent foundation for a number of popular university courses. For example, Criminology, Education Studies and Social Policy. Sociology provides knowledge and skills that are transferable to a number of careers such as Education, Media or Health.

Course Fundamentals

In Sociology we examine different sociological perspectives that provide a unique take on society, the variety of research methods employed by different groups of sociologists and the strengths and weaknesses of employing them to study aspects of society. You will need to be able to assess the quality of the sociological views and methods covered, be good at working on your own and as part of a group, take part in discussions and debates, construct balanced arguments and keep up to date with relevant news stories.

Examination/Assessment

There are three exams, each accounting for one third of your A level. The three exams last 2 hours and are worth 80 marks each. The exams consist of short answer and extended writing questions.

- Education
- Crime and Deviance
- Topics such as:
 - culture and identity
 - family and households
 - beliefs in society,
 - the media

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language, English Literature and Maths.



BTEC Courses

Applied Science

Why choose this course?

Designed for learners who are interested in learning about the sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in applied science.

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Applied Science is intended as an Applied General qualification for post-16 learners who want to continue their education through applied learning and who aim to progress to higher education, and ultimately to employment, possibly in the applied science sector. The qualification is equivalent in size to half an A Level and aims to give a basic introduction to the study of applied science. Learners who wish to take this qualification will have successfully completed a Level 2 study programme with GCSEs or vocational qualifications. It is normally taken alongside other Level 3 qualifications.

The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to meeting admission requirements for many relevant courses if taken alongside other Level 3 qualifications as part of a programme of learning. Learners will be able to choose a wide range of degree programmes to progress to, depending on the other qualifications they have taken.

Course Fundamentals

- Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques
- Science Investigation Skills
- Diseases and Infections

The mandatory synoptic unit requires learners to apply learning from across the qualification to the completion of a defined vocational task. Unit 1: Principles and Applications of Science 1 is an exam based assessment during which learners will make judgements and reach conclusions by evaluating scientific information and making connections between different scientific concepts, procedures and processes. Learners complete the task using knowledge and understanding from their studies of the sector and apply both transferable and specialist knowledge and skills.

Examination/Assessment

1 hour 30 minutes exam
Broken down into 3 sections covering Biology, Chemistry and Physics
Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques
Coursework based unit: Science Investigation Skills
Supervised assessment
Written Task: Diseases and Infections
Coursework based unit.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 4 Double Science.

Business

Why choose this course?

Students completing their BTEC Nationals in Business will be aiming to go on to employment, often via the stepping stone of higher education.

Course Fundamentals

There are 3 mandatory units that learners must complete, 1 internal and 2 external. Learners must complete and achieve at pass grade or above for all these units

Mandatory units:

- Exploring Business
- Developing a Marketing Campaign
- Personal and Business Finance

Optional units:

- Recruitment and Selection Process
- Investigating Customer Service
- Market Research
- The English Legal System
- Work Experience in Business.

Examination/Assessment

Internal assignments: Work-related assignments set and marked by the centre.

External Tasks: Practical, work-related tasks, set and marked by Pearson.

Written exams: Written answers to practical questions set and marked by Pearson.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 4 in Business.
GCSE Grade 4 in English and Maths.



Health & Social Care

Why choose this course?

This course suits a learner who prefers a continual assessment method without the pressure of one final examination. This qualification develops the knowledge and skills needed when working with adults in health and social care environments. It covers a wide range of areas including supporting individuals with their physical and emotional care, daily living needs and health care procedures. If you are passionate about supporting people and being a carer then this is the course for you.

Course Fundamentals

The course comprises mandatory and optional units:

- Developing effective communication
- Equality, diversity and rights
- Health, safety and security
- Development through the life stages
- Anatomy and physiology
- Personal and professional development
- Sociological and psychological perspectives.

Examination/Assessment

The styles of external assessment used for qualifications in the Health and Social Care suite are:

Examinations: all learners take the same assessment at the same time, normally with a written outcome.

Set tasks: learners take the assessment during a defined window and demonstrate understanding through completion of a vocational task.

Entry requirements

5 GCSE's at Grade 4 or above including English and Maths.



Physical Education

Why choose this course?

If you are interested in continuing your education through applied learning and aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment in the sport sector; this is the course for you. The qualification is equivalent in size to one A Level, and it has been designed as a full-time study programme

The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to meeting admission requirements for many courses if taken alongside other qualifications as part of a two-year programme of study. The qualification provides learners with key employability skills:

- **cognitive and problem-solving skills:** use critical thinking, approach non-routine problems applying expert and creative solutions, use systems and technology
- **intrapersonal skills:** communicating, working collaboratively, negotiating and influencing, self-presentation
- **interpersonal skills:** self-management, adaptability and resilience, self-monitoring and development.

Course Fundamentals

Learners will study three mandatory units:

- **Unit 1:** Anatomy and Physiology
- **Unit 2:** Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being
- **Unit 3:** Professional Development in the Sports Industry.

Learners will also choose one optional unit from a range which has been designed to support choices in progression to sport courses in higher education, and to link with relevant occupational areas.

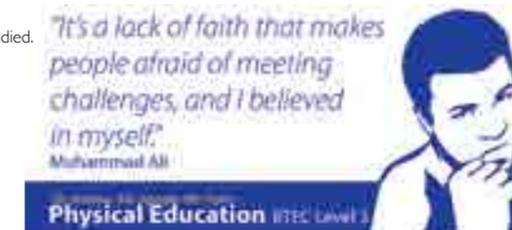
- Optional units:**
- Sports Leadership
 - Application of Fitness Testing
 - Sports Psychology
 - Practical Sports Performance.

Examination/Assessment

4 units must be completed.
Mandatory content
External assessment
Unit 1: Written examination. 1.5 hours.
Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being
Written submission.

Entry requirements

GCSE Grade 4 PE if previously studied.
GCSE Grade 4 English.
GCSE Grade 4 Maths.





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