

CURRICULUM & SUBJECTS

BEWDLEY SIXTH FORM

We fly with our own wings



I am Social Work

Curriculum

At Bewdley Sixth Form we provide students with the opportunity to study both A Level and equivalent Level 3 subjects. Our minimum entry requirements are 5 grade 5's at GCSE; however, some courses have additional entry requirements. All Post 16 study requires a focused and consistent approach and Bewdley Sixth Form provides an excellent place for this work, which includes a large computer suite and an additional bank of laptops. The Sixth Form Learning Mentor is based in this space to support students with their study and provide additional guidance and motivation with Sixth Form subjects. Around the study room are four dedicated teaching rooms and a spacious lecture theatre.

At Bewdley Sixth Form we are experts in managing the transition from GCSE to A-level courses and beyond and have tailored support in place to facilitate this. A study skills programme prepares students for the demanding requirements of Level 3 courses and increases their confidence in essential skills needed for Sixth Form and for further study. Year 12 students also have the opportunity to study the Extended Project Qualification; a bespoke co-curricular programme driven by the student and mentored by experienced staff from all fields within our Sixth Form subjects. Following an academic topic of their choice, students are able to hone their research, analytical and academic written skills. Science, Psychology and Geography students are also encouraged to study Core Maths as this prepares them for the mathematical components of these A-Levels.

Year 12 students are encouraged to choose the right courses for their chosen pathway, and we work with them to ensure that these choices allow students access to their chosen career path. The Russell Group of universities encourage students to keep their options open by choosing 'facilitating' subjects. Facilitating subjects are:

- Mathematics and Further Mathematics,
- English Literature,
- Physics,
- Biology,
- Chemistry,
- Geography,
- History,
- Languages.

Choosing facilitating subjects at A Level opens up a greater number of degree courses to choose from when deciding about what course to study at university. We will support students to make the course choices that are right for them now, and for their future career path.

Alongside academic success at Bewdley Sixth Form we value the importance of enrichment opportunities. We want students to have the chance to develop new skills and secure experiences which will be integral to post 18 steps. These opportunities include Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award, Young Enterprise, theatre trips, university visits, residential trips and many more. We also work with Springpod to ensure that all students have multiple opportunities to take part in work experience and can undertake courses to improve their employability skills. Our accompanying enrichment booklet has more details on the extensive enrichment offering at Bewdley Sixth Form.

Why choose to study Biology?

The biological sciences have led to so many advances in our society today. Many diseases have been eradicated, while others are now curable. New crops have been developed that grow more successfully and help to feed the world. There are controversies too: e.g. about genetically modified crops and cloning. It is important that we understand the issues and that we are well informed enough to make reasoned decisions.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

At least one grade 6 in your GCSE Sciences. Followed the Higher Tier Maths course at GCSE.

What will I study?

Some of the topics and concepts that you study are: cells, cell transport, biochemistry, enzymes, digestion, cell cycle, the genetic code, energy and exercise and transport systems in animals and plants. Many of the topics and concepts studied you will recognise as developments of work first met at GCSE Level, and the emphasis of biology on modern developments.

What skills will I develop?

- You will learn to apply your biological knowledge to unfamiliar contexts.
- You will learn to analyse, to evaluate and to synthesise.
- Through devising and planning investigative work, you will develop transferable problem-solving skills.

Opportunities

Biology is essential for higher education courses in a range of scientifically-related courses, e.g. medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, biochemistry, dietetics and physiotherapy.

Why choose to study Business Studies?

A Level Business Studies gives students the tools and information required to understand how businesses are created and managed.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE Maths.

What will I study?

- What is business?
- Managers, leadership and decision making.
- Decision making to improve marketing performance.
- Decision making to improve operational performance.
- Decision making to improve financial performance.
- Decision making to improve HR performance.
- Analysing the strategic position of a business.
- Choosing strategic direction.
- How to pursue strategies.
- Managing strategic change.

What skills will I develop?

Students will learn a range of key business concepts. They will develop the skills of contextualising answers, analysing and justifying answers.

Opportunities

Graduate or apprenticeship courses leading to a career including accountancy, advertising, banking, investment and financial services.

Why choose to study Classical Civilisation?

Even a brief encounter with the ancient world fires the imagination and sheds a dazzling light on why we in the West are as we are, with all our massive strengths and disastrous failings.

The study of Classical Civilisation is interdisciplinary; it involves literature, history, philosophy and the visual arts.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

GCSE English Language: Grade 5
GCSE English Literature or History: Grade 4

What will I study?

Homer's Odyssey and Virgil's Aeneid. Study the epics themselves, their composition; the religious, cultural and social values and beliefs evidenced.

Drama produced in the ancient Greek theatre and the context in which it developed. This involves the staging of their dramas, and depictions in artefacts.

Finally, students will study either Greek religion or Love and relationships in the ancient world.

What skills will I develop?

- Develop skills of critical analysis and evaluation and apply them.
- The ability to articulate an informed response to studied material and, using a range of appropriate evidence, to formulate coherent arguments with substantiated evidence based judgements.

Opportunities

Visits to museums and ancient sites. Attending Classics & Ancient History lectures at Birmingham University. Theatre visits.

Why choose to study Chemistry?

You live in an age and culture which depends heavily on science and engineering. For instance, the environmental problems we face will ultimately be solved on the basis of detailed, accurate science. Chemistry is central among the sciences, in that it touches on physics in the most fundamental parts of the subject, and on biology in that much of modern biology relates to chemical processes.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

At least one grade 6 in your GCSE Sciences. Followed the Higher Tier Maths course at GCSE.

What will I study?

- You will study in more detail the same sort of areas of chemistry that you met at GCSE, although concepts and generalisations will become more important than specific facts.
- The chemistry of carbon compounds (organic chemistry) will take up more time than at GCSE.
- The extra-curricular programme will allow you to develop an interest in chemistry and other areas outside the sixth-form curriculum.

What skills will I develop?

Chemistry will develop your skills of clear and unambiguous communication, numeracy, planning a course of action, rigorous analysis of evidence and synthesis of conclusions from evidence.

Opportunities

Apart from chemistry courses at university, chemistry gives you a huge range of career opportunities. For some it is essential – the chemical industry, pharmacy and medicine, for others it is preferred – engineering, chemical technology.

Why choose to study Computer Science?

Computer Science is a subject that delivers computing and computational thinking skills that are in high demand around the world across multiple career paths in computing.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in Computer Science.

What will I study?

You will study a wide breadth of computing topics, including, computer systems, breaking down into:

- Components of a computer and their uses.
- Software and software development.
- Exchanging data.
- Data types, data structures and algorithms.
- Legal, moral, cultural and ethical issues.

You will also study algorithms and programming focussing on:

- The elements of computational thinking.
- Problem solving, programming and specific algorithms.

Also you will undertake a programming project; where you will need to design, develop, test and evaluate the solution to a chosen computing problem based around the specification.

What skills will I develop?

You will develop an understanding of computing systems, algorithms and programming. All of which are highly sort after skills for degree level courses and industry.

Opportunities

This course will allow progression on to computer science related degrees or skilled work within the industry.

Why choose to study Criminology?

Do you always watch, read or listen to true crime? Do you wonder why an individual may turn to crime? Have you ever wondered...is someone just 'evil'? Are you interested in how we punish and help offenders? If you have asked yourself these questions, then you should study Criminology!

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Above grade 5 in English.

What will I study?

This has 4 units and is modular in structure which means you will be assessed at the end of each unit.

Unit 1 (Changing Awareness of Crime) and 3 (Crime Scene to Courtroom) are internally assessed coursework and unit 2 (Criminological theories) and 4 (Crime and Punishment) are externally examined. Subjects such as media representation of crime, how to process crime scenes, psychological theories explaining criminality are just some of the topics covered in this course!

What skills will I develop?

Critical thinking- you will always question everything and never just assume anything. This will then translate into your writing as you develop your written and verbal expression. Personal skills such as organisation and independence will grow during the study of criminology.

Opportunities

During your studies here, you will meet professionals and academics that will widen your criminological understanding. Level 3 diploma is graded A*-E which is equivalent to an A Level and carries the same UCAS points as other A Levels. Progression to university is the most common next step with courses such as policing, law, sociology, criminology, forensic science, psychology etc. Many careers are open after studying criminology at A-level and/or university.

Why choose to study ICT?

Digital Media will allow students to develop a deeper understanding of how ICT and the media are interlinked and how the industry has developed over time. Students will have an opportunity to develop their core and creative ICT skills, whilst also learning about the finer details of the media world.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE English.

What will I study?

The course is made up of several units based around externally-written scenarios. The course teaches the fundamental skills required within the media world. The course is a nice blend of creativity, theory and practical. Digital Media will allow you to develop a deeper understanding not only of the industry, but also the reasoning behind certain design choices. The work completed within the classroom will consist of the following units:

Media products and audiences, Pre-production and planning, Create a Media Product, Advertising Media & Journalism and the news industry.

What skills will I develop?

Students will develop their Creative ICT skills by creating a number of products focusing on a variety of digital advertisement ranging from audio to visual campaigns. Alongside this, students will develop their fundamental ICT skills to enable their work to be aesthetically pleasing.

Opportunities

Once students have completed the Level 3 Digital Media qualification, students could look at the following options (subject to change):

- Digital Media courses at University
- ICT apprenticeships
- Media apprenticeships

Why choose to study English Language & Literature?

You will engage creatively and independently with a wide range of spoken and written texts to build a wider understanding of the relationship between texts. You will use integrated linguistic and literary approaches in order to gain confidence in your reading and interpretation of texts. As a result your communication skills will improve and you will become a proficient producer and interpreter of language.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Grade 5 or higher in GCSE English Language & Literature.

What will I study?

Texts studied include an anthology of non-fiction, a drama text and two other texts (including prose fiction) on a theme e.g. 'Crossing Boundaries'. You also complete a 3000 word piece of independent coursework in which you produce one fiction text, one non-fiction text and an analytical commentary.

What skills will I develop?

Your study of written texts, the process of writing your coursework and the opportunity to analyse your own writing will transform your own ability to write for a variety of audiences and purposes. Your wider reading will broaden your understanding of the human condition and develop your skills as an independent, critical reader.

Opportunities

Theatre visits, author visits, library visits as well as continuing to refine your written expression for UCAS personal statements.

Why choose to study English Literature?

Reading about people, their thoughts, and why they do things is fascinating and helps you understand yourself and the people around you. Reading is a great way to learn more about history and politics. Furthermore, Literature can lead to a wide range of degree courses and careers.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Grade 5 or higher in GCSE English Literature.
Grade 5 in GCSE English Language.

What will I study?

Texts include a poetry anthology, prose and drama texts, plus a Shakespeare play. One unit is on the theme of love; the second contains texts from either Modern Literature or World War One. You also complete a 2500 word piece of independent coursework on 2 texts and a topic of your choice.

What skills will I develop?

The ability to analyse and evaluate texts and critical opinions independently and to develop your skill as an independent, critical reader. You will have the chance to select texts that interest you personally and develop interests in the field of literature.

Opportunities

Theatre visits, author visits as well as continuing to refine your written expression for UCAS personal statements.

Why choose to study Film Studies?

Film Studies is a cultural course that gives you a strong grounding in film-making tradition, current practice and cinema from Britain, America and around the world. You will study film in depth, create your own and hone your analytical and essay writing skills. The A level goes well with other 'cultural' courses, or as a qualification that makes you stand out from the crowd.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Grade 5 or higher in GCSE English.

What will I study?

The practical part of the course involves writing and storyboarding a shooting script for a film short, or filming and editing an actual film. A wide range of films are studied with attention being paid to different academic approaches such as context, narrative, genre and auteurship. You learn how films are made and how they interact with audiences and reflect cultures.

What skills will I develop?

Your skills of close, detailed analysis will be greatly developed by this course. You also learn how to think about films from different academic perspectives.

Opportunities

Cinema visits and film conventions might become available for you to include in your UCAS personal statements.

Why choose to study Fine Art?

Studying A Level Fine Art will help you to develop imaginative, creative, intellectual and intuitive skills. In an economy that needs and relies upon the creative industries, these Key Skills are of paramount importance. You will develop your skills and creativity through challenge setting you up for any career within the arts.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Grade 5 or above in GCSE Art.

What will I study?

Students develop independent thematic projects based around a variety of starting points. The course begins with a series of workshops in order to develop knowledge, understanding, skill, accuracy and creativity. There will be opportunities to develop a range of skills from oil painting to mixed media and installation art.

You will be encouraged to work in a portfolio format, and to undertake written research to support your ideas.

What skills will I develop?

You will:

- Build up a working knowledge of materials, practices and processes of art.
- Develop the skills to interpret and convey your ideas and feelings using a visual language.
- Expand your imaginative and creative powers and your experimental, analytical and documenting skills.

Opportunities

This course would prepare you for a wealth of art related Further or Higher Education courses. If you choose to look for an apprenticeship, you will have two portfolios of work that will provide evidence of your ability and dedication.

Why choose to study French?

To further develop your knowledge and love of languages. You will be amongst a select few progressing and honing their spoken and written language skills.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE French.

What will I study?

A varied and engaging range of themes, including family, education, music, media and the world of work including how society has changed over the years. You will also learn more about French culture and traditions. You will be kept up to date with French news items and read French articles to share with other students. This is an interactive course!

What skills will I develop?

You will be using similar skills to GCSE yet they will be enhanced to include longer and more demanding texts to read and translate. You will be reading a French text and studying a film in depth.

Opportunities

An increase in employability as you increase your spoken and written skills. A language at A level is in high demand. Languages take you further.

Why choose to study Geography?

A level geography is an opportunity to extend your knowledge of the world, and the people, places and systems within it. It is such a dynamic subject, as you will learn and understand how places, environments and issues can change and how the human population responds to this.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE Geography.
Grade 5 in GCSE English and Maths.

What will I study?

At A level, students follow the OCR specification. There is a natural progression from GCSE to GCE, ensuring that there is development of content. The specification covers core human and physical geography. The human topics are migration, human rights, changing places, and disease dilemmas. The physical topics are coastal processes, tectonic hazards and Earth's life support systems.

What skills will I develop?

Students will use different types of geographical information, images, text and numerical data. They will undertake critical questioning, and present data in a range of ways. They will develop their communication skills, evaluate findings, draw well-evidenced conclusions, and construct extended written arguments about geographical matters.

Opportunities

Town planning, surveying, conservation, sustainability, environmental planning and tourism. The army, police, research organisations, law and business world also love the practical research skills that geographers develop.

Why choose to study Geology?

Geology involves the study of the processes that have formed Earth over millions of years. It is important to know how our planet works to effectively manage our resources and to cope with the hazards and changes happening to the world around us. If you study Geology, you will never look at the world in quite the same way again.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

At least one grade 6 in your GCSE Sciences. Followed the Higher Tier Maths course at GCSE.

What will I study?

Some of the topics and concepts that you study are:

- The structure of the Earth;
- How the tectonic plates move and how these cause hazards for us;
- To identify clues in igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks that allow us to work out how they were formed;
- How fossils reveal the development of life on Earth;
- How geological resources are essential for us to live.

What skills will I develop?

Geology is all about problem-solving. You will develop practical skills, in the classroom and outdoors, that will help you to gather information about the Earth. You will learn to think in 3D using geological maps and develop investigative skills. You will evaluate evidence to consider which of different theories is the most plausible.

Opportunities

Geology is a practical subject with opportunities for field study. We visit the University of Birmingham's Lapworth Museum for labwork. Geology careers are extremely varied, including disciplines such as geotechnical engineering, environmental conservation and many more!

Why choose to study History?

History is all around us, it is as topical and relevant today as it was when the events, were unfolding. Through studying the causation, significance and impact of historical events you will gain a deeper understanding of the past through political, social, economic and cultural perspectives.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE History.
Grade 5 in GCSE English Language.

What will I study?

- The Tudors in England 1485-1603. Consolidation of the Tudor Dynasty, the mid Tudor Crisis and the Golden Years of Elizabeth I. Revolution, turmoil and triumph!
- USA: The American Dream: illusion versus reality 1945-980. Focusing on the external pressures of the Cold War against domestic pressures for change in American society.

What skills will I develop?

Skills of analysis, synthesis, inference, evaluation, effective communication both written and oral. Presentational skills including discussion and debate.

Opportunities

Opportunities are endless. History teaches so much more than just the past. Some examples could be archive work, archaeology, law, journalism, editors, intelligence agency, teachers, foreign service officer, researcher.

Why choose to study Mathematics?

You study mathematics because you enjoy solving problems and getting a definitive answer to a problem. There are lots of new areas to study which will keep your interest levels high. Maths is also one of the biggest facilitating subjects and it's essential for many higher education courses and careers.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Grade 7 in GCSE Maths.

What will I study?

There are 3 strands to the course; Pure Mathematics, Statistics and Mechanics. Pure develops the Algebraic work from GCSE and introduces new areas such as Calculus whilst Statistics encompasses Statistical Distributions and Probability Theory. Mechanics is the study of the physical world and includes forces and momentum. Your knowledge and skills in Mathematical argument, language and proof, problem solving and modelling will be further developed.

What skills will I develop?

You will see the links between different areas of maths and be able to apply your maths skills across all areas.

Opportunities

These include; UKMT Individual and Team challenges, The National Cipher Challenge, Maths Fest attendance, Ritangle Competition amongst other enrichment activities.

Further Mathematics AS Level
Faculty - Enterprise

Why choose to study AS
Further Mathematics?

Further Mathematics is the step between A Level and University level mathematics. If you are considering a STEM subject degree then having completed AS Further Maths will give you a head start during your first year. We offer this in addition to your other 3 A Level subjects so you don't have to narrow down your choices.

Subject Specific Entry
Requirements

Students have to take A Level Mathematics.
Grade 8 in GCSE Maths.

What will I study?

The compulsory unit is Pure mathematics and not only develops the A level knowledge but also introduces new areas of mathematics such as Matrices and Complex Numbers. There are then two optional units to choose. Statistics and mechanics both build on the material taught at A Level whilst the Discrete Mathematics module looks at Networks and Critical Path Analysis.

What skills will I develop?

You will further develop your ability to reason mathematically and to "pull" from different areas of the subject in order to solve problems.

Opportunities

These include; UKMT Individual and Team challenges, The National Cipher Challenge, Maths Fest attendance, Ritangle Competition amongst other enrichment activities.

Music Performance RSL Subsidiary or Extended Diploma
Faculty - Language & Culture

Why choose to study Music
Performance?

Most importantly you should study music because you love it! Music brings with it key transferrable skills that can seriously enhance your CV and employability skills. Creativity, co-operation & communication are some of these transferrable and skills which are enhanced through musical study.

Subject Specific Entry
Requirements

Grade 4 Standard Performance Skills or better.

What will I study?

Music performance Skills: You will already be a skilled musician and be looking to improve on your technique and interpretive skills. You will select appropriate and challenging repertoire performing to a range of audiences both in and out of school. You will play both solo and within a range of ensembles, developing your instrumental skills.

Studio Sound recording: An introduction to studio equipment and a range of music technology including Logic Pro which will enable you to record and produce your own performances and compositions. Planning for a Career in the Music Industry.

What skills will I develop?

Instrument or vocal performance. Organisational and confidence building skills. Co-operation and confidence building.

Opportunities

The music course requires students to work practically, independently and as a team member; these are valuable skills to employers. Universities and colleges accept the RSL Diplomas as recognised qualifications, and they are especially valued by those offering very practical and vocational degrees in music. RSL Music Level 3, when studied alongside other qualifications, supports university entrance as well as leading to careers both in and beyond the music industry.

Music Technology RSL Subsidiary or Extended Diploma
Faculty - Language & Culture

Why choose to study Music
Technology?

If you have a passion for electronic music or recording please consider Music Technology.

Subject Specific Entry
Requirements

GCSE Music is useful but not necessary.

What will I study?

You will learn how to use Logic Pro and compose using technology. You will also learn about recording techniques, and apply these to your two pieces of coursework which is 60% of your final grade. There are two final exams; a listening exam, and another exam where you have to produce a track!

What skills will I develop?

You will develop skills on industry standard equipment, independent learning, analytical skills, and a critical ear.

Opportunities

Ex-students go on to further studies in music technology, music composition, music, event management, performing musician, audio and sound techniques and more. Universities and colleges accept the RSL Diplomas as recognised qualifications, and they are especially valued by those offering very practical and vocational degrees in music.

Philosophy, Ethics and Theology
Faculty - Humanities & Social Sciences

Why choose to study
Philosophy, Ethics and
Theology?

Philosophy, Ethics and Theology can be a useful subject to study, as it will help you to see the world from different perspectives, and gain a deeper understanding of society as a whole. The course aims to promote an enquiring, critical and sympathetic approach to the issues studied. It is suitable for candidates who have any religious faith, or for those who have none.

Subject Specific Entry
Requirements

Grade 6 or higher in GCSE English.

What will I study?

The course is split into 3 modules:

- Philosophy of Religion - philosophical issues and questions raised by religion and belief.
- Religion and Ethics - the study of ethical language and thought and an exploration of key concepts.
- Development in Christian Thought - an opportunity for the systematic study of Christianity.

What skills will I develop?

Philosophy, Ethics and Theology A-level can provide you with lots of transferable skills including:

- Communication and literacy skills.
- Analytical and critical thinking skills
- Interpersonal skills.

Opportunities

RS helps develop your higher order thinking skills, e.g., enquiry, critical thinking and evaluation. These are skills which employers and Universities highly value. PET A-Level is classified as important for students entering English, History, History of Art, Philosophy, Politics, Religious Studies and Theology degrees. It is useful for many careers, including the police force, social work, teaching, dentistry, law and other caring/people professions.

Why choose to study Photography?

GCE Photography develops innovative and visual communication skills with digital photography, which allows students to produce creative and thought-provoking imagery.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE English Literature & good ICT skills.
External candidates - portfolio of work preferred.

What will I study?

You will be introduced to the key DSLR camera skills and will explore a range of experimental techniques in order to use a digital camera in manual mode. You will develop research, ICT and editing skills in order to present your work in the form of an online portfolio of photoshoots.

What skills will I develop?

Build a working knowledge of the materials, and technology of photography.

Develop ability to interpret and convey ideas and feelings through visual imagery
Develop analytical, research and ICT presentation skills.

Opportunities

Many students go on to degrees and employment relating to: Graphic Designer, Magazine Editor, Medical Illustrator, Press Photography, Television Camera Operator, Photographer, Animator, Travel Photographer, Fashion Photographer, Advertising/Commercials, Video Artist.

Why choose to study Physical Education?

The content has been designed to allow learners to study Physical Education (PE) in an academic setting, enabling them to critically analyse and evaluate their physical performance and apply their experience of practical activity in developing their knowledge and understanding of the subject.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE Science and English.
Grade 5 in GCSE PE desirable but not essential.

What will I study?

Physical factors affecting performance - applied anatomy, physiology, exercise physiology and biomechanics.

Psychological factors affecting performance - skill acquisition, sports psychology.

Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport - sport and society, contemporary issues in physical activity and sport.

Performance in physical education - performer or coach in one practical activity, evaluation and analysis of performance for improvement.

What skills will I develop?

This course will prepare learners for the further study of PE or sports science courses as well as other related subject areas such as psychology, sociology and biology. Learners will also develop the transferable skills that are in demand by Further Education, Higher Education and employers in all sectors of industry.

Opportunities

This course will create confident, independent thinkers and effective decision makers who can operate effectively as individuals or as part of a team – all skills that will enable them to stand out and effectively promote themselves as they progress through life.

Why choose to study Physics?

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.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in at least one of your GCSE Sciences.
Grade 6 in GCSE Maths.

What will I study?

- You will learn about the particles (and antiparticles) which make up our Universe; waves and quantum phenomena; the physics of motion; the properties of matter; astrophysics...
- Throughout the course you will sustain and develop an enjoyment of, and interest in, Physics and recognise the importance of Physics in present day society.

What skills will I develop?

- Practical work is an important part of the course – your investigative skills and powers of analysis will be developed.
- You will also learn to review and organise information more effectively.

Opportunities

Jobs for which Physics provides a good foundation or requirement include engineering, medicine, information technology, astronomy, medical physics.

Why choose to study Politics?

A Level Politics will provide you with an understanding of how the UK is governed, UK and US current affairs and political ideologies

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE English. Having studied a humanities subject is desirable.

What will I study?

You will investigate the development of democracy in the UK, how the UK and US government works and their similarities and differences. Investigate the political parties, the role of the media and pressure groups. You will also gain an understanding of a wide range of political ideologies.

What skills will I develop?

An A Level in Politics will allow you to develop key research skills, the ability to debate issues with confidence, analyse arguments and reach conclusions.

Opportunities

This course will allow students to gain access to courses including: politics, sociology, journalism and is highly regarded in industries such as politics, international organisations, the media and civil service.

Why choose to study Product Design?

You enjoy creative, practical challenging opportunities. You would like to follow a career path in a design or practical based subject such as Architecture or Engineering.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

GCSE Design and Technology and Mathematics Grade 6 or above.

What will I study?

The course will be split into two aspects. Theory lessons focus on the written examination content which will include work of past and present designers through to modern industrial manufacturing processes. All other lessons will focus on a design and make task over the two year course of the student's choosing.

What skills will I develop?

Problem solving through a design centred approach. Designing and drawing including the use of 2D and 3D Computer Aided Design.

Manufacturing with a wide range of materials, tools and equipment.

Opportunities

Students usually go on to study University courses in Architecture, Engineering, Product Design or other design and manufacturing careers.

Why choose to study Psychology?

Ever wondered why we develop phobias, how much of our behaviour is the result or nature or nurture, whether criminals are born or made, then Psychology is the subject for you.

Psychology offers students the opportunity to understand the complexities of the human mind and behaviour.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE Maths.
Grade 5 in GCSE English and Science.

What will I study?

The structure of the course is a 2 year Linear A Level whereby all external examinations will be sat at the end of the year 13. Outline of modules studied during the 2 year course are:

Paper 1:

- Social Influence.
- Memory.
- Attachment.
- Psychopathology.

Paper 2:

- Research Methods.
- Biopsychology.
- Approaches in Psychology.

Paper 3:

- Issues and Debates in Psychology.
- Gender Development.
- Forensic Psychology.
- Eating Behaviours.

What skills will I develop?

The skills developed in Psychology are relevant to Higher Education and the wider world:

- Research skills.
- Analysis of data – collecting recording and interpreting.
- Producing written reports.
- Discussion skills.
- Critical analysis.

Opportunities

Psychology can enable students to pursue a career in:

- Social work.
- Teaching.
- Forensic work.
- Criminology
- Marketing.
- Law.

Why choose to study Sociology?

Do you have an interest in contemporary society and how it works? Do you like to debate and discuss your opinions? Do you care about crime and punishment? Do you know why you are being educated? Join Sociology and we will help you identify your opinions about these questions in society.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE English.
Grade 4 in GCSE Maths.

What will I study?

- Education.
- The family.
- Crime and deviance.
- Research methods.

What skills will I develop?

- Critical thinking and analysis.
- Fine tune your debating skills.
- Learn to analyse statistics and data relating to society.

Opportunities

Sociology can enable students to pursue a career in:

- Social work.
- Teaching.
- Forensic work.
- Criminology
- Marketing.
- Law.

Why choose to study Spanish?

To further develop your knowledge and love of languages. You will be amongst a select few progressing and honing their spoken and written language skills.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE Spanish.

What will I study?

A varied and engaging range of themes, including family, education, music, media and the world of work including how society has changed over the years. You will also learn more about Spanish culture and traditions. You will be kept up to date with Spanish news items and read Spanish articles to share with other students. This is an interactive course!

What skills will I develop?

You will be using similar skills to GCSE yet they will be enhanced to include longer and more demanding texts to read and translate. You will be reading a Spanish text and studying a film in depth.

Opportunities

An increase in employability as you increase your spoken and written skills. A language at A level is in high demand. Languages take you further.

Why choose to study Textile Design?

Studying A Level Textile Design will allow you to experience the ever growing and exciting world of printed, constructed and illustrated Textile and Fashion Design. This course will help you to develop imaginative, creative, intellectual and intuitive skills through challenge, setting you up for any career within this area.

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Grade 5 or above in GCSE Art and/or Textiles.

What will I study?

You will be encouraged to explore independent responses to a personalised fashion or textile design brief. You will research and develop ideas by means of recording from observation and experimentation, with a wide variety of textile techniques, processes and ideas before moving on to design and create more resolved final pieces.

You will be encouraged to work in a portfolio format, and to undertake written research to support your ideas.

What skills will I develop?

You will:

- Build up a working knowledge of materials, practices and processes linked to fashion and textile art.
- Develop the skills to interpret and convey your ideas and feelings using a visual language.
- Expand your imaginative and creative powers and your experimental, analytical and documenting skills.

Opportunities

This course would prepare you for a wealth of art, fashion and textile related Further or Higher Education courses. If you choose to look for an apprenticeship, you will have 2 portfolios of work that will provide evidence of your ability and dedication.

Why choose to study Theatre Studies?

Theatre Studies is an academic, collaborative and creatively challenging subject that prepares you not only for the Arts Industries but all areas of further study. 'Arts contributes £8.5bn to the UK economy. More than double that of the Premier League' (Arts Council Great Britain).

Subject Specific Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE English Literature or Language.
Strong ability in performance.

What will I study?

You will participate in intensive practical performance projects: devising and plays. You will study all areas of Theatre, directing, writing, performing and production. The course requires live theatre visits and the study of two play texts, currently 'Jerusalem' and 'Our Country's Good' to prepare for the written exam. We encourage blogging, journal writing and the documenting of process and rehearsals.

What skills will I develop?

You will develop skills in collaboration, project management, research and written and visual narrative by documenting and developing a piece of theatre from genesis to performance. You will learn how to interpret theatre and develop acting skills from professionally trained actors in various styles. You will study theatre practitioners and develop analytical writing skills citing performance evidence.

Opportunities

We arrange various theatre trips and a weekend residential visit to London. We hire the 'Blue Orange Theatre' in Birmingham, a professional fringe space in the Jewellery Quarter, for A level examined performances.





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