

SIXTH FORM OPTIONS 2017

ADVANCED LEVEL COURSES

[Art & Design and Art Textiles](#)

[Biology](#)

[Business Studies](#)

[Chemistry](#)

[Computing](#)

[Dance](#)

[Economics](#)

[English Language](#)

[English Literature](#)

[Further Mathematics](#)

[Geography](#)

[History](#)

[Mathematics](#)

[Media Studies](#)

[Music](#)

[Photography](#)

[Physics](#)

[Product Design](#)

[Psychology](#)

[Sociology](#)

VOCATIONAL COURSES

[BTEC Information Technology](#)

[BTEC Public Services](#)

[BTEC Sport Science](#)

EBX OPTION

[Extended Project Qualification \(EPQ\)](#)

A Level Art & Design and Art Textiles

Why Choose A Level Art & Design courses?

Art is a small word for such a big subject and big experience. By the time you have done GCSE you know quite a lot about the subject, but in reality, it is only just beginning.

The basic processes developed during the GCSE courses remain the core to producing a successful body of coursework. Pupils will be expected to fully research given themes, exploring possibilities in terms of media application, technique and scale. However, the emphasis on the personal response to any set task is greatly increased and all students are encouraged to establish their own individual style and artistic approach.

The challenge of teaching the A Level courses stems from an acknowledgement of our changing role over the two years. I would like to think that at the start of Year 12 the students will rely heavily on our expertise and advice. However, if we have been successful in our guidance, by the end of Year 13 the students should have developed their skill base and level of confidence to a point where they feel certain they could do just as well without us!

At Sixth Form level the understanding and knowledge aspect of Art is very important, seeing Art first hand by visiting galleries and museums is central to the course. In the past we have visited the Northern Tate and Walker Galleries in Liverpool, the Manchester Galleries and also run gallery visits to London. We also run a foreign tour every two years in the February half term. Our last trip was to New York. In the development of practical work critical and contextual studies are an integral aspect that informs each student's development of any given theme. Throughout the course there are also opportunities to work in a variety of locations out of school that are chosen to support the projects undertaken.

These experiences, combined with a department ethos of endeavour, passion and dedication encourages a spirit of experiment and adventure, which, at the end of the day, is what it is all about!

Course Details

The Department follows the AQA Examination Board's syllabus. Students can opt for 'Art and Design' or 'Textile Design'. There is also a possibility of following a more tailored route with entry under 'Graphic Communication'. Those students who followed study a course of study in the visual or design based arts either through Art and Design or Design and Technology at GCSE are able to continue their studies at this higher level.

What Careers Can Art & Design Lead to?

Art and Design is an exciting and vital subject that has helped past students to undertake degrees in:-

Fine Art, Sculpture, Graphic Design, Illustration, Architecture, Textiles, Fashion Design, Interior Design, Photography, Film and Television, Theatrical Design and Art History.

A Level Biology

Why Choose A Level Biology?

- Do you enjoy Biology?
- Does your future career pathway need Biology as a subject?
- Does it combine well with other areas you wish to study?
- Do you want to find out about issues that will affect our future?

If your answer to any of these questions is yes, then do consider Biology as one of your choices at A level. In order to understand the world around us better it helps if we have some knowledge of the way living things work. We function in a similar manner to all other living things and a better understanding of this will be of value throughout our lives. To make sense of the mass of information pouring out of the media about conservation or medical issues or healthy living, it helps if we can have some measure of how to evaluate it, then we can decide if it is of value to us or not. For those interested in a career in science, health, food production or the environment then Biology may help you to make appropriate choices.

Course Details

The outline of the content of the course followed is overleaf but it will also give you skills that you will find useful whatever you do when you leave school. You will be doing practical activities, on your own and in groups. You will be making presentations and solving problems, reading around a topic and researching things online. You will be learning to be responsible for your own learning and working with the whole class, as well as the expected notes, questions and exams.

Assessment: We will be assessing your progress during the course in a number of ways

- End of module tests
- End of unit tests
- External exams
- Homework and classwork marking
- Presentations
- Self and peer assessment
- Practical's and coursework
- Class discussions and question and answer sessions
- Discussion with your teacher

OCR Biology A H420

Biology A is split into six modules. These combined with the Practical Endorsement, constitutes the full A Level. The modules can be summarised as:

Module 1: Development of practical skills – this module underpins the whole of the specification, and covers the practical skills that students should develop throughout the course. The practical skills are assessed through the written exam and by a Practical Endorsement.

Module 2: Foundations in biology – covering cell structure; biological molecules; nucleotides and nucleic acids; enzymes; biological membranes; cell division, diversity and organisation.

Module 3: Exchange and transport includes exchange surfaces and transport in plants and in animals.

Module 4: Biodiversity, evolution and disease includes: Communicable disease; disease prevention and immunity; biodiversity; classification and evolution.

Modules 5 and 6 are the additional topics studied to complete the A-level course.

Module 5: Communications, homeostasis and energy – includes: Communication and homeostasis; excretion as an example of homeostatic control; neuronal communication; hormonal communication; plant and animal responses; photosynthesis and respiration.

Module 6: Genetics, evolution and ecosystems includes: Cellular control; patterns of inheritance; manipulating genomes; cloning and biotechnology; ecosystems; populations and sustainability.

We expect you to learn to work things out for yourself using the skills you develop so you are equipped to become a lifelong learner. We want you to enjoy your Biology lessons too so the task of learning becomes something that you find motivating and leads to success.

Other Information

Biology is a rapidly expanding field of study and has an impact on every aspect of your life, from the decisions to have new immunisations or not, to issues about how to feed an expanding population, from genetic manipulation to environmental conservation. By studying this subject you will be more able to make your own informed decisions about what you think about many current issues.

Please talk to students who are already studying Biology and ask what the demands of the course are. Ask Year 13 what courses they are going on to when they leave. If you want to study Medicine, Veterinary Science, Dentistry or Biology **you are strongly advised to take Chemistry at A-level**, as it is required by many Universities and would assist your application at others.

We would expect you to have gained at least B grades in your GCSE Science and Additional Science. You also need to have gained at least a B grade in GCSE maths.

If you wish to look in more detail at exactly what is involved please do not hesitate to ask a member of the Biology Department for more information on the syllabus and text books used. You can find out more from <http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications>.

Biology staff: Mrs Stone and Mrs McLaughlin

A Level Business

Why Choose A-Level Business?

All of us have to earn a living. Some of you will be self-employed, some of you will work for private companies, and others will work in the public sector. Regardless of the type of employment or your position, an understanding of how businesses and organisations operate can be crucial to your success. Studying Business at 'A' level will give you a clear perspective on how successful organisations operate and assist you in your future career development.

A qualification in Business provides evidence for employers of your ability to think analytically, communicate well, solve problems and successfully complete numerous and varied tasks. Business Studies is a subject that provides pupils with an excellent academic grounding in the business world, and in particular how companies, large and small, operate. It gives pupils a window into the world of business in that they learn about the internal workings of a firm, as well as the many things that can influence companies from the outside such as taxation, government regulations, pressure groups, exchange rates and interest rates.

At A-Level, the study of general business concepts, specific functional theories and practice (e.g. how does a business motivate its employees or draw up a cash flow forecast), and the development of skills needed to apply these can enormously enhance your career prospects in today's fast-paced changing business world.

Course Details

Exam Board – AQA, Specification Code: 7132 (A-Level)

It is not necessary to have a GCSE in this subject to be able to take this course at A-Level. Teachers will use a range of teaching methods to deliver the specification, which may include case studies, video, visits, outside speakers, group work, individual or group presentations, and note taking.

The first year of the course consists of six elements:

What is business?

This introduces students to the different types of legal status a business can adopt, what aims it can set for itself and the external influences that it has to deal with.

Managers, Leadership and Decision-Making

This element forms an introduction to students on how to effectively lead and manage a company, so that a company can achieve its aims and balance the interests of its stakeholders.

Improving Marketing Performance

Pupils become familiar with how a company ensures that it meets the needs of its customers whilst making a profit. Market research, interpreting marketing data, the marketing mix and how technology is affecting marketing are all examples of topics in this area.

Improving Operational Performance

This section of the course introduces pupils to how a business best manages its resources to bring about the most efficient method of providing its products. Topics like stock control, quality control, and production methods to maximise efficiency and productivity are contained in this section.

Improving Financial Performance

Essential to the success of all competitive companies is a sound understanding and control of finance. Students will learn all about, for example, sources of finance, break-even analysis, different costs, and why revenue and profit are important.

Improving Human Resource Performance

In this part of the course students will learn all about how a firm can adopt different approaches to ensure a business effectively recruits, trains, motivates and rewards its most important asset – its people, or *personnel* - in order to maintain high levels of labour productivity.

In Year 13, Students take a business leader's perspective and crucial executive overview. The remainder of the A Level consists of a further four fascinating elements:

Analysing the strategic position a business finds itself in, **choosing a new strategic direction**, **Methods of pursuing a new strategic direction** and **how to manage a change of strategy**. These elements are synoptic and draw upon all the other preceding units of the course. The Business environment and managing change also considers how companies use strategies to manage the effects of external factors (such as exchange rates, interest rates changes in the economic cycle) and is studied through a variety of actual real business contexts.

What Careers Can Business Studies lead to?

A qualification in Business Studies can be the first step in obtaining your Degree in a range of Business disciplines. People with qualifications in Business can look forward to a career in a wide range of areas such as Production Management, Market Research, Human Resources, Public Relations, Banking or other financial institutions, Recruitment or Retail Management. It can also be invaluable if you intend to become self-employed.

Other Information

You do not need to have a GCSE in Business Studies to take the A-Level. You will be expected to read around the subject – Business Studies material is everywhere. You will have the opportunity to subscribe to *Business Review* (a quarterly magazine especially for students of A-Level Business) at a reduced rate.. The internet affords access to an increasing number of useful websites. There are excellent television programmes such as Working Lunch, Dragons' Den, The Apprentice, Panorama and The Money Programme. You should also get in the habit of reading a quality newspaper such as The Guardian, The Financial Times, and The Telegraph, which are all useful sources of up-to-date business information.

Any questions? If you would like more information about Business Studies at A-Level, please see Mr McNulty and Mrs Bradshaw.

A Level Chemistry

Why Choose A Level Chemistry?

- You enjoy Chemistry and are likely to achieve a minimum of B grades in your GCSE science subjects and GCSE maths.
- You are curious and want to know more about the topics you have studied in chemistry so far.
- You want to develop the skills you have further – using more sophisticated apparatus & practical techniques.
- You enjoy problem-solving & applying your knowledge to new situations.
- For the career you wish to follow.

The course extends your knowledge of some familiar topics such as atomic structure, bonding, energy changes, rates of reaction, hydrocarbons, periodic table, structure and properties of elements as well as introducing many new themes such as:

- green chemistry (CFCs and the ozone layer, global warming, development of degradable polymers, development of renewable energy sources)
- medical chemistry (e.g chemical requirements for drug efficiency, chlorination of water supplies)
- instrumental analysis (e.g infra-red spectroscopy, nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy and chromatography)

Course Details

Chemistry A Level H432

The course is composed of 6 modules:

Module 1 – Development of practical skills in chemistry including planning, implementing, analysis and evaluation.

Module 2 – Foundations in Chemistry; atoms, compounds, molecules and equations; amount of substance; acid-base and redox reactions; electrons, bonding and structure.

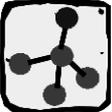
Module 3 – Periodic table and energy; the Periodic table and periodicity; Group 2 and the halogens; qualitative analysis; enthalpy changes; reaction rates and equilibrium (qualitative).

Module 4 – Core organic chemistry; Basic concepts; hydrocarbons; alcohols and haloalkanes; organic synthesis and analytical techniques (IR; MS).

Module 5 – Physical chemistry and transition elements; reaction rates and equilibrium (quantitative); pH and buffers; enthalpy, entropy and free energy; redox and electrode potentials; transition elements.

Module 6 – Organic chemistry and analysis; aromatic compounds; carbonyl compounds; carboxylic acids and esters; nitrogen compounds, polymers; organic synthesis; chromatography and spectroscopy (NMR).

What will I actually be doing during the course?

| | | |
|---|--|---|
|  investigating practically |  researching |  calculating |
|  making molecular models |  solving problems |  explaining & presenting |
|  carrying out practicals |  writing notes, doing exercises, taking tests |  working in groups and individually  |

There will also be opportunities for some visits eg to the Chemistry Department at the University of Manchester.

What Careers Can Chemistry Lead to?

To study Chemistry at university, Medicine, Veterinary Science or Dentistry you must have A-level Chemistry. To study any of the Biological Sciences at degree level you are strongly advised to take Chemistry at A level, as well as Biology, as it is required by very many Universities and is vital to understanding biological processes.

Many other careers/degrees require or prefer Chemistry including: Chemical Engineering, Geology, Environmental Science, Forensic Science, Pharmacy, Biochemistry, Food Science, Materials Science, Metallurgy, Plastics/Polymer Science, Development of Cosmetics / Detergents....

We live in an age of chemistry-based technology and future demands will require chemical expertise in many fields including: pollution control and recycling waste materials, materials science, nanochemistry, new foodstuffs, biofuels, drugs and tests to help diagnose disease.

As well as choosing Pure Chemistry at University you can study “Chemistry with...” courses, in which Chemistry is the major component of the course but alongside it you can choose from a range of other options eg a Foreign Language, Medicinal Chemistry, Biochemistry, Biology, Law and Management.

As well as scientific careers, Chemistry graduates can also enter many non Science based graduate careers where the precise subject studied at University does not matter. Some Chemistry graduates take up careers in Accountancy and Financial Management. This is probably because studying Chemistry develops logical and analytical thinking and shows that you are not afraid of numbers!

Other Information

If you would like more information about this course, please see Dr Longshaw, Mrs Bennett or Mrs Jordan.

A Level Computing

Why Choose A level Computing?

This course is designed for students who wish to go onto further education courses or employment where knowledge of computing would be beneficial or just for the student who loves computers! The new exam board specifications have been expanded to include new technologies and developments as well as to provide exposure to more traditional Computer science topics.

Course Details

AQA A Level Computer Science (7517)

Paper 1 : 2hr 30min : On screen : 40% of A Level

Covering ... Fundamentals of programming
 Fundamentals of algorithms
 Fundamentals of data structures
 Systematic approach to problem solving
 Theory of computation

Paper 2 : 2hr 30min : Written : 40% of A Level

Covering ... Fundamentals of data representation
 Fundamentals of computer systems
 Fundamentals of computer organisation and architecture
 Consequences of use of computers
 Fundamentals of communication and networking
 Fundamentals of databases
 Big data
 Fundamentals of functional programming

Non-examined assessment (coursework) : 20% of A Level

The course is not about learning to use tools or just training in a programming language. Instead the emphasis is on computational thinking. Computational thinking is a kind of reasoning used by both humans and machines. Thinking computationally is an important life skill. Thinking computationally means using abstraction and decomposition. The study of computation is about what can be computed and how to compute it. Computer Science involves questions that have the potential to change how we view the world. For example, we may be computing with DNA at some stage in the future, with computer circuits made of genes. This leads to the question, does the natural world 'compute'? Computation is a "lens" through which we can understand the natural world, and the nature of thought itself, in a new way.

Computing / Computer Science is about designing new algorithms to solve new problems. In this sense Computer Science is no more about computers than astronomy is about telescopes. Many great challenges lie in the future for Computer Scientists to solve. This course, with its emphasis

on abstract thinking, general problem-solving, algorithmic and mathematical reasoning, scientific and engineering-based thinking, is a good foundation for understanding these future challenges and will enable learners to develop lots of transferable skills.

What Careers Can Computer Science Lead to?

Computing can lead to careers in so many different areas - medicine, law, business, politics, the sciences, art and graphic design, engineering, architecture, music technology, software architecture, project management or network engineering. The skills you will learn whilst studying for your computing A level will actually be useful everywhere.

Other Information

There are no specific subject requirements at GCSE but a pass at Grade B level or above in Mathematics and English Language will be required for you to be able to cope with the wide range of skills that the subject tests. It is not anticipated that candidates studying Computing will necessarily be following any Sixth Form course in a mathematical or science subject but many will be doing this and it would prove helpful.

No previous formal knowledge of Information Technology, Computing, Programming, Physics or Electronics is expected because the course will be taught with this in mind.

However, a general background of, and interest in, the basic principles of Computing would be useful. If you are currently taking GCSE Computing or ICT, this would provide a useful background to some parts of the course and it is expected that you will have achieved at least a Grade B in these subjects.

A reading list can be provided on request prior to the start of the course and Summer work will be provided to whet your appetite!

A Level Dance

Why Choose A Level Dance

For some people, dance is simply the way in which they express themselves. Joy, sadness, loneliness, love... if you can imagine how dance would portray human emotions and stories, this course is for you. Step inside the world of dance and gain knowledge and understanding of the dancer in action and the skills involved in performance. Through the analysis, interpretation and evaluation of dances you will gain an appreciation and understanding of their historical and cultural context. Develop your own creativity as a dancer and choreographer. Not to mention keeping fit and trim!

Course Details

Exam Board - AQA, Specification Code: 7237

Dance involves the study of choreography and performance and engaging in critical thinking about dance. Students work to develop and extend their knowledge, understanding and skills needed to participate in, and communicate through dance, in a variety of contexts. Students will examine the form, function and context of dance, constituent features of dance, the significance of dance and the dancer in action. Students should have, although it is not compulsory, a grade 'C' at GCSE Dance to study Dance at A Level.

The A Level course

Component 1: Performance and choreography

- **Practical examination**
 - 50% of total A Level marks
 - 80 marks
1. Solo performance linked to specific practitioner within an area of study
 2. Performance in a quartet (in any style, relevant to the defined genre)
 3. Group choreography

Component 2: Critical engagement

- **Written examination** lasting 2 hour 30 minutes
- 50% of total A Level marks
- 100 marks

Section A: short answer questions (25 marks) and one essay question (25 marks) on the compulsory set work / area of study.

Section B: two essay questions on the second set work / area of study (25 marks each).

Our chosen areas of study are;

Compulsory set work: *Rootser* choreographed (Christopher Brice) and corresponding area of study **Rambert Dance Company**

Area of study: **American Jazz** focusing on the work of Jerome Robbins (West Side Story, Fancy Free & The King and I) and Gene Kelly (including the corresponding set work **Singin' in the Rain** and On the Town & AN American in Paris)

What Careers Can Dance Lead to?

A Level Dance is suitable for anyone wanting to pursue dance or the arts in Higher Education, or as support for any course requiring good communication and group work skills. In addition to performing, choreographing, teaching, lecturing, free-lancing or community work, this course might lead to such diverse careers as dance therapy or journalism. Universities and employers think favourably of the social skills, dedication and imagination required to succeed in an A Level dance course.

Other Information

There are many enrichment opportunities available to Dance students at Eaton Bank. These include:

- Theatre visits / dance performance visits
- Performing at different venues
- Visiting teachers / lecturers / companies
- Residential dance courses

A Level Economics

Why Choose A Level Economics?

“Economic ideas are more powerful than is commonly understood..... Indeed the world is ruled by little else” - *John Maynard Keynes*

The above quote was written well over half a century ago. Yet, often these days you see programmes on television or get involved in or overhear conversations on economic ideas. Prices, wages, interest rates, profits, recession, inflation, exchange rates, to name but a few are at the forefront of many conversation, particularly in light of current and recent global economic events, such as ‘Brexit’, the election of Donald Trump as U.S. President and the continuing rise of China. Studying economics will enable you to better understand these ‘ideas’ and issues and how they all interact to form what we call ‘the economy’. Furthermore as an economist, you will be aiming to develop a critical understanding of government economic policies.

Course Details

Exam Board AQA – Specification Code: 7136

It is not necessary to have a GCSE in this subject to be able to take this course at A-Level. During the course you will have an opportunity to discuss issues such as should the government continue to be the main provider of health care? Would Britain benefit from leaving the European Union? Should there be a new tax on foods high in fat or sugar? What are the economic costs and benefits of migration into and out of the UK? Why is there an uneven distribution of income in the UK?

In Year 12 students study two parts that investigate micro and macroeconomics. Microeconomics addresses issues such as “Why are house prices so high?”, “Can pollution effectively be controlled?” and “Should governments intervene in markets?” The macroeconomic issues covered include “Why does the government have an inflation rate target and how does it affect us?”, “What happens to the economy if consumers decide to spend more or spend less?” and “How are we affected by the growth of other economies around the world such as China and India?”

In Year 13, students develop and deepen their understanding of the micro and macroeconomics already learnt in Year 12, considering economic concepts and theories in greater depth and recognising the values and limitations of economic models. In both Years 12 and 13, students explore two contemporary and relevant contexts: the international context, which includes the impact of globalisation on UK economic performance and our own UK national context, focusing on economic events and economic policy here in the UK.

What Careers Can Economics lead to?

Economics graduates are employed in a range of posts which may, or may not be directly related to the subject. They work in manufacturing, transport, communications, banking, insurance, investment, medicine, engineering, media and retailing industries, as well as in government agencies, consulting and charitable organisations. A wide variety of professional bodies in all sectors of employment will consider Economics an excellent preparation for their professional examinations e.g. Banking or Accountancy. In short, it opens many doors!

Other Information

Economics goes well with most other subjects. It is not necessary to have a GCSE in this subject to be able to take this course at A-Level. It is a suitable subject to complement Science, Social Science and / or Arts subjects. Combined with subjects such as Mathematics and Physics it can lead into engineering and in the present climate. Languages and Economics provides an excellent base for those looking to work abroad or in a company that has overseas links.

Any questions? If you would like more information about Economics at A-Level, please see Mr McNulty and Mrs Bradshaw.

A Level English Language

Why Choose A Level English Language?

A Level English Language is a wide-ranging course that touches upon Psychology, Sociology, Linguistics and Creative Writing. In the first year the focus is on the variety of styles of English. Here are some of the themes and activities you'll encounter:

- *We'll read a range of texts (and by "text" we mean anything from a crisp packet to a Shakespeare sonnet) looking at how writers use different words, meanings, grammatical structures, sound patterns, and formats to achieve their effects.*
- *By doing this, you'll become a much better reader through being able to identify precisely, with the appropriate linguistic terminology, how a text is working and whether it is suited to its intended audience, purpose, subject and genre.*
- *You'll also become a better writer, too, because we read texts as style models whose features can be imitated and developed in your own writing:*
 - *You'll be writing analytically, exploring the texts studied and applying linguistic terminology.*
 - *You'll have the opportunity to adopt the role of a journalist by writing articles about language use.*
 - *As part of A Level Language, you'll also write creatively. Recent students have enjoyed writing short stories, magazine articles, reviews (music, film, theatre), radio documentaries, advice/information leaflets, travel features, dramatic monologues and comedy sketches.*
- *We'll identify the factors that contribute to the variety and diversity of language, such as accent and dialect, social status, gender, occupation and technology.*
- *We'll read research studies and examine data to see what they can tell us about the variety and diversity of language. Do different groups in society have different conversational styles or strategies? Are different groups in society represented differently in language?*

English Language is, in short, a practical, investigative course with a variety of approaches in the classroom to suit all learning styles. We're lucky in that all our data is so accessible to investigation and discussion – we're surrounded by language.

What Careers Can English Language Lead To?

A facility with language is important in most jobs, where the ability to speak and write clearly and accurately is highly valued. In fact, it is hard to think of a single occupation in which communication is not a key skill. If you are considering a career in journalism, A-Level English Language is a requirement of most courses. Other careers with a direct link to the subject include speech therapy, teaching and publishing.

Other Information

If you'd like more information about the course please see Mrs Mahmoud or Miss Bailey either in school or on the Open Evening.

A Level English Literature

Why Choose A Level English Literature?

Both courses are engaging, extensive and enriching and focus on students enjoying a range of fantastic texts of literary value. In both courses, students will experience a variety of poetry, plays and novels across time periods and genres. Students will also embed the texts they study in the contexts in which they were written. Not only will readers enjoy the courses, but so too will those interested in people and places and those with an analytical mind. Those with aspirations to go on to higher education should most certainly consider the prestige attached to an English Literature qualification at A Level. Below are some of the activities and themes you will encounter:

You will study texts from different literary periods, genres and traditions.

You will read a range of texts looking at how writers use language, structure and form to achieve their effects.

You will explore the importance of a range of significant literary features such as: narrative, character, settings, themes and genre.

Through the work, you will become a much better reader and be able to identify precisely, with appropriate linguistic terminology, how a text affects its audience.

You will have the opportunity to complete coursework (A Level only) as well as sit external examinations.

You will learn about the important contexts in which texts are constructed and how the contexts influence what writers feel compelled to write about and how readers might respond.

Sixth form Literature students are introduced to the challenging, exciting and enriching field of literary criticism to enable them to consider new ways of interpreting texts; a field of study previously regarded as suitable for undergraduates.

If you choose to study English Literature at Eaton Bank Academy, you choose to elect for a creative and engaging course which is taught by a team of experienced and specialist teachers who use a diversity of learning activities to suit all learning styles.

What Careers Can English Literature Lead to?

Young people with creative, well-read and analytical backgrounds are appreciated by many undergraduate courses and occupations. An ability to engage with texts and language, and the facility to articulate and communicate ideas clearly and accurately is essential in most jobs. In reality, it is hard to think of a single occupation in which communication is not a key skill! However, careers with a direct link to the subject include, law, publishing, marketing, journalism and teaching.

Other Information

If you would like more information about the course, please see: Mrs Cooper or Miss Lewis.

A Level Further Mathematics

Why Choose AS/A Level Further Mathematics?

Further Mathematics is an extremely prestigious Sixth Form subject and its impact on University admission tutors and employers cannot be underestimated.

Students can only take this course alongside the A Level Mathematics option and require at least grade 7 from GCSE.

There will also be online assignments set in the summer to help ensure that students taking Further Mathematics A Level have the required knowledge of algebra.

The A level in Further Mathematics is changing for 2017. Currently the exam boards are developing their schemes of work and resources to meet the new requirements. Ofqual still needs to approve their plans, which should happen around February 2017. Below is the proposed A level Further Mathematics course from Edexcel. Other boards will differ in exam structure but broadly cover the same content.

Course Details

| Qualification | Component | Overview | Assessment |
|-----------------------------|---|--|--|
| A level Further Mathematics | Paper 1: Further Pure Mathematics 1 | Based on the fixed core content AS content assessed at A level standard |  1.5 hours  75 marks |
| | Paper 2: Further Pure Mathematics 2 | Based on the fixed core content Remaining pure content which builds on and incorporates AS content |  1.5 hours  75 marks |
| | Paper 3: Further Mathematics Option 1 | Students take one of the following four options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further Pure • Further Statistics • Further Mechanics • Decision Maths |  1.5 hours  75 marks |
| | Paper 4: Further Mathematics Option 2 | Students take one of the following four options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further Pure • Further Statistics • Further Mechanics • Decision Maths |  1.5 hours  75 marks |

What Careers can Further Mathematics Lead to?

Further Mathematics is highly prized in many areas particularly economics, engineering, information technology and science.

Other Information

Obviously a love for problem solving and Mathematics is taken for granted!
More detailed specifications can be obtained from each of the major exam board websites: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/>, <http://qualifications.pearson.com/>, <http://www.aqa.org.uk/>.

A Level Geography

Why Choose A Level Geography?

Geography is highly valued by universities as an A Level choice. The Russell Group report published in 2013 names geography as one of the eight facilitating subjects. This is a subject most likely to be required or preferred for entry to degree courses and choosing facilitating subjects will keep more options open to you at university.

If you:

- want to learn in a wide variety of ways such as by using maps, GIS skills, data analysis, photos, videos, podcasts.
- want to frame your own questions using higher level thinking skills
- are interested in current affairs
- want to study a subject that is relevant to your own life and experiences
- are concerned about the pressures on the planet
- want to broaden your A Level studies to cover both arts and sciences
- enjoy travel and finding out about people, places, landscapes and events.

.... then Advanced Geography is for you!

What will I study?

Physical Geography

Water and carbon cycles

Coastal systems and landscapes

Hazards

Human Geography

Global Systems and global governance

Changing Places

Population and the Environment

Geographical Investigation

Fieldwork leading to Geographical Investigation

How will I be assessed?

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---|------------------------------------|------|
| Physical Geography | – | Written exam – 2 hours 30 minutes. | 40% |
| Human Geography | – | Written exam – 2 hours 30 minutes. | 40 % |
| Geographical Investigation | – | 3000- 4000 words | 20% |

What jobs could I using Geography A Level? Take a look.....



A Level History

Why Choose A Level History?

A Level History provides the opportunity to study History in greater depth than you have ever done before; to really explore the people, ideas and events that have shaped our world. During your studies you will develop your historical knowledge, skills and understanding through exploring a range of significant events, individuals and issues, and a range of historical perspectives. You will develop and apply your understanding of historical concepts including causation, change and continuity, interpretation and significance. Through your studies you will also develop the techniques of critical thinking in a historical context and the skills necessary to analyse and solve historical problems. You will also develop the ability to communicate historical arguments and conclusions clearly and succinctly with reference to appropriate historical terminology.

Course Details

Exam Board OCR – Specification Code: H505

| Unit | Content | Assessment |
|------|--|------------------------------|
| 1 | British period study and enquiry. <i>Unit Y136: England 1485–1558: the Early Tudors</i> | 25%, 1hr 30 min exam. |
| 2 | Non-British period study. <i>Unit Y216: The USA in the 19th Century: Westward expansion and the Civil War</i> | 15%, 1 hour exam. |
| 3 | Thematic study over a period of 100 years, and a study of interpretations that arise from this. <i>Y319 Civil Rights in the USA 1865–1992</i> | 40%, 2hr 30 min exam. |
| 4 | Coursework – a personal and independent study of the students' choice. | 20%, 3000 – 4000 word essay. |

What Careers Can History Lead to?

This is one of the most respected academic A-levels available and is highly rated by Russell Group Universities. History graduates work in a variety of professional fields, including law, accountancy, the civil service, the Foreign Office, the BBC, teaching and politics. History gives you vital research and interpretation skills that are recognised by employers and universities.

Other Information

You will need to have achieved a grade B in GCSE History to be able to study A Level History. You will also need to be self-disciplined enough to read around subject areas, making notes as you go, and be willing to work hard. If you have any further questions please talk to Mr Davies or Mrs Wright.

A Level Mathematics

Why Choose A Level Mathematics?

Mathematics is a popular Sixth Form subject that is highly regarded by University Admission Tutors and Employers.

Due to its nature though, it is not an option open to all. The core modules build upon concepts started at GCSE level and a sound knowledge of algebra is required to access these modules. We therefore ask for at least a GCSE grade 6 to be achieved usually from set 1 or set 2.

There will also be online assignments set in the summer to help ensure that students taking Mathematics A level have the required knowledge of algebra.

The A level in mathematics is changing for 2017. Currently the exam boards are developing their schemes of work and resources to meet the new requirements. Ofqual still needs to approve their plans, which should happen around February 2017. Below is the proposed A level Mathematics course from Edexcel. Other boards will differ in exam structure but broadly cover the same content.

Course Details

| Qualification | Component | Overview | Assessment |
|---------------------|---|---|--|
| A level Mathematics | Paper 1: Pure Mathematics 1 | AS content assessed at A level standard |  2 hours  100 marks |
| | Paper 2: Pure Mathematics 2 | Remaining pure content which builds on and incorporates AS content. |  2 hours  100 marks |
| | Paper 3: Statistics and Mechanics | Section A: Statistics (50 marks) Section B: Mechanics (50 marks) |  2 hours  100 marks |

What Careers Can Mathematics Lead to?

Mathematics is highly prized in many areas, particularly financial services and information technology. Mathematics A level is also a requirement for many degree courses.

Other Information

***Obviously an interest and liking for Mathematics is taken for granted!
More detailed specifications can be obtained from each of the major exam board websites: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/>, <http://qualifications.pearson.com/>, <http://www.aqa.org.uk/>.***

A Level Media Studies

Why Choose A Level Media Studies?

A Level Media Studies is a practical, creative and forward-looking course that engages pupils in 21st Century media. Ultimately, pupils create their own media coursework portfolios and products using print, video and the web through focused market research, investigations into existing products and by planning and constructing their own. Pupils will also study how media companies create their work and how audiences respond. Here are some of the themes and activities you'll take part in:

- *We'll study a range of the techniques media companies use to produce their films, TV programmes and magazines.*
- *By doing this, you'll become a more literate media consumer and will be aware of how media companies target and influence their audiences.*
- *You will learn how to research thoroughly and effectively, and the importance of organisation and the necessity to meet deadlines.*
- *Creative thinking will be required when you design and plan the construction of your media portfolios.*
- *Experimentation with a range of digital technology will quickly bring you up to speed with appropriate design and media IT packages with which you will be able to create impressive media products.*
- *Group work and independent dedication will definitely play a major role in your success in A Level Media lessons.*
- *You will also put together and practise your presentation skills as these formulate part of the assessment procedure.*
- *Hard work, dedication and creativity will pay off as 50% of your marks come from your media coursework portfolios; a bonus for those of you who find exams particularly stressful.*

What Careers Can Media Studies Lead to?

The creative, organisational, independent and technological skills you will develop on this course will stand you in great stead when applying for many occupations and undergraduate courses. You will also be able to produce impressive, research and planning folders along with professional looking media texts to make an impact when progressing to the next stage of your

life. Many media students move into careers in magazines, PR, TV production and film amongst others.

Other Information

If you'd like more information about the course, please see Mrs Cooper, Mr James, Miss Lewis or Miss Davies.

A Level Music

Why Choose A Level Music

Music is a versatile and well-respected academic course that combines well with both science and arts subjects. It provides a comprehensive introduction to music study, covering performance, composition and analysis to an advanced level. Students develop an understanding of music through the exploration of musical styles. The Music A level build upon your work at GCSE level and involve performing, composition and the study of a variety of musical compositions. The course gives you the opportunity to develop your musical skills and to explore new ideas you never knew you had.

Music is taught in a purpose-built department where you will receive excellent teaching in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. There are ample practice rooms and a recording studio, with priority given to 6th form students. The very best music technology is available to you throughout the school week including a dedicated 6th form computer suite.

Course Details

Exam Board Edexcel, Specification Code: 9MU0

Performance:

You will perform a recital in year 13 of 8 minutes that should be around grade 7 standard. The pieces for your recital will be of your own choosing.

Composition:

You will be required to compose two pieces, one based on a brief or a free composition and one to a brief assessing technique.

Appraising:

You will analyse and appraise six areas of study. The pieces are from a wide range of genres leading to a final listening and written exam. There are two essay questions one on each of the Areas of Study.

What Careers Can Music Lead to?

Careers in music are many and varied, from a professional musician or composer, to a sound technician, music therapist or even a teacher! There are many courses available at universities and conservatoires, from which music graduates enter a diverse range of professions, both in and out of the world of music and the creative arts. Although A Level Music involves a lot of

creative work, the theoretical study of music history and theory is sufficiently rigorous that it is accepted as a serious academic subject for entry to most university courses. Recent music students have gone on to study medicine, veterinary science, humanities, technology (and of course music) at the prestigious Russell Group universities. We also send a number of students to top conservatoires such as the RNCM, Birmingham Conservatoire and for popular music courses at BIMM and LIPA.

Other Information

To be accepted on the course you should ideally be able to perform at grade 6 standard by spring of year 12 and have achieved at least a B grade in Music GCSE. For any further information please speak to either Mrs Venables or Mrs Evans.

A Level Photography

Why Choose A Level Photography?

This creative field is radically different from the Photography a slightly older generation grew up with only a few years ago. It is no longer restricted to celluloid and the darkroom; it now finds itself in the digital domain. The pace of change in new media, technology and digital imaging has born a new field of creative expression that is exciting and very much linked to contemporary trends in image making and the commercial applied arts. These include web design, graphic realisation, game design and animation.

This new subject area runs within the broader AQA examination specification of Art and Design. This subject like Textile Design and Art and Design uses the same assessment processes, course structure and underlying philosophy. It is simply a different 'specialism' that offers alternative skill development and knowledge. Students will still need to have a vested interest in Design and visual creativity. As with the other Art and Design disciplines there will still be an emphasis on the personal response and students will be encouraged to establish their own individual style and creative approach.

As specified in the AQA specification candidates will need to produce practical and critical/contextual work in one or more areas including portraiture, landscape photography, still-life photography, documentary photography, photo-journalism, experimental imagery, photographic installation, video, television and film.

The course is extremely practical, however, throughout the course the students will be introduced to appropriate photographers. Throughout the course there will be opportunities to work in a variety of locations out of school that are chosen to support the projects undertaken. The initial unit of work will be a Foundation project that incorporates an introduction to key design and composition skills, photographic technique, Adobe Creative Suite digital software use and technical photographic knowledge.

All students wishing to select this subject option will need to have access to their own digital camera for the duration of the course. This can be an SLR, compact or bridge type camera. Phone cameras alone, are not acceptable.

Course Details

The Department follows the AQA Examination Board's syllabus for Photography.

What Careers Can A Level Photography: lens-based and light-based media lead to?

Photography in all its commercial forms including photojournalism, medical photography and portraiture/fashion photography. Graphic Design, Illustration, Film and Television, Media based careers, Web design and Animation.

A Level Physics

Why Choose Physics?

The best part about Physics is that the further you go the more interesting and surprising it becomes; did you know that particles can be in two places at once? At speeds near the speed of light, time slows down and your mass increases? About 90% of the universe is missing? Physics is the ultimate search for truth and reality. Will you take up the challenge?

Course Details

We offer the 'OCR Physics A (Advancing Physics)' course (Specification Code, A Level – H556). This is a new curriculum from 2015, and we have chosen the 'Physics A' course as it builds on the students' knowledge of the laws of physics and allow them to solve problems over a wide range of topics. With the new curriculum, there is a greater emphasis on practical work, with a minimum of 10 undertaken over the course (though we do far more.) These will be competency assessed, and at least 15% of exam questions are now based on knowledge and understanding of practical work. There is also a greater significance placed on the mathematics with 40% covering mathematical skills.

The subjects studied in the first year will be: Forces, Mechanics, Motion, Electricity, Waves, Quantum physics and Materials.

In the second year: Thermal physics, Further mechanics, Capacitance, Fields and Particles, Nuclear Physics and Astrophysics.

What Careers Can Physics Lead to?

In short... pretty much anything! These can include - Aerospace, Alternative Energy, Architecture, Astrophysics, Banking, Business Consultancy, Cartography, CGI Animation, Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Computing, Conservation, Defence, Dentistry, Education, Electrical Engineering, Electronics, Energy Resources, Environmental Physics, Fibre Optics, Finance, Health Physics, Instrumentation, Mechanical Engineering, Medical Physics, Metallurgy, Mineralogy, Music Technology, Nuclear Physics, Oceanography, Optometry, Pollution Control, Research Labs, Robotics, Rocketry and Rocket Science, Satellites, Telecommunications, Thin Films, Weather Forecasting... the list is almost endless!!!

Other Information

All students have access to the OCR text book which is written specifically for this course. The text books explain every aspect of the A Level courses. Students also have access to past exam papers which they are encouraged to use to practise what they have learnt in the classroom. We

also recommend students purchase a revision guide, details of which will be given to those who enrol on the course.

We are happy to take students with 'B' grades or better in Science. Success at A level is far more likely with a good set of results in ALL subjects at GCSE, and is highly unlikely with only 'C' grades in Science. Though it is not essential, taking Maths at A-level is preferred, especially with the new emphasis on mathematical skills in the new curriculum.

The result that you get depends upon work-ethic, perseverance and self-confidence – in fairly equal measure. Come and join us!

If you would like more information about this course, please see Mr Sharman or Mr Quinn.

A Level Product Design

Why Choose A Level Product Design?

Designers are the key to creating a safe and sustainable world for us to live in, by pushing the boundaries of design in order to solve real world problems.

- If you are passionate about the design of products
- If you enjoy developing your ideas from concept to working prototype
- If you have the vision to design innovative, desirable and sustainable products
- If you want to learn to think creatively and intervene to improve the quality of life
- If you enjoy solving problems as an individual or as part of a team
- If you enjoy combining practical needs with product appearance
- If you want to use CAD/CAM

....then Product Design is for you!

In this specification candidates are encouraged to take a broad view of design and technology, to develop their capacity to design and make products and to appreciate the complex relationship between design, materials, manufacture and marketing.

It is helpful but not necessary for candidates to have studied GCSE Design and Technology before commencing work at this level and no prior knowledge of design and technology is required for students to undertake a course of study with this A Level specification.

We aim to enable our students to become lifelong learners and problem solvers.

Course Details - Exam Board AQA

A Level – we are still awaiting the full specification, it should follow the outline below.

- | | |
|--------|---|
| PROD 1 | Design & Manufacture 50% of A Level – Written paper |
| PROD 2 | Design and Making Practice 50% of A Level - Coursework |

This takes the form of a design folder and manufactured outcomes

What Careers Can Product Design Lead to?

Product Design A Level will complement; Art, Maths, Science and most other courses to enable you to move into the vast array of design disciplines, engineering or just to make you a thoughtful and aware citizen for the future.

- Architecture
- Interior Design
- Product Design
- Graphic Design
- Engineering
- Fashion Design
- Industrial Design
- Animation
- Environmental Design
- 3D Art & Design
- Exhibition / Set Design
- Transport Design

A Level Psychology

Why Choose A Level Psychology?

Psychology is an all absorbing science concerned with the study of the mind and behaviour. It has links with a variety of disciplines such as the biological, computer and forensic sciences, as well as other subjects such as sociology, philosophy and literature. The common factor linking people who study psychology is curiosity and the search for knowledge.

Psychology is exciting

Is there a relationship between psychological disorders and brain biochemistry? Are we born obedient? What is memory? What are the physiological responses to stress?

Psychology is challenging

Does psychotherapy help people overcome psychological problems such as depression and anxiety? Can we change people's attitudes? Can the study of cognitive disorders inform our understanding of normal cognition?

Psychology is useful

Psychology has a broad range of real world applications in everyday life, ranging from stress, health, mental illness, crime and forensic studies, to personal development, social interaction and the environment, to name but a few. The skills you learn will also readily transfer to many other careers. These skills include oral and written communication, computer literacy, numeracy, problem-solving and analysis and the ability to carry out independent research.

Course Details

EXAMINATION BOARD: Pearson Edexcel

Specification Code: Advanced GCE in Psychology (9PS0)

The A Level is structured into **seven** topic areas. **Topics 1–4 are compulsory** and focus on the areas that have laid the foundations of modern psychological understanding. **Topic 5** is compulsory with the focus being on the development of clinical psychology. **Topic 6** develops our understanding of how psychology is applied today and **Topic 9** summarises the psychological skills and research methods covered in the qualification.

Students take part in **research activities** which also form part of the A Level examination. The activities are conducted as per ethical guidelines set by the British Psychological Society and the guidance of their tutor.

Students must complete all assessment in May/June of the second year of this qualification.

- 1. **Cognitive Psychology**
- 2. **Social Psychology**
- 3. **Biological Psychology**
- 4. **Learning Theories**
- 5. **Clinical Psychology**
- 6. **Criminological Psychology**
- 7. **Psychological Skills**

A Level Psychology

ASSESSMENT:

| Level | Unit Title | Duration |
|--------------------|--|----------|
| A Level 2 years | Paper 1: Foundations of Psychology – Social, Cognitive, Biological and Learning Theories 90 marks 35% of qualification | 2 hours |
| | Paper 2: Applications of Psychology Clinical Psychology and Criminological Psychology 90 marks 35% of qualification | 2 hours |
| | Paper 3: Psychological Skills Review of Methodology, Review of studies and Review of Issues and Debates 80 marks 30% of qualification | 2 hours |

What Careers Can Psychology Lead to?

Studying Psychology at AS/A Level can be the first step into a wide variety of exciting and rewarding careers.

| | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| Law: | Education: |
|-------------|-------------------|

| | |
|--|--|
| Police Forensic Psychology Criminal Psychology | Teaching Educational Psychologist |
| Health: Nursing Psychiatry Clinical Psychology Sports Psychology Counselling | Academic Research |
| Social Services: Probation Prison Officer Social Worker | Business: Human Resource Management Advertising/Marketing Recruitment/Psychometric Test Design |

A Level Sociology

Why Choose A Level Sociology?

Ever wondered why girls achieve more highly than boys in at GCSE? Or why women are 3 times more likely to instigate divorce proceedings than men? Sociology can give you some answers. Sociology is the study of society, of people and their behaviour. Sociologists study a wide range of topics such as childhood, crime, human rights, marriage, and education. It aims to develop *theories*, using *evidence* based on research, to explain human behaviour and the workings of society.

Sociological research is used to inform a wide range of decisions in all areas of public life often through government policy. Sociologists will help formulate policies and actions on teenage pregnancies, crime rates and domestic violence, for example.

Sociology, above all, is a subject that asks questions about our society and the people that live in it. If you are interested in people's behaviour it *will* fascinate you, challenge you and may even *surprise* you.

Course Details

AQA Sociology comprises of 3 modules:

- Paper 1: Education and Methods in Context (of education)
- Paper 2 : Methods of Sociological Research and two option choices Families and Households and Belief Systems (religion)
- Paper 3 : Crime and Deviance and Sociological Theory

Each exam is comprised of stimulus material which is responded to by completing short answers and longer essays.

This reflects the fact that Sociology is a *literary* subject with a *heavy* emphasis on reading, independent research, note taking and essay writing. Much of this will be outside of the class, complementing and developing key themes and investigations. In class you will also be expected to be willing and able to contribute to discussions. You will also need to be informed about, and interested in, current affairs.

What Careers Can Sociology Lead to?

Sociology is so clearly a subject that helps you understand people and the features of British society today, that it would help you in any job that involves this requirement - and that is quite a lot! The skills it teaches you mean it is particularly applicable to careers where you need to make considered decisions, be critical, evaluative and see different points of view. It would therefore be valuable for the following career paths: policing and the law; the media, advertising and marketing, education, health, social work, the armed forces.

Other Information

Mrs Gurbuz is the subject leader, and sole teacher of Sociology at A level. For further information about any aspect of A Level Sociology, please contact her, or look on the Sociology pages on the shared area.

BTEC Level 3

National Extended Certificate in Information Technology

Why Choose BTEC Information Technology?

This qualification is designed for learners who are interested in an introduction to the study of creating IT systems to manage and share information, alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in IT.

Course Details

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Information Technology

Unit 1 : Information Technology Systems

Learners study the role of computer systems and the implications of their use in personal and professional situations.

2 hour written examination

| | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Covering ... | Digital devices in IT systems |
| | Transmitting data |
| | Operating online |
| | Protecting data and information |
| | Impact of IT systems |
| | Issues |

Unit 2 : Creating Systems to Manage Information

Learners study the design, creation, testing and evaluation of a relational database system to manage information.

Externally assessed task completed for 10 hours in a one-week period

Covering ... The purpose and structure of relational database management systems
Standard methods and techniques to design relational database solutions
Creating a relation database structure
Evaluating a database development project

Unit 3 : Using Social Media in Business

Learners explore how businesses use social media to promote their products and services. Learners also implement social media activities in a business to meet requirements. Internally assessed controlled assessment report

Covering ... Explore the impact of social media on the ways in which business promote their products and services
Develop a plan to use social media in a business to meet requirements
Implement the use of social media in a business

Unit 5 : Data Modelling

Learners study how data modelling can be used to solve problems. They will design and implement a data model to meet client requirements. Internally assessed controlled assessment report

Covering ... Investigate data modelling and how it can be used in the decision-making process
Design a data model to meet client requirements
Develop a data model to meet client requirements

What Careers Can BTEC IT Lead to?

Today's BTEC Nationals are demanding, as you would expect of the most respected applied learning qualification in the UK. You will have to choose and complete a range of units, be organised, take some assessments that Pearson will set and mark, and keep a portfolio of your assignments. But you can feel proud to achieve a BTEC because, whatever your plans in life – whether you decide to study further, go on to work or an apprenticeship, or set up your own business – your BTEC National will be your passport to success in the next stage of your life.

With a track record built over 30 years of learner success, BTEC Nationals are widely recognised by industry and higher education as the signature vocational qualification at Level 3. They provide progression to the workplace either directly or via study at a higher level. Proof comes from YouGov research, which shows that 62% of large companies have recruited employees with BTEC qualifications. What's more, well over 100,000 BTEC students apply to UK universities every year and their BTEC Nationals are accepted by over 150 UK universities and higher education institutes for relevant degree programmes either on their own or in combination with A Levels.

Other Information

There are no specific subject requirements at GCSE but a pass at Grade C level or above in Mathematics and English Language will be required for you to be able to cope with the wide range of skills that the subject tests.

No previous formal knowledge of Information Technology is expected because the course will be taught with this in mind.

However, a general background of, and interest in, the basic principles of IT would be useful. If you are currently taking GCSE Computing or ICT, this would provide a useful background to some parts of the course and it is expected that you will have achieved at least a Grade C in these subjects.

Public Services

BTEC L3 Subsidiary Diploma

Why Choose Public Services?

Are you interested in finding out more about the huge range of opportunities available in the public services, such as Police, Emergency Fire Services, Security, Prison Services or the Armed Services?

Do you want to develop a wide range of skills and knowledge that any employer will value?

Or perhaps you already know that you want a career in this sector but you want to develop the skills that recruiters will look for.

If so, this course will be suitable for you.

Course Details

Examination Board: Edexcel

What is the course content?

To achieve the BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Public Services, you must complete three mandatory units:

- Government, Policies and the Public Services
- Leadership and Teamwork in the Public Services
- Citizenship, Diversity and the Public Services

and optional units taken from a wide range of choice which might include:

- Physical Preparation, Health and Lifestyle for the Public Services
- Police Powers
- Understanding the Impact of War, Conflict and Terrorism on Public Service

What sort of teaching, learning and assessment should I expect?

You will do lots of group work and practical activities throughout the course. You will also complete individual research. Visiting speakers from public services such as the Royal Navy, the RAF, the Police Force and the Fire Service will be invited to speak to you and visits to public service organisations will be arranged. Assessment is continuous. You will have a number of internally assessed coursework assignments to complete.

What skills does it develop?

The course allows you to develop your knowledge of public services, including the roles and responsibilities within them, and to develop the skills that working in public services requires, such as team-working, communication, taking responsibility for your own performance and behaviour.

Which subjects complement BTEC Public Services?

The BTEC in Public Services can be studied alongside Intermediate or Advanced Level courses.

What Careers Can Public Services Lead to?

The course provides a good foundation for either further Public Services related studies at college or university or as a qualification to support a career in: the Army; the Navy; the RAF; the Police Force; the Fire Service; the Ambulance Service; the Civil Service; Social Work; Criminology; Personnel Management; Teaching; and the list goes on...

It will also be useful as a general qualification to support an application to study something completely different.

Other Information

Ideally, you will have 4 GCSEs at Grades C or above. However, all applications will be considered on an individual basis and, above all, you will need to have an interest in and enthusiasm for the modules chosen for this qualification.

For further information, please contact Mr Carvell.

BTEC Level 3 (NCF) National Extended Certificate in Sport

Why Choose BTEC National Extended Certificate in Sport?

The BTEC option develops your skills and understanding of work within a vocational context completing classroom based learning and practical work-experience. You will learn to develop your analytical, communication and problem solving skills based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands. You will also be able to demonstrate carrying out fitness tests, gathering data and explaining the results. The PE Department actively encourages students to become involved in gaining coaching experience in order to develop their officiating and coaching skills. A qualification in Sport will provide evidence to the University and/or employers that you are well organised and have an ability to meet deadlines.

The BTEC National Extended Certificate Sport earns the same UCAS points for university entrance as one A level. You receive marks for each unit and gain a final mark of Pass (equivalent to E), Merit (equivalent to C), Distinction (equivalent A) and Distinction* (equivalent A*).

Course Details

BTEC National Extended Certificate consists of 4 units over two years.

The government have changed the BTEC assessment processes for this year. There are now three methods of assessment. Unit 1 is assessed through an external exam. Unit 2 is assessed using a pre-released task which will be marked by the exam board. The two remaining units will be assessed through internally marked assignments.

Mandatory Units (All three covered)

- 1 – Applied Anatomy and Physiology
- 2 – Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being
- 3 – Professional development in the sports industry

Optional Units (One covered)

- 4 – Sports Leadership
- 5 – Application of Fitness Testing
- 6 – Sports Psychology
- 7 – Practical Sports Performance

What Careers Can BTEC Sport Lead to?

Depending on which particular option units you choose you can progress into freelance coaching, setting up your own coaching business, managing sports teams, Sports Development Officer, Sport Scientist, PE Teacher, University Lecturer, Research Scientist, Performance Manager and many more.

Other Information

This course demands constant hard work in school and at home. Students are expected to have achieved 4 A* - C grades at GCSE, to have a positive Attitude to Learning, and have evidence of IT Skills.

Any questions? If you need guidance at any time, please talk to Miss Williams or Mr Margolan.

Level 3 Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Why Choose to Study for an EPQ?

There are a number of reasons you may wish to consider the EPQ:

- It carries as many UCAS points as half an A2 level. (Up to 70 points).
- It will allow you to develop an area of academic interest outside the constraints of your AS subjects.
- It will allow you to develop research and writing skills, which are very close to those used in universities. This will put you at a significant advantage both when it comes to applying for university, and when it comes to writing your own dissertation as an undergraduate at university.
- It gives you the chance to experience one-to-one teaching/ supervision and seminar teaching.

What is an EPQ?

The Extended Project Qualification is a freestanding qualification that is intended to stretch very able and independent learners. It is offered as an additional qualification as part of EBX enrichment block. (This is therefore not a course that students indicate on their sixth form application form.) The EPQ involves choosing a topic and carrying out some in-depth research into a particular area, then creating EITHER a 5,000 word report OR a 'product' + a 1,000 word report. After that, you must deliver a small presentation to a group of non-specialists about your topic, lasting from 10 - 15 minutes.

Course Details

Initially, you need to identify a topic you are interested in researching in some depth. You will be allocated a Mentor from amongst the staff at school, who will then help you to refine your topic, plan your research and write it up into a dissertation. You will meet your Mentor one-on-one, on a regular basis. You will also be required to attend classes in the EBX block, where you will have the chance to learn about and discuss various aspects of academic research and writing.

What will I be assessed on?

You will be given a mark for your final written dissertation, which will be a document of 5000 words, OR your 'product' + a 1,000 word report. You will also be assessed on a presentation that you give, explaining the findings of your dissertation. The EPQ is marked on a scale of A*-E. If you would like to look at the specification in more detail, the board we use is AQA and the specification code is 9990.

How does it fit into my other A Levels?

You could choose a topic that fits in with the A Levels you are studying, as long as it does not duplicate anything in your A Levels, but are not required to. You should expect to spend a minimum of 2 hours per week in addition to classes on your EPQ.

What sort of topic could I choose for my EPQ?

The possibilities are very broad, and topics do not have to be confined to the subjects you are studying at A Level. You can look ahead and do a project on an aspect of your chosen degree course. You may be interested in topics areas such as:

Politics, economics, science, philosophy, sociology, ethics, law, music, art, literature, psychology, film, media, history, history/ politics of sport, war, empire, anthropology, history of medicine...

This may lead to questions such as:

- What are the chances for peace in the Middle East?
- What problems does stem cell research pose for medical ethics?
- What impact did the Beijing Olympics have on China's human rights record?
- Does nuclear energy or Bio fuel offer a better solution to global climate change?
- How did the Vietnam War change American society?
- What is post-modernism in popular culture?
- How has the Human Rights Act of 1998 changed British law?
- How did spying and espionage under Stalin compare to that carried out by Churchill?
- Was Victorian Britain really a repressive society?
- Was the British Empire a mistake?
- How did Siegfried Sassoon's private life affect his writing?
- How much of Thatcher's economic legacy remains?

What Careers Can an EPQ Lead to?

The EPQ alone does not lead you to a career! It's the process involved and the skills that are learnt whilst studying for this that help.

There are several reasons why the EPQ is looked on so highly:

- It shows that students are able to pursue their own academic interests beyond the confines of the school curriculum.
- It demonstrates that students are capable of undertaking exactly the kind of independent research and writing that will be part of higher education study.
- It shows that students can benefit from one-to-one tutoring and seminar teaching, both of which are central to university teaching.
- It makes students stand out from other candidates: important when increasing numbers of students are reaching the top grades in their AS and A2 exams.

Other Information

If you would like more information about the course, please contact Mrs Bradshaw at school.