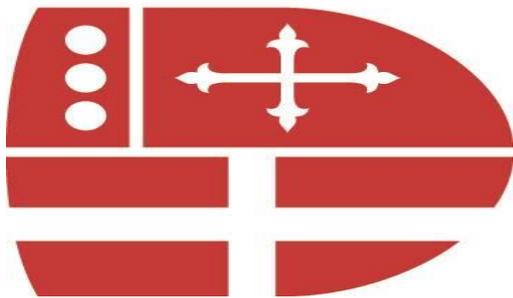


RIVINGTON & BLACKROD
SIXTH FORM



Rivington and Blackrod High School Sixth Form

Rivington and Blackrod High School Sixth Form is a well-established school sixth form with around two hundred and fifty students. After completing their A level or BTEC studies the majority of these go onto university. The Sixth Form has a justified reputation for the strength of its results, which place it in the top 30% of schools and colleges nationally. We attach an equally high level of importance to providing a very high standard of pastoral care, student support and guidance.

Our Sixth Form welcomes students who were at the school in year 11, and also those from other schools across the area. Our reputation for high academic achievement and excellent individualised support makes us a popular choice for students seeking good quality teaching in small groups. There are good transport links, with buses to a wide range of areas across Bolton and Chorley.

Rivington Sixth Form operates on a four day taught week, with Friday available for additional study and the all-important work experience and enrichment. We offer a high level of support for all students with a personal tutor and excellent facilities for individual study, along with a wide range of enrichment activities.

Enrichment activities include additional support for those applying to the most competitive university courses, including Oxford or Cambridge, and for courses such as Medicine and Law. We offer work experience placements which are vital for successful applications in many areas, such as healthcare and education.

Students have the opportunity for direct entry to the superb Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme.

There are structured opportunities to develop leadership skills and a wide range of charitable, cultural and social events. The Sixth Form arranges several residential trips, including visits to Parliament, to the CERN project in Geneva, to New York and to Auschwitz.

Programmes of study for autumn 2021 (For more details go to www.rbhs.co.uk)

A level

Art	English Language	Mathematics
Biology	Film Studies	Media Studies
Business Studies	French	PE
Chemistry	Further Mathematics	Philosophy
3D Design	Geography	Photography
Drama	Government and Politics	Physics
Economics	Graphic Communication	Psychology
English Literature	History	Sociology

Level 3 Applied General Qualification (Vocational A Levels)

Applied Science	Creative Digital Media	Sport and Physical Activity
Business	Production	Children's Play, Learning and Development
IT	Performing Arts	
Criminology	Music	
Computer Studies	Health and Social Care	

A level and BTECs

- Universities and employers accept either A level or BTEC/CTEC, or a mixture of the two. In UCAS points terms they are equivalent.
- A levels are generally assessed by final examination, at the end of two years, with only a small amount of coursework in a few subjects.
- BTEC and CTEC programmes are assessed largely by coursework.
- All students have to complete a period of work experience
- Any student who has not reached a grade 4 in either English or Maths has to resit that subject
- University predicted grades will be based on student performance in their internal exams at the end of year 12.
- Many universities publish guidance on choosing Sixth Form courses, such as Sheffield University's guidance <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply/alevels>

There is a comprehensive package of support in place at Rivington to ensure students get the best possible grades and are able to progress onto their chosen path after Sixth Form.

- Well qualified and experienced teaching staff
- Small group sizes and extensive study space
- One-to-one mentoring and support
- An extensive enrichment programme designed to encourage personal development as well as allowing students the opportunity to develop the skills and the evidence base required for entry to the most demanding of universities and careers.

Specialist Study Group

For students who plan to apply to Oxford, Cambridge or for Medicine, there are master classes to support their preparations, to facilitate an understanding of the application process, and to prepare students for the tests and interviews stages of the application process. Included in the programme is a residential stay at St Johns, Cambridge, and one to one support from Cambridge tutors.

Sixth Form Study Programme

Students can choose a study programme which is entirely A levels, or entirely BTEC/CTEC, or a mixture of the two. Students who have achieved high grades at GCSE may opt for four subjects although bear in mind that universities and employers base their offers on three A levels or equivalent.

A level	A level	A level
A level	A level	BTEC Certificate = 1 A level
A level	BTEC Diploma = 2 A levels	
BTEC Extended Diploma = 3 A levels		

Advice when choosing A level and BTEC subjects...

Choosing your A level and BTEC programme is probably one of the biggest decisions you will have made so far in your life. It is worth taking a while to really investigate your options. The following may give you a few ideas on what you should be considering...

1. The range of A level and BTEC subjects to choose from is huge

But the reason you take a particular subject at A-level will come down to one (or more) of these three scenarios (usually):

- you need it to pursue a particular career
- it's a subject you enjoy and are good at
- it's a subject you are genuinely excited by and want to spend two years studying

2. Certain university courses will look for specific subjects

This is important if you have a particular degree in mind. You will not be able to apply to some degree courses without having taken some specific A-levels or BTECS

Below are a few examples to give you an idea of what to expect...

- Medicine and Pharmacy must have: Chemistry, plus at least one from Biology, Maths and Physics
- English: usually English Literature
- Geology / Earth Sciences: must have at least two from Maths, Physics, Chemistry and Biology
- Economics: Maths

3. Some courses and universities have lists of subjects they don't accept

Know myth from reality. It is always worth investigating things yourself so you get the full picture.

4. Many universities and courses will consider you whatever you choose

For example, Accountancy, Anthropology, Archaeology, Banking, Business Studies, Classical Civilisations, Hospitality, Information Science, Law, Management, Marketing, Media Studies, Philosophy, Politics, Psychology, Public Relations, Retail Management, Social Work, Sociology, Surveying, Television, Travel and Tourism... do not normally have essential subject requirements!

5. Don't copy your friends

Don't just take a subject so you'll be in a class with your friends, nor be turned off by one because of what others think of it.

6. Don't forget, your current subjects aren't the *only* ones

We offer a number of refreshing A-level subjects, which are not commonly available at GCSE, such as Economics, Psychology and Criminology.

7. A levels and BTECs are not easy!

Whichever subjects you choose, be prepared for a big jump in the level of difficulty when you transition from GCSE to Sixth Form. You will also see differences in the way you are taught and in what is expected of you.

However, at Rivington, you will be supported all the way.



How to apply...

1. All course information and the application form are on the website
2. Students can make their application on the school website www.rbhs.co.uk
3. Go to the Sixth Form section and click 'Apply Now'
4. Students should select up to one subject from each column (which is provisional, and may change to in light of demand from students for particular combinations)

Column A		Column B		Column C		Column D	
BTEC Single	Business	A level	Biology	BTEC Single	Applied Science	BTEC Single	Applied Science
A level	Chemistry	BTEC Double	Business	A level	Art	BTEC Single	Business
BTEC Single	Children's PLD	A level	Business Studies	A level	Geography	A level	Drama
BTEC Single	Computer Studies	WJEC Diploma	Criminology	A level	Government and Politics	A level	Economics
WJEC Diploma	Criminology	A level	English Language	BTEC Single	Health Studies	A level	English Literature
A level	Film Studies	A level	French	BTEC Single	ICT	A level	Further Maths
A level	History	BTEC Double	Health Studies	BTEC Double	Performing Arts	BTEC Single	Health Studies
A level	Maths	A level	Maths	A level	Physics	A level	Maths
BTEC Single	Music	A level	Media Studies	A level	Psychology	A level	Philosophy
A level	Photography	BTEC Double	Performing Arts	BTEC	Media Studies	A level	Physical Education
		Cambridge (Single)	Sport and Physical Activity	Cambridge (Triple)	Sport and Physical Activity	A level	Psychology
		A level	Sociology	A level	Graphic Communication	A level	3D Design

5. Once an application has been received all students will be invited for interview, at which we will discuss the students' strengths, aspirations and interests. This is a very personalised interview, designed to help the student make the right choices. The key element of the conversation will be to ensure that the choices made by each individual student are as far as we can possibly tell, appropriate to that individual student.



A level **ART AND DESIGN**

Course description

The Art and Design A level course is exciting, diverse and challenging. Emphasis is placed upon individual learning, creativity and personal responses. During this course you will be given the chance to work within a wide range of specialisms, including fine art, drawing, painting, photography and digital art.

Course content

A level Art and Design encourages students to consider the visual exploration of ideas, meanings and feelings at a personal level and also in the wider context of their social, historical and cultural connections. The area of study is broad to enable students to explore and develop their understanding of the formal elements in a variety of media. Students endeavour to work independently and have freedom to develop and communicate meaning through their exploration and experimentation. They are expected to research thoroughly in order to develop informed opinions and critical judgements about their own work and that of other artists.

Entry requirements

5 GCSEs at grade 4 or above. In addition, GCSE grade 5 in Art or recommendation from the head of department.

Assessment

Emphasis will be on understanding, experimentation and development of ideas. Starting with the 'Purpose of Drawing' students are guided through a series of processes, techniques and concepts before starting their independent enquiry. Formal assessment will take place at the end of year 13.

Future opportunities

A level Art and Design is a recognised qualification for entry into most university courses and for specialist Fine Art establishments. Career opportunities include Fine Arts, Art Worker, Arts Administration, Architecture, Marketing, Graphic Design, Magazine Layout, Computer Aided Design, Animation, 3D Design, Sculpture, Ceramics, Interior Design, Textile Design, Fashion Design, Fashion, Illustration, Costume Design, Theatre Design, Photography, Arts Journalism, Restoration, Conservation, Visual Communications, Museum Work, Curator, Product Design, Display, Art Therapy and Community Arts Co-ordination.



A level **BIOLOGY**

Course description

The OCR Advanced Level Biology course is a challenging and rewarding course which incorporates and builds on previous biological knowledge.

Course content

Topics covered include: The structure and function of biomolecules; structure and role of DNA and RNA, genetic diseases and gene therapy, cell structure, stem cells, classification and biodiversity; forensic analysis of crime scenes, infectious diseases, DNA profiling, photosynthesis, global warming and brain structure.

Entry requirements

5 GCSEs grade 4 or above. In addition, grade 6 in Biology (or 6/6 in Combined Science if studied) plus grade 6 Maths and 5 in English.

Assessment

Students will sit three examinations at the end of Year 13 to achieve the A level qualification.

Future opportunities

A level Biology is a widely accepted course and is suitable as an introduction to higher level courses. Biology may be used to gain entry to a wide variety of careers both biological (such as medicine/nursing, biochemistry, pathology, laboratory work and genetics) and non-biological (including financial and commercial).



A level **BUSINESS STUDIES**

Course description

This course allows students to study the dynamic world of business in a variety of contexts (eg large/small, UK focused/global, service/manufacturing). Understanding the way a business operates is essential for any student wishing to pursue a career in the commercial world.

Course content

In the first year we consider how a business operates from a functional perspective – we study how the key departmental areas of finance, human resources, production and marketing are run and managed on a day-to-day basis. The second year we take our understanding of business to the next level – we start to think as if we are the CEO – the boss. We consider how the different departments work together and how the whole business can be managed strategically to meet organisational objectives.

Entry requirements

5 GCSEs grade 4 or above. In addition, GCSE grade 5 in Maths and English GCSE. It is not essential to have studied GCSE Business Studies.

Assessment

Assessment is by three exams at the end of year 13. There is a mixture of assessment styles including multiple choice, short answers, data response, case study and essays. All three exams are equally weighted and two hours in length.

Future opportunities

Business Studies provides for a practical understanding and appreciation of the commercial world. The discipline will equip you well for university study. Students often choose to study Business at university level, sometimes coupled with another discipline or specialism. You will also be well placed for a career/apprenticeship requiring A levels. Business Studies students enter a wide range of different career paths, both business and non-business related.



A level **CHEMISTRY**

Course description

The course aims to extend and broaden the students' existing knowledge and understanding of Chemistry developed by the GCSE course. Your knowledge, understanding and skills will be developed in contexts such as atomic structure, bonding, periodicity, thermodynamics organic and inorganic chemistry.

Course content

A level Chemistry is composed of around twenty topics, covering: Inorganic Chemistry - concerning the periodic table with a more detailed look at groups I, II, VII, along with the transition metals; Organic Chemistry - concerning hydrocarbons, alcohols, organic acids, halogen alkanes, biomolecules and synthesis of dyes, drugs, plastics and other useful materials; Physical Chemistry - concerning, structure and bonding, energy changes during reactions, equilibria, reaction kinetics and redox reactions. Approximately 30% of the course is practically based, reinforcing the theory work which is tackled through a combination of structured class teaching and project work.

Entry requirements

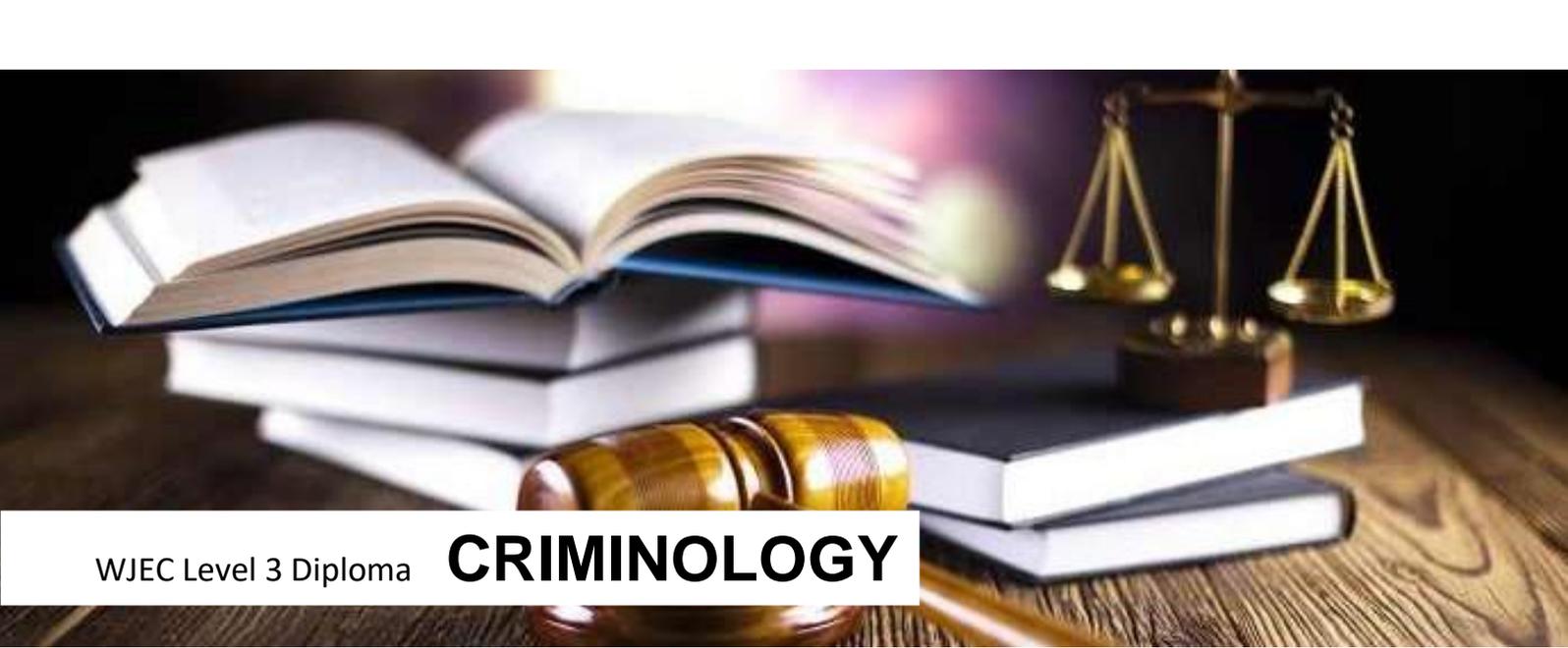
5 GCSEs grade 4 or above. In addition, GCSE grade 6 in Chemistry (or 6/6 in Combined Science if studied) plus level 6 Math's and 5 in English.

Assessment

The course is assessed by three examinations at the end of Year 13 with a wide range of question types including multiple choice, short answer and extended response questions.

Future opportunities

Careers involving Chemistry include: biochemistry and biotechnology, forensic science, pharmacy, materials science, mineralogy, petrochemistry and environmental science. Courses linked to engineering will also use a working knowledge of chemistry. Chemistry A level is essential for entrance to university to study Medicine and Veterinary Science.



WJEC Level 3 Diploma

CRIMINOLOGY

Course description

Criminology is the study of the reasons why individuals commit crime. By Not all types of crime are alike. Are you interested in the different types of crime that take place in our society? Are criminals born or made? How do we decide what behaviour is criminal? What are the different roles of everyone involved when a crime is detected? Then perhaps you are interested to know more about the new exciting course in Criminology.

Course content

Students learn about the various theories of criminality (biological, sociological and psychological), the discussion around criminal and deviant behaviour, government policies and the implementation of the law. Students have to plan campaigns to change people's behaviour, and understand the role of the media and social media in influencing both crime rates and people's perception of crime.

Entry requirements

5 GCSEs grade 4 or above, including English Language.

Assessment

The course is divided into 4 units and therefore it is a modular structure. You will be assessed at the end of every unit. There are opportunities for assessment in December and May of each academic year.

Units 1 and 3 are internally assessed by your teachers in examination conditions on computers.

Units 2 and 4 are both examined through a 90 minute external written paper.

Successful completion of the 4 units, over the 2 years, leads to the Applied Level 3 Diploma, which is equivalent to an A-level, graded A * to U like an A level and carries the same UCAS points.

Future opportunities

This course is ideal for anyone who wishes to pursue a career in Criminology. This course can provide a route into Higher Education to study at degree level in a variety of areas such as Criminology, Sociology, Criminal Justice, Psychology and Forensic Science. The course would also provide an excellent basis to anyone wishing to pursue a career within Social Work, Mental Health, the Police Force, Customs and Immigration, Prison Services, Court Services, Security Services, the NHS, Education and Youth and Community Services.



A level **3D DESIGN**

Course Description

A Level 3D Design is a two-year course, which will give you the opportunity to explore a wide range of materials and commercial techniques that are used in the design industry today. This course is designed to offer learners the opportunity to work with a range of techniques closely linked to real world design and manufacture.

Course Content

You will experience a design studio environment, where you will be given the opportunity to express your creativity using a wide range of media such as virtual and traditional modelling techniques. Graphic presentation techniques will also play an important part in the presentation of ideas such as sketching and computer aided design. In year 12, you will have the opportunity to explore a range of design and manufacturing assignments involving sculpture, architectural design and product design. Technical support will be provided to facilitate any 3D manufacture and you will experience independent use of commercial machinery and tools, with supervision.

An opportunity to enrich creative studies will be provided through external visits to exhibitions/cultural visits. These experiences will provide some of the opportunities needed to gather primary research (photographic evidence), which will be a desirable part of design exploration.

Entry Requirements

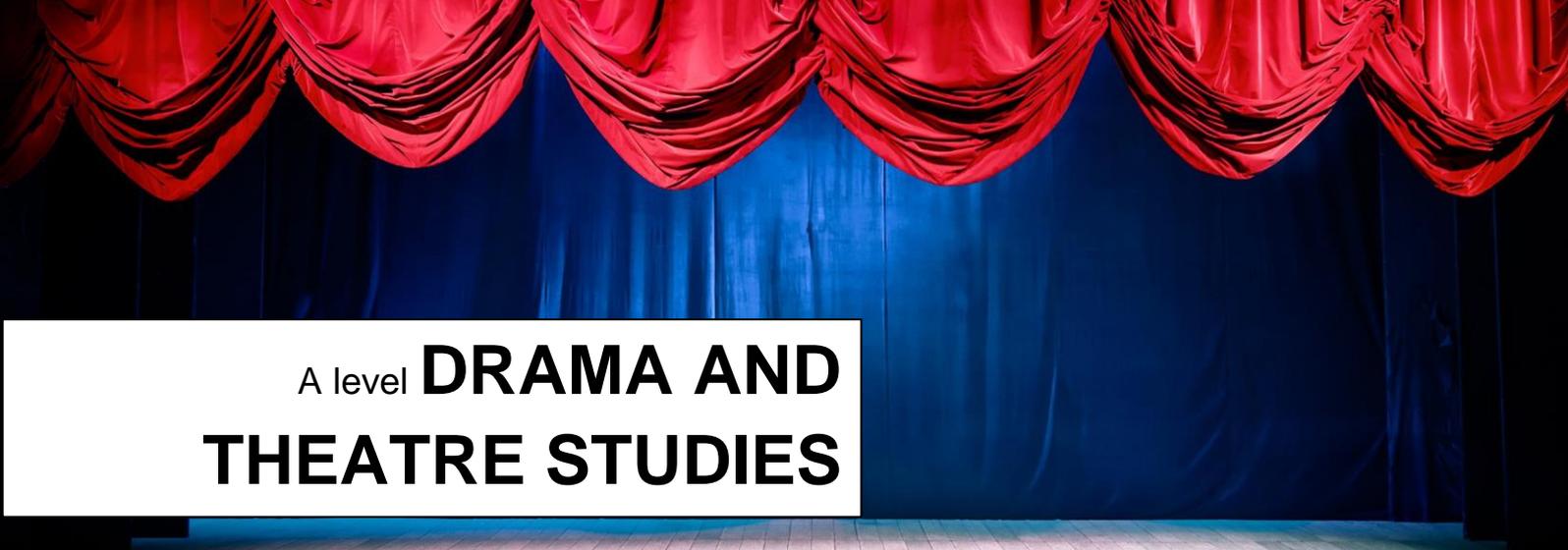
5 GCSEs at level 4 or above. In addition, a minimum of a grade 5 in Maths and English. Also it is recommended to have a qualification in a Technology subject and/or Art.

Assessment

The course will consist of two units, one of which will be expressed through a creative portfolio, concept modelling and a final high quality 3D prototype

Future Opportunities

3D Design will provide you with a pathway of progression into careers such as architecture, interior design, product design, civil engineering, theatre and set design, graphic design, planning and surveying, urban development and many more creative/ technical applications.



A level **DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES**

Course description

The course is focused on theatre and students' understanding of it. It is designed to give students a combination of knowledge and skills that are needed as an actor, director, theatre company member and also as an informed theatre audience.

Course content

Unit 1: Drama and Theatre

The study of two set plays from different genres and periods and evaluation of live theatre.

Unit 2: Creating Original Drama

The performance of a group devised play, exploring the methods of a prescribed practitioner.

Unit 3: Making Theatre

The practical exploration of three extracts, each taken from a different play, the third extract to be performed in the style of a prescribed practitioner.

Entry requirements

5 GCSEs at level 4 or above. In addition, grade 6 or above in GCSE Drama (for those who have taken the subject at GCSE level) and grade 6 or above in English GCSE for all students. This subject is open to those who have not studied Drama at GCSE

Assessment

The coursework involves students devising their own performance work and keeping a written reflective record of their creative process. Practical focus of the course looks at exploring set plays, the work of contemporary and historical theatre practitioners, interpreting and performing an extract from a chosen play and performing a solo monologue. Students sit a written exam at the end of the course that tests their theoretical knowledge on acting and directing.

Future opportunities

Students will develop skills essential not just for drama but applicable to a wide range of higher education subjects and the workplace; such as collaborative, analytical and research skills. Higher education institutions value and respect the skills this qualification gives students.



A level **ECONOMICS**

Course description

Most of the stories that dominate the news cannot be understood without a knowledge of Economics.

What will the long term economic impact of COVID 19 be?

Is Europe, let alone Britain, likely to be a core player on the international stage over the next few years? What is likely to be the impact of BREXIT on our daily lives?

Then there are the even bigger questions. How will humanity cope with the huge threats posed by global warming? What opportunities will arise if humans can live to be 500?

And at the same time, what will society do when half of the population is not actually needed for production?

This dynamic and exciting course will give you a thorough grounding in Economics and an insight into the issues which affect the world. Students will develop knowledge and understanding of economic concepts and theories at the same time developing the skills of critical analysis and thought required by economists.

Course content

The course starts by considering the relationship between firms and consumers (microeconomics), poverty and pollution, and how the government intervenes to control the allocation of resources. It then goes on to consider the bigger picture – the macro economy. We look at inflation, trade, unemployment and exchange rates, to name but a few areas. In the second year we revisit micro and macroeconomics in greater depth, building on the first year of study.

Entry requirements

5 GCSEs level 4 or above. In addition, level 6 in both English and Maths at GCSE.

Assessment

Three papers: one microeconomics, one macroeconomics and a third that covers the whole course. Papers one and two follow the same format - a data response set of questions, and an essay. Paper three consists of multiple choice questions and a data response.

Future opportunities

Many Economics students go on to study Economics at university, or to study similar courses such as Economics and Politics. Economics is a good preparation for careers in the financial and professional services sectors, as well as a wide range of management roles, the civil service and education.



A level **ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

Course description

A-level English Language offers opportunities for students to develop their subject expertise by engaging creatively and critically with a wide range of texts and discourses. Students will create texts and reflect critically on their own processes of production, while analysing the texts produced by others. Throughout the course, students will explore the study of English language both as a medium of communication and as a topic in its own right, with an emphasis on the ability of students to pursue lines of enquiry, debate different views, and work independently to research aspects of language in use.

Entry requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 4 or above, plus grade 6 or above in both English Language and English Literature at GCSE.

Assessment

Language, the individual and society

'Language, the individual and society' focuses on individual and immediate social contexts for language. The aim of this part of the subject content is to introduce students to language study, exploring textual variety and children's language development.

Paper 1 Two texts to read, linked by topic / theme

Language Diversity

'Language diversity and change' is working outwards to consider larger-scale public discourses about change and variety, drawing on regional, ethnic and national contexts. The aim of this area of study is to allow students to explore language diversity and change over time. Students will study the key concepts of audience, purpose, genre and mode and will explore language in its wider social, geographical and temporal contexts.

Paper 2 Language Diversity and Language discourses

Language in Action: Non-exam assessment (coursework)

The aim of this area of study is to allow students to explore and analyse language data independently and develop and reflect upon their own writing expertise. It requires students to carry out two different kinds of individual research, a language investigation and a piece of original writing and commentary.

Future opportunities

English Language is one of the most popular courses at university. As well as going on to study English Language itself, students may specialise in linguistics or other language studies. Success in this subject will also students you to access a wide range of degrees and career pathways.



A level **ENGLISH LITERATURE**

Course Description

This AQA A level course enables students to explore a wide variety of engaging, challenging and interesting literature texts that vary from 16th century to the modern day: a range of plays, novels and poetry.

The course centres on different interpretations of texts. Students are introduced to a range of critical and theoretical 'lenses' for exploring writing and they are encouraged to recognise and examine the connections that exist between different texts within a literary genre (for example 'tragedy'). Students will gain an understanding of how texts can be connected and how they can be interpreted in multiple ways, in order for them to arrive at their own interpretations and to become confident, autonomous readers.

Entry requirements

Five GCSEs at grade 4 or above, plus grade 6 or above in both English Language and English Literature at GCSE.

Course Content

During the course, students will study novels, poetry and plays within the tragic and social and political protest genres. Equally, students will also complete two independent study projects, in preparation for their coursework pieces, using texts of their own choosing.

Assessment

Paper 1: Literary Genres: Aspects of tragedy. Examination: 2 hours, 30 mins- closed book exam on 'Othello', 'The Great Gatsby' and 'Richard II'.

Paper 2: Texts and Genres: Elements of Political and Social Protest Writing. Examination: 3 hours. Based on 'The Kite Runner', selected poems by Tony Harrison and 'A Doll's House'.

Plus a Non-Examination Assessment (coursework)

Future opportunities

English Literature is viewed as a facilitating course by universities, which means that success in this subject will allow you to access many well sought-after academic degrees and career pathways. Those students considering an essay based subject at university will find that English Literature is desirable, for the most competitive courses.



A level **FILM STUDIES**

Course description

This A level course offers both a theoretical and practical approach to Film Studies. As well as gaining an appreciation of film as an art form in terms of its visual storytelling, studying film can enhance students' understanding of the world in terms of competing values, attitudes and beliefs. The course also incorporates a creative production element where students will be asked to create a short film or writing a screenplay.

Course content

Throughout the course students will study a range of films including Hollywood 1930-1990, American Independent Film, British Film, European Film, Documentary and Silent Film. Students will study the key elements of film form including cinematography, mise en scène, editing, sound and performance. Students will also study the contexts of texts and what was happening when the film was made. What can the film tell us about history and society at that time? Students will study the films in terms of the representations they present or challenge. Specialist film areas include Spectatorship & Narrative, Ideology, the Auteur and Critical Debates surrounding Film. Films studied include *Some Like it Hot*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *Inception*, *Shaun of the Dead*, *Trainspotting*, *Pulp Fiction*, *Amy* in addition to the films of Buster Keaton.

Entry requirements

5 GCSE's grade 4 or above. In addition, grade 4 or above in English GCSE

Assessment

Assessment is via practical coursework (a short film or screenplay) and written examinations.

Future opportunities

Career paths for students of Film may include practical avenues such as Film-Making, Directing, Producing and Editing but a qualification in Film Studies also allows students to move into more theoretical pathways such as Film Criticism, Journalism, Teaching and Education. Studying Film enables students to see the world in a different light and develop a wide range of transferable skills for further education, work and life: Creative Thinking; Critical Thinking; Emotional Intelligence; Film Analysis; Textual Analysis; Communication; Research skills; Literacy and Technical competencies.



A level **FRENCH**

Course description

This course is both lively and relevant to the world in which we live. The course covers a wide range of aspects of contemporary society allowing you to study current trends and issues in French speaking society, artistic culture and French political life, the changing nature of family, the 'cyber society', and multiculturalism. You will also study a literary text and a film. Through speaking, listening, reading and writing you can communicate your understanding of the issues.

Course content

The specification places equal emphasis on the four linguistic skills. The aims of the course are to enable students to: Understand news items, conversations, talks (etc.) spoken by native speakers at normal speed; Understand printed texts from newspapers, magazines and literary texts; convey information and opinions fluently and correctly orally and in writing demonstrate insight into aspects of civilisation and culture. Students will work individually, in pairs or in groups. After a grammar-based bridging course they will be expected to collect, analyse and exchange information and ideas through the medium of the foreign language on selected topics.

Entry requirements

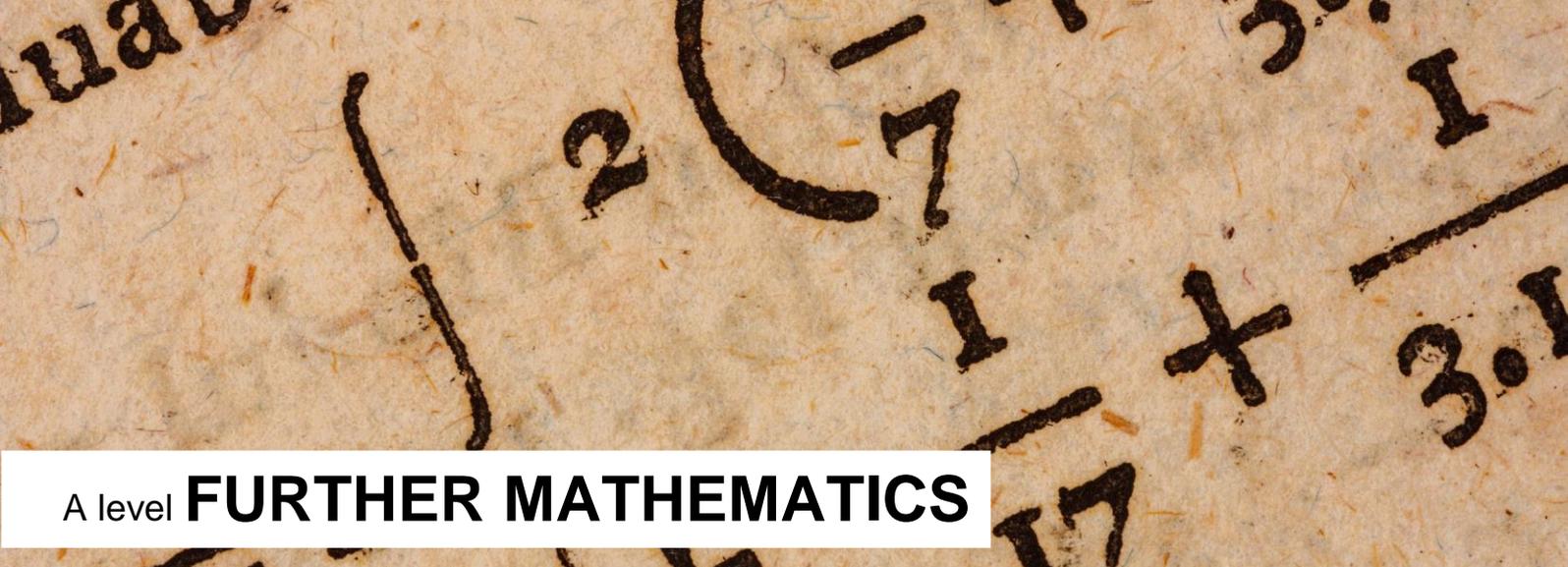
5 GCSEs grade 4 or above. In addition, French grade 6 and above at GCSE. Borderline candidates will be considered on the strength of their performance in individual papers.

Assessment

This qualification is linear, which means that students will sit all their exams at the end of Year 13.

Future opportunities

Candidates who have taken this course should be well prepared to use the language for practical communication in a professional setting requiring contacts with French speaking countries. The knowledge of a foreign language and the communication skills which this develops are an increasing requirement within the fields of science, law, business and engineering.



A level **FURTHER MATHEMATICS**

Course Description

Further Mathematics is an A-level qualification that both broadens and deepens the Mathematics covered in A-level Mathematics and must be studied alongside it. It is intellectually stimulating and challenging and would help you to develop and enhance your reasoning and analysis skills, assist you to become a more independent learner, help you in achieving a top grade in the single Mathematics A-level and get you better prepared for university courses or work in scientific or mathematical fields.

Course Content

Students who study Further Mathematics complete an extended core maths and decision maths syllabus, alongside the core, statistical and mechanics content of the standard A-level Mathematics course. At the end of year 13, students would end up with two full A-level qualifications – an A-level in Mathematics and a second A-level in Further Mathematics.

Entry Requirements

5 GCSEs grade 4 or above. In addition, grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics.

Assessment

Further Mathematics is assessed by examination at the end of year 13.

Future Opportunities

Studying Further Mathematics at A level and beyond equips you with transferable problem solving and logical thinking skills that are valued by employers in all fields of the economy. A-level Further Mathematics would also equip you with one of the university entry qualifications required for numerous degree courses such as architecture, accountancy, banking, business or computing.



A level **GEOGRAPHY**

Course description

At A Level we continue to follow the exam board AQA and pupils are afforded the opportunity to further enhance their understanding and knowledge of the interactions between the physical and human environments. Student's will be able to study and explore some of the world's most dangerous hazards including volcanoes and wildfire, develop their understanding of coastal landscapes further and learn about the importance and interconnections of the water and carbon cycles. In human geography pupils will explore the concepts of space and place and identify how sense of place is manipulated by media sources. Furthermore pupils will develop understanding in the concepts of Global Governance and Contemporary Urban Environments.

Course content

The course is split into three key themes, physical geography, human geography and a non-examined assessment. The course examined as two exams worth 40% each and the coursework piece worth 20%.

Physical Geography (40%)	Human Geography (40%)	Non-examined Assessment (20%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water and Carbon• Coastal systems and landscapes• Hazards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contemporary Urban Environments• Changing Places• Global Systems and Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 day fieldwork completely designed by the pupils and a full written report at the end

Entry requirements

5 GCSEs grade 4 or above. In addition, grade 6 or above in GCSE Geography, plus grade 5 in English and Maths.

Assessment

Unit 1 Physical Geography (assessed by examination). Unit 2 Human Geography (assessed by examination). Unit 3 Geographical Investigation (coursework)

Future opportunities

Geography is a popular subject at university in its own right, as well as being a very well respected A level to support the study of a variety of other subjects. Geography is a broad subject that leads to many job opportunities e.g. travel, sales, leisure, planning, business management, accountancy, banking, marketing, journalism, water supply, environment and the civil service.



A level **GERMAN**

Course description

This course is both lively and relevant to the world in which we live. The course covers a wide range of aspects of contemporary society allowing you to study topics such as youth culture, the changing state of the family, the digital world, multiculturalism, artistic culture in the German speaking world, political life in Germany, and culture in Berlin. You will also study a literary text and film. Through speaking, listening, reading and writing you can communicate your understanding of the issues.

Course content

The aims of the course are to enable students to: understand news items, conversations and talks by native speakers at normal speed; understand printed texts from newspapers and magazines (including literary texts); convey information and opinions fluently and to communicate orally and in writing; to demonstrate insight into aspects of civilisation and culture. Students will work individually, in pairs and groups.

Entry requirements

5 GCSE's grade 4 or above. In addition, grade 6 and above in German at GCSE. Borderline candidates will be considered on the strength of their performance in individual papers.

Assessment

Assessment is by a German speaking exam and two written examinations.

Future opportunities

The course prepares students for further study at university, and languages are very popular in combination with other subjects. The knowledge of a foreign language and the communication skills which this develops are an increasing requirement within the fields of science, law, business and engineering.



A level **GOVERNMENT and POLITICS**

Course description

Has there ever been a better time to study politics? What is the British constitution? Who upholds the law? Where does power really lie in the UK? Will the UK even exist in five years? If these are questions that interest you, then you should consider studying Government and Politics. You could take it with a wide range of A level courses and it fits particularly well alongside History, English and Economics.

Course content

1. Democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media.
2. Core Political Ideas, conservatism, liberalism, socialism.
3. UK Government; the constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches.
4. Non-core political ideas; one idea from the following: anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism, nationalism.
6. US Government - the US Constitution and federalism, US Congress, US presidency, US Supreme Court and civil rights, democracy and participation, comparative theories.

Entry requirements

5 GCSE's grade 5 or above. In addition, grade 6 and above in English at GCSE. Borderline candidates will be considered on the strength of their performance in individual papers.

Assessment

Assessment is by essays at the end of the two year course

Unit 1 – UK Government and Politics

Unit 2 – US Government and Comparative Politics

Unit 3 – Political Ideologies

Future opportunities

Politics opens up many avenues. The course will help you develop the skills, understanding and knowledge that many employers across lots of industries are looking for, especially in the government related sectors. Many degree programmes and career areas which welcome the writing and analytic skills that are developed on the course.



A level **GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION**

Course description

The Graphic Communication A level course is exciting, diverse and challenging. Emphasis is placed upon individual learning, creativity and personal responses. During this course, students will be given the chance to work within a wide range of specialisms, including photography and digital art.

Course content

In year 12, students following the course explore graphic design in its widest sense, through coursework projects and theoretical knowledge. Subjects covered include typography, advertising, packaging, illustration and photography. The use of computer software is included in the course, alongside more traditional skills, such as observational drawing and printmaking to produce effective Graphic Design solutions.

In year 13, students will choose their own areas of study and will set their own design briefs building upon the knowledge and skills that they have learnt in year 12. The work is much more independent with advice and guidance from the staff. Students are also required to produce a written study about an artist or designer as part of their Personal Investigation.

Entry requirements

5 GCSEs at grade 4 or above. In addition, GCSE grade 5 in Art or recommendation from the head of department.

Assessment

Unit One	Personal Investigation	60% of A-level
Unit Two	Externally Set Task	40% of A-level

Future opportunities

Graphic Communication A-level provides a sound basis if you wish to proceed to Higher Education, as well as being a useful background to a career within the Art field.



A level **HISTORY**

Course description

The History specification is designed to offer students the opportunity to select from a wide variety of periods and topics in English, European and American History, from the medieval to the late 20th century. It offers students the opportunity to study History in length and breadth as well as in depth, to develop expertise in various skills (general as well as historical) and to acquire and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the periods studied.

Course content

The Tudors: England, 1485–1603: This option allows students to study in breadth issues of change, continuity, cause and consequence. In particular, we focus on the powers of the monarchy and consider how effectively England was governed during this period. The course also investigates relations with foreign powers and the changing nature of English society and economy.

Democracy and Nazism: Germany, 1918–1945: This option provides for the in depth study of a period of German history during which a newly developed democratic form of government gave way to a dictatorial Nazi regime. It explores political concepts such as 'right' and 'left', nationalism and liberalism as well as ideological concepts such as racism, anti-Semitism and Social Darwinism. It also encourages reflection on how governments work and the problems of democratic states as well as consideration of what creates and sustains a dictatorship.

Entry requirements

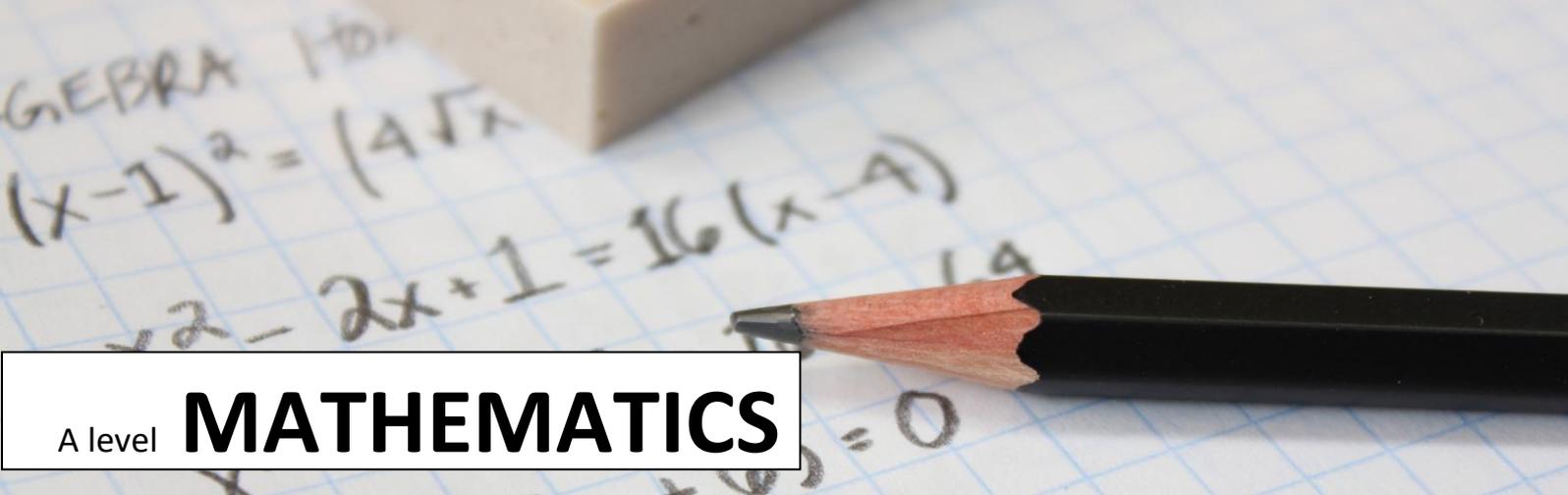
5 GCSE's at grade 5 or above. In addition, a minimum grade 6 in History and minimum grade 6 in English

Assessment

Assessment is by examination at the end of the 2 years, with two written papers plus a personal study (coursework).

Future opportunities

A good A level History student is one that possesses an ability to organise their thoughts and convey those thoughts effectively in a written form. Students should also be able to analyse and evaluate their ideas and read sustained and accurate judgements. These skills are highly sought after and History students are employed in a variety of professions ranging from the law, journalism and commerce. Our continued success in this subject has enabled students to pursue a University career with many choosing to specialise in History. History is an excellent subject for keeping future career options open and flexible at this stage.



A level **MATHEMATICS**

Course Description

A-level Mathematics provides students with a thorough grounding in the mathematical tools and techniques often needed in the workplace. The logic and reasoning skills developed by studying A-level Mathematics make sure the qualification is widely respected even in non-mathematical arenas.

Course Content

Year 12 Core Mathematics: Algebra, Quadratics, Equations and Inequalities, Graphs and Transformations, Straight Line Graphs, Circles, Binomial Expansion, Trigonometry, Vectors, Differentiation, Integration, Exponentials and Logarithms.

Year 13 Core Mathematics: Further Algebra, Functions and Graphs, Sequences and Series, Further Binomials, Radians, Further Trigonometry, Parametric Equations, Further Differentiation, Numerical Methods, Further Integration, Further Vectors

Mechanics: Mathematical modelling, Constant Acceleration, Forces and Motion, Variable Acceleration, Moments, Forces and Friction, Projectiles, Applications of Forces, Further Kinematics.

Statistics: Data Collection, Measures of Location and Spread, Representations of Data, Correlation, Probability, Statistical Distributions, Hypothesis Testing, Regression, Conditional Probability, Normal Distribution.

Assessment

Assessment is by an examination at the end of the two years.

Entry Requirements

5 GCSE's grade 4 or above including grade 6 at GCSE Mathematics.

Future Opportunities

A-level Mathematics would equip you with one of the university entry qualifications required for numerous degree courses such as architecture, accountancy, banking, business, computing, engineering, education, medicine, sciences and stock broking. The career opportunities are almost endless, including finance and economics, education, scientific research, engineering and design.



A level **MEDIA STUDIES**

Course description

This A level course offers both a theoretical and practical approach to Media Studies and new media. Candidates explore textual analysis, media industries, evaluation of production work and critical perspectives

Course content

Throughout the course students will study aspects of the mass media in modern society. Students will learn media theory, which they will use to justify their arguments in examination. The course looks at a range of different media such as new media, print and film from academic, critical and practical perspectives.

Students will undertake practical projects in which they produce assessed work in different mediums, for example a film trailer. These projects require the development of research and planning skills and the ability to justify their work in the context of the media industry as a whole.

Entry requirements

5 GCSE's grade 4 or above. In addition, grade 4 or above in English GCSE

Assessment

Assessment is via coursework and written examinations.

Future opportunities

Media is a very popular subject at university, as well as supporting the study of journalism, radio and TV production, and theatre studies. Media is a huge employer in the Greater Manchester area, focused on Media City in Salford. As well as careers in media and creative industries (Journalism, TV, Film, Radio, Advertising, PR, Marketing, and New Media), Media Studies is valued by employers who are seeking creative employees who can undertake both independent research and work effectively, independently and as part of a team.



A level **PHOTOGRAPHY**

Course description

Photography is a popular subject at A level, with many students attracted to the combination of technical instruction and creative freedom it offers. If you choose to study A level Photography, you will have considerable scope in choosing and pursuing your own projects. As a result, the work of our students and the department's expertise is diverse.

Course content

The course aims to develop an understanding of a wide range of photographic approaches. Whether you're interested in digital photography, traditional SLR work or film-making, you'll receive expert support and tuition.

The course allows you further scope to specialise. Increasingly, you'll focus on the quality of your final prints, honing the skills and knowledge you've acquired over the course of the AS.

Entry requirements

Five GCSEs grade 4 or above. In addition, a minimum grade 5 in GCSE Art and/or Photography.

Assessment

Unit 1 combines practical work with an investigation into the work of established photographers.

There is an emphasis on research but also on experimentation. Unit 2 is a timed exam.

Similarly, unit 2 combines practical work with research into and study of other photographers' work. However, the emphasis is on the final prints.

Future opportunities

Photography could lead to academic or vocational degrees relating to art careers, advertising, commercial work, editorial, fashion, food, forensic, industrial, architectural, portraiture and wedding photography, sports and travel, press photography, fashion photography and the film industry. The course supports both progression to university to study Art and photography, plus supporting a wide range of related subjects such as Film and TV studies, Media, Design and Marketing.



A level **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Course description

Physical Education is a popular subject for A level study as it enables students to combine their personal performance along with academic study of the factors that underpin performance. The course encourages the development of different methods of enquiry from a variety of disciplines; the scientific, socio cultural and environmental factors which influence physical education and sport today and in the past. The focus is always on the performer and or performance.

Course content

Most lessons are theory based where pupils will be expected to complete individual and group work in all of the units mentioned below. Students will be expected to learn and recall basic facts, to interpret and evaluate information, to observe and analyse practical performances and to apply theory to practice and vice versa.

In practical lessons, pupils are required to take part in a wide range of physical activities, but will be examined in activities of their choice (from an exam board list).

Students must pursue their chosen activities in their own time as well as during the limited curriculum time. Students will also be expected to show a commitment to the PE department, either by helping out in KS3 lessons, extra curricular clubs or during inter-house competitions.

Opting for the CSLA and/or Exercise Referral courses will aid in your knowledge and understanding of the subject, and support future PE/Sport related university applications

Entry requirements

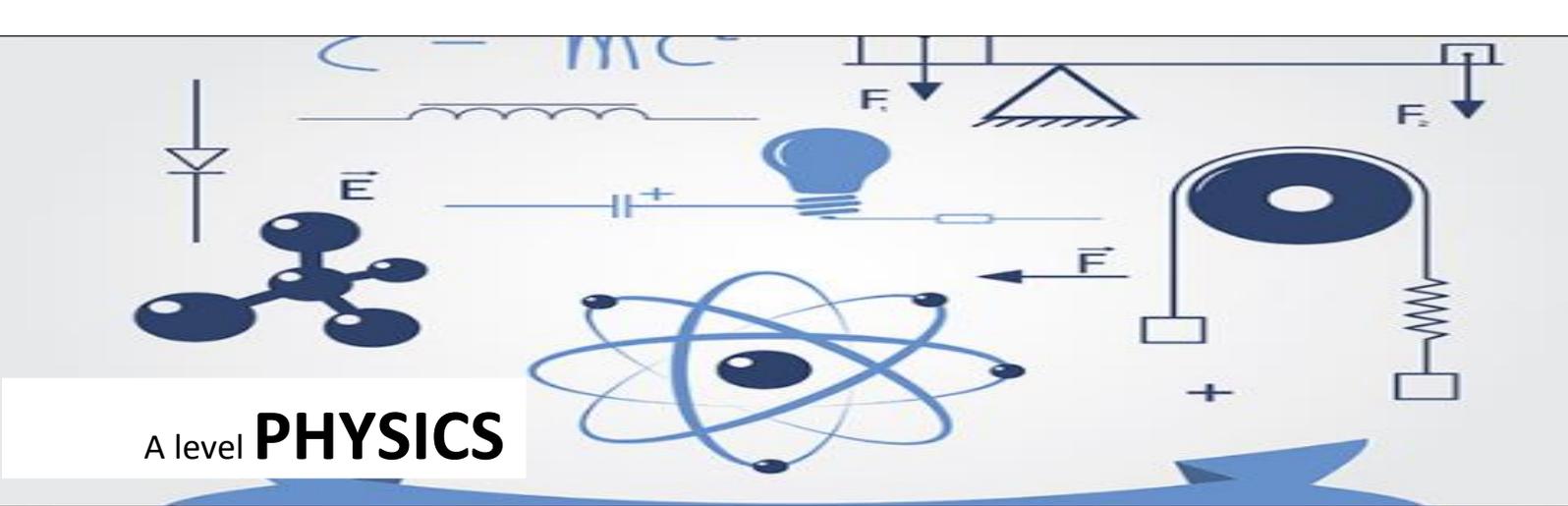
5 GCSE's grade 4 or above. In addition, a grade 5 or above in GCSE PE (full course), and a grade 5 or above in Science.

Assessment

Practical work will be assessed at school and then moderated externally. Students will also sit written examinations.

Future opportunities

Many students use this A level as a basis for further study of study leisure and recreation management and sports coaching, or for teacher training, sports science or to study to be a physiotherapist..



A level **PHYSICS**

Course description

The A Level Physics course is divided into topics, each covering different key concepts of physics. As students progress through the course, they will build on their knowledge of the laws of physics, applying their understanding to areas from sub-atomic particles to the entire universe. This is a demanding course that includes practical work throughout.

Course content

The course content covers the basis of how things work, from the constituent parts of atoms out to the extent of the universe. You will integrate the concepts studied with a range of practical experiments throughout each topic giving the course both an academic and practical focus. You will learn to apply your knowledge of the key concepts to solve problems in a range of different contexts and applications.

Physics combines well with Mathematics, Chemistry and Biology. You are advised that if you wish to study Physics at degree level, you must combine Physics with Maths at A Level.

Entry requirements

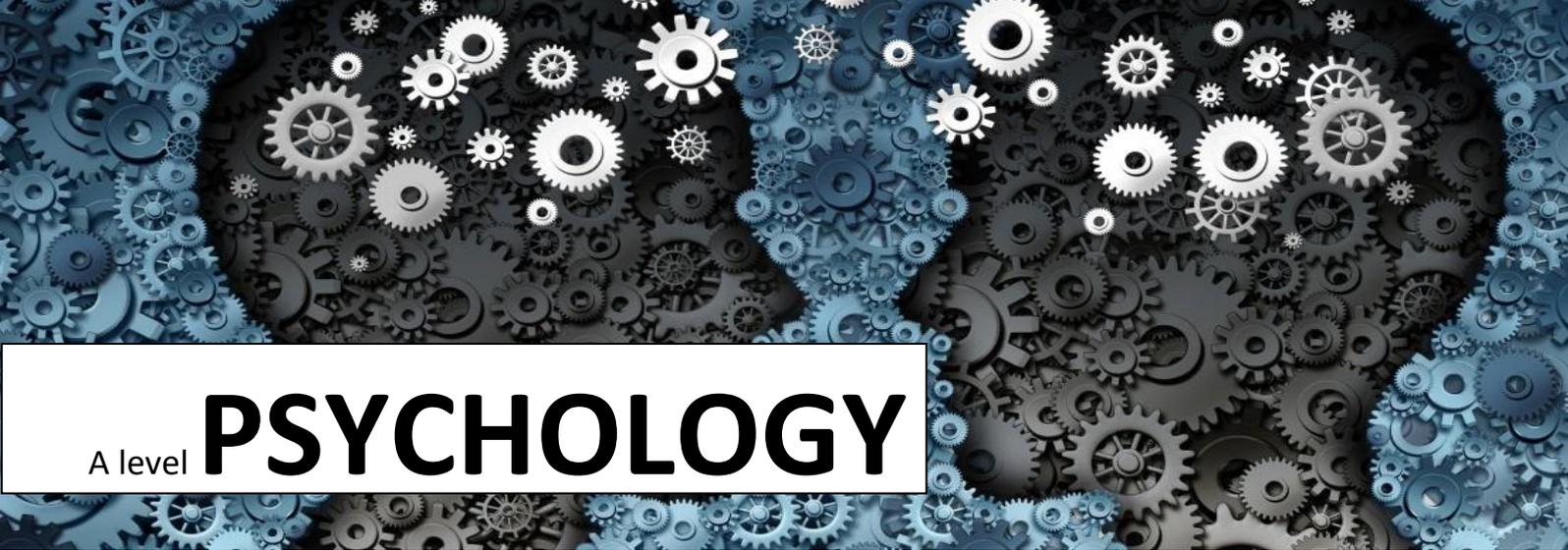
5 GCSEs grade 4 or above. In addition, GCSE grade 6 in Physics (or 6/6 in Combined Science if studied) plus level 6 Maths and 5 in English.

Assessment

The course is assessed by three examinations at the end of Year 13 with a wide range of question types including multiple choice, short answer and extended response questions.

Future opportunities

It is impossible to list the career opportunities that the study of physics at further and higher education level can lead to, but here are some of the more important areas; civil engineering, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, microelectronics, laser technology, veterinary science, medical science, medical physics, alternative energy design, marine engineering, telecommunications, radar, aerospace engineering, nuclear physics, forensic science, teaching, satellite communication, astrophysics and astronomy. The Institute of Physics website will provide careers information; visit www.iop.org for more information. The qualification can also take you to advanced apprenticeships in industry, at present aerospace, nuclear power generation and electrical power distribution.



A level **PSYCHOLOGY**

Course description

On this course you will learn the terms, processes, principles and theories related to the study of behaviour. It will help you to understand the complexity of human behaviour, including child development, schizophrenia and other mental illness. You will also gain an understanding of the scientific nature of the subject.

Course content

- Biological Approach - Is human behaviour explained through the scientific principles of Biology, including evolution, neurotransmitters and localisation of brain function. Are babies biologically programmed to make us care for them or do they become attached to adults simply because we feed them?
- Cognitive approach – Human behaviour explained through the computer analogy, internal mental processes and the role of internal schemas.
- Psychodynamic approach – Human behaviour explained through early childhood experiences, the exploration of the unconscious mind and the tripartite personality.
- Behaviorist approach – Human behaviour explained through the process of learning, conditioning and the that human and animals learn in similar ways.
- Positive approach – Human behaviour explained through the acknowledgement of free will, the authenticity of goodness and the importance of mindfulness.
- Research Methods - how do Psychologists investigate whether their theories are true? Students learn how to design investigations, analyse data and present research findings.

Entry requirements

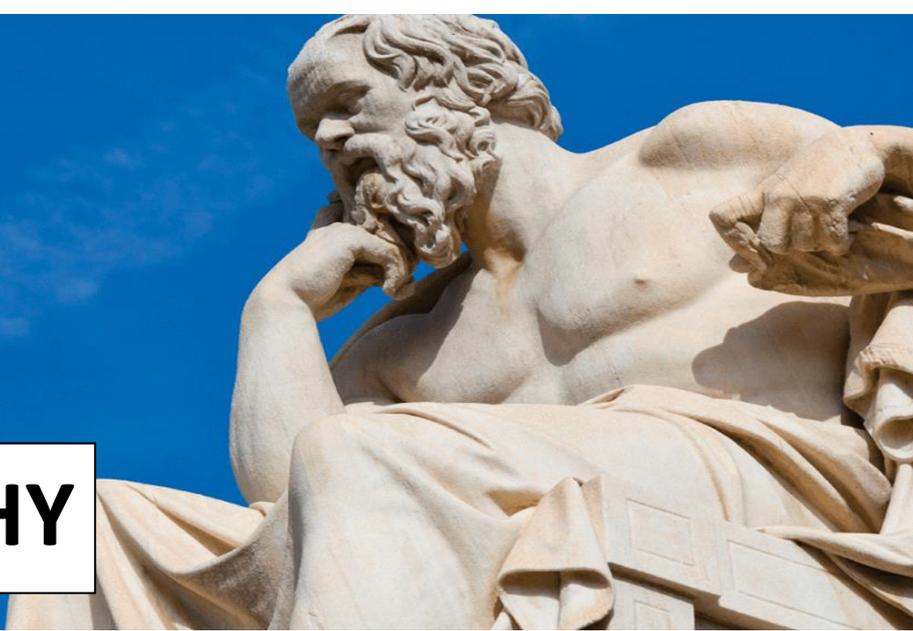
5 GCSE's grade 4 or above. In addition, grade 6 in English Language, Mathematics and Science.

Assessment

Assessment is by three written essay based examinations.

Future opportunities

Psychology is a very popular subject at university and the skills taught lead into a wide range of careers, from education and public sector to management to careers in industry, as well as professions more directly related to psychology such as counselling and human resources.



A level

PHILOSOPHY

Course description

This course is designed to introduce students to the key methods and concepts in Philosophy through the study of four broad themes: Epistemology; Philosophy of Religion; Ethics; and Philosophy of Mind. Students will develop and refine a range of transferable skills, such as the ability to ask penetrating questions, to analyse and evaluate the arguments of others and to present their own arguments clearly and logically.

Course content

In year 12 students will study two units: Epistemology and Metaphysics of God

In year 13 students will study two units: Metaphysics of mind and Moral philosophy

Entry requirements

5 GCSE's grade 4 or above. In addition, a grade 6 in English Language or in English Literature at GCSE. It is not necessary to have previously studied GCSE Religious Studies

Assessment

This is a linear qualification and students will undertake two three hour examinations at the end of the course.

Future opportunities

Philosophy teaches you how to examine information in a critical way. Most Philosophy A level students will go on to university. This subject enables you to fine-tune your reasoning so that your enhanced intellect can be applied to other careers. Law, politics, the civil service, journalism, advertising, education ... these are some of the careers where your ability to turn abstract subjects into solid concepts will be highly regarded.



A level **SOCIOLOGY**

Course description

This course focuses on the study of society and allows you to acquire the knowledge and critical understanding of contemporary social structures and processes. You will reflect on your own social experience and be able to see the connections between the nature of sociological thought and methods of sociological enquiry.

Course content

Why are women less likely to commit crime? Does the TV news tell us the truth? Why do religious cults exist? How does your home background affect your performance at school? If you want to know the answers to these questions, then Sociology could be for you. Throughout the course students will study both individuals and groups in society, and the various factors that affect human relationships.

Entry requirements

5 GCSE's grade 4 or above. In addition, grade 6 in English and grade 5 in Mathematics, with a grade 4 in Science at GCSE.

Assessment

Assessment is by three essay based written examinations.

Future opportunities

Sociology can lead to a wide range of careers although it is especially useful for those people thinking about going into personnel work, teaching, business, journalism, the socio-medical field, administration and social research.



BTEC **APPLIED SCIENCE**

Course description

The BTEC Applied Science Level 3 uses a combination of assessment styles to give students the confidence to apply their knowledge to succeed in the workplace and have the study skills to continue learning throughout their career.

Over 75% of the assessment is by internally assessed coursework so it is a good option for students who are less confident in taking examinations. The course covers a wide range of Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Science topics giving an excellent foundation for many university courses or jobs.

Course content

Learners will cover topics such as: scientific principles associated with the application of biology, chemistry and physics, experimental and practical techniques associated with applied science, the roles and skills of scientists, and the public and media perception of science.

Entry requirements

5 GCSE's grade 4 or above. In addition, Grade 4/4 GCSE Combined Science

Assessment

One third of the assessment is by exam, two thirds by internally assessed coursework
This qualification is the equivalent of one A Level.

Future opportunities

This qualification is supported by a range of universities, and taken alongside other qualifications it can fulfil the entry requirements for a number of science-related higher education courses. These include biomedical, forensic and sports science, as well as nursing.



BTEC CHILDREN'S PLAY, LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Course description

This is BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate which is equivalent to one A level

On this course you will learn the principles of child development and how it can be supported through play. You will gain practical experience through work placements within the sector. The purpose of this course is to provide you with a broad range of skills essential for those working in the Early Years Sectors.

Course Content

You will look at the key milestones children are expected to meet in the first 5 years. Development of Children's Communication, Literacy and Numeracy Skills is a mandatory unit in which you will look at how children develop skill including reading writing and numeracy and how early years workers can develop play activities to encourage these skills to develop. In Play and Learning you will explore the relationship between play and learnings by testing a range of play activities and assessing the impact they have on a child's learning

You will study a range of optional units such as:

- Keeping Children Safe
- Children's Physical Development, Care and Health Needs
- Children's Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Working with Parents and Others in Early Years
- Children's Development Outdoors
- Healthy Eating in the Early Years

Entry Requirements

5 GCSE's grade 4 or above

Assessment

Students will study seven units, three of which are compulsory and will be assessed through examinations and coursework.

Future opportunities

The BTEC CPLS course is beneficial to those wishing to work with children as either carers, teachers, play therapist, paediatric nurses, social workers and so on. It provides a solid basis for either further study or for direct entry into a career.



BTEC **BUSINESS**

Course description

The Business BTEC Level 3 Certificate is the equivalent of 1 A level, whilst the Business BTEC Level 3 Diploma is the equivalent of 2 A levels

Understanding the way a business operates is essential for any student wishing to pursue a career in the commercial world. Business employers value employees who are able to communicate effectively both verbally and using electronic communication methods. BTEC Business provides opportunities for you to develop your communication skills as you progress through the course. This can be both through presentations and discussions in which you have the opportunity to express your opinions.

Course content

3 Mandatory units and 1 optional unit. Unit 1 – Exploring Business, Unit 2 – Developing a Marketing Campaign, Unit 3 – Personal and Business Finance, Unit 4 – Managing an event.

Entry requirements

5 GCSEs at grade 4 or above, or a BTEC level 2 qualification in Business or a related area.

Assessment

This course will allow students to apply their learning through practical assessments in the form of internally assessed assignments and externally assessed tasks and written exams.

Future opportunities

BTEC Business Studies provides an excellent foundation to continue the subject further into a range of business related university courses. Business studies relates to what happens when you finish education and will combine well with any other subject you study. Once you finish education, you will either work for a business or yourself.



BTEC **HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE**

Course description

The Health and Social Care (BTEC) Level 3 Certificate is the equivalent of 1 A level whilst the Health and Social Care (BTEC) Level 3 Diploma is the equivalent of 2 A levels.

This qualification is designed for learners preparing for roles in health and social care, for example health care assistant, support worker as well as further study on a vocational degree including Social work; Nursing; Occupational Health, Early years, teaching etc. It is designed to be the substantive part of a 16-19 study programme for learners who want a strong core of sector study and a focus on health and social care.

For the Extended Diploma students must complete 100 hours work placement over the 2 years.

Course content

The Health and Social Care BTEC (Single Award) is made up of 4 units. Three of these units are mandatory and one is optional.

Entry requirements

5 GCSEs grade 4 or above or a BTEC level 2 qualification in Health and Social Care or a related area.

Assessment

Assessment for the course is by coursework during the two years and two exams at the end of the two years.

Future opportunities

On successful completion of a BTEC National qualification learners can progress into or within employment and/or continue their study in the same vocational area at university. Future careers may include social work, education, nursing and residential care management.

Course description

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. Information and Communication Technology (BTEC) Level 3 Extended Certificate is the equivalent of 1 A Level.

Course content

Unit 2 Databased Management Systems. This is a practical exam taken in January of year 12. The exam is taken over the course of a week and focuses on how to build a relational database. This is a high level IT skill which all large organisations use.

Unit 1 IT fundamentals. This is a paper based examination taken at the end of year 12. The exam covers a wide range of general IT areas from software uses to legal issues.

Coursework Units

Social Media for Business This unit looks at developing a social media profile for an organisation. You will complete analytics to judge the impact of the posts shared on the profile. This is a developing area for business and one many organisations will be looking for young knowledgeable employees to lead and develop for them.

Data Modelling This unit looks at developing your skills and application of data modelling. Every organisation from finance to sports science use big data and models of this data to make business decisions.

Entry requirements

5 GCSEs grade 4 or above.

Assessment

The course runs over two years and consists of four units. Two examined units which are completed in year 12. The remaining two units are coursework based and are completed in year 13.

Future opportunities

On successful completion of the course you can expect to be able to apply for university to a wide range of IT and computing courses where you can specialise in the areas you find most interesting. With future employment or apprenticeships, the focus on social media, database design and data modelling enable you to apply to work in large organisations in a wide range of business sectors.



BTEC **PERFORMING ARTS**

Course description

Students will explore three disciplines; drama, music and dance. The course will give many chances to perform, devise and direct in each area. Your knowledge and understanding of the industry will also develop through the exploration and analysis of the performing arts business and through work experience.

The Performing Arts (BTEC) Level 3 National Diploma is the equivalent of 2 A levels

Course content

The course is very rewarding, but hard work! Along with classwork, students are expected to put in additional time for rehearsals and performances outside of school hours. In order for lessons to be almost entirely practical, written work needs to be completed in study periods and at home. We expect Performing Arts students to complete at least 6 hours of independent work outside of lesson time each week, in addition to watching and taking part in performances.

Entry requirements

5 GCSE's grade 4 or above. In addition, an aptitude for Performance Art

Assessment

Assessment is coursework and portfolio based.

Future opportunities

If you wanted to go into employment straight away you could work in the theatre, advertising, project management, entertainment, performance support or workshop leadership and support.

If you decide to go to university or college you could take a degree in drama, theatre studies, acting or performing arts. We will also help students prepare for drama school auditions if they wish. The qualification would be likely to be appreciated in any job or arena where you have to communicate regularly with other people, particularly in stressful situations such as the police, working in law or the sales market.



BTEC **MUSIC**

Course description

Music (BTEC) Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma is equivalent to 1 A level.

If you are really into music, enjoy working with others and want to progress to a career in the music business, this is the course for you. You will work in bands to develop a range of material, work in the studio to record your music and learn to market both product and live event to give you a real understanding of the industry. In addition you will learn to use a range of music software, gain skills in composing and songwriting and gain an understanding of both music theory and pop music history.

Course content

The qualification provides the knowledge, understanding and skills that will prepare students for further study or training.

Everyone taking this qualification will study three mandatory units, which provide an essential introduction to the skills and knowledge required to be successful in music, covering the key topics ensemble performance techniques, professional practice in the music industry and creating a music product.

Entry requirements

5 GCSE's grade 4 or above. In addition, a grade C in Music or an ability to play an instrument.

Assessment

Assessment is via coursework and exam

Future opportunities

The requirements of the qualification will mean that students develop the transferable and higher-order skills that are highly regarded by higher education and employers. For example, performance techniques, communication skills, team working, and an opportunity to focus on their personal vocal/instrumental technique. This qualification has a strong focus on performance, one of the key skills for progression to higher education.



Cambridge **SPORT and PHYSICAL ACTIVITY**

Course description

Sport and Physical Activity is available in two forms

The Cambridge Diploma (equivalent to one A level)

The Cambridge Technical Extended Diploma (equivalent to three A levels).

In either format, this is a course for those with a real interest in all aspects of sport and fitness who would like to follow a career in this industry or to progress into further study at university. You will study a range of units, which will include anatomy and physiology, training and fitness, sports nutrition, sports coaching, sports massage, sports injuries, and PE and young people in sport. You will also have the opportunity to develop your practical performance in two individual and two team sports. There will be opportunity to participate practically, as well as developing skills in areas such as, leadership, coaching and officiating. A key requirement is a real enthusiasm for sport and/or exercise and fitness in both the theoretical and practical aspects.

Course content

Learners will study units from

Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology

Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being

Unit 3: Professional Development in the Sports Industry

Unit 4: Sports Leadership

Unit 7: Practical Sports Performance

Unit 8: Coaching for Performance

Unit 9: Research Methods in Sport

Unit 19: Development and Provision of Sport and Physical Activity

Unit 22: Investigating Business in the Sport and Active Leisure Industry

Unit 23: Skill Acquisition in Sport.

Entry requirements

5 GCSE's Grade 4 or above.

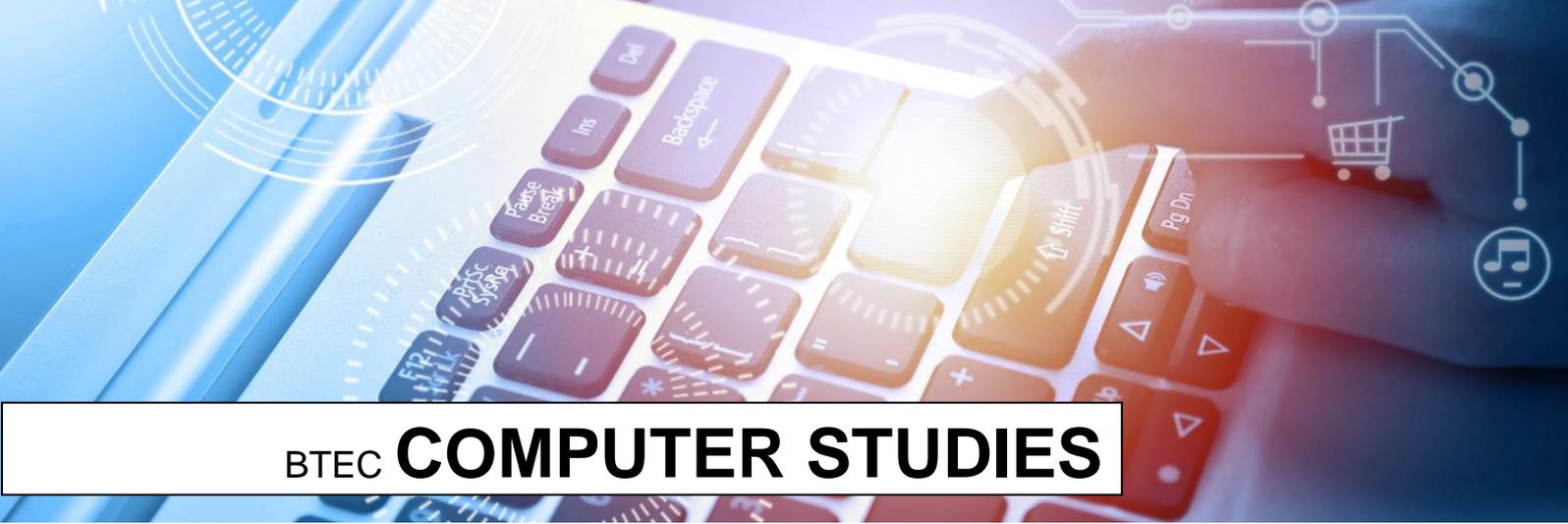
Assessment

Six units of which two are mandatory. The external assessment element of the course is worth 42% of the total grade.

Future opportunities

This qualification will give you the opportunity to gain employment or to progress to university and higher education.

This could enable you to develop a future career in vocations including: PE teaching, sports coaching, sports development, physiotherapy, sports management and sports journalism.



BTEC **COMPUTER STUDIES**

Course Description

The course covers a wide range of Computing specialist areas including high level programming and fundamentals of Computer Science.

Computer Studies (BTEC) Level 3 Extended Certificate is the equivalent of 1 A Level.

Course Content

The course is broken down in to 4 units which are completed over 2 years.

Entry Requirements

5 GCSE's grade 4 or above. In addition, you must have completed GCSE Computer Science at a level 4 or above to access this level of course.

Assessment

There are 2 examined units which are completed in Year 12.

Future Opportunities

On successful completion of the course you can expect to be able to apply for university to a wide range of IT and Computing courses where you can specialise in the areas you find most interesting. With future employment or apprenticeships, the focus on programming and IT based problem solving being your main areas. You will be able to apply to work in large organisations in a wide range of business sectors



BTEC CREATIVE DIGITAL MEDIA PRODUCTION

Computer Studies (BTEC) Level 3 Extended Certificate is the equivalent of 1 A Level.

Course Description

The BTEC Creative Digital Media Production is the equivalent of one A-Level. This is an opportunity for students with a passion for the creative and practical side of the Media. You will acquire a range of skills that will give you the experience of what working in this industry entails. Together with the theoretical side of the course, the practical elements will provide you with an opportunity to showcase your film-making talents.

Course Content

Students will study four units over the two year course; three mandatory units (Unit 1- Representations, Unit 4- Pre-Production Portfolio and Unit 8- Responding to a Commission) and one other unit from either Film Production- Fiction, Advertising Production, News Production, Factual Production.

Optional units will be confirmed at the start of the course.

Entry Requirements

5 GCSEs at grade 4 or above.

Assessment

There are two external and two internal assessments. All units are equally weighted at 25% per unit.

Future Opportunities

Media is a very popular subject at university, as well as supporting the study of journalism, radio and TV production, and theatre studies. Media is a huge employer in the Greater Manchester area, focused on Media City in Salford. As well as careers in media and creative industries (Journalism, TV, Film, Radio, Advertising, PR, Marketing, and New Media), Media Studies is valued by employers who are seeking creative employees who can undertake both independent research and work effectively, independently and as part of a team.