Sixth Form

Proposed Additional Courses

For Academic Year 2020/21

www.buckinghamschool.org

Courses Under Construction for Academic Year 2020/21

Proposed Additional Courses

Our curriculum is designed to offer choice and breadth of opportunities as well as traditional subjects, with a range of both academic A Level and vocational BTEC qualifications.

We have included in this booklet a number of additional courses which we are proposing to run for the Academic Year 2020/21. Detailed course information is included and we would also encourage you to talk with Subject and Curriculum Leaders to find out more detail about the particular subjects you are interested in. Remember to look at this booklet in conjunction with the information about the courses we are currently running, as detailed in the Sixth Form Course Options Guide which can be found in your pack.

It is important to take the opportunity to register your interest in the subjects that you would be most keen to study. This will be the basis on which we can then plan which subjects are raising enough interest to be taught in September. We are anticipating attracting more students than ever before, and, therefore, being able to offer more subjects than we have in previous years.

To register your interest, please refer to the Expression of Interest Form, enclosed in your pack.

Courses Under Construction

Chemistry, A Level
Construction, BTEC Level 3
English Language A Level
French, A Level
Gaming Development & Computing, BTEC Level 3
Applied Law BTEC
Core Maths
Philosophy & Ethics, A Level
Physics, A Level
Politics, A Level
Applied Science BTEC
Spanish, A Level
Travel & Tourism, BTEC, Level 3

Chemistry
A Level

This Course
Throughout this course, you will build on your knowledge of Physical Chemistry including, but not limited to bonding, the Avogadro constant, thermodynamics and calorimetry. You will also expand your understanding of Inorganic Chemistry including but not limited to Periodicity, transition metals and catalysts. As a final unit, you will discover and explore Organic Chemistry which involves the study of Carboxylic acids, polymers, spectroscopy, organic analysis and many more topics.

Why?
As a fundamental part of the A Level Chemistry course you will have the chance to develop a range of theoretical and practical skills highly in demand amongst employers; problem solving, collecting precise/accurate data, interpreting results mathematically to allow valid conclusions to be drawn when carrying out scientific investigations.

Chemistry naturally relates to all of the other sciences such as; Biology, Physics and Psychology, as well as Physical Education/Sport and A Level Maths. A level Chemistry also supports the Level 3 BTEC in Applied Science.

Students may go on to study and work in Biotechnology, Forensic Science, Medicine, Sports Science, Nanotechnologist, Pharmacologist, Engineering or Natural Science for example. You may also combine Physics with non- scientific subjects such as English, History, Geography and Psychology, but you should definitely consider taking A Level Maths.

What's expected from me?
We expect passion for the subject, good personal organisation and commitment. You need to demonstrate that you are eager to learn, make progress and are willing to be actively involved in all aspects of the course as well as the wider Science department. You will need to have good time management skills to meet deadlines and balance revision. Throughout the course you need to be independent in expanding your knowledge/understanding of Chemistry and be pro-active in identifying areas for development**.** You should also be simultaneously taking A Level Maths as the content in Chemistry is heavily Maths based.

Entry requirements: Grade 7 or higher in GCSE Chemistry, grade 6 or higher in GCSE Maths and grade 5 or higher in GCSE English.

Construction

BTEC Level 3

This Course

The BTEC Level 3 qualification in Construction and the Built Environment is intended as a Tech Level qualification, equivalent in size to one A Level. As well as direct entry to employment, this qualification is ideal for post-16 learners wanting to gain the core skills and knowledge required to progress to an Apprenticeship or to a work-based training programme in the construction sector.

What's expected from me?

Research, reading around the subject, proactive attitude, independent style of learning, good time management, organisation, meeting deadlines, applying theory to given situations will be essential entry requirements to this course.

What does this course cover?

There are four mandatory units, which cover the following aspects of construction:

- construction principles
- construction design
- health and safety in construction
- construction technology.

The unit content ensures that the teacher can focus on the key learning required to introduce technician-level theoretical principles, and enables further vocational study at Level 3 and beyond. The course will introduce learners to personal responsibilities for health, safety and welfare, the industry and legislative requirements for health and safety, and the application of organisational processes and risk management to ensure compliance. The maths, science and materials skills learned will give learners the fundamental knowledge needed to enable them to apply skills in a context used within the sector and progress to further study. While the qualification has a strong focus on theoretical principles, the content is focused on the practical applications of the principles underpinning construction design, structural requirements and technology as applied in today's industry. Learners will be required to engage with sector employers as part of the course.

What could this qualification lead to?

This qualification will prepare learners for direct employment in the construction and built environment sector, either as an apprentice or as part of other formal work-based learning. Job roles include: • apprentice construction project technician • apprentice mechanical/electrical services technician • apprentice construction design technician. If successful, learners may use the foundation knowledge in this qualification to embark on further study, for example the Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment. In addition to the construction sector-specific content outlined above, the requirements of the qualification mean that learners will develop the transferable and higher-order skills that are highly regarded by higher education and employers, for example communication skills and teamwork. The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to admission requirements to many relevant construction courses. When combined with other qualifications within a study programme, such as two A Levels or an AS/A Level and another BTEC National Extended Certificate, such as maths, science or art and design, learners can progress to higher education or to other areas of construction, such as architecture. Degree programmes that learners could progress to include:

- BSc (Hons) in Construction Management
- BSc (Hons) in Property Management (Building Surveying)
- BSc (Hons) in Architecture
- BSc (Hons) in Civil Engineering
- HNC/D in Civil Engineering
- HNC/D in Building Services Engineering
- HND in Construction and the Built Environment.

Learners should always check the entry requirements for degree programmes with specific higher education providers.

Entry requirements: 5 GCSE grades at 4 or above including grade 5 at Maths

English Language

A Level

This Course

This challenging course will develop your interest in English Language through learning about its structures and functions, its developments and variations. You will develop your skills in speech and writing, in particular, in producing texts for different purposes and across different genres. The course will also develop your analytical skills, in particular, through working with different sets of data from which you will be able to construct coherent arguments and interpretations. You will also have the opportunity to debate different language related issues; analyse how language has changed over time; how English varies in different areas of the country and world; how children develop language focusing on speech, reading and writing.

Course Content:

Paper 1: Language, the individual and society:
Textual Variations and Representations
Children's Language Development (0-11 years)

Paper 2: Language, diversity and change:
Language Diversity and Change
Language Discourses
Writing skills

Non-Exam Assessment: Language in Action
Language Investigation
Original Writing

Why?

English Language A level provides an excellent foundation for degree level study in almost any field. Psychology works well alongside this course as both provide insights into different theories regarding how language is learnt. In addition, A Level English Language works well alongside English Literature and Media Studies as all the courses focus on the skills of analysis and interpretation.

The course will equip you with creative and independent skills valued in a range of different careers, showing your ability to produce and interpret a range of texts. The course could also provide a good background for courses or careers in Humanities, Media and the Arts.

What's expected from me?

When studying A Level English Language, you will be expected to keep a reading journal of a broad range of texts which are spoken, written and multi-modal.

Entry requirements: Students should have achieved a grade 4 or above in GCSE English Language or GCSE English Literature.

French

A Level

This Course

This A-level builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills gained at GCSE. There is a focus on how French-speaking society has been shaped, socially and culturally.

Students study technological and social change, looking at diversity and the benefits it brings. They will study highlights of French-speaking artistic culture, including francophone music and cinema, and learn about political engagement and who wields political power in the French-speaking world.

Students also explore the influence of the past on present-day French-speaking communities. Throughout their studies, they will learn the language in the context of French-speaking countries and the issues and influences which have shaped them. Students will study texts and film and have the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of their choice. Listening, speaking, reading and writing skills are all developed.

The following elements make up the content of this two-year course:

- Social issues and trends
- Political and artistic culture
- Grammar
- Works – study of literature/film
- Individual research project

Why?

The content is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or further study, including a modern languages degree. The focus on language, culture and society develops a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity, which are valuable to the individual and society.

What's expected from me?

You will have a love and appreciation of the language and be interested in studying French in more depth.
Independent research, wider reading and cultural exploration around the subject, a proactive attitude, independent style of learning, good time management, organisation, meeting deadlines.

Entry requirements: Students should have achieved a grade 6 or above at GCSE.

Game Development & Computing

BTEC Level 3

This Course

This is an exciting and practical course ideal to take after GCSE Computer Science, facilitating students demonstrate their programming abilities, **game development**, develop knowledge of IT systems security and encryption and computer science principles and fundamentals of systems.

Why?

An IT qualification is excellent preparation for careers and further study in Computer Science, Information Systems, Multimedia, Software Engineering, and Computer Management.

This course will prepare students for employment in the IT industry, developing their hardware and software understanding and their IT work experience.

What's expected from me?

You should have a passion for Computing and an interest in developing your understanding and skills in a range of software types. You will be intrigued by the different uses of IT and how future innovations may affect the way we work and live.

You will need to conduct research, read around the subject and have a proactive attitude and an independent style of learning. You will need to have good time management and organisational skills and be able to meet deadlines.

Entry requirements: Students should have achieved a grade 5 in Maths and English and grade 5 in Science GCSE.

Applied Law
BTEC

This Course
This course will inspire learners to study law and prepare for higher education or employment.

It will provide an introduction to the study of the legal profession through units on dispute solving alongside aspects of criminal law. Students will be given scenarios where they are asked to apply the law correctly to the situations given. They will also have the opportunity to study one unit from either family law, consumer law, contract law or tort.

Why?
Will provide students with the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised qualification to enter employment in the legal sector or to progress to higher education qualifications at degree level.

Provides students with a wide range of skills and techniques together with personal skills and attitudes essential for successful performance in working life and to allow access to employment opportunities in the legal sector.

What's expected from me?
Research, reading around the subject, proactive attitude, independent style of learning, good time management, organisation, meeting deadlines and applying theory to given situations.

Entry requirements: Students should have achieved a grade 4 or above in English.

Core Maths

BTEC Level 3

This Course

Are you looking to study a science or social science in the Sixth Form but only have a GCSE grade 5 in maths? Or perhaps you enjoy Maths but do not wish to study it to the extent of A level? Core maths is a new and exciting qualification that will complement your other subjects and equip you with valuable problem solving skills.

This course is the middle ground between GCSE and A-level maths and is highly practical, with a large focus on statistics and mathematical problem solving. You will cover topics that you have seen before to a greater depth and also explore some new concepts such as statistical tests and statistical distributions. These have clear applications in subjects such as Psychology, Applied Science, Criminology as well as many others where you are required to work with and present data.

What We Add

Einstein said “Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow, just never stop questioning”. This philosophy underpins the principles of Core Maths. Instead of being simply ‘told’ the syllabus, students are actively encouraged to think of their own questions and to use their imagination when approaching mathematics problems through the use of IT resources, investigations, open-ended tasks and exam style questions. Weekly workshops; study and practise the techniques with students from different classes with a teacher there to help. Regular homework will help you gain confidence and develop the ideas you have been exposed to in lessons.

Why?

Maths has wide applications in industry, business, finance, science, technology and many others. Employers are constantly on the lookout for people who are competent in mathematics and are good problem solvers. This course will give you a solid grounding in these skills and will give you that extra edge in the competitive job market.

Entry requirements: students will need to meet the standard Sixth Form entry criteria and you will also need at least a grade 5 in Maths.

Philosophy and Ethics

A Level

This Course

Philosophy and Ethics is an academic course, but it is also related to issues you will come across in everyday life. It is therefore interesting and practical. Every day in a newspaper or on the TV you will find the issues you are studying discussed and debated. It is also highly likely that you will personally experience some of the ethical and philosophical issues covered in the course at some point in your life. The course is divided into three sections, Philosophy of Religion, Religion and Ethics and Developments in Religious Thought.

Why?

This is a relevant, enjoyable and challenging course that will develop your ability to think critically, logically and analytically. There is also much opportunity for discussion and debate. You will become clearer about what you think on a whole range of issues, and be able to articulate and explain your beliefs more clearly. This course provides an excellent academic preparation for university, for a range of careers, and for life in general. It is well-recognised by top universities as suitable preparation for degree level study.

What's expected from me?

All students are expected to have an open mind and the desire to really think about, and explore, ideas and issues. You need to be able to demonstrate good academic ability, with a particular emphasis on analysing and presenting ideas orally and in writing in a clear and coherent manner. You should be willing to contribute to class discussions and to listen respectfully to the views of others.

Entry requirements: Students should have achieved a grade 4 or above in either GCSE History or GCSE English Language.

Physics

A Level

This Course

Throughout this course, you will build on your knowledge of radiation, waves and electricity. You will learn about nuclear physics, mechanics and thermal physics as well as astrophysics. In Year 13, you will be expanding your understanding of these areas by linking it to different professions; medical, engineering and astrophysics.

Why?

As an integral part of the A-level Physics course you will have the opportunity to develop a range of practical skills highly in demand amongst employers; planning investigations, problem solving, collecting precise/accurate data and interpreting results mathematically to allow valid conclusions to be drawn.

Physics has natural links with all other sciences such as Chemistry, Biology and Psychology, as well as Physical Education/ Sport and A-level Maths. It would also support the Level 3 BTEC in Applied Science.

Students may go on to study and gain employment in the following sectors - Computer Science, Biotechnology, Forensic Science, Medicine, Sports Science, Engineering, Maths or Natural Science for example. You may also combine Physics with non- scientific subjects such as English and Psychology, but should definitely take A-level Maths.

What's expected from me?

We expect enthusiasm, personal organisation and dedication. You need to demonstrate that you are keen to learn, to make progress and to be actively involved in all aspects of the course as well as the wider Science department. You will need to plan ahead to meet deadlines, be independent in expanding the breadth and depth of your knowledge and be pro-active in identifying areas for development**.** You should also be simultaneously taking A-Level Maths as the content in Physics is heavily dependent on a solid comprehension of A-Level Maths.

Entry requirements: Grade 7 or higher in GCSE Physics, grade 7 or higher in GCSE Maths, grade 5 or higher in GCSE English.

Politics

A Level

This Course

Politics is all about how society manages differing opinions. It's as much about compromise and concession as it is about strength of conviction. It impacts at every level of daily life, irrespective of your chosen career path or skill base. If you believe keeping up to date with the latest political and social news is a fundamental part of your day – if you enjoy discussion and accept that there are no right or wrong answers, then you should be on the A Level Politics course at The Buckingham School. During this course you will study a wide range of engaging and contemporary issues, such as Political Participation, the UK Government, Political Ideas and the US Government.

Why?

The skills you will develop on this course will equip you for a wide range of subject areas, aside from Politics – for example, Law, International Relations, Economics, History and Philosophy. You will develop skills of analysis, research and essay writing communication, debate and team building. These are skills that will benefit you, whatever your chosen career.

What's expected from me?

All students on the course are expected to have a real desire to learn more about the country and the world that they live in. You will need to have a keen interest in how politics works and in the different theories surrounding politics. You will be expected to meet deadlines and you must be able to work independently.

Entry requirements: Students should have achieved a grade 4 or above in either GCSE History or GCSE English Language.

Applied Science

BTEC

This Course

This exciting and challenging course is ideal for students who wish to continue their study of science after GCSE. All three disciplines of Biology, Chemistry and Physics will be explored both theoretically and practically throughout the course. Students will be given opportunities to build confidence and master their abilities with using scientific apparatus; they will be able to work independently to research key concepts and techniques used in research labs across the world.

Over the two-year course, there are 3 mandatory units and 1 optional unit. Of the 4 units, 2 are externally-assessed through an exam and a practical skills assessment.

Why?

Students will develop the transferable and higher order skills which are valued by higher education providers and employers. For example, when studying Unit 3: Science Investigation Skills, learners will develop skills including how to plan investigations, collecting, analysing, and presenting data and communicating results which support some of the skills learners need to progress to higher education, employment, self-employment or training. It is the perfect choice for those who are interested in Science and its real-life applications.

What's expected from me?

You'll need an interest in Science and a real desire to develop your practical abilities in the subject. Be ready to explore the things you already know and question the ideas of others through investigative work, problem solving and independent research. This is a challenging course and students will need to be fully committed to achieving all of their deadlines.

The Applied Science course will require a good understanding of mathematical techniques and therefore, we would highly recommend that students consider studying Core Mathematics alongside it. Depending on the interests of the student, the course would complement many of the other vocational courses on offer as well.

Entry requirements: students should have achieved at least a 5 grade at GCSE in Combined Science or in Biology, Chemistry and Physics, if they have followed the Separate Sciences route.

Spanish

A Level

This Course

The A Level specification builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills gained at GCSE. It constitutes an integrated study with a focus on language, culture and society. It fosters a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity, which are valuable to the individual and society.

Students will develop their knowledge and understanding of themes relating to the culture and society of countries where Spanish is spoken, and their language skills. They will do this by using authentic spoken and written sources in Spanish.

Why?

Spanish is the second most widely-spoken language in the world with over 400 million speakers. Being able to speak Spanish can provide you with numerous academic and career opportunities.

Language skills alone are already an advantage in potential employers' eyes, but Spanish even more so, as it's so widely spoken. Many British and American companies conduct business in Spanish-speaking countries, and with over 30 million Spanish speakers in the US alone, it's a great skill to have if you're looking to work abroad. Moreover, Spanish is the third most commonly used language on the Internet.

What's expected from me?

You should have a passion for learning the language and be interested in exploring the culture and society of Spanish speaking countries.

You should have a sound knowledge of the Spanish grammar and a broad vocabulary. You will be expected to have a proactive attitude, an independent style of learning, good time management and organisation skills as well as being able to meet deadlines.

Entry requirements: Students should have achieved at least a grade 6 or above in Spanish GCSE.

Travel & Tourism

BTEC Level 3

This Course

This qualification includes three mandatory units covering the following content areas.

- The travel and tourism industry – the travel and tourism industry in the UK is growing and is of major importance to the economy. Learners will develop the skills needed to examine, interpret and analyse a variety of statistics that measure the importance of tourism to the UK. • Different types of destinations and their importance – learners will investigate the features and appeal of global destinations.

- Principles of marketing in travel and tourism – learners will explore how to develop a successful marketing plan for use by travel and tourism organizations to attract and engage with customers using research data. Learners select one optional unit to support their progression to travel and tourism and other courses in higher education.

Why?

Research, reading around the subject, proactive attitude, independent style of learning, good time management, organisation, meeting deadlines, applying theory to given situations

What could this qualification lead to?

In addition to the travel and tourism sector specific content, the requirements of the qualification will mean that learners develop transferable skills, which are highly regarded by higher education providers and employers. The qualification will give learners transferable knowledge, understanding and broad skills such as communicating and presenting ideas. All of the content in the qualification will help prepare learners for further study. The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to meeting admission requirements for many courses, if taken alongside other qualifications as part of a two-year programme of learning. It combines well with a large number of subjects at Level 3, whether academic or vocational.

The qualification can be taken as part of a diverse programme, leaving progression options fully open. It can give context to subjects that would benefit from some sector background. This will depend on the combination of qualifications chosen, for example if taken alongside:

- BTEC National Diploma in Enterprise – for progression to business-related courses
- A Levels in History or Modern Foreign Languages. Learners should always check the entry requirements for degree programmes with the specific higher education providers.

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Travel and Tourism
Mandatory units – learners complete and achieve all units

1 The World of Travel and Tourism 90 Mandatory External
2 Global Destinations 120 Mandatory External
3 Principles of Marketing in Travel and Tourism Internal

Optional units – learners complete 1 unit
9 Visitor attractions

Entry requirements: We require students to have achieved 5 GCSE grades at 4 or above.

Notes

Notes

For further information regarding Careers, please take a look at our Careers pages at www.buckinghamschool.org

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