



Sixth Form

Course Options Guide

For Current Year 12 Students
Academic Year 2018/19

Welcome

We are delighted that you are considering Sixth form at The Buckingham School for the next stage of your education.

We offer continuity for those students who decide to stay with us and a fresh start within a supportive, caring and friendly environment for those who join us in the Sixth Form.

We have designed a varied and innovative curriculum to meet the needs of all students. This means that you can choose to follow a traditional academic A Level programme, or you can take a more vocational path, choosing courses which build your practical skills at the same time as developing your academic abilities. What is crucial is to make sure that the courses which you choose are right for your interests, skills and ambitions and our admissions process will help you in doing this.

We are very proud of the fantastic enrichment opportunities which our students enjoy. These include taking on leadership roles within the School; participating in clubs, activities and trips, work experience, fundraising and volunteering.

What makes The Buckingham School's Sixth Form different is the opportunity that it provides to pursue academic and/or vocational subjects, within a caring and supportive environment. We are absolutely committed to ensuring that all students achieve their full potential by equipping them with the right qualifications, experience and attitude.

If you choose to come to The Buckingham School we will help you take the next step to achieving your dreams.

Mrs S Pykett
Director of Sixth Form

Your future is coming!

Curriculum

We offer a wide range of both traditional academic A Levels and vocational BTEC qualifications, including Extended Project and Sports Leadership Awards – detailed course information can be found in this booklet.

Our Sixth Form is a vibrant and exciting learning environment, providing breadth of knowledge, creativity and enrichment opportunities, both within and beyond the classroom.

Students

Our ethos is of care and challenge pervades all aspects of school life. We all thrive in a highly inclusive, supportive, mutually respectful and tolerant environment. Everyone belongs and everyone is valued.

Sixth Form students are treated as young adults preparing them for either apprenticeships, university life or the world of employment.

We have a strong and enthusiastic specialist teaching team to support you throughout your Sixth Form education with us.

Facilities

The facilities are fantastic after a £1.8m Local Authority investment. They are bright, modern and state of the art having been completely renovated, including new teaching rooms, a purpose built common room, IT room, Art and Photography studios and bespoke Sixth Form Science laboratories.

All Sixth Form students can take advantage of the school's extensive facilities including a dance studio with sprung floor, two drama rooms, music room, astro-pitches, extensive sporting fields, tennis courts and the use of the Swan Leisure Centre.

“Sixth Form students have been commended for being very good role models for younger students and contribute much to school life.”

Enrichment

We are proud of the enrichment opportunities offered to our students and these are very much part of everyday life. We expect our students to work hard and to contribute to the life of the school and Sixth Form community.

Our enrichment opportunities have Student Voice and Student Leadership at their heart—both areas in which the school excels. Student Voice in the school is a key factor in helping students to make informed decisions and we believe that every student should be able to have their say.

Other opportunities which we offer to all our Sixth Form students include:

- Head Boy, Head Girl and Senior Student Leadership positions
- University Open day visits
- Safe Drive, Stay Alive
- Many Extra Curricular clubs
- Main School Show
- Subject and mentoring support programme
- Charitable fundraising activities
- Trips and visits, subject related and overseas
- Duke of Edinburgh Awards
- Community service work including work with younger students and at local primary schools

Preparing for the future

We prepare all our students for life after the Sixth Form. Students research university courses and institutions and learn how to write an effective personal statement. Students who plan to go into employment, explore and research employment and apprenticeship opportunities and learn how to write an effective CV and application letter. We have good links with local employers who help with work experience opportunities and interview practice.

100% of students go on to meaningful careers, higher education, training or employment. For the cohort leaving the Sixth Form for the academic year 2016/17, 55% of Year 13 leavers are at University (including the Russell Group) with nearly all students obtaining their first choice. We are seeing an increasing number of students embarking on Apprenticeship placements including blue chip companies and large organisations such as Jaguar Landrover, Buckingham University and The Curve HR Management Consultancy Group. Apprenticeship placements are a fantastic alternative to university allowing aspiring young people to start building the foundations of a strong career.

The 2016 Ofsted Inspection reported on the many strengths of our Sixth Form, including good and effective careers advice given and this is reflected in our students' Post A Level education, employment and training pathways.

Success Stories

Katrina Bridgman followed her excellent achievements at The Buckingham School with a First Class Honours Degree in Psychology at Durham University, one of the most prestigious Universities in the country, and is now following a career in Child Psychology.

Kayleigh Watts was very successful at The Buckingham School particularly in the fields of Sport and Psychology and went on to achieve a 2.1 at Exeter University in Sports Science. She is specialising in brain rehabilitation and her intention is to become an Assistant Psychologist before applying for clinical training to get certified. Kayleigh is half way to achieving her goal in becoming a Consultant Psychologist for traumatic brain and stroke injury.

Jade Howard achieved a 2:1 degree in BA (Hons) Performing Arts: Dance with the University of Brighton where she was awarded a Scholarship. Jade now successfully runs her own Dance School in Buckingham and has returned to the School to run Dance workshops.

Aaron Toombs and **Jack Carter** started their three year Apprenticeship placements in Print at BCQ in Buckingham in 2016. The first year saw them both working through all elements of BCQ's business areas from Sales & Marketing to Digital Printing; Warehousing to Direct Mail.

Both Aaron and Jack are enjoying the diversity of learning, particularly enjoying the Studio where customer's artwork is amended and imposed read for print. They are utilising all the latest software such as the Adobe Suite of products and the latest hardware from Apple.

After completing their Foundation first year, they will decide which business area they want to focus on for their next 2-year placement and will also commence a respective NVQ in that area.

Sian Mason decided to apply for an Apprenticeship in Corporate Communications for Thames Valley Police and spent two years gaining knowledge and experience and an NVQ Level 2 in Business and Administration. In 2016 Sian left Thames Valley and started working for Network Rail in London as a Media Executive. Six months into her new role, Sian gained a promotion to be a Digital Communications Manager running the Social and Digital channels for one of Network Rail's biggest investment programmes. Sian said that doing the Apprenticeship was one of the best things she has ever done and opened so many doors for her.

Josh Graham who excelled at The Buckingham School Sixth Form is now in his final year at Birmingham University studying Sport and Exercise Science. He is looking at doing a Master's degree studying Strength and Conditioning so that he can coach professional sport. Josh comes back to the Sixth Form to give talks to our students about University offers and what university life is like.

Our Courses

Our curriculum is designed to offer choice and breadth of opportunities as well as traditional subjects.

We offer a wide range of both academic and vocational courses, including traditional A levels and BTEC qualifications. Brief details of the courses offered are included in this booklet.

More detailed information about each course, the subject content and how it is assessed and taught are available on request. If you require further information please contact Kate Bones, Admissions Officer on 01280 818927 or email kbones@buckinghamsschool.org

We will endeavour to offer all the courses described, however, this could be subject to change.

Contact:

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How to apply

Please find enclosed in the Application Pack a copy of our Application Form together with 'Instructions for Completing the Application Form' and 'Guidance on Completing the Supporting Statement'.

Also enclosed is a list of available courses for 2018/2019 entry, shown in their Option Blocks.

Students are advised to choose three subjects, one from each Option Block, plus an additional Enrichment Subject, should they be interested in taking one. Core Maths and Maths Retake may also be selected, in addition to the three subject options. The relevant section of the Application Form must be completed; additionally, internal applicants need to make their option choices via the online system. An information sheet is enclosed however, please speak to a member of staff should you need further assistance with this.

All students who apply to join the Sixth Form are interviewed and their subject choices discussed in detail to ensure that they reflect both their interests and abilities and their chosen career pathway.

We will review students' subject choices after their GCSE results are known, as well as at the start of Year 12. To gain entry to the Sixth Form, students need to attain 5 GCSE (or equivalent) at level 9 to 4, A* - C or Distinction to Pass grades. In addition to this, each subject has clear entry criteria identified in the course information, please refer to this when selecting individual subjects.

Current Year 12 Students Course Options 2018/19

Applied Law BTEC	Photography A Level
Applied Science BTEC	Psychology A Level
Art A Level	Sport BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate
Business Studies BTEC National Extended Certificate	Sport Academy Extended Diploma
Criminology Applied Diploma WJEC	
English Language A Level	Enrichment Activities
English Literature A Level	Extended Project
Film Studies A Level	Financial Studies
Health & Social Care BTEC	Sports Leadership
History A Level	Work Experience
Maths (Core) Level 3	
Media A Level	Enablers
	Retake English
	Retake Maths

*GCSE Maths and English retake classes will be mandatory for any student who has not achieved a grade 4 or higher in these subjects.

***The Extended Project Qualification provides students with the opportunity to carry out their own research project. This can take the form of a Dissertation (extended writing), Investigation, Performance or Artefact. Students can tailor their project to suit the skills they already have or new ones that they want to develop.*

Applied Law

BTEC Level 3

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 Applied Law?

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 for Applied Law BTEC Level 3: students should have achieved a level 4 or above in English.

Applied Science

BTEC Level 3

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 Applied Science?

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 for Applied Science BTEC Level 3: 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.

Art

A Level

This Course

This course will develop your intellectual, imaginative and creative skills. You will work with many different and creative media to develop your experimental, practical, technical and expressive skills. A Level Art disciplines include painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture and alternative media.

In Sixth Form, students study the full A Level in Year 12 and 13. In this time students complete Component 1 -A practical investigation supported by written material. In this students are required to conduct a practical investigation, into an idea, issue, concept or theme, supported by written material. The focus of the investigation must be identified independently by the student and must lead to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes. A Level Art is a clear progression route from GCSE. The marking criteria is very similar allowing students to fully engage with the subject and they are able to plan their work more effectively.

Why Art?

You will have the opportunity to work with a broad range of media, both traditional and new. You will visit galleries and studios and develop your knowledge of art, craft and design in contemporary and past societies. Please be aware that Art is heavily coursework based and is very time consuming.

What's expected from me?

When studying A Level Art students are expected to utilise their free time effectively to ensure all work is completed. We have a Sixth Form area within the department for students to use during their study periods. Students are expected to meet deadlines and ensure the work they produce is to a consistently high standard. Students that do well in Art tend to be creative and generally artistic.

Entry requirements for A Level Art: students should have achieved at least a Grade C for Art GCSE

Business Studies

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Business

This Course

A two year course Equivalent in size to one A Level. 4 units of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external.

Mandatory Units are

Exploring Business (Coursework)

Developing a Marketing Campaign (External Exam)

Personal & Business Finance (External Exam)

One further Coursework Unit (To be determined)

The Extended Certificate is for learners who are interested in learning about the business sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in business-related subjects. It is designed to be taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A Levels.

BTEC qualification results for the 2016/17 academic were outstanding, with the following subjects all achieving Distinction to Distinction* (D-D*) grades, above the National average; BTEC Business, Health & Social Care, IT, Law, Science and Sport.

Entry requirements for Business Studies: students should have achieved a level 4 or above in English.

Criminology

Applied Diploma WJEC

This Course

Studying this course gives students the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised qualification from which they can progress to employment or higher education.

Unit 1 will enable the learner to demonstrate understanding of different types of crime, influences on perceptions of crime and why some crimes are unreported. (Coursework)

Unit 2 will allow learners to gain an understanding of why people commit crime, drawing on what they have learned in Unit 1. (Exam)

Unit 3 will provide an understanding of the criminal justice system from the moment a crime has been identified to the verdict. (Coursework)

In the final unit, learners will apply their understanding of the awareness of criminality, criminological theories and the process of bringing an accused to court in order to evaluate the effectiveness of social control to deliver criminal justice policy. (Exam)

Why Criminology?

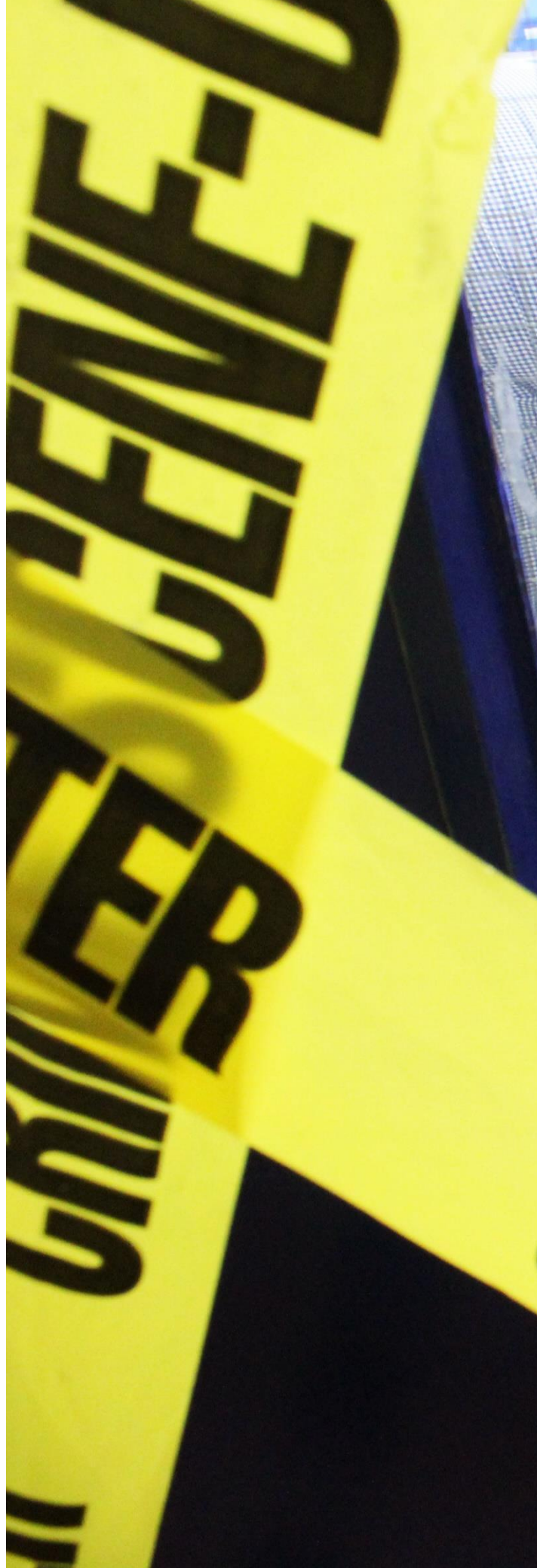
An understanding of criminology is relevant to many job roles within the criminal justice sector, social and probation work and sociology and psychology as it is a qualification with elements of psychology, law and sociology that complements studies in humanities.

It is designed primarily to support learners progressing to university. It has been designed to offer exciting and interesting or employment within the sector either directly or through the apprenticeship route.

What's expected from me?

You would be expected to research and have a proactive attitude and independent style of learning. You should also have good time management and organisation, meet deadlines and apply theory to given situations.

Entry requirements for Criminology BTEC Level 3: students should have achieved a level 4 or above in English.



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?

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 for A Level English Language: students should have achieved a Grade 4 or above in GCSE English Language or GCSE English Literature.

English Literature

A Level

This Course

This challenging course will develop students' knowledge and understanding of English Literature through the study of novels, plays and poetry. The course encourages students to develop an interest in and enjoyment of English Literature, through reading widely, critically and independently, across centuries, genre and gender, and through experience of an extensive range of views about texts and how to read them. You will explore alternative views about texts and come to more convincing interpretations as a result. The course will develop your skills in constructing logical and coherent arguments.

Course Content:

Paper 1: Love through the Ages

Study of three texts: one poetry and one prose text, of which one must be written pre-1900, and one Shakespeare play.

Paper 2: Texts in shared contexts

Option 2A: World War I and its aftermath

Study of three texts: one prose, one poetry and one drama, of which one must be written post 2000.

Non-exam assessment: Independent critical study; texts across time

Comparative critical study of two texts, at least one of them must have been written pre-1900

Why English Literature?

English Literature A level provides an excellent foundation for degree level study in almost any field. The study of English Literature is considered a strong and respected course, grounding students and preparing them for a wide range of careers. Employers recognise the immense value of a literary education and opportunities exist in careers ranging from diplomacy to law and accountancy to the caring professions.

The A-Level History curriculum can support A Level English Literature as the course requires students to have a detailed understanding of historical contexts and literary periods. Media can also work alongside this course as both courses focus on skills of analysis and interpretation.

What's expected from me?

When studying A Level English Literature, students will be provided with a reading list and are expected to complete extensive wider reading in their own time and to keep a reading journal.

Entry requirements for A Level English Literature: students should have achieved a level 4 or above in GCSE English Language and level 6 in GCSE English Literature.

Film Studies

A Level

This Course

- Which actor links Star Wars: The Force Awakens, the Mission Impossible franchise and The Cornetto Trilogy?
- What was significant about the film The Jazz Singer when it came out in 1928?
- Which British Film, directed by a TV comedian, launched the careers of Jodie Whittaker and John Boyega?

If you know the answers to these questions or have a sudden burning desire to find out then A level Film studies is the course for you.

As a student of cinema you will learn to become an 'active reader' of film as opposed to a passive viewer - you will be able to comment on stylistic trends of films from different directors, time periods and countries.

As the world's most popular art form, Film has the power to transport audiences to new or old worlds, critique society or simply entertain - it is impossible to overestimate the influence that the film industry has had on 20th Century society and culture. In the course of your studies you will learn just how powerful and dangerous film can be.

Why Film Studies?

You will get the chance to explore the wide range of films out there; from contemporary blockbusters such as *La La Land* to classic greats (*Casablanca*), obscure British masterpieces (*Under the Skin*) and beautiful foreign language (*Pan's Labrynth*). This is your opportunity to broaden your cinematic horizons and get an A level in a subject you are passionate about while you are at it.

What's expected from me?

Film students need to love film! You should enjoy watching and discussing films and be keen to develop your experience beyond the mainstream and into different genres.

In lessons, you will watch an extensive range of films and learn how to analyse and discuss them. You will give presentations, write essays and contribute to class discussions.

You will be expected to undertake extensive research into a variety of films, from different time periods, countries, and stylistic movements. In return you will get teachers who are knowledgeable about all film styles and genres and who are arguably even more geeky about film than you are!

Entry requirements for A Level Film Studies: students should have achieved a level 4 or above in GCSE English Language or English Literature. Assessment is through 70% examination and 30% coursework.

Health & Social Care

BTEC Level 3

This Course

Health and Social Care will develop your understanding of a wide range of issues. You will develop practical communication skills as well as gaining a broad academic understanding of the sometimes controversial issues within Health and Social Care. As part of the course you will participate in a regular work placement so that you can apply what you learn in a setting of your choice.

This course can be chosen as a single or double award. Please talk to the subject leader for further details.

Why Health & Social Care?

This work related qualification will give students an insight into what it means to work in health, social care or early years. You will develop a range of skills, techniques, understanding, personal qualities and attitudes essential for this type of work.

The course is suited for learners wanting to progress to university or employment either directly or through the apprenticeship route.

Health and Social Care combines well with science based subjects, such as, applied science and psychology.

What's expected from me?

You will need to have a genuine interest in health and well-being, to be motivated and able to work independently. You must be able to investigate data and learn how to develop coherent arguments when presenting your views. The ability to organize your time and meet deadlines is essential.

Entry requirements for Health & Social Care BTEC Level 3: students should have achieved 5 GCSEs at A*- C (levels 9-4) including a level 4 or above in English and Maths.

History

A Level

This Course

The study of History provides a sense of the past, an awareness of the development of differing values, systems and societies and a better understanding of the world we live in. During this course you will study a variety of complex topics covering the later Tudors, Germany, 1919-1963 and the 'witchcraze' of the 16th and 17th centuries. You will be challenged to make sense of the past and to critically evaluate views of it using a variety of sources and interpretations.

Why History?

Studying History will help you to develop skills in the modern world. The analytical skills learnt by studying History at A Level are of particular importance in today's global, social-media orientated society, as they allow people to discern facts from 'fake news'. History A Level complements many other subjects and students could find careers in Journalism, Tourism, Research, Archiving, Architecture, Politics, the Armed Forces, Marketing, Advertising and Law, to name but a few.

What's expected from me?

This demanding course will suit students who are prepared to put in maximum effort inside and outside the classroom. You will be well supported by your teachers, but you must be prepared to ask for and follow advice. You must be highly motivated, well organised and enjoy finding answers to tough questions.

You will be expected to form your own opinions and produce focused explanations based on a close analysis of the evidence available. You will be assessed on your ability to use a wide range of specific knowledge to produce extended written answers and on your independent research skills.

Entry requirements for A Level History: students should have achieved a Level 4 or above in GCSE History.

Maths (Core)

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?

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 for Core Maths: students will need to meet the standard Sixth Form entry criteria and you will also need at least a grade 5 in GCSE maths.

Media

A Level

This Course

Whether we know it or not, like it or not; the modern world is dominated by the media. Every waking moment we are being bombarded with adverts for everything from soap products to charities and films. Newspaper moguls control what we read, the way we vote and even the way we think. Social Media and the online world keep us addicted and absorbed to the point where it is possible to live our lives without leaving a computer or phone screen.

So how did we get here?

The Media acts as a curtain, hiding the real world from view while using its own language to construct their own reality so we only see the version that is presented to us. As Media students we explore how the media has become increasingly powerful over the last 70 years and examine how accurate these versions of reality really are.

Why Media?

Media students are being trained to question the world as it is being presented to them. You will learn how to read the language used and interpret the meaning so that you can comment on the accuracy of the representations and the reasons behind them.

You will also delve into the world of the media industries and explore how Film, TV and Newspapers find and appeal to their audiences.

What's expected from me?

If you are happy to accept the world as it is presented to you in the media - a world in which women are just objects of desire for men, ethnic minorities are treated as inferior because of the colour of their skin and Donald Trump is the saviour of the world - then this isn't the course for you.

But...

If you take media be prepared to peak behind the curtain with an open mind to explore how and why the media controls ideas and manipulates the truth. You will be expected to challenge and comment; criticise and praise and enjoy exploring the industries at the heart of our society.

Entry requirements for A Level Media Studies: students should have achieved a level 6 or above in GCSE English Language or Literature.

Photography

A Level

This Course

This course will develop your intellectual, imaginative and creative skills. You will work with many different creative media to develop your experimental, practical, technical and expressive skills. A Level Photography disciplines include film based photography and digital photography.

In Sixth Form, students study the full A level in Year 12 and 13. In this time students complete Component 1 - A practical investigation supported by written material. In this students are required to conduct a practical investigation, into an idea, issue, concept or theme. The focus of the investigation must be identified independently by the student and must lead to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes. Students will be provided with examination papers (externally set assignment – unit 2) on 1 February in Year 13. Each question paper will consist of a choice of eight questions to be used as starting points. Students are required to select one and produce a practical investigation.

Why Photography?

You will have the opportunity to work with a broad range of media, including traditional and new technologies. You will visit galleries and studios and develop your knowledge of Photography in contemporary and past societies. Please be aware that Photography is coursework based and requires a lot of time and dedication. Many of our Photography students also study Media, the two subjects work well together.

What's expected from me?

When studying A Level Photography students are expected to utilise their free time effectively to ensure all work is completed. We have a Sixth Form area within the department for students to use during their study periods. Students are expected to meet deadlines and ensure the work they produce is to a consistently high standard.

Entry requirements for A Level Photography: students should have achieved at least average C grades (level 4) at GCSE.

Psychology

A Level

This Course

This interesting and challenging course allows students to develop a clear and scientific understanding of why humans behave as they do. You will explore human behaviours and functions such as memory, criminal behaviour, mental disorders and social influence, from both psychological and biological perspectives. You will learn how to design, conduct and report scientific research studies and explore the limits of such studies.

Why Psychology?

A Level Psychology combines well with any other science A level as well as Health and Social Care, PE, Business Studies, Media Studies, Film Studies, Criminology and English Literature. It is a useful subject to study for a broad range of career options and would be valuable in any career which involves working with people.

What's expected from me?

We expect students to actively participate in class discussions, to have an open and enquiring mind and to work and think independently at all times.

Students should be prepared to take part in group work and in research studies. They will need to utilise their free time effectively to ensure that all work is completed. We want you to challenge each other and members of staff.

Entry requirements for A Level Psychology: students should have achieved at least a level 5 or above in Mathematics, English and two sciences. A GCSE in Psychology is not required to be successful in this subject at A Level.

Sport

BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Sport

This Course

A broad basis of study for the sport sector. This qualification is designed to support progression to higher education when taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A Levels. The Pearson BTEC National Extended Certificate in Sport is an Applied General qualification for post-16 learners who want to continue their education through applied learning and who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment in the sport sector. The qualification is equivalent in size to one A Level, and it has been designed as a full two-year programme when studied alongside a further two Level 3 qualifications.

The content of this qualification has been developed in consultation with academics to ensure that it supports progression to higher education. Employers and professional bodies have also been involved and consulted to confirm that the content is appropriate and consistent with current practice for learners who may choose to enter employment directly in the sport sector.

You will study the following units:

Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology

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

Unit 3: Professional Development in the Sports Industry.

Unit 7: Practical Sports Performance

What could this qualification lead to?

The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to meeting admission requirements for many courses if taken alongside other qualifications as part of a two-year programme of study. It combines well with a large number of subjects and supports entry to higher education courses in a very wide range of disciplines (depending on the subjects taken alongside).

Entry requirements for Sport BTEC Level 3

Extended Certificate: students should have achieved a GCSE Physical Education Level 4 and a Level 4 in Maths, English and Science.

For learners who wish to study an aspect of sport in higher education, opportunities include:

- BA (Hons) in Sport Studies and Business, if taken alongside A Levels in Business and Maths
- BSC (Hons) in Sport Psychology, if taken alongside a BTEC National Extended Certificate in Applied Science and A Level in Psychology
- BA (Hons) in Sports Education and Special and Inclusive Education, if taken alongside an A Level in English Language and a BTEC National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts
- BA (Hons) in Sport and Exercise Science, if taken alongside a BTEC National Diploma in Applied Science.

What's expected from me?

- You need to be passionate about Anatomy and Physiology, health, fitness, training, sport activities, practical sport.
- You will need to be self-motivated and good at meeting deadlines.
- This course has a substantial amount of independent study.
- You will be required to play two sports as part of unit 7.
- You will also be expected to take the Level 2 Sports Leadership award alongside this qualification.

Qualification structure

Unit No.	Unit Title	How assessed
1	Anatomy and Physiology	Written examination set and marked by Pearson. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1.5 hours.• 80 marks.
2	Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being	A task set and marked by Pearson and completed under supervised conditions. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In Part A, learners will be given a case study one week before a supervised assessment period in order to carry out preparation.• In Part B, the supervised assessment period is 2.5 hours as timetabled by Pearson.• Written submission.• 60 marks.
3	Professional Development in the Sports Industry	Coursework
7	Practical Sports Performance	Coursework

Sport Academy

BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sport

This Course

This is intended as an Applied General qualification, equivalent in size to three A Levels. It is a two-year, full-time course that meets entry requirements in its own right for learners who want to progress to higher education courses in sport before entering employment.

The content of this qualification has been developed in consultation with academics to ensure that it supports progression to higher education. Employers and professional bodies have also been involved and consulted to confirm that the content is appropriate and consistent with current practice for learners who may choose to enter employment directly in the sport sector.

Learners will study the following units:

- Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology
- Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being
- Unit 3: Professional Development in the Sports Industry.
- Unit 4: Sports Leadership
- Unit 5: Application of Fitness Testing
- Unit 6: Sports Psychology
- Unit 7: Practical Sports Performance
- Unit 8: Coaching for Performance
- Unit 9: Research Methods in Sport
- Unit 17: Sports Injury Management
- Unit 18: Work Experience in Active Leisure
- Unit 19: Development and Provision of Sport and Physical Activity
- Unit 22: Investigating Business in Sport and the Active Leisure Industry
- Unit 23: Skill Acquisition in Sport

What could this qualification lead to?

Learners who have completed this qualification in two years may progress to further learning at Level 3. The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as meeting, or contributing to, admission requirements for many relevant courses. Learners can progress to higher education on full degree single or combined courses, for example:

- BA (Hons) in Sports Development and Management
- BA (Hons) in Physical Education with QTS
- BSc (Hons) in Sports Management
- BSc (Hons) Sports Business Management
- BSc (Hons) Sport and Leisure Management
- BSc (Hons) Sports Science (Outdoor Activities)
- BSc (Hons) in Exercise, Health and Fitness
- BSc (Hons) in Sport and Exercise Psychology
- BSc(Hons) Sports Performance and Coaching
- BSc(Hons) Sports Therapy
- BSc(Hons) Strength and Conditioning
- FdSc Sports Performance and Coaching
- Certificate Level 4 Sports Massage Therapy

What's expected from me?

- You need to be passionate about all areas of sport especially anatomy and physiology, health, fitness, training, practical sport, the sport industry, sport injuries and sport psychology.
- You will need to be self-motivated and good at meeting deadlines.
- You will be required to play two sports as part of unit 7.
- This course has a substantial amount of independent study that will require you to conduct an independent research project as part of Unit 9.
- You will be required to organise a work experience placement in the active leisure industry as a part of unit 18 and the Level 2 Sports Leadership Award.
- You will be required to work with a competitive team as part of unit 8.
- You will also be expected to take the Level 2 Sports Leadership Award alongside this qualification which will support your studies as a part of unit 4, unit 8 and 18.

Sport Academy

BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sport

Qualification structure

Unit Number	Unit Title	How assessed
1	Anatomy and Physiology	Written examination set and marked by Pearson. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1.5 hours.• 80 marks.
2	Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being	A task set and marked by Pearson and completed under supervised conditions. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In Part A, learners will be given a case study one week before a supervised assessment period in order to carry out preparation.• In Part B, the supervised assessment period is 2.5 hours as timetabled by Pearson.• Written submission.• 60 marks.
3	Professional Development in the Sports Industry	Coursework
4	Sports Leadership	Coursework
5	Application of Fitness Testing	Coursework
6	Sports Psychology	Coursework
7	Practical Sports Performance	Coursework
8	Coaching for Performance	Coursework
9	Research Methods in Sport	Coursework
17	Sports Injury Management	Coursework
18	Work Experience in Active Leisure	Coursework
19	Development and Provision of Sport and Physical Activity	A task set and marked by Pearson and completed under supervised conditions. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In Part A, learners will be given a case study one week before a supervised assessment period in order to carry out research.• In Part B, the supervised assessment period is 2.5 hours as timetabled by Pearson.• Written submission.• 60 marks
22	Investigating Business in Sport and the Active Leisure Industry	A task set and marked by Pearson and completed under supervised conditions. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In Part A, learners will be given information two weeks before the supervised assessment period in order to carry out research.• In Part B, the supervised assessment period is three hours as timetabled by Pearson.• Written submission.• 64 marks.
23	Skill Acquisition in Sport	Coursework

Entry requirements for Sport Academy BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma: students should have achieved a GCSE Physical Education Level 4 and a Level 4 in Maths, English and Science.

Extended Project

This Course

The Extended Project is a single piece of work requiring a high degree of planning, preparation, research and autonomous working. The students' choice of topic is free, although they must show that it is academically useful, either related to their current course of study, or their future career. It takes the form of a dissertation and will require a detailed preparation/planning stage, the production of the report and a presentation that sums up the report. It has been praised by universities for guiding students into higher education and carries UCAS points.

Why Extended Project?

Extended projects can help students to develop and demonstrate a range of valuable skills through pursuing their interests and investigating topics in more depth.

What will it develop:

- Research skills
- Proactive attitude
- Independent style of learning
- Good time management
- Organisation skills
- Ability to meet deadlines.

Financial Studies

Certificate in Financial Studies (CeFS)

This Course

The course encourages students to become responsible borrowers, sensible savers and to appreciate the need for financial planning throughout their life.

Unit 1: Financial Capacity for the Immediate and Short Term

Students will gain an appreciation of why money is important through focusing on what money is; attitudes to it; and how it can affect life choices. The unit introduces students to the financial services industry by focusing on the interaction between money, personal finance and the financial market place. They will also learn about:

- The characteristics of financial products for managing money
- The impact of poor decision making and unforeseen circumstances
- Impact of legislation and regulation on earnings and the key features of income tax and National Insurance.
- How individual's financial needs change through the various life stages

Unit 2: Financial Capacity for the Medium and Long Term

Students will have the ability to plan and manage their financial needs in the medium and long-term, with particular reference to the importance of the need to budget for future aspirations and life events. Learners will consider the changing priorities attached to the needs, wants and aspirations as individuals progress through the personal life cycle and the role of financial services in assisting lifelong financial planning.

If the course is popular and successful it will lead to a full Diploma in Financial Services.

Entry requirements for Financial Studies: students should have achieved a level 4 or above in English.

Retake English

GCSE

This Course

This course is mandatory for students who achieved less than a grade 4 in their English GCSE. Students will spend at least the same amount of time on homework as they spend in the classroom. The focus is on revision and exam style questions. This course covers the same material as the GCSE English course studied in years 9, 10 and 11 and is condensed to fit into two-and-a-half terms.

Why Retake English?

It will help students in their Sixth Form courses and achieving a level 4 or above and will enable them to access courses at university.

What's expected from me?

- 100% attendance
- Completing all class work and home work
- Proactive attitude
- Independent style of learning
- Good time management
- A passion for English
-

Entry requirements for English Retake: a mandatory requirement for any students who have not achieved a grade 4 or higher in English.

Retake Maths

GCSE

This Course

This course is mandatory for students who achieved below a grade 4 in their Maths GCSE. Students are expected to spend their lesson time and an additional 3 hours outside of class studying the areas of Mathematics that will support them gain at least a level 4 or above in the GCSE examination. The focus is on revision and exam style questions. This course covers the same material as the GCSE mathematics course studied in years 9, 10 and 11 and is condensed to fit into two-and-a-half terms.

Why Retake Maths?

It will help students in their Sixth Form courses and achieving a grade 4, or better, will enable them to access courses at university.

What's expected from me?

- 100% attendance
- Completing all class work and home work
- Proactive attitude
- Independent style of learning
- Good time management

Entry requirements for Maths Retake: a mandatory requirement for any students who have not achieved a grade 4 or higher in Maths.

Sports Leadership

Level 2 & Level 3

This Course

These courses will help you to develop your organisation, motivation and communication skills. In Year 12 The Level 2 Community Sports Leadership Award will help you to become a positive role model in Sport, to learn how to mentor others and to use your leadership skills in a variety of different ways.

Achieving the nationally recognised Level 3 Higher Sports Leadership Award in Year 13 enables you to lead unsupervised groups of people in sport and recreational activities. It teaches generic leadership skills such as organisation, planning, communication and teamwork through the medium of sport.

Why Sports Leadership?

These courses will suit students who have a passion for sport and who may be interested in pursuing a career in sports management or leadership.

They combine well with Physical Education. They are fun and practical courses, with no entrance requirements or final examinations to sit.

What's expected from me?

To begin the Level 2 Award, you may have already gained your Level 1 Award in Sports Leadership or this may be your first step on the volunteering pathway.

The Level 3 Award builds upon the skills and experience gained through the Level 2 Award in Community Sports Leadership and the Level 2 Award in Sports Leadership.

We expect students to be actively involved in sport outside school, to be enthusiastic and to be committed. Ideally students will be participating at a club level or above as a competitor, leader or as an official.

Students will need to complete 10 hours for Level 2 and 30 hours for Level 3 of Leadership in the community

Work Experience

Why Work Experience?

Work experience offers an opportunity to get experience in a chosen career, to gain skill and knowledge in the working environment.

In some work experience placements, you will be able to try a particular job. At other times, you might move around a company learning about a variety of different roles.

If you are not sure of the sort of job you want to do, then work experience can help you explore what is out there. Maybe you have thought, "I want to work in the media" – well, a placement might focus you on a particular area or role. It is a chance to see real work in a real working environment. It is also a great way to put theory into practice and can help you gain actual skills, such as using a piece of equipment or software.

Work experience also helps you to:

- improve your knowledge of yourself
- build your confidence by working with others
- evidence your ability to take on a challenge and succeed
- bridge the gap school and the world of work
- gain valuable advice from professionals working in the field and hear their stories
- obtain references for any job applications that you make in the future.
- help you to understand how organisations work from an internal perspective.
- It also allows you to establish a clearer picture of what kind of working environment may suit you.



YOUR FUTURE IS COMING!

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