



Centre of Further Education



# Course Options Guide 2017/2018

Dream Big Dreams





# 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 the CFE Administrator on 01280 812206 Ext 282 or email [cfe\\_admissions@buckinghamschool.org](mailto:cfe_admissions@buckinghamschool.org).

We will endeavour to offer all the courses described, however there may be changes in the future.

# How to apply

All students begin Year 12 studying 3 subjects. There are also opportunities to study Level 3 courses in Sports Leadership, Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and Core Maths. In addition there are Level 2 courses in English and Maths on offer.

All students who apply to join the Centre of Further Education are interviewed and their subject choices are discussed in detail to ensure the correct subjects are chosen which fit their chosen career pathway.

We review students' subject choices after their GCSE results are known, as well as at the start of Year 12. To enter the CFE you will need to attain 5 GCSE Grades A\*-Cs (or Level 4+ in English and Maths) and meet the entry requirements of the specific subjects you want to study.

## Contact:

**01280 812206 Ext282**

**[cfe\\_admissions@buckinghamschool.org](mailto:cfe_admissions@buckinghamschool.org)**

# Course options 2017/18

<b>Applied Law</b> BTEC	<b>Marketing</b> BTEC
<b>Applied Science</b> BTEC	<b>Mathematics</b> A Level
<b>Art</b> A Level	<b>Media Studies</b> A Level
<b>Biology</b> A Level	<b>Performing Arts</b> BTEC
<b>Business Studies</b> A Level	<b>Photography</b> A Level
<b>Chemistry</b> A Level	<b>Psychology</b> A Level
<b>Computing</b> BTEC	<b>Spanish</b> A Level
<b>Creative Digital Media</b> BTEC	<b>Sport</b> BTEC
<b>Criminology</b> BTEC	
<b>Economics</b> A Level	<i>Enrichment Activities</i>
<b>English Literature</b> A Level	<b>Sports Leadership</b>
<b>Film Studies</b> A Level	<b>Extended Project (EPQ)**</b>
<b>French</b> A Level	<i>Core Maths</i>
<b>Geography</b> A Level	<b>Level 2 Courses</b>
<b>Health &amp; Social Care</b> BTEC	<b>Maths Retake*</b>
<b>History</b> A Level	<b>English Retake*</b>

\*GCSE Maths and English retake classes will be mandatory for any student who has not achieved a Level 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.

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# 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 of 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. The areas which students will study include chromatographic techniques, calorimetry and other skills that lead on from and develop their Key Stage 4 knowledge.

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 a range of skills and techniques, personal skills and attributes which will help them in any aspect of working life and be particularly useful if they would like to pursue any science related career.

### What's expected of me?

You should enjoy problem solving and independent research. This is a challenging course and students will need to be fully committed to achieving all of their deadlines. We have a Sixth Form area within the department for students to use during their study periods.

We require students to have achieved at least a 4 Grade at GCSE in at least one science for example, Core and Additional Science or Triple Science.

The course combines well with Science subjects, Humanities, Maths and Business. However, Level 3 BTEC in Applied Science is a heavy coursework based subject.

**Entry requirements for Applied Science BTEC Level 3:** students should have achieved at least (Grade C) at GCSE in one Science for example, Core and Additional Science or Triple Science.

# 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 of 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.

# Biology

## A Level

### This Course

This exciting new course will allow you to develop your interest and enthusiasm for Biology.

During Year 12 you will expand the depth and breadth of your GCSE knowledge, finding out more about the cells and molecules that you and all living organisms are made from. You will learn about how enzymes function, how plants and animals are adapted to survive in the harshest conditions.

Throughout Year 13, you will find out about how your nerves function to interact with the environment around you, how cells carry out respiration and photosynthesis and how DNA controls the actions of every cell on the face of the planet.

### Why Biology?

Biology has natural links with all other Sciences such as Chemistry, Physics and Psychology, as well as Physical Education/ Sport. It would also support the Applied Science, Level 3 BTEC. Students may go on to study and work in Biotechnology, Forensic Science, Agriculture, Medicine, Marine Biology, Pharmacology, Sports Science or Dentistry for example. Students may also combine Biology with non-scientific subjects such as Extended Project, English and Mathematics.

### What's expected of 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. 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. There will also be opportunities for you to assist with lessons in other key stages to develop your skills as a Biologist further.

**Entry requirements for A Level Biology:** students should have achieved a minimum of a Grade B at GCSE in at least two Sciences and Maths e.g. Core and Additional Science or Triple Science (Triple Science students, one of the B+ Grades should be in Biology).



# Business Studies

## A Level

### This Course

This exciting and progressive course will enable students to develop an understanding of how business works in the real world. They will discover the problems and opportunities faced by local, national and international businesses and they will take part in practical activities such as planning and running a business. Students will cover four areas and take three examinations at the end of Year 13:

**Theme 1:** Marketing and people (Examination 33%)

**Theme 2:** Managing business activities  
(Examination 33%)

**Theme 3:** Business decisions and strategy  
(Examination 33%)

**Theme 4:** Global business

"The learning environment in the CFE is excellent with a strong focus on high achievement".

### Why Business Studies?

Business Studies is an extremely interesting and exciting subject to study. It has links with every profession and helps in developing a student's personal learning and communication skills. Employers seek candidates with a good understanding of how their organisation works both internally and as a global enterprise whether that be in the Public or the Private Sector.

The GCE in Applied Business qualifies for UCAS points so could lead to a Degree, BTEC Diploma or an Apprenticeship in related subjects such as Administration or Management. It combines well with Law, Psychology, Maths and PE.

### What's expected of 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 Business:** students should have achieved a Level 4 or above in GCSE Maths and English.



# Chemistry

## A Level

### This Course

This newly reformed course will allow you to deepen your knowledge of Chemistry and develop the key skills necessary for working in the chemical industry and for Degree-Level Chemistry courses.

The first module that you will study is designed to bridge the gap between GCSE and A-Level Chemistry and will review and build on your knowledge of atoms, bonding, acids and bases. You will then move on to inorganic and physical chemistry, the applications of energy use to everyday life and industrial processes, and current environmental concerns associated with sustainability. All topics that are topical and extremely relevant to the current society.

Throughout the two-year course, through both research-based work, theoretical study and practical skills you will also look at the study of energy, reaction rates and equilibria, and the periodic table. The final module will introduce you to the importance of organic synthesis and NMR spectroscopy as an instrumentation techniques used in organic and forensic analysis.

### Why Chemistry?

OCR's A Level in Chemistry A specification aims to encourage learners to:

- develop essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of the subject and how they relate to each other
- develop and demonstrate a deep appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of scientific methods
- develop competence and confidence in a variety of practical, mathematical and problem solving skills
- develop their interest in and enthusiasm for the subject, including developing an interest in further study and careers associated with the subject
- understand how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society.

### What's expected of 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. 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. There will also be opportunities for you to assist with lessons in other key stages to develop your skills as a Chemist further.

**The most successful students at A-Level will have achieved a Grade A or above at GCSE in their Science subjects.**

**Entry requirements for A Level Chemistry:** students should have achieved a Grade B in at least two Sciences e.g. Core and Additional Science or Triple Science (for Triple Science students, one of the B+ Grades should be in Chemistry. Students also need a Level 6 in Mathematics.

# Computing

## BTEC Level 3

### This Course

This is an exciting and practical course to take after GCSE Computer Science. Students demonstrate their programming abilities, gaming development, knowledge of IT systems, Security, Encryption and Computer Science principles and system fundamentals.

#### Why Computing?

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 of 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 for Computing BTEC Level 3:** students should have achieved a Level 4 in Maths and English and Grade C in Science GCSE.

# Creative Digital

## Media BTEC Level 3

### This Course

This is a new course designed to give students a more applied approach to the creative media industry. Learners develop an understanding of the media industry through analysing media representations and pitching and producing media projects.

It is designed for post-16 learners who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment, possibly in the media industries, as part of a programme of study alongside other BTEC Nationals or A Levels.

#### Why Creative Digital Media?

ICT, Computer Science and Business Studies would be good combinations to do alongside a BTEC in Creative Digital Media as these are also practical subjects designed to give applied experiences to students.

Drama and Theatre Studies is also a good combination as it helps students to understand the concepts of lighting, scene and camera work.

The skills and insight achieved by taking a course in Media Studies are useful in many university courses, particularly the Creative Arts, Technology and Business Studies. Students may go on to have a career in Creative Arts such as TV or radio, IT or Marketing.

#### What's expected of me?

Through the mandatory units learners gain a broad understanding of Digital Media as well as the media industry and learn the skills to produce media artefacts.

They develop their ability to analyse and deconstruct media images and representations. They learn the communication and planning skills needed to work in teams through vocational media projects. An optional introductory unit in a particular media sector such as, publishing, games, film or radio, allows learners to create engaging digital media content and platforms.

**Entry requirements for Creative Digital Media Studies BTEC Level 3:** students should have achieved a Grade C in GCSE Media or Level 4 in English and Maths.

# Criminology

## BTEC Level 3

### 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 of me?

You would be expected to research, read around the subject 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.



# Economics

## A Level

### This Course

Economics students study how the economy works in specific markets and the effect that decisions have on firms, on industries and on populations at a local, national and global Level. You will examine the effect of international trade, of capitalism and of government policies, both positive and negative.

This is an exciting time to be studying the world economy and the potential options for addressing the many problems that exist. There is significant debate between different 'schools of thought'.

The course is divided into four units and the students will take three examinations at the end of Year 13:

**Theme 1:** Introduction to markets and market failure

**Theme 2:** The UK economy – performance and policies

**Theme 3:** Business behaviour and the labour market

**Theme 4:** A global perspective

### Why Economics?

Studying Economics can lead to careers in Finance, Banking, Management, Accountancy, Local Government, Marketing, Advertising and the Civil Service. Economists are also employed by businesses and governments as advisors.

### What's expected of me?

Students will need to keep up to date with current economic affairs both in the UK and internationally. They will take part in lively discussions on topical economic issues, for example whether the UK should remain part of the European Union.

Students should be prepared to discuss different economic views and be able to argue opposing points of view. They need to be able to critically analyse theories, ideas and points of view and to form their own opinions regarding difficult situations. Students need to be able to handle data and to use diagrams to support written answers.

**Entry requirements for A Level Economics:** students should have achieved a Level 4 or above in GCSE Maths and English.

# 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.

### Why English Literature?

English Literature A Level provides an excellent foundation for degree Level study in almost any field.

The A2 History curriculum can support A2 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, both courses focus on skills of analysis and interpretation.

### What's expected of 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.





"We offer a wide range of traditional academic courses and a selection of vocational subjects".

# Film Studies

## A Level

### This Course

This exciting course is designed to deepen your understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of film. You will study cinema as a medium, looking at both English and non-English film texts, as an art form and as a social and economic institution, looking at historical, sociological and economic perspectives. The course aims to develop your interest in and appreciation of cinema by studying the language of film and the process of reading a film.

### Why Film Studies?

Film Studies provides a sound basis for university study in film, media and many other technical and artistic areas. It is very analytical in its approach and develops students' skills of verbal and written analysis, as well as their aesthetic sense.

### What's expected of 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.

You will enjoy reflecting on your own experience of films and be an active 'reader' rather than a passive viewer.

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.

**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 a mixture of examination and coursework.

# French

## A Level

### This Course

This interesting course develops student's enjoyment and appreciation of a Modern Foreign Language. Speaking a new language helps you to get to know people and their culture, as language and culture go hand in hand. Because language simultaneously defines and is defined by the world around us, learning another language opens one's mind to new ideas and new ways of looking at the world. Speaking more than one language is a skill which will increase your marketability.

Universities and employers tend to prefer candidates who speak one or more foreign languages. Even though English is widely spoken in much of the world, the fact is that the global economy depends on communication. When dealing with France, for example, someone who speaks French will have an obvious advantage over someone who doesn't.

### Why French?

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. The content is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or further study, including a modern languages degree.

### What's expected of me?

This qualification is linear. Linear means that students will sit all their exams at the end of the course.

Subject content: Core content

1. Social issues and trends
2. Political and artistic culture
3. Grammar

Options

4. Works: Literary texts and films

**Entry requirements for A Level French:** students should have achieved a Grade B in French at GCSE.

# Geography

## A Level

### This Course

The A Level Geography specification encourages learners to apply geographical knowledge, theory and skills to the world around them.

#### Why Geography?

It will enable learners to develop a critical understanding of the world's people, places and environments in the 21st century. Learners should be able to develop both knowledge and understanding of contemporary geographical concepts together with transferable skills that will enable learners to progress to higher education and a range of employment opportunities.

#### What's expected of me?

A Level Geography requires learners to:

- Develop their knowledge of locations, places, processes and environments, at all geographical scales from local to global across the specification as a whole.
- Develop an in-depth understanding of the selected core and non-core processes in physical and human geography at a range of temporal and spatial scales, and of the concepts which illuminate their significance in a range of locational contexts.

**Entry requirements for Geography A Level:** students should have achieved a Grade B GCSE in Geography.

# 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.

#### 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 Sports Leadership and science based subjects, such as, Biology and Psychology.

#### What's expected of me?

You will need to have a genuine interest in health and well-being, to be motivated and able to work independently. You will need to research and evaluate information and learn how to develop coherent arguments when presenting your views.

You will need to apply theory to real life case studies and take part in regular work experience.

**Entry requirements for Health & Social Care BTEC Level 3:** students should have achieved 5 GCSEs at A\*-C 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 present. During this course you will study a variety of complex topics covering the early Tudors, the USA in the 19th century and the 'Witchcraze' in the 16th and 17th centuries. You will be challenged to make sense of the past using a variety of sources and to critically evaluate our view of the past.

#### Why History?

Studying History will help you to develop skills in the modern world. History A Level complements many other subjects and students could find careers in Journalism, Tourism, Research and Archivist or as an Architect.

#### What's expected of 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 produce extended written answers and on your independent research.

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

# Marketing

## BTEC Level 3

### This Course

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

It will provide an introduction to the study of the Marketing units on Business Environment, Marketing Communications, Digital Communications and Market Research. They will also have the chance to study an optional unit choosing from Relationship Marketing, Digital Marketing, Creative Promotion or work experience.

#### Why Marketing?

Will provide students with the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised qualification to enter employment in the world of work or to progress to higher 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 business sector.

#### What's expected of 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 Marketing BTEC Level 3:** students should have achieved a Level 4 or above in English.

# Mathematics

## A Level

### This Course

Mathematics is challenging and very rewarding. This course builds on the knowledge and skills that you acquired during your GCSE studies. It will increase your understanding of familiar ideas and introduce you to new concepts and techniques.

You will develop your analytical and problem solving abilities in preparation for working in an industry requiring advanced mathematical skills.

### Why Maths?

An A Level in Mathematics is very valuable as a supporting subject to other A Level courses, particularly in Science, Geography, Psychology, Economics and Business Studies. It is a well-respected and much sought after qualification for entry to a wide variety of higher education courses and is strongly recommended for Economics, Medicine, Architecture, Engineering, Accountancy, Teaching, Psychology, Physics, Computing, Information and Communication technology as well as continued mathematical or statistical studies.

People entering today's most lucrative industries such as IT, banking and the stock market need to be confident using mathematics on a daily basis.

### What's expected of me?

Our main requirement is that you have a real passion for Mathematics. You will need to be highly motivated and committed, particularly since you will be dealing with complex concepts and a high volume of work.

You will need to have good presentation skills and will be encouraged to read widely around your subject.

**Entry requirements for A Level Mathematics:** students should have achieved a Level 7 or above in GCSE Mathematics.

# Media Studies

## A Level

### This Course

This interesting course develops student's enjoyment and appreciation of the media and its role in their daily lives. It will help them to develop a critical understanding of the media through engagement with media products and concepts and through the creative application of practical skills.

Students will explore production processes, technologies and contexts. They will develop their research and analytical skills and learn how to present their analysis.

### Why Media Studies?

English Literature and Film Studies work well alongside Media Studies, as these courses focus on skills of analysis and interpretation and require students to evaluate texts. Drama and Theatre Studies is also a good combination as it helps students to understand the concepts of lighting, scene and camera work.

The skills and insight achieved by taking a course in Media Studies are useful in many university courses, particularly the Humanities and Business Studies. Students may go on to have a career in Performing Arts, Teaching, Business, Advertising or Research.

### What's expected of me?

Students will explore how media products are used by institutions to construct different representations and how media audiences interpret these products.

Students will be able to create, and evaluate their own cross-media productions. Students will explore and analyse the ideas and arguments from contemporary debates about the media. Learners will practically explore the creation of three linked media products in a cross-media production.

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

# Performing Arts

## BTEC Level 3 - Extended Certificate

### This Course

This exciting course will suit students who enjoy performing, working together and developing ideas and concepts. You will develop a range of skills relating to dancing, acting and singing.

The course provides opportunities to develop skills in creativity and performance, audition preparation and professional training in each discipline. The course is defined through a variety of unit options, enabling students to develop, both practical and theoretical skills in each discipline.

You will be expected to take a two-hour theory exam using research you have collated about different practitioners. You will also be expected to produce and perform in a minimum of two external performances. You can choose from the following pathways; Dance, Drama or Musical Theatre. Music specialists need to speak directly to Performing Arts.

### Why Performing Arts?

The Performing Arts BTEC is a very useful qualification as it prepares students for degrees in Drama, English, Humanities and any Performing Arts course.

Students tend to be good communicators and the course helps to refine and develop these skills, which are useful in all walks of life. Performing Arts is useful for a career in Teaching, Business, Marketing, Law, Advertising and also Health and Social Care.

### What's expected of me?

Students need to be interested in all aspects of Performing Arts.

Excellent time management skills are essential and you must be confident performing in front of an audience.

#### Entry requirements for BTEC Level 3 Performing Arts:

students should have achieved a minimum of a Grade C at GCSE in at least one Performing Arts subject, plus a minimum of a Level 4 in GCSE English.

# Photography

## BTEC Level 3

### 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 of 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.



**DEVELOPER**  
40 sec - 1 min

**STOP**  
5 Seconds

**Fix**  
15 m



# 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 of 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.

**A GCSE in Psychology is not required to be successful in this subject at A Level.**

**Entry requirements for A Level Psychology:** students should have achieved at least a Level 5 or above in Mathematics, English and two Sciences.

# Spanish

## A Level

### This Course

This interesting course develops student's enjoyment and appreciation of a Modern Foreign Language. Speaking a new language helps you to get to know other people and their culture, as language and culture go hand in hand.

Because language simultaneously defines and is defined by the world around us, learning another language opens one's mind to new ideas and new ways of looking at the world. Speaking more than one language is a skill which will increase your marketability. Universities and employers tend to prefer candidates who speak one or more foreign languages. Even though English is widely spoken in much of the world, the fact is that the global economy depends on communication. When dealing with Spain, for example, someone who speaks Spanish will have an obvious advantage over someone who doesn't.

### Why Spanish?

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. The content is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or further study, including a modern languages degree.

### What's expected of me?

This qualification is linear. Linear means that students will sit all their exams at the end of the course.

Subject content: Core content

1. Individual research project
2. One of four sub-themes i.e. Aspects of Hispanic society or Artistic culture in the Hispanic world or Multiculturalism in Hispanic society or Aspects of political life in Hispanic society.

**Entry requirements for A Level Spanish:** students should have achieved a Grade B in Spanish at GCSE.

# Sport

## BTEC Level 3

### This Course

The Pearson BTEC 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 sports sector.



### Why Sport?

The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognized by higher education providers. It combines well with a large number of subjects (including Biology, Psychology and Sports Leadership) and supports entry to higher education courses in a very wide range of disciplines (depending on the subjects taken alongside). 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 Math's
- 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. Learners should always check the entry requirements for degree programmes with specific higher education providers

### What's expected of me?

Ideally, students need to be passionate about health, fitness and sports activities. They need to be self-motivated and good at meeting deadlines. The course requires a substantial amount of independent study.

Entry requirements for Sport BTEC Level 3: students should have achieved an A\*-C Grade in GCSE Physical Education.

**Entry requirements for Sport BTEC Level 3:** students should have achieved a Grade C or above in GCSE Physical Education (Level 4) and a Level 4 (Grade C) in Maths, English and Science.

# Maths Retake

## GCSE

### This Course

This course is mandatory for students who achieved below a Grade 4 in their Maths GCSE. Students are expected to spend 2 hours in class and 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 Maths Retake?

It will help students in their CFE courses and achieving a Grade 4 or better will enable them to access courses at university.

### What's expected of me?

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

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

# English Retake

## 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 English Retake?

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

### What's expected of 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.



# 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 of 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.

# Extended Project

## Level 2 & Level 3

### 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 either a dissertation or one of a number of other forms: a musical or dramatic composition, report or artefact, backed up with paperwork.

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's expected of me?

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

# Dream Big Dreams

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