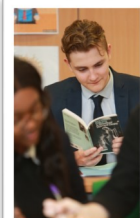




English Martyrs' Sixth Form



**INFORMATION
BOOKLET**



Progression to English Martyrs' Sixth Form -

What subjects do we offer?

A level *Art*
Biology
Business
Chemistry
Drama and Theatre Arts
English Literature
Film Studies
French
Geography
History
Mathematics
Music
Photography
Physical Education
Physics
Politics
Psychology
Religious Studies
Sociology

BTEC *ICT (Level 3)*
Media (Level 3)
Applied Science (Level 3)

Dear Student

The choices and decisions that you will make about Sixth Form education will play a crucial role in shaping your future and we are fully committed to helping you in every way we can. This booklet provides some of the key information you will need to help you make well-informed decisions about your future studies.

At English Martyrs' we have an "Outstanding Sixth Form", (Ofsted 2014, reconfirmed May 2017,) which offers a very broad and balanced range of Level 3 A level and BTEC courses. Our students make excellent progress in their studies and are very high achieving, leaving Sixth Form to study a wide range of courses at good universities throughout the UK.

Our success as a Sixth Form is because of the commitment shown by our students and the excellent teaching they receive. In addition, the Sixth Form community life is very rich with many opportunities for personal development and the opportunity to be part of the Senior Student Leadership Team.

We are seeking to recruit students to the Sixth Form who are committed to achieving the highest academic standards and giving of their personal best. If you wish to succeed and are prepared to work hard at Sixth Form study, we look forward to receiving your application. English Martyrs' Sixth Form welcomes applications from students from other schools and other faith backgrounds.

If you have any questions about any aspect of Sixth Form education at English Martyrs', please talk to the subject specialists or Mrs O'Hagan, Director of Sixth Form.

Internal Applicants should submit applications by Friday 29th October 2021. External applicants should submit applications by Thursday 27th January 2022, either via PS16 (Positive Steps@16) or to English Martyrs' directly.

Yours sincerely



Marius Carney
Principal

PROGRESSION TO ENGLISH MARTYRS' SIXTH FORM

Sixth Form courses on offer:

Level 3 A Level

The majority of students at English Martyrs' Sixth Form are studying A levels. In the first year students take AS level in most subjects, and in the second year A Level. Public examinations for these qualifications take place in May and June of each year. AS Level is a stand alone qualification.

Level 3 BTEC

BTECs are available in Applied Science, Media Studies, ICT and Sports Studies. A distinction at BTEC Level 3 is equivalent to an A level Grade A. A Merit is equivalent to A Level grade C and a pass is equivalent to A level Grade E. Students can use the UCAS points from these qualifications as part of their university application.

Extended Project

In addition to their four option choices, all Sixth Form students will complete an Extended Project which carries UCAS points upon successful completion.

At Level 2 GCSE

Opportunities exist for students to retake Level 2 GCSE qualifications in Mathematics and English Language for students who have not achieved a '4' at GCSE.

General Entry Requirements to Level 3 A Level and BTEC Provision

- If provisional numbers for courses are very low, these courses may not run.
 - To study four A levels and have complete freedom of option choice, students must have 5 passes in different GCSE subjects at either 4 or better (or the BTEC equivalent) including English and Mathematics.
-

Subject Specific Requirements to study A Level:

- To study Mathematics it is expected that students will have gained at least a Grade 6 at GCSE.
- To study any Science at A level it is expected that students will have gained at least a 6 in the GCSE and a grade 6 in Mathematics GCSE.
- Students can take the following A level subjects even though they may not have studied them previously: Drama, Psychology, Sociology, Media, IT, Film Studies, Photography, Politics and Business.
- Other requirements are listed on the subject pages.
- It is expected that students taking all other subjects will have studied them at GCSE and gained at least a Grade 4 / BTEC (level 2) Merit.

Attendance:

- There is a direct link between attendance and achievement.
- High attendance is expected (registration as well as lessons).
- Should attendance fall below 96%, entry to examinations may be withheld.

Monitoring:

- Regular tests take place throughout the course.
 - To progress to Year 13, students will be expected to have passed at least 3 AS levels at grade D or above and completed their Extended Project deadlines. Students **will not be able** to study a subject in Year 13 for which they have not achieved at least a grade D at AS Level.
-

How many A levels do I choose?

Students study 4 AS levels in Year 12. Additionally everyone completes the “Extended Project” qualification.

What’s the difference between AS Level and A Level?

Basically you study AS Level in Year 12, and A Level in Year 13. You will be examined on your Year 12 work but it is your grade at the end of your A Level in Year 13 that counts.

What is the Extended Project?

All students complete a qualification called “Extended Project” in an area of their choice in Year 12. This enables them to develop research skills essential to Higher Education. This project receives UCAS points equivalent to an AS Level.

What other activities are available to me in Sixth Form?

An extensive enrichment programme is offered to all students. Many people choose to become involved in Leadership opportunities by becoming a senior officer or by helping younger students with their work. Sports leadership and participation in the Arts is encouraged. A number of students sing in our School Choir, Schola Cantorum, and take part in school productions including the School Musical. Many students join the orchestra or sing in one of the choirs as well as volunteering for morning study group. There are trips and visits to London, including visits to the theatre and there is a thriving Debating Society.

Can I still take A Levels if I don’t pass English or Mathematics GCSE?

This is possible, but you must pass English and Mathematics at Grade 4 or above during Year 12.

A LEVEL FINE ART

What will I study:

Students will explore a range of materials and techniques, experimenting and refining whilst developing their ideas, making connections to the work of other artists. They will need to be able to research and analyse the work of other artists with confidence, showing a fluent use of appropriate specialist vocabulary.

Students will use recording skills such as photography, observational drawing (including first hand) and written annotations about their own work, which shows that they can reflect on their own work and make progress.

They will create work which is informed by the work of others, yet is personal and achieves the outcome they intended in a skilful and meaningful way.

Assessment:

Students are assessed against the four assessment objectives, which are similar to those at GCSE and are equally weighted.

This is a 2 year A level.

For Year 12 there will be one unit which is known as the Portfolio, and an examination.

The Portfolio runs from September to January and the examination preparatory period begins in February and ends with the examination session of 10 hours in early May.

During the A Level year students create a Personal Investigation (60% of final grade) which includes a written element of 1000-3000 words. For this unit, students will develop a theme in great depth, drawing on skills developed in Year 12.

The structure for the A Level year is similar to Year 12, with an examination preparatory period starting in February and a 15 hour examination session in early May (40% of final grade)

Entry Requirements:

5 Grade 4's and above to include a Grade 4 or above in Art at GCSE.

A proven record of a positive attitude and commitment to studies within Art, Craft and Design.

Exam Board:

AQA

Career Pathway

A Level Fine Art is highly regarded by the top universities.

Architecture

Law

History

Psychology

Education

Fashion/Footwear Design

Interior Design

Photography

Animation

Games Art

Media

Illustration

N.B After A Level, students wishing to follow a career path in the Creative Industries, often opt for an Art Foundation course, which helps them to identify which degree course is right for them, from the huge range available within Art, Craft and Design, many of which are not mentioned in this list.

Career Pathway

Biological Sciences
Pharmacology
Veterinary Science
Marine Biology
Clinical Sciences
Nursing
Physiotherapy
Phlebology
Natural Science
Medicine
Agricultural Sciences
Microbiology
Biochemistry
Physiology and Pharmacology
Zoology
Genetics
Law
Accountancy
Midwifery
Dentistry
Xenobiology
Environmental Science
Palaeontology
Sports Health
Nutrition, Sports Sciences.

A LEVEL BIOLOGY

What will I study:

Year 12:

- Module 1 – Development of Practical Skills in Biology
- Module 2 – Foundations in Biology – biological molecules, cell organisation and division
- Module 3 – Exchange and transport – plants and animals
- Module 4 – Biodiversity, evolution and disease

Year 13:

- Module 1 – Development of Practical Skills in Biology
- Module 5 – Communications, homeostasis and energy
- Module 6 – Genetics, evolution and ecosystems

Assessment:

AS

June of Year 12

- Breadth in Biology assesses content from all AS modules (50%) - 90 minute exam
- Depth in Biology assesses content from all AS modules (50%) – 90 minute exam
- Practical endorsement – reported separately and examined in the other components

A-Level

June of Year 13

- Biological processes - assesses content from modules 1, 2, 3 and 5 (37%) – 135 minute exam
- Biological diversity - assesses content from modules 1, 2, 4 and 6 (37%) - 135 minute exam
- Unified biology - assesses content from all modules (26%) – 90 minute exam
- Practical endorsement - reported separately and examined in the other components

Entry Requirements:

5 Grade 4's and above to include Grade 6 in GCSE Biology or Double Science and Grade 6 in Mathematics.

Exam Board:

OCR Biology

A LEVEL BUSINESS

What will I study:

• Year 1

- What is Business?
- Managers, Leadership and Decision Making
- Decision making to improve marketing performance
- Decision making to improve operational performance
- Decision making to improve financial performance
- Decision making to improve human resource performance stating position, direction, methods, change.

Year 2

- Strategic Position of business - internal and external factors
- Choosing strategic direction
- Strategic methods
- Managing strategic change

Assessment:

At AS level there are 2 x 1½ hour examinations:

Paper 1 3 compulsory sections including multiple choice, short answer questions and data response questions.

Paper 2 One compulsory case study followed by approximately 7 questions.

At A Level there are 3 x2 hour examinations:

Paper 1 3 compulsory sections including multiple choice, short answer questions and a choice of two essay questions.

Paper 2 3 data response compulsory questions.

Paper 3 One compulsory case study followed by approximately 6 questions

Entry Requirements:

Any 5 Grade 4s at GCSE to include Mathematics.
If Business is taken at GCSE, a minimum grade 4 is required.

Exam Board: AQA

Career Pathway

- *Apprenticeships*
- *Degrees*
- *Entrepreneurship*

Business Management

Accountancy

Marketing

Human resources

Financial management

Retail management

Economics

Law

*Business can also be
combined with:*

Languages

Engineering

Journalism

Career Pathway

Chemistry
Chemical Engineering,
Biochemistry
Pharmacy
Medicine and related
subjects
Dentistry

A LEVEL CHEMISTRY

What will I study:

Year 12:

Module 1 – Development of practical skills in chemistry
Module 2 - Foundations in chemistry
Module 3 – Periodic table and energy
Module 4 – Core organic chemistry

Year 13:

Module 1 – Development of practical skills in chemistry (cont'd)
Module 5 – Physical chemistry and transition elements
Module 6 – Organic chemistry and analysis

Assessment:

AS

June of Year 12

Breadth in Chemistry assesses content from all modules (50%) - 90 minute exam

Depth in Chemistry assesses content from all modules (50%) – 90 minute exam

A-Level

June of Year 13

Periodic table, elements and physical chemistry assesses content from modules 1, 2, 3 and 5 (37%) – 135 minute exam

Synthesis and analytical techniques assesses content from modules 1, 2, 4 and 6 (37%) - 135 minute exam

Unified Chemistry assesses content from all modules (26%) – 90 minute exam

Practical endorsement that is reported separately (non exam assessment)

Entry Requirements:

5 Grade 4's and above to include Grade 6 in GCSE
Chemistry or Double Science and Grade 6 in
Mathematics.

Exam Board:

OCR

A LEVEL DRAMA AND THEATRE ARTS

What will I study:

Theatre Workshop

Candidates will either act in a group or contribute to their chosen technical skill to create a reinterpretation of a published text. They will base their idea on the working methods of one practitioner or theatre company. This is performed in front of a live audience.

Text in Action

Candidates will either act in a group or contribute to their chosen technical skill to a performance from a set text and a devised piece based on the working methods of two opposing practitioners. This is performed in front of a live audience.

Text in Performance

Candidates will study 3 contrasting plays from the perspective of an actor, designer and director.

Assessment:

Component 1: One performance or design project

Internally marked 20%
Plus a creative log of performance and design ideas

Component 2: Two performances or design projects

Externally assessed 40%
Plus a process and evaluation report of the performances

Component 3: 2 hour 30 minute written examination

Externally Marked 40%

Entry Requirements:

5 Grade 4's and above to include grade 4 in Drama if taken. Unit 1 is intended to enable all students to reach the same standard, so there is no need to have studied Drama at GCSE in order to start this Course, however you do need to be ready to try new challenges.

Exam Board:

Eduqas

Career Pathway

A drama qualification provides an excellent grounding for life and for study in any discipline. It develops your confidence and creativity as well as acting skills, helping you to become a well rounded person with excellent workplace skills and well prepared for a huge variety of degrees including Drama and Theatre!

Career Pathway

AS Level English Literature is highly regarded by all universities and will enable you to gain success on all degree courses, including Science. Almost all careers are open to you!

AS LEVEL ENGLISH LITERATURE

What will I study:

You will explore different ways in which plays, short stories and poems can be read, connected and written about.

You will deepen your appreciation of Shakespeare, of American Drama, of short stories, and of poetry written before 1900.

You will gain insight into the power of language, the influence of context and the connections that can be made between texts from different times.

You will develop your own independent reading and thinking, explore other critical ideas and enhance your own skills of close analysis.

Assessment:

2 closed book examination papers each worth 50% of your final grade. (one is 1.5 hours and the other 1.75 hours long)

Entry Requirements:

5 Grade 4's and above to include Grade 5 in either GCSE English Language or English Literature.
A love of reading beyond your set texts

Exam Board:

OCR

A LEVEL ENGLISH LITERATURE

What will I study:

You will explore different ways in which plays, novels and poems can be read, connected and evaluated.

You will deepen your appreciation of Shakespeare, of modern dramatists and of poetry written before 1900.

You will gain further insight into Gothic Literature, and into Literature published post-1900 and post-2000.

You will develop your own independent reading and thinking, explore other critical ideas and enhance your own skills of close analysis.

Assessment:

2 closed book examination papers each lasting 2.5 hours and each worth 40% of your final grade

1 coursework unit consisting of two tasks and worth 20% of your final grade

Entry Requirements:

5 Grade 4's and above to include Grade 5 in either GCSE English Language or English Literature.
A love of reading beyond your set texts

Exam Board:
OCR

Career Pathway

A Level English Literature is highly regarded by all universities and will enable you to gain success on all degree courses, including Science. Almost all careers are open to you!

A LEVEL FILM STUDIES

What will I study:

There is so much more to Film Studies than simply watching films. As well as gaining an appreciation of film as an art form in terms of its visual storytelling, studying film can enhance your understanding of the world in terms of competing values, attitudes and beliefs. This course incorporates a creative production element where you will be able to put what you have learnt into practice by making a short film or writing a screenplay.

Film Studies is an extremely enjoyable and worthwhile subject to study, but expect to be constantly challenged and excited by the course. Not only will it change the way you watch film, but more importantly it will challenge you to think in new ways and question or change your perspective on a whole host of issues, for example, representation of race

or gender. Studying film allows you to understand important issues and developments within history, society and culture, using film as the medium with which to gain a greater insight into these areas. From Silent Cinema to Contemporary Hollywood, the films on our specification have great critical reputations. They are films of depth and substance which have been purposefully chosen to offer rich and interesting analysis.

There are two separate Eduqas qualifications: AS and A level.

Whether you are studying AS or A Level Film, your first year will cover the same topic areas:

- Hollywood 1930-1990

- American Independent Film

- British film

- European Film

- Film Production

A Level students will also study:

- Global Film

- Documentary

- Silent Film

- Experimental Film

- Short Film

At both levels you will study the key elements of film form including cinematography, mise en scène, editing, sound and performance. You will also study the contexts of your chosen films and what was happening when the film was made.

What can the film tell us about history and society at that time?

You will study the films in terms of the representations they present or challenge.

At AS students study the specialist film areas of Spectatorship & Narrative. At A Level you will engage in the study of Ideology, the Auteur and Critical Debates surrounding Film.

A LEVEL FILM STUDIES - CONTINUED

Assessment:

AS

There are two exams at AS, each worth 35% of the qualification with the remaining 30% assessed by production work. Each exam lasts 90 minutes and consists of four extended response questions over two sections.

A Level

Similarly, at A Level there are 2 exams, each worth 35%, and a 30% assessment of production work. The exams at A Level are 150 minutes long and consist of answering 3 extended response questions on Component 1 and 4 extended response questions on Component 2.

Creative Production

On both AS and A Level courses there is a creative production element which allows you to showcase the film-making or screenwriting skills you have developed during the course:

AS:

Film Extract (video) or Film Extract Screenplay (with storyboard)
Evaluative Analysis

A Level:

Short Film (video)
Short Film Screenplay (with storyboard)
Evaluative Analysis

Career Pathway

Film making

Directing

Producing & Editing

Film Criticism

Journalism

Teaching & Education

A Level Film Studies is now regarded by a number of universities as an A Level in its own right. There are degree courses in film Studies and Screen Arts and it can also be regarded as a qualification if you wish to apply to study humanities or an arts related discipline.

Career Pathway

Whether you want to use language for work, further study, training or for leisure, this course will equip you with the necessary skills and knowledge.

A LEVEL FRENCH

What will I study:

This course will enable you to communicate in French, building on the skills acquired at GCSE. You will also receive an invaluable insight into other cultures and societies through the study of France and French-speaking communities. The teaching is interactive and the aim is to use as much French as possible in the classroom. You will also have access to an on-line learning resource which you can use at home to support your studies.

You will be able to read, understand and extract information from written passages in French, taken from authentic resources, such as French magazines, newspapers and web pages. Texts are drawn from a range of authentic sources and material will include complex factual and abstract content. You will also be required to translate into English from French and vice versa. You will listen to and understand contemporary spoken language and learn to write essays or longer pieces and to hold conversations and discussions in French.

Assessment:

AS Level:

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing 45% of AS; 1 hour 45 minutes examination

Paper 2: Writing 25% of AS; 1 hour 30 minutes examination

Paper 3: Speaking 30% of AS; 12-14 minutes oral examination.

A Level:

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing 50% of A Level; 2 hours 30 minutes examination

Paper 2: Writing 20% of A Level; 2 hours examination

Paper 3: Speaking 30% of A Level; 16-18 minutes oral examination.

Entry Requirements:

5 Grade 4's and above to include GCSE Grade 4 or above in French.

Exam Board:

AQA

A LEVEL GEOGRAPHY

What will I study:

Geography is not only up-to-date and relevant; it is one of the most valuable subjects to study today. So many of the world's current problems boil down to geography, and need the geographers of the future to help us understand them: Global warming, sustainable food production, natural disasters such as earthquakes and tsunamis, the reasons for migration and the future of energy resources are just some of the great challenges facing the next generation of geographers.

During the AS course you will study a range of human and physical geography topics and consider the values and attitudes of decision makers:

Unit 1 will cover:

- Hazards such as earthquakes, volcanoes and tropical storms.
- Coastal environments and hot desert environments and their margins.
- Contemporary urban environments focusing on questions of opportunity, equity and sustainability.

Unit 2 will cover:

- Global governance such as understanding the problems associated with globalisation.
- Changing places: understanding changes happening locally and how this compares to other places in contrasting areas of the world.
- Geographical fieldwork & skills.

At A2 level, you will continue to study human and physical topics as well as apply your knowledge and understanding of the AS course to encourage you to think synoptically – that is, to think like a geographer and prepare you for Higher Education or employment. The topics covered during the A2 course are:

Unit 1 will cover:

- Water and carbon cycles and their significance for human populations.
- Coastal environments or hot desert environments.
- Hazards such as earthquakes, volcanoes and tropical storms; or ecosystems under stress; or cold environments.

Unit 2 will cover:

- Global systems and governance.
- Changing places.
- Population and environment or contemporary urban environments or resource security.

Unit 3 will cover:

- Individual fieldwork investigation.

The AS and A2 Level specification offers a wider variety of fieldwork opportunities which we will aim to complete when new guidelines are available.

So ... choose Geography if you enjoy:

- Getting to know the world through fieldwork
- Getting to know places and understanding other cultures
- Developing your understanding of the impact of globalisation on our lives and how we can manage this sustainably
- To develop a wide range of skills using computers and other technology; which employers and universities really value.

theguardian

Editorial '... They [teachers] encourage ways of seeing and thinking that make geographers eminently employable ...'

Career Pathway

- *If taken with science at A' Level, it can provide you with the broadest careers options*
- *If taken with other arts subjects (e.g. History, English, Sociology), it can provide you with a science element, broadening your horizons and keeping your career options open*
- *It is a subject which is welcomed by universities (degree courses, BTEC and other vocational courses)*
- *It is recognised as a 'facilitating' subject at Russell Group universities.*
- *It can offer you the widest range of job opportunities than any other subject:*

For example - architecture, police force, IT, Law, personnel and management, teaching...

A LEVEL GEOGRAPHY - CONTINUED

Assessment:

Examination

AS Geography:

Unit 1 paper: 1 hr 30 mins (50% AS Level)

Unit 2 paper: 1 hour 30 mins (50% AS Level)

A2 Geography:

Unit 1 paper: 2hrs 30 mins (40%) (TBC)

Unit 2 paper: 2hrs 30 mins (40%) (TBC)

Unit 3: Individual investigation (20%)

Entry Requirements:

5 Grade 4's and above to include a 4 in Geography

Exam Board:

AQA

A LEVEL HISTORY

What will I study:

“Study History! Study History! In history lies all the secrets of Statecraft” (Winston Churchill)

The exciting and expertly taught History course comprises of the following:

AS

Paper 1: Breadth study with interpretations: Russia, 1917–91: from Lenin to Yeltsin

Paper 2: Depth study: The German Democratic Republic, 1949–90

A2

Paper 3: Themes in breadth with aspects in depth: Rebellion and disorder under the Tudors, 1485–1603

Paper 4 Coursework - U.S. Civil War - Why the North won.

Assessment:

Paper 1: Written examination, lasting 2 hours 15 minutes.
60% of the total AS qualification, 30% of the total A2 qualification

Paper 2: Written examination, lasting 1 hour 30 minutes.
40% of the total AS qualification, 20% of the total A2 qualification

Paper 3: Written examination, lasting 2 hours 15 minutes.
30% of the total A2 qualification

Unit 4: Internally assessed, externally moderated, c.
4000 words 20% of the total A2 qualification

Entry Requirements:

5 Grade 4's and above to include at least a 4 in GCSE History if taken.

Exam Board:

Edexcel

Career Pathway

Law

Journalism

The Media

Civil Service

Education

Armed Forces

Government

Library & Archive work

Business graduate schemes

Career Pathway

Medicine
Navy
Engineering
Business & Economics
Management
Architect
Stock Broker

AS & A LEVEL MATHEMATICS

What will I study:

Year 12 – Modules

PURE: Algebra 1, Polynomials, Binominal Theorem, Trigonometry, Differentiation & Integration, Exponentials & Logarithms, Vector's.
MECHANICS: Units & Kinematics, Forces & Newton Law,
STATISTICS: Collecting, representing and interpreting data, Probability and Discrete Random variables, Hypothesis Testing.

Year 13 – Modules

PURE: Algebra 2, Sequences, Trigonometric Identities, Differentiation 2, Integration & Differential Equations and Numerical Methods
MECHANICS: Motion in 2-D, Forces 2,
STATISTICS: Probability & Continuous Random Variables, Hypothesis Testing 2,

Assessment:

Year 12 / AS = 1x2 hours and 1x1¹/₄ hour external exam

Year 13 / A2 = 3x2 hours external exam

All students undertake mock exams at least 2 times a year.

Homework in the form of teacher notes, past papers, ICT resources (Mymaths), Integral.

Year 12 AS modules – need a minimum grade D to continue onto A2.

Entry Requirements:

5 Grade 4's and above to include Grade 6 in Mathematics GCSE.

Exam Board:

Edexcel

A LEVEL MUSIC

What will I study:

- Performing,
- Composing
- Listening (the detailed study of different areas and styles, and includes specific set works by composers such as a Classical symphony and some Jazz pieces).

Assessment:

At A Level

Performance Recital - three pieces, lasting approximately 10 minutes that are Grade VII or Grade VIII standard.

Composing - you will compose one piece on a brief set by the exam board. Compositions will need to be fully notated and the scores are submitted to the exam board. You will complete a chorale in the style of J.S. Bach.

Listening and Appraising - analysing music through a detailed study of set works, learning about unfamiliar music and answering questions related to recorded extracts.

Summary: Formal assessment will consist of a recorded recital the submission of a composition with a score a written exam for Listening and Appraising music.

Entry Requirements

5 Grade 4's and above to include a 4 in GCSE Music if taken.

Performance standard of at least grade 5 (Trinity College / ABRSM) or equivalent.

Theory level of working towards grade 5 (ABRSM) or equivalent.

Career Pathway

Business
Law
Medicine
Media
IT
Theatre
Education
Music Therapy

**A Level Music is
highly regarded by
Universities**

Career Pathway

Photography
Media
Art & Design
TV/ Film Production
Journalism
Photographers
Assistant
Self-employment
Illustration

A LEVEL PHOTOGRAPHY

What will I study:

An exploration of the photographic medium from the technical to the artistic. This is a two year course and an AQA Art & Design Syllabus. Themes covered in the course are Architectural, Close Analysis, Landscape, Portrait and Abstraction and Still life Photography: the course also covers aspects of the technical principles underpinning digital image making. The course is 'paperless' with all work being IT based. Work is submitted via a digital sketchbook.

The course requires and develops independent study skills and is an excellent preparation for students transferring to undertake further study within Higher Education.

The course requires that students have their own camera and have access to a home computer for artist research and image editing as part of the necessary/required personal study.

Assessment:

Students are assessed against the four assessment objectives each at 25%. The course is a two-year A level. Coursework Element and Exam Element (Projects are set internally and externally by the Examination Board which includes a Timed Practical Exam under controlled conditions). The Coursework and Exam Project Elements are weighted 60% & 40% respectively.

At the start of year 12, students will start to produce a portfolio of work based around their technical skills and will create work centred on a thematic response, which is set internally. Latter part of the year, students will produce work based around a set theme that will follow a 10-hour practical examination.

In year 13, students will continue to develop their Personal Investigation, resolving outcomes related to their research and considering various display strategies in depth. They will also complete the accompanying critical study essay. The Personal Investigation runs until January. The Externally Set Exam Project will commence in February and conclude with a 15-hour practical examination in May.

Work is continually assessed throughout the course with students being provided with comprehensive feedback to assist their learning, development, and attainment. Work is internally marked and externally moderated by the examination board.

Entry Requirements:

5 Grade 4's and above. Everything students need to know will be provided within the course. If students have prior experience in Art, Media and/or IT that will assist them.

Exam Board:

AQA

A LEVEL PHYSICAL EDUCATION

What will I study:

The course includes the delivery of 5 different components, which includes:

Component 1: Physical factors affecting performance

Students gain a deeper understanding of key systems in the body and how they react to changes in diet and exercise. They also study the effects of force and motion on the body and how they can be used to our advantage.

There are three topics:

- Applied anatomy and physiology
- Exercise physiology
- Biomechanics.

Component 2: Psychological factors affecting performance

Students study the models and theories that affect learning and performance in physical activities, how different methods of training and feedback work and why their effectiveness differs from person to person. They also explore the psychological factors that affect group dynamics and the effects of leadership and stress.

There are two topics:

- Skill acquisition
- Sports psychology.

Component 3: Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport

This component focuses on the social and cultural factors that have shaped sports over time, and their influences on physical activity. Students consider the impact of hosting a global sporting event such as the Olympic Games, and the influence of modern technology on both the performer and the spectator of contemporary sport.

There are two topics:

- Sport and society
- Contemporary issues in physical activity and sport.

Component 5: Practical performance

Students are assessed in the role of either performer or coach in one practical activity. They are required to demonstrate effective performance, the use of tactics or techniques and the ability to observe the rules and conventions under applied conditions.

Career Pathway

By studying A-Level Physical Education you will explore a wide range of sport disciplines that can then be related to future careers available in the ever-growing sports industry.

A LEVEL PHYSICAL EDUCATION - CONTINUED

What will I study *continued*:

Component 6: Evaluating and analysing performance for improvement

Students are also assessed in the Evaluation and Analysis of Performance for Improvement. They observe a live or recorded performance by a peer and provide an oral analysis and critical evaluation of their peer's performance.

Assessment:

Students will be assessed both theoretically within examinations and practically.

Entry Requirements:

5 Grade 4's and above to include a minimum of a PASS grade in Level 2 BTEC Sport. Students must be competing in a minimum of 1 sport either outside of school or join a school team/after school club as part of the practical assessment.

Being a sporting enthusiast is essential and having a sound knowledge and an enthusiasm for biology would also be an advantage to the course.

A LEVEL PHYSICS

What will I study:

Year 12:

- Module 1 - Development of practical skills in physics
- Module 2 - Foundations in physics – *physical quantities, units, measurements and data analysis*
- Module 3 - Forces and motion – *Force, motion, momentum, energy, power and materials*
- Module 4 - Electrons, waves and photons – *current, charge, resistance, circuit theory, waves, quantum physics*

Year 13:

- Module 1 - Development of practical skills
- Module 5 - Newtonian world and astrophysics – *thermal physics, circular motion, oscillations, gravitational fields, astrophysics and cosmology*
- Module 6 - Particles and medical physics – *capacitors, electric fields, electromagnetism, nuclear and particle*

Assessment:

AS

June of Year 12

- Breadth in Physics assesses content from all AS modules (50%) - 90 minute exam
- Depth in Physics assesses content from all AS modules (50%) – 90 minute exam
- Practical endorsement – not examined and reported separately

A-Level

June of Year 13

- Modelling Physics assesses content from modules 1, 2, 3 and 5 (37%) – 135 minute exam
- Exploring Physics assesses content from modules 1, 2, 4 and 6 (37%) - 135 minute exam
- Unified Physics assesses content from all modules (26%) – 90 minute exam
- Practical endorsement - reported separately and examined in the other components

Entry Requirements:

5 Grade 4's and above to include Grade 6 in GCSE
Physics or Double Science and Grade 6 in Mathematics.

Exam Board:

OCR

Career Pathway

Physics
Astrophysics
Cosmology
Medical Physics
Geophysics
Mechanical Engineering
Civil Engineering
Electrical and Electronic Engineering
Nuclear Engineering
Automobile Engineering
Law
Maths
Material Science
Natural Sciences
Philosophy
Economics
Oceanography

Career Pathway

Politics

History

Philosophy

Theology

Sociology

Psychology

Law

Business

Public service

Management

Research

Social policy

Teaching

Journalism

Everything is Political!

A LEVEL POLITICS

What will I study:

Year 12

Unit 1 – UK Politics: democracy, political parties, electoral systems and voting behaviour, the media.

Unit 2 – UK Government: the constitution, parliament, the Prime Minister, relationships between the different branches of government.

Year 13

Unit 1 – Core Political Ideas: conservatism, liberalism, socialism (all three ideas).

Unit 2 – Non-Core Political Ideas: anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism, nationalism (one idea only).

Unit 3 – Government and Politics of the USA: the US Constitution and federalism, US Congress, the President, US Supreme Court and civil rights, democracy and participation, comparative theories.

Assessment:

Year 12

Paper 1: UK Politics 1 hour 45 minute exam (50%)

Paper 2: UK Government 1 hour 45 minute exam (50%)

Year 13

Paper 1: UK Politics and Core Political Ideas 2 hour exam (33.3%)

Paper 2: UK Government and Non-Core Political Ideas. 2 hour exam (33.3%)

Paper 3: Comparative Politics Government and Politics of the USA 2 hour exam (33.3%)

Entry Requirements:

5 Grade 4's and above. Students embarking on this course must have an interest in current affairs.

Exam Board:

Edexcel

A LEVEL PSYCHOLOGY

What will I study:

You will learn the fundamentals of Psychology and develop skills valued by Higher Education (HE) and employers, including critical analysis, independent thinking and research.

AS Psychology:

Paper 1: Introductory topics in Psychology. (Social influence, Human memory, Attachment). This includes diverse questions such as why do we conform to other? How does our memory work? Why do infants become attached to their caregiver?

Paper 2: Psychology in context. (Approaches, Psychopathology, Research Methods). This includes questions such as how can we explain human behaviour from the perspective of the main approaches in psychology? How can we explain and treat phobias, depression and OCD?

A Level Psychology:

Paper 1: Introductory topics in Psychology. (Social influence, Human memory, Attachment, Psychopathology). See above for details.

Paper 2: Psychology in context. (Approaches, Biopsychology, Research Methods) E.g. How does the brain work? How do we study the brain?

Paper 3: Issues and Options in Psychology (Issues and debates in Psychology, Option topics=Human relationships, Schizophrenia and Forensic Psychology). E.g. What causes a person to commit crime?

Career Pathway

A-level Psychology is the ideal starting point for those who want to work in any career which involves working with people:

**Police
Nursing
Teaching etc.**

It also provides the first step towards being a Chartered Psychologist:

**Forensic
Clinical
Occupational
Psychology etc.**

A LEVEL PSYCHOLOGY - CONTINUED

Assessment:

You will answer a variety of familiar types of question such as multiple choice, short answer and extended writing /essays.

AS Psychology: Students will sit all the AS exams at the end of Year 1.

Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology. Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes (50% of AS level)

Paper 2: Psychology in context. Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes (50% of AS level)

A Level Psychology: Students will sit all A level exams at the end of Year 2.

Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology. Written exam: 2 hours (33.3% of A-level)

Paper 2: Psychology in context. Written exam: 2 hours (33.3% of A-level)

Paper 3: Issues and Options in Psychology. Written exam 2 hours (33.3% of A-level)

Entry Requirements:

5 Grade 4's and above to include Grade 4 in GCSE Maths and Grade 4 in at least one GCSE Science subject.

Exam Board:

AQA

A LEVEL THEOLOGY (RELIGIOUS STUDIES)

Course Description:

The A Level Theology course is designed to develop skills in knowledge and understanding surrounding the nature of religious belief, together with the ability to critically assess different theories and construct balanced and informed arguments. These skills form the basis of all degree courses and prepare students well for higher education. Whilst the A level builds on the skills acquired at GCSE, the content is quite different, so the A level can be studied without a GCSE in Religious Studies. However, as the qualification is essay-based, a good standard of English Language is required.

There are 3 distinct areas of study, which are examined separately for both the AS and A level qualification.

Content Overview

Philosophy of Religion

- Ancient philosophical influences (Plato and Aristotle)
- The nature of soul, mind and body
- Philosophical arguments about the existence or non-existence of God.
- The nature of religious experience and its evidential validity
- The challenges caused by the problem of evil
- The nature of God*
- Issues in religious language*

Religion and Ethics

- Normative ethical theories (what do we mean by right and wrong?)
- The application of theory to contemporary issues (euthanasia and business)
- Ethical language and thought today*
- Debates about conscience*
- Sexual ethics*

Developments in Christian Thought

- Teaching on human nature, death and afterlife
- Sources of wisdom- natural revelation and the person of Jesus
- Christian moral principles
- Religious pluralism*
- Gender, society and theology*
- Secularism and Liberation Theology*

*A level only

Career Pathway

Law

Politics

Diplomacy

*Social sciences
the Arts*

Architecture

Police force

IT

*Personnel and
Management,*

Teaching

*Preparation to study
for priesthood and
religious life.*

A LEVEL THEOLOGY (RELIGIOUS STUDIES)

- CONTINUED

Assessment:

At AS level, students take 3 papers, each lasting 1 hour and 15 minutes. (2 essay questions)

At A level, students take 3 papers, each lasting 2 hours. (3 essay questions)

Entry Requirements:

5 Grade 4's and above to include English, and Religious Education if previously studied.

Exam Board:

OCR

A LEVEL SOCIOLOGY

Career Pathway

Sociology
Law
Criminology
Teaching
Management
Police
Social work

**and other people
related occupations.**

Course Description:

This Sociology course has been designed in order to allow students to acquire the essential knowledge and understanding of central aspects of society, Sociological thought and methods, together with a range of skills.

The following topics will be studied for the full two year A level course.

Year 1

- Education with method in context.
- Families and households with Research Methods

Year 2

- Mass Media
- Crime and deviance
- Theory and methods

Assessment:

This is a linear qualification therefore all knowledge from year 1 will also be assessed in year 2

First year two papers:

AS Paper 1 - 1 hour 30 mins - Education together with sociological methods in context

AS Paper 2 - 1 hour 30 mins - Families and households plus research methods.

At the end of the second year you will sit 3 papers:

A level paper 1 - 2 hr exam. Education, methods in context and theory and methods(this includes what you studied in research methods)

A level paper 2 - 2 hr exam. Families and households plus Mass Media.

A level paper 3 - 2 hr exam. Crime and deviance plus theory and methods (this includes what you have studied in research methods plus sociological theories).

Assessment focuses on:

A01 Knowledge and Understanding - knowing sociological ideas theories and methods.

A02 Application - linking your knowledge to the questions and showing relevant application to society

A03 Analysis and Evaluation - explaining things in detail and showing how ideas fit together, comparing contrasting ideas, drawing conclusions. Showing the usefulness, advantages and disadvantages of methods theories etc.

Entry Requirements:

5 Grade 4's and above. Students embarking on this course must demonstrate an interest in current affairs.

Exam Board:

AQA

Career Pathway

ICT Computing

BTEC LEVEL 3: EXTENDED CERTIFICATE IN ICT

Course Description:

This engaging programme is aimed at students who are interested in an introduction into the study of creating IT systems to manage and share information.

Students will study 4 units over the 2 years. These are Information Technology Systems, Creating Systems to Manage Information, Using Social Media in Business and Website Development.

Assessment:

The course has both externally and internally assessed units.

External - Information Technology Systems (2hr written examination), Creating Systems to Manage Information (2 x practical examination – 1 x 3hrs, 1 x 2hrs).

Internal - Using Social Media in Business, Website Development (all coursework)

Entry Requirements:

5 Grade 4's and above to include BTEC Level 2 in Information Communication Technology – Pass or GCSE Computer Studies Grade 4, if taken. Access to a computer is essential.

Exam board:

Edexcel

BTEC LEVEL 3 MEDIA

Course Description:

The Aim of this course is to develop young film makers who strive for excellence and originality in their work. Students will be expected to develop the skills required in the Film production life cycle. These skills include an understanding and ability to apply varying research techniques, communication and planning skills, technical skills such as the ability to use film and sound recording equipment, an understanding of different shots and angles used in film, creative skills and the ability to edit to a high standard. As part of the learning journey students will watch review and analyse existing film products to learn and develop knowledge. In so doing, students will achieve academically and develop skills and a passion that they will hopefully carry forward into many different aspects of their life.

You will enjoy this course if you wish to develop:

- skills and knowledge relevant to a particular media sector in particular film
- an understanding of professional practice in the media industry
- an appreciation of the way the media industry is structured and how it works
- a show-reel or portfolio of work

Assessment:

Over the two years students need to complete four units. Unit 4 and Unit 10 will require students to plan and produce a short film. Students will be expected to develop their knowledge and understanding of the film production process by way of some initial modelling tasks before starting these units in year 12. Students will take a practical exam (Unit 8) at the end of year 12 which will draw on the students understanding of the film production process. Unit 1, which will be sat as an examined paper in year 13, requires learners to consider how different media representations are constructed by media producers to create meaning, messages and values, this will require students to look at a range of media products including film, TV, radio and magazines.

Entry Requirements:

5 Grade 4's and above to include a keen interest in Media and a Merit in Level 2 Media BTEC or GCSE Media, if taken. Access to a computer is essential.

Exam Board:

Edexcel

Career Pathway

A level Media has many direct or indirect transferrable skills it also qualifies for full UCAS points so if you complete it successfully you could move on to study for a degree or BTEC Higher National Diploma in related subjects. You could also go on to seek relevant employment in the ever increasing media sector.

BTEC LEVEL 3 EXTENDED CERTIFICATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE

Course Description:

Designed as a one-year full-time course or a full two-year programme when studied alongside further Level 3 qualifications.

Equivalent in size to one A Level. 4 units of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external. Mandatory content (83%). External assessment (58%).

Content:

Year 12:

Unit 1: Principles and Applications of Science 90 Credits

Unit 2: Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques 90 Credits

Year 13:

Unit 3: Science Investigation Skills 120 Credits

Optional Unit - a choice will be made from units 8 – 16 60 Credits

Assessment:

Year 12:

Unit 1: Principles and Applications of Science I – External - Written examination set and marked by Pearson. 1.5 hours, 90 marks

Unit 2: Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques – Internal

Year 13:

Unit 3: Science Investigation Skills – External - A task set and marked by Pearson and completed under supervised conditions. The supervised assessment period is arranged over 9 days timetabled by Pearson. The scenario and practical investigation in Part A is given to learners 8 days before Part B is scheduled and is undertaken under supervision in a single session of 3 hours. Part B is a set task that is undertaken under supervision in a single session of 1.5 hours in a session timetabled by Pearson. 60 marks.

Optional Unit - a choice will be made from units 8 – 16 - Internal

BTEC LEVEL 3 EXTENDED CERTIFICATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE - *CONTINUED*

Entry Requirements:

5 Grade 4's and above to include GCSE Sciences at Grade 4 and above. GCSE Mathematics at Grade 4 and above.

Exam Board:

Pearson for Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Applied Science.

Career Pathway

The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to meeting admission requirements for many courses if taken alongside other qualifications as part of a two-year programme of learning, including, but not exclusively, those which are science-related. The qualification can be taken as part of a diverse programme, leaving progression options fully open. It can also give context to subjects which would benefit from some scientific background. This will depend on the combination of qualifications chosen.

For example, taken alongside:

- A Levels such as Mathematics, Physics and Design and Technology to progress to engineering related courses
- A Level in Psychology and BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Sport to progress to sport psychology courses
- BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Health and Social Care to progress to nursing courses
- BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Sport and Exercise Science to progress to sport and exercise science courses
- A Levels in Geography and Computing to progress to geography or environmental science courses.

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