

A LEVEL FINE ART

The Fine Art course promotes an experimental approach using a range of materials including painting, print and mixed media. Observational drawing underpins all Fine Art practice and is an essential requirement for the course. Students engage in practical studio work aimed to further their knowledge and understanding of a range of processes. All practical work is contextualised with research and analysis of artists' work.

Introduction

You will be encouraged to further your artistic interests, understanding and skills within a supportive environment, and to explore and develop ideas.

During the first year of the course you will build upon your previous experience and develop your understanding and appreciation of a varied selection of art processes. In the second year you will focus on areas that interest you and build an impressive portfolio of work.

Although the bulk of materials will be provided, you will be asked to purchase display files and certain core items. These are available from the college shop.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include GCSE grade 4 or above in an Art and Design subject or BTEC equivalent. (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

Alternatively – submission of a suitable portfolio and successful interview.

How will I be assessed?

The Fine Art course is 60% coursework and 40% externally set examination. All work is internally assessed and then externally verified by an exam board moderator.

What will I study?

Drawing, painting, mixed media and printmaking. You will also be introduced to a wide range of contemporary and historical artists and art forms that will allow you to grow and develop your own style. You will be encouraged to research, experiment and develop personal and innovative pieces of work that will stretch and challenge your individual artistic talents. Visits to galleries, universities and field trips are an integral part of the course.

Where will this course lead me?

Developing your creative understanding can be useful in many fields of learning as well as a range of careers. It is particularly appropriate for advertising, architecture, industrial or product design, history of art, teaching and work in the creative industries. Studying an Art course is an excellent way to develop soft skills such as independence. It will improve time management and problem solving skills whilst developing creative thinking skills and resilience.

After further study at an art school, Fine Art can lead to careers in design, textiles, fashion or even as a practising artist.

A LEVEL BIOLOGY

This is a really exciting time to be studying Biology because so much new work is being done which affects all our lives. Genetic engineering, the human genome project, genetic testing and screening, biotechnology, genetically modified organisms, cloning, conservation and sustainable resources are some examples of important issues that everyone should know about in order to understand new developments and to make informed decisions.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include Double Award GCSE Science Higher Tier 6,6 (or above) or GCSE Biology 6 (or above) plus a minimum of either GCSE Chemistry 6 or GCSE Physics 6. You must also have achieved GCSE Mathematics grade 5 or above (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details). Those students who have taken BTEC Level 2 Science are not qualified for this course and should consider the BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Applied Biology course as an alternative.

How will I be assessed?

100% Examination. Practical skills are embedded within the course and are assessed as part of the practical endorsement of the A level as well as in the written examinations.

What will I study?

Over the two year A Level course you will study biological molecules, cells, organisms, exchange systems, genetics, variation, energy transfer, nervous system, evolution, ecosystems and gene technology.

Where will this course lead me?

Biology is an essential subject if you are interested in a career with a medical or bio-medical bias e.g. medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, nursing, pharmacy, physiotherapy, forensic science, or biochemistry. It is also an important and useful subject for anyone interested in careers in conservation, biotechnology, sports science and psychology. In addition there are a large number of biology related university degree courses e.g. Marine Biology, Microbiology, Zoology.

A LEVEL BUSINESS STUDIES

Business is a subject which looks at the issues real businesses face. In the lessons, students examine these issues in an interactive way, learning about how to apply business theories and ideas to different contexts. Business is a challenging subject and you must be able to express yourself well in a written format, as the course relies heavily on completing essay based questions. You will also need to be a strong verbal communicator and will be expected to be familiar with current issues in business.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include GCSE Mathematics grade 5 or above (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

100% examination.

What will I study?

A level Business will introduce you to the dynamic business environment and the importance of entrepreneurial activity in creating business opportunities and sustaining business growth. You will gain an understanding of the important role played by small businesses in the economy and the opportunities that exist for entrepreneurs, as well as the importance of established business and not-for-profit organisations in providing goods and services.

You will start by looking at the concept of starting a new business and the issues that surround this. In order to succeed in a competitive market, you will learn about the core functions of business. You will apply a number of analytical techniques, including decision-making models, investment appraisal tools and ratio analysis, to investigate business opportunities and problems to determine business strategy in a range of contexts.

You will also focus on how businesses succeed in a dynamic external environment. The business world never stands still and there are continuous opportunities and threats to businesses of all sizes. Businesses now operate in a global marketplace and they need to consider a wide range of external factors that affect their day-to-day activities, decision-making and strategy.

Where will this course lead me?

Students progress to a wide variety of university courses, especially in areas such as business, economics, management, retailing, enterprise, finance, accountancy and administration. It is a very useful starting point for careers in the business world.

On this course you will acquire a range of essential skills for Higher Education and employment including communication and team work skills as well as business skills such as decision-making, problem-solving, the challenging of assumptions and critical analysis.

A LEVEL CHEMISTRY

Chemistry is the study of how the elements and their compounds behave. It overlaps with Physics and Biology as chemical principles underpin the physical environment in which we live, as well as all biological systems.

Introduction

In this course you will develop essential knowledge and understanding of fundamental chemical concepts, as well as a variety of areas of chemistry, and you will get to grips with how these relate to each other. You will also develop a deeper appreciation of how chemistry plays a major role in providing the comfortable modern lifestyle we appreciate and how it contributes to the success of the economy and to society more broadly.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include Double Award GCSE Science Higher Tier 6,6 (or above) or GCSE Chemistry 6 (or above) plus a minimum of either GCSE Biology 6 or GCSE Physics 6. You must also have achieved GCSE Mathematics grade 6 or above, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

100% Examination. Practical skills are embedded within the course and are assessed as part of the practical endorsement of the A level as well as in the written examinations.

What will I study?

Topics covered during the course include quantitative chemistry, atomic structure, chemical bonding and the Periodic Table, organic chemistry, transition metals, acids and amines, energy changes, rates of reaction and equilibria. The course also includes practical work which helps develop your understanding.

Where will this course lead me?

Chemistry impacts on every part of our daily lives. Without chemistry there would be no plastics, cosmetics, brightly coloured dyes or synthetic fibres. There would be no drugs to fight disease, nor any methods to monitor pollution. Chemistry is an essential qualification for entry into Medicine, Dentistry, Biological Sciences and Veterinary Science and is preferred for entry into Physiotherapy.

A LEVEL COMPUTER SCIENCE

Computer Science is not about using computers. It is about controlling and shaping the digital world through programming. From Snapchat and Facebook to running nuclear power stations, software development is at the heart of modern living.

Introduction

The course has an emphasis on abstract thinking, problem solving, programming skills, algorithmic and mathematical reasoning and computational hardware. If you want to learn about programming, networking, how hardware and software operates and enjoy solving complex problems, then you will enjoy this course.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include a minimum GCSE Mathematics grade 6. You do not need to have studied Computer Science at GCSE, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

- 80% Examination
- 20% Coursework

In the coursework component students are required to undertake an in depth programming project to solve a realistic problem which is worth 20% of the marks for the qualification.

What will I study?

You will acquire knowledge and understanding of software, system development, data and applications.

The course will focus on

- Analysis of user requirements, design and implementation of solutions

- Gaining an in-depth knowledge of computing and related topics
- Developing knowledge of programming theory
- Building practical skills in developing software programs
- Using the visual basic programming environment

The coursework will:

- Develop your skills in analysis, design, software development, documentation, testing and evaluation of a system leading to a solution to the given problem

This will include:

- Design, create and test computer programs
- Research and understand computing concepts
- Enhance your ability to work with numbers
- Develop your problem solving skills

Where will this course lead me?

This subject is ideal if you intend to go on to study Computer Science or Software Engineering at degree level. There are many related courses where knowledge of programming is an advantage. It is viewed as a challenging and rewarding subject, in the same way as Mathematics and Science A levels. Please note that it is not necessary to take A level Computer Science in order to study Computer Science at university but it can be an advantage.

APPLIED DIPLOMA CRIMINOLOGY

Criminology is a fascinating course that will allow you to explore a range of criminal offences, theories of criminal behaviour and the techniques used by crime scene investigators. By the end of the course you will have gained an in-depth knowledge of how the criminal justice system works, from the moment a crime has been discovered, right up until a verdict is reached in court.

Introduction

Criminology is a subject with elements of psychology, law and sociology that complements studies in humanities but can be combined with any other A level subjects. The qualification carries UCAS points equivalent to one A level. It relies heavily on the use of case studies and will enable you to develop many valuable skill such as:

- Independent learning and research.
- Analysing information and arriving at logical conclusions.
- Applying your knowledge and solving problems.
- Working with others on projects and presenting your findings.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

The course is a combination of external exams and vocational style assignments. There are four units. Two of these are internally assessed controlled assessments and two are externally assessed exams.

What will I study?

In the first unit you will learn about different types of crime, influences on perceptions of crime and why some crimes are unreported. The second unit will allow you to gain an understanding of why people commit crime.

This will involve studying various possibilities such as biological theories of crime which consider a person's genetic makeup and physical appearance in an attempt to show that people are born criminals. The third unit gives an in depth look at the criminal justice system, including the courts and the role of law enforcement officers and crime scene investigators. You will develop the skills needed to examine evidence and review verdicts in criminal cases. In the final unit, you will apply the knowledge you have gained in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the methods we use to control crime.

Where will this course lead me?

The course has been designed to support students going to university. It could lead to a variety of higher education degree courses, such as:

- BSc Criminology
- BSc (Hons) Criminology and Psychology
- LLB (Hons) Law with Criminology
- BA (Hons) Criminology and Sociology
- BSc (Hons) Psychology and Sociology

Alternatively, the qualification will give you the required understanding and skills to be able to consider employment in some areas of the criminal justice system, e.g. the National Probation Service, the police or the Courts and Tribunals Service. However these are just some of the possibilities.

A LEVEL ECONOMICS

Economics is a challenging yet fascinating subject which has seen a rise in popularity with students in the last few years. When you read the newspaper or watch the news you will be constantly presented with economic issues.

Introduction

Everything from the latest figures for economic growth, the role of the government in providing health care, the price of a pint of milk, traffic congestion, the behaviour of consumers and businesses, the impact of business on the environment and global economic problems are all affected by economics. On this course you will gain understanding of the concepts behind these economic issues.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include GCSE Mathematics grade 5 or above, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

100% examination.

What will I study?

A level Economics is structured into three themes and consists of three externally examined papers. You will build knowledge and understanding of core economic models and concepts in microeconomics, macroeconomics and trade and development. You will need to apply your knowledge and understanding to both familiar and unfamiliar contexts in the assessments and demonstrate an awareness of current economic events and policies. You will be encouraged to use an enquiring, critical and thoughtful approach to the study of economics and to develop the ability to think as an economist.

Where will this course lead me?

Students will develop transferable skills that support study in a wide range of subjects at university and the transition to employment. Students can progress from this qualification to studying economics at university. Alternatively, students may choose to study a Business Economics, Mathematical Economics or Business degree. Students can progress to a wide range of careers ranging from finance, banking, insurance, accountancy, management and consultancy, to becoming professional economists.



Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate

ENGINEERING

The Cambridge Tech L3 in Engineering develops learners' knowledge and understanding of the mathematical and physical concepts which underpin the skills need to solve a range of engineering problems. This course is ideal for students interested going on to study degrees within the many fields of Engineering at University and completion of this course also supports the application to a Higher apprenticeship with an engineering company should you choose a more vocational progression following college. It is also a course which complements 'A' levels such as Maths and Physics, supporting continued study within these fields too.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry including GCSE Mathematics minimum Grade 6 and either GCSE Science 6,6 or GCSE Physics 6 or above.

How will I be assessed?

- Coursework 40%
- Examination 60%

The course is a combination of 4 external exams and 2 vocational style coursework units.

What will I study?

There are 4 examined units across the two years in which you develop the fundamental knowledge and tools of an engineer:

- Mathematics for engineering -this includes algebra, use of geometry and graphs, exponentials and logarithms, calculus, trigonometry statistics – all applied in the context of engineering problems.
- Science for engineering – you will gain an understanding of the fundamental scientific principles of electrical and electronic engineering, properties of materials, principles of fluid mechanics and basic principles of thermal physics.

- Principles of mechanical engineering – you will develop an understanding of systems of forces and types of loading on mechanical components, the fundamental geometric properties relevant, levers, pulleys and gearing, the properties of beams and the principles of dynamic systems.
- Principles of electrical and electronic engineering – you will develop an understanding of fundamental electrical principles, alternating voltage and current, electric motors and generators, power supplies and power system protection, analogue electronics and digital electronics

In addition to these examined units you will undertake two coursework units which enable you to develop other skills desired by both universities and employers including critical thinking, problem solving, and creative thinking.

A LEVEL ENGLISH LANGUAGE

English Language involves studying a range of authentic texts and transcripts taken from everyday sources and a variety of contexts. It considers how texts are designed for particular audiences and purposes. It also involves studying how the dimensions of power, technology, history and age can significantly influence the ways individuals, social groups and institutions communicate.

Introduction

What is the difference between English Language and English Literature?

These subjects are radically different disciplines that involve practising very different skills. English Literature is about reading, analysing and evaluating poetry, prose and drama, looking at the ways that writers use techniques to create effects. English Language is the study of language taken from everyday sources including examples of written and spoken text. It focuses on how values, attitudes and purposes are revealed through the mechanics of language and how these can vary according to gender, power, time and technology. This is very different from English Language at GCSE.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include a grade 5 in GCSE English Language and a grade 5 in GCSE English Literature, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through external examinations and coursework.

What will I study?

The course is designed to sharpen your understanding of how language works, with detailed analysis of language use in a range of texts.

- You will look at how language can be used to achieve particular effects in different contexts, for different audiences and purposes.
- You will develop your creative and analytical skills by learning to discuss texts with increasing confidence and precision.
- You will also acquire knowledge of linguistic frameworks and how these are used to create meaning.

You should be willing to justify your ideas during class discussions and in written essays and enjoy working both independently and in a group

Where will this course lead me?

English Language combines well with most subjects and can lead to a wide variety of courses in Higher Education. It prepares you for careers which require good communication skills such as teaching, journalism and media, advertising, marketing or personnel work.

A LEVEL

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

A Level English Language and Literature combined takes a linguistic approach to the study of literature. You will study a range of literary and non-literary texts to uncover how language is used for entertainment and public information. Utilising your newly acquired knowledge of grammar and word class, you will learn how to manipulate language for creative and functional purposes.

Introduction

Studying English Language and Literature will develop your skills of analysis and enhance your understanding of poetry, prose and drama.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include a grade 5 in GCSE English Language and a grade 5 in GCSE English Literature, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through external examinations and coursework.

What will I study?

During the course you will study a range of literary and non-literary texts, including texts from a range of genres.

You should enjoy reading and literature in general and you will also be expected to conduct your own wider reading.

You should be willing to justify your ideas during class discussions and in written essays, and enjoy working both independently and in a group.

Where will this course lead me?

English Language and Literature is a widely recognised academic subject that can be combined with arts, science or mathematics for entry into Higher Education. It prepares you for careers which require good communication skills such as teaching, law, civil and social services, journalism and media, librarianship and management.

A LEVEL ENGLISH LITERATURE

To understand human experience across history and in contemporary life we must look to its literature. Studying English Literature with us will provide you with the opportunity to explore a wide range of exciting poetry, prose and drama from different periods, as well as undertaking an independent coursework project inspired by your own reading interests.

Introduction

You will also enjoy 'reading around' the texts, considering the interpretations of other readers and the times in which they were written and received. Students leave us with both a highly regarded academic qualification and a love of literature that will stay with them for the rest of their lives.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include a grade 5 in GCSE English Language and a grade 5 in GCSE English Literature, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through external examinations and coursework.

What will I study?

You will study a range of literary texts including poetry, prose and drama, with the addition of independent wider reading. You will analyse how texts relate to one another and certain literary traditions, plus how texts are interpreted by different readers, including during different time periods.

To get the most out of your course, you should be an enthusiastic reader and be prepared for extensive reading, including reading around the subject to inform your interpretation of texts.

You should be willing to justify your ideas during class discussions and in written essays, and enjoy working both independently and in a group.

Where will this course lead me?

English Literature is a facilitating subject; a widely recognised academic subject that can be combined with arts, science or mathematics for entry into Higher Education. It prepares you for careers which require good communication skills such as teaching, law, civil and social services, journalism and media, librarianship and management.

A LEVEL FILM STUDIES

Film Studies is the academic study of film and is designed to deepen your understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of film.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

A level Film Studies is assessed by both coursework and written examination. The coursework element is worth 30% of your overall grade, while the written examination is worth 70% of your overall grade.

What will I study?

The course covers a range of cinematic styles, periods and cultures. We start with study of the principles of film form, including editing, cinematography, sound and mise-en-scene. We also cover areas such as genre, narrative, representation, ideology and the variety of contexts in which films can be placed. Much of this early part of the course will use well-known, fairly familiar examples from British and Hollywood cinema.

We will then start to study specific films for particular components of the A level examination. Component 1 is focused on British and American narrative cinema.

For section A, we will compare at least one classical Hollywood picture (1930-1960) with another from the New Hollywood era (1961-1990), looking at the ways in which key directors have achieved distinctive visions within different production contexts. Another section deals with American film since 2005, comparing examples of mainstream Hollywood to more independent films in order to examine spectatorship issues.

The final section will involve study of two post-1995 British films with a focus on representation, ideology and different critical approaches.

Component 2 brings even greater variety to our study of film.

One section involves comparison of two non-English language films (1990-present) focusing on technique and style. Another section offers the chance to study a feature-length documentary film in detail, examining various theories about realism and exploring the problematic gap between fact and fiction. We then look at films from the silent period (1915-1930) when early cinema represented an innovative high-point for modernism. The final section is an opportunity to study experimental film from the 1960-2000 period; we look at cinema that has challenged audience expectations through distinctive approaches to narrative structure, editing, sound, mise-en-scene and cinematography.

The third component is coursework and will consist of a 4-5 minute short film supported by an analysis of about 1800 words in which you explain your stylistic and narrative choices in detail.

Where will this course lead me?

The majority of our students progress to university courses each year; many of them take degree courses in Film or related areas, while others use their Film Studies A level to access a wide range of other degree courses.

In addition to jobs specifically in the film industry, the A Level course can help you to access a wide range of careers in areas such as journalism, public relations, research, teaching and many others.

A LEVEL FRENCH

Choosing French will allow you to develop excellent French language skills, as well as an interest and enthusiasm for the history, politics and culture of France. It will help you to improve your understanding of French grammar to give you confidence to communicate in a variety of situations. You should be willing to justify your ideas during class discussions and in written essays, and enjoy working both independently and in a group.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include a minimum GCSE grade 6 in French, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

Students must also have been entered for higher papers at GCSE.

How will I be assessed?

- Paper 1 – Listening, Reading and Translation 50%
- Paper 2 – Writing 20%
- Paper 3 – Speaking 30%

What will I study?

In the first year, you will study a range of topics including:

- Changes in society, the role of volunteering, the importance of heritage, music and the importance of cinema in the French speaking world.
- You will have dedicated speaking lessons to improve your confidence and fluency when discussing a range of topics
- You will study a French film.
- You will also gain a deeper understanding of grammar and translation skills.

In the second year, you will study a range of topics including:

- Multicultural society, the challenges of immigration and integration, the engagement of young people in politics, the role of strikes and demonstrations in the French speaking world and how criminals are dealt with in French speaking societies.
- You will also study a French novel.
- You will also carry out an individual research project on a cultural theme that you are interested in and conduct your

You will also have dedicated speaking lessons.

Where will this course lead me?

Studying French will give students excellent career opportunities and life-long skills in today's global market. Knowledge of another language makes students more employable by standing out from the crowd. Employers value the transferable skills that linguists demonstrate.

French is a subject that can be combined with Arts, Business, Law, Science and almost any other subject for entry into Higher Education and employment.

It prepares you for careers that require good communication skills in a global environment such as business, management, law, engineering, international marketing, teaching and journalism.

In addition to your A level French course St John Rigby College is proud to be in a unique position in the local area to be able to offer Arabic for the first time for our students. Thanks to funding awarded by The British Council and The Qatar Foundation, we are offering an entry level, extra-curricular course, which can lead to a recognised Level 1 qualification. This is something we encourage all our linguists to take part in.

We are also offering this opportunity to Year 10 and Year 11 students in our partner secondary schools. These lessons take place via Teams with our Arabic teacher and are a wonderful way for those studying a GCSE language to take on an additional language or new challenge, or equally for those who are not studying a GCSE language to learn the basics of one of the world's most spoken languages.

A LEVEL FURTHER MATHEMATICS

When studying A Level Further Mathematics you go deeper into the theory of Maths; learning the material in a more stretching and challenging way. Further Maths enables students to broaden their knowledge of Maths and also study Maths to a level similar to that studied at university, and as such, students go to university better prepared.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include GCSE Mathematics minimum Grade 7. A Level Further Mathematics and A Level Mathematics make up Double Mathematics and must be studied together (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

100% Examination.

What will I study?

In addition to the topics covered within the A Level Mathematics course, Further Mathematics students also study:

- Imaginary numbers – How negative numbers can have square roots and what the consequences are. This is applied in complex calculus and is unexpectedly useful in Electrical Engineering
- Maclaurin's Series – The Maths behind how values of sines, cosines and tangents are found
- Polar Co-ordinates – How more complex functions can be graphed and their areas calculated
- Second Order Differential Equations – The Maths behind the stability of static and dynamics structures such as bridges and aircraft

Where will this course lead me?

Mathematics courses at university, but Further Mathematics is useful for other degrees such as Engineering, Sciences, Economics, IT and Computing.

It is also essential for those students wishing to study Mathematics at some of the top universities.

A LEVEL GEOGRAPHY

Geography is one of the most cutting edge subjects available for study. This course will give you an understanding of some of the key issues that humanity faces. You will study a range of both human and physical units, focusing on both traditional and contemporary geographical issues. You will gain a deeper understanding of local and global issues and enhance your analytical skills. You will also develop your investigative skills and have the opportunity to participate in a number of day visits and residential field trips.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include Mathematics grade 5 and Geography grade 4, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

- 80% examination
- 20% coursework

What will I study?

During your first year you will study a range of human and physical geographies. We will look at the theory of plate tectonics and challenges presented by natural hazards such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and tsunamis to humanity, and the measures that can be taken to attempt to overcome them.

We also study globalisation, assessing the social, economic, political, and environmental consequences of our shrinking world and analysing the impact that large businesses such as Amazon have on people in both the developed and developing world.

We also investigate the importance of our coastlines, examining the geographical processes that have worked to shape these ever-changing landscapes and the strategies used by humans in their management.

We also research the idea of 'place,' considering the factors that have shaped them over time, as well as the reasons for the inequalities that can exist between them and how regeneration has been used to try and address them.

In the second year you will begin by completing your coursework. You will have a choice to focus on either a human or physical area of study that is related to one of the topics that we study as part of the A-level course.

We will study both the carbon and water cycles and the impact that human activities are having upon these systems and the critical implications that climate change will have upon our species and planet.

We will study aspects of geo-politics, including the role of existing and emerging superpowers in shaping international relations, as well as how the global community and institutions such as the UN intervene in humanitarian and human rights-based issues with varying degrees of success.

Where will this course lead me?

Geography graduates are highly sought and have the lowest rate of unemployment of any graduate (Times Education 2013). Geography students learn a range of skills including essay writing, presentation, IT use and scientific analysis. Many students go on to university to study Geography or similar subjects, such as Environmental Science, Geology, Zoology or Marine Biology. Due to the wide range of skills gained, graduates go on to various careers including engineering, insurance, marketing, travel & tourism, politics, teaching and environmental management.

A LEVEL GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

Government and Politics is the study of the ideas and beliefs of people; it focuses on the origins and development of political beliefs and how these have affected the ways in which countries are governed. This subject helps to understand the motivations behind differing political beliefs and also the approaches of different forms of government and other organisations in tackling the challenges faced by every society.

Introduction

Government and Politics provides you with the opportunity to understand how the UK and USA are governed, developing an understanding of the world around you. You will also develop your own personal skills in research, constructing arguments and reaching and evaluating judgements.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

100% examination.

What will I study?

During the course you will study the political ideas that exist in the UK as well as the way in which the country is governed. You will examine the philosophies of the main political parties, and the way in which democracy works in the UK and how citizens can participate in it. You will also investigate the strengths and weaknesses of the system of government in the UK by studying the working of Parliament, the office of Prime Minister and the role of the Courts. In the second year you will widen your understanding of government and politics by studying the political system of the USA in comparison to the UK, and also

study key ideologies which lay the framework for the beliefs of the political parties and the voters which elect them, with a specific focus on socialism, liberalism, conservatism and anarchism.

Where will this course lead me?

Government and Politics will provide you with an academically recognised qualification which also provides a range of skills which are highly sought after by employers and universities. You will learn how to use information you are provided with to construct analytical arguments and challenge the principles of established ideologies. You will be able to analyse politics in the UK and USA and make judgements about them in response to questions and areas of debate. In addition you will be able to debate objectively and with confidence, evaluating ideas about government and politics.

These skills can be applied to a number of careers in the civil service, security services, law, as well as business and project management. You will get the highest marks for the most recent examples, highlighting how the subject tracks the most recent developments.

A LEVEL GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION

In Graphic Communication you are encouraged to explore a range of disciplines such as illustration, advertising, packaging, branding, editorial design, animation and web design. The Graphics classrooms are well equipped; there is a MAC computer for each student including industry standard software with the latest Adobe Creative Suite, which you will be taught to use effectively.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include grade 4 or above in GCSE Art or Design based subject or BTEC equivalent, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

Alternatively – submission of a suitable portfolio and successful interview

How will I be assessed?

The A level Graphic Communication course is 60% coursework and 40% externally set assignment. All work is internally assessed and then externally verified by an exam board moderator.

What will I study?

This course is designed to offer you a variety of projects that investigate the diverse nature of Graphic Communication. You will investigate advertising, branding, typography, illustration, animation and other related areas. The course is structured in a manner that allows you to produce work for specified briefs; this approach simulates the role of a Graphic Designer when responding to the demands of a client.

You will produce work in a range of media, using a variety of processes. You will produce computer-generated work and experiment with print-making, collage, stencilling, drawing and a range of other experimental approaches.

All the work you produce will be contextualised with research into designers and artists. You will be encouraged to take creative risks and experiment with your work.

Where will this course lead me?

Developing your creative understanding can be useful in many fields of learning as well as a range of careers. It is particularly appropriate for branding, advertising, illustration, industrial or product design, architecture, computer games design, teaching, and working in the creative industries.

Studying an Art course is an excellent way to develop soft skills such as independence. It will improve time management and problem solving skills whilst developing creative thinking skills and resilience.

A LEVEL HISTORY (MODERN)

Studying History at St. John Rigby College offers a range of exciting opportunities. Some of these opportunities include trips to Berlin, Washington DC and Beijing, alongside local visits to places such as the Cold War Centre, Jodrell Bank and the Slavery Museum in Liverpool. We also offer a range of extracurricular activities, including student essay competitions through universities and an active Debate Club which regularly competes at the Model United Nations, European Youth Parliament and Debating Matters events. Furthermore, we actively work with local universities such as the University of Manchester and provide a supportive programme for applicants to Oxford and Cambridge, Russell Group and broader university applications.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry. You do not need to have studied History at GCSE. However, if you have studied GCSE History we would expect you to have obtained at least a grade 4, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

- 80% Examination
- 20% Coursework
- Exam Board = AQA
- Unit 1J British Empire 1857-1967
- Unit 2R Cold War 1945-1991
- NEA Witchcraft 1563-1662

What will I study?

Studying History gives you the opportunity to gain an understanding of how the modern world came to be. Through your studies of the British Empire you will examine how Britain shaped other nations through war, economic and cultural actions. This will include an analysis of India, Africa and the Middle East and the impact of the First and Second World War on British rule. This topic will also allow you to see how our own society came to be altered, studying attitudes on race and nationalism, leaving a legacy of how we perceive the world and how we expect other nations to treat us.

Your studies of the Cold War (1945-1991) will examine the history of superpower conflict between the USA and the Soviet Union which created new nations and a legacy which effects the world to this day. You will study the actions of political figures such as President Kennedy and Soviet leader Stalin in shaping their nations foreign policy. You will also learn about conflict in places such as Korea, Vietnam and Afghanistan, which continue to have an impact today. We will also focus on espionage, the arms and space race and crises which very nearly ended the world, such as that in Cuba in 1962.

Our coursework unit focuses witch hunting across Britain and the German states, where you will independently study the roots of the witch craze 1563 – 1662.

Where will this course lead me?

History provides a range of analytical skills that are highly sought after by universities and employers. Skills in examining sources and using evidence to reach judgements can be applied to a number of careers including law, accountancy, business management, teaching and banking.

A LEVEL HISTORY (ANCIENT)

The study of Ancient History will enable you to develop an in-depth knowledge of selected periods of classical Greek and Roman history. Your studies will involve the analysis and evaluation of ancient source material and modern historians' debates, to examine the military, political, religious, social, and cultural developments in Greek and Roman history.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry. No prior knowledge of the subject is required, and you do not need to have studied GCSE Ancient History or GCSE History. However, if you have studied them, we would expect you to have obtained at least a Grade 4.

How will I be assessed?

100% Examination.

There are two exams of 2 hours 30 minutes, each worth 98 marks.

What will I study?

In Year 12, you will initially focus on a period study on relations between the Greek states and between Greek and non-Greek states, including the victory over the Persian Empire (492–404 BC). The course will then focus on a depth study of the politics and society of Sparta (478–404 BC), including its educational values and military culture.

In Year 13, you will initially study the development of the empire of Rome as a period study, examining the role of the Julio-Claudian Emperors, including two of the most notorious Emperors, Caligula, and Nero (31 BC–AD 68). The course will then focus on a depth study in Ruling Roman Britain (AD 43 – c.128), including the Roman conquest and expansion and resistance to Roman rule.

Where will this course lead me?

The study of Ancient History is highly respected by all universities and is desirable if you have an interest in Classics, Ancient History or Archaeology. Furthermore, Ancient History is flexible in that it can be combined with other A level subjects like History, Politics, Geography, Law, English, Art and the languages. Ancient History is also highly valued by employers due to the transferable skills you will develop, including comprehension, critical thinking, analysis and evaluation, alongside your research and presentation skills.

A LEVEL LAW

Law is an interesting and challenging subject that explores the intricacies of the English legal system; from how laws are created, used and interpreted, to examining the role and importance of the different personnel working within the system itself. Students will also study several areas of substantive law and learn how to apply this law to 'real-life' scenarios.

Introduction

Study of Law is the ideal starting point for anyone interested in a career in the law, but also acts as the perfect accompaniment to any combination of A levels for students keen to develop their academic skills.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry, (Please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

- 100% examination.

What will I study?

Law is an exciting subject, taught in a dynamic way, involving a wide range of learning activities. The study of law requires students to process a large volume of information relating to case law, acts of parliament, practices and procedure. This is a subject that also requires lateral thinking and enhances a student's problem-solving skills.

The course details the legal system in England and Wales, examining how different sources of law are created and used. Students will also study substantive areas of law – criminal law, tort and contract law. Topics such as murder, manslaughter, negligence and nuisance will be studied, and these areas of law will then be applied to scenarios. Finally, A level Law also examines the current legal system in relation to concepts such as morality and the definition of justice.

Where will this course lead me?

Many of our students go on to Higher Education to study Law, including many at Russell Group universities. A growing number of students are also choosing a more vocational route into a legal career through a Legal Apprenticeship, and are finding their A level in Law a valuable foundation for their further study. Our students have also progressed into non-legal careers. Law is considered a challenging and demanding subject that enhances both academic and problem-solving skills, and these skills are seen as imperative for the study of a variety of subjects at university.

A LEVEL

MATHEMATICAL STUDIES – CORE MATHS

Core Mathematics is a brand new course for those who want to keep up their valuable mathematical skills but are not planning to take AS or A level mathematics. Core Maths has been designed to maintain and develop real life maths skills.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include GCSE Mathematics minimum grade 4, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

100% examination.

What will I study?

We study areas of Maths that lie outside GCSE and A Level. It is Maths that can be applied on a day-to-day basis. Included within the course are financial elements such as taxation and interest rates, business related skills using statistics and probability and Gantt charts (used in project management). It helps with many A Level subjects – particularly those that involve a numerical element.

Where will this course lead me?

At the end of the one-year course, you will come out with a level 3 qualification which carries UCAS points equivalent to an AS level. The skills developed in the study of mathematics are increasingly important in the workplace and in higher education; studying Core Mathematics will help you keep up these essential skills. Most students who study maths after GCSE improve their career choices and increase their earning potential.

A LEVEL MATHEMATICS

Mathematics is a fantastic subject which combines Pure Mathematics topics such as algebra, geometry and functions with Applied Mathematics modules. The study of Mathematics shows potential employers that you have a highly logical mind that can present organised arguments to solve numerical problems – a skill which is widely sought.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include GCSE Mathematics minimum grade 6, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

100% Examination.

What will I study?

Mathematics brings together topics that you study at school with advanced techniques, including coordinate geometry, algebra, trigonometry, logarithms and calculus, and using methods of integration and differentiation to calculate rates of change. Students will also study Statistics and Mechanics, using advanced probabilities and Newton's Laws.

Where will this course lead me?

Students with A level Mathematics have excellent study and career opportunities. The qualification is very highly regarded for a broad range of university courses and is highly valued by employers. Many students will progress to mathematics degrees or engineering and science based courses including medicine. Future opportunities include training as an accountant or an economist.

A LEVEL MEDIA STUDIES

The A Level Media Studies course introduces you to the academic study of the mass media, as well as helping you to develop a range of intellectual and practical skills.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

- 70% Examination
- 30% Coursework

What will I study?

You will study a range of print and audio-visual media products, including advertising, television, radio, film, newspapers, magazines, games and online media. The course will enable you to investigate issues around production, audiences and marketing, as well as the artistic and technical aspects of the media. You will become familiar with a number of media theorists and will also learn how to apply theoretical perspectives to specific media products, as well as evaluating the effectiveness of different media theories.

You will develop sophisticated skills in analysing a wide range of media products, and gain an understanding of how visual, written and audio elements are used to create meaning and affect the target audience.

You will also study how different groups are portrayed in the media, and will investigate a number of audience theories. You will build up a wealth of technical terminology, which you will be able to use in your written work; this will contribute to the deeper understanding of the media which you will develop.

For the coursework, you will be able to choose from a range of practical print-based projects, and to follow your own personal interests in the media.

Where will this course lead me?

The majority of our students progress to university each year; many of them take degree courses in Media or related areas, while others use their Media Studies A level to access a wide range of other degree courses.

While many students move into Media related careers such as journalism, public relations and production, the skills and knowledge they develop on the course give them access to a much broader range of potential careers.

Official figures show that Media graduates do very well in the careers market: a Higher Education Statistics Agency survey showed that graduates from Media courses were more successful in finding employment within six months than those from a range of other disciplines.



A LEVEL MUSIC

Music is a subject with many transferable skills and here at St John Rigby College, we have numerous links with other institutions such as the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester University, York University, Edge Hill University, Birmingham Conservatoire, Salford University, BIMM to name a few.

Introduction

The course at SJR allows all students to achieve well and is part of an outstanding department in an outstanding College. Music at St John Rigby College will include studies of performance and composition alongside analytical studies of music from Western Classical Music, Music for Media and Contemporary Traditional Music.

All students are offered individual lessons on their primary instrument with outstanding peripatetic musicians employed in the department for the study of performance practice.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry plus either:

- GCSE Music (minimum grade 4)
- Grade 5 in an instrument
- Grade 5 in music theory
- Related experience of music inside/outside of school
- By audition

How will I be assessed?

Performance and composition are both practical assessments. Performance is 35% of your final mark and composition is 25% of your final grade. 40% of your grade is from a two-and-a-half-hour examination at the end of year 2.

What will I study?

Within performance, students will create and perform a recital of eleven minutes of music on their chosen instrument(s). The recital will be at the end of the second year with weekly performances and instrumental lessons to

help build towards this throughout your time at College.

Composition will include two pieces of music that you will write yourself. One of these will be a free composition where you can choose the style and the other is a composition to a brief set by the exam board. Work for this unit is supported by 1:1 tuition and composition master classes.

In music analysis, you will be asked to listen to, and analyse, a range of instrumental and vocal music from different genres and traditions. You will need to write stylistic analyses of musical works based on scores you have studied and unseen works.

Where will this course lead me?

Due to the transferable skills that music offers, it is a highly regarded course for Higher Education institutions. Students progress to study Music and Music Technology at university and many are invited to apply for a conservatoire for further study of this specialist subject. Through our Maestro Programme, we work in partnership with many prestigious universities as well as the Royal Northern College of Music and Birmingham Conservatoire.

Other career pathways from studying music related course have included:

History, Management, Digital Marketing, Cosmology, Engineering, Computing Forensics, Music Therapy, Veterinary Nursing and Pharmaceutical Science.

Students have gone on to study at Salford, Derby, Huddlesfield, Edge Hill, Bath, York, London School of Music Theatre, Guildford and Birmingham.

A LEVEL PHILOSOPHY, ETHICS & RELIGION

Philosophy, Ethics & Christianity (Religious Studies) is a challenging, interesting and engaging course. It is for students who value the opportunity to explore issues concerning human life and existence; the course is not reliant upon any specific faith or belief system. During the course students are given the opportunity to participate in day conferences related to the subject areas being studied and you will be encouraged to relate learning to current affairs and issues.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

100% Examination.

What will I study?

The Religious Studies course explores three main areas of study, Ethics, Philosophy and Christianity. In Ethics you will examine ways to make moral decisions. This involves an in depth study of various ethical systems including utilitarianism, situation ethics and natural law. We will also explore a number of ethical issues including capital punishment and polyamorous relationships. The Philosophy of Religion section looks critically at arguments for the existence of God and explores the problems raised for religious believers by the nature of evil and suffering. In Philosophy you will also study religious experience, religious language and the relationship between religion and science. In Christianity we will study various aspects of Christian belief and practice including the historical Jesus, feminism in Christianity and the relationship between religion and society.

Where will this course lead me?

Religious Studies is a rigorous academic discipline that is recognised by all universities. Past students have taken subjects at Higher Education including English, History, Theology, Sociology, Philosophy, Law, Psychology and Teaching.

A LEVEL PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography is a means of communicating in a visual way. It can challenge the way we think about the world. The emphasis of the course is Fine Art Photography, using creative and expressive methods in taking photographs and manipulating in Photoshop and the darkroom.

Photography is an exciting and highly rewarding subject to take at this level, whether you intend to study it further or not. We encourage you to be inventive, independent and involved.

For most lessons you will be engaged in practical project work. You will also learn about a wide range of photographic issues through lectures, seminars and independent study, and be encouraged to think critically and conceptually about your own work and the work of artists.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include GCSE Art, Graphic Design, Photography or related course minimum grade 4 (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

Alternatively – submission of a suitable portfolio and successful interview.

Please note, those without an art-based GCSE will be considered with a portfolio of photographic work

How will I be assessed?

The A level Photography course is 60% coursework and 40% externally set assignment. All work is internally assessed and then externally verified by an exam board moderator..

What will I study?

The course involves practical photographic work covering topics such as portraiture, landscape, still-life, documentary, and experimental imagery. The appreciation and study of the work of artists and photographers is covered throughout the course.

You will learn how to make effective use of a camera according to circumstances and intentions and how to compose and refine photographic images, both using a camera and through sensitive manipulation on the computer and in the darkroom.

You will be expected to possess and use your own digital camera. The ability to undertake photographic assignments regularly out of college during daylight hours (usually at the weekends) is essential as this forms the basis of all assignments.

Where will this course lead me?

Photography is a valid choice in combination with any other A level for nearly all university degree courses. A level Photography is particularly useful if you wish to study photography, film video production, art & design or media at HND/Degree or if you wish to study an Art Foundation course.

Studying an Art course is an excellent way to develop soft skills such as independence. It will improve time management and problem solving skills whilst developing creative thinking skills and resilience.

It is possible to go directly into employment following this course as a photography or editorial assistant on a magazine, although the field is very competitive.

A LEVEL PHYSICAL EDUCATION

A Level PE is a fantastic course covering a vast array of content from all aspects of sport and physical activity. Students studying A Level PE are required to have a keen interest and knowledge of a wide range of sports and to keep up to date with current issues. Within lessons, students discover the depth of sporting context through interactive and engaging experiences. As well as having an interest in a range of sports, students must also be competing or coaching in one sport on a regular basis and at a competitive level.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include GCSE Science minimum of grade 5,5 or two of Physics, Chemistry or Biology at Grade 5.

Students must be regularly playing or coaching sport at a competitive level (club, Regional or National).

How will I be assessed?

70 % examination and 30% coursework. Coursework comprises of two components: a practical performance (15%) and a performance analysis (15%).

What will I study?

The theoretical units of this course include the academic study of Applied Anatomy and Physiology, Sports Psychology, Skill Acquisition, Sport and Society and Biomechanics. There are also two practical components of the course. The first is a practical assessment which requires a demonstration of the student as either a performer or coach in one activity from the approved list. In addition to this, you are also required to carry out an analysis of a performer and discuss their range of their performance and ways of improving their areas of weakness.

Where will this course lead me?

Students studying A Level PE go on to a wide range of opportunities on completion of the course. Those who choose to continue their studies by attending university often study courses such as Sports Science, Sports Psychology, Physiotherapy, Sports Therapy and Physical Education and School Sport. PE will also provide students with a wide knowledge base and skill set and is therefore also accepted as entry into other areas of Higher Education unrelated to sport. Employers in the public or armed services and those in the sports industry also look favourably upon this subject.

A LEVEL PHYSICS

Physics is crucial to understanding the world around us, the world inside us, and the world beyond us. It is the most basic and fundamental science. Physics challenges our imaginations with concepts like quantum and relativity, and it leads to great discoveries, like computers and lasers, that change our lives.

Introduction

A physics education equips a person to work in many different and interesting places – from any discipline of Engineering and many courses in fields such as Medicine, to a career in Government, and even Banking – places where problem-solving abilities and analytical skills are great assets.

We strongly advise that you take A level Mathematics alongside your studies in Physics. This is essential if you wish to study Physics or Engineering at university.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include Double Award GCSE Science Higher Tier 6,6 (or above) or GCSE Physics 6 (or above) plus a minimum of either GCSE Electronics 6 or GCSE Chemistry 6. You must also have achieved GCSE Mathematics grade 6 or above (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

100% Examination. Practical skills are embedded within the course and are assessed as part of the practical endorsement of the A level as well as in the written examinations.

What will I study?

The Physics course allows students to develop an understanding of the world around us from the smallest components of atoms to the vastness of space. Physics is a demanding fundamental science which requires students to have the imagination to cope with what we cannot see.

Where will this course lead me?

Physics is an essential subject for all engineering and technological related careers and courses. It allows progression to exciting fields of work such as Astronomy, Electronics, and Ophthalmology. The skills developed in this course are highly regarded as suitable foundation for many different careers.

A LEVEL PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology is the scientific study of mind and behaviour and involves the examination of various theories and consideration of research studies.

Introduction

In Psychology you will look to answer questions such as:

- Are mental disorders like depression genetic or learned?
- How does our memory work?
- How does childhood affect later romantic relationships? At the beginning of the course, we introduce you to all of the topics you will study and support you by showing you important study skills and resources available to help you succeed. There are also educational day trips and visits to enhance and enrich your studies.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include GCSE Mathematics minimum 5, Double Award GCSE Science minimum 4,4 and GCSE English Literature and Language at grade 4 (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

100% Examination.

What will I study?

In paper one, you will study cognitive psychology, developmental psychology, social psychology and psychopathology. This includes finding out about how memory works and how accurate memory is. You will study the impact of early childhood experiences on development and why people conform and obey in social situations, as well as learning about phobias, depression and obsessive compulsive disorder. You will study the causes and treatments as well as how to carry out psychological research.

Topics on paper two include psychological approaches which look to explain why we behave the way we do, including the Biological, Cognitive and Behavioural approaches. Additionally you will learn how psychologists conduct their research, from the methods they use to how they analyse their data. You will also study biopsychology, which will include understanding the relationship between the brain and behaviour.

In the second year of the A level you will study topics such as schizophrenia and aggression, which includes determining different causes of aggression and how schizophrenia is diagnosed and treated.

Where will this course lead me?

Psychology is very useful in any career that involves working with people, e.g. in social care, policing, or teaching. Many students continue to study Psychology at university which can lead to a variety of careers including clinical, educational, sport or forensic psychology. educational, health or forensic psychology.

A LEVEL SOCIOLOGY

Sociology is about explaining the reasons for peoples' behaviour. You will discuss important topics such as crime and deviance, environmentalism, religion, politics, Black Lives Matters and LGBT rights and how they influence our lives.

Introduction

This is a stimulating course where you will reflect on a wide range of issues including:

- How the media can cause crime
- Why childhood in our society is disappearing
- Why education can be damaging for society
- Why people join cults or become terrorists
- Why birth rates fallen whilst divorce rates have risen

Specific course entry requirements

College entry (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

100% Examination which are made up of 3 exams at the end of Year 13.

What will I study?

During the course you will develop your understanding of crime and deviance, education, beliefs in society and the family. The criminology module will ask you to consider if crimes like drug use and prostitution actually serve a positive function in society; does the government lie, cheat, kill, steal and then cover up their crimes as they have the power, control and wealth; statistically, why do certain ethnic minorities commit more crime and why do women commit less? In Education, you will look at the purpose of the system we have in the UK; why girls always do better than boys and why working class people are potentially disadvantaged by the education system.

Where will this course lead me?

Sociology is an excellent course to study for a wide range of careers. Universities welcome applicants who have studied Sociology as they have developed an awareness and understanding of the processes within modern British society. Studying Sociology can lead to careers in journalism, education, social care, health, police, armed forces, business, law, the media and politics.

A LEVEL SPANISH

Any modern language will give you a valuable extra skill to add to your other subjects, and is a definite advantage in today's global job market. You can take one or two languages or combine a language with many other subjects at university. Spanish is the third most spoken language in the world, with approximately 400 million speakers. It is the official language in 20 countries, in Spain, Central and South America, so there are plenty of chances to use Spanish in a global context.

As part of your studies you will be required to conduct your own research on cultural topics and to take responsibility for your own wider reading.

An interest in Hispanic culture, history and politics is recommended.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include GCSE Spanish minimum grade 6, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

- Paper 1 – Listening, Reading and Translation 50%
- Paper 2 – Essay Writing 20%
- Paper 3 – Speaking 30%

What will I study?

In the first year, you will study a range of topics including: changes in Spanish society, equality of the sexes, influence of idols, regional identity in Spain and cultural heritage in the Spanish speaking world.

You will also gain a deeper understanding of grammar and translation skills.

In the second year, you will study a range of topics including: immigration, integration and fascism, young people in society and their attitude towards politics, monarchy and dictatorships and popular movements. You will study a novel and a film from the Spanish speaking world.

You will also carry out an individual research project on a cultural theme that you are interested in and conduct your own wider reading and enjoy working both independently and in a group.

Where will this course lead me?

Studying Spanish will give you excellent career opportunities and life-long skills in today's global market. Knowledge of another language makes students more employable by standing out from the crowd. Employers value the transferable skills that linguists demonstrate.

Spanish is a subject that can be combined with arts, business, law, science and many other subjects for entry into Higher Education. It prepares you for careers that require good communication skills in a global environment such as business, management, law, engineering, international marketing, teaching and journalism.



BTEC National Extended Certificate

ACTING

This course is a highly regarded practical Performing Arts qualification. As such, there are clear links with professional actors, directors and writers from the professional world. In recent years, the course has been enriched by these links. Workshops by West-End theatre professionals such as the director in charge of Les Miserables and leading actors from stage and screen have allowed students to receive real life experience of the Performing Arts world – along with experts from drama schools such as ArtsEd in London.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry criteria plus **ANY** of the following:

- GCSE Drama (minimum grade 4)
- Performing Arts related course (minimum grade 4)
- Related experience of dance inside/outside of school
- By audition

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed through mainly practical elements giving the skills necessary for the performing arts industry. Where there is practical work, you must be prepared to perform in front of a public audience as well as peers. There are some externally assessed units but these are still completed like other units but simply sent off to an external assessor to mark.

What will I study?

During the course you will be working on practical and research work based on the profession of acting. You will study four units which look at practitioners in the world of acting, group performances, improvisation and working to a commissioned performance whilst always building your skills as a performer.

You will work individually and in groups to create practical work and then to assess this in relation to other practitioners. As much work as possible is practical in order to build the skills you need for the professional world as an actor.

Where will this course lead me?

The BTEC Extended Certificate in Performing Arts is valued by employers and universities alike. The course can be used as sound preparation for further study of performing arts at a drama school or university course. Recent leavers have gone on to study at Rose Bruford Drama School, Guildford School of Acting and various universities (including UCLan, Manchester Metropolitan University etc.) to study performing arts or related areas such as stage make-up, teaching and film production.

Other career pathways outside of studying performing arts related courses have been: Teaching, fashion, journalism, PE, sport science, english, law, psychology, counselling with drama skills, stage make-up, sociology and social media marketing.

Students have gone on to study at Northern Ballet School, Lincoln, Edge Hill, Salford, Chester, London School of Musical Theatre, UCLan, East 15 and Guildford.

BTEC National Extended Certificate**APPLIED
HUMAN BIOLOGY**

The BTEC National Extended Certificate is a two year advanced course equivalent to one A Level, and is designed to provide a specialist work-related qualification in the field of Applied Human Biological Science. This course is ideal if you wish to take your interest in Biology further. The course may complement studies in Sport, Science or Social Science and provide an alternative qualification, recognised by universities, for those who wish to further their studies in Biology through investigative coursework rather than a purely written examination.

Introduction

The Applied Human Biology course can provide the foundation for your future progression in the Health and Science Sector. The course is delivered in an applied context, focusing on the human body and the science behind modern healthcare issues. You will learn the science through real life contexts.

The course involves a has a large element, based on these you will be expected to carry out short research based assignment work either individually or as part of a small team.

You will develop your research, problem solving and study skills. You will also have the opportunity to visit a number of universities and workplaces (either virtually or in real life) to gain an insight into future careers.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include GCSE Science minimum grade 4,4 or BTEC equivalent and GCSE Mathematics 4, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

Both internal and external assessment.

What will I study?

This new course offers students the chance to further their studies of science that takes a different approach from the

traditional A level route. The BTEC Extended Certificate in Applied Human Biology uses a combination of assessment styles to give students confidence that they can apply their knowledge to succeed in the workplace and have the study skills to continue learning on higher education courses and throughout their career.

You will gain an insight into how human lifestyles and Biology impact on the health of a person and populations. You will study the details of important human biological processes, then link them to common health and healthcare issues.

Units studied will include:

Unit 1 (externally assessed exam) – Principles of Applied Human Biology

Unit 2 (internally assessed) – Practical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases

Unit 3 (externally assessed task) – Human Biology and Health Issues

Unit 4 (internally assessed) – Applied Human Anatomy and Physiology

Where will this course lead me?

The extended certificate is the equivalent size to 1 A Level. When combined with other qualifications within learners can progress into higher education courses such as Occupational Health, Nursing or Midwifery and Sport Science.

BTEC National Extended Certificate

APPLIED LAW

This course gives you an introduction to the practical side of the law. If you are interested in how law is passed and then implemented in the UK and you are self-motivated and able to meet coursework deadlines, this programme could meet your needs. The qualification is suited to students who want to experience vocational education involving production of coursework based assignments, and externally assessed work, throughout the year.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry, (Please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

Through externally assessed assignments (58%) and through coursework (42%).

What will I study?

Applied Law involves the study of four distinct units covering a range of legal topics. Students will study how law is created both by parliament and by the judiciary. They will also examine how this law is interpreted and used by personnel within the legal system.

Substantive areas of law such as Criminal Law and Tort will also be studied. Students will be asked to examine and apply the law from areas as diverse as murder, manslaughter and non-fatal offences, to civil matters such as negligence, nuisance and occupiers' liability.

Where will this course lead me?

The course is designed to appeal to students interested in a career in Law. Progression opportunities will be into Higher Education or into employment. The study of Applied Law allows you to make an informed choice about whether a career in law is the right option, and develops essential skills for Higher Education. Law graduates go on to train as solicitors or barristers or alternatively find employment in many other areas, including: legal, local government, public sector, administration, business, personnel, banking, retail and tourism. The qualification also allows progression through employment as a paralegal or trainee legal executive as an alternative route into the legal profession.

BTEC National Extended Certificate

DANCE

This course is a highly regarded practical Performing Arts qualification. The course is aimed at those students who are enthusiastic about practical dance and who wish to develop their technical and creative skills, creating choreography in groups and individually. This course provides the opportunity to study a range of different dance styles including physical theatre, contemporary dance and international dance styles. Throughout the course you will participate in a range of performances to help you broaden your understanding of the world of dance.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry criteria plus ANY of the following:

- GCSE Dance (minimum grade 4)
- Performing Arts related course (minimum grade 4)
- Related experience of dance inside/outside of school
- By audition

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed through mainly practical elements giving the skills necessary for the performing arts industry. Where there is practical work, you must be prepared to perform in front of a public audience as well as peers. There are some externally assessed units but these are still completed like other units but simply sent off to an external assessor to mark.

What will I study?

On this course you will complete written research and develop practical dance skills. During the two years of the course, you will complete four units which include practitioner studies, group performance, improvisation and preparing as a performer.

You will cover: techniques classes in a variety of styles such as contemporary and physical theatre; choreography for solo, duet, trio and group performances; study of dance practitioners and their choreographic styles; how to analyse performance skills and set targets for improvement; practical performance skills and study of the constituent feature of dance.

Where will this course lead me?

This course is valued by employers and universities alike. The course can be used as sound preparation for further study of performing arts at a dance conservatoire or university course. Students are also well prepared by this course to go in to the professional world of work.

Other career pathways apart from studying performing arts related courses have been: Teaching, Fashion, Journalism, PE, Sport Science, English, Law, Psychology, Counselling with Drama Skills, Stage Make-Up, Sociology and Social Media Marketing.

Students have gone on to study at Northern Ballet School, Lincoln, Edge Hill, Salford, Chester, London School of Musical Theatre, UCLan, East 15 and Guildford.

BTEC National Extended Certificate

DIGITAL/ICT

This course is equivalent to 1 GCSE and is a one-year course. ICT is designed to be a practical course which will develop your skills in the use of a variety of different types of software found in most businesses. Each area of the course is taught in the context of developing solutions to practical business problems.

Specific course entry requirements

To study a Level 2 programme you will have achieved a minimum of three grade 3s in your GCSEs, in addition to a grade 3 in English Language (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed through coursework which is graded at Pass, Merit or Distinction.

There are two examinations for ICT.

Examination one: The On-line World; the focus of this exam is the internet and networking. Examination Two: Technology Systems; the focus for this exam is how computers work using binary and hardware components.

Where will this course lead me?

Successful completion of the course will allow learners to progress to a more specialised and technical level 3 course.



BTEC National Extended Certificate

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

This is a practical and challenging 2 year course of study equivalent to one A level.

Introduction

The course is for learners who are interested in an introduction to the study of creating IT systems to manage and share information, alongside other fields of study.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry. You do not need to have studied Computer Science at GCSE or BTEC Information and Communication Technology. However, if you have studied these courses we would expect you to have obtained at least a grade 4 or Merit (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed through a mixture of exams, set tasks and course work. The information Technology Systems (unit 1) is a written exam, Creating Systems to Manage Information is a supervised assessment. The remaining units are assessed internally through coursework.

What will I study?

Topics that are studied include, Information Technology systems, Creating Systems to Manage Information, Using Social Media in Business and Data Modelling.

Where will this course lead me?

When taken alongside other Level 3 qualifications, including BTEC Higher Nationals or A Levels in complementary or contrasting subjects, the qualification gives learners the opportunity to progress to a degree in an information technology or a degree where information technology related skills and knowledge may be advantageous.

BTEC National Extended Diploma

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

The BTEC level 3 Extended Diploma in Information and communication Technology is a practical and challenging two-year programme of study, equivalent to three A levels. The course covers several generalised IT areas, such as cyber security, programming, website development and databases. But also looks at specialised topics, including the Internet of Things, IT service delivery and IT technical Support and Management. The Course is for those that know they want to have a career in IT, but maybe unsure about which area of IT they want to specialise in. Selecting this course will provide the chance to sample thirteen different areas over the two years.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry. You do not need to have studied Computer Science at GCSE or BTEC Information and Communication Technology. However, if you have studied these courses we would expect you to have obtained at least a grade 4 or Merit, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

Learners on the course will be assessed through a mixture of written exams, supervised assessments and course work.

What will I study?

Information Technology Systems, Creating Systems to Manage Information, Using Social Media in Business, Programming, IT Project Management, Cyber Security and Incident Management, Website Development, The Internet of Things, IT Service Delivery and IT technical Support and Management are just some of the units you will cover.

Where will this course lead me?

The Extended Diploma course gives learners the opportunity to progress into higher education or into apprenticeships in a related field of study or work.

BTEC National Extended Certificate

SPORT & EXERCISE SCIENCE

The BTEC National Extended Certificate in Sport and Exercise Science will give learners a solid foundation in the Sport and Leisure sector, whilst also developing the essential skills required for employment or progression to further qualifications and training.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

- 1 examined unit – Functional Anatomy
- 1 externally assessed unit- Applied Sport and Exercise Psychology
- 2 internally assessed coursework units.

What will I study?

13 different units are covered during this two year course. Mandatory units include Functional Anatomy where aspects of the body and its systems are studied. Students will also have the opportunity to study various scientific modules such as Applied Sport and Exercise Psychology and Sports Injury and Assessment.

The year will incorporate both external assessments and internal assignments. Students will complete a full portfolio which contains evidence of the completion of tasks. Assignments are set approximately every six weeks for each unit. Students will also complete external assessments in each year of the programme. Organisation and discipline are essential for this course as there may be occasions when more than one deadline needs to be met in the same week.

Where will this course lead me?

This course is suitable for anyone with an interest in sport and who wants to gain a sport related qualification to aid their progression to employment or further study in a related subject. Possible careers or further study could include the following areas but is not limited to: Health & Fitness industry, Sports Science, Nutrition, Sports Rehabilitation, Sports Development, Coaching and the Outdoor Activity Industry.

BTEC National Diploma**BUSINESS
STUDIES**

This course is aimed at students who are seeking employment in the business sector, often via the steppingstone of higher apprenticeships or University. This course is exciting and challenging and allows students to gain a good understanding of business whilst also studying another A level alongside it. You will complete 8 units over the two years, some of which are assessed through examination and some through coursework. This qualification has been approved by a number of professional bodies including CIPD, CIPS and CMI.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include GCSE Mathematics grade 5 or above (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed by a combination of coursework and examinations. You will complete 8 units over the two years. 5 Units will be assessed by completing coursework. 3 Units will be assessed by examinations.

What will I study?

This is a two year course and is equivalent to 2 A levels. The diploma gives students the flexibility to develop their knowledge and understanding of business whilst studying an additional A level alongside it. There are 8 units that will be studied, 6 of these are mandatory units that have been designed to give students a broad overview of business and business theory.

Units covered include; exploring business, developing a marketing campaign, personal and business finance, managing an event, international business and principles of management. Two units are optional and have been selected to build students skills as well as capitalise on staff specialisms. These units can include; recruitment and selection, digital marketing and customer service. You will have the opportunity to complete

assignments based on real business scenarios and will be assessed through coursework, external examinations and controlled assessment.

Please note, you need to be very well organised and enjoy spending time working through a range of individual tasks outside of college as around 60% of your qualification will be assessed through coursework.

Where will this course lead me?

The BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Business Studies is suitable for those students who are seriously considering a career in this area, are passionate about the subject or wish to progress to study business at university.

This course provides you with a wide range of career opportunities, including setting up your own business, working in management, accounting, banking, marketing and retail management. This course also prepares you for further study at degree level in related areas such as marketing, finance, business management and accounting.

BTEC National Diploma

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

This qualification has been designed to account for two-thirds of a two-year, full-time study programme for learners who are intending to go onto further study in a related sector. It supports access to a range of higher education courses if taken as part of a programme of study that includes another BTEC or A Level alongside it.

Introduction

The emphasis of the course is on applying theory to practice and students studying the course develop not only academic skills but also practical and personal skills in order to prepare them for higher education and employment.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include GCSE Mathematics minimum grade 4 and GCSE Science (core) minimum grade 4, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

The National Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care has 8 units in total. 6 of these are mandatory plus 2 optional units; of the 8 units 3 are externally assessed.

What will I study?

There is a focus on a range of Health and Social Care topics to prepare you for a career or further study:

- 1 Human Lifespan Development external examined unit
- 2 Working in Health and Social Care external examined unit
- 4 Enquiries into Current Research in Health and Social Care external examined unit

5 Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs internally assessed course work

7 Principles of Safe Practice in Health and Social Care internally assessed course work

8 Promoting Public Health internally assessed coursework

14 Physiological Disorders and their Care internally assessed course work

19 Nutritional Health internally assessed coursework

There is no placement opportunity when studying the BTEC level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care.

All units must be successfully achieved in order to gain this qualification. Group work, taught sessions, independent study and wider reading are integral features of this course.

Where will this course lead me?

On completion of this course, you will be qualified to work in health and social care roles as care workers or support workers. Alternatively, with completion of an additional relevant A level / BTEC you will be able to apply directly to universities of your choice to enrol on courses to become nurses, physiotherapists, paramedics, radiographers, dieticians, podiatrists, midwives, primary school teachers, social workers or similar careers associated with this subject area.

BTEC National Diploma

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

The BTEC level 3 in Information and Communication Technology is a practical and challenging two-year programme of study, equivalent to two A levels. The course covers general subject areas as well as more specialised areas such as programming and cyber security. The course sits between the BTEC level 3 Extended Diploma (3 A levels) and the BTEC level 3 Extended Certificate (1 A level) and is ideally suited to those students that have a particular IT career in mind. It can be combined with another A level (or equivalent) subject to create a pathway which could lead to a possible future career in the ICT sector whilst giving students the chance to pursue their passion for the subject area.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry. You do not need to have studied Computer Science at GCSE or BTEC Information and Communication Technology. However, if you have studied these courses we would expect you to have obtained at least a grade 4 or Merit, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

Learners on the course will be assessed through a mixture of written exams, supervised assessments and course work.

What will I study?

Information Technology systems, Creating Systems to Manage Information, Using Social Media in Business, Programming, IT Project Management, Cyber security and Incident Management and Website Development are just some of the areas that will be covered.

Where will this course lead me?

When taken alongside other Level 3 qualifications, including BTEC Higher Nationals or A Levels in complementary or contrasting subjects, the qualification gives learners the opportunity to progress to a degree in an information technology or a degree where information technology related skills and knowledge may be advantageous.

BTEC National Diploma

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

The course in Music Technology has been designed to deliver a overview of the current music industry and provide you with the wide variety of skills required to be successful in such a vibrant industry. We have good links with numerous other institutions such as the Royal Northern College of Music, Salford University, Huddersfield University and BIMM to name a few.

Introduction

Music Technology is a creative and hands on approach to music covering everything from studio recording to contemporary composition. You will develop skills that will enable you to write, record, produce and market your own music whilst getting an appreciation and understanding of the software and equipment that enable you to do so. You will be given the opportunity to start building a professional portfolio of work that you can use to attract future clients and employers.

Specific course entry requirements

Either:

- GCSE Music (minimum grade 4)
- Grade 5 in an instrument
- Grade 5 in music theory
- Related experience of music inside/ outside of school
- By portfolio of work

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is undertaken in a variety of practical ways with some written assignments. 70% of work is assessed internally and undertaken through coursework. 30% is assessed externally and undertaken through controlled classroom-based assessments.

What will I study?

You will cover a wide range of units including Studio recording Techniques, Remixing and Reworking, Music and Sound for Media and Live Sound to name a few.

You will be given the opportunity to work within a recording studio environment to produce multitracked recordings, get creative using the professional DAW software in the Apple Mac labs and work on rigging and engineering in our professional theatre space.

There are many opportunities to further develop your skills through engagement in our enrichment activities and through work with our partners in the local community and professionals in the industry.

Where will this course lead me?

Most students continue their study after college at university where they can further develop their skills and begin to specialise in a specific area of the music industry. The varied skill set that Music Technology provides students with gives them a wide range of choices when it comes to careers, some of which not necessarily relating to the music industry.

Students have gone on to study at Salford, Huddersfield, Leeds, Edge Hill, Derby, Bath and York with some opting for specialist study a centres including BIMM, Futureworks, the Royal Northern School of Music, Leeds College of Music and the London School of Music amongst others.

BTEC National Extended Diploma

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

There are over 300 different careers within the NHS and over 150 in social care. The Health and Social Care course will lay the foundations for a career in health or care sectors.

Introduction

The emphasis of the course is on applying theory in practice and students studying the course develop not only academic skills but also practical and personal skills in order to prepare them for higher education and employment.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include GCSE Mathematics minimum grade 4 and GCSE Science (core) minimum grade 4, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

The National Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care has 13 units in total. Eight of these are mandatory plus 5 optional units; of the 13 units 4 are externally assessed.

What will I study?

There is a focus on a range of Health and Social Care topics to prepare you for a career or further study:

- Human Lifespan Development (examined unit)
- Working in Health and Social Care (examined unit)
- Anatomy and Physiology for Health and Social Care (examined unit)
- Enquiries into Current Research in Health and Social Care (examined unit)
- Meeting individual Care and Support Needs (course work)

- Nutritional Health (course work)
- Principles of Safe Practice in Health and Social Care (course work)
- Psychological Perspectives (course work)
- Promoting Public Health (course work)
- Physiological Disorders (course work)
- Supporting Individuals with Additional Needs (course work)
- Sociological Perspectives (course work)

You will spend a minimum of 100 hours in 2 or more placements with practitioners in the community to develop your practical skills in this subject. All units must be successfully achieved in order to gain this qualification. Group work, taught sessions, independent study and wider reading are integral features of this course.

Where will this course lead me?

On completion of this course, you will be qualified to work in health and social care roles as care workers or support workers. Alternatively, you will be able to apply directly to universities of your choice to enrol on courses to become nurses, physiotherapists, paramedics, radiographers, dieticians, podiatrists, midwives, primary school teachers, social workers or similar careers associated with this subject area.

BTEC National Extended Diploma

UNIFORMED PROTECTIVE SERVICES

The uniformed protective services play a vital role in the welfare and safety of people at home and abroad, on the front line and behind the scenes. This course will provide you with the essential knowledge, skills and understanding that will allow you to make a smooth transition into the world of work.

Introduction

Throughout the course you will gain experience via:

- Guest speakers from all uniformed protective services
- Career relevant trips and visits
- Charity work

If you enjoy working with people, a career in the protective services is perfect for you. You will gain a realistic insight into the personal and professional skills needed to be an effective member of today's protective services. You will also learn about the values and attitudes needed for working within this challenging but unique sector in order to contribute to having a vital role in the social welfare of the nation.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

Over the course of the two years you will study thirteen units which are assessed by a combination of coursework and controlled assessments, including two external exams. The course is stimulating and varied, as it combines classroom-based study with exciting outdoor activity and group work. This also includes undertaking scenario workshops and specialist industry events and therefore enhancing skills needed for employment.

What will I study?

This qualification will equip you with the necessary knowledge, understanding and skills required for direct progression into a broad range of roles within the industry and you will be able to apply academic theory to practice.

You can expect an engaging course as it has been designed by significant input from employers. This includes, strong occupational links with the industry such as HM Prison Service, Greater Manchester Police and Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service.

The course is made up of a wide subject base, including the study of leadership and teamwork in the protective services, study of major incidents, criminology, police powers, expedition skills and an insight into the government policies and the protective services within the United Kingdom.

Where will this course lead me?

On successful completion of this course you will be able to follow a career in the services such as Police, Fire and Rescue, Ambulance, Prison and Armed forces or a role within the private security industry. Alternatively, you will be able to apply directly to universities of your choice to study policing and criminal investigation, forensic science and law with criminology or specific protective services degrees.

BTEC National Extended Certificate**SPORT & EXERCISE
SCIENCE**

Do you want a career in sport, either directly from college or through the stepping stone of university? If the answer is yes, then this course is for you. With the UK sports industry being worth £23.8 billion and holding nearly 1 million job opportunities there is an increasing demand for well qualified people to move into careers in sport. This course will allow you to discover the numerous career possibilities in the sector, with contact from many industry professionals.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?**14 units of study**

- 1 externally assessed examination
- 3 externally assessed tasks
- 10 internally assessed coursework

What will I study?**4 units over the two years:**

- Functional Anatomy
- Applied Sport and Exercise Psychology
- Coaching for Performance and Fitness
- Physical activity for individual and group based exercise .

Where will this course lead me?

This course is suitable for anyone with an interest in sport and who wants to gain a sport related qualification to aid their progression to employment or further study in a related subject. Possible careers or further study could include the following areas but is not limited to: Health & Fitness industry, Sports Science, Nutrition, Sports Rehabilitation, Sports Development, Coaching and the Outdoor Activity Industry.

BTEC National Extended Certificate

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

The emphasis of the course is on applying academic theory to practice. You will develop both practical and academic skills in order to prepare you for higher education or employment. This qualification has been designed to account for one third of a two-year, full-time study programme for learners who are intending to go onto further study in a related sector.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include GCSE Mathematics minimum grade 4 and GCSE Science (core) minimum grade 4.

How will I be assessed?

You will study four units of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external. Mandatory content (83%). External assessment 58%

What will I study?

There is a range of Health and Social Care topics to prepare you for a career or further study.

You will study

- Unit 1 Human Lifespan Development
- Unit 2 Working in HASC
- Unit 5: Meeting individual care and support needs
- Unit 14: Physiological disorders and their care

Where will this course lead me?

This qualification is generally taken alongside other qualifications as part of a 2-year programme of learning. This will enable students to progress to a degree programme chosen from a range of programmes in the health and social care sector such as nurses, physiotherapists, paramedics, radiographers, dietitians, podiatrists, midwives, primary school teachers, social workers or similar careers associated with this subject area.

BTEC National Extended Diploma

SPORT & EXERCISE SCIENCE

The sport science sector in the UK has more than 36,000 employers creating work for more than 600,000 full and part-time employees. There is an increasing demand for well qualified people to move into careers in sport.

Introduction

Students enjoy this course because they can tailor their assessments around their own sport specialism and really deepen their own personal understanding and skill levels.

The course offers opportunities to use their theoretical knowledge and apply it to practical situations.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

13 units of study

4 units are assessed through external exams and tasks

9 units are assessed through a Portfolio assessment

What will I study?

13 different units are covered during this two year course. Mandatory units include Functional Anatomy where aspects of the body and its systems are studied. Students will also have the opportunity to study various scientific modules such as Applied Sport and Exercise Psychology and Sports Injury and Assessment.

The year will incorporate both external assessments and internal assignments. Students will complete a full portfolio which contains evidence of the completion of tasks. Assignments are set approximately every six weeks for each unit. Students will also complete two external assessments in each year of the programme. Organisation and discipline are essential for this course as there may be occasions when more than one deadline needs to be met in the same week.

Where will this course lead me?

Successful completion of this course prepares students for a career in the sport, health, leisure and fitness industries or in teaching.

BTEC National Extended Diploma

BUSINESS STUDIES

This course is aimed at students who want to go onto employment, often via the steppingstone of higher apprenticeships or University. This qualification has been approved by a number of professional bodies including CIPD, CIPS and CMI. This course is exciting and challenging and allows students to gain a good understanding of Business. You will complete 13 units over the two years, some of which are assessed through examination and some through coursework.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include GCSE Mathematics grade 4 or above.

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed by a combination of coursework and examinations. You will complete 13 units over the two years. 9 Units will be assessed by completing coursework. 4 Units will be assessed by examinations.

What will I study?

This is a two year course and is equivalent to 3 A levels. The extended diploma gives students the time to develop their knowledge and understanding of business and offers the opportunity to develop practical skills for employment such as teamwork and management. The extended diploma qualification also allows students to complete work experience as part of the course. There are 13 units that will be studied, 7 of these are mandatory units that have been designed to give students a broad overview of business and business theory. Units covered include; exploring business, developing a marketing

campaign, personal and business finance, managing an event, international business, principles of management and Business decision making. The rest of the course is made up of optional units. These units can include; recruitment and selection, digital marketing, Team building, visual merchandising and customer service. You will have the opportunity to complete assignments based on real business scenarios and will be assessed through coursework, external examinations and controlled assessments.

Please note, you need to be very well organised and enjoy spending time working through a range of individual tasks outside of college as around 60% of your qualification will be assessed through coursework.

Where will this course lead me?

This course provides you with a wide range of career opportunities, including setting up your own business, working in management, accounting, banking, marketing and retail management. This course also prepares you for further study at degree level in related areas such as marketing, finance, business management and accounting.

Pre Advanced Course

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

This is a one year course to be studied along side a level 2 programme of study. It can springboard students onto the Level 3 BTEC courses offered by the department. In Business you will have the opportunity to complete four units, this includes three coursework units and one external exam. It will give you a good feel for what it is like to be at work as well as developing your organisational and interpersonal skills.

Specific course entry requirements

To study a Level 2 programme you will have achieved a minimum of three grade 3s in your GCSEs, in addition to a grade 3 in English Language and Mathematics.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through a mixture of written assignments, practical activities and presentations as well as completing an external exam.

What will I study?

You can expect to cover the following topics:

- Introduction to Business
- Finance for Business
- Enterprise in the Business World
- Recruitment, Selection and Employment.

Where will this course lead me?

Successful completion of the course will allow learners to progress to a more specialised and technical level 3 course.



Pre Advanced Course

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

This course is equivalent to one GCSE and is a one year course. This course consists of four units of Health and Social Care studies, which include Human Lifespan Development, Health and Social Care Values, Effective Communication in Health and Social Care and The Impact of Nutrition on Health and Wellbeing Human Lifespan Development, Health and Social Care Values, Communication in Health and Social Care and also Individual Rights in Health and Social Care.

The BTEC Level 2 First Award in Health and Social Care gives learners the opportunity to gain a broad understanding and knowledge of the health and social care sector. Learners will have a more focused understanding of health and social care through the units of study, such as human lifespan, impact of nutrition on health and well being and health and social care values. It will also provide the learners with the opportunity to develop a range of personal skills and techniques, through the selection of units that are essential for successful performance in working life. Successful completion of the course will allow learners to progress to a more specialised and technical level 3 course.

Specific course entry requirements

For a level 2 programme, students will be expected to have gained 4 grade 3s including English Language and Maths at grade 3.

How will I be assessed?

The BTEC Level 2 First Award in Health and Social Care has four units of study. One unit is externally assessed, and three units will be internally assessed.

What will I study?

- Human Lifespan Development
- Health and Social Care Values
- Effective Communication in Health and Social Care
- The Impact of Nutrition on Health and Wellbeing

All units must be successfully achieved in order to gain this qualification. Group work, taught sessions, independent study and wider reading are integral features of this course.

Where will this course lead me?

Successful completion of the course will allow learners to progress to a more specialised and technical level 3 course.

Pre Advanced Course

PRINCIPLES OF APPLIED SCIENCE

The BTEC Level 2 Award in Applied Science covers the Key Stage 4 Programme of Study for Science, so the content is similar to that which you would have studied at school during year 10 and 11.

This qualification is equivalent to one GCSE, in which you study an equal amount of biology, chemistry and physics. There is ample opportunity within this course to explore the practical aspects of science, through guided laboratory work and develop your scientific skills.

- Principles of Science (External)
- Chemistry and Our Earth
- Energy and Our Universe
- Biology and Our Environment

Specific course entry requirements

To study a Level 2 programme you will have achieved a minimum of three grade 3s in your GCSEs, in addition to a grade 3 in English Language.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through internally assessed written assignments, presentations, and practical work which are graded Pass, Merit or Distinction. Twenty-five per cent of the qualification is externally assessed via a 60-minute examination.

Where will this course lead me?

Successful completion of the course will allow learners to progress to a more specialised and technical level 3 course.



UAL APPLIED ART & DESIGN

UAL Applied General Extended Diploma in Art and Design will allow you to specialise within the practical arts and provides an excellent introduction to a career in the visual arts industry. Practical skills within both two and three dimensions will be explored and you will be encouraged to broaden your understanding of the historical development of art and design and establish a critical appreciation. Visits to galleries and museums are an integral part of the course.

Specific course entry requirements

College entry to include GCSE Art or Art related subject minimum grade 4, (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

The UAL Applied General Extended Diploma covers two units, one per year which are both externally assessed and both worth 50% of grade.

Year 12 assessment must be a minimum pass to move onto Year 13. .

What will I study?

In this course you will explore a range of Art and Design disciplines including drawing and painting, graphics, 3D design, textiles, photography and printmaking. Tutors will encourage you to work imaginatively and creatively, exploring different materials and techniques. Alongside this there are important assignments in contextual and historical studies of Art and Design. The exploration of the work of others will enhance your understanding in this multi-disciplinary course and challenge your own creative ideas.

Throughout your studies you will produce an extensive portfolio addressing specific assessment criteria and this exciting body of work will be suitable for university or employment interviews.

Where will this course lead me?

Developing your creative understanding can be useful in many fields of learning as well as a range of careers. It is particularly appropriate for those who want to pursue a career in fine art, textiles and fashion, photography, graphic design, advertising, illustration, industrial or product design, architectural studies, history of art, teaching, museums and a range of creative industries.

Studying an Art course is an excellent way to develop soft skills such as independence. It will improve time management and problem solving skills whilst developing creative thinking skills and resilience.

BTEC Entry Level 3 Diploma

VOCATIONAL STUDIES

The BTEC Entry Level 3 Diploma in Vocational Studies is a one year course suited to learners who need additional time to improve their grades. Learners study a number of units from several vocational areas. They are given an opportunity to develop their understanding of topics such as Health and Social Care, Business Studies, ICT and Art and Design. They will also study Functional Skills, English and Mathematics at an appropriate level.

Specific course entry requirements

The Entry Level programme is suitable for you if you gain at least three grade 1s (or equivalent), in addition to English Language grade 1, in your GCSEs (please refer to the Entry Requirements section of the SJR prospectus for further details).

How will I be assessed?

All units are coursework based. English and Mathematics are assessed by examination.

Where will this course lead me?

On successful completion of the course, learners may progress to Level 1 programmes in College, or undertake training or employment. Learners with an Education, Health and Care Plan may progress to a supported internship.



BTEC Level 1 Introductory Diploma

VOCATIONAL STUDIES

The BTEC Level 1 Introductory Diploma in Vocational Studies is a one year course. Learners study several units from different vocational areas. These units provide learners with an opportunity to develop a knowledge and understanding of vocational areas such as Business Studies, ICT, Health and Social Care and Art and Design before making further course choices or occupational decisions on progressing to Level 2. In addition to this, learners will also study either GCSE or Functional Skills English and Mathematics depending on their grades.

Specific course entry requirements

To study the Level 1 programme you will have achieved a minimum of three 2 grades in your GCSEs, in addition to a grade 2 in English Language (please refer to the Entry Requirements section for further details).

How will I be assessed?

All units are coursework based. Learners are required to receive a recommendation to progress, together with the appropriate grade in Functional Skills, in order to advance to a Level 2 course. English and Mathematics are assessed by examination.

Where will this course lead me?

On successful completion of the course, learners may progress to Level 2 programmes in college, or undertake training courses or employment. Learners with an Education, Health and Social Care Plan may progress to a supported internship.

BTEC Level 2 Extended Award

WORK SKILLS

You will be able to

- Develop skills valued by employers and are in demand in the workplace
- Develop knowledge related to employability and the workplace
- Embrace the 21st century workplace and build a career plan
- Achieve a nationally recognised Level 2 qualification that prepares them for employment or self-employment
- Develop self-awareness of skills and knowledge and the ability to continually upskill to meet the changing demands of the workplace

Specific course entry requirements

For a level 2 programme, students will be expected to have gained 4 grade 3s including English Language and Maths at grade 3.

How will I be assessed?

The BTEC Extended Award in Work Skills has three units of study, and each unit will be internally assessed.

What will I study?

- Developing work-related skills and behaviours
- Planning for career entry and progression
- Planning for and learning from work experience
- All units must be successfully achieved in order to gain this qualification. Group work, taught sessions, independent study and wider reading are integral features of this course.

Where will this course lead me?

Successful completion of the course will allow learners to progress to a more specialised and technical level 3 course.



T LEVEL CHILDCARE

T Level Education & Childcare will prepare you for an exciting career within the education sector. This course has been developed in collaboration with employers & industry. Combining academic learning and industry placement, you will develop the knowledge, skills and behaviours required to enter highly skilled employment, university, or an apprenticeship. The course will provide you with excellent links with employers, universities and community organisations including private day nurseries, primary schools, and childminders, providing you with a valuable insight into the working world of early years education and childcare.

Specific course entry requirements

5 grade 4's including English Language and Mathematics and a grade 4 in science (if pursuing a career in primary teaching).

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through:

- 2 written examinations (Paper A and Paper B)
- an employer-set project (ESP) – a supervised project
- 750 hours work placement (over the course of two years)

What will I study?

The Core Component provides a high-level foundation of knowledge and skills that are relevant to all Occupational Specialisms within this qualification. The Occupational Specialism Component covers the knowledge, understanding, skills and behaviours required to achieve threshold competence in Early years education and childcare. English, mathematics, and digital skills are also embedded throughout the course. You will also study

- Support and promote children's play, development, and early education
- Develop relationships with children to facilitate their development
- Plan, provide and review care, play and educational opportunities to enable children to progress
- Safeguard and promote the health, safety, and wellbeing of children
- Work in partnership with colleagues, parents, carers, and other professionals to support children's development.

Where will this course lead me?

On successful completion of the course you will be able to enter either

- Employment
- Higher education
- Apprenticeship