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Fine Art A-Level
Exam Board: Edexcel

Course Entry Requirements

For A Level Art: 8 GCSEs at grades 5 or above with grade 6 or above in a creative subject such as Art & Design, Textiles or Design & Technology.

As a small department, places are limited and fill up very fast.

Course Outline and Assessment

The A Level course is an exciting, challenging and thoroughly engaging course at The Petchey Academy. In the last two years, all students have achieved a C grade or higher – and continue to work to this high standard at the moment.

Year 12 breaks down Art and builds you up to be a confident, creative and expressive artist. The course weaves together a diverse range of skills from painting and printing, through to textiles and 3D sculpture – with an exhibition at the end of both AS and A Level courses. In Year 13, you will independently explore themes and topics that motivate, inspire and challenge you ensuring you are working to a high standard throughout the two-year course.

Students gain 5 hours of study time with different Art teachers, benefiting from their unique artistic expertise. Sketchbook work is required on a weekly basis and is estimated to take roughly 5 hours outside of lessons to complete – but you have access to the UG Art Room throughout the day, with access to the materials too.

Where could this take you?

An A Level in Art, Craft and Design provides the foundations of a creative career. Everything from advertising and game-design to film and television production all benefit from creative and imaginative minds. Many artists choose to pursue Art as a hobby and continue to make a considerable amount alongside their full-time occupation, while others constantly turn to their expressive side to demonstrate their own vision for a business. Illustrators and architects all require an Art A-Level.
Exam Board: OCR

Course Entry Requirements

8 GCSEs at grades 5 or above including English & Maths with grade 6 or above in Biology (or 2 grades 6+ for additional science).

Course Outline and Assessment

The study of Biology requires the construction of sound foundations through the study of several fundamental concepts. During the course you will develop an understanding of scientific methods and be aware of those scientific advances in technology that are relevant to the biological sciences. You will also gain experience in the laboratory where you will develop your skills to examine and identify tissues, proteins and other biological substances. In addition, you will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of facts, principles and concepts from different areas of Biology and learn to make and use connection between them. A Level Biology also involves calculations, sketching and data manipulation, analysis and interpretation which are skills that are important to many professions and careers.

Over the two years students study a variety of topics which are examined at the end of the course:

- Module 1 – Development of practical skills in biology
- Module 2 – Foundations in biology
- Module 3 – Exchange and transport
- Module 4 – Biodiversity, evolution and disease
- Module 5 – Communication, homeostasis and energy
- Module 6 – Genetics, evolution and ecosystems

Completion of twelve Experimental and Investigative activities are required that are not assessed, however required for the certification.

Where could this take you?

There are many opportunities open to you if you have an A level in Biology, such as:

- Teaching
- Infection and immunity research scientist
- Genetics and genetic engineering
- Working in industry: health, nursing, medicine and the life sciences
- Agriculture
- Scientific writing and journalism
- Zoology
Business Studies A-Level

Exam Board: AQA

Course Entry Requirements

8 GCSEs at grades 5 or above including English & Maths. Students with GCSE Business should have achieved grade 6 or above.

The A Level course will now be examined using three two-hour papers at the end of the two years. Quantitative data will represent a minimum of 10% of the marks. You do not need to have studied business before.

Course Outline

Year 1:
1. What is business?
2. Managers, leadership and decision-making
3. Decision making to improve marketing performance
4. Decision making to improve operational performance
5. Decision making to improve financial performance
6. Decision making to improve human resource performance

Where could this take you?

Everybody will work in a business in their life, and the skills are transferable to any profession. Typical jobs for Business Studies graduates include: Marketing, finance, accounting, events management, HR, production, business ethics and setting up your own business.

The new specification will also prepare you in more depth for being in a management role in a business where strategic decisions are made.
Business BTEC Level 3

Exam Board: Pearson Edexcel

**Course Entry Requirements**

6 GCSEs at grades 5 or above including English & Maths.

Don’t worry if you have never studied business before, we will be happy to take you onto the course if you show an enthusiasm for the subject and are ready to work hard!

**Course Outline and Assessment**

The course requires students to complete 13 units over the two years. BTEC Business will be examined through a combination of internally assessed assignments, externally assessed controlled assignments and a two hour written examination. There are seven mandatory units:

1. Exploring Business  
   Assignment - set and marked internally
2. Developing a Marketing Plan  
   Task - set and marked by Pearson
3. Personal and Business Finance  
   Written exam – set and marked by Pearson
4. Managing and Event  
   Assignment - set and marked internally
5. International Business  
   Assignment - set and marked internally
6. Principles of Management  
   Task - set and marked by Pearson
7. Business Decision Making  
   Task - set and marked by Pearson

Within the transition period from Year 12 to Year 13 students will reflect on their work experience and complete optional Unit 27: Work Experience in Business.

Other optional Units that may be chosen to complete the course include:

- Unit 8. Recruitment and Selection Process
- Unit 9. Team Building in Business
- Unit 20. Investigating Corporate Social Responsibility

**Where could this take you?**

Everybody will work in a business in their life, and the skills are transferable to any profession. Typical jobs for Business Studies graduates include:

Marketing, finance, accounting, events management, HR, production, business ethics and setting up your own business.
Chemistry A-Level

Exam Board: AQA

Course Entry Requirements

8 GCSEs at grades 5 or above including English & Maths with grade 6 or above in Chemistry (or 2 grades 6+ for additional science).

Course Outline and Assessment

This course promotes a meaningful understanding of concepts learnt at GCSE. Explanations of why chemical entities behave in such a way during chemical reactions. Moreover mathematical aspects of fundamental ideas are learnt at this level to understand how atoms and molecules influence the order of universe and an explanation to how science works.

Over the two years students study a variety of topics which are examined at the end of the course. Students also have to complete three examinations of short and long questions along with twelve practical tasks.

A Level written assessments towards the GCE certification:

- Paper 1 Physical and Inorganic Chemistry 35%
- Paper 2 Physical and Organic Chemistry 35%
- Paper 3 All content and any Practical skill 30%

Each examination is 120 minutes.

Where could this take you?

This course is considered highly by all universities and a pre-requisite too many degree courses including medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, veterinary science, materials science, scientific journalism and writing, research and chemical engineering. Furthermore, many non-science related degrees will accept chemistry, since A level chemistry is regarded as one of the most difficult and demanding subjects learnt at post 16.
Course Entry Requirements

8 GCSEs at grades 5 or above with grade 6 or above in English, Maths, Science & Computing.

Computer science is a fast-moving field that brings together many disciplines, including mathematics, programming, engineering, and the natural sciences.

Course Outline and Assessment

This A-Level Computer Science course is a challenging 2 year programme. It consists of both coursework (20% of final grade) and two exam based units in year 13 (80% of final grade).

Students will begin by learning about different hardware and software used in computer science. This will include the various forms of data representation such as binary and hexadecimal, Booleans algebra and programming languages.

Programming, computational thinking and the use of algorithms are a key aspects of the course. Students will learn to programme and develop a system that meets specified user requirements.

Where could this take you?

This is a key subject for students planning to continue on to university and study subjects including computer science, computer game development, software engineering, information systems, music technology, networking or electronics at degree level. Alternatively, students may consider direct entry into related employment.
Computing BTEC

Exam Board: Edexcel

Course Entry Requirements

6 or more GCSEs at grade 5 or above including English and Maths.

Course Outline and Assessment

The BTEC Computing course is a vocation 2 year course worth the equivalent of 3 A Levels. The course is comprised of 13 units of which 7 are mandatory and 4 are external.

Each external assessment for a BTEC National is linked to a specific unit. All of the units developed for external assessment are of 90 or 120 GLH to allow students to demonstrate breadth and depth of achievement. Students will be awarded a Pass, Merit or Distinction for each internal unit completed depending on criteria they have achieved. The styles of external assessment used for qualifications in the computing suite are:

Two examination units – all students will take the same assessment at the same time, normally with a written outcome. Students will also take a controlled assessment unit during a defined window and demonstrate understanding through completion of a vocational task.

Where could this take you?

A BTEC in Computing can open up many pathways. Students have progressed on to apprenticeships in the Computing Industry as well as progressing to top universities to study Computer Science and non-Computing related courses. Students can also embark on careers in related subject areas. As the course is so varied students will be able to begin careers in an array of computing related careers ranging from Programming to software design.
Economics A-Level

Exam Board: AQA

Course Entry Requirements

8 GCSEs at grades 5 or above including English & Maths.

Course Outline and Assessment

The course is split into two main sections, the first section introduces students to microeconomic issues and the second section covers mainly macroeconomic issues: Y12 covers Individuals, firms, markets and market failure. Y13 covers the national and international economy how it works and financial markets.

Students will be assessed through three 2 hour examination papers, each worth 33.3% of the total mark.

Where could this take you?

Economics is a very well respected subject amongst employers because of its application of theory to the real world. Some typical jobs include:

- Banking and finance
- Politics and public policy
- International development
- Law and business
- Becoming a professional economist at a business or for the government.
English Language A-Level

Exam Board: AQA – 7701

Course Entry Requirements

8 GCSEs at grades 5 or above including Maths with grade 6 or above in English Literature and English Language

Course Outline – AS Level

Paper 1 Language and the Individual – 1 hour 30 minute exam, 70 marks, 50% of AS Level.
This element introduces you to advanced level language study using new methods of analysis to explore concepts of audience, purpose, genre, mode and representation. You will study a variety of different texts and modes to explore how language is:

- Shaped for audience, purpose, genre, mode and context
- Used to construct meanings and representations
- Used to enact relationships between writers, speakers, audiences and participants within a text.

Paper 2 Language varieties – 1 hour 30 minute exam, 70 marks, 50% of AS Level.
Students will explore texts in relation to wider social and geographical contexts. You will look at texts using different sociolects and dialects and how language is used to represent different groups and the attitudes towards them.

Course Outline – A2 Level

Paper 1: Language, the Individual and Society – 2 hour 30 minute exam, 100 marks, 40% of A2

- Textual variations and representations
- Children’s language development (0-11)

Paper 2: Language Diversity and Change - 2 hour 30 minute exam, 100 marks, 40% of A2

- Diversity of text in terms of sociolects, dialects
- Texts from 1600 to the present day
- Multi-modal texts.

Non-exam assessment: Language in Action - 100 marks, 20% of A2

Students produce a language investigation (2,000 words) of their choice on any area of language study that interests them. This is accompanied by an original piece and writing and commentary (1,500 words)

In AS and A2 study you we will learn about exciting new areas of language that you have not explored at GCSE.

- **Phonetics, phonology and prosody**: how speech sounds and effects are articulated and analysed
- **Graphology**: the visual aspects of textual design and appearance
- **Lexis and semantics**: the vocabulary of English, including social and historical variation
- **Grammar, including morphology**: the structural patterns and shapes of English at sentence, clause, phrase and word level
- **Pragmatics**: the contextual aspects of language use
- **Discourse**: extended stretches of communication occurring in different genres, modes and contexts.
Course Entry Requirements

8 GCSEs at grades 5 or above including Maths with grade 6 or above in English Literature and English Language.

Course Outline and Assessment

Offering clear progression from GCSE, this course allows students to build on the skills and knowledge already gained and prepare for their next steps. The variety of assessment styles used, such as passage-based questions, unseen material, single text questions, multiple text questions, open- and closed-book approaches, allows students to develop a wide range of skills, such as the ability to read critically, analyse, evaluate and undertake independent research which are valuable for both further study and future employment. The course is assessed through 2 exam papers and 2 assessed non-exam essays

Paper 1: Literary genres. Study of three texts: one Shakespeare text; a second drama text and one further text, of which one must be written pre-1900. Written exam, closed book, 2 hours 30 mins. Worth 40% of total mark

Paper 2: Text and genres. Study of three texts: one post-2000 prose text; one poetry and one further text, one of which must be written pre-1900. Written exam, open book, 3 hours. Worth 40% of total mark.

Non-exam assessment: Theory and independence. Study of two texts: one poetry and one prose text, informed by study of the Critical Anthology. Worth 20% of total mark.

Where could this take you?

English Literature is a skills based course and therefore opens the door to many exciting careers. The critical thinking, communication and analytical skills you will learn are transferable to careers from Accountancy to Law to Politics to PR and many more. With a qualification in English Literature, you can literally do anything!
Course Entry Requirements

6 GCSEs at grade 5 or above including English & Maths

Don’t worry if you have not studied one of the food courses at GCSE, we will be happy to take you onto the course if you show an enthusiasm and passion for food, working creatively and are ready to work hard!

Course Outline and Assessment

The course will provide you with a wealth of knowledge about the food and nutrition industry. You will have the opportunity to learn about the relationship between the human body and food as well as practical skills for cooking and preparing food.

There are 3 units of study, the two mandatory units are:

- Meeting Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups
- Ensuring food is safe to eat

Then, there is a choice of studying either:

- Experimenting to Solve Food Production problems
- Current Issues in Food Science and Nutrition

Teaching styles are varied and include practical activities, assignments, workshops and investigative work. Visits and activities are arranged to increase knowledge and experience of the subject.

The course is assessed internally and externally.

Where could this take you?

University: A degree in most subjects.

A possible career in: Food product development, dietician, marketing, retail management, hotels, restaurants, ski resorts, holiday resorts, food analysis, nutrition, teaching, outdoor pursuits, bars, cruise liners, film location catering, bakeries, patisseries.
Geography

Exam Board: Pre-U: Cambridge International Examinations

**Course Entry Requirements**

The Geography PRE U is a demanding yet rewarding subject which really helps to develop the skills students require at University. Therefore the entry requirements are as follows:

- 8 GCSEs at grades 5 or above with grade 6 or above in English, Maths and Geography.
- Students who have not taken Geography GCSE can still take this course as long as they achieve 5 or more GCSEs at grade 6 or above.

**Course Outline and Assessment**

We study the following Units

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 12</th>
<th>Year 13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tectonic Hazards</td>
<td>Atmospheric Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spatial Inequality and Poverty</td>
<td>Independent Enquiry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography of Crime</td>
<td>Energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous Weather</td>
<td>Migration and Urban Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atmospheric Environment</td>
<td>Coastal Environments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Where could this take you?**

Geographers are widely considered some of the most employable graduates. The Guardian newspapers show Geographers as the joint most likely to get a good job. The Geography team at Petchey have graduate friends working in jobs such as; a Director on the Gadget Show, a Water Engineer for Thames Water, a Geologist who travels on Oil Rigs and an environmentalist for McLaren F1 team. You will have a choice of employment or University when you finish University Gateway!
Government & Politics
Exam Board: Edexcel

Course Entry Requirements:

8 GCSEs at grades 5 or above including Maths with grade 6 or above in English Literature and English Language

The Government and Politics course requires students to compose extended essays that are coherent and well structured, therefore a good standard of English is essential.

Course Outline and Assessment

A Level Government and Politics provides an indepth study of the main institutions and working of the UK and US political systems and allows students to study a range of political ideologies.

**UK Politics**: What is citizenship and democracy? Electoral systems in the UK; Political parties – their functions and policies; Pressure groups and their influence; The case for and against electoral reform

**UK Government**: Our uncodified constitution; the role of Parliament; How powerful are Prime Ministers?; The changing UK system & relationships between branches of government

**US Government & Politics**: The constitution; political parties and elections; the changing nature of the presidency (Trump?!?); civil rights and the Supreme Court.

**Political Ideologies**: Liberalism, conservatism, socialism and nationalism – who are the key thinkers and what are the conflicts within the ideology?

Where could this take you?

Students with GCE Politics have access to a wide range of possible career and higher education opportunities. You learn and use a variety of transferable skills throughout the course. Government and Politics include collecting and analysing information and evaluating different political ideas and systems. Your written communicational skills will develop greatly as will your ability to question information given to you.

These skills are in demand and are recognised by universities, colleges and employers and combine well with a range of science, social science and humanities subjects. University courses include such areas as Business, Economics, Law, Media, Philosophy and, of course, Politics.

Students who choose not to go on to higher studies will have well developed transferable skills that will allow them to explore a wide range of employment opportunities.
Global Perspectives & Research

Exam Board: Pre-U: Cambridge International Examinations

Course Entry Requirements

We offer Global Perspective and Research as a course to supplement study on all academic pathways. Therefore all students that are accepted into the Sixth Form have the opportunity to undertake this course.

Course Outline and Assessment

Global Perspectives and Research is a really exciting course that we offer here in University Gateway. It is designed to complement and accompany the Cambridge Pre-U Diploma, however it also exists as a stand-alone course. The course is about developing crucial independent learning skills that will be help to prepare you for University, and we do this through exploring global issues and events. The skills and strategies that you learn will also help to ensure that you achieve highly across all of your Level 3 subjects.

You are assessed in 3 ways in GPR:

- 1 x 2000 word essay on a topic of your choice
- 1 x 15 minute presentation based on pre-release material
- 1 x examination on an unseen text

Where could this take you?

GPR is a fantastic asset to any degree that requires you to think critically, complete independent research, and engage with topical or controversial issues.
History A-Level

Exam Board: Edexcel

Course Entry Requirements

8 GCSEs at grades 5 or above including Maths with grade 6 or above in History and English Literature or Language.

In the Edexcel History Course, students are required to produce 3 written essays in 2 hours and 15 minutes for three exams. The course, therefore, requires a high level of literacy.

Course Outline and Assessment

The course consists of 3 different parts. Successful candidates will study 19th and 20th Century British Warfare, 20th Century British History, 1920s USA and will undertake a personal investigation based around the Italian Unification.

All candidates will be assessed in exams at the end of year 13 in 3 different exams. The coursework is assessed at school and moderated by Edexcel.

Where could this take you?

History is still regarded as a leading subject by Universities and also offers a number of pathways into professional careers. The analytic and evaluative skills you will develop are well regarded in the working world. The skills learnt can be applied to working in big business, law, politics, and more!
Course Entry Requirements

- For any BTEC level 3 course students must have 6 or more GCSEs at grades 5-9.
- Any BTEC Level 2 qualification at Merit level
- Students must be committed to carrying out 100 hours of work experience.
- A clear interest in working in health & social care and working in

Course Outline and Assessment

The BTEC Extended Diploma in Health & Social Care provides students with an excellent opportunity to develop a good knowledge base and practical care skills for professions within the health and social care sector. These professions offer challenge and reward; you will be able to make a difference to people’s lives.

The course is equivalent in size to three A Levels. It is made up of 13 units of which 8 are Mandatory and 4 are external. The Mandatory content makes up 72% and the external assessment 42% of the overall course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit (number and title)</th>
<th>Unit size (guided learning hours)</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Human life span development</td>
<td>90 GLH</td>
<td>Internal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Working in Health and Social Care</td>
<td>120 GLH</td>
<td>Internal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Anatomy and Physiology for Health and Social Care</td>
<td>120 GLH</td>
<td>Internal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Enquiries into Current Research in Health and Social Care</td>
<td>120 GLH</td>
<td>Internal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs</td>
<td>90 GLH</td>
<td>External</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Work Experience in Health and Social Care</td>
<td>60 GLH</td>
<td>External</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Principles of Safe Practice in Health and Social Care</td>
<td>90 GLH</td>
<td>External</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Promoting Public Health</td>
<td>90 GLH</td>
<td>External</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Where could this take you?

Health and social care students’ progress onto a variety of university courses including: nursing, midwifery, primary teaching, social work, youth and community work, probation work, occupational therapy, as well as studying for degrees in health and social care, social policy, sociology and psychology.

Other students progress into the work place as teaching assistants, care workers, nursery workers and youth workers.
Mathematics A-Level

Exam Board: Edexcel

Course Entry Requirements

8 GCSEs at grades 5 including English with grade 7 or above in Maths We do consider students who offer a grade 6, and offers for these students will require further discussion.

All students looking to study Mathematics at A-level should have a keen interest in maths and enjoy creative problem solving.

Course Outline and Assessment

Mathematics, as a major intellectual tradition, is a subject appreciated as much for its beauty as for its power. It is the science of pattern and structure, and like language, religion and music; it is a universal part of human culture.

Mathematics is assessed purely by examination across 3 modules taken in June of year 13.

Mathematics beyond GCSE is divided into two branches - Pure and Applied: Pure mathematics accounts for two-thirds of the content covered at A-level and encompasses the traditional areas of algebra, co-ordinate geometry, trigonometry and introduces calculus. Applied mathematics consists of modules in mechanics and statistics. Students studying physics will find significant overlap in their mechanics studies, whilst statistics has important applications in the social sciences and supports further study in subjects such as economics, business and geography.

Where could this take you?

Mathematics A-level is a respected traditional A-level that is valued by all universities. It is an essential degree for entry to degrees in mathematics and the physical sciences, and adds breadth when combined with courses in the arts.

Mathematics Graduates have one of the lowest unemployment rates in the United Kingdom, with over a third entering the business or finance sector after graduating.
Further Mathematics

Exam Board: Edexcel

Course Entry Requirements

Students interested in applying for Further Mathematics should be on track to achieve a grade 8/9 at GCSE.

Students choosing to study Further Mathematics should be confident and highly skilled mathematicians, who are ready to be challenged and explore more sophisticated mathematical concepts.

Course Outline and Assessment

Further Mathematics is a second, separate, A Level taken in addition to A-level Mathematics. Students complete the full A-level in mathematics in year 12 and then study an additional 4 modules in further mathematics in year 13.

Further Mathematics is assessed purely by examination.

Further Maths is an AS/A level which broadens and deepens the maths covered in AS/A level Maths. It develops your mathematical ability and introduces you to new topics, such as matrices and complex numbers, which are vital for maths-rich degrees in areas such as sciences, engineering, statistics and computing, as well as mathematics itself. It is an extremely well respected A-level that demonstrates exceptional mathematical ability.

Where could this take you?

Further Mathematics is accepted by all UK universities.

Further Mathematics is a requirement of many maths rich degree programmes including Mechanical Engineering, Chemistry, Physics, Civil Engineering, Architecture, Computer Science, Finance, Actuarial Science, Economics, Statistics, Astrophysics, and Chemical Engineering and Mathematics itself.
Exam Board: Eduqas

Course Entry Requirements
For A Level Media: 8 GCSEs at grades 5 or above with grade 6 or above in English Literature or Language.

Course Outline and Assessment
The study of a wide range of rich and stimulating media products is central to the specification, offering opportunities for detailed analysis of how the media communicate meanings in a variety of forms. There is a large emphasis placed on critical theory and analysing products in relation to their social, cultural, economic and political contexts. Feminism, post-colonialism and the influence of the media are concepts central to the specification.

| Coursework 30% | Students will be required to produce an extract from a television programme using professional editing software and accompanying print marketing material eg. Poster, Magazine review. This is a practical unit that will be informed by theory and research into existing products. |
| Paper 1 Written 35% | **Section A: Analysing Media Language and Representation** - This section assesses media language and representation in relation to the following media forms: advertising, marketing, music video and newspapers. Some of the products studied in detail include Beyonce’s Formation, The Times and Wateraid. **Section B: Understanding Media Industries and Audiences** - This section assesses two of the following media forms – advertising, marketing, film, newspapers, radio, video games - and media contexts. Some of the products studied include Black Panther, Assassin’s Creed and Late Night Women’s hour. |
| Paper 2 Written 35% | Indepth study of the following: **Section A – Television in the Global Age** - Humans (English) and The Returned (French) **Section B – Magazines**: Mainstream and Alternative Media- Vogue and the Big Issue **Section C – Media in the Online Age**: Zoella and Attitude Webzine |

Where could this take you?
In terms of studying further at university, top Russell Group universities now offer Media Studies, as well as Film Studies, and The University of Oxford has recently started to teach Film as a joint honors. The media industry is worth £977 billion globally, and in 2014 one in every six jobs in the UK held by graduates was in the creative economy (Department for Culture, Media and Sport); this is still growing. Former culture secretary Tessa Jowell has claimed that ‘in the modern world, media literacy will become as important a skill as Maths or Science’, emphasising how modern and applicable the course is when planning for success in the future.
Physical Education

Exam Board: OCR

Course Entry Requirements

8 GCSEs at grades 5 or above with grade 6 in P.E., English and Science.

Course Outline and Assessment

Have you ever wondered why some people can run faster than others or how personality can affect your performance? Have you ever questioned why an elite athlete would risk everything and use performance enhancing drugs? Do you want to find out more about how technology can improve an athlete’s performance? Study A-Level PE to find the answers.

The emphasis throughout the course is on the development of your knowledge, competence and confidence in a wide variety of skills that will enable you to confidently move forward in life. You will learn how Physical Education affects and contributes to society and also how to apply your knowledge from this course to any number of different practical situations or career choices.

Where could this take you?

You could study at a top University leading towards a career in the following…

BTEC Sport & Exercise Science

Exam Board: Edexcel

Course Entry Requirements;
6 or more GCSEs at grade 5 or above including P.E, Science, English and Maths.

Course Outline and Assessment
The Pearson BTEC National Extended Certificate in Sport is an Applied General qualification for post-16 learners who want to continue their education through applied learning and who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment in the sport sector.

You will study three mandatory units: • Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology • Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being • Unit 3: Professional Development in the Sports Industry. Learners will also complete one optional unit from a range which has been designed to support choices in progression to sport courses in higher education, and to link with relevant occupational areas

Where could this take you?
You will be provided with the knowledge and practical skills required to work in or study at higher levels in the fields of Physiotherapy, Nutritionist, Sports Massage, Sports Medicine, Biomechanics, PE Teaching, Sports Development, Fitness Industry, Sport Infrastructure, Sports Law, Finance in Sport, Journalism, Coaching, Photography, Events Management and Sports Psychology.
Performing Art BTEC

Course Entry Requirements

6 or more GCSEs at grade 5 or above including English.

Don’t worry if you have not studied one of the Arts at GCSE, we will be happy to take you onto the course if you show an enthusiasm and passion for performing, working creatively and are ready to work hard!

Course Outline and Assessment

The course requires students to complete 13 units over the two years, of which 7 are mandatory and 4 are external.

Mandatory content (67%). External assessment (42%).

The course begins with four mandatory units:

1) Investigating Practitioners’ Work
2) Group Performance Workshop
3) Individual Performance Commission
4) Employment Opportunities in the Performing Arts

Students then have to complete 14 optional units from a choice of 42 units. Areas these options cover include:

* Skills * Techniques * Creativity * Methods and Practice * Performance and Process * Research and development

Where could this take you?

Everybody will work creatively in their life, and the skills are transferable to profession. Whether you decide to study further, go on to work or an apprenticeship, or set up your own business – BTEC Extended National will be your passport to success in the next stage of your life. Typical jobs for Performing Arts graduates include: Actor, Dancer, Musician, Business Entrepreneur, Events management, Teacher, Production Assistant, setting up your own business.
Philosophy & Ethics

Exam Board: Edexcel

Course Entry Requirements

8 or more GCSEs at grade 5 or above with 6 or above in English Language or Literature. The course gives students the opportunity to develop their philosophical thinking skills and put very famous arguments to the test. It is an excellent preparation for university, as we encourage learning through discussion, engagement with famous primary texts and independent research.

Course Outline and Assessment

Year 12 Outline: This is a fascinating course that looks at questions such as: 'Can we know that God exists?' 'Why is there evil and suffering?' 'Is it ever morally right to go to war?' 'Are abortions acceptable?' The course gives students the opportunity to develop their philosophical thinking skills and put very famous arguments to the test. It is an excellent preparation for university, as we encourage learning through discussion, engagement with famous primary texts and independent research. There are two exams at the end of the AS year: Unit 1: "Foundations" in which you have to answer three questions on Philosophy of Religion and Ethics. Unit 2: "Investigations" in which you answer one question in 1 hour 15 minutes on a prepared topic.

Year 13 Outline: At A2 Candidates sit 2 papers at the end of the year: "Unit 3: Developments", which is 1 hour and 45 minutes long and "Unit 4: Implications" which is 1 hour and 15 minutes long. In the Developments paper, candidates answer three questions. This can either be 2 Philosophy of Religion and 1 Ethics or vice versa. Unit 3: Development Topics Philosophy of Religion: The Argument from Religious Experience, The Ontological Argument, The Non-Existence of God, Religious Language, Life after Death. Ethics: Critique of the Relationship between Religion and Morality, Deontology, Natural Law and Virtue Ethics, Ethical Language, Objectivity, Subjectivism and Relativism, Justice, Law and Punishment. Unit 4 Religious Studies — Implications 50% of the total A2 marks 25% of the total GCE marks. Students will answer one question based on an extract from the GCE Religious Studies Anthology published by Edexcel on one of the areas. Religious language: Ayer, A - God-talk is evidently nonsense 2. Religious experience: Donovan, P - Can we know God by experience? 3. Modern philosophy of religion: Westphal, M - The emergence of modern philosophy of religion.

Where could this take you?

P&E students go on to higher education to study a wide range of courses including Religious Studies, Theology, Philosophy, Law, Sociology and the Social Sciences. Careers include legal and medical services, Journalism and publishing, education and social work, broadcast, film, video and media sector.
Physics A-Level

Exam Board: OCR

Course Entry Requirements

8 GCSEs at grades 5 or above including English & Maths with grade 6 or above in Physics (or 2 grades 6+ for additional science).

Course Outline and Assessment

Over the two years students study this course aims to develop interest in, and enthusiasm for physics. It fosters an appreciation of how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society. The course develops a deeper appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of How Science Works; and develops essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of Physics and how they relate to each other.

Where could this take you?

An A level in Physics is viewed highly by universities as it trains its students in critical thinking and mathematical skills. Furthermore A level physics is considered a “hard” academic subject and will make applicants that possess a good grade more competitive when applying for university. Relevant degrees include: Physics, Engineering, Astronomy, Mathematics, any science degree, economics and computer science to name a few.
Exam Board: AQA

Course Entry Requirements

8 GCSEs at grades 5 or above including English & Maths.

Course Outline and Assessment

This course will provide students with the opportunity to be creative and innovative as they develop new products. Students will develop knowledge of the complex relationships between design, materials, manufacturing and marketing.

This A level explores new and existing technologies. In order to provide students with a relevant knowledge of industrial techniques, students will access to workshops that are fully equipped with the latest tools including CAD/CAM facilities.

A-level Design and Technology: Product Design requires students to engage in both practical and theoretical study. This specification requires students to cover design and technology skills and knowledge as set out below. These have been separated into:

1. Technical principles – Two written papers that will count towards 50% of final grade.
2. Designing and making principles – Design portfolio and a working prototype of their product. This unit will count towards 50% of the final grade.

Students must also demonstrate maths and science skills.

Where could this take you?

Through this A-Level students develop a wide range of employability skills including problem solving, taking initiative, team working, communication and presentations. It is a practical subject that will show your versatility and dexterity. A useful addition to any Degree level program. The course is particularly relevant if you are hoping to progress to a degree or career in engineering, architecture, set and theatre design, furniture or jewellery design, manufacturing industries or business management.
Psychology A-Level

Exam Board: Edexcel

Course Entry Requirements

8 GCSEs at grades 5 or above including English & Maths with grade 6 or above in Psychology.

If you did not study Psychology as a GCSE you can still take it as an A-Level as long as you have a grade 6 or above in English Language and Maths.

Course Outline and Assessment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A Level Topics Covered</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cognitive Psychology</td>
<td>Criminal Psychology</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Social Psychology</td>
<td>Clinical Psychology</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Biological Approach</td>
<td>Research Methods with Issues and debates</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Learning Approach</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Research methods with Issues &amp; Debates</td>
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Exams taken at the end of Year 13

Paper 1: Foundation of Psychology. Exam paper 2 hours (90 marks)

Paper 2: Applications of Psychology. Exam paper 2 hours (90 marks)

Where could this take you?

Psychology offers a wide variety of careers. These include:
- Therapists
- Counsellors
- Teachers/Lecturers
- Forensic Psychologists
- Occupational Psychologist
- Educational Psychologist
Sociology A-Level

Exam Board: AQA

Course Entry Requirements

8 GCSEs at grades 5 or above including English & Maths with grade 6 or above in Sociology.

If you did not study Sociology as a GCSE you can still take it as an A-Level as long as you have a grade 6 or above in English Language.

Course Outline and Assessment:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>· Education: Short answer and extended writing, 50 marks</td>
<td>· Section A: Extended writing, 40 marks</td>
<td>· Crime and Deviance: Short answer and extended writing, 50 marks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>· Methods in Context: Extended writing, 20 marks</td>
<td>· Section B: Extended writing, 40 marks</td>
<td>· Theory and Methods: Extended writing, 30 marks</td>
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<tr>
<td>· Theory and Methods: extended writing, 10 marks</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paper</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Unit Code</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Method of assessment</th>
<th>Availability</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Education with Theory and Methods</td>
<td>7192/1</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>1 written paper (2 hours)</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>33.3% of A level</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Topics in Sociology</td>
<td>7192/2</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>1 written paper (2 hours)</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>33.3% of A level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Crime and deviance with Theory and Methods</td>
<td>7192/3</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>1 written paper (2 hours)</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>33.3% of A level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Where could this take you?

Sociology offers a wide variety of careers. These include:
- Social workers
- Teachers/Lecturers
- Counsellor
- Social researcher
- Probation officer
- Charity worker
Spanish A-Level

Exam Board: AQA

Course Entry Requirements

8 GCSEs at grades 5 or above including English & Maths with grade 6 or above in Spanish and Computing/ICT.

Languages are a personal skill and as such are an enriching experience with plenty of added value.

Course Outline and Assessment

The AQA specification offers a smooth transition from GCSE to A-Level and a further language learning at university. You will learn not just to speak or write about various subjects, but more importantly, to express an opinion about them in more depth compared to what you did in your GCSE. The A level specification has 3 units:

**Unit 1: Listening, Reading and Writing** (2h 30 mins) 50% of A-level.

Aspects of Hispanic society, artistic culture in the Hispanic world, multiculturalism in Hispanic society, aspects of political life in Hispanic society.

Translation into English and into Spanish.

**Unit 2: writing** (2h) 20% of A-level.

One text and one film or two texts from the list set in the specification and a translation from

**Unit 3 Speaking** (21-23 minutes) 30% of A-level.

Individual research project and one of four sub-themes.

Where could this take you?

Language study contributes to a broad general education and gives you invaluable practical and transferable skills for the future. You may choose to specialise in Spanish at university or combine your language with other subjects such as Engineering, History, Media and journalism, Management and Business Studies, Teaching, Fashion Design, Travel & Hospitality Management, Accountancy, European Studies, or International or European Law. As Spanish is the fourth most widely spoken language in the world, you will have the opportunity to travel not only to Spain but to most parts of South and Central America and even to the USA where Spanish is spoken!