



Tolworth Girls' School & Sixth Form



SIXTH FORM COURSE

BOOKLET

Academic Year 2018/19



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Changes to Post 16 education

Raising the Participation Age

The Government has increased the age to which all young people in England must continue in education or training. It's called raising the participation age or RPA. This means you must continue in education or training until you are 18. It does not mean you must stay in school; you can choose one of the following options:

- Full-time education, such as school, college or learning provider.
- Work-based learning, such as an apprenticeship or traineeship
- Part-time education or training if you are employed, self-employed or volunteering for 20 hours or more a week

A Levels and BTEC Reform

The Coalition Government undertook significant reform of the GCSE, AS and A level qualification. The reforms are extensive and include changes to both the subject content and assessment of these qualifications, as well as the range of qualifications that may be studied. The reforms aim to make the qualifications more rigorous, with an increased focus on examinations.

The reformed GCSEs now have assessments at the end of the course. There are no longer higher and foundation tiers, and a new grading scale will be introduced for students receiving their results in June 2017. The new grading system uses the numbers 1 – 9 to identify levels of performance, with 9 being the top level, Grade 4 will be considered a 'standard' pass equivalent to a C and Grade 5 a 'strong pass' equivalent to a B Grade.

Exams will only take place only in the summer, with the exception of English, English Literature and Mathematics, where students who want to re-take these subjects will be able to do so in November.

AS and A level course content is also being reformed. Additionally, AS and A levels have been 'decoupled', so that AS levels can be taken as qualifications in their own right, any student wishing to take an A level after doing an AS level would be reassessed on the AS level material within the A Level exam.

Qualifications will be assessed at the end of the course, and in principle be exam-only.

Reformed course content has been published for many subjects and has been introduced over the last two years.

At Tolworth we expect the majority of our students to study 3 A levels, Level 3 BTECs or a combination of both qualifications. We will no longer be offering AS levels.

The differences between an A Level and a vocational qualification are...

A Levels are general academic qualifications.

- Most young people choose to do at least 3 A Levels and these are considered to be excellent academic qualifications, valued by employers and universities alike. A Levels offer a great route to degree level study.
- A Levels can give young people a chance to find out about their favourite GCSE subjects in greater depth or perhaps do one of the subjects that many schools and colleges only offer at A Level such as Sociology or Psychology.

- A Levels are good qualifications for entry to higher education. Each A Level earns UCAS points, which count towards entry for university. Vocational qualifications at Level 3 also earn UCAS points and are accepted by universities, but some higher education courses will only accept A Levels.

For more information on entry to University please visit the UCAS website.

Level 3 vocational qualifications (BTEC, OCR and WJEC)

- Level 3 BTECs are vocational qualifications available in a wide range of subjects. People choose these courses if they are interested in learning more about a particular sector or industry. The qualifications offer a mix of theory and practice. Level 3 vocational qualifications are usually studied full-time at college or at school.
- Level 3 vocational qualifications can be studied instead of, or in combination with, A Levels. At Level 3, many of these qualifications are awarded UCAS points for entry to higher education.
- Methods of assessment on vocational courses vary depending on the awarding body. A range of different assessment methods are likely to be used including assignments and exams. Generally, assessment is less exam-based and more coursework and project focused.

Post 16 Choices

Students who achieve 5 GCSEs at grades 9 - 4 (A* - C in old grades) have a range of choices at 16; staying on in the sixth form, going to a college or undertaking an apprenticeship. For more information about apprenticeships you can see your careers advisor.

Course entry requirements for all subjects are for guidance only.

Courses on Offer from September 2018

Vocational Courses:

Combined Health & Social with Travel & Tourism	BTEC Level 2
Applied Science	BTEC Level 3
Business	BTEC Level 3
Food Science & Nutrition	WJEC Level 3
Health & Social Care	BTEC Level 3
Information Technology	BTEC Level 3

AS / A Level Courses:

- Art & Design: Fine Art
- Art & Design: Textiles
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Classical Civilisation
- Dance
- Design Technology: Product Design
- Drama
- English Language & Literature
- English Literature
- Geography
- History
- Maths / Further Maths
- Media Studies
- Modern Languages – French and Spanish
- Music
- Photography
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Politics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies: Philosophy & Ethics
- Sociology

VOCATIONAL COURSES

Level 2 Courses

Health & Social Care BTEC Level 2

This qualification is designed for students who want to apply their skills and knowledge in health and social care or childcare. It will provide learners with skills, knowledge and understanding to progress into employment through an Apprenticeship. Learners completing this qualification could progress into Apprenticeships in Adult Care, Healthcare Support or Early Years Education. The units in the course cover; Principles of Working in Health, Social Care and Childcare, Health and Safety in Practice, Working in a Person-Centred Way and Safeguarding. This course covers four units two of which are externally examined and the other two being coursework based. This course runs in conjunction with Travel and Tourism BTEC Level 2.

Travel and Tourism BTEC Level 2

The Travel and Tourism Level 2 course is designed to provide learners with underpinning knowledge, understanding and skills of the Travel and Tourism sector. It is a one year course which allows the learner to progress to Level 3 study or employment in the Travel and Tourism industry. This modular courses covers eight units, two of which are externally examined and the rest being coursework based. This course runs in conjunction with Health & Social Care BTEC Level 2.

BTEC Level 3 Courses

Applied Science BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate / Diploma (Edexcel)

The Edexcel BTEC qualification in Applied Science reflects aspects of employment within science organisations or organisations that use science and enable learners to develop practical scientific skills. Units within the qualification cover areas of biological, chemical and physical science.

The three main forms of assessment that you need to be aware of are a written exam, an externally marked assignment and an internally assessed practical task.

When choosing this course students have two choices: to study the Extended Certificate which is the equivalent of one A-level, or the Diploma which is the equivalent of two A-levels.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Candidates will be expected to have achieved 5 GCSEs 9 to 4 or equivalent including English or Maths at Grade 4 or above and GCSE 4,4 or above for Science.

Course entry requirements for all subjects are for guidance only.

Business BTEC Level 3 (Edexcel)

The BTEC course in Business will give you a broad understanding of business and an opportunity to study selected areas in more depth. You will develop skills, knowledge and understanding in business, whilst having an opportunity to apply learning in a practical and realistic way. Learners will study four units covering a range of topics including marketing, finance and economic factors influencing businesses, two units are coursework based and two units are examined. Students follow a programme of study that enables progression to both higher education and employment within business and take part in course related work experience.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Minimum of 5 GCSE passes 9 to 4 or equivalent, including English Grade 4 and Maths Grade 4. It is not a requirement that you should have studied Business at GCSE, although this would be an advantage.

Food Science and Nutrition level 3 Diploma (WJEC)

This modular course is a natural progression from GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition. You will explore the relationship between food, nutrition and health and gives the opportunity for creative, investigative and analytical study. There are two mandatory units:

Unit 1: Meeting Nutrition Needs of Specific Groups – this unit allows you to demonstrate practical skills to produce quality food items that meet the needs of specific individuals.

Unit 2: Ensuring Food is Safe to Eat – you will develop your understanding of the science of food safety and hygiene.

There are two optional units: Experimenting to Solve Food Production Problems and Current Issues in Food Science and Nutrition. This qualification is assessed through a combination of assessment methods, including written exams, practical tasks and centre marked assignments.

What are the entry requirements for this course? GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition Grade 4 or above and Science at Grade 4 or above.

Health and Social Care – BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate/Diploma

This course is aimed at individuals that are interested in a career in the Health & Social Care sector. This is an exciting vocational course that prepares you for the world of work. Learners taking this qualification will study six units: Human Lifespan Development, Working in Health and Social Care, meeting Individual Care and Support Needs, Principles of Safe Practice, Enquiries into Current Research and Promoting Public Health. This course could lead on to; teaching, nursing, social work, early years, speech & language therapy, occupational therapy, midwifery and many more.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Minimum of 5 GCSEs 9 to 4 or equivalent, including a grade 4 English GCSE.

ICT BTEC National Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma (Edexcel)

This modular course provides an excellent extension to vocational ICT courses studied at GCSE. This qualification is designed to offer you an alternative route into higher education or employment. This course has been developed to recognise learner's skills, knowledge and understanding of Information and Communication Technology functions, environments and operations. The learners carry out a range of tasks that have been designed to recognise their achievements in a modern, practical way that is relevant to the workplace.

What are the entry requirements for the course? Minimum of 5 A* to C passes at GCSE including English and Maths. ICT grade 4 or equivalent is preferred though not essential.

AS/A LEVEL COURSES

Art & Design: Fine Art (Edexcel)

A Level Art includes any or all of the following: ceramics, drawing, mixed-media, painting and printing. Students are encouraged to visit venues within the London area, including Tate Modern, V&A and other smaller exhibitions, where they can research projects.

Students will have the chance to work with a life model during the course of the year and given the opportunity to apply for Art Workshops at the University of the Creative Arts. Our results, which compare with the best in the country, are achieved through this personalised approach.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Candidates will be expected to have achieved 5 GCSEs 9 to 4 or equivalent and GCSE grade 4 in an Art or Design & Technology subject and GCSE grade 4 or above in English Language. External students and students who have not taken an Art or Design & Technology subject must submit a portfolio of work. Students who did not achieve the entry requirements must seek advice through interview with the Subject Lead for Art.

Art & Design: Textiles (Edexcel)

A Level Textiles is specifically aimed at those students who enjoy working with fabrics and in fashion. The course includes elements of the following: hand and machine embroidery, dyeing and printing, constructed textiles and fashion. Students are encouraged to visit venues and exhibitions within the London area where they can resource projects. Students will have the chance to work with a life model during the course of the year and given the opportunity to apply for Art Workshops at the University of the Creative Arts. Our results, which compare with the best in the country, are achieved by this individual approach.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Candidates will be expected to have achieved 5 GCSEs 9 to 4 or equivalent and GCSE grade 5 in an Art or Design & Technology subject and GCSE grade 4 or above in English Language. External students and students who have not taken an Art or Design & Technology subject must submit a portfolio of work. Students who did not achieve the entry requirements must seek advice through interview with the Subject Lead for Art.

Course entry requirements for all subjects are for guidance only.

Biology (OCR)

Biologists study the functioning of living organisms, their interactions in the environment and the use of this knowledge to support and aid others. In Year 12 we develop your GCSE knowledge of different transport systems, including the circulatory system, and the processes of mitosis and meiosis. We also look in more detail at cell organelles and biological membranes. Biology is essential in many careers such as medicine, radiography, dentistry, pharmacy, genetics, environmental science and ecology. Many other subjects support the learning that occurs in the course such as Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Psychology and PE.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Candidates will be expected to have achieved 5 GCSEs Grades 9 to 4 or equivalent including English or Maths at Grade 5 or above and a minimum of 5,5 in Double or two Science subjects at GCSE (including Biology).

Chemistry (OCR)

Chemistry is the study of how elements and compounds behave in the world around us. It attempts to answer questions about why things happen, what is happening to our environment and if we can save the planet. Some of the concepts that we explore in Year 12 build on GCSE knowledge and include atomic structure; chemical bonding; the Periodic Table; quantitative analysis; organic chemistry and energy. You will also carry out many experiments, where you will learn new techniques and refine your practical skills. Chemistry is a subject that is essential to many careers such as medicine, pharmacy, biomedical sciences and veterinary science but is also a useful qualification that shows you can think and solve problems.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Candidates will be expected to have gained 5 GCSE Grades 9 to 4 or equivalent including English at grade 5 or above and a minimum grade 5 but ideally a grade 6 or above in Maths and a minimum of 5,5 in Double Science or two Science subjects (including Chemistry).

Classical Civilisation (OCR)

The study of A-level Classical Civilisation allows students to look at many aspects of the classical world which are significant in the development of the modern world. Classical Civilisation A-level offers students an opportunity to engage with the study of the literature, archaeology, history, culture and society of both the Greek and the Roman Empire.

A study of Classical Civilisation complements many other popular A-levels including: English Literature, History and Philosophy & Ethics.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Candidates will be expected to have gained 5 GCSE grades 9 to 4 or equivalent including English Grade 5 or History at grade 5.

Dance (AQA)

A-level Dance provides students with the opportunity to gain experience of performance and choreography and to develop critical thinking about Dance. This four-unit specification requires students to:

- develop understanding and knowledge as well as critical skills for the analysis of choreography and performance within their own work and in professional repertoire
- gain experience of choreography and performance through practice
- gain in-depth knowledge of specific study areas and professional works.

The practical elements of the course amount to 55% of the full qualification.

This course is particularly suitable for students who have studied GCSE Dance and wish to study Dance at a higher level. The content allows students to study a subject which can be extended through higher education and promotes a healthy lifestyle through an awareness of the importance of exercise and training.

What are the entry requirements? Preferably students should achieve a grade 9 - 4 in GCSE Dance.

However, students who have not taken Dance at GCSE will be considered if they can demonstrate a good level of skill in Dance.

Design & Technology: Product Design (AQA)

The course is a natural progression from GCSE Design and Technology. It is a creative and thought provoking course that gives the opportunity to develop practical skills and theoretical knowledge. It is particularly relevant for those wanting to go into a creative industry. You will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design and technology. You will also learn about contemporary technologies, materials and processes, as well as established practices. You will put your learning in to practice by using your creativity and imagination to design and make prototypes that solve real and relevant problems, you will need to consider your own and others' needs, wants and values. You will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers. There is a substantial practical element to the course and this is assessed through an NEA which is a design and make task. This is worth 50% of the final grade. You will also be assessed through a written exam.

What are the entry requirements for this course? GCSE Design Technology Grade C or above Science and Mathematics at 4 or above.

Drama and Theatre (Edexcel)

This qualification is designed to provide all students on the course with knowledge and understanding of the language of drama and theatre at the same time as developing their performance and analytical skills. You will gain an in-depth understanding of the theatre, its history, playwrights, practitioners and how to devise plays. You will study plays from the viewpoint of a director, designer, performer and critic.

Students will study over the course of the two years:

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- A Set text 'That Face' by Polly Stenham, along with Constantine Stanislavski's methods of naturalism, which will be assessed through a written examination in the summer term of year 2.
- A set text from a historical period; Aristophanes Lysistrata, looking at the history of theatre and focusing on a theatre practitioner. Students will look at this text from the perspective of a 21st century theatre director. This will also be assessed through a written examination in the summer term of year 2.
- Students are given the opportunity to see a variety of live theatre, students become the critic and learn to analytically review the performance.
- You will study further practitioners and perform a series of scenes and a monologue or duologue to a visiting examiner.
- They will produce a piece of original theatre in groups, taking on all responsibilities for research, writing, directing, set design and acting, using the style of at least one practitioner. This will be performed to a live audience, filmed and will be moderated, along with a piece of coursework.

Drama and Theatre is the academic study of theatre through the centuries and the practical exploration of different genres and style of performance. The course is designed to deepen your understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of theatre. The course is 60% practical (30% acting plus 30% written coursework) and the written examination is 40%.

What are the entry requirements for this course? GCSE Drama Grade 4 or above. Candidates without previous Drama experience will be considered for the course but will need to attend an interview with department staff and have achieved Grade 5 or above in English Language/Literature.

English Language and Literature (AQA)

This integrated English Language and Literature course offers opportunities for you to develop your subject expertise in literary and non-literary discourses. You will engage creatively and critically with a wide range of texts, bringing the nature of literary discourse into sharper view. Using literary and linguistic concepts and methods, you will analyse literary and non-literary texts in a range of modes and genres, in the process gaining insights into the nature of different discourses and ideas about creativity.

Key areas of learning: the representation of place, point of view and genre in prose, the forms and functions of poetic voice, creative transformations of texts and critical reflection on your own processes of production. You will study both fiction e.g. prose, poetry and drama and non-fiction texts e.g. personal letters, spontaneous speech, multimedia texts.

Key skills developed: producing and interpreting language, critical, creative and analytical skills all required both for progression to higher education and for enhanced employability.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Candidates will be expected to have gained 5 GCSE grades 9 to 4 or equivalent including English Language at grade 5 and English Literature at grade 5 This course will suit you if you enjoy reading and analysing language, you are prepared to think and work independently, to share your ideas through discussion and to present work in the classroom. You will be

expected to complete regular essay based and creative writing assignments as well as keeping a log of your own wider reading.

English Literature (AQA) Option B

This particular course allows students to explore a range of texts and genres and is very enriching. This course will also introduce you to some new concepts such as examining how a text is influenced by the conditions of its production and how responses to texts change throughout time. Developing an informed and fluent personal response to literature through discussion and writing is the central feature of the course so you will need to read a wide range of literature, covering a range of genres and texts written throughout different periods of time.

What are the entry requirements and expectations for this course? Candidates will be expected to have gained 5 GCSE grades 9 to 4 or equivalent including grade 6 in both English Language and Literature. This course will suit you if you enjoy reading, you are prepared to think and work independently, to share your ideas through discussion and to take part in drama and presentation work in the classroom. You will be expected to complete regular essay based assignments as well as keeping a log of your own wider reading.

Geography (Edexcel)

The Edexcel A Level will support our GCSE Geography students who continue with the subject through exploring a contemporary issues-based Geography curriculum. Throughout the course candidates will study topics including tectonic hazards, globalisation, water security, climate change, migration identity and sovereignty and world superpowers. A compulsory 4 days of fieldwork must be completed. Candidates will be required to conduct a 3000- 4000 word independent study based on their own research and data collection (this will make up 20% of the full A level). Through completion of A Level Geography, candidates will develop a range of multidisciplinary skills that are highly respected by universities and employers – these include data analysis, use of GIS and decision making.

What are the entry requirements for this course? GCSE Grade 5 (or equivalent) or above in Geography (however, consideration will be given to candidates on an individual basis, who have an interest in the subject). Candidates will also be expected to have gained 5 GCSE grades 9 to 4 or equivalent, including grade 4 in Maths and English.

History (Edexcel)

History is a popular subject at Tolworth Sixth Form. You will be taught by experienced teachers who are passionate about the subject. You will be encouraged to participate in conferences and trips outside the classroom in order to increase your historical awareness and to broaden your historical understanding. History will appeal to you if you have an interest in the world around you, the society you live in, and how it has

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developed. You should like learning about people, how they interact and what motivates them. You should enjoy discussion, debate and argument. In the first year you will study American History 1917-96 and the road to independence in India. In the second year you will complete coursework on a historical controversy and a further unit covering 100 years of British history.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Candidates will be expected to have achieved 5 GCSEs 9 to 4 or equivalent and GCSE Grade 5 or above in History and grade 5 in English. However, students who have not taken History GCSE will be considered on an individual basis.

Maths (AQA)

The content of the new A Level Maths course splits approximately into two-thirds pure Maths, one sixth mechanics content and one-sixth statistics. The aims and objectives of the course are to encourage problem solving, comprehension and use of technology. Students are expected to use their mathematical skills and techniques to solve challenging problems that require them to decide on a solution strategy. The exam comprises of three, 2hour exam papers each worth a 100 marks; Pure Maths, Pure Maths and Mechanics and pure Maths and Statistics. The use of calculator is allowed in all exam papers. A Level Maths is a rigorous and academic qualification which is highly valued for university entry and employment.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Candidates will be expected to have achieved 5 GCSE's at Grade 5+ including a minimum grade 6 in GCSE Maths and have very good algebra skills.

Further Maths(AQA)

A-level specifications in further mathematics requires students to demonstrate the following knowledge and skills. These must be applied, along with associated mathematical thinking and understanding: mathematical language, argument and proof and mathematical problem solving and mathematical modelling.

Further maths students are encouraged to use technology such as calculators and computers effectively and recognise when such use may be inappropriate. We have split the A-level content into two-thirds compulsory content (pure maths) and one-third optional content. The exam comprises of three, 2 hour papers, all calculator papers; Papers 1 and 2 - pure maths and paper 3 - choose one from the following Discrete and Statistics, Statistics and Mechanic and Mechanics and Discrete.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Candidates will be expected to have achieved 5 GCSE's at grade 5+ including a minimum grade 7 in GCSE Maths and have very good algebra skills. A Level Further Maths is a rigorous and academic qualification which is highly valued for university entry and employment.

Media Studies (Eduqas)

Media plays an ever-increasing role in all of our lives. From watching TV, reading magazines, to using Facebook, the media is never far away. Choosing Media Studies provides you with the opportunity to objectively analyse existing media texts and to create your own texts too.

This course will enable you to build on skills that you now possess through watching and reading forms of the media you have already experienced. It will also introduce you to new concepts and experiences within the media.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Candidates will be expected to have achieved 5 GCSEs 9 to 4 or equivalent and grade 4 or above in English, study of Media or ICT at level 2 would be an advantage.

Modern Languages: French & Spanish (AQA)

The topics studied are much more advanced than at GCSE and enable you to communicate with people from French and Spanish speaking countries about issues that really matter to you. At GCSE, the focus was very much on you and your day-to-day experiences. At A level, the focus shifts to considering worldwide issues and being able to discuss these in depth. You will enjoy learning a variety of topics ranging from French and Spanish societies and cultures to issues relating to young people today. You will also have the opportunity to study a French or Spanish film and book. The course encourages you to become an independent and outward-looking thinker and to develop your understanding of other cultures, beliefs and political systems which prepare you well for further studies at university.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Candidates will be expected to have gained 5 GCSE grades 9 to 4 or equivalent and ideally, you need to have gained a GCSE grade 5 or above in your chosen language, having sat higher level. You should be able to confidently use a range of tenses in your work.

Music (AQA)

This course will enable you to develop your performing and composing skills. You can play any instrument or sing and you will take part in solo and group performances. There is a good choice of compositions for you to make. You will also have the chance to explore a wide range of musical styles and genres. By listening to music you will learn about the organisation of sounds and learn to analyse the features and context of different styles including Classical, Jazz and Pop music.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Grade 5 or equivalent in GCSE Music plus minimum Grade 4 standard on first instrument or voice. Ability to read and write music using music notation. Have a weekly individual lesson on your instrument/voice with a specialist tutor to develop technical skills.

Course entry requirements for all subjects are for guidance only.

Photography (AQA)

Studying A Level Photography, students will develop understanding and skills in both traditional and new technologies. Students will be introduced to a variety of experiences that explore a range of photographic media, techniques and processes, including darkroom developing techniques, Photoshop, scanography & photocopying experiments, pinhole cameras, projection and mixed media to name a few. Students will choose to explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to a range of art, craft and design, from the past and from recent times, including European and non-European examples. This will be integral to the investigating and making processes. Students' responses to these examples will be created through practical and critical activities that demonstrate their understanding and awareness of different styles, genres and traditions, which will be documented in their sketchbooks as their work progresses.

Throughout the 2 years, students will produce one unit of coursework based on their own 'Personal Investigation' as well as an Externally Set Exam.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Candidates will be expected to have achieved 5 GCSEs 9 to 4 or equivalent including English or Maths at Grade 4 or above and a minimum of GCSE grade 4 in an Art or Design & Technology subject. External students and students who have not taken an Art or Design & Technology subject must submit a portfolio of work. Students who did not achieve the entry requirements must seek advice through interview with the Head of Art.

Physical Education (AQA)

Do you enjoy science and looking at how the human body and mind is affected by participation and performance? Are you interested in the place of PE and sport in society and how the subject has developed historically? Are you keen to debate and develop an awareness of current issues in sport? A level PE is an academic course that has practical components. Study of PE at A level will enhance your knowledge and experience of PE and sport, as well as giving you a deeper understanding of health issues. The course requires you to study a range of areas such as applied anatomy and physiology, skill acquisition, sports psychology, sport and society, exercise physiology, biomechanics and the role of technology in sport. It goes without saying that you must enjoy developing and acquiring skills and techniques in your chosen sport and you must be actively participating in a sports club outside of school. You will assess your own fitness and participate in a range of fitness tests to enable you to analyse and improve your own performance. Studying A level PE will prepare you for further studies in a range of courses including degrees in sports psychology, sport and exercise sciences, sports therapy and coaching studies, as well as being relevant for a range of careers including work in the health and fitness industry, teaching, coaching and sports medicine and physiotherapy. A level PE is assessed through a combination of written examinations and coursework which will assess your skills and knowledge, and you will also be assessed in your one chosen practical activity where you will specialise either as a performer or as a coach. If you have a passion for sport, you will enjoy studying A level PE.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Candidates will be expected to have achieved 5 GCSEs 9 to 4 or equivalent and at least a grade 4 in PE GCSE, along with a 4 in Science. Ideally you will also have a grade 4 in English and Maths. Students must also be actively involved in a sports club outside of school.

Physics (OCR)

This course is designed to prepare you for further studies in the Physical Sciences. It is ideal for those students who wish to read Physics, Sciences, Medicine, Engineering, Computer Science or Mathematics at university. It is also extremely rewarding for those students wishing to pursue non-scientific careers, for example in Law, Design, Architecture, Accountancy and Business Studies as the principles of problem solving and understanding of concepts are transferable to many disciplines. You will develop the ability to think laterally and gain a deeper knowledge of the principles that you have studied at GCSE, such as Newton's Laws of Motion and the evolution of the Universe. You will also advance your use of experimental techniques to support your own theories and enrich your understanding of the subject.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Candidates will be expected to have gained 5 GCSE grades 9 to 4 or equivalent including English at grade 5 and a minimum grade 5 but ideally need grade 6 or above in Maths and a minimum of 5,5 in Double Science or two Science subjects at GCSE (including Physics).

Politics (Pearson Edexcel)

Politics offers students the opportunity to cultivate an insight into political beliefs central to an understanding of the modern world as well as developing analytical and evaluative skills. This course allows students to study contemporary politics and develop a strong understanding of the factors shaping both the British and American systems. This subject also helps in the development of discussion and debating skills and encourages students to think beyond the constraints of a textbook.

As well as providing a foundation for further study in politics, international relations or law, Politics complements many other popular A-levels including: History, Business Studies, English and Sociology.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Candidates will be expected to have gained 5 GCSE grades 9 to 4 or equivalent including a grade 4 in English or History at grade 5.

Psychology (AQA)

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behaviour and is therefore directly relevant to all of us. It is a fascinating subject as it focuses on explaining why people behave as they do. The 'A' level course involves learning about psychological theories and studies across a range of topics such as Memory, Relationships and Psychopathology.

Psychology is a popular subject which is attractive to students because it develops a range of valuable skills, including critical analysis, independent thinking and research. These skills are particularly relevant to young

Course entry requirements for all subjects are for guidance only.

people and are transferable to further study and the workplace. Our qualification offers students an engaging and stimulating introduction to the study of psychology, combined with the academic integrity and skills that Higher Education and employers value.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Candidates will be expected to have achieved 5 GCSEs 9 to 4 or equivalent and a GCSE at grade 4 or above in English, Maths and a grade 5 in Biology or Grade 4 and 5 in Double Science.

Religious Studies: Philosophy & Ethics (Edexcel)

This course will introduce you to some of the key themes in Philosophy of Religion and Religion and Ethics. You will study the works of classical and modern philosophers like Aristotle, Aquinas and Mill as well as studying ethical theories. You will examine the application of ethical theories to dilemmas and consider ethical issues in the world around us. You will also study a world faith in depth, considering fundamental questions of belief, values and teachings alongside sources of wisdom and authority.

This course offers a diverse range of skills which are particularly beneficial to further study. Critical thinking and analytical skills are developed throughout the course as are the skills of extended writing and communication.

As well as being superb preparation for further study in the study of philosophy and religion, a study of Philosophy and Ethics will complement many other popular A-levels including: English Literature, History and Government & Politics, Classical Civilisation, Sociology and Psychology.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Candidates will be expected to have achieved 5 GCSEs 9 to 4 or equivalent and a minimum GCSE grade 5 in English or 5 grade in RS with a grade 4 in English.

Sociology (AQA)

We take the society we live in for granted but have you ever stopped to think about why the world is the way it is? Ever stopped and asked questions about the society that you are a part of? In Sociology students will critically examine the way society has developed and currently operates, considering questions such as: Why are girls achieving better grades in education than ever before? Are families good or bad for us? Do men commit more crime than women? What does religion do in society?

This GCE Sociology specification has been designed so that candidates will acquire the essential knowledge and understanding of central aspects of sociological thought and methods, together with the application of a range of skills. It has also been designed to allow the integration of sociological themes, such as socialisation, culture and identity, power and social differentiation.

What are the entry requirements for this course? Candidates will be expected to have achieved 5 GCSEs 9 to 4 or equivalent. GCSE Sociology not required but students must have achieved a grade 4 in English.

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