

# Bishop Challoner Sixth Form College



**Consistently high pass rate in all  
subject areas**

**Excellent Progression routes to  
Universities and alternatives to  
Higher Education**

**ASPIRE TO BE MORE**



# Welcome to Bishop Challoner Sixth Form College

*“ Students take pride in their work  
and are committed to doing well. ”*

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**Thank you for your interest in Bishop Challoner Sixth Form College. We hope this prospectus will assist you in considering your options at this exciting stage in your academic career.**

At Bishop Challoner Sixth Form College you will have the opportunity to be part of a vibrant and highly successful college. We pride ourselves in offering a strong sense of sixth form identity and community at the heart of a highly successful Catholic college. Within this context we offer outstanding teaching and student guidance in a supportive and caring environment. Whilst we ask that all sixth formers are respectful and supportive of our mission statement which is rooted in our faith, as an inclusive sixth form we welcome students from all faith backgrounds and none. Should you choose to further your education with us, we can assure you of our commitment to helping you reach your full potential.

We are very proud of our success, which was acknowledged when we became one of the first schools in the country to be designated as a Teaching School; we lead by example in Birmingham and beyond. Our excellent reputation for academic achievement is a direct result of the efforts of both students and staff in a friendly working environment. We offer our students a range of educational opportunities: over 20 AS/A Level courses and vocational qualifications in Sport, ICT and Health and Social Care. There is a wealth of study and recreational facilities including a state of the art sports centre, new science and food technology laboratories, generously equipped media suites, a dance studio, recording studio and an auditorium which accommodates drama, music and media productions at a highly professional level.

As well as a wide range of academic subjects, students are provided with an extensive range of enrichment activities which enable them to acquire and develop transferable skills which, in an ever changing world, will be essential both for higher education and for work. There are excellent opportunities to participate in activities as wide ranging as sport, drama, music, foreign visits and work placements.

With a commitment to serving the most vulnerable in society through charitable work and with strong links in our local community, our students really embody our mission statement “We give glory to God by developing our full potential and in our service to others”.

At Bishop Challoner Sixth Form College, you will enter into an adult partnership with us, designed to enable you to succeed in your chosen courses and in your future studies and careers. There is no uniform for Sixth Form students but we do have a Dress Code; students are asked to wear ‘smart casual’, precise details of this are found in the Student/Parent/Carer handbook.

Bishop Challoner Sixth Form College offers excellent post-16 provision:

- Individualised pastoral care
- A wide choice of courses
- High quality teaching
- Excellent student attainment
- A unique programme of Information, Advice and Guidance, including work experience
- Highly successful progression routes to universities, including Russell Group and Oxbridge, or to employment opportunities
- A vibrant cultural and social programme

**I hope that Bishop Challoner Sixth Form College will be the place where you will discover the happiness and fulfilment that comes with achieving your ambitions, and I look forward to receiving your application.**

Maggie Nutt  
Associate Principal-Sixth Form

## Mission Statement

“In our community of Faith in Bishop Challoner Catholic College we give glory to God by developing our full potential and in our service to others in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”



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## A Word from our Head Boy and Head Girl

“Aspiring to be more is something that both the students and teachers strive to do on a daily basis here at Bishop Challoner. One thing we can certainly say is that the students have one of the best possible staff teams that you could hope for. This extends beyond the classroom to the guidance we receive about our future plans.”



# Curriculum

Bishop Challoner Sixth Form College has a rich and varied curriculum. We offer a comprehensive range of A Level qualifications as well as vocational qualifications in Business, Health and Social Care, ICT and Sport.

Course availability is dependent on student demand.

For the few students who need to retake GCSE Maths or GCSE English Language, we offer specific classes in these areas.

All students in our college will have access to a range of enrichment activities, which are discussed later in the prospectus.

*“The sixth form is an aspiration for many younger pupils because it is a purposeful place of study that leads to future success.”*

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## Courses

### A Levels

Art and Design: Fine Art	History
Biology	Law
Business Studies	Mathematics
Chemistry	Media Studies
Computer Science	Music
Economics	Physical Education
English Literature	Physics
French	Psychology
Further Mathematics- (AS Level and A Level)	Religious Studies
Geography	Sociology

Level 3 Core Mathematics - (AS Level equivalent only)

Level 3 Extended Certificate in Business

BTEC Level 3: Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care

BTEC Level 3: Extended Certificate in ICT

Level 3 Extended Certificate in Sport

Technical Diploma in Sport (2 A Level equivalent)

### Level 2 Courses

GCSE English Language

GCSE Mathematics

*“Students appreciate their lessons and comment on the additional support teachers regularly offer outside the class, which helps them improve their work”*

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# How to Apply

## Entry Requirements

### Academic requirements

We require a minimum of 6 GCSEs at grade 4 and above (including English and Maths) and a minimum of grade 6 in the subject to be studied at A Level or an equivalent subject. In certain circumstances students with 5 GCSEs at grade 5 and above may be accepted. However, please read individual subject entrance requirements carefully.

For Level 3 BTEC courses, a minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 and above are required.

For Science, Mathematics and Psychology please see additional requirements on subject pages.

### Further Information

Late applications will not normally be accepted beyond the first Friday in October 2020.

Unsuccessful applicants have the right to appeal and must follow the appeal admission timetable.

The full admission policy and appeal timetable can be found on the school website.

*“ Effective leadership and management of the sixth form ensure that very high-quality personal support and monitoring complement good teaching and the excellent curriculum offer ”*

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## Submitting your Application

Please apply through the Sixth Form website: [www.bishopchalloner.org.uk/sixth-form](http://www.bishopchalloner.org.uk/sixth-form). Click on the ‘Applying’ tab on the left hand side of the page, which will direct you to the online Application Form.

Once you have submitted your application, you will receive an email with a reference request that your school will need to complete. Once completed, you will then need to post it back to us as soon as possible.

Meetings take place in February, when you will be asked to bring your most recent academic report with predicted GCSE grades. This is the ideal opportunity for you to find out more about Bishop Challoner Sixth Form College and the options available to you. It is also a chance for us to find out more about you. You will meet with one of the Sixth Form Team. If the meeting is successful you will receive a letter making you a conditional offer of a place, dependent on you meeting our entry requirements. (See above)

If you do not currently attend Bishop Challoner Catholic College, you will be invited to a taster day that will take place during the summer term which will give you the chance to sample A Level lessons and make new friends before September.

Enrolment takes place on GCSE results day which is Thursday 20th August 2020. On this day you will have the opportunity to review your original course choices. Full details of these arrangements will be sent to you in the summer term.



# Student Services

We are extremely proud of our Student Services department, which we believe provides a unique level of support to our students. Quality information, advice and guidance underpins everything this department does. With a strong focus on student progression, the department works closely with students to ensure they choose and progress onto the most suitable pathway for them.

## The department gives valuable, personalised support to students with:

- Year 12 Work experience
- UCAS applications
- Guidance when making post 18 decisions
- Interview preparation
- Apprenticeship/employment applications
- Bursaries and scholarships

## It also provides excellent, day to day assistance to students on matters such as:

- Timetables
- Financial support
- Bus passes
- Attendance

Every year, the majority of our students go onto university. Whilst we have long established partnerships with the many and diverse institutions in the Midlands, our students take up places throughout the UK and beyond. Traditionally around one third of our students are successful in securing places at Russell Group universities.

## Students have left us this year to start undergraduate courses in subjects as varied as:

- Medicine
- Forensic Psychology
- Adult Nursing
- Occupational Therapy
- International Relations and Politics
- Fashion Branding
- Ancient and Medieval History
- Architectural Technology
- Cyber Security

## Other have been successful in securing places on Degree Apprenticeships in areas such as:

- Quantity Surveying
- Civil Engineering
- Paralegal

*“Teachers use their strong subject knowledge to pitch lessons at the right level.”*

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**Whatever your ambition and whatever your background every step of the way. You will receive the right support you are equipped to make the big decisions and**



# Enrichment

## at Bishop Challoner Sixth Form College

Below are some of the many Enrichment choices that our Sixth Form students can select from. These activities demonstrate key skills such as leadership, teamwork and communication which, as well as enhancing learning, will also help them to stand out when applying to university or for employment or apprenticeships.

*“Students are well supported for their next steps. The effective provision of careers advice and guidance, which started in the main school, continues in the sixth form.”*

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### Chaplaincy

Chaplaincy Group  
(Shoe Box Appeal and other charity work)  
Pope John Paul II Award  
Liturgy preparation

### Sport

Fitness Training  
Badminton  
Table Tennis  
Yoga  
Football

### Leadership

Subject Mentors

### Voluntary Work

Hospitals  
Care Homes  
Primary Schools  
Charity Shops

### Citizenship

Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award  
Sixth Form Newsletter  
Paired Reading  
Book Club  
Senior Tea Party  
First Aid

ound, we will help and guide you  
ort, at the right time, to make sure  
on track to achieve your goals.

# Make the Grade



# Humanities Geography

A Level Geography offers a natural progression from GCSE. Geography is a subject which examines the changing nature of human populations and their relationship with their physical environment. A Level Geography encourages you to consider your own roles, values and attitudes to the world's issues as well as examining the roles, values and attitudes of others.

## What will I learn?

We follow the AQA A Level specification.

### Physical Geography:

- Water and carbon environments
- Hazards
- Coastal systems and landscapes

### Human Geography:

- Global systems and global governance
- Changing places
- Contemporary urban environments

### Field visits and coursework:

Students will be required to complete 4 days of fieldwork throughout the duration of the two year course. During these fieldwork visits you will learn the knowledge, understanding and skill sets to be able to complete a 3000 to 4000 word independent investigation on a geographical topic/issue of your choice

### How will I be assessed?

80% of assessment at A Level is examination based; the remaining 20% is coursework.

#### Examination 1:

Physical Geography is assessed by a 2 hour and 30 minutes written examination which makes up 40% of the A Level.

#### Examination 2:

Human Geography is assessed by a 2 hour and 30 minutes written examination which makes up 40% of the A Level.

#### Coursework:

Geographical investigation is assessed through coursework. This makes up 20% of the A Level grade.

## Where might this course take me?

Geography is a broad based academic subject which is well respected by employers. Geographers enter a very wide range of career areas and, put simply, there is no such thing as a geography job, there are jobs that geographers do. Studying Geography provides you with valuable skills and a firm base for life-long learning.

Possible careers include: Volcanology, environmental consultancy, development, economics, finance, geology, resources, teaching, law, banking, geophysical engineering, location analyst, armed forces, conflict resolution, surveying, planning, hydrology, climatology, GIS, sustainable energy and many more.

A number of our students also choose to go on to study geographical based degrees at university.



# History

## A Level Year 12/13

### The Making of a Superpower: USA, 1865-1975

#### Component 1: Breadth Study

The study of significant historical developments over a period of around 100 years and associated historical interpretations.

#### Some of the features we focus on:

The Gilded Age, American society, the United States and the world, economic change and development, the impact of the First World War, isolationism, reconstruction, Civil Rights, the Cold War.

#### How will I be assessed?

2 hours 30 minutes external examination worth 40% of A Level

### The Making of Modern Britain: Britain 1951-1979

#### Component 2: Depth Study

The study in depth of a major historical change or development and associated primary evidence.

#### Some of the features we focus on:

Britain and the EEC, Decolonisation, Multi-cultural Britain, Youth culture, Industrial strife, the changing role of women, managing the economy, the special relationship with the USA, the Labour Party, the Conservative Party, the Premiership of Wilson, Callaghan, Thatcher, Blair.

#### How will I be assessed?

2 hours 30 minutes external examination worth 40% of A Level

#### Component 3: Historical Investigation

A personal study based on a topic which begins in 1800, or earlier, of student's choice.

- 3500-4500 words
- 40 marks
- 20% of A Level
- Marked by teachers
- Moderated by AQA





# BTEC Extended Certificate: Health & Social Care

## What will I learn?

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care aims to provide an introduction to the sector. It is for learners who are interested in learning about the health and social care sector and is equivalent in size to one A Level.

You will study a wide variety of areas within Health and Social Care including human lifespan development, aspects of anatomy and physiology, issues relating to equality, diversity and rights, job roles, care values, the requirements associated with meeting individual care and support needs, sociological and psychological aspects of health care and more, making it an interesting and diverse course.

## How will I be assessed?

Over the course of two years you will study a total of four units, two in Year 12 and two in Year 13. Two of these units are internally assessed, i.e. they require you to complete assignments marked by your tutors in school, and two of the units are assessed via a written exam paper, the first marked out of 90 and the second out of 80. The externally assessed units are worth 58% and the internally assessed units 42% of the total grade awarded which will be one of the following: Unclassified [U], Pass [P], Merit [M], Distinction [D] or Distinction Star [D\*]

## Where might this course take me?

Health and Social Care is a vocational subject primarily, although by no means exclusively, aimed at giving learners an opportunity to develop the knowledge, understanding and skills required for employment in the health, social care and the children and young people sectors. These sectors employ staff involved in direct care, as well as specialists, technicians, support staff, supervisors and managers. Job opportunities exist in the statutory, private and voluntary provision of care services.

The qualification has been designed to support progression to a university degree or Foundation Degree in an appropriate vocational discipline, or to employment. It is intended to carry UCAS points and is recognised by higher education institutions as contributing to meeting admission requirements to many relevant courses. It can be taken alongside, for example:

- A Levels in Biology and Psychology, which could lead to a BSc (Hons) in Nursing
- A Levels in English and History, which could lead to a BA (Hons) in Primary Education
- BTEC National Extended Certificate in Sport, which could lead to a Foundation Degree in Sports Studies and Development.

It would provide an ideal foundation for anyone considering careers in nursing, midwifery, social work, education, early years care, child minding and residential care and in addition equips students with a range of transferable skills highly valued by all universities and employers.

## Would this be a suitable subject for me?

First of all you do not need to worry if you have never done a Health and Social Care course before, for example at GCSE level or a BTEC. Prior experience of HSC is not essential but a good GCSE grade in English is preferred.

It is a demanding, yet extremely rewarding course, and complements a range of other subjects, most notably Psychology, Sociology, Biology, OCR Sport, English and History.

If you have an enquiring mind, empathy with other people, good research skills and are able to manage your own time and learning effectively in order to meet deadlines, then Health and Social Care could well be the course for you.

**If so, then speak to Mrs Moon or Miss Hunter.**



# Religious Studies

## Why consider this subject?

**Develops understanding and appreciation-** this qualification encourages students to develop an appreciation of religious thought and its contribution to individuals, communities and societies. The qualification does this through an enquiring, critical and reflective approach to the study of religion.

**Helps develop a holistic understanding of religion-** the specification facilitates enquiry into, and develops insightful evaluations of, ultimate questions about the purposes and commitments of human life, especially as expressed in philosophy, ethics and religion. The qualification encourages students to make connections so that in each field of study they understand the influences over time of developments in religious beliefs and practices, the philosophy of religion, religious ethics and/or textual interpretation.

**Develops transferable skills for progression to higher education-** students will use ideas from a range of approaches to the study of religions and beliefs in order to research and present a wide range of well-informed and reasonable arguments, which engage profoundly with moral, religious and spiritual issues. This will enable students to make a smooth transition to the next level of study.

**Supports progression from Key Stage 4-** the content builds on the understanding developed at Key Stage 4, while also ensuring that students new to the subject are appropriately supported.

## What will I study?

There are 3 units that will be studied in the A Level course. These are:

1. Philosophy of Religion
2. Religion and Ethics
3. Study of Religion

### Unit 1-Philosophy of Religion

This unit involves the study of issues such as:

Design Argument, Cosmological Argument, Ontological Argument, Religious Experience, The problem of evil and suffering, Influential Philosophers such as Karl Marx, Sigmund Freud.

### Unit 2-Religion and Ethics

This unit involves the study of issues such as:

Environmental ethics, Equality Utilitarianism, Situation Ethics, Natural Law, War and Peace, Deontology, Virtue Ethics, Medical Ethics.

### Unit 3-Study of Religion

This unit involves the study of:

Developing an understanding of Christianity through concepts such as; God as a creator, The Trinity, Understanding The Bible, The person of Jesus, the debate between Science and Religion, Pluralism, Secularism and Diversity, Equality and Diversity in The Church.



## How will you be assessed?

All units are assessed through external examinations and questions are in the form of extended writing questions, requiring the ability to write structured essays.



# Law

**If you are somebody who is interested in the law and how it works to promote justice, then this course will be of interest to you.**

## **What will I learn?**

In the first year you will investigate the English Legal System, how the courts both criminal and civil operate, the role of lay people within the system and the legal profession. In addition you will spend time looking at sources of law: the role of Parliament, Judges and the European Union.

Areas of substantive law include criminal offences of murder, manslaughter, theft, robbery and burglary and defences such as self-defence, intoxication and duress. The area of tort is also

studied, particularly negligence and occupiers liability.

In the second year of study the focus is on Contract Law and the concepts of justice, morality and the law relating to technology, including data protection and cyber-crime.

## **How will I be assessed?**

At the end of the 2 years of study there are 3 two hour external exams which can assess any material on the specification.

Students do not need any prior knowledge of the subject, but the examining body OCR recommend that students have attained GCSE grade 5 in English.

## **Where might this course take me?**

Law A Level can lead to a wide range of university courses. As well as being preferred by some universities to study Law it is also beneficial for Business, Government and Politics, Criminology and Social Sciences. It can also be combined with other disciplines eg Media or Psychology. Law A Level can be used successfully when applying for most university courses.

Employment opportunities are numerous, including work within the Legal System, Civil Service, Police Force, Environmental Agencies, Local Government and the Banking Industry.



# Sociology

## What will I learn?

Do you move through life at 100mph? Are you aware of the amount of choices you have in life? Do you think that the world in which we live is constantly changing? Studying Sociology will allow you to develop an understanding of how the world in which we live can influence our experiences of it.

This course encourages you to question society and provides you with the opportunity to develop a range of transferable skills and a level of understanding of central aspects of sociological thought and methods.

You will investigate various aspects of our social world in an attempt to look beyond common sense perceptions and uncover the 'true' nature of our society and the reasons why it is the way it is.

Key areas of focus include:

- Families and Households
- Education
- Sociological Theory and Research Methods
  - Beliefs in Society
  - Crime and Deviance

## How will I be assessed?

There are no coursework or portfolio components to this course. You will study a number of topics over the course of two years and be assessed via three terminal written exam papers at the end of Year 13. Some of the questions on these papers will relate to content that you studied in Year 12.

All three papers are 2 hours long, marked out of 80 and worth 33.3% of the total grade awarded. Success in these examinations will result in you being awarded an A Level qualification in Sociology.

## Where might this course take me?

Intrinsically rewarding in its own right, and the kind of subject that will change you as a person, it is also a highly regarded academic discipline that is welcomed by top universities and other institutions the world over and as such acts as a springboard for those thinking about further study. It would also be of benefit to anyone considering careers in local or national government, politics, civil liberties groups, charity work, social work, health and welfare services, education, the legal profession, personnel, management, market research, the police force and many more.

## Would this be a suitable subject for me?

First of all do not worry if you have never studied Sociology at GCSE. Most students up and down the country will be in exactly the same position and it will not disadvantage you in any way.

If you are a person who often questions the world in which you live and would like to develop your understanding of 'society' and how it influences you, then Sociology is the course for you.

To get the most out of the course you will need an investigative, and enquiring mind, be prepared for quite a bit of further reading and be motivated to carry out independent research. You do not need to have studied Sociology before but it is recommended that students have at least a grade 6 in English.

Sociology is a demanding, yet extremely rewarding course and complements many other subjects, most notably History, Psychology, Health and Social Care, Law, Religious Studies and Economics.

**Does this sound like the course for you? Then we look forward to meeting up with you in the near future.**



# Sciences



## A message from Mrs E Shore, Head of Science

We would like to inform you of the expectations we, as a department, have regarding students who would like to study science subjects (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) at A Level. We believe that it is important that both you and your parents/carers are aware of these expectations before GCSE examinations are taken.

Students who have studied separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics and who wish to take one or more of these subjects at A level are expected to have achieved:

- a minimum of a grade 7 in the GCSE(s) of the subject(s) they wish to study at A level

Students who have studied GCSE Combined Science are expected to have achieved:

- a minimum of a grade 7 in Combined Science

## Entry Requirements

It is not appropriate for students who have completed the Foundation Tier examinations in Combined Science to study A Levels in sciences as they will not have covered the necessary content to be able to access the subject at A Level.

In addition to this, the following minimum entrance criteria will apply:

**Biology-** a grade 6 in GCSE mathematics

**Chemistry-** minimum of grade 6 in GCSE mathematics

**Physics-** minimum of grade 7 in GCSE mathematics



# Biology

The study of Biology allows us to develop a wider understanding of many of the issues facing the world today, such as global warming, health and disease. Biology will give you an insight to many aspects from the threat of new diseases emerging to conserving endangered species to the development of new exciting technologies.

## What will I learn?

Over the two years, the course will cover the following modules:

### 1. Development of practical skills

This examines a range of different investigations, while developing a range of practical investigative skills.

### 2. Foundations in Biology

This examines cell structure, how they work and divide. You will also learn about cellular organisation and the importance of key biological molecules such as DNA.

### 3. Exchange and Transport

This looks at the importance of exchange surfaces and transport systems in animals and plants.

### 4. Biodiversity, evolution and disease

You will study the way in which diseases, diet, and smoking affect health and how the immune system can protect the body against disease. You will also examine the importance of biodiversity, classification and evolution.

### 5. Communications, homeostasis, and energy.

This focuses on how the nervous and endocrine systems work to maintain homeostasis in the body. You will also focus on the importance of respiration and photosynthesis.

### 6. Genetics, evolution and ecosystems.

This examines the importance of genetics and biotechnology to current and new developments in Science. You will also learn how skeletal and muscular systems work. This module also highlights how we can study behaviour and how the brain works.

## How will I be assessed?

This qualification will be examined at the end of Year 13 in the following way:

### Paper 1:

Biological Processes (covers modules 1, 2, 3, and 5)

Summer Sitting- 2 Hours and 15 minutes exam, 37%

### Paper 2:

Biological Diversity (covers modules 1, 2, 4 and 6)

Summer Sitting- 2 Hours and 15 minutes written exam, 37%

### Paper 3: Unified Biology (modules 1 to 6)

Summer Sitting- 1 hour and 30 minutes, 26%

Students studying the full A Level will also have a Practical Endorsement for Biology. This will appear alongside their A Level grade on their certificate but will not contribute to the overall grade for the qualification. By achieving this endorsement it will show that practical skills necessary for the study of Biology have been achieved by the student. The skills will be monitored throughout the year during the normal delivery of the course and not examined in a formal way.

By attending all lessons the students will develop the necessary skills and over the course would be expected to meet the stated criteria to achieve this practical endorsement.

At least 15% of question paper assessments will cover knowledge and understanding of practical skills and at least 10% of question paper assessments will cover mathematical skills. Throughout the course the practical and mathematical skills will be highlighted within each module.

## Where might this course take me?

Studying Biology is a key requirement or good stepping stone for many medical-based degree courses such as Physiotherapy, Dentistry and Medicine. Biology can also be very useful in other areas such as Environmental Science, Sports Science and Sports and Leisure Management.

**If you have an investigative, scientific mind and are committed to developing your understanding of how Biology can impact on our lives, then this is the course for you.**



# Chemistry

**Chemistry is the branch of science which is concerned with materials of every description, often overlapping both biology and physics. Chemists unravel chemical reactions that are responsible for life and they investigate new materials with potentially useful properties.**

**Throughout the course, information is collected by experimentation and underlying principles are explored and developed. If you are resourceful; are not afraid of hard work and application to study and enjoy learning by doing, then Chemistry could be for you.**

## What will I learn?

Areas studied over the two years include:

- The Periodic Table
- Formulae and equations
- Energetics and kinetics
- Equilibria
- Organic chemistry
- Spectroscopy

At Bishop Challoner Sixth Form College we have excellent laboratory facilities, allowing the development of good practical skills.

## A Level

The three papers will be sat in May/June of Year 13.

**Paper 1:** Advanced inorganic and physical chemistry  
30% of the total qualification

**Paper 2:** Advanced organic and physical chemistry  
30% of the total qualification

**Paper 3:** General and practical principles in chemistry  
40% of the total qualification

20% of the overall marks across the papers will target mathematics skills at the standard of higher tier mathematics, but applied in the context of A Level Chemistry.

## Science Practical Endorsement:

As well as the written papers, students will be assessed throughout Years 12 and 13 on their practical skills. Over the two years they will complete 16 core practicals in lessons. These experiments will be formally written up in a lab book and stored at school. To achieve a pass, students must demonstrate that they are competent in all the practicals published by the Department for Education.

The Science Practical Endorsement outcomes will be reported separately on students' certificates alongside the overall grade for the qualification. It is important to note that the practical endorsement does not contribute to the overall A Level grade achieved but it informs universities or future employers that the student has practical skills of A Level standard. There is no science practical endorsement for students who do not study Chemistry in Year 13, it is only awarded to A Level students.

## Where might this course take me?

Chemistry is an essential requirement for degree courses in Medicine and Dentistry and is very favourably looked upon in many other medical-based degrees. It also goes well with many other A Level courses e.g. Psychology, Physical Education.

Examples of careers using chemistry include: analytical chemist, cosmetic chemist, forensic chemist, pharmaceutical chemist. Studying chemistry is also great training for a career in lots of other areas too, such as marketing, finance, law, journalism, medicine and much more.





# Physics

Physics is the study of the way that events in the natural world and our universe can be modelled mathematically.

It has provided us with electricity, silicon chips, and mobile phones and every other technical gadget you can think of.

On the course you will develop a logical thought process, learn to analyse these ideas, improve your ability to apply concepts to unfamiliar situations and enhance your problem solving skills.

It is a very rewarding and demanding subject that does require good mathematical understanding, though the majority of mathematical techniques will have been met at GCSE, and only a small number of new skills will need to be learnt.

At Bishop Challoner Sixth Form College we have excellent laboratory facilities that will allow your experiments to 'come alive' and further develop your understanding of essential concepts.

## What will I learn?

1. Measurements and their errors
2. Particles and Radiation
3. Waves
4. Mechanics and Materials
5. Electricity
6. Further Mechanics and Thermal Physics
7. Fields and their consequences
8. Nuclear Physics
9. Turning points in Physics

At Bishop Challoner Sixth Form College we follow the AQA Specification A.

## How will I be assessed?

### A Level

#### Paper 1 (Sections 1 - 5 and 6.1 (Periodic Motion))

- Written Exam: 2 Hours.
- 60 marks of short and long answer questions and 25 marks of multiple choice questions on content.
- 34% of A Level.

#### Paper 2 (Assumed knowledge from sections 1 - 6.1 and Sections 6.2 (Thermal Physics), 7 and 8)

- Written Exam: 2 Hours.
- 60 marks of short and long answer questions and 25 marks of multiple choice questions on content.
- 34% of A Level.

### Paper 3

Section A Practical skills and data analysis.

Section B: Section 9 - Turning points in Physics.

- Written Exam: 2 Hours.
- 45 marks of short and long answer questions on practical experiments and data analysis.
- 35 marks of short and long answer questions on section 9.
- 32% of A Level.

## Where might this course take me?

Physics provides a foundation for studying a wide variety of fields such as engineering, astrophysics and electronics. It is also relevant to professions such as medicine, dentistry and architecture. It is held in high regard by universities and complements studies in chemistry, biology and mathematics. It is also useful for the entry requirements of the armed forces and training as a pilot. The skills it develops are very transferable and will serve you well whatever career you choose to undertake.



# Psychology

## What will I learn?

In the first year of studying Psychology students will be learning a variety of topics through the Edexcel specification.

Students will study four main topic areas of psychology;

- social psychology
- cognitive psychology
- biological psychology
- learning psychology

You will have the opportunity to investigate behaviours such as;

- obedience
- prejudice
- memory
- aggression and schizophrenia
- phobias

Within each of the topic areas the students will also have an opportunity to investigate research relevant to that area, both classic research which is very well known and also more modern. You will look at the implications of this research and understand the processes involved in conducting research, including how to go about gaining ethical consent.

A large part of the course involves students carrying out their own research: you will be given time to carry out experiments, questionnaires and observations in order to understand fully the processes involved in doing so.

Students will be well versed in 'thinking' like a psychologist and you will focus on the fundamental areas that have laid the foundations of modern psychological understanding and then develop this further by considering how our understanding of psychology is applied today. At the end of each topic area students get to choose a real life event/ phenomenon of relevance to today's society and apply all of their knowledge to demonstrate their understanding.

## How will I be assessed?

The A Level will be assessed through three externally assessed exam papers:

- |          |                                 |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| Paper 1: | Foundations of Psychology- 35%  |
| Paper 2: | Applications of Psychology- 35% |
| Paper 3: | Psychological Skills- 30%       |

## Entrance requirements

Due to the great demands and academic nature of Psychology the following minimum entrance criteria will apply:

- minimum of grade 6 in English and Mathematics
- minimum of grade 5 in Additional Science or
- minimum of grade 5 in Biology, Physics and Chemistry

## Where might the course take me?

If you are considering this subject, you will need to have an investigative, enquiring mind and be prepared to read extensively and not be discouraged by independent research.

A qualification in Psychology is valuable in its own right and is particularly effective to read for degrees in medicine and science.

The subject provides evidence of students having acquired skills in research methods, making it appropriate for degrees in the social sciences. Additionally, an A Level in Psychology is highly appropriate for a career in management or the public sector.



# Mathematics

## A message from Mr S Sarcevic, Head of Mathematics

Students wishing to study A Level Mathematics will need to have achieved at least a grade 7 in GCSE mathematics.

### Why is this so important?

The first few weeks of A Level Mathematics are demanding and the transition from GCSE to A Level study can be challenging for students of all abilities. The course will rapidly build on the skills and competencies developed in GCSE Mathematics. Students will be required to demonstrate clear understanding in algebra up to GCSE grade 8 within the first few weeks of Year 12 study.

We believe students with a grade 6 from GCSE will struggle to cope with the demands of the A Level. As an alternative, students who are keen to continue studying Mathematics should consider enrolling for Core Mathematics.

### What is Core Mathematics?

Core Mathematics is a one year AS Level equivalent qualification suitable for students who wish to extend and deepen their mathematical understanding and problem solving ability. It is designed to complement other A Levels, especially subjects such as Economics, Business Studies, Psychology, Biology, Geography and Sociology.

Core Mathematics carries UCAS points and is being identified by universities as an important qualification for demonstrating not only numeracy skills, but also those of problem solving and application. Therefore Core Mathematics is a viable option for those achieving a grade 5 at GCSE that are wanting to continue to study Mathematics post-16.





# Mathematics

## A Level Mathematics

### What will I learn?

The study of Mathematics requires an ability to visualise a problem and then use mathematical principles to solve it. It has overarching themes of mathematical argument, language, proof and modelling. It is a hugely rewarding, but also a demanding subject that requires at least a grade 7 at GCSE.

During the first year of study you will engage in both Pure and Applied Mathematics. The pure element begins by building the essential skills required for A Level study and includes topics such as: Indices and surds; Polynomials; Coordinate geometry and graphs. It then begins to address some key concepts and you will go on to study: Trigonometry; Integration; Differentiation; Logarithms. The applied element looks at some of the key ideas in both Statistics and Mechanics, and covers: Representation of data; Discrete random variables; Hypothesis Testing; Motion in a straight line; Force as a vector; Newton's laws of motion.

In your second year, you will engage in more pure and applied mathematics

and undertake three exams to obtain a full A Level in Mathematics. The Pure element begins by focusing on methods of advanced maths, building on the knowledge obtained in year 12. It then progresses onto looking at applications of advanced maths. You will study: Algebra and functions; Trigonometry; Differentiation and Integration; Numerical methods; Differential equations; Vectors. The applied maths element builds on the Statistics and Mechanics studied in the first year, as well as including new topics: Modelling with probability; The normal distribution; Projectile motion; Moments.

### How will I be assessed?

The A Level requires three examinations to be undertaken, which cover content from both years: Pure and Statistics; Pure and Mechanics; Pure and Comprehension.

The Pure content makes up two thirds of the assessment, whilst the applied content makes up a third. There is no coursework requirement for this qualification.

## Level 3 Core Mathematics

### What will I learn?

The Core Maths qualification is open to all students achieving at least a grade 5 at GCSE and is ideal for those who are unsure about studying A Level Mathematics but wish to continue their study of the subject. The course will include topics such as analysing and interpreting data, financial mathematics, modelling, critical analysis and statistical methods.

The use of digital technologies, spreadsheet software and computer algebra systems is also an important aspect of the Core Maths course. It will help you to develop your own mathematical thinking and problem-solving skills. Most of the problems will be embedded in the context of other disciplines and real world scenarios. They have been chosen specifically to support your work in other subjects.

### How will I be assessed?

Students will undertake two 90 minute examinations at the end of the one year course. Both exams will involve the use of calculators and will be of equal weighting. No coursework is required for this qualification.

### Where might these courses take me?

The A Level in Mathematics and AS Level in Core Mathematics are excellent qualifications. They combine particularly well with Physics, Chemistry and Biology, but also complement the study of Geography, Economics, Psychology and Business Studies as these subjects have a degree of mathematical content.

The subject's emphasis on problem solving, and refining and improving mathematical models, makes it very 'transferable' and suitable for many career pathways. Mathematics plays a vital role in professions such as accountancy/finance, computer modelling and simulation, engineering, insurance, medicine, statistical modelling, sports coaching and teaching.

Most jobs and careers require some element of functional maths; having a post-16 qualification in mathematics can give you the edge over other candidates.

## Further Mathematics

Further Mathematics is a course that fully prepares students for studying maths or other science-based subjects at university. It is an interesting and challenging course and you will learn about many exciting branches of mathematics, both pure and applied.

To study Further Mathematics, you are required to have obtained at least a grade 8 at GCSE. Classes are small, which ensures that all students receive a high level of individual support in lesson time. In addition, the Mathematics Department prides itself on the additional support it is able to provide its students - support that has meant that students achieve excellent results every year.

During the first year, you will study matrices and complex numbers as part of the pure content of the course.

Alongside this, you will study the topics of modelling with algorithms and numerical methods.

In year two you will look deeper into matrices and complex numbers, as well as study more advanced areas of pure mathematics, such as further calculus, hyperbolic functions and differential equations, as well as studying either advanced statistics or mechanics.

### How will I be assessed?

There are three examinations in Year 12 as part of the AS qualification. If you continue into Year 13, you will undertake four examinations which count exclusively towards the A Level. For your A Level, the pure content makes up half of the assessment, whilst the applied content makes up the other half.



# Computer Science

## Entry Requirements

A GCSE grade of 6 or higher is required in Mathematics and at least a grade 6 in GCSE Computing.

## What will I learn?

The study of Computer Science requires the ability to decompose the bigger picture of a problem, into smaller easier to manage chunks. The logic of this is then underpinned by a study of the foundations and fundamental aspects of the subject.

The subject is highly demanding but equally as rewarding for those who have the necessary drive and curiosity for a subject of this nature. During your first year of study you will complete two computing modules, 'Computing Principles' and 'Algorithms and Problem Solving'. Computing Principles includes topics such as Components of a Computer; Software and Software Development; Data Types, Structures, Algorithms and Exchanging Data. Algorithms and Problem Solving is focused around the idea of computational thinking with practical programming running as a core thread in the teaching and learning of the topics.

In the second year of the course, you will continue your studies of these two units of work, as well as working towards and completing the programming project aspect of the qualification. The programming project will be chosen in liaison with the teacher and allows for scope within which, the student can program to a well-defined user driven problem of their choosing.

## How will I be assessed?

### Computing Systems

Externally assessed

2 hour 30 minutes written paper- 40%

### Algorithms and Problem Solving

Externally assessed

2 hour 30 minutes written paper-40%

### Programming Project

Internally assessed through moderation- 20%

## Where might this course take me?

The Computer Science A Level is an excellent qualification. The course will provide you with a clear path for progression into higher education with the course itself, designed in consultation with BCS – The Chartered Institute, CAS (Computing at School) and top universities. The Computer Science course combines particularly well with a portfolio of Mathematics, Physics, Economics, and Business Studies, but also complements the study of other courses due to the skills set acquired.

The subject's emphasis on problem solving, modelling and programming makes it highly transferable and suitable for many career pathways. Computer Science's role in modern industry is ever evolving and expanding and the skills set acquired through study plays a vital role in software engineering; finance; business analysis; games development; multimedia programming; systems analysis; web development and teaching.

Given the ever changing digital landscape of the world, Computer Science is only going to become increasingly sought after by the higher education institutions and industry. Furthermore, having a qualification in Computer Science can give you the edge over other candidates.



# BTEC Extended Certificate: Information Technology (equivalent to 1 A Level)

## Entry Requirements

An IT/ICT qualification at GCSE is desirable.

## What will I learn?

This qualification is designed 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, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in IT.

During the completion of the course students will complete 4 units of work spanning a wide breadth of technology topics. Students will begin by looking at Information Technology Systems, where they will study the role of computer systems and the implications of their use in personal and professional situations. Creating Systems to Manage Information will see Learners study the design, creation, testing and evaluation of a relational database system to manage information.

This is accompanied by Using Social Media in Business where students explore how businesses use social media to promote their products and services. Students also implement social media activities in a business to meet requirements. The fourth unit of work will see students complete an internally assessed piece of work on either Data Modelling or Website Development.

## Where might this course take me?

The BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Information Technology is an excellent qualification. The course will provide you with both a clear path for progression into higher education and, applicable and relevant skills that could be taken into the workplace post A Level study. The course was developed in collaboration with employers and representatives from higher education and relevant professional bodies, ensuring that it includes the knowledge, understanding, skills and attributes required in the sector.

IT is an ever-present mainstay in all but a few niche industries. Societal and business reliance on technology is only going to increase moving forward, and a qualification in this course will enable an individual to succeed in whichever path they choose, be it higher education or a skilled workplace.

Given the nature of IT within both social and business aspects of modern life, this qualification will complement the study of any other subject within a portfolio. It is suitable for both those who want to work within the IT sector and, those who seek a career path in a different field.

## How will I be assessed?

### Information Technology Systems

External assessed  
2 hour written paper- 33%

### Creating Systems to Manage Information

External assessed  
2 hour written paper- 25%

### Using Social Media in Business

Internally Moderated NEA- 25%

### Optional Unit TBD

Internally Moderated NEA- 17%



# Business & Information Business

## Why study Business?

Given the fact that many of you, in years to come, will one day work in a business environment, it would be beneficial therefore to find out more about how the complex world of business works.

Businesses operate in ever-changing, dynamic environments. Every lesson draws on events that are actually happening in the business world. We make regular use of online facilities so that you are as up to date as you need to be.

If you are a student who has an interest in the world of business and how the decision making process takes place, then studying business maybe a good option for you and it is worth finding out more.

## Following this specification should encourage students to:

- develop an enthusiasm for studying business
- gain a holistic understanding of business in a range of contexts
- develop a critical understanding of business organisations and their ability to meet society's needs and wants
- understand that business behaviour can be studied from a range of perspectives
- generate enterprising and creative approaches to business scenarios and issues
- be aware of the ethical issues and responsibilities faced by businesses
- apply numerical skills in a range of business contexts

## Courses offered

A Level Business - duration 2 years  
(Examining board: AQA)

Vocational Level 3 Qualification in Business  
- duration 2 years

## What will I study?

The A Level course involves an investigation of the principal areas of business activity. Areas of study will include:

- Business Activity
- Marketing
- Human Resource Management
- Finance
- Operations
- Leadership & Managers

## Subject content

Over the duration of the course, students will study the following:

### Year 12

1. What is a 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

### Year 13

#### All of the above plus:

7. Analysing the strategic position of a business
8. Choosing strategic direction
9. Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies
10. Managing strategic change

## How will I be assessed?

There are 3 examinations for A Level as can be seen below:

### Paper 1: Business 1

Written exam: 2 hours, 100 marks in total. 33.3% of A Level

### Paper 2: Business 2

Written exam: 2 hours, 100 marks in total. 33.3% of A Level

### Paper 3: Business 3

Written exam: 2 hours, 100 marks in total. 33.3% of A Level.

## Where might this course take me?

Students who study this course have gone on to many and varied careers, including both employment and university courses in the areas of:

- Accountancy
- Finance
- Insurance
- Banking
- Marketing
- Human Resource Management
- Teaching

## Vocational Level 3 Qualification in Business

From September 2020 we will be running a vocational qualification in Business in the sixth form that is equivalent to one A-level. This vocational course is a level three course, the same as A level courses. The course differs in assessment and some content coverage. 25% - 50% will be assessed by external exam, the remainder by continuous assessment in the form of portfolio work that is assessed by us and then moderated by the exam board.

There is choice in this level 3 qualification of optional units, so that pupils can specialise in particular areas, some of the optional units could be: Marketing, Human resources, Business Administration, Finance. Of course there are some compulsory units that pupils must study and include topics such as Business ownership and organisation, Production and Finance. This qualification will equip pupils with the same key skills as the A-level in Business and afford them the same opportunities.



# Economics

Should I have to pay more for my University education?

What is the fairest way to reduce our budget deficit?

Who are the MINTs and the BRICs?

What does life after Brexit look like? Positive or negative?

Is Donald Trump an influence on the Global Economy?

If these are examples of issues that interest you then, the study of Economics is a must. No previous study of the subject is needed, but it is important that you have an enquiring mind and are not afraid to question what happens around you.

A Level Economics will enable you to develop a critical understanding of key concepts that will impact on your future lives.

It is essential that you have 5 grade 6s at GCSE including at least a grade 6 in English and Mathematics.

## What will I learn?

About markets and how they work

Why competition is important

Why markets fail the consumer

About managing the UK economy

How Labour markets work

About the global economy and our role in it

## How will I be assessed?

Year 13

A Level

3 written papers.

- Paper 1: 2 hours, 35% of A level
- Paper 2: 2 hours, 35% of A level
- Paper 3: 2 hours, 30% of A level

Ultimately you will be assessed on your ability to apply the concepts and ideas taught in Year 12 and Year 13 to real world events and recognise the role that government plays in today's society.

## Where might this course take me?

Economics is a course that combines very well with History, English, Mathematics, Geography or just about any other subject!

Students with an Economics A Level can either continue their studies at university or pursue work related training post 18.

Career opportunities include:

- banking
- law
- teaching
- managerial positions
- government



# Arts Art & Design: Fine Art



## What will I learn?

This course is designed for dedicated artists who wish to broaden their Art History knowledge alongside developing drawing, painting and mixed media skills. The course offers the flexibility to explore and combine art disciplines in one or more areas of study for example drawing, painting, mixed-media, sculpture, ceramics, installation, printmaking, moving image (video, film and animation) and photography.

## How will I be assessed?

There is one portfolio component which is a practical unit supported by written material, worth 60% and one externally set assignment involving 15 hours of supervised time to produce finished work, worth 40% of the A Level grade.

The AQA Fine Art course consists of an initial workshop programme enabling students to develop skills, knowledge and experience of diverse media, techniques, materials and processes before embarking on a personal project. A contextual studies component will be delivered alongside supporting concepts and informing practical investigations.

Students are encouraged to critically and visually analyse artist concepts.

Throughout the course you will be introduced to a range of methods, materials and working strategies and you will be encouraged to experiment, speculate, research and investigate concepts. In addition you will participate in exhibitions, location drawing trips, national and international study trips.

## Where might this course take me?

Career pathways include:

- Graphic Design
- Illustration
- Advertising
- Photography
- Fashion Design
- Architecture
- Teaching
- Gallery or Museum Curating
- Animation



# Media Studies

The A Level Media Studies course is a very exciting one, which is designed to allow you to draw on your existing experience of the media and to develop your abilities to respond critically to media products.

The course is designed to:

- enhance your enjoyment and appreciation of the media and its role in daily life
- develop critical understanding of the media through engagement with media products and concepts and through the creative application of production skills
- explore production processes, technologies and other relevant contexts
- become independent in research skills and their application in their production work and in developing your own views and interpretations.

## What will I learn?

The distinctive features of the course are:

- an introduction to analysing a range of media, including the rapidly developing digital media
- an emphasis on the key role that representation plays in the media
- a focus on the way audiences/users are positioned by the media but may still respond or interact in diverse ways
- an opportunity to explore media issues raised in component 1 in a creative context as well as to develop appropriate production skills
- an opportunity to research topics in the media which form the basis for
- production work, thus enabling students to develop research and production skills
- a progression towards exploring the relationship between media texts, their audiences and the organisations which produce and distribute them.

## How will I be assessed?

Exam Board- WJEC/Eduqas  
A Level

**Unit 1:** 35% Exam (135mins)

**Unit 2:** 35% Exam (180 mins)

**Unit 3:** 30% coursework (practical)

## Where might this course take me?

Jobs involving media are varied.

You could become:

- A multimedia specialist
- A programme researcher in broadcasting/film/video
- A public relations officer
- A runner, broadcasting/film/video
- A television/film/video producer
- An advertising executive
- A broadcast journalist
- A magazine/newspaper journalist
- A market researcher
- A writer
- A marketing manager
- A sales manager



# English Literature

Traditionally, English Literature is the most popular A Level. At Bishop Challoner Sixth Form College, this is no different, with over one hundred students studying the subject post sixteen.

English Literature is a fantastic subject for those who love reading, who enjoy debate and discussion and who want the opportunity to expand their horizons.

## What will I learn?

On the course, you will study one of the most famous novels of all time, namely 'Dracula' by Bram Stoker. You will compare this to 'The Little Stranger' by Sarah Waters which was shortlisted for the Booker Prize, when it was published in 2009. You will also read a range of poetry, from both the 21st century and the Victorian period, and two plays: one called 'A Streetcar Named Desire' by the American playwright Tennessee Williams, which received rave reviews when it was performed in London recently, and 'Othello' by William Shakespeare.

We teach that there is no 'right' answer. You will be encouraged to develop your opinions and bring your personal experiences to bear on the texts. We will hone skills of expression, argument and analysis.

Where possible, we will complement the study of the texts with trips to the theatre and cinema.

## How will I be assessed at A Level?

A Level English Literature is assessed by three examinations (worth 80%) and one coursework essay (20%).

### Paper 1: Poetry and Drama (2 hours, 15 minutes - 30%)

Section A: 'Othello' by William Shakespeare

Section B: 'A Streetcar Named Desire' by Tennessee Williams

### Paper 2: Prose (1 hour - 20%)

Similar to Year 12, you will compare two novels from the supernatural genre.

Pre 1900: 'Dracula' by Bram Stoker

Post 1900: 'The Little Stranger' by Sarah Waters

### Paper 3: Poetry (2 hours, 15 minutes - 30%)

Section A: Post 2000 Poetry

You will study the same 28 modern poems. In the examination, you will have to compare one of these poems to an 'unseen' poem.

Section B: Pre 1900 Poetry

You will study a range of poetry written by the Victorian poet, Christina Rossetti.

### Coursework: (20%)

You will compare a theme in F. Scott Fitzgerald's perennially popular 'The Great Gatsby' with a novel of your choice. This could be as wide ranging as Capote's 'Breakfast at Tiffany's', Miller's 'Death of a Salesman' or Dickens' 'Great Expectations'. The choice is yours!

## Where might this course take me?

This course will definitely prepare you for university, even if you do not intend to study English Literature at degree level. The Russell Group (comprising of the top 24 universities in Britain) highlighted English Literature as one of the eight 'facilitating subjects' which universities think prepare you best for further education.

It is highly valuable for students interested in taking up a career in which highly developed verbal skills, deep thinking, analysis, reflection and moral and social awareness are important. These include teaching, anything to do with the media or the public sector and any job that involves working with people or as part of a team.



# Music

This course is designed for dedicated musicians who wish to develop their performance, theoretical and compositional skills.

As well as rehearsing music for recital on your chosen instrument, you will explore compositional techniques in a variety of musical traditions, exploring them in terms of both theoretical aspects and context.

If you are Grade 5 or above standard on an instrument (and theory) and have a passion for all types of music, you will thrive on this course.

## What will I learn?

You will develop your performance skills as a soloist and/or as part of an ensemble by rehearsing and performing music in any style on an instrument and/or voice. This will culminate in a public performance of one or more pieces, performed as a recital. Your performance can be playing or singing solo, in an ensemble, improvising, or realising music using music technology. The total performance time across all pieces must be a minimum of 8 minutes.

Composing music is the creative process by which most of the music we experience came into being. You will be encouraged to explore a range of compositional starting points and investigate a range of techniques for developing and manipulating ideas. You will then turn your ideas into completed pieces of music. You will compose a total of two compositions, one to a brief set by Pearson and one either free composition or also to a brief. They will last a minimum of 6 minutes combined.

You will develop your listening and appraising skills through the study of music across a variety of styles and genres. The content is grouped into six areas of study, each of which contains three set works. This component will give you the opportunity to reflect on, analyse and evaluate music in aural and/or written form. To achieve this objective you will use your knowledge and understanding of musical elements, context and language to make critical judgements about the repertoire and context of music within the areas of study. These critical judgements will require the use of specific music vocabulary associated with a particular style or genre.

## How will I be assessed?

Performance work is assessed via a recital of a minimum of 8 minutes. This is recorded and externally assessed.

Composition work is all completed under controlled conditions and externally assessed.

Listening and appraising work is assessed by way of a 2 hour examination which is externally marked.

## Where might this course take me?

With this qualification you could go on to study to be a professional musician, careers in music production, music education, music therapy, music composition, music marketing, artist management etc.



# French

## Exam Board - Edexcel

### Why should I study a language?

Learning a language encourages you to:

- Meet people from different countries and find out more about them
- Learn many skills which are useful in a wide range of careers, such as the ability to communicate clearly, be confident about speaking in public, use problem solving strategies and write coherently.
- Develop critical thinking, creativity and independence
- Add an international dimension to your choice of A Level subjects, which is something many employers and higher education providers want
- Have greater opportunities to work and/or study abroad, or work for companies in the UK with international links
- Discuss interests, ideas and opinions with other people who speak the language
- Learn more about countries where the language is spoken, and the people who speak it
- Read books and watch films in their original language
- Spend time abroad (e.g. at university or on a work placement).

### What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

If you already have knowledge of a variety of topics, and can express your opinions, you are ready to build on this at A Level. You will learn about different aspects of French culture, literature and film, and be able to use more complex grammar and more vocabulary. This enables you to really develop an understanding of the language, the countries where it is spoken and the people who speak it.

The minimum GCSE French grade needed to enrol on this course is 6.

### What can I do after I've completed the course?

People with language skills and knowledge usually have an advantage over people without them. They stand out as talented and successful people, with broad and exciting horizons. Success at A Level French means you will:

- Add an extra international dimension to your personal skills profile which will impress people who read your CV
- Be in a stronger position to get a job in companies with international links
- Be able to work or study in a French-speaking country in later life
- Progress to study a degree in French, or French and another subject, to further your knowledge of the language and culture
- Find it easier to learn other languages later if you want to
- Add a useful skill if your main subjects are not languages: languages support careers in a range of areas including management, business, science and tourism.

### What will I learn?

A Level French helps you explore a wide range of topics, which will add to your understanding of the language and country. Topics are: evolving society in France; political and artistic culture in French-speaking countries; immigration and multiculturalism in France; the Occupation of France and the Resistance during the Second World War. The novel and film you study link to the course topics, giving you further insight into French culture, society and history.

You will also learn new grammar and vocabulary and you will be able to translate into and out of French. You will develop your critical thinking, creativity, independence and skills of analysis. You will also develop skills to be able to learn other languages.

### How will I be assessed?

You will take three exams which make up the total available. Paper 1 is 40% of the total marks; Paper 2 is 30% and Paper 3 is 30%. You will be given a certificate with a grade between E and A\* with A\* being the highest.

#### Paper 1- Listening, reading and translation

In the listening section of this paper, you will answer multiple-choice and comprehension questions in French on a variety of recordings. In the reading section, you will also answer multiple-choice and comprehension questions in French, based on a variety of written texts. You will also translate a passage from French into English.

#### Paper 2- Written response to works and translation

In this paper you will write about two books or one book and one film that you have studied throughout the year. There will also be a translation of a passage from English into French.

#### Paper 3- Speaking

Before this exam you will have 5 minutes to prepare a discussion based on a stimulus card you are given. You will then discuss the topic of the card with your examiner, who is often your teacher. You will also give a presentation on an independent research project you will have conducted on a topic you will have chosen.



# Sports

## OCR Cambridge Technical - Level 3 (Physical Education)

### Key Stage 4 and 5 (Sport and Physical Activity)

This qualifications will give pupils an understanding of the essential skills when you are looking to build a career in the sports sector. The qualifications will give pupils an insight into various occupational routes (Teacher, Coach, Sports Management, Sports Scientist, Personal Trainer), that can be pursued within the sports sector. This qualification will also support pupils in their progression into employment or move onto further education.

Below are the two types of courses that we offer:

#### OCR Cambridge Technical – single (Extended Certificate, 360 credits, equivalent to 1 A Level)

The course is adapted to meet pupils' aspirations; it consists of **three mandatory** units:

- Body Systems and the Effects of Physical Activity
- Sports Coaching
- Activity Leadership and Sports Organisation and Development

Plus a choice of up to **nine optional** units (which will total 120 credits of the 360).

#### OCR Cambridge Technical – Double (Diploma, 720 credits, equivalent to 2 A-Levels)

The course is adapted to meet pupils' aspirations; it consists of **nine mandatory** units:

- Body Systems and the Effects of Physical Activity
- Sports Coaching and Activity Leadership
- Sports Organisation and Development
- Working Safely in Sport
- Performance Analysis
- Organisation of Sports Events
- Physical Activity for Specific Groups
- Sports Injuries and Rehabilitation
- Practical Skills in Sport

Plus **four optional** units (which will total 120 credits out of the 720).

#### Who are we looking for?

We are seeking individuals who are self-motivated, have a strong ability to work independently when required and have a passion for Physical Education. Throughout the course you will be required to complete assessments by agreed deadlines and must have the ability to work under pressure whilst effectively managing your time.

#### How will I be assessed?

The OCR Cambridge Technical (Including the Certificate or Diploma) will consist of a both examinations and assessed coursework through a range of activities. This may include practical assessments, coaching, video analysis, written work, oral presentations and also through formal examinations. Learners will receive regular feedback on their progress throughout the course and work towards a grading criteria provided by OCR. All assessed work will be in reference to the OCR grading criteria.

The number of exams depends on whether you choose the extended certificate or diploma.

#### Practical

It is highly advised that if you are considering on choosing any of the above courses, that you have a good level of practical experience and ability in a range of individual and team sports. We would recommend that you are regularly playing outside of school and that you are aspiring on following a career in Sports Performance or opportunities in this nature.

#### Employment Opportunities

There are a variety of employment opportunities available to pursue after the completion of this course. This may include a career in teaching, personal trainer, sports coaching, sports development, organisation of sports events and even sports science. Throughout the course, pupils are also given opportunities of meaningful employment – for example assisting our School Games Organiser in local events, shadowing members of staff and even completing coaching badges. This qualification can lead you to full-time employment in the above roles and / or into further education at university.

#### University/Further Education (Alongside other A-Level qualifications)

- BA (Hons) Sports Studies
- BSc (Hons) Sports Psychology
- BA (Hons) Sports Education and Special and Inclusive Education
- BA (Hons) Sport and Exercise Science
- BSc (Hons) Sports Rehabilitation

Students should always check the specific entry requirements for degree programmes (if this is the route you are pursuing) with specific higher education institutions as this is subject to change.



# Physical Education

## What will I learn?

The theory content of the course focuses on the following topics on which you will be examined:

- Applied Anatomy and Physiology
- Exercise Physiology
- Biomechanics
- Skill Acquisition
- Sport Psychology
- Sport and Society

The practical content involves two sections:

- Assessment in one sport as a coach or performer
- Coursework involving evaluation of performance for improvement

## How will I be assessed?

Assessment in A Level PE has three strands:

1. Written exams on the theory content
2. Practical assessment in one sport as a coach or performer
3. Coursework assessment on evaluation of performance for improvement

## A Level Assessment Overview

- Three exams worth 70% of A level:
- Physiological factors affecting performance (30%)
- Psychological factors affecting performance (20%)
- Socio-cultural issues in physical education (20)

Performance in physical education worth 30% of A Level:

- Performance or coaching in one sport (15%)
- Evaluation and Analysis of Performance for Improvement (15%)

## Where can my qualifications take me?

A Level Physical Education will prepare you for University to study Sport and Physical Education. Furthermore the course will prepare you for employment in the sports and leisure sector including jobs such as a sports scientist, teacher, coach or physiotherapist.

The vast majority of the A Level PE course is the study of theory. Students must have a conscientious and committed approach to their studies to be successful. Students need to be able to assimilate information, analyse this information and apply it to relevant sporting and healthy active lifestyle examples. Finally students need to be playing one sport to a good standard (club/county) outside of school.





# Former Students

The range of different pathways our students follow when they leave Bishop Challoner Sixth Form is incredible. We celebrate the achievements of our former students and we are extremely proud of the positive impact they go on to have on their new communities and work environments and the contribution they make to society as a whole.

***“Bishop Challoner Sixth Form played an important role in my path to get to university.”***

## **Darius**

I attended Bishop Challoner Sixth Form for 2 years during 2013-2015, studying; Law, Business, and History. I always aimed to go to University after this but I was torn between studying Law or Business, eventually I opted to study Business/Management at University of Leicester. Over this 3 year course I decided I'd like to work in the general area of Corporate Social Responsibility and work in an area which benefits society.

I'd applied to lots of different jobs but wasn't really having much luck until I got an offer to work for a business called Fortem which works in Construction, mainly in the Housing Industry. This wasn't something I'd initially thought I'd be suited to especially considering what I thought I wanted to do!

My current title is a “Management Trainee” but I work in Commercial as a Trainee Quantity Surveyor. In a nutshell, this role consists mainly of managing the costs of our business from the frontline. The business carries out Repairs and Maintenance, Planned works and larger Projects for housing authorities on various different contracts across the country. Close management of these costs, keeping our clients happy, and being innovative in how we manage these works from a commercial perspective sums my role up.

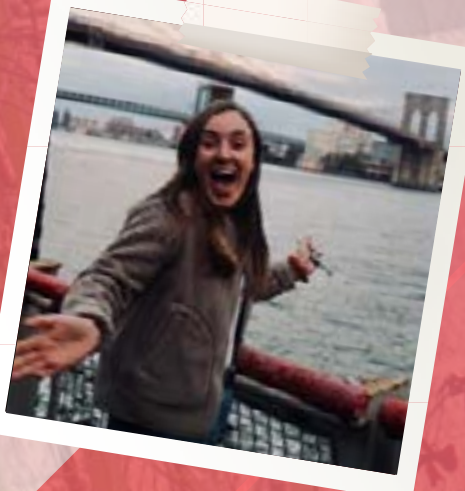
I look back on my time at Bishop Challoner positively as I made a lot of friends and enjoyed some really good times. In terms of learning, my A-Level choices and the teachers who helped me daily had enabled me to confidently grow the basis I needed for University. Importantly, I learnt a lot in my time there which helped me narrow down a more suitable path for myself after sixth form.

***“I look back on my time at Bishop Challoner positively...”***

## **Hannah**

I am currently in my final year at the University of Leicester studying American Studies. This degree has been very rewarding as I have been able to study modules involving the history, literature, culture and politics of the US. As well as this, I had the opportunity to study at a university in Virginia, which was only 40 minutes away from Washington DC. This was a great experience as I was able to learn about topics that would not have been offered at universities at home, as well as the opportunity to travel across the US.

Bishop Challoner Sixth Form played an important role in my path to get to university. When applying to university, I was able to meet with a member of the Sixth Form staff to help me with my personal statement. Not only did they check over my personal statement, but they also made sure that I was meeting my target grades by monitoring my progress in certain subjects and talking about the way in which I can improve. The Sixth Form staff were always friendly and approachable so that if I was worried about something I was able to meet with them and talk to them about it.



## What do they say about us?





#### **Ruby**

At school I had no real idea what I wanted to do but knew I wanted to go to university. I loved history and had brilliant history teachers; they were able to guide me through the application process and also ensured that I achieved the grades I needed. During my undergraduate history degree, I completed a few legal placements and settled on the idea of going into the law.

After graduating, I converted to law and completed the post-graduate programmes necessary to train as a solicitor. Partly thanks to my history background, I secured my training contract with a national firm. Without the work and guidance of my teachers in sixth form, I wouldn't now be training as a lawyer.

***“I've received so much help, support, and motivation from my subject teachers and the school as a whole.”***



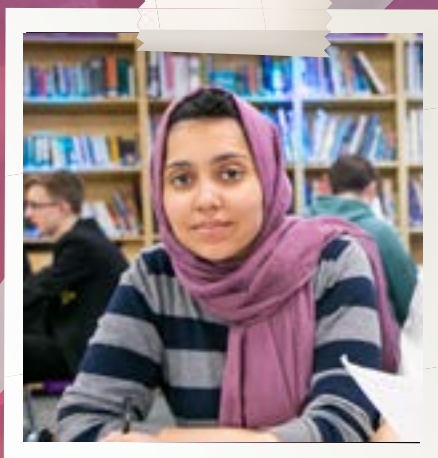
#### **Tom**

I left Bishop Challoner 6th Form last year after studying Physics, Chemistry, and Maths. Having spent a number of months in India volunteering in slums and experiencing a culture radically different to my own as part of my gap year, I am going to hopefully get some work over the coming months as I prepare my application for university, which the 6th Form Team at Bishop Challoner are still supporting me with.

After this, using the money I earn, I would like to spend the rest of my year travelling in Europe; I have always loved languages and this will be an opportunity to develop some degree

of fluency in French, and perhaps even to begin learning German. It will also be an opportunity to immerse myself in the literature of the course I will be studying at university: Archaeology and Anthropology. Although I don't have a set career path in mind, I am quite confident that in pursuing the subject matter that engages me the most, a career that I find equally as engaging will present itself.

I think that Bishop Challoner 6th Form not only allowed me to get the best grades I could, they also helped me to explore my options and are still supporting me even though I have left.



#### **Ahlaam**

I'm currently attending Northwestern University just outside of Chicago, Illinois on an all-inclusive scholarship after participating in the Sutton Trust US Programme. The prospect of applying to the US was terrifying and unfamiliar but the support I got from staff and teachers made the process so much easier. The school has always been very invested in the success of students and throughout my time at Bishop Challoner, I've received so much help, support, and motivation from my subject teachers and the school as a whole.



# What do our current students say about us?

Whilst the majority of our Year 11 students transfer to our sixth form, many other students join us from other schools across Birmingham. Hear what they say about us below...

Bishop Challoner Sixth Form has been a challenging, yet fulfilling experience that has opened me to a wide range of opportunities. The sixth form team have been not only supportive but always given the best advice to each and every individual. I have also become a more independent and confident student throughout my time here, helping me gain the key qualities I need to achieve my future plans.

Bishop Challoner Sixth Form has been an eye opening experience for me, and has given me the guidance and knowledge to help me succeed after I leave. I have had the support I have required from the Sixth Form team and the teachers have helped me with my work to get the grades I would like to achieve.

Students and teachers are very welcoming and supportive. I already feel as if I belong here despite coming from a different school. So far, A-Levels are challenging but the teachers are always willing to help the students as much as they need.

***“It’s not just all about your grades here. Personal qualities are valued too.”***

*The Sixth form team at Bishop Challoner have been great at giving me all the information, advice and support I needed regarding my future prospects - ensuring I make the right decision for myself in order to have a successful and fulfilling future after Sixth Form.*

***“Students and teachers are very welcoming and supportive.”***



The Sixth Form has a welcoming environment and supportive staff. The sixth form team provide you with all of the relevant information regarding UCAS applications and personal statements. The subject teachers are also willing to offer extra time to go over parts of the course, if necessary.

Starting in the Sixth Form has been great and the transition was easy. I found my settling in interview nice as it allowed me to give my opinion and talk about things I was struggling with.

I wouldn't have even considered making an Oxbridge application without my teachers' encouragement.

Learning is fun and enjoyable and all of the staff are focussed on helping us to get into the universities of our choice or apprenticeships and the world of work. There are lots of amazing opportunities on offer.

Bishop Challoner will always be such a special place to me. Great schools such as this cannot exist without the great groups of students and teachers we have, and the diversity of everyone here makes this place so exceptional. This school has given me so much help in developing myself as a person, which has allowed me to participate in opportunities I wouldn't have had the confidence to put myself forward for initially. Any student at Bishop Challoner will always be provided with new and exciting opportunities which they may not otherwise get to experience.

**“Coming from a new school I was made welcome and have greatly enjoyed my time here so far.”**

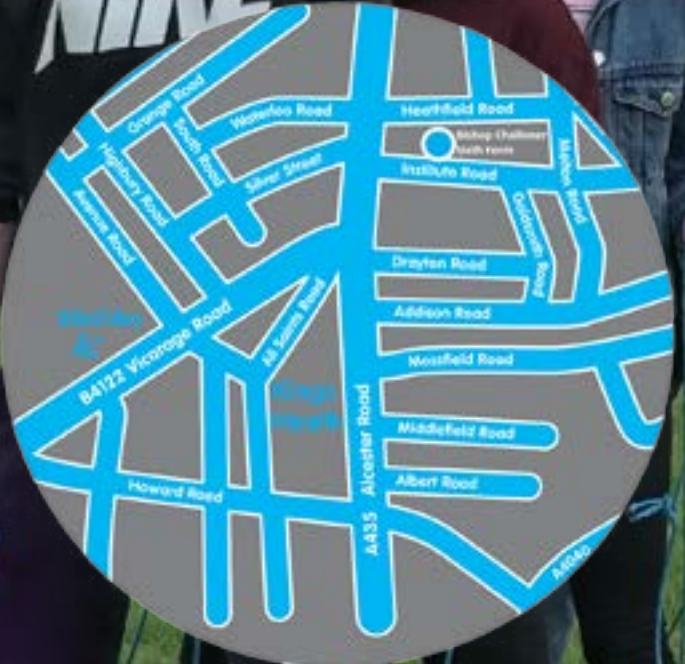




**Bus Routes to High Street, Kings Heath:**  
11A, 11C, 27, 35, 50, 50A, 69, 76, 179

**Nearest train stations:** Bournville, Yardley Wood, Selly Oak and Kings Norton

**To find out more about the public transport routes to Bishop Challoner Sixth Form College telephone the Centro Traveline on 0870 6082 608 or visit [www.centro.org.uk](http://www.centro.org.uk)**



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