



# Congleton Sixth Form College

## **COURSE DETAILS 2026-27**

'Together in the pursuit of excellence'



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## CHOOSING YOUR NEW COURSES

Our courses are organised into three College Pathways. As well as A Levels, we offer a range of practical and vocational courses. Our curriculum provides real flexibility when you choose your options so you might decide to study an A Level Pathway, a Blended Pathway (combining A Levels and vocational courses) or a Vocational Pathway.

Most students will opt for three subjects, but we can discuss a programme that is tailored to your needs. You do need to be aware that if you do not achieve at least a Level 4 Grade in GCSE Mathematics or English, you will continue to study these.

### College Pathways:

<b>A Level Pathway</b>	<b>Blended Pathway</b>	<b>Vocational Pathway</b>
<p><b>Choose 3 A Levels</b></p> <p><b>Next steps:</b> University/Degree Apprenticeship/ Industry</p> <p><b>Career examples:</b> Medicine Law Research Teaching Engineering Journalism</p>	<p><b>Combine A Levels and vocational qualifications</b></p> <p><b>Next steps:</b> University/Degree or Higher Apprenticeship /Industry</p> <p><b>Career examples:</b> Healthcare Business and Finance Sport Technology and ICT Media Police Force</p>	<p><b>100% vocational courses (and GCSE resits if needed)</b></p> <p><b>Next steps:</b> University/All levels of Apprenticeship / Industry</p> <p><b>Career examples:</b> Real Estate Public Services Healthcare Administration Business Childcare</p>

## COURSE OFFER

Students normally choose three subjects.

A Levels		Vocational
Art and Design: Fine Art	Further Maths	Business
Art and Design: Textiles	Geography	Child Development
Biology	History	Applied Criminology
Chemistry	Maths	Health and Social Care
Computer Science	Physics	Public Services
Drama	Politics	Applied Science
Economics	Product Design	BTEC Sport
English Language and Linguistics	Psychology	GCSE Re-sits
English Literature	Sociology	

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

Entry Requirements – A Levels:

- 5 GCSEs at Grade 6 as a basic entry level
- There is some flexibility, and all students will be considered on an individual basis

Entry Requirements – Vocational Pathway:

- 2 GCSEs at Grade 5 and 3 GCSEs at Grade 4 as a basic entry level
- There is some flexibility, and all students will be considered on an individual basis

You'll find guidance on the variation of entry requirements for specific subjects later in this document.

## PATHWAYS AND EXCELLENCE

To reflect career areas, our example pathways aim to help you see which courses typically work well together.

<b>Medicine</b>	Biology, Chemistry, Maths Biology, Chemistry, Physics
<b>Healthcare, Nursing and Midwifery</b>	Applied Science, Psychology, Health and Social Care Psychology, Biology, Health and Social Care
<b>Law</b>	History, Politics, English Language English Language, Sociology, History
<b>Engineering</b>	Maths, Physics, Product Design Computer Science, Product Design, BTEC Business
<b>Maths</b>	Maths, Further Maths, Physics Maths, Further Maths, Computer Science
<b>Philosophy, Politics and Economics</b>	History, Politics and Economics History, Politics, English Literature
<b>Teaching - Primary</b>	Childcare, Geography, Art English Language and Linguistics, Psychology, BTEC Sport
<b>Business</b>	Economics, BTEC Business, Maths BTEC Business, Psychology, BTEC Sport
<b>Architecture</b>	Art, Physics, Maths Art, Maths, Product Design
<b>Science</b>	Biology, Chemistry, Physics Biology, Chemistry, Maths
<b>Sport</b>	BTEC Sport, Psychology, Biology BTEC Sport, Psychology, BTEC Business
<b>Creative Arts</b>	Art, English Language and Linguistics, Drama Art, Product Design, English Literature
<b>Performing Arts</b>	Drama, English Literature, English Language and Linguistics Drama, English Literature, Psychology
<b>Counselling and Psychology</b>	Psychology, Sociology, Health and Social Care Biology, Chemistry, Psychology
<b>Technology and ICT</b>	Computer Science, Maths, Chemistry Product Design, Computer Science, Maths
<b>Journalism</b>	English Language and Linguistics, History, Politics, English Language and Linguistics, English Literature, Sociology
<b>Criminology and/or Policing</b>	Computer Science, Psychology, Sociology Public Services, Criminology, Geography
<b>Media</b>	English Language and Linguistics, Psychology, Business English Language and Linguistics, Sociology, BTEC Sport
<b>Environment/Sustainability</b>	Geography, Biology, Chemistry Geography, BTEC Business, Politics

## MAKING YOUR DECISIONS

Before making a decision, ask yourself these questions:

- 1. Am I interested enough in this subject to study it for so many periods a week for the next year or two years?** A maximum of 9 hours is time-tabled for each subject per fortnight plus homework, which is a long time to be spending on a subject in which you personally may have little real interest.
- 2. Do I know enough about what the subject involves?** Staff have written about their subjects in this document but cannot say everything in one article. Talk to them at the Open Evening, at school or email them and ask any questions that you have. Ask them for any further information you may want. The contact details for each subject are enclosed.
- 3. Have I the ability to make a success of the subject?** Prior qualifications recommended for entry to the Sixth Form are detailed above and there are some specific recommended requirements for particular subjects. Talk to your teachers about your chances of succeeding in their subject in the Sixth Form.
- 4. Is my combination of subjects sensible?** It is important that the subjects you have chosen have some pattern to them and while straightforward preference is a significant factor, it is important for you to consider what you wish to do following A Levels when making choices about your courses Post-16 – Research the entry requirements for any university courses or careers that you have in mind. The links below are useful in helping you make informed choices, particularly if you are considering Russell Group universities: [www.UCAS.com](http://www.UCAS.com)
- 5. The expert advice of a Careers specialist is useful:** we are talking about your future. You are urged to make an appointment to discuss your plans with our Careers Adviser.

## APPLICATION TO CONGLETON SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

To apply for our Sixth Form, please scan the QR code below:



# ART A LEVEL (FINE ART or TEXTILES)



**Examination Board: AQA**

## **Assessment – 60% coursework; 40% Exam**

- Component 1 – Personal Investigation (a practical annotated assignment with 3000-word conclusion)
- Component 2 (an external assignment with a 15-hour timed piece under exam conditions)

## **Why take Art?**

Would you like to develop a personal way of working, to experiment with new techniques and to fulfil your creative potential? If experimenting with a range of artistic approaches using different media, techniques and processes, while exploring different Artists', Designers' and Sculptors' work to support your ideas sounds appealing, then this could be the course for you.

## **What is the course content**

The course is similar to GCSE but requires a greater depth, commitment and understanding. It is possible to include aspects of Art that reflect particular interests and strengths such as 3D, Photography, Graphics and Textiles.

In Year 12 for the first term and a half, you will be building a range of experiments to further your skills and develop yourself as an artist. This will include new techniques, media and experimenting with working on larger scale pieces. Towards the middle of the spring term you will start to negotiate your main coursework project.

## **What kind of students succeed on the course?**

Students who can plan, research and organise effectively succeed in this course. Analytical skills and problem-solving techniques are also integral, as are communication and ICT skills. High quality presentation is central to all Art courses. You will also be open to learning new techniques that are relevant to your theme or chosen way of working. It is recommended that you have at least a GCSE Grade 5 Art.

## **What careers or further studies could Art lead to?**

Former Art students have gone on to university to study Architecture, Accountancy, Psychology, Geography, English, Surface Pattern Design, Fashion and Textiles, Fashion Management and Marketing, Graphic Design, Photography, History of Art, Film and Media, Illustration, Jewellery Design, Product Design and Ceramics.

**For further information, please contact Mrs Lindsay – Art CTL**

# BIOLOGY- A LEVEL



## Exam Board – OCR

### Assessment

- 100% External Examination - 3 papers
- Practical Endorsement (non-examined assessment)

### Why take Biology?

The most amazing thing in the Universe is the existence of life! Studying Biology will allow you to understand what organisms are made of and how cells work together and carry out the living processes of respiration, photosynthesis, excretion, digestion, transport, inheritance and reproduction. You will learn the scientific basis of healthy lifestyles, human disease, growth, development, how organisms interact in the environment and how they evolve to produce new species. So, what could be more interesting than the study of living things and what makes them tick?

### What is the course content?

Course content is split into six teaching modules: Module 1 – Development of practical skills in Biology; Module 2 – Foundations in Biology; Module 3 – Exchange and transport; Module 4 – Biodiversity, evolution and disease; Module 5 – Communication, homeostasis and energy; Module 6 – Genetics, evolution and ecosystems.

### What kind of students succeed on the course?

Students who can research and assimilate information and analyse and evaluate experimental data and procedures will succeed on this course. Analytical skills and problem-solving techniques are integral to the study of Biology, as are communication, use of number and ICT skills. High quality technical and practical skills are also important. Students who succeed in A Level Biology typically have at least a Grade 7 in GCSE Biology or 77 in Combined Science.

### What careers or further studies could Biology lead to?

A Level Biology forms a good basis for the study of many degrees at university including Biology, Biotechnology, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Medicine, Molecular Biology, Genetics, Zoology, Botany, Environmental Sciences, Pharmacology, Physiotherapy, Sport Science, Psychology, Nursing, Nutrition and the list goes on. It is also a useful subject to support many Degree Apprenticeship applications.

### For further information, please contact Miss Jones – Science CTL

# **BTEC LEVEL 3 EXTENDED CERTIFICATE IN BUSINESS** (equivalent to 1 A Level)



## **Examination Board – Pearson**

### **Assessment**

- 2 Externally Assessed Units
- 2 Internally Assessed Coursework Units

### **Why take Business?**

You don't have to aspire to be the next Alan Sugar or Richard Branson to take Business! This subject is for anyone – we all come into contact with businesses every day of our lives and this subject will give you a greater insight to the workings of business and industry. It is a dynamic combination of economics, accountancy, marketing, administration and law.

### **What is the course content?**

**Mandatory Units** include: Exploring Business; Developing a Marketing Campaign; Personal and Business Finance

**Optional units** include: Recruitment and Selection Process; Investigating Customer Service; Market Research; The English Legal System; Work Experience in Business

### **What kind of students succeed in this course?**

Successful candidates will have good analytical, verbal and written communication and problem-solving skills. Good mathematical ability will also be useful as students will need to analyse data to inform decision making. Throughout the course students will develop their knowledge of how businesses are organised, structured, financed and operated.

### **What careers or further studies could Business lead to?**

For potential employers, Business, with its broad study base and balance of numerical and written skills, is an ideal foundation for the recruitment of students for managerial positions and offers all the skills employers have recently said are lacking in new recruits. Equally students could go on to study at university or a Higher Level Apprenticeship. Potential careers include Marketing, Business Management, Human Resources, Finance, Accounting, Law, Banking, Media, Sport Management, Wealth Management

**For further information please contact Mr Davis – Business and ICT Deputy CTL**

# CHEMISTRY A LEVEL



## Exam Board – OCR

### Assessment

- 100% External Examination - 3 papers
- Practical Endorsement (non-examined assessment)

### Why take Chemistry?

Chemistry is a fascinating subject which provides us with an understanding of how the world around us works! We can create new substances to fight disease, to feed the world's population, to solve the energy crisis, to combat climate change, to provide new materials to improve the quality of life and, potentially, to explain life itself. It is the study of the nature of matter – how and why things are and how we can use them. You will find out about medicines, future fuels for transport, pH control in blood, and how Chemistry can be used in helping solve the world's energy problems. If you enjoy thinking, problem solving, practical activities and finding out about the universe, this course will suit you!

### What is the course content?

Course content is split into six teaching modules: Module 1 – Development of practical skills in Chemistry; Module 2 – Foundations in Chemistry; Module 3 – Periodic table and energy; Module 4 – Core organic chemistry; Module 5 – Physical chemistry and transition elements; Module 6 – Organic chemistry and analysis.

### What kind of students succeed on the course?

Students who can research and assimilate information and analyse and evaluate experimental data and procedures will succeed on this course. Analytical skills and problem-solving techniques are integral to the study of Chemistry, as are communication, use of number and ICT skills. High quality technical and practical skills are also important. Students who succeed in A Level Chemistry typically have at least a Grade 7 in GCSE Chemistry or 77 in Combined Science.

### What careers or further studies could Chemistry lead to?

A Level Chemistry forms a good basis for the study of many degrees at university including Veterinary Science, Medicine, Pharmacy, Pharmacology, Geology, Materials Science, Forensic Science, Chemical Engineering, Nutrition, Environmental Science, Toxicology, Medical Biology, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Genetics, Zoology, Botany, Environmental Sciences, Pharmacology, Physiotherapy, Sport Science, Radiology, Psychology, Nursing, Midwifery, Geography, and the list goes on. It is also a useful subject to support many Degree Apprenticeship applications.

**For further information, please contact Miss Jones – Science CTL**

# EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT BTEC LEVEL 3 AAQ EXTENDED CERTIFICATE



**Examination Board – Pearson BTEC**

## **Assessment**

- Two internal coursework units
- Two external controlled exams

## **Why take Childcare and Education?**

This course is for anyone who is interested in learning more about children's development, Early Years Education in primary schools and pre-school education, SEND education and, issues affecting the Early Years sector. You will develop knowledge and understanding of how children develop, the development of literacy and numeracy skills, the importance of play for learning and the importance of keeping children safe. This is a course for anyone who has an interest in working within the caring profession.

## **What is the course content?**

**Two internal coursework units:** play and learning, research in everyday practice.

**Two exam-based units:** Children's development from birth to eight years; Keeping children safe.

## **What kind of students succeed in this course?**

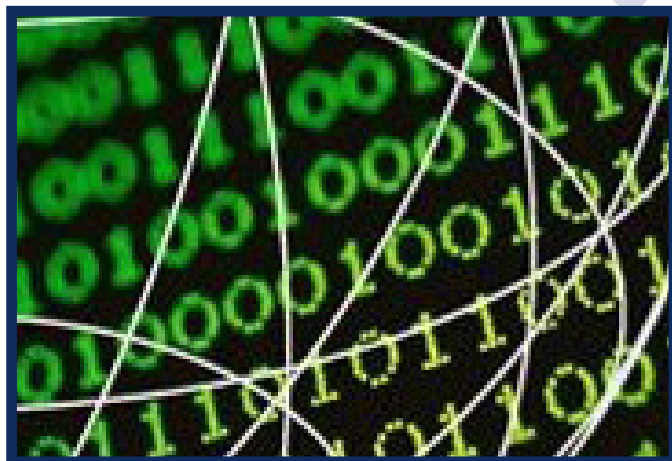
Students who are reflective, and independent learners succeed in Early Childhood Development. Furthermore, those who have strong research skills, and those who are able to question objectively, analyse and discuss children's diverse needs, and how they can be met in the educational setting.

## **What careers or further studies could Childcare and Education lead to?**

This course provides an excellent foundation for an apprenticeship in any of the caring professions including Childcare Practitioner, Early Years Education (Teaching) and any type of caring work. It can also take you into Social Work, Midwifery, and other university courses such as Social Studies, Psychology and higher-level Education Studies. You will also develop study skills which will equip you for further study on any university course.

**For further information, please contact Mrs Sanders – Teacher of Social Sciences**

# COMPUTER SCIENCE A LEVEL



**Examination Board – OCR**

## **Assessment**

- 80% external exam
- 20% coursework project
- Two 2 and a half hour papers at the end of Year 13

## **Why take Computer Science?**

How does the world work? How can you change it? In Computer Science, we strive to understand and answer these questions. From problem solving and programming through networks and laws, we will explore the role of Computer Science in the world and how understanding this subject will help you to understand the modern world, develop skills to prepare you for a career in any industry and maybe...change the world.

## **What is the course content?**

- Paper 1 – Computer Systems
- Paper 2 – Algorithms and Programming
- Project – A student-chosen programming project where you develop your own programming solution to a problem set by you

## **What kind of students succeed in this course?**

If you are a logical thinker who likes to solve problems and you have an interest in technology and the role it plays in the world, you will stand a good chance of succeeding in this course. You also need to have a strong background in Maths, achieving at least a Grade 7 at GCSE.

## **What careers or further studies could Computer Science lead to?**

A Level Computer Science provides a good foundation for further Computer Science related courses at university or as an excellent grounding for Degree Apprenticeships. Computer Science can lead you into careers in Software Engineering, Network Design and Management, Cyber-security, Manufacturing, Banking, Law, Journalism, the Civil Service, Education – amongst a huge list of possible options.

**For further information please contact Mr Davis – Business and ICT Deputy CTL**

# Applied Criminology Applied A Level



## Examination Board – WJEC

### Assessment

- Two controlled assessments
- Two external exams

### Why take Criminology?

The course covers elements of psychological, biological, and sociological theories of crime, and you will learn how to apply these theories to analyse criminal situations. You will gain an understanding of the role of the criminal justice system and how a case moves from crime scene to court room. If you have an interest in Psychology, Sociology and Law, this course will help you to understand the way in which society defines crime and deviance, how crime is reported and the public's perception of crime.

### What is the course content?

You will study four units:

- Changing awareness of crime
- Criminological theory
- Crime scene to court room
- Crime and punishment

### What kind of students succeed in this course?

As part of the course, you will focus on the skills that working in criminal justice system or rehabilitation services requires, such as team-working, communication, taking responsibility for your own performance and behaviour, and so students who are reflective in their approach are successful. Due to the demands of the controlled assessment, students must ensure they are organised. Students who succeed in Applied Criminology typically have at least a Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Literature.

### What careers or further studies could Criminology lead to?

Access to higher education degree courses in Criminology, Criminology and Psychology, Law with Criminology (LLB) and Psychology and Sociology. Alternatively, the qualification allows learners to gain the required understanding and skills to be able to consider employment within some aspects of the criminal justice system, for example, the National Probation Service, the Courts and Tribunals Service or the National Offender Management Service.

**For further information, please contact Mr O'Brien – Social Sciences Deputy CTL**

# Drama and Theatre Studies A Level



## Examination Board – AQA

### Assessment

- Component One: Drama and Theatre 3 hour written exam (40%)
- Component Two: Creating Original Drama devised piece; coursework (30%)
- Component Three: Making Theatre Three scripted pieces; coursework (30%)

### Why take Drama and Theatre Studies?

If you are curious about issues and ideas and have a creative instinct for communicating your views, then Drama is the ideal subject for you. You may be keen on acting, writing or on the visual and technical side of theatre and wish to develop your skills in some or all of these areas. Drama and Theatre A Level will appeal to students who are committed to broadening their experience of live theatre appreciation and text study.

### What is the course content?

The course demands practical, creative and written communication skills in almost equal measure. You will extend your ability to create drama and theatre by exploring the work of existing practitioners and applying their ideas and methodologies. You will explore two plays in detail from the perspective of a performer/director and designer and will complete an external exam based on this knowledge. The course will involve seeing and responding to live theatre as well as creating and performing in it.

### What kind of students succeed in this course?

Students who are confident, empathetic and have the ability to create varied characters within performance succeed on this course. It is important that you are analytical in your approach to texts, exploring themes and social and historical contexts. Equally, you should be able to use live theatre to inspire your own work and need to have a strong background in English.

### What careers or further studies could Drama and Theatre Studies lead to?

Many students have found their A Level Drama studies excellent preparation for Drama at university or post-18 drama school and a for career in the industry. Drama can lead to any number of employment routes from roles directly linked to the theatre, film and television industry: performers, directors, stage management, costume design, set design, lighting design to name a few. Drama builds confidence and improves interpersonal and communication skills that can lead to a range of careers, from Teaching through to Management.

**For further information please contact Mrs Mackreth – Performing Arts CTL**

# Economics A Level



## Examination Board – Edexcel

### Assessment

- 100% external examination
- Three 2-hour papers at the end of Year 13.

### Why take Economics?

Economics is one of the largest and fastest growing A Levels for good reason. You will have the opportunity to explore questions such as: What is the best way to reduce inequality?; Should we live in a higher or lower tax economy?; What strategies can a business use to maximise profit?; How can Central-African nations develop more quickly?; What can be done to reduce labour shortages? If these questions interest you, then Economics is the course for you.

### What is the course content?

- Paper 1 – Markets and Business Behaviour (35% weighting)
- Paper 2 – The National and Global Economy (35% weighting)
- Paper 3 – Microeconomics and Macroeconomics (30% weighting)

### What kind of students succeed in this course?

Economics attracts a range of students. It complements Mathematics, Geography, English Literature, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Psychology. It is a written subject and requires sound English and Maths skills at GCSE.

### What careers or further studies could Economics lead to?

Economics is highly sought after amongst employers, with Economics graduates often commanding some of the highest graduate starting salaries. In particular, the subject offers opportunities in finance, professional services, the legal sector, the civil service and many more. It is also valued by firms offering degree level apprenticeships providing multiple opportunities after A Level.

**For further information, please contact Mr Cahey – Assistant Head Teacher**

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE GCSE RESIT



## Examination Board – WJEC, EDUQAS

### Assessment

- 100% external exam

### Why take English Language resit?

If you don't have at least a Grade 4 in either English Language or English Literature GCSE, you have to take a resit course and retake the examination. If you have a 4 or above in Literature but not Language, whilst you don't have to re-sit Language, we strongly advise that you do. Many courses and careers specifically ask for English Language GCSE.

### What is the course content?

- Paper 1 - Fiction Reading and Writing
- Paper 2 - Non-Fiction Reading and Writing

### What kind of students succeed in this course?

At CHS, we have a strong record of students improving their result in November or June of Year 12. You have to attend all lessons, do your homework and attend extra sessions just before exams. With commitment and determination, you can succeed.

### What careers or further studies could GCSE English Language lead to?

GCSE English Language at 4 or above is a requirement for many post 18 courses and careers. It tells employers and admissions tutors that you can communicate effectively and have good comprehension skills. These are important for your future.

**For further information please contact Mr McQueen (English CTL) and Miss Miller (English Deputy CTL)**

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS A LEVEL



## Examination Board – AQA

### Assessment

- 80% external exam
- 20% non-examined Assessment

### Why take English Language and Linguistics?

Have you ever wondered where new words come from? Why young people seem to develop their own style of speaking? How children learn to speak? How language is used to have power over others? How language can make us laugh, can make us think... can make us weep? Language is all around us, from something as casual as your daily social media fix, to the laws that govern modern British society. Linguistics is the scientific study of language, which seeks to understand the ever-evolving world of words in which we live. By choosing to take A Level English Language and Linguistics, you will gain valuable communication and analytical skills that will support you in your academic life and beyond.

### What is the course content?

Paper 1 – Language, the Individual and Society

Paper 2 – Language Diversity and Change

Non-examined Assessment (Coursework) – Original Writing/Language Investigation

### What kind of students succeed in this course?

A Level English Language and Linguistics invites those with an intellectual curiosity to explore how our language is ever-changing. Our students enjoy analysis, have a genuine interest in the written and spoken word, and like to ask questions. If you enjoy lively intellectual discussion and have a curious mind about the society in which we live and the language that we use, then this could be the course for you.

### What careers or further studies could Language and Linguistics lead to?

An A Level in English Language and Linguistics provides a solid foundation for further English studies at university and for a range of other subject disciplines besides. In recent years, students have gone on to study Linguistics, Literature, Law, History, Business, Media, Speech Therapy, Nursing, Psychology, Criminology and Teaching.

If you do not go on to Higher Education, your skills in writing, critical reading, analysis and communication will be highly prized by employers in a wide range of occupations.

**For further information, please contact Mrs Smith and Miss Griffiths (Teachers of English Language and Linguistics)**

# ENGLISH LITERATURE A LEVEL



## Examination Board – AQA Specification B

### Assessment

- 80% external exam
- 20% non-exam assessment

### Why take English Literature?

Studying Literature connects you to the imaginations of some of our greatest writers and thinkers. Through poetry, plays, novels and critical theory we explore questions about society and what it is to be human. If you are interested in developing strong arguments, academic writing skills, debating and honing your ideas and analysing meaning in text, you will enjoy Literature lessons and be successful.

### What is the course content?

Paper 1 – Tragedy

Paper 2 – Crime

NEA (coursework) – 2 x 1500 word essays

### What kind of students succeed in this course?

If you love reading, theatre and film, are analytical and organised and enjoy expressing opinions in discussion and writing, you should do well at A Level Literature. You will need strong English GCSEs.

### What careers or further studies could English Literature lead to?

A Level Literature provides a good foundation for further Literature related courses at university, or as a general qualification to support a course or career in a wide variety of areas. Literature provides a strong academic platform for Journalism, Policy Writing, Research, Content Creation, Human Resources, Marketing, Banking, Teaching, Counselling, Media, amongst others. Former students are doctors, teachers, banking managers, marketing managers, artists, civil servants, business analysts and testify that the analytical and communication skills developed through A Level Literature have been invaluable to their career paths.

**For further information please contact Mrs McKenzie (Teacher of English Literature) and Miss Miller (Deputy CTL)**

# GEOGRAPHY A LEVEL



## Examination Board: AQA

### Assessment

- Non-examined Assessment – 20% of overall assessment
- Two 2-hour and 30-minute exams – 80% of overall assessment

### Why take Geography?

Do you want to know about the world around you? From the state of the economy to our responses to climate change, the breadth of Geography will never leave you bored. This is the most cross-curricular subject and can lead onto almost any degree, as it is considered a Science or Humanities subject.

### What is the course content?

- Paper 1 – Physical Geography; Water and Carbon Cycles; Coastal Systems and Landscapes; Hazards
- Paper 2 – Human Geography; Global Systems and Global Governance; Changing Places; Contemporary Urban Environments
- Geography Fieldwork Investigation and Geographical Skills – overall you will complete 5 pieces of fieldwork and be taken on 4 different field trips, all in the North West.

### What kind of students succeed in this course?

Good Geographers are good communicators and are able to look at issues from different perspectives to analyse and manipulate data. You will have competent ICT and problem solving skills to support research, data analysis and resource interpretation. Good written skills and numeracy skills are also crucial to A Level Geography.

### What careers or further studies could Geography lead to?

Geography is well thought of by universities and employers as a subject that develops transferable and meaningful life skills. The subject supports courses and careers in Physical Geography, Human Geography, Sociology, Cartography, Environmental Science, Law, Climate Science, Risk Analysis, Architecture, Aviation, Civil Engineering, Travel and Tourism, Civil Engineering, Urban Planning, International Aid and the list goes on.

**For further information, please contact – to Mr Fryer – Humanities CTL**

# Health and Social Care BTEC Level 3 AAQ Extended Certificate



**Examination Board – Pearson BTEC**

## **Assessment**

- Two internal coursework units
- Two external controlled exams

## **Why take Health and Social Care?**

This course is for anyone who wants to develop and sustain an interest in Health, Early-Years Care and Education, Social Care and issues affecting the care sector. The AAQ course provides an opportunity to develop your understanding of theory and core Health Care Values, which underpin everyday practice. This is the course for anyone who has an interest in working within the caring professions and wishes to advance to university, Degree Apprenticeships, Apprenticeships or employment within the health and social care sector.

## **What is the course content?**

**Two internal coursework units:** Principles of Health and Social Care; Promoting Health Education  
**Two exam-based units:** Human Lifespan and Development; Human Biology and Health.

## **What kind of students succeed in this course?**

Students who are reflective, and independent learners succeed in Health and Social Care. Furthermore, those who have strong research skills, and those who are able to question objectively, analyse and discuss clients' needs and how they can best be addressed and supported.

## **What careers or further studies could Health and Social Care lead to?**

The course provides an excellent foundation for entry into any of the caring professions including Nursing, Childcare and any type of caring work. It can also take you into Social Work, Midwifery, Teaching and other university courses such as Social Studies, Psychology and higher-level Health Studies. You will also develop study skills which will equip you for further study on any university course.

**For further information, please contact Miss Lomas – Teacher of Social Sciences**

# HISTORY A LEVEL



## Examination Board – AQA

### Assessment

- Two 2 and a half hour external exams at the end of Year 13 (40% of your grade each)
- Non-examined assessment (NEA) completed in lesson (20% of your grade)

### Why take History?

History is one of the only subjects that helps to explain why the world is the way it is. Why did Russia invade Ukraine? Why is there such division in British politics? Why does the monarchy have limited power today? The answer to these questions can only be fully explained by looking into the past. History widens your world view and helps you to understand other societies. It enables you to develop a balanced viewpoint but is also a subject in which there is room for argument and debate.

### What is the course content?

Unit 1 – Tsarist and Communist Russia: 1855–1964

Unit 2 – The Making of Modern Britain: 1951–2007

Unit 3 – Norman and Angevin England: 1066–1216 (NEA)

### What kind of students succeed in this course?

Students who succeed in History are those with a passion for the subject, those who enjoy debate and putting forward their argument, and those who think critically about the world around them. You will need to be a strong reader with good writing skills and the ability to analyse and organise information. Students that succeed in History are those who are open to feedback and are willing to actively engage in discussion.

### What careers or further studies could History lead to?

A Level History provides a good foundation for further study in History or Politics. However, as it provides such a flexible skill set, History can support studies in English, Linguistics, Economics, Law, Social Sciences, Languages and the Arts. It can lead to careers in the civil service, politics, business, journalism, education, data analysis, media, banking, marketing, research and the prison service.

**For further information, please contact Mr Fryer – History CTL or Miss Bennett – History Deputy CTL**

# MATHEMATICS A LEVEL



## Examination Board – Edexcel

### Assessment

- 100% external exam
- Three two-hour papers at the end of Year 13

### Why take Mathematics?

Do you relish the challenge of solving problems? Do you enjoy algebra? Do you have the ability to think through problems in logical and analytical way? Are you prepared to work consistently hard to achieve your potential?

### What is the course content?

#### Paper 1 and 2 – Pure Mathematics.

**Pure** includes topics such as algebra, trigonometry, graphs and functions as well as many other important new concepts. Many of the topics in Pure are interesting in their own right, but they are also an important foundation for other branches of Mathematics.

#### Paper 3 – Statistics and Mechanics

**Mechanics** – The study of mechanics applies Mathematics to physical problems and examines topics such as the motion of objects, and how they respond to the action of forces. You will learn the technique of mathematical modelling, that can be analysed and solved using mathematical methods.

**Statistics** – This is about the collection, presentation, analysis and interpretation of data. Statistics are collected by governments, scientific researchers and commercial enterprises for a variety of reasons. Many of the ideas you will meet in Statistics have applications in a wide variety of other fields.

### What kind of students succeed in this course?

If you are analytical and organised, relish the challenge of solving problems, you will stand a good chance of succeeding in this course. Students also study sciences, engineering and computer science. Students who succeed in A Level Maths typically have at least a Grade 7 in GCSE Maths.

### What careers or further studies could Mathematics lead to?

This course provides a good foundation for further studies in a wide range of courses at university or college and for a number of careers. This range extends far beyond the obvious ones of engineering, mathematics and physics to also include: economics, medicine, architecture, accountancy, psychology, computing, law and the list goes on...

**For further information please contact Mrs Hope – Mathematics CTL**

# FURTHER MATHEMATICS A LEVEL



## Examination Board – Edexcel

### Assessment

- 100% external exam
- Four 1-hour, 30-minute papers at the end of Y13

### Why take Mathematics?

Are you intending to take A Level Mathematics and are still keen to learn and understand more? Would you like to apply to a top university to do a degree in Mathematics or a Mathematics-based subject like engineering, physics or computing? Would you like to meet some interesting mathematical ideas not covered in the standard Mathematics A Level? Are you prepared to think for yourself and work consistently hard to achieve your potential?

### What is the course content?

- Paper 1 and 2 – Core Pure Mathematics

This element of Further Mathematics builds on the topics of functions, algebra, differential equations and calculus introduced in the standard Mathematics A level. New topics include complex numbers, matrices and mathematical proof.

- Paper 3 and 4 – Decision 1 and 2

This looks, amongst other things, at how to solve problems involving networks (e.g. computer, road, rail and telephone networks). You meet a range of methods, or algorithms, which enable problems to be tackled. There are important applications of decision Mathematics in very different areas such as in electronic circuits and the scheduling of tasks in the construction industry.

### What kind of students succeed in this course?

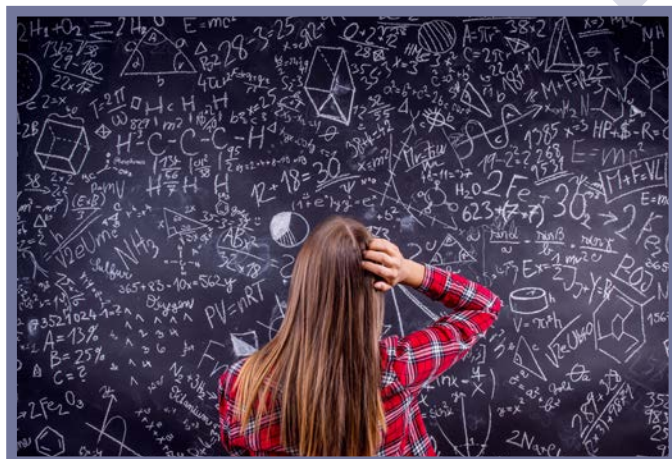
If you are analytical and organised, relish the challenge of solving problems, and want to develop your reasoning skills you will stand a good chance of succeeding in this course. Students also studying sciences, engineering and computer science. Students who succeed in A Level Further Maths typically have at least a Grade 8 in GCSE Maths.

### What careers or further studies could Mathematics lead to?

Further Mathematics is a highly regarded qualification. This course provides a good foundation for further studies in courses at university or college in the areas of engineering, mathematics, computer science and physics. The study of Further Mathematics is now a requirement at most top universities for courses in these areas.

**For further information please contact Mrs Hope – Mathematics CTL**

# MATHS GCSE (RESIT)



## Examination Board – Pearson Edexcel

### Assessment

- 100% external exam

### Why take Mathematics resit?

All students who do not achieve a Grade 4 in GCSE Mathematics in Year 11 must continue to study towards an appropriate qualification. We offer GCSE Mathematics in November and June, and Level 1/2 Number and Measure in January for some selected students.

### What is the course content?

At the start of the course your teacher will provide you with a breakdown and analysis of your GCSE Maths papers from the examination board. From this your teacher will be able to help you focus on your own particular needs.

### What kind of students succeed in this course?

You have to attend all lessons, work independently and attend extra sessions just before exams. You will be given a list of tasks to complete, most of which involve the tuition and practice materials on the Mathswatch. It will be your responsibility to complete these tasks weekly, making use of the timetabled tutorial sessions with your teacher to seek help when necessary, and hand in completed work. With commitment and determination, you can succeed.

### What careers or further studies could Mathematics lead to?

GCSE Mathematics Grade 4 or above is a requirement for many post-18 courses and careers. It tells employers and admissions tutors that you have a good grasp of numbers and can problem solve.

### For further information please contact Mrs Hope – Mathematics CTL.

# PHYSICS A LEVEL



## Exam Board – OCR

### Assessment

- 100% External Examination – 3 papers
- Practical Endorsement (non-examined assessment)

### Why take Physics?

We are born with a curiosity to understand the world around us. To ask questions such as “How did the universe begin?” “How does the sun keep shining?” and “How do mobile phones work?” If you find that the more answers you discover, the more questions that you want to ask, then you are on your way to being a physicist. As well as being concerned with deep fundamental questions, Physics forms the basis for much of present and future technology. For example, when optical disk drives were developed, it was crucial that the physics of lasers and the interaction of light with matter were well understood. This in turn depended on an understanding of atomic and quantum physics. If this sounds fascinating, then Physics is the subject for you.

### What is the course content?

Course content is split into six teaching modules: Module 1 – Development of practical skills in Physics; Module 2 – Foundations of physics; Module 3 – Forces and motion; Module 4 – Electrons, waves and photons; Module 5 – Newtonian world and astrophysics; Module 6 – Particles and medical physics.

### What kind of students succeed on the course?

Students who can research and assimilate information and analyse and evaluate experimental data and procedures will succeed on this course. Analytical skills and problem-solving techniques are integral to the study of Physics, as are communication, use of number and ICT skills. High quality technical, practical and investigative skills are also important. Students who succeed in A Level Physics typically have at least a Grade 7 in GCSE Physics or 77 in Combined Science. A Grade 7 in GCSE Maths is also advisable.

### What careers or further studies could Physics lead to?

A Level Physics forms a good basis for the study of many degrees at university including Meteorology, Mechanical or Electrical Engineering, Medicine, Finance, Marketing, Business and Management, Astronomy, Biomechanics, Radiotherapy and the list goes on. It is also a useful subject to support many Degree Apprenticeship applications.

### For further information, please contact Miss Jones – Science CTL

# POLITICS A LEVEL



**Examination Board – Edexcel**

## **Assessment**

- 100% External Examination – three 2-hour papers

## **Why take Politics?**

Anyone concerned about the stories behind the news will be interested in studying Politics. Law and order, levels of unemployment, immigration, the education system, the use of Britain's armed forces – these topics should pose just a few of the questions that politicians should answer for you. Is our Prime Minister effective? Is crime getting worse? Are there enough jobs for you when you leave school? Is our country fair and equal for all? If you care about these issues, this course is for you.

## **What is the course content?**

- Unit 1 – UK Politics – an introduction to the fundamentals of politics
- Unit 2 – UK Government – looks at how Government operates in practice in the UK
- Unit 3 – UK politics and core political ideas – political participation and democracy; conservatism; liberalism; and socialism
- Unit 4 – UK Government and other political ideas e.g. anarchism
- Unit 5 – Comparative politics – the U.S. political system

## **What kind of students succeed in this course?**

The most successful Politics students are those who can critically consider a range of ideas and not just their own. The best Politics students do not rush to superficial judgement but consider the deeper implications of people's actions and beliefs. Other important skills include the ability to form a reasoned argument and debate; written and verbal communication skills and rational thinking. Strong English skills are crucial as is the commitment to keep on top of political affairs.

## **What careers or further studies could Politics lead to?**

A Level Politics provides a good foundation for either further Politics related studies at college or university or as a qualification to support a career in Political Research, the Civil Service, Public Relations, Journalism and the Media, Law, Finance and Business.

**For further information please contact Mr Edwards or Mr Franklin – Teachers of Politics**

# PRODUCT DESIGN A LEVEL



## Examination Board – AQA

### Assessment

- 50% external exam
- 50% NEA

### Why take Design and Technology: Product Design?

This course will appeal to students who have an enquiring technological mind and an interest in gadgets and product design. You will enjoy designing and making things from wood, metal and plastics at an advanced level, and have creative skills in presenting ideas to a high graphical level. Throughout the course the design aspect is an integrated process that involves the consideration of various human needs, then producing a response in the form of a 3D product.

### What is the course content?

- Paper 1 – Technical Principles (EXAM) 30% of A Level
- Paper 2 – Designing and Making principles (EXAM)
- NEA – Commercial Manufacture: 50 marks

### What kind of students succeed in this course?

You will need to have enthusiasm for undertaking practical work, such as model making or prototyping. Problem-solving skills and the ability to approach challenges creatively and analytically are also crucial to this course. Mistakes can lead to valuable insights, so a mindset of resilience and curiosity is important. You will also need to have a good foundation in the core subjects of English, Maths, and Science. Many projects will likely require teamwork, so being a good collaborator can enhance your learning experience and outcomes. Crucially you will be open to learning new skills and concepts throughout the course. The field can be dynamic and innovative, requiring adaptability and a willingness to keep up with new technologies and methodologies.

If you possess these qualities and meet the prerequisites, you may find this course not only rewarding but also a solid foundation for a career in Design or a related discipline.

### What careers or further studies could Product Design lead to?

Product Design forms the basis for further study and careers in Interior Designer, Product Design, Design Engineering, CAD Engineering, Video Game Design, Electrical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Sound Engineering, Architecture, Steel Fabrication, Electrician, Building trade, UI and UX Design, Managerial roles

**For further information please contact Miss Kenny – Design & Technology CTL**

# PSYCHOLOGY A LEVEL



## Examination Board – AQA

### Assessment

- 100% external exam
- Three 2-hour papers at the end of Year 13

### Why take Psychology?

Why do we remember some things and forget others? What triggers our reactions to stress? What makes some behaviours normal and others abnormal? Are people born criminals? If you are intrigued to know how psychologists might answer any of these questions, then Psychology will appeal to you and help you understand why people think and behave in the way they do.

### What is the course content?

Paper 1 – Social Influence; Memory; Attachment; Psychopathology

Paper 2 – Approaches in Psychology; Biopsychology; Research Methods

Paper 3 – Issues and Debates in Psychology; Gender; Stress; Forensic Psychology

### What kind of students succeed in this course?

If you are analytical and organised; can weigh up the pros and cons of arguments and explanations, and if you like to know why, you will stand a good chance of succeeding in this course. You also need to have a strong background in English, Maths and Science.

### What careers or further studies could Psychology lead to?

A Level Psychology provides a good foundation for further Psychology or Science related courses at university, or as a general qualification to support a course or career in Clinical Psychology, Medicine, Physiotherapy, Sport Psychology, Nursing, Midwifery, Speech Therapy, Social Work, Police Force, Criminology, Human Resources, Business Management, Marketing, Research, Teaching, Counselling, Media and the list goes on...

**For further information, please contact Mr O'Brien – Social Sciences Deputy CTL**

# Public Services NCFE Level 3 Certificate for Entry to the Uniformed Public Services



**Examination Board – NCFE**

## **Assessment**

- Six internal coursework units

## **Why take Public Services?**

Are you interested in finding out more about the huge range of opportunities available in the Public Services, such as Police, Emergency Fire Services, Paramedic Services, Security, Prison Services, or the Armed Services? Do you want to develop a wide range of skills and knowledge that any employer will value? Then studying Public Services is ideal for you.

## **What is the course content?**

There are six internal coursework units including;

- Preparing for a career in a chosen uniformed service
- Developing aspects of physical fitness for entry to the uniformed services
- Develop leadership skills
- Equality, diversity, and inclusion
- Understanding the impact of war and conflict on the uniformed services
- Crime Scene Investigation

## **What kind of students succeed in this course?**

The course allows you to develop your knowledge of the Public Services, including the roles and responsibilities within them and to develop the skills that working in Public Services requires, such as team-working, communication, taking responsibility for your own performance and behaviour. Therefore, having developing skills in these areas would be advantageous.

## **What careers or further studies could Public Services lead to?**

The course provides a good foundation for either further Public Services related studies at college or university or as a qualification to support a career in: The Army; the Navy; the RAF; the Police Force; the Fire Service; the Ambulance Service; the Prison Service; the Civil Service; Social Work; Criminology; Personnel Management; Teaching; and the list goes on.

**For further information, please contact Mr O'Brien – Social Sciences Deputy CTL**

# SOCIOLOGY A LEVEL



## Examination Board – AQA

### Assessment

- 100% external exam
- Three 2-hour papers at the end of Year 13

### Why take Sociology?

Why does the crime rate always seem to be rising? Why do some people fail and others succeed in the education system? Why do so many people live in poverty while others live in the lap of luxury? The subject will help you to understand how society influences the way in which we, as individuals, think, feel and behave, and get you to question commonly held assumptions.

### What is the course content?

Paper 1 – Education with Theory and Methods.

Paper 2 – Topics in Sociology, specifically Culture and Identity and The Media

Paper 3 – Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

### What kind of students succeed in this course?

If you are interested in questioning commonly held assumptions, and want to develop a better understanding of the social world around you and how this affects individual behaviour, you will stand a good chance of succeeding in this course. You also need to have a strong background in English and have strong essay writing, evaluation, analysis and discussion skills.

### What careers or further studies could Sociology lead to?

The course provides a good foundation for either further Sociology related studies at college or university or as a general qualification to support a career in: Social Work; Health and Social Welfare; Speech Therapy; Police Force; Criminology; Journalism and the Media; Tourism and Leisure; Law; Trainee Management; Personnel Management; Marketing; Scientific and Social Research; Teaching; and the list goes on... It will also be useful as a general qualification to support an application to study something completely different

**For further information, please contact Mr O'Brien – Social Sciences Deputy CTL**

# SPORT

## BTEC LEVEL 3 NATIONAL FOUNDATION DIPLOMA



**Examination Board – Pearson**

### **Assessment**

- 2 Exams in Year 12 (which can be assessed more than once)
- 5 coursework units internally assessed

### **Why take BTEC Sport?**

This course helps to provide preparation for employment and/or to provide career development opportunities for those seeking a career in the sporting sector. Students who have a passion for sport will enjoy learning about different aspects within the sporting industry and develop a greater understanding of what is required to be successful.

### **What is the course content?**

- Unit 1 – Anatomy and Physiology
- Unit 2 – Fitness Training and Programming
- Unit 3 – Professional Development in the Sports Industry
- Unit 4 – Sports Leadership
- Unit 5 – Application of Fitness Testing
- Unit 8 – Sports Coaching
- Unit 10 – Sport Events Organisation

### **What kind of students succeed in this course?**

To succeed in this course students must be organised and able to work independently to meet coursework deadlines. Students need to have a strong enthusiasm for sport and an understanding of contemporary issues associated within the sporting industry.

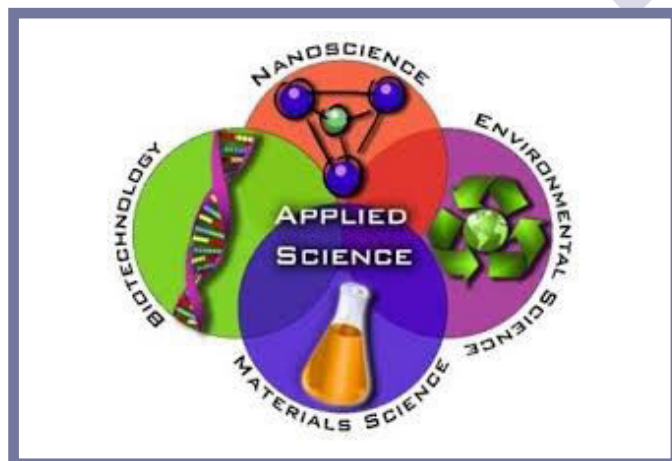
### **What careers or further studies could a BTEC in Sport lead to?**

This course has been developed to meet the employment opportunities within the sport and leisure industry that include Health/Lifestyle Services; Coaching, Teaching, Personal Training; Outdoor Education Instructor; Professional Sport and Performance; Health Promotion; Community Development Officers; Sports Development Officers, Physiotherapy, Sports Psychology

**For further information, please contact Mrs Henderson – PE CTL**

# APPLIED SCIENCE

## ALTERNATIVE ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION CAMBRIDGE ADVANCED NATIONAL (EXTENDED CERTIFICATE)



**Examination Board: OCR**

### Assessment – 60% coursework; 40% Exam

- Two externally assessed units – 40%
- Three NEA (coursework) units – 60%

### Why take Applied Science?

Applied Science is an excellent course for those who are interested in how things work and who want to take science further. The content is up-to-date allowing you to apply your scientific knowledge to the world around you. Since it encompasses all disciplines of science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) there is a huge range of topics to study. If you enjoy a hands-on approach to science, then this is the course for you!

### What is the course content?

- Fundamentals of Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics)
- Science in Society (looks at skills needed in science; and types of scientific data - you will learn how scientists use data to draw conclusions that can contribute to scientific advancement)
- Investigating Science (learning how to conduct your own scientific investigation)
- Two optional units chosen from Analytical Techniques in Chemistry, Environmental Studies, Forensic Biology and Medical Physics

### What kind of students succeed on the course?

Students who take this qualification want a Level 3 qualification that builds applied knowledge and skills in science. Students who engage effectively in independent research and who are interested in how science relates to the real world will succeed in this course. Students should be effective problem solvers, creative thinkers and have good written and numeracy skills. Students who succeed in Applied Science typically have at least Grades 55 in GCSE Combined Science.

### What careers or further studies could Applied Science lead to?

Science is all around us so this course can help support almost any field of work. It can allow access to many university courses as well as skilled work and apprenticeships in many different sectors. These sectors include Engineering, Zoology, Veterinary Nursing, Nursing, Environmental Science, Laboratory Science, Agriculture, Education, Biomedical Science, Forensic Science, Food and Nutrition, Physiology, Sports Studies, Electronics, Aviation, to name just a few.

**For further information, please contact Miss Jones – Science CTL**



## ENRICHMENT OFFER

Our enrichment and personal development programmes offer an expansive choice of experiences and opportunities outside of normal lessons to develop skills and prepare students for life in the wider world.

Extended Project Qualification	Netball
Honours Programme	Volunteering
Personal Finance course	Ambassador Groups e.g.
Drama, Music and Dance Productions	Mental Health and Body Positivity
Student Leadership Team	Equality and Diversity
Sports Leadership	SEND
Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award	Charity
School Newspaper	White Ribbon and Safeguarding
Employability Skills	Science
Work experience	Social Sciences
Debating	Performing Arts
Football	