Poole High Sixth Form

Subject Information Booklet

September 2024

Sixth Form

A-Level Art

A-Level Course Content:

Year 12

The first year of the course is foundational and students learn to explore the formal elements of visual art in greater depth. They will also gain a stronger understanding of the ways in which artists draw upon the history of art and the work of contemporary artists for inspiration. During the first year we encourage our students to question their assumptions about what Art can be and to challenge their current ways of working in order to move beyond their comfort zone and develop new skills and approaches.

Year 13

During the second year of the course, students are asked to choose a subject that will form the basis of their 'Personal Investigation'. This unit challenges students to research, plan and manage their own coursework project and is a stepping stone to the skills required for higher education. The outcomes will include a 1000 to 3000 word written component and original artwork that shows the student's response to their chosen theme. The work in the second year of the A-Level should include the application of the skills, knowledge and understanding that were gained in the first year. The course ends with a 15 hour practical exam (conducted over 3 school days) that the students prepare for over a number of weeks.

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is:
We recommend that students will have a minimum of a Grade 5 in Mathematics and English and be able to comprehend information from unseen extracts and manipulate and interpret data.

Skills required and developed:

Critical thinking, enthusiasm, communication skills, a keen interest in the world around us, numerical skills

Assessment:
Exam Board – Edexcel
Students will take three external exams at the end of Year 13. Paper 1 focuses on Theme 1 and 4, Paper 2 focuses on Theme 2 and 3 and Paper 3 covers all content and is based on a pre-released research task.

Beyond the Classroom:

- Opportunities for trips/visits- Previous trips include; Chessington, Cadburys World, Longleat, Overnight in London
- Further reading- Business review magazine
- Podcasts/lectures: Check out Two Teachers, TED Talks
- Clubs/extra-curricular- Young Enterprise, Student Investor Challenge and ICAEW

Access and opportunities to your future:

- Gateway to University courses – Business Management, International Business, Marketing, HR, Law
- Apprenticeship opportunities- JP Morgan, PWC, Siemens, KPMG
- Careers/employment- Retail, Administration, Marketing, HR, PR, International Relations, Finance, Accounting
- Careers of the future – Digital Marketing is a growth area
- Transferable skills – research and analytical skills, numerical, planning and strategic understanding

Sixth Form

BTEC Applied Science

BTEC Course Content

Topics include:

Unit 1 Principles and Applications of Science – to include Periodicity and properties of elements; structure and function of cells and tissues; and Waves in communication. (Year 12 – externally assessed)

Unit 2 Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques – to include Titration and Colorimetry; Calorimetry and Chromatography. (Year 12 – internally assessed)

Unit 3 Science Investigation Skills – to include Planning a scientific investigation; data collection, processing and analysis/interpretation; drawing conclusions and evaluation; Enzymes in action; diffusion of molecules; plants and their environment; and the energy content of foods. (Year 13 – externally assessed)

Unit 4 Laboratory Techniques and their Application – to include understanding the importance of Health and Safety in Scientific organisations; exploring manufacturing techniques and testing methods for an organic liquid; exploring manufacturing techniques and testing methods for an organic solid; and understanding how Scientific information may be stored and communicated in a workplace laboratory. (Year 13 assessed internally)

Unit 8 - Physiology of Human Body Systems – (Year 12 – internally assessed)

Unit 12 -Infection and Diseases – (Year 13 assessed internally)

Entry Requirements:
The minimum entry requirement is:
GCSE Grade 5 in Biology, Chemistry or Physics or
GCSE Grades 5-5 in Combined Science
GCSE Grade 5 in English and Mathematics

Skills required and developed:

You need an enquiring mind and interest in all 3 Sciences.
You should be well organised and enjoy practical work.
You will develop an excellent set of practical Science skills and the ability to research, analyse and evaluate different Scientific Applications.

Assessment:
Equivalent in size to 1.5 A-Levels.
6 units: 2 externally assessed and 4 internally assessed.
Exam Board: Pearson

Beyond the Classroom:

- Visits to a food manufacturing plant and a water treatment plant.
- Recommended lists of:
- Further reading
- Podcasts/lectures
- VI form support with running Year 7/8 Science Club

Access and opportunities to your future:

Gateway to University courses – previous students have gone on to study Physiotherapy and Paramedic Science
Apprenticeship opportunities – working as a Dental Nurse or in a Research Laboratory
Careers/employment – Chemical Technician, Radiation Therapist, Respiratory Therapist
Transferable skills to that will be useful within a wealth of different jobs as you work in such a practical way

Sixth Form

A-Level Biology

A-Level Course Content:

Biology involves the study of a wide range of topics, ranging from Molecular Biology to the study of ecosystems and microorganisms to mammoths. Many areas of Biology are at the cutting edge of Science with vital innovations occurring every year.

Biology is also a well-recognised and respected course and is identified as a key facilitating subject by the Russell Group Universities. It can lead students on to study many different types of Science courses at University. Students from Poole High School have gone on to study Pure Biology, Biochemistry, Environmental Sciences, Forensics as well as medical related courses such as Physiotherapy, Medicine, Dentistry and Nursing.

Topics include:
1 Biological Molecules
2 Cells
3 Organisms exchange substances with their environment
4 Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms
5 Energy transfers in and between organisms
6 Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
7 Genetics, populations, Evolution and Ecosystems
8 The control of Gene Expression

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is:
Grade 7 7 in GCSE Double Science, Grade 7 in Biology Triple Science, Grade 6 in Mathematics and Grade 6 in English

Skills required and developed:

The minimum entry requirement is:
Safe and methodical practical skills
Scientific thinking
Organisation
Independence

Assessment:

Paper 1: 2 hours, topics 1-4
Paper 2: 2 hours, topics 5-8
Paper 3: 2 hours, topics 1-8, practical and data analysis.

Beyond the Classroom:

- Field trip to carry out sampling practical and visit to a farm
- https://www.nature.com/nature/articles?type=nature-podcast

Access and opportunities to your future:

- Gateway to University courses –Biology, Biochemistry, Environmental Sciences, Forensics as well as medical related courses such as Physiotherapy, Medicine, Dentistry and Nursing.
- Apprenticeship opportunities – Technician Scientist, Dental Technician, Food Technologist
- Careers/employment – Biologist, Pharmacologist, Environmental Scientist, Forensic Scientist
- Transferable skills – practical work, problem solving, research, Mathematical skills

Sixth Form

A-Level Business

A-Level Course Content:

Joining our A-Level Business course will ensure students study a variety of businesses in a variety of contexts through a clear and coherent structure of four engaging and up-to-date themes. Students are introduced to Core Business concepts and develop a broad understanding of how businesses work before they consider the decision-making tools that help businesses move towards a more Scientific approach to management. Some of the key issues students will understand are:

- Helping to develop a holistic understanding of Business
- Providing a real Business focus
- Reflecting on today's global world
- Developing transferable skills for progression to higher education
- Supporting progression from KS4 study

A-Level Business compliments most other A-Levels. Topics include:

- Marketing and People
- Managing Business Activities
- Business Decision and Strategy
- Global Business

Which students do well at A-Level Business Studies?

- Who have an interest in Business and how it affects the world around us.
- Who enjoy debating and analysing contemporary Business issues.
- Who are at ease with constructing, interpreting and analysing data and thinking critically about issues. All skills that are needed for further study and employment.
- Who want to study topics relevant to today's society such as Digital Technology, Business Ethics and Globalization

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is:
We recommend that students will have a minimum of a GCSE Grade 5 in Mathematics and English and be able to comprehend information from unseen extracts and manipulate and interpret data.

Skills required and developed:

Critical thinking, enthusiasm, communication skills, a keen interest in the world around us, numerical skills

Assessment:
Exam Board: Edexcel
Students will take three external exams at the end of Year 13. Paper 1 focuses on Theme 1 & 4, Paper 2 focuses on Theme 2 & 3 and Paper 3 covers all content and is based on a pre-released research task.

Beyond the Classroom:

- Opportunities for trips/visits- Previous trips include; Chessington, Cadburys World, Longleat, Overnight in London
- Further reading- Business review magazine
- Podcasts/lectures: Check out Two Teachers, TED Talks
- Clubs/extra-curricular- Young Enterprise, Student Investor Challenge and ICAEW

Access and opportunities to your future:

- Gateway to University courses – Business Management, International Business, Marketing, HR, Law
- Apprenticeship opportunities- JP Morgan, PWC, Siemens, KPMG
- Careers/employment- Retail, Administration, Marketing, HR, PR, International Relations, Finance, Accounting
- Careers of the future – Digital Marketing is a growth area
- Transferable skills – research and analytical skills, numerical, planning and strategic understanding

Sixth Form

BTEC Business

BTEC Course Content:

Studying our BTEC Business course offers a practical introduction to Business, and supports progression to further study or employment. Some of the key issues students will understand are:

- Helping to develop a holistic understanding of Business
- Providing a real Business focus on particular units of study such as Finance, Marketing and the building of teams
- Reflecting on how Businesses react to the changing global environment

BTEC Level 3 Business- Foundation Diploma

Units for this qualification are:

- Exploring Business (Coursework)
- Developing a Marketing Campaign (External)
- Personal and Business Finance (External)
- Visual Merchandising (Coursework)
- Managing an Event (Coursework)
- Recruitment and Selection Process (Coursework)

Students will sit an external exam in the May of year 12 and the January of year 13.

In year 13 students will also have the opportunity to set up and run a year 7 disco as part of their event unit

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is:
We recommend that students will have a minimum of a GCSE Grade 4 in Mathematics and English in order to cope with the rigours of the course requirements.

Skills required and developed:

Critical thinking, enthusiasm, communication skills, a keen interest in the world around us and numerical skills

Assessment:

Exam Board: Edexcel BTEC

Foundation Diploma this is the equivalent of 1.5 A-Levels (67% coursework and 33% external assessment).

Beyond the Classroom:

- Opportunities for trips/visits- Previous trips include; Chessington, Cadburys World, Longleat, Overnight in London
- Further reading- Business review magazine
- Podcasts/lectures: Check out Two Teachers, TED talks
- Clubs/extra-curricular- Student Investor Challenge and ICAEW

Access and opportunities to your future:

- Gateway to University courses – Business Management, International Business, Finance, Banking
- Apprenticeship opportunities- JP Morgan, PWC, Siemens, KPMG
- Careers/employment-Compliance and risk officer, Financial Services Administrator, Insurance Practitioner, Investment Operations Technician
- Transferable skills – research and analytical skills, numerical, planning and strategic understanding

Sixth Form

A-Level Chemistry

A-Level Course Content:

Physical Chemistry
Atomic structure, amount of substance, bonding.
Energetics
Kinetics
Chemical equilibria, Le Chatelier's principle and K_c
Oxidation, reduction and redox equations
Thermodynamics
Rate equations
Equilibrium constant K_p for homogeneous systems
Electrode potentials and electrochemical cells
Acids and bases
Inorganic Chemistry
Periodicity
Group 2, the alkaline earth metals
Group 7(17), the halogens
Properties of Period 3 elements and their oxides
Transition metals
Reactions of ions in aqueous solution
Organic Chemistry
Introduction to organic chemistry
Alkanes, Halogenoalkanes, Alkenes, Alcohols,
Organic analysis
Optical isomerism
Aldehydes and ketones
Carboxylic acids and derivatives
Aromatic chemistry
Amines
Polymers
Amino acids, proteins and DNA
Organic synthesis
Nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy
Chromatography

Students will be required to complete 12 practicals. Chemistry is one of the most academically challenging courses offered by Poole High School and it is highly regarded by Russell Group universities.

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is
GCSE Grade 7 in Chemistry or 7 7 in Combined Science.
GCSE Grade 7 in Mathematics
GCSE Grade 6 in English language.

Skills required and developed:

Independent logical thinking, application of Scientific knowledge. Use and application of Scientific methods and practices. Numeracy and the application of Mathematical concepts in a practical context. Risk assessment. Use of a wide range of apparatus and techniques. Hard work and self-motivation.

Assessment:

Three 2 hour external exams
Paper 1 35% (105 marks; short & long answer)
Physical, Inorganic Chemistry & practical skills
Paper 2 35% (105 marks; short & long answer)
Physical, Organic Chemistry & practical skills
Paper 3 30% (90 marks; includes 30 multiple choice) all content and practical skills.

Beyond the Classroom:

- Links with Southampton University and The Royal Society of Chemistry.
- www.chemguide.co.uk
- Support is offered during after school sessions
- To be successful you must be hardworking, determined, good at Mathematics, able to think logically and pay attention to detail.

Access and opportunities to your future:

Gateway to university courses –Chemical Engineering, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Chemistry, Biochemistry, Environmental Science, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Midwifery, Agronomy, Food Science and Nutrition, Teaching, Technician, Forensic Scientist, Toxicologist, Accountant, Fuel Engineer.
Transferable skills : ability to solve problems, think logically, communicate well, work as part of a team, analyse data, evaluate, risk assess, use scientific apparatus and techniques effectively and safely. Research, reference and write reports. Follow written instructions. Apply investigative approaches and methods. Make and record observations.

Sixth Form

A-Level Computer Science

A-Level Course Content:

The A-Level builds upon the knowledge gained at GCSE, and includes familiar topics as well as extending your learning to include new concepts and ideas.

Paper 1 content (On-screen exam – 40% of A-Level)
Fundamentals of Programming
Fundamentals of Data Structures
Fundamentals of Algorithms
Theory of Computation

Paper 2 content (Paper exam – 40% of A-Level)
Fundamentals of Data Representation
Fundamentals of Computer Systems
Fundamentals of Computer Organisation and Architecture
Consequences of the uses of Computing
Fundamentals of Communication and Networking
Fundamentals of Databases
Big Data
Fundamentals of Functional Programming

Non Exam Assessment (Programming project – 20% of A- Level)
Solve or investigate a practical problem. Use a systematic approach to problem-solving to create a program that solves a real-world problem.

All of the topics include additional information that will be extending your knowledge from GCSE. For example, in Data Representation we look at Binary Fractions and Negative Binary Values.

The NEA is a chance to show off your programming skills by coming up with a unique project – your program can relate to any real world problem!

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is:
GCSE Grade 6 in Computer Science
GCSE Grade 6 in Mathematics.

Skills required and developed:

Programming (Object-oriented programming and Functional Programming using C# and Haskell)
Coursework – time management and project planning skills are developed over this course

Assessment:

Assessment takes place at the end of Year 13 and consists of two exams – a practical Programming exam and a theory paper, alongside a Programming project which consists of 20% of the final grade. The exam board is AQA.

Beyond the Classroom:

- We often run the National Cipher Challenge and A-Level students help run the Robotics Club for younger year groups. Programming Club is also open to all year groups throughout the year.
- Wider reading and an interest in Programming outside of lessons is extremely helpful in achieving top grades at A- Level.

Access and opportunities to your future:

Gateway to University courses – Computer Science, Information Systems, Software Engineering, artificial Intelligence, Health Informatics

Apprenticeship opportunities - Cyber Security (integrated degree), Data Scientist (integrated degree), Digital and Technology Solutions (integrated degree), Project Manager (degree)

Careers/employment - Application Analyst, Applications Developer, Cyber Security Analyst, Data Analyst, Database Administrator, Forensic Computer Analyst, Game Designer and Developer, IT Consultant, Software Engineer, Systems Analyst, Web Designer, Web Developer

Sixth Form

WJEC Applied Diploma Criminology

Diploma Course Content:

First introduced in 2015, the WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology is proving an attractive and rapidly growing choice for post-16 students and their teachers.

The Diploma includes elements of Psychology, Law and Sociology, and it fits well with other humanities and social sciences subjects. Most students take the Diploma alongside A levels or vocational qualifications, for example in law, public services, or health and social care. It has the same UCAS points as an A-Level subject.

Students study four units:

1. Changing Awareness of Crime

The purpose of this unit is for learners to plan campaigns for change relating to crime.

2. Criminological Theories

The purpose of this unit is for learners to apply their understanding of the public perceptions of crime and campaigns for change studied in Unit 1 with criminological theories to examine how both are used to set policy.

3. Crime Scene to Courtroom

Through this unit, learners will develop the understanding and skills needed to examine information in order to review the justice of verdicts in criminal cases.

4. Crime and Punishment

The purpose of this unit is for learners to develop skills in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the process of social control in delivering policy in practice.

The focus of the course is on students developing their skills and applying their learning in vocational contexts.

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is

Grade 4 in 4+ GCSEs

Skills required and developed:

- Independent learning and development
- The ability to solve problems
- The skills of project based research, development and presentation
- The ability to apply learning in vocational contexts

Assessment:

Two of the four units (Units 1 and 3) being internally assessed via controlled assessments. Units 2 and 4 are assessed by external exam.

Students are typically assessed on Units 1 and 2 in the first year, and Units 3 and 4 in the second year

Beyond the Classroom:

- Opportunities for trips/visits
- Further reading
- Podcasts/lectures
- Clubs/extra-curricular
- What they can do to be successful?

Access and opportunities to your future:

This course is the equivalent to an A-Level and is worth the same amount of UCAS points.

Further study:

- BSc Criminology
- LLB (Hons) Law
- Apprenticeships

Career Pathways: Youth and Social Work, The Prison Service, Law Enforcement, Legal Profession, Charities, Forensics

Sixth Form

A-Level English Language

A-Level Course Content:

Paper 1: Language Variations

Textual variations and representations – Taking a look at texts about various subjects, from different writers and speakers, aimed at numerous audiences for various purposes, in diverse genres, modes, times and places. This helps you to explore how language is shaped by these differences and contexts. How it is used to construct meaning and representations and the way it can enact relationships between the writers, speakers and audience; to generate their identity- both personal and social.

Language diversity and change – Evaluating examples of language in use such as those using different sociolects and dialects, those using language to represent different groups and those from different periods. Allowing you to see how and why language varies due to personal, social, geographical and temporal contexts, developing your critical knowledge and understanding of different views and explanations.

Paper 2: Child Language

Learning how children develop their spoken and written skills through the assessment of various elements. You will look at how Children seem to acquire language by passing through a similar set of stages; although the time it takes to move from one stage to the next can differ from child to child.

Paper 3: Language Investigation

An option for you to investigate an area of interest to you such as the language of new communication technologies, the language of the media, language and power or language and gender.

NEA

The chance to produce a piece of original writing based on The Power of Persuasion, The Power of Storytelling or The Power of Information, along with an accompanying commentary.

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is:
GCSE Grade 6 in English Language

Skills required and developed:

- How to communicate effectively
- Critically assess information and ideas presented
- Challenge assumptions and debates societal ideologies
- Wider understanding of language in action

Assessment:

Paper 1- Examination 2 hours and 15 minutes
Paper 2- Examination 1 Hour 15 minutes
Paper 3- Examination 1 hour 45 minutes
NEA: Crafting texts and using language for purpose

Beyond the Classroom:

- Opportunities for trips/visits to develop the understanding of language in use
- Further reading and research around how we use the English language across the world
- Podcasts/lectures
- Journalism club
- Workshops to support students in lower school

Access and opportunities to your future:

English Language can lead on to University courses such as: Law, Politics, Education, Marketing, Media, Social Media Management, Consultancy, Psychology, Administration Management, Publishing, Writing, Web-Content Design or Management, Business and Economics, Linguistics, Journalism, Sports Science, Anthropology and Philosophy.

It can also lead to Apprenticeships in: Public Services, Teaching Assistant and Dental Nursing.

Sixth Form

A-Level English Literature

A-Level Course Content:

Our A-Level English Literature specification engages learners in an extensive range of literature spanning from the established literary canon to esteemed contemporary writings of the 21st century. Components include: Drama, Prose and Poetry with the aim of encouraging students to explore a varied range of both set and self-selected texts.

Drama:
Students study the form of Drama and how literary and dramatic devices are used to shape meaning.
'Othello' by William Shakespeare
'A Streetcar Named Desire' by Tennessee Williams

Prose:
Students will study two prose texts from the chosen theme of the supernatural. Study will incorporate the links and connections between them and the context within which they were written.
'The Picture of Dorian Gray' by Oscar Wilde
'Beloved' by Toni Morrison

Poetry:
A study of a selection of poems considering the concerns and choices of modern-day poets and a specified collection of pre-1900 poetry developing knowledge of poetic form, content and meaning.
Romantic Poetry
'Poems of the Decade: post-2000 collection

Non-Examined Assessment
Students will be assessed via two independently chosen texts. Texts may be drawn from poetry, drama, prose or literary non-fiction, linked by theme, movement, author or period. Study includes the links and connections between texts, different interpretation and context.

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is:
GCSE Grade 6 in English Language and English Literature.

Skills required and developed:

Critical thinking
Critical writer
Discussion
Analytical skills
Creative expertise

Assessment: (Edexcel 9ET0)

There are three, 2 hour external written exams at the end of Year 13 – all open book
One non-exam assessment (coursework): where you have the freedom to study 2 texts of your own choice.

Beyond the Classroom:

- Opportunities for trips/visits
- Further reading
- Podcasts/lectures
- Clubs/extra-curricular
- To be successful on this course you should read widely and enjoy challenge.

Access and opportunities to your future:

English Literature can lead on to University courses such as: Law, Politics, Education, Journalism, History, Philosophy, Archaeology and Anthropology.

It can also lead to Apprenticeships in: Public Services, Teaching Assistant, Banking and Human Resource Management.

Sixth Form

WJEC Food Science and Nutrition

Course Content:

Year 1

Students will study Unit 1 which is Meeting Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups, which includes basic nutrition as well as more in depth studies into the chemical structure, function, sources and deficiencies. This unit of Nutrition will also look at the nutritional needs of different age groups and people who suffer from dietary related illnesses. Students will then apply this nutritional knowledge to inform their controlled assessment which requires students to make a three course meal in a three hour time limit based on a brief issued by the exam board. Food Science and Nutrition supports subjects such as PE, Biology and Health and Social Care.

Year 2
Students will study two units which are ensuring Food is Safe to Eat and Experimenting to Solve Food Production Issues. Ensuring food is safe to eat unit will cover topics such as microorganisms, systems in place in different work areas in order produce safe food. Experimenting to solve food production issues unit will give students the opportunity to experiment with different ingredients in recipes to understand the function and purpose in different food products.

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is Grade 5 in GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition or a Food based subject. Alternatively, a Grade 5 in Science is accepted if you have no Food background.

Skills required and developed:

Good practical skills, a desire to learn new practical skills, an interest in all aspects of food including nutrition, product development and microbiology.

Assessment:

Unit 1 is compulsory and worth 50% of the qualification. There is an exam, which is 90 minutes long and marked externally. There is a mixture of short and long response questions.

There is also a timed assessment (9.5 hours), which includes a practical exam based on a scenario given by the exam board. 3 course meal.

Beyond the Classroom:

- Opportunities for trips to Bath Spa University, Purbeck Ice Cream.
- Visits from environmental health officers, Head chef from the Chewton Glen, butchers and fishmongers.
- Further reading - Bender, D. (2002). An Introduction to Nutrition and Metabolism (3rd Ed). Oxford, UK: Taylor and Francis Ltd
- Brown, A.C. (2010). Understanding Food: Principles and Preparation (4th Ed). USA: Wadsworth Publishing

Access and opportunities to your future:

The Food industry is constantly expanding providing a wide range of opportunities. A qualification in Food Science and Nutrition could lead to being a Food Scientist, Nutritionist, Dietician, Product Developer, Sports Nutritionist, or an Environmental Health Officer. Students have gone on to study Nutrition and Dietetics at University level such as Bath Spa University and University of Reading as well as gain apprenticeships at leading confectionary brands such as Nestle and into different jobs within the Food industry.

Sixth Form

A-Level French

A-Level Course Content:

In Year 12, French Learners will study:

- The changing nature of the family
- The use of new technologies
- The place of voluntary work
- Aspects of French heritage
- Aspects of contemporary music
- Aspects of French cinema
- The film La Haine by Mattieu Kassovitiz

In Year 13, French Learners will study:

- The positive features of a diverse society
- Aspects of life for the marginalised
- How criminals are treated
- The political engagement of teenagers
- The power of governments, unions and the people
- Politics and immigration
- The book Kiffe Kiffe Demain by Faïza Guène

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is Grade 7 French

Skills required and developed:

- The ability to write and speak using complex language
- The ability to manipulate grammatical structures
- The ability to express opinions on a wide range of topics
- The ability to analyse a text and film
- The ability to write an analytical essay on a text and film
- The ability to conduct independent research

Assessment:

- AQA French
- 3 examination papers at the end of year 13
- Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing
- Paper 2: Writing (essay writing)
- Paper 3: Speaking (includes a conversation on a sub-theme studied in Year 12 or 13, plus an independent research project.

Beyond the Classroom:

- A trip to a French restaurant
- An optional day trip to Cherbourg
- A trip to a site of French heritage status

Access and opportunities to your future:

University of Oxford: BA (Hons) French

- According to the University of Oxford, the skills gained and fostered by studying languages at degree level are much-prized by employers. Their knowledge and transferable skills ensure that modern linguists are amongst the most sought-after graduates in Britain. Employers value Modern Languages graduates because they are competent in one or two languages, have acquired a range of transferable skills and have first-hand experience of other cultures. Amongst the careers successfully followed by modern linguists are: Journalism, the Civil and Diplomatic Services, education, environmental and development work and the law. 90% of Language graduates go on to further study or work within 15 months of graduating.

Sixth Form

A-Level Geography

A Level Course Content:

Paper 1: Physical Geography
Coastal Geography
Hazards
Water and Carbon Cycles

Paper 2:
Changing Places
Population and the Environment
Global Systems and Governance

Unit 3:
Non-Examined Assessment (NEA). Coursework written, designed and tested by you on a topic of your choice. Data is collected by you on fieldtrip, then analysed and assessed.

20% of final grade

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is **Grade 6** in GCSE Geography

Skills required and developed:

You must be able to complete maths functions to a Grade 5.
Reading skills are of utmost importance.

Assessment:

AQA exam board
Coursework (NEA) is worth 20% of the final grade and 2 external papers:
Paper 1 (Physical) is 40%
Paper 2 (Human) is 40%

Beyond the Classroom:

- Fieldtrips include visiting Poole Museum, Swanage, Chesil Beach, the Isle of Portland and Weymouth. We also offer external trips to locations like Naples, Italy and Iceland (2023).
- There is a reading list that we recommend all A Level students read as reading skills are of utmost importance.
- Being a member of the Royal Geographical Society will help with further advancement of skills and knowledge

Access and opportunities to your future:

- A-Level staff attended: Durham University, University of Cardiff, Queen Mary's, London, University of Exeter
- "Facilitating" subject- crosses the bridge between Human and Physical (Social Sciences and Sciences)
- Careers - Environmental Consultant, Cartographer, Town Planner, Geographical Information Systems Officer, Conservation Officer, Landscape Architect
- "Geographers are the most employable graduates" (The Guardian, 2015)
- "Geography students hold the key to the world's problems" (Michael Palin, 2011)
- Geography graduates command salaries of up to £180,000 (BBC 2023)

Sixth Form

BTEC National Diploma in Health and Social Care

BTEC Course Content:

Unit 1: Human Lifespan Development

Unit 2: Working in Health and Social Care

Unit 4: Enquiries into Current Research in Health and Social Care

Unit 5: Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs

Unit 7: Principles of Safe Practice in Health and Social Care

Unit 8: Promoting Public Health

Unit 14: Physiological Disorders and their Care

Unit 19: Nutritional Health

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is English Grade 5

Skills required and developed:

Cognitive and problem-solving skills: use critical thinking, approach non-routine problems applying expert and creative solutions, use systems and technology
I**ntrapersonal skills:** communicating, working collaboratively, negotiating and influencing, self-presentation
Interpersonal skills: self-management, adaptability and resilience, self-monitoring and development.

Assessment:

Units 1, 2 and 4 are externally assessed exams.
All other units are coursework based and assessed internally.

Beyond the Classroom:

We courage our students to participate in work experience throughout their course to enable them to have real life experience in the subject they are interested in pursuing.

We also plan to have outside organisations come in and work with our students to give them deeper understanding of Health and Social Care.

Access and opportunities to your future:

- Gateway to university courses – BSc (Hons) in Nursing, BA (Hons) in Social Work, BSc (Hons) in Physiotherapy, BSc (Hons) in Occupational Therapy, BSc (Hons) in Speech Therapy, BA (Hons) in Health and Social Care
- Degree programmes in Midwifery and Nursing, Paramedic Science, Podiatry, Healthcare Science and NHS Practitioner Training Programme
- Careers/employment in the future in Health and Social Care settings, Nursing, Midwifery, occupational therapist, physiotherapist, care manager, support worker and a support worker
- Transferable skills: the ability to learn independently, the ability to research actively and methodically and being able to give presentations and being active group members.
- Exam board Pearson

Sixth Form

A-Level History

A-Level Course Content:

1C The Tudors in England 1485-1603
Part one: consolidation of the Tudor Dynasty: England, 1485–1547
Henry VII, 1485–1509
Henry VIII, 1509–1547

Part Two: England: turmoil and triumph, 1547–1603
Instability and consolidation: 'the Mid-Tudor Crisis' 1547–1563 and The triumph of Elizabeth, 1563–1603

2H France in Revolution 1774-1815
Part One: the end of Absolutism and the French Revolution, 1774–1795
The origins of the French Revolution, 1774–1789
The experiment in constitutional monarchy, 1789–1792
The emergence and spread of the Terror, September 1792–1795

Part Two: the rise of Napoleon and his impact on France and Europe, 1795–1815
The Directory and Napoleon's rise to power, 1795–1799
The impact of Napoleon's rule on France,1799–1815
The impact of Napoleon's rule on Europe, 1799–1815.

Historical Investigation (NEA)
A personal study based on a question of the student's choice based on a study of Russia from 1855-1955. This should take the form of a question in the context of approximately 100 years and completed within the word limit of 4500 words.

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is a Grade 6 in GCSE History.

Skills required and developed:

An understanding of the significance of historical events, the role of individuals in history and the nature of change over time.
Students will develop a deeper understanding of the past through political, social, economic and cultural perspectives.

Assessment :
AQA
Two external written exams (one for 1C and one for 2H):
- each – 2h 30 min
- 3 questions (one compulsory)
- Each worth 40% of final grade

NEA: personal study of 4500 words, 20% of final grade.

Beyond the Classroom:

- Further reading - I Dawson, The Tudor Century, Nelson Thornes, 1993; D Martin, The French Revolution, Hodder, 2013.
- Access to the Historical Association and its Podcasts, lectures and resources

Access and opportunities to your future:

History is a highly respected A-Level and very popular at degree level. The analytical skills required for History A-Level also make it a natural foundation for anyone wishing to study Law. The following is just a small sample of jobs and careers that people with History degrees go on to:
Academic Researcher, Archivist, Heritage Manager, Historic Buildings Inspector/Conservation Officer, Museum/Gallery Curator, Archaeologist, Teacher, Broadcast Journalist, Civil Service administration, Solicitor, Auditor

Sixth Form

Cambridge Technical IT

BTEC Course Content:

The Level 3 Cambridge Technical in IT consists of five distinct units:

Fundamentals of IT (Paper exam)
This unit will provide a solid foundation in the fundamentals of hardware, networks, software, the ethical use of computers and how business uses IT.

Global Information (Paper exam)
This unit will demonstrate the uses of information in the public domain, globally and across the internet, by individuals and organisations.

Cyber Security (Paper exam)
This unit will enable you to gain knowledge and understanding of the range of threats, vulnerabilities and risks that impact both individuals and organisations. You will learn about the solutions that can be used to prevent or deal with Cyber Security Incidents.

Project Management (Coursework project)
Regardless of your job role, you will often be called upon to participate in projects for a variety of reasons; consequently this unit is optional within all four of the specialist pathways. This unit will assist you in developing your skills, knowledge and understanding of different project methodologies and the key factors that can influence the success or failure of a project.

Product Development (Coursework project)
You will learn about different Product Design methodologies and the role of the Product Development life cycle. In addition, you will discover the factors that influence Product Developments.

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is:
GCSE Grade 4 in both English and Mathematics

Skills required and developed:

Digital knowledge and skills for the workplace and for everyday life including:
communication, critical thinking, problem solving, decision making, time management, organisation, teamwork and resilience.

Assessment:

Two units of the course are assessed with coursework and the remaining three units are assessed through exams. The exam board is OCR.

Beyond the Classroom:

- Meet local employers
- Set up a network via LinkedIn
- Visit a University
- Investigate industry certificates (e.g. CompTia ®, Cisco ®) and professional bodies (e.g. BCS)

Access and opportunities to your future:

- Gateway to University courses – Computer Games Programming, Computer Networking, IT Management for Business, Computer Science, Computer Systems Engineering
- Apprenticeship opportunities – Many various IT Apprenticeships in Tech companies, as well as in Engineering, Finance, Healthcare, Media and Retail sectors
- Careers/employment - IT Infrastructure Technician, Application Developer, Data Analyst, Data Management, Project Management, Game Design, Web and Animation Development, Network Security, Digital Forensics, Mobile App Development

Sixth Form

A-Level Mathematics

A-Level Course Content:

The A-Level course covers a broad and interesting collection of topics. We start off with Algebra that is very familiar from GCSE before turning these sharpened skills towards the study of Calculus. Differentiation and Integration are fundamental parts of advanced Mathematics that will be utilised and developed throughout the A-Level .

We take in some Co-ordinate Geometry, again using Algebra to generalise our rules and understanding of the subject. We expand upon the Trigonometry taught at GCSE to start looking at further functions such as Sec, Cosec, and Cot – as well as taking a closer look at the inverse Trigonometric functions.

In the second year, we properly explore Functions – a fundamental aspect of Mathematics. We learn about Parameters and Parametric Equations as well as delving deeper into Calculus techniques.

In both Years 1 and 2 we look at Mathematical modelling. Can we make equations that will predict outcomes in the real world? Can we make these equations simple enough to solve (the world is most complex after all!) but complicated enough to give us useful and realistic answers? There is a balance to strike!

In Statistics, we use models to investigate outcomes in the real world. Are certain outcomes expected, or perhaps are some results so unlikely that they raise suspicion?
We model the path of projectiles in Mechanics, and study bodies that have a variable acceleration. We look at modelling forces and how they affect objects.

Entry Requirements:

We expect A-Level Mathematicians to be able to achieve a Grade 8 at GCSE, however, we do consider high Grade 7s on a case by case basis – in consultation with GCSE teachers.

Skills required and developed:

Strong Algebraic skills are required from the off at A-Level . We develop deeper Algebraic understanding and fluency, as well as Calculus and Trigonometry.

Assessment:

We use the Edexcel exam board for A-Level Maths. There are 3 papers sat at the end of Year 13. Two 'Pure' papers, and one 'Applied' paper that has questions on both Mechanics and Statistics.

Beyond the Classroom:

- Problem solving trip with the AMSP
- Checkout 'Stand-up Maths' or 'Numberphile' on YouTube!
- We enter a team into the Senior Team Maths Challenge and we also enter the individual competition too!

Access and opportunities to your future:

- A key subject for Mathematics, Physics, Engineering, Computer Science, Chemistry, and so many other courses
- The problem solving skills developed in this A-Level can open doors to many other types of qualifications and apprenticeships
- Mathematical modelling and statistical analysis are two vital skills in today's modern world. Through both the mechanics and statistics sections of the course we will hone these skills
- Who knows what the future holds? Mathematics equips you with the skills to solve problems, not simply follow rules!

Sixth Form

A-Level Further Mathematics

A-Level Course Content:

A-Level Further Mathematics is for students who LOVE Mathematics, not simply those who are good at it. We are proud to offer 11 hours of contact time per fortnight – the same as for the Mathematics A-Level . You will have 22 hours of Mathematics a fortnight, plus additional hours of homework; Further Mathematics celebrates the beauty of Mathematics and we enjoy exploring the Maths behind interesting patterns.

A-Level Further Mathematics is to be taken alongside A-Level Mathematics. As such, we offer it as a 4th A-Level in Year 12. At the end of Year 12, we enter all students for the AS qualification. We then strongly advise all students to drop to 3 A levels as they continue into Year 13. This may be to drop Further Mathematics, taking with them their AS qualification or, having decided to continue with Further Mathematics – another option is dropped.

Further Mathematics is the countries hardest A-Level course and as such demands a large commitment and focus, but rewards students with some truly beautiful Mathematics.

In the course we will explore new types of numbers (Complex Numbers), new Algebras (Matrices), and even New Coordinate systems (Polar Coordinates).
The 'new' A-Level specification has a heavy emphasis on proof. In Further Mathematics we get to study one of the most elegant and powerful forms of proof – induction! We also get to meet new sequences and series, some of which are infinite, along with describing the equations of planes.
In our applied modules, we study Mechanics, Statistics, and Algorithms, giving students a broad exposure to new areas of study and setting students up to succeed.

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement for Further Mathematics is a Grade 8 at GCSE

Skills required and developed:

Further Mathematics requires excellent Number and Algebraic manipulation, and a positive attitude when faced with a challenge.
We will build upon curiosity and hopefully develop a sense of wonder amongst some very advanced topics

Assessment:
We use the OCR(MEI) exam board for Further Maths.
3 papers are sat for the AS at the end of Year 12: Pure, Mechanics, and Modelling with Algorithms
4 papers are sat for the full A 'Level at the end of Year 13: Pure, Mechanics, Statistics, and Modelling with Algorithms.

Beyond the Classroom:

- AMSP problem solving trip
- Maths challenges both team and individual
- Ritangle competition
- Access to integral Maths
- Lots of Maths every day!

Access and opportunities to your future:

- Very strong links with Mathematics, Physics, Engineering, Chemistry, and Computer Science courses
- Further Mathematics is incredibly highly respected and many courses at the Russell Group universities include this in their entry requirements
- Further Mathematics requires deep problem solving skills – a must for all modern scientific jobs
- The commitment, organisation, and self-management skills (particularly in Year 12) are highly sought after in all professions

Sixth Form

A-Level Media Studies

A-Level Course Content:
Students will study a variety of media texts and artefacts.

Advertising and Marketing:
Students will study three different forms of media: charity adverts; posters and print adverts. We will study how gender, ethnicity and age have been represented and how historical context affects these representations. Texts include: Tide Advert; Kiss of the Vampire poster and Paralympic Games advert.

Newspapers:
A look at the newspaper industry, representation and political bias and how our world is shaped by what we read. Students will study a variety of newspapers of various political persuasions: The Times, The Sun, and The Mirror.

Music Video:
Students will consider marketing and construction of star personas in two videos selected by the exam board: Beyoncé's 'Formation' and 'Rip Tide' by Vance Joy.

Video games:
A look at the history of video games; marketing and the creation of the franchise: Assassin's Creed.

Radio:
A look at Late Night Women's Hour' the industry and podcasts.

Magazines:
Students will study historical print magazines (Woman's Realm) and modern on-line magazines (Huck) and compare how representation and gender roles have changed.

Online Media:
Students will study on-line media and its appeal to the modern audience through Zoe Suggs and Attitude.

T.V. Drama:
A look at both home-grown and Scandinavian drama are produced and constructed.

Non-Examined Assessment:
Students will produce media artefacts in various forms: print and on-line.

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is Grade 6 in English Language.

The study of GCSE Media is preferable but not essential.

Skills required and developed:

Analytical thinking
Analytical writing
Creative skills

Assessment: (Eduqas)

There are two External written exams at the end of Year 13 and one non-exam assessment (coursework).

Beyond the Classroom:

- Opportunities for trips/visits
- Further reading
- Podcasts/lectures
- To be successful on this course you should have an inquisitive mind and enjoy writing analytical essays.

Access and opportunities to your future:

- Gateway to University courses – Creative Media, Media Studies, TV/Film Production, Journalism and links well to Humanities based subjects
- Apprenticeship opportunities – Digital Marketer, Location Manager, Media Researcher
- Careers/employment – Social Media Manager, Web Content Manager, Broadcast Journalist, Film Director, Event Management

Sixth Form

A Level Music

A Level Course Content:

AO2 - Solo performance (35%)
A recital of a minimum of 10 minutes, at least 3 contrasting pieces of music. Externally assessed.

A04 – Composition (25%)

Two pieces with a minimum combined time of 4 minutes. Externally assessed

A05 History of Music (40%) Externally assessed written paper

Area of study 1 – Instrumental Music of Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven
Area of study 2 – Popular song, Blues, Jazz, Swing and Big Band
Area of study 3 – Development of Jazz since 1910
Area of study 4 – Religious mu8sic of the Baroques Period.
Area of study 5 – Programme Music 1820 – 1910
Area of study- Innovations in Music, 1910 to present day

Entry Requirements:

Grade 5 equivalent on an instrument / Voice
BTEC / GCSE Music Level 2 M / Grade 5
Current entry requirements to PHS Sixth Form

Skills required and developed:
To be able to play an instrument / sing to at least Grade 5 Level.
Skills will be developed in rehearsal, performance , ensemble skills , theory , composition and music analysis

Assessment: Exam Board - OCR A Level

Externally assessed units:
AO2 Solo Performance recital (35%)
AO4 Composition (25%)
AO5 History of Music Listening and appraising written paper 2h 30 mins (40%)

Beyond the Classroom:

- BSO , concerts, musicals, gigs
- Clubs/extra-curricular - choir / band / Jazz band /guitar club / composing club / orchestra

Access and opportunities to your future:

What could this qualification lead to? This qualification gives you transferable and higher-order skills that are valued by Higher Education providers and employers, for example performance techniques, communication skills, team working. It also gives you an opportunity to focus on your personal vocal/instrumental technique. The qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by Higher Education providers as contributing to meeting admission requirements for many courses.
Career pathways include: performer, Music education, Arts administration. theatre work, promotion & booking, Artist management, Music producer

Sixth Form

A-Level Photography

A-Level Course Content:

Year 1
In the first year of the course students learn how to use the technical potential of their cameras. They explore different techniques such as composition, lighting and digital editing whilst working in genres including portraiture, still life and landscape. This builds a solid platform upon which to build the second year of the course.

Year 2
Personal Investigation Unit: This is an opportunity for the student to carry out their own research into an area of Photography that is of interest to them, leading to a practical personal response. This unit also involves the production of a written submission of between 1000 and 3000 words that clarifies the theme of the investigation, demonstrating the candidate's critical and contextual understanding of their chosen topic and records the conclusions to their enquiry.

Externally Set Assignment: The students are presented with 8 starting points which are set by the exam board. After 10 weeks of research and idea development, the candidates sit a 15 hour (3 school day) practical exam in which they produce their final response to their theme.

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is 5 GCSE subjects at Grade 4 and GCSE English at Grade 5.

Skills required and developed:

To succeed in A-Level Photography you will need to enjoy using a camera to record your experiences and to express your ideas. You will learn to exploit the features of your camera as well as how to design, develop and compose your work. An ability to generate and develop creative ideas is essential.

Assessment:

The final grade is based on the student's coursework (usually based upon the portfolio produced in Year 2) which is worth 60% and the externally set assignment (15 hour exam) which is worth 40% of the overall grade. (AQA A-Level Photography).

Beyond the Classroom:

- Visits to national and local museums
- Opportunities to take part in AUB courses
- To be successful you will need to be resilient, determined, independent and hard working. You will be able to respond positively to feedback and be able to generate and develop your own ideas.

Access and opportunities to your future:

- Many of our former students have gone on to study Photography at degree level. There are currently 90 universities in the UK which offer Photography degree courses. Top courses include Westminster, De Montford, Lincoln and Coventry Universities.
- Careers within Photography include specialisms such as Documentary Photography, Photojournalism, Fashion Marketing and Advertising as well as being an independent special events Photographer.
- Apart from the technical and digital skills that Photography students learn you will also develop the transferable skills of creativity, collaboration, independent thinking and project management that employers are currently looking for in their employees.

Sixth Form

A-Level Philosophy and Ethics

A-Level Course Content: OCR exam board.

Philosophy of Religion Learners will study:
- ancient philosophical influences
- the nature of the soul, mind and body
- arguments about the existence or non-existence of God
- the nature and impact of religious experience
- the challenge for religious beliefs of the problem of evil
- ideas about the nature of God
- issues in religious language.

Religion and Ethics Learners will study:
- normative ethical theories
- the application of ethical theory to two contemporary issues of importance
- ethical language and thought
- debates surrounding the significant idea of conscience
- sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious beliefs.

Developments in religious thought Learners will study:
- religious beliefs, values and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world
- sources of religious wisdom and authority
- practices which shape and express religious identity, and how these vary within a tradition
- significant social and historical developments in theology and religious thought
- key themes related to the relationship between religion and society.

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is Grade 6 in Religious Studies, and 4 GCSEs 5 and above including English.

Skills required and developed:

An enquiring, critical and reflective approach to the study of religion, reflect on and develop your own values, opinions and attitudes in the light of their study.

Assessment:
We subscribe to the OCR exam board. H573 specification.
3 x 2 hours External Exams at the end of year 13. These are split between Philosophy, Religion and Ethics and Developments in Christian Thought.

Beyond the Classroom:

- Visit Westminster Abbey.
- There are a large range of books that help the course, but our textbooks cover the core workload.
- Online lectures

Access and opportunities to your future:

People who have studied Philosophy and Ethics have critical and analytical skills: a recognition that statements should be tested, that evidence and arguments are subject to assessment. The ability to employ a variety of methods of study in analysing material, to think independently, set tasks and solve problems. These skills are idea of many degrees and central to so many careers such as Journalism, Law, Police, Military, Politics, Media and Management.

Sixth Form

A-Level Physical Education

A-Level Course Content:

Year 1

Anatomy and Physiology
- Cardiovascular system
- Respiratory system
- Musculoskeletal system
- Neuromuscular system
- Energy systems

Skill Acquisition
- Skill
- Guidance and feedback
- Theories of learning and performance
- Memory models
- Information processing

Sport and Society
- Emergence of globalisation of sport in the 21st century
- Sociological theory applied to equal opportunities

Year 2

Exercise Physiology
- Preparation and training methods
- Diet nutrition and their effects on physical activity and performance
- Injury prevention and rehabilitation
- Biomechanical principles

Sports Psychology
- Arousal/ Anxiety
- Attitudes
- Aggression
- Motivation/ Goal setting
- Achievement motivation
- Social facilitation
- Leadership
- Groups

Sport society and role of technology
- Concepts of physical activity and sport
- Development of elite performers in sport
- Ethics in sport
- Sport and the law commercialisation

Entry Requirements:

- Maths and English Grade 4 at GCSE
- Biology Grade 6 at GCSE
- **Must be playing a sport on the specification competitively.**

Skills required and developed

An interest in sport and how to enhance performance both physiologically and psychologically. Students will develop their knowledge and understanding of the role sport plays in society.

Assessment: Exam Board- AQA

2 written exams at the end of Year 13:
Each exam worth 35% of A-level

Paper 1: Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport

Paper 2: Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport

Non Written Assessment 30% of A-Level
Assessment on practical performance or coaching of a sport

Beyond the Classroom:

- Opportunity to play in Sixth Form sports teams
- Opportunity for trips to; Bath University Sports Science department, Canford School real tennis and cryotherapy chambers.

Access and opportunities to your future:

- Gateway to University courses – BA (Hons) in Sports Development and Management, BSc (Hons) in Sports Management, BSc (Hons) Sports Business Management, BSc (Hons) Sport and Leisure Management, BSc (Hons) Sports Science (outdoor activities), BSc (Hons) in Exercise, Health and Fitness and BSc (Hons) in Sport and Exercise Psychology. Apprenticeship opportunities
- Careers/employment in the future within the sectors of fitness, teaching, development, business roles, management roles, leisure, wellbeing, coaching, elite sport and outdoor
- Transferable skills: the ability to learn independently, the ability to research actively and methodically and being able to give presentations and being active group members

Sixth Form

A-Level Physics

A-Level Course Content:

Physics is the study of how the world works, it explains why things happen and why the Universe looks as it does today. The A-Level Physics course involves the study of a wide range of topics, ranging from what goes on inside protons and neutrons to the study of the forces between stars and planets- from nanometres to light years! Many areas of Physics are at the cutting edge of Science and new discoveries are being made every day which lead to applications in the real world that have impacts in Finance, Engineering and even sports!

Physics is a challenging A-Level course offered, and is a well-respected course identified as a key facilitating subject by the Russell Group Universities. It can lead students on to study many different types of Science courses at University. Students from Poole High School have gone on to study Pure Physics, Mathematics, Engineering, Natural Sciences, Computer Science as well as a whole range of more specialised courses.

Topics include:

1 Particle Physics
2 Quantum Mechanics
3 Waves and optics
4 Mechanics
5 Materials
6 Electricity
7 Further Mechanics
8 Thermal Physics
9 Gravitational fields
10 Electric fields
11 Capacitors
12 Magnetic fields
13 Nuclear Physics
14 Turning points in Physics

You will also take complete a number of required practicals during the course, some building on those completed at GCSE and some that are entirely new.

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is:
GCSE Grade 7 Chemistry or 7 7 in Combined Science.
Students should also have achieved Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics and Grade 6 in GCSE English language.

We would expect/ it would be beneficial for students to take either Mathematics or Core Mathematics alongside A-Level Physics

Skills required and developed:

Independent logical thinking, application of Scientific knowledge.
Use and application of Scientific methods and practices.
Numeracy and the application of Mathematical concepts in a practical context.
Risk assessment. Use of a wide range of apparatus and techniques.
Hard work, organisation and self-motivation.

Assessment at the end of Year 13:

Paper 1: 100 marks, 2 hours, topics 1-6 (including approx. 40 marks MCQ)
Paper 2: 100 marks, 2 hours, topics 7-13 (including approx. 40 marks MCQ)
Paper 3: 2 hours, 3A- practical Physics and data analysis, 3B- Topic 14 Turning points in Physics

Beyond the Classroom:

- We recommend becoming an student member of the Institute of Physics (it's free!)
- Support is offered in an after school session each week
- To be successful you must be hardworking, determined, good at maths, able to think logically and pay attention to detail.

Access and opportunities to your future:

- Gateway to University courses – Physics, Mathematics, Engineering, Computer Science, Medicine, Accounting, Statistics, Astrophysics, Environmental Science, Aerospace Engineering, Forensic Science, Renewable Energy Engineering, Medical Physics, Cybersecurity and more!
- Careers and apprenticeship opportunities – Engineer, Accountant, Mechanic, IT, Data Analyst, Cybersecurity and more!
- Transferable skills – practical work, problem solving, research, Mathematical skills

Sixth Form

A-Level Politics

A-Level Course Content:

Year 1:

UK Politics

This topic is the thought behind the UK Political system. It looks at who votes, how we vote and why we vote! Have you ever wondered how much the media influences elections? Or thought about how our system seems to be unfair at times? This topic will help you understand the complexities of our system.

- Democracy and participation
- Political parties
- Electoral systems
- Voting behaviour and the media.

UK Government

This is the nuts and bolts of the systems that govern us in the UK. We look at the constitution - our laws – and how this is created and reforms. We also look at the role of Parliament in the passing of laws and running of the country.

- Constitution
- Parliament
- Prime Minister
- Relations between branches

Ideologies

Why do people think the way the do? Most people in charge have core beliefs. In Politics you will get to learn about some of these:

- Liberalism
- Conservatism
- Socialism
- Feminism

Year 2:

USA Government and Politics – comparative

In Year 13 you look at the US Political system. It covers the same elements of the UK, but we compare the two systems. On paper there is a lot the same between the two democracy, but when you dig deeper, they are rather diverse!

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is a Grade 6 in either History, Geography or English

Skills required and developed:

- Good writing ability
- An interest in debating different ideas
- A curiosity about the world we live in
- Critical Thinking skills

Assessment:

EDEXCEL: 3x 2 hour exams in May/June at the end of Year 13 based on a combination of the topic studied during the 2 year course.

Beyond the Classroom:

- Visit to Parliament and the Supreme Court
- Politics Society – a group formed of Sixth Form students who debate topics
- Politics Book Club – a group that discuss Politics books
- Listen to Podcasts! Times Reb Box/NPR Politics

What jobs can I do with Politics?

- Lawyer
- Member of Parliament or work in another body like the UN or NATO
- Journalist
- Diplomat (a person who works with other countries)
- Careers in Human Rights and charities

What degrees can I do at university with Politics?

- Politics
- Law
- Journalism
- International Relations (Politics with a more international view)
- Geopolitics (A link between Geography and Politics)

Sixth Form

A-Level Product Design

A-Level Course Content

Year 1

Students will study the principles of Design and Technology covering a range of topics including:
1: Materials
2: Performance characteristics of materials
3: Processes and techniques
4: Digital technologies
5: Factors influencing the development of products
6: Effects of technological developments
7: Potential hazards and risk assessment
8: Features of manufacturing industries
9: Designing for maintenance and the cleaner environment
10: Current Legislation
11: Information handling, Modelling and forward planning
12: Further processes and techniques.

Alongside this they will work with a range of materials, to develop their practical skills using a range of tools, processes and equipment.

Year 2

Students will continue to study the principles of Design and Technology which working on their Independent Design and Make Project (Non-Examined Assessment)

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is Grade 5 in GCSE Product Design or another Design & Technology subject.

Skills required and developed:

The minimum entry requirement is good practical and design & communication skills, a desire to learn new techniques and processes of working with materials, and an interest in designing and technology.

Assessment: Edexcel Design & Technology

Component 1: External Written exam
50% of final grade - Principles of Design and Technology

Component 2: Independent Design and Make Project
50% of final grade (NEA)

Beyond the Classroom:

- Visits to local manufacturing businesses including Sunseeker
- Further reading – Design weekly

Access and opportunities to your future:

- Gateway to University courses: Product Design at Nottingham Trent University, University of Edinburgh, Bournemouth University
- Apprenticeship opportunities: Sunseekers, Cobham Engineering
- Careers/employment: Design and Technology is a constantly expanding industry providing a wide range of opportunities such as a Buyer, Merchandiser, Designer or Product Developer. It also opens opportunities within the vast Technology sector as well as Engineering.
- Transferable skills: The knowledge gained and skills learnt, both practical and problem solving will also be transferrable to many other future opportunities.

Sixth Form

A-Level Psychology

A-Level Course Content:

Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology

Social Influence
Memory
Attachment
Psychopathology

Paper 2: Psychology in Context

Bio-Psychology
Approaches to Psychology
Research Methods

Paper 3: Issues and Options in Psychology

Issues and Debates in Psychology

3 optional units from:
Gender Development*
Schizophrenia*
Forensic Psychology*
Aggression
Relationships
*indicates the units currently chosen.

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is: 5 GCSEs at 4+ with a Grade 5 in English Language, Mathematics and 5 in Science.

Skills required and developed:

Students who are well suited to A-Level Psychology are those who have an interest in human behaviour and how the mind works. Students with good literacy and mathematical skills, who are hardworking, motivated, organised and have a resilience to succeed, do very well in Psychology.

Assessment:

3 x 2 hours External assessments as per the course content.
Exam board AQA

Beyond the Classroom:

- Opportunities for trips/visits to develop the understanding of Psychology in society.
- Further reading and research around how Psychology underpins behaviour in society.
- Workshops to support students in lower school

Access and opportunities to your future:

Psychology provides excellent job prospects to a wide range of careers, either by studying Psychology further, or training in fields such as Law, Criminology, Forensics, Education, Business and many areas of the Medical profession.

Sixth Form

A- Level Sociology

A-Level Course Content:

Sociology is the systematic study of society and the groups within it. It is about looking at the world you live in through a different lens to try and understand some of the problems and issues that face society and how society has changed through the generations. It is about looking at the experiences of different social groups and trying to understand their views and the structural causes of their experiences.

Unit 1 – Families and Households

Everyone will have had an experience of family in one shape or another and this unit helps you to understand the different types of family that exist in the world and the UK today. You will understand the social and demographic changes that have occurred and led to these changes and the increase in family diversity and the impact this has had on wider society.

Unit 2 – Education

This unit helps you to understand the processes within the education system that may have influenced your decisions and the path that you have taken. It will also help you to understand the processes within schools and the impact that can have on educational achievement.

Unit 3 – Theory and methods

This unit will take you through the main sociological perspectives and how they view the social world as well as the different ways that sociologists conduct research into social phenomena.

Unit 4 – Beliefs in Society

This unit will also help you to understand the role that religion plays in an individual's life as well society in general. The study of different religious groups will also help you to understand why people join these groups as well as the similarities and difference between them.

Unit 5 – Crime and Deviance

This unit will help you to understand the impact of the criminal justice system and the role it plays in maintaining our society. You will also look at how the criminal justice system impacts on different groups.

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is:
GCSE Grade 5 in English
GCSE Grade 4 in Mathematics
GCSE Grade 4 and above in at least 4 GCSEs

Skills required and developed:

- Recalling and explaining Sociological terms, concepts and ideas and the work of Sociologists.
- Applying these to a range of scenarios, topics and issues and making links between them.
- The ability to question the usefulness of the theories and studies that you are studying.

Assessment:

Exam board - AQA
Paper 1 – Education with Theory and Methods
Paper 2 – Topics in Sociology
Paper 3 – Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

Beyond the Classroom:

- Watch, read, listen to the news
- Listen to a good podcast, such as Thinking Allowed on the BBC
- Your teacher can teach you what you need to know in order to get a good grade in the exam, but to reach that A* Level you need to go beyond what the textbook tells you and apply your learning to the world around you

Access and opportunities to your future:

Students who study Sociology can access University courses, or complete Apprenticeships which lead to employment in a range of sectors including:

- Advertising and Marketing – Market Research, PR Executive, Sales Executive
- Education – Careers Advisor, Nursery Teacher, Teaching Assistant
- Public Sector - Civil Servant, Care Assistant, Mental Health Support Worker, Nurse
- Social Care – Mental Health Care Assistant, Social Worker, Youth Worker
- Charity and not for Profit – Funding Co-Ordinator, Policy Researcher
- Law – Barrister, Paralegal, Solicitor
- Recruitment & HR – HR Assistant, Recruitment, Training Manager

Sixth Form

BTEC National Foundation Diploma in Sport

BTEC Course Content:

Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology

Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being

Unit 3: Professional Development in the Sports Industry

Unit 4: Sports Leadership

Unit 5: Application of Fitness Testing

Unit 7: Practical Sports Performance

Unit 10: Sports Event Organisation

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is English Level 5

Skills required and developed:

Cognitive and problem-solving skills: use critical thinking, approach non-routine problems applying expert and creative solutions, use systems and **Technology intrapersonal skills**: communicating, working collaboratively, negotiating and influencing, **Self-presentation interpersonal skills**: self-management, adaptability and resilience, self-monitoring and development.
Presentations, time management, interviews, job application, referencing, evaluating and analysing

Assessment:

Units 1 and 2 are externally assessed exams
All other units are coursework based and assessed internally.

Beyond the Classroom:

We enable our students to gain real life experience of coaching and leading sessions to younger students. We also encourage them to help run sports events with the whole school.

We also encourage our students to gain invaluable work experience or help out with extra-curricular clubs within school to develop their skills further.

Access and opportunities to your future:

- Gateway to University courses – BA (Hons) in Sports Development and Management, BSc (Hons) in Sports Management, BSc (Hons) Sports Business Management, BSc (Hons) Sport and Leisure Management, BSc (Hons) Sports Science (Outdoor Activities), BSc (Hons) in Exercise, Health and Fitness and BSc (Hons) in Sport and Exercise Psychology Apprenticeship opportunities
- Careers/employment in the future within the sectors of fitness, teaching, development, business roles, management roles, leisure, wellbeing, coaching, elite sport and outdoor
- Transferable skills: the ability to learn independently, the ability to research actively and methodically and being able to give presentations and being active group members
- Exam board Pearson

Sixth Form

BTEC National Diploma in Sport

BTEC Course Content:

Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology

Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being

Unit 3: Professional Development in the Sports Industry

Unit 4: Sports Leadership

Unit 5: Application of Fitness Testing

Unit 7: Practical Sports Performance

Unit 10: Sports Event Organisation

Unit 22: Investigating Business in the Sport and Active Leisure Industry

Unit 23: Skill Acquisition in Sport

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is English Level 5

Skills required and developed:

Cognitive and problem-solving skills: use critical thinking, approach non-routine problems applying expert and creative solutions, use systems and **Technology intrapersonal skills**: communicating, working collaboratively, negotiating and influencing, **Self-presentation interpersonal skills**: self-management, adaptability and resilience, self-monitoring and development.
Presentations, time management, interviews, job application, referencing, evaluating and analysing

Assessment:

Units 1, 2 and 22 are externally assessed exams
All other units are coursework based and assessed internally.

Beyond the Classroom:

We enable our students to gain real life experience of coaching and leading sessions to younger students. We also encourage them to help run sports events with the whole school.

We also encourage our students to gain invaluable work experience or help out with extra-curricular clubs within school to develop their skills further.

Access and opportunities to your future:

- Gateway to University courses – BA (Hons) in Sports Development and Management, BSc (Hons) in Sports Management, BSc (Hons) Sports Business Management, BSc (Hons) Sport and Leisure Management, BSc (Hons) Sports Science (Outdoor Activities), BSc (Hons) in Exercise, Health and Fitness and BSc (Hons) in Sport and Exercise Psychology Apprenticeship opportunities
- Careers/employment in the future within the sectors of fitness, teaching, development, business roles, management roles, leisure, wellbeing, coaching, elite sport and outdoor
- Transferable skills: the ability to learn independently, the ability to research actively and methodically and being able to give presentations and being active group members
- Exam board Pearson

Sixth Form

BTEC National Extended Diploma in Sport

BTEC Course Content:

Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology

Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being

Unit 3: Professional Development in the Sports Industry

Unit 4: Sports Leadership

Unit 5: Application of Fitness Testing

Unit 6: Sports Psychology

Unit 7: Practical Sports Performance

Unit 8: Coaching for Performance

Unit 9: Research Methods in Sport

Unit 10: Sports Event Organisation

Unit 19: Development and Provision of Sport and Physical Activity

Unit 22: Investigating Business in the Sport and Active Leisure Industry

Unit 23: Skill Acquisition in Sport

Unit 25: Rules, Regulations and Officiating in Sport

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is English Level 5

Skills required and developed:

Cognitive and problem-solving skills: use critical thinking, approach non-routine problems applying expert and creative solutions, use systems and **Technology intrapersonal skills**: communicating, working collaboratively, negotiating and influencing, **Self-presentation interpersonal skills**: self-management, adaptability and resilience, self-monitoring and development.
Presentations, time management, interviews, job application, referencing, evaluating and analysing

Assessment:

Units 1, 2, 19 and 22 are externally assessed exams
All other units are coursework based and assessed internally.

Beyond the Classroom:

We enable our students to gain real life experience of coaching and leading sessions to younger students. We also encourage them to help run sports events with the whole school.

We also encourage our students to gain invaluable work experience or help out with extra-curricular clubs within school to develop their skills further.

Access and opportunities to your future:

- Gateway to University courses – BA (Hons) in Sports Development and Management, BSc (Hons) in Sports Management, BSc (Hons) Sports Business Management, BSc (Hons) Sport and Leisure Management, BSc (Hons) Sports Science (Outdoor Activities), BSc (Hons) in Exercise, Health and Fitness and BSc (Hons) in Sport and Exercise Psychology Apprenticeship opportunities
- Careers/employment in the future within the sectors of fitness, teaching, development, business roles, management roles, leisure, wellbeing, coaching, elite sport and outdoor
- Transferable skills: the ability to learn independently, the ability to research actively and methodically and being able to give presentations and being active group members
- Exam board Pearson

Sixth Form

Level 3 Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

EPQ Course Content:

What is an extended project qualification (EPQ)?

This is A-Level 3 qualification designed to extend and develop skills in independent research and project management. EPQ gives students ownership of the project as it is based on a topic that the student is interested in. The chosen topic could stem from a personal interest or an activity that is outside their main programme of study.

This qualification runs over one year and is started in Year 12. It is taken alongside 3 full A-Levels or BTEC equivalent and is worth up to 28 UCAS points. EPQ is valued by the Russell Group universities as students who have successfully completed one have demonstrated skills which are favourable to studying a university course.

Components of EPQ:

1. A written report based on the chosen topic (approx. 5000 words)
2. Detailed completion of an online journal detailing the process (Project Q)
3. A presentation to peers and supervisor on the EPQ project

Entry Requirements:

The minimum entry requirement is:
Grade 5 in GCSE English

Skills required and developed:

Critical thinking & writing
Discussion
Analytical skills
Independence
Organisation

The EPQ (AQA board) is a coursework-based qualification, where students submit their projects for marking and moderation towards the end of the first year

Beyond the Classroom:

- To read a wide variety of literature pertinent to their area of interest
- Encounter various sources of information which could be cited for their project. This could include podcasts, documentaries or journals.

Access and opportunities to your future:

- UCAS points towards University offers – EPQ qualification is worth up to 28 points
- Transferable skills – organisation, time management, critical writing, analysis, evaluation of information and public speaking

Sixth Form

Core Mathematics

Course Content:

Core Mathematics is selected alongside 3 full A-Level or BTEC equivalents. The course and subsequent exams are completed within a year.

Core Mathematics does not introduce many 'new' Mathematical techniques; but instead shows you how to use your GCSE knowledge in real-world situations. For example, Taxes, National Insurance, AER and APR interest rates – crucial everyday calculations, that all stem from percentages.

Core Mathematics also features units on project management. We study Gantt charts and other methods of coordinating and organising resources for big projects to ensure they are completed on time.

Have you ever had strange or BIG questions that you have no idea how you might answer?
"How many potatoes will be eaten in England today?", "How many rulers would it take end to end to reach the moon?", "How much space does my body take up in cm^3?"
These questions can be answered using Fermi estimations. Fermi was a famous scientist, and it was this style of estimation that led us to the Drake equation that discusses the probability of alien life in our galaxy!

Core Mathematics will change how you think, and how you react to problems – meaning you are better prepared for future courses or jobs!

Entry Requirements:

A Grade 5 in mathematics or above is required for Core Mathematics, this can be achieved on both Foundation and Higher papers

Skills required and developed:

A good understanding of GCSE Mathematics is required – and we develop your real-world analysis skills

Assessment:
We follow the AQA-Level 3 Mathematical studies specification for our Core Maths course.
You will have 2 papers to sit. One will have some preparation materials released in advance, which you will work through with your teachers, the other is unseen

Beyond the Classroom:

Core Mathematics was created because both universities and employers were crying out for students with a better understanding of Mathematics. Core Mathematics builds up understanding of crucial, every day, 'common sense' situations. This is vital for success in many degrees and jobs. This isn't abstract Algebra like A-Level Maths, this is the important, everyday Maths that makes the world turn!

Access and opportunities to your future:

- Core Mathematics supports ALL subjects
- Build upon your Mathematical skills to support your future
- Allows you to continue to enjoy problem solving and Maths in the 6th form

Sixth Form

Enrichment

Year 12:

The majority of our Year 12 students undertake a carousal of activities throughout the year which include the following:

- Car Maintenance
- First Aid
- Sign Language
- Basic DIY
- Mental Health Support from the BLOOM programme delivered by Mental Health UK
- Finance

Year 13

Our Year 13 students opt to participate in four activities up until Easter, selecting from the following:

- Meals on a Budget
- Yoga
- Self Defence
- Multi-Sports
- Fitness Suite
- Debating
- Puzzles and Board Games
- Gardening
- Reading
- Learning a Language
- Learning to Crochet
- Learning to Knit
- Learning Calligraphy
- Science Academy
- Set Building for the School Show.

Exempt Students

Please note that students involved in the Academic Sports Programme are exempt from Enrichment due to their training and fixtures taking place on a Wednesday afternoon.

Skills required and developed:

High levels of enthusiasm and a willingness to learn! An awareness that this may not be relevant to you right now, but will likely be needed to support you and/or others in the future!

Assessment:

There is no formal assessment, but we encourage students to take their experiences further. For example, gaining First Aid qualifications and participating in activities outside of school.

Beyond the Classroom:

We encourage our students to volunteer, and have fantastic relationships with feeder schools, care homes, charity shops and sports teams to facilitate this!
We facilitate mentoring, lower school lesson support as well as supporting extra-curricular opportunities.

Access and opportunities to your future:

- Further volunteering opportunities
- Transferable life skills to support you in both your personal and professional life

Sixth Form