Tapton School & Sixth Form
Part of INOVA Multi-Academy Trust

TAPTON SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM



PROSPECTUS 2026

sixthformadmissions@taptonschool.co.uk

tapton.school/sixth-form

0114 267 1414

Darwin Lane, Sheffield, S10 5RG

Community

Character

Curiosity

Message from our Head of Sixth Form

Inspiring Ambition. Nurturing Independence. Shaping Futures.

At Tapton Sixth Form, we are proud to inspire ambitious young people from across Sheffield and beyond to achieve exceptional outcomes, embrace new opportunities and develop into confident, independent adults.

Through academic excellence, a vibrant and inclusive community, and outstanding pastoral support, we empower every student to discover their strengths, pursue their passions and realise their full potential.

Our aim is not only to prepare students for university, apprenticeships and employment, but also to equip them with the skills, resilience and confidence to thrive in an ever-changing world.



Vision

To empower ambitious young people to **achieve their potential**, pursue their passions and confidently **shape their future** through excellence in learning, **personal growth** and community.

Core Values

- Community
- Character
- Curiosity

Together, these principles shape our journey toward a brighter future.

Warm regards,

Andrew Wright
Head of Sixth Form

Community **Character** **Curiosity**

Quick Facts

Top 5%
Our outcomes place us among the country's highest-performing Sixth Forms and collages.

95%+
Progress to University

B+
Our Average Grade, higher than the national average

28
We offer a wide range of subjects from traditional academic to more contemporary offerings

72%
72% of all grades awarded at A-B and 45% at A-A

60+
Specialist Teaching Staff plus support staff

CONTENTS

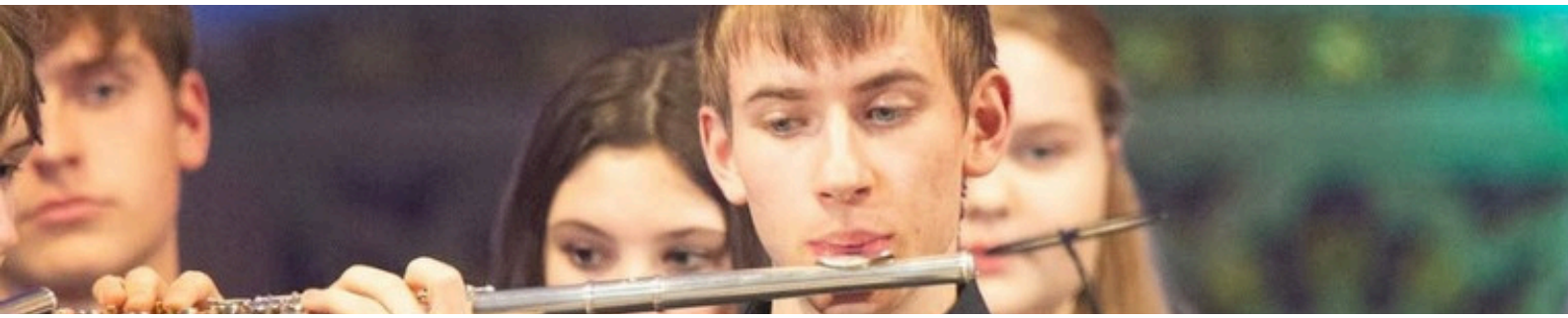
Welcome from the Head of Sixth Form	2
Teaching & Learning	5
Health & Wellbeing	6
Behaviour and Expectations	7
16–19 Bursary	8
Homework	9
Beyond the Classroom	10
Personal Development	11
Work Experience & Careers	12
Destinations	13
The Sixth Form Team	15
A Typical Day at Tapton	16
The Year Overview	17
Student Voice	19
School Life & Facilities	20
Choosing Your Subjects	22
Course Guide	24

Art & Design	25	Geography	85
Biology	29	German	89
Business Studies	33	Government & Politics	93
Chemistry	37	History	97
Computer Science	41	Music	101
Core Mathematics	45	Physical Education	105
Design Engineering	49	Physics	109
Drama & Theatre Studies	53	Product Design	113
Economics	57	Psychology	117
English Language	61	Religious Studies	121
English Literature	65	Sociology	125
Fashion & Textiles	69	Spanish	129
Film Studies	73		
French	77		
Further Mathematics & Mathematics	81		

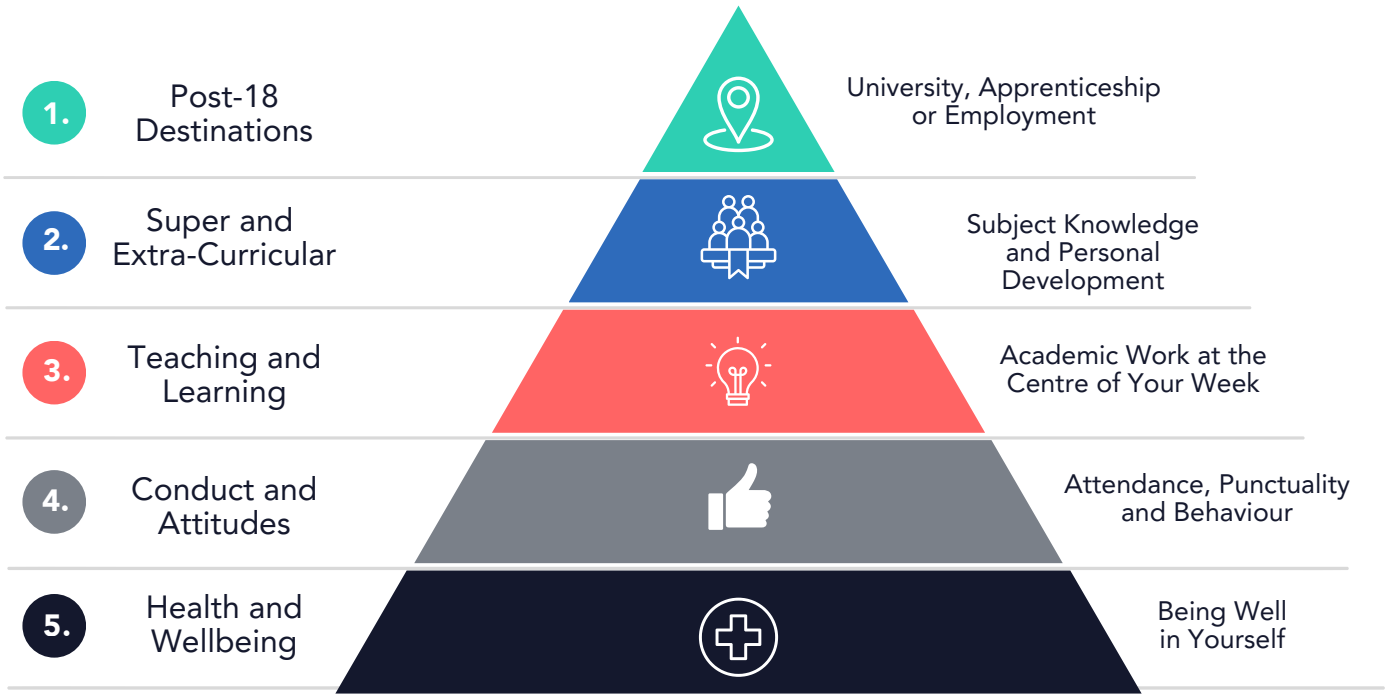
Life at Tapton

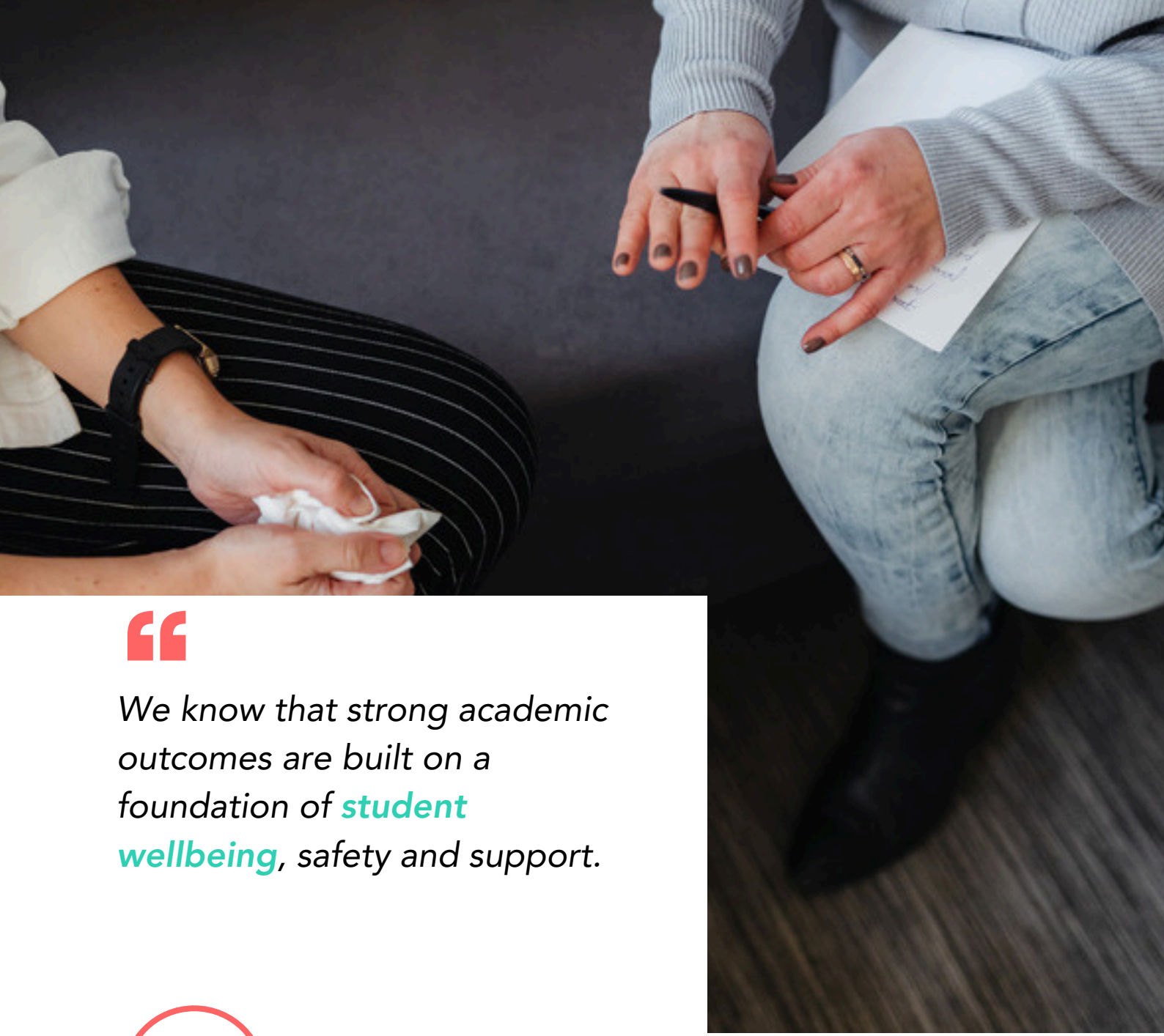


Teaching and Learning



- Broad curriculum leading to Level 3 qualifications.
- Average grades of B+ (2026) L3VA of +0.31 (2026)
- A Level teaching delivered by specialist staff, many with postgraduate qualifications.
- Strong focus on independent study, supported by Year 13 study periods.
- KS5 Academic Mentor support for students aiming for high-potential destinations.
- Development of independent study practices alongside apprenticeship and employment pathways.





We know that strong academic outcomes are built on a foundation of ***student wellbeing****, safety and support.*

Health and Wellbeing

We aim to support students to manage their health and wellbeing and to show them how to find support when times are hard. We have a specialist Sixth Form Team supported by the online support and counselling service, Kooth. In addition, we have timetabled Personal Development lessons focused on adulthood and form time and assemblies on health and wellbeing, including Sixth Form reading on Ancient Greek Philosophy and Rangan Chatterjee's Four Pillar Plan.



Behaviour and Expectations

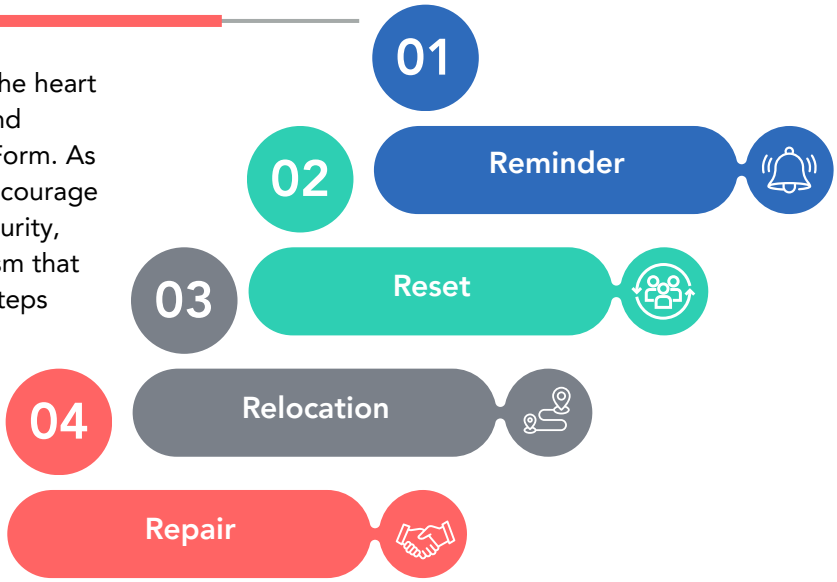
*Sixth Form students at Tapton are expected to act as **role models** for the rest of the school, with poor behaviour subject to the sanctions outlined in the school behaviour policy.*

Although Sixth Form students are not required to wear uniform, they are expected to **wear an ID card and lanyard** at all times to support the safeguarding of our school community.

Students are expected to **arrive at school by 9am** Monday to Friday for Form Time and Registration. Failure to do so leads to an intervention as outlined in the school behaviour policy.

Tapton 4 Rs

Our 4Rs framework remains at the heart of our approach to behaviour and personal responsibility in Sixth Form. As our most senior students, we encourage young people to model the maturity, self-discipline and professionalism that will support them in their next steps beyond school.



16-19 Bursary

Need help with the cost of Sixth Form? The 16-19 Bursary Fund is available to support eligible students with the expenses that come with studying A Levels.

What can the bursary help with?

The fund can contribute towards essential educational costs, including:

- Textbooks and study materials
- Stationery and equipment
- Scientific calculators
- Public transport and travel costs
- University application fees
- Other approved learning resources

How does it work?

Applications are made through Bursary+, and all requests are managed by the school.

Rather than providing cash payments directly to students, support is provided through the purchase or reimbursement of approved educational expenses.

Who should apply?

We encourage applications from students who:

- Receive Free School Meals
- Have families receiving Working Tax Credit
- Meet other eligibility criteria outlined in our policy

Please note

The 16-19 Bursary Fund is a limited allocation provided annually to support a large number of students. While we aim to help as many students as possible, we may not be able to fund every request.

Find out more: [Tapton Sixth Form]



Homework



01
Meaningful

Homework tasks are embedded into the curriculum and relevant to the learning in the classroom. All homework set supports students and facilitates their in-class performance or revision for assessments.

02
Manageable

Homework tasks are designed to be short and regular to encourage good study habits in preparation for later study, revision and working life.

03
Predictable

At Key Stage 5, students receive weekly homework in each subject, alongside an expectation of two additional hours of independent study per subject each week. Tasks may include written work, reading, revision or independent learning activities. In Maths and Modern Foreign Languages, students receive weekly homework to support the development of key skills and subject mastery.

Becoming an Independent Learner (BILs)

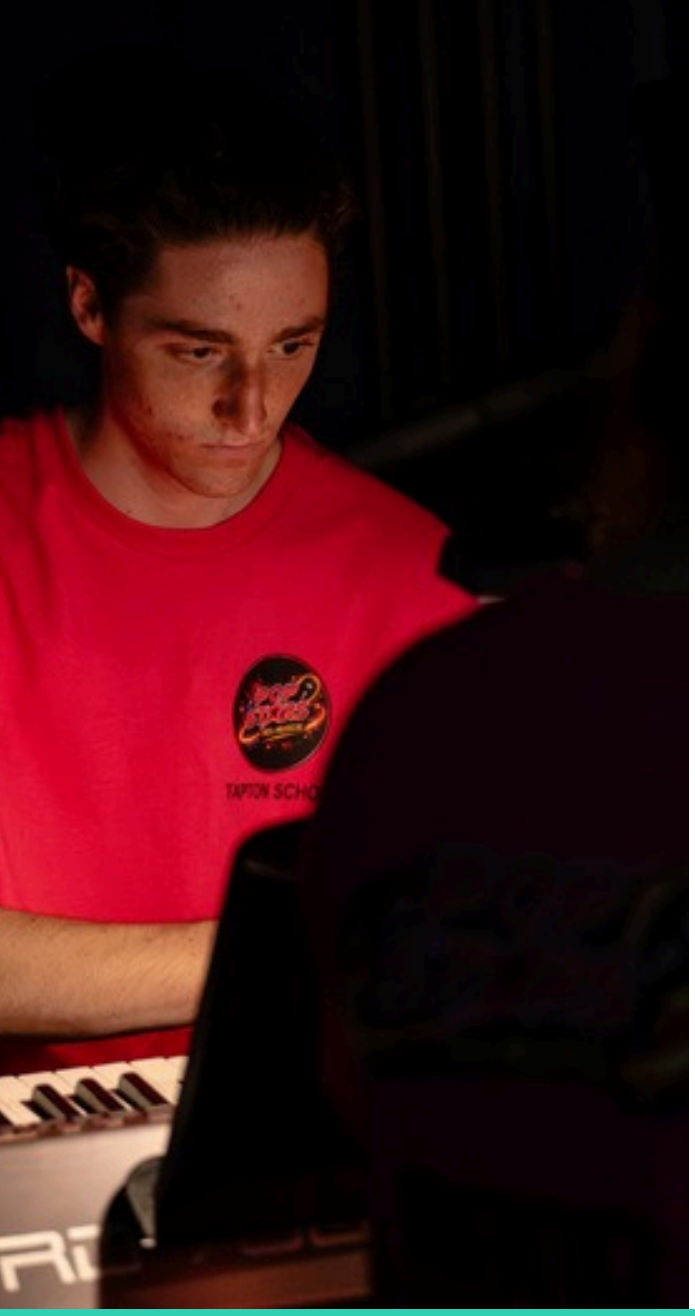
The most successful students at Sixth Form are also independent learners. During Year 12 and Year 13 students will focus on the following areas during Form Time:

- Time Management and Organisation
- Note-taking
- Academic Language
- Exam Practice and Understanding
- Non-Examined Assessments, including the use of JSTOR and Academic Journals

In addition, Subject Leaders have provided clear guidance on subject-specific independent learning that students should engage with while at Sixth Form, as they make a successful transition to their Post-18 destination.

Directed Study

To support independent learning, all Year 13 students have a timetabled hour of Directed Study in the Library for each subject that they are taking. Students should use this time to deliberately revise and consolidate their learning from Year 12 as they prepare for their A level exams.



Beyond the Classroom

Sixth Form is about more than just achieving great grades. It's about exploring your interests, discovering new passions and developing the skills that will help you stand out when applying for university, apprenticeships and future careers.

Whether you're looking to deepen your subject knowledge through super-curricular activities or try something completely new through our extra-curricular programme, there's something for everyone at Tapton.

Get Involved

Our clubs and societies evolve each year based on student interests, and we're always keen to hear your ideas. If there's an activity you'd like to see, we'll support you in starting it.

Creative & Cultural

Film Club

- KS5 Book Club
- Sixth Form Theatre Company
- Cultural Newsletter
- Music Ensembles (Orchestra, Brass Band, Choir and more)

Academic Enrichment

- Science Wednesdays
- Motor Neurone Project
- Cosmic Mining
- DNA Origami
- Journal Club
- Tapton Talks (in partnership with the University of Sheffield)
- Medical Society & Dental Society
- KS5 STEM Diploma
- KS5 HASS Diploma
- Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Community & Leadership

- Paired Reading
- Visually Impaired Support Programme
- Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
- LGBTQ+ Group
- Christian Union

Sport & Wellbeing

- Football
- Netball
- Hockey
- Badminton
- Table Tennis
- Climbing
- Gymnastics
- Running Club

Life Skills

- Student Cooking on a Budget



Personal and Social Development

Our Personal Development Programme equips students with the knowledge, skills and confidence to thrive in Sixth Form and beyond.

Year 12: Building Foundations

Focus on developing independence, wellbeing and life skills.

- First Aid
- Active Citizenship
- Life Goals
- Personal Safety
- Online Safety
- Finance
- Relationship & Sex Education
- Business
- Equity, Diversity & Inclusion
- Food & Nutrition

Year 13: Preparing for the Future

Focused on helping students navigate adulthood, higher education and employment.

- Careers & Post-18 Pathways
- Travel & Independent Living
- Financial Ventures
- Health & Wellbeing
- Mental Health
- Drugs Awareness
- Equity, Diversity & Inclusion
- Loans & Debt Management

Work Experience & Career Opportunities

At Tapton Sixth Form, we encourage all students to gain valuable work experience and workplace encounters to support their future career aspirations. This is especially beneficial for students considering careers in areas such as healthcare, education and social work, where relevant experience is often expected.

Year 12 Work Experience Week 22-26 March 2027

Students may also arrange up to five additional days of work experience during the academic year, subject to school approval.

Why Take Part?

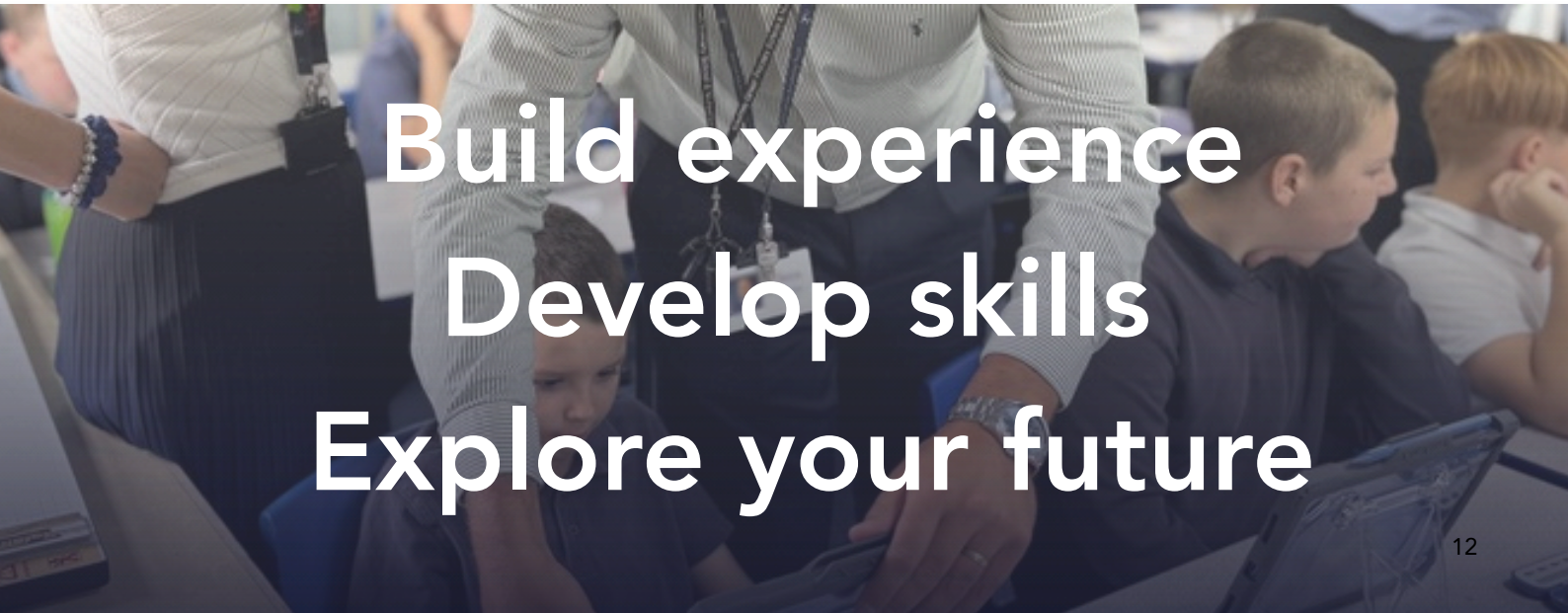
Work experience helps students to:

- Develop key employability skills, including communication, leadership and resilience.
- Build confidence, independence and professionalism.
- Gain insight into the world of work.
- Explore potential career pathways.
- Strengthen applications for university, apprenticeships and employment.

Finding a Placement

All placements are managed through the Unifrog Placement Tool, with opportunities also shared via Bromcom. Students are encouraged to take the initiative in finding placements that match their interests and ambitions.

Support and guidance are available throughout the process from Miss Hobson, Careers Leader.





Destinations

Whatever your next step, we're here to help you get there.

Our strong partnerships with local and national universities ensure that every student receives expert guidance throughout the higher education application process. Each year, the vast majority of Tapton Sixth Form students progress to university, including many who secure places at some of the UK's most competitive institutions.

To support students in making informed decisions about their future, we provide:

- Personalised guidance on university applications and course choices.
- Access to Unifrog to research courses, apprenticeships and career pathways.
- University outreach programmes, visits and information events.
- Support with personal statements, admissions tests and interviews where appropriate.

For students considering higher or degree apprenticeships, or progressing directly into employment, tailored advice is available from our Careers Leader to help identify and secure the pathway that best suits their ambitions.

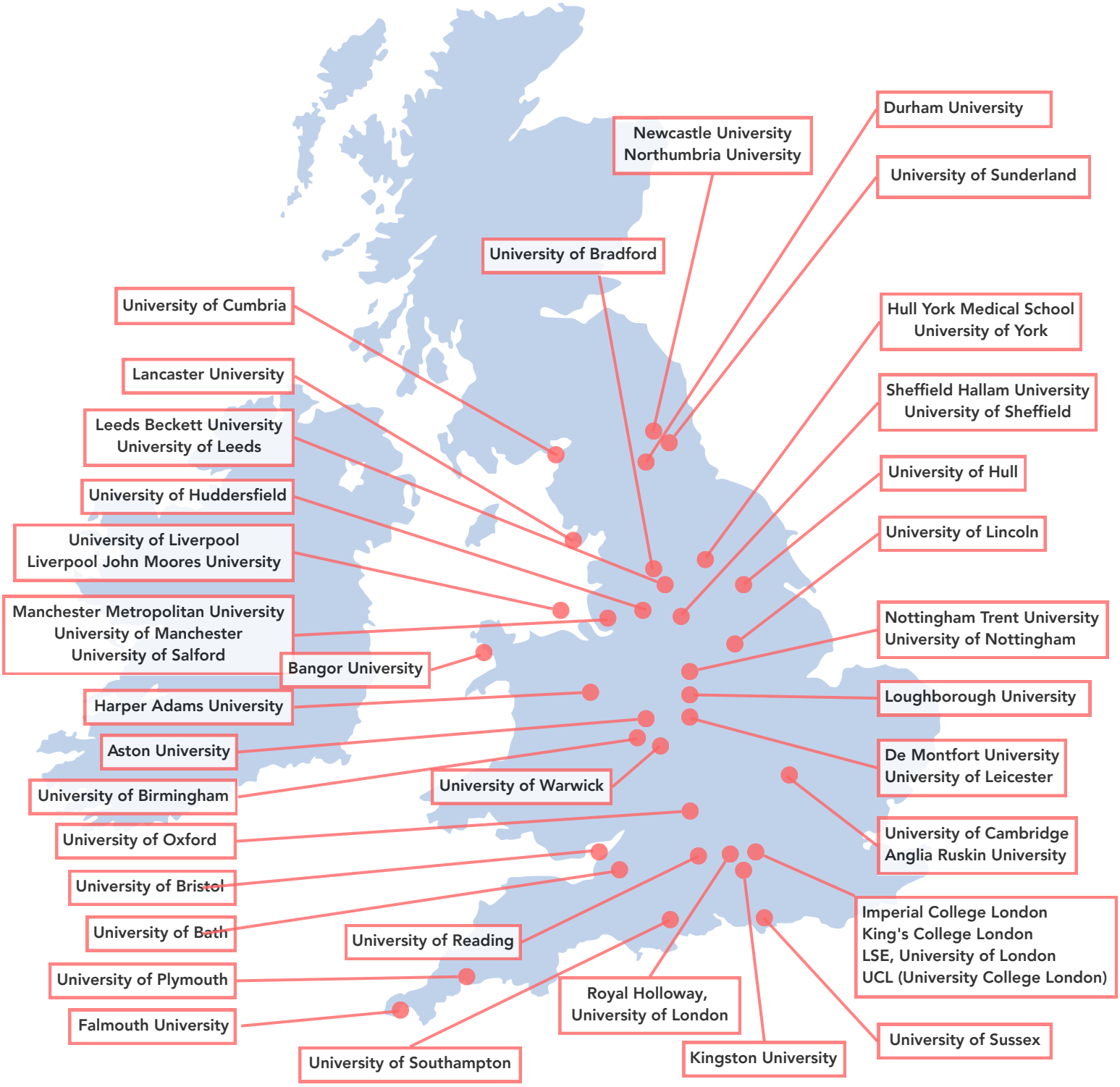
University. Apprenticeship. Employment.

Whatever your ambition, we'll help you take the next step with confidence.

Destinations

Where Could Tapton Take You?

Discover Our Students' Destinations





Our Sixth Form team is committed to supporting every student to achieve

The Sixth Form Team



A Wright
Head of Sixth Form



A Siddell
Head of School

H Morris
Assistant Head - Curriculum

N Harris
KS5 Year Leader

J Winters
KS5 Year Leader

L Ridal
KS5 Learning and Inclusion Co-Ordinator

R Moorwood
KS5 Safeguarding (Mon-Wed)

L Mitchell
KS5 Safeguarding (Wed-Fri)

L Deakin
16-19 Bursary Administrator and KS5 Academic Mentor

M Bower
Destinations and UCAS Administrator

S Rippin
SENDCo

E Finnigan
Sixth Form Administrator

S Hobson
Strategic Careers Lead



A Typical Day at Tapton Sixth Form

A Sixth Form timetable gives you the perfect balance of taught lessons and independent study, helping you develop the skills you'll need for university, apprenticeships and the world of work.

Your School Day

Time	Session
9:00am - 9:30am	Registration
9:30am - 10:30am	Period 1
10:30am - 11:30am	Period 2
11:30am - 11:50am	Break
11:50am - 12:50pm	Period 3
12:50pm - 1:30pm	Lunch
1:30pm - 2:30pm	Period 4
2:30pm - 3:30pm	Period 5
3:30pm - 4:30pm	Twilight Session*

Learning in Sixth Form

Most subjects are taught for **five hours each week,** usually by a team of two or three specialist teachers.

Alongside your lessons, you'll have dedicated independent study time, giving you the opportunity to consolidate learning, complete assignments and prepare for assessments.

Twilight Session*
Twilight sessions are used for some subjects when additional learning, practical work or enrichment activities are required.

Year 11 & Year 12 at a Glance

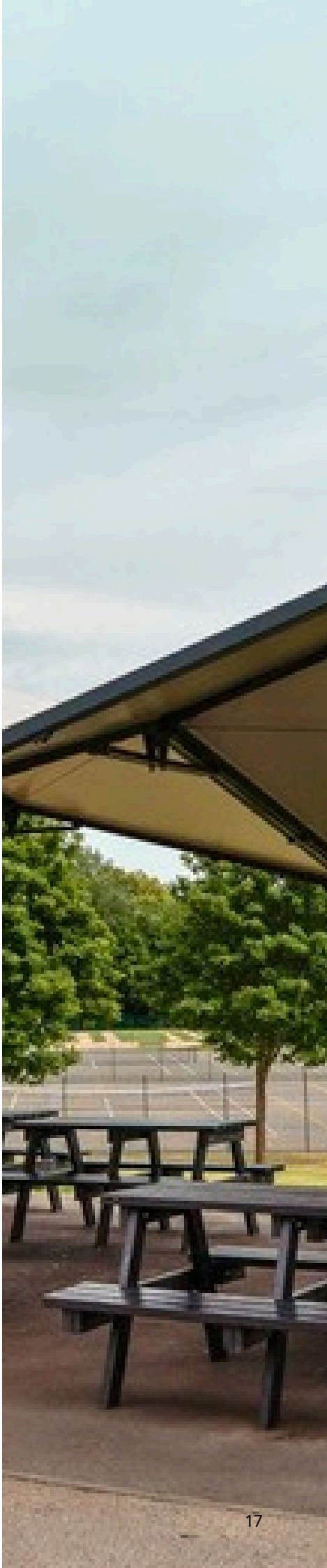
From applying in Year 11 to celebrating your A Level results in Year 13, we'll support you every step of the way.

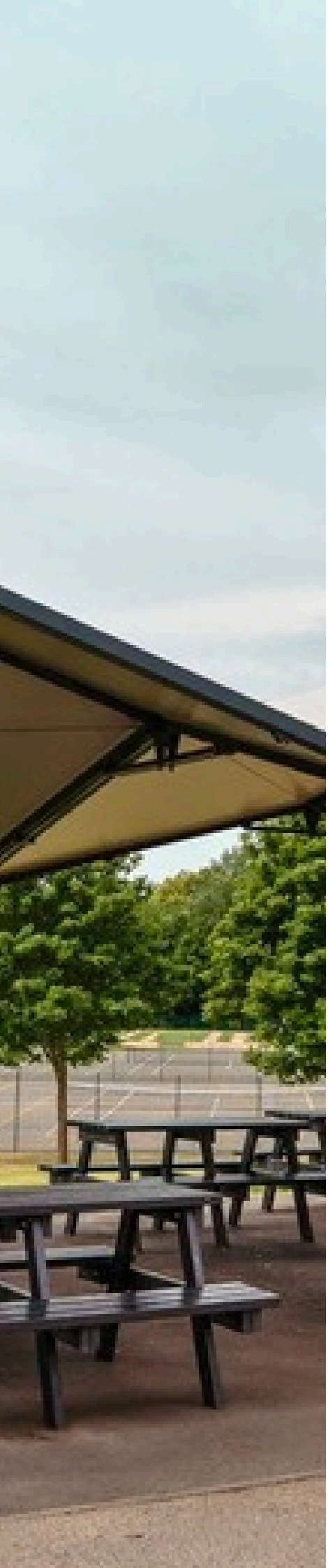
Year 11: Joining Tapton Sixth Form

When?	What's Happening?
October	Sixth Form Open Evening
November	Internal applicant 1:1 meetings with a member of the Sixth Form Team
December	Applications through Sheffield Progress (deadline: 31 January)
June - July	Induction events, meet your Form Tutor and subject teachers
August	GCSE Results Day and Sixth Form Enrolment

Year 12: Settling In & Planning Ahead

When?	What's Happening?
September	First day, Form Tutor sessions and Freshers' Fair
October	Progress Tracking
December	Assessment Week and Charity Week
January	Progress Tracking
February	Progress Evening Support for students taking four subjects
March	Work Experience
April	Post-18 Destinations Evening
May	Y12 Examinations (where applicable)
June - July	UCAS Registration and Destinations Day
July	Trial Exams, Predicted Grades and Reports





Year 13 at a Glance

From applying in Year 11 to celebrating your A Level results in Year 13, we'll support you every step of the way.

Year 13: Preparing for Your Next Step

When?	What's Happening?
September	Progress Evening
October	Early UCAS deadline for Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary applications Tracking and Predicted Grade Updates
December	Charity Week
January	UCAS deadline for most university applications
February	Trial Exams and Progress Tracking
March	Assessment Week and Progress Tracking
May - June	Study Leave A Level Examinations
June	Sixth Form Leaving Party
August	A Level Results Day and your next adventure begins!

Your Journey, Your Future

Whether you're aiming for university, an apprenticeship or employment, our structured programme of guidance, events and support ensures you're fully prepared for life beyond Sixth Form.

Here's what our students say...

Don't just take our word for it. Our students are polite, welcoming and happy to talk about their Sixth Form journey.

> [Tapton is] a place of opportunity.

A Khan - Year 13 Student

> Sixth Form is one big community.

S Agkadi - Year 13 Student

> The Sixth Form has excellent resources, dedicated study spaces, and access to computers, giving you everything you need to succeed.

J Palmer - Year 13 Student

> Starting a new subject can be daunting, but the teachers are incredibly supportive and make sure everyone settles in quickly and confidently.

L Kirkland - Year 13 Student

> The science teachers are experts in their fields and are always willing to offer support, helping you build confidence and succeed.

A H-R - Year 13 Student

> Students are resilient and they work hard.

H Ismail - Year 13 Student

School Life & Surroundings

Located in the leafy suburbs of Sheffield, Tapton offers the best of both worlds, with easy access to the city centre's cultural and educational opportunities, while sitting on the doorstep of the beautiful Peak District.



01 Sixth Form Common Room

Relax, study and connect with friends in our dedicated Sixth Form Common Room.



02 Food, Snacks and Lunch

Enjoy a variety of fresh, nutritious breakfasts, lunches and snacks, with plenty of options to suit every taste.



03 Getting Here

Getting to Tapton is easy. Frequent bus services including the **51**, **120** and **257** serve the local area, with stops just a short walk from the school, connecting students from across Sheffield and neighbouring communities.



04 Outdoor Space and Environment

Set within attractive green surroundings, Tapton offers a spacious and leafy campus that provides an inspiring environment for learning.

The Sixth Form Curriculum





Your Sixth Form Curriculum

We are proud of the breadth of our curriculum offer, with 28 subjects available to students.

This wide range of courses allows students to build a study programme that reflects their interests, strengths and aspirations. The majority of students study three A Levels, with a small number choosing to take four.



Choosing Your Subjects

- Choose subjects you enjoy and are successful in.
- Consider your future plans, as some university courses and careers require specific subjects.
- Think carefully if choosing four subjects, particularly with workloads.
- Our Sixth Form team will support you throughout the process, helping you build a study programme that keeps your future options open.

Our Courses



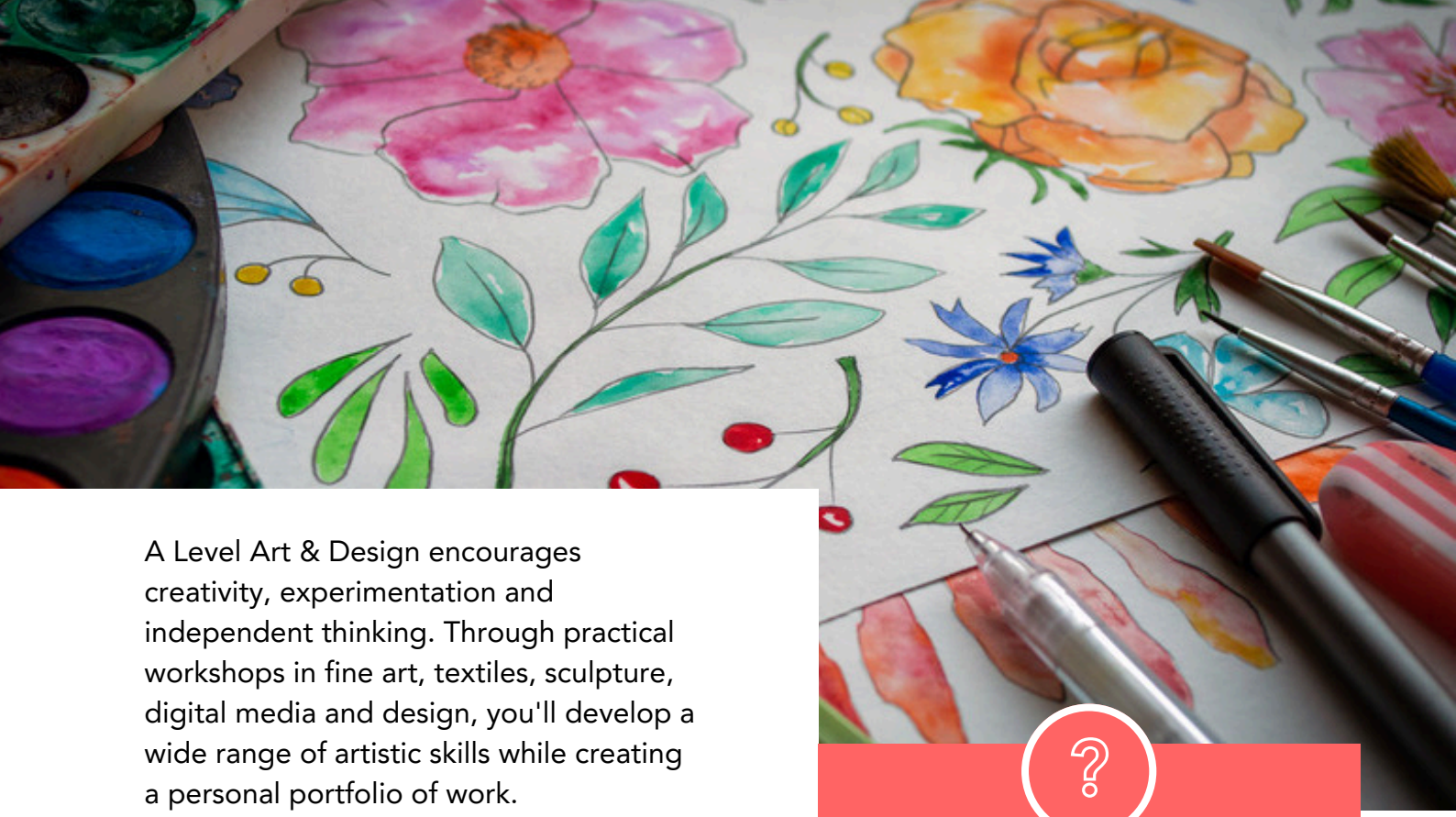
Course Guide

Basic Entry Requirement of a Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or English Literature, and 4 other GCSEs at Grade 4 including Maths and English Language.

Art & Design
Biology
Business Studies
Chemistry
Computer Science
Core Mathematics
Design Engineering
Drama & Theatre Studies
Economics
English Language
English Literature
Fashion & Textiles
Film Studies
French
Further Mathematics
Geography
German
Government & Politics
History
Mathematics
Music
Physical Education
Physics
Product Design
Psychology
Religious Studies
Sociology
Spanish

Choose subjects that challenge you, inspire you and support your ambitions. The best choices are the ones that open doors to your future.

Dr A Farrell, Director of Workforce Development



A Level Art & Design encourages creativity, experimentation and independent thinking. Through practical workshops in fine art, textiles, sculpture, digital media and design, you'll develop a wide range of artistic skills while creating a personal portfolio of work.

Art & Design

(AQA)

Why Choose Art and Design?

A Level Art & Design is ideal for students who are imaginative, curious and eager to develop their creative skills while producing highly personal and original work.

Entry Requirements:

5 in Art and Design or a visual portfolio demonstrating artwork of a GCSE grade 5 standard

Subject Leader:

Mrs K Pilarek
kpilarek@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

Students begin the course by exploring a wide range of artistic techniques and materials, including:

Fine Art
Drawing, painting, printmaking and mixed media

Textiles
Batik, screen printing, embroidery and weaving

Sculpture
Clay, wire, card and plaster work

Digital Art
Adobe Photoshop and photography

Design
Architecture, graphics, typography and packaging

Artist Research
Investigating and responding to the work of artists, designers and craftspeople

Assessment

Component 1: Personal Investigation (60%)
- A self-directed practical project based on a theme of your choice
- Supported by a written study (up to 3,000 words)

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment (40%)
- Exam board theme released in February
- Preparation period followed by a 15-hour practical exam
- Produce a final outcome independently

Is Art and Design Right for You?

Art and Design is a great choice if you:
- Enjoy being creative and trying new techniques
- Are curious and open-minded
- Like exploring different artists and styles
- Can work independently and as part of a team
- Are willing to challenge yourself and learn from feedback
- Have the resilience and determination to develop your skills

Perfect for students who enjoy creating, experimenting and expressing ideas through art.

Regular Feedback
Take part in peer and self-assessment activities to develop your understanding of the assessment objectives and improve your ability to evaluate artwork.

One-to-One Support
Receive regular individual feedback from teachers, with personalised targets to help you develop your skills and progress throughout the course.

Final Assessment
Both components are assessed by your teachers at the end of the course, with marks reviewed by an external AQA moderator to ensure consistency and fairness.

Subjects That Work Well With Art and Design?

- Film Studies
- Fashion and Textiles
- English Literature
- History
- Geography
- Psychology
- Computer Science
- Mathematics
- Business Studies

Art & Design complements a wide range of subjects, helping students develop creativity, problem-solving, research, communication and independent learning skills.



Where Could Art & Design Take You?

Art & Design opens the door to a huge range of creative careers

Architecture & Built Environment
- Architect
- Interior Designer
- Landscape Designer

Fashion & Textiles
- Fashion Designer
- Textile Designer
- Costume Designer
- Fashion Buyer

Art & Creative Practice
- Fine Artist
- Illustrator
- Printmaker
- Gallery Curator

Beauty & Make-Up
- Make-Up Artist
- Special Effects Artist
- Creative Hair and Make-Up Designer

It develops valuable skills in creativity, problem-solving, communication and innovation, all of which are highly sought after by universities and employers across a growing range of industries.



A Level Art & Design gives you the freedom to explore your creativity, develop your own ideas, and express your unique perspective

Beyond the Classroom

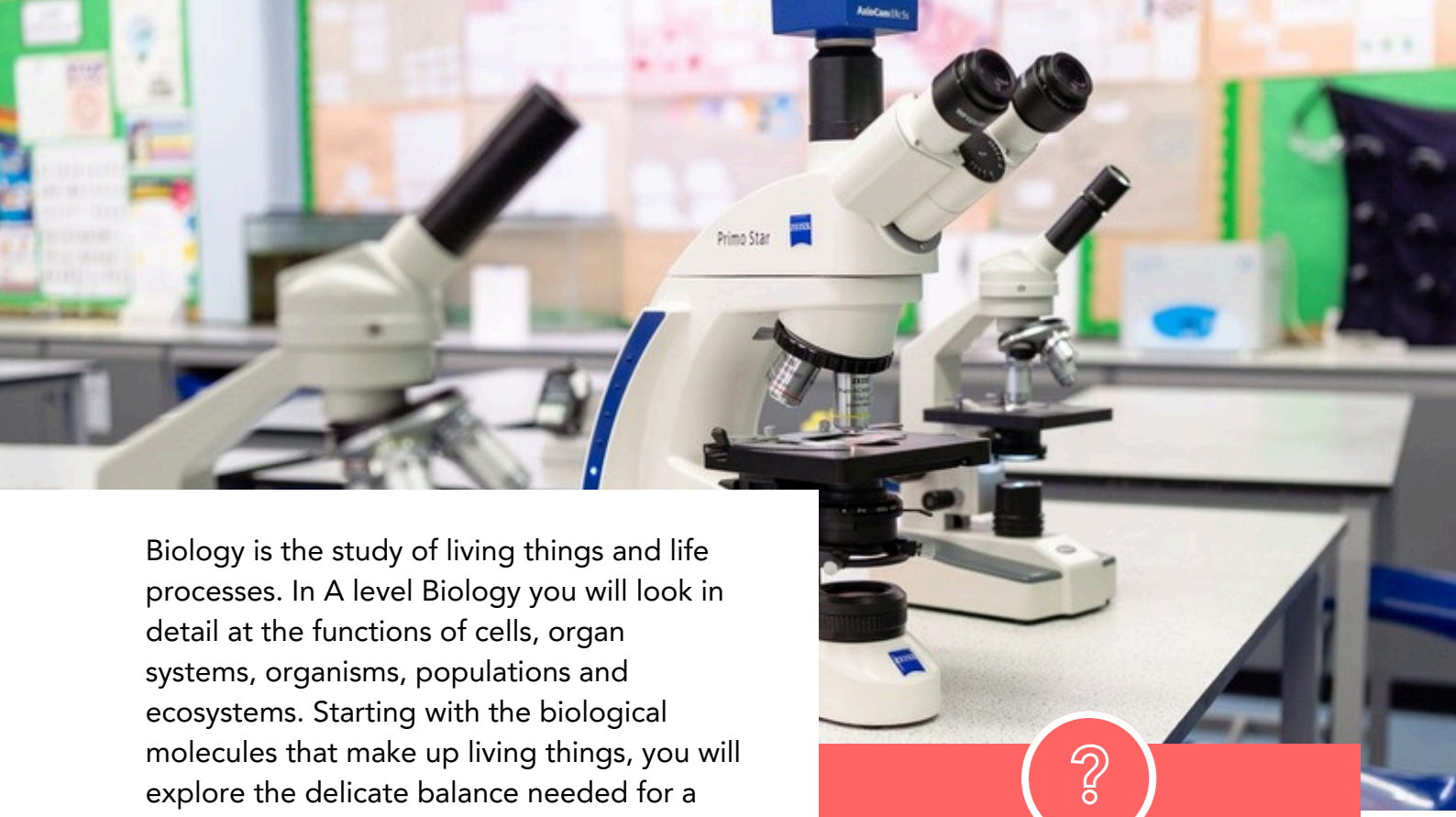
Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

Gallery visits and Exhibitions
Residential trip to Paris, including visits to the Louvre, Musée d'Orsay and Centre Pompidou

Visits to major UK galleries, including Tate Britain, Tate Modern and Tate Liverpool

Leadership & Creative Opportunities
Support learning in Lower School Art Classes, produce costume/props/sets for school productions, help at Art Club


95%+
PROGRESS TO
UNIVERSITY
TATE BRITAIN
FREE FOR ALL



Biology is the study of living things and life processes. In A level Biology you will look in detail at the functions of cells, organ systems, organisms, populations and ecosystems. Starting with the biological molecules that make up living things, you will explore the delicate balance needed for a healthy, functioning body and the interaction of diverse species in ecological settings.

Why Choose Biology?

If you're fascinated by life, health, the environment and scientific discovery, Biology is an exciting A Level that can open up a world of opportunities.

Biology

(AQA)

Entry Requirements:

Grades 6 and 6 in Combined Science or 6 in Biology and 6 in another science and a Grade 6 in Maths or 7 in Biology and a 5 in another science and Grade 6 in Maths

Subject Leader:

Dr A Naylor
anaylor@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

Biological Molecules
- Biomolecules, enzymes, DNA replication and ATP

Cells
- Cell structure, microscopy, membrane transport and immunity

Exchange
- Gas exchange, digestion, circulation and plant transport

Genes & Variation
- DNA, protein synthesis, genetics, biodiversity and classification

Energy Transfers
- Photosynthesis, Respiration, Ecosystems,

Coordination & Control
- Nervous System, Muscles, Homeostasis,

Genetics & Populations
- Inheritance, Evolution Population Genetics

Gene Technology
- Gene Expression, Cancer, Genetic Engineering, Genetic Fingerprinting

Assessment

Assessed through two written exams:
Paper 1
1 hour 30 minutes | 75 marks | 50%
Paper 2:
1 hour 30 minutes | 75 marks | 50%

Assessed through three written exams:
Paper 1:
2 hours | 91 marks | 35%
Paper 2:
2 hours | 91 marks | 35%
Paper 3:
2 hours | 78 marks | 30%

Is Biology Right for You?

You'll enjoy Biology if you are:

- Curious about how living things work
- Interested in science and the natural world
- Good at analysing information and spotting patterns
- Keen to develop practical laboratory skills
- Prepared to work independently outside lessons

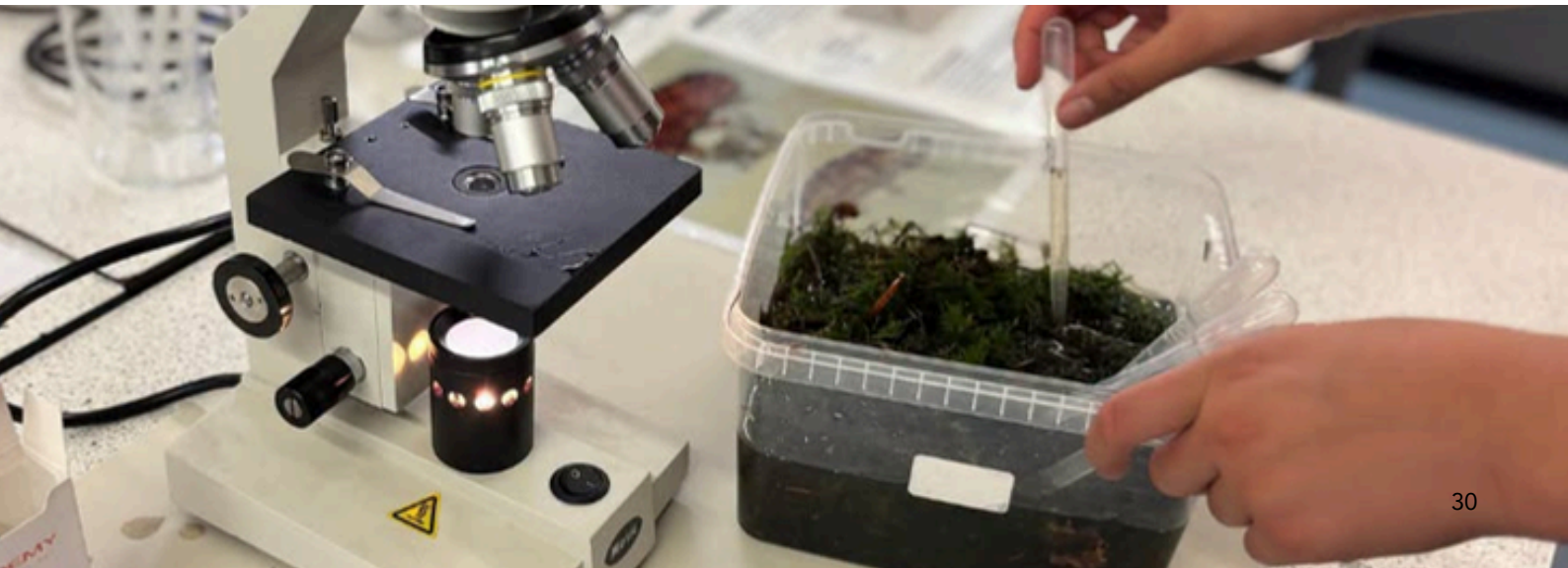
Biology is a challenging but rewarding subject that helps you develop critical thinking, problem-solving and analytical skills that are valued by universities and employers.

Subjects That Work Well With Biology?

Biology combines particularly well with:

- Chemistry
- Psychology
- Physical Education
- Mathematics
- Geography

A strong foundation in Chemistry and GCSE Maths is especially useful for success in the course.



Where Could Biology Take You?

Biology opens the door to a huge range of university courses and careers, including:

Healthcare & Medicine
- Medicine
- Dentistry
- Veterinary Science
- Nursing
- Pharmacology

Science & Research
- Biotechnology
- Genetics
- Microbiology
- Environmental Science
- Biomedical Research

Other Career Paths
- Teaching
- Ecology and Conservation
- Food and Nutrition
- Scientific Sales and Business
- Laboratory and Diagnostic Services

Even if you don't pursue a science-based career, Biology develops valuable skills that are useful in many professions. Critical thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills are honed through the study of biological sciences. These abilities are transferable and can enhance your performance in fields such as business, law, and the arts.



Biology has helped me understand the world around me, from the smallest cells to the most complex ecosystems, while developing skills that will support my future career.

Beyond the Classroom

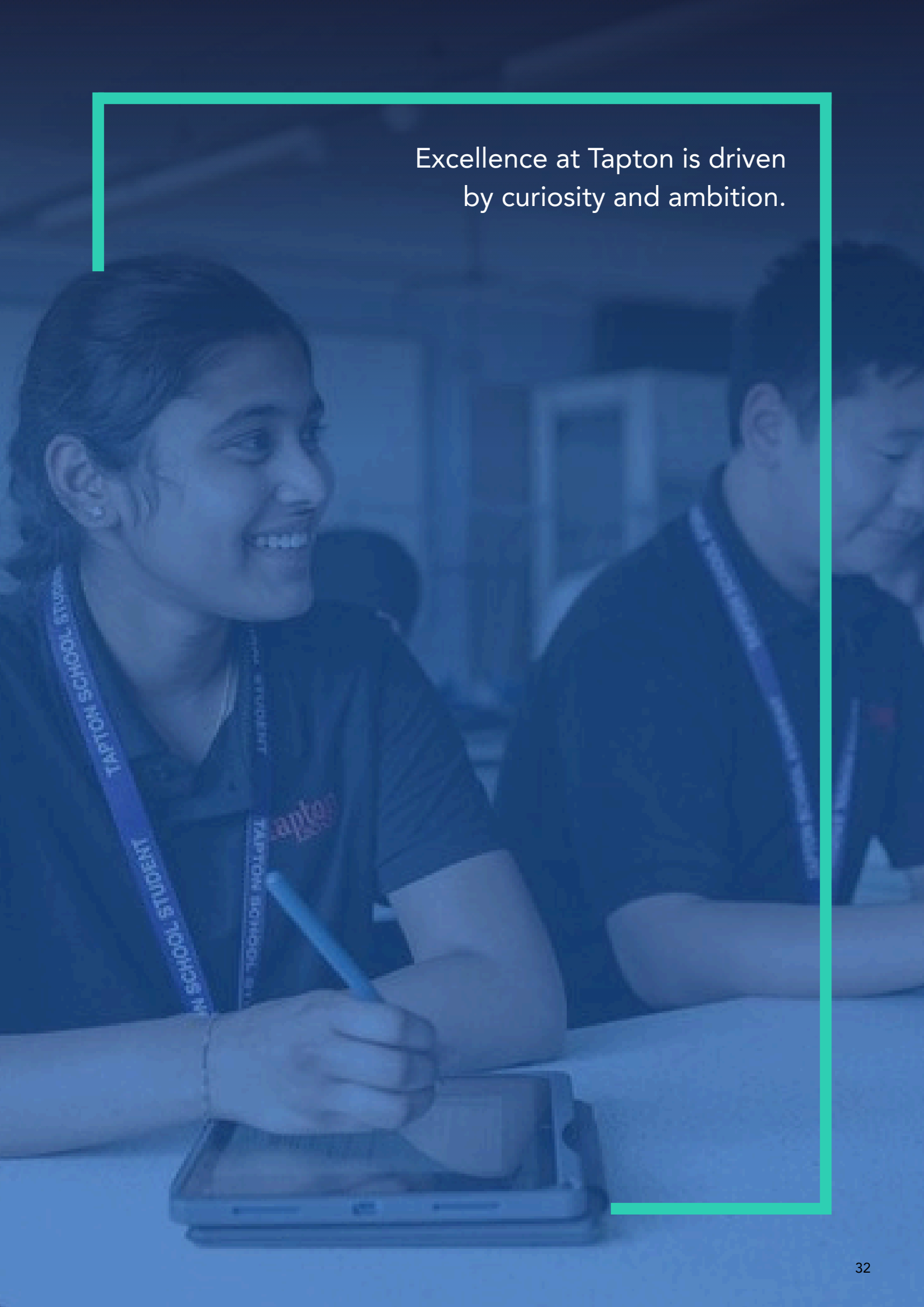
Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

Motor Neurone Disease Research Project
Gain hands-on experience through practical laboratory research.

STEM Diploma
Develop your knowledge and skills across Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

Seminar Series
Hear from university lecturers, researchers and industry professionals.

Journal Club
Explore scientific research, improve academic reading skills and develop confidence in data analysis.


Excellence at Tapton is driven
by curiosity and ambition.



A Level Business is a relevant and engaging subject that helps students understand how organisations operate and make decisions in an increasingly complex and competitive world. Students explore how businesses meet customer needs, manage people and resources, grow successfully, and respond to economic, legal and global influences.

Business Studies

(Edexcel)

Why Choose Business Studies?

This course suits students who want to develop their understanding of business while building valuable analytical, communication and problem-solving skills.

Entry Requirements:

5 in English Language or English Literature and 5 in Maths

Subject Leader:

Mr C Mehat
cmehat@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

The course develops a strong understanding of business strategy, finance, marketing, operations and leadership. Students also examine the opportunities and challenges facing organisations in both national and international markets, including the ethical issues associated with global business.

Theme 1: Marketing & People

- Meeting customer needs
- The market and marketing mix
- Marketing strategy
- Managing and motivating people
- Entrepreneurs and leadership

Theme 2: Managing Business Activities

- Raising and managing finance
- Financial planning and performance
- Resource management
- External business influences

Theme 3: Business Decisions & Strategy

- Business objectives and growth
- Strategic decision-making
- Competitiveness
- Managing change

Theme 4: Global Business

- Globalisation
- International markets and expansion
- Global marketing
- Global industries and companies

Assessment

Paper 1: Marketing and Global Business
2-hour exam | 35% of A Level

- Covers Theme 1 and Theme 4
- Based on two business case studies
- Includes a mix of short-answer and extended-response questions

Paper 2: Managing Business and Strategy
2-hour exam | 35% of A Level

- Covers Theme 2 and Theme 3
- Based on two business case studies
- Includes a mix of short-answer and extended-response questions

Paper 3: Synoptic Business Paper
2-hour exam | 30% of A Level

- Covers all four themes
- Based on a pre-released business context
- Includes data-response and extended essay questions

Is Busniess Studies Right for You?

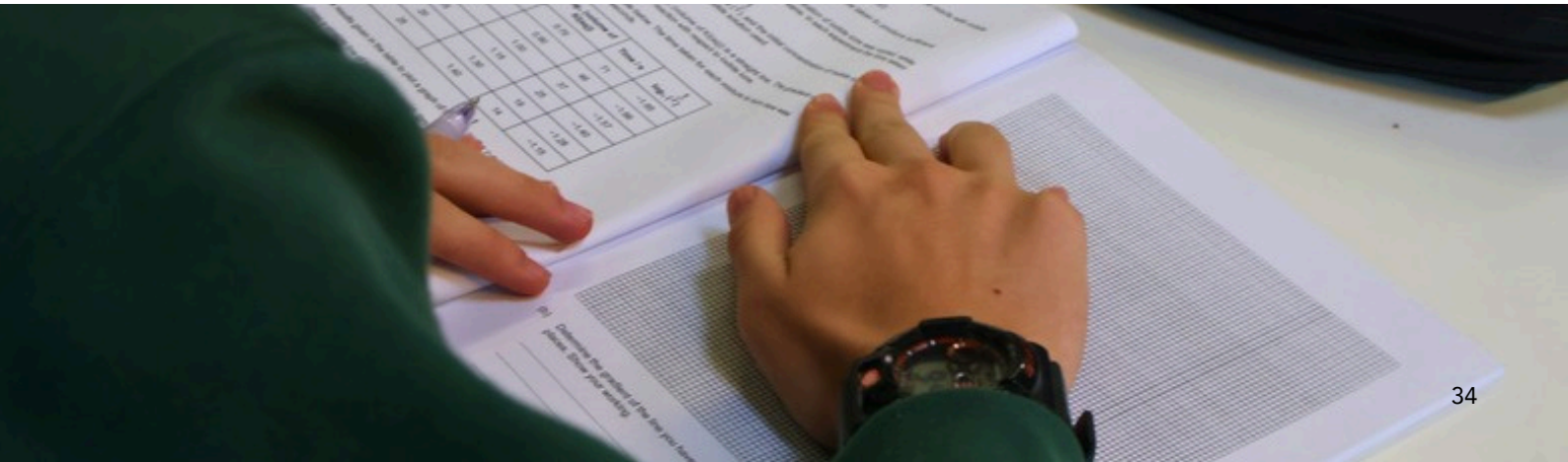
Business Studies is ideal for students who:

- Have an interest in business and current affairs.
- Enjoy exploring real-world issues and how organisations operate.
- Are curious, analytical and willing to think independently.
- Can communicate ideas clearly and effectively.
- Enjoy working with data, information and evidence.
- Are organised, motivated and prepared to work independently.

Subjects That Work Well With Business Studies?

- Geography
- Politics
- Sociology
- Economics
- Mathematics
- Modern Foreign Languages

Business Studies complements both humanities and mathematical subjects, helping students develop analytical, problem-solving and decision-making skills while gaining a broader understanding of the modern world.



Where Could Business Studies Take You?

Provides a strong foundation for a wide range of university courses and career pathways.

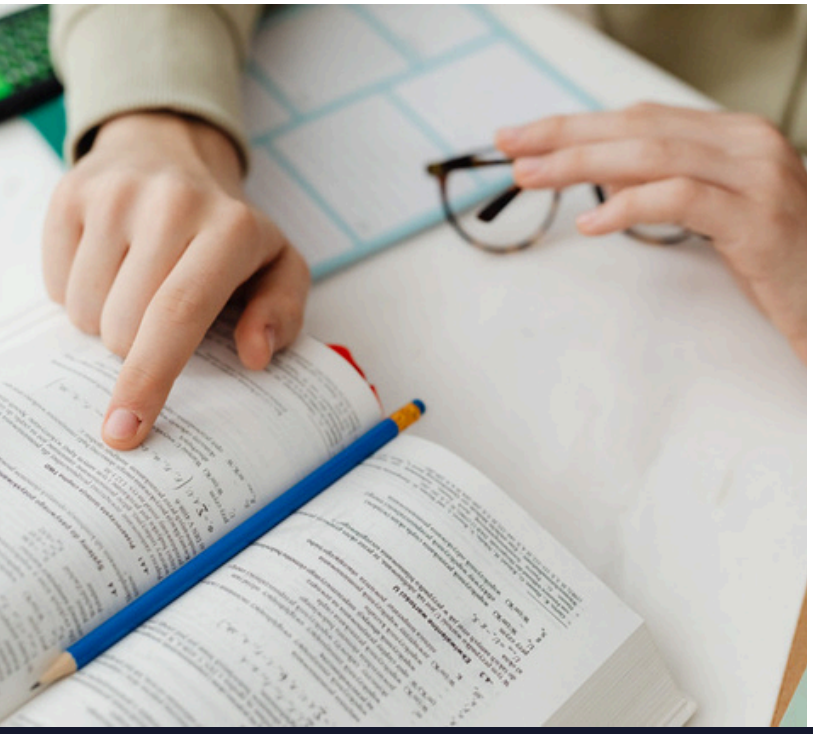
Business & Management
- Business Manager
- Operations Manager
- Management Consultant
- Entrepreneur

Finance & Accounting
- Accountant
- Financial Analyst
- Investment Manager
- Banking Professional

Sales, Marketing & Advertising
- Marketing Executive
- Sales Manager
- Brand Manager
- Advertising Executive

International Business
- International Trade
- Global Marketing
- Import and Export Management
- Business Development

Develops valuable skills in leadership, problem-solving, communication and decision-making. Particularly beneficial for students interested in management, finance, marketing or self-employment.



If you're curious about how decisions are made and opportunities are created, Business is for you. Gain real-world insight while building the analytical skills valued by universities and employers.

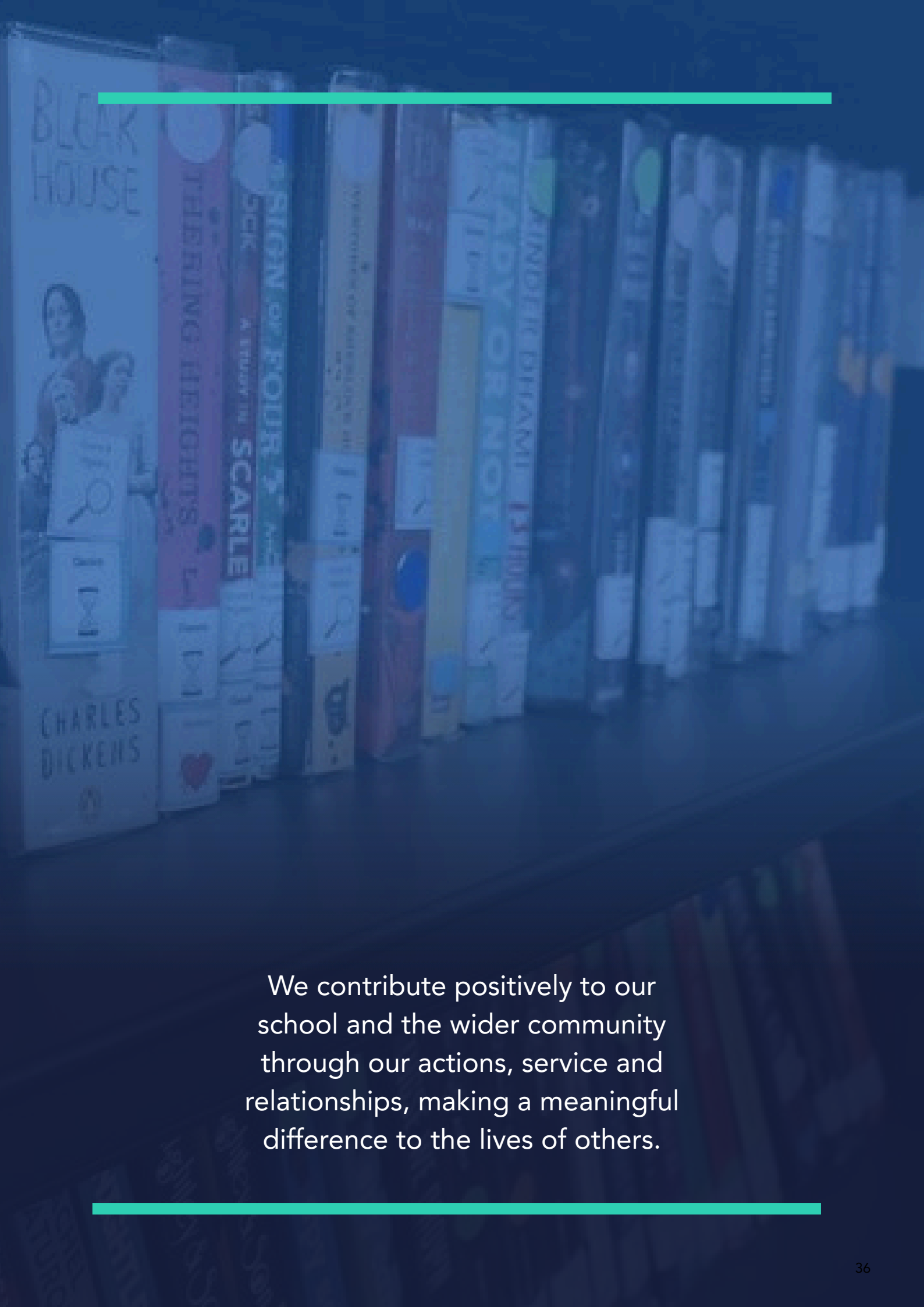
Beyond the Classroom

Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

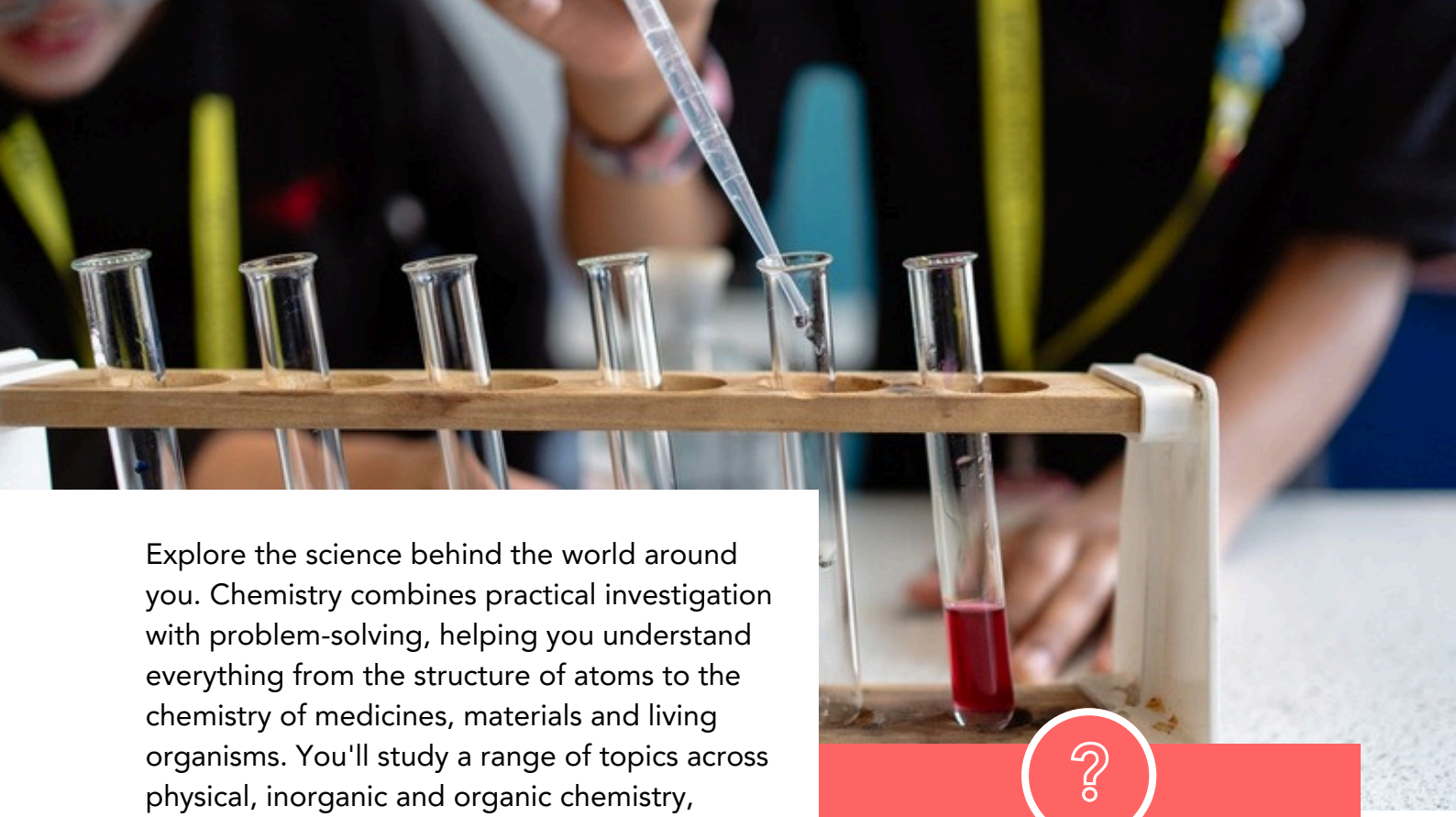
Business Visits
Visit local and national organisations to gain first-hand insight into how businesses operate.

Guest Speakers
Hear from business professionals and industry experts about their careers, experiences and the challenges facing modern organisations.

Industry Links
Benefit from the department's strong connections with the business community and gain an understanding of real-world business practices.



We contribute positively to our school and the wider community through our actions, service and relationships, making a meaningful difference to the lives of others.



Explore the science behind the world around you. Chemistry combines practical investigation with problem-solving, helping you understand everything from the structure of atoms to the chemistry of medicines, materials and living organisms. You'll study a range of topics across physical, inorganic and organic chemistry, developing strong analytical, mathematical and practical laboratory skills.

Why Choose Chemistry?

Ideal for students who are curious about how things work, enjoy practical science and are confident with mathematical thinking.

Chemistry (AQA)

Entry Requirements:

Grades 6-6 in Combined Science or 6 in Chemistry and 6 in another science and 6 in Maths or 7 in Chemistry and a 5 in another science and a 6 in Maths.

Subject Leader:

Miss J Rigby
jrigby@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

A Level Chemistry will inspire students, nurture their passion for chemistry and lay the foundations for further study. It covers the three main areas of chemistry; physical, inorganic and organic.

Physical Chemistry

- Atomic structure
- Bonding
- Energetics
- Kinetics
- Chemical equilibria and Le Chatelier's principle
- Oxidation, reduction and redox equations
- Thermodynamics
- Rate Equations
- Equilibrium constant Kc for homogeneous systems
- Electrode potentials and electrochemical cells
- Acids and bases

Organic Chemistry

- Introduction to organic chemistry
- Alkanes
- Halogenoalkanes
- 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

Inorganic Chemistry

- Periodicity
- Group 2, the alkaline earth metals
- Group 7, the halogens
- Properties of Period 3 elements and their oxides
- Transition metals
- Reactions of ions in aqueous solution

Assessment

Assessed through two written exams:
Paper 1: 1.5 hours - 50%
Paper 2: 1.5 hours - 50%

Assessed through three written exams:
Paper 1: 2 hours – 35%
Paper 2: 2 hours – 35%
Paper 3: 2 hours – 30%

Is Chemistry Right for You?

You'll enjoy Chemistry if you:

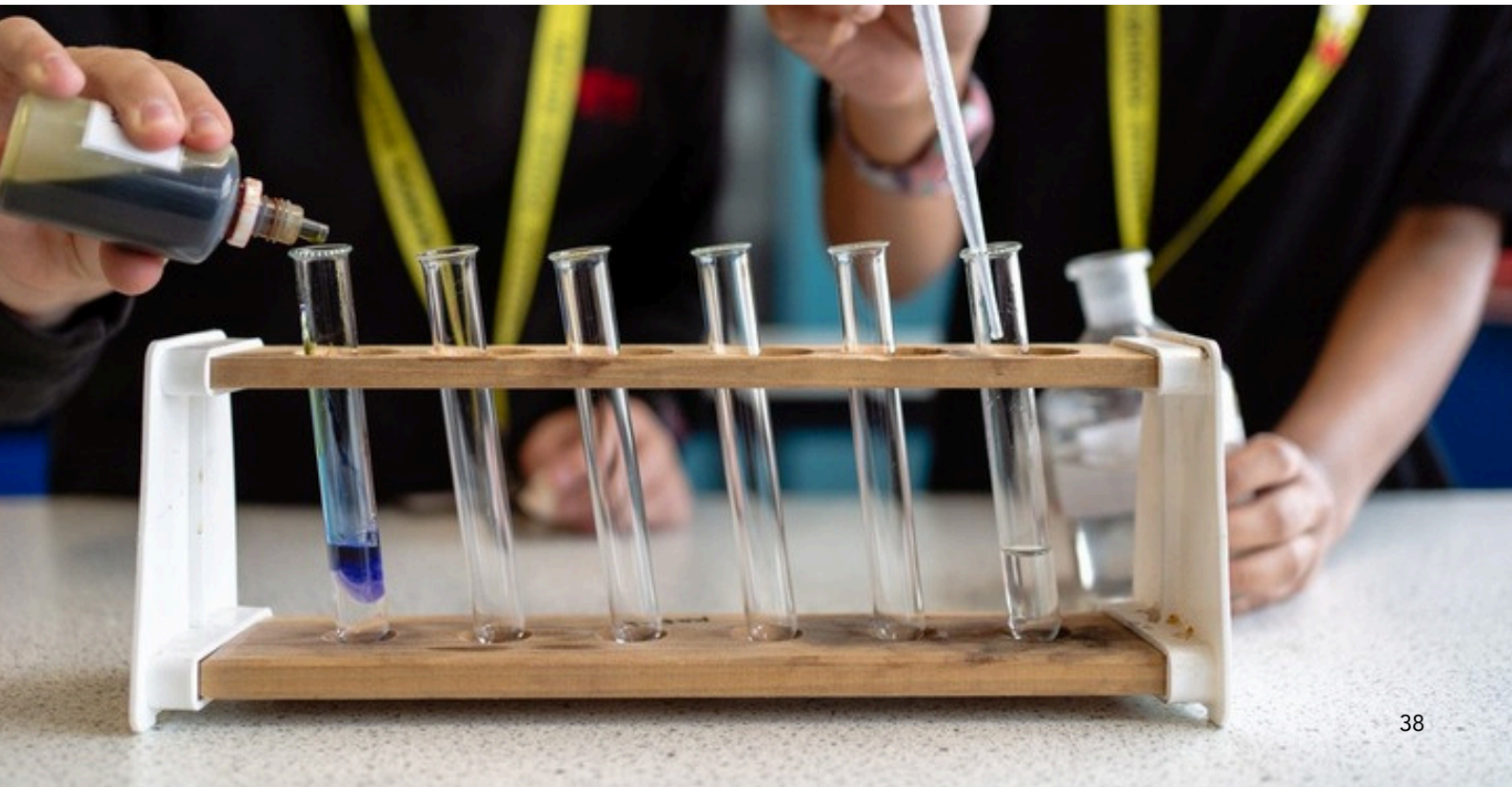
- Are curious about how things work and why reactions happen
- Enjoy solving problems and thinking logically
- Are confident with numbers and mathematical skills
- Like carrying out practical experiments and investigations
- Are organised, motivated and willing to work independently

Subjects That Work Well With Chemistry?

Chemistry combines particularly well with:

- Biology
- Physics
- Mathematics
- Geography

Many students choose Chemistry as part of a wider STEM programme, but it also complements a range of other subjects.



Where Could Chemistry Take You?

Chemistry opens the door to a huge range of university courses and careers, including:

Healthcare & Medicine
- Medicine
- Dentistry
- Veterinary Science
- Pharmacy
- Physiotherapy

Science & Research
- Chemistry
- Biochemistry
- Biotechnology
- Forensic Science
- Environmental Science

Engineering & Industry
- Chemical Engineering
- Materials Science
- Manufacturing
- Research and Development

Other Career Pathways
- Teaching
- Scientific Sales
- Technical Consultancy
- Quality Assurance

The analytical, practical and problem-solving skills developed through Chemistry are also highly valued across business, finance and professional services.



Chemistry encourages curiosity, precision and analytical thinking while helping students understand the scientific principles that shape the world around us.

Beyond the Classroom

Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

Medical Society
Explore careers in medicine and healthcare through talks and mentoring opportunities.

University of Cambridge Chemistry Olympiad
Engage with higher education providers and develop your understanding of contemporary scientific research.

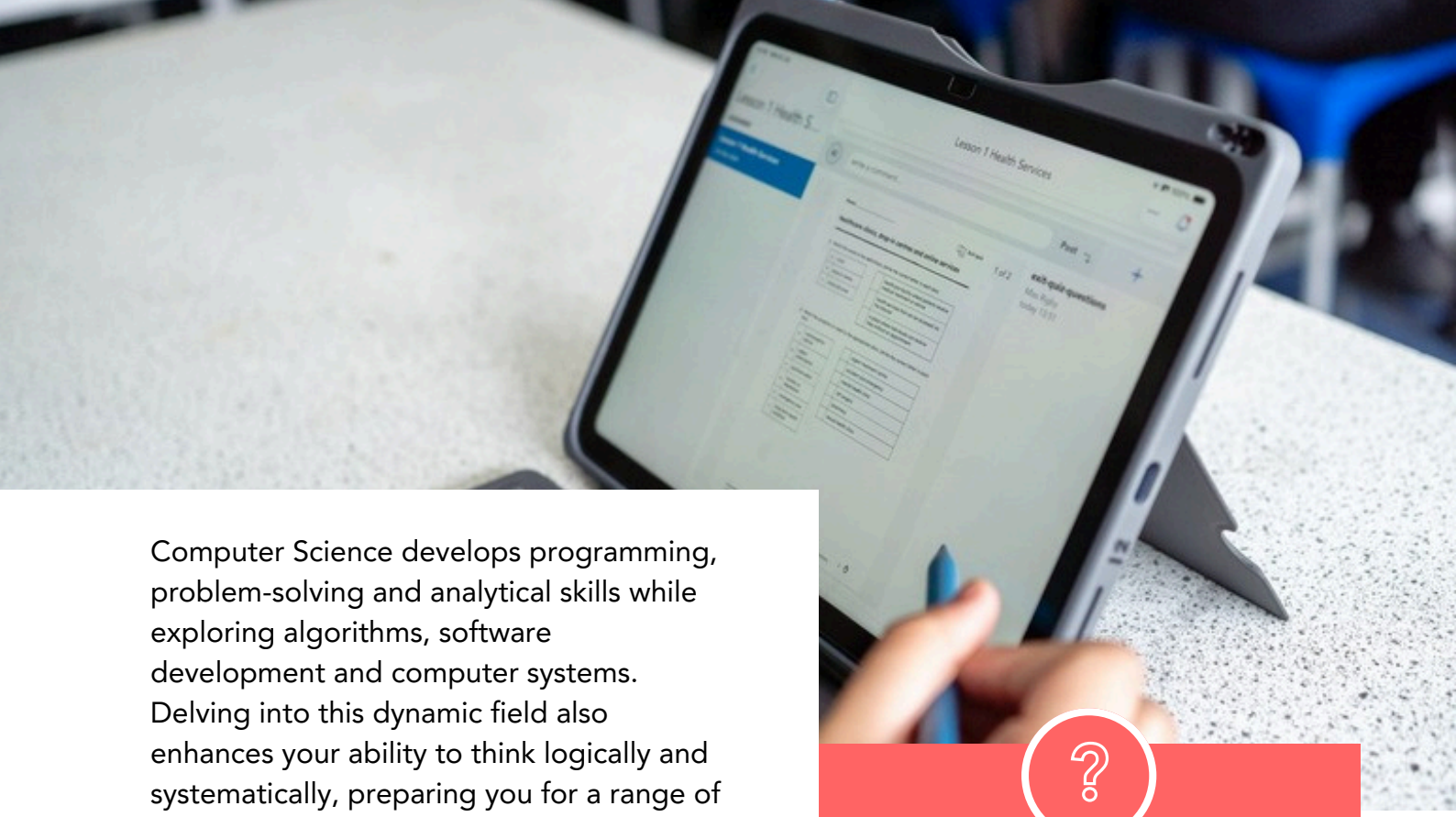
Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) competitions and events

These opportunities allow you to challenge yourself, develop your knowledge and strengthen applications for competitive university courses and careers.



450

THE COMMON ROOM AND SIXTH FORM CAFÉ SIT AT THE HEART OF OUR COMMUNITY, SERVING OVER 450 STUDENTS EVERY DAY



Computer Science develops programming, problem-solving and analytical skills while exploring algorithms, software development and computer systems. Delving into this dynamic field also enhances your ability to think logically and systematically, preparing you for a range of careers in technology and beyond.

Computer Science

(OCR)

Why Choose Computer Science?

If you enjoy technology and problem-solving, Computer Science develops the skills and knowledge needed for university, careers and an increasingly digital world.

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Grade 6 in Computer Science/Computing/Computer Studies and GCSE 6 in Maths and 6 in English Language or English Literature

For students from schools where Computer Science GCSE is not delivered, students may apply with a Grade 6 in GCSE Maths and with a Grade 6 in GCSE Physics, or where students completed Combined Science with a Grade 6 in GCSE Maths and a Grade 6-6 in GCSE Combined Science and 6 in English Language or English Literature. Tapton students who did not take GCSE Computer Science may also apply with this entry requirement.

Subject Leader:

Mrs S Thomas
sthomas@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

In Year 12, students develop a strong understanding of computing principles, computer systems and programming. The course introduces computational thinking, algorithms and problem-solving techniques, helping students understand how software is designed and how technology is used to address real-world challenges. Programming skills are developed throughout the course, alongside an appreciation of how computer systems function and interact.

In Year 13, students build upon the foundations established during the first year by exploring more advanced programming concepts, software development and computational methods. Students apply their learning through an independent programming project, developing practical skills in analysis, design, implementation and evaluation whilst tackling increasingly complex computing challenges.

Assessment

- **Computing Principles** 50% (70 marks)
- **Algorithms & Problem Solving** 50% (70 marks)
- **Computer Systems** 40% (140 marks)
- **Algorithms & Programming** 40% (140 marks)
- **Programming Project** – 20% (70 marks)

Includes a substantial programming project completed independently, which allows you to apply the skills and knowledge you've gained throughout the course.

Is Computer Science Right for You?

You'll enjoy Computer Science if you are:

- Interested in technology and innovation.
- A logical and analytical thinker.
- Keen to solve problems.
- Interested in programming.
- Prepared to work independently and persevere through challenges.

Computer Science rewards curiosity, resilience and creativity whilst developing highly transferable skills.

Subjects That Work Well With Computer Science?

Computer Science combines particularly well with:

- Mathematics
- Further Mathematics
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Design Engineering

The problem-solving and analytical skills developed through Computer Science complement a wide range of other subjects.



Where Could Computer Science Take You?

Computer Science opens the door to a huge range of university courses and careers, including:

Technology & Software
- Software Engineering
- Web Development
- Apps Development
- Systems Architecture

Data & Security
- Cyber Security
- Data Science
- Artificial Intelligence
- Machine Learning

Engineering & Innovation
- Robotics
- Computer Engineering
- Technology Research

Other Career Pathways
- Teaching
- Consultancy
- Project Management
- Business Technology

The skills developed in Computer Science are increasingly valuable across every sector of the economy.



Computer Science is about much more than coding. It develops creativity, logical thinking and problem-solving skills, empowering students to shape the technologies of tomorrow.

Beyond the Classroom

Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

Programming Challenges
Develop coding skills through competitions and problem-solving activities.

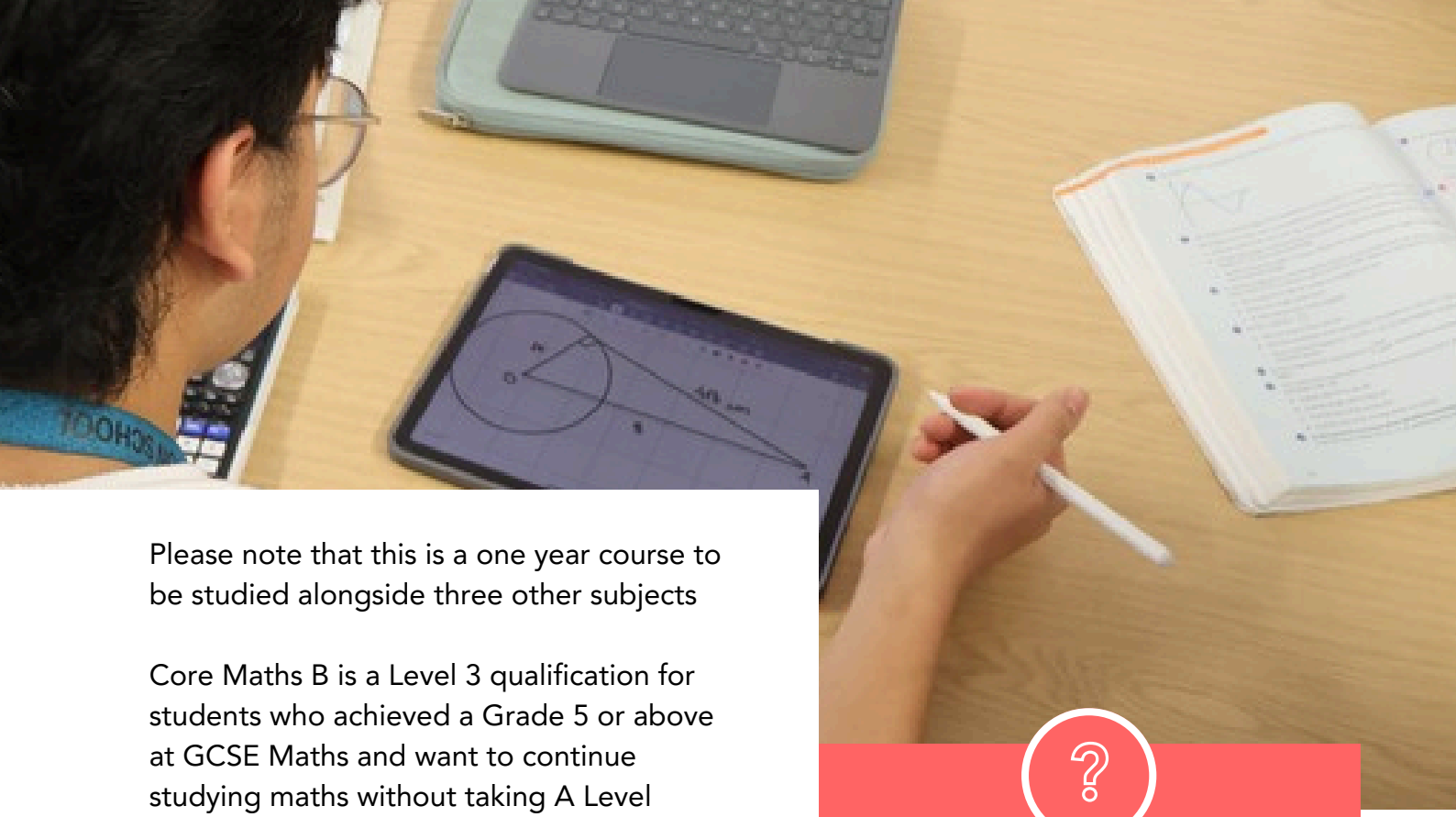
Industry Engagement
Learn from technology professionals and employers.

Computing Clubs
Support younger students and develop leadership skills.

Independent Projects
Build practical experience through personal programming and software development projects.

These opportunities provide valuable insight into the rapidly evolving technology sector.


72%
ACHIEVED
A* - B



Please note that this is a one year course to be studied alongside three other subjects

Core Maths B is a Level 3 qualification for students who achieved a Grade 5 or above at GCSE Maths and want to continue studying maths without taking A Level Mathematics.

(OCR (MEI))

Core Mathematics

Why Choose Core Maths?

Ideal for students who want to keep their maths skills sharp and support subjects such as Business, Psychology, Geography, Science and Social Sciences.

Entry Requirements:

Grace 5 in GCSE Maths

Subject Leader:

Mr P Webb
pwebb@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

- Modelling
- Statistics for data analysis
- Statistical problem solving (SPS)
- Finance
- Risk
- Estimation Skills
- The use of technology – in particular, using spreadsheets

Assessment

There are two components:
Paper 1 Introduction to Quantitative Reasoning
2 hour written paper (50%)

Paper 2 Statistical Problem Solving
2 hour written paper (50%)

Is Core Maths Right for You?

Core Maths is a great choice if you want to continue developing your maths skills without taking A Level Mathematics.
This course is right for you if you:

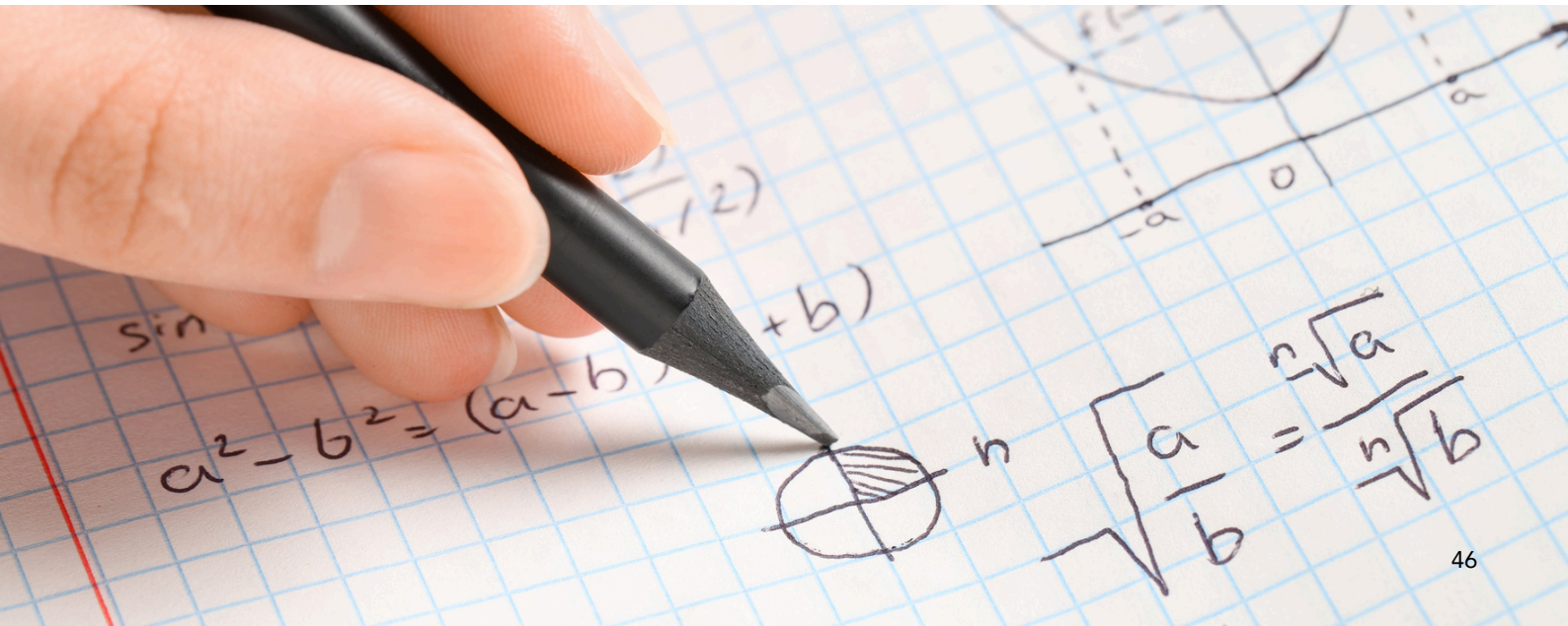
- Want to use maths in practical, real-life situations
- Enjoy solving problems and working with data
- Want to build confidence with financial maths and everyday calculations
- Study subjects such as Business, Economics, Psychology, Geography or Science
- Want to strengthen your mathematical skills for university, apprenticeships or employment

Why haven't I heard of it?

Core Maths is a relatively new course and is a part of a wider initiative to improve maths in England – and you could be a part of it. Forward-thinking Sixth Forms (like Tapton) and colleges pioneered the qualification in September 2014 and it has been available to all schools and colleges since September 2015.

Subjects That Work Well With Core Maths?

- Science
- Geography
- Business Studies
- Psychology
- Economics
- History



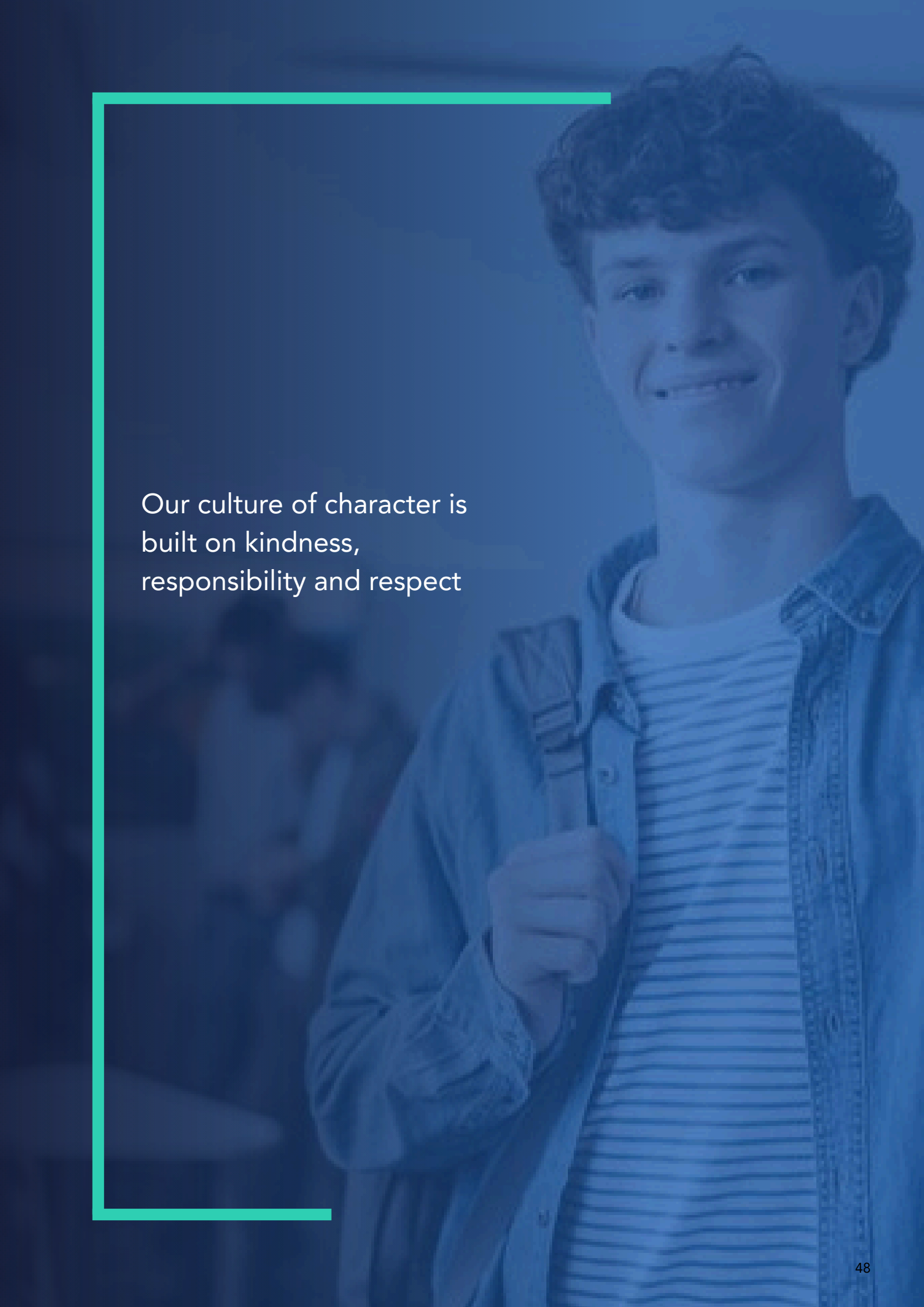
Will it be recognised by universities and employers?

This qualification is designed to support post-16 learners with the mathematical and statistical needs of their further study of other subjects, as well as for employment and everyday life. Universities have come out in strong support of it. Even subjects like history now recognise the importance of statistics and so this qualification will help you hit the ground running at university. The course will carry the same number of UCAS points as an AS qualification.

Employers from all different sectors are also firmly behind the Core Maths qualification. Many roles in today's workplace require high levels of budget management and problem-solving skills; Core Maths will be a useful tool in equipping you with these skills.



I enjoy Core Maths because it feels relevant to real life. The skills I've learned help me in my other subjects and have improved my confidence when working with numbers and data.



Our culture of character is built on kindness, responsibility and respect



A Level Design Engineering combines creativity, innovation and problem-solving with practical engineering skills. You'll learn how to design and develop real-world products and systems, exploring areas such as electronics, mechanics, programming, structures and manufacturing.

Design and Technology: Design Engineering

(OCR)

Why Choose Design Engineering?

This course suits students who want to develop their understanding of business while building valuable analytical, communication and problem-solving skills.

Entry Requirements:

6 in GCSE Maths and 6 in GCSE Physics

Subject Leader:

Mr J Fulson
jfulson@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

Design Engineering is about designing and developing the products and technologies that shape the modern world, from phones and vehicles to robotics and aerospace systems.
Throughout the course, you will:

- Develop skills in design, electronics, mechanics, programming and engineering
- Create innovative solutions to real-world problems
- Use CAD software and practical prototyping techniques
- Test, refine and improve your designs through experimentation
- Work independently and collaboratively on engineering projects
- Explore careers and practices within mechanical, electronic and structural engineering

The course develops creativity, technical knowledge and problem-solving skills, making it ideal for students interested in engineering, product design and technology.

Assessment

Exam Paper
1 hour 30 minutes | 26.7% of A Level

- Analyse existing products
- Apply knowledge of materials, manufacturing and product design
- Use mathematical skills in engineering contexts
- Explore environmental, social and ethical issues in design

Problem-Solving Paper
1 hour 45 minutes | 23.3% of A Level

- Apply design and manufacturing knowledge to real-world challenges
- Evaluate products and design solutions
- Demonstrate creative and analytical thinking

Iterative Design Project (NEA)
Approx. 65 hours | 50% of A Level

- Design, make and evaluate a product or system
- Choose your own design problem or opportunity
- Build a portfolio showing the development of your ideas from concept to final outcome

Exams: 50% Externally Assessed
Iterative Design Project: 50% Internally Assessed

Is Design Engineering Right for You?

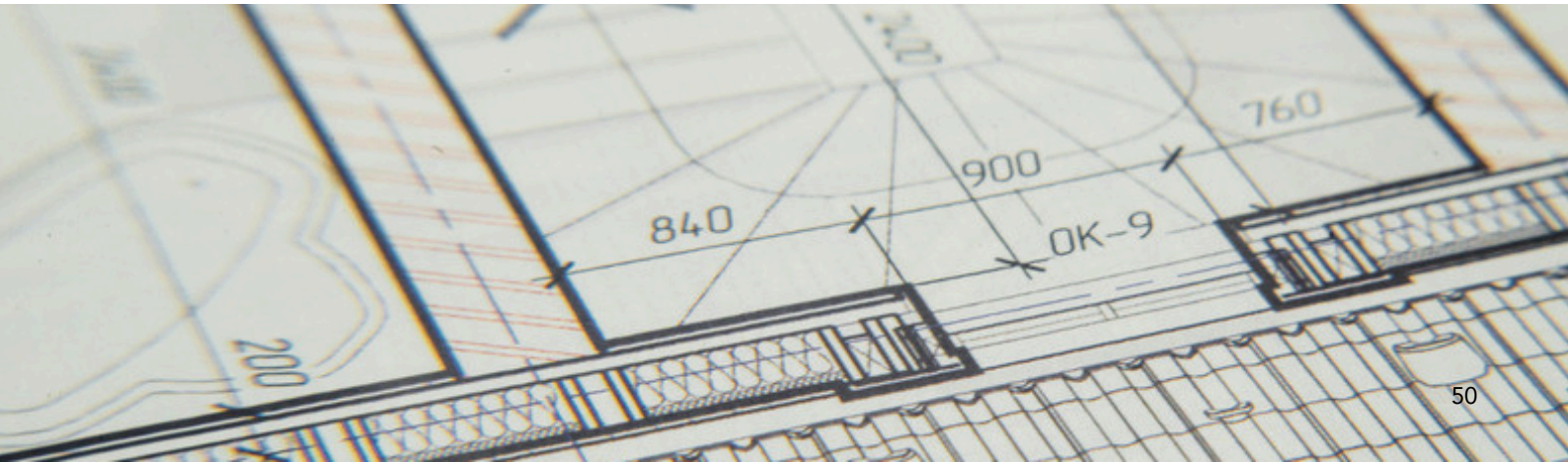
Design Engineering is ideal for students who:

- Enjoy solving problems and developing practical solutions.
- Have an interest in engineering, electronics or mechanics.
- Are curious about how products and systems work.
- Enjoy designing, making, testing and improving ideas.
- Can apply maths and science to real-world challenges.
- Are creative, resilient and willing to learn from mistakes.

Subjects That Work Well With Design Engineering?

- Mathematics
- Further Mathematics
- Physics
- Computer Science
- Chemistry

Design Engineering is an excellent complement to STEM subjects, particularly Mathematics and Physics. Together, these subjects provide a strong foundation for students considering university courses or careers in engineering, product design, robotics, aerospace, electronics and technology.



Where Could Design Engineering Take You?

Provides a strong foundation for a wide range of university courses and career pathways.

Engineering
- Mechanical Engineer
- Electrical Engineer
- Electronic Engineer
- Control Systems Engineer
- Mechatronics Engineer
- Civil Engineer
- Structural Engineer
- Aerospace Engineer

Robotics & Automation
- Robotics Engineer
- Automation Engineer
- Control Systems Designer
- Mechatronics Specialist

Automotive & Aerospace
- Automotive Engineer
- Vehicle Designer
- Aeronautical Engineer

Product Design & Creative Technology
- Product Designer
- Industrial Designer
- Special Effects Technician
- Animatronics Designer

Design Engineering opens the door to a wide range of careers in engineering, technology, product design and innovation, all industries with strong demand for skilled professionals.



I enjoy Design Engineering because every project challenges me to think creatively and solve real-world problems. Seeing an idea develop from a sketch into a working product is incredibly rewarding.

Beyond the Classroom

Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

Hands-On Engineering Projects
Get involved in electronic, mechanical and structural engineering projects.

Independent Engineering Experience
Explore personal projects and engineering interests beyond the specification.





A Level Drama & Theatre combines creativity, performance and critical analysis. Students explore theatre from the perspectives of performers, directors, designers and audiences, developing both practical and analytical skills throughout the course.

Drama & Theatre Studies

(Edquas (WJEC))

Why Choose Drama & Theatre Studies?

Ideal for students passionate about theatre, this course builds confidence, teamwork and communication skills for further study and a wide range of careers.

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Grade 5 in Drama or Grade 5 in English Language or English Literature

Subject Leader:

Mrs R Gerrard
rgerrard@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content

A Level Drama and Theatre develops your creativity, performance and communication skills through the study of drama, theatre and practical performance.

Theatre Workshop

- Create and perform a reinterpretation of a play extract using the techniques of a recognised theatre practitioner or company.
- Specialise in Acting or Design
- Perform a practical piece of theatre
- Complete a creative log

Text in Action (40%)

- Create and perform two contrasting pieces of theatre.
- Devise an original performance from a stimulus
- Perform an extract from a published play
- Apply different theatrical styles and techniques
- Complete a process and evaluation report

Text in Performance (40%)

- Develop your understanding of theatre through the study of dramatic texts.
- Study classic and contemporary plays
- Explore performance, directing and design choices
- Analyse a set text and unseen extract in a written exam

Assessment

Component 1: Theatre Workshop
20% of A Level | Internally Assessed
Choose to be assessed in Acting or Design.
You will:

- Create and perform (or design for) a piece of theatre based on a text extract.
- Use the style and techniques of a theatre practitioner or theatre company.
- Produce:
  - A final performance or design outcome
  - A creative log documenting your process

Component 3: Text in Performance
40% of A Level | 2 hour 30 minute written exam
Section A
Essay question on a set text written before 1956.
Section B
Essay question on a set text written after 1956.
Section C
Analysis of an extract from The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time.

Component 2: Text in Action
40% of A Level | Externally Assessed
Choose to be assessed in Acting or Design.
You will create and perform:

- A devised performance based on a stimulus provided by the exam board.
- A performance of a scripted extract in a contrasting style.

Assessment includes:

- A live performance to a visiting examiner.
- A written process and evaluation report.
- Design students also deliver a short presentation explaining their design choices.

Is Drama and Theatre Studies Right for You?

- Have a passion for drama and theatre.
- Enjoy performing, creating and exploring new ideas.
- Are willing to take part in rehearsals, workshops and theatre visits.
- Work well as part of a team.
- Are confident communicating and sharing ideas.
- Want to develop creativity, confidence and performance skills.

Subjects That Work Well With Drama and Theatre Studies?

- Music
- Art & Design
- English Literature
- Psychology
- Sociology

The subject enhances learning across the Sixth Form curriculum and is particularly valuable for students who enjoy creative, practical and discussion-based subjects.



Where Could Drama and Theatre Studies Take You?

Drama & Theatre provides a strong foundation for a wide range of university courses and career pathways.

Performing Arts
- Actor
- Director
- Theatre Practitioner
- Drama School Training

Film, Television & Media
- Presenter
- Producer
- Screenwriter
- Media Production

Education
- Teacher
- Drama Practitioner
- Workshop Leader

Creative Industries
- Arts Administrator
- Event Manager
- Theatre Marketing
- Creative Producer

Drama & Theatre develops valuable skills that are highly regarded by universities and employers, supporting a wide range of future courses and careers.



Drama & Theatre is a subject that challenges you to think creatively, collaborate with others and develop confidence in yourself and your ideas. Whether performing, directing or analysing theatre, you'll gain valuable skills that will support you both on stage and beyond.

Beyond the Classroom

Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

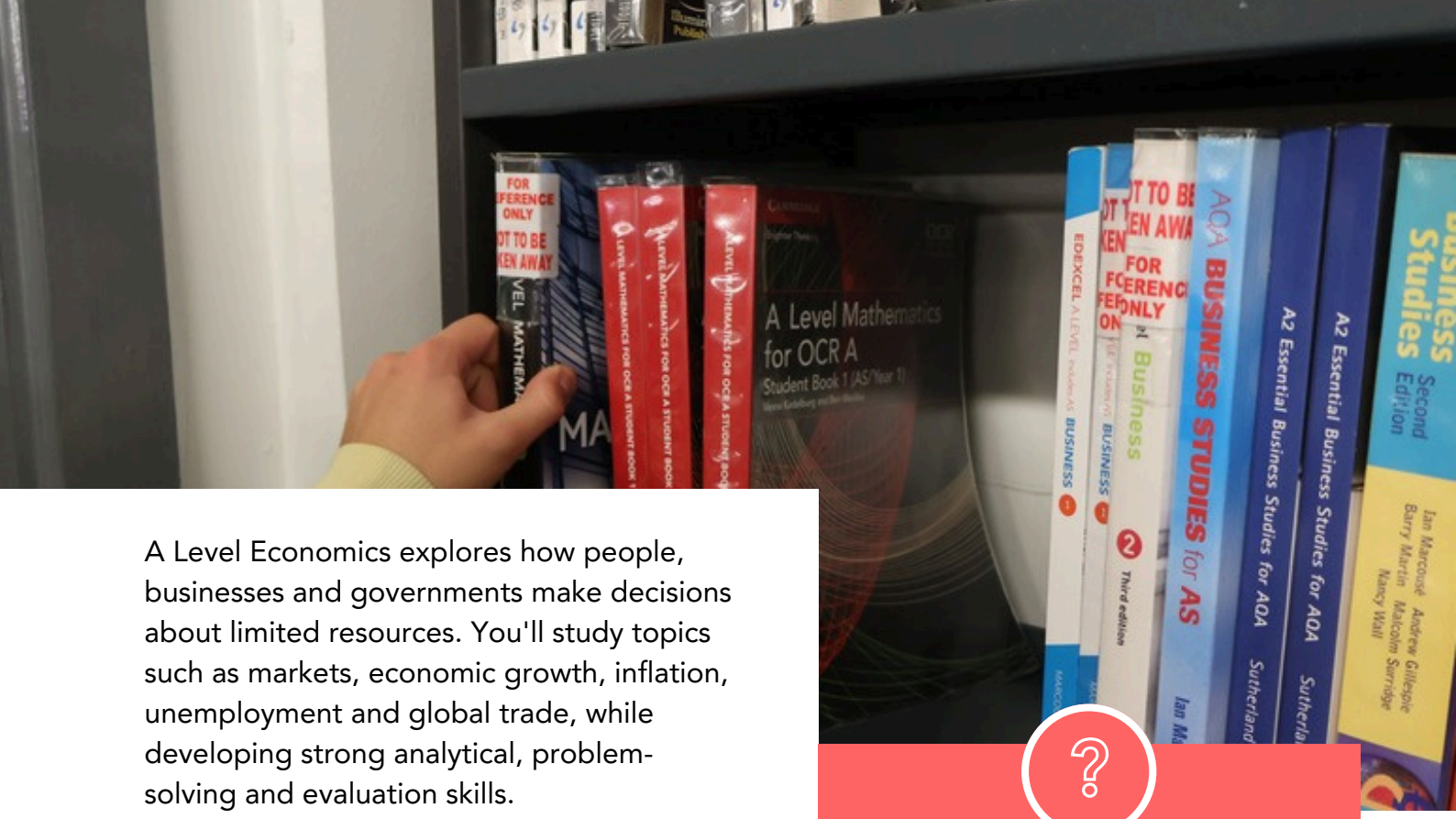
Theatre Trips & Residentials
Attend productions in Sheffield and theatres across the region.

School Productions
Perform on stage or work behind the scenes with lighting, sound, costumes and stage management.

Workshops & Industry Experience
Take part in theatre workshops and masterclasses.

Leadership Opportunities
Support younger students through the Theatre Company and Musical Theatre Company.





A Level Economics explores how people, businesses and governments make decisions about limited resources. You'll study topics such as markets, economic growth, inflation, unemployment and global trade, while developing strong analytical, problem-solving and evaluation skills.

Why Choose Economics?

If you're curious about how the world works and enjoy debating ideas, A Level Economics is an excellent choice.

Economics (AQA)

Entry Requirements:

6 in GCSE English Language or English Literature and 6 in GCSE Maths

Subject Leader:

Mr C Mehat
cmehat@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

Markets and Market Failure

- The economic problem and scarcity
- Supply and demand
- Price determination
- Production, costs and revenue
- Competition and market structures
- Market failure and government intervention

The UK Economy

- Measuring economic performance
- Economic growth, inflation and unemployment
- The circular flow of income
- Aggregate demand and aggregate supply
- Macroeconomic policy

Businesses, Consumers and Labour Markets

- Individual decision-making
- Business behaviour and objectives
- Perfect competition and monopoly
- The labour market
- Income distribution, poverty and inequality

The Global Economy

- International trade
- Financial markets
- Monetary and fiscal policy
- Globalisation and economic development
- International economic performance

Assessment

Paper 1: Markets and Market Failure
You will answer:

- One data response question (chosen from two options)
- One essay question (chosen from three options)

Paper 2: The National and International Economy
You will answer:

- One data response question (chosen from two options)
- One essay question (chosen from three options)

Paper 3: Economic Principles and Issues
This paper includes:

- Multiple-choice questions
- A case study followed by a series of structured questions

The A Level Economics course is assessed through three written examinations, each lasting 2 hours. Each paper is worth 33.3% of the final A Level grade.

Is Economics Right for You?

You will enjoy A Level Economics if you:

- Take an interest in current affairs and want to understand the issues shaping the world around us.
- Enjoy solving problems and thinking logically about complex situations.
- Like asking questions and exploring different viewpoints before reaching a conclusion.
- Are willing to read beyond the classroom, keeping up with economic news and developments.
- Can work independently, showing organisation, initiative and perseverance.
- Have strong communication skills and enjoy discussing and debating ideas.
- Are comfortable working with numbers and data, including interpreting graphs, charts and statistics.

Subjects That Work Well With Economics?

The skills you develop in Economics are highly valued by universities and can support degree courses in areas such as:

- Law
- Business and Management
- Finance and Accounting
- Economics
- Politics
- Engineering
- Geography

Because Economics develops analytical, problem-solving and decision-making skills, it is a respected subject that can open doors to a wide variety of university courses and career pathways.



Where Could Economics Take You?

Economics provides a strong foundation for a wide range of university courses and careers.

Business & Finance
- Banking
- Finance
- Accounting
- Insurance
- Marketing
- Business Management

Law, Politics & Public Services
- Law
- Politics
- Government and Public Policy
- Civil Service

Media & Communication
- Journalism
- Public Relations
- Communications

Sport, Retail & Events
- Sports Management
- Retail Management
- Event Management

Economics helps you understand how decisions made by individuals, businesses and governments affect everyday life. The analytical, problem-solving and data skills you develop are valued across many industries and career sectors.



Economics helps you understand the decisions that shape our society, from the cost of living to global trade.

Beyond the Classroom

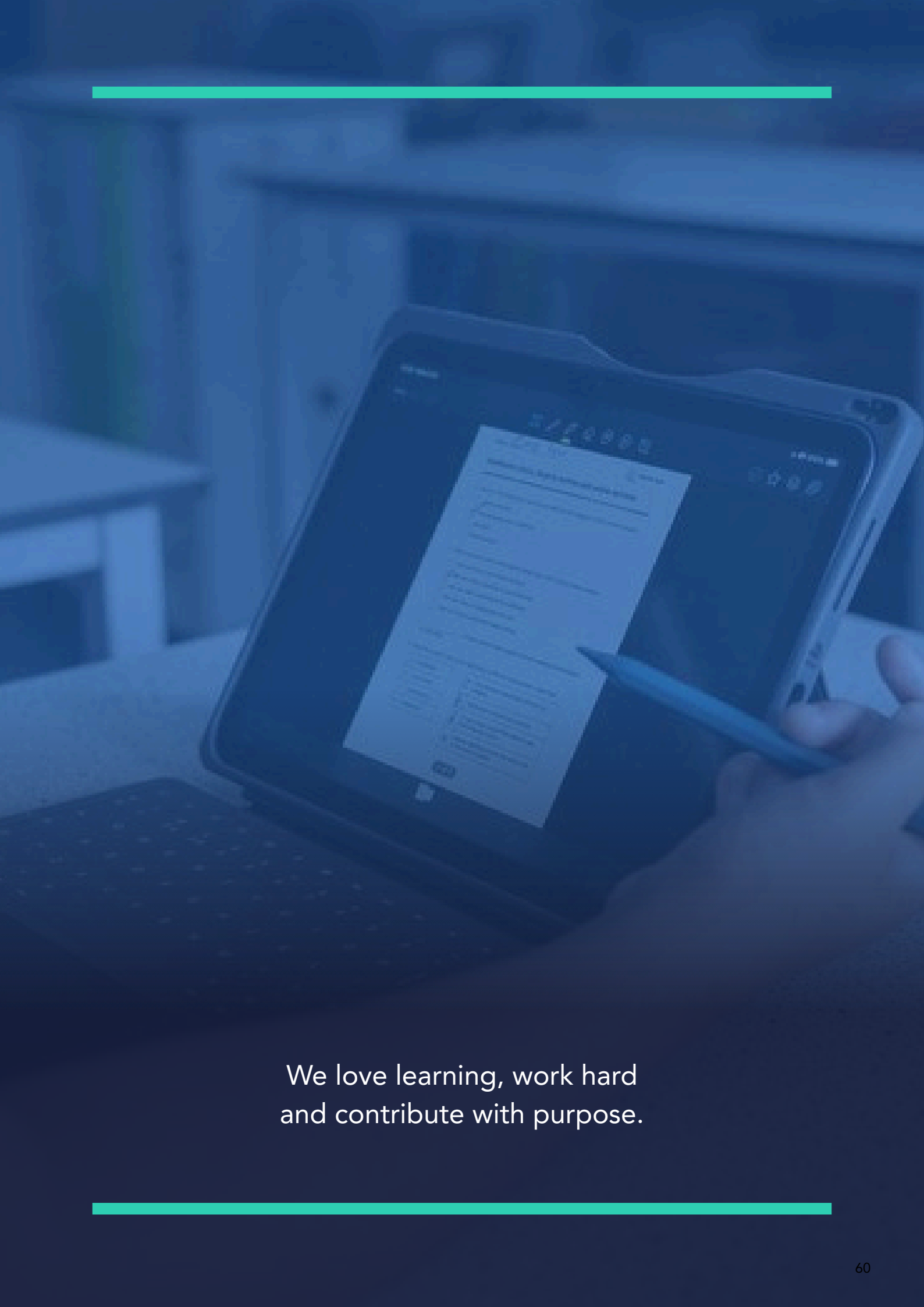
Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

Conferences and Guest Speakers
Hear from experts and explore real-world economic issues.

Visits to the City of London
See how the UK's financial centre operates in practice.

National competitions
Test your skills against students from across the country.

Links with local businesses and industry professionals
Learn how economics is used in the workplace and explore career opportunities.



We love learning, work hard
and contribute with purpose.



Discover how language shapes the way we communicate, connect and express ourselves. You'll explore everything from social media and advertising to regional dialects and language change, while carrying out your own independent language investigation into a topic that interests you.

English Language

(AQA)

Why Choose English Language?

Explore how language shapes our identities, influences society and impacts the way we communicate every day.

Entry Requirements:

GCSE 6 or above in English Language and 5 in English Literature

Subject Leader:

Mrs C Law
claw@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

Language, the Individual and Society
Explore how language is used to create meaning, express identity and communicate ideas in different contexts.

Language Varieties and Change
Investigate how English varies across different groups, regions and cultures, and how language evolves over time.

Language in Action
Analyse a range of real-world texts and data, including:

- Social media
- Text messages
- Magazines
- Advertisements
- Online content

Independent Language Investigation
Conduct your own research project, exploring a language topic that interests you and developing your analytical and investigative skills.

Assessment

Assessment is made up of two written examinations and an Independent Language Investigation:
Paper 1: 40% of the A Level
Paper 2: 40% of the A Level
Language Investigation (Coursework): 20% of the A Level

Together, these assessments allow you to demonstrate your analytical, research and written communication skills.

Is English Language Right for You?

You will enjoy A Level English Language if you:

- Enjoy reading and exploring how language is used in different contexts.
- Are curious about communication, from everyday conversations to social media and advertising.
- Have strong writing skills and enjoy expressing your ideas clearly.
- Like discussing and debating different viewpoints.
- Are open-minded and interested in how language shapes identity and society.
- Can manage your time effectively and are prepared for a challenging and rewarding workload.

If you're fascinated by how language works and influences the world around us, A Level English Language could be the perfect choice for you.

Subjects That Work Well With English Language?

English Language works particularly well alongside:

- Art and Design
- Drama and Theatre
- Media Studies
- Film Studies
- Psychology
- Sociology
- History
- Politics



Where Could English Language Take You?

The communication, analytical and research skills developed throughout the course are highly valued across a wide range of industries.

Law & Public Services
- Law
- Civil Service
- Local Government

Business & Finance
- Banking
- Accountancy
- Human Resources (HR)

Media & Communication
- Journalism
- Media
- Public Relations
- Marketing

Education
- Teaching
- Education and Training

The ability to analyse language, communicate effectively and think critically makes English Language a valuable qualification for both university study and a wide range of professional careers.



Every conversation, text and post tells a story. English Language helps you understand why.

Beyond the Classroom

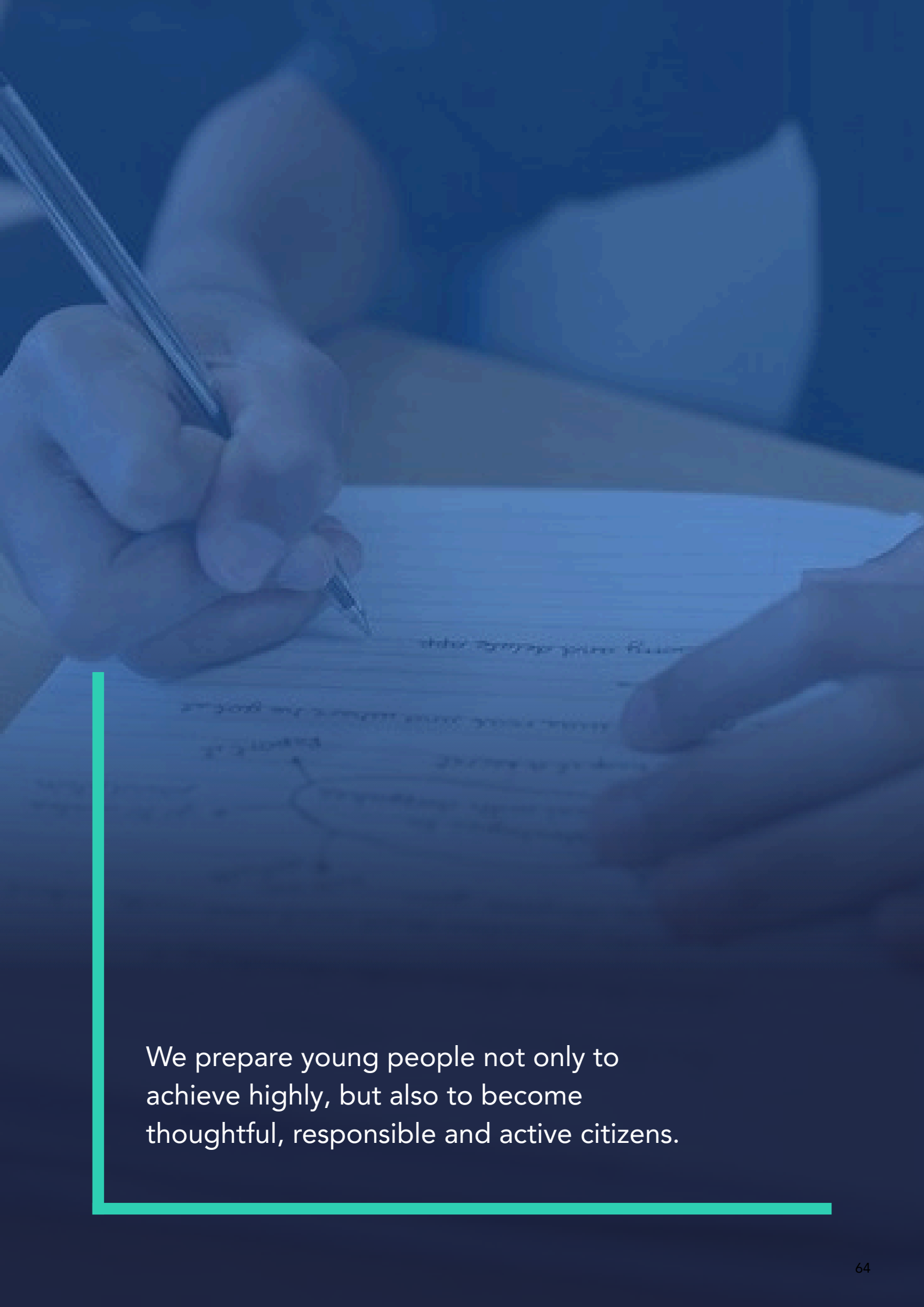
Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

Conferences
Discover how language shapes the world around us through inspiring conferences and enrichment events.

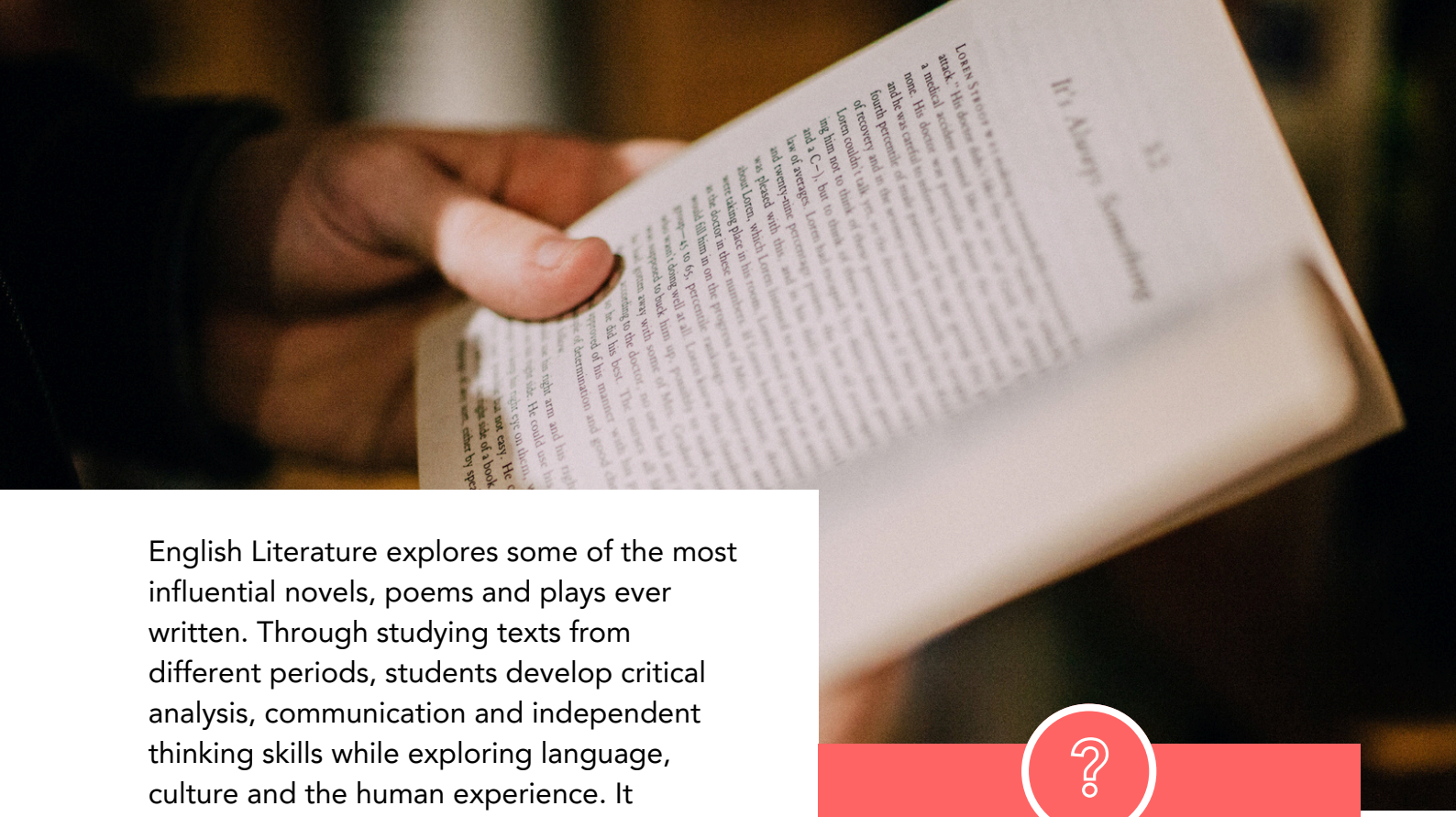
Lectures
Deepen your understanding of language through expert talks and university-style lectures

Visiting Speakers
Gain valuable insight from professionals working across a diverse range of industries and career pathways.

Workshops
Build confidence in analysing and using language through interactive and collaborative sessions.



We prepare young people not only to achieve highly, but also to become thoughtful, responsible and active citizens.



English Literature explores some of the most influential novels, poems and plays ever written. Through studying texts from different periods, students develop critical analysis, communication and independent thinking skills while exploring language, culture and the human experience. It provides an excellent foundation for a wide range of future pathways.

English Literature

(AQA)

Why Choose English Literature ?

A Level English Literature allows you to explore a range of classic and contemporary texts while developing valuable analytical and communication skills.

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Grade 6 in English Literature and Grade 5 in English Language

Subject Leader:

Mrs C Law
claw@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

In Year 12, students explore a diverse range of literary genres, including drama, prose and poetry, while developing the analytical skills needed to engage critically with complex texts. Through close reading, discussion and independent study, students examine how writers use language, structure and form to shape meaning and influence readers.

Students also consider the social, cultural and historical contexts in which texts were written, gaining a deeper understanding of how literature reflects and challenges the world around it. The course encourages thoughtful interpretation, confident written communication and an appreciation of literature across different periods and genres, providing a strong foundation for further study at A Level and beyond.

At A Level, students study texts from a variety of periods and genres, including tragedy and protest writing. The course encourages increasingly sophisticated literary analysis and interpretation, allowing students to compare texts, evaluate critical viewpoints and explore the wider significance of literature within society

Students delve into thematic studies, examining how authors convey complex ideas and emotions through their work. This deeper exploration requires them to engage with both classic and contemporary texts, fostering an understanding of the evolving nature of literature.

Assessment

Students will be assessed by two written examinations, each worth 50% of the final Y12 grade. Each examination lasts for 1hour and 30 minutes and comprises of two distinct tasks.

Students will be assessed by two written examinations, each worth 40% of the final A level grade and a Non-Examined Assessment component worth 20%. The first examination is 2 hours 30 minutes and comprises three distinct tasks. The second examination is 3 hours and again there are three distinct tasks.

Is English Literature Right for You?

You'll enjoy English Literature if you are:

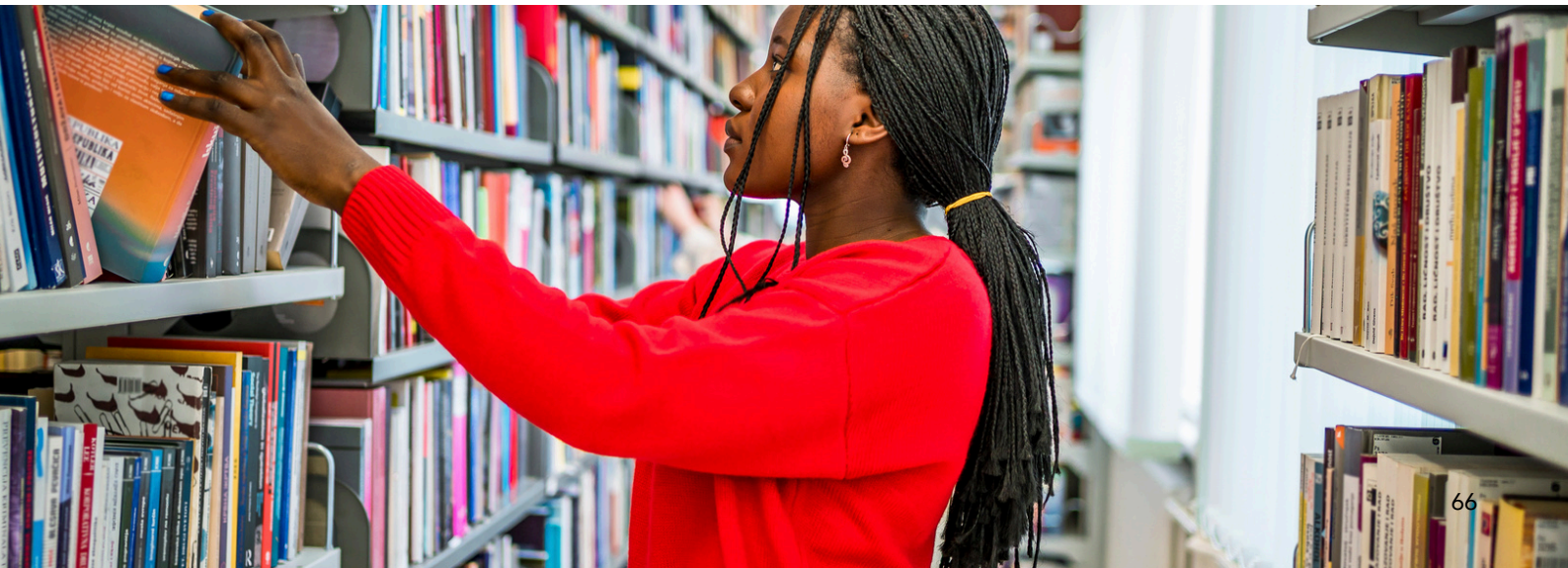
- Curious about people, society and culture.
- Interested in reading and discussing ideas.
- Confident expressing your opinions.
- Willing to think critically and analytically.
- Motivated to undertake independent reading.

The course rewards students who enjoy exploring different interpretations and developing well-supported arguments.

Subjects That Work Well With English Literature?

- History
- English Language
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Politics

English Literature also complements many creative and humanities-based subjects through its focus on communication, analysis and evaluation.



Where Could English Literature Take You?

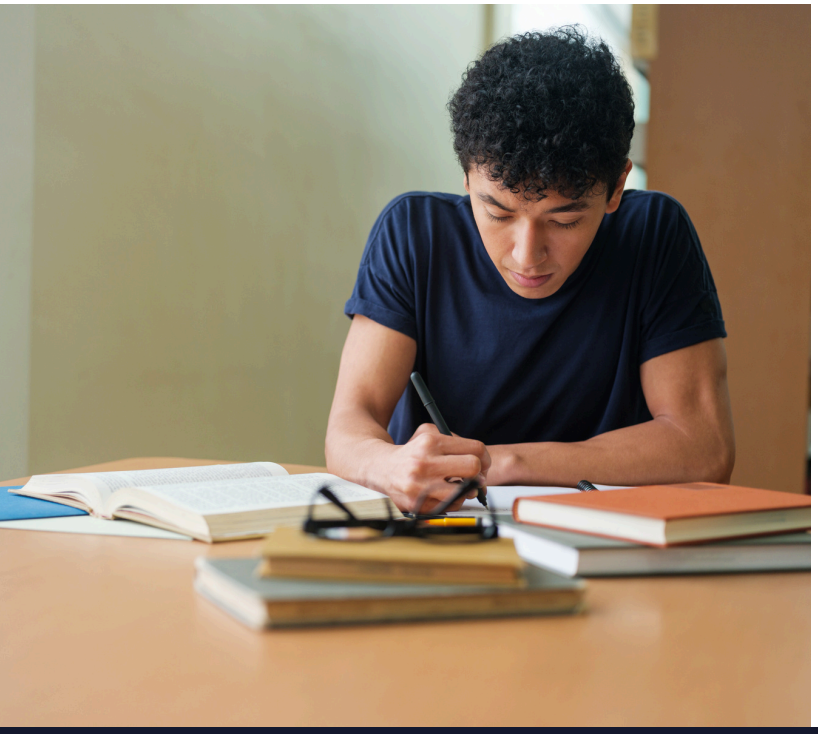
English Literature provides an excellent foundation for:

Creative & Media Industries
- Journalism
- Publishing
- Creative Writing
- Marketing
- Public Relations

Law & Public Services
- Law
- Civil Service
- Politics
- Policy Development

Education & Research
- Teaching
- Academia
- Research

The analytical and communication skills developed through English Literature are highly transferable and valued across a wide variety of professions.



Literature helps us understand the world, challenge assumptions and explore ideas that continue to shape society today.

Beyond the Classroom

Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

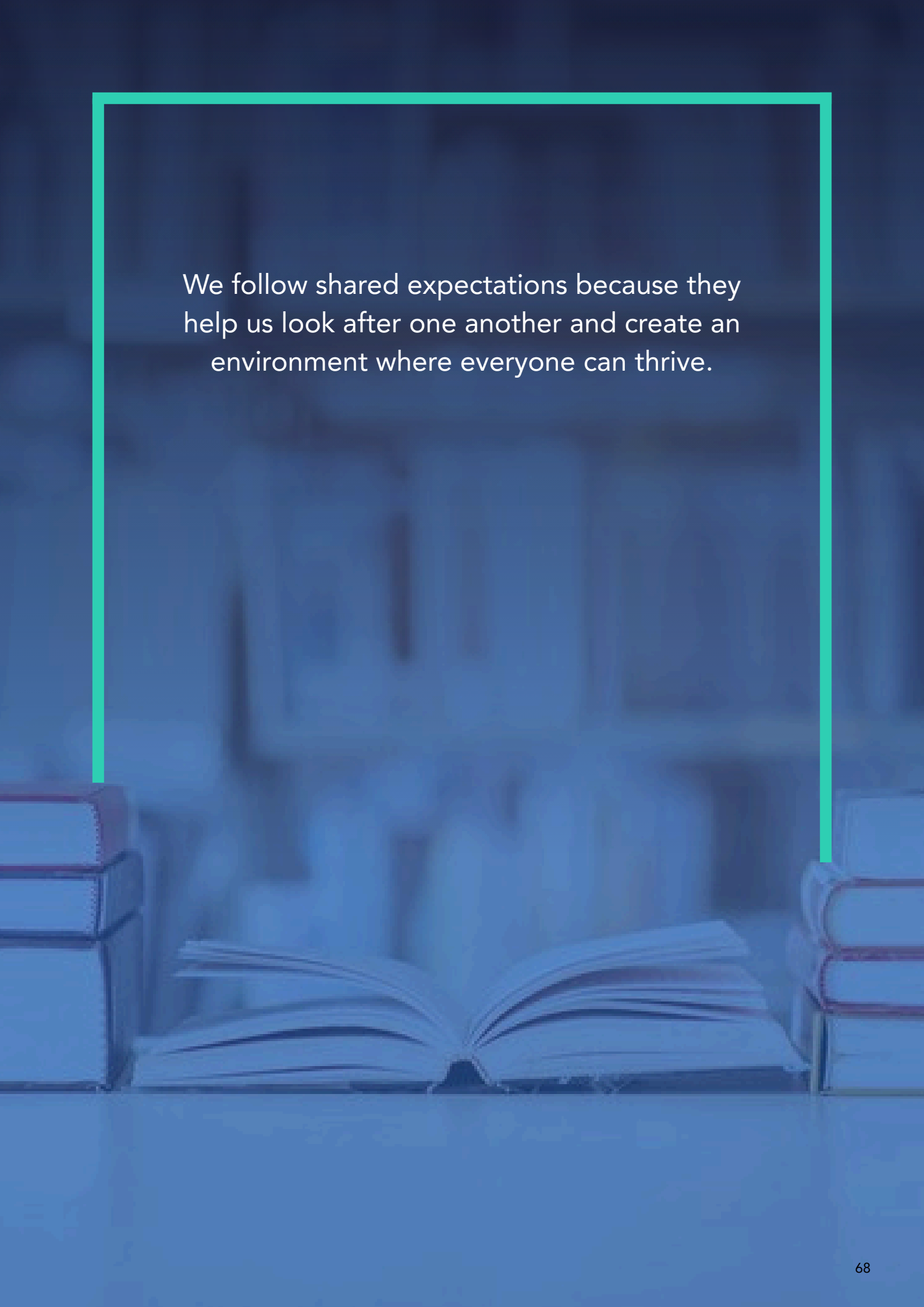
Theatre visits and performances.

University enrichment opportunities.

Wider reading programmes.

Literary discussions and seminars.

These experiences help students deepen their understanding of literature and develop confidence as independent thinkers.



We follow shared expectations because they help us look after one another and create an environment where everyone can thrive.



Fashion and Textiles inspires students to solve realistic design problems in a creative and independent way, and in doing so gain an in-depth knowledge of what constitutes both the function and aesthetics of a Fashion garment or Textile product.

Fashion and Textiles

(AQA)

Why Choose Fashion and Textiles?

Perfect for creative students who enjoy designing, experimenting with materials and bringing ideas to life.

Entry Requirements:

5 in Textiles or Art and Design or a visual portfolio demonstrating textile or artwork of a GCSE grade 5 standard, and a grade 5 in GCSE Maths

Subject Leader:

Mrs K Pilarek
kpilarek@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content

A Level Fashion and Textiles is a creative and practical course that develops your design, problem-solving and making skills. You'll explore how fashion trends are influenced by social, cultural and environmental factors while creating innovative and functional textile products.

Year 12 Topics

- Fibres, fabrics and textile properties
- Fashion illustration and design communication
- CAD/CAM and modern technologies
- Fashion and design history
- Sustainability and ethical fashion
- Smart materials and e-textiles
- Target markets and consumer trends

Practical Projects

Develop your skills through creative design projects, including:

- Children's Partywear – focusing on decorative techniques and creativity
- Corsetry – developing pattern cutting and garment construction skills

These projects help prepare you for the major coursework project completed in Year 13.

Assessment

Paper 1: Technical Principles (25%)
2½ hour written examination
This paper focuses on the technical, design and commercial aspects of fashion and textiles.

Paper 2: Designing and Making Principles (25%)
1½ hour written examination
This paper explores the materials, processes and techniques used in textile and fashion production.

Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) (50%)
Coursework Project
Students complete an independent design project based on a real-world design problem of their choice.
You will:

- Research and explore a chosen theme
- Develop and refine design ideas
- Create a final fashion or textile product
- Present your work in a written or digital portfolio

Previous project themes include:

- Japanese design and its influence on modern outerwear
- Royal wedding dresses and changing fashion trends
- The revival of botanical influences in fashion

Is Fashion and Textiles Right for You?

You will enjoy this course if you:

- Have a passion for fashion, textiles and design
- Enjoy creative, practical and coursework-based projects
- Have an eye for style, trends and visual design
- Want to develop your sketching, construction and making skills
- Are confident using measurements and numbers accurately

Subjects That Work Well With Fashion and Textiles?

Fashion and Textiles complements a wide range of subjects, including:

- Art and Design
- Business Studies
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Mathematics
- Engineering



Where Could Fashion and Textiles Take You?

The course provides a strong foundation for both creative and technical career pathways, while developing valuable transferable skills for higher education and employment.

Fashion & Styling
- Fashion Designer
- Fashion Buyer
- Stylist
- Style Consultant
- Trend Forecaster

Fashion Media & Communication
- Fashion Journalist
- Fashion Illustrator
- Fashion Marketing

Interiors & Creative Design
- Interior Designer
- Surface Pattern Designer
- Architecture and other design-related careers

Science & Healthcare
The analytical, technical and problem-solving skills developed through Fashion and Textiles also complement pathways:
- Dentistry
- Medicine
- Science-based degrees

Whether you're interested in the creative industries, product design, fashion innovation or healthcare, Fashion and Textiles develops practical, technical and creative skills that are valued across a wide range of careers.



Fashion and Textiles is where creativity meets innovation, transforming ideas into inspiring designs.

Beyond the Classroom

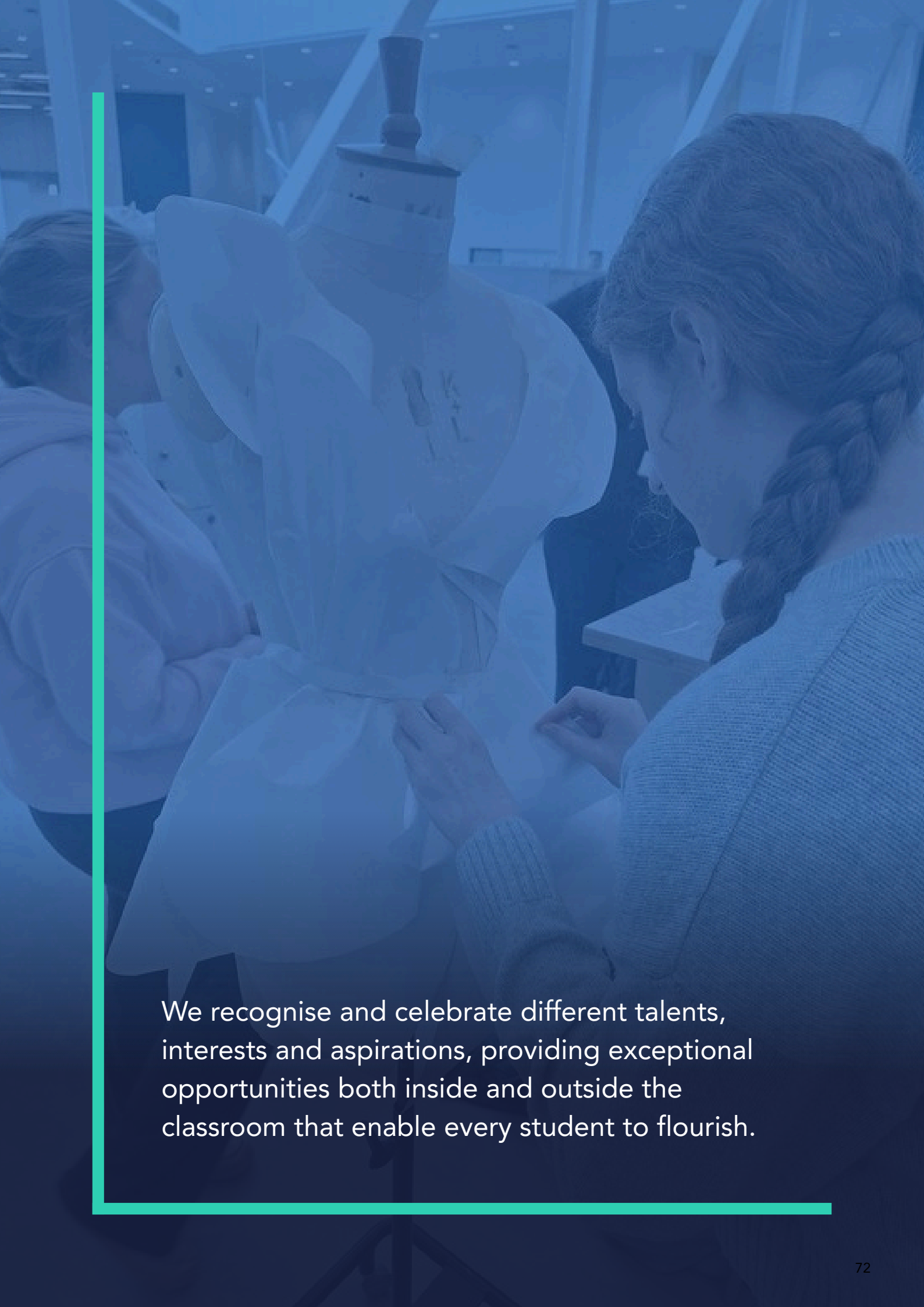
Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

London Cultural Visit
Explore galleries and museums to develop your understanding of fashion history and design.

Paris Residential
A four-day trip to Paris, providing inspiration and primary research for your coursework.

Industry & Exhibition Visits
Discover the latest trends, innovations and production techniques through visits to exhibitions and industry venues.

Professional Links
Engage with industry professionals and gain insight into careers in fashion and textiles.



We recognise and celebrate different talents, interests and aspirations, providing exceptional opportunities both inside and outside the classroom that enable every student to flourish.



Film Studies examines the influential art of cinema, analysing a variety of films across genres, countries, and eras. Students learn about film creation, interpretation, and audience experience, blending critical analysis with creative exploration to appreciate the artistic and cultural significance of cinema.

Film Studies

(WJEC/Eduqas)

Why Choose Film Studies?

Through studying film, students develop analytical, evaluative and communication skills that are valuable across many academic and professional fields.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or
GCSE English Literature

Subject Leader:

Mr R Criticos and
Mr D Stewart

Course Content:

Component 1: Filmmaking and Spectatorship (35%)

- 2 hour 30 minute written exam.
- Study Hollywood films Casablanca and Bonnie and Clyde.
- Study contemporary American films Captain Fantastic and Nomadland.
- Study British films Trainspotting and Fish Tank.

Component 2: Varieties of Global Film (35%)

- 2 hour 30 minute written exam.
- Study world cinema including Pan's Labyrinth and City of God.
- Explore documentary film (Amy), silent film (Sunrise), and experimental film (Cléo from 5 to 7).

Coursework (NEA) (30%)

- Create either a screenplay or a short film.
- Complete an evaluation of your work.

Assessment

Component 1: Filmmaking and Spectatorship (35%)
2 hour 30 minute written exam

Component 2: Varieties of Global Film (35%)
2 hour 30 minute written exam

NEA: Exploring Film Form (30%)
Coursework Project

Is Film Studies Right for You?

You'll enjoy Film Studies if you:

- Enjoy watching and discussing films.
- Are interested in storytelling and media.
- Like analysing ideas and representations.
- Enjoy creative and critical thinking.
- Are curious about culture and society.

Subjects That Work Well With Film Studies?

- English Literature
- Drama
- Sociology
- History
- Media-related subjects



Where Could Film Studies Take You?

Film Studies provides a wide range of career options for:

Film, Media & Creative Industries
- Film Production
- Screenwriting
- Film & Media Studies
- Content Creation
- Broadcasting

Journalism & Communications
- Journalism
- Publishing
- Communications
- Digital Media

Marketing & Advertising
- Marketing
- Advertising
- Public Relations
- Brand Management

Research & Heritage
- Research
- Museum Curation
- Archive Management
- Arts Administration

Future prospects in these areas are encouraging and this course provides students with an understanding of a form that has prominent cultural significance and visibility, as the creative industries now annually contribute over £84 billion to the UK economy.



Film allows us to explore stories, ideas and perspectives whilst developing the critical skills needed to understand modern media and culture.

Beyond the Classroom

Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

- **Cinema visits**
- **Film analysis workshops**
- **Creative projects**
- **Industry and university enrichment opportunities**

These experiences allow students to deepen their understanding of film studies while also boosting their confidence as independent thinkers.

We Value



Community



French develops advanced speaking, listening, reading and writing skills while deepening understanding of the culture and society of French-speaking countries. Students explore contemporary social, political and cultural issues, gaining valuable international perspectives that prepare them for higher education and future careers.

Why Choose French?

French develops valuable communication skills and cultural awareness, making it highly valued by universities and employers.

French

(AQA)

Entry Requirements:

Grade 6 in GCSE French

Subject Leader:

Mrs K Wood
kwood@taptonschool.co.uk

Director of MFL:

Ms J Askew
jaskew@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

In Year 12, students develop their spoken and written French through the study of contemporary social issues, artistic culture and aspects of life in the French-speaking world. Students improve their linguistic accuracy and communication skills whilst gaining confidence in discussing a broad range of topics.

In Year 13, students continue to refine their language skills whilst studying more complex cultural, political and social themes. Independent research forms an important part of the course, allowing students to investigate an area of personal interest and apply their language skills in greater depth.

Assessment

Listening and Speaking
20% of your grade
- Understand and respond to spoken French.
- Take part in conversations and discussions.
- Express your ideas clearly and confidently.

Reading and Writing
30% of your grade
- Understand and respond to a range of written texts.
- Write accurately in French for different purposes.

Using the Language
30% of your grade
- Use a wide range of vocabulary and grammar accurately.
- Communicate effectively in both spoken and written French.

French Culture and Society
20% of your grade
- Explore aspects of life, culture and society in French-speaking countries.
- Share your opinions and analyse social and cultural topics.

Is French Right for You?

You'll enjoy French if you:
- Enjoy languages and communication.
- Are interested in other cultures.
- Like discussing current affairs and global issues.
- Have strong listening and reading skills.
- Enjoy developing confidence when speaking.

Subjects That Work Well With French?

- English Literature
- History
- Politics
- Geography
- Business



Where Could French Take You?

French provides an excellent foundation for:

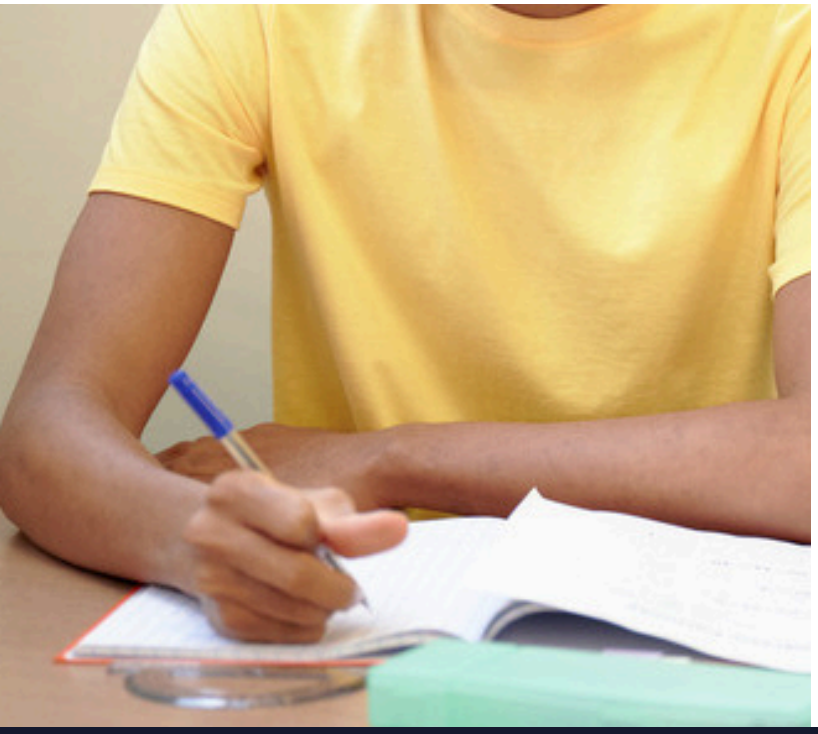
International Business & Finance
- Business
- Economics
- Marketing
- Banking & Finance
- International Trade

Law & Public Services
- Law
- Public Sector Roles
- Civil Service
- Diplomacy

Media & Communications
- Journalism
- Advertising
- Public Relations
- Content Creation

Education & Social Sciences
- Teaching
- Education Studies
- Social Policy
- Social Sciences

Employers value language skills because they show strong communication, cultural awareness and the ability to work in a global environment. Whether you go to university or straight into employment, a language can help set you apart and open doors to opportunities around the world.



Learning a language opens doors to new cultures, new opportunities and a wider understanding of the world around us.

Beyond the Classroom

Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

Cultural & Linguistic Trips
Explore language and culture through educational visits and enrichment activities.

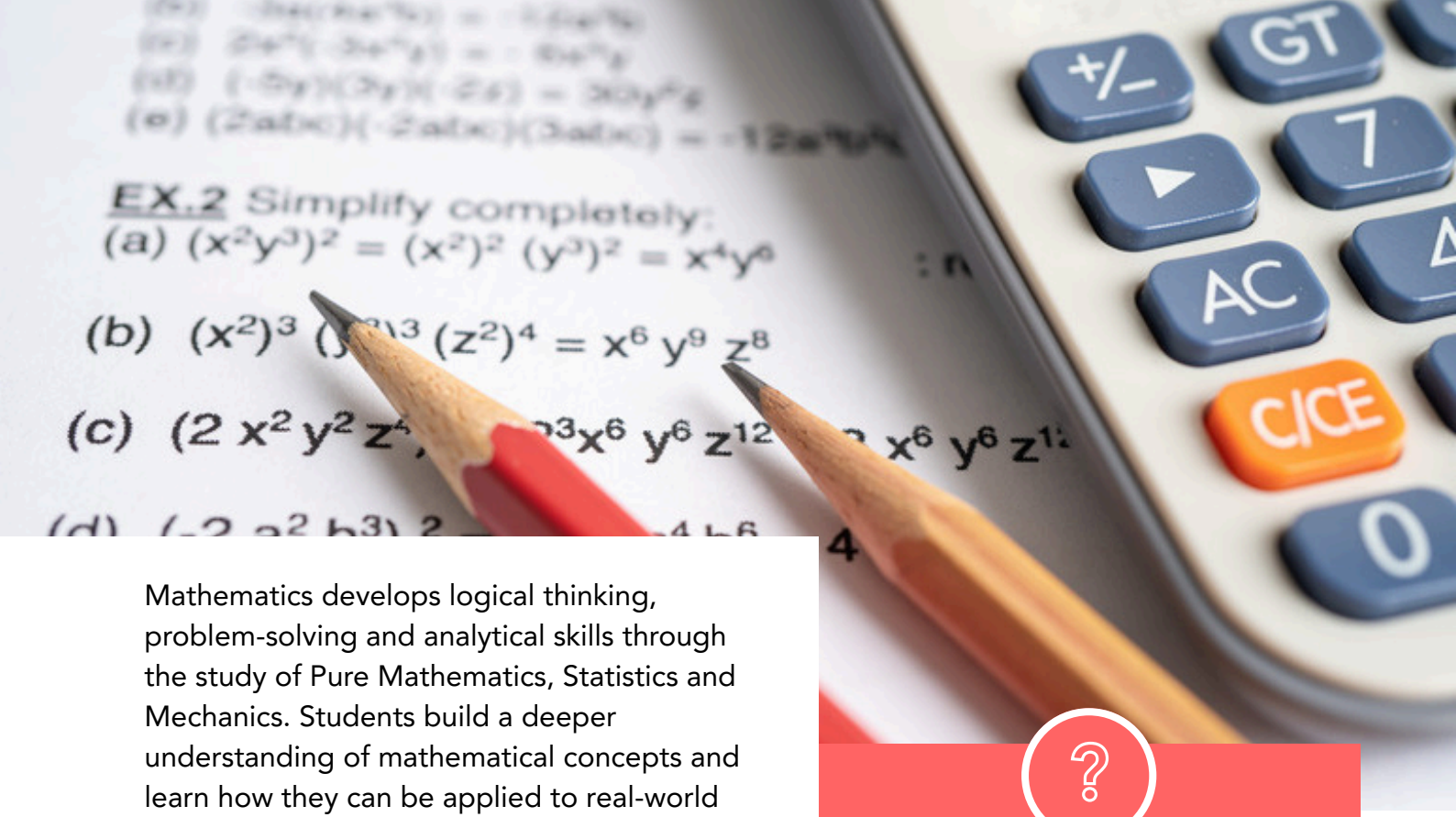
Peer Support Opportunities
Support younger students through in-class assistance and collaborative learning.

GCSE Mentoring Programme
Help GCSE students build confidence and achieve their academic goals.

Authentic Language Resources
Engage with real-world texts, media and materials to enhance language skills.

We ask questions because enquiry fuels progress, for ourselves and for the communities we serve





Mathematics develops logical thinking, problem-solving and analytical skills through the study of Pure Mathematics, Statistics and Mechanics. Students build a deeper understanding of mathematical concepts and learn how they can be applied to real-world situations.

Further Mathematics & Mathematics (OCR Syllabus A)

Why Choose Maths?

Further Mathematics is designed for students with a strong aptitude for Maths who enjoy challenge and problem-solving.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 8 GCSE in Maths for Further Mathematics
Grade 7 GCSE in Maths for Mathematics

Subject Leader:

Mr P Webb
pwebb@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

Further Mathematics

Further Mathematics extends and deepens students' mathematical knowledge beyond the Mathematics course.
Students study:

- **Further Pure Mathematics** (core component)
- Additional options selected from:
  - **Statistics**
  - **Mechanics**
  - **Discrete Mathematics**
  - **Additional Pure Mathematics**

The course explores advanced mathematical concepts and techniques, providing an excellent foundation for students considering degrees in mathematics, engineering, physics, computer science or related disciplines.

Mathematics

Students study three interconnected areas of mathematics:

- **Pure Mathematics** – algebra, functions, trigonometry, calculus and numerical methods.
- **Statistics** – data analysis, probability and statistical modelling.
- **Mechanics** – mathematical modelling of motion, forces and physical systems.

As the course progresses, students develop a deeper understanding of each area, applying increasingly sophisticated mathematical techniques to solve complex problems.

Assessment

Further Mathematics

Assessment Overview

- Further Pure Mathematics (mandatory core unit)
- Two optional units, chosen from:
  - Statistics
  - Mechanics
  - Discrete Mathematics
  - Additional Pure Mathematics

Assessed through written examinations at the end of Year 12.

Assessment Overview

- Further study of the Y12 Further Mathematics content
- Advanced Further Pure Mathematics
- Optional pathways studied in greater depth

Assessed through written examinations at the end of Year 13.

Mathematics

Assessment Overview

- Pure Mathematics (topics include algebra, calculus, trigonometry and functions)
- Statistics (data analysis, probability and statistical methods)
- Mechanics (forces, motion and mathematical modelling)

Assessed through written examinations at the end of Year 12.

Assessment Overview

- Pure Mathematics (studied in greater depth)
- Statistics
- Mechanics

Assessed through written examinations at the end of Year 13.

Is Maths Right for You?

This course is right for you if you:

- Enjoy solving mathematical problems and puzzles
- Are curious about how mathematics applies to the real world
- Are prepared to work independently outside lessons
- Are willing to ask questions and seek support when needed
- Enjoy challenging yourself and developing your analytical skills
- Have the determination to persevere when faced with difficult problems

Subjects That Work Well With Maths?

Pure and Statistics:

- Geography
- Economics
- Biology
- PE
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Computer Science

Pure and Mechanics:

- Physics
- Chemistry
- Design Technology

Where Could Maths Take You?

Mathematics is one of the most versatile A Levels, providing a strong foundation for countless university courses and career pathways.

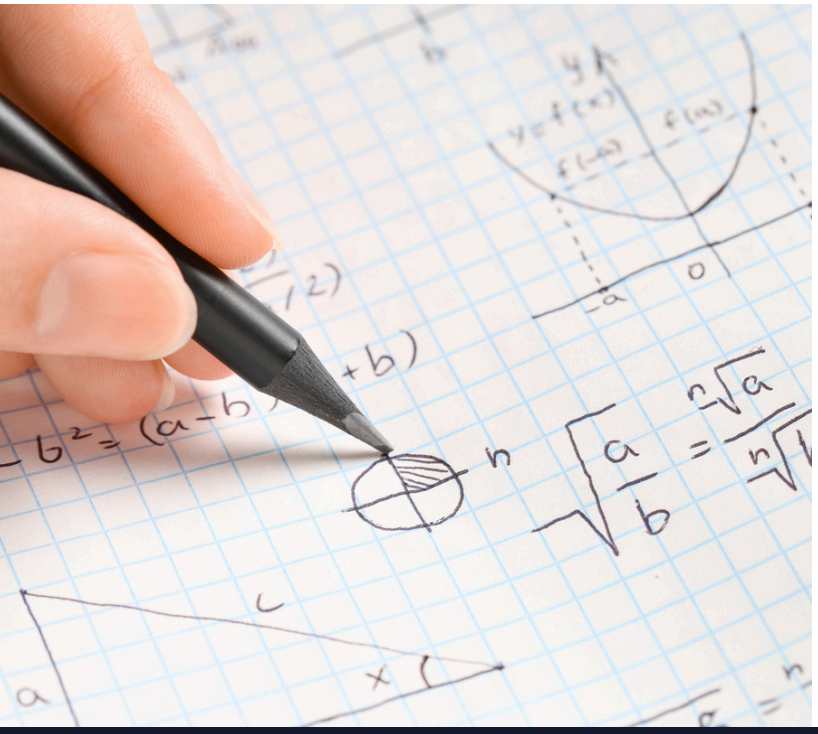
Finance, Banking & Accountancy
- Banking
- Investment Analysis
- Insurance
- Accountancy
- Actuarial Science
- Financial Management

Technology & Computing
- Computer Science
- Data Science
- Artificial Intelligence
- Cyber Security
- Software Development

Engineering & Manufacturing
- Mechanical Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Aerospace Engineering
- Manufacturing
- Product Design

Science & Research
- Physics
- Statistics
- Scientific Research
- Research Analysis

Highly valued by universities and employers. Develops problem-solving, analytical and logical thinking skills. Particularly useful for students considering STEM subjects, finance, economics and data-related careers.



Maths is a highly enjoyable and rewarding subject. All the teachers are approachable and always willing to help.

Beyond the Classroom

Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

University Masterclasses
- Attend sessions led by university academics.
- Experience degree-level maths topics and learning.

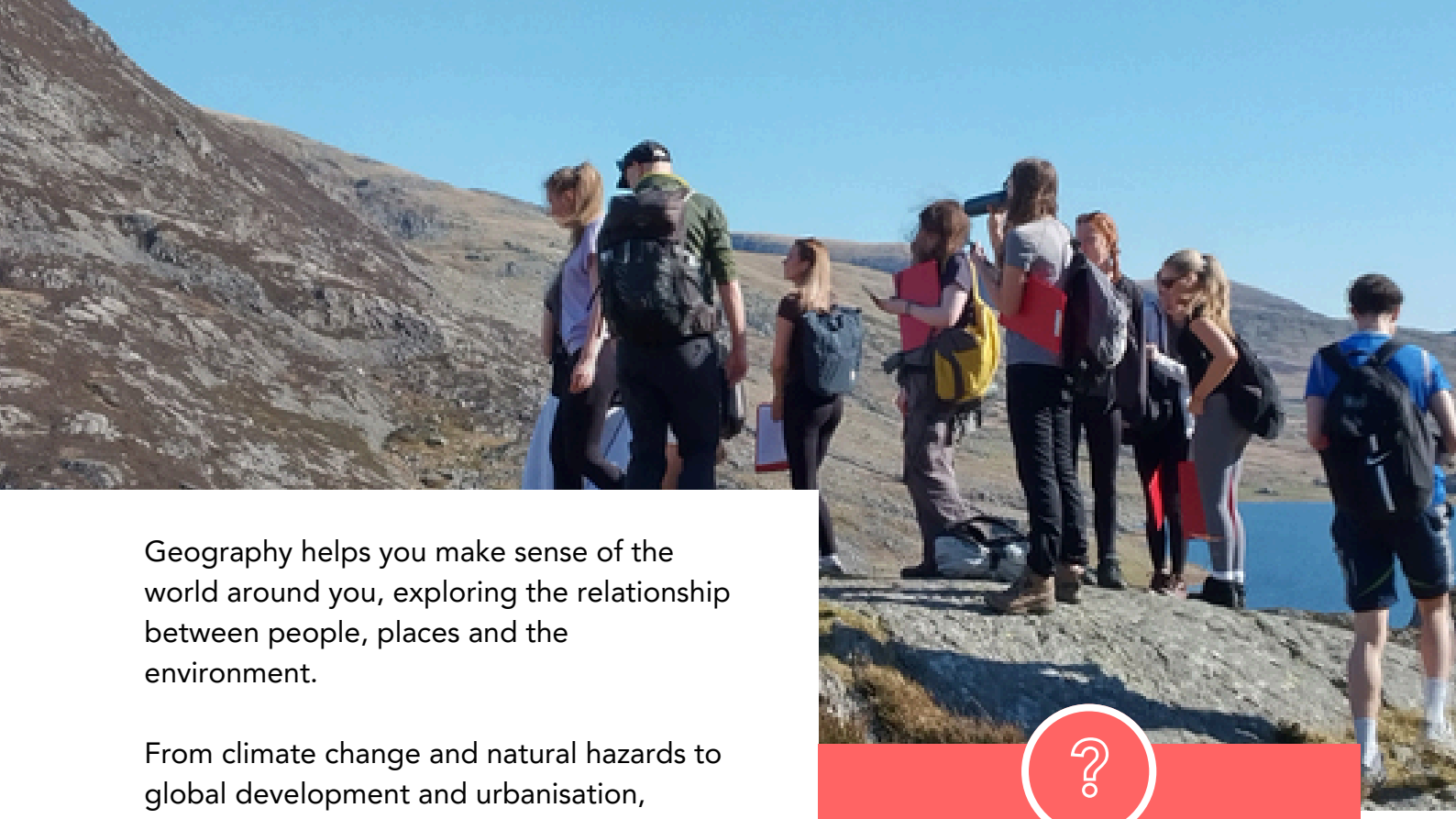
National Maths Challenges
Test your problem-solving skills against students across the country.

Sheffield University Advanced Problem-Solving Sessions
Receive preparation and tuition for STEP (Sixth Term Examination Paper), often required for competitive university courses such as Mathematics at top universities.

We Value



Character



Geography helps you make sense of the world around you, exploring the relationship between people, places and the environment.

From climate change and natural hazards to global development and urbanisation, Geography tackles some of the most important issues facing society today.

Why Choose Geography?

Geography gives you the knowledge and skills to understand the world's biggest challenges and make a positive difference to the future.

Geography (OCR)

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Grade 6 in Geography, GCSE Grade 6 in English Language or English Literature, and GCSE Grade 5 in a GCSE Science

Subject Leader:

Mr A Kennedy
akennedy@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

Changing Spaces, Making Places
Explore how people shape places and communities at local, national and global scales.

Earth's Life Support Systems
Investigate water, carbon and ecosystems, including the Tropical Rainforest and Arctic Tundra.

Disease Dilemmas
Examine the causes, spread and impacts of diseases on individuals, communities and countries.

Hazardous Earth
Study earthquakes, volcanoes and tectonic hazards, and their impact on people and environments.

Global Connections
Explore how trade, migration and global organisations shape the modern world.

Landscape Systems
Discover how glacial landscapes are formed, changed and managed.

Fieldwork
Take part in a Lake District residential, collecting and analysing geographical data in a real-world setting.

Assessment

All assessments are completed at the end of Year 13 and include three written examinations and an Independent Investigation (coursework). Content from both Year 12 and Year 13 is assessed.

Physical Systems
1 hour 45 minute exam
- 24% of the A Level

Human Systems
1 hour 45 minute exam
- 24% of the A Level

Geographical Debates
2 hour 30 minute exam
- 32% of the A Level

Independent Investigation - Coursework
- 20% of the A Level
- Submitted in November of Year 13

Assessment Breakdown
- Physical Systems: 24%
- Human Systems: 24%
- Geographical Debates: 32%
- Independent Investigation: 20%

Is Geography Right for You?

We are looking for students who:
- Have an interest in both human and physical geography
- Enjoy exploring how places are shaped by people and natural processes
- Can communicate effectively using geographical terminology
- Are willing to undertake independent research and wider reading
- Enjoy collecting and analysing data to investigate real-world issues
- Are keen to take part in fieldwork in both urban and physical environments
- Can think critically, evaluate evidence and form well-supported conclusions

Subjects That Work Well With Geography?

Geography is a highly versatile subject that combines well with a wide range of A Levels, including:
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Mathematics
- English Language
- Economics
- Languages
- History
- Psychology
- Sociology



Where Could Geography Take You?

Geography develops valuable skills in research, data analysis, critical thinking and communication.

Medicine & Healthcare
- Medicine
- Healthcare Sciences
- Public Health

Law, Politics & International Relations
- Law
- Politics
- Geopolitics
- International Development

Science, Environment & Sustainability
- Environmental Science
- Geology
- Climate Science
- Conservation

Data, Technology & GIS
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Data Analysis
- Spatial Planning
- Location Intelligence

Geography is highly regarded by universities and employers because it develops a broad range of analytical, research and problem-solving skills. As a Russell Group facilitating subject, it can support entry into a wide variety of degree courses and careers.



Geography is the subject that helps you make sense of the world and your place within it.

Beyond the Classroom

Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

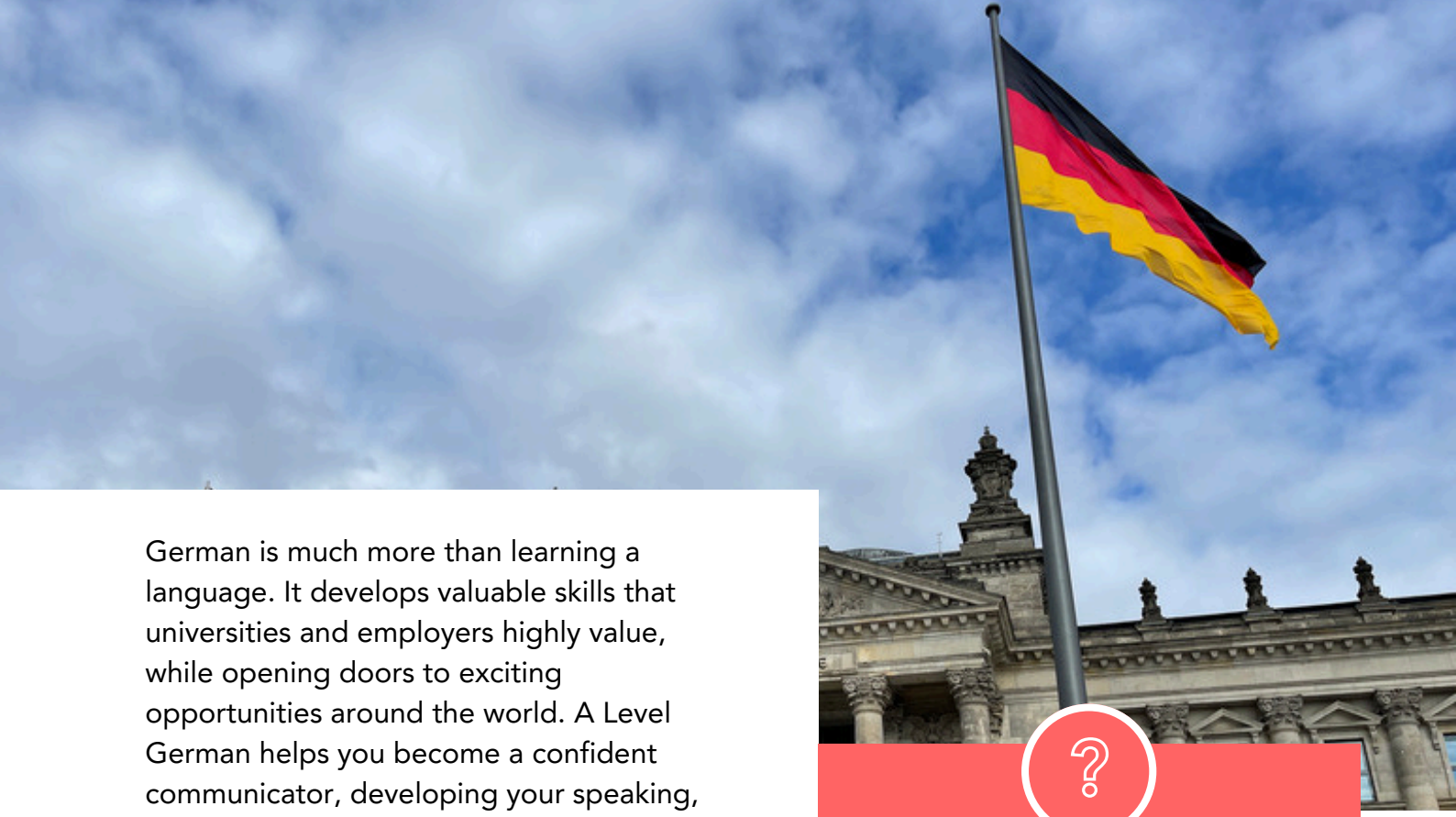
Fieldwork Experiences
Bring geography to life through a range of fieldwork opportunities, including local day trips and a residential visit to North Wales, where you'll collect and analyse real-world geographical data.

Iceland Study Visit
Every two years, students have the opportunity to join an exciting study visit to Iceland, exploring dramatic landscapes, volcanoes, glaciers and geothermal environments first-hand.

Geographical Association Links
Discover the latest trends, innovations and production techniques through visits to exhibitions and industry venues.



Our students are also encouraged to engage in a wide range of super and extra curricular activities to help them grow as individuals and members of our school community



German is much more than learning a language. It develops valuable skills that universities and employers highly value, while opening doors to exciting opportunities around the world. A Level German helps you become a confident communicator, developing your speaking, listening, reading, and writing abilities in both German and English.

Why Choose German?

Learning a language improves memory, concentration, and critical thinking skills, which can benefit your studies across all subjects.

German

(AQA)

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Grade 6 in German

Course Content:

Grammar

- Verb tenses
- Nouns and determiners
- Adjectives and adverbs
- Prepositions and negation
- Discourse markers
- Word order and clause structure

German-Speaking Society

- The changing family
- The digital world
- Youth culture, including fashion, music & television

Multicultural Germany

- Immigration
- Integration
- Racism

Subject Leader:

Mr G Driver
gdriver@taptonschool.co.uk

Director of MFL:

Ms J Askew
jaskew@taptonschool.co.uk

Politics and Culture

- Festivals and traditions
- Art and architecture
- Berlin: past and present
- Germany and the European Union
- Politics and youth
- German reunification

Literature and Film

- Die verlorene Ehre der Katharina Blum
- Mutter Courage und ihre Kinder
- Der Besuch der alten Dame
- Good Bye, Lenin!

Assessment

Assessment is designed to develop confidence and fluency across all four language skills, while encouraging students to engage critically with the culture, society and politics of the German-speaking world.

Assessment Weightings

- Listening and responding (AO1): 20%
- Reading and responding (AO2): 30%
- Accurate use of language, grammar and vocabulary (AO3): 30%
- Cultural, social and political analysis (AO4): 20%

Students are assessed through a combination of listening, reading, writing, translation and speaking tasks, as well as their ability to analyse and discuss literary, cinematic and cultural themes from across the German-speaking world.

Is German Right for You?

German could be the perfect choice if you have:

- A genuine love of languages and communication
- An enquiring mind and an interest in different cultures
- Strong organisation and time-management skills
- A willingness to work hard and study independently
- The resilience to embrace new challenges and develop your fluency

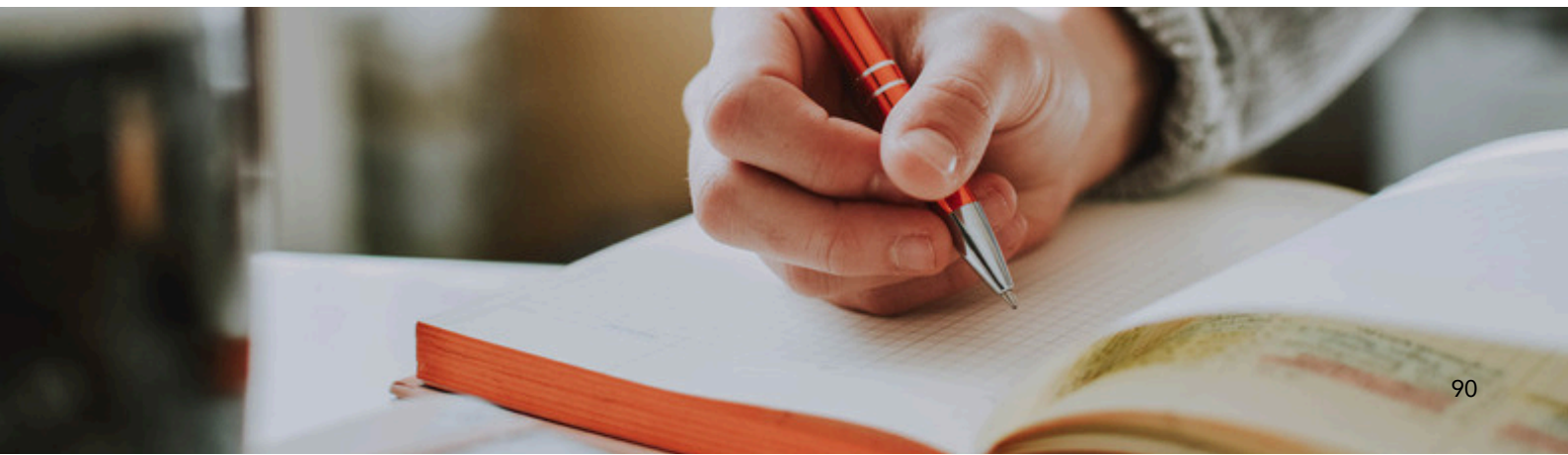
If you're curious about the world, enjoy expressing your ideas, and want to gain a valuable skill for life, A Level German could be the subject for you.

Subjects That Work Well With German?

German works well alongside a wide range of A Level subjects, including:

- English
- Economics
- Geography
- Politics
- Sociology
- History
- Mathematics
- Science-based subjects

Studying German alongside these subjects helps develop strong communication, analytical and problem-solving skills, creating an excellent foundation for university and future careers.



Where Could German Take You?

Studying German opens the door to a wide range of degree courses and careers.

Business, Finance & Economics
- Business Studies
- Economics
- International Business
- Banking and Finance

Law, Politics & Public Service
- Law
- Politics
- Civil Service
- Diplomacy and International Relations

Languages & Humanities
- Modern Languages
- Linguistics
- Philosophy
- History

Education & Social Sciences
- Education Studies
- Social Policy
- Sociology
- Teaching

German provides a globally recognised skill that can enhance almost any degree or career, helping you stand out in an increasingly international workplace.



German is more than a subject. It's a passport to new cultures, new opportunities and a global future.

Beyond the Classroom

Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

Cultural and linguistic visits to enhance language learning

In-class support opportunities with younger students

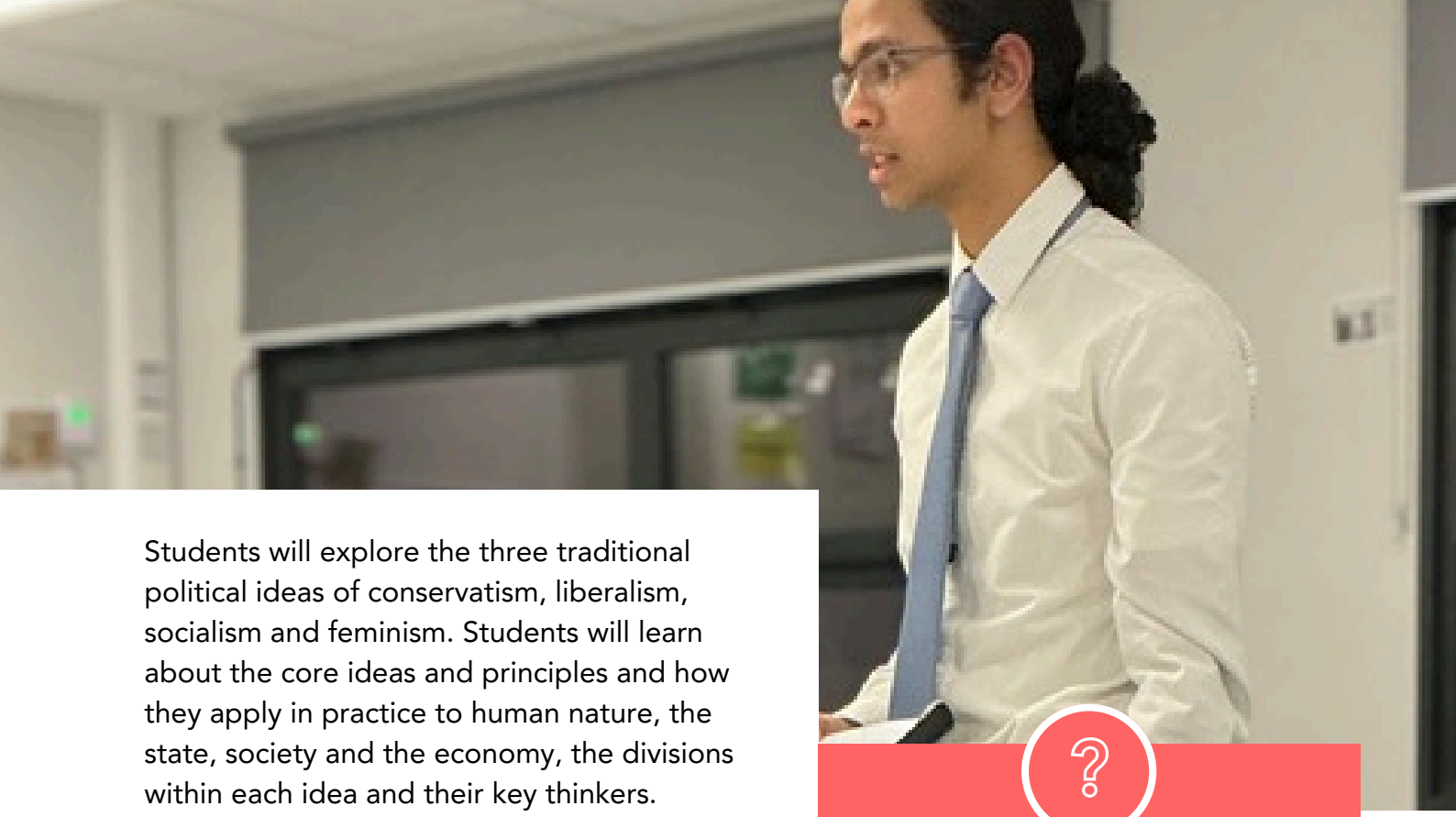
Mentoring GCSE students to develop leadership and communication skills

A German cinema club exploring authentic films and contemporary culture

Access to a wide range of authentic German-language materials, including articles, podcasts, films and online resources



We believe that all children should have access to a broad and balanced curriculum which is tailored to the individual needs of students enabling them to enjoy the experience of learning.



Students will explore the three traditional political ideas of conservatism, liberalism, socialism and feminism. Students will learn about the core ideas and principles and how they apply in practice to human nature, the state, society and the economy, the divisions within each idea and their key thinkers.

Government and Politics (Edexcel)

Why Choose Government and Politics?

This is a highly relevant course which deals with issues which affect everyone.

Entry Requirements:

6 in an GCSE English Language or English Literature

Subject Leader:

Mr A Boutle
aboutle@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

UK Politics
Discover how the UK's political system works and how decisions are made.
Topics include:

- Parliament and Government
- Elections and Voting
- Political Parties
- Democracy and Participation
- Constitutional Reform
- The Changing UK

Political Ideas
Explore the beliefs that shape politics and society.
Topics include:

- Conservatism
- Liberalism
- Socialism
- Feminism

US Politics
Compare the American political system with the UK's.
Topics include:

- Congress
- The President
- The Supreme Court
- Elections
- Civil Rights
- Political Parties and Pressure Groups

Assessment

The A Level Politics course is assessed through three written examinations, each lasting 2 hours.

Paper 1: UK Politics and Core Political Ideas
2 hour written exam
- UK Politics
- Core Political Ideas

Paper 2: UK Government and Political Ideas
2 hour written exam
- UK Government
- Optional Political Ideas

Paper 3: Comparative Politics (USA)
2 hour written exam
- US Government and Politics
- Comparative Politics

All assessments are examined at the end of Year 13.

Is Government and Politics Right for You?

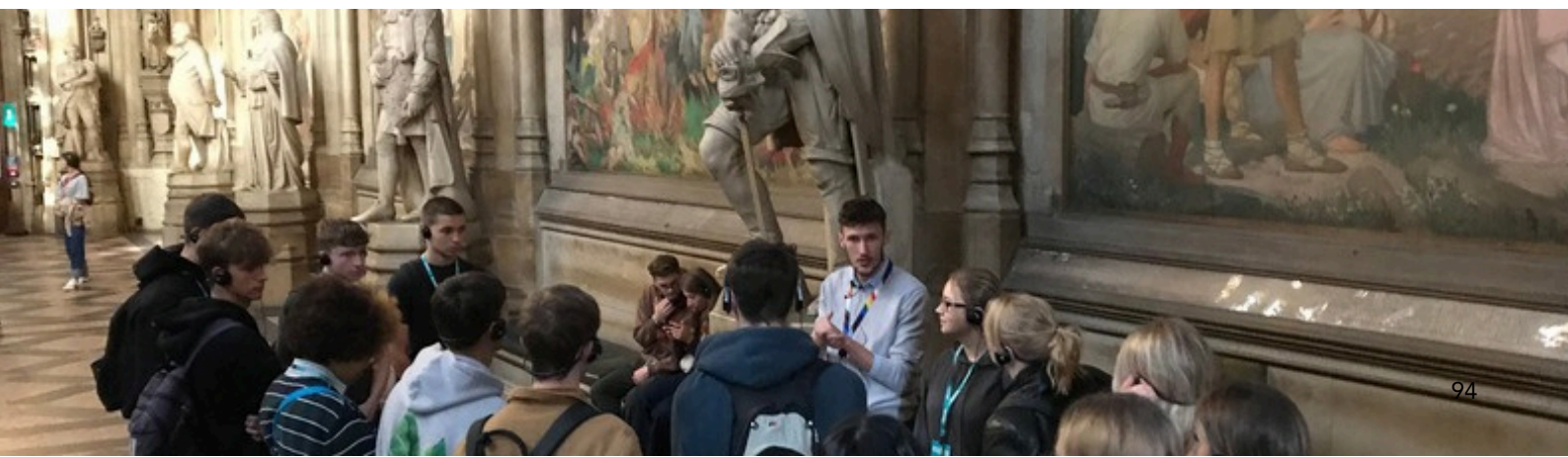
You do not need to have studied Politics before, but you should:
- Have an interest in current affairs and world events
- Enjoy discussing and debating different viewpoints
- Be willing to keep up to date with political developments
- Be curious about how governments, elections and political systems work
- Have strong communication and analytical skills

If you want to understand how political decisions shape society and influence our everyday lives, A Level Politics could be the perfect subject for you.

Subjects That Work Well With Government and Politics?

Politics complements a wide range of subjects, particularly:
- History
- English
- Sociology
- Economics
- Geography
- Psychology

It is also a popular choice for students studying Mathematics and the Sciences, providing a broader understanding of current affairs, society and decision-making.



Where Could Government and Politics Take You?

Politics develops valuable skills in research, analysis, evaluation and debate, helping you build balanced arguments and make informed judgments.

Politics & International Relations
- Politics
- International Relations
- Political Research
- Campaign Management

Media & Communications
- Journalism
- Broadcasting
- Public Relations
- Communications

Government & Public Services
- Civil Service
- Local Government
- Public Policy
- Diplomacy

Law & Justice
- Law
- Legal Services
- Criminal Justice

Politics equips you with the ability to think critically, analyse complex issues and communicate effectively, making it an excellent foundation for a wide variety of university courses and future careers.



Today's students are tomorrow's leaders. Politics helps you understand the world you can change.

Beyond the Classroom

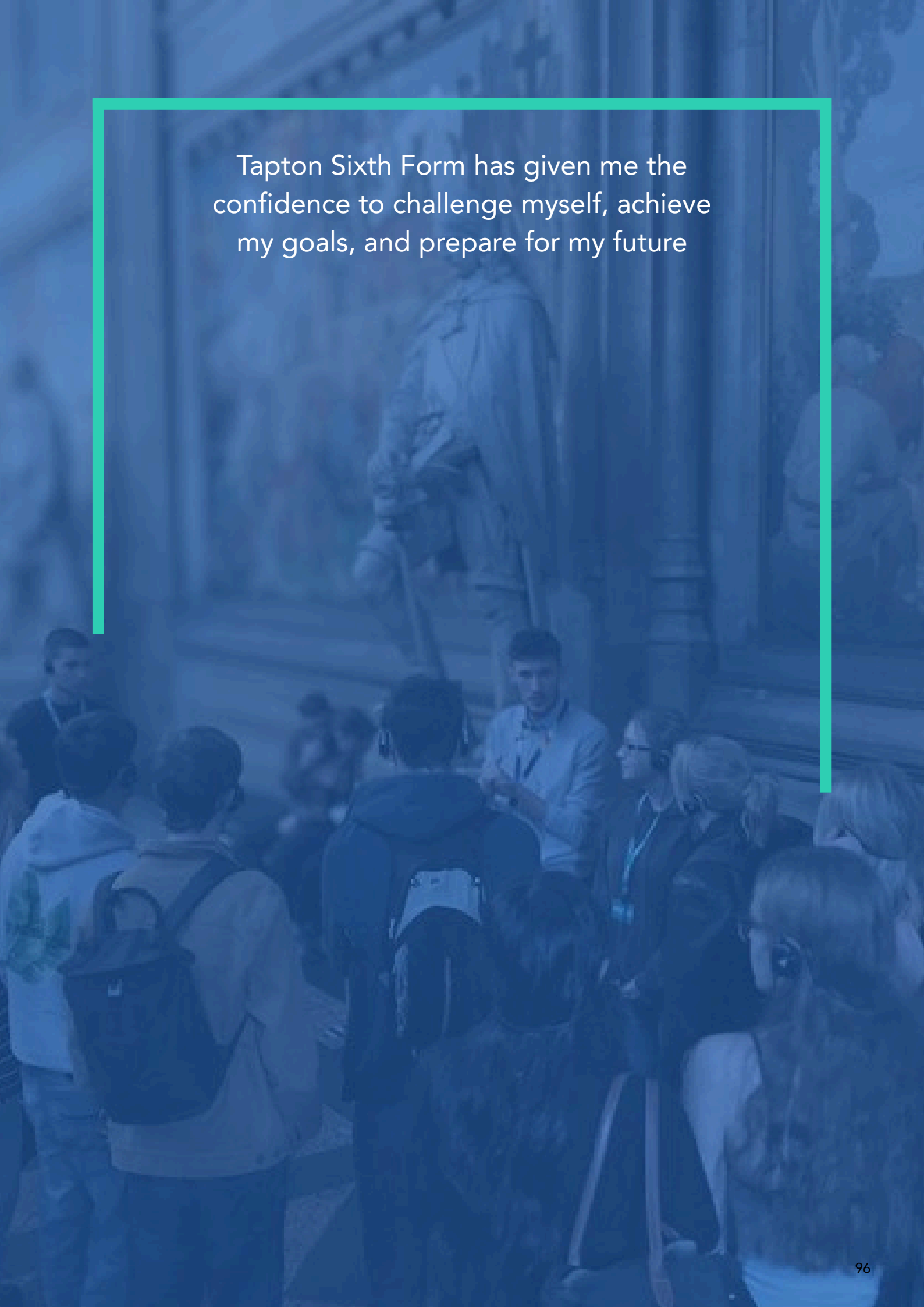
Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

Political Hustings
Participate in live debates and question local representatives.

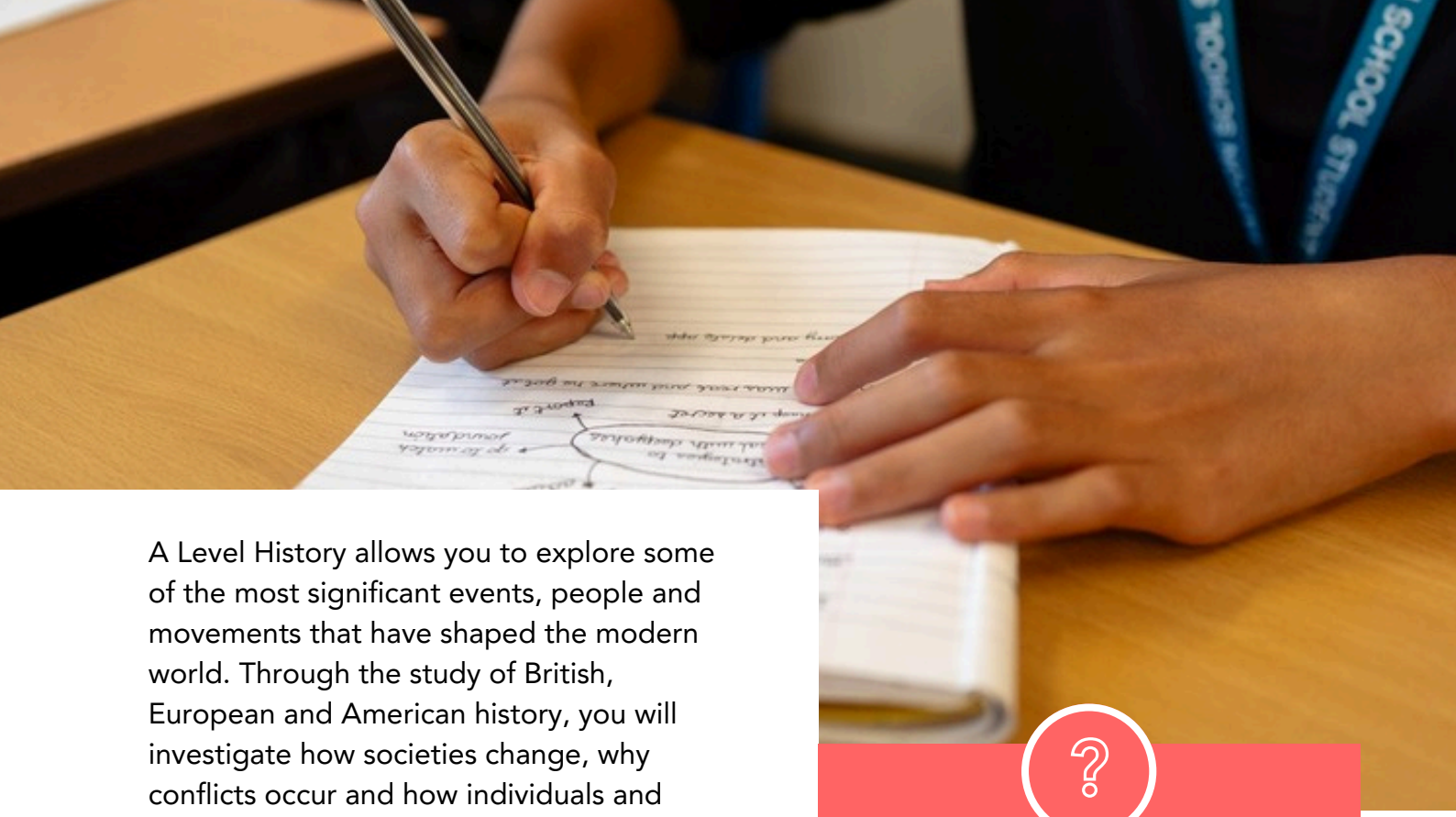
Debating Competitions
Enhance public speaking and critical thinking through inter-school debates.

University Workshops
Collaborate with experts from the University of Sheffield on political issues and education opportunities.

Houses of Parliament Visit
Observe British politics and learn how laws are debated and passed.



Tapton Sixth Form has given me the confidence to challenge myself, achieve my goals, and prepare for my future



A Level History allows you to explore some of the most significant events, people and movements that have shaped the modern world. Through the study of British, European and American history, you will investigate how societies change, why conflicts occur and how individuals and groups have influenced the course of history.

Why Choose A Level History?

Discover how the events, people and ideas of the past have shaped the world we live in today while developing highly valued research, analysis and communication skills.

History

(OCR)

Entry Requirements:

History GCSE Grade 6 and 5 in GCSE English Language or English Literature

Subject Leader:

Mr A McAuley
amcauley@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

The Later Tudors (1547-1603)
Explore the reigns of Edward VI, Mary I and Elizabeth I, examining religious change, political power, rebellion and life in Tudor England.

Democracy and Dictatorship in Germany (1919-1963)
Discover how Germany changed from a democracy to a Nazi dictatorship, and how the country was shaped by World War II and the Cold War.

Civil Rights in the USA (1865-1992)
Investigate the fight for equality, including the experiences of African Americans, women, Native Americans and trade unions, and key figures such as Malcolm X.

Through these topics, you'll develop a deeper understanding of how historical events and movements continue to influence the world today.

Assessment

All assessments are completed at the end of Year 13 and consist of three written examinations and a coursework essay.

Paper 1
1 hour 30 minute exam
- 25% of the A Level

Paper 2
1 hour exam
- 15% of the A Level

Paper 3
2 hour 30 minute exam
- 40% of the A Level

Coursework Essay
Independent historical investigation
- 20% of the A Level
- Completed during Year 13

Assessment Breakdown
- Paper 1: 25%
- Paper 2: 15%
- Paper 3: 40%
- Coursework Essay: 20%

Is History Right for You?

You will enjoy A Level History if you:
- Have a genuine interest in the past and how it has shaped the modern world
- Enjoy asking questions, investigating evidence and exploring different viewpoints
- Have strong reading, writing and analytical skills
- Are curious, open-minded and willing to debate historical issues

If you enjoy discovering the stories behind major events and developing valuable research and communication skills, History could be the perfect subject for you.

Subjects That Work Well With History?

History is a highly versatile subject that complements a wide range of A Levels, including:
- English Language and Literature
- Economics
- Geography
- Politics
- Sociology
- Modern Foreign Languages

History also provides an excellent balance for students studying Mathematics and Science subjects.



Where Could History Take You?

History is a highly respected and provides an excellent foundation for a wide range of university courses.

Law, Politics & Social Sciences
- Law
- Politics
- Social Policy
- Philosophy
- Social Sciences

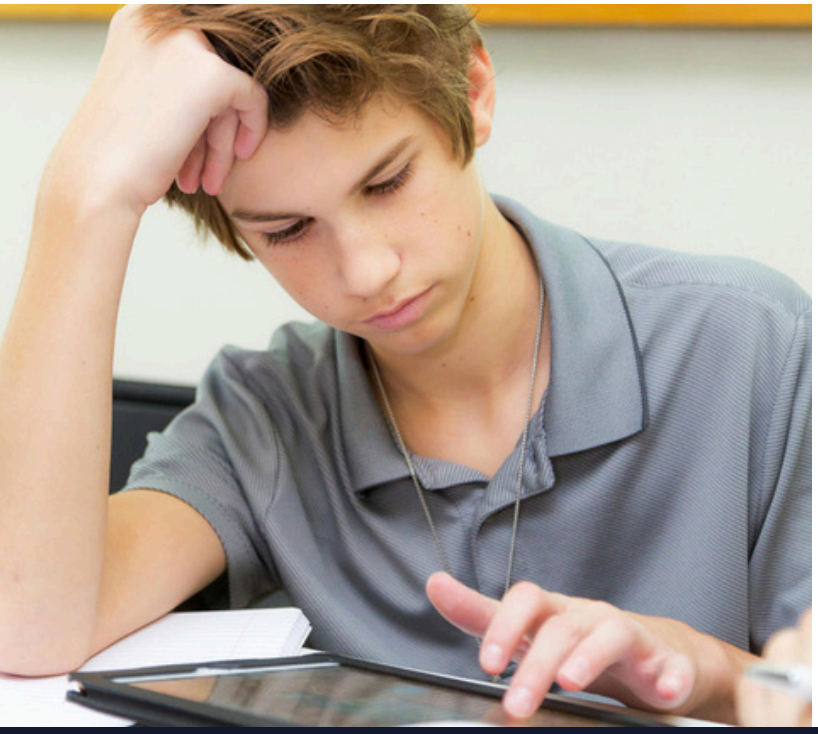
Heritage & Culture
- Museum and Heritage Work
- Archive Management

Business & Economics
- Business Studies
- Economics
- Management

Education & Public Services
- Teaching
- Public Service
- Educational Studies

Media & Communications
- Journalism
- Marketing
- Advertising
- Public Relations

History develops valuable skills in research, analysis, critical thinking and communication. These transferable skills are highly valued by universities and employers and can open doors to a wide variety of careers.



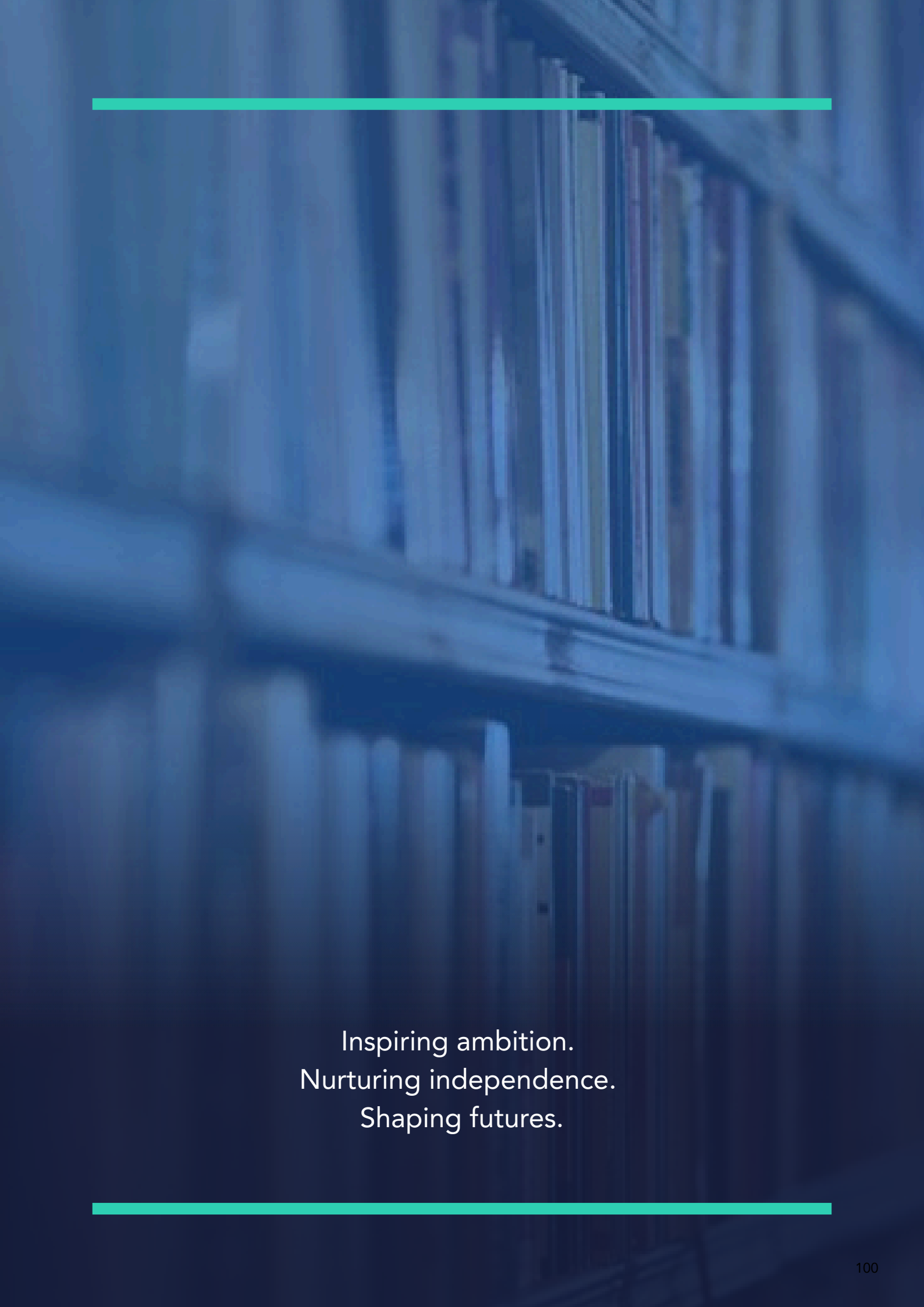
History teaches students to think critically, challenge assumptions and understand the events that have shaped the world around them.

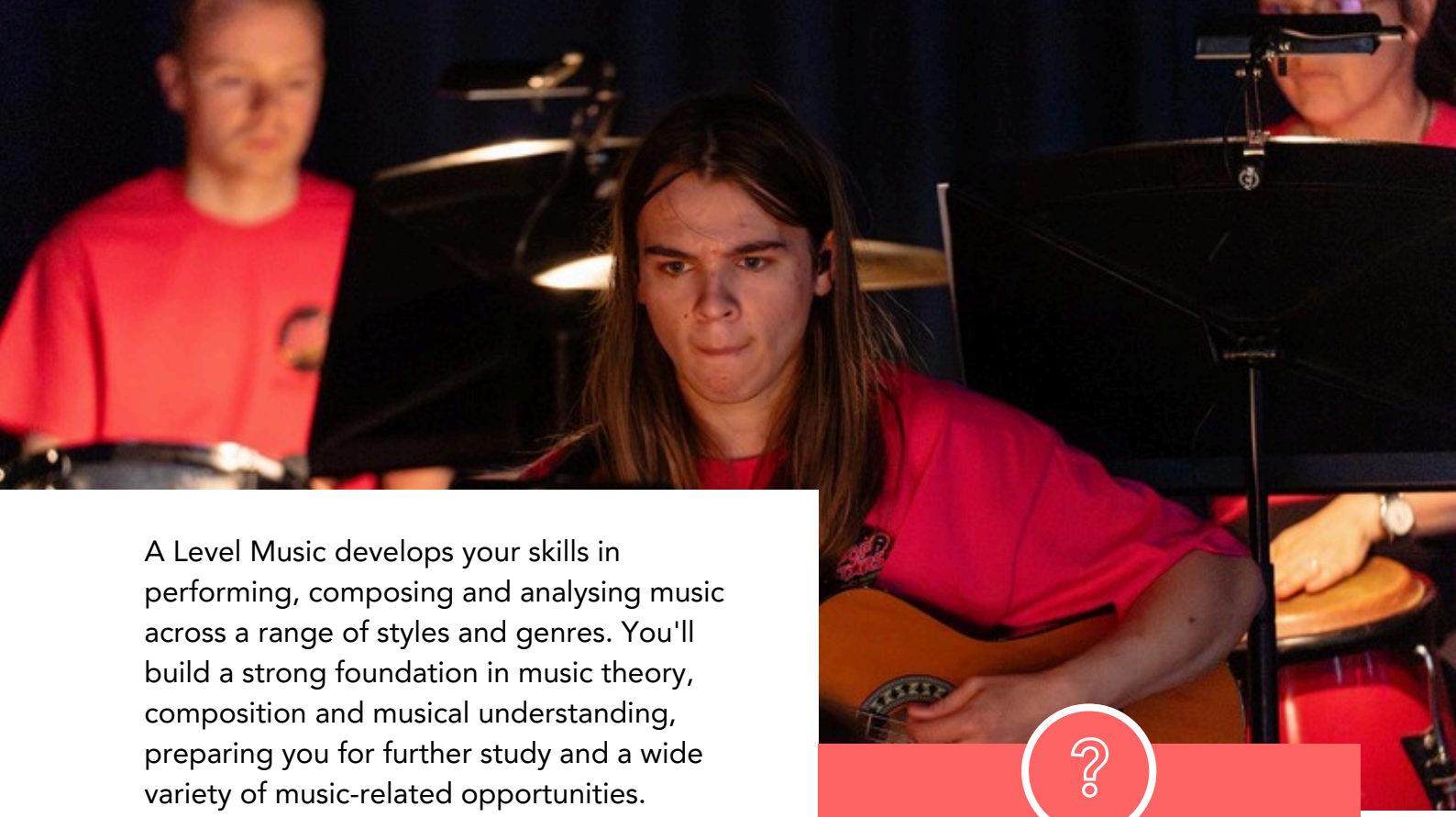
Beyond the Classroom

Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

University Links
Benefit from our strong links with local university History departments, giving you access to a range of lectures, workshops and enrichment activities that extend your learning beyond the classroom.

Berlin Study Visit
In Year 12, students have the opportunity to join a study visit to Berlin, exploring key historical sites and deepening their understanding of twentieth-century history through first-hand experience.


Inspiring ambition.
Nurturing independence.
Shaping futures.



A Level Music develops your skills in performing, composing and analysing music across a range of styles and genres. You'll build a strong foundation in music theory, composition and musical understanding, preparing you for further study and a wide variety of music-related opportunities.

Why Choose Music?

Turn your passion for music into something more. Whether you enjoy performing, composing or discovering new music, A Level Music gives you the chance to develop your creativity,

Music

(AQA)

Entry Requirements:

Route 1: GCSE grade 6 in Music
Route 2: To have passed both Grade 5 Theory AND Grade 5 in an instrument/voice

Subject Leader:

Mrs G Page
gpage@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

Appraising Music
Explore and analyse music from a wide range of styles, genres and time periods, including:

- Baroque Solo Concerto
- Romantic Piano Music
- Music for Theatre
- 20th Century Art Music

Composition
Create your own original music using a range of compositional techniques.

- Compose music in response to a brief
- Produce a free composition in a style of your choice
- Develop your creativity and understanding of musical structure and harmony

Performance
Develop your skills as a solo and/or ensemble performer.

- Perform on your chosen instrument, voice or through music technology
- Build confidence and musicianship
- Take part in performance opportunities both in and beyond the classroom

Assessment

The A Level Music course allows you to showcase your talents as a performer, composer and musician through three components:

Appraising Music (40%)

Performance (35%)

Composition (25%)

Supporting Your Progress
Throughout the course, you will benefit from:

- Regular one-to-one feedback from specialist music teachers
- Peer and self-assessment opportunities to help you understand how to improve your work
- Personalised targets and guidance to support your musical development
- Ongoing performance and composition reviews to build confidence and refine your skills

This balanced approach ensures you are fully supported as you grow as a performer, composer and critical listener.

Is Music Right for You?

You will enjoy A Level Music if you:

- Have a passion for music and enjoy exploring a wide range of styles and genres
- Are enthusiastic, creative and open-minded, with a willingness to learn new skills
- Enjoy performing, composing or listening to music
- Can work confidently both independently and as part of a team
- Are self-motivated and prepared to practise regularly
- Show resilience, determination and a commitment to improving your skills
- Have high aspirations and are keen to challenge yourself

Subjects That Work Well With Music?

A Level Music complements a wide range of subjects by developing valuable transferable skills, including problem-solving, creativity, communication, teamwork, discipline and independent learning.

Pairs Well With:

- Drama and Theatre
- English Language and Literature
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Psychology
- Media Studies



Where Could Music Take You?

Whether you aspire to work in the music industry or pursue a different career path, A Level Music equips you with the confidence, creativity and problem-solving skills to succeed.

Performance & Creative Arts
- Performer
- Musical Theatre Performer
- Session Musician
- Composer
- Arranger

Music Production & Technology
- Sound Engineer
- Music Producer
- Audio Technician
- Live Sound Engineer

Media & Entertainment
- Film Composer
- TV Composer
- Video Game Composer
- Music for Advertising

Education & Community Arts
- Music Teacher
- Instrumental Tutor
- Community Musician

Music develops highly transferable skills, including creativity, communication, teamwork, resilience and self-discipline. These qualities are valued by universities and employers across a wide range of industries, making Music an excellent preparation for both higher education and future careers.



Whether you're performing, composing or analysing, A Level Music allows you to turn your passion into something extraordinary.

Beyond the Classroom

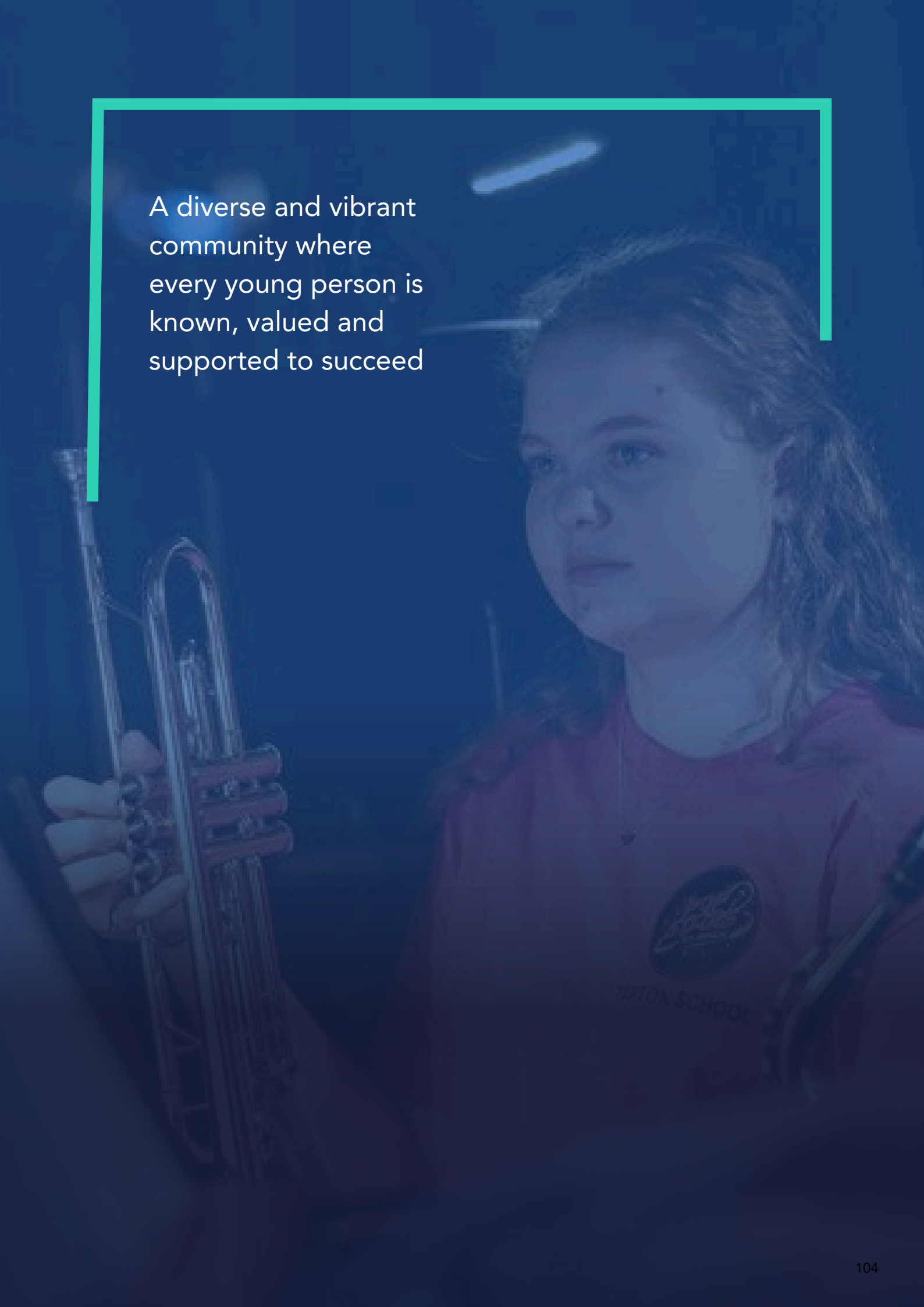
Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

Ensemble Performance
TPerform in a range of ensembles, including Senior Orchestra, Jazz Band, Brass Band, Wind Band, String Groups and the Staff & Student Choir.

Musical Productions
Get involved in school productions as a musician, singer, actor or member of the show orchestra.

Join the Tapton Music Community
Develop your skills, gain valuable performance experience and become part of Tapton's rich musical tradition.

A diverse and vibrant community where every young person is known, valued and supported to succeed





A Level Physical Education combines a passion for sport with the study of how the body and mind influence performance. You'll explore topics such as anatomy, physiology, skill acquisition and sports psychology while applying your knowledge to practical performance or coaching.

Physical Education

(AQA)

Why Choose Physical Education?

If you're passionate about sport and want to explore the science behind performance, A Level Physical Education could be the perfect choice for you.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 5 or above in Biology or Combined Science, Maths and English Language or English Literature. Also, a significant level of sporting performance and regular participation in competitive fixtures or competitions

Subject Leader:

Mrs R Becks
rbecks@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

A Level Physical Education combines the study of sport with an understanding of how the body and mind influence performance.

Topics You Will Study

- Applied Anatomy and Physiology
- Skill Acquisition
- Biomechanics
- Sport Psychology
- Sport and Society
- Technology in Sport

Practical Performance

Alongside the theory content, you will:

- Develop your performance or coaching skills in a chosen sport
- Analyse your own performance
- Apply theory to real sporting situations
- Create strategies for improvement

Assessment

The A Level Physical Education course is assessed through two written examinations and a Non-Exam Assessment (NEA).

Paper 1: Factors Affecting Participation and Performance
2-hour written exam
Topics include:

- Applied Anatomy and Physiology
- Skill Acquisition
- Sport Psychology

Paper 2: Factors Affecting Optimal Performance in Physical Activity and Sport
2-hour written exam
Topics include:

- Biomechanical Movement
- Sport and Society
- The Role of Technology in Physical Activity and Sport

Written Examinations: 70% of the A Level

Non-Exam Assessment (NEA)
30% of the A Level
Practical Performance or Coaching (15%)
Demonstrate your ability in a chosen sport through a practical performance or coaching assessment, supported by video evidence from competitive situations.

Performance Analysis Coursework (15%)
Produce a detailed analysis of your own performance, identifying strengths and areas for improvement before creating an action plan to enhance future performance.

Is Physical Education Right for You?

You will enjoy A Level Physical Education if you:

- Have a genuine passion for sport and physical activity
- Are enthusiastic and willing to learn new skills and techniques
- Are self-motivated, determined and committed to improving
- Enjoy both the practical and academic elements of sport
- Can work independently and stay organised
- Are prepared to work hard both in and outside the classroom
- Regularly train, compete or coach in a sport

To be successful, you should be actively involved in a sport through regular training, competition or coaching.

Subjects That Work Well With Physical Education?

A Level Physical Education works particularly well alongside:

- Biology
- Physics
- Psychology
- Food Science & Nutrition
- Sociology
- History

PE combines scientific knowledge, analytical thinking and practical application, making it an excellent complement to both science and humanities subjects.



Where Could Physical Education Take You?

A Level Physical Education provides an excellent foundation for a wide range of university courses and careers within sport, health and science.

Sport & Exercise
- Sports Science
- Sports Coaching
- Sports Development
- Strength and Conditioning

Health & Healthcare
- Physiotherapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Sports Therapy
- Biomedical Science

Education
- Physical Education Teaching
- Primary Teaching
- Sports Coaching

Fitness & Wellbeing
- Personal Training
- Fitness Industry
- Health Promotion
- Wellness and Lifestyle Management

A Level PE develops a unique combination of scientific knowledge, analytical skills and practical experience. With growing opportunities in sport, health, fitness and wellbeing, it is an excellent choice for students interested in active and rewarding careers.



A Level PE helps students understand the science behind performance while developing the skills to analyse, improve and succeed in sport.

Beyond the Classroom

Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

Sports leadership and coaching
Build leadership and coaching skills through practical experience.

Performance analysis and fitness testing
Use sport science techniques to assess fitness and performance.

Guest speakers and university workshops
Gain insights from industry professionals and higher education experts.

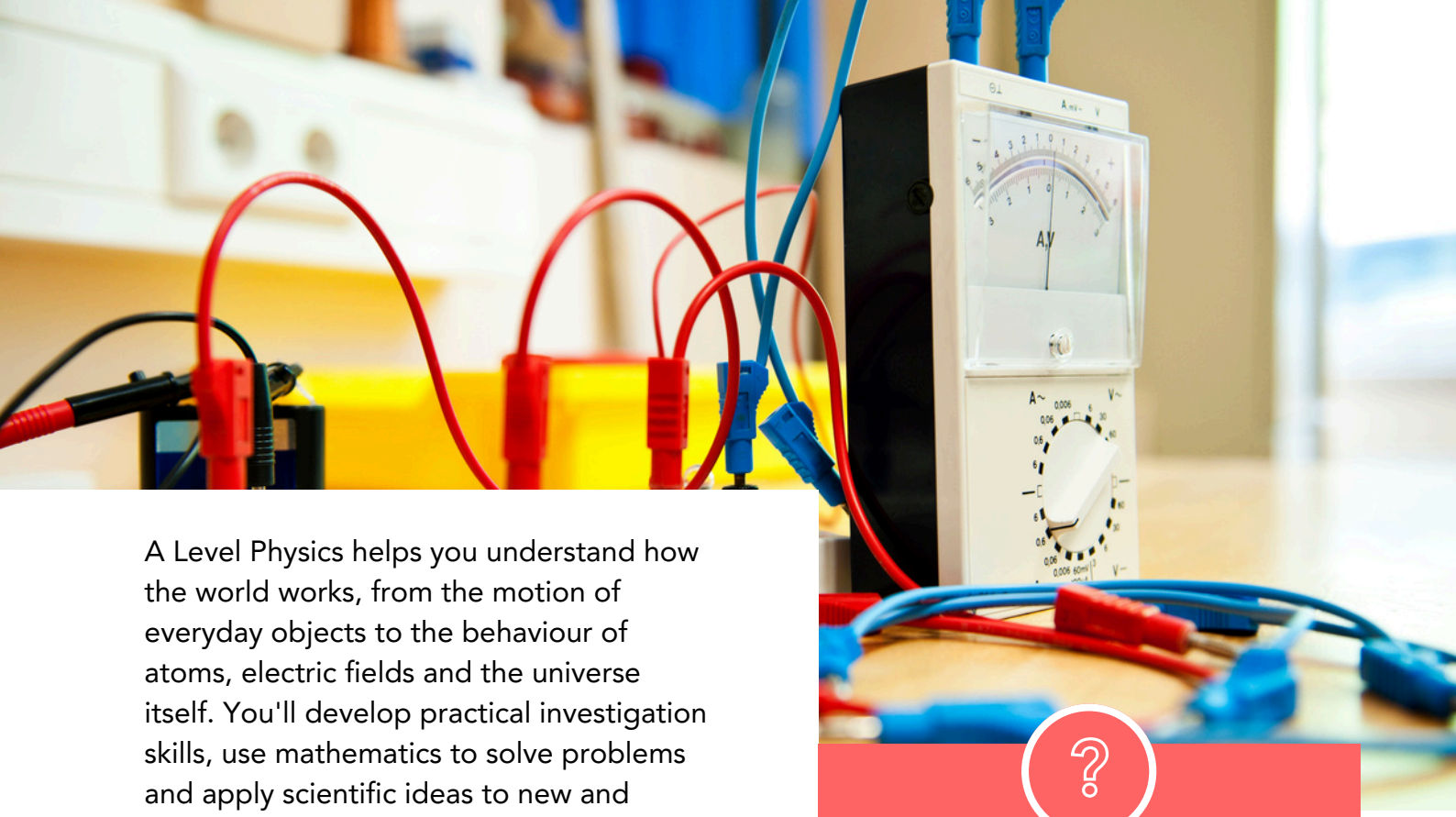
Volunteering and community sport
Support local sport while developing valuable transferable skills.

Supporting school teams and events
Help organise and contribute to school sporting activities.

Competitive sporting opportunities
Represent Tapton in a range of competitive sports and fixtures.



It has been proven that taking part in regular physical activity helps with stress, improves your memory and helps your overall mental wellbeing. Our programme of activities includes football, fitness and badminton.



A Level Physics helps you understand how the world works, from the motion of everyday objects to the behaviour of atoms, electric fields and the universe itself. You'll develop practical investigation skills, use mathematics to solve problems and apply scientific ideas to new and challenging situations.

Why Choose Physics?

Physics develops analytical, problem-solving and practical skills that are highly valued by universities and employers, making it an excellent preparation for careers in science, engineering, technology and beyond.

Physics

(OCR)

Entry Requirements:

A Grade 6 in Physics and Grade 6 in either Biology or Chemistry, or Grades 6-6 in Combined Science, and a minimum of a Grade 6 in Mathematics or 7 in Physics and a 5 in another science and a Grade 6 in Maths.

Subject Leader:

Mr J O'Neill
joneill1@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

Throughout the course, you'll develop your practical and investigative skills while exploring a wide range of fascinating topics, including:

Practical Skills in Physics
Developing experimental techniques and scientific investigation skills.

Foundations of Physics
The fundamental principles that underpin the subject.

Forces and Motion
Understanding how and why objects move.

Electrons, Waves and Photons
Exploring electricity, wave behaviour and quantum physics.

Newtonian World and Astrophysics
Studying gravity, planets, stars and the wider universe.

Particles and Medical Physics
Investigating particle physics, nuclear physics and medical imaging technologies.

As the course progresses, you'll build on core concepts and apply your knowledge to increasingly complex physical systems and real-world applications.

Assessment

Paper 1: Breadth in Physics
1 hour 30 minutes
- Multiple-choice questions
- Structured questions
- Tests a broad range of Year 12 topics

Paper 2: Depth in Physics
1 hour 30 minutes
- Structured questions
- Extended-response questions
- Focuses on deeper understanding and application of key concepts

Paper 1: Modelling Physics
2 hours 15 minutes
- Multiple-choice questions
- Structured questions
- Assesses core physics principles and mathematical modelling

Paper 2: Exploring Physics
2 hours 15 minutes
- Multiple-choice questions
- Structured questions
- Covers practical and theoretical aspects of the course

Paper 3: Unified Physics
1 hour 30 minutes
- Structured questions
- Extended-response questions
- Brings together knowledge and skills from across the A Level course

Practical Endorsement
- Assessed by your teachers throughout the course
- Develop and demonstrate practical laboratory skills
- Reported separately alongside your A Level grade

Is Physics Right for You?

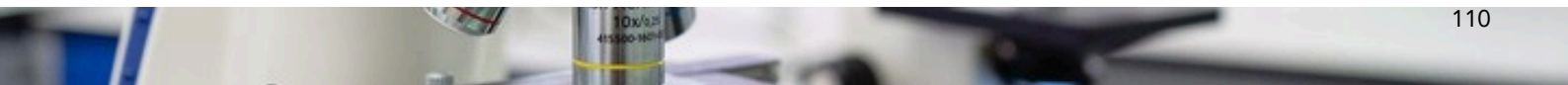
Physics is an exciting and challenging subject that helps you understand how the universe works, from the smallest particles to the largest galaxies.

This course is right for you if you:
- Are curious about how and why things work
- Enjoy solving problems and tackling challenges
- Like using maths to explain real-world phenomena
- Enjoy analysing information and thinking logically
- Are willing to persevere with difficult concepts and questions
- Can adapt to new ideas and different ways of thinking
- Enjoy practical investigations and experiments
- Are confident discussing ideas and working with others

Subjects That Work Well With Physics

Physics combines particularly well with:
- Mathematics
- Further Mathematics
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Design & Technology
- English
- History
- Modern Languages

Physics works particularly well alongside Mathematics and other STEM subjects, but it also complements a wide range of courses.



Where Could Physics Take You?

These skills make Physics one of the most versatile A Levels, opening doors to a wide range of university courses and careers across science, technology, engineering, healthcare, finance and beyond.

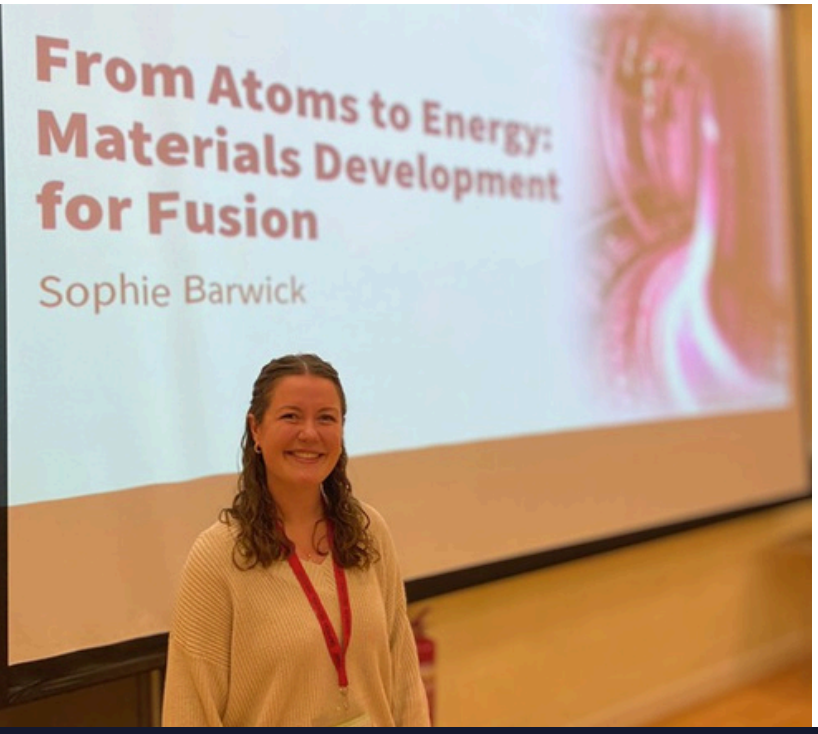
Engineering
- Mechanical Engineer
- Civil Engineer
- Aerospace Engineer
- Electrical Engineer
- Design Engineer

Science & Research
- Physicist
- Research Scientist
- Laboratory Scientist
- Astrophysicist
- Nuclear Scientist

Technology & Computing
- Software Developer
- Data Scientist
- Artificial Intelligence Specialist
- Cyber Security Analyst
- Computer Systems Engineer

Space & Aerospace
- Space Scientist
- Satellite Engineer
- Aerospace Engineer
- Astronomer

Energy & Environment
- Renewable Energy Engineer
- Environmental Consultant
- Climate Scientist
- Sustainability Specialist



Physics challenges you to think differently, solve complex problems and explore some of the biggest questions about the universe.

Beyond the Classroom

Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

Institute for Research in Schools (IRIS)
As the Northern Hub for IRIS, Tapton School offers students the chance to take part in genuine scientific research projects.

Physics Olympiad
Challenge yourself through prestigious national physics competitions.

European Space Agency CanSat Project
Design, build and launch a miniature satellite.

Super-Curricular Opportunities
Go beyond the A Level specification through research, competitions and enrichment activities.

We Value



Curiosity



A Level Product Design combines creativity, innovation and practical problem-solving. You'll explore how products are designed, developed and manufactured, while gaining an understanding of materials, consumer needs and commercial design processes.

Design and Technology: Product Design (OCR)

Why Choose Product Design?

If you love innovation and you are not afraid to fail on your journey to excellence, then this is the course for you.

Entry Requirements:

5 in the relevant Design Technology and 5 in Mathematics

Subject Leader:

Mr Fulson
jfulson@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

A Level Product Design focuses on the design, development and manufacture of consumer products. Students explore how materials, components and manufacturing processes are used to create products that are functional, innovative and commercially successful.
Throughout the course, you will:

- Analyse existing products and evaluate their design and performance.
- Develop knowledge of materials, manufacturing processes and product development.
- Apply mathematical and technical principles to design challenges.
- Consider environmental, ethical and social factors that influence product design.
- Develop creative problem-solving and design communication skills.
- Design, model, test and refine innovative product solutions.
- Complete a substantial independent design project, taking a product from initial concept through to final evaluation.

Assessment

Exam Paper
1 hour 30 minutes | 26.7% of A Level
You'll be assessed on:

- Analysing existing products
- Understanding materials and manufacturing processes
- How products work and are made
- Applying mathematical skills to design problems
- Environmental, ethical and social issues in design

Problem-Solving Paper
1 hour 45 minutes | 23.3% of A Level

- Design and develop products
- Apply your design and manufacturing knowledge
- Solve design challenges
- Evaluate and improve design solutions

Iterative Design Project (NEA)
Approx. 65 hours | 50% of A Level

- Choose your own design problem or opportunity
- Research, design, make and test a product
- Develop and refine your ideas throughout the project
- Produce a portfolio showing the whole design process from concept to final evaluation

Exams: 50% Externally Assessed

Iterative Design Project: 50% Internally Assessed

Is Product Design Right for You?

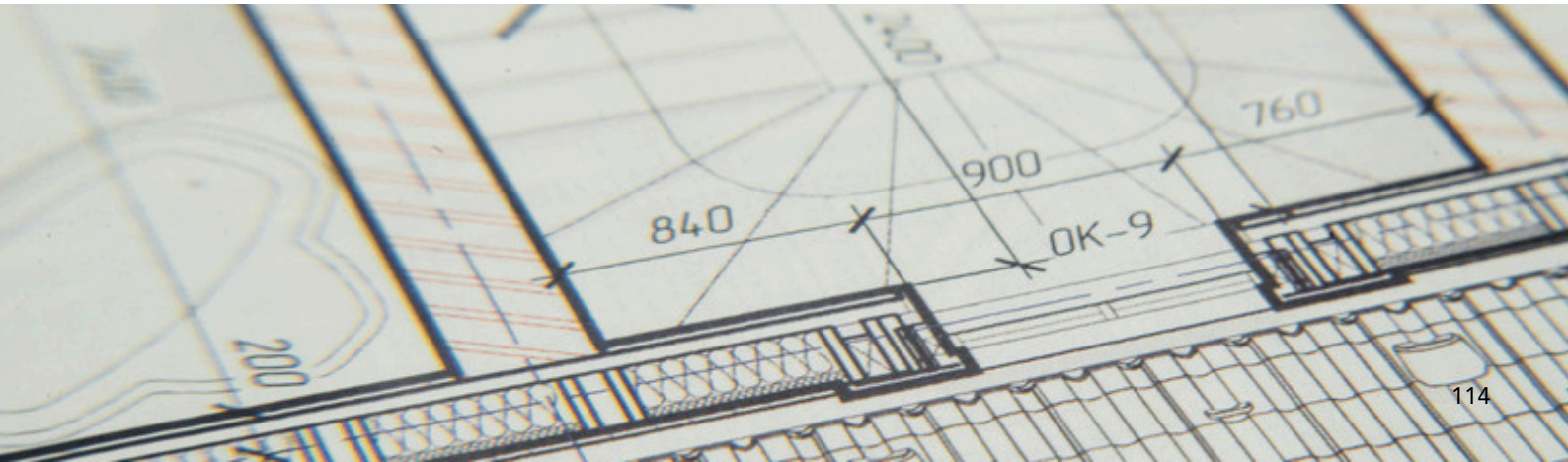
Product Design is ideal for students who:

- Have a passion for designing and creating products.
- Enjoy solving problems and developing creative ideas.
- Like exploring different solutions before making decisions.
- Enjoy practical project work and coursework.
- Can think critically and evaluate designs.
- Are creative, organised and resilient.

Subjects That Work Well With Product Design?

- Business Studies
- Physics
- Mathematics
- Art & Design
- Computer Science

Product Design complements a wide range of subjects by combining creativity, problem-solving and commercial awareness.



Where Could Product Design Take You?

Provides a strong foundation for a wide range of university courses and career pathways.

Design & Creative Industries
- Graphic Designer
- Product Designer
- Industrial Designer
- Interior Designer
- 3D Designer
- Illustrator
- Trend Forecaster

Engineering & Technical Design
- Design Engineer
- Automotive Designer
- Civil Engineer
- Architectural Designer

Product Development & Manufacturing
- Product Developer
- Production Manager
- Manufacturing Designer
- Sports Equipment Designer

Product Design & Creative Technology
- Special Effects Designer
- Animatronics Designer
- Music Technology Specialist

Design Engineering opens the door to a wide range of careers in engineering, technology, product design and innovation, all industries with strong demand for skilled professionals.



I enjoy Product Design because it allows me to turn ideas into real products. You have the freedom to be creative while developing practical skills that are useful for university, apprenticeships and future careers.

Beyond the Classroom

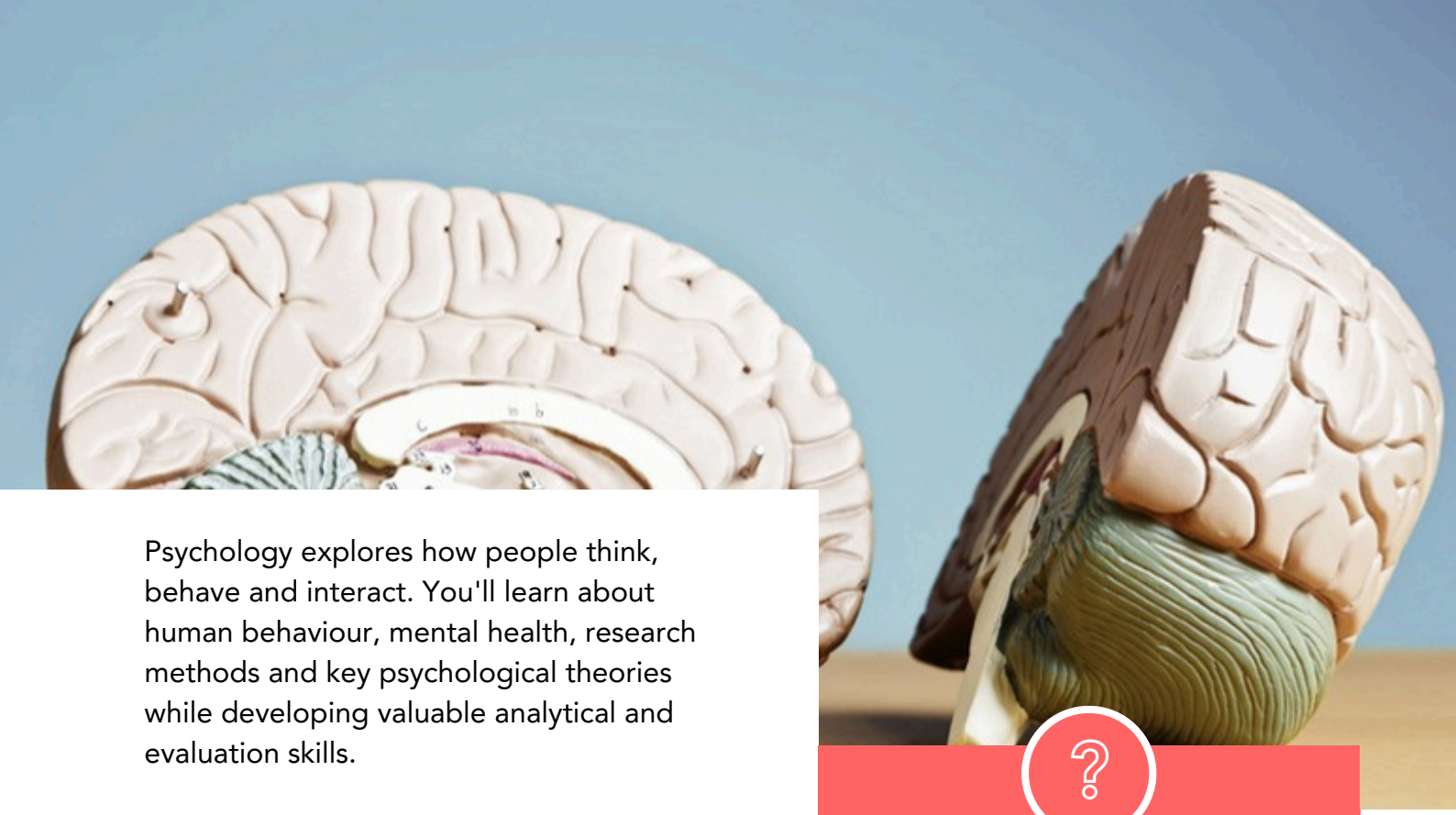
Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

Industry Visits
Visit companies and manufacturing facilities to see product design and production in action.

Industry Partnerships
Benefit from the department's links with businesses, designers and external organisations.



At Tapton, there are so many opportunities to get involved and we offer a wide range of extracurricular activities to compliment your academic study



Psychology explores how people think, behave and interact. You'll learn about human behaviour, mental health, research methods and key psychological theories while developing valuable analytical and evaluation skills.

Why Choose Psychology?

Psychology is ideal for students who are curious about people, enjoy debating ideas and want to understand how the mind works.

Psychology (AQA)

Entry Requirements:

5 in English Language or English Literature, 5 in Maths and 5 in a Science.

Subject Leader:

Ms B Walker
bwalker@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

Introductory Topics in Psychology

- Social Influence (obedience and conformity)
- Memory
- Attachment
- Psychopathology (mental health, including OCD, phobias and depression)

Psychology in Context

- Psychological approaches and theories
- Biopsychology (the role of the brain and biology in behaviour)
- Research methods used in psychology

Issues and Options in Psychology

- Key debates, such as Nature vs Nurture
- Gender and cultural influences in psychology
- Optional topics including:
  - Gender
  - Schizophrenia
  - Forensic Psychology

Throughout the course, students develop skills in analysis, evaluation, research, data interpretation and critical thinking, while gaining a deeper understanding of human behaviour and mental processes.

Assessment

2 written exams
1 hour 30 minutes each
A mix of:

- Multiple-choice questions
- Short-answer questions
- Extended writing questions

3 written exams
2 hours each
A mix of:

- Multiple-choice questions
- Short-answer questions
- Extended writing questions

Is Psychology Right for You?

Psychology is a great choice if you're curious about how people think, behave and interact with the world around them.

This course is right for you if you:

- Enjoy discussing and debating ideas
- Can work independently and manage your time effectively
- Are interested in understanding human behaviour and mental processes
- Enjoy analysing evidence and drawing conclusions
- Are confident expressing your ideas in writing
- Are willing to take part in class discussions and share your opinions
- Have an interest in science and how research is used to investigate behaviour

Subjects That Work Well With Psychology?

Psychology combines particularly well with:

- Sociology
- Biology
- Geography
- Film Studies
- Sport

Psychology works well with both science and humanities subjects.



Where Could Psychology Take You?

Psychology is an excellent foundation for a wide range of degree courses and careers.

Psychology & Mental Health
- Clinical Psychologist
- Educational Psychologist
- Forensic Psychologist
- Occupational Psychologist
- Counsellor

Healthcare & Wellbeing
- Physiotherapist
- Mental Health Practitioner
- Occupational Therapist
- Healthcare Support Roles

Social Care & Community Services
- Social Worker
- Youth Worker
- Family Support Worker
- Community Development Worker

Marketing, Advertising & Media
- Advertising Executive
- Market Researcher
- Consumer Behaviour Analyst
- Public Relations Officer

Criminal Justice & Law
- Probation Officer
- Criminal Behaviour Analyst
- Police Services
- Forensic Psychology Pathways



I chose Psychology because I wanted to understand human behaviour. The topics are interesting and relevant to everyday life, and I've developed valuable skills in analysis, research and critical thinking.

Beyond the Classroom

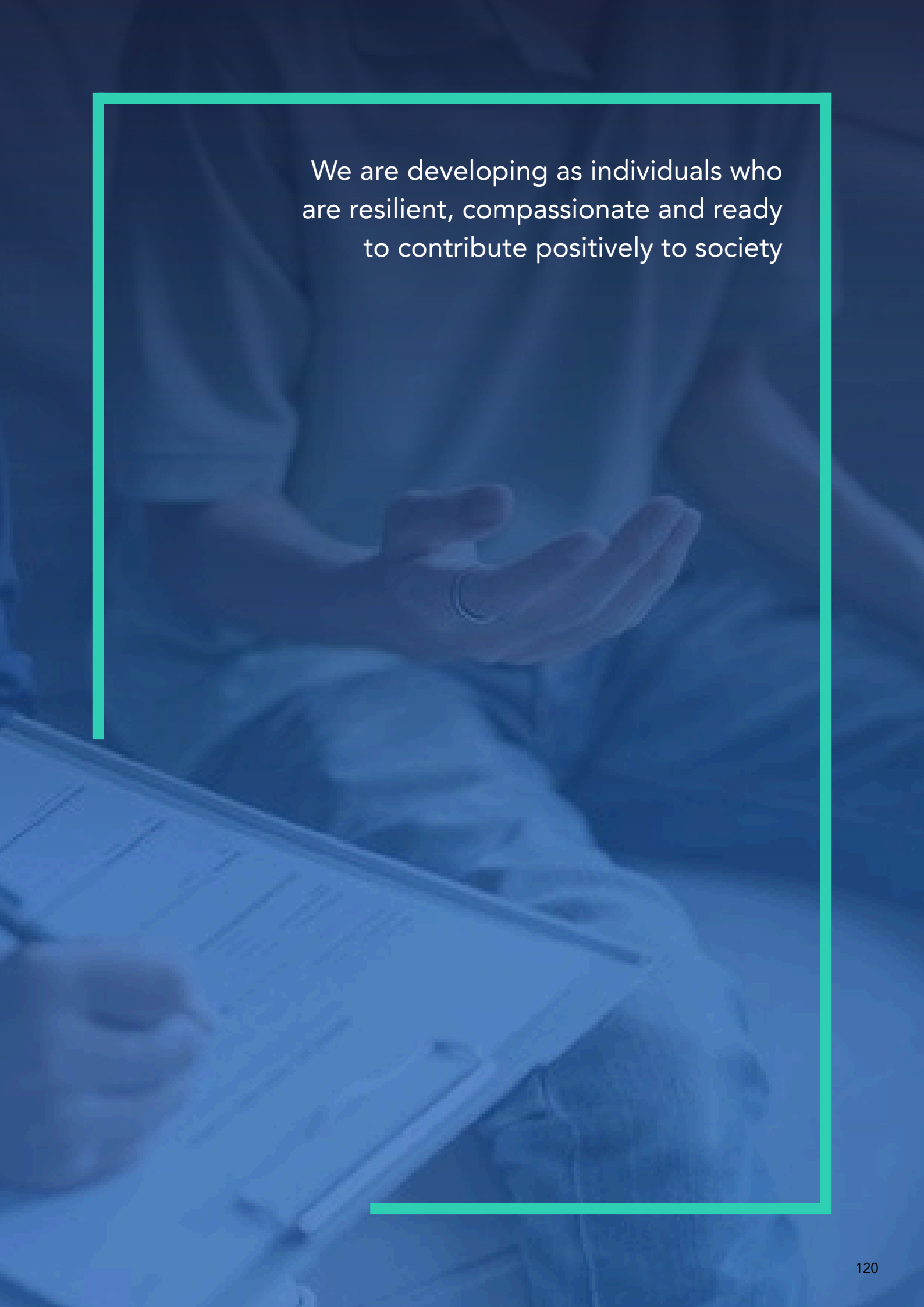
Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

Social Sciences Discussion Group
Explore current topics and real-world issues in psychology and the social sciences.

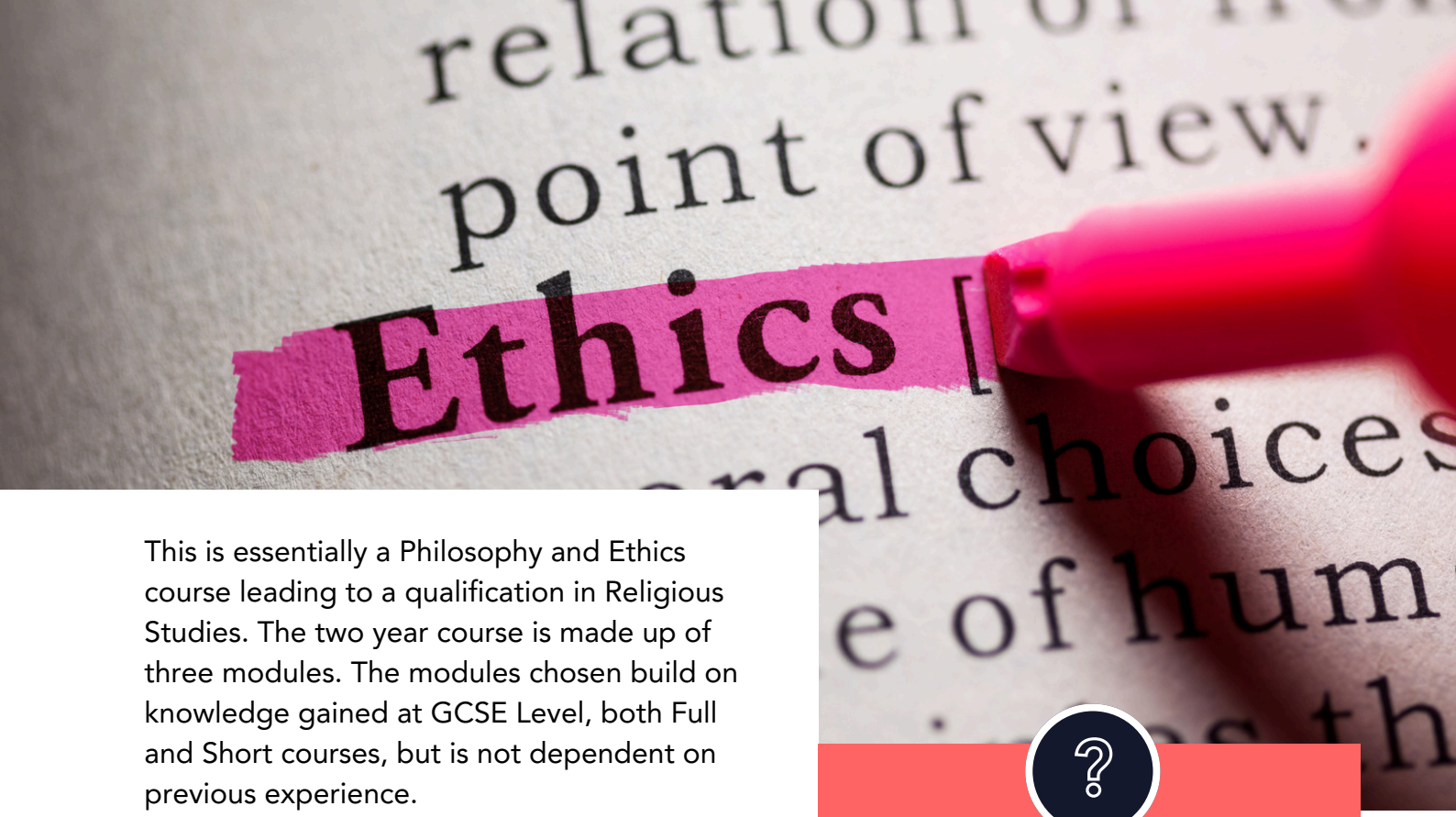
University Visits
Visit universities and experience what studying Psychology at a higher level is like.

Psychology Experiments
Take part in psychology research and practical investigations.

Guest Lectures and Talks
Hear from researchers, authors and industry professionals.



We are developing as individuals who are resilient, compassionate and ready to contribute positively to society



This is essentially a Philosophy and Ethics course leading to a qualification in Religious Studies. The two year course is made up of three modules. The modules chosen build on knowledge gained at GCSE Level, both Full and Short courses, but is not dependent on previous experience.

Religious Studies

(OCR)

Why Choose Religious Studies?

Religious Studies is ideal for students who enjoy questioning ideas, discussing different viewpoints and exploring some of the most important issues facing society today.

Entry Requirements:

5 in English Language or English Literature

Subject Leader:

Miss K Molyneux
kmolyneux@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

Philosophy of Religion

- Plato and Aristotle
- The soul, mind and body
- Arguments for and against God's existence
- Religious experiences and the problem of evil

Ethics

- Ethical theories
- Euthanasia, conscience and free will
- Moral decision-making

Christianity

- Human nature and Augustine
- The existence of God
- Jesus and the afterlife

Building on Y12 topics, you'll also explore:

- The nature of God and religious language
- Business and sexual ethics
- Christian morality
- Gender, secularism and liberation theology

Religious Studies challenges you to explore big questions about belief, morality and society while developing critical thinking, discussion and essay-writing skills.

Assessment

3 Written Exams

- One exam for each topic area:
  - Philosophy of Religion
  - Ethics
  - Christian Thought
- Each exam is worth 33.3% of the A Level qualification.
- In each exam, you will answer 3 questions from a choice of 4.

Is Religious Studies Right for You?

Religious Studies could be the right subject for you if you:

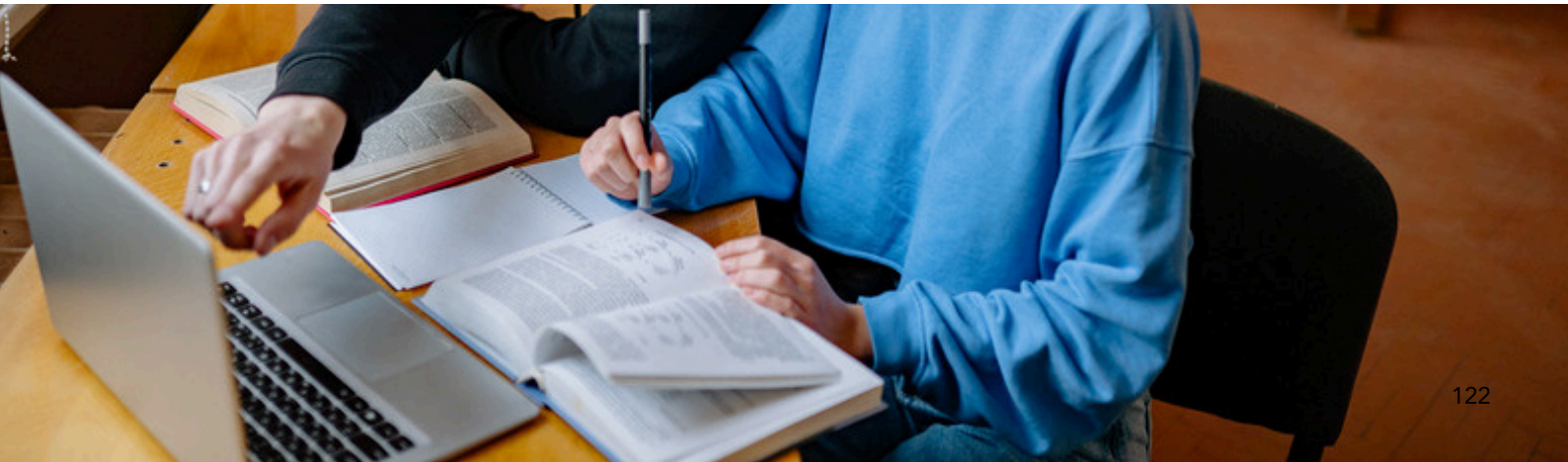
- Have an open and curious mind and enjoy exploring why people think and behave the way they do.
- Like asking questions and considering different viewpoints.
- Enjoy analysing evidence and drawing logical conclusions.
- Are willing to debate and discuss ideas with others.
- Can think critically about complex issues and theories.
- Enjoy reading, writing and developing well-structured arguments.
- Want to develop skills in research, evaluation and problem-solving.

Subjects That Work Well With Religious Studies?

Subjects That Complement Religious Studies

- English Literature
- History
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Politics
- Law
- Philosophy
- Geography
- Biology
- Chemistry

Works well alongside both humanities and science subjects.



Where Could Religious Studies Take You?

Religious Studies develops critical thinking and problem-solving skills, highly regarded by universities and employers.

Law & Legal Services
- Solicitor
- Barrister
- Legal Executive
- Paralegal

Healthcare & Medicine
- Doctor
- Nurse
- Healthcare Professional
- Medical Ethics Specialist

Social Care & Community Services
- Social Worker
- Youth Worker
- Community Support Worker
- Family Support Practitioner

Media, Journalism & Communications
- Journalist
- Broadcaster
- Public Relations Officer
- Communications Officer

Public Services
- Police Officer
- Civil Service
- Public Sector Roles
- Community Engagement Officer

Philosophy, Theology & Academia
- Philosopher
- Theologian
- Religious Studies Researcher
- Academic Researcher



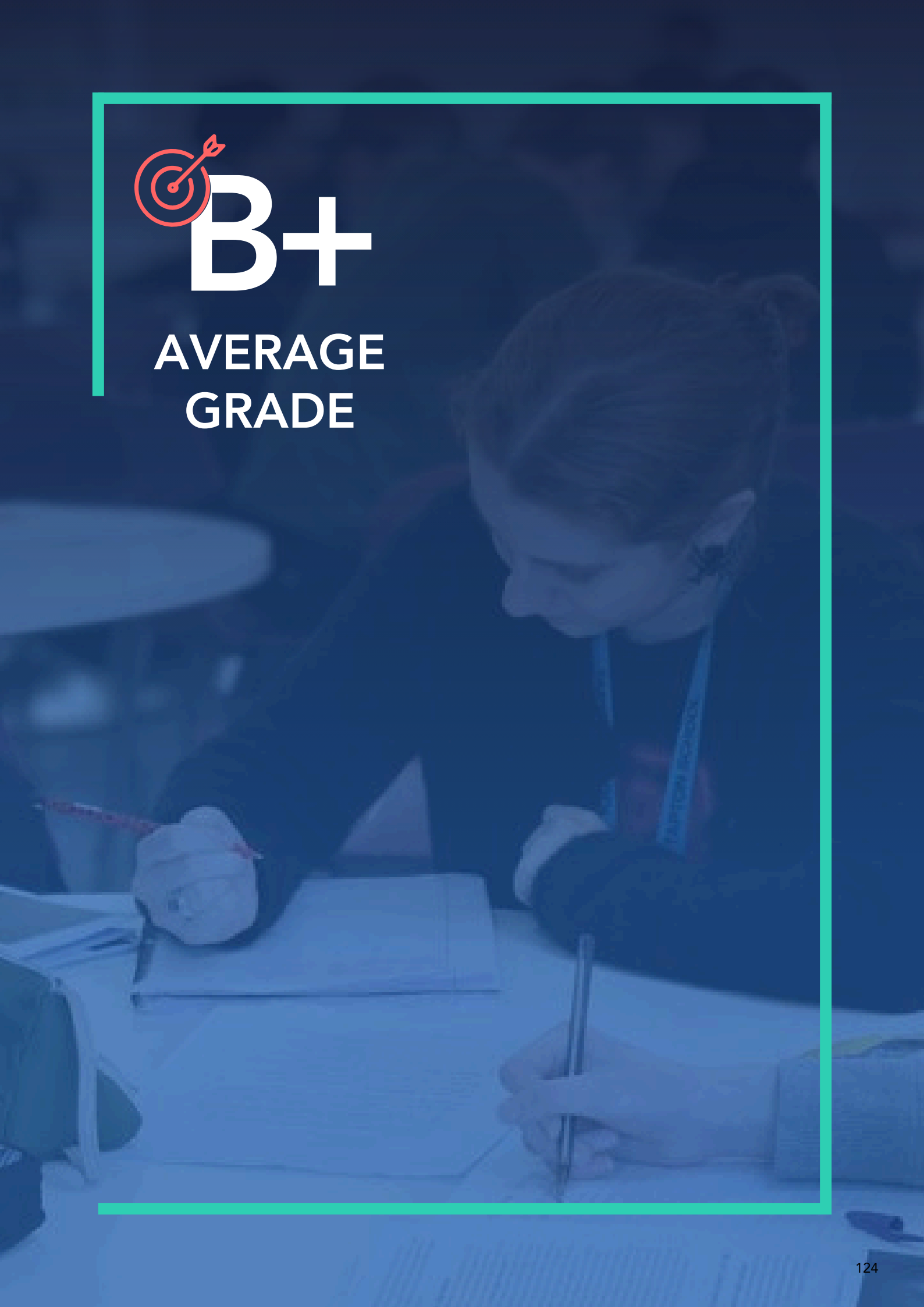
I love Religious Studies because there are no simple answers. The course challenges you to think deeply, debate ideas and consider different perspectives while developing skills that are useful far beyond the classroom.

Beyond the Classroom

Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

Conferences and Academic Events
Attend conferences and enrichment events organised by examination boards and universities.

University Enrichment Opportunities
Experience higher-level study through lectures, workshops and taster sessions.


B+
AVERAGE
GRADE



Sociology explores how society influences our lives, behaviour and opportunities. Through the study of topics such as education, families, crime and inequality, you'll develop valuable skills in analysis, research and critical thinking while gaining a deeper understanding of the world around you.

Why Choose Sociology?

If you're curious about people, society and how the world works, Sociology is the subject for you.

Sociology (AQA)

Entry Requirements:

5 in English Language or English Literature

Subject Leader:

Miss B Walker
bwalker@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content

A Level Sociology explores how society influences the way we live, think and interact with others. You'll investigate key social issues, examine different perspectives and develop the skills to analyse and evaluate evidence about the world around you.

Education and Research Methods
Explore how education shapes society, identity and opportunity, while learning how sociologists investigate social issues.
Key questions:
- Does education create equal opportunities?
- How do schools influence our lives?
- How do sociologists research society?

Families and Beliefs in Society
Examine family life, relationships and the role of religion in modern society.
Key questions:
- What role does the family play?
- How are family structures changing?
- Is religion still important today?

Crime, Deviance and Social Theory
Investigate crime, social control and the causes of human behaviour.
Key questions:
- Why do people commit crime?
- How effective is the justice system?
- How much does society influence behaviour?

Assessment

The A Level Sociology course is assessed through three written examinations, each lasting 2 hours.

Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods (33.3%)

- Education
- Sociological Theory
- Research Methods

Paper 2: Families and Households & Beliefs in Society (33.3%)

- Families and Households
- Religion and Beliefs in Society

Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods (33.3%)

- Crime and Deviance
- Sociological Theory
- Research Methods

Is Sociology Right for You?

You will enjoy A Level Sociology if you:

- Have an open mind and enjoy exploring different viewpoints
- Are curious about current social issues and the world around you
- Enjoy asking questions and challenging assumptions
- Can think critically and analyse evidence
- Like discussing and debating ideas
- Want to understand how society shapes people's lives and opportunities

If you're interested in people, society and the issues affecting the modern world, Sociology could be the perfect subject for you.

Subjects That Work Well With Sociology?

As a Social Science, Sociology works particularly well alongside:

- Psychology
- Politics
- English
- History
- Geography
- Art
- Business
- Economics

Sociology complements a wide range of subjects by developing skills in analysis, research, evaluation and critical thinking.



Where Could Sociology Take You?

A Level Sociology develops valuable transferable skills, including analysis, evaluation, research, communication and critical thinking.

Social Sciences & Humanities
- Sociology
- Criminology
- Social Policy
- Social Work
- Education

Psychology & Behaviour
- Psychology
- Counselling
- Youth Work

Business & Media
- Business Management
- Marketing
- Media Studies
- Public Relations

Law & Criminal Justice
- Law
- Policing
- Criminal Justice

Sociology opens the door to a wide range of degree courses and careers by helping you understand people, society and contemporary social issues. Whether you choose university, an apprenticeship or employment, the analytical and communication skills you gain will support a variety of future pathways.



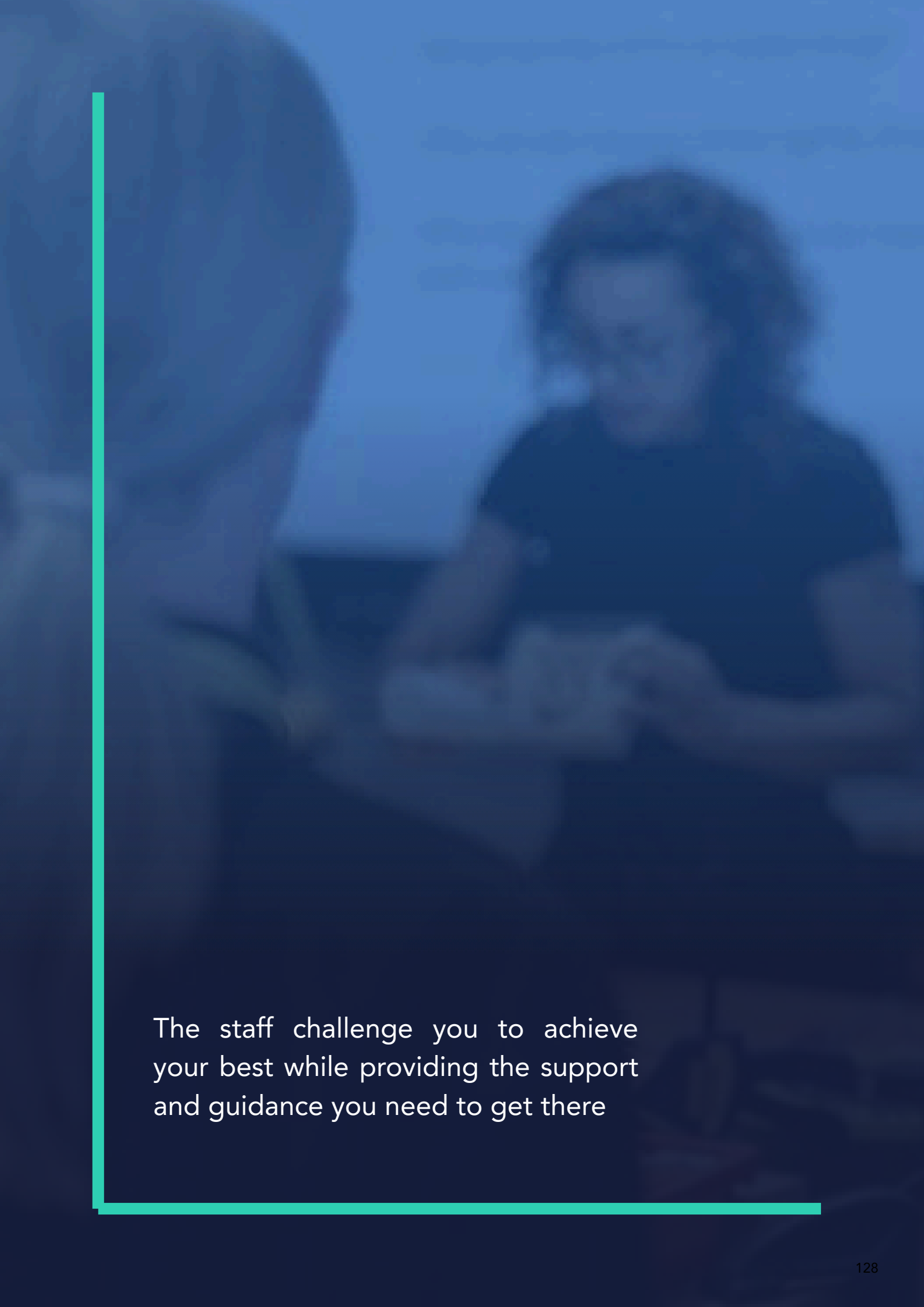
Sociology isn't about finding easy answers; it's about asking the right questions.

Beyond the Classroom

Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

Social Science Discussion Group
Join our popular discussion group, where students explore contemporary social issues through books, podcasts, documentaries and current affairs, leading debates and sharing different perspectives.

University Visits & Guest Speakers
Take advantage of opportunities to visit universities and attend lectures, talks and workshops delivered by researchers, authors and industry professionals.



The staff challenge you to achieve your best while providing the support and guidance you need to get there



A Level Spanish develops your language skills while exploring the culture, society and current issues of the Spanish-speaking world. You'll study a film and literary text, build confidence in communication, and gain valuable skills for university and future careers.

Why Choose Spanish?

A genuine love of languages, an enquiring mind, good time management, hard work and resilience.

Spanish

(AQA)

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Grade 6 in Spanish

Subject Leader:

Ms J Askew
jaskew@taptonschool.co.uk

Course Content:

Hispanic Society and Culture

- Modern and traditional values
- Social media and cyberspace
- Equal rights
- Immigration, racism and multiculturalism
- Youth and politics
- Monarchies, republics and dictatorships
- Popular movements

Hispanic Arts and Identity

- Modern-day Hispanic icons
- Spanish regional identity
- Cultural heritage and traditions

Language and Grammar

- Key verb tenses and moods
- Nouns, adjectives and articles
- Prepositions and conjunctions
- Questions, negation and intensifiers

Literature and Film

- La Casa de Bernarda Alba by Federico García Lorca
- El Laberinto del Fauno (Pan's Labyrinth) by Guillermo del Toro

Assessment

Listening and Speaking
20% of your grade
- Understand spoken Spanish from a variety of sources.
- Take part in conversations and discussions.
- Express your ideas confidently and clearly.

Using Spanish Accurately
30% of your grade
- Use a wide range of vocabulary and grammar.
- Communicate accurately in both speaking and writing.

Reading and Writing
30% of your grade
- Understand and respond to a range of written texts.
- Write accurately and effectively in Spanish.

Spanish Culture and Society
20% of your grade
- Explore cultural, social and political topics from the Spanish-speaking world.
- Share and analyse opinions on contemporary issues.

Is Spanish Right for You?

Spanish could be the perfect choice if you:
- Enjoy learning about different cultures and global issues
- Want to improve your speaking, listening, reading and writing skills
- Are confident communicating and willing to speak Spanish regularly in lessons
- Enjoy discussing current affairs, society and cultural topics
- Are interested in studying a language at a more advanced level
- Are prepared to practise independently and build your vocabulary
- Enjoy challenging yourself and developing fluency in a second language
- Want a qualification that is highly valued by universities and employers

Subjects That Work Well With Spanish?

Spanish works well with almost any subject
- English Literature
- Geography
- History
- Politics
- Sociology
- Economics
- Business Studies
- Mathematics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics

Spanish combines particularly well with humanities, social sciences and business, while providing a valuable contrast to Maths and Science courses.



Where Could Spanish Take You?

Spanish provides an excellent foundation for:

International Business & Finance
- Business
- Economics
- Marketing
- Banking & Finance
- International Trade

Education & Social Sciences
- Teaching
- Education Studies
- Social Policy
- Social Sciences

Law & Public Services
- Law
- Public Sector Roles
- Civil Service
- Diplomacy

Media & Communications
- Journalism
- Advertising
- Public Relations
- Content Creation

Employers value language skills because they show strong communication, cultural awareness and the ability to work in a global environment. Whether you go to university or straight into employment, a language can help set you apart and open doors to opportunities around the world.



> *It gives you the confidence to communicate with people from different cultures, explore global issues and develop skills that are highly valued by universities and employers.*

Beyond the Classroom

Take your learning further with exciting enrichment opportunities:

Cultural and Language Trips
Opportunities to take part in cultural and linguistic visits that bring the language to life.

Leadership & Mentoring
Support younger students in lessons.
Mentor GCSE Spanish students and help develop their confidence and language skills.

Authentic Resources
Access Spanish films, articles, podcasts and other real-world materials to enhance your learning.

We are proud to be a school at the heart of our community, where everyone is valued and experiences a sense of belonging



TAPTON SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM

Community Character Curiosity

This prospectus was produced in September 2026 and was accurate at the time of publication. While every effort has been made to ensure the information contained within is correct, details may be subject to change.

Please note that the availability of courses is dependent upon student demand and staffing. Consequently, some subjects may not run if minimum enrolment numbers are not reached. For the most up-to-date information, please contact the Sixth Form directly or visit our website.

Get in Touch

sixthformadmissions@taptonschool.co.uk

tapton.school/sixth-form

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