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Sixth Form
Entry 2023



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Contents

Welcome from the Headteacher	3
Our Vision from the Head of Sixth Form	5
How to apply?	6
Admissions criteria	6
Extended Project Qualification	6
Making the best subject combination choices	7
Curriculum and subjects	8
Vocational subjects	9
<u>A -Level:</u>	
<i>Art and design</i>	10
<i>Biology</i>	12
<i>Chemistry</i>	14
<i>Computer science</i>	16
<i>English</i>	18
<i>Geography</i>	20
<i>Government and politics</i>	22
<i>History</i>	24
<i>Mathematics</i>	26
<i>Physics</i>	28
<i>Product design</i>	30
<i>Psychology</i>	32
<i>Sociology</i>	34
<i>Turkish</i>	36
<u>Vocational Subjects:</u>	
<i>Business Studies</i>	38
<i>Health and social care</i>	42
<i>Information technology</i>	44
<i>Music</i>	48
<i>Performing arts</i>	50
<i>Sport and physical activity</i>	52
The Experience	56
Juventus Academy - Post 16 Educational Football Programme	58
How to find us	59
Stay in Contact	60



Welcome to our Sixth Form

One of the most frequent questions that I am asked as Headteacher is quite simply, 'When are you going to open a Sixth Form at Heron Hall?'

So I am delighted and extremely proud that we will be enrolling our first group of students into our exceptional new Sixth Form from September 2023.

Choosing the right Sixth Form is a key decision in a student's educational journey.

Heron Hall is a place of academic excellence, love, respect and tolerance, a home away from home for our students, and a school that in 2021 was a Bronze Award winner for the prestigious Pearson UK Secondary School of the Year competition.

I was also very humbled to be named the Times UK Headteacher of the Year for 2022-23. The whole team at Heron puts itself above the call of duty and we are a real family. This award was for that family.

After 3 years of very careful planning, we will now be able to offer our young people the chance to continue their success with us by offering them an outstanding educational experience at 16. It will also be the chance for them to discover new freedoms and to develop long lasting friendships.

I believe our first set of Sixth Form students have an exciting opportunity to be a part of something very special and to help us begin a new chapter in the success of Heron Hall Academy. I hope we will be able to persuade you to join us. Everyone should have the chance to continue their success.

A. Barzey

Arthur Barzey

Times UK Headteacher of the Year for 2022-23



Our Vision

Mr Molokwu - Head of Sixth Form

I am delighted that you are considering furthering your education journey with us. At Heron Hall, we support all of our students in their pursuit of excellence as well as developing well-rounded global citizens capable of doing extraordinary things.

We have built a diverse, engaging and challenging curriculum that seeks to enthuse, inspire and nurture every learner. Our enrichment programme will help to shape our students socially and morally and underpin the school's values of STRIVE. It is important to us that we are an inclusive Sixth Form with a welcoming approach in which all of our students feel cared for and supported.

Our vision for the Sixth Form has three distinct but vital elements.

The primary focus of our vision is in ensuring that students achieve the best possible outcomes academically and strive beyond their potential. I believe that with hard work, commitment and determination, all students can progress academically and exceed their expectations.

The second part of our vision is focused on ensuring that students are adequately prepared for the next stage of their lives after they finish Year 13. It is vital that students are supported to transition into and out of the Sixth Form. As such, the Sixth Form will implement a comprehensive careers and employability programme that will upskill any student. Whether that be a student who wishes to continue with higher education at university or those who may wish to leave post-compulsory education and transition into the world of work. Irrespective of what any student intends to do with their career, all will access an in-depth and tailored Careers Information and Guidance Programme.

The final part of our vision is focused on ensuring that students are given the chance to develop key skills that are needed in the workplace and everyday life. This will be achieved by developing and enhancing the character and culture of students within the Sixth Form.

Enrichment Programme

All students will participate in the Sixth Form Enrichment Programme, which will allow them to volunteer within a range of different contexts. This will not only be within the school but the wider community.

Volunteering will be encouraged in local primary schools or local charitable organisations. This will allow students to develop critical life skills such as confidence, communication, resilience, tolerance and integrity. The enrichment programme will support students to embody our school ethos and our STRIVE values within Heron Hall and also the local and wider community.

I am very proud to be the inaugural Head of Sixth Form here at Heron Hall and I eagerly await welcoming you all. I believe that students will be very happy and able to continue with their success at Heron Hall's new Sixth Form.

Can I also encourage parents and prospective students to visit our school website and to contact me directly if you have any queries.

mmolokwu@northstartrust.org.uk

How to apply

We welcome applications from all students.

Applications must be made online. External applicants must include a reference and a certificate of attendance from their current or previous school. The reference form and application can be downloaded from the school website www.heronhallacademy.org.uk/how-to-apply

Courses and options are subject to alterations and in some cases cancellation depending on student numbers. Internal candidates can arrange to apply in school with Mr Molokwu.

Admissions criteria

Academic Pathway: A minimum of 6 GCSE grades 9-4 with at least 3 grades 9-6 at GCSE including Maths, English and the subject-specific entry requirements.

Applied Vocational Pathway: A minimum of 5 GCSE grades 9-4 including English and Maths.

Interview process: All students that apply for a place within the Sixth Form will be subject to an interview to ensure they adequately meet the admissions criteria. At this stage, where applicable, all references will be checked. The interview process will support students to make appropriate course choices.

Offers of places at Heron Hall: All students who meet the admissions criteria will be made a conditional offer in writing. A firm offer will only be made following confirmation of GCSE results in the summer. On GCSE results day, students will be able to confirm their qualifications and begin enrolment into the Sixth Form. If you do not achieve your expected grades please speak to us so we can discuss your options. Students applying from Heron Hall will be expected to attend school during the final week of August to complete the full enrolment process.

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

EPQ stands for Extended Project Qualification, which is an additional qualification you can take alongside your academic studies. It helps to develop research skills, time management and a number of other skills that are necessary for higher-level study.

The EPQ course is offered to students aiming to study at elite universities. Studying an EPQ demonstrates valuable proof of your capacity for independent learning, as well as your passion for the subject you want to study at a higher level.

The EPQ is an independent research project that can but does not have to relate to an A-level subject that is being studied. It is important therefore that students choose topics that they are interested in and relate to, so they are motivated to complete the qualification. Students who undertake the EPQ will be expected to complete a 5000-word research task and a presentation relating to their research task.

So what are the benefits of doing the EPQ:

- Practice academic writing which is necessary for studying at a university
- Supports your university application
- Increased chance of being given a conditional offer for your first choice university
- Potential lower admissions criteria for those who have completed the EPQ
- Development of key skills needed for university and employment

Making the best subject combination choices

When you are considering the choices and qualifications you would like to study in the Sixth Form, it is important to keep in mind how they will support your progression into the next phase of your life.

For example, if you are not planning to go to university, but after studying at Sixth Form would like to progress into employment and further training, then an Applied Vocational Qualification would be an appropriate choice. However, if you are planning to progress to higher education and university, then it is important to keep in mind the essential subjects required by universities (academic pathway).

Some subjects are more frequently required for entry to degree courses than others are. These are often referred to as 'facilitating' subjects because choosing them at an advanced level keeps open a wide range of options for university study. The facilitating subjects are Biology, Chemistry, English Literature, Geography, History, Languages, Physics and Mathematics and Further Mathematics.

If you are unsure what you want to study at undergraduate level at university, then it would be advisable to study at least two facilitating subjects. This will broaden your options when making a choice at university level.

The table below provides essential and useful subject combinations for popular university courses. The Russell Group publication 'Informed Choices' also provides supportive information to assist with choosing the right university for you. See www.informedchoices.ac.uk

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES	ESSENTIAL A-LEVEL SUBJECTS	USEFUL ADDITIONAL SUBJECTS
Medicine, Dentistry Biological, Life Sciences	Chemistry & Biology	Mathematics & Further Mathematics
Physical Sciences, Engineering	Mathematics & Physics	Chemistry & Further Mathematics
Mathematics	Mathematics & Further Mathematics	Physics & Computer Science
Economics, Actuarial Science	Mathematics	Economics & Further Mathematics
Humanities	N/A	English, History, Geography, Languages, Psychology, Biology, Religious Studies & Sociology
Psychology	Some require Biology or Chemistry	Biology, Psychology, Chemistry, English, Sociology & Religious Studies
Law	Some require English	English & History
Computer Science	Mathematics	Further Mathematics, Physics & Computer Science
The Arts, Social Sciences, English	English Literature, History, Languages, Drama, Art & Mathematics	Economics, Geography, Religious Studies, Sciences & Sociology
Business, Accounting	N/A	Mathematics, Business, Economics
Teacher training	A national curriculum subject	English, mathematics, Geography, History, Sciences, Religious studies, Sociology.

Curriculum and subjects

Art & Design - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 5 in GCSE Art, textiles or photography and Grade 4 in GCSE English. Exam Board – AQA.

Biology - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 5 in GCSE English and Grade 6 in GCSE Biology and Maths. Exam Board – AQA.

Chemistry - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 5 in GCSE English and Grade 6 in GCSE Chemistry and Maths. Exam Board – AQA.

Computer Science - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 6 in GCSE Computer Science or Grade 6 in GCSE Maths. Exam Board – OCR.

English - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 6 in GCSE English Literature. Exam Board – AQA.

Geography - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 6 in GCSE Geography and Grade 5 in GCSE English and Maths. Exam Board – Edexcel.

Government and Politics - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 5s in English and Maths, Grade 5 in History or Geography preferable but not compulsory. Exam Board – AQA.

History - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 6 in GCSE History and Grade 5 in GCSE English and Maths. Exam Board – AQA.

Mathematics - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 6 in GCSE Maths. Exam Board – Edexcel.

Physics - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 5 in GCSE English and Grade 6 in GCSE Physics and Maths. Exam Board – AQA.

Product Design - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 5 in GCSE Product Design or GCSE Art. Exam Board – AQA.

Psychology - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 6 in GCSE English and Grade 6 in GCSE science and maths. Exam Board - AQA.

Sociology - Entry requirements:

Grade 6 in GCSE English or Grade 6 in GCSE Humanities subject. Exam Board - AQA.

Turkish - Entry requirements:

Grade 6 in GCSE Turkish. Exam Board – Edexcel.

Vocational subjects

Business (Extended Certificate)

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Business.

Entry requirements: 5 GCSE grades at 9-4, including Grade 4 in GCSE English & Maths. Exam Board – Edexcel.

Business (Extended Diploma)

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Business.

Entry requirements: 5 GCSE grades at 9-4 including grades 4 in GCSE English & Maths. Exam board – Edexcel.

Health and Social Care

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Health & Social Care.

Entry requirements: 5 GCSE grades 9-4 including Maths and English. Exam Board – Edexcel.

Information Technology (Extended Certificate)

BTEC National Extended Certificate in Information Technology.

Entry requirements: Grade 4 in GCSE English and GCSE Maths. Exam Board – Edexcel.

Information Technology (Extended Diploma)

BTEC National Extended Diploma in Information Technology.

Entry requirements: Grade 4 in GCSE English and GCSE Maths. Exam Board – Edexcel.

Music Performance

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Music Performance.

Entry requirements: Grade 5 in music GCSE or level 2 equivalent and ability to play to grade 4 on an instrument or voice. Exam Board – Edexcel.

Performing Arts

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts.

Entry requirements: 6 GCSES at Grade 4 and above. Grade 5 in GCSE Drama/Music or Distinction in BTEC Level 2 Performing Arts. Exam Board – Pearson.

Sport and Physical Activity (Extended Certificate)

Sport and Physical Activity Extended Certificate.

Entry requirements: Grade 4 in GCSE PE or Distinction in BTEC/OCR Sports Studies and Grade 4 in GCSE English and Science. Exam Board – OCR

Sport and Physical Activity (Extended Diploma)

Sport and Physical Activity Extended Diploma.

Entry requirements: Grade 4 in GCSE PE or Distinction in BTEC/OCR Sports Studies and Grade 4 in GCSE English and Science. Exam Board – OCR.

Art & Design – AQA

Entry requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE Art & Design, textiles or Design and Technology. Grade 5 in English Lit & Lang.

Course content

Students will produce a body of work for all units throughout the course. Students will compile a collection of work linked to at least 2/3 investigations. Both Component 1 and Component 2 both have the same expectations of investigations and conclusion with a final piece. Students will sit a total of 15 hours of exams to complete their set Investigation response.

Students are required to conduct investigations, related to an issue, concept or theme supported by a written piece. Students' investigations must show independent development from the original issue, concept or theme to the outcomes. Student Investigations must evidence students' ability to research and develop ideas into outcomes. The written material must be comprehensibly structured and be between 2000-3000 words. The written materials must include appropriate spelling, punctuation and grammar throughout the topics. Students must demonstrate their artistic skills being developed and challenged throughout the investigations as they conclude.

The following topics are studied:

- Personal investigation outline and structure.
- Essay writing and research gathering. An introduction to lecture-style sessions about art & design influencers and the Art world to build up an understanding of the importance of research and investigations.
- Practical Art skills and techniques developed using a vast set of materials, building independent working. Students should aim to develop Artistic skills through various mediums such as drawing, painting, mixed media, sculpture, ceramics, printmaking, animation and photography.

Assessment overview

1. Component 1: Coursework (Internal personal investigation) 96 marks, 60%
2. Component 2: Exam (External set assignment) 96 marks, 40%

Progression

A-Level Art & Design is just the beginning to deepen your knowledge and understanding of the world in which we all live. Art & Design A-Level can lead you into the various different fields of work and life in the future. Students can go onto study at Degree level and explore the world of Visual artists, Digital artists, Animators, Advertisement, Photographers, Product designers, Architectures, Interior designers and so on.



Biology – AQA

Entry requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE English and Grade 6 in GCSE Biology and Maths

Course content

Biology is the study of life and living organisms. This science encompasses a wide range of domains including genetics, microbiology, taxonomy, biochemistry, physiology but also ethology and ecology. Studying A level Biology will give you a basic understanding of the way the body works, an overview of the impact of the expression of the genome and epigenome on metabolism, an insight into how cells communicate or how molecules interact or the use of microorganisms in industry and ecology.

A level Biology is a two-year course gained by completing eight modules combined with the practical endorsement. The practical endorsement is an assessment of a student's skills and competency when completing core practicals.

The following topics are studied during A level biology:

Year 12

- Biological molecules
- Cells
- Organisms exchange substances with their environment
- Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms

Year 13

- Energy transfer in and between organisms
- Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
- Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
- The control of gene expression

Assessment overview

1. Paper 1: 2 hours (written paper) – 91 marks, 35% of A-level
2. Paper 2: 2 hours (written paper) – 91 marks, 35% of A-level
3. Paper 3: 2 hours (written paper) – 78 marks, 30% of A-level

Progression

A-level Biology is a stepping-stone to future study. Biologists have a key role in contributing to improvements in tomorrow's world of health, sport, medicine, conservation and the food industry. The Biology course provides an excellent basis for further study and careers in the Life Sciences. From GM crops to diseases and medicines, to environmental issues, there has never been a more exciting time to be a biologist.



Chemistry – AQA

Entry requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE English and Grade 6 in GCSE Chemistry and Maths

Course content

Chemistry is the study of the properties and reactions of materials. It is sometimes called a central science, because it links the other sciences to each other, such as biology, physics, geology and environmental science.

The A level Chemistry Course is a two-year course gained by completing modules in 3 larger sections combined with the practical endorsement. The practical endorsement is an assessment of a student's skills and competency when completing core practicals.

The following topics are studied during A level chemistry:

Year 12

Physical Chemistry – atomic structure, bonding, energetic, kinetics, chemical equilibrium

Inorganic Chemistry – periodicity, group 2 the alkaline earth metals and group 7 (17) the halogens

Organic Chemistry – Alkanes, haloalkanes, alkenes, alcohols, organic analysis

Year 13

Physical Chemistry 2 - Thermodynamics, kinetics, equilibrium constant, electrode potentials, acids, bases & buffers

Inorganic Chemistry 2 - Periodicity, transition metals, reactions of inorganic compounds in aqueous solutions

Organic Chemistry 2 - Isomerism, carbonyl groups, aromatic chemistry, amines, polymerisation, amino acids, proteins & DNA, organic synthesis, chromatography

Assessment overview

1. Paper 1: 2 hours (written paper) – 105 marks, 35% of A-level
2. Paper 2: 2 hours (written paper) – 105 marks, 35% of A-level
3. Paper 3: 2 hours (written paper) – 90 marks, 30% of A-level

Progression

A-level Chemistry is a stepping-stone to future study. Having a chemical science qualification is desirable and valuable to future employers as it provides you with a wide range of transferable skills. It gives you a vast choice in a wide range of careers such as Research and Development, Production, Marketing and Sales, Veterinary Science, Forensic Science, Marine Science, Management and Marketing, Patent Agent, Environmental, Finance, and Sales and Advertising.



Computer Science – OCR

Entry requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE Computer Science or Grade 6 in GCSE Maths.

Course Content

Computer Science has computational thinking at its core; thinking that provides solutions to problems, designs systems and recognises the nature of human and machine intelligence.

It is a creative subject that involves the innovative thinking and development of ideas through coding.

You will learn to become a strong programmer using different programming paradigms. As part of this, you will explore many of the standard algorithms used in searching, sorting and pathfinding and will be able to select the most appropriate to use, based on its efficiency and suitability for the problem at hand. A diverse range of theoretical topics are covered, including how computers use logic, number systems, networks, databases and more.

Computer science is split into papers one, two and non-examined assessment (NEA). Students will study a range of topics over the two years of A-level.

The following topics are studied during A level computer science:

- The characteristics of contemporary processors, input, output and storage devices
- Types of software and the different methodologies used to develop software
- Data exchange between different systems
- Data types, data structures and algorithms
- Legal, moral, cultural and ethical issues
- Elements of computational thinking
- Problem-solving and programming
- Algorithms to solve problems and standard algorithms

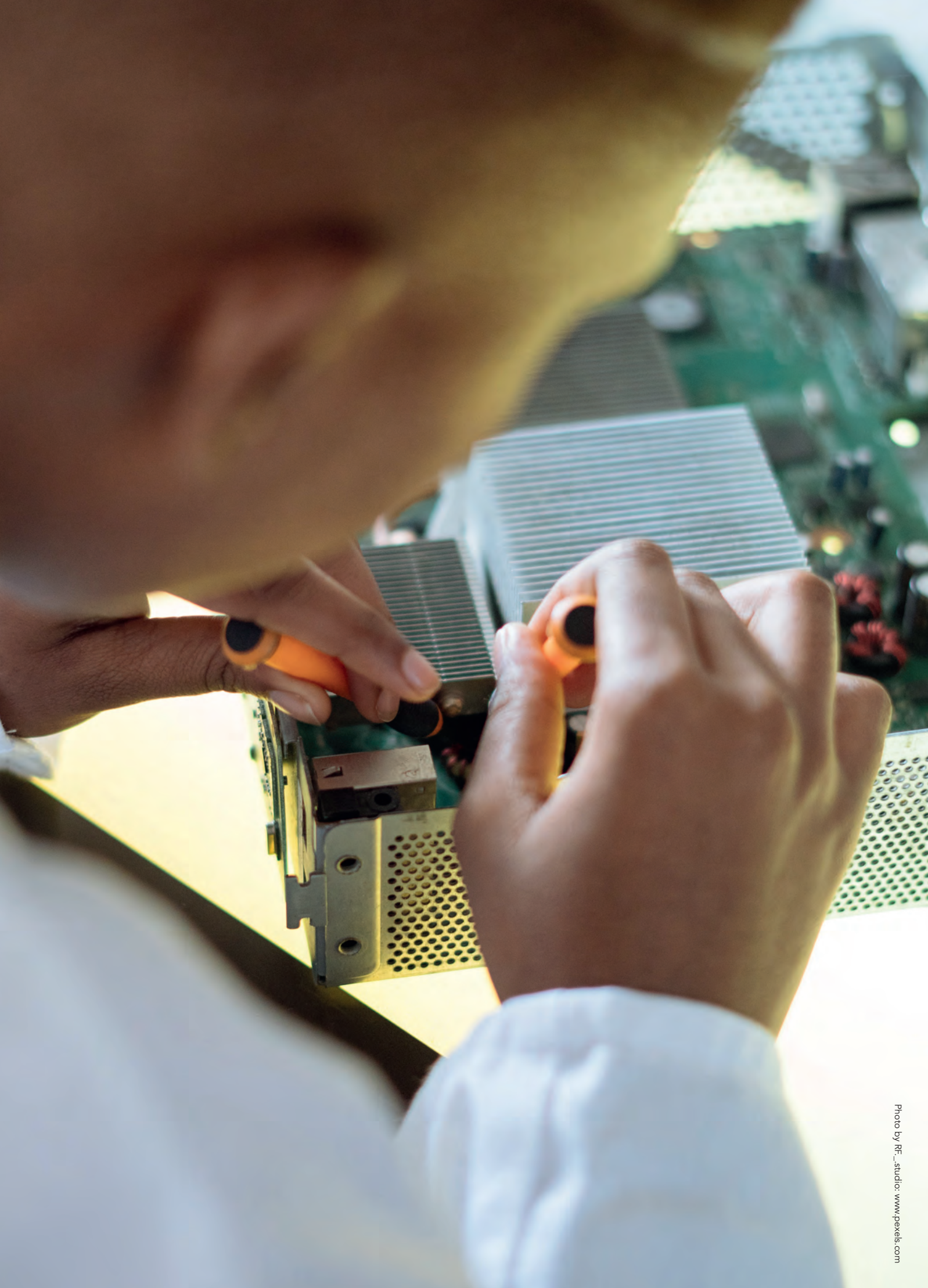
Assessment overview

1. Computer systems: 2 hours and 30 minutes (written paper) – 140 marks, 40% of A -level
2. Algorithms and programming: 2 hours and 30 minutes (written paper) – 140 marks, 40% of A - level
3. Programming project: NEA component – 70 marks, 20% of A -level

Progression

University progression. Students progress to Russell Group universities or take up apprenticeships with leading companies to become programmers, computer engineers, big data analysts, computer game designers or specialists in the telecommunications industry.

Employment progression. Future careers include: computer science, software development, IT support, cyber security, web development, computer programming.



English – AQA

Entry requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE English Literature.

Course content

English Literature's historicist approach to the study of literature rests upon reading texts within a shared context. Working from the belief that no text exists in isolation but is the product of the time in which it was produced, English Literature encourages students to explore the relationships that exist between texts and the contexts within which they are written, received and understood. Studying texts within a shared context enables students to investigate and connect them, drawing out patterns of similarity and difference using a variety of reading strategies and perspectives. English Literature privileges the process of making autonomous meaning, encouraging students to debate and challenge the interpretations of other readers as they develop their own informed personal responses.

Whilst the course invites a variety of written response types, these will all encourage critical debate. Students will be required to argue and to show personal responses and critical preferences, supported by the terminology relevant to the topics and contexts with which they are engaging. In doing so, they will be able to show 'creativity'.

Both examined elements of the course have the methodologies of historicism at their centre. In *Love through the ages*, the theme of love, one of the most central themes in literature, is explored across time. In *Texts in shared contexts*, students explore texts written within a narrower and clearly defined time period: either WW1 and its aftermath, or Modern times: literature from 1945 to the present day. The non-exam assessment element offers students the freedom to compare texts either diachronically or synchronically.

Assessment overview

1. *Love through the ages*: 3 hours (written paper) – 75 marks, 40% of A-level
2. *Texts in shared contexts*: 2 hours and 30 minutes (written paper) – 75 marks, 40% of A-level
3. Independent critical study: Non-exam assessment (NEA) 50 marks – 20% of A-level

Progression

A-Level English students will have a world of opportunities open to them, specifically the opportunity to study topics such as Law, Journalism, Psychology and Sociology. Studying English is very useful for any subject area that you need to communicate. English is one of the most popular subjects to study at university level and the skills developed from this subject are in great demand from employers.

"I'll meet you at the south end of the
hallway."

"What do you mean to do?"
"I want to see the old man here."
"What if it's dead?"
"It isn't."

"Who do you think it is?"
"I don't know. I think we ought to let
the doctor see the things."
"I don't want to. Go on."

"He wouldn't have time to go to the
hospital and would look in the box
the doctor kept at the door and find out
the man's name. He puts his name in the
box at the end of the hallway and the
doctor looks it up for him. The
doctor will see the man and tell us
what to do. I'll go with you. I'll
get it between the door and the
man's box and put it in the box
before the doctor comes and go
down to the doctor's office and get
the man's name. I'll go with you
and you'll tell me what to do."

"You just walked in there?"
"Yeah."
"What did you tell him?"
"Let's go. We ain't down here for the fun of it."
"What did you tell him?"
"Told him the truth. Told him his horse was stolen by
Where's he at now?"
"He took the mozo's horse and rode off downriver to
Did he have a gun?"
"Yeah. He had a gun."
"What are we going to do?"
"Ride to Casas Grandes."
"Where's it at?"

"Quien es?" he said.
He was tall and blond and he spoke Spanish with a foreign
accent. Billy stepped to one side and they stood in the hall.
"Estraba su caballo enfrente de la casa?"
The man stopped, his coat on one shoulder. He looked at
Billy and he looked down the hallway. "Estraba?" he said.

"I found Boyd laid up with the horses in a stand of carrizo
near the river's edge south of the town.
Anybody could of tracked you here," he said.
Boyd didn't answer. Billy squatted on the ground and broke
a reed and broke it again in his hands.
"He's a German doctor. He had a factory for the horse. Or
did he? He had papers from a broker in Casas
Grandes named Soto."
Boyd had been standing holding the shotgun. He reholstered
the scabbard and leaned and spat. "Well, he said. Whatever
papers he has it's mornen what we got.
We got the horse."

"Boyd stood looking past the horse at the river running
they're going to shoot us," he said.
"Come on, Billy said. Let's go."
"You just walked in there?"
"Yeah."
"What did you tell him?"
"Let's go. We ain't down here for the fun of it."
"What did you tell him?"
"Told him the truth. Told him his horse was stolen by
Where's he at now?"
"He took the mozo's horse and rode off downriver to
Did he have a gun?"
"Yeah. He had a gun."
"What are we going to do?"
"Ride to Casas Grandes."
"Where's it at?"

"Who do you think it is?"
"I don't know. I think we ought to let
the doctor see the things."
"I don't want to. Go on."

"He wouldn't have time to go to the
hospital and would look in the box
the doctor kept at the door and find out
the man's name. He puts his name in the
box at the end of the hallway and the
doctor looks it up for him. The
doctor will see the man and tell us
what to do. I'll go with you. I'll
get it between the door and the
man's box and put it in the box
before the doctor comes and go
down to the doctor's office and get
the man's name. I'll go with you
and you'll tell me what to do."

"You just walked in there?"
"Yeah."
"What did you tell him?"
"Let's go. We ain't down here for the fun of it."
"What did you tell him?"
"Told him the truth. Told him his horse was stolen by
Where's he at now?"
"He took the mozo's horse and rode off downriver to
Did he have a gun?"
"Yeah. He had a gun."
"What are we going to do?"
"Ride to Casas Grandes."
"Where's it at?"

Geography - Edexcel

Entry requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE Geography and Grade 5 in GCSE Science and Maths.

Course content

In Year 12 Geography is split into two sections – one physical and one human. Physical geography will include Tectonic processes, hazards, and coastal landscapes; two topics that students should be somewhat familiar with from GCSE study. On the human paper, students cover globalisation and either regeneration or diverse places, linking in with similar topics taught at GCSE. Students will also cover questions relating to fieldwork on a residential trip that year, on the topic of coasts, regeneration and diverse places.

In Year 13, students sit 3 exam papers. The first is on the physical geography above, but adding in topics on water insecurity, the carbon cycle and energy. The human paper gains additional content on Superpowers and global development, with options to study health or migration. The third paper is a decision making exercise investigating one of the compulsory issues studied throughout the course. The exam board in advance of the exam will send out a pre-release paper. The fieldwork that was studied in Year 12 will form the basis of a roughly 3000-4000 word independent report which will be internally marked and submitted to the exam board.

Assessment overview

1. Physical Geography: 2hr 15m – 105 marks, 30% of A level
2. Human Geography: 2hr 15m – 105 marks, 30% of A level
3. Synoptic Investigation: 2hr 15m – 70 marks, 20% of A level
4. Independent Investigation: non examined assessment (NEA) – 70 marks, 20% of A level

Progression

A level Geography is seen as one that presents students with a wide range of skills to progress in future careers. The ability to communicate complex points, use evidence to come to an informed decision and skills used to complete an independent investigation in the subject are highly valued by employers and universities. Jobs directly involving geography include roles in international development agencies, flood management, land surveying, architecture, health research and the civil service.



Government and Politics - AQA

Entry requirements

Grade 5's in English and Maths; Grade 5 in History or Geography preferable but not compulsory. There is an expectation that you will have an understanding and interest in current affairs.

Course content

The students study three main units over the two years. The first unit covers British Politics and the Government of the UK and looks at the nature and function of the British Constitution and the three branches of the British Government: the Prime Minister & the Cabinet; the Judiciary and Parliament. Students also study how democracy operates in the UK by looking at political parties, pressure groups, elections and referendums and how we measure participation.

The second unit is US politics. Students need to be able to make synoptic links between this unit and the British Politics unit and understand that while there are differences between the two political systems there are also similarities. Students will understand the constitutional framework of the US government focusing on the difference between the power of Congress and the US President. Students also study the US Judiciary, political parties and pressure groups and can make connections, links and highlight differences between the US and the UK. One of the key aspects of the US political system is an understanding of Civil Rights thinking about how the United States have developed political freedoms and rights for individuals.

The final unit is an understanding of different political ideologies. Students understand the key features of different political ideologies and the similarities and differences between them. These ideologies include socialism, conservatism, nationalism and feminism.

Assessment overview

1. Government & Politics of the UK: 2 Hours (written paper) – 77 marks, 33.3%
2. Government & Politics of the USA (+ Comparative Study): 2 Hours (written paper) – 77 marks, 33.3%
3. Political Ideas: 2 Hours (written paper) – 77 marks, 33.3%

Progression

A level Government & Politics is a subject that is well viewed by the majority of Russell Group and non-Russell Group universities. Students of Politics can go into a range of different careers including political research, the Civil Service, the police, education or even working for a political party or a pressure group. Students of Government and Politics can understand different viewpoints, understand complex problems and be able to articulate and argue effectively.



History - AQA

Entry requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE History and Grade 5 in GCSE English and Maths

Course content

In year 12, students will study two courses concurrently with two different teachers. They study the rise of Communism in Russia and the reasons for, and impact of, the February and November revolutions in Russia in 1917. Students look at the social, economic and political impact of the revolutions and the reasons why Russia was ripe for revolution and how Lenin exploited the impact of WWI and the Tsar's inability to rule. Students also study the Early Tudor period looking at the victory at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485 and how Henry Tudor secures his position on the throne and wins the War of the Roses.

In year 13, students continue their studies sitting two exams at the end of Year 13 with each constituting 40% of their final mark. Students continue studying Russia under Stalin looking at the changes he makes in Russia and the impact of his economic and social policies on the people. We finish this unit by looking at the Soviet victory in WWII and the final years of Stalin and how secure Stalinism was upon his death in 1953. On the other side of the course students continue their study of Henry's 3 children and their reigns focusing much of the time on Elizabeth I and the Golden Age. This includes an analysis of her foreign policy relations with Spain and the New World and her religious policies and impacts on England. Students also study an NEA or Non-Examined Assessment. This involves a self-studied and self-researched historical investigation with students choosing and answering their own question over the course of Year 13 and submitting this prior to the exam. The NEA constitutes the final 20% of the student's overall mark.

Assessment overview

1. Breadth Study: 2hr 30m – 80 marks, 40% of A level
2. Depth Study: 2hr 30m – 80 marks, 40% of A level
3. Historical Investigation – non examined assessment (NEA) – 40 marks, 20% of A level

Progression

A level History is a subject which is well viewed by the majority of Russell Group and non-Russell Group universities. History supports careers such as Law, Journalism, Politics and Finance. Many History graduates go on to study for further qualifications and can work in museums, teaching or project management.



Mathematics - Edexcel

Entry requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE Maths

Course content

Maths is a stimulating and rewarding course that is highly regarded by universities and employers. Additionally, however, studying maths will greatly improve your numeracy which is a life skill that can have profound positive effects on you. Having high levels of numeracy is linked with higher wages, will enable you to make sense of charts and information reported in the media and have financial capability.

The following topics are studied during A level Maths:

Pure Maths

This is the study of the more abstract elements of maths, which teaches the knowledge and skills that underpin the entire course.

- Topic 1 – Proof
- Topic 2 – Algebra and functions
- Topic 3 – Coordinate geometry in the (x, y) plane
- Topic 4 – Sequences and series
- Topic 5 – Trigonometry
- Topic 6 – Exponentials and logarithms
- Topic 7 – Differentiation
- Topic 8 – Integration
- Topic 9 – Numerical methods
- Topic 10 – Vectors

Statistics

When you study statistics you will learn how to analyse and summarise numerical data to arrive at conclusions about it. Many of the ideas in this part of the course have applications in a wide range of other fields, from assessing what your car insurance is going to cost to how likely it is that the Earth will be hit by a comet in the next few years.

- Topic 1 – Statistical sampling
- Topic 2 – Data presentation and interpretation
- Topic 3 – Probability
- Topic 4 – Statistical distributions
- Topic 5 – Statistical hypothesis testing

Mechanics

Mechanics deals with the action of forces on objects. It is therefore concerned with many everyday situations, e.g. the motion of cars, the flight of a cricket ball through the air, the stresses in bridges and the motion of the earth around the sun. Such problems have to be simplified or modelled to make them capable of solutions using relatively simple mathematics.

- Topic 6 – Quantities and units in mechanics
- Topic 7 – Kinematics
- Topic 8 – Forces and Newton's laws
- Topic 9 – Moments
- Topic 7 – Differentiation
- Topic 8 – Integration
- Topic 9 – Numerical methods
- Topic 10 – Vectors

Assessment overview

1. Pure Mathematics 1: 2 hours (written paper) – 100 marks, 33.33% of A-level
2. Pure Mathematics 2: 2 hours (written paper) – 100 marks, 33.33% of A – level
3. Statistics & Mechanics: 2 hours (written paper) -100 marks, 33:33% of A- level

Progression

There are a wealth of careers and degree choices that either require or would benefit from studying maths including; Engineering, Computing, Medicine, Science, Finance and Economics, Accountancy and Architecture.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\rho u) = 0$$

$$u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\rho u) + u \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\rho u)$$

Physics – AQA

Entry requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE English and Grade 6 in GCSE Physics and Maths

Course content

Students studying A level Physics will cover a range of key concepts such as particle physics, wave-particle duality, the photoelectric effect and atomic energy levels. There is also an electricity section that develops concepts like current, voltage and resistance in direct current circuits. Students will get a more in-depth treatment of topics like kinematics, dynamics, statics and energy that they were introduced to during their GCSE. This is combined with a study of the properties of materials to complete the mechanics component. Additionally, there is also a study of the properties of waves, which includes a look at progressive and standing waves, refraction, diffraction and interference.

The syllabus provides a choice of optional topics such as astrophysics. This gives students a view of the universe at large including dark matter and energy, black holes and quasars along with knowledge of the tools used by astronomers to see to the edge of space and time.

A level physics is a two-year qualification that involves a practical endorsement. The practical endorsement is an assessment of a student's skills and competency when completing core practicals.

The following topics are studied during A level physics:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Measurements and their errors• Particles and radiation• Waves• Mechanics and materials• Electricity• Further mechanics and thermal physics• Fields and their consequences• Nuclear physics | Optional topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Astrophysics• Medical physics• Engineering physics• Turning points in physics• Electronics |
|---|--|

Assessment overview

1. Periodic Motion: 2 hours (written paper) – 85 marks, 34% of A-level
2. Thermal Physics: 2 hours (written paper) – 85 marks, 34% of A - level
3. Practical Skills & Data Analysis: 2 hours (written paper) - sections A & B – 80 marks, 32% of A - level

Progression

A-level Physics is a stepping-stone to future study. Having a qualification in A-Level Physics will equip you with sought after skills in Banking, Logistics, Management, Game Design and a host of other industries. It is invaluable for studying medicine and other related subjects as well as engineering and a wide range of technological subjects. Studying Physics beyond A-Level also opens up opportunities for exciting and well-paid careers. Physics graduates are found working in a range of professions as diverse as patent lawyers, brewing technologists, investment bankers, architects and acoustic engineers as well as the more traditional careers in research and teaching.



Product Design – AQA

Entry requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE Product Design or GCSE Art

Course content

Do you want to make the world a better place for consumers? Do you look at some products and think you could have done better? Have you ever wondered how a product continues to stay popular in the marketplace?

Product Design is an inspiring, rigorous and practical subject. This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in several careers, especially those in the creative industries. The subject content is focused on consumer products and applications; their analysis in respect of materials, components, and marketability to understand their selection and uses in industrial and commercial practices of product development.

The course is designed to teach students to initiate design solutions and develop, test and trial working models and prototypes. Develop and sustain imagination, innovation and flair when working with concepts and material. Develop an understanding of contemporary design and technological practices and consider the uses and effects of new technologies and modern materials. Develop thinking skills, financial capability, and enterprise and entrepreneurial skills.

During the two-year course, you will study a range of materials. You will develop a technical understanding of how products function and how they are made to appropriately support the design and manufacture of your own design solutions. You will learn about wider design principles and the effect of design on users and the world we live in. You will identify market needs and opportunities for new products, initiate and develop design solutions, and make and test prototypes/products.

Assessment overview

1. Technical Principles: 2 hours and 30 minutes (written paper) – 120 marks, 30% of A-level
2. Designing & Making Principles: 1 hour and 30 minutes (written paper) – 80 marks, 20% of A - level
3. Design Portfolio: Non-exam assessment (NEA) – 100 marks, 50% of A – level

Progression

This qualification can lead to a variety of different career pathways, including product design, engineering and architecture.

It could also form part of your route into university, especially if you wish to pursue a subject like Engineering.

Some students progress to taking advanced apprenticeships with local companies or gain employment directly in the technology and engineering sector in their local area.



Psychology - AQA

Entry requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE English and Grade 6 in GCSE science and maths

Course content

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behaviour, it is a multi-layered discipline and includes many sub-fields of study such areas as human development, health, clinical, social behaviour and cognitive processes. This course has been designed to equip you with critical psychological skills, knowledge and values that can be applied to real world contexts.

You will discover a key topic of research and learn about important studies related to that topic, and find out how research is conducted in that area. You will learn to use statistical tests to help interpret data. You will have an opportunity to study some uses of psychology in the real world, such as gender and social influences.

Psychology confers a broad variety of transferable skills. Psychology students will have the usual array of skills that science students acquire - from experimental design to statistical analysis. Psychology students will gain an understanding of human behaviour and motivation, the ability to work with a wide variety of people, and skills in demonstrating compassion and empathy.

During the course you will study the following topics over two years:

- Social Influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Research Methods
- Approaches in Psychology
- Psychopathology
- Biopsychology
- Issues and Debates
- Relationships
- Eating Behaviour & Aggression

Assessment overview

1. Introductory Topics in Psychology: 2 hours (written paper) – 96 marks, 33.3% of A-level
2. Psychology in Context: 2 hours (written paper) – 96 marks, 33.3% of A - level
3. Issues and Options in Psychology: 2 hours (written paper) – 96 marks, 33.3% of A-level

Progression

A Psychology A level enables you to acquire a variety of transferable skills. These include numeracy, argument synthesis, data analysis, time management, independent research, teamwork, report writing, presentation skills, interpersonal and communication skills, plus an evolved ability to work ethically and professionally with people. All skills are highly valued in a range of employment fields.

Career opportunity areas include - Clinical Psychology, Counselling Psychology, Forensic Psychology, Health Psychology, Neuropsychology, Occupational Psychology, Research and Academic & Forensic Psychology, Sports and Exercise Psychology



INTELLECTUAL
VISION

COMPARISON

CAUSALITY

EVENTUALITY

LOCALITY

TIME

INDIVIDUALITY

LANGUAGE

MORALITY

COSMOS

Sociology - AQA

Entry requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE English or Grade 6 in GCSE Humanities subject

Course content

Sociology is the study of human social relationships and institutions. Sociology's subject matter is diverse, ranging from crime to religion, from the family to the state, from the divisions of race and social class to the shared beliefs of a common culture, and from social stability to radical change in whole societies.

Sociology will help you to think about society in a new and critical light, questioning the status quo and developing a sophisticated understanding of the real issues that affect the society we live in. It is an excellent subject for showing you how society works and for making you aware of the range of conditions that individuals within society experience. Students often comment that they didn't realise how varied the human experience can be and how powerfully group identity shapes a person's future.

Sociology is for you if you want to explore and understand society. Why do some people do well at school and others don't? Why do some people have children and others don't? Why do some people join cults and others don't? Why do some people commit crimes and others don't? Also if you enjoy debating and evaluating social theory and indicating strengths and weaknesses the course gives a lot of weight to those skills. Sociology can make the world around you "come alive" and every day there will be examples for you to consider.

During the course you will study the following topics over two years:

- Education and Methods in Context
- Research Methods and Families and Households
- Education with Theory and Methods
- Families, Households and Beliefs within Society
- Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

Assessment overview

1. Education with Theory and Methods: 2 hours (written paper) – 80 marks, 33.3% of A-level
2. Topics in Sociology: 2 hours (written paper) – 80 marks, 33.3% of A - level
3. Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods: 2 hours (written paper) – 80 marks, 33.3% of A-level

Progression

Sociology develops several skills that are transferable and useful in a variety of careers. Analysis of evidence, evaluation and essay writing skills develop as do research skills. Sociology can directly lead you into higher education courses such as Law, Social Policy/Politics or Anthropology. Many areas such as Business, Marketing, Journalism, Social Research, Teaching, Management Consultancy, HR and Public Relations all require skills learnt in Sociology.



Turkish – Edexcel

Entry requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE Turkish

Course content

Around the world, there are over 7,000 languages spoken. Being able to converse and speak in more than one language can be a vital skill that allows you to work in several different contexts and allows you to travel the world. Not only do languages enrich your global and cultural knowledge, but they can also improve your comprehension and critical thinking skills. Both are skills desired for higher education and employment.

This course is ideal for those who enjoy reading and writing in a foreign language and learning about the culture and traditions of another country.

The following topics are studied during A level Turkish:

- Changes in Turkish society – family and relationships, the world of work, and a research project – Education opportunities in Turkey
- Art and Culture in Turkey and Cyprus – modern culture and media. Traditional art culture and a research project – change in traditional celebrations
- Perspectives on Turkey – human geography, environment and a research project – Tourism in Turkey
- Political issues in Turkey – Ataturk's revolutions in Turkey, political scene and a research project – Immigrants in Turkey since 2015

Assessment overview

1. Paper 1: 2 hours and 30 minutes (written paper) – 80 marks, 40% of A-level
2. Paper 2: 2 hours and 40 minutes (written paper) - 110 marks, 30% of A-level
3. Paper 3: 2 hours and 15 minutes (written paper) – 60 marks, 30% of A-level

Progression

The benefits of being multilingual in an international career are obvious. Hiring trends are changing and multilingual professionals are preferred. Institutions like the United Nations require English language fluency plus proficiency in at least one additional language. Linguists have a competitive edge for positions in Travel & Tourism, business, finance, accountancy, journalism, marketing, international trade, law, and education as well as fields including the diplomatic service and the security service.

*NB – If you do not have a GCSE in this subject, but speak Turkish at home, you may be considered for this subject, but will be expected to undertake a short assessment first to identify suitability for this course.



BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Business – Edexcel

Entry requirements

5 GCSE grades at 9-4 including grades 4 in GCSE English & Maths

Course content

The programme aims to provide learners with an in-depth understanding of the operations and structures of businesses and also to equip students with the skills required to succeed in employment or at university. You will explore businesses in the public, private and voluntary sectors. You will also cover a range of topics that include exploring business, marketing, finance, managing a business event and recruitment.

Students complete a total of five units, three mandatory and two optional. The following is a list of units studied in Business

- Exploring Business
- Developing a Marketing Campaign
- Personal & Business Finance
- Investigating Customer Service
- Market Research

Assessment overview BTEC Business

1. Developing a Marketing Campaign: Part A – 2 hour preparation period & Part B – 3 hours supervised assessment completed using a computer – 70 marks
2. Personal & Business Finance: 2 hours (written paper)- 80 marks

Progression

This qualification gives learners experience of the breadth and depth of the sector that will prepare them for further study or training. This includes the opportunity for learners to choose several topics from a selection of options reflecting the progression pathways in business.

Students can use this qualification to either progress onto higher education and study for an undergraduate degree in careers such as finance, administration, accountancy, banking, law and business management.

Further training and qualifications can lead to a wide variety of careers in business, finance, insurance, banking and management.



BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Business – Edexcel

Entry requirements

5 GCSE grades at 9-4 including grades 4 in GCSE English & Maths

Course content

The programme aims to provide learners with an in-depth understanding of the operations and structures of businesses and also to equip students with the skills required to succeed in employment or at university. You will explore businesses in the public, private and voluntary sectors. You will also cover a range of topics that include exploring business, marketing, finance, managing a business event and recruitment.

Students complete a range of mandatory and optional units as listed below:

- Exploring Business
- Developing a Marketing Campaign
- Personal & Business Finance
- Managing an Event
- International Business
- Principles of Management
- Business Decision Making
- Recruitment & Selection Process
- Investigating Customer Service
- Market Research
- The English legal System
- Work Experience in Business
- Market Research

Assessment overview BTEC Business

1. Developing a Marketing Campaign: Part A – 2 hour preparation period & Part B – 3 hours supervised assessment completed using a computer – 70 marks
2. Personal & Business Finance: 2 hours (written paper) - 80 marks
3. Principles of Management: 3 hours supervised assessment completed using a computer – 88 marks
4. Business Decision Making: 3 hours supervised assessment completed using a computer – 70 marks

Progression

This qualification gives learners experience of the breadth and depth of the sector that will prepare them for further study or training. This includes the opportunity for learners to choose several topics from a selection of options reflecting the progression pathways in business.

Students can use this qualification to either progress onto higher education and study for an undergraduate degree in careers such as finance, administration, accountancy, banking, law and business management.

Further training and qualifications can lead to a wide variety of careers in business, finance, insurance, banking and management.



BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Health & Social Care – Edexcel

Entry requirements

5 GCSE grades 9-4 including Maths and English

Course content

To study Health & Social Care, you need to be interested in working with people. It is also important that you develop a greater understanding of Health & Social Care professionals such as nurses and social workers and how they support individuals when they need help. This might include understanding the support that an elderly client with dementia might need.

If you want to make a positive difference in people's lives, then studying Health and Social Care is for you.

Students complete a range of mandatory and optional units as listed below:

- Human Lifespan Development
- Working in Health and Social Care
- Anatomy and Physiology for Health and Social Care
- Enquiries into Current Research in Health and Social Care
- Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs
- Work Experience in Health and Social Care
- Principles of Safe Practice in Health and Social Care
- Promoting Public Health
- Sociological Perspectives
- Psychological Perspectives
- Supporting Individuals with Additional Needs
- Physiological Disorders and their Care
- Nutritional Health

Assessment overview BTEC Health and Social Care

1. Human Lifespan Development: 1 hour 30 minutes (written paper) – 90 marks
2. Working in Health and Social Care: 1 hour 30 minutes (written paper) – 80 marks
3. Anatomy and Physiology for Health and Social Care: 1 hour 30 minutes (written paper) – 90 marks
4. Enquiries into Current Research in Health and Social Care: Part A and Part B supervised assessment – 65 marks

Progression

Health and Social Care is a vocational qualification. For students who are interested in pursuing a career in a health or social care profession or seeking employment, the opportunities are endless. Health and Social care can lead to higher-level study in the following areas; nursing or midwifery, social work, teaching and youth and community work.



BTEC National Extended Certificate in Information Technology – Edexcel

Entry requirements

Grade 4 in GSCE English and GCSE Maths

Course content

This course is designed for ICT students who are serious about a future within the Computing and IT industry and who want to acquire the professional skills needed to succeed in the world of Technology. If you like working with computers, enjoy solving problems using logical, analytical thinking and enjoy hands-on practical work then this course is for you. You will learn how to create websites, coding, animations, games, spreadsheets and databases. You will also develop practical skills in computer hardware and networking.

Students will undertake 4 units of which 3 are mandatory and 1 are external.

- Information Technology Systems (Mandatory)
- Creating systems to manage information (Mandatory)
- Using Social Media in Business (Mandatory)
- Website Development

Assessment overview BTEC National Extended Certificate In Information Technology

1. Information Technology Systems: 2 hours (written paper) – 90 marks
2. Creating Systems to Manage Information: Part A & Part B – controlled assessment – completed using a computer and submitted electronically – 66 marks

Progression

Students may use this course to study IT, programming, software development, games design and other related degrees at university, whilst others may use it as a stepping stone to study other disciplines such as business, finance, and marketing. Students may also go onto high quality IT apprenticeships with well-known big companies.

The transferable skills developed whilst studying IT include problem-solving, project management, creative thinking, the capacity for an independent enquiry and team working which are all highly valued skills for further or higher education as well as prized by top quality employers.



BTEC National Extended Diploma in Information Technology – Edexcel

Entry requirements

Grade 4 in GCSE English and GCSE Maths

Course content

This course is designed for ICT students who are serious about a future within the Computing and IT industry and who want to acquire the professional skills needed to succeed in the world of Technology. If you like working with computers, enjoy solving problems using logical, analytical thinking and enjoy hands-on practical work then this course is for you. You will learn how to create websites, coding, animations, games, spreadsheets and databases. You will also develop practical skills in computer hardware and networking.

Students will undertake 13 units of which 7 are mandatory and 4 are external, as listed below:

- Information technology Systems **(mandatory)**
- Creating Systems to Manage Information **(mandatory)**
- Using Social Media in Business **(mandatory)**
- Programming **(mandatory)**
- IT Project Management **(mandatory)**
- Cyber Security & Incident Management **(mandatory)**
- IT Service Delivery **(mandatory)**
- Computer Games Development **(optional)**
- Using Social Media in Business **(optional)**
- Mobile Apps Development **(optional)**
- Website Development **(optional)**

Assessment overview BTEC National Extended Diploma In Information Technology

1. Information Technology Systems: 2 hours (written paper) – 90 marks
2. Creating Systems to Manage Information: Part A & Part B – controlled assessment – completed using a computer and submitted electronically – 66 marks
3. Cyber Security & Incident Management: 9 hours (split into several sessions) supervised assessment completed using a computer – 80 marks
4. IT Service Delivery: 8 hours (split into several sessions) supervised assessment completed using a computer – 68 marks

Progression

Students may use this course to study IT, programming, software development, games design and other related degrees at university, whilst others may use it as a stepping-stone to study other disciplines such as business, finance, and marketing. Students may also go onto high quality IT apprenticeships with well-known big companies.

The transferable skills developed whilst studying IT include problem-solving, project management, creative thinking, the capacity for an independent enquiry and team working which are all highly valued skills for further or higher education as well as prized by top quality employers.



BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Music Performance - Edexcel

Entry requirements

Grade 5 in Music GCSE or level 2 equivalent and ability to play to grade 4 on an instrument or voice. If you do not have performance-graded certificates, we can audition you to check your level of ability.

Course content

You will learn a range of musical skills from theory and harmony, performance skills, an insight to the music industry and compositional skills. Music theory covers a range of skills from the elements of music including signs and symbols used in music to exploring the application of said skills in compositional based tasks as well as notation for different means of performance. The course gives learners the opportunity to focus on their personal vocal/instrumental technique. As performance is the main focus of the qualification, students will be required to perform in front of a live audience at least once a year as part of the course requirements as well as attending one music club (lunch or after school) on a regular basis. Through composition units we aim to develop students ability to compose different styles and genres of music through original compositions.

Assessment overview

4 units – three are mandatory and two are external

- Practical Music Theory and Harmony (Internally assessed)
- Professional Practice in the Music Industry (externally assessed) – 70 marks
- Ensemble Music Performance (externally assessed) – 80 marks – 6 – 15 minutes of performance
- Composing Music (Internally assessed)

Progression

Music Performance is intended to carry UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to meeting admission requirements for many courses, if taken alongside other qualifications as part of a two-year course e.g. A-levels and level 3 BTECs.

Transferable and higher-order skills that are valued by higher education providers and employers to access courses such as BA (Hons) Music, BA (Hons) in Performing Arts and BA (Hons) in Music Industry Management (it taken alongside business).

Students are given time to develop employability skills during the teaching and learning, such as:

- Cognitive and problem-solving skills: using critical thinking, approaching non-routine problems by applying expert and creative solutions, using systems and technology
- Interpersonal skills: communicating, working collaboratively, negotiating and influencing, self-presentation
- Intrapersonal skills: self-management, adaptability and resilience, self-monitoring and development.



BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts – Pearson

Entry requirements

6 GCSEs at Grade 4 and above. Grade 5 in GCSE Drama/Music or Distinction in BTEC Level 2 Performing Arts. If a performance subject has not been studied, we can audition to check level of ability.

Course content

You will gain a taste and an appreciation of performing arts, through knowledge and experience of the performance process. You will develop a range of skills, techniques and personal attributes, which will be valuable across areas of future study and work. You will also learn about the performing arts industry and professional practice - choosing between the acting and musical theatre pathway, where you will develop your skills as a performer, create your own work and perform to large audiences. Every term you are assessed in skills workshops, rehearsals and performances, with written work linked to practical development of performances evaluating your final product and performance process. This course is equivalent to one A-Level.

Assessment overview

- Investigating Practitioners' Work (Exam unit): Students will study two practitioners practically across the space of 6 weeks. The exam paper will give the students a theme and the students must link these two practitioners to the theme in an essay-based format under controlled conditions. Externally assessed. (25%)
- Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance: Students will put two performances together and perform to an audience. Students will keep regular diaries, setting short and long-term targets. Internally assessed. (25%)
- Group Performance Workshop (exam unit): Students will be given a stimulus and have to work in groups to devise a performance based on a given stimulus (from the exam paper). Students will write about their journey of devising. Externally assessed. (33%)

Another unit will also be studied from the below options worth 17% of BTEC:

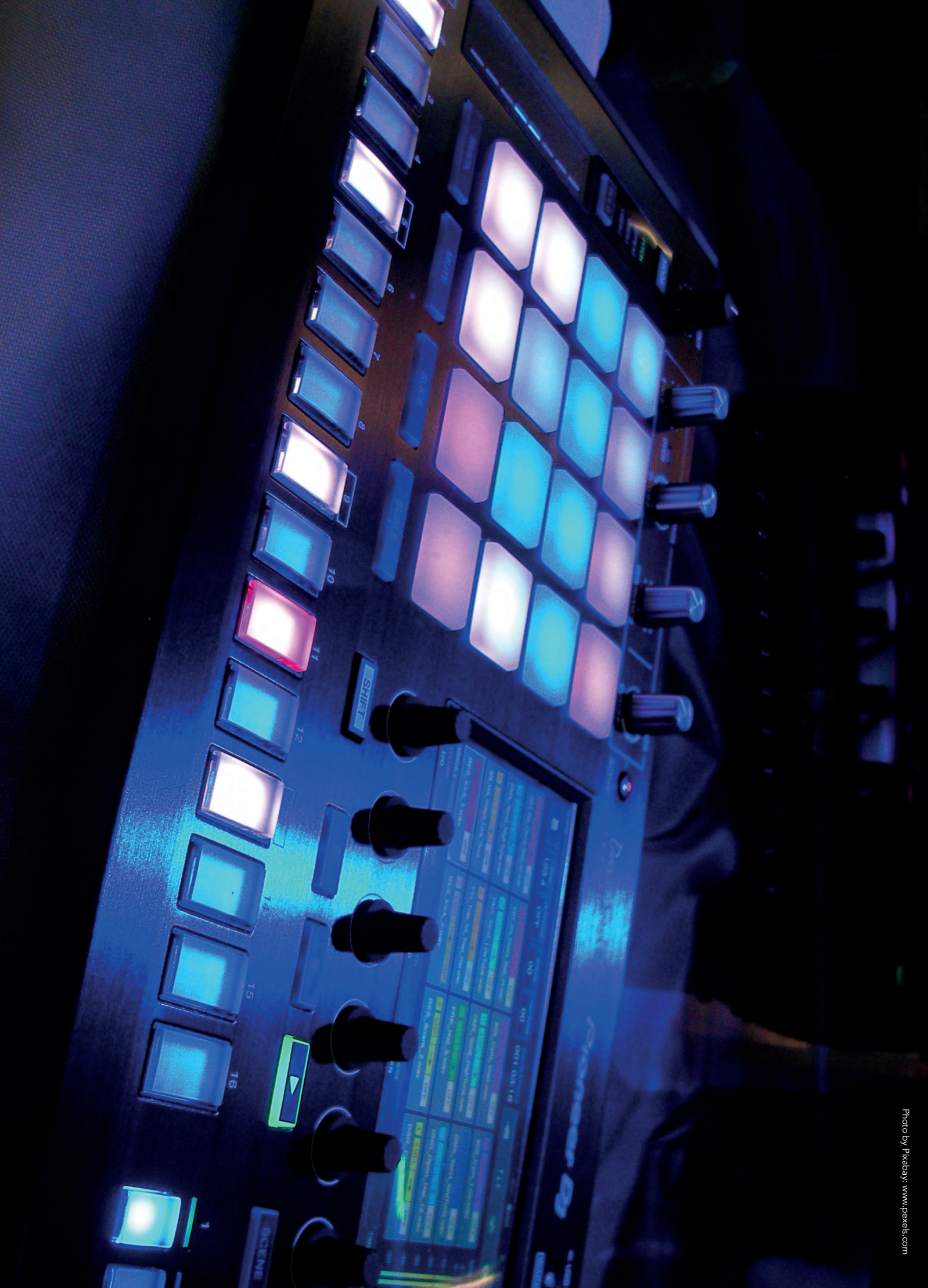
- Acting Styles
- Developing the voice for performance
- Improvisation
- Movement in performance
- Musical Theatre techniques

Progression

Students could consider progression routes into the following areas, with the course being recognised by universities and carries UCAS points:

- Performing arts degree at university/Drama school
- Performance Design and Management
- Careers in Musical Theatre/Entertainment industry
- Performance Support, Arts Administration, Workshop Leadership

Depending on a student's other Advanced Level courses, they could also consider working in Drama/Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Teaching, Journalism, PR, Advertising, Marketing or Travel and Tourism.



Sport and Physical Activity Extended Diploma - OCR

Entry requirements

Grade 4 in GCSE PE or Distinction in BTEC/OCR Sports Studies and Grade 4 in GCSE English and Science

Course content

You will learn the theoretical, biological and mechanical knowledge of different body systems and how they impact directly on sport. You will develop practical skills needed to work within the sporting environment, such as how large sporting organisations are run and how to effectively plan, implement and deliver sporting events to a large audience. You will undertake an in-depth analysis researching the importance and necessity of adequate nutrition and hydration, identifying its importance for elite performance.

Students complete a total of seventeen units for the qualification, thirteen mandatory units alongside four optional units.

- Body Systems and the Effects of Physical Activity
- Sports Coaching and Activity Leadership
- Sports Organisation and Development
- Working Safely in Sports, Exercise, Health and Leisure
- Performance Analysis in Sport and Exercise
- Group Exercise to Music
- Improving Fitness for Sport and Physical Activity
- Organisation of Sports Events
- Physical Activity for Specific Groups
- Nutrition and Diet for Sport and Exercise
- Health and Fitness Testing for Sport and Exercise
- Working in Active Leisure Facilities
- Sports Injuries and Rehabilitation
- Practical Skills in Sport and Physical Activities
- Sport and Exercise Psychology
- Sport and Exercise Sociology
- The Business of Sport

Assessment overview Sport and Physical Activity

Assessment is specifically designed to fit the purpose and objective of this qualification. It includes a range of assessment types and styles suited to vocational qualifications in the sector. For this qualification, there are two main forms of assessment; internal and synoptic.

Internally-assessed units: Most units on this qualification are internally assessed. This means that the school will set and assess the assignments, which will be externally moderated by OCR.

External assessment: Four units on this qualification are externally assessed. Students will sit written exam papers based on the qualification content.

Progression

Sport and Physical Activity can open up a vast array of career paths. Students studying this course will have developed the analytical, evaluative and critical thinking skills required to undertake degree-level study in Sports Science, PGCE Teacher Training, Sports psychology, Sports Development and sports physiotherapy/rehabilitation.

For those not wishing to continue with higher education, there are a range of apprenticeships and employment opportunities in sports coaching, officiating and administration and additional training opportunities for those interested in becoming Personal Trainers and Fitness Instructors.



Sport and Physical Activity Extended Certificate – OCR

Entry requirements

Grade 4 in GCSE PE or Distinction in BTEC/OCR Sports Studies and Grade 4 in GCSE English and Science

Course content

You will learn the theoretical, biological and mechanical knowledge of different body systems and how they impact directly on sport. You will develop practical skills needed to work within the sporting environment, such as how large sporting organisations are run and how to effectively plan, implement and deliver sporting events to a large audience. You will undertake an in-depth analysis researching the importance and necessity of adequate nutrition and hydration, identifying its importance for elite performance. Students studying this course will be able to develop key skills such as communication, teamwork, confidence, problem-solving, time management and organisation by planning and leading sports coaching sessions.

Students complete a total of five units for the qualification, three mandatory units alongside two optional units.

- Body Systems and the Effects of Physical Activity
- Sports Coaching and Activity Leadership
- Sports Organisation and Development
- Performance Analysis in Sport and Exercise
- Sports Injuries and Rehabilitation

Assessment overview Sport and Physical Activity

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Progression

Sport and Physical Activity can open up a vast array of career paths. Students studying this course will have developed the analytical, evaluative and critical thinking skills required to undertake degree-level study in Sports Science, PGCE Teacher Training, Sports psychology, Sports Development and sports physiotherapy/rehabilitation.

For those not wishing to continue with higher education, there are a range of apprenticeships and employment opportunities in sports coaching, officiating and administration and additional training opportunities for those interested in becoming Personal Trainers and Fitness Instructors.



The Experience

Life in the Sixth Form is much more than just attending your lessons and studying hard in the library. Students will enjoy their own café and study areas. We will be also offering our students lots of enrichment initiatives and opportunities while they are with us to ensure they can acquire a range of different skills and experiences to add to their academic ones, helping to make their time with us, we hope, memorable for the rest of their lives.

Leadership opportunities

Our Sixth Form will have an active body of Student Leaders who work as ambassadors for the school and Sixth Form. Student Leaders have a variety of roles, giving our students a voice in decision-making. The Student Leaders' work allows them to learn how to effect positive change and take on roles of responsibility to prepare them for life beyond education.

Being a good role model is an important part of being a Sixth Form student. Our students are given the opportunity to develop their leadership skills and embody our school and Sixth Form values. Alongside their academic studies, students can become involved in activities that help to develop their creativity, communication and teamwork skills, as well as helping to embed resilience, excellence and tolerance. All of which are underpinned by our STRIVE values.

Subject ambassadors and voluntary service

One of our strengths is that our Sixth Form is part of a wider school community and students have the opportunity to be a subject ambassador, supporting staff and students in the lower school. This involves mentoring younger students in lessons, and after-school clubs, and supporting them with their reading. Sixth Form students lead assemblies and run after-school enrichment such as sports and drama workshops, homework clubs, debating clubs and much more. Student leaders organise fund raising events for both national and local charities

All Sixth Form students are encouraged to volunteer to help with Heron Hall and community events, developing a range of transferrable skills. These experiences will enhance their CVs and UCAS applications, ready for the next stage of their lives whether this be higher education or employment.

Dress expectations

All students are expected to wear smart formal business attire. This will include a top with a collar and a tie for male students. In addition, all students must wear black shoes. Any student dressed inappropriately may be asked to go home and change.

Careers information and guidance

At Heron Hall Academy we work tirelessly to ensure that all students are supported for life after they finish the Sixth Form. So whether a student wishes to seek further training and employment, or apply to Oxford, Cambridge or any other leading University, all students receive independent careers information, support and guidance.

Enrichment lessons

In addition to academic subjects, students will also attend enrichment lessons. This is a great opportunity to develop personal development skills and study skills to prepare students for applications, personal statements and UCAS entries. We will have a variety of talks from guest speakers.

UCAS preparation and guidance

Any student that applies to university will be given a comprehensive programme of support prior to attending university and completion of their UCAS application form. Year 12 and 13 students will undertake bespoke workshops delivered by a university organisation covering a wide range of topics such as budgeting and finance and how to write an outstanding personal statement. In addition, students will be given 1 to 1 tailored support whilst writing their personal statements. Year 12 students will undertake a 'UCAS Preparation and Guidance Day'. They will be supported to understand how the UCAS process works, key dates and how to complete their online form. Throughout their time within the Sixth Form, students will be given the opportunity to participate in a number of University taster days, trips and visits.

Work experience and placements

During Year 12 students will receive the opportunity to experience the world of work first-hand. This is managed and coordinated by the school and students are encouraged to source their own work experience placements. This offers them more flexibility and choice in what they want to do and what skills they would like to learn during placements. Students are able to gain industry-specific knowledge and skills that are vital for future employment.

Fantastic sporting facilities

At Heron Hall we have some of the very best sporting facilities in the borough, from state-of-the-art astro pitches, to an indoor sports hall that is the envy of most schools. So, whether you fancy a game of football, or want to shoot some hoops, we have everything you need.

Dedicated library staff

We pride ourselves on having two members of staff who work full time in the library. Every student should benefit from a great school library staffed by dedicated professional librarians.

Bursaries

You could get a bursary to help with education-related costs from the government and from the Trust's scholarship fund. Students can apply for financial support in a variety of ways during their time in at the Sixth Form.



**JUVENTUS
ACADEMY
LONDON**

POST 16 EDUCATIONAL FOOTBALL PROGRAMME.

In Partnership
with
Heron Hall Academy



How to find us



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