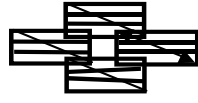


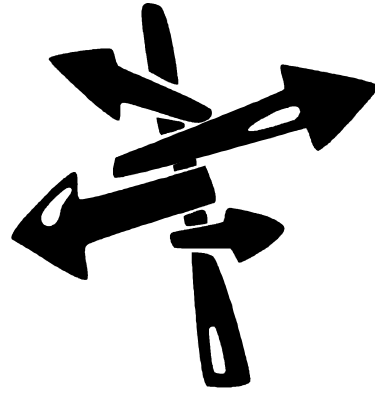
Belper School



A Technology College

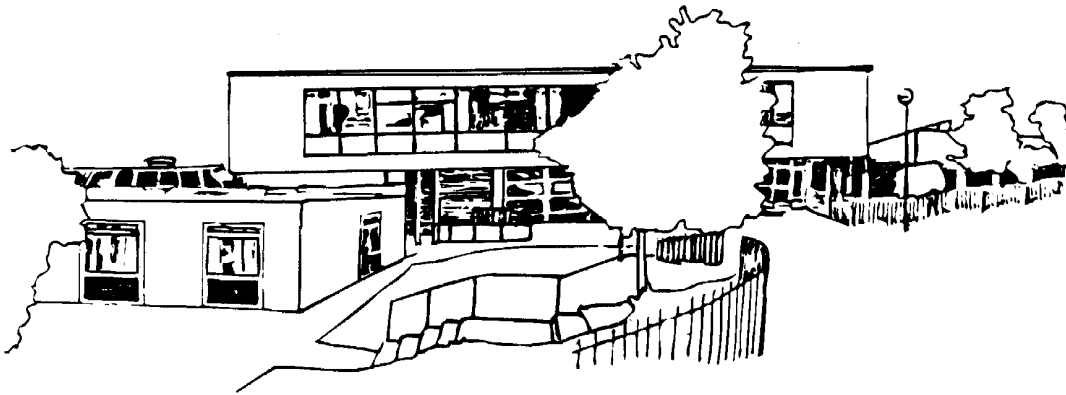


Post-16 Prospectus



Courses beginning
in September 2006

Belper School



Belper School is an 11 - 18 comprehensive school for all children within the Belper area. We are a Foundation School, which means that the governing body owns the school land and buildings and employs the staff. Since 1994 the school has also been a Technology College with extensive P.C. provisions for its students.

The school was opened in 1973 and is set within its own grounds and extensive playing fields on the edge of the rural town of Belper. We currently have around 1450 students on roll, including a Sixth Form of around 200.

It is our aim to encourage all our students to acquire ideas, skill and attitudes which will prepare them to become confident and independent and to lead satisfying adult lives. We want our students to develop personal standards and moral values, through a sense of responsibility, and a respect for and tolerance of others. We aim to develop an appreciation of other cultures and a concern for the local and world environment.

OUR VISION: to promote excellence in all spheres of the school's work

For our students we will:

- Create new and high quality learning experiences
- Challenge and support every student to excel
- Expect the highest standards of behaviour
- Celebrate the wide range of our students' achievement
- Improve significantly our accommodation and resources

For our staff we will:

- Develop further the skills of the whole workforce
- Ensure that all roles contribute to raising standards
- Provide excellent professional development opportunities
- Improve further the leadership skills of our staff
- Create a good and supportive working environment

For our parents we will:

- Enhance our feedback about student progress
- Develop additional ways of involving parents with the school
- Improve the quality of our home-school communication

For our school in the wider community we will:

- Promote the school's achievements to all stakeholders
- Engage in local, national and international initiatives
- Develop further beneficial links with other institutions

A Message from the Headteacher



Dear Student,

In this prospectus you will find details of the courses on offer to you in the Sixth Form. We hope that you will take the opportunity provided by our staff to ask questions about them and make your decisions about your future, in consultation with your parents and teachers.

The Sixth Form is open to anyone who sincerely wants to learn and there are courses suited to the needs of most students. Belper School offers you an environment you know well, a familiar personal tutor who will guide you, and teachers who are keen to help you further your education. Your experience will be further enriched by our status as a Technology College.

Being a Sixth Form student is very different from what you have been used to and has many challenges: you will be given new freedoms which you will have to learn to use well, and new responsibilities as the senior students in the school. I am sure that if you choose to continue your education with us, you will find your studies both stimulating and enjoyable.

I am very proud of the examination successes of our Sixth Form students in recent years. Many have achieved exceptional results and have secured excellent prospects for themselves. We look forward to welcoming you into the Sixth Form next year and working with you to achieve an equally bright future.

Yours sincerely,

Trevor Harding

Headteacher

General Information

Your Tutor

As a student in the Sixth Form you will have a tutor who takes a personal interest in your welfare and progress, and is available to offer advice. The help of someone who knows you well could make all the difference in making the right applications to Higher Education, the right decisions about your future.

Expectations

The school has expectations of you as a sixth form student. Your mature behaviour provides a model for younger students, and you will be offered opportunities to help them in different areas of school work, to organise fund-raising activities, and to help in the wider community. It is important to remember that employers and institutions of higher education attach considerable importance to extra-curricular activities and community work. This is why we make some contribution to community service compulsory for all Sixth Formers.

Private Study

Most students in the Sixth Form have lessons when teaching is not timetabled for them which we call Private Study periods. You will decide with your tutor the most appropriate place for you to study, which may sometimes be at home. It is very important for you to learn to use Private Study periods productively, as the self-discipline of doing so is essential training for higher education.

Registration

You will be asked to register at least once each day, as well as at all other registration periods when you are in school. It will also be compulsory for all students to register on Monday and Friday morning at 9.00 am. At other times you will be able to make an arrangement with your tutor to sign in at the office if you come in later.

Extra-curricular Activities

You will be able to involve yourself in a wide variety of activities. You can play for school teams or just enjoy the sporting facilities. You can take part in concerts, outings and plays. You will be encouraged to follow your own interests, wherever they lie. There is also an expectation that students will take part in community service.

The Sixth Form Council

The Council exists to give you the opportunity to have a say in the running of the school. You are eligible to stand for election on to the council, which meets every week, and you can always get your ideas across by talking to your representative on it.

Careers Advice

Specialist careers advice is available from the school's Careers Advisor, and interviews with a specialist advisor from Connexions, the Derbyshire careers service, can be arranged when necessary.

Free School Meals and Access Grants

If you have been eligible for free school meals, then you can continue to receive them in the Sixth Form. If you're not eligible for free school meals, you can still receive help towards the cost of books, equipment, and travel. Ask for details. You may also be eligible for the Education maintenance Allowance – see later in this prospectus.



Sixth Form Studies

What is it ?

Sixth Form Studies incorporates Sixth Form PSE, General Studies, Keyskills and RE. It has 5 timetabled periods per fortnight, and is compulsory for all Sixth Form students.

Who teaches it ?

It is taught by a combination of the Year 12 tutors, with Marion and other teachers to provide specialist input for Key Skills and General Studies.

What exams will it lead to ?

All Year 12 students will be entered for keyskills assessments, in ICT or Communication. In addition, many students will take AS General Studies.

What will it lead to in Year 13 ?

A number of students will be entered for A2 General Studies in Year 13. Everyone else will be expected to concentrate on completing or gaining keyskills qualifications at either level 2 or level 3.

Year 13 PSE will continue as normal, including work on university and job applications.

How will the year be organised ?

The year will be divided into two semesters, like university courses. The first will run from September to January, when there will be exams. The second will run from February to June, when the AS exams take place. After those exams, students will begin the next year's courses. The semester programmes will be published in September and January.

Your rights and responsibilities as a Sixth Form Student

Upon entry into the Sixth Form, you will be expected to agree to a 'contract' which outlines both your rights and responsibilities. If we feel that you would benefit from closer supervision at the start of your courses we may ask you and your parents to sign a **Trial Period Agreement**.

An example of the contract is shown below.

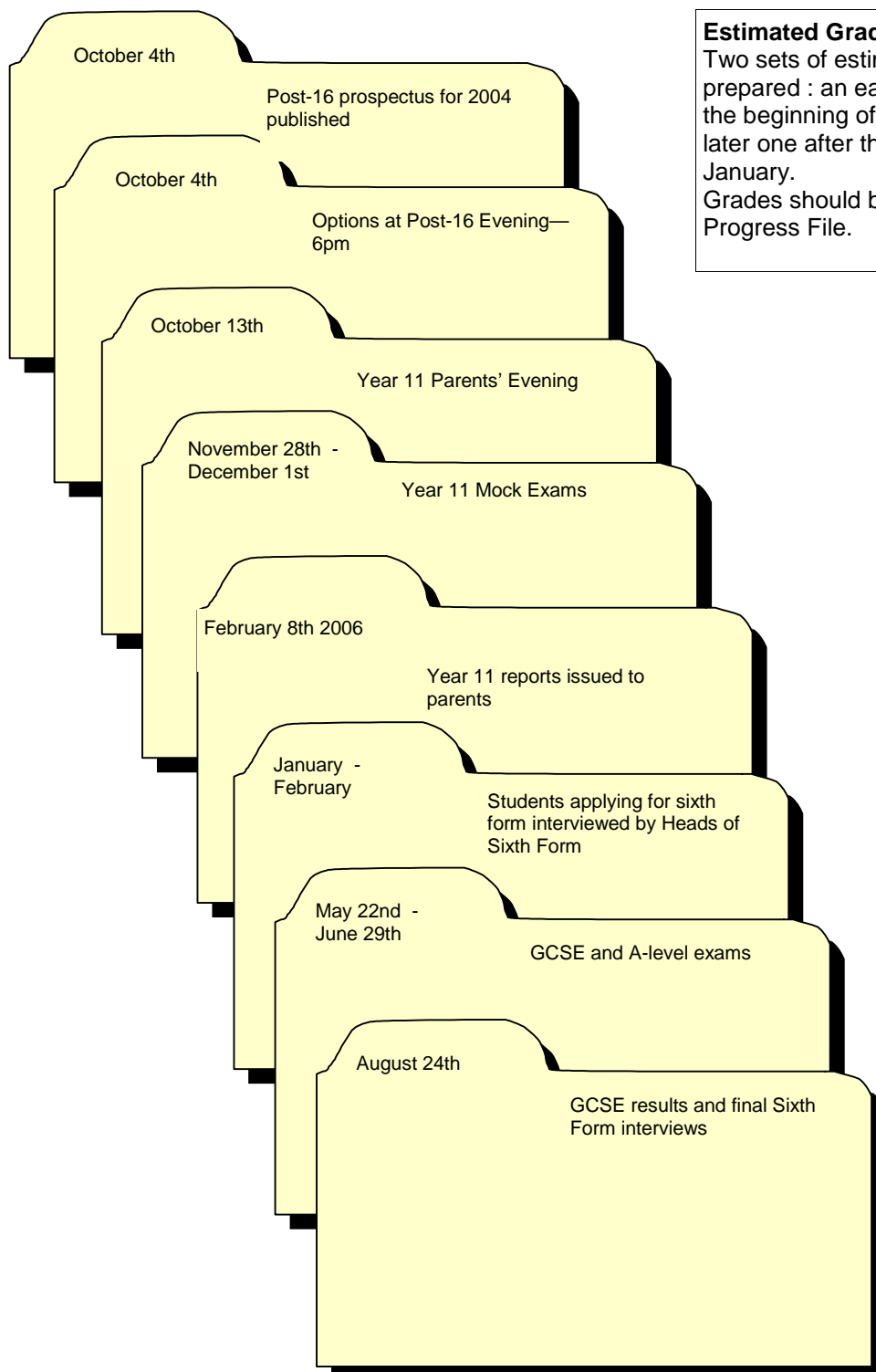
As a Sixth Form student at Belper School you have a right to:

- receive help and guidance from your tutor and teachers.
- decide how to organise your 'free' time as you wish (provided that you keep up with your work!).
- study at home instead of at school in some Private Study periods.
- attend registrations all the time, or at times agreed with your tutor
- take a full part in the life and activities of the school.
- arrange your study programme with help from your tutor and teachers.
- ask for help if you find that you cannot complete your study programme, including homework, on time.
- make use of the Sixth Form common room and facilities and the Sports Centre.
- have opportunities for personal development to prepare for your career

You also have responsibilities. You undertake to:

- keep to the contract you arrange with your tutor to attend registration at given times.
- attend all PSE and SFS lessons, and take part in tutor group activities
- attend lessons as detailed on your timetable, including your private study lessons.
- negotiate any changes to your timetable with your tutor and teachers.

Year 11 to Sixth Form : Important Dates



Estimated Grades

Two sets of estimated grades are prepared : an early estimate at the beginning of Year 11, and a later one after the mock exams in January.

Grades should be recorded in the Progress File.

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE NATIONAL SCHEME

Background

The aim of the scheme is to improve:

- Post-16 Participation
- Retention
- Achievement

Key Features of the Model - Overview

- EMAs will be **paid direct** to young people (who therefore will need a bank account)
- Payable **weekly**
- Eligibility will be **means tested** on household income
- There is a strong emphasis on “Something for Something”, in that payment is conditional on **attendance and progress**. This is a key difference to any other scheme ever run before-Students will be accountable and will have to “earn” their allowance.

Eligibility

- **16-19 years** of age
- Must be on a **valid course** – up to level 3 (university level 4 courses will not qualify)
- Must be an ordinary **UK resident** (3 years residence). However, asylum seekers who have asylum seeker status will qualify.
- The payment can be claimed up to a **maximum of 3 years** (3 years payments over a possible eligibility period of 4 years ...enables a one year “break” for illness, gap, pregnancy, etc.
- Students must sign a **contract** with the school

Payment Levels

Payments will only be made during term time. No payment is made during the holidays.

- Weekly payment of **£30**, with household income up to £20,270
- Weekly payment of **£20**, with household income up to £20,271 - £24850
- Weekly payment of **£10**, with household income up to £24,851- £30,000

(The income thresholds are linked to Tax Credit thresholds)

Bonus Payments

- Bonus payments of **£100** may be payable in January and July of each academic year, dependent upon attendance/progress,
- Additional bonus is payable for those returning in the second year (effectively a **retention bonus**)

The EMA Contract

The EMA contract has two components:

- Part 1 – a contract linking conditions of **attendance** to receipt of the weekly payment. To be monitored weekly.
- Part2 – a “Learning Agreement” tailored to the individual student and their **agreed learning goals**.

It is the **role of the school** to devise specific policies and procedures in line with the Department for Education and Skills “Guidance for Schools & Colleges 2004-05”.

AS/A2 in

FRENCH or GERMAN

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
Examination Board: AQA
Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
Course Leader: Linda Thomas

AS and A-level courses in French or German aim to further develop the understanding of the spoken and written form. Students will need to communicate confidently and effectively in both the spoken and written forms and use increasingly accurate and complex language. They will develop their critical insight into, and contact with, the contemporary society and cultural background and heritage of countries or communities where French/German is spoken. Both the AS and A2 level courses should provide a suitable foundation for study and/or practical use of the languages.

Throughout the course students must be prepared to spend time on reading as much as possible, listening to the language on the radio, tape and TV and learning vocabulary and grammar. Students will also have the opportunity to spend time in France or Germany.

Foreign languages qualifications like these can lead to careers in a wide variety of professional including commercial or secretarial work, journalism, advertising or international business or management. Languages are increasingly in demand in the business world and open the way for work abroad.

FRENCH or GERMAN

Unit No	Title	Type of assessment
1 (AS)	Young People Today	Listening/reading/writing - 1½ hrs
2 (AS)	Aspects of Society	Writing—pre-released booklet -1½ hrs
3 (AS)	People and Society	Speaking -15 minutes
4 (A2)	Contemporary Issues	Listening/reading/writing -2 hrs
5 (A2)	The cultural and social landscape in focus	Coursework
6 (A2)	Yesterday, today and tomorrow	Speaking -15 minutes

AS/A2 in GENERAL STUDIES

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
 Examination Board: AQA
 Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
 Course Leader: Marion McCartney

The General Studies element of Sixth Form Studies is designed to supplement your other work, preventing your studies from becoming too narrow and specialised. Both universities and employers are looking for people who have a good knowledge and understanding of key issues in society. You will have opportunities to research, discuss and write about a wide range of topics from censorship to euthanasia.

The course will also prepare those students who have the aptitude to take it for the AS level General Studies exam. This involves testing your understanding of material related to arts, culture and morality, maths and science, and politics and the economy.

You will have the chance to do practice exam papers before we decide about exam entries. An AS-level in General Studies will be a distinct advantage if you are applying to university as it gives a broader view of your abilities.

In year 13 you will then have the opportunity to continue the course and convert your AS into the full A-level in General Studies, which covers similar areas with the addition of questions on material in either French or German.

GENERAL STUDIES

Examination: OCR

Unit no	Title	Assessment	%
1	Culture, Morality, Arts and Humanities	Written paper 1¼ hrs	16⅔%
2	Science, Maths and Technology	Written paper 1¼ hrs	16⅔%
3	Society, Politics and the Economy	Written paper 1¼ hrs	16⅔%
4	Culture, Morality, Arts and Humanities	Written paper 1¼ hrs	15%
5	Science, Maths and Technology	Written paper 1¼ hrs	15%
6	Society, Politics and the Economy	Written paper 1¼ hrs	20%

AS/A2 in ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
 Examination Board: AQA
 Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
 Course Leader: Lynda Taylor, Mark Morris

AS Level – Year One

In year one, the study of language is introduced. You will learn about different uses of language, both spoken and written, produce original written work and develop effective communications skills.

You will be studying how and why English is used differently by different social groups, and how it is affected by, and causes, social change.

A Level - Year Two

In year one, the study of language is introduced. You will learn about different uses of language, both spoken and written, produce original written work and develop effective communications skills.

You will be studying how and why English is used differently by different social groups, and how it is affected by, and causes, social change.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

AS/A English Language

Unit No	Title	Assessment	AS%	A%
1	Introduction to the Study of Language	1½ hr exam	35%	17.5%
2	Language and Social Contexts	1½ hr exam	35%	17.5%
3	Original writing	Coursework folder	30%	15%
4	Investigating Language	Coursework project		15%
5	Editorial Writing	2½ hr exam		15%
6	Language Development	2 hr exam		20%

AS/A2 in ENGLISH LITERATURE

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
 Examination Board: AQA
 Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
 Course Leader: Lynda Taylor, Mark Morris

AS Level – Year One

In year one you will cover three modules:-

- A detailed study of a modern novel.
- A study of how interpretations of texts change over time and between readers (focussing on poetry and drama).
- A Shakespeare play for coursework

A Level - Year Two

In year two you will cover three modules. You will study drama and poetry texts, including at least one written before 1770.

You will also study literature from and about the First World War

For the coursework element you will read and compare two texts linked by genre, theme or ideas.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

AS/A English Literature				
Unit No	Title	Assessment	AS%	A%
1	The Modern Novel	1 hour exam	30%	15%
2	Shakespeare (poetry and drama)	Coursework Essay 2,000 words	30%	15%
3	Texts in context (poetry and drama)	2 hour exam	40%	20%
4	Texts in Time Pre 1900 poetry Pre. 1770 Drama	2 hour exam		15%
5	Literacy Connections	Coursework essay 2,500 words		15%
6	Reading for Meaning	3 hour exam		20%

AS/A2 in SOCIOLOGY

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
 Examination Board: OCR
 Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
 Course Leader: Candy Preston, Michaela McCormack

Students are expected to complete course work essays and written activities during the course, as well as take part in group discussion.

Assessment is through 2 module exams and a research report during year 12 (AS) and 2 exams and a coursework project in year 13 (A2). Students may study the AS or complete the full A level course.

Students of A level Sociology find the subject matter stimulating and challenging. Recent results have been excellent and group sizes have also been large. This is the ideal course for anyone wishing to go on to a career in teaching, journalism, police force, nursing or just about anything. Sociology is also an excellent course for students wishing to continue study in the Humanities to A level and go on to university or college.

A Level Sociology is a study of society and the events that work together to create it. Topics covered include "Crime and Deviance", "Individual and Society", "Youth and Culture" and "Education".

SOCIOLOGY

Examination: OCR

Unit no	Title	Assessment	%
1	Individual and Society	Exam - 1 hr	15%
2	Culture and Socialisation	Exam - 1½ hrs	20%
3	Research Report	Coursework –1,000 words	15%
4	Power and Control	Exam - 1 hr	15%
5	Personal Study	Coursework - 2,500 words	15%
6	Social Inequality and Difference	Exam - 1½ hrs	20%

AS/A2 in ECONOMICS

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
 Examination Board: OCR
 Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
 Course Leader: Mike Barrett, Steve Davies

This course provides students with an opportunity to learn about Britain, the World and a broad range of financial matters that affect us all. We look at many issues and try to find answers to difficult questions. What makes the UK economy a success? How does a poor country develop? What causes inflation? What is the balance of payments? How has our economy changed over time? What are the right policies for our economy? How are we affected by our economy? Should Britain join the Euro?

In year 12 (AS), students study 3 units of work which cover the working of the national and international economies and how the economies of the UK and other countries operate.

In year 13 (A2), students go on to study three further units:

- Development Economics – a unit which investigates how poorer countries can change and develop over time.
- The Economics of Work and Leisure : a unit which looks at how work and leisure affect our economy.
- The Economics of Europe : this unit looks at issues involving Britain and its role in Europe, including the debate over the pound and the euro.

All units in years 12 and 13 have equal weightings. Each unit is assessed by an end of unit test which involves answering both data-response and essay style questions.

In the past, students who have completed the A level course have chosen to follow the subject at university; others have obtained employment in banking, finance or business sectors.

This is an ideal course for anyone interested in the issues affecting the UK today. It will help to improve your understanding of how the world economy affects us all.

A-level Economics is an excellent complement to History, Geography or Sociology.

ECONOMICS

Examination: OCR

Unit no	Title	Assessment	%
1	Market System	One examination 1 hr	15%
2	Market Failure and Government Intervention	One examination 1 hr	15%
3	National and International Economies	One examination 1½hrs	15%
4	Economics of Work and Leisure	One examination 1½hrs	15%
5	Development Economics	One examination 1½ hrs	15%
6	Economics in a European Context	One examination 1¾ hrs	20%

AS/A2 in HISTORY

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
 Examination Board: OCR
 Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
 Course Leader: Mike Barrett, Swerupa Gosrani, Trudi Shipman, John McCleery

The A level History course provides a great opportunity to investigate a variety of History topics and eras which will develop your understanding of the past as well as enhancing a variety of skills necessary and important in the modern world. The course is suitable for those who have studied GCSE History or those who have a keen interest in the subject.

In year 12 (AS) the following units of work are studied:-

1. Document study – Nazi Germany 1933-39
2. Period study (English History) Elizabethan England Church & State 1547 - 1603
3. Period study (European/American History) Cold War in the Americas and Asia 1949 -1975.

The successful completion of these units leads to an AS level qualification.

In year 13 (A2) students investigate the following:-

1. Historical Investigation – Depth studies – Lenin and the Bolsheviks 1903 - 1924
2. Themes in History – 1865 - 1980 Civil Rights in USA
3. Independent Investigation (Course work)

Completion of the six units in years 12 and 13 enable the student to gain an A level in History.

In the past many students doing well on this course have gone on to study the subject at university.

Each unit of work is assessed by an end of unit test where students respond to document questions and produce essays. Part of the final assessment includes the production of an independently researched project on a topic of the candidates own choice.

HISTORY

Examination: OCR

Unit no	Title	Assessment	%
1	Nazi Germany 1933 - 39	Exam - 1 hr	20%
2	Elizabethan England Church and State 1547 - 1603	Exam - 45 mins	15%
3	Cold War in America and Asia 1949 - 75	Exam - 45 mins	15%
4	Lenin and Bolsheviks 1903 - 1924	Exam - 1½ hrs	15%
5	Civil Rights in the USA 1965 - 1980	Exam - 1½ hrs	20%
6	Independent Investigation	Coursework	15%

AS/A2 in MATHEMATICS

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
 Examination Board: AQA
 Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
 Course Leader: Adrian Daly, Rex Plowman

The course is open to all students who have obtained a grade C or better in GCSE Mathematics. The course is enjoyable and will build upon skills and knowledge developed in the GCSE course, taking abstract ideas to a deeper level and exploring a wider field of mathematical applications.

You will find the course encourages you to become a confident and increasingly independent student who explores mathematics with interest and enthusiasm. You should expect to be stretched and on occasions challenged to think at a more sophisticated level than may have been demanded of you in the past.

You will take three modules on the AS course and a further three modules if you intend to make it up to the full A level. Each module contributes an equal amount to your overall grade and is assessed via end of module tests.

The modules cover a variety of work including algebra, co-ordinate geometry, calculus, functions, trigonometry, statistics and probability. You will also have the opportunity to learn how to use a graphic calculator proficiently.

We believe that a Maths A level offers the opportunity for intellectual and personal development and it remains a well respected and sought after qualification. Students will find it of relevance in all fields of Science and in Finance and Economics.

If you are looking for an accessible course that will stimulate you, and you enjoy the challenge of thinking deeply about ideas, then the course will allow you to develop in this way as well as foster skills in written and oral communication, information technology, problem solving and other key skills.

MATHEMATICS

Examination: AQA Mathematics

Unit No	Title	Assessment	%
1	Pure Core 1	1 exam (1 hr 30 minutes)	16 $\frac{2}{3}$
2	Pure Core 2	1 exam (1 hr 30 minutes)	16 $\frac{2}{3}$
3	Statistics 1	1 exam (1 hr 30 minutes)	16 $\frac{2}{3}$
4	Pure Core 3	1 exam (1 hr 30 minutes)	16 $\frac{2}{3}$
5	Mechanics 1	1 exam (1 hr 30 minutes)	16 $\frac{2}{3}$
6	Pure Core 4	1 exam (1 hr 30 minutes)	16 $\frac{2}{3}$

No coursework in any unit.

AS/A2 in FURTHER MATHEMATICS

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
Examination Board: AQA
Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
Course Leader: Adrian Daly, Rex Plowman, Gwen Tressider

If you are very able and enthusiastic about Maths you should seriously consider doing Further Maths in addition to your Maths course. This course relies heavily on your ability to work independently and is designed to encourage this and to broaden your Mathematical experience in fields which are studied at a higher level.

The course has an identical structure to the Maths course outlined above. There are a variety of modules, which are designed to complement the Maths course itself, and these include topics such as proof, complex numbers, differential equations, matrices and mechanics. It could be studied to either A or AS level and it would certainly add weight to your university application – indeed we would recommend it if you wish to study Maths or a Maths related course at degree level.

Examination: AQA Mathematics

Unit No	Title	Assessment	%
1	Decision 1	1 exam (1 hr 30 minutes)	16 $\frac{2}{3}$
2	Further Pure 1	1 exam (1 hr 30 minutes)	16 $\frac{2}{3}$
3	Statistics 2	1 exam (1 hr 30 minutes)	16 $\frac{2}{3}$
4	Further Pure 4	1 exam (1 hr 30 minutes)	16 $\frac{2}{3}$
5	Mechanics 2	1 exam (1 hr 30 minutes)	16 $\frac{2}{3}$
6	Further Pure 3	1 exam (1 hr 30 minutes)	16 $\frac{2}{3}$

No coursework in any unit.

AS/A2 in **GEOGRAPHY**

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
 Examination Board: AQA
 Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
 Course Leader: Geoff Astill

Geography allows students to study some of the complex issues facing the area, nation and world and teaches skills such as research, enquiry and essay-writing.

It focuses on the relationship between people and their environments and the opportunities, challenges and constraints that face people in different places and environments. We look at the dynamic nature of Geography, how places, environments and issues change, and how people respond to these changes.

An important aspect of this course is fieldwork, usually consisting of an investigation made as part of a week's visit to an area of geographical importance, usually North Yorkshire.

Modules consist of :

1. Weather, rivers (physical). Population Resources, The organisation of business
2. Options from: Glacial, Coastal or Urban Physical environs.
3. Options from: Urban change or Historical rural geography.
4. Physical/Environmental/ Human (Core)
5. Decision making (DME)
6. A practical paper

or

1. A field work investigation.

GEOGRAPHY

Examination: AQA Geography

AS

A2

3 module tests -
Units 1, 2, 3

3 module tests -
Units 4, 5 and either 6 or 7

AS/A2 in PSYCHOLOGY

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
 Examination Board: AQA
 Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
 Course Leader: Joy Danby

Psychology is the study of the Mind, Brain and Human Behaviour. The discipline has its origins in early medical approaches and philosophical enquiry of the late 19th century and has developed over the past century to become what is now, one of the most popular subject areas at all levels of education. Essentially, Psychology is concerned with the individual, what makes them behave, think and feel in particular ways and therein, the relationship such individuals have with the constructs of wider society. Psychology attempts to offer insight to areas as diverse as the human memory, personality development, the field of mental illness and all manner of differentiation that distinguishes us as individuals.

Students who opt to choose Psychology at A' Level typically have an interest in people, themselves and society and Psychology attempts to *bind* these three facets of modern life together in the hope that we generate a better understanding of what this 'thing' called life is.

Assessment is via three one hour examinations at AS level and two examinations at A2 level, one and a half and two hours respectively, plus one piece of coursework in the form of a Psychological research report.

As Psychology is about understanding people, potential career pathways are diverse. The classic areas of health and social welfare in the form of counselling and therapy have been superseded to a large extent by individuals who choose to use the skills gained in Psychology to work in fields such as personnel management, sales and marketing, customer services and the teaching professions. In essence, Psychology provides skills that are useful in all areas of modern life and that's why it is viewed as a positive inclusion to any university or employment application.

Students are usually required to gain a grade C or above at GCSE Science to enter on to the Psychology AS/A2 course.

PSYCHOLOGY

Syllabus : AQA –A

Unit 1 (AS)	Cognitive psychology, developmental psychology (1 hour exam)
Unit 2 (AS)	Physiological psychology, individual differences
Unit 3 (AS)	Social psychology, research methods
Unit 4 (AS)	Essay questions
Unit 5 (A2)	Individual differences, perspectives, approaches (2 hour exam)
Unit 6 (A2)	Report of an investigation (coursework)

AS/A2 in

ART: FINE ART

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
Examination Board: AQA
Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
Course Leader: Cathy Parker

This course is suitable for students who have enjoyed the challenges of GCSE Art and wish to pursue a creative and personal response in their work.

(Students need a grade C or above in Art at GCSE.)

It is a broad based course including; painting, drawing, mixed media, sculpture and printmaking. Students are expected to keep a sketchbook and take up opportunities of visits to museums, galleries etc.

Units are broken down as follows:

1. Coursework (2 pieces)
2. Personal investigation (into artist or designer)
3. Controlled assignment (5hrs) (from given starting point)
4. Coursework (1 piece)
5. Personal study (an in depth study on a particular aspect of artist/designer).
6. Controlled test (15hrs) (from given starting point)



AS/A2 in

ART: GRAPHIC DESIGN

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
Examination Board: AQA
Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
Course Leader: Cathy Parker

The course is suitable for students who have studied Art/Design GCSE or Art GCSE.

(Students ideally need a grade C or above at GCSE.)

Students will be involved in a variety of work within this area and will be expected to produce a response to a design brief in a creative and interactive fashion, reflecting contemporary practice.

An exploratory approach is encouraged and students will be able to work in an open-ended way towards their design brief.

Examples of areas of study may include; packaging, magazine design, typography, illustration, printmaking. Students will use a range of media and processes including use of computer aided design.

Students will be evaluating and analysing the work of other designers to help them develop their own work. They will be expected to keep sketchbooks and take part in trips to museums and galleries.

Units are broken down as follows:

1. AS Coursework (2 pieces)
2. A S Personal Investigation (into areas of graphic design or a designer).
3. A S Controlled Assignment (5 hours).
4. A2 Coursework (1 piece).
5. A2 Personal Study (an in-depth study on an aspect of graphic design or a designer).
6. A2 Controlled Test from a given starting point. (15 hours)

AS/A2 in

ICT

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
Examination Board: Edexcel
Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
Course Leader: Mark Kazmierczak

This course follows on from the GNVQ in ICT and offers an A-level standard vocational qualification in ICT. It is also suitable for students who have no qualification in ICT but are sufficiently well motivated. It has been developed in association with both industrial and academic organisations and reflects the practical use of ICT in science, technology and business. It provides skills in ICT to a greater depth for students who want to progress in a wide range of careers in business and the professions.

The course will be delivered in large part online and by CD-ROM. There is a large element of independent learning although skilled and informed support and teaching is also available.

It is assessed through a combination of portfolio evidence and external examination.

There are six units over the two years of the course:

Compulsory units

1. The Information Age
2. The Digital Economy
3. The Knowledge Worker

The 3 other units will be :

4. Using database software
5. Managing ICT projects
6. Using multimedia software

Examination: Edexcel - GCE Applied ICT (Single Award)

Unit no	Title	Assessment	%
1	The Information Age	E-portfolio	15%
2	The Digital Economy	E-portfolio	15%
3	The Knowledge Worker	Timed practical exam	20%
4	Using database software	E-portfolio	15%
5	Managing ICT projects	E-portfolio	15%
6	Using multimedia software	Timed practical exam	20%

AS/A2 in MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
 Examination Board: Edexcel
 Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
 Course Leader: Mark Fidler

AS and A2 Music Technology is a predominantly practical approach to the performance, composition and recording of music in today's world. Through participation in music-making, students will experience some of the diversity of our musical heritage and develop individual skills and strengths. The course fosters creativity and personal development and will be a suitable preparation for careers in the music industry. Students will need to have a keen interest in music and have shown some ability in science or technology.

Students are required to:

- Use sequencing and/ or music recording facilities to interpret music
- Create and develop ideas using music technology
- Analyse and reflect on their own and others' work and make judgements on musical elements, structures and resources

They will:

- Gain an in-depth understanding of the development of music technology, the Western Classical tradition and popular music and jazz.
- Place a particular specialism within a broad musical perspective
- Demonstrate aural perception
- Place a range of musics into context with the use of specific music vocabulary

The course is assessed by a combination of coursework and externally assessed elements.

Examination: Edexcel Music Technology

Unit no	Title	Assessment	%
1a	Sequencing and Reading	Assessed coursework and commentary	20%
1b	Arranging using technology	Externally assessed coursework	15%
1c	Listening and analysing	Externally assessed written exam	15%
2a	Sequencing and producing	Externally assessed coursework	15%
2b	Composing using technology	Externally assessed coursework	15%
2c	Listening and analysing	Externally assessed coursework	20%

AS/A2 in MEDIA STUDIES

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
 Examination Board:
 Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
 Course Leader: Pam Harrison

Media Studies develops students' understanding of television, radio, film, the press, advertising, and increasingly the Internet.

The course will suit students who:

- have an interest in a wide range of media.
- can work independently and research their own individual topics of interest.
- enjoy discussion and can express themselves clearly in writing.

There are 3 modules leading to an AS Level:-

Unit	Module	Exam	%
1	Reading the Media	1¼ hr	30%
2	Textural Topics in Contemporary Media	1½ hr	30%
3	Practical Production	Coursework	40%

Topics studies will include Film and Broadcast Fiction, Advertising and Marketing, Documentary and British Newspapers.

At A Level there are 3 further modules:-

Unit	Module	Exam	%
4	Texts and Contexts in the	1½ hr	15%
5	Independent Study	Coursework	20%
6	Comparative Critical Analysis	1½ hr	15%

Topics studied will include the Production and Manufacture of News, Representation and Stereotyping, Genre, Audiences and media audience theory.

This is not a vocational course but can be an important preparation for studying the media in higher education. Students will develop independent and critical thinking skills and an understanding of media issues. Knowledge of the media is increasingly valued and is becoming an important aspect of work in most institutions in an information society, and as such is valuable to a candidate entering employment across a wide range of industries and professions.

AS/A2 in SCIENCE

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
 Examination Board: OCR
 Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
 Course Leader: Darrell Jennings

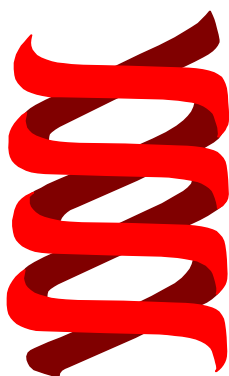
A or AS levels in Biology, Chemistry, Physics; in any combination.

The modular Science courses offered by the OCR (Oxford Cambridge and RSA) Exam Board are followed at present.

Assessment

In both years 12 and 13 assessment is by end of module tests in January and June, which are marked by the Exam Board, and the internal assessment of experimental skills which are marked by your teacher and moderated by the Exam Board. The Physics practical examinations are marked by the Exam Board. Some of the tests in year 13 will assume knowledge of previously learnt modules.

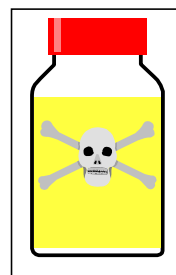
Biology modules



Examination: OCR Biology

AS	A2
Foundation Biology (15%) Human Health and Disease (15%) Transport (10%) Experimental Skills (10%)	Central Concepts (15%) Option Module, eg. Microbiology and Bio-Technology (15%) Synoptic paper (10%) Experimental Skills (10%)

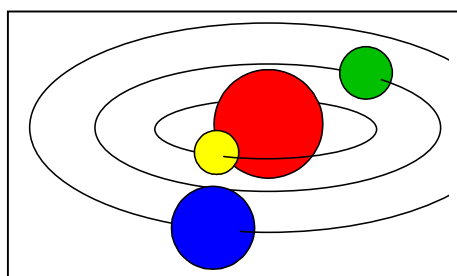
Chemistry modules



Examination: OCR Chemistry

AS	A2
Foundation Chemistry (15%) Chains and Rings (15%) How Far, How Fast? (10%) Experimental Skills (10%)	Chains and Rings and Spectroscopy (15%) Trends and Patterns (7.5%) Option Module eg. Biochemistry (7.5%) Unifying concepts (10%) Experimental Skills (10%)

Physics modules



Examination: OCR Physics

AS	A2
Force and Motion (15%) Electrons and Photons (15%) Waves (10%) Practical Examination (10%)	Fields Forces and Energy (15%) Option Module, eg. Cosmology (15%) Synoptic paper (10%) Practical Examination (10%)

SCIENCE

AS/A2 in **BUSINESS APPLIED A-LEVEL DOUBLE AWARD**

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
Examination Board: Edexcel
Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
Course Leader: Steve Davies/Pam Jackson

What do I need to know or be able to do before taking the Applied A'Level in Business?

The most important thing you need in order to take Business is a lively and enquiring mind, an interest in business, a willingness to explore new ideas and an ability to communicate your ideas effectively.

It is **not** a requirement that you should have studied Intermediate Business in order to take an A'Level in the subject but you will need to have at least 5 grade C's or above at GCSE.

This Applied A'Level is a double award - equivalent to **two** A' Levels. You can study it before progressing to university or employment, and may combine it with other A'level courses. At the end of the course you will get two A'Level grades.

What is A'Level Double Award ?

The course is made up of 12 units - equivalent to two A' Levels, and carries the same weight as two separate A'Levels whether applying to university or employment.

What will I learn?

You will have the opportunity to study a wide range of business topics which are arranged into units. Units range from marketing and finance through to management and business planning. Eight of these units are assessed internally through coursework and four are externally assessed through examinations. There is a great emphasis on an active learning approach whereby you will be encouraged to investigate real businesses, interview people, give presentations and carry out simulated activities designed to help you develop skills, knowledge and understanding in business. In addition to this you will develop Key Skills that are highly valued by employers and universities. There is also a strong emphasis on the use of IT. Applied A'Level courses are great confidence builders!

Who is the Applied Business course suitable for?

This course will appeal to those students who:

- wish to move on to a career in business
- may one day want to set up their own business
- want to go to university or higher education
- have a keen interest in business and want to find out more about business through personal investigation
- want to follow a course that is active and enjoyable

How will I be assessed?

Up to two thirds of the course will be internally assessed through a programme of assignments set and marked by your teachers.

At least one third of the course will be **externally assessed** through exams, set assignments, projects or case study work.

What courses or employment can I progress to at the end of my course?

The Business course combines well with almost all other AS and A'Level subjects for a range of university courses. These include Languages, Maths, Sociology, English, Design, History, Geography and Art. A number of students choose to use their qualification to go straight into employment, rather than go on to higher education. Because business students develop the transferable skills and the key skills that employers are looking for, they can lead to a very wide range of employment opportunities. This can include further training in such areas as Accounting, Marketing, Personnel, Management, Finance, IT and Retailing.

Examination : Edexcel Applied
A-Level Double Award

AS/A2 in HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE APPLIED A LEVEL DOUBLE AWARD

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
Examination Board: Edexcel
Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
Course Leader: Michaela McCormack, Candy Preston, Yasmine Hussain

What do I need to know or be able to do before taking the Applied A'Level in Health & Social Care?

The most important thing you need in order to take Health & Social Care is a lively and enquiring mind, an interest in health and social care, a willingness to explore new ideas and an ability to communicate your ideas effectively.

It is not a requirement that you should have studied Intermediate Health & Social Care in order to take an A'Level in the subject but you will need to have at least 5 grade C's or above at GCSE.

This Applied A'Level is a double award -equivalent to **two** 'A'- Levels. You can study it before progressing to university or employment, and may combine it with other A-level courses.

What is the Applied Double Award ?

This Applied A'Level Double Award is made up of 12 units - equivalent to two A' Levels, and carries the same weight as two separate A'Levels whether applying to university or employment.

What will I learn?

You will have the opportunity to study a wide range of health and social care topics which are arranged into units. Units range from child care and early years through to physical health and psychology. Eight of these units are assessed internally through coursework and four are externally assessed through examinations. There is a great emphasis on an active learning approach whereby you will be encouraged to investigate real caring environments, interview people, give presentations and carry out simulated activities designed to help you develop skills, knowledge and understanding in health and social care. In addition to this you will develop Key Skills that are highly valued by employers and universities. There is also a strong emphasis on the use of IT. Applied A'Level courses are great confidence builders!

Who is the Health and Social Care course suitable for?

This course will appeal to those students who:

- wish to move on to a career in the caring sector
- want to go to university or higher education
- have a keen interest in health and social care and want to find out more about the subject through personal investigation

- want the opportunity to carry out practical work as well as class work
- are interested in developing an understanding of caring organisations and the clients they serve
- want to study a course that is active and enjoyable

How will I be assessed?

Up to two thirds of the course will be internally assessed through a programme of assignments set and marked by your teachers or lecturers.

At least one third of the course will be externally assessed through tests, set assignments, projects or case study work.

What courses or employment can I progress to at the end of my course?

An Applied Double Award is equivalent to two A level passes at grades A – E.

Health and Social Care combines well with almost all other AS and A level subjects for a range of university courses. These include Sociology, Psychology, Maths, English, Languages, PE and the Sciences. Many students choose to use their qualification to go straight into employment, rather than go on to higher education. Because Health and Social Care students develop the transferable skills and the key skills that employers are looking for, they can lead to a very wide range of employment opportunities. This can include further training in such areas as Social Work, Caring and Education.

Taken with a Biology A'Level, the qualification supports applications for a degree in nursing or midwifery or, with one of a range of A levels, it supports applications for Teacher Training or Social Work. Health and Social Care provides the basis for a broad range of university courses in Social Science.

Examination : Edexcel – Applied
A-Level Double Award

AS/A2 in DRAMA

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
Examination Board: AQA
Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
Course Leader: Joan Hardy or Jeff Moule

Students will be expected to develop critical analysis, knowledge and understanding of drama forms and texts, and the ability to analyse theatre. They will also be expected to develop their skills as performers by realising text and devising their own drama.

1 AS Level Modules

The modules covered in the first year of the A level are:

1. Exploring Drama
2. Realising a script
3. Analysing Drama

1 A2 Modules

1. Devising Drama
2. Realising a script
3. Understanding Drama

At both levels students will build on their knowledge and experience to prepare, rehearse and perform a published script. This will be performed to a paying audience at a formal level, and will test the students' skills as actors, directors, designers or technicians.

As always the emphasis is practical. The syllabus cannot be constrained within the normal school hours and students will be expected to commit themselves to extra rehearsal time in the evenings as well as attending theatre productions in a number of cities around the country.

DRAMA

Unit No	Title	%
1	Exploring Drama (coursework)	15
2	Realising a script (performance)	20
3	Analysing Drama (written paper)	15
4	Devising Drama (performance)	20
5	Realising Script (performance)	15
6	Understanding Drama (written paper)	15

AS/A2 in PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
 Examination Board: OCR
 Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
 Course Leader: Barry Elmore, Rebecca Northage, Steve Davison,
 Matthew Boyle

The PE course has been designed to encourage candidates to take a broad view of sport and PE, to develop their capacity for critical thinking and to appreciate the relationship between different aspects of the subject. Students should have knowledge and understanding of the factors which influence performance and participation in physical activity, and be able to apply them to a range of different activities.

You do not have to have studied GCSE PE to do this course, but you do have to be prepared to do both practical sporting activity and study of the human body and its performance in sport.

You will study not only the biology of the human body but also the psychological motives that make people take part in sport, and on physical performance.

AS and A level Sports and PE are widely accepted entry qualifications for higher education. In addition, they provide a worthwhile course for students of various ages and from diverse backgrounds in terms of general education and lifelong learning.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Examination: OCR Sport and Physical Education

Unit	Title	%
1 (AS)	Factors affecting performance: physiological & psychological	20
2 (AS)	Contemporary studies in PE	15
3 (AS)	Performance (2 activities) and personal performance portfolio	15
4 (A2)	History and Psychology of sport	15
5 (A2)	Exercise and Sport Physiology	20
6 (A2)	Improvement of effective performance – 2 activities and an oral presentation	15

AS/A2 in TEXTILES PRODUCT DESIGN

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
 Examination Board: Edexcel
 Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
 Course Leader: Gloria Horne

This course builds on the foundations established by the GCSE Design course in Textiles. The prime requirement, however, is a keen interest in textile products available for the home and for the individual. An awareness of fashion in its widest sense is also desirable.

The course involves designing and making products for yourself and for a wider target market.

You will also learn about materials, processes and systems used in the textiles industry.

A-level Textile Product Design is a good foundation for any design-related Higher Education course. It is an enjoyable course for anyone interested in fashion, or who wants to widen their field of study.

TEXTILES PRODUCT DESIGN

Edexcel A-level Textile Product Design

Unit	Title	%
1. (AS)	Design and make product	20
2. (AS)	Written exam (1 ½ hrs)	15
3 (AS)	Written exam (1 ½ hrs)	15
4(A2)	Design and make product	20
5(A2)	Written exam 1 ½ hrs	15
6 (A2)	Designing Exam (3 hrs)	15

AS/A2 in PRODUCT DESIGN

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
 Examination Board: Edexcel
 Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
 Course Leader: Sean Reilly

This increasingly popular course is suited to students wishing to further their experience of designing and making in a range of different areas. The course offers individuals access to those areas of design and manufacture in which they have a special interest or enthusiasm. Hence the course is very much a student centred one with much individualised learning as well as group teaching and seminar work.

What does the course consist of?

The course gives students access to a number of different design approaches placing equal value on technological approaches and those of a more artistic nature. Students will initially be involved in a series of exercises usually working on project based assignments designed to raise awareness of the diversity of approaches to design and to allow some experience in these. A creative and experimental approach to design is important, and this can be explored through the use of traditional craft materials and tools, electronics or through the use of "High-Tech" options like Computer Aided Design and manufacture. The Faculty is very well resourced and processes one of the few Laser Cutters available to students in the country.

What previous experience do I need in order to start A level Product Design?

In some respects this subject can be regarded as a new start for really enthusiastic and hard-working students with a genuine interest in designing. Most, if not all students will have studied Design and Technology at GCSE level. Some will also have followed a course in Art and Design. Clearly both of these subjects are very relevant to the study of Design at AS/A level and will be of great help to you.

If you have achieved a GCSE grade C or above in these subjects then this is a good indication of your ability in Product Design.

How will Product Design help me in my career?

The qualification has developed and gained considerable currency. Universities all over the country accept A level Design as an entrance qualification. In particular Design will be of help to you if you wish to pursue a career in Art and Design; 3D and Product Design, Graphics, Interior Design, Textiles and Fashion, Engineering Design, Architecture, Town Planning and many others.

Scheme of Assessment

Students take the following units: AS Product Design - Units 1, 2 and 3
 A2 Product Design - Units 4, 5 and 6

Edexcel A-level Product Design				
Unit	Name		AS	A2
1 (AS)	Product Study	1.5 hrs	30%	15%
2 (AS)	Materials and Design in Society	1.5 hrs	30%	15%
3 (AS)	Product Design	cwk	40%	20%
4 (A2)	Design and Technological Capability	3 hrs		15%
5 (A2)	Materials and Design in Society	1.5 hrs		15%
6 (A2)	Product Design	cwk		20%

AS/A2 in

ART: THEATRE DESIGN

Course length: AS is studied over 1 year, A2 is studied over 2 years
Examination Board: AQA
Entry requirements: Normally 4/5 GCSE grades in the range of A* - C
Course Leader: Cathy Parker

This course involves all aspects of theatre design. It is a very suitable course for students studying Drama who also have an interest in Art and/or Design.

Students will be encouraged to work to a brief for specific drama performances. They will be expected to fully document a range of possible solutions to their brief in a sketchbook and through photographs, video and models. Visits to the theatre will be an important part of the course. Students taking the course should have shown that they have good drawing and design skills at GCSE.

Unit	Title
1 (AS)	Two research projects
2 (AS)	One personal investigation
3 (AS)	One terminal exam (5 hrs)
4 (A2)	One research project
5 (A2)	One personal investigation
6 (A2)	One terminal exam (15 hrs)

Examination: OCR	
AS	A2
Coursework (15%) Investigation (15%) Controlled Test (20%)	Coursework (15%) Personal study (15%) Controlled Test (20%)

ART: THEATRE DESIGN

GCSE LEVEL COURSES

BTEC FIRST DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS

Course length: 1 year
Examination Board: Edexcel
Entry requirements:
Course Leader: Pamela Jackson

What do I need to know or be able to do before taking the BTEC First Diploma in Business?

The most important thing you need in order to take the BTEC First Diploma in Business is a lively and enquiring mind, an interest in business, a willingness to explore new ideas and an ability to communicate your ideas effectively.

It is not a requirement that you should have studied business before. There are no formal entry qualifications. Experience has shown us that students who have achieved mainly D's, E's and F's at GCSE have successfully completed this type of course. Many students having enjoyed the course have gone on to study to at 'A' level, with some students ultimately progressing to university. BTEC First Diploma courses offer an excellent opportunity to those students who have ambition and feel they can improve upon their GCSE performance.

A BTEC First Diploma is equivalent to four grade A* - C GCSEs. You can study the Award on it's own before progressing to advanced level study or employment, or may combine it with other courses offered by the school such as GCSE Maths and English re-sits.

How long does the course last?

The BTEC First Diploma is a one-year course comprising of six units.

What will I learn?

You will have the opportunity to study a wide range of business topics, which are arranged into units. Units focus on how

businesses work and develop and consider subjects such as customer service, business finance and communication in depth. There is a great emphasis on an active learning approach whereby you will be encouraged to investigate real businesses, interview people, give presentations and carry out simulated activities designed to help you develop skills, knowledge and understanding in business. In addition to this you will develop Key Skills in communication, numeracy and IT that are highly valued by employers and universities. BTEC First Diploma courses are great confidence builders!

Who is the BTEC First Diploma suitable for?

This course will appeal to those students who:

- wish to move on to a career in business
- may one day want to set up their own business
- want to progress to an advanced business course (*please note that only students who gain a merit will be considered for advanced level study*)
- want to improve their qualifications and personal skills
- have a keen interest in business and want to find out more about business through personal investigation
- want to follow a course that is active and enjoyable

How will I be assessed?

The course is made up of six separate units. Each unit is assessed internally through assignments set and marked by your teachers and moderated by the exam board.

Examination: Edexcel BTEC First Diploma

1 year course

GCSE LEVEL COURSES

BTEC FIRST DIPLOMA HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

Course length: 1 year
Examination Board: Edexcel
Entry requirements:
Course Leader: Pamela Jackson

What do I need to know or be able to do before taking the BTEC First Diploma in Health and Social Care?

The most important thing you need in order to take the BTEC First Diploma in Health and Social Care is a lively and enquiring mind, an interest in caring, a willingness to explore new ideas and an ability to communicate your ideas effectively.

It is not a requirement that you should have studied in Health and Social Care before. There are no formal entry qualifications. Experience has shown us that students who have achieved mainly D's, E's and F's at GCSE have successfully completed the course. Many students having enjoyed the course have gone on to study 'A' Levels, with some students ultimately progressing to university. BTEC First Diploma courses offer an excellent opportunity to those students who have ambition and feel they can improve upon their GCSE performance.

A BTEC First Diploma is equivalent to four grade A* - C GCSEs. You can study the Award on it's own before progressing to Advanced level study or employment, or may combine it with other courses offered by the school such as GCSE Maths and English re-sits.

The BTEC First Diploma is a one year course comprising of six units.

What will I learn?

You will have the opportunity to study a wide range of in health and social care topics which are arranged into units. Units focus on health and caring related topics, considering subjects such as childhood

and early years, health promotion, food preparation and how to deal with emergencies. There is a great emphasis on an active learning approach whereby you will be encouraged to investigate real situations, interview people, give presentations and carry out simulated activities designed to help you develop skills, knowledge and understanding in health and social care. In addition to this you will develop Key Skills in communication, numeracy and IT that are highly valued by employers and universities. BTEC First Diploma courses are great confidence builders!

Who is the BTEC First Diploma suitable for?

This course will appeal to those students who:

- wish to move on to a career in the caring, health or education sector
- want to progress to an Advanced Health and Social Care course (*please note that only students who gain a merit will be considered for advanced level study*)
- want to improve their qualifications and personal skills
- have a keen interest in health and social care and want to find out more about the subject through personal investigation
- are interested in developing an understanding of caring organisations and the clients they serve
- want to follow a course that is active and enjoyable

How will I be assessed?

The course is made up of six separate units. Each unit is assessed internally through assignments set and marked by your teachers and moderated by the exam board.

Examination: BTEC First Diploma

1 year course

BTEC FIRST DIPLOMA IN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

GCSE LEVEL COURSES
GNVQ ICT AT INTERMEDIATE LEVEL
ENGLISH AND MATHS RESITS

Course length: 1 year
Examination Board:
Entry requirements:
Course Leader: Pamela Jackson

**GNVQ ICT at
Intermediate level**

This course will be open to students who have not taken it in year 11. It will be taught by a combination of independent learning, by using a CD-ROM and website instruction, and specific teaching, which will probably take place at lunchtimes and after school, to enable students to fit it in with their other courses.

**English and Maths
Resits**

We will arrange for any students who narrowly miss a C grade in Maths to retake the relevant modules. There may also be classes for those wishing to retake English language GCSE, but these may be after school. There will be no other resit classes.