



AllSaints
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Welcome to All Saints Sixth Form



AllSaints
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Key Information

Success

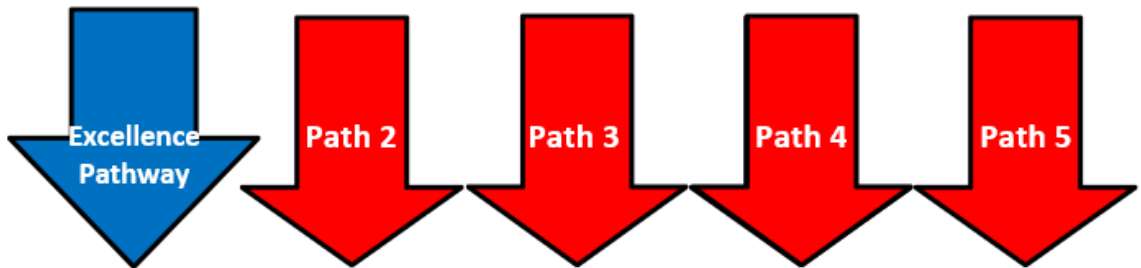
- ✓ Excellent examination results
- ✓ Over 30 subjects on offer
- ✓ Over 95% of our students go on to higher education
- ✓ We have former students studying at every Russell Group university
- ✓ Many of our students are currently studying at Oxford University
- ✓ Our NEETs figure is zero

Enrichment opportunities available to our students

- Army Activity Day
- Certificate in Financial Studies
- Community Sports Leaders Award
- Conservation
- Cooking
- Creative Industries Careers Morning
- Debating
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Extended Project Qualification
- First Aid
- Gifted and Talented Programme
- Health Professions Careers Morning
- Insight to Management Programme
- Mandarin
- Mentoring Programme
- Music
- Oxbridge Interview Preparation Seasons
- Pathways to Business
- Pathways to Engineering
- Pathways to Law
- Pathways to Medicine
- Pathways to Oxbridge
- Pathways to Psychology
- PSHE Programme
- RAG Week
- Religious Education Lessons
- Religious Retreat
- Safer Driving Seminar
- Spanish
- Speakers for Schools
- Sports Clubs
- Student Investor Challenge
- Student Finance Talk
- UCAS Preparation
- University Outreach Programme
- Volunteering Programme
- Work Experience Placements
- Yoga
- Y13 Employability Programme



Progression pathways available to students:



GCSE Results	Mainly Grade 7 and above, including English and Maths	Mainly Grades 6 and 7, including English and Maths	Mainly Grades 4 and 5	Mainly Grades 2 and 3	Mainly Grades 1 and 2
Core Subjects	3 or 4 A Levels	A Levels / Level 3 Vocational Subjects	Level 3 Vocational Subjects	Level 2 Programme	Level 1 Programme
Enrichment Courses	Careers, Cooking, Debating, Duke of Edinburgh Award, First Aid, PSHE, RE, Sign Language, Spanish, Sports, Work Experience, Yoga	Careers, Cooking, Debating, Duke of Edinburgh Award, First Aid, PSHE, RE, Sign Language, Spanish, Sports, Work Experience, Yoga	Careers, Cooking, Debating, Duke of Edinburgh Award, First Aid, PSHE, RE, Sign Language, Spanish, Sports, Work Experience, Yoga	Careers, Cooking, Debating, Duke of Edinburgh Award, First Aid, PSHE, RE, Sign Language, Spanish, Sports, Work Experience, Yoga	Careers, Cooking, Debating, Duke of Edinburgh Award, First Aid, PSHE, RE, Sign Language, Spanish, Sports, Work Experience, Yoga
Additional	EPQ, Finance or Core Maths	Most able will be allowed to take EPQ, Finance or Core Maths	Resit Maths and English (if required)	Maths and English resits	Maths and English resits

Excellence Pathway

- ✓ Most Able Coordinator
- ✓ Individual Mentoring
- ✓ Access to Brilliant Club
- ✓ One-to-one UCAS mentoring
- ✓ Oxbridge Interview and Exam Prep
- ✓ Extended Project Qualification, Financial Studies or Core Maths



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Application Process

1. Read through this prospectus and watch the subject videos that have been emailed to you.
2. Pick 3 subjects you are interested in studying and make sure you check the entry criteria for each.
3. Meet with a member of our Senior Leadership Team to discuss the options available to you and submit your provisional subject choices.

Interview Dates – Internal Students

11X	Wednesday 9 th December	3:15pm – 4:30pm
11Y	Wednesday 16 th December	3:15pm – 4:30pm

External Students

Applications can be made through the school's website



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General Guidance and Subject Information

First Question to ask..... 'Is the Sixth Form for me'?

For the majority of students the answer to this question is quite simple – YES! The Sixth Form offers a wide variety of courses for students of all abilities. Employers are looking for skilled, educated young people who are capable of meeting the demands imposed by technological progress. Nowadays people may need to change jobs a number of times throughout their career. A good education will enable young people to make such changes successfully.

The courses on offer range from the traditionally academic 'A' level courses to a whole range of more vocationally orientated courses. The course you eventually chose will depend on a whole range of factors including GCSE examination results and career choice.

In the Sixth Form there will be an opportunity to re-sit GCSE English and Mathematics if necessary. The Sixth Form has much to offer and it is essential that you carefully consider all the options available before making any decisions.

Part time jobs

If you enter the Sixth Form it is very important that you are able to devote sufficient time to your studies to give you a good chance of being successful. All sixth form courses are demanding and require considerable commitment outside the school day. For this reason students who undertake part time work need to ensure that this does not interfere with their studies. We are recommending therefore that students who undertake courses in the Sixth Form do not work more than 10 hours per week. This is the maximum that we feel is compatible with full time education.

Progression

Whatever your choice of course in the Sixth Form it is important that there are clear progression routes for students who successfully complete their studies. We aim to ensure that all courses provide students with opportunities to continue to develop their interests and skills following their time with us.

Employment

A number of students having completed their Sixth Form courses will take up employment. The additional qualifications and experiences obtained in the Sixth Form should provide you with a wider range of opportunities when you leave school.

Higher Education

We have developed very positive links with many universities including Oxford and Cambridge. We organise visiting speakers on aspects of the application process, and organise specific Higher Education preparation events during year 12. We also organise visits to universities as well as a specific Higher Education Information Evening for students and their families. A number of students also participate in additional support sessions at local universities. Some students take the opportunity to complete a week of study in summer schools at universities across the country. This enables them to experience university life prior to making an application for a full-time university place.

Facilities

We are conscious of the need to provide Sixth Form students with the facilities that they deserve. We have a designated sixth form area which is solely for the use of our sixth form students.

Life in the Sixth Form

You will find that life in the Sixth Form is different from the school life you have undertaken in previous years. The key to success is responsibility. The onus is in you to make a decision about your course of study and your involvement in extra-curricular activities.

Returning to school in the sixth form is a positive move that involves choosing from a wide range of new courses depending on your interests and ambitions. You will be expected to study independently and manage your study time appropriately. Sixth form students studying academic courses are expected to complete at least 15 hours of private study per week.

High standards of punctuality and attendance are required just as if you were in employment. Students at all consortium schools are expected to conform to the Sixth Form dress code. As a Sixth Former you will be expected to set an example to the rest of the school.

What Next?

Reading this booklet represents the first important stage in your decision to enter the Sixth Form. All students who wish to enter the Sixth Form will have an interview at which their subject choices will be discussed. You should consider the course information carefully and make sure you discuss your sixth form options with the relevant people.

Sixth Form Induction June 2021

We organise a sixth form induction programme for students intending to take up a place in our sixth form. This will provide you with the opportunity to sample your chosen courses and experience what life will be like. Please be aware that attendance at induction will be one of the criteria used to finalise placements on courses should they be oversubscribed in September. It will also give you the chance to meet students from other schools and become familiar with new surroundings.

Entry requirements

The majority of subjects have specific entry requirements relating to GCSE grades. It is important that you are successful on your course so we have to make sure that you are enrolled onto the appropriate one. There are other entry requirements which are equally important. These include:

- An excellent attendance and punctuality record
- A high level of motivation,
- A willingness to contribute to the school and consortium community

Curriculum Offer

Sixth Form courses can be divided into 2 broad categories. These are Academic and Vocational courses.

Academic courses are more traditional in that you choose a range of subjects to study in depth for 2 years. Vocational Courses are geared towards students who have a more clearly defined idea of the career area that they wish to pursue. Full details of both the academic

and vocational curriculum offers are enclosed. Applicants need to be aware that the curriculum offer as outlined in this prospectus may be subject to change in extreme and unusual circumstances e.g. lack of sufficient applicants or staffing issues. Should a course need to be withdrawn from the offer candidates who have applied will be advised as soon as possible. In some cases, new courses are introduced after the publication of the prospectus and again, Year 11 students will be advised of this through assembly or other means.

Academic Courses – A level courses

These courses are particularly suitable for those students who have enjoyed the type of work covered at GCSE level. Many are the same as those available at GCSE but in addition there are a whole range of new subjects. It is important to ensure that you select subjects you enjoy as you will need to spend a significant amount of time in private study during your course. You will also need to choose subjects which may be necessary for your future career. Subjects are studied in depth and students must be prepared to take the initiative in reading around the subject. You will, of course, be given lots of help and advice from your subject teachers.

Entry Requirements for A level courses

If you are hoping to study an A Level qualification you will need to have achieved at least 5 grade 5 or better in 5 separate subjects. This must include a grade 5 in both English Language and Mathematics. The vast majority of subjects will expect you to have achieved at least a grade 6 in English Language as well as in the subject you hope to study at A level. In addition, you will be expected to achieve a specific average GCSE point score as outlined on the entry requirement sheet. Full details of all entry requirements are included at the back of this prospectus. You will also be able to discuss your individual application with a member of staff at school who can advise you as to all the options available. You should be aware that your GCSE grades will be a very good indicator of your likely success at A level. The better your GCSE grades the better your A-level grades are likely to be.

Vocational / Technical Courses

Vocational Courses are for those students who have already made a fairly definite decision as to the career they want to enter on leaving the Sixth Form. They are different from traditionally academic courses in that the skills needed and type of study is not the same. They are not better or worse than academic courses, they are different. Many employers actively seek students who have completed vocational courses because of the skills they develop through their course.

All of our vocational / technical courses are broadly equivalent to an A level in terms of UCAS points. Our Vocational courses are for those students who achieved a minimum of 5 GCSEs at grade 4 or above. The entry requirements are similar to those for A level study. They are 2-year Courses and once completed are broadly equivalent to 'A' level passes. Students who successfully complete the course may enter employment or progress onto a University course.

WE HAVE INCLUDED MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON EACH SUBJECT THAT WE OFFER ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES.:

ART

Examination Board: EDEXCEL

Course Type: A Level

Summary

You will be required to work from a given starting theme towards more well-considered conclusions by using a sketchbook to develop your ideas and document your investigation. You will also be required to identify a “problem” in artistic practise and present your thoughts and solutions.

Assessment

Unit 1: Coursework 50%, Unit 2: Externally set assignment 50%

Unit 3: Coursework 60%, Unit 4: Externally set assignment 40%

Year 12

Unit 1 - You will work on a set of tasks that explore a variety of different mediums techniques and processes based on a theme. You will be expected to explore the work of artists and respond and analyse their practise. You will learn to use appropriate language and practises to express your ideas. Work will progress to towards personalised and independent learning.

Unit 2

The External Set Assignment is also thematic and will be given to you in January. The timed test will take place in the Summer Term. All work must be completed by beginning of June.

Year 13

Unit 3 - You will be asked to consider a “creative problem” that you will investigate through a series of experiments. As part of this activity a contextual study will require you to link own practical work with a broader study of the world of art, craft and design. Your outcomes should take the form of a critical written communication of no less than 1000 words.

Unit 4

The External Set Assignment is also thematic and will be given to you in February. The timed test will take place in the Summer Term.

Entry requirements

Grade 5 and above in Art & Design. A grade 5 in English and Maths is also necessary.

Your Commitment

This course requires that you are able to work independently. A commitment of between 4-6 hours per week independent study is necessary in order for you to fulfil the demands of the course. Career Pathways are explicitly nurtured throughout the course on the understanding that a career in the Creative Industries provides lifelong opportunities for learning.

Biology

Examination Board: AQA

Course type: AS/A level

Summary

This course aims to stimulate, develop and sustain an interest in Biology. A good understanding of biological facts and principles will be developed, with particular emphasis on the human, social and applied aspects of the subject. Biology is the study of life, from the simplest organism to complex multi-cellular organisms. Starting from the basics of biochemistry and cell biology, students will build an understanding of how living systems work, and how sometimes they go wrong in disease. Students will also further develop their experimental skills when investigating a number of topics within the syllabus.

Assessment

Students are assessed through external examinations. Students will be awarded a Practical Skills Endorsement at A level if they successfully complete the practical elements of the course.

Entrance Requirements

You need at least a grade 6 in GCSE Maths and 6 in English as well as 66 in Science to study Biology at A level.

Your Commitment

Excellent attendance and punctuality are essential. You will be required to complete independent research and study. You will need to complete all homework on time and to the required standard. You are expected to take responsibility for your revision and attend any support sessions which are offered when preparing for the examination.

Business

OCR Cambridge Technicals Level 3 Extended Certificate

Examination Board: OCR

Course type: Vocational

(5 units equivalent to 1 A2 qualification)

PLEASE NOTE THAT IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE TO STUDY THE FOUNDATION DIPLOMA ON A FULL TIME BASIS. THIS WILL INVOLVE ADDITIONAL UNITS.

Summary

Business aims to promote an awareness of business organisations, the context in which they operate, the markets they serve and the process of adding value to achieve their objectives.

A Business course is particularly suitable for those students who:

- Have an interest in business and how it operates
- Want to study a course that is active, enjoyable, and relevant to everyday life
- Those who are interested in developing an understanding of how businesses work, develop and make a profit.

It is equivalent to 1 A Level and will allow you the opportunity to gain UCAS points for university entry. This is a practical course which will give you the opportunity to complete assignments and activities based on realistic situations linked to working in a variety of businesses. It will give you a good feel for what it will be like to be at work as well as developing your, communication, number, IT, time management and teamwork skills.

Assessment – 80% Coursework, 20% Exam

Cambridge National – Year 12

Unit 1 – The Business Environment (Exam)

Unit 2 – Working in Business (Exam)

Unit 4 – Customers and Communication (Coursework)

Cambridge National – Year 13

Unit 11 – Accounting Concepts (Coursework)

Unit 5 – Marketing and Market Research (Coursework)

Entrance Requirements

It is expected that candidates have 5 GCSE Grade 4's and above, including English and Maths.

Your Commitment

You will be required to work hard, meet all deadlines and carry out your own extra reading on the topics we study. You should be prepared to debate your opinions in class, and to get involved in all activities. You will be required to investigate different businesses throughout the two years of the course.

Business

Examination Board: Edexcel

Course type: A level

Summary

In the first year of A Level Business you will study two modules. The first module, Marketing and people Explores:

- The importance of meeting customer needs
- Analysing markets, marketing mix and strategies
- Managing people, entrepreneurs and leaders

The second module, managing business activity covers the following topics:

- Raising finance, financial planning and managing finance
- Resource management
- External influences

In the second year students will develop the concepts which were introduced from the first two modules exploring: Business objectives, strategies and growth. Decision making and the influences on the decision, assessing competitiveness and managing change. Learners are then introduced to the global market analysing the effects of globalisation, business expansion and multinational corporations.

Assessment

3 external exams:

Paper 1 will assess marketing, people and global businesses

Paper 2 will assess business finance and operations, business decisions and strategy

Paper 3 will assess content across all four themes. Questions will be drawn from local, national and global contexts and based on a pre-released case study

Entrance Requirements

Having studied GCSE Business is not essential; however, you must have a grade 6 or above in English and Maths.

Your Commitment

Excellent attendance and punctuality are essential. You will be required to complete independent research and study. You will need to complete all homework on time and to the required standard. You are expected to take responsibility for your revision and attend any support sessions which are offered when preparing for the examination. This course provides a good grounding for the world of work.

Chemistry

Examination Board: OCR-A /AQA

Course type: A level

Summary

This is a subject for those students who enjoyed Science at GCSE and would like to study further the 4 main aspects of Chemistry. These are physical, inorganic, organic and analytical chemistry. This subject is essential for those who have aspirations to follow career paths such as Medicine, Dentistry, Chemical Engineering and Forensic Science. Chemistry is also a subject that is looked upon very favourably when applying for non-science courses including Law and Economics.

Assessment

Students are assessed through external examinations at the end of year 2. Students will be awarded a Practical Skills Endorsement at A level if they successfully complete the practical elements of the course.

Entrance Requirements

Students need to have achieved at least a grade 5 in English and a 6 in Maths and 66 in Science on the higher papers.

Your Commitment

Full attendance at all lessons is expected. Students need to have a genuine love of science and in particular, chemistry. You will be required to complete all homework tasks on time and complete independent study away from the classroom. You will need to be able to work effectively with others during practical work and work well independently when completing written tasks.

Computer Science

Examination Board: OCR

Course type: A-Level

Summary

Computer Science is a practical subject where students can apply the academic principles learned in the classroom to real-world systems. It's an intensely creative subject that combines invention and excitement, and can look at the natural world through a digital prism. The aims of this qualification are to enable learners to develop:

- An understanding and ability to apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including: abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms and data representation
- The ability to analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including writing programs to do so
- The capacity to think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically
- The capacity to see relationships between different aspects of computer science
- Mathematical skills.

Assessment

Year 12

Computing Principles 50%- 1 hour and 15 minutes

Algorithms and problem solving 50%- 1 hour and 15 minutes written paper

Year 13

Computer systems 40%- 2 hours and 30 minutes written paper

Algorithms and programming 40%- 2 hours and 30 minutes

Programming project 20%- Non-exam assessment

Entry requirements

Students wishing to study Computer Science should achieve a grade 6 in Maths and English at GCSE level. It is expected that candidates will have a Grade 5 or higher in GCSE Computer Science or a grade 6 in GCSE ICT or an equivalent course.

Your commitment

A Level Computer Science will encourage learners to be inspired, motivated and challenged by following a broad, coherent, practical, satisfying and worthwhile course of study. It will provide insight into, and experience of how computer science works, stimulating learners' curiosity and encouraging them to engage with computer science in their everyday lives. However in order to be successful learners will need to supplement their classwork with homework and will need to develop their programming skills independently.

Creative Digital Media

Examination Board: Pearsons

Course Type: BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate

Summary

A practical and vocational course designed to provide a coherent introduction to the study of creative digital media production. The core units focus on various aspects of research, pre-production techniques and managing a production. You will also develop skills in editing for film and TV, as well as learning how to read, analyse and deconstruct media texts.

Assessment

Unit 1: Externally set assignment out of 80 Marks

Unit 4: Course work

Unit 10: Coursework

Unit 8: Externally set assignment out of 72 Marks

Year 12

Unit 1 - Media Representations

You will study how different media representations are constructed by producers to create meaning, messages and values.

Then there is an external examination.

Unit 4 - Pre-Production Portfolio

You will study the requirements of planning and delivering a digital media product, carrying essential pre-production tasks and creating a pre-production portfolio.

Year 13

Unit 10 – Film Production (Fiction)

You will be asked to produce a short narrative film or film extract that uses generic conventions of a fiction genre of your choice.

Unit 8 - Responding to a Commission

You will consider the commission process and how media producers respond to clients by generating ideas using a range of skills.

Then there will be an external assessment.

Entry requirements

5 GCSE passes grade 4 including Mathematics and English Language.

Your Commitment

Excellent attendance and punctuality are essential. You will be required to complete independent research and study. You will need to complete tasks set on time and to the required standard. You will also need to be able to work effectively as part of a team. You are expected to take responsibility for your revision and attend any support sessions which are offered when preparing for the examinations or coursework deadlines.

Economics

Examination Board: Edexcel

Course type: A Level

Summary - Year 12 Outline

Theme 1: Introduction to markets and market failure - This theme focuses on microeconomic concepts and covers the following topics

- Nature of economics
- How markets work
- Market failure
- Government intervention

Theme 2: The UK economy, performance and policies. This theme focuses on macroeconomic concepts and covers the following topics:

- Measures of economic performance
- Aggregate demand and supply
- National income
- Economic growth
- Macroeconomic objectives and policy.

Year 13 Outline

Theme 3: Business behaviour and the labour market, this theme focuses on business economics and explores the following:

- Business growth and objectives
- Revenues, costs and profits
- Market structures and labour market
- Government intervention

Theme 4: A global perspective focuses on globalisation covering:

- International economics
- Poverty and inequality
- Emerging and developing economies
- The role of the state in the macroeconomy

Assessment

Assessment is in the form of three external papers which are sat at the end of year 13. Paper one is microeconomics, paper two is macroeconomics and paper three is a combination of all topics taught.

Entrance Requirements

Having Studies GCSE Business or Economics is not essential when studying Economics; however, you must have a grade 6 or above in English and Math's.

Your Commitment

You will be required to work hard, meet all deadlines and carry out your own extra reading on the topics we study. You should be prepared to debate your opinions in class, and to get involved in all activities. Notes should be organised and supplemented with your wider reading where appropriate. It is also important that you have a lively and enquiring mind. You will also need to watch the news and to keep up with current issues that are happening in the Economy.

English Literature

Examination Board: OCR

Course Type: A Level

Summary

The aim of the English Literature course is to encourage an enjoyment and appreciation of English Literature. The A-level English Literature specification aims to develop skills of analysis, critical writing and interpretation through the study of novels, poetry and drama. Discussion is an important element of the course and, wherever possible, active participation in the learning situation is encouraged. English Literature is a very popular subject at Degree level. 'A' level English Literature is a highly regarded academic subject and its skills are transferable to degrees in subjects such as History, Law and Media Studies. Students will receive a thorough and engaging grounding in English Literature and will develop a range of highly desirable academic skills. English Literature is a popular and highly respected academic subject amongst employers.

Assessment

On the 2-year A level course, 20% of the coursework is examination and 80% is examination based.

Year 12 and Year 13

Component 1: Examination (40% of total A level):	Shakespeare Drama and Poetry pre-1900
Component 2: Examination (40% of total A level)	Close reading in chosen topic area Comparative and contextual study from chosen topic area (2 texts)
Component 3: Coursework (20% of total A level)	Task 1: Close analysis of a piece of drama, poetry or prose post 1900 Task 2: comparison of 2 pieces of post 1900 poetry prose or drama.

Entry Requirements

You will need to have achieved both a Level 6 in GCSE English Literature and a Level 5 in GCSE English language. A grade 5 or equivalent in Maths is also required for entry onto this course.

Your commitment

You will need to have a genuine love of literature and be prepared to complete independent study. Visits to the theatre are an essential aspect of the study of English Literature at this level and film and video are used when helpful or appropriate.

French

Examination Board: AQA

Course Type: A Level

Summary

Students study technological and social change, looking at diversity and the benefits it brings. They will study highlights of French-speaking artistic culture, including francophone music and cinema, and learn about political engagement and who wields political power in the French-speaking world. Students also explore the influence of the past on present-day French-speaking communities.

Throughout their studies, they will learn the language in the context of French-speaking countries and the issues and influences which have shaped them. Students will study texts and film and have the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of their choice.

Assessment

Year 12 Overview

In Year 12, students focus on the development of all skills through theme-linked teaching and learning. Students will be assessed internally in year 12.

- Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends
- Artistic culture in the French-speaking world.
- Study of chosen film (*Entre les murs*).

Year 13 Overview

In Year 13, students focus on development of skills in the two theme areas of year 13. Students will be assessed internally and externally in year 12.

- Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues and aspects of political life in the French-speaking world.
- Study of French literature (*La vraie vie*).

Entry Requirement: At least grade 7 in GCSE French and a 6 in GCSE English Language

Commitment

Excellent attendance and punctuality are essential. You will be required to complete independent research and study. You will need to complete all homework on time and to the required standard. You are expected to take responsibility for your revision and attend any support sessions which are offered when preparing for the examinations or coursework deadlines.

Further Mathematics

Examination Boards: EDEXCEL

Course Type: A Level

Summary

A Linear course comprising areas of Core Mathematics, Further Statistics and Further Mechanics. This A level is studied in **addition** to A level Mathematics. If you have a particular talent and enjoy mathematics then you should consider studying Further Mathematics. You will extend the knowledge you already have gained through studying the A level course and encounter new areas of mathematics. The mathematics covered will be helpful not just to students intending to study mathematics at degree level but to any potential physicists, engineers, economists, statistician and computer programmers.

Assessment

A level Further Maths Year 13 (A2) (These papers are in ADDITION to A level mathematics)

- Core Mathematics 1 (25%) (1.5 hour written examination)
- Core Mathematics 2 (25%) (1.5 hour written examination)
- Further Statistics 1 (25%) (1.5 hour written examination)
- Further Mechanics 1 (25%) (1.5 hour written examination)

Assessment is exclusively through written examinations, which take place in May and June at the end of year 13. Although there are no formal examinations taken at the end of year 12, all students will sit a full written mock in the summer term. Those students who then successfully complete the A2 units are awarded a further certificate in Further Advanced GCE Mathematics. We recommend the additional study of Further Mathematics, to be viewed as a **fourth** A' Level, for students intending to read Mathematics, Science, Medicine or Engineering at university, particularly a Russell Group University

Calculators

We recommend you purchase either the Casio fx-991Ex or the Casio fx-CG50 calculators. These use a menu system and have all the features required to study Further Maths. The Casio fx-CG50 is also able to draw graphs which will be useful for the Core 2 unit

Entrance Requirements

Students wishing to study Further Mathematics need to have achieved a grade '8' or '9' at GCSE.

Your Commitment

A' Level Further Mathematics is demanding and challenging: it is also enjoyable and stimulating, providing a real sense of achievement. Logical thinking and problem-solving skills underpin much of the work and this is one reason why A' Level Further Mathematics is so highly respected by employers and universities. However, you will only achieve success if you are willing to commit yourself to your studies and to take responsibility for your learning, including several hours each week of independent study.

Geography

Examination Board: AQA

Course type: A Level

This course offers a variety of topics to be studied, an examination of geographical concepts/models, and in-depth examples from across the world. Geographical skills form an important element of the A Level, and are developed throughout the course.

Physical and Human Geography.

The study of core geographical concepts along with contrasting themes of contemporary or environmental impact, management and sustainability.

Physical Topics: Water and carbon cycles Desert systems and landscapes Hazards	Human Topics: Global systems and global governance Changing Places Population and the Environment
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How our students assessed?

Paper 1: Physical Geography

2 hour 30 minute exam

120 marks

Worth 40% of the A-level

Paper 2: Human Geography

2 hour 30 minute exam

120 marks

Worth 40% of the A-level

Geographical Investigation (NEA)

3,000-4,000 word project

60 marks

Worth 20% of the A-level

Marked by teachers and moderated by AQA

Entry Requirements

Students wishing to study A Level Geography will need to have achieved a grade 6 in GCSE Geography, a grade 6 in GCSE English and a grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics.

Health and Social Care

Examination Board: BTEC

Course type: Vocational

Course type:

This is a new course, which is the equivalent to one A Level.

Summary:

This is a vocational level 3 qualification, which, just like the traditional A Levels, can lead to university through gaining UCAS points for the grade you receive. It focuses on developing a range of skills, through projects, assignments and examinations.

Assessment:

You will be assessed through a combination of coursework and written exams. Grading is pass, merit or distinction.

Course outline:

Over the course of the two years you will study 5 units. Two of these will be examinations, and three will be coursework/assessment based. Examples of the units that will be covered include:

- Human Development
- Working in Health and Social Care
- Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs
- Psychological Perspectives
- Physiological Disorders and their Care

Entry requirements

5 GCSE Grade 4's and above, including English and Maths.

Your commitment

You must have a keen interest in the health or social care sectors. Excellent attendance and punctuality are essential. You will be required to complete independent research and study. You will need to complete all homework on time and to the required standard. You are expected to take responsibility for your revision and attend any support sessions which are offered when preparing for the examinations or coursework deadlines.

History

Examination Board: AQA

Course type: A Level

Summary

In studying A-Level History students are equipped to analyse, not only the past, but the present world. The course provides an excellent and broad foundation for History at degree level, but the skills developed in A level History will also be useful for a range of university courses and employment options. Qualifications in History are well respected, and the knowledge and critical skills you develop are valuable in a variety of careers e.g. law, politics, business management, journalism, marketing, travel and tourism, teaching and accountancy.

Year 12 Outline

- 1K The making of a Superpower: USA, 1865–1920
- 2D Religious conflict and the Church in England, c1529–c1547

Year 13 Outline

In Year 13, you will then refine your understanding of these topics and continue these courses.

- 1K The making of a Superpower: USA, 1865–1975
- 2D Religious conflict and the Church in England, c1529–c1570

For the coursework component, you will also complete a 3,500 word long independent study of a topic that you choose.

Entrance requirements

It is expected that candidates will have a Grade 6 or higher in GCSE History and a 6 in English GCSE. To guarantee progression on to the A2 course requires that you achieve at least a grade 'D' in year 12.

Your Commitment

You will be required to work hard, meet all deadlines and carry out your own extra reading on the topics we study. You should be prepared to debate your opinions in class, and to get involved in all activities. Notes should be organised and supplemented with your wider reading where appropriate.

Law A-Level

Examination Board: AQA for further details

Course type: Full Course

Summary

The study of law helps develop students' analytical ability and critical thinking. It also develops problem-solving skills through the application of legal rules. Studying law at A-level provides useful background for further study of law either as a main subject or as a subsidiary part of a degree, foundation degree or for the many professional qualifications that have law as a component.

Assessment

Assessment is exclusively through written examinations. There are three exams for the A-level, with each providing 33% of the grade. Each exam will be 2 hours in length and each assessed out of 100 marks. The questions will be made from a combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions

The Course

Each paper covers an area of substantive law, these include; criminal law, tort law and contract law respectively. Throughout all three papers the nature of law and the English legal system will be developed and assessed.

Entry Requirements

A minimum Grade 6 in English and Mathematics is required.

Your commitment

A Level Law is demanding and challenging. Students need to develop the ability to communicate a clear, concise and logical argument that is substantiated by legal authority. They are required to analyse and interpret legal material and be able to evaluate legal issues. Logical thinking and problem solving underpins much of the work. Students also need to be able to assimilate large amounts of information about the legal system and case law to inform their judgements and opinions. Students will be expected to carry out substantial independent study, primarily research and reading to assist their learning.

Mathematics

Examination Boards: EDEXCEL

Course Type: A Level

Summary

A Linear course comprising areas of Pure Mathematics and Applied Mathematics (Mechanics and Statistics). Although traditionally seen as complementing the sciences, mathematics forms a compatible combination with many other subjects and is very popular with employers. The statistics element of the course may be particularly helpful with geography, economics, biology and psychology while the mechanics units are helpful for students who hope to study physics or engineering. Pure maths is a joy in itself, but has applications to many areas where logical thinking and problem-solving skills are required.

Assessment

A level Maths Year 13 (A2)

- Pure Mathematics 1 (33.33%) (2 hour written examination)
- Pure Mathematics 2 (33.33%) (2 hour written examination)
- Statistics & Mechanics (33.33%) (2 hour written examination)

All examinations are taken at the end of year 13. Although there are no formal examinations taken at the end of year 12, all students will sit a full written mock in the summer term. Those students who then successfully complete the A2 units are awarded a certificate in Advanced GCE Mathematics.

Calculators

We recommend you purchase either the Casio fx-991Ex or the Casio fx-CG50 calculators. These use a menu system and have all the features required to study A level Maths.

Entrance Requirements

In view of the specialist nature of the course students need to have achieved a high grade '7' or higher on the GCSE paper to be considered for the 'A' level course.

Your Commitment

Studying A level Mathematics, you will build upon your GCSE work, particularly in Algebra. You will be expected to complete exercises started in class at home which will require at least 5 to 10 hours a week of extra study outside of lessons. You will have a folder which you will need to keep updated and organised. When homework is set, it is expected that you will show full working and explanations where necessary. You will be using a new calculator that has many more features than the calculator you may have used at GCSE, you will familiarise yourself with this. Maths is essential for studying Maths, Physics or Engineering at University, and for these subjects Further Maths is highly desirable or even essential at the top institutions (see page on Further Mathematics). Other courses which benefit from Maths A-Level are medicine, economics, accounting and other sciences such as sports science.

Performing Arts - 3 National extended certificate in Performing Arts

Examination Board: BTEC

Course type: Level 3 single- equivalent to one A level

Summary

This course is a vocational course; 70% of the work produced is in a practical, studio setting. The course is made up of three core (compulsory units) and one additional internally marked unit.

The core units to be studied are:

- 1: Investigating practitioner's work– You will study the techniques, repertoire and context of three influential practitioners from the world of theatre. You will complete a controlled assessment (essay style) on a paper released by the exam board. Externally marked.
- 2: Developing skills and techniques for live Performance- You will develop performance skills in two different styles and perform a group piece in both. You will blog about your progress and research the role of a theatre performer in the industry. Internally marked.
- 3: Group performance workshop- Initially you will learn how to interpret different stimuli and build your toolkit of devising techniques. You will then work in groups of 3-7 to create a 20 minute piece of Theatre that relates to a stimulus released by the exam board and evaluate the process through six milestone log entries. The piece will then be performed to an audience in a presentation evening. Externally marked.

The additional unit to be studied is:

- 12: Improvisation- You will participate in regular classes in a range of contemporary styles to strengthen and improve your technique. You will then go on to perform a piece of improvised theatre which will demonstrate your ability to work in the moment. You will also be required to research and provide a report on the developments of improvisational theatre over a set time period. Internally marked.

Assessment

Your final grade will be based on an accumulation of the externally and internally marked units. Grades available for units are Pass, Merit and Distinction. Grades available for the overall qualification are Pass, Merit, Distinction and Distinction*.

Entrance Requirements

It is expected that candidates have 5 GCSE Grade 4's and above, including English and Maths.

Your Commitment

You will be required to take part in extra rehearsals, theatre trips and performances both in and out of school. To gain a place on the course you do not need to have completed a Drama qualification at GCSE level but you do need to have a passion for the Performing Arts and a strong work ethic. Due to the practical nature of this course you may not enrol if you have a long term injury that will impact your ability to participate practically on a regular basis.

Philosophy and Ethics

Examination Board: OCR

Course Type: A Level

Summary

Here is a brief summary of the modules in this course:

Philosophy of Religion

- Ancient Greek influences on religious philosophy: Plato and Aristotle and the nature of human beings
- Traditional arguments for the existence of God
- Religious Experience, Problem of Evil

Religious Ethics

- Ethical theory and how ethics influences our moral actions. The difference between absolute and relative morality Natural Law, Situation Ethics, Utilitarianism, Kantian Ethics
- Applied Ethics: Euthanasia, Business Ethics

Development in Christian Thought

- Religious beliefs, values and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world
- Key themes in the relationship between religion and wider society

Philosophy & Ethics is one of the longest standing subjects taught at universities. As such it is highly regarded by universities and employers alike for the skills it enables students to develop. These include the ability to assess and analyse arguments, evaluate these arguments and provide robust criticism of these ideas. As well as going on to study the subject at university students typically go on to study humanities subjects almost all of which will involve some philosophy or ethics at some point in their degree. Students who have gone on to study law have commented that Philosophy and Ethics has been particularly useful.

Assessment

Students are assessed by 3 papers each of which is 2 hours at the end of year 13.

Entry Requirements

- Grade 6 in GCSE English and RE

Your Commitment

Any student who has an interest in moral issues and can sustain a critical line of argument while justifying a point of view will find this subject interesting. Moral issues are on the syllabus not only of Philosophy and Ethics at Advanced Level, but also of Psychology, Sociology, History, Geography, Economics, Politics, Biology and Law. Any student who is interested in these subjects will find the course enjoyable.

Physics A Level

Examination Boards: AQA

Course Type: A Level

Summary

Physics is the study of properties and interactions of matter and energy. Our understanding of many features of the everyday world relies on knowledge drawn from the ideas and methods of physics. In this course the basic principles of physics are introduced and, through example, placed in the context of the world in which physics is used. The course also introduces the different scales of physicists' interests, from planets to atoms. Venturing into the field of Particle Physics provides students with a new interest and dimension to their knowledge of the subject. Some of the things studied in the particle physics unit are the nucleus including particles, antiparticles and photons, hadrons and leptons; the quark model; Quantum phenomena including photo electricity, energy levels and photon emission and wave particle duality. Physics is a science course and therefore has a practical component. Possible links to employment include engineering, medical physics, meteorology, computing, material science and environmental physics.

Assessment

Assessment is through externally set written examinations and internally assessed practical examinations.

Entry Requirements

Students will need to have achieved a grade 5 in English as well as a 6 in Maths and '66' in Science at GCSE in order to study this subject at AS level.

Your Commitment

Excellent attendance and punctuality are essential. You will be required to complete independent research and study. You will need to complete all homework on time and to the required standard. You are expected to take responsibility for your revision and attend any support sessions which are offered when preparing for the examination.

Politics

Examination Board: Edexcel

Course Type: A level

Summary

Studying Politics enables students of differing opinions, values and ideas to understand and critically evaluate political concepts, institutions and ideas. The course encourages young people to become active citizens, providing them with a deep insight into the modern and evolving political environment in the UK and around the world

Assessment

There are 3 externally examined units.

1. UK Politics and Core Political Ideas
2. UK Government and Optional Political Ideas
3. Comparative Politics – Global Politics

Year 12

Students will study Political Participation and Government in the UK.

Students will investigate in detail how people and politics interact. They will explore the emergence and development of the UK's democratic system and the similarities, differences, connections and parallels between direct and indirect democracy.

The second component is fundamental to understanding the nature of UK government, since it enables students to understand where, how and by whom political decisions are made. It will give students a base of comparison to other political systems.

Year 13

In year 13 students use the basis of their study in year 12 to examine a range of political ideas and complete a comparative study on politics in across the globe.

Students to explore the traditional political ideas of conservatism, liberalism and socialism in addition to a modern idea such as multiculturalism or nationalism. Students will learn about the core ideas and principles and how they apply in practice to human nature, the state, society and the economy, the divisions within each idea and their key thinkers.

Entry Requirements

At least a grade 6 in English language as well as a 5 in Maths.

Your commitment

Politics is an excellent subject to have at A Level and is regarded highly by universities and employers. To really excel in the subject you need to be up to date with current affairs as these crucial events provide relevant examples to support your answers. Studying and succeeding in Politics shows future employers and university admissions teams you have the ability, determination and organisational skills needed to succeed in the workplace. It also demonstrates your engagement with and awareness of the world around you.

Product Design

Exam Board: AQA

Course Types: A Level

Summary

Year 12 AS Outline

The first year of the course is used to consolidate and develop the understanding of the physical and mechanical properties in a broad range of materials and components.

This course has been designed to allow students to gain a broader view of technology and encourage flair and creativity with regard to designing and manufacturing. We focus on the complex relationships between design, materials and production techniques.

Year 13 A2 Outline

The second year of the course builds on the knowledge and skills learnt in Year 12.

Unit 3 Design and Manufacture

This unit is assessed through a two-hour exam paper. We examine classifying materials and identifying, testing and comparing their application to product manufacture. External visits and a residential trip will be arranged in order for pupils to see the application of the subject content in the real world.

Unit 4 Design and Making Practice

A practical project comprising of around 60 hours of work. Pupils must identify a real life design need and client and then work to their agreed brief to develop a solution through a professional design portfolio. The product is then manufactured (either with Resistant materials or Graphics products depending on the chosen option) to a professional standard. The project relies on the design skills learnt at AS Level, high-level practical ability and excellent communication skills.

Assessment

50% externally assessed written examinations

50% practical work internally assessed and externally moderated

Entry Requirements

GCSE Resistant Materials, Graphical Products, Electronics or Product Design to grade 5, preferably to grade 6.

Other Information

Our course aims to provide pupils with the skills and knowledge to progress onto any of the many design or engineering courses available at University. As part of the A Level course we try to arrange a number of trips and activities, which help to reinforce learning.

Past excursions have been to:

- The Design Museum
- The Science Museum
- Ironbridge Gorge

Psychology

Examination Board: AQA

Course Type: A level

Summary

Psychology stimulates and excites candidate's curiosity about phenomena and events in the world around them. It also satisfies this curiosity with knowledge. Because Psychology links direct practical experience with ideas, it can engage learners at many levels. Scientific method is about developing and evaluating explanations through experimental evidence and modelling. This is a spur to critical and creative thought. Through Psychology, candidates understand how major social and scientific ideas contribute to technological change - impacting on industry, business, education and medicine and improving quality of life. Candidates recognise the cultural significance of Psychology and trace its world-wide development. They learn to question and discuss psychological issues that may affect their own lives, the direction of society and the future of the world.

Year 12

During the course of the year you may study units such as: Social influence, Memory, Attachment, Approaches in Psychology, Psychopathology, Research methods.

Year 13

Biopsychology and Issues and debates. Additional units in year 13 will include a choice (teacher) from the following; Option 1: Relationships, Gender, Cognition and development, option 2: Schizophrenia, Eating behaviour, Stress. Option 3: Aggression, Forensic psychology, Addiction.

Assessment

A level consists of three modules – each module is assessed by one, two hour written paper (exam).

Entrance Requirements

A minimum of 5 GCSE's at grade C including a grade 6 or above in English and a grade 5 or above in Maths. Having a good grade in Science will also be taken into account.

Your Commitment

Excellent attendance and punctuality are essential. You will be required to complete independent research and study. You will need to complete all homework on time and to the required standard. You are expected to take responsibility for your revision and attend any support sessions which are offered when preparing for the examination.

Science – Extended Certificate

Examination Board: OCR Cambridge Technical

Course type: Vocational

Summary

This two year vocational course is designed to provide the underpinning knowledge, understanding and skills for vocational science careers such as laboratory or medical technicians. It is equivalent to 1 A level and can therefore count towards courses at university or entry to employment; Pass provides 40 UCAS points up to the maximum grade D* which provides 140 UCAS points. The course is split into two types of unit:

Core units

There are several mandatory core units which are designed introduce new concepts and give a foundation in understanding and practical abilities over a number of topics in chemistry, physics and biology.

Specialist units

For students following the BTEC pathway, there will be one optional unit studied in addition to the core units.

Assessment

The Extended Certificate will have a combination of internally assessed coursework and externally assessed work in the form of an exam and / or a written report. It must be stressed that all assignments need to be completed in order to pass the course however students are expected to attempt a minimum of the Merit criteria work. Students must be committed to work independently at home as well as in school not only on coursework but also to revise for exams. Due to the new regulations, it is necessary that all deadlines are met; failing to do so will have serious consequences.

Entry Requirements

Students must have a good work ethic and achieved a GCSE grade 55 in Science and a grade 5 in Maths and English.

Commitment

Excellent attendance and punctuality are essential. You will be required to complete independent research and study. You will need to complete all homework on time and to the required standard. You are expected to take responsibility for your revision and attend any support sessions which are offered when preparing for the examination.

Sociology

Examination Board: AQA

Course type: A level

Summary

Sociologists are interested in why society works in the way that it does and the extent to which our behaviour – and even opportunities – can be shaped by our social class, age, gender and ethnicity. We question the society in which we live in order to understand the relationship between individuals and institutions such as the Education System, Religion and Crime.

Why study Sociology?

People study Sociology because they want to understand the world in which they live.

Throughout the course, you'll be exploring questions such as:

- What is the family and what is the point of it?
- Do we live in a meritocratic society?
- Why is it that factors such as class, ethnicity and gender appear to impact on how well – or otherwise – we do at school?
- Is Britain becoming a secular society, or is there a rise in extremism and Fundamentalism?
- Why does crime occur and how reliable are official statistics?

Topic 1: Families and Households - What is happening to the 'traditional' family? How is social change transforming family life?

Topic 2: Education - What is the role of the Education system? Why are girls outperforming boys at GCSE, A-Level and Degree level? How can we account for differences in attainment by ethnicity, location and social class?

Topic 3: Beliefs in Society - Is Religion still relevant to young people? What makes people join cults and sects? What factors help to explain secularisation and fundamentalism in the UK? Does Religion oppress us?

Topic 4: Crime and Deviance - What does the crime rate tell us about society? Is prison the best place to rehabilitate criminals? Why is the prison population growing? Why do more males than females commit crimes? Do upper class criminals 'get away with it'?

A level sociology seeks to provide students with the necessary "tools" to make decisions and form judgements about themselves and the world around them which will be of lasting value for the successful navigation of their future.

Assessment

100% based on final examinations in year 13.

Entrance Requirements

5 GCSE's at grades 5 or above. You are expected to achieve a grade 6 in English Language.

Your Commitment

Excellent attendance and punctuality are essential. You will be required to complete independent research and study. You will need to complete all homework on time and to the required standard. You are expected to take responsibility for your revision and attend any support sessions which are offered when preparing for the examinations.

Sport and Physical Activity- Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate

Examination Board: OCR

Course type: Vocational

Summary

- A Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Sport and Physical Activity
- is equivalent to 1 A level
- This course will be delivered over 2 years, full time. (6 teaching lessons per week)
- The course will be taught for the first time in Sept 2017
- The course is taught through the completion of 5 different units.
- Assessment includes coursework and two externally assessed units including an exam

Structure of the qualification

The following units of work are studied;

1. *Body systems and the effects of Physical activity – 90GLH – Mandatory – External assessment.*
2. *Sports coaching and leadership – 90GLH – Mandatory - Internal assessment*
3. Sports Organisation and development – 60 GLH – External assessment.
5. Performance analysis in sport and exercise – 60 GLH - Internal assessment (1 of 9 optional units)
18. Practical skills in sport and physical activities – 60 GLH - Internal assessment (1 of 9 optional units)

All units must be delivered in the allotted guided learning hours.

Entry requirements

- 4 or above at GCSE English and Science.
- Reference from your current head of PE
- Interest and involvement in sport

Possible Links to further/Higher education

During the course pupils will have the opportunity to attend university lectures and field trips into different aspects of modern-day sport.

This course is an ideal introduction for active sports participants wishing to follow a career in either PE teaching or coaching, it would also be useful to those considering a career in sports medicine or personal training.



AllSaints
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Subject Entry Criteria

Entry Criteria for Year 12 Courses (September 2021)

All subjects have an average points score (APS) requirement; this is the average GCSE grade achieved in Year 11.

All subjects have an English (Language or Literature) and Maths requirement. Some have a subject specific requirement.

Overall (A Level)	5 separate subjects passed at C / 4 grade or above. These subjects will ideally include English (Language or literature) and Maths at grade 5 or above.				
A Level Subjects	English	Maths	GCSE APS	Previous Study?	Comment
Art	5	5	4	Yes 5	Good practical skills, ability to research and work independently. See subject leader if English grade not achieved.
Biology	6	6	5.5	Yes 6, 6	Students must have taken higher papers in double science, or triple science.
Business Studies	6	6	4.5	No	Should not be studied with A Level Economics.
Chemistry	5	6	5.5	Yes 6, 6	Students must have taken higher papers in double science, or triple science.
Computer Science	6	6	5.5	Yes	6 in ICT or 5 in Computer Studies GCSE
Economics	6	6	5.5	No	Do not mix with Business Studies A Level.
Engineering	5	5	5	No	5 required in GCSE Science
English Literature	6	5	4.3	Yes 6	Students must have taken the Higher paper and obtained a 5 in English Language
French	6	5	4.5	Yes 7	Must achieve at least a grade 7 in GCSE French.
Geography	6	5	4.5	No	If studied at GCSE a 6 is required. It is possible to study Geography without having done GCSE
History	6	5	4.5	Yes 6	
Law	6	6	4.5	No	
Mathematics	5	7	5.5	Yes 7	Further Maths when offered, is by invitation only.
Philosophy & Ethics	6	5	4.5	No	6 required in RE
Physics	5	6	5.5	Yes	7 in Maths preferred, 6.6 required at GCSE
Politics	6	5	4.5	No	A further 5 in a humanities subject is also preferred. Individual student circumstances considered if grade not achieved.
Product Design	5	5	5	Yes 6	
Psychology	6	6	5.5	No	
Sociology	6	5	4.5	No	A grade 6 in English Literature or a 6 in essay based subject is desirable.

Overall (Vocational)	For most subjects 5 separate GCSE pass at grade 4 or above. These subjects will ideally include English (Language or literature) and Maths				
Vocational Subjects	English	Maths	GCSE APS	Previous Study?	Comment
Business Studies	4	4	3.5	No	Previous study is an advantage if no 4 grade in English.
ICT	4	4	3.5	Yes -5	Previous study considered if no grade 4 in English or Maths.
Performing Arts	4	4	4	Preferred	An interest in and commitment to Performing Arts.
Science	5	5	4	Yes 5,5	Previous study considered if no grade 5 in English or Maths.
Sport	4	4	3.5	No	4 in Science preferred. Previous study considered if no grade 4 in English or Maths.

Full Time Vocational Courses	English	Maths	GCSE	Previous	Comment
Business and ICT (Level 3)	4	4	N/A	No	Minimum of 5 GCSEs at grade 4

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

The entry criteria above will be reviewed when the GCSE results are published to ensure that they are comparable to previous years so that no year 11 pupil is disadvantaged.