



BISHOP CHALLONER SCHOOL



SIXTH FORM OPTIONS
2021 - 2023

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WELCOME TO THE SIXTH FORM AT BISHOP CHALLONER SCHOOL

We are delighted that you are interested in our Sixth Form at Bishop Challoner School. This is the point where you will continue the steps towards a new and exciting chapter in your education.

You will have the freedom to choose and explore in more depth A level subjects that you particularly enjoy in a welcoming environment. The teaching, guidance and support that you will receive will prepare you well for Higher Education and the world of work.

Our Sixth Form is an exciting and happy place to study and our small class sizes allow us to focus on the individual, enabling each student to reach their full potential. Life in the Sixth Form allows you the opportunity to be yourself, to explore, to be independent and take on responsibilities of leadership in a way that is not possible in a larger setting and will serve you well in later life.

St Catherine's cottage provides a first class modern facility with a computer suite on the top floor and individual tutorial rooms. There is also a recreational area in the main building which is the Sixth Form dedicated common room. Our students have the resource centre in the library with a bank of laptops to aid their independent study and research.

We hope that the information in this pack will provide you with a flavour of what we offer. Exactly which courses we offer is dependent on student numbers and your interests. We are always happy to hear of subjects that you are interested in studying but may not presently be on offer within our information pack.

We hope you will join us for the next chapter in your education and that you will study your A levels with us on this exciting journey.



Paula Anderson
Headteacher



A FULL AND MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCE



We encourage all of our students to participate in our enrichment programme that can include building up hours from a combination of sport, charity projects, contributions to school life and even employment within school to support the staff.

We offer great opportunities to travel overseas with CAFOD and with subjects. Students have recently enjoyed amazing experiences on visits to Iceland, Germany and Italy. All of these fantastic opportunities aim to develop skills in leadership, communication, teamwork and decision making.

We use learning, sporting and leisure facilities on our site and in the local area and as a result are able to offer a wider range of activities.

As a student at Bishop Challoner you will be taken on a journey of discovery. The teaching staff will help you to develop supportive relationships both with your peers and adults that you come into contact with. You will also experience the support of a Catholic Christian community.

Bishop Challoner Sixth Form has its own dedicated, up to date facilities. These include a library, tutorial rooms, computer suite, common room and kitchen.

At Bishop Challoner we take a great deal of time to ensure that we are developing students, ready to take on the real world. Our enrichment programme covers a wide range of activities, in and out of school.



OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Being a Sixth Form student is not all about being in a classroom, lab or workshop, our students are involved in a wide range of activities.

We know Sixth Formers want to run their own lives and students are encouraged to get involved in organising their own activities with support from the Sixth Form team.

Sixth Formers frequently run sports clubs for younger students.

Additionally, the school supports the following activities and events:

University Open Days

We organise a number of visits to local universities as well as encouraging students to attend open days at universities of their choice.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Bishop Challoner Sixth Form students will be encouraged to go straight on to Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award. You achieve your Award by completing a personal programme of activities in five sections: Volunteering, Physical, Skills, Expedition and a Residential Trip.

You will find yourself helping people in the community, getting fitter, developing skills, going on an expedition and taking part in a residential activity. You choose your programme and along the way you'll pick up experiences, friends and talents that will stay with you for the rest of your life.



Sport

A large number of our Sixth Form students are involved in a variety of different sporting activities.

These include fencing, football, athletics, netball, lawn bowls, ten pin bowling and golf to name but a few. Our students also regularly participate in competitions.



Charity & Fundraising

Sixth Form students at Bishop Challoner raise lots of money each year for a range of charities.

We have historically supported CAFOD, Cancer Research, Macmillan, War Child, Water Aid, Jeans for Genes Day, and Sports Relief.

The fundraising efforts of students continue to grow year on year.

A number of our students are also encouraged to work towards a leadership training award organised by CAFOD. This can lead on to volunteering and gap year projects in various parts of the world including Africa and South America.



HEAD PUPILS



Head Pupil Lucas



Deputy Head Pupil William

STUDENTS' THOUGHTS

“Continuing to stay at Bishop Challoner for Sixth Form was the best possible option for me as my teachers were able to work really closely with me thanks to small class sizes.”

“The courses are good and they will give me a good chance to succeed in later employment.”

“There is a lot of support from the subjects, and although the work is more challenging, students are treated much more as adults, with an emphasis on self-study. The library facilities are very good, with plenty of PCs and netbooks available for use.”

“The teaching is great, you feel like an adult and have the freedom to feel comfortable.”

“The teachers continually make themselves available to help pupils and treat you like an adult with responsibilities.”

“The amount of support from staff and peers is immense.”

“I feel that this school was the best choice for me. It offered the right courses, I like the teachers and it was the next simple move for me.”

ALUMNI TESTIMONIAL

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Bishop Challoner's Sixth Form, and choosing to stay for another two years was undoubtedly one of the best decisions I have made. In two of my subjects I benefitted from one-on-one tuition, and in the other, there was only one student aside from myself. This extremely close level of teaching provided me with the optimal environment to succeed and I feel that I have certainly made the most of this unique atmosphere.

The school has organised multiple trips to enhance our studies and allow the sixth form students to bond. Moreover, we have had many speakers come in to give talks, such as the former Chief Examiner for the RS exam board, whose advice drastically enhanced my subsequent essays.

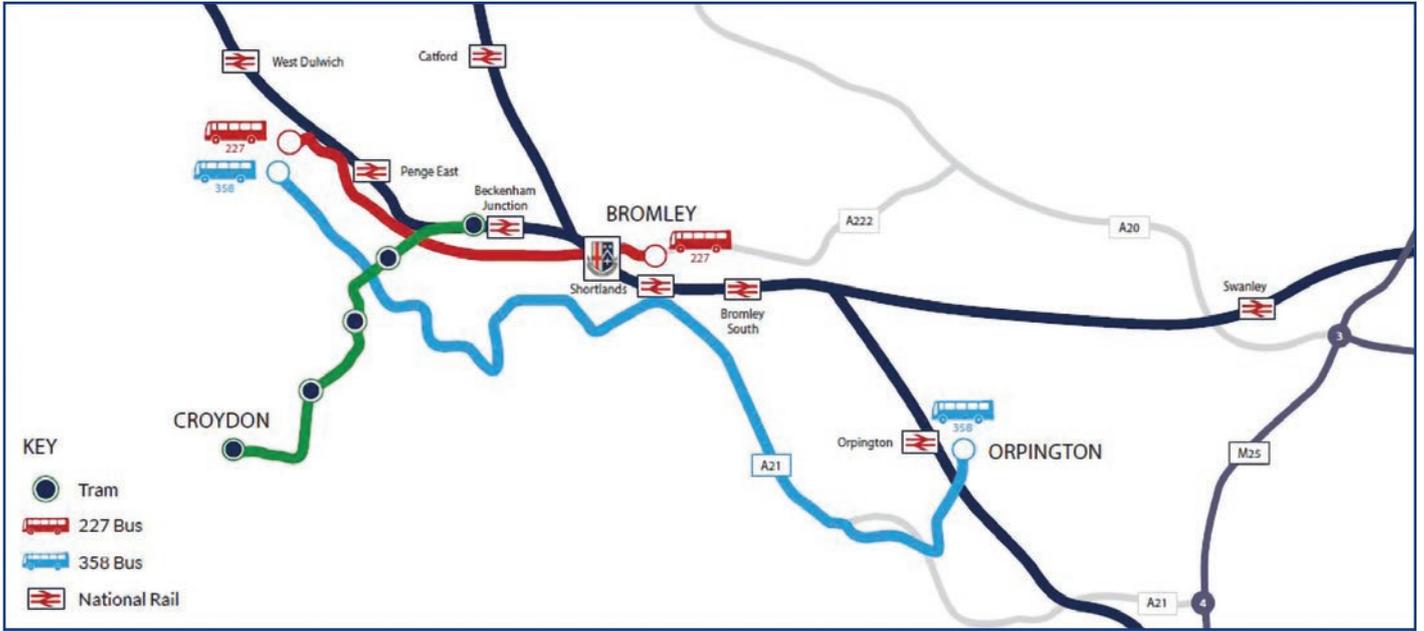
Multiple interesting experiences have been provided for me, like the opportunity to volunteer in CAFOD's office in St. Catherine's Cottage, which allowed me to develop skills needed in a professional workplace. Additionally, being Head Pupil was a fantastic privilege, and made me a much more confident speaker.

Overall, sixth form life at Bishop Challoner has been incredible and I am immensely grateful for the tremendous support given to me by my teachers.

Oliver Meade
Head Boy (2018/19)



Oliver achieved an amazing complement of 4 A* grades at A Level and is now studying History at Durham.





All students from Bishop Challoner have been offered places at the University of their choice over the last few years

ART & DESIGN: FINE ART OCR

Advanced Level Art and Design is a recognised pre university subject designed to complement a wide range of Advanced courses as well as providing a basis for a career in Art and Design.

Key features of the course

The Advanced course will provide opportunities for students to promote academic enquiry alongside practical activity. Within four units of work students will be given the chance to work outside, visit galleries and work with practitioners. A wide range of art/craft materials will be available such as print-making, painting, sculpture, drawing and photography.

Which kind of student is this course suitable for?

If you are an art-loving student who likes to take responsibility for your learning, embraces a challenge and is willing to listen and act upon advice this may be the course for you. You will need the ability to work independently to a deadline. You will be passionate about art and prepared to show commitment beyond the timetabled curriculum

Where could this course lead?

A Level Art is the traditional qualification for acceptance onto Foundation Art courses at Universities and Colleges which, in turn, could lead into degree level education in a specialized area of

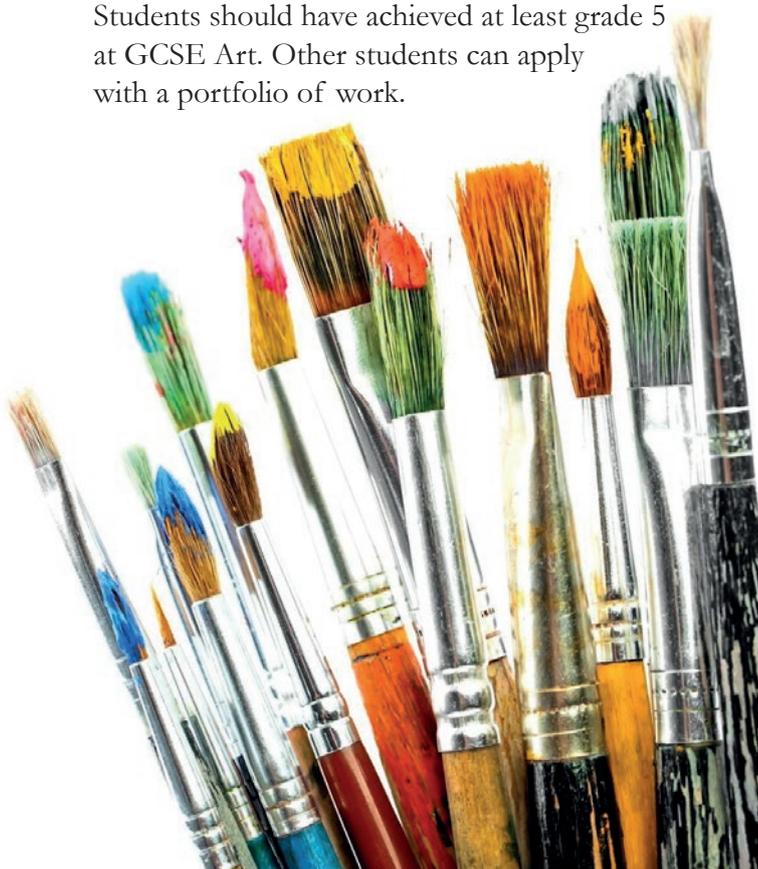


the subject such as Fashion Design, Fine Art, and Graphic Design.

The course is also basic sound training for all creative areas such as Printmaking, Three-Dimensional Studies, Photography, Textiles, Product Design, etc. Equally, positions in the Art History, Journalism, Librarianship, Gallery and Museum sectors could provide a related career option.

Entry requirements

Students should have achieved at least grade 5 at GCSE Art. Other students can apply with a portfolio of work.



Course Details: Art & Design: Fine Art
Awarding Body: OCR

Course Number: A-Level H601
Contact: Mr Coultart

BIOLOGY AQA

Biology is the study of life; how organisms interact with one another, how living things function, and how they change over time. The work of biologists is to increase our understanding about the world around us and to help us address issues of personal wellbeing and worldwide concern such as environmental depletion, threats to human health and maintaining viable and abundant food supplies. Studying biology teaches us to critically analyse evidence, question and make observations of what we see around us, as well as to try to solve problems.

Key features of the course

The Advanced Level course has been developed to follow directly on from the 'double' and 'triple' GCSE science courses. Biology is a popular course with both girls and boys and is widely regarded as a good entry qualification for most university courses.

The course is examined through 3 papers (2 hours each) totalling 260 marks:

- Paper 1 Any content from topics 1-4, including relevant practical skills. (91 marks)
- Paper 2 Any content from topics 5-8, including relevant practical skills. (91 marks)
- Paper 3 Any content from topics 1-8, including relevant practical skills. (78 marks)

Which kind of student is this course suitable for?

Biology is one of the most popular A Level subjects. Many of the students enjoy the course so much that they eventually choose a biologically related degree course. Others go on to careers in law, computing, medicine,

accounting or teaching. So whatever field you eventually work in, you will find Biology a very rewarding and challenging course which will develop many of the skills essential for a successful career.

Where could this course lead?

Biology is a useful science to study in that it has a vast subject breadth as well as depth and allows the student to pursue a range of specialities including Zoology, Botany Medicine, Microbiology, Ecology, Pharmacy, Genetics, Food Technology, Physiology, Optometry, and Nursing. Careers that develop from this field are immense, popular and very rewarding. Most medical degree courses require Biology as a compulsory element for course entry. Some students have even used their A Level Biology as a stepping stone to cutting edge degree courses e.g. Stem Cell Research and Genome sequencing.

Entry requirements

In order to ensure that students have the necessary depth of understanding and essential knowledge and skills to be successful in A Level Biology, the entry

requirements are a minimum of two 6 grades achieved in two of the following GCSE sciences: Core Science, Additional Science, Further Science, Separate sciences (Biology, Chemistry or Physics).

Students should have GCSE Maths to at least grade 5 standard.

During the first year, students need to calculate magnifications from given photomicrographs.



Course Details: Biology
Awarding Body AQA

Course Number: A-Level 7402
Contact: Mrs Marpadi

CHEMISTRY AQA

Chemistry is the study of the world we live in at the atomic and molecular level. It is the central science, and has overlaps with mathematics, physics, engineering, biology and medicine.

The key aims of this course are to increase understanding of chemical concepts, and apply them to the world around us, through both theory and experimentation.



Key features of the course

The chemistry A-level is split into three main disciplines, studied over the two years; inorganic, physical and organic chemistry.

These disciplines incorporate topics ranging from batteries and

fuel cells, to DNA and anti-cancer drugs.

The course is taught in five 50 or 55 minute lessons per week, with a focus on independent learning and practical chemistry.



The A-level is examined at the end of Year 13 with three 2 hour papers, covering all of the theoretical and practical work carried out over the course of the two years.

In addition to these examinations a separate endorsement of practical skills will be taken alongside the A-level and assessed by direct observation of students' practical abilities. This is a must for anyone considering studying a science at university.

Which kind of student is this course suitable for?

Chemistry is a challenging and rewarding subject that develops students' scientific skills and knowledge. It is ideally suited to motivated students, who wish to learn about the more abstract nature of the world around them. Chemistry is best studied alongside at least one other science and/or mathematics.

Where could this course lead?

The analytical and problem solving skills acquired through studying chemistry are essential in both scientific and non-scientific university courses. Possible career pathways include medicine, pharmaceutical research, materials science, veterinary sciences, forensics, patent law, scientific journalism, and teaching, amongst many others.

Entry requirements

A minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE combined science is required; although students achieving a 6 may also be considered. Although chemistry as a separate science at GCSE is not required, it does offer an excellent foundation for year 1 of the A-level.



Course Details: Chemistry
Awarding Body: AQA

Course Number : A-Level 7405
Contact: Dr Bovell

CLASSICAL CIVILISATION OCR

Classical Civilisation focuses on the societies of Ancient Greece and the Roman Empire. It is a wide-ranging subject involving the study of literature, material culture, ancient thought and ideas within their historical context. It has overlaps with English, Drama, Art History and History. The key aim of this course is to examine the profound influence that the representations of Greece and Rome continue to have on our present ways of living and thinking.

Key features of the course

Classical Civilisation studies are split into three main disciplines, studied over the two years: epic literature, culture and the arts, and the understanding of ancient beliefs and ideas. The course is taught in five 50 minute lessons per week, with a focus on careful reading, the discussion of key ideas, and regular practice in writing essays. The A-level is examined at the end of Year 13 with three written papers, covering all of the study carried out over the course of the two years.

Which kind of student is this course suitable for?

If you are interested in questions about how people should be governed, whether the law should always be obeyed and how people learn courage, you should consider this A level. Reading literature and philosophical works that have fascinated men and women for thousands of years offers the opportunity to explore Greece and Rome over a vast sweep of time - from the Bronze Age to the first century AD. The course also involves

studying visual sources, providing a means by which we can understand how people have seen themselves and their world, and relate the human past to our present.

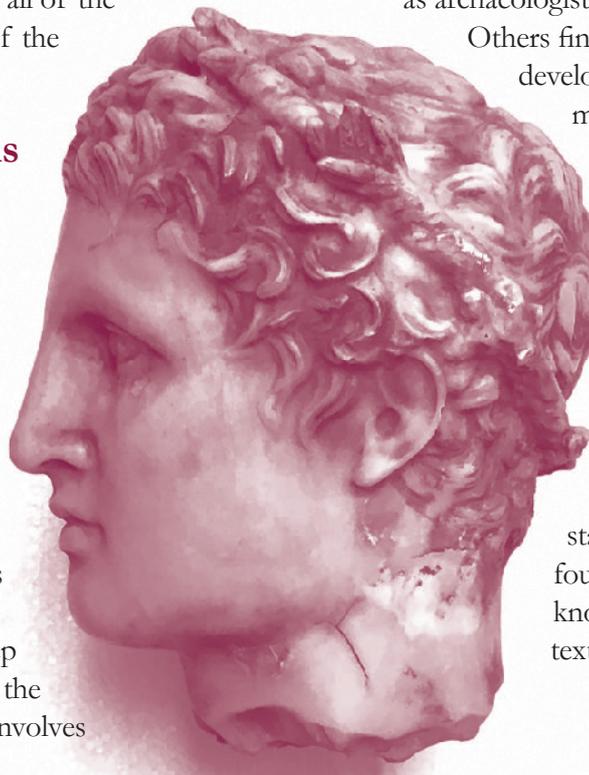
Where could this course lead?

When looking to apply to university, Classical Civilisation can be extremely useful. Students not only acquire specific knowledge, but also important transferable skills such as analysing sources and developing independent, critical and evaluative approaches. Classical Civilisation is naturally particularly valued by Classics departments though the study of this A level can often lead to university courses such as Drama, English, History, History of Art, Philosophy and Politics. Classical Civilisation is named on the list of preferred A Level subjects at University College, London and at Trinity College, Cambridge. Students may go on to work in the field, for example as archaeologists, museum curators or teachers.

Others find that the analytical skills developed are invaluable in careers in many areas such as law, journalism, politics, project management and business.

Entry requirements

There is no minimum requirement for GCSE grades, though students who have achieved a minimum of a 6 in English or History would start the course with an excellent foundation. You do not need to know any other languages: all the texts are in translation.



Course Details: Classical Civilisation
Awarding Body: OCR

Course Number: H408
Contact: Mrs Newbould

COMPUTER SCIENCE AQA

This course has been designed to encourage students to look at current technologies and perceived advances in both hardware and software. It offers a broad understanding of computing and the practicalities it has in industry today.

Key features of the course

The course encourages students to:

- Develop an understanding of the main principles of solving problems using computers
- Develop an understanding of the range of applications of computers and the effects of their use
- Prepare students who wish to go on to higher education courses or employment where a knowledge of computing would be beneficial
- Develop an understanding of the organisation of computer systems including software, data, hardware, communications and people
- Acquire the skills necessary to apply this understanding to developing computer-based solutions to problems
- Develop an understanding of the main principles of systems analysis and design, methods of problem formulation and planning of solutions using computers, and systematic methods of implementation, testing and documentation.

Broader perspective

Develop their project management skills and understanding of the need for team working.

Which kind of student is this course suitable for?

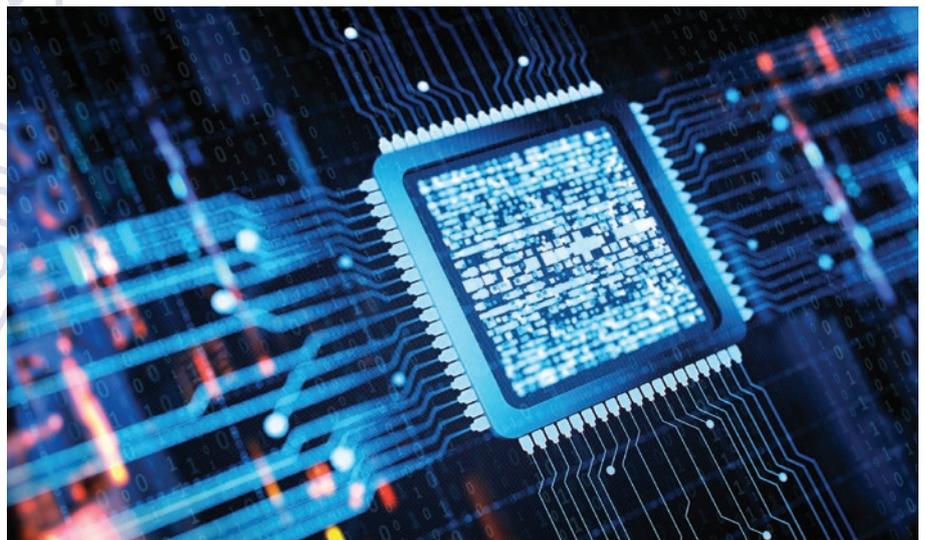
Students should have a keen interest in computing and may be thinking of a career linked to this industry. They should be well motivated and keen to learn a new subject.

Where could this course lead?

This course is designed to provide a progression route to higher education and further training for employment. It is particularly useful for those considering a career in computing, or studying a related subject at university.

Entry requirements

Students should have a minimum of grade 6 in mathematics and physics/science.



Course Details: AQA Computer Science
Awarding Body: AQA

Course Number : A-Level 7517
Contact: Mrs S.Saul

DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES EDUQAS



Drama and Theatre Studies explores both the production and appreciation of performance. It overlaps with English Literature, Art, DT and Music through the text-based, creative and design elements. The course aims to develop acting or design skills, plus an understanding of the performance concepts used by writers and theatre companies from a variety of time periods and backgrounds.

Key features of the course

The Drama and Theatre A Level is split into two areas of study: acting or design and the study of text in performance. 60% of the course is assessed either by the teacher or visiting examiner with one written examination in the summer of Year 13.

Component 1: Theatre Workshop 20% NEA
Acting or design reinterpretation of an extract from a text with methods of theatre practitioner or company.

Component 2: Text in Action 40% NEA
Creation, development and performance of two pieces of theatre based on a stimulus, including evaluation.

Component 3: Text in Performance Written examination:
2 hours 30 minutes 40%

Two questions open book on two different texts, one written pre-1956 and one written post-1956. Then 1 question from *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*.

Which kind of student is this course suitable for?

This is a subject for anyone who is interested in creating and analysing drama texts, theatre design or performance.

Where could this course lead?

Acting and design roles in theatre, television or film, stage manager, drama therapist. Enhanced skills in creative thinking, teamwork, analysis, presentation skills and planning, that are valued by all types of employers. Also encourages confidence, self-presentation, collaboration, experimenting and learning from feedback.

Entry requirements

GCSE English Grade 5 or higher

Course Details: Drama and Theatre
Awarding Body: Eduqas

Course Number : 601/8554/5
Contact: Mrs Otley

ENGLISH LITERATURE AQA Specification A

English Literature is an analytical and investigative course, encompassing a varied range of poetry, drama and prose, dating back to the canonical classics and reaching into the most contemporary of modern texts. Consequently, an essential asset for success in this subject is a passionate commitment to reading. The course delves into the contexts of authors, and their works; it critically examines and explores language and themes. It looks closely at the study of Love through the ages. A wide cultural experience of art, film and other media, history and theatre, as well as psychology (for critical theory) are encouraged in order to develop an open-minded, well-informed judgement of texts.

Key features of the course

We now teach A-Level as a linear examination. At the end of Year 13 there are two demanding examinations, comprising a variety of texts and totalling 80% of the grade, as well as a Non-Exam Assessment, allowing students to be creative and independent, worth 20% of the final grade.

Which kind of student is this course suitable for?

This course is suitable for students who enjoy reading and who are prepared to work at a challenging pace and read beyond the texts. They must also be able to share their ideas about literature in discussion and to write critical essays that reflect their own opinion in the context of the views of others.

Where could this course lead?

The course is very impressive to universities and is crucial to so many successful 'Literature and Arts'

based choices in higher education. It is a highly-valued course which complements the study of many other subjects.

English Literature lends itself to many choices for careers such as: journalism, media, teaching, personnel work, advertising and law.

Entry requirements

Students must have achieved a minimum of a grade 6 in English and English Literature at GCSE Level.



Course Details: English Literature
Awarding Body: AQA Specification A

Course Number : 7711/7712
Contact: Mrs Miotti

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is an independently researched and written piece of work, using university-style work methods and techniques. The Extended Project is a completely independent piece of work; you must be self-motivated, organised and confident. The EPQ gives you control over your studies. You can choose to explore a further aspect of a subject you are studying at A Level, or any other subject or topic.



This highly regarded qualification carries with it UCAS points, and universities will recognise you as an independent learner who is ready to take on the demands of their course. The EPQ will also give you a focus for discussion at interview.

Projects can consist of either a 5000 word written dissertation or an 'artefact', which can be anything from a play to a portfolio of photographs, accompanied by a 1000 word description. The finished project can be a dissertation (extended essay) or a performance, a piece of art, a community project, a CD or DVD, or even computer software accompanied by a written report.

Independent Learning

This is a real chance for Independent Learning. You will:

- Have a significant input into the choice and design of an extended project and take responsibility either for an individual task or for a defined task within a group project.
- Develop and improve your own learning and performance as a critical, reflective and independent learner.

- Develop and apply decision-making and, where appropriate, problem solving skills, extend your planning, research, critical thinking, analysis, synthesis, evaluation and presentation skills.
- Develop, where appropriate, as a confident learner and apply new technologies in your studies.
- Develop and apply skills creatively, demonstrating initiative and enterprise.
- Use your learning experiences to support your personal aspirations for higher education and career development.

Delivery

The Edexcel specification recommends that candidates spend 90 hours researching and producing their project, with a further 30 hours of training and supervision provided by the school. Initial training is provided before the summer holidays, and the project is submitted in May of the subsequent academic year. Each candidate is assigned a member of staff as a supervisor, who meets regularly with them to provide support and guidance. In addition the school provides weekly lessons which ensure that candidates have the skills and information necessary to produce successful projects.

Assessment

Candidates are assessed on planning, research, presentation and review of their project as well as the final piece of work. The EPQ is worth the equivalent of half an A-level.

You will be assessed on your completed Production Log and the project product. There is no written examination.

Course Details: Extended Project Qualification
Awarding Body: Edexcel

Course Number : EPQ ZPJ30
Contact: Dr Samuel

FRENCH AQA

If you are interested in languages and communication and you enjoy learning about other cultures and ways of life, then a course in French could be suitable for you. Similarly if you are interested in the business world, in travel or tourism, in literature, in the media, or in science, you are also likely to find the course extremely interesting.



GCSE, taking responsibility for your own learning.

You will need research skills and a conscious effort to learn vocabulary will be vital.

You will complete tasks that require good organisational skills and independence of mind.

Key features of the course

- The course places great emphasis on active language use, by developing speaking and writing skills, as well as furthering your understanding of spoken and written language. All language is learned and practised with the context of topics from contemporary life. In addition you will develop research skills within relevant cultural topics. Therefore you will be expected to take an interest in the current affairs of the country you are studying, read newspapers and magazines and listen regularly to the language on the radio, television or internet.
- You will use your skills to comment on a range of issues and to develop your own interests. You will discuss and argue issues in a mature and complex fashion. You will have a good understanding of the language and will manipulate it to become an independent, confident linguist.

Which kind of student is this course suitable for?

You will need to be far more autonomous than at

Where could this course lead?

An A level is evidence of ability and broadening of horizons. It is valuable in its own right and employers appreciate a language even when the jobs they seek to fill require no special language ability. The skills you acquire as a linguist are obvious: to communicate effectively; to listen; to evaluate; to analyse linguistically; to explain; and to understand a foreign country and its people.

An increasing number of universities have a stronger emphasis on economics, marketing and business studies. Courses are also available in which science or engineering is taken with a language. Linguists can find employment opportunities in broadcasting, commerce and industry, international organisations, interpreting, translating, teaching and the Civil Service. You can improve your career prospects with a modern language in such fields as law, accountancy, journalism and insurance. Competence in one foreign language can be a stepping-stone to others.

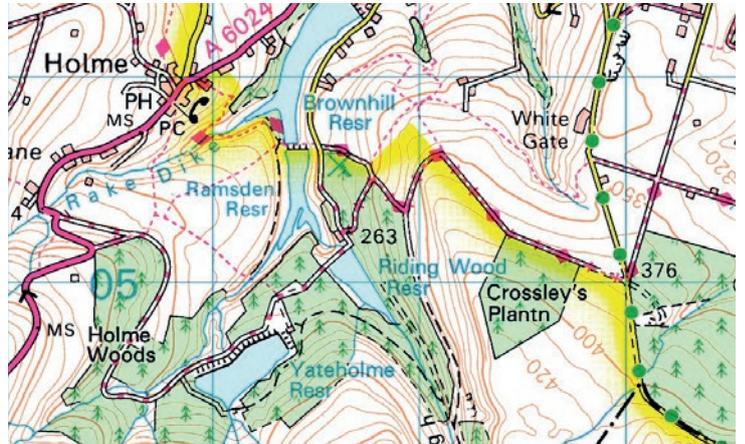
Entry requirements

The minimum requirement is a 6 at GCSE, but we expect most students to have a 7 or above.

Course Details: French
Awarding Body: AQA

Course Number: A Level 7652
Contact: Mrs Robins/Ms Napier

GEOGRAPHY AQA



Geography A-level is one of those broad-based subjects that employers and universities love. It is an interesting and varied area of study that brings together the diverse worlds of Arts and Science and develops a valuable understanding of data handling skills.

The multidisciplinary nature of the subject helps to develop 'transferable' skills, which equip the student very well for university and employment. At A-level, Geography is a fascinating subject that mixes well with either Arts, Science or Humanities subjects so you could combine it to suit your interests.

Key features of the course

The A level specification from AQA offers students a fresh perspective on Geography. The program of study looks at contemporary issues in world Geography such as environmental problems and disparities in development.

This exciting course offers a balanced understanding of Physical and Human Geography with an emphasis on enquiry based learning. The units are assessed in

a variety of ways to allow students to gain credits for short answer, fieldwork, and essay writing skills. This course offers clear progression from the AQA GCSE syllabus, allowing for smooth transition to post-16 education.

Which kind of student is this course suitable for?

This course is ideal for those fascinated by the world we live in, have good analytical skills and are independent learners.

Where could this course lead?

Employers throughout the business world appreciate the type of knowledge and skills base developed by Geography. Other popular choices for those who have studied Geography may include careers such as town planning and surveying, conservation and waste management or tourism and retail.

Entry requirements

Minimum Grade 6 in Geography and English GCSE.

Course Details: Geography
Awarding Body: AQA

Course Number: A Level 7037
Contact: Mr Bryson

HISTORY OCR

Key features of the course

- Paper I: Early Tudors 1485 - 1558. Political Stability, Religious Change and Rebellion and Unrest.
- Paper II: From Dictatorship and Democracy in Germany, 1919-1963. The Weimar Republic, Nazi Germany, World War II and the division of Germany 1949- 1963

- Paper III: Civil Rights in the USA 1865- 1992. African Americans, Trade Unions and Labour Rights, Native American Indians and the rights of Women.
- Paper IV: Topic Based Essay. An extended essay of 3,000-4000 words, arising from independent study and research.

Which kind of student is this course suitable for?

Enjoys reading and researching , essay writing, and debating ideas and theories.

Students must be independent learners and thrive on developing their analytical skills.

Where could this course lead?

A Level History leaves students fully prepared for the academic demands of university.

A Level History is seen by all universities as a desirable subject for a very wide variety of degrees from Medicine to Engineering.

Entry requirements

Minimum grade 6 in History and/or English GCSE



Course Details: History
Awarding Body: OCR

Course Number: A Level H505
Contact: Miss Holley

MATHEMATICS and FURTHER MATHEMATICS EDEXCEL

Mathematics A level is a challenging but fascinating course. It builds on the topics studied at GCSE as well as introducing new concepts and ideas that have preoccupied great minds for centuries.

Students develop their problem solving skills and learn to work logically and methodically. This makes it the corner stone of many other subjects and it is a highly respected and much sought after qualification.

Key features of the course

The new linear course started in September 2017. For A Level Mathematics, students study pure maths, mechanics and statistics. The pure to applied ratio is 2:1. The Further Maths builds on the knowledge and concepts from A-level Mathematics.

Which kind of student is this course suitable for?

Mathematics students must have a strong ability to reason analytically, deductively and inductively. It is

essential they have the ability to grasp mathematical concepts and strategies quickly, with good retention and to relate mathematical concepts within and across content areas and real-life situations.

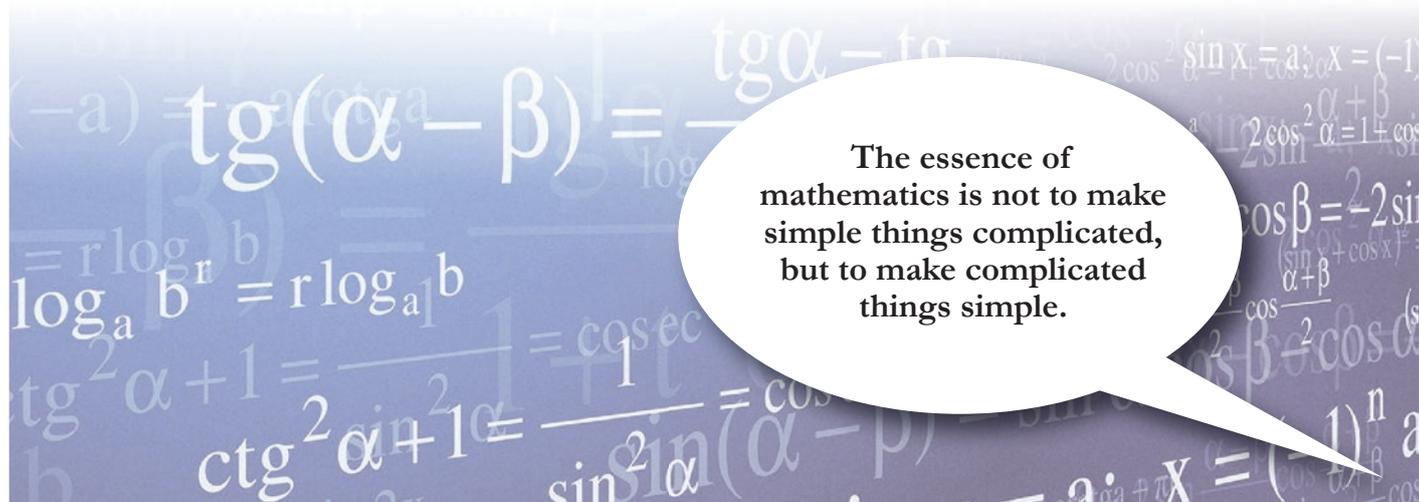
Where could this course lead?

Mathematics is a “facilitating subject”, and hence it is a pre-requisite for many University courses.

Many careers are now directly or indirectly linked to Mathematics in the broad areas of Finance, Design, Manufacturing and all branches of Science, Technology and Computing. A degree in Mathematics or Computing can add over £220,000 to career earnings.

Entry requirements

Students must obtain at least a Level 7 in Mathematics at GCSE (or equivalent) to be able to meet the rigorous demands of this course.



The essence of mathematics is not to make simple things complicated, but to make complicated things simple.

Course Details: Mathematics & Further Mathematics
Awarding Body: Edexcel

Course Number: A Level 9MAO
Contact: Dr Samuel

MUSIC AQA

This course is offered to enable students to develop and extend the skills of performing, composing, listening and analysis that students have acquired at GCSE level. There are no limits on instruments or voices and types of repertoire presented in performance.

Key features of the course

Performance:

All students prepare a 10 minute recital which can be presented on any instrument. The standard must be at least grade 5, and can be presented as solo or ensemble material. This is worth 35 % of the A level.

Composition

All students must compose two compositions; one composition will be composed to a brief outlined by the exam board and another will be composed in a style chosen by the student. This is worth 25 % of the A level.

Listening and Analysis

Examination

All students will study set works chosen by the AQA exam board. This culminates in a final exam where students must complete three sections, a listening task identifying key musical elements, a score analysis and an essay question relevant to the studied set works. This is worth 40 % of the A level.

Which kind of student is this course suitable for?

Music A Level students will be motivated in their desire to learn about all types of music. Most will have studied GCSE Music and gained a 6-9 grade, however it is possible to start the course without. Typically, students without GCSE Music will be competent performers (usually at least grade 5), have studied music theory (Grade 5) or have lots of ensemble experience.

Where could this course lead?

Music students have a wide range of career options available to them both inside and outside the industry, including performer, teacher, administrator, songwriter, conductor, composer, recording engineer, manager, promoter, or music publisher.

There are also more jobs than ever in music business related areas, such as careers in digital marketing, social media, PR, technology, label services, ticketing and merchandising. It is also common to find music graduates in consultancy, finance, law, banking and music therapy.

Entry requirements

Usually GCSE Music 6-9 grade, see above



Course Details: Music
Awarding Body: AQA

Course Number: A Level 2270
Contact: Mr Kent-Davies

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

AQA

This course builds on experiences from Key Stage 4 and GCSE to enhance your knowledge and increase understanding of the factors that affect performance and participation in physical education.

A-Level PE is 70% theory and 30% practical. The practical strand involves pupils being assessed in a specialist sport which contributes to their overall A-Level grade.

Key features of the course

Units students will complete are:

- Applied Anatomy & Physiology
- Skill Acquisition
- Sport & Society
- Exercise Physiology
- Biomechanical Movement
- Sport Psychology
- The Role of Technology in Physical Activity & Sport

Sport at Bishop Challoner

Sixth Formers have two periods a week dedicated to PE & sport and activity in which pupils can specialise in a particular sport or improve their fitness. Additionally, pupils will have the opportunity to train and represent the school sports teams who compete in

local, regional and national competitions in numerous sports.



Which kind of student is this course suitable for?

This course is ideal if you have a keen interest in sport from a performing, coaching or officiating perspective. You will spend time working with and leading other students in practical activities. However, 70% of the course is theoretical so you must also be happy to work within a classroom. You do not have to have a GCSE in PE to undertake this course.

Where could this course lead?

This course is excellent preparation if you intend to study similar courses in higher education such as Sports Studies, Sports Science, Sports Coaching or Physical Education. It also develops a range of transferable skills which ensures it is worthwhile in its own right.

Entry requirements

Play a sport competitively at a high level inside or outside school. Ideally also GCSE PE and/or GCSE Biology grade 5 or higher.

Course Details: Physical Education
Awarding Body: AQA

Course Number: A Level 8582
Contact: Mr Oliver

PHYSICS OCR

Physics is all around and the aims of the course are to:

- Develop essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of Physics.
- Develop and demonstrate a deep appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of scientific methods
- Develop competence and confidence in a variety of practical, mathematical and problem solving skills
- Develop the interest in and enthusiasm for Physics
- Understand how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society.

Key features of the course

1st year:

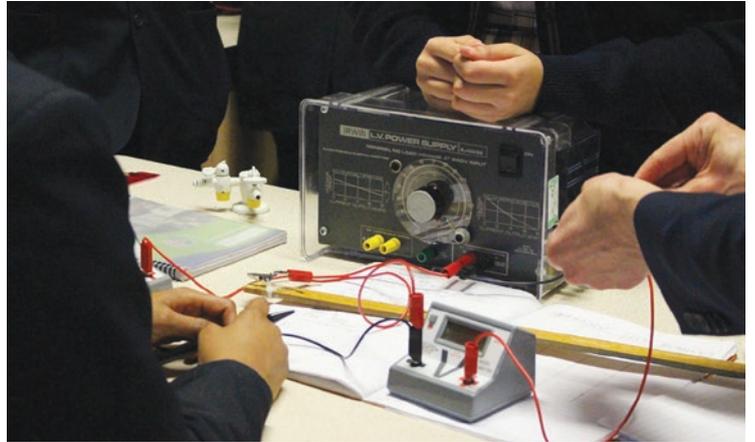
- Module 1** Development of practical skills in Physics
- Module 2** Foundations of Physics
- Module 3** Forces and Motion
- Module 4** Electrons, Waves and Photons

2nd year:

- Module 5** Newtonian world and astrophysics
- Module 6** Particles and medical physics

4 hours of lessons a week including an 80 minute practical session

6 hours a week of independent learning.



Which kind of student is this course suitable for?

If you have a genuine interest in how things around you work then Physics could be your subject. The course is designed for committed students ideally studying at least one other science and/or mathematics.

Where could this course lead?

Physics will equip you with strong analytical and mathematical skills and will make you welcomed in a wide range of university courses. You may also be considering a career in a variety of fields such as research, aerospace, railways, motor vehicle design, manufacturing, medical engineering, computing, design, development, commerce, banking, finance, marketing, management consultancy and teaching among others.

Entry requirements

Sound skills in English and Mathematics. Grade 7 minimum at GCSE Physics is most appropriate but pupils achieving Grade 6 will be considered on an individual basis.

Course Details: Physics
Awarding Body: OCR Specification

Course Number: A Level H556
Contact: Mr Naceur

PSYCHOLOGY AQA

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and how it dictates and influences our behaviour, from communication and memory to thought and emotion.

Psychology is a popular subject which is attractive to students because it develops a range of valuable skills, including critical analysis, independent thinking and research. These skills are particularly relevant to young people and are transferable to further study and the workplace.

Key features of the course

The first year consists of two modules and involves the following topics:

- Cognitive Psychology, looking specifically at memory
- Developmental Psychology, looking specifically at attachment
- Approaches in Psychology
- Abnormality
- Social Psychology, looking specifically at conformity and obedience
- Research Methods
- Biopsychology

The second year of the course will further develop knowledge and evaluation skills in Psychology including research methods. Recent topics have included:

- Addiction
- Depression
- Eating Behaviours
- Gender

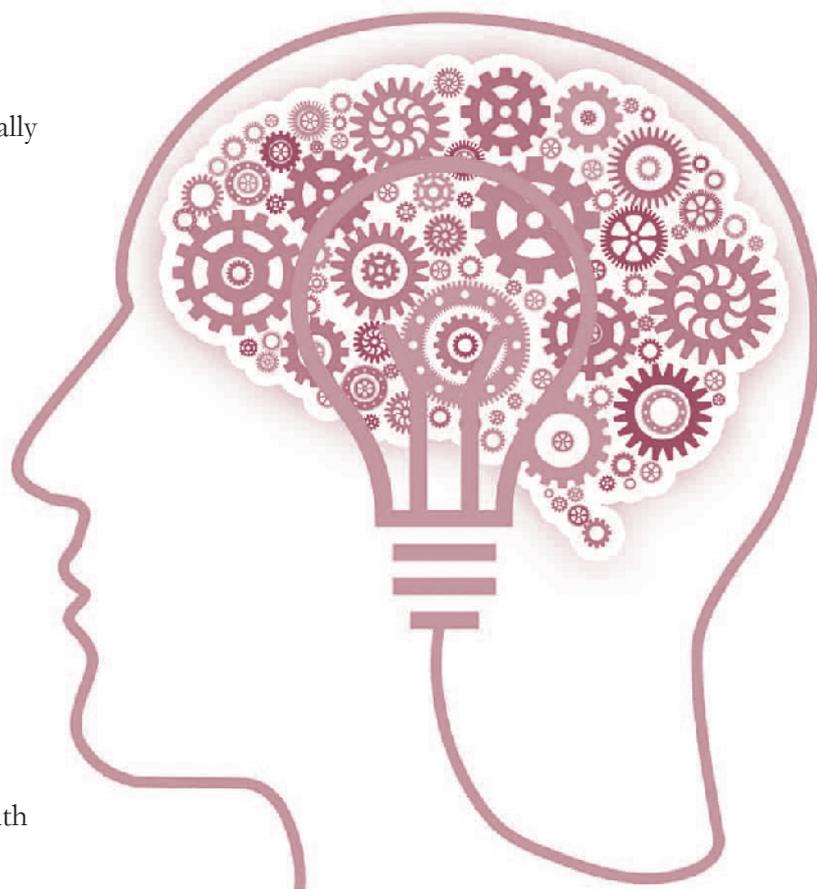
The A level is examined at the end of Year 13 with three 2 hour papers.

Where could this course lead?

Many students go on to study Psychology at university. It is an excellent subject to study if you want to pursue a career in the caring professions such as Medicine and Nursing or people professions such as the Police, Management and Personnel. Psychologists also work in a variety of careers such as Advertising and the Media.

Entry requirements

GCSE English 6 or higher,
GCSE Science 6 or higher and
GCSE Mathematics 6 or higher



Course Details: Psychology
Awarding Body: AQA

Course Number: A Level 7182
Contact: Mrs Ropkins

RELIGIOUS STUDIES Eduqas

(Philosophy, Christian Theology and Ethics)

Key Features of the course

Theme 1 - Christian Theology

- Religious figures and sacred texts
- Religious concepts and religious life
- Significant social and historical developments in religious thought
- Religious practices that shape religious identity

Theme 2 - Philosophy of Religion

- Arguments for the existence of God – inductive and deductive
- Challenges to religious belief - the problem of evil and suffering
- Religious belief as a product of the human mind
- Religious experience
- Religious language

Theme 3 - Ethics

- Ethical thought
- Deontological ethics
- Teleological ethics
- Determinism and Free will

Assessment

Students are assessed continually throughout the course with a combination of homework essays, timed essays, seen and unseen essays.

Final examination

Each of the above themes will be examined in 3 separate papers (each 2 hours in length)

Which kind of student is this course suitable for?

Students should enjoy reading, researching and debating ideas and theories. Students must be independent learners capable of analysis and applying theory to practical contemporary situations.

Where could this course lead?

A level Religious Studies encourages a number of transferable skills: ability to develop coherent arguments, critically assess ideas and select relevant information, understanding of philosophical ideas and awareness of contemporary ethical issues. These would equip students for university studies in numerous disciplines, especially Law, Medicine and Humanities.

Entry requirements

The minimum requirement is a level 7 at GCSE, but we expect most students to have a level 8 or 9.



Course Details: Religious Studies
Awarding Body: Eduqas

Course Number: A Level 601?8700/1
Contact: Mrs Shields

SPANISH AQA

If you are interested in languages and communication and you enjoy learning about other cultures and ways of life, then a course in Spanish could be suitable for you. Similarly if you are interested in the business world, in travel or tourism, in literature, in the media, or in science, you are also likely to find the course extremely interesting.

Key features of the course

The course places great emphasis on active language use, by developing speaking and writing skills, as well as furthering your understanding of spoken and written language. All language is learned and practised with the context of topics from contemporary life. In addition you will develop research skills within relevant cultural topics. Therefore you will be expected to take an interest in the current affairs of the country you are studying, read newspapers and magazines and listen regularly to the language on the radio, television or internet.

You will use your skills to comment on a range of issues and to develop your own interests. You will discuss and argue issues in a mature and complex fashion. You will have a good understanding of the language and will manipulate it to become an independent, confident linguist.

Which kind of student is this course suitable for?

You will need to be far more autonomous than at GCSE, taking responsibility for your own learning.

You will need research skills and a conscious effort to learn vocabulary will be vital.

You will complete tasks that require good organisational skills and independence of mind.

Where could this course lead?

An A level is evidence of ability and broadening of horizons. It is valuable in its own right and employers appreciate a language even when the jobs they seek to fill require no special language ability. The skills you acquire as a linguist are obvious: to communicate effectively; to listen; to evaluate; to analyse linguistically; to explain; and to understand a foreign country and its people.

An increasing number of universities have a stronger emphasis on economics, marketing and business studies. Courses are also available in which science or engineering is taken with a language. Linguists can find employment opportunities in broadcasting, commerce and industry, international organisations, interpreting, translating, teaching and the Civil

Service. You can improve your career prospects with a modern language in such fields as law, accountancy, journalism and insurance. Competence in one foreign language can be a stepping-stone to others.

Entry requirements

The minimum requirement is a grade 6 at GCSE, but we expect most students to have a grade 7-9.



Course Details: Spanish
Awarding Body: AQA

Course Number: A Level 7692
Contact: Ms Prieto



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