



BOLTON
SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION

A Level Courses
Years 12 & 13



CONTENTS

A LEVEL SUBJECTS

DISCOVER YOUR SUBJECTS	4
MAKING YOUR CHOICES	4

SUBJECTS:

ART & DESIGN: ART, CRAFT & DESIGN	5
ART & DESIGN: GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION	6
BIOLOGY	7
BUSINESS	8
CHEMISTRY	9
CLASSICS (LATIN, GREEK & CLASSICAL CIVILISATION)	10-11
COMPUTER SCIENCE	12
DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY: DESIGN ENGINEERING	13
DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY: FASHION & TEXTILES	14
DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY: PRODUCT DESIGN	15
DRAMA & THEATRE	16
ECONOMICS	17
ENGLISH LANGUAGE	18
ENGLISH LITERATURE	19
FRENCH	20
GEOGRAPHY	21
GERMAN	22
HISTORY	23
MATHEMATICS	24
FURTHER MATHEMATICS	25
MUSIC	26
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	27
PHYSICS	28
POLITICS	29
PSYCHOLOGY	30
RELIGIOUS STUDIES: PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS	31
RUSSIAN	32
SPANISH	33
NOTES	34-35



BOLTON SCHOOL

SIXTH FORM

A LEVEL SUBJECTS



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

Choosing your A Levels is one of the most exciting decisions you will make as you prepare for Sixth Form. For the first time, you can focus on the subjects that interest you most and build a programme around your strengths, interests and future ambitions.

At Bolton School, we offer a broad range of A Level subjects, allowing you to combine familiar subjects with new ones that you may not have had the opportunity to study at GCSE.

Your choices matter, but you don't have to make them alone. Subject teachers and the Sixth Form team will help you understand what different courses involve and whether they are right for you. If you already have a university course, degree apprenticeship or career in mind, our Futures Team can advise whether there are subjects you should consider taking.

When making your choices, think about the subjects you enjoy, the areas in which you are likely to thrive and where your choices might take you next.

Above all, choose a combination that will give you an engaging and rewarding two years of study.

DISCOVER YOUR SUBJECTS

Each of the following pages introduces the A Level subjects offered at Bolton School. As you explore them, look beyond the course title: find out what you will study, how you will learn, the skills you will develop and where the subject could take you.

You will be asked to choose three subjects to study at A Level. When choosing your options, please note:

- Further Mathematics is a separate subject and an A Level in its own right, which can be a third or fourth A Level but must be chosen alongside A Level Mathematics; and
- Due to their common element, you cannot choose both DTE – Design Engineering and DTE – Product Design.

In early October, students in Year 11 are invited to an Open Evening which begins with a presentation followed by an opportunity for you to visit departments to hear about their subject at A Level. We strongly recommend that you attend this event to help with your decision making around subject choices.

MAKING YOUR CHOICES

As you prepare for Sixth Form, take time to explore your options carefully. Read about the subjects that interest you, speak to teachers, visit departments and ask questions. Think about what you enjoy now, but also where your choices might lead. If you are unsure, ask for advice – we would much rather help you explore your options than expect you to have everything decided already.

Our Sixth Form and Futures teams are here to help you make choices that keep the right opportunities open for your future.



ART & DESIGN: ART, CRAFT & DESIGN (AQA 7201)

MRS M RYDER



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY ART, CRAFT & DESIGN AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

With well-qualified and experienced staff, the department is equipped to develop skills and techniques which will ensure excellent grades at A Level. Small group sizes mean that each student is given individual attention in order to nurture their full potential. Advice and guidance regarding the development of a portfolio of work, alongside interview techniques, prepares our students for Higher Education applications. With a studio space designated for Sixth Form use, our students are able to have their own work areas to carry out their projects during lunchtimes and personal study periods. Gallery visits, knowledgeable staff, exciting briefs and personal attention creates a recipe for success.

COURSE CONTENT

Art is a subject which can open eyes and stimulate an intellectual, emotional and physical response. The Art and Design course covers a broad spectrum. Students will develop skills in drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking and photography.

The course consists of integrated practical, critical and theoretical study using a variety of media and processes. This will be supported by the use of sketchbooks and first-hand experience of relevant works of art, craft and design. The Art Department encourages students to develop intellectual, imaginative, creative and intuitive powers; investigative, analytical, experimental, practical, technical and expressive skills; aesthetic understanding and critical judgement; an understanding of the interrelationships between art, craft and design and an awareness of the contexts in which they operate and knowledge and understanding of art, craft and design in contemporary society and in other times and cultures.

We aim to develop the skills of the individual, helping them attain their true potential whilst increasing their personal confidence and so developing an enthusiasm for the subject.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The A Level award comprises two assessment units. Component 1: the Personal Investigation, requires students to submit a personal practical project. Component 2 is the externally set assignment and is in two parts: a preparatory period when candidates carry out their research and investigations, and a timed fifteen-hour unaided period, when candidates are required to produce a final outcome.

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

It is felt that Grade 9 to 6 GCSE candidates will be well prepared for the A Level course. Other candidates will be considered on presentation of a portfolio of work and on evidence of a total commitment to the subject.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

Everything we make and use has been created by someone and our modern world relies increasingly upon visual literacy in communication. It is a world of images whether drawn, painted, printed, televised or computer generated and the artist is at the source of the image. Career opportunities are endless.

Many of our students go on to Foundation Art courses and/or then on to gain degrees in architecture, fine art and design.

Scan the QR code adjacent to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:





ART & DESIGN: GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION (AQA 7203) MRS M RYDER

WHY STUDY GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

The Graphic Communication A Level course was introduced to be taken alongside Art as a combination, leading to entry to Foundation Art courses in higher education. It is also suitable as an A Level course in its own right.

With well-qualified and experienced staff, the department is equipped to develop skills and techniques which will ensure excellent grades at A Level. Small group sizes mean that each student is given individual attention in order to nurture their full potential. Advice and guidance regarding the development of a portfolio of work, alongside interview techniques, prepares our students for Higher Education applications. With a studio space designated for Sixth Form use, our students are able to have their own work areas to carry out their projects during lunchtimes and personal study periods. Gallery visits, knowledgeable staff, exciting briefs and personal attention creates a recipe for success.

COURSE CONTENT

Graphic design takes ideas, concepts, text and images and presents them in a visually engaging form through print, electronic or other media. It imposes an order and structure to the content to ease the communication process, while optimising the likelihood that the message will be received and understood by the target audience. A graphic designer achieves this goal through the conscious manipulation of elements. This may include art direction, text, page layout, information technology and other creative aspects which will be realised through book and magazine illustration and design, architectural visuals, animation, posters and packaging.

Students will be expected to work in some of the following areas: illustration, advertising, packaging, web design, communication and video.

The course consists of integrated practical, critical and theoretical study using a variety of media and processes. This will be supported by the use of sketchbooks and first-hand experience of relevant works of graphic design. The Art & Design department encourages students to develop intellectual, imaginative, creative and intuitive powers; investigative, analytical, experimental, practical, technical and expressive skills; aesthetic understanding and critical judgement; an understanding of the interrelationships between art, craft and design and an awareness of the contexts in which they operate and knowledge and understanding of graphic design in contemporary society and in other times and cultures.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The A Level award comprises of two assessment units. Component 1 is the coursework module. Students are required to submit an in-depth project. Component 2 is the externally set assignment and is in two parts: a preparatory period when candidates carry out their research and investigations and a timed fifteen-hour unaided period when candidates are required to produce a final outcome.

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

Students achieving GCSE Grade 9 to 6 Art and/or Product Design will be well prepared for the A Level course. Other candidates will be considered on presentation of a portfolio of work and on evidence of a total commitment to the subject.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

Our modern world relies increasingly upon visual literacy in communication. It is a world of images whether drawn, painted, printed, televised or computer generated, and the artist is at the source of the image. Career opportunities are endless.

Graphic Design could be taken with Art & Design and/or Product Design, to give a package of relevant A Levels for students who wish to pursue a career in the design industry, as well as building a portfolio of work for interview at degree level or for employment.

Scan the QR code to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



BIOLOGY (AQA 7402)

MR T BENBOW



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY BIOLOGY AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

Studying A Level Biology offers a variety of benefits, especially if you're interested in understanding life and the natural world. Biology encourages you to analyse complex systems, understand processes and think critically. These skills are useful across many fields, including research and analysis. Biology also touches on many important aspects of life, from human health and disease to environmental sustainability. Understanding these can make you more informed about global issues including climate change, conservation and pandemics.

Practical skills are also an important aspect of the course. These hands-on experiences are valuable for scientific careers and can also be useful in any career that values attention to detail, data handling and methodical approaches.

COURSE CONTENT

You will study a variety of biological processes including the molecular biology of the cell, biochemistry, genetics, ecology and human and plant physiology. Through an experimental approach you will develop your understanding through first hand observations of your own work. If you opt to take the full A Level course, you will be invited to join our residential fieldwork trip in Aberystwyth at the end of Year 12.

The course content is enriched in a number of ways:

- Special biology seminars given by University professors or other experts in their field;
- Experienced AQA examiners within the department offering insight and advice;
- Literary review in Year 12 to allow independent research and experience of scientific writing;
- Independent tutorial style work in Year 13 to develop skills for university;
- Practical workshops at Manchester University to support A Level topics; and
- The Operation Wallacea expedition, which has included Indonesia (2011), Madagascar (2013), Peru (2015) Dominica (2017) and South Africa (2019, 2022 and 2025).

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Paper 1:	2 hours – 91 marks (35%)
Paper 2:	2 hours – 91 marks (30%)
Paper 3:	2 hours – 78 marks (30%)

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

Students with a genuine interest in biology and sufficient aptitude to complete an A Level course successfully, are likely to have achieved Grade 7 or above in GCSE Biology or the equivalent in Trilogy Science. As biology is a numerate subject, competence and confidence in mathematics is required. It is not, however, necessary to study mathematics beyond GCSE to be successful in A Level Biology.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

Many of our students have used their A Level Biology to gain entry to natural sciences, medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, biochemistry, microbiology, marine biology, zoology and a wide variety of biological sciences at university. An increasing number of students use it to broaden their science background as they aim for a course in the humanities, engineering and technology.

Scan the QR code adjacent to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



BUSINESS (AQA 7132)

MR D KETTLE



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY BUSINESS AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

Selecting this A Level will give you access to proven excellence:

- Specifically qualified staff (most other institutions have fewer academic qualifications within their Business departments);
- Industrial/real-world experience (you will be taught the ideal and the realistic) by staff who have existed, successfully, outside a classroom and from drawing upon our Old-Boy contacts; and
- The experience necessary to encourage, inspire and cajole you towards top grades with the 24/7 support of our online resources.

COURSE CONTENT

The topics are organised to develop awareness of all the activities that a business undertakes: marketing, finance, production and human resource management. After the theoretical perspective is gained you will be asked to apply concepts to specific, often real-life, businesses.

You will develop an ability to analyse organisation structures, the markets they serve and the methods and processes they use to add value to products and services. You will be able to assess the validity of alternative approaches and you will examine these from perspectives such as overseas locations, a range of stakeholders, and the impact of competition. Conceptual knowledge is augmented by a range of practical skills such as numerical problem-solving, data analysis and financial decision-making techniques. You will be taught to evaluate business activities to provide well-reasoned arguments based on quantitative and qualitative factors.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

- Paper 1:** Three compulsory sections: 15 MCQs followed by SAQs ending with two essays, each a choice of one from two questions
⅓ of A Level: 100 marks – two hour examination
- Paper 2:** Three compulsory data response questions, made up of three or four parts
⅓ of A Level: 100 marks – two hour examination
- Paper 3:** One compulsory case study of approximately 6 questions
⅓ of A Level: 100 marks – two hour examination

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

There are no specific entry requirements. However, good levels of numeracy and literacy are essential. Some questions will require calculation using formulae and all answers must be cogent as fluent writing is crucial.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

Very few options are ruled out by studying Business at A Level and although a couple of universities do not offer higher level degrees dedicated to this field, it is worth noting that the Saïd Business School is an academic department of Oxford University. The popularity of the subject usually means that over three-quarters of leavers go on to study it at Degree Level. Beyond this, employers tend to value this qualification due to the decision-making and evaluation skills it has at its core.

Scan the QR code adjacent to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



CHEMISTRY (AQA 8462)

MS L MCLOUGHLIN



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY CHEMISTRY AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

Chemistry is a practically based subject. We aim to supplement theory with as much experimental work as possible, offering an extensive range of practicals far beyond those required by the exam board. Students typically undertake several experiments each month – almost certainly exceeding competing institutions. To support us, we have two full-time chemistry technicians and sufficient laboratory space and apparatus for most practicals to be carried out on an individual basis.

Our small class sizes ensure that our experienced team of teachers can give each student individual attention in the classroom and provide additional support between lessons when needed.

The department is involved in a number of extra-curricular activities. At Sixth Form level these include:

- Royal of Society Chemistry Olympiad – average one Gold medal per year during the past 12 years;
- Cambridge Chemistry Challenge (written test for Year 12 pupils) – recent students have achieved Copper and Silver awards;
- Young Analyst competition (practical competition for Year 12 pupils);
- MedSoc group; and
- Medicine and Science in the Media discussion group.



COURSE CONTENT

A Level Chemistry is a very popular subject at Bolton School and is studied by large numbers of students (70 across the Sixth Form currently). It is a rewarding academic discipline as well as a fundamental science, important for all students wishing to embark upon a scientific career.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Assessment will be through three two-hour examinations at the end of Year 13. Practical skills are a compulsory requirement of the course and will be assessed in all written papers. In addition, a practical endorsement will appear on each student's certificate as a separately reported result, alongside the overall A Level grade.

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

Good results at A Level Chemistry, as in all other subjects, will only be achieved through a combination of hard work coupled with a reasonable amount of natural ability. Co-operation between individual students and the experienced teaching staff is encouraged and is essential for success at a high level. Motivation is important, but the demands of the subject indicate that students with a genuine interest in chemistry and sufficient aptitude to complete an A Level course successfully, are likely to have achieved Grade 7 or above in GCSE Chemistry or the equivalent in Trilogy Science. As chemistry is a numerate subject, competence and confidence in mathematics is required. It is not, however, necessary to study mathematics beyond GCSE to be successful in A Level Chemistry.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

Each year a number of students elect to study chemistry, biochemistry and materials sciences at university (for which they may also be required to take an A Level in Mathematics). For others, a top grade in A Level Chemistry provides an essential entry requirement for veterinary science, medicine or dentistry. A highly respected qualification, A Level Chemistry is also looked upon very favourably by university engineering, mathematics, physics, biology, environmental sciences, accountancy and law departments.

Scan the QR code to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



CLASSICS (OCR H443/H444/H408) (LATIN, GREEK & CLASSICAL CIVILISATION) MR D LAMB



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY CLASSICS AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

A student taking Latin, Greek, or Classical Civilisation in the Sixth Form at Bolton School can be confident of receiving a classical education of the most lively and academically rigorous kind. For all three subjects, each individual unit is taught by one member of staff. This allows for each topic area to be taught by a specialist in that particular topic. Furthermore, all members of the Department are able to teach all three subjects to A Level, including Classical Greek, a subject taken by fewer than 300 students nationally each year. At Bolton School, A Level Greek students from the Boys' and Girls' Divisions are often taught together as one class, creating a co-operative and dynamic learning environment. Staff and pupils alike contribute to the excellent academic profile of classical subjects at Bolton School. For example, Sixth Form students give presentations to their peers at Senior Classical Society and senior students assist staff in running a classical mentoring scheme for younger pupils. Students at Bolton are particularly well-motivated in their study of the classical world. As a consequence, they achieve impressive results in public examinations and secure places at leading universities including, in recent years, Cambridge, Oxford and Yale.

COURSE CONTENT

Students may take one, two or, where timetabling allows, three classical subjects at A Level. The study of one classical subject is a thoroughly worthwhile academic pursuit, opening up a wide range of opportunities at university and beyond (see overleaf under 'Where Will it Lead?'). Those considering studying the ancient world at university level might well opt to take two or three classical subjects in the Sixth Form. Each classical subject has its own particular content and course of study.

Latin and Greek:

These subjects have similar course structures. In both, you will continue to improve your skills in the language, read original literature and respond to ancient texts with increasing sophistication.

Classical Civilisation:

Classical Civilisation is the study of Greek and Roman culture in translation. You will learn key aspects of two cultures that set the template for modern western civilisation. Lessons focus on close study of the core texts and artistic materials. You will develop analytical skills, and will be encouraged not only to read around each topic, but also to express your own views on what you have studied. This may be done in class discussion, group work, student presentations and essays.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Latin and Greek:

For each of these subjects, you will be required to draw on your linguistic skills to translate and analyse short extracts from original texts. You will also put forward your own views on works of ancient literature whose style and content you will have studied in class. In addition, there will be the option, should you wish to take it, of translating from English into the classical language.

Classical Civilisation:

This subject is assessed through a combination of short answer questions, context questions and essays. Context questions require you to show your understanding and appreciation of short extracts of text in English, or of photographs of artefacts or works of art. Essay questions require a broader approach, where you are asked to create an argument built around specific examples taken from the text or collection of artefacts you have studied.



CLASSICS (OCR H443/H444/H408) (LATIN, GREEK & CLASSICAL CIVILISATION) MR D LAMB



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

Latin and Greek:

If you have enjoyed the subject and been successful (ideally, Grade 7 or higher) at GCSE level, you will find the greater depth of study at A Level rewarding and fulfilling. Both Latin and Greek combine well with most other subjects; there are particular links with English, history, modern languages and mathematics. The two subjects also combine well together.

Classical Civilisation:

Classical Civilisation is a non-linguistic subject and open to all Sixth Form students, as no previous knowledge is required. The course will enhance the understanding of the ancient (and, indeed, the modern) world for those who have studied a classical subject or subjects at GCSE, but also caters for those who have had no contact with the ancient world but have a desire to know more. You do not need to have studied Latin, Greek or classical civilisation at any level. If you have enjoyed, and had success, with subjects such as English and history, or you enjoy philosophy, then Classical Civilisation is an ideal choice. The subject combines well with most other subjects and provides the key transferable skills lauded by employers.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

Studying any one of these three subjects will help to convince admissions tutors and employers of your analytical skills, empathy and academic rigour. In the words of one recruiter for industry, "Classics produces an ordered mind, [and] an ability to present cases precisely and concisely" – a skill valued highly by universities and employers alike. In recent years, several of our students have pursued subjects directly related to Classics at prestigious universities. However, this is not the only option available to those who have studied classical subjects at A Level: a good grade will allow the student to choose from a broad range of university courses, whether containing a classical component or not. Classics courses at universities including Oxbridge are open to those who have studied the subject only in translation. University classicists enter a varied range of careers including solicitor's training, computing, industry and commerce, banking, publishing and journalism. Perhaps most importantly, your study of the classical world at Bolton School will have enabled you to build up a range of skills and abilities that will allow you to present yourself as well-informed, articulate and persuasive – crucial attributes for life beyond the Sixth Form.

Scan the QR code below to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



COMPUTER SCIENCE (AQA 7517D Python) MRS S BRACE



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY COMPUTER SCIENCE AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

This A Level course will develop an understanding of, and the ability to apply, the fundamental principles and concepts of computer systems, plus the ability to analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving problems, including writing programs to do so. In addition, it will enhance your capacity to think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically, as well as your mathematical skills. It will help you to articulate the individual, social, legal and cultural opportunities and risks of digital technology. Computer Science helps prepare you for the world that you are living in and contributing to. It provides the opportunity to develop skills that can ultimately change the world by creating and enhancing technology rather than just being a consumer or user of it.

COURSE CONTENT

Topics will include: the fundamentals of computing such as hardware, software and systems development; the implications of computer use; computational thinking; how to design solutions to particular problems and how to write maintainable programs in Python using a range of real-world programming approaches; how computer architectures are structured; data representation, Boolean algebra and databases.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

A Practical Project (NEA) runs through the end of Year 12 into mid-Year 13. This module involves each student finding, realising and documenting a solution to a serious, real-world problem by producing original program code in a suitable environment. The solution will span all aspects from analysis of the problem, through design to implementation, testing and evaluation. All aspects must be clearly documented. This project is worth 20% of the total A Level mark, so is extremely important, and spans the end of Year 12 and over half of Year 13 in parallel with theory work, so it is not for the faint-hearted!

Students will additionally sit one theory and one practical paper, taken at the end of Year 13. You must write original code in a high-level language to solve a problem under exam conditions and must develop further code within a pre-release program.

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

There are no formal GCSE requirements, though students should note that this is a rigorous academic course, requiring numeracy and strong logical abilities. The emphasis in the teaching is on understanding rather than simple learning, as computing as a discipline is extremely fast moving. You should have good mathematical, verbal and written skills with an ability to think logically, creatively and critically. Strong candidates are those who can quickly infer patterns from information they are presented with, and then extrapolate these to deal with new situations. Although candidates are taught to write programs in Python, the practical exercise itself is self-led, so a high level of determination is required to complete it to the standard required in the time available. Computer Science is not offered at GCSE, so the level of effort required right from the start of this course is one of the highest. Those aiming to study the subject at university should seriously consider studying Maths at A Level.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

This course will be useful for all career paths as computers are used in all areas of working life. A Level Computer Science has a systematic and logical approach to problem solving which is valuable across a wide range of educational studies. Mathematics is often studied alongside Computer Science and is generally required for those students who intend to go on to study Computer Science at university. In a fast-moving world, there are many and varied future applications of the subject, and no-one with advanced computing skills will ever be short of opportunities to apply them.

Scan the QR code adjacent to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



BOLTONSCHOOL.ORG

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

DESIGN ENGINEERING (OCR H404)

MR C COFFEY



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

Design and Technology is an inspiring, rigorous and practical subject that provides insight into the creative, engineering and manufacturing industries. Design Engineering focuses on engineered, electronic, programmable and mechanical products and systems. The subject develops critical thinking and problem-solving skills in a creative environment, enabling students to identify market opportunities, solve real-world problems and develop commercially viable prototypes.

Design Engineering is a successful subject at Bolton School, taught within the Boys' Division in superbly equipped rooms featuring the latest technology. Department teachers are experienced examiners and national award winners, providing invaluable support. Students have achieved Arkwright Scholarships and many have progressed to prestigious universities and Degree Apprenticeships in Engineering.

Students benefit from industrial visits, trips and opportunities to meet designers and engineers and also produce a design portfolio, which can be valuable at university interviews.

COURSE CONTENT

The following topics are studied:

- Identifying requirements;
- Learning from existing products and practice;
- Implications of wider issues;
- Design thinking and communication;
- Material considerations;
- Technical understanding;
- Manufacturing processes and techniques;
- Viability of design solutions; and
- Health and safety.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The Design Engineering course is highly practical and is assessed through written examinations and an extensive practical coursework project in which you follow an iterative process to design and make a prototype product.

Paper 1: Principles of Design Engineering:
Paper 2: Problem Solving in Design Engineering
Iterative Design Project (NEA):

2 hours 30 minutes – 120 marks (26.7%)
1 hour 30 minutes – 80 marks (23.3%)
Substantial design and make project – 100 marks (50%)

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

This course is highly practical – you will need to be extremely well-motivated to work in a fast-paced practical environment. There is a particular focus on science and mathematics. The level of knowledge will be equivalent to higher tier GCSE – you must be confident using mathematics and science and should be achieving a high standard at GCSE. Ideally, you will also have achieved good GCSE grades in Design and Technology before embarking on the A Level course. You will also be keen to solve problems iteratively, by experimenting and improving; and will make lots of things and use a variety of advanced equipment. Good organisation is also essential to ensure you meet your deadlines.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

This subject is ideally suited to those pursuing careers in engineering or design. For those intending to study mechanical, civil, electrical or electronic engineering, aeronautical engineering, motorsport, systems engineering, mechatronics or robotics, it complements Maths and Physics particularly well. It also provides excellent preparation for courses in materials science and architecture.

Design & Technology is valued as a subject that develops practical skills, encourages creative problem-solving and prepares students to tackle real-world challenges.

Scan the QR code below to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

FASHION & TEXTILES (AQA 7562)

MRS R STAFFORD



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY FASHION & TEXTILES AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

Bolton School pupils studying this subject have lots of opportunities to develop their creativity alongside gaining an understanding of the technical, historical and marketing side of the industry. The small teaching groups often work collaboratively, encouraging each other and engaging in design discussions. The course allows you the opportunity to develop autonomous study skills that will be of direct use in higher education and professional work. The A Level course follows on effectively from the GCSE course, focusing entirely on Fashion and Textiles. Interested, enthusiastic and highly motivated students can join direct to A Level without having studied the subject at GCSE. In Year 12, you will have the opportunity to choose the direction of study for your own Non-Examination Assessment (NEA) coursework.

Small teaching groups offer the opportunity for lots of one-to-one advice and assistance and open workshop times are available for several periods every day where you can come to continue your project work and still get support and help when you need it. You will receive detailed feedback on your Year 12 project work to help you improve your NEA skills.

Jo Czutkowna: Founder & CEO of 'I Went Shopping Today' works with the BSGD Textiles Department on student projects and is a guest speaker. Jo works with companies in the textiles industry to develop circular garment business models for sustainability. You will also be offered the opportunity to enter competitions including Wool 4 School and Student Textile Artist and there are opportunities to lead clubs for younger students.

COURSE CONTENT/ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The specification is AQA D&T: Fashion and Textiles. Assessment is made by 50% written examination and 50% NEA. The skills for the NEA are practised through project work. An overview of the topics is listed below:

- **Design Theory** – History of fashion, looking at the influence of iconic designers such as Vivienne Westwood and Dior, design movements such as pop art and the impact of social and political events over the decades such as World War Two.
- **Materials** – how new fibres and fabrics are created and used in both contemporary fashion and commercial applications such as the military and medical sciences. Investigations into smart and e-textiles including the use of conductive threads and LEDs in wearable technology such as fabrics engineered to harness energy from the sun and the motion of the person wearing it.
- **Modern Manufacturing** – How fibres, fabrics and textile products are produced, taking into account sustainable ethical and environmental considerations.
- **Enterprise and Marketing** – looking at product life cycles, advertising and branding companies such as Hollister and Topshop.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

There are a range of courses specific to the textiles industry, although past students have also entered into dentistry, accountancy and psychology. Design courses include fashion design; interior design; costume design; textiles and surface pattern design. Business and marketing courses include fashion marketing and journalism and sustainability management in the textiles sector. Science courses include materials science and textiles technology.

Scan the QR code below to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



BOLTONSCHOOL.ORG



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

PRODUCT DESIGN (AQA 7552)

MRS R LANGLEY

WHY STUDY PRODUCT DESIGN AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

Studying Product Design provides you with the opportunity to study in detail the two sides of the subject with specialist teachers. Designing and making prototypes in well equipped rooms and separately, exploring the theory, ensures you will receive thorough coverage of the specification. This exciting and forward-thinking A Level course is more academic than other Design A Level courses you may be offered elsewhere, and is highly suited to a wide range of degree applications. Our small classes allow for highly personalised expert teaching and extensive encouragement around independence and creative learning. You will work on inspirational and practical problem-solving tasks and explore a wide range of materials and processes (including CAD/CAM), allowing you to develop confidence in your own innovative ability when responding to design briefs and making unique prototypes. Teachers are able to get to know your design/writing style well and consequently support your needs, especially with regard to Non-Examination Assessment (NEA) work.

This course is run and managed by the Girls' Division. Boys' Division students who are interested in studying the Product Design course should see Mr Coffey, Head of DTE, and he will arrange for a meeting with the Head of Technology in the Girls' Division where more details of this course will be given.

COURSE CONTENT/ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Product Design is focused towards consumer products, their applications and their analysis in respect of materials, components. The specific units covered are as follows:

- Paper 1:** Technical Principles (30%): you will study all aspects of materials, from classifications to performance, enhancement, processing and the use of CAD/CAM;
- Paper 2:** Designing and Making Principles (20%): you will study the iterative design process, designers' work, social and cultural influence and environmental design work;
- NEA:** A single iterative design-and-make project for which you will develop your own design brief based on an area you enjoyed during your Year 12 designing and prototyping work.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

Product Design is recognised as an excellent basis for a number of higher education courses and leads on to interesting and varied career paths. The course is, however, ideal for those intending to follow a career in product design, industrial design, architecture, design engineering, graphic design, interior design, surface pattern design, 3D design, animation and film/video. The combination of other A Level subjects for such students is usually not critical, although some universities will specify particular subjects and you should look into this before choosing your A Levels.

Scan the QR code below to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



DRAMA & THEATRE (WJEC EDUQAS A690QS) MRS A MARTIN



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY DRAMA & THEATRE AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

The Drama Department comprises highly qualified and dedicated teachers, committed to preparing the directors, designers, performers and audiences of tomorrow. As classes are small, you will enjoy a highly personalised approach to learning. This supports the highest levels of attainment, particularly around Non-Examination Assessment (NEA); there is no need for teachers to split their focus between multiple groups. Moreover, you will enjoy exclusive access to the facilities. The Bolton School Theatre consists of 170 capacity seating, lighting rig, sound system, extensive costume and props store.

You will find that there is a high degree of autonomy as the course content is tailored to meet your needs and interests. A Level students choose which plays to study and which practitioners/theatre companies to explore. In the past year, students have selected dynamic texts, both ancient and modern and applied to their own work the practices of trail-blazing theatre makers. They have shaped the programme of theatre visits, enjoying West End extravaganzas as well as experimental pieces staged by internationally acclaimed companies. A range of coursework options have enabled some students to pursue performance opportunities, while others have developed design skills. They have received intensive, one-to-one support with applications to universities, conservatoires and drama schools. An exciting programme of study has been complemented by an extensive extra-curricular programme, which has provided opportunity to collaborate with industry professionals.

Rehearsals and workshops, as well as one-to-one tuition, will extend beyond timetabled hours to lunchtimes and hours after school.

COURSE CONTENT / ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Component 1 (20%): Theatre Workshop. Students will apply the working practices of a practitioner or theatre company to a reinterpretation of a classic text, opting to work as either an actor or designer (set, costume, lighting or sound).

Component 2 (40%): Text in Action. Students will make two pieces of theatre – one devised and one scripted – in response to a stimulus, opting to work as either an actor or designer (set, costume, lighting or sound).

Component 3 (40%): Text in Performance. Students will study three texts – one pre-1956 and two post-1956 – from the perspectives of actors and designers (set, costume, lighting or sound). Recent texts have included Shakespeare's *As You Like It*, Lucy Kirkwood's *Chimerica* and *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* adapted for the stage by Simon Stephens. This component is assessed via written exam.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

The Bolton School extra-curricular drama programme is extensive and provides a diverse range of opportunities for students to develop their skills as performers, designers and directors. In 2025–2026, students embraced a wide variety of creative and collaborative opportunities, including large-scale productions, musical theatre and work with professional theatre practitioners. The year began with *The Glorious Chickmans*, a brand-new play commissioned by Bolton School as part of the 'Write the Girl' initiative, which gave students the opportunity to work alongside industry professionals and take on a range of roles both onstage and behind the scenes. Students also performed the much-loved musical *Guys and Dolls*, developing their skills in acting, singing and dance while bringing this classic musical to life on stage. The year also included opportunities for students to attend performances at local theatres and further afield. Through these experiences, students continued to develop their confidence, creativity, teamwork and understanding of the many different roles involved in producing live theatre.

Those studying Drama and Theatre have gone on to careers in acting; directing; producing; designing for theatre, film and television; arts criticism for broadcast and print media; arts administration; community outreach and law.

Scan the QR code adjacent to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



BOLTONSCHOOL.ORG

ECONOMICS (OCR H460)

MR D KETTLE



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY ECONOMICS AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

You will be taught by highly experienced and passionate subject specialists, who inspire and impart enthusiasm for the subject, with the vast majority of students continuing to degree study and beyond.

COURSE CONTENT

Economics teaches students to think logically and to use theories to understand how economies like the UK's operate. At the centre of the subject is the question of how we divide up our scarce resources and how decisions resulting from this affect us all – in other words, who gets what and why? It therefore studies all of society and the activities of various groups and institutions within it. The macroeconomic part of the course is what most people associate with economics. This includes economic growth, inflation, unemployment and international trade, and the difficulties that UK Governments face when they attempt to steer the economy in their chosen direction.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Internal examinations in January and June of Year 12:

Paper 1: Microeconomics (1 hour 30 mins)

Paper 2: Macroeconomics (1 hour 30 mins)

Each paper includes: 15 multi-choice questions, 1 data response question and one essay (from a choice of two).

External examinations in June of Year 13:

Paper 1: Microeconomics (2 hours, 33.3%)

Paper 2: Macroeconomics (2 hours, 33.3%)

Paper 3: Themes in economics (3 hours, 33.3%)

Papers include multi-choice questions, data response questions and essay questions (with some variance between exams).

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

A Level Economics requires a reasonable level of numeracy but it is not mathematical. The main skill that a good economist needs is the ability to analyse economic data, to interpret graphs and tables, identify trends and explain these using economic theory. The ability to see how one part of the economy e.g. the demand for cars, may affect other parts e.g. the demand for steel, is also important. This requires a clear mind and an ability to think and analyse logically and to write clearly.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

Economics is recommended for students who are considering a variety of careers including accountancy, banking, insurance, stockbroking, management, administration, marketing, advertising and government, and can be usefully combined with both Arts and Science subjects, or simply as an enlightening subject to complement any other choices.

Scan the QR code below to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



ENGLISH LANGUAGE (OCR H070/H470) MS J SIGRIST



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY ENGLISH LANGUAGE AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

A Level English Language is a varied, fascinating, and detailed study of the way language is and has been used and the continuing contextual factors which indicate and change its meaning. This qualification encompasses non-literary texts, spoken language and the vibrancy of linguistic variations, and truly engages in language in all formats across all facets of society.

COURSE CONTENT

In this A Level, students will develop a sophisticated understanding of the seven levels of language, such as lexis, pragmatics and semantics as well as consider how language can be influenced by power, technology or gender. Furthermore, the course allows students to study how language is acquired in children from the ages of 0-5 and how and why language has changed across centuries. It enables students to write in a discursive and engaging manner on topical issues which will put them in good stead for accurate and appealing use of written language in the workplace. Students also enjoy independent choice in the Language Investigation Task, which allows for personal interests and hobbies to become part of the wider study; this section is often a truly enjoyable aspect of A Level study.

Those choosing to study A Level English Language will be taught by passionate and expert practitioners who seek to personalise the course to allow cohorts to flourish. There is also an annual trip within the Foundation to Beech House, allowing students to immerse themselves in the language of our younger students, which helps to solidify the theory learnt in Child Language Acquisition.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Component 1: Exploring Language (written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes, 40%)

Component 2: Dimensions of Linguistic Variation (written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes, 40%)

Component 3: Independent Language Research (coursework, 20%)

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

You should achieve at least a Grade 6 in GCSE English Language or English Literature, enjoy working in a methodical and scientific manner to identify patterns in language and enjoy debating key issues in the subject.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

There are many elements of English Language A Level which strengthens students' skillsets for a wide range of careers. Its focus on language and its importance lends itself to any role within business, management, politics or, more obviously, journalism. Equally, its scientific approach in identifying patterns can lead to areas such as forensics, psychology or other investigative careers.

This A Level is an excellent complement to all subjects. Students often select English Language to complement geography, business studies, psychology, literature, politics, history, and religious studies, but our Alumni have also found English Language a good accompaniment to STEM subjects.

Scan the QR code below to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



BOLTONSCHOOL.ORG

ENGLISH LITERATURE (OCR H072/H472) MS J SIGRIST



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY ENGLISH LITERATURE AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

Studying English Literature at Bolton School enables the exploration of a subject that is not only academically rigorous and well respected, but also one that will ensure your capacity to ponder, probe and consider the manner of society, its history, its morals and its changes. Literature encompasses the very highs and lows of the human condition and allows individuals to gain sophisticated communication skills, as well as create a space and time for self-reflection and development.

COURSE CONTENT

As a Literature student at Bolton, you will attend theatre performances, enjoy conversation at the Literature Society, contribute to the School's magazine, *Creatives Now*, develop debating and oracy skills in the prestigious Lit & Deb Society and engage with the creative partnerships offered at school and in the wider community.

In recent years, we have had many successful students move on to study Literature at University, including at the colleges of Oxford and Cambridge. You will be taught by highly qualified teachers, all with degrees in Literature and a passion for their subject.

Finally, the course offers an element of independent choice in Component 3, the coursework study. Students are offered agency in text choices under expert supervision and guidance. This is often an element of the course which allows students to develop academic independence ahead of university study.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Component 1: Shakespeare and Poetry pre-1900 (written exam, 2 hours 30 minutes, 40%)

Component 2: Comparative and Contextual Study (written exam, 2 hours 30 minutes, 40%).

Component 3: Literature post-1900 (coursework, 20%)

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

You should achieve at least a Grade 6 in GCSE English Language or English Literature, be a keen reader and have an interest in discursive and written explorations of texts.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

Firstly, it is important to state that English Literature A Level is a highly regarded subject which demonstrates sophisticated reading, writing and communication skills. Furthermore, it is essential to note that anyone wishing to study English at University would be advised to take English Literature at A Level. Finally, this A Level complements a wide range of other A Level courses and therefore can support aspirations in any career.

Those who have taken English further at degree level have a wide choice of careers, particularly in the media and the fast-growing creative industries sector; however, it is such a well-respected subject that it can lead to opportunities in areas including business and finance, law, politics, PR, marketing, management, recruitment and education. The skills gained through an English degree and the high academic calibre of English graduates makes them eminently employable. It is also an ideal qualification for those intending to study medicine, to refine their communication skills and strengthen the empathy and compassion necessary to be a doctor. Finally, it is worth noting that surveys continually show that employers rate communication skills very highly indeed and that this skill is the only one which reveals a correlation between desirable traits by both employers and universities.

Scan the QR code adjacent to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



FRENCH (AQA 7652)

MR D O'TOOLE



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY FRENCH AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

French at Bolton School goes beyond language learning, giving students the confidence to communicate across cultures, explore new ideas and develop different perspectives.

Small, supportive classes build fluency and confidence through lively, discussion-based lessons focused on contemporary issues. Regular sessions with our French Language Assistant develop authentic spoken French and cultural understanding.

Beyond the classroom, Cinema Club and debating competitions bring French language and culture to life while developing communication, critical-thinking and public-speaking skills. Whether your ambition is to study languages at university or simply to stand out in a competitive world, French A Level is a rewarding, challenging and highly respected choice.

COURSE CONTENT

Throughout the course, students examine topics that shape modern French society, including changing family structures, diversity and inclusion, social change and the influence of culture on identity. They also explore political life in France, discussing issues that affect contemporary society and learning how to build and defend arguments in French.

The course goes beyond language learning to explore the richness of French culture. Students study a literary text and a film in depth, developing their ability to analyse characters, themes and ideas while expressing sophisticated opinions in French. Authentic materials such as podcasts, documentaries, news reports and newspaper articles help students connect classroom learning with the real world.

As their confidence grows, students become increasingly able to debate complex issues, understand authentic spoken and written French and communicate with greater accuracy and sophistication. Translation work strengthens vocabulary and grammar, enabling students to move beyond GCSE-level language and express nuanced ideas with precision.

One of the highlights of the course is the Independent Research Project. Students investigate a topic of personal interest linked to the French-speaking world, from politics and history to sport, film, fashion or technology. This research forms part of the final speaking examination and allows students to pursue their own interests while developing skills that prepare them for university and beyond.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing (2 hours 30 minutes, 40%)

Paper 2: Written Exam (2 hours, 30%)

Paper 3: Oral (21-23 minutes, 30%)*

*This includes 5 minutes' preparation time

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

Although the Department will not turn down anyone who has a genuine passion to learn French, anyone struggling to gain a Grade 6 or 7 or above at GCSE is unlikely to achieve the higher grades at A Level.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

French is spoken by more than 300 million people worldwide and is one of the world's most influential international languages. Learning French develops valuable communication, cultural and critical-thinking skills and opens pathways to degrees and careers in languages, international relations, business, law, politics, journalism and more. It also complements STEM subjects, adding valuable intercultural skills.

French can lead to careers in international business, diplomacy, finance, technology, media, education and global development, as well as opportunities to study, work or live abroad.

Scan the QR code adjacent to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



GEOGRAPHY (AQA 7037)

MR P JACKSON



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY GEOGRAPHY AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

Many students choose Geography at A Level because they have a natural interest in understanding their surroundings and wish to enhance their knowledge and the transferable skills gained in the Senior School. If you have enjoyed Geography and are prepared to work to achieve your potential, then you can be confident of acquiring a high grade as this department has consistently gained significant value-added scores through being taught by geography graduates who are not only passionate about their subject but are also experienced AQA examiners. You will experience residential fieldwork which helps develop a closer rapport with staff who already know you and this strong student-teacher relationship has contributed to very high numbers continuing to full A Level and a high proportion of students taking a geography or related course at university.

COURSE CONTENT

The specification highlights the changes which are happening and have occurred in both the physical and human environments which surround us. Topical material and issues are used to develop an understanding of how and why different environments change through time. Evidence of change is first analysed using a variety of sources – Geographic Information Systems (GIS), maps, photographs, satellite imagery, questionnaires, surveys, census data. The patterns of change can then be described, explained and their implications and effects assessed. In trying to understand some of these changes, it is necessary to analyse the activities, motives and values of people and how they interact with their environment.

All candidates will study core human and physical geography. In each area of study candidates will consider the values and attitudes of decision makers, consider their own values and attitudes to the issues being studied and support their learning of ideas through the study of specific case studies.

The topics to be studied will be Water and Carbon Cycles, Coastal Landscapes, Hazards, Changing Places, Global Systems and Contemporary Urban Environments.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The A Level will also consist of two examinations based on human and physical geography plus a five-thousand word project that is internally assessed. The project title and topic will be selected by the student and completed during the course.

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

A good GCSE grade is always the desirable foundation for study in the Sixth Form. However, a natural interest in the subject and a strong determination to succeed by working hard are equally important requirements.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

The choice of Geography at A Level and beyond closes few doors. Its use of precise, scientific techniques and processes, in addition to those of the social sciences, can equip its students with a higher level of perception, an ability to interpret, present and analyse a wide range of data, as well as make decisions in a variety of contexts – skills which are always in demand and enhance career prospects. A significantly high proportion of our students subsequently read geography or a related degree course at university and, ultimately, can follow more vocational careers such as town and regional planning, cartography, transport, surveying, risk assessment, teaching and environmental management. In addition, geography graduates have been particularly successful in gaining entry into non-vocational careers in business, finance, the civil service, administration and management.

Scan the QR code adjacent to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



GERMAN (AQA 7662)

MR M BOYD



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A-LEVEL OPTIMISES

WHY STUDY GERMAN AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

As the most-spoken native language in the European Union, mastering German brings many rewards. Studying German is a shrewd decision for those interested in the worlds of business, finance, history and politics in particular, because students develop an understanding not only of the language, but also of a way of life and thinking.

As a Sixth Form Germanist at Bolton School, you will be taught in small classes, allowing you to benefit from the expertise of your teachers. You will also have the opportunity to travel to Germany with Blue Stamp Travel to complete a work placement, visit Manchester University to experience life as an undergraduate in MFL, compete at the regional Modern Foreign Language Debating Competition in Year 13 and enter the Oxford German Network's Olympiad competition. Such opportunities provide the chance to speak German in real-life contexts. In addition to the timetabled lessons, you will attend a weekly conversation class with the German Language Assistant, usually in a group of two students.

A Level students also have access to a wide range of extra-curricular activities, such as regular German film screenings, a lunchtime music club and supporting Lower School students in a language and culture club. Teaching younger students is an excellent way to further develop your own language skills.

COURSE CONTENT

You will be encouraged to speak and write German fluently and accurately and to listen to and read complex text with ease and, dare we say, enjoyment. Your study includes grammar which is taught in English by highly experienced teachers. However, the majority of the lessons are in German and cover the topics below:

- Aspects of German-speaking society
- Multiculturalism in German-speaking society
- Grammar
- Individual research topic: (subject of personal interest)
- Artistic culture in the German-speaking world
- Aspects of political life in the German-speaking world
- Works: (students study one book and one film)

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Paper 1:	Listening, Reading and Translation (2 hours 30 minutes, 50%)
Paper 2:	Writing (2 hours, 20%)
Paper 3:	Speaking (21-23 minutes, 30%)*

* This includes 5 minutes' preparation time

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

Although the Department will not turn down anyone who has a genuine passion to learn German, anyone struggling to gain a Grade 6 or 7 or above at GCSE is unlikely to achieve the higher grades at A Level.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

In recent years, several linguists have secured places at Oxbridge and other very selective universities to study German, or indeed German with other subject combinations. Talented Germanists go on to enjoy successful careers in a wide variety of fields. Combining a language with a wide variety of courses at university, e.g. business management, law or engineering, can often give you an edge over other applicants who are qualified in the vocational subject alone. For those interested in studying science or medicine, German is the second most commonly used scientific language in the world, while Germany is the third largest contributor to international scientific research and development and offers research fellowships to scientists from abroad.

For sporting individuals, the German Bundesliga is often in search of individuals fluent in both German and English. Football clubs globally look for multilingual employees for a range of roles, including coaches, advertisers and interpreters.

Scan the QR code adjacent to hear from our students about their experiences studying German:



HISTORY (AQA 7042)

MISS S BURGESS



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY HISTORY AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

Above all, we hope that you will choose to study History because you really enjoy it. A Level History is a subject which enables you to continue the fascinating study of people and events, causes and effects, combined now with opportunities for lively debate and personal research.

Those studying History A Level at Bolton School have the benefit of being taught by specialist teachers who are real enthusiasts in their subject. You will be taught in small classes by two members of the department, enabling you to build close working relationships with your teachers and your peers. Your teachers will get to know you well and will be able to give you all the help you need during the course to fulfil your individual potential.

The resources which we can offer you are excellent. Our dedicated Sixth Form teaching room – the Haselden Room – is perfectly set up for our A Level seminar-style teaching. For each unit, you will be taught about the main themes, characters and events of the periods being studied. You will then be required to develop your knowledge further, through wider reading and research. You will be provided with a wide range of textbooks and will have access to our well stocked topic-specific libraries, which offer a range of online journals and resources, most of which can be accessed from home.

As a Sixth Form historian, you will be given the opportunity to join the editorial board of the Sixth Form History magazine, *The HistOracle*, which has won the Historical Association Award for best school history magazine in the country for seven out of the last eight years. All Year 12 students are asked to contribute articles to this publication and a number of those have had their articles printed in national publications and have won national awards. You will also have the opportunity to enter your work into national History Essay competitions and participate in debates, to listen to visiting speakers and to engage in a range of History related extra-curricular activities. We hope also to offer a number of trips during the two-year course to bring aspects of the syllabus to life – details of these will be advertised once confirmed.

COURSE CONTENT

The A Level consists of three components, two of which are assessed by an end of course exam and the third by an individual coursework investigation. The content for the two examined units is taught across the two A Level years and students will start the coursework in the Summer Term of Year 12, for submission in the Spring Term of Year 13. You will study a mixture of Modern European and British History and Medieval World History, including the rise of Fascism in Italy, the political, economic and social history of 19th Century Britain and the Age of the Crusades.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Component 1: Written exam (2 hours 30 minutes, 40%)

Component 2: Written exam (2 hours 30 minutes, 40%)

Component 3: Coursework investigation (20%)

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

Because the skills required at A Level build upon the essay and source skills developed at GCSE, you are more likely to do well at A Level if you have achieved at least a Grade 7 at GCSE. A good grade in English is also very useful.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

It is widely recognised that the subject develops and hones your skills of analysis, judgement, research and literacy; skills that are in high demand in a rapidly changing economy and in many different fields. Although sometimes described as a non-vocational subject, History actually opens up a great number of professional opportunities rather than narrows them.

Scan the QR code adjacent to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



MATHEMATICS (PEARSON EDEXCEL 9MA0) MS K JAGGER



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY MATHEMATICS AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

Mathematics is the most popular A Level choice both nationally and at Bolton School. By choosing Mathematics, you are choosing a path that leads to many exciting career opportunities, from engineering, finance and medicine, to technology, data science and beyond. Mathematics is a subject that develops your ability to think logically, solve problems and approach challenges with confidence. It is highly valued by universities and employers and opens the door to a wide range of degree courses and careers.

To study Mathematics at A Level, you must truly enjoy the subject at GCSE. You must have a strong capacity for problem solving, a love of algebra and number, and high levels of academic resilience. In return, you will be supported by our highly qualified teaching staff. We aim to establish strong relationships with each student understanding them as learners, and knowing how to make them achieve. For continuing students, this means that we hit the ground running; for new starters we make establishing this relationship a priority. Our teaching is based on a combination of strong, time-tested methodology and up-to-date techniques.

We are meticulous in our approach to all elements of the curriculum, working together to be certain we utilise the most appropriate routes for each student. Student progress is closely monitored by each teacher, in both formative assessment and during day-to-day classroom practice, so that we can spot any issues before they are left to develop into a problem. All pupils are given everyday access to teaching staff at any break, free period and before and after school. As in the class, these visits are monitored to ensure we know who is taking advantage of this one-to-one service.

COURSE CONTENT

Students will, over the two years, cover material from Pure Mathematics, Statistics and Mechanics.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Students take three papers at the end of Year 13. Paper 1 and Paper 2 cover the pure content. Paper 3 covers statistics and mechanics (the applied content). All papers are weighted equally (100 marks per paper) and are of two hours in duration.

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

This subject requires determination and commitment: good results cannot be achieved without hard work, coupled with a reasonable amount of natural ability. Co-operation between individual students and the experienced teaching staff is encouraged, and is essential for success at a high level. Motivation is important, and will be best exemplified by a 7 or above at GCSE. A Grade 6 will be considered for students who are committed to improvement.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

Mathematics is a very valuable support subject to many courses at A Level and degree level, especially in the sciences. It is a much sought after qualification for entry to a wide variety of full-time courses in Higher Education. These include but are not limited to Engineering, Pure Science, Economics, Medicine, Architecture and Computing.

Scan the QR code adjacent to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:





FURTHER MATHEMATICS (PEARSON EDEXCEL 9FM0) MS K JAGGER

WHY STUDY FURTHER MATHEMATICS AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

If you truly love mathematics and want to discover how far it can take you, then Further Mathematics could be the right course for you. This is not simply 'more maths'. It is a subject that moves beyond routine methods and standard techniques. You will be expected to think independently, apply ideas in unfamiliar contexts and solve problems that require real insight rather than repetition.

This is a highly demanding qualification, designed for students who are already strong in Mathematics and who will enjoy being stretched beyond the standard A Level course. A Further Mathematics student will spend half their time on mathematics, so require both a love of and high ability in the subject.

Further Mathematics is one of the most highly respected subjects offered at A Level. It is recognised by the Russell Group universities for its challenging content and is, therefore, an excellent qualification to obtain.

In November of Year 12, students attend the Maths Inspiration Show – a national event featuring engaging lectures from leading mathematicians and speakers. This is a fantastic opportunity to see real-world applications of mathematics and gain inspiration for future study.

COURSE CONTENT

A Further Mathematician will possibly study all aspects of the A Level course including Pure, Mechanics, Statistics and Decision.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Students take four papers at the end of Year 13, all the papers are of 1½ hours duration and each is worth 25% of the A Level.

Note: Students will also take the three papers for their single Mathematics A Level at the same time.

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

Further Mathematics is an A Level in its own right but must be taken in conjunction with the single Mathematics course. Further Mathematics is extremely demanding and is only suitable for able and dedicated Mathematicians. It is vital that students consult with their Mathematics teacher before considering this course as a choice; a 9 is required at GCSE.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

Any student who is likely to want to study a degree in mathematics, physics, economics or engineering would be well advised to consider studying Further Mathematics. It is highly prized by universities and employers in whatever area you study. It can also open doors to prestigious universities and highly skilled careers where advanced mathematical understanding is essential.

Mathematics graduates are in demand and find employment in a variety of careers. These include research, actuarial studies, accountancy, marketing, operational research, computing and teaching.

Scan the QR code adjacent to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



MUSIC (AQA 7272)

MR P LOVATT



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY MUSIC AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

Music at Bolton School is extremely successful, with results consistently well-above the national average. The A Level Music course is taught by Boys' and Girls' Division staff and there are close links between the Music Departments of both Divisions, particularly for extra-curricular music. You will enjoy the benefit of being taught by a number of different colleagues for individual aspects of the course: composing, harmony, listening, appraising or performing.

As a musician at Bolton School, you will have the opportunity to be involved in a huge range of events ranging from solo performances at our in-house concerts right through to full-scale Gala concerts at venues such as the nationally renowned Bridgewater Hall in Manchester.

There are a great many ensembles, groups and bands to join, enabling you to enhance your performing skills and open other social doors. The quality of these ensembles is first rate, with some being recognised nationally in competitions and festivals. Alongside the main concerts, we have internal competitions such as our 'Young Musician' and 'Young Composer of the Year', which feature a great number of students demonstrating their musical skills.

COURSE CONTENT

This is a wide-ranging A Level course which is designed to appeal to both prospective University or Music College students and to students who simply enjoy music, giving scope for the development of individual interests and aptitudes. The course covers and gives insight into a spectrum of musical styles and genres.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

- **Component 1 'Appraising Music' (40%)**
Has a final examination including a listening test, analysis, and an essay, covering topics from the Baroque, Classical and Romantic eras, and two chosen from a selection (e.g. Jazz, Musical Theatre and Pop – studying five or six artists with three in detail).
- **Component 2 'Performance' (35%)**
Consists of a 10-12 minute solo recital, which include an optional ensemble element.
- **Component 3 'Composition' (25%)**
Consists of a coursework portfolio of two compositions, one following an exam board set brief, the other a free composition with both lasting a minimum of 4 ½ minutes.

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

You should have a real love of, and interest in, music, with a performing standard of at least Grade 5, and a willingness to be involved in extra-curricular activities. Grade 7 or above at GCSE is the usual requirement for entry onto the course, although a Grade 6 will be considered for students who are committed to improvement. Knowledge of music theory at ABRSM Grade 5 level is strongly recommended, but is not essential.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

The creative industries are a hugely successful part of the UK economy, with music playing a key role. Apart from teaching and performing, study of music can lead to recording and media work, arts administration and a wide variety of careers outside music. For those not interested in following a music-based career, it is an A Level course which is highly respected for its academic rigour and broad development of performance and interpersonal skills.

Scan the QR code adjacent to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



PHYSICAL EDUCATION (OCR H555)

MR M JOHNSON



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY PHYSICAL EDUCATION AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

A Level Physical Education at Bolton School allows pupils to benefit from excellent resources and sporting facilities, delivered by experienced staff with a proven track record and considerable expertise in their own specialisms.

COURSE CONTENT

This is a fast growing, popular and now commonly accredited A Level course. This multi-dimensional syllabus enables students to acquire a range and depth of knowledge across a variety of inter-related disciplines. The multidisciplinary approach ensures students examine the physiological, psychological, socio-cultural and historical factors that underpin sporting performance, and the reasons for participation in physical activity. In addition, candidates will gain experience of performing a variety of activities chosen from different activity profiles. Students will also gain experience in coaching and officiating the activities, so as to develop their understanding and appreciation of the coaching points, skills, rules and the application of tactics associated with their chosen activities.

- Component H555/01:** Physiological factors affecting performance
- Component H555/02:** Psychological factors affecting performance
- Component H555/03:** Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport
- Component H555/05:** Practical performances
- Component H555/06:** Evaluation and Analysis of Performance for Improvement (EAPI)

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

- Component H555/01:** 2 hour written paper – 90 marks (30%)
- Component H555/02:** 1 hour written paper – 60 marks (20%)
- Component H555/03:** 1 hour written paper – 60 marks (20%)
- Component H555/05:** Performance assessment – 30 marks (15%)
- Component H555/06:** EAPI – 30 marks (15%)

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

There are no specific requirements for A Level Physical Education, however, a Grade 6 or above in Biology would be beneficial. Grade 5-9 at GCSE P. level would also be recommended. A background and interest in a specific sport is essential, but furthermore, a high level of sporting representation would give a distinct advantage. Although this subject has practical elements, a considerable proportion of its content is theoretically based (70%), covering a variety of inter-related disciplines.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

An A Level in Physical Education can lead to a variety of options, including sports science, sports studies, leisure and recreational management, physiotherapy, coaching, teaching physical education, lecturing and sport administration.

Scan the QR code adjacent to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



PHYSICS (AQA 7408)

MR M ORMEROD



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY PHYSICS AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

Enthusiastic Physics specialists deliver inspiring and enjoyable lessons alongside many enrichment activities. The opportunities include: attending physics lectures at universities and in school, taking part in Physics Olympic Events, extreme physics sessions and becoming a physics ambassador. The department consists of examiners and members who have worked very closely with the Institute of Physics.

COURSE CONTENT

Physics is a rewarding, challenging and varied subject. It can appeal both to those with a gift for practical work and to those who enjoy thinking about the nature and future of the universe. It provides an opportunity to develop numeracy, logical thought and practical skills. It is a very popular choice at A Level, often combined with mathematics or other sciences, and complements a wide range of other A Levels.

Core topics:

- Measurement and Their Errors
- Particles and Radiation
- Waves
- Mechanics and Materials
- Electricity
- Further Mechanics
- Fields and their Consequences
- Nuclear Physics

Option topics:

- Astrophysics
- Medical Physics
- Engineering
- Turning Points

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Three written exams covering all 6 modules:

Paper 1: 2 hours – 85 marks (34%)

Paper 2: 2 hours – 85 marks (34%)

Paper 3: 2 hours – 80 marks (32%)

There will also be a practical pass/fail endorsement based on performance in twelve practical tasks.

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

Students with a genuine interest in physics and sufficient aptitude to complete an A Level course successfully, are likely to have achieved Grade 7 or above in GCSE Physics or the equivalent in Trilogy Science. As physics is a numerate subject, competence and confidence in mathematics is required. It is not, however, necessary to study mathematics beyond GCSE to be successful in A Level Physics.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

Students from Bolton School have gone on to study pure physics, astrophysics, physics with philosophy and related subjects such as materials science and have then followed careers in teaching, telecommunications, Earth sciences, archaeology, finance and patent law. Others have used their physics as a platform for degrees and subsequent careers in engineering, electronics and geology. Physics is useful for entering the fields of medicine, veterinary science and dentistry. Physics graduates develop excellent problem-solving and thinking skills which, means they are able to take on a wide variety of jobs ranging from designing computer games to accountancy.

Scan the QR code adjacent to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



POLITICS (AQA 7152)

MRS B SCOTT



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY POLITICS AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

Engaging in the study of politics is lively, relevant, controversial and ever changing. This fast paced and challenging course will certainly develop your ability to debate and argue your case convincingly!

You will be taught by two teachers in small groups of 8-12 pupils, providing the opportunity to build strong working relationships and allowing everyone to engage in discussions and debates. Your teachers will be dedicated to helping your progress, offering feedback and assistance to ensure you reach your full potential.

The Politics department is well resourced and you will be provided with a wide range of books and textbooks to assist your learning. Bolton School also offers online and physical subscriptions to *Politics Review* magazine, providing up to date analysis on modern political issues. The Senior Library further houses a wide range of books and journals and throughout the course, you will be provided with relevant articles, to be debated with your teachers and peers.

Beyond the classroom, there are numerous opportunities to engage in Politics within school, such as Debating Club, Model UN, History Society and more. We also run an annual trip to Westminster in the Autumn Term of Year 13.

COURSE CONTENT

Year 12

The Government of the UK (Paper 1)
Politics of the UK (Paper 1)
Political ideologies (Paper 3)

Year 13

The Government of the USA (Paper 2)
Politics of the USA (Paper 2)
Comparative study of the UK and USA (Paper 2)

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

You will be examined by three papers at the end of Year 13:

Paper 1: Government and Politics of the UK (2 hours, 33.3%)

Paper 2: Government and Politics of the USA & Comparative Politics (2 hours, 33.%)

Paper 3: Political Ideas (2 hours, 33.3%)

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

Successful students will need to possess strong written skills and the ability to competently analyse information, and identify key details from a text. Strong passes in both English Literature/Language and one humanities subject are desirable.

Importantly, you must have a keen interest in current affairs, debating and understanding how countries are run. The course requires a substantial amount of reading, so you must consider that whilst we will have the opportunity to debate and challenge ideas, you must be willing to treat this as an academic subject.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

A Level Politics is ideal if you are considering studying international relations, history, sociology, politics, philosophy or law at university. However, it is a highly respected qualification for many university courses as it develops a range of transferable skills.

An academic understanding of politics and government institutions is useful in many careers. Specialist jobs directly relating to politics include policy advisor, political risk analyst, government social researcher and the civil service, as well as roles within national and local government and NGOs. By studying Politics, you will develop your skills of judgement, analysis, and research. These skills are routinely sought after by employers in a broad range of fields.

Scan the QR code adjacent to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



PSYCHOLOGY (AQA 7182)

MISS E COMPTON



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY PSYCHOLOGY AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

- To develop an increased awareness and understanding of the 'main schools' in Psychology and how they each interpret human behaviour;
- To develop understanding of the research methods that psychologists use and an ability to apply these across a range of contexts;
- To develop your independent learning skills within the subject; and
- To learn to draw conclusions based on evidence.

COURSE CONTENT

The AQA Psychology specification offers an interesting and applied content which we anticipate students will enjoy. You will develop a detailed understanding of various methods and approaches in Psychology and be able to apply your knowledge to a variety of topic areas such as Psychopathology, Schizophrenia, Forensic, Issues, Debates and Methods including Statistics in Psychology. You will take part in practical activities which provide invaluable knowledge in order for you to be stretched and challenged academically which will support you in the attainment of higher grades.

You will study through a wide variety of methods including reading, debating, ICT, learning theory and carrying out practical work. It is important that you participate in independent learning and wider reading; watching relevant television programmes will also enhance your understanding of the subject.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

This specification is designed to be taken over two years with all assessments taken at the end of the course. At the end of the two-year course you will be assessed in three two-hour A Level examinations.

Skills known as AO1 (Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of scientific ideas, processes, techniques and procedures); AO2 (Application of knowledge and understanding of scientific ideas, processes, techniques and procedures) and AO3 (Analyse, interpret and evaluate scientific information, ideas and evidence), will be measured and you will have the opportunity of gaining up to an A* grade on your final A Level.

There is no externally examined coursework at A Level. Practical skills will be developed through class activities and the methods used will be taught through the experimental method, observations, interviews and other research methods. Ethical considerations and safe practice used in the real world of psychology, will be fully explored. These skills, known as 'How Science Works' will be assessed throughout the units described above.

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

You should be enthusiastic, communicative and diligent. Some knowledge of Science and Biology is always helpful, especially as the discipline follows the scientific method in its research practice. 10% of the skills assessed at A Level require maths skills so a good grade in GCSE Maths is desirable.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

Psychology has recently been reclassified as a science subject, therefore, the course may support applications to a range of scientific fields such as medicine, pharmacy and dentistry. Psychology, due to its broad content, has many applications in areas ranging from education, law, counselling, social work, industry, child care, media and public relations, plus many others.

Scan the QR code adjacent to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:





RELIGIOUS STUDIES: PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS (OCR H573) MRS K PORTER

WHY STUDY RELIGIOUS STUDIES AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

The A Level course helps to develop the skills of analysis, logical presentation of argument and critical thinking, whilst allowing you to gain knowledge which may help you to make sense of the world and the competing demands of life in the twenty-first century.

COURSE CONTENT

There are three elements to the course: Philosophy of Religion, Ethics, and Developments in Christian Thought. Philosophy of Religion considers the question of God's existence, the nature of the self, the challenge of evil and suffering, belief in God and the age-old question of what, if anything, happens when we die. Ethics involves asking questions about right and wrong and whether it is possible, or even desirable, to develop a system for telling us how we ought to behave in every situation. You will learn about ethical decision-making in the real world by focusing on euthanasia, business ethics and issues concerning sex and sexuality in the twenty-first century. Developments in Christian Thought focuses on key areas of Christian theology which have shaped western philosophy and culture over the past 2000 years and investigates reasons why religion seems to be in decline in the modern world. You will also study some of the ways in which Christianity has responded to other faiths and to the challenge of feminist theology in traditionally male-dominated world views. Due to the nature of the subject matter and the skills you will develop, Philosophy and Ethics A Level complements both the sciences and the humanities and is an excellent preparation for any degree course or career which values a questioning mind, academic rigour, critical analysis and the ability to construct persuasive arguments.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

One examination for each module. There is no coursework.

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

You should enjoy discussing, reading, thinking and expressing your ideas, both orally and in writing, and keeping up to date with current ethical issues. It is essential that you question, make judgements and formulate your own opinions. It is not necessary to have studied Religious Studies at GCSE.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

Wherever you want it to! The Religious Studies A Level in Philosophy and Ethics is welcomed by the top universities as a valuable academic subject. The skills developed throughout the course make it a good foundation for a degree in any subject and the knowledge acquired provides a useful background for many occupations. Medicine, law, psychology, politics, journalism, public relations, the police and business management are just some of the careers that former students have gone on to follow.

Scan the QR code below to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



RUSSIAN (PEARSON EDEXCEL 9RU0) MR N WYATT



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY RUSSIAN AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

Few schools in Great Britain offer Russian beyond GCSE. Fewer still are able to match the breadth and depth of both knowledge and resources that the Russian Department here at Bolton School offers. Students are taught in small groups and in one-to-one sessions, allowing lessons to be easily tailored to the needs of each individual. You will benefit from a selection of teachers who have more than fifty years' experience of Sixth Form teaching between them and will have access to a wealth of material to give you the best possible chance to fulfil your potential. Departmental examination results are impressive, with almost every single candidate over the last five years attaining A*- B at A Level and many opting to continue their study of Russian at university, including the likes of Oxford and Cambridge. Russian has a kudos value that makes admissions tutors and potential employers sit up and take note; it opens many doors, frequently reduces university entry requirements and is a talent that embellishes any CV. We are proud to launch our new Sixth Form study trip to Tallinn, Estonia, next year, enabling pupils to immerse themselves in Russian-speaking culture, involving a wide range of excursions as well as intensive small-group language sessions.

COURSE CONTENT

The course is broad, offering you the chance to look at politics and social issues, through to the media and the arts. You can expect your understanding of Russia, its history, culture and literature to expand immeasurably and your linguistic skills to develop considerably.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Those seeking to obtain an A Level qualification in Russian, will sit three terminally assessed papers at the end of Year 13. The speaking component will be sat in May and the written components, in June.

Paper 1:	Listening, Reading and Translation (2 hours, 40%)
Paper 2:	Written Response to works and translation (2 hours 40 minutes, 30%)
Paper 3:	Speaking (21 – 23 minutes, 30%)*

*This includes 5 minutes' preparation time

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

Although the study of Russian at this level demands significant linguistic competence, crucially, a committed and focused approach is the more essential quality. Pupils achieving a wide range of GCSE grades have found great success at Russian A Level and all should feel empowered to join us for Sixth Form.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

Prior to the invasion of Ukraine, links between Russia, the former Soviet Republics and the West were growing rapidly. Employment opportunities exist in all spheres from journalism and publishing to business, tourism and industry, with diplomacy and international relations now playing an even more crucial role than before. With an eye on re-establishing productive diplomatic channels, knowledge of Russian language and politics, alongside a desire to communicate, are more essential than ever. Former students have found that they have received more favourable offers from universities, not just for the linguistic talents they possess, but also for the logical and deductive skills they have developed.

Scan the QR code adjacent to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:



SPANISH (AQA 7692)

MRS M LAPINSKAS



BOLTON SCHOOL
BOYS' DIVISION
A LEVEL OPTIONS

WHY STUDY SPANISH AT BOLTON SCHOOL?

Spanish A Level is a hugely enjoyable and challenging subject which will allow you to build your fledging linguistic skills and develop them into a real ability to communicate on both a formal and informal level. The relatively small size of the department means that lessons can include lively discussion and interaction in Spanish, and that there is plenty of opportunity for individual attention. You will also have weekly speaking practice with the Spanish language assistant, giving you the opportunity to develop oral fluency and try out new skills. You will also have the opportunity to visit Spain. In short, the Spanish Department is able to offer a rewarding and highly individualised experience for any boy who chooses to continue with Spanish.

COURSE CONTENT

For Year 12, the course is broad and relevant, offering you the chance to develop your linguistic skills through the study of topics such as Social Issues in Spain and Latin America, Artistic Culture and Regional Identity. You will also study in detail a Spanish or Latin American film. The grammatical content of the course is of great importance and you will gain a much deeper knowledge of the structure of the Spanish language.

Year 13 builds on the topics covered in the previous year and also covers multiculturalism in Hispanic society and politics. You will also study a Spanish novel in detail and undertake an individual research project on a topic of your choice relating to the Hispanic world.

ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Two written papers and an oral examination at the end of the course:

- Paper 1:** Listening, Reading and Translation (2 hours 30 minutes, 50%)
- Paper 2:** Writing (2 hours, 20%)
- Paper 3:** Speaking (21-23 minutes, 30%)*

*This includes 5 minutes' preparation time

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS

Any pupil who has passed GCSE Spanish can elect to study Spanish in the Sixth Form. The ability to get good grades at A Level requires a large amount of independent work. Consequently, pupils should have a genuine interest in Spanish and the ability to go beyond the basic structures encountered at GCSE. Although the Department will not turn down anyone who has a genuine passion to learn Spanish, anyone struggling to gain a Grade 6 or 7 or above at GCSE is unlikely to achieve the higher grades at A Level.

WHERE WILL IT LEAD?

We are very pleased that many of our former students have chosen to continue studying Spanish at university, though still others have gone on to courses such as law or medicine. Along with the other language A Levels, Spanish is considered a 'facilitating' subject by Russell Group universities, meaning that it opens doors to more degrees and more professions than others. The number of students able to include a language A Level on their CV or UCAS form is in decline, while language skills are valued by employers and universities more than ever. This means that by taking Spanish A Level, you will be setting yourself apart from other applicants. These practical considerations aside, the ability to communicate effectively in the world's second most commonly spoken language is hugely rewarding when travelling for business or pleasure and opens up a whole new world of culture.

Scan the QR code adjacent to hear from our students about their experiences studying this subject:







