KING'S BRUTON

SIXTH FORM

Prospectus &

Options Booklet

2027



A SCHOOL OF
understated exceptionality

The Good Schools Guide 2026

Welcome to our Sixth Form





Sixth Form marks an important transition: greater independence, higher expectations and the opportunity to begin shaping what comes next. At King's Bruton, our ambition is for every pupil to leave us having achieved their goals, but also as a confident, curious and grounded young adult, ready and able to make a difference to the world around them.

Our Sixth Form is shaped by the values that define King's Bruton: being aspirational in our thinking, future-focused in our outlook and fostering a genuine sense of belonging. Pupils are encouraged to challenge themselves academically, seize the opportunities around them and contribute positively to the community.

These are two important years. We look forward to sharing them with you.

Matt Read

Headmaster

The Sixth Form is unlike any other stage of your education. It offers greater independence, deeper academic exploration and the opportunity to shape a pathway around your own interests and ambitions. Every Sixth Former here is known as an individual: supported by teachers who understand them, encouraged to aim high and given the confidence to make the most of every opportunity.

Academic success is central, but Sixth Form here is about much more. Through leadership, sport, music, drama, service and academic enrichment, pupils discover new strengths and play an important role in our community.

Whatever your ambitions, we will help you explore what comes next and prepare you to take that next step with confidence.

Will Daws

Deputy Head & Head of Sixth Form

44%
A*/A grades *at A Level*

A Level Results 2026



More than a SIXTH FORM

Seven things define our Sixth Form experience

1 *An education* THAT GOES FURTHER

Our Sixth Form education extends far beyond the classroom. These are formative years: a time to build lifelong friendships, discover new interests and develop confidence and independence. Academic ambition, exceptional pastoral care and a rich co-curricular programme ensure pupils leave King's Bruton ready for the opportunities and challenges ahead.

A place WHERE YOU BELONG 2

At King's Bruton, every pupil is known as an individual. Tutors, House staff and teachers provide personalised support, giving pupils the confidence to embrace new challenges while always having someone to turn to. Our boarding ethos shapes a warm, inclusive community in which kindness, respect and friendship matter - and boarders and day pupils alike quickly find their place.

Pupil Profiles



Will - A Levels A*/A*/A*/A*

"I'm really proud of my results and so grateful for all the support I've had at King's. My teachers have always encouraged me to aim high and have genuinely wanted me to do well."



Lottie - A Levels A*/A*/A

"My time at King's has taught me to be independent and confident in my own abilities. I am really grateful for the opportunities the School has provided and the support and encouragement of my teachers."



A TRIUMPH OF
substance over gloss

The Good Schools Guide 2026

3 *Life* BEYOND LESSONS

Sixth Formers are encouraged to play a full part in life here: leading societies, mentoring younger pupils and pursuing interests across sport, music, drama and outdoor pursuits. From the EPQ and Duke of Edinburgh's Award to CCF, lectures, competitions and university preparation, opportunities abound to develop independence, resilience and leadership beyond the classroom.

Boarding WITH PURPOSE 4

Boarding is at the heart of School life. Our Houses are welcoming communities where pupils form friendships across year groups, develop independence and learn to support one another. Shared traditions, House events, informal evenings and weekend activities create a genuine sense of home, with day pupils equally integral to House life.

5 *A breadth of* OPPORTUNITY

Life at King's Bruton is rich in opportunities to get involved, whether performing in a concert, representing the School on the sports field, organising a charity event or simply spending time with friends. Pupils leave with far more than excellent qualifications: they take with them confidence, character, lasting friendships and a strong sense of who they are and what they can become.

Leadership IN ACTION 6

Sixth Form pupils play an important role at King's Bruton, with opportunities to lead as prefects, Heads of House, senior members of the CCF and across sport, music and other areas of School life. Taking on genuine responsibility helps pupils develop skills that will serve them well long after they leave King's.

7 *A Focus* ON THE FUTURE

Every pupil receives individual guidance as they explore what comes next, whether university, an apprenticeship or another pathway. Specialist staff provide expert support for applications to leading UK and international universities, including Oxbridge, alongside dedicated apprenticeship advice, careers events, interview preparation and employability training. The aim is simple: to help every pupil make informed, ambitious choices about their future.


KING'S BRUTON


cocktails
BARNYARD
WRECK


know
hazard




BLACKFORD
HOUSE FOOD
ONATIONS










MINI PLANT OXFORD.

Ambitious with your LEARNING

A hallmark of King's Bruton is the ambition we have for what every pupil can achieve and we encourage our pupils to approach their studies with the same sense of curiosity, determination and aspiration. For many, Sixth Form is the first opportunity to focus on the subjects that genuinely excite them. With a choice of A Levels, BTECs and a WJEC Diploma, pupils can build a programme that reflects their strengths, interests and future aspirations. Most pupils begin the Lower Sixth with four subjects, while many also choose to complete an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), creating a course of study that is both broad and personal.

A Programme Built Around You

One of the strengths of the King's Bruton Sixth Form is the range of opportunities available. There is no single route to success and pupils are encouraged to choose the combination of qualifications that best suits their ambitions, whether they are aiming for a competitive university course, an apprenticeship or a particular career path. As pupils move into the Upper Sixth, they typically specialise further while continuing to develop the knowledge, skills and independence that will serve them well beyond school.

Specialist Teaching

All Sixth Form teaching is delivered by subject specialists who bring expertise, enthusiasm and challenge to every lesson. Pupils are encouraged to question, debate and think for themselves, building both academic confidence and intellectual independence. The Sixth Form Study Centre provides a dedicated space for independent study and collaboration, helping pupils develop the habits and self-discipline expected at university and in the workplace.

Extending Horizons

The EPQ offers pupils the opportunity to undertake substantial independent research on a topic that genuinely interests them. Highly regarded by universities, it develops the research, analytical and presentation skills that are increasingly important in higher education. Alongside our extensive A Level provision, BTECs and the WJEC Diploma provide equally valuable opportunities to develop practical expertise and highly transferable skills. Together, these pathways ensure that pupils leave King's Bruton not only with excellent qualifications, but with the confidence, independence and breadth of experience to make informed choices about what comes next.













TEMPLE
UNIVERSITY
UCU
University
Italy




CREATE
YOUR
evolv



Ambitious with your LEARNING

Academic Enrichment

Learning at King's Bruton extends far beyond examination specifications. Departments offer a rich programme of lectures, trips, competitions and enrichment opportunities that deepen understanding and spark new interests. Many pupils also undertake MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) through providers such as FutureLearn, exploring subjects beyond the curriculum and experiencing university-style learning while still at school.

Support and Opportunity

Alongside academic challenge comes excellent support. Teachers, Tutors, Deputy Heads and parents work closely together to ensure that each pupil makes strong progress and gets the most from their Sixth Form years. Regular feedback, workshops and individual guidance help pupils develop confidence and effective study habits.

Our highly regarded Learning Support Department and dedicated study support provision provide additional help with organisation, workload management and study skills whenever required.



Recent Academic Enrichment Opportunities

- Visit to BMW Mini factory
- History trip to Berlin
- Tour of Google London
- Visit to Bank of England
- Geography Field Trip to the Azores
- Fitzjames History Forum
- Politics Trip to Washington DC
- Art Trips to Oxford and London
- Chemistry Symposium
- Performing Arts Visits to London
- Molecular Workshop
- Physics Engineering Day
- Oultonian Society
- Spectroscopy Day at Bristol University
- Entrepreneur Showcase Evening
- Hospitality Masterclass at Les Roches
- Enterprise Trip to The Newt, Somerset
- Behind the Scenes at The Dorchester
- Business Challenge Day
- Guest Art Workshops

Social Activities

Whilst 'being ambitious with your time' is about engaging in activities that will broaden and enhance individuals, there is also a very important and strong social side to the Sixth Form. The Sixth Form Club, open on Saturday evenings, is a unique environment in which Sixth Form pupils can enjoy each other's company and represents a step up in privilege.

There are also many social events throughout the year, including the annual Sixth Form Dinner, for which the teachers become the waiters for the evening. King's Bruton is a hard working, ambitious environment, but one where enjoyment and happiness are essential characteristics of our identity.



Ambitious with your TIME

Extra-Curricular Activities

Sixth Form is about much more than the subjects you study. The years beyond GCSEs bring greater freedom and independence, but also opportunities to discover new interests, develop existing talents and make full use of School life.

With more than 60 activities available, pupils are encouraged to pursue the areas that interest at the same time as trying something new. Whether through sport, music, drama, service, leadership or one of the many clubs and societies on offer, some of the most memorable aspects of Sixth Form life happen beyond the classroom.

Leadership and Service

Sixth Form brings increased responsibility and opportunities to lead. Through the Combined Cadet Force, mentoring younger pupils, leading activities and supporting events, pupils develop leadership, teamwork and self-reliance while contributing to the wider school community.

Sport

Every pupil has the opportunity to represent the School at King's. Excellent facilities and expert coaching create an environment where participation and performance go hand in hand. Our teams regularly achieve success at regional and national level, with specialist performance coaching available for those wishing to develop further.

Music and Drama

Music and Drama are central to life at King's Bruton. The standard of concerts, productions and performances in our Queen Elizabeth Music School is consistently impressive. Whether on stage, behind the scenes or as part of an ensemble, pupils are encouraged to play an active role in the creative life of the School.

Finding Your Place

The breadth of opportunity at King's means no two pupils have exactly the same experience. Some pursue sport at the highest level; others devote themselves to music, drama, service, academic societies or a combination of interests. What they share is a willingness to make the most of their time, explore new opportunities and contribute to School life – experiences that often become among the most memorable and rewarding aspects of a King's education.

Example Extra-Curricular Activities

- Duke of Edinburgh, Ten Tors and CCF
- Astrophotography
- Life Drawing
- Community Service
- Golf
- Speech and Drama Coaching
- Greenpower KSB Motor Sport
- Jazz, Tap and Modern Dance
- Chapel Choir
- 3D Printing
- Fitzjames Forum
- Swimming
- Military Band
- And many more besides!


THE MEADOW
WELLESLEY
HOUSE FOOD
DONATIONS
1914
1918

Ambitious with your FUTURE

Ambitious with Your Future

Sixth Form is a time when interests become ambitions and possibilities begin to take shape. For some pupils, their next step is already clear; for others, these two years provide an opportunity to explore where their strengths and interests might lead. At King's Bruton, we recognise that there is no single route to success. While many pupils progress to university, others pursue degree apprenticeships, specialist training or employment. Whatever their destination, pupils are encouraged to explore their options and make informed decisions about their future.

Exploring the Possibilities

From the outset of the Lower Sixth, pupils are supported in considering the opportunities available to them. All pupils are offered external and internal careers guidance interviews with highly-qualified professionals, as well as being exposed to careers through a wide variety of subject careers speakers, employer visits, careers fairs and work experience opportunities.

Preparing for Life Beyond School

The Sixth Form Ambitions Programme equips pupils with the skills and confidence needed for their next steps. Through workshops, practical guidance and visiting speakers, pupils learn how to write effective CVs and applications, build a professional online presence and present themselves confidently.

Interview Experience

A highlight of the Upper Sixth is the Interview Practice Scheme. Pupils experience virtual and in-person interviews with professionals from outside King's Bruton, providing valuable preparation for university interviews, apprenticeships and future employment.

Looking Ahead

There is no single definition of success at King's. What matters is that pupils leave with a clear sense of direction, an understanding of the opportunities available to them and the confidence to take their next step.

University Guidance

For those considering higher education, support begins early and continues throughout Sixth Form. Pupils benefit from university visits, admissions presentations, overseas university fairs hosted at King's Bruton and visits to UCAS and higher education events. They also have access to Unifrog's research and shortlisting tools, individual guidance from the Head of Sixth Form and advice from former pupils who have recently navigated the application process themselves.

The Sixth Form TEAM

Pupils are well supported in their academic and pastoral needs, critically, in planning and exploring their future pathways. Alongside the Deputy Head - Sixth Form, Will Daws, there are three other members of the Sixth Form Team who are there to provide specialist support to pupils pursuing particular pathways.



Elite University Applications - Caroline Garland

Additional support is given to those aspirational pupils who wish to apply to either the University of Oxford or the University of Cambridge. Pupils are guided along every step of the application process and will have regular mentoring sessions with Mrs Garland, ensuring that each pupil submits the strongest application possible.

There are opportunities for further academic enrichment, such as the Headmaster's Essay Society, and pupils are given thorough interview and admissions assessment preparation support. There are also opportunities for visits to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. Those pupils who want to apply to study Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary Science are also well supported at King's. Pupils are guided during 1:1 meetings with Mrs Garland and are supported throughout the process of application. Pupils are also helped to find relevant work experience, prepare them for interviews and the UCAT assessments required by each of the courses.








The Sixth Form TEAM



Apprenticeship Adviser – Marie Goffe

An increasing number of pupils are choosing alternative pathways to employment. Recent research published by UCAS found that over 25% of pupils nationally are now planning to apply for higher or degree level apprenticeships. Recent successes have included degree apprenticeship placements with TLT (legal), Cushman and Wakefield (surveying), Siemens (management) and Airbus (engineering), with competition for places often exceeding over 1,000 applicants for as few as four places.

Apprenticeships combine practical training in a job with study and, as an apprentice, you will be an employee earning a wage and working alongside experienced staff. Apprenticeships span 150 industries and cover more than 1,500 different types of jobs. Applying for an apprenticeship is a very different process to applying to study at university as there are many different methods of recruitment that potential employers might use, ranging from the traditional interview to a multiple stage application.

At King's Bruton, Mrs Goffe is on hand to offer her significant expertise to support those navigating the application process. Mrs Goffe will:

- Offer 1:1 meetings to help research and discuss suitable opportunities
- Work with pupils to create a strong CV and covering letter
- Guide pupils through the online application
- Assist with interview preparation

Study Support Assistant – Victoria Cole

Pupils needing additional support with study skills, time planning or revision techniques can have one-off or regular meetings with Mrs Cole. This is particularly helpful to those working through BTEC courses, where management of ongoing assignments is a crucial skill.











47%

of all qualifications
graded at A/A*
or equivalent

Academic PROGRAMME

- *Art and Design*
- *Biology*
- *Business*
- *Chemistry*
- *Design and Technology*
- *Economics*
- *English Literature*
- *Enterprise and Entrepreneurship (BTEC)*
- *French*
- *Food Science and Nutrition (WJEC)*
- *Geography*
- *History*

OUR CORE *Programme*

4 A Level and BTECs from the following two pages

+

OPTIONAL AMBITIONS

Extended Project Qualification

Department Enrichment Activities

Independent Learning MOOCs

Personal Finance Training

IT Certification

E-Learning Courses

- *History of Art*
- *Latin*
- *Mathematics*
- *Further Mathematics*
- *Music*
- *Music Technology*
- *Performing Arts (BTEC)*
- *Physical Education*
- *Physics*
- *Politics*
- *Psychology*
- *Spanish*
- *Sport (BTEC)*

Sixth Form SUBJECT CHOICES

King's Sixth Form curriculum offers a wide range of subjects, with the opportunity to study both A Levels and BTEC qualifications.

Linear A Levels

All but one A Levels are now linear A Levels, with AS decoupled from A Levels. The examination schedule includes two or three terminal examinations for each subject, with an emphasis on synoptic questions and a greater stretch and challenge posed than in previous years. Science courses also include assessment of practical skills and some subjects involved Non-Examined Assessments (coursework).

International A Level

The exception to this decoupling is in Geography, where we study the International A Levels, and the AS result contributes to the final A Level grade. In this subject, AS and A Level courses have terminal examinations taken at the end of the Lower Sixth and Upper Sixth respectively.

King's Bruton Curriculum Policy

Our policy, which is kept under constant review with feedback from Higher Education providers, will see pupils sit AS Exams only in Geography, where the International A Level is studied. At the end of the Lower Sixth, performance in linear A Level subjects will be assessed with rigorous internal examinations.

Members of the Lower Sixth at King's Bruton are expected to study four subjects, whilst having the option of completing an Extended Project or other enriching qualifications. These subjects are selected following consultation between pupils, parents and tutors during the Fifth Form (Year 11).

Current and prospective parents are also welcome to contact Mr Daws or Dr Black (Deputy Head, Academic) for further discussion and guidance. Where possible, an initial decision should be made and returned by Monday 30th November. A combination of A Level and BTEC/WJEC subjects is possible and indeed encouraged for appropriate pupils. Most pupils will then drop to three subjects in the Upper Sixth. Whilst every effort will be made to try to accommodate the pupils' choices, it may be that some subject combinations will not be possible, in which case those meeting greatest demand will prevail.

Notes

- In order to consider entry for the Sixth Form, pupils should achieve grades 4-9 in at least five subjects, with a grade 6 in the Lower Sixth subjects they opt for.
- The School reserves the right to withdraw a subject, if, in the Headmaster's opinion, numbers are too small to form a viable group.
- In the event of a subject being oversubscribed, it may be necessary to limit numbers using academic criteria.
- If, in the Headmaster's opinion, a pupil's performance in the Lower Sixth Internal Examinations or in the International AS Level Examinations suggests that he/she is unlikely to pass A Level, then the pupil will not be permitted to continue the subject(s).

BTECs & WJEC AAQ

(Alternative Academic Qualification)

What are BTECs and the WJEC AAQ (Alternative Academic Qualification)?

• They are work-related qualifications suitable for a wide range of pupils.

• They are built to accommodate the needs of employers and enable progression to university.

• They provide a practical, real-world approach to learning without sacrificing any subject theory.

• They can be taken alongside A Levels.

Where can these take you?

• BTECs and the WJEC AAQ are recognised by universities, employers and professional bodies.

• They offer natural progression to academic qualifications and university, as well as to potential vocational options. This includes most Russell Group and many overseas universities.

• The qualifications are developed with key industry representatives and sector skills councils.

• Many industry and professional bodies offer exemptions to successful BTEC and WJEC AAQ pupils for their own accredited qualifications.

What levels does King's Bruton offer?

Pupils starting the WJEC AAQ in Food Science & Nutrition, or the BTECs in Enterprise & Entrepreneurship and Performing Arts in the Lower Sixth will all initially study the WJEC Level 3 Certificate or BTEC National Certificate Level (similar to an AS Level). The BTEC Sport course is run over two years and therefore pupils will only receive a qualification at the end of the Sixth Form. Pupils continuing to the Upper Sixth will complete a WJEC Extended Certificate (Food Science & Nutrition) or Extended Certificate (Sport, Enterprise & Entrepreneurship, Performing Arts). Both of these are recognised with a significant number of UCAS points, matching those of the A Level qualifications.

How are they assessed?

To complete each BTEC unit, pupils' work is assessed continually, pulling together the skills, knowledge and understanding. This ongoing assessment allows pupils to analyse and improve their own performance. Teacher assessment is complemented by external exams, with units being graded at Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction*. The WJEC Extended Certificate is assessed using a combination of examinations and Non-Examined Assessments. This is graded overall using A*-E.



Finalist 2026

Independent Schools of the Year Awards

How to Choose YOUR SUBJECTS

For some pupils, choosing options is straightforward, but for most, it is something they will have to think carefully about. It is important that you seek advice and discuss your options. Pupils should discuss options with family, teachers, tutors, Housemasters and Housemistresses, and with the Deputy Head - Academic or Deputy Head - Sixth Form, if they wish. Talk to people who know your strengths, weaknesses and interests.

Here are some useful principles to bear in mind:

C***hoose subjects that you enjoy.*** Interest in the subjects is of prime importance. You will need to devote many hours of study to each of your subjects. Unless you are interested, you will find it hard to maintain the motivation necessary to achieve your best grades.

Choose subjects in which you can succeed. You should have the ability to carry on studying your subjects to a high level, therefore, it is sensible to choose subjects in which you have already succeeded. When choosing new subjects look carefully at their requirements - do they match your strengths? Bear in mind that for many university courses, what matters is the grade profile, not the specific subjects, so do things that you can do well in and be realistic, listening to the advice of your tutors and teachers.

Choose subjects that are relevant to future plans. If you have a clear idea of your future aspirations at age 18, choose subjects which are required by Higher Education institutions or employers in order to fulfil those intentions. Investigate the various options and choose relevant and useful combinations of subjects. Make use of the Careers resources in the Library and online - Unifrog has a wealth of helpful information to support your decision making.

Choose subjects and course type which suit your style of working. Think whether you prefer more or less coursework, examinations etc. Look carefully at the skills, study patterns and styles of work required.

Choose subjects which are compatible with each other. Ensure your subjects fit well together and appear a sensible grouping for your future career or education.

Useful Links

The Uni Guide Subject Explorer
This tool allows you to put in a combination of subjects, to see where they could lead you:
Which Degree Courses Do Your A-Levels Suit? The Uni Guide

Unifrog
For those with access to Unifrog, this excellent careers platform provides subject pathway information and profiling tools to help decide on subjects: www.unifrog.org

Informed Choices
Produced by Russell Group universities, this is particularly useful guidance for those likely to get a majority of grade 6s and above at GCSE:
www.informedchoices.ac.uk/



The best thing about King's is definitely the teachers!

Indigo, 2026 Leaver

Art & Design

Examination Board: Eduqas

The Art and Design course embraces the full breadth of media and techniques. Our department staff specialise in the following areas of study:

Fine Art / 3D Design / Graphic Design
Photography / Digital Media / Printmaking
Animation / Textiles / Ceramics

About the Course

Art & Design would suit an enthusiastic and creative individual who is prepared to invest time in the studios outside lessons. Ideally, pupils will have confident drawing skills and an open mind. Pupils can predominantly specialise in one of the disciplines. In the Sixth Form, pupils are encouraged to be playful in their approach and to value the process of experimentation. Each year, the work culminates in a major summer exhibition celebrating the achievements of our pupils. Parents, pupils, staff and members of the local community are invited to attend.

Trips

Over the last few years, we have sought opportunities for pupils to experience art first-hand through national trips to London, Cardiff, Oxford, Plymouth and Bristol. We have also travelled abroad to Paris, Rome, Florence and Barcelona. We have Hauser & Wirth Somerset on our doorstep, along with a plethora of smaller galleries in Bruton, some of which sponsor art prizes for our pupils.

Assessment

Art is assessed through coursework (60%). This involves initial teacher-led projects, followed by a personal investigation in which pupils can choose their own pathway. Work is encouraged to be skilful, independent and exciting. The examination unit is worth 40% of the final mark and culminates in a 15-hour examination completed over three days.

Arthaus

Run in partnership with Hauser & Wirth, pupils are encouraged to attend monthly workshops and talks to engage with contemporary artists, art history and current topics within the art world.

Future Study & Careers

Art and Design provides an excellent foundation for specialist courses in the visual and creative arts, as well as for careers within the applied arts, media and entertainment industries. It is also one route towards a career in architecture.

Recent pupils have secured places on courses at institutions including UAL, Glasgow School of Art and the University of Edinburgh. In recent years, pupils have progressed to degree courses in architecture, set design, textiles, graphic design and animation. Currently, three latest leavers are studying on the BA (Hons) Sculpture course at Goldsmiths, University of London.

Mr S. M. Harkness
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Biology

Examination Board: AQA

Biology A Level teaching is split over two years, where pupils will develop a more in depth understanding of concepts covered at GCSE, as well as learning new cellular and biochemical components of the course. There is also a Practical Endorsement element, where pupils are assessed on a series of Required Practical experiments over the two year period.

About the Course

The specification is divided into main topic areas, each covering different key concepts of Biology: Year 1 Biological molecules, Cell structure and division, cell membranes, immunity, Exchange surfaces and transport in animals and plants, DNA, RNA and protein synthesis, diversity and selection, classification. Year 2 Photosynthesis and respiration, energy transfer and nutrient cycles, stimuli and responses, nervous coordination, homeostasis, Genetics, populations and evolution, populations and ecosystems, Gene expression, genome projects and gene technologies. In addition, at least 12 'Required Practical' experiments will be carried out in lesson time over the two years.

Course Requirements

This course would suit pupils who have an interest in exploring Biology to a more complex and cellular level. The course will be a mixture of independent and group study, therefore, pupils must be self-motivated to ensure consolidation is carried out in study periods and prep times. Biology would suit pupils who have a passion for science and who enjoyed the subject for GCSE, but also pupils who are focused and motivated to work hard. Grade 7 or above in GCSE Science (Triple award) is advised.

Assessment

Teacher assessed Practical Endorsement throughout the course. The practical skills form a component of the three externally assessed written examinations, sat at the end of the second year of study which assess both years' work.

Mrs K. M. Stainton
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Business

Examination Board: AQA

Whoever we are, we engage with businesses every day, and studying an A Level in Business will provide insight into this world of commerce as well as offer a gateway to a number of university courses and career options. Business graduates remain among the most employable - unsurprising given the range of disciplines that an A Level Business qualification covers.

With a focus on helping pupils become effective decision-makers, business students develop essential managerial skills alongside techniques to help them become problem solvers. Learners on this course will study business in a variety of contexts (e.g. different-sized businesses, different sectors, UK-focused and multinational organisations, business-to- business, business-to-consumer, and a range of different markets and business situations) and will consider topics such as:

- The functional areas of business, namely marketing, finance, operations, and human resources;
- The impact of digital technology on business;
- The influence of ethical and environmental issues on business decisions;
- The external environment of business;
- Strategic planning.

Course Content

The topics lend themselves to studying and engaging with the business world.

The specification and assessment aim to encourage learners to follow business developments and think critically about contemporary business issues.

Unit 1
What is Business? Managing Marketing and Finance
Unit 2
Managing People and Operations
Unit 3
Business and Society, the External Environment, and Business Strategy

Assessment

Assessment will be in the form of three 2-hour papers. Each paper will include two case studies, and each case study will contain five compulsory questions worth a total of 45 marks. Each paper will focus on a different part of the specification. The assessment materials are based on real business situations to ensure that the content remains relevant and engaging. Where appropriate, real company data will be provided.

Future Study & Careers

The course is suitable for many careers and degree pathways, including business and international business, accountancy, marketing, banking and finance, advertising and promotion, law, public relations, human resource management, and business administration.

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Chemistry

Examination Board: AQA

The A Level Chemistry course is designed to introduce pupils to how Chemistry fits into every aspect of their lives and help them to make sense of the world around them. The course involves substantial practical work to consolidate the theoretical content needed and enable pupils to appreciate the wider application of Chemistry.

This course would suit pupils who have good comprehension, scientific communication and problem-solving skills. A solid grasp of Mathematics is advisable. Pupils should have a commitment to the subject, be competent in using different techniques to make and record observations, and have an enquiring mind.

Assessment

Teacher-assessed Practical Endorsement throughout the course. The practical skills form a component of the three externally assessed written examinations, sat at the end of the second year of study which assess both years' work.

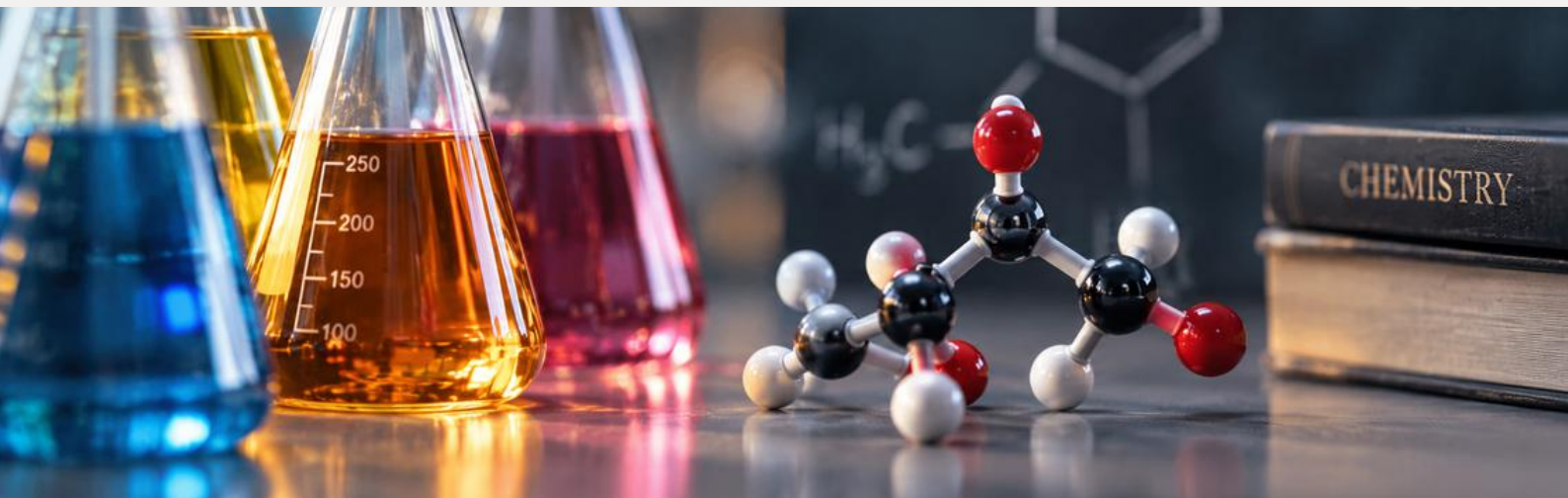
Course Requirements

Year 1 Atomic Structure, Amount of Substance, Bonding, Energetics, Kinetics, Equilibria, Redox Reactions, Periodicity, Group 2 and Group 7 Elements, Nomenclature and Isomerism in Organic Chemistry, Alkanes, Halogenoalkanes, Alkenes, Alcohols and Organic Analysis. Year 2 Acids and Bases, Compounds Containing the Carbonyl Group, Aromatics, Amines, Amino Acids, Polymers, Organic Synthesis, Structure Determination, Thermodynamics, Transition Metals and Reactions of Inorganic Compounds in Aqueous Solution.

Future Study & Careers

A Level Chemistry offers a wide range of transferable skills and is fundamental for many higher education courses, such as Biological Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Engineering, Forensics, Material Sciences, Medicine, Medical Technology and Veterinary Sciences.

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Design & Technology

Examination Board: AQA

The A Level Design and Technology: Product Design qualification gives pupils the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers, especially those in engineering and creative industries.

Course Content

Throughout the course, in addition to technical knowledge, pupils will be developing several key transferable skills demanded by employers. These include analytical, problem-solving and effective communication skills, as well as using initiative and being innovative.

50% of the final grade is derived from a design portfolio (NEA), produced by the pupils. The pupil researches a specific problem area of their choice, collaborating with a client to design and make a product that enhances or improves the situation that the pupil has identified. This project reflects the way designers and engineers work in real life. Over the two-year course pupils develop their manufacturing skills and material knowledge, together with an understanding of commercial production methods and product marketing.

The exam components will assess pupils' theoretical knowledge of material properties and production techniques, as well as their understanding of various commercial manufacturing processes. Also covered is product analysis, the influence of designers and design movements, sustainability, and environmental, social, moral, and ethical considerations in the role of designer.

Much of what is learnt in the theoretical lessons can be used in the NEA as the pupils develop their working knowledge of the design process in their project as they display their talent and passion as a designer and maker.

Assessment

Technical principles written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes (30% of the A Level). Design and Making principles written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes (20% of the A Level). This looks at product analysis and commercial manufacture. Non-exam assessment: 50% of the A Level, submitted as a written or digital portfolio and photographs of the final prototype.

Future Study & Careers

Design and Technology can set you up for a career in a wide variety of industries. Careers for people with Design and Technology qualifications include: Product Designer, Architect, Software Engineer, Civil or Structural Engineer, Automotive Engineer, Interior Designer, Marketeer, Material Scientist, or even a budding entrepreneur - the next James Dyson or Jonathan Ive.

Mr N. P. Hart
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English Literature

Examination Board: OCR

Explore politics, psychoanalysis, sex, race, drama and tragedy with a respected and prestigious A Level. Shed the shackles of GCSE English Language, and specialise in a wonderous world of story, myth and magic. The course comprises of recognised and modern literary greats, alongside new avenues of interpretation and criticism.

English Literature will suit anyone with a desire to explore culture and the representation of our thoughts and feelings through language. Those wishing to develop a convincing, critical voice and to think independently will benefit from our examination of the politics, contexts and psychology

Course Content

Drama and poetry pre-1900

- Henrik Ibsen: A Doll's House
- William Shakespeare: Othello
- Alfred, Lord Tennyson: Maud

Comparative and contextual study
American Literature 1880—1940

- F. Scott Fitzgerald: The Great Gatsby
- John Steinbeck: The Grapes of Wrath

Literature post-1900

This component encourages individual study, interest and enjoyment of modern literature. Students study three literary texts, which must include one prose text, one poetry text, and one drama text. All texts must have been first published or performed after 1900, and at least one must have been first published or performed after 2000.

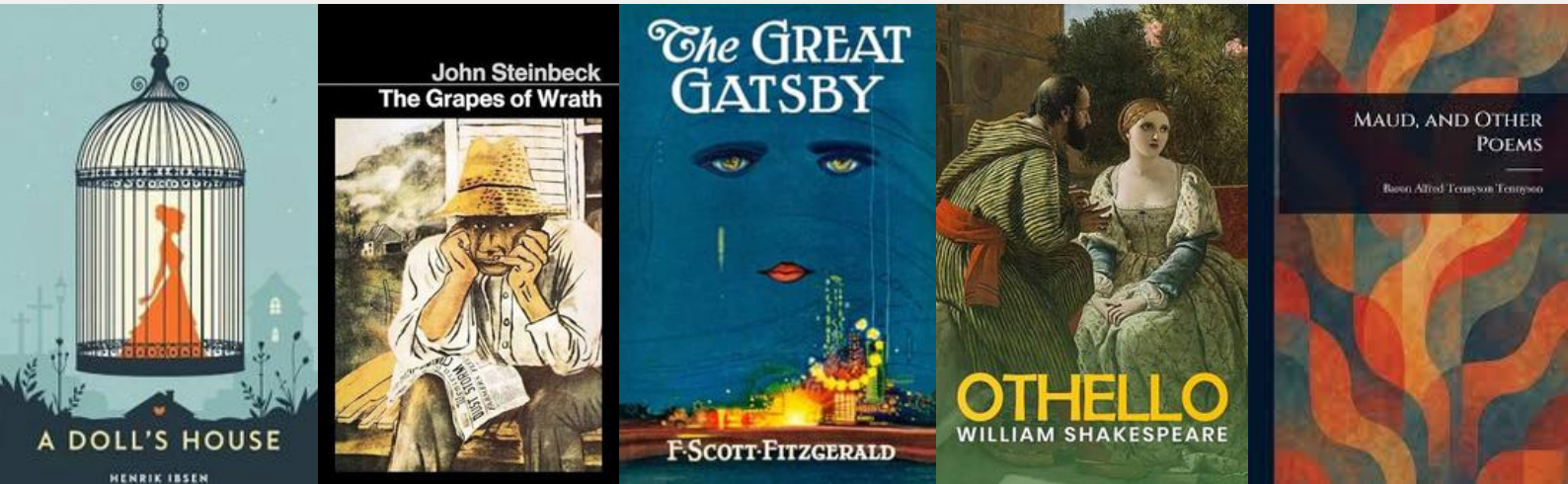
Assessment

- Paper 1: Drama and poetry pre-1900 (40%)
- Paper 2: Comparative and contextual study (40%)
- Coursework: Literature post-1900 (20%)

Future Study & Careers

English Literature sharpens written and verbal communication, encourages debate, and teaches research skills. The analytical nature of the subject is prized by many degree courses, opening doors to careers in media, law, politics, and education. Indeed, many with their hands on the levers of power and influence began those journeys with an A Level in this subject.

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Economics

Examination Board: Edexcel (Spec A)

Economics is a social science concerned with the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services. It studies how individuals, businesses and governments make choices about how to allocate scarce resources. It relates to every aspect of our lives so an economic way of thinking can help you make better choices. It does not matter if you have not studied Economics before, you might have an interest in Economics and want to know more about the impact Economics has on the world around you. You might want to investigate some of the stories you hear in the news.

- Why do we need to control inflation?
- Will we ever return to low interest rates?
- Should we be afraid of the economic power of China?
- Should we be taxing income or wealth?
- This course will help you to better understand debate around these questions and many more.

Course Content

Themes one and three are focused on Microeconomics and two and four on Macroeconomics.

Theme 1: Nature of Economics; How Markets Work (Supply and Demand); Market Failure; Government Failure.

Theme 2: Measures of Economic Performance; Aggregate Demand; Aggregate Supply; National Income; Economic Growth; Macroeconomic Objectives and Policy.

Theme 3: Business Growth; Business Objectives; Revenues, Costs and Profits; Market Structures; Labour Market; Government Intervention.

Theme 4: International Economics; Poverty and Inequality; Emerging and Developing Economies; The Financial Sector; Role of the State in the Macroeconomy

Assessment

Pupils are assessed by three examinations at the end of year two which include a combination of multiple choice, short answer, essay, and data response questions.

Future Study & Careers

Studying Economics will help you develop transferable skills that will prepare you for studying at university or for moving into the world of work, these include skills in data interpretation, debating and essay writing. Suitable higher education courses include Economics degrees or degrees in Applied Economics, such as Environmental Economics, Behavioural Economics, and Labour Economics. Alternatively, you might choose to study Business Economics, Econometrics or a Business and Management degree. Economics students can also follow a wide range of careers within industry, commerce, finance, and the civil service.

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BTEC Enterprise & Entrepreneurship

Examination Board: Pearson

• Why does Peter Jones insist that "Cash is King"?
• What drove Richard Reed's partnership in founding Innocent Smoothies?
• What is a social enterprise and what does your local community really need?
• Where can you turn when personal finances become a struggle?
• How do you choose the right current or savings account for you?
• How has social media transformed modern marketing campaigns?

This course includes lectures, discussions, and opportunities, such as study trips (recent ones have been to Longleat, Bruton Enterprise Centre, The Newt, London Branding Museum and BMW Mini Factory) and talks by guest speakers (local entrepreneurs, Les Roches Global Hospitality Education and Dragon's Den winners).

Course Content

Topics Include:

1.Enterprise and Entrepreneurship
2. Developing a Marketing campaign
3. Business and Personal Finance
4. Social Enterprise and running a charitable event

Assessment

Year 1

Unit 1 - Two reports internally assessed over the course of one term.
Unit 2 - Marketing - External Examination in the Summer Term.
Using IT to create a marketing campaign (exam across two days).

Year 2

Unit 3 - An external written examination in Easter Term on personal and business finance.
Unit 7 - Two reports on Social Enterprise, including running an event. This is internally assessed over the course of the Easter and Summer term.

Future Study & Careers

The course is suitable for many careers and degree courses including setting up your own business, Events Management, Marketing, Accountancy and Business Management.

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WJEC Food Science & Nutrition

Examination Board: WJEC

The WJEC Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification in Food Science and Nutrition (Extended Certificate) is designed for pupils who are passionate about food science, nutrition and health. It is especially beneficial if you are looking to continue your education at university and/or pursue careers in areas such as dietetics, food science, nutrition consultancy, public health or sport & nutrition including coaching.

If you are interested in understanding the science behind food production, dietary health and how nutrition impacts well-being, this qualification is a great fit for you. It blends academic knowledge with practical application, helping you develop valuable real-world skills while building a solid academic foundation.

With a focus on applied learning, it equips you with the research, analytical, and practical skills needed for university and beyond. The course is a combination of theory and practical application in year 1 to develop key skills from preparation, dietary needs, advanced cooking skills and professional presentation.

In year 2 you have the opportunity to complete a personal research project addressing contemporary issues and challenges which prepares pupils fo further academic study. Pupils will visit a range of establishments to engage with businesses on sustainability, production, food safety and nutrition.

Course Content

- Unit 1: Nutritional Needs across life stages focuses on understanding nutritional requirements for a balanced diet.
- Unit 2: Developing practical food production skills. Develop skills for preparing, cooking and presenting nutritious dishes that meet specific client needs
- Unit 3: Principles of food hygiene and food safety in food production. Develop an understanding of hazards linked to storage, preparation, cooking & serving food.
- Choose between Unit 4: Experimenting to solve food production problems or Unit 5 – a research project on current issues in food science & nutrition.

Assessment

Year 1 Unit 1: Written exam 1hr 30 mins. Short and extended responses. (25%) Unit 2: Non-examined assessment. Assignment brief set by the exam board (25%) Year 2 Unit 3: Written exam 1hr 30 mins. Short and extended responses. (25%) Unit 4 or 5: Non-examined asessment. (25%)

Future Study & Careers

Degree courses linked to this subject are broad, from Food Science & Nutrition, Dietetics, Health & Social Care, Public Health Nutrition, Human Nutrition, Sports Exercise & Nutrition, Sport, Exercise & Health, Allied Health, Food Marketing. It also leads directly into careers, such as those in hopsitality or culinary arts.

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Geography

Examination Board: CAIE

Geography is the fusion between the natural world and the social world; we study how various processes shape our planet (physical geography) and the impact on society (human geography). Human geography concerns the understanding of the dynamics of cultures, societies and economies, and physical geography concerns the understanding of the dynamics of physical landscapes and the environment.

The course would suit a pupil who is keen to learn about the world that they live in, with a natural curiosity and desire to learn about the Earth's landscapes, people, places and environments.

Course Content

Year 1 Physical Geography: hydrology, river processes and hazards; atmospheric processes and global climate change; earth processes and mass movements. Human Geography: population and migration; water resources and management; urban areas and management. Year 2 Global Environments: coastal environments; hazardous environments. Global Themes: trade, aid and tourism; environmental issues and management.

Assessment

Papers 1 and 2 (Physical Geography and Human Geography) are sat at the end of L6th form.

Papers 3 and 4 (Global Environments and Global Themes) are sat at the end of U6th Form. All papers include data interpretation and essay questions.

Future Study & Careers

Geography is great for any kind of career that involves the environment, planning, or collecting and interpreting data. Popular careers for people with Geography qualifications include: conservation, town or transport planning, surveying, sustainability, waste and water management, environmental planning, tourism, renewable energy and weather forecasting. The army, police, government, research organisations, law and business world also look for candidates with the practical research skills that geographers develop. Because geographers learn about human and population development, Geography can also be useful for jobs in charity and international relations.

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History

Examination Board: AQA

The course covers a broad range of history including the politics, economics and social aspects of two different, yet equally exciting periods that have had a massive impact on the world in which we live. The course will hopefully be supported by a range of trips both abroad and in the UK.

History A Level suits anyone with an interest in the world around them, an interest in people and an interest in being critical of what they read and see. A good level of written English is helpful, as is a good sense of humour. This course builds on the skills developed during the GCSE course, but is equally available to those who did not study History at GCSE but have since realised the error of their ways!

Assessment

There are two exams of 2 hours 30 minutes (each worth 40%). The coursework is worth the remaining 20%, and should be around 3,500 words. It is marked internally and moderated externally.

Course Content

Unit 1: Breadth Study: Germany 1871 – 1991.

Unit 2: Depth Study: The Making of Modern Britain 1951 – 2007.

Unit 3: Non-Examined Assessment (Coursework). This can be on (almost) any topic of your choice that covers a 100 year period, but with a start date of no later than 1807.

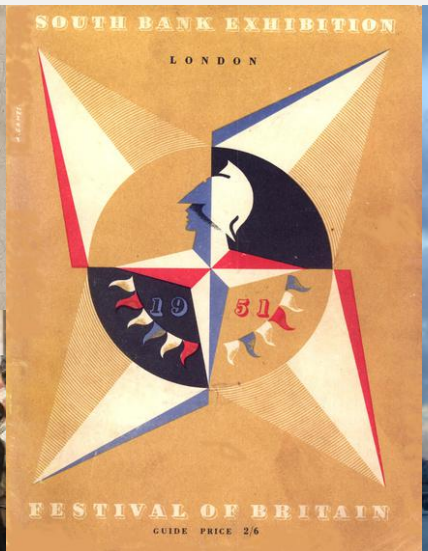
Future Study & Careers

History can lead to almost any career, as the skills of analysis and evaluation that one develops are much sought after. History is well respected as a subject amongst universities and employers. Historians occupy top positions in the world of politics, business, the media, education and the law to name but a few; and an A Level in History often complements subjects appropriate for Medicine or Engineering for example.

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History of Art

Examination Board: OCR

History of Art is a discipline that seeks to understand different cultures and historical periods through the study and analysis of art and architecture as a means of communication. This course would suit pupils who wish to study the significance of art and visual culture more broadly across a wide range of periods, places and societies.

About the Course

The History of Art: Critical and Contextual Studies course embraces a full range of artistic movements and cultures, ranging from early civilisations such as Mesopotamia and Ancient Egypt through to Modernism and Postmodernism. We investigate the following areas of study: Gallery design and curation, publishing (brochures and posters), essay writing, presentations, critical thinking, and practical media techniques such as making egg tempera and oil paint, cave painting, Egyptian ceramics, fresco painting, stone carving, and icon painting using gold leaf.

Trips

Over the last few years, we have sought opportunities for pupils to experience art first-hand through national trips to London, Cardiff, Oxford, Bristol and beyond. We have also travelled abroad to Paris, Rome, Florence and Barcelona. We have Hauser & Wirth Somerset on our doorstep, along with a plethora of smaller galleries in Bruton. We also frequently visit the Roman Villa at The Newt to enjoy the unique insight it provides into the ancient world.

Assessment

History of Art is assessed through coursework (60%). This involves initial teacher-led projects, followed by a personal investigation in which pupils can effectively dictate their own pathway. Work is often highly personal, demonstrating a strong connection to the chosen area of study.

Recent topics have included Performance Art, Land Art, the Renaissance, Classical Art, patronage and censorship. The examination unit is worth 40% of the final mark and culminates in a 15-hour examination completed over three days.

Arthaus

Run in partnership with Hauser & Wirth, pupils are encouraged to attend monthly workshops and talks to engage with contemporary artists, art history and current topics within the art world.

Future Study & Careers

History of Art provides an excellent foundation for careers in research, museums and galleries, conservation, heritage, education and the cultural sector. It can also be combined with a wide variety of other subjects, leading to careers in business, law, journalism and many other professions. Recent leavers have secured places to study History of Art at the Universities of Edinburgh, Manchester and York.

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Latin

Examination Board: OCR

Pupils with a particular interest in Latin can study AS Level Latin alongside their options. It may be possible to continue this to a full A Level.

The OCR AS Level in Latin builds on GCSE study. For the language element, there is a defined vocabulary list, as well as specified accidence and syntax. Unseen translations will therefore not continue words or grammar topics outside of these - so it is possible to prepare thoroughly for this part of the exam and attain full marks if effort is spent learning vocabulary thoroughly and applying endings and syntactic knowledge accurately. For the literature element, two set texts, one prose and one verse, are studied. Pupils will be required to translate the text, as well as analyse and evaluate both the content and style of the literature. For the prose text, the current cohort is studying the Roman historian, Tacitus, who writes on the emperor Claudius, his wife Agrippina and her son, Nero. For the verse text, they are studying Virgil's Aeneid, Book 2, on the fall of Troy.

Assessment

Assessment is by written examination only. Pupils sit two examinations, with Unit 1 lasting 1 hour 30 minutes and Unit 2 lasting 2 hours. Classes are typically small and focus on the individual needs of each, often making for a highly enjoyable and valuable addition to a pupil's timetable.

Course Content

Unit 1 (50%): Latin Language This paper involves the translation of a Latin passage into English, followed by either the comprehension of a harder Latin passage, or translation of five sentences of English into Latin.

Unit 2 (50%): Latin Prose and Verse Literature The paper requires learners to understand and respond to passages from the set literature, with shorter comprehension questions, five lines of translation, and short essays of content and stylistic analysis.

Future Study & Careers

Latin, and the classical background encountered in the course, is critical to a full and deep understanding of many modern disciplines, such as English Literature, History, History of Art and Modern Languages. The skills required for understanding the language and text complement mathematical and scientific areas, where pattern recognition, logic and analysis are important. It is a versatile qualification that makes sense with many combinations of subjects, both humanities and sciences. AS Level Latin is increasingly recognised as a demanding, challenging and stimulating subject taken by the most academic and ambitious learners. In a competitive world, such a qualification can provide the edge needed for successful applications for further study and careers.

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Mathematics

Examination Board: Edexcel

Mathematics is a stimulating and challenging course involving problem solving, logical reasoning, communication and resilience. During your two years, you will increase your knowledge and understanding of mathematical techniques and their applications, which also support the study of other A Level subjects.

This course would suit pupils who enjoy Mathematics. The course builds on (I)GCSE knowledge so ideally a pupil studying A Level Mathematics has gained at least a Grade 7 at (I)GCSE.

Future Study & Careers

A Level Mathematics is essential or desirable for a wide range of degree courses including Economics, Computing, Social Sciences, Business, Physics, Engineering, Chemistry and Medicine.

Assessment

At the end of the two year course, pupils sit two Pure and one Applied Mathematics 2 hour papers. The Applied Mathematics paper covers Statistics and Mechanics.

Course Content

Pure Mathematics (66%)

Methods and techniques which underpin the study of all other areas of Mathematics, such as, proof, algebra, trigonometry, calculus, and vectors.

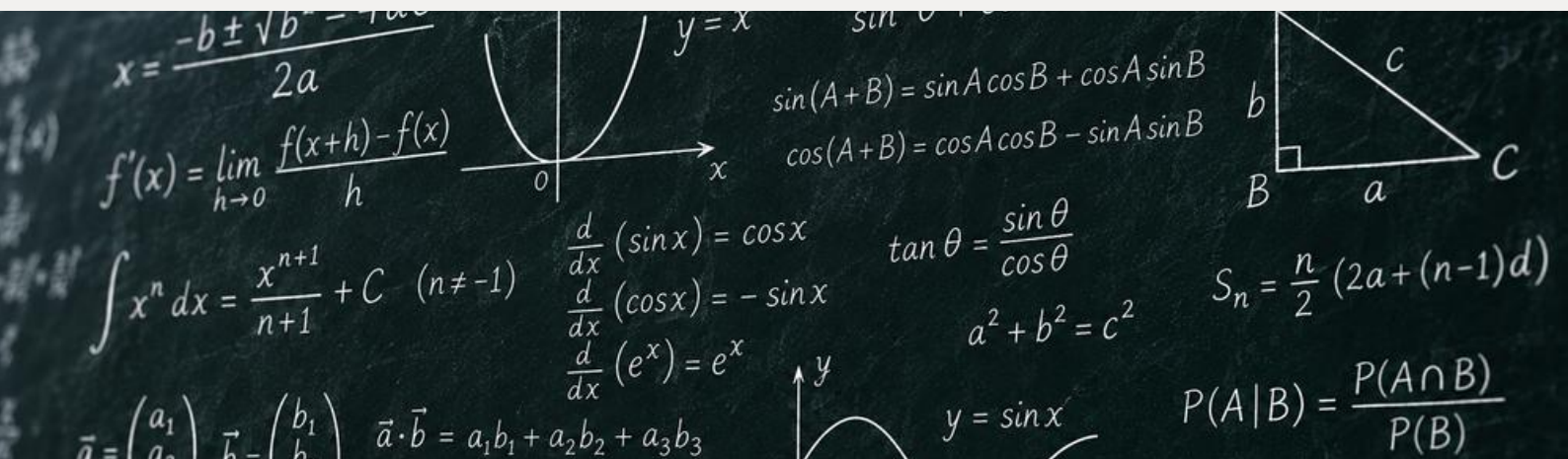
Statistics (17%)

Statistical sampling, data presentation and probability leading to the study of statistical distributions.

Mechanics (17%)

The study of the physical world, modelling the motion of objects and the forces acting on them. You will need a graphical calculator for the study of Mathematics A Level. The Mathematics Department will arrange this to be ordered on your behalf.

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Further Mathematics

Examination Board: Edexcel

Any pupil applying to study a degree in a STEM subject should also consider taking Further Mathematics alongside A Level Mathematics. Further Mathematics is considered as a separate A Level in its own right. In some cases a qualification in Mathematics or Further Mathematics will reduce the grades required for entry to a degree course in a related subject. Further Mathematics A Level may be taken only in addition to Mathematics A Level.

Assessment

At the end of the two year course, pupils sit four papers:

Core Pure Mathematics 1
Core Pure Mathematics 2
Further Mathematics Pure 1
Further Mathematics Mechanics 1

Future Study & Careers

A Level Further Mathematics is desirable for a wide range of degree courses including Economics, Computing, Physics, Engineering and Mathematics.

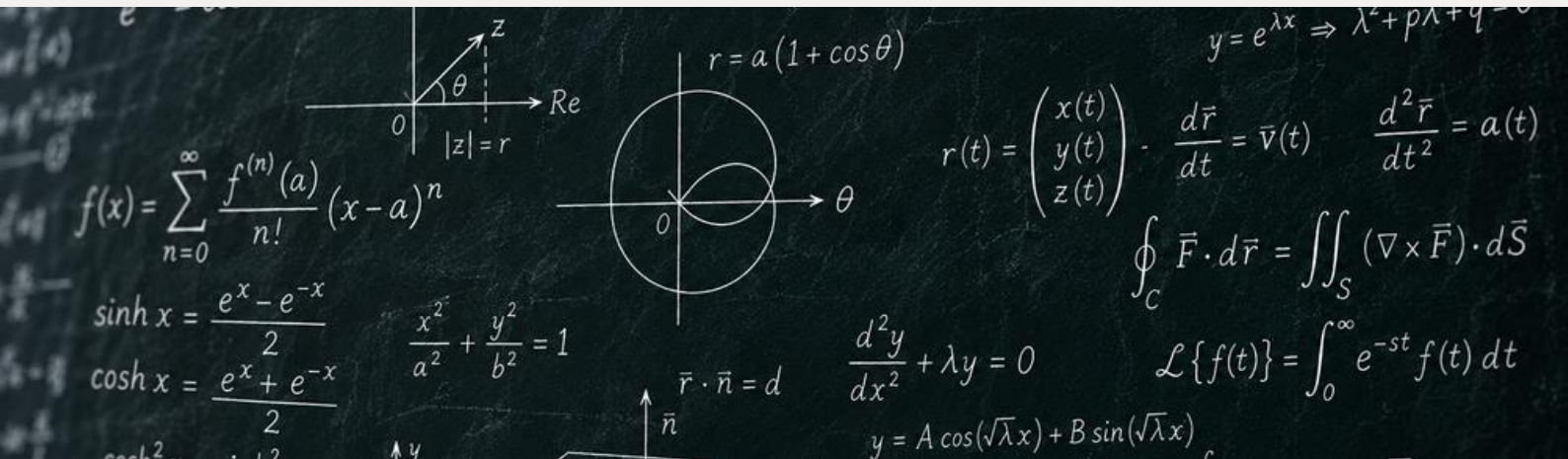
Course Content

Core Pure Mathematics (50%)
Proof, complex numbers, matrices, further algebra and functions, further calculus, further vectors, polar coordinates, hyperbolic functions, differential equations.

Further Pure Mathematics 1 (25%)
Further Trigonometry, Further Calculus (including Taylor Series, Leibniz's Theorem, L'Hospital's Rule, The Weierstrass substitution for Integration), Further Differential Equations, Co-ordinate Systems (including Conics), Further Vectors, Further Numerical Methods and Inequalities.

Mechanics (25%)
Momentum and impulse, work, power and energy, elastic strings and springs, elastic collisions, circular motion, centres of mass, further dynamics and kinematics, simple harmonic motion.

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Modern Languages

Examination Board: AQA

The A Level courses explore a number of social issues and trends both within France and Spain and their cultures across the world. A Level language courses are diverse and include sections on Science, Literature, Film and History.

This course would suit anyone looking to broaden their horizons, improve their communication skills and their employability.

Assessment

Paper 1
Listening, reading and translation

Paper 2
Written response to works (text or film)

Paper 3
Speaking: two tasks - firstly, a discussion on a theme drawn from the topics; secondly, a presentation and discussion around a topic chosen for independent research.

Future Study & Careers

Language-specific career paths can include translation, interpretation and teaching. However, languages are a useful tool for business, journalism, banking, tourism, publishing, politics, scientific research and many more.

Course Content

French

• Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends. Family structure, the world of cybernauts and why people want to become volunteers.
• Artistic culture in the French-speaking world : the importance of heritage in France, contemporary French music and French cinema.
• Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues. How French society has become multicultural and how immigrants and their descendants live in France, discrimination in French society and the issue of crime and punishment in France.
• Aspects of political life in the French- speaking world including the issue of politics, the issue of strikes and the issue of immigration in France.

Spanish

• Aspects of Hispanic society: Traditional and modern values, cyberspace and equal rights.
• Artistic culture in the Hispanic world: The influence of idols, regional identity in Spain and cultural heritage.
• Multiculturalism in Hispanic society: Immigration, racism, coexistence and integration.
• Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world: Young people, monarchies and social movements.

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Music

Examination Board: Edexcel

A Level Music enables pupils to extend their knowledge and understanding of music, to create and develop their own musical ideas and to demonstrate technical, interpretative and communication skills through performing music.

This course would suit musicians who have a minimum ABRSM Grade VI and normally someone who has studied GCSE Music. A good level of knowledge of music theory would be of benefit.

Course Content

There are three components:

Performing (30%)

• A public performance of one or more pieces, performed as a recital (minimum 8 minutes).

• Performance can be playing or singing solo, in an ensemble, improvising, or realising music through the use of music technology.

Composing (30%)

• Total of two compositions, one to a brief and one either free composition or also to a brief.

• One composition must be from a list of briefs assessing compositional technique.

• Total time across both submissions must be a minimum of 6 minutes in duration.

Appraising (40%)

Written examination: 2 hours 10 minutes

• Knowledge and understanding of musical elements, contexts and language.

• Application of knowledge through the context of six areas of study, (vocal music, instrumental music, music for film, pop music and jazz, fusions, new directions) each with two set works (three within the popular music & jazz area of study).

• Wider listening is also required.

Assessment

The course consists of 60% coursework and 40% written paper.

Future Study & Careers

As well as university/conservatoire courses in music, either in performance or composition, creative courses in sound engineering and acoustical engineering (combined with Maths and Physics A Level) offer a different career path. Due to the breadth of the A Level course and both creative and academic aspects, Music is a well-regarded subject by top universities.

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Music Technology

Examination Board: Edexcel

Develop skills in the creative use of technology, both in the production of computer-based music and the recording and editing of acoustic instruments and voices. Learn to identify and analyse production techniques and stylistic features within pieces of 20th and 21st Century popular music, and develop an understanding of these techniques and features in the context in which a track was produced.

This course would suit a creative pupil who listens to a wide variety of music and has good computer skills. GCSE Music is an advantage, as is an understanding of Physics. Previous experience of Music Technology (e.g. Garage Band or similar) is useful but not essential.

Assessment

The course consists of 40% coursework and 60% written/production papers.

Course Content

Recording (20%)

• Learn production tools and techniques to capture, edit, process and mix a recording.

• Produce one multi-track recording of a song chosen from a list of ten provided.

Technology-based Composition (20%)

• Create, edit, manipulate and structure sounds to produce a technology-based composition.

• A composition in response to one of three briefs, which utilises a range of synthesis and sampling techniques alongside manipulation of creative effects.

Listening & Analysing (25%)

• Identify, describe, and analyse features within tracks chosen from a wide range of different genres and eras (1930-present) and critically assess and comment on technical, contextual, and creative elements of the production of the tracks.

• Complete two extended responses: compare the production techniques of two versions of the same song; and analyse technical and stylistic features of a track.

Producing & Analysing (35%)

• Take on the role of engineer with a small-scale project, correcting errors, manipulating and interpreting technical data, and creating a professional final mix.

• An extended response about a technical element of the course, such as analysing the settings given on a synthesiser or piece of hardware for an intended purpose.

Future Study & Careers

Courses in sound engineering and acoustical engineering (combined with Maths and Physics A Level) are popular pathways. Pupils also follow more contemporary creative composition and recording courses. This course would also suit pupils who are intending to enter into the music industry in any capacity.

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BTEC Performing Arts

Examination Board: Pearson

The Performing Arts course is for pupils who have a serious interest in developing a wide and marketable range of performance skills. You will study both the theory and practice of a wide range of theatre styles. The course demands practical, creative and communication skills in equal measures. It will provide an opportunity to specialise in different performance genres that you want to develop, and you will be encouraged to find your own artistic voice.

All units are based on practical exploration and skill development but are assessed in a variety of different ways. You will develop skills in performance, critical analysis, research and creativity alongside transferable skills such as teamwork, communication and problem solving.

Course Content

The Performing Arts course consists of practical sessions, lectures, workshops and performances covering a range of skills and includes core and specialist elements delivered by subject specialist staff. Listed below are some of the skills you will develop and work on throughout the course:

- Understanding Key Practitioners
- Skills Development
- Live Performance
- Devising Theatre
- Dance
- Movement
- Professional Workshops
- Physical Theatre
- Theatre in Education

Assessment

You will be formally assessed in four units throughout the two-year course. All pupils should expect to be challenged to professional standards of creative collaboration and performance.

Unit 1 – Investigating Practitioners' Work
Examination Paper (25%) – Externally Assessed

Unit 2 – Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance
Portfolio and Practical Assessment (25%)

Unit 3 – Group Performance Workshop
Portfolio and Practical Assessment (33%) – Externally Assessed

Optional Unit
Performance Workshop and Portfolio (17%)

Future Study & Careers

The skills developed in BTEC Performing Arts are transferable, not just to those aiming for a career in the arts, but also in business, law, medicine, indeed any career which involves teamwork and working with people.

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Physical Education

Examination Board: AQA

The course is not about playing hockey/rugby/ netball for five periods a week! The practical elements of the course are closely linked with theoretical understanding and application.

Prospective candidates should appreciate the need to be able to understand their body, the way it works and responds to exercise, as well as using their own natural sporting ability. A good pass in science is a great advantage in this area of study. Pupils would benefit from an inquisitive mind to study how sports skills are learnt and developed, as well as the effects of the psychology of sport on performance. A willingness to seek out and understand socio-cultural factors that affect sport are very useful attributes. Pupils must be playing/performing a sport/ activity to a high standard to achieve good marks in the practical element of the coursework.

Course Content

- Psychology of sport
- Skill acquisition
- Exercise physiology and anatomy
- Biomechanics
- Applied exercise physiology
- Contemporary studies in PE and sport.

Assessment

Paper 1 (2 hours) 35%
Paper 2 (2 hours) 35%
Practical coursework (written and practical performance in 1 sport) 30%

Future Study & Careers

Psychologist, physiotherapy, journalism, sports marketing, coaching, teaching, sport administration, personal fitness instructor, outdoor pursuits instructor, sports events, groundsman, nutritionist, sports analyst.

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Physics

Examination Board: AQA

Physics is a popular choice for pupils at A Level. The course allows pupils to develop a deep understanding of physical concepts in a wide variety of contexts. In particular, the Physics specification aims to encourage pupils to develop:

- Essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of Physics together with how they relate to each other.
- A deep appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of scientific methodology.
- Competence and confidence in a variety of practical, mathematical and problem- solving skills.

This course would suit those pupils with a desire to learn more about how the world around them works through considering complex phenomena. Pupils should be willing to approach their work systematically and analytically.

Assessment

Pupils will sit three 2-hour examination papers at the end of the Upper Sixth. In addition, pupils are assessed in their competency to carry out practical work.

Course Content

During the first year of the course, pupils will consider Particles and Radiation, Electromagnetic Radiation and Quantum Phenomena, Waves, Mechanics, Materials and Electricity. In the second year, they look at Further Mechanics, Thermal Physics, Gravitational and Electric Fields, Capacitors, Magnetic Fields and Nuclear Physics together with a choice of an optional topic (Astrophysics, Medical Physics, Engineering Physics, Turning Points in Physics or Electronics).

Future Study & Careers

Physics is a generally regarded highly by most university courses (even if not related) because of the analytical nature of the approach to topics. Some careers using Physics include: Acoustics; Clinical Scientist; Computing; Doctor; Engineering; Environmental Scientist; Forensic Scientist; Geologist; Laboratory Technician; Mathematician; Medical Physicist; Meteorologist; Nuclear Scientist; Oceanographer; Operational Research; Patent Examiner; Pharmacist; Radiation Protection; Radiographer; Scientific Officer (Government).

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Politics

Examination Board: AQA

From Trump to Treaties and Burnham to Brexit - we study fascinating real-life, present-day institutions of power and the individuals at the heart of them. If understanding what's going on in the UK with the Prime Minister, Parliament, Government, and major issues interests you, then Politics is the subject for you. If you're excited by elections in the USA, the Presidency, Congress and Supreme Court, then study Politics!

Future Study & Careers

The course will help pupils gain a thorough grounding in key skills of analysis, evaluation, debate, and critical thinking. An A Level in Politics is highly regarded by universities and employers and those who study Politics open doors to careers in: Law, the Civil Service Management, Business, Politics, Marketing, Journalism, Stockbroking, Banking and more.

Course Content

Politics is structured around three key topic areas:

1. UK Government & Politics

The British Constitution, the role and workings of Parliament, the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the law courts, electoral systems, elections, parliaments/assemblies, political parties, (Conservatives, Labour, Greens etc), rights to protest and pressure groups.

2. US Government & Politics

The Constitution and Bill of Rights, Congress, the President and White House, the Supreme Court, electoral systems, elections, political parties (Republicans and Democrats etc), pressure groups and civil rights.

3. Comparative Politics & Political Ideas

Comparing the content of the above two political systems (US and UK) to find areas of similarity and difference. The thoughts and practices that form liberalism, conservatism, socialism, and feminism, and the key individuals behind them.

Assessment

Three two-hour exams. A mixture of shorter questions and essays.

Trips

We run optional trips to the Houses of Parliament, Whitehall, the Supreme Court, Northern Ireland and Washington DC to tour the main political monuments.

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Psychology

Examination Board: AQA

Psychology is defined as the science of mind and behaviour. You will learn answers to questions like: Why do I think like this? Why do others behave like this? It will enable you to objectively understand the nature and experience of the human world around you, based on scientific research and theory.

If you are intrigued by the workings of the mind or understanding people better, then Psychology is a great subject for you. An effective Psychology pupil will have the ability to accept multiple explanations and be able to evaluate them systematically and objectively. A willingness and desire to look outside of the box is a definite requirement. All Psychology pupils need to be enthusiastic, committed, open minded and curious.

Assessment

Assessment is through 3 x two hour examination papers. The papers include multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions.

Course Content

The course is split into 3 sections:

Introductory Topics in Psychology
Social Influence, Attachment, Memory, and Clinical Psychology and Mental Health.

Psychology in Context
Approaches, Biopsychology and Research Methods.

Issues and Options in Psychology
Gender, Schizophrenia and Addiction.

Future Study & Careers

Studying Psychology at university is one of the most popular degree courses, as the careers you can go into are endless. Opportunities for career psychologists include: clinical, forensic, health and sport. Pupils have also found Psychology useful when applying for medicine, veterinary medicince, dentistry, occupational therapy, social work and nursing courses, along with the many communication, culture and media courses and many others.

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BTEC Sport

Examination Board: Pearson

This course is for pupils passionate about sport, exercise, health and fitness. The units studied are a mixture of theory and fitness practicals, and pupils need to show a willingness to work on the practical and understanding of health and fitness aspects of the units outside of the classroom environment.

Pupils must be able to communicate with others and be willing to learn many skills which cannot be examined in a formal sense. A real thirst to learn about the effects of lifestyle on health and fitness is paramount to this course.

Pupils should appreciate the need to understand their body, the way it works and responds to exercise. A good pass in science is a great advantage in this area of study. An inquisitive mind to research modern trends in the health and fitness industry is also to be encouraged.

Assessment

Assignments will include: practical led teaching, interviews, questionnaires, presentations, written reports, posters and booklets. Assignments will be awarded a Pass, Merit or Distinction status according to the individual units.

Course Content

Lower Sixth

Unit 1 - Anatomy and Physiology (assessed with a 90-minute examination)

Unit 5 - Application of Fitness Testing

Upper Sixth

Unit 2 - Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Wellbeing (assessed with a 150-minute examination)

Unit 3 - Professional Development in the Sports Industry

Future Study & Careers

Psychology, physiotherapy, journalism, sports marketing, coaching, teaching, sport administration, personal fitness instructor, outdoor pursuits instructor, sports events, groundsman, nutritionist, sports analyst.

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94%

of EPQs were graded A*/A *in 2026*

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), normally completed over the Lower Sixth year, is an exciting qualification which offers pupils the opportunity to produce a single piece of work of their own choosing, showing evidence of planning, preparation, research and independent working. This is a stand-alone qualification that can be completed alongside the normal A Level and BTEC courses.

The EPQ offers unrivalled opportunities for academic extension as well as providing evidence of a pupil's readiness for university. It is also highly enjoyable for the pupil.

An EPQ can take several forms:

- an extended essay
- an artefact, model or construction
- a CD/video/DVD of performances or activities
- an audiotape/multimedia presentation
- a journal of activities or events

A project which consists solely of written work will be approximately 5,000 words, for example an investigation, exploration of a hypothesis or extended essay.

Projects where the majority of the evidence is provided in other formats will include a report or record of work undertaken which is at least 1,000 words. All projects must include a substantial research element.

Projects are undertaken with the assistance of an experienced supervisor who guides the pupil at every stage, although they are not allowed to contribute directly to its content.

Because the EPQ requires pupils to identify and design their own project, adopt a strategic approach to its management and work independently, it is an ideal vehicle for curriculum enrichment and academic extension.

EPQs and Higher Education

Universities hold the EPQ in high regard and many will reduce their offer grades to candidates who have completed an EPQ. It also gains UCAS points, with the grades being worth more points than their AS Level equivalents.

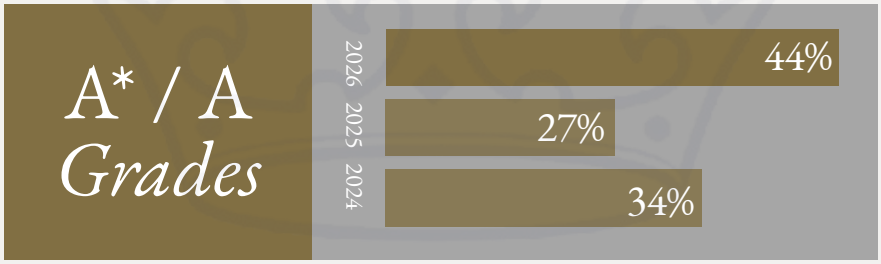
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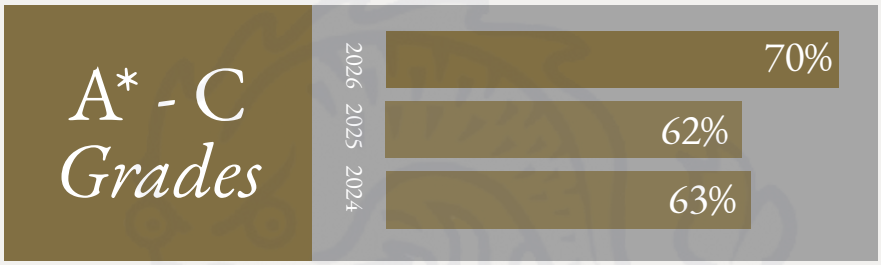


Sixth Form RESULTS

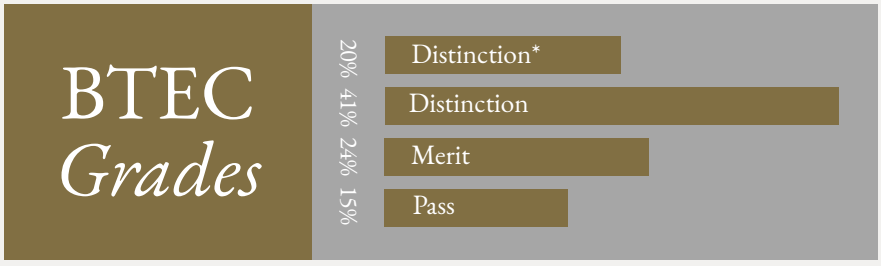
King's Bruton Sixth Form results continue to reflect the significant value added through the Sixth Form teaching. 2026 represented a record year for A Level results at King's Bruton, with levels above the majority of schools in Somerset. We also continue to be delighted with the BTEC results, which supported progression to excellent university and apprenticeship destinations. Many pupils will sit a combination of A Levels and BTECs.

A LEVEL GRADES





BTEC GRADES



Leavers' DESTINATIONS

From leading universities in the UK and around the world to degree apprenticeships and professional pathways, King's Bruton pupils go on to a wide range of exciting destinations. We celebrate ambition in all its forms, helping each pupil discover the path that best reflects their talents, interests and aspirations. The destinations below offer a snapshot of the many opportunities our pupils have pursued in recent years.



The Next STEPS

Whether you are already part of the King's Bruton family or are discovering our School for the first time, we hope this Prospectus and Options Booklet has offered a glimpse of the character, ambition and shared purpose that define life in the Sixth Form here.

For our current pupils, Sixth Form is both a continuation and a new beginning: a chance to build on the friendships, confidence and sense of belonging already established at King's Bruton, while embracing greater independence, new opportunities and fresh ambitions.

For those joining us in the Sixth Form, it is an opportunity to become part of that community and to enjoy new perspectives, experiences and friendships.

We hope you can see yourself here. To arrange a visit or speak with our Admissions Team, please contact us on admissions@kingsbruton.com or call 01749 814251.





SMALL BUT *mighty*

The Good Schools Guide 2026

A SCHOOL OF *understated exceptionality*

The Good Schools Guide 2026

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