

John Taylor High School

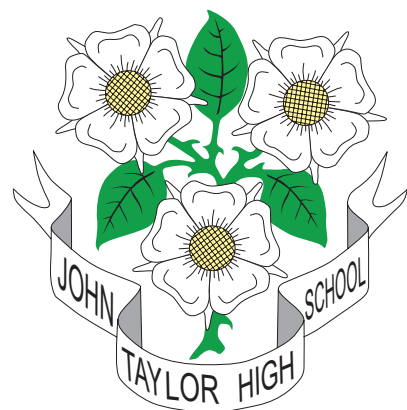
A specialist science & leadership school

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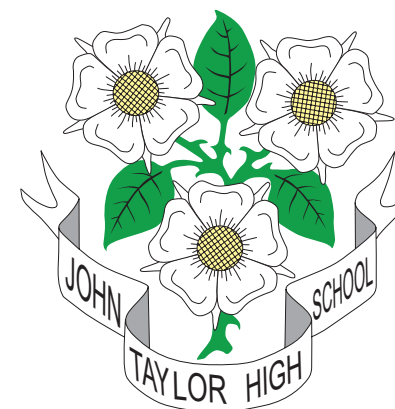
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John Taylor High School

A specialist science & leadership school



Science



Sixth Form Prospectus



Contents

Page 1	Contents
Pages 2-6	About the Sixth Form
Page 7	Applied Science & Art
Page 8	Biology & Economics
Page 9	Applied Business & Diploma in Business
Page 10	Chemistry & Drama
Page 11	English Language & English Literature
Page 12	Environmental Studies & Food
Page 13	French & Geography
Page 14	German & Health & Social Care
Page 15	Health & Social Care & History
Page 16	Information Technology & Law
Page 17	Mathematics & Further Mathematics
Page 18	Music & P.E.
Page 19	Physics & Psychology
Page 20	Religious Studies & BTEC Business
Page 21	BTEC Health & Social Care & BTEC Sport
Page 22	CoPE & Critical Thinking
Page 23	General Studies
Page 24	Notes



Welcome to Post-16 Education at John Taylor

A challenging, enriching and enjoyable learning experience

Welcome to John Taylor Sixth Form. Whether you have spent the last five years at JTHS, or you are joining us from another school, we offer you something special - the opportunity to achieve academic success and the chance to develop as an individual so that you leave us happy, confident and well prepared for the next phase in your life, whether work or university.

“Students do exceptionally well in the sixth form”

Why choose John Taylor High School?

The Ofsted report for this school said:

“John Taylor High School is an outstanding school with an outstanding sixth form”

At John Taylor we aim to provide

- Academic success and the opportunity to go on to university or into paid employment of your choice
- A stimulating and diverse range of course options - you can choose a wide range of subjects
- The expertise of highly qualified subject specialist - you will receive the very best teaching
- Individual support and guidance - from staff who understand and care about your concerns.
- The chance to grow and develop as an individual, learn about yourself, take part in an exciting enrichment programme.

Being a member of the Sixth Form is not just about academic achievement and success. It's a great chance for you to discover and develop wide-ranging interests and skills. You will have a lot more freedom and also be expected to take on more responsibilities. Enjoy the challenges and look forward to the future.

“The take-up of these wide-ranging opportunities is excellent and they enable students to develop unusually good leadership skills”

Guidance and Support

The most important person you will work with in the sixth form is your form tutor. They will be your academic mentor and help you through the transition from school student to university student or employee.

Your form tutor will work with you every week on a programme of personal and social education. In Year 12 this will include developing your study skills, broadening your education through master classes and an introduction to higher education. In Year 13 guidance through the UCAS process and help with progressing onto employment.

It is very important that we monitor your progress and help you to set meaningful targets. The process is outlined here.

Year 11	November	Potential Y12 evening - meet the sixth form team and talk to departments
	Late February	Sixth form interviews with senior staff to discuss your subject choices
	May	Offers for a sixth form place
	June	Sixth form induction - an opportunity to find out what it is all about
	August	GCSE results - a chance to celebrate
	August	Signing on day - to confirm your subject choices
Year 12	Early September	The new school year starts
	November	Interim report - to find out how you are getting on
	Late November	You and your parents discuss your progress with your form tutor
	December	End of term report
	Spring Term	Your subject teachers discuss your progress with you and your parents End of term report
	Summer Term	End of term report
Year 13	December	Academic reference A new report updates progress especially in the light of AS results
	March	Your subject teachers discuss your progress with you and your parents End of term report
	August	A level results and celebration



Subject-specific Advice

Few universities have very specific requirements but the following may be important

Computer Science

Mathematics is often required.

Economics

Mathematics is often required, particularly for courses with a large econometric element.

Engineering

Mathematics and Physics are usually required. Further Mathematics is usually essential for Oxbridge applicants.

Law

Law does not require any specific subjects, but does require very high grades.

Medicine

Chemistry is required. Biology to AS is required. Mathematics or Physics A-level may be required.

Veterinary Medicine

Chemistry is required, plus two other subjects for the Sciences and Mathematics.

Teaching

You will need minimum C grades in Mathematics, English and Science at GCSE.

Universities make offers on the basis of A-level predictions and GCSE grades. Some interview. A growing number also require students to sit pre admission tests such as BMAT, LNAT, HAT and TSA. Applications can also be enhanced by relevant work experience.

UCAS Guidance

A significant part of the guidance received in Year 13 will be about the UCAS process and applying to University. All applications are now made on line with the school adding a reference and checking the application. Prospectuses from all the universities are available in the sixth form centre as well as the resource centre, which also has a number of other publications to help in the selection process. Specialist help is available for those students wishing to apply for Oxbridge as well as Medicine and Vet Science.

Money Matters

The EMA (Educational Maintenance Allowance) is a government initiative to encourage young people to stay in post 16 education. It is available to students whose family income is less than £30,000. Students could get between £10 and £30 a week. £100 bonus payments will be made to students who make good progress with their learning. Information is available from school or visit www.dfes.gov.uk/ema.

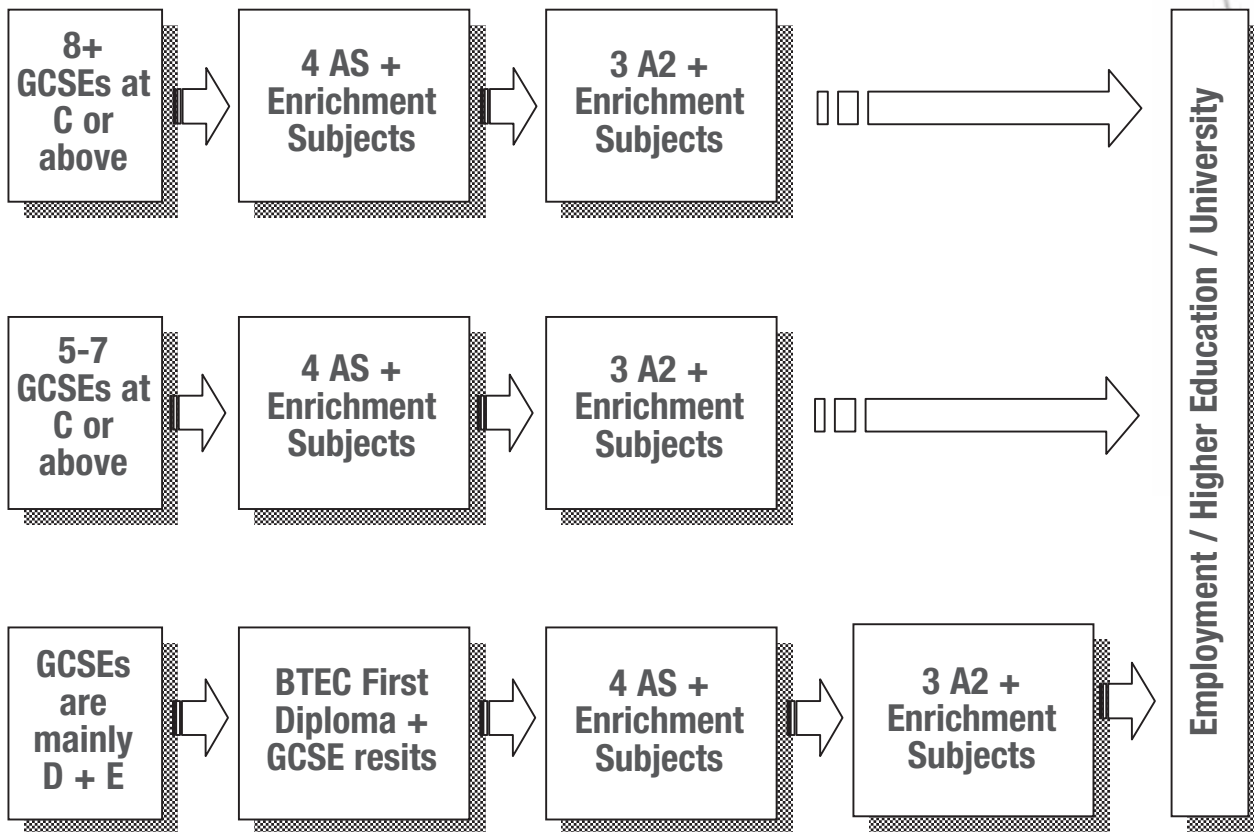
The school also has a welfare fund which may be able to help with the cost of trips.

Careers Advice

Although the majority of our students go on to university, a significant minority progress on into employment. The Connexions service provides invaluable support and our link officer makes regular visits to school. Appointments may be made as required.

“They value the guidance and advice they receive about future careers and educational opportunities”

Routes to Success



The Enrichment Subjects

Dependent on your interests and your strengths, you will add one or more of the enrichment subjects to your main portfolio of subjects.

Information Technology

General Studies

Further Mathematics

Sports Leadership

Critical Thinking

Open University Modules

ASDAN Certificate of Personal Effectiveness

“They respond very well to the consistently challenging teaching, with a very mature attitude to learning”



Enrichment Activities

John Taylor prides itself on the wide range of enrichment activities offered. We encourage students to participate in the many activities on offer. Just some of these are outlined below. Don't forget if there is something you want to do and it's not here then ask!

Senior Students

All our sixth formers are prefects who help staff with the day to day running of the school. However we also have five elected senior students. These students go through a rigorous selection procedure and are pivotal in the running of the school and sixth form.

Sixth Form Committee

The democratically elected Sixth Form Committee is made up of 16 sixth-formers and the elected senior student. They meet every 2 to 3 weeks to discuss all issues raised by either sixth formers or staff.

Young Enterprise Scheme

Students are encouraged to set up their own company and run it according to normal business practices for seven months. Students thoroughly enjoy the challenge and we have recently had a team in the national finals which took place at The Savoy in London.

Community Service

For those students who have a little more non-contact time because of the nature of their studies there is an opportunity to help teachers in lessons either at John Taylor or at local primary schools or nurseries. In the past students have also worked in care homes and even helped out on a farm.

Holocaust Education Trust

Each year two students are invited by the Holocaust Education Trust to take part in the Lessons from Auschwitz course. This is a powerful learning opportunity for the students who then share their experiences with the rest of the school.

Engineering Education Scheme

This scheme involves students in a real life problem given to them by a local company. As well

as local engineers working with you, there are sessions in the engineering department of Birmingham University who host a residential course.

Millennium Volunteers

Millennium Volunteers (MVs) are young people who give up their free time to help their local communities. MV allows young people to build on their interests, to develop themselves and make a difference to their community at the same time.

Educational Visits

Educational visits are an integral part of many advanced level subjects and these include residential trips. Other visits combine education and recreational travel. Recent destinations have included Iceland and Morocco.

Mentoring

Year 13 students have the opportunity to apply to be mentors for our new Year 7 pupils. Coming to secondary school can be a daunting proposition and our chosen mentors work hard to make sure the transition from primary school goes smoothly. In Year 8 some students work with year 13 'buddies' who help them with specific requirements such as organisational or social skills.

Reading Workshops

This is an opportunity to give something back to school by helping lower school pupils with their reading. Paired work such as this helps them to make rapid progress.

Homework Club

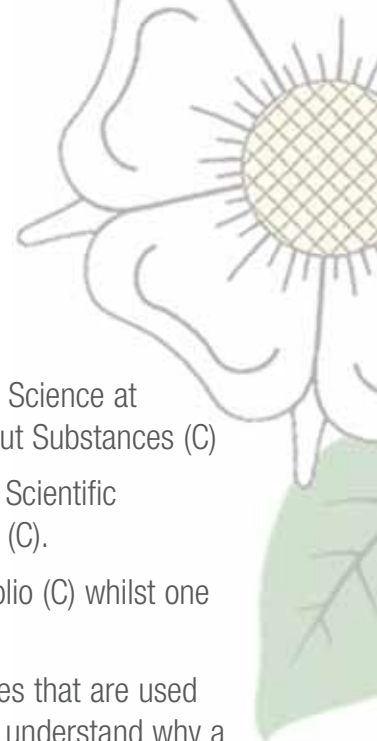
The homework club run by sixth formers gives lower school students somewhere quiet to go at lunchtime and do their work.

National Mock Trial Competition

This is an opportunity to participate in the Bar National Mock trial competition. You might even appear in the finals at the Old Bailey.

House Activities

There are a wide variety of house activities and we are encouraging sixth form students to take an active part in these. Sports teams continue into the sixth form.



Course Title

Applied Science

Examination Board

AQA

Course Content - AS

AS Applied Science contains three modules – Investigating Science at Work (C), Energy Transfer Systems (E) and Finding Out About Substances (C)

Course Content - A2

A2 Applied Science also has three modules: Undertaking a Scientific Investigation (C), Medical Physics (E) and Colour Chemistry (C).

Assessment

Two thirds of the course is made up of a coursework portfolio (C) whilst one unit is externally assessed (E)

Career Opportunities

This course is an excellent grounding in scientific techniques that are used throughout industry. The business element allows pupils to understand why a business uses science and also gives an insight into the legislation that companies have to abide to.

Entry Requirements

Students should have at least a grade C in any of the GCSE sciences.

Course Title

Art Craft & Design

Examination Board

AQA

Course Content - AS

Unit 1 – Portfolio unit – Candidates submit the one or more projects aimed at developing technical skills and knowledge of the work of others. Opportunities for experimentation.

Course Content - A2

Unit 2 – Externally set assignment (5 hours) Feb – May. 5 hours of supervised time in which candidates produce preparatory work. In the remaining time they work on finished pieces.

Unit 3 – A unit based on a personal investigation based on an idea, issue or concept supported by 1000 – 3000 words.

Unit 4 – Externally set assignment (15 hours). The work will take place between February through to May.

Assessment

AS Unit 1 = 50% of AS marks	AS Portfolio = 25% of A Level Marks
AS Unit 2 = 50% of AS marks	AS Exam = 50% of AS marks
A2 Unit 3 = 25% of Marks	A2 Unit 4 = 25% of Marks

Career Opportunities

Graduates tend to go onto either foundation courses at Further Education or direct entry to university. It is considered valuable to a wide range of careers ranging from Architecture through to web design.

Entry Requirements

Minimum grade B preferred – but more importantly a genuine interest in the creative subjects and willingness to improve is essential.



Biology

Course Title

Examination Board

Course Content - AS

Course Content - A2

Assessment

Career Opportunities

Entry Requirements

AQA

Students will study how an understanding of biological principles can explain how body systems are affected by disease and explain their symptoms. The reason for variation within populations will also be studied as well as understanding the biochemical nature of the cell and how adaptations arise to meet an organism's requirements.

Students begin by looking at ecosystems and how they are impacted upon by humans and the genetics behind speciation. Finally the students will study how the body is controlled by the nervous and endocrine systems as well as studying genes and genetic expression.

Both courses contain assessment designed to develop the students' practical and investigative skills.

AS – 80% Examination, 20% Practical Exam (50% of total A-Level Grade)

A2 – 80% examination, 20% Practical Exam (50% of total A-Level Grade)

The course provides a firm foundation for students if they wish to continue to higher education (and not just science degrees) but is also held in high regard by many employers.

Grade B (Higher Level) at either GCSE Biology or Double Award (Core and Additional Science)

Course Title

Examination Board

Course Content - AS

Course Content - A2

Assessment

Career Opportunities

Entry Requirements

Economics

Edexcel

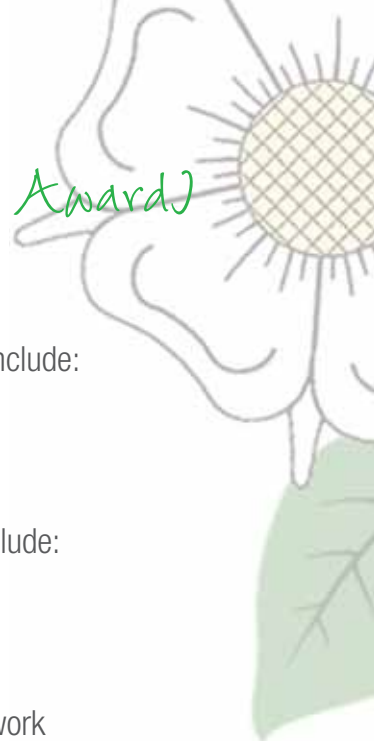
The AS level covers an overview of markets, how they work and why they fail, and managing the economy.

A2 will expand into industrial economics, the UK in the global economy and a specialism in either labour markets or economic development.

100% Examination

Students find economics extremely useful for a variety of degree courses such as Business Management, Law, Politics, Accounting/Finance and of course Economics.

Students will be required to have achieved a minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade C or above, including good grades in English and Maths.



Course Title

GCE in Applied Business (Single Award)

Examination Board

Edexcel

Course Content - AS

The AS course involves studying three main areas. These include:

- Investigating People at Work (examined unit)
- Investigating Business
- Investigating Marketing

Course Content - A2

At A2 students complete a further three modules which include:

- Business Development
- Impact of Finance on Business Decisions
- Organising an Event

Assessment

AS: 33% examination 66% coursework. A2: 100% coursework

Career Opportunities

Business Studies is of great relevance to higher education entry and to management and professional careers. Students have gone on to a variety of Degree courses including Business Management, Law, Accounting/Finance, Business Information Systems, Business Administration and Event Management.

Entry Requirements

Students are expected to have at least 5 GCSEs at grade C or above.–
(Students who have not studied Business at GCSE Level are welcome.)

Course Title

BTEC National Certificate/Diploma in Business

Examination Board

Edexcel

Course Content

This is a broad-based qualification that provides opportunities for students to explore the world of business in a highly practical way. Students learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic work place situations, activities and demands. By adopting an investigative approach, students will develop a range of skills while discovering the problems and opportunities faced by businesses. Work experience will be an integral part of this qualification.

This course will introduce you to business activity, business resources, business communication and other specialist areas including marketing, recruitment and selection and managing teams. As well as opportunities to visit businesses to see how they work, you will also have the opportunity to hear visiting speakers talk about their careers in business.

100% coursework and is assessed over 2 years.

Assessment

Career Opportunities

Successful completion of the BTEC National Certificate is equivalent to two GCE A Levels. Successful completion of the BTEC Diploma is equivalent to three GCE A Levels. BTEC National Awards are valued by employers and higher education (universities and colleges). It supports learners in applying for jobs in business-related careers such as accounting, marketing, administration, customer service, finance, IT, personnel or sales.

Entry Requirements

5 GCSEs at grade C or above

Chemistry

AQA

Initially students will study basic chemical principles, including atoms, bonding, mole calculations and organic chemistry. This forms a platform to then go on to study collision theory, chemical reactions, extraction of metals and further organic chemistry.

The study of organic chemistry will continue into Yr 13 as students cover acids and bases, isomerism amines, polymers and synthesis and analysis. Finally the chemistry of thermodynamics, periodicity and transition metals introduces the students to inorganic chemistry. Both courses contain assessment designed to develop the students' practical and investigative skills.

AS – 80% Examination, 20% Practical Exam (50% of total A-Level Grade)

A2 – 80% examination, 20% Practical Exam (50% of total A-Level Grade)

The course provides a firm foundation for students if they wish to continue to higher education (and not just science degrees) but is also held in high regard by many employers.

Grade B (Higher Level) at either GCSE Chemistry or Double Award (Core and Additional Science)

Drama & Theatre Studies

EDEXCEL

Unit One – 'Exploration of Drama & Theatre'

You will explore two texts from the point of view of an actor, designer and director and complete a set of 'Exploration Notes' to backup your work.

Unit Two – 'Theatre Text in Performance'

You will perform either a monologue or duologue and you will contribute to the performance of a published play, either as an actor or as a designer (costume, set, lighting). These performances will take place in front of a visiting examiner and audience.

Unit Three – 'Exploration of Dramatic Performance'

You will work with other students to create a unique and original piece of theatre to be performed to an invited audience. You will complete a 'structured record' of your process.

Unit Four – 'Theatre Text in Context'

This will be an examination based unit where questions are based on a set text from the viewpoint of a director and also a chosen historic period. Reference will be made to a live performance seen as part of the course.

70% Practical Work & Performance

30% Written Examination

Entry to many degree level courses, particularly performing arts and theatre courses.

English Language C or above / Drama C or above, with 40/80 in GCSE Drama Written Examination.

Course Title

Examination Board

Course Content - AS)

Course Content - A2

Assessment

Career Opportunities

Entry Requirements

Course Title

Examination Board

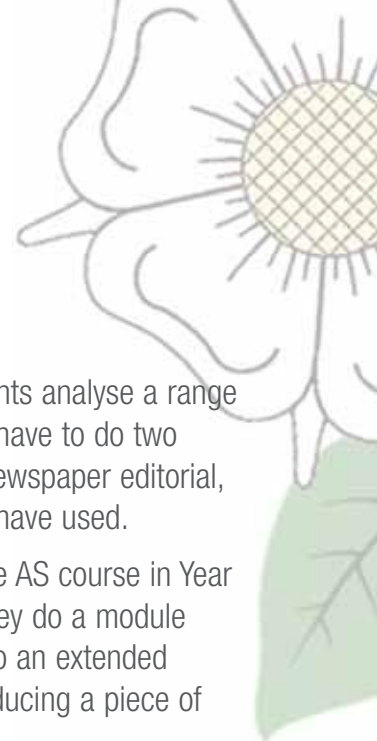
Course Content - AS

Course Content - A2

Assessment

Career Opportunities

Entry Requirements



Course Title	<h1>English Language</h1>
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Examination Board	AQA
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Course Content - AS	This is a one year course normally taken in Year 12. Students analyse a range of texts in terms of their purpose and audience. They also have to do two pieces of original writing, such as a soap opera script or newspaper editorial, with a supporting commentary explaining techniques they have used.
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Course Content - A2	This is a two year course in which students must follow the AS course in Year 12 and take two further modules in Year 13. In Year 13, they do a module that analyses language acquisition in children. They also do an extended individual study into language that culminates in them producing a piece of media text, such as a magazine article.
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Assessment	60% Examination 40% Coursework
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Career Opportunities	Journalism, teaching and communications.
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Entry Requirements	At least B Grades at GCSE English Language
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Course Title	<h1>English Literature</h1>
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Examination Board	AQA
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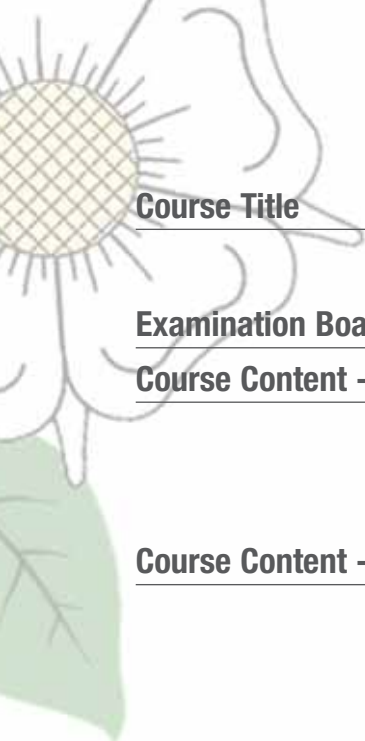
Course Content - AS	This is a one year course, normally taken in Year 12. Students study two units, each with a different teacher. These units are based on literary texts relating to World War One. The texts are written in a variety of ways of genres of poetry, prose and drama. They include contemporary and later accounts of the conflict as it affected both men and women. Students may respond critically or creatively to the texts they have studied for the coursework units. The examinations draw on their wider reading around the subject as well as the texts studied in class.
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Course Content - A2	This a two year course in which students must follow the AS course in Year 12 and take two further modules in Year 13. The aim of the A2 course is to expose students to wide range of literature connected to the theme of 'Love Through The Ages'. Lessons are driven by discussion of the texts. This will be generated by both teachers and students. Keen and active readers will enjoy this course.
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Assessment	60% Examination 40% Coursework
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Career Opportunities	Anything requiring analytical thought, sensitivity to meaning and the ability to present a logical, persuasive argument, e.g. teaching, law, media and communications.
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Entry Requirements	At least B Grades at GCSE English and English Literature
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Environmental Studies

Course Title

Examination Board

Course Content - AS

Course Content - A2

Assessment

Career Opportunities

Entry Requirements

AQA

Students will study why conservation is important and how achieve it, using specific examples to explain the relationships between the biotic and abiotic environment. Students will also study the resources the Earth posses and how human are exploiting them and impacting on the environment.

Students will look into the problems of supplying future energy supplies and how developing an understanding of how pollution is caused and how to minimise its impact. Finally the students will study human population growth with particular regard to its effect on food production, forestry systems and the sustainability of human lifestyles.

AS – 100% Examination (50% of total A-Level Grade)

A2 – 100% examination (50% of total A-Level Grade)

The course provides a firm foundation for students if they wish to continue to higher education (and not just science degrees) but is also held in high regard by many employers.

Grade C at either GCSE Biology or Double Award (Core and Additional Science)

Course Title

Food Technology

Examination Board

Course Content - AS

Course Content - A2

Assessment

Career Opportunities

Entry Requirements

EDEXCEL

A one year course, normally taken in Year 12. Unit 1: Students select their own context from which they must design and make a food technology project with a 26-30 page A3 design folder. Unit 2: Students take one content based module which focuses on classification of materials and components, working properties of materials, manufacturing processes and the consumer and society.

This is a two year course, in which students must follow the AS course in Year 12. Unit 3: Students take one content based module which focuses on food commodities, microbiological aspects, selection of materials and nutrition and value issues. Unit 4: Students will design and make a food technology project where they must liaise with a client to develop a commercial product and produce a design folder of between 26-30 A3 sheets

50% Examination 50% Coursework

This equates to 2 equally weighted units at AS and 4 at A2.

Marketing, retailing, manufacturing, environmental health and human nutrition are good options within the Food Industry.

5 C Grades at GCSE including English, Maths and Design and Technology. A Food Technology GCSE would be beneficial.



Course Title

French

Examination Board

OCR

Course Content - AS

A one Year course normally taken in Y12. Students will be provided with an opportunity to develop their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills and also study social and cultural aspects of the French speaking world.

Unit 1: Speaking 1: This involves a role play and topic discussion of the candidate's own choosing. Topics include aspects of daily life, communication and media, education and training. Unit 2: Listening, Reading and Writing 1: A multi skill paper. Topics include aspects of daily life, communication and media, education and training

Course Content - A2

Building on the AS course, students further develop their language skills and cultural knowledge through more challenging topics.

Unit 3: Speaking 2: This involves a discussion of an article and a topic discussion of the candidate's own choosing. Topics include social issues, the environment, culture, science and technology. Unit 4: Listening, Reading and Writing 2: A multi skill paper. Topics include social issues, the environment, culture, science and technology.

Assessment

AS: 100% Examination

A2: 100% Examination

Career Opportunities

Linguists are in great demand due to their skill and ability to communicate and think independently. Languages can be studied at university as subjects in their own right or can be combined with numerous other subjects. A language combined with Law, Engineering or Business for example would be particularly good combinations as graduates tend to go into manufacturing, business, law or teaching.

Entry Requirements

Minimum GCSE Grade B

Course Title

Geography

Examination Board

Edexcel

Course Content - AS

Unit 1: Global Challenges. There are two compulsory topics: World at risk and Going global covering contemporary issues such as hazard management, climate change, and globalization.

Unit 2: Geographical Investigations. Students choose two topics from the four offered, one physical and one human. Students will undertake fieldwork in support of this unit

Unit 3: Contested Planet. This area is explored through six compulsory topics: Energy Security; Water Conflicts; Biodiversity Under Threat; Superpower Geographies; Bridging the Development Gap; and The Technological Fix?

Unit 4: Geographical Research. Students select and study one from six research options including Tectonic Activity and Hazards.

Assessment

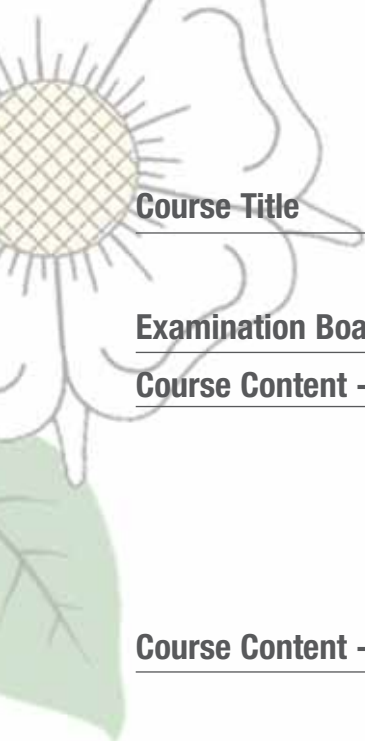
100% Examination: 50% AS and 50% A2

Career Opportunities

The course is a good foundation for students going on to Higher Education. Recent students have gone on to study diverse subjects including: Estate and Countryside Management, Leisure and Tourism, Geographic Information Systems and Geography amongst others

Entry Requirements

Grade C at GCSE is preferable, but not essential as students who have not studied GCSE Geography will be welcome.



German

OCR

A one Year course normally taken in Y12. Students will be provided with an opportunity to develop their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills and also study social and cultural aspects of the German speaking world.

Unit 1: Speaking 1: This involves a role play and topic discussion of the candidate's own choosing. Topics include aspects of daily life, communication and media, education and training. Unit 2: Listening, Reading and Writing 1: A multi skill paper. Topics include aspects of daily life, communication and media, education and training

Building on the AS course, students further develop their language skills and cultural knowledge through more challenging topics.

Unit 3: Speaking 2: This involves a discussion of an article and a topic discussion of the candidate's own choosing. Topics include social issues, the environment, culture, science and technology. Unit 4: Listening, Reading and Writing 2: A multi skill paper. Topics include social issues, the environment, culture, science and technology.

AS: 100% Examination

A2: 100% Examination

Linguists are in great demand due to their skill and ability to communicate and think independently. Languages can be studied at university as subjects in their own right or can be combined with numerous other subjects. A language combined with Law, Engineering or Business for example would be particularly good combinations as graduates tend to go into manufacturing, business, law or teaching.

Minimum Grade B preferred. Must have attempted the Higher Level Paper at GCSE

BTEC National Diploma/Certificate in Health & Social Care

Edexcel

Units delivered include Effective Communication, Lifespan Development, Equality Diversity and Rights, Health Safety and Security, Health and Social Care Services, Personal and Professional Development, Values and Planning. Specialist units may include Complementary Therapies, Nutrition, Research Methods and an Introduction to Counselling.

Students learn by completing projects and assignments based on realistic work place situations. Work placement is an integral part of the course.

100% coursework and is assessed over 2 years.

Successful completion of the BTEC National Certificate is equivalent to two GCE A Levels. Successful completion of the BTEC National Diploma is equivalent to three GCE A Levels. BTEC National Awards are valued by employers and Higher Education. Students may transfer directly into employment, many studying nursing, midwifery or teaching at university.

5 GCSE's at grade C or above.

Course Title

Examination Board

Course Content - AS

Course Content - A2

Assessment

Career Opportunities

Entry Requirements

Course Title

Examination Board

Course Content

Assessment

Career Opportunities

Entry Requirements



Course Title

Health & Social Care (Single award)

Examination Board

AQA

Course Content - AS

The AS course involves the completion of three units. The units of study are – Effective caring, Effective Communication, Health Illness and Disease.

Course Content - A2

The A2 course contains three further units of study. Namely Working in Health & Social Care, Human Development and finally Environmental Health.

Assessment

AS: Effective Caring is an examined unit the other two are coursework which is internally assessed and externally moderated.

A2: Human Development is an examined unit the remaining units are internally assessed and externally moderated.

Career Opportunities

This course compliments many other subjects on offer in the Sixth Form. Students may transfer directly into employment or may move into Higher Education. Students often study nursing, midwifery or teaching.

Entry Requirements

Minimum of 5 GCSE's at Grade C or above.

Course Title

History

Examination Board

AQA

Course Content - AS

British & European History 1500-1600. Henry VIII and the Break with Rome; his six wives; executions; scandal and divorce. The social and political impact of Henry's religious reformation. Also, Religious conflict in Europe; Martin Luther, John Calvin and the Protestant Reformation.

Course Content - A2

British History. Focus on the Golden Age of Elizabeth I; troubled princess to mighty Queen – Mary Queen of Scots, Religious Conflict, War with Spain and the Armada.

Assessment

- Two Exam Papers at AS (British & European)
- One exam paper at A2 (British)
- Personal Study at A2.

Career Opportunities

Developing skills of Communication, Analysis, Argument, thinking, etc makes History ideal for a variety of careers including Law, Media, Management, Teaching as well as archivist and museum work.

Entry Requirements

Grade C at GCSE if preferable but students without GCSE will be considered. An enthusiasm for History.



Information Technology

Course Title

Examination Board

Course Content - AS

Course Content - A2

Assessment

Career Opportunities

Entry Requirements

AQA

Module 1 – Practical problem solving in the digital World. Pupils will complete mini activities in the use of ICT to solve problems such as creating an invoice or developing a podcast.

Module 2 – Living in the digital world. Focuses on how the use of ICT affects individuals and society.

Module 3 – The use of ICT in the digital world. Looks at the fast changing world of ICT as used by organisations.

Module 4 – Practical issues involved in the use of ICT in the digital world (Coursework). Pupils will be given the opportunity to enhance their skills or develop new ones through collaborative working.

AS: Module 1 (50%) externally assessed 1 1/2 hour exam in which pupils discuss their use of ICT.
Module 2 (50%) externally assessed 1 1/2 hour exam consisting of short and structured questions.

A2: Module 3 (60%) externally assessed 2 hour exam.
Module 4 (40%) internally assessed and externally moderated.

This course has been developed alongside industry leaders in the field of ICT to equip candidates with the skills to enter Higher Education or direct entry into the ICT industry.

Minimum of a Level 2 or Pass at DiDA D201 or by negotiation with the CAL for ICT if ICT was not taken as an option at GCSE.

Course Title

Law

Examination Board

Course Content - AS

Assessment

Career Opportunities

Entry Requirements

OCR

This is an AS course over 2 years. The course consists of two units:
UNIT 1: The English Legal System: 60% this unit covers the court structure and procedures, the legal profession and the judiciary, magistrates, juries, sentencing and the provision of legal services. UNIT 2: Sources of Law: 40% this unit covers law-making, including EU law, statute creation and judge made law and law reform.

100% Examination. Each module has a 2 hour exam. There is no coursework.

Entry into the legal professions: Barrister, Solicitor, Legal Executive, Legal Secretary and Legal departments in a variety of private and state organisations.

Minimum 5 GCSEs at grade C (including English).



Course Title

Mathematics

Examination Board

AQA

Course Content - AS

The AS course involves two pure modules and one applied. The topics covered include Algebra, Coordinate Geometry, Differentiation, Integration, Functions, Sequences and Series, Trigonometry, Exponentials and Logarithms. On the Applied side we cover Mathematical Modelling, Kinematics, Statics and Forces, Momentum, Newton's laws of Motion, Connected Particles and Projectiles.

Course Content - A2

The students build on the AS course and study a further two pure modules and a second applied module, usually Statistics. Areas covered in the pure modules are all extensions of the AS topics together with Numerical Methods and Vectors. The topics covered in Statistics are Numerical Measures, Probability, Binomial and Normal Distributions, Estimation, Correlation and Regression.

Assessment

100% Examination

Career Opportunities

Maths affects everything we do in our lives. It forms the basis for many other subjects and is fascinating in its own right. It also leads on to a variety of fulfilling careers. E.g. Engineering, IT, Medicine, Media, Computer Games, Finance, Teaching, Food Technology, Graphics, Transport and the Environment.

Entry Requirements

Minimum Grade B. Must have attempted the Higher Level paper at GCSE.

Course Title

Further Mathematics

Examination Board

AQA

Course Content - AS

The AS course is usually studied over two years. In the first year they do two modules and one in the second year. The pure module studied Algebra and Graphs, Complex Numbers, Roots and Coefficients of a quadratic equation, Series, Calculus, Numerical Methods, Trigonometry, Matrices and Transformations. The Application module, also studied in the first year covers Simple Ideas of Algorithms, Graphs and Networks, Spanning Tree Problems, Matching.

Course Content - A2

For the student to complete an A2 in Further Mathematics as well as those modules covered in AS they must study a further three modules. They are one pure and two applied modules. The topics include Vectors and Three-dimensional Coordinate Geometry and Matrix Algebra, Determinants and Linear Independence. The two Applied Modules are Mechanics covering topics such as Moments and Centres of Mass, Applications of Differential Equations

Assessment

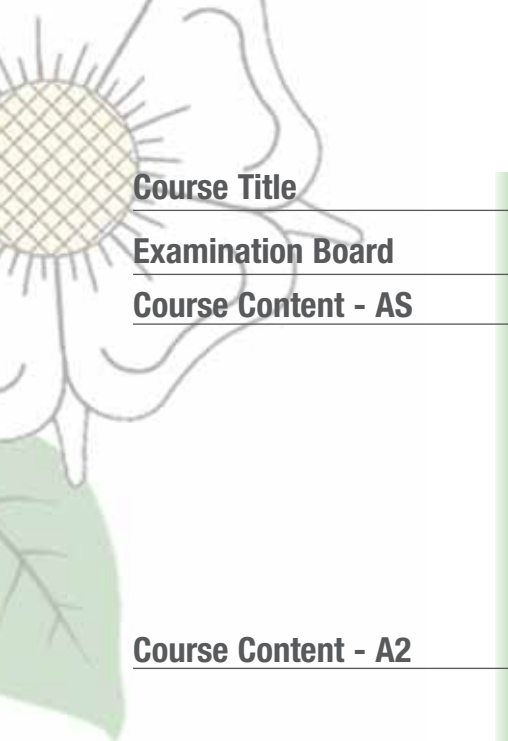
100% Examination

Career Opportunities

Students can pursue degrees in Engineering, IT, Medicine, Media, Computer Games, Finance, Teaching, Food Technology, Graphics, Transport and the Environment.

Entry Requirements

Minimum Grade B. Must have attempted the Higher Level paper at GCSE.



Course Title

Examination Board

Course Content - AS

Music

EDEXCEL

Unit 1 – Performing - Gives students the opportunities to perform as soloists and/or as part of an ensemble. Teachers and students can choose music in any style.

Unit 2 - Composing - Encourages students to develop their composition skills leading to the creation of a three minute piece in response to a chosen brief..

Unit 3 – Musical Understanding - Focuses on listening to familiar music and understanding how it works.

Set works from the anthology provide the focus for the first two sections, through listening to and studying scores. In the third section, students use a score to identify harmonic and tonal features.

Unit 4 – Extended Performance - Gives students the opportunities to extend their performance skills as soloists and/or as part of an ensemble as part of a 12-15 minute assessed performance of a balanced programme of music.

Unit 5 – Composition and Technical Study - Consists of two sections, the composition section further develops students’ composition skills to enable the creation of a final three minute piece. The technical studies section builds on the knowledge and awareness of harmony gained already. Students must complete two tasks in this unit choosing from either one of each section or two of either section.

Unit 6 – Further Musical Understanding - Focuses on listening to music, familiar and unfamiliar and understanding how it works. Set works from the anthology provide the focus for much of the unit.

60% Practical Work (Performing and Composing). 40% Written examination.

This course will benefit any student wanting to study music at university or music college. Career opportunities include performing, teaching, music technology, television and radio.

Grade B and above at GCSE Music. Students who haven’t studied music are welcome.

Course Content - A2

Assessment

Career Opportunities

Entry Requirements

Course Title

Physics

Examination Board

AQA

Course Content - AS

Students will study the nature of particles, quantum phenomena and electricity. This is followed by developing understanding of the laws of motion, energy and power as well as the properties of materials and the nature of waves.

Course Content - A2

Students will continue their study of mechanics as they study circular and simple harmonic motion as well as the nature of fields. Furthermore, as study of nuclear and thermal physics is followed by the option of studying astrophysics, medical physics, applied physics or turning points in our understanding of physics.

Assessment

Both courses contain assessment designed to develop the students’ practical and investigative skills.

AS - 80% Examination, 20% Practical Exam. (50% of total A-Level Grade)

A2 - 80% Examination, 20% Practical Exam. (50% of total A-Level Grade)

Career Opportunities

The course provides a firm foundation for students if they wish to continue to higher education (and not just science degrees) but is also held in high regard by many employers.

Entry Requirements

Grade B (Higher Level) at either GCSE Physics or Double Award (Core and Additional Science)



Physical Education

Course Title
Examination Board
Course Content AS
Course Content A2
Assessment
Career Opportunities
Entry Requirements

OCR

Theory Paper - 2 hour exam
 Anatomy and Physiology: Body composition and structure in relation to sport.
 Skill Acquisition: How we learn and improve both motor and perceptual skills.
 Contemporary Studies: Current trends in Sport and PE in the UK and around the world.
 Practical Assessment: Candidates are assessed in 2 activities. It will be based on technical ability.
 Coursework: There is one piece of coursework based one of the students' sports. It will involve evaluating their performance.

Theory Paper - 2 hour exam
 History of Sport: From 43BC to present day
 Psychology of Sport: What strategies can we use to improve performance?
 Exercise Physiology: How to develop fitness using exercise and training
 Practical Assessment: Candidates are assessed in one activity. It will be based on effective performance.
 Coursework: There is once piece of coursework which is an extension of the AS coursework. It will involve evaluating their performance and planning for improvement.

70% Theory, 30% Practical (of which 10% is coursework)

A-level PE is now recognised as an academic A-level suitable for University, College or other Higher Education entrance.

It is especially useful for careers or higher education courses in: PE/Sport, Sport Science, Recreation/Leisure Management, Physiotherapy, Sports Psychology, Teaching / Coaching, Public Relations, Health & Fitness Industry, Professional Sport but is widely accepted for a lot of other courses / careers, i.e. Police Force, Armed Forces, Business Degrees, Science related Degrees

C grade in GCSE PE would be preferred but not essential.
 An ability to play 2 sports/ PE activities at a good standard would be beneficial.

Psychology

Course Title
Examination Board
Course Content - AS
Course Content - A2
Assessment
Career Opportunities
Entry Requirements

Edexcel

A look at the general approaches to psychology including the social approach and the cognitive approach. The issue of gender behaviour will be examined through the physiological, behavioural and psychodynamic approaches. Experiments will be done throughout the year and will be part of the exam.

A look at specific topics which could include criminal psychology, health psychology or child psychology. There is also a synoptic element which includes abnormal psychology. Experiments will be done throughout the year and will be part of the exam.

100% exam. 2 at AS (one in January). 2 at A2 (one in Jnauary).

Many students progress onto either a Psychology Degree or another degree. Careers in Psychology include Clinical Psychologist, Education Psychologist, Forensics and Counselling.

Double Award Science at BB.

Religious Studies – Philosophy & Ethics

Course Title

Examination Board

Course Content - AS

Edexcel

This involves a study of 2 disciplines within Religious Studies. Ethics looks at theories such as Utilitarianism and Situation ethics and considers their strengths and weaknesses. Religious teachings on the nature and value of human life as oppose to animal life are considered as is a much more detailed consideration of Abortion and Euthanasia.

Philosophy, Religion and Science considers philosophical thinking on scientific topics such as Creation and Evolution theory, the design argument as to the existence of God, Miracles and Quantum mechanics in a religious world view.

Course Content - A2

Ethical studies are continued with a study of libertarianism and fatalism, Virtue ethics, religious views on sexual behaviour and human relationships and a unit on the ethics on the ethics of Science and technology.

Philosophy considers the issues of Life, Death and Beyond and the perceptions of the Ultimate Reality of God and whether such perceptions are meaningful.

Assessment

100% examination - AS will be 2 papers of 1hr15 each and A2 will be 2 papers of 1hr30 each.

Career Opportunities

This is an excellent course for important skills of analysis and evaluation of scholars thinking necessary for a whole range of courses in higher education including some science courses with an ethical focus. Law, teaching and the diplomatic service all benefit from this qualification.

Entry Requirements

Minimum grade B is required in Religious Studies, History or English. Students who have not studied the subject at GCSE will be welcome.

Level 2 BTEC First Diploma in Business (1 year)

Course Title

Examination Board

Course Content - AS

Edexcel

The areas include; Exploring Business Purpose, Developing Customer Relations, Investigating Financial Control, Business Communication, People in Organisations and Starting a Small Business

Assessment

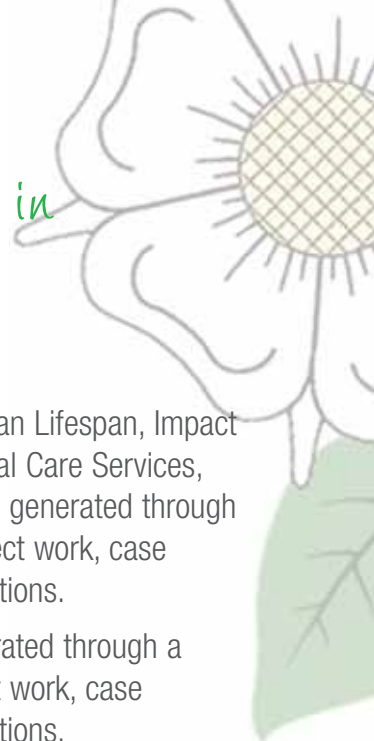
100 % Coursework. Evidence for assessment may be generated through a range of diverse activities including assignment and project work, case studies, workplace assessment, role play and oral presentations.

Career Opportunities

This course is equivalent to 4 GCSEs at A*-C. Students gaining a BTEC First Diploma in Business will have access to a range of career and further education opportunities. Many students that complete this course continue to study an A Level course at John Taylor or seek employment.

Entry Requirements

No specific entry requirements. Students who have not studied Business at GCSE Level are welcome.



Course Title

Level 2 BTEC First Diploma in Health & Social Care (1 year)

Examination Board

Edexcel

Course Content - AS

Areas include:- Communication and Individual Rights, Human Lifespan, Impact of diet on Health, Individual Needs within the Health & Social Care Services, Anatomy and Physiology. Evidence for assessment may be generated through a range of diverse activities including assignment and project work, case studies, workplace assessment, role play and oral presentations.

Assessment

100% Coursework. Evidence for assessment may be generated through a range of diverse activities including assignment and project work, case studies, workplace assessment, role play and oral presentations.

Career Opportunities

This course is equivalent to 4 GCSE's at A-C grade. All students gaining a BTEC First Diploma in Health & Social Care will have access to a range of career and further education opportunities. Students often progress onto A-Level courses or go into employment.

Entry Requirements

No specific entry requirements.

Course Title

Level 3 BTEC National Diploma in Sport (Development, Coaching and Fitness)

Examination Board

Edexcel

Course Content - 2yrs

Core units include:

The Body in Action • Health and Safety in Sport • Training and Fitness for Sport • Sports Coaching • Sports Development • Fitness Testing for Sport and Exercise • Practical Team Sports • Practical Individual Sports.

Specialist units include:

Outdoor and Adventurous Activities • Sports Nutrition • Sport and Society • Leadership in Sport • Exercise, Health and Lifestyle • Instructing Physical Activity and Exercise • Working with Children in Sport • Sport as a Business • Work-based Experience in Sport.

Assessment

100% Coursework, in the form of written work, presentations and practical work.

BTECs are now recognised as suitable qualifications for University, College or other Higher Education entrance.

Career Opportunities

It is especially useful for careers or higher education courses in:

PE/Sport, Sport Science, Recreation/Leisure Management, Physiotherapy, Sports Psychology, Teaching-Coaching, Public Relations, Health & Fitness Industry, Professional Sport but is widely accepted for a lot of other courses/careers ie: Police Force, Armed Forces, Business Degrees, Science related degrees.

Entry Requirements

A minimum of 5 GCSE's (A*-C), a good knowledge/interest in sport and the ability to play well in one sport.



Course Title

CoPE (Certificate of Personal Effectiveness)

Examination Board

ASDAN

Course Content - Y12/Y13

The CoPE course is a way of enabling students to get accreditation for various (including extra-curricular) activities whilst in the 6th form. The scheme encourages learners to take increasing responsibility for the development and organisation of one's own learning. Students complete a range of personally chosen challenges/tasks and also have to demonstrate evidence of some key-skills.

Assessment

Submission of a portfolio for internal and external moderation.

Career Opportunities

Achievement in this qualification has been calibrated by QCA/DfES to an equivalence of an AS Level at Level 3, (with a UCAS tariff of 70 points).

Entry Requirements

No specific entry requirements, BUT there is an expectation that students are prepared to take considerable personal responsibility in developing, carrying out and completing the challenges.

Course Title

Critical Thinking

Examination Board

OCR

Course Content - AS

The Year 12 course concentrates on Units 1 and 2 of the AS qualification; the course meets specific exam demands and wider skills (through knowledge of current issues and understanding the importance of examining knowledge and beliefs critically). Critical thinking skills are valuable in themselves and contribute to success in other subjects.

Course Content - A2

Unit 1: Introduction to Critical Thinking. Unit 2: Assessing/Developing Argument. Unit 3: Ethical Reasoning & Decision Making. Unit 4: Critical Reasoning

Assessment

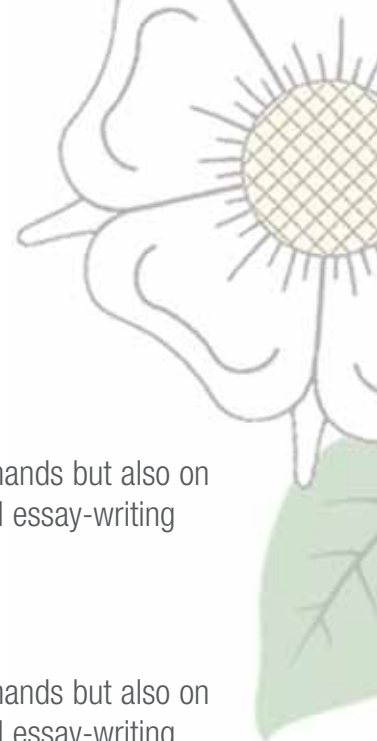
100% examination.

Career Opportunities

It is certain that learners who wish to progress to Higher Education will benefit from the analytical and communication skills they will have developed during the course.

Entry Requirements

No specific requirements but a good GCSE pass in English AND a willingness to analyse/discuss/argue about topical matters.



Course Title

General Studies

Examination Board

AQA

Course Content - AS

The AS course presents two broad themes/exam papers:-

- Culture and Society
- Science and Society

Emphasis is placed not only on meeting specific exam demands but also on developing wider skills via knowledge of current issues and essay-writing techniques.

Course Content - A2

The A2 course presents two broad themes/exam papers:-

- Culture and Society
- Science and Society

Emphasis is placed not only on meeting specific exam demands but also on developing wider skills via knowledge of current issues and essay-writing techniques.

Assessment

100% examination

Career Opportunities

Universities and employers view this qualification as evidence of a well rounded education.

Entry Requirements

Good GCSE passes in core curriculum subjects.

