SIR WILLIAM ROBERTSON
ACADEMY SIXTH FORM

PROSPECTUS 2026

NO BORDERS, JUST HORIZONS...





CONTENTS

Headteacher's Welcome	**3**
Welcome to Sixth Form	**4**
10 Great Reasons to Study at SWRA	**5**
Student Support	**7**
PSHE and SMSC	**8**
Student Leadership	**9**
Enrichment	**10-11**
Art, Design: Fine Art	**12**
Art, Design: Graphics	**13**
Biology	**14**
BTEC Sport	**15**
Business	**16**
Chemistry	**17**
Computing	**18**
Criminology	**19**
Drama	**20-21**
English Language	**22-23**
English Literature	**24-25**
French	**26**
Further Maths	**27**
Geography	**28-29**
History	**30-31**
Health and Social Care	**32**
Maths	**33**
Media Studies	**34-35**
Music	**36-37**
Medical Science	**38**
Physics	**39**
Product Design	**40**
Psychology	**41**
Religious Studies	**42**
UPS	**43**

WELCOME



Welcome to Sixth Form at Sir William Robertson Academy

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

It is our pleasure to welcome you to the Sixth Form Prospectus for Sir William Robertson Academy.

Choosing where to continue your post-16 education is one of the most important decisions a young person will make. It is a choice that will shape academic success, personal growth and future opportunities. At Sir William Robertson Academy, we are proud to offer a Sixth Form experience that combines outstanding academic achievement with exceptional pastoral care, ensuring every student is supported to thrive and achieve their ambitions.

Set within our beautiful rural environment, our Sixth Form provides a unique atmosphere where students can focus on their studies, develop confidence and independence, and become part of a close-knit and supportive community. Our stunning setting is matched by excellent facilities, creating an inspiring and welcoming place to learn.

What truly sets us apart is our personalised approach. We recognise that every student is different, with their own aspirations, strengths and talents. Our experienced, highly skilled staff take the time to know every student as an individual, providing tailored academic guidance, expert teaching and dedicated pastoral support. Small class sizes allow students to benefit from strong relationships with teachers, personalised feedback and a learning experience that helps them fulfil their potential.

We are proud of our track record of success. Year after year, our students secure excellent outcomes and progress to an impressive range of destinations. Whether that is studying at leading universities, including Russell Group institutions, securing prestigious higher-level apprenticeships, or moving directly into employment, our students leave Sir William Robertson Academy equipped with the knowledge, skills and confidence to succeed.

Beyond academic achievement, our Sixth Form offers a wealth of opportunities to develop leadership, teamwork, character and wider life skills. We want every student to leave us not only with outstanding qualifications but also with the resilience, ambition and values needed to make a positive contribution to society.

For families across Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire, Sir William Robertson Academy Sixth Form is a place where students are known, valued and challenged to be their very best. We are ambitious for every young person and committed to helping them achieve a future they can be proud of.

We hope this prospectus gives you a flavour of what makes our Sixth Form such a special place. We look forward to welcoming you and supporting you on the next exciting stage of your educational journey.

Sir William Robertson Academy Sixth Form – the place to be in Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire.

Warm regards,
Scott Barlow
CEO, Aspire Schools Trust
Headteacher, Sir William Robertson Academy

WELCOME TO SIXTH FORM



We are proud to be an ambitious, academic Sixth Form committed to the success of our students. Sir William Robertson Academy Sixth Form benefits from being part of a school that is driven by an ethos that all of our students ASPIRE to be the very best they can be. We encourage our students to be ambitious - No Borders, Just Horizons.

Undertaking Sixth Form studies is a considerable challenge that has the potential to be extremely rewarding and open doors to excellent opportunities in a young person's future. Through our personalised, supportive approach we watch our students thrive when facing this new academic challenge and see them go on to a range of outstanding destinations.

We are deeply committed to helping our students develop into well-rounded, articulate and highly employable individuals which we achieve through maintaining high expectations and providing opportunities for them to grow into exceptional young adults.

Sir William Robertson Academy Sixth Form is above all a family. We provide superb pastoral care for our students and offer the support needed to flourish so that every student reaches their full potential.

Whether you are a current student at Sir William Robertson Academy or studying elsewhere, we look forward to receiving your application and welcoming you into our community.

Charlotte Wilson
Head of Sixth Form

10 GREAT REASONS TO STUDY AT SWRA

1. **Academic Success** - Our students consistently pursue excellence in their studies and achieve well.
2. **Destinations** - Every student is unique and we support each one of them on their journeys to their next steps.
3. **Facilities** - Our students are able to use our computer suites and our well-stocked library for research and group study.
4. **Enrichment** - Our Sixth form have unique opportunities to experience beyond their academic studies through our excellent Enrichment programme.
5. **Support** - We have a strong ethos in line with the rest of the school of treating each student as an individual which is championed through supportive guidance offered by our pastoral team.
6. **Student Leadership** - We have many opportunities for our Sixth Form students to undertake roles of responsibility within the school.
7. **Dedicated UCAS and Careers Guidance** - Our experienced Sixth Form team provides personalised support with university applications, apprenticeships, employment pathways, personal statements, interview preparation, and career planning, helping every student make informed choices about their future.
8. **Academic and Vocational Pathways** - We offer a broad curriculum of academic and vocational courses, allowing students to tailor their studies to their interests, strengths, and future career aspirations.
9. **Small and Supportive Class Sizes** - Smaller teaching groups enable personalised learning, stronger relationships with staff, and tailored support to help every student succeed.
10. **Meaningful Work Experience** - All year 12 students understand work experience, helping them develop valuable employability skills and gain insight into future careers.



Please apply on our website under Sixth Form Applications -
https://www.swracademy.org/page/?title=Sixth+Form+Applications&pid=35


ELEUR HITCHCOCK
MOUSE

STUDENT SUPPORT

Sir William Robertson Academy Sixth Form has a strong ethos in line with the rest of the school of treating each student as an individual which is championed through the regular, supportive guidance offered by our pastoral team. The Head of Sixth Form and Sixth Form Administrator are based in the Sixth Form area and offer a wide range of support to ensure that well-being is always a priority, which allows our students to flourish.

Base Tutors provide daily support for Sixth Form students and host 1:1 meetings so that they are offered personalised support with every aspect of their lives, from their academic endeavours to their personal development. We provide a strong programme of independent careers advice and guidance to ensure access to unbiased, up-to-date information when making key decisions about next steps. The teaching staff who work with our Sixth Form students are exceptionally committed to providing additional support beyond the classroom, including intervention sessions and mentoring programmes.



PSHE AND SMSC

Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) is taught weekly, as well as being integrated into subject lessons. The Sixth Form PSHE programme includes sessions on physical and mental well-being, personal safety, current affairs, relationships and sex education (RSE), diversity, finance, young driver awareness and fundamental British values.

Our Sixth Form provides a rich programme of Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) education which encourages students to become thoughtful, responsible and active members of society. Students learn about a wide range of world views and develop respect for diversity, ethical decision-making and an understanding of different cultures and perspectives. We encourage students to reflect on their own values, contribute positively to the school and wider community, and build the confidence and resilience needed to thrive in modern Britain and beyond.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

There are many opportunities for Sixth Form students to undertake roles of responsibility within the school, including House Captains, Subject Ambassadors and members of the Student Council. Our House Captains promote and lead whole-school inter-house events each term, whilst Subject Ambassadors provide peer support to their classmates, speak to visitors at our open events and take on a project to develop the provision of their chosen subject across the school. There is a high level of engagement from Sixth Form students to participate in the leadership opportunities we have. All Sixth Form students also have the opportunity to support younger years with their enrichment activities and to volunteer as Reading Buddies to Key Stage 3 students. We hold a rigorous process annually to select our Head Students – outstanding individuals who embody our key values and act as ambassadors for the school. These exceptional young people lead the wider Student Leadership Team in Sixth Form. Head Students have a vital role to play in the life of our school as they guide the development of the Sixth Form and the student council.





ENRICHMENT

Sir William Robertson Academy Sixth Form students have unique opportunities to have experiences beyond their academic studies through our excellent Enrichment programme. Enrichment activities take place for Years 12 and Year 13 on Wednesday afternoons and include a wide range of opportunities including debating, mindfulness, arts and culture, cooking and sports. There is also time spent preparing students for their next steps, developing life skills such as cooking, budgeting, DIY, understanding of taxes and mortgages and even ironing! Our enrichment activities allow students to develop their leadership, teamwork and communication skills as well as preparing them for adult life.

Every half term, there are whole-school house events across a range of interests. Dodge ball, tug of war, karaoke, quizzes, spelling bee, orienteering and a festive wrap battle are just some of the events on offer! Sixth Form students participate in these events and lead the younger students with great enthusiasm.



ART, DESIGN: FINE ART

What are lessons like in this subject?

Students study the AQA course, which offers the opportunity to experiment with media and techniques and to develop a sense of style in art, using the work of others as an integral part of the development. This is extended by students being able to direct their work towards their specific interests and skills, with support given throughout. Students explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to art and design, using this knowledge and understanding to develop ideas as part of the investigating and making process. Their responses must be shown through practical and critical activities which demonstrate understanding of different styles, genres and traditions, and students use sketchbooks, worksheets or journals to underpin their work where appropriate. Students may work in two or more areas, including painting and drawing, mixed media, textiles, three dimensional design, sculpture and printmaking, exploring overlapping areas and combinations, as well as new technologies and techniques to develop and explore a range of ideas and outcomes.

What will I study?

Year 12: Students are required to work from a range of themes and media to produce work that evidences development from initial ideas to quality finished outcomes. They are introduced to a variety of experiences and explore a range of media, techniques and processes.

Year 13: Students further develop these skills, through greater emphasis on research of a personal theme and the quality of outcomes.

Qualification title and awarding body

AQA A Level Art and Design: Fine Art

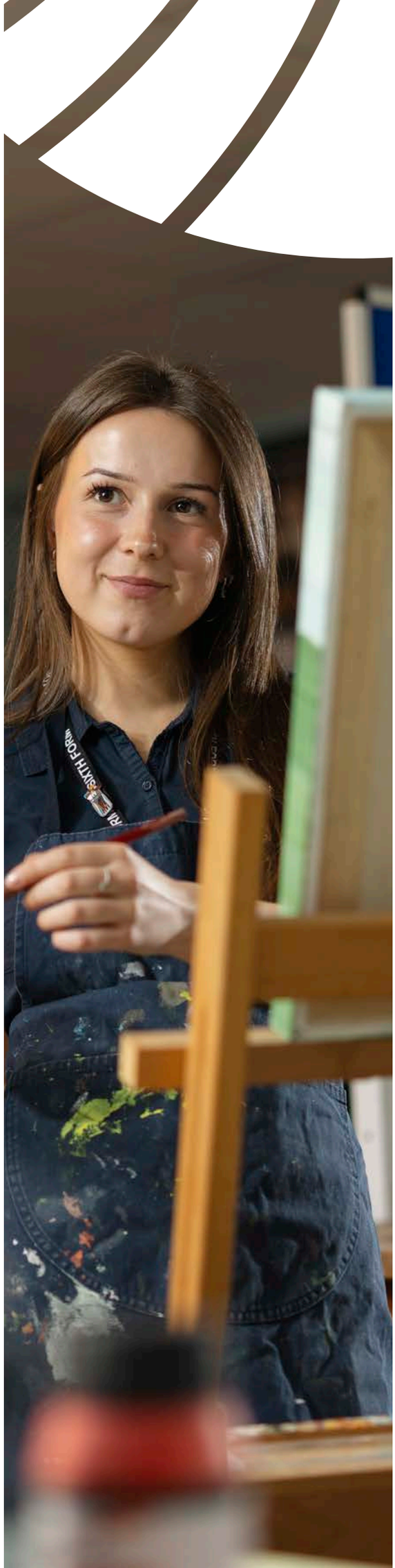
How are you assessed?

Component 1: Portfolio — worth 60% of the overall A Level grade, started in June of Year 12 and completed by January of Year 13.

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment — worth 40% of the overall A Level grade, comprising a preparatory period followed by 15 hours of supervised time to produce a final piece in response to a set theme.

Progression

This course can lead to Foundation or Degree courses in art and design related areas. Jobs include architecture, advertising, illustration, painting, product design, teaching, fashion and graphic design, as well as a huge range of other careers for which a visual education is invaluable.



ART, DESIGN: GRAPHICS

What are lessons like in this subject?

Students follow the AQA course, which has a logical progression from GCSE as the assessment objectives, structure and titles are very similar to those specified in the GCSE course specification. In Year 12, students are encouraged to explore, experiment and take risks with a wide variety of media, materials and techniques across the different areas in order to further develop and strengthen their knowledge, understanding and practical skills. Extra curricular opportunities, both in and out of the school environment, through workshops and visits, are also a significant part of the course, helping students to acquire new skills, develop an appreciation of others' work, and raise awareness of the many career opportunities available within the creative industries.

What will I study?

Year 12: Students explore, experiment and take risks with a wide variety of media, materials and techniques across different areas of graphic communication, building on the knowledge and skills developed at GCSE.

Year 13: Year 13 focuses largely on the two areas of assessment. Component 1 is a portfolio of work, started in June of Year 12 and completed by January of Year 13. Component 2 is an externally set assignment, released from February of Year 13; students select a theme to respond to, complete a preparatory period, and then have 15 hours of supervised time to complete their final piece.

The flexibility of the AQA specification means students have the opportunity to work within a variety of areas, including advertising, packaging design, design for print, illustration, communication graphics, branding, multimedia and design for film and television.

Qualification title and awarding body

AQA A Level Art and Design: Graphic Communication

How are you assessed?

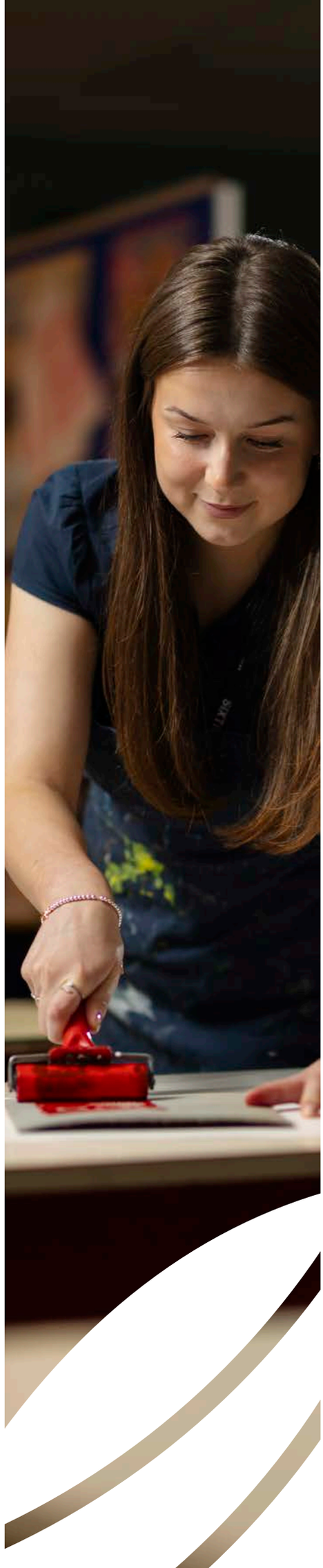
Component 1: Portfolio - worth 60% of the overall A Level grade, started in June of Year 12 and completed by January of Year 13.

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment - worth 40% of the overall A Level grade, comprising a preparatory period followed by 15 hours of supervised time to produce a final piece in response to a set theme.

Progression

A Level Graphic Communication is an exciting and broad based qualification exploring practical and critical/contextual work through a range of processes and media. The course directly supports progression to further and higher education in Design and related subjects, as well as providing students with a rich platform to inspire a lifelong interest in, and enjoyment of, design.

Graphic designers are always in demand, particularly those with digital skills, with brands such as Apple, Google and NSPCC all investing in their own in house design talent alongside creative agencies. A visual communication qualification opens the door to a huge range of careers including Graphic Designer, Art Worker, UI/UX Designer, Information Architect, Mobile Designer, Brand Identity Developer, Packaging Designer, Broadcast Designer, Illustrator, Production Artist, Web Designer, Motion Graphics Designer, Set Designer and Creative Director.



BIOLOGY

What are lessons like in this subject?

In Biology lesson students are taught about the structure of living organisms and the function of the parts that make it possible for life to exist, al the way down to chemical molecules and their interactions with one another. The interactions of living organisms in ecosystems is also covered, showing how small changes can result in large consequences for other organisms.

Lessons allow students an opportunity to practice the application of these studies into different situations, whilst also giving the students an opportunity to progress their practical capabilities, including new techniques and in depth analysis.

What will I study?

Year 12:

1. Biological molecules
2. Cells
3. Organisms exchange substances with their environment
4. Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms

Year 13:

5. Energy transfers in and between organisms
6. Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
7. Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
8. The control of gene expression

Qualification title and awarding body

AQA A Level Biology

How are you assessed?

There is no coursework on this course. However, your performance during practicals will be assessed. There are three exams at the end of the two years for A-level, all of which are two hours long. At least 15% of the marks for A-level Biology are based on what you learned in your practicals.

Progression

Studying A-level Biology at university gives you all sorts of exciting career options, including: Doctor, clinical molecular geneticist, nature conservation officer, pharmacologist, research scientist, vet, secondary school teacher, marine biologist and dentist.



BTEC SPORT

What are lessons like in this subject?

Most lessons are classroom theory-based learning about topics such as anatomy, physiology, fitness training, psychology, coaching, nutrition, and sports development. There are also practical sport sessions – taking part in sports, coaching activities, fitness testing, and training sessions. Pupils need real independence for researching, writing assignments, creating presentations, and completing assessments. Group work takes place when planning events, discussing case studies - working in teams is an essential part of the course.

What will I study?

Extended Certificate students' study four units (bold) and Extended Diploma students study those four units plus ten others. Units underlined are externally assessed by an examination.

- Anatomy
- Sports Leadership
- Sports Coaching
- Sports Event Organisation
- Business in Sport
- Research Methods
- Development & Provision of Sport
- Practical Sports Performance
- Professional Development in the Sports Industry
- Fitness Training & Well-being
- Sports Psychology
- Skill Acquisition
- Outdoor Education
- Current Issues in Sport

Qualification title and awarding body

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Sport or BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Sport. Awarding Body is Pearson Ltd.

How are you assessed?

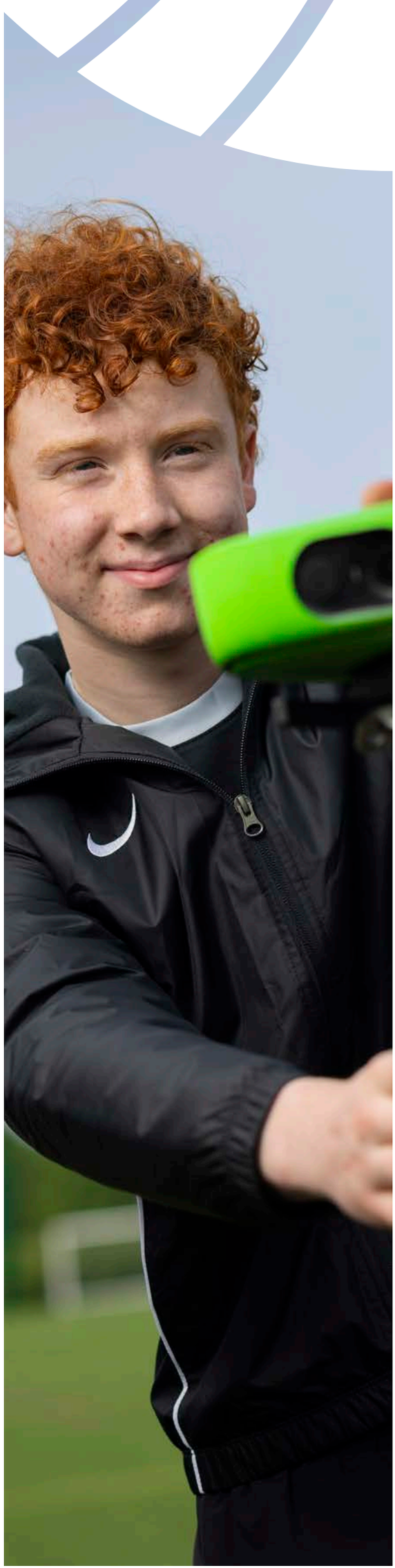
For the Extended Diploma there are 4 external exams and ten pieces of coursework. For the Extended Certificate there are two exams and two pieces of coursework.

Progression

University - Many students progress to university degrees such as: Sports Science, Sport and Exercise Science, Sports Coaching, Physical Education, Sports Therapy, Physiotherapy, Strength and Conditioning, Sports Management or Health and Fitness-related courses.

Employment - It can lead directly to careers such as: Sports Coach, Fitness Instructor, Personal Trainer, Leisure Centre Assistant/Manager, Sports Development Officer, Gym Instructor, Community Sports Worker, Sports Performance Analyst, or an Outdoor Activities Instructor.

Apprenticeships - You may also use the qualification to access higher-level apprenticeships in areas such as: Sports Coaching, Fitness and Personal Training, Leisure Management or Community Sport Development.
painting, product design, teaching, fashion and graphic design, as well as a huge



BUSINESS

What are lessons like in this subject?

This vocational Business course offers a flexible, learner-centred approach to studying business, combining practical and theoretical knowledge. The qualification is modular and students will complete two controlled coursework assignments (55%) and two external examinations (45%) throughout the two years. The course develops transferable skills such as research, extended writing, presentations, and meeting deadlines.

In business lessons, students participate in a variety of different learning activities as they progress through the course. For the controlled coursework assignments students will independently use the internet to research and gather information to create professional reports and work in teams to plan presentations and develop their interview skills. To prepare students for their external examinations, learning is carefully sequenced through teacher-led lessons that prioritise retrieval of knowledge, explicit instruction in examination technique and the development of analytical and evaluative skills through regular exam-focused practice.

Students are expected to develop a comprehensive business folder of resources to support independent study, enabling them to consolidate learning, address gaps, revisit key content, and revise effectively throughout the course.

What will I study?

Year 12: Two units one coursework and one exam

Unit 1: Exploring Business - Controlled Coursework Assignment

Unit 3: Personal & Business Finance - External Examination - May (2 hrs)

Year 13: Two units one coursework and one exam

Unit 2: Developing a marketing campaign - External Examination January (5 hrs)

Unit 8: Recruitment & Selection - Controlled Coursework Assignment

Qualification title and awarding body

BTEC - Level 3 Extended Certificate in Business

Progression

BTEC courses are widely recognised by employers and higher education institutions, providing a pathway either direct into the workplace or to further study. Students can progress to higher education courses, including foundation degrees and undergraduate degree programmes, particularly in Business Management, Marketing, Accounting and Finance, Human Resource Management, Events Management, International Business, Economics, and Entrepreneurship. The qualification also provides a strong foundation for higher and degree apprenticeships, as well as employment within the sector. Through the development of practical skills, industry knowledge, independent learning, and transferable employability skills, students are well prepared for their next steps in education, training, or the workplace.



CHEMISTRY

What are lessons like in this subject?

In Chemistry lessons students are taught more in depth knowledge of reactions, being able to understand why the reactions happen and how they are used in the wider world and industry. Students will have to practice maths skills regularly to be able to predict if a reaction will occur or the energy changes which occur when a reaction takes place. They will then use their knowledge to predict what may happen and also develop their practical skills, using new techniques in the labs and also to analyse data.

The lessons will also prepare students for the terminal assessments at the end of the two years, looking at how to adapt and utilise the skills taught to different scenarios.

What will I study?

Year 12:

Physical Chemistry: Including atomic structure, amount of substance, bonding, energetics, kinetics, chemical equilibria and Le Chatelier's principle.

Inorganic chemistry: Including periodicity, Group 2 the alkaline earth metals, Group 7(17) the halogens.

Organic chemistry: Including introduction to organic chemistry, alkanes, halogenoalkanes, alkenes, alcohols, organic analysis.

Year 13:

Physical chemistry: Including thermodynamics, rate equations, the equilibrium constant Kp , electrode potentials and electrochemical cells.

Inorganic chemistry: Including properties of Period 3 elements and their oxides, transition metals, reactions of ions in aqueous solution.

Organic chemistry: Including optical isomerism, aldehydes and ketones, carboxylic acids and derivatives, aromatic chemistry, amines, polymers, amino acids, proteins and DNA, organic synthesis, NMR spectroscopy, chromatography.

Qualification title and awarding body

AQA A Level Chemistry

How are you assessed?

There is no coursework on this course. However, your performance during practicals will be assessed. There are three exams at the end of the two years for A-level, all of which are two hours long. At least 15% of the marks for A-level Chemistry are based on what you learned in your practicals.

Progression

Studying an A-level Chemistry related degree at university gives you all sorts of exciting career options, including: Analytical chemist, chemical engineer, clinical biochemist, pharmacologist, doctor, research scientist (physical sciences), toxicologist, chartered certified accountant, environmental consultant, higher education lecturer, patent attorney, science writer and secondary school teacher.



COMPUTING

What are lessons like in this subject?

The Computing BTEC looks not only at the technical side of computing but also focuses on the creative side such as game and app development, digital video and audio and 3D modelling. This course gives you the specialist knowledge and skills to prepare you for a range of higher education courses, apprenticeship and employment within the computing and IT sector.

What will I study?

The BTEC level 3 Extended Certificate is equivalent to one A-level. You will study four units over the two year course with three mandatory units and one optional unit. The course provides a balance of breadth and depth while retaining a degree of choice for individual learners to study content, relevant to their own interests and progression choices.

Units you will study:

Unit 1: Principles of Computer Science: This unit covers all aspects of computer programming and computational thinking. You will develop your knowledge of programming techniques and learn how to apply this to solve problems.

Unit 2: Fundamentals of Computer Systems: This unit covers a range of computer software, hardware systems and technology and how they all work together. You will learn how and why current computer components and the data they use perform in certain ways and how to apply this in the many varied roles of the computing industry.

Unit 7: IT Systems Security and Encryption: In this unit you will learn about the different types of security attack and how to protect IT networks from these attacks as well as how to configure and support these networks.

Unit 14: Computer Games Development: Throughout this unit you will investigate the computer games industry and its impact on technological and social trends. You will design and develop a computer game to meet specific requirements. (optional unit)

Qualification title and awarding body

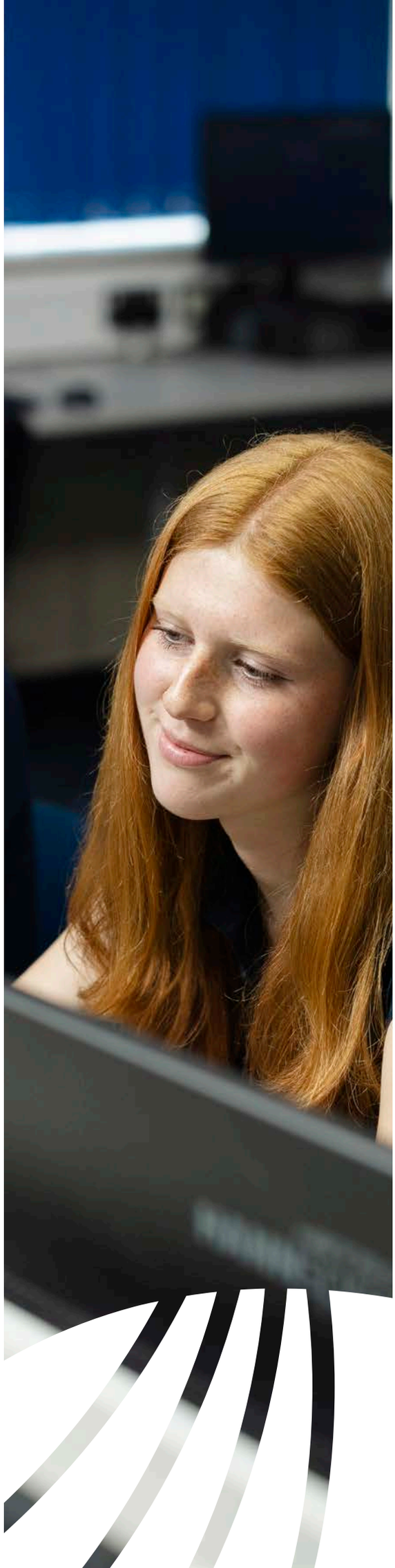
BTEC level 3 Extended Certificate

How are you assessed?

Unit 1: Written examination
Unit 2: Written examination
Unit 7: Coursework
Unit 14: Coursework

Progression

The course can lead to apprenticeships and employment in the Business, ICT and Computing industries as well as to further studies at university including:
BSc (Hons) in Computer Science
BSc (Hons) in Business Information Systems
BSc (Hons) in Information Management for Business
FdSC in Business Computing



CRIMINOLOGY

What are lessons like in this subject?

In Criminology lessons, students participate in a variety of learning activities as they progress through the course. Lessons include a range of teaching methods to support students in their learning, including independent research and group tasks. Students learn how the criminal justice system operates and investigate a number of case studies in society.

For controlled assessments, study carry out extensive independent research and write a detailed report. This includes planning a campaign to raise awareness of crime in the first year and studying the process of crime investigation from the crime scene to the courtroom in the second year.

Students maintain a detailed folder of class resources and notes to prepare them for assessments.

In addition, students can benefit from guest speakers who work in the field of crime and criminal justice.

What will I study?

Year 12:

Unit 1: Changing Awareness of Crime: Types of crime, media and crime, official data on crime, crime prevention and awareness campaigns.

Unit 2: Criminological Theories: Theories of criminality from biology, psychology and sociology.

Year 13:

Unit 3: Crime scene to Courtroom: The criminal justice system from investigation to verdict, personnel and techniques involved in criminal investigations and courtroom procedures.

Unit 4: Crime and Punishment: Law-making, criminal justice, forms and functions of punishment.

Qualification title and awarding body

WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology

How are you assessed?

Unit 1: Year 1 Controlled Assessment

Unit 2: Year 1 Exam

Unit 3: Year 2 Controlled Assessment

Unit 4: Year 2 Exam

Progression

Criminology provides an excellent foundation for a wide range of university courses and careers. Students often progress to degrees in Criminology, Law, Psychology and Sociology. The qualification also supports careers in policing, probation, the prison service, social work, youth justice, forensic investigation and other public service professions.



DRAMA

What are lessons like in this subject?

Drama and Theatre lessons combine practical performance work with academic study. Students take part in workshops, rehearsals, improvisation, scripted performance and devised theatre, while exploring the work of influential theatre practitioners, playwrights, directors and designers.

Students develop their acting and theatre-making skills through both individual and collaborative projects. Lessons involve experimenting with vocal and physical techniques, interpreting characters, directing scenes and considering how lighting, sound, costume and set can communicate meaning to an audience.

Alongside practical work, students complete independent research, maintain detailed notes and develop their ability to analyse and evaluate theatre. Students will also experience live theatre productions and consider how professional performers, directors and designers create an impact on an audience.

What will I study?

Year 12: Students will develop their performance and theatre-making skills through practical workshops and the exploration of a range of performance texts.

They will study the methods of influential theatre practitioners and apply these ideas to their own work. Students will begin creating an original devised performance from a published play extract and produce a portfolio documenting the development of their ideas.

Students will also study live theatre and begin exploring set texts from the perspectives of performers, directors and designers.

Students will complete and perform their original devised piece and finalise their supporting portfolio.

Year 13: Students will rehearse and perform a group extract from a published play, alongside either a monologue or duologue from a different performance text.

Students will continue studying two set texts in preparation for the written examination. They will explore how the texts could be staged for a contemporary audience, considering acting, directing and production choices. They will also analyse and evaluate a live theatre production they have attended.

Qualification title and awarding body

Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Drama and Theatre

Awarding body: Pearson Edexcel

How are you assessed?

Component 1: Devising - 40%

Students create and perform an original piece of theatre influenced by an extract from a published play and the methods of a recognised theatre practitioner. They also produce a portfolio that documents, analyses and evaluates the creative process. This component is assessed by the teacher and externally moderated.

Component 2: Text in Performance - 20%

Students perform a group extract from one published play and a monologue or duologue from a different play. The performances are externally assessed.

Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice - 40%
Students complete a two-hour-and-thirty-minute written examination. They analyse and evaluate a live theatre production and respond to questions about how two studied texts could be interpreted and staged. The examination considers the work of performers, directors, designers and influential theatre practitioners.

Progression

Drama and Theatre provides an excellent foundation for further study at university, drama school or specialist performing arts institutions. Students may progress to courses in Acting, Drama, Theatre Studies, Directing, Musical Theatre, Performing Arts, Education, Stage Management, Technical Theatre, Film and Media.

The course also develops valuable transferable skills, including communication, creativity, confidence, collaboration, critical thinking, time management and the ability to present ideas effectively. These skills support careers within the creative industries as well as areas such as teaching, law, media, marketing, management, human resources and public relations.



ENGLISH LANGUAGE

What are lessons like in this subject?

English Language is the study of how language works, how it shapes our identities and relationships, and how it influences the world around us. You will explore spoken, written and digital forms of communication, investigating how language varies across different groups, contexts and time periods.

Lessons are lively, discussion-based and investigative. You will analyse a wide range of real-world texts and data, including conversations, social media posts, news articles, advertising, workplace communication and children's language development. You will explore linguistic theories, debate contemporary language issues, undertake independent research and develop your own creative writing. Regular opportunities are provided to work collaboratively, present ideas and apply linguistic frameworks to authentic language data.

What will I study?

Unit 1: Language Frameworks

Unit 2: Language and Gender/ Accent & Dialect

Unit 3: Introduction to Child Language Development / Language and Power: the language of the workplace

Unit 4: Child Language Development: Written development/ Age & Technology

Unit 5: English as a global language

Unit 6: NEA Investigation & Original writing

Unit 7: Language change

Unit 8: Sexuality and Political Correctness

Qualification title and awarding body

A Level English Language, Awarding Body: AQA, Qualification Code: 7702

How are you assessed?

Assessment is through a combination of examinations and non-examined assessment (coursework).

Paper 1: Language, the Individual and Society (40%)

- Textual analysis using linguistic frameworks.
- Children's language development.
- Written examination.

Paper 2: Language Diversity and Change (40%)

- Language diversity and language change.
- Analytical and evaluative writing.
- Comparing viewpoints and attitudes.
- Written examination.

Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) (20%)

- Independent Language Investigation.
- Original Writing with a reflective commentary.

Assessment throughout the course includes essays, language investigations, data analysis tasks, mock examinations and coursework milestones to help you develop confidence and exam success.

Progression

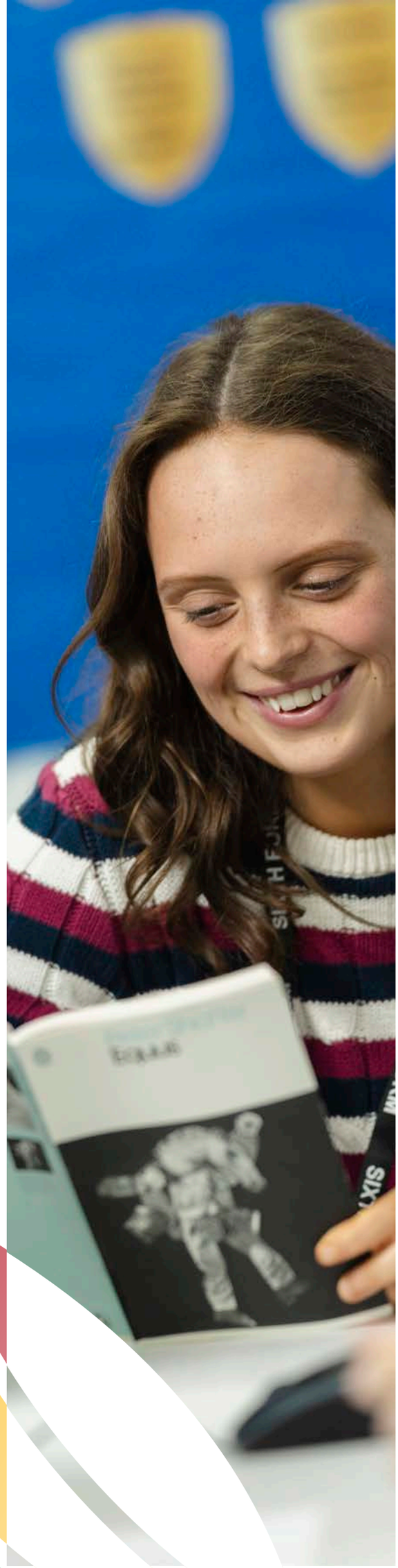
A Level English Language develops highly transferable skills in communication, analysis, research, critical thinking and creativity. It is valued by universities and employers alike and provides an excellent foundation for a wide range of degree courses and careers.

Possible degree pathways:

English Language
Linguistics
English Literature
Journalism
Media and Communications
Marketing
Law
Education and Teaching
Psychology
Sociology

Career opportunities:

Journalism
Publishing
Teaching and Education
Law
Marketing and Advertising
Public Relations
Speech and Language Therapy
Human Resources
Media and Broadcasting
Civil Service and Public Sector Roles



ENGLISH LITERATURE

What are lessons like in this subject?

Lessons are engaging, discussion-based and intellectually challenging. You will read, analyse and debate a range of literary texts including Shakespearean drama, modern plays, poetry and novels. Through close analysis, independent reading and critical discussion, you will develop your own interpretations and learn how to construct sophisticated arguments supported by textual evidence. Students are encouraged to explore different critical viewpoints, apply literary theory and make connections between texts and wider social issues. Regular opportunities are provided to work collaboratively, present ideas and undertake independent research.

What will I study?

Unit 1: Aspects of Tragedy

- Shakespeare's Othello
- Arthur Miller's Death of a Salesman
- Selected poetry of John Keats
- Tragic conventions and literary theory

Unit 2: Political and Social Protest Writing

- Margaret Atwood's The Handmaid's Tale
- Khaled Hosseini's The Kite Runner
- William Blake's Songs of Innocence and of Experience
- Exploration of protest literature, power, oppression and social change

Unit 3: Literary Theory and Critical Perspectives

- Feminist criticism
- Postcolonial criticism
- Marxist and contextual approaches
- Applying critical lenses to literary texts

Unit 4: Non-Exam Assessment (NEA)

- Independent comparative study of two texts
- Application of literary criticism and theory
- Extended academic essay

Qualification title and awarding body

A Level English Literature, Awarding Body: AQA, Qualification Code: 7712

How are you assessed?

Assessment is through a combination of examinations and non-examined assessment (coursework).

Paper 1: Literary Genres – Aspects of Tragedy (40%)

- Study of Othello
- Study of Death of a Salesman
- Study of Keats poetry
- Critical analysis of tragedy as a literary genre
- Written examination

Paper 2: Texts and Genres – Political and Social Protest Writing (40%)

- Comparative study of protest texts
- Analysis of unseen texts
- Exploration of contextual and critical interpretations
- Written examination

Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) (20%)

- Comparative critical study of two texts
- Independent research and wider reading
- Application of literary theory
- Extended coursework essay

Assessment throughout the course includes analytical essays, presentations, critical responses, mock examinations, unseen text analysis and coursework milestones designed to build confidence and examination success.

Progression

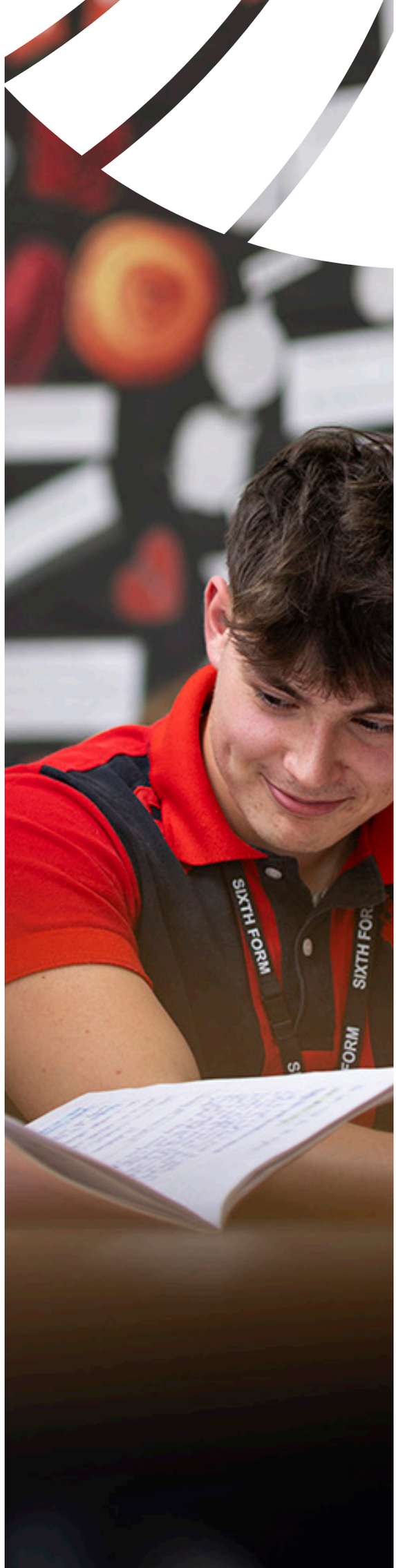
A Level English Literature develops highly transferable skills in critical thinking, analysis, communication, interpretation, evaluation and independent research. It is a highly respected qualification valued by universities and employers and provides an excellent foundation for a wide range of degree courses and careers.

Possible degree pathways:

English Literature
English Language and Literature
History
Law
Journalism
Politics
Philosophy
Creative Writing
Media and Communications
Education

Career opportunities:

Teaching and Education
Publishing
Journalism
Law
Marketing and Advertising
Public Relations
Civil Service
Media and Broadcasting
Copywriting and Content Creation
Editorial and Publishing Roles
Communications and Public Affairs



FRENCH

What are lessons like in this subject?

Languages are an invaluable skill to have in today's market. A-level French will build on your existing knowledge gained through your study at GCSE. It will give you a sound understanding in a variety of contexts and situations and will develop both your spoken and oral competence.

In lessons, you will improve you communication in French by developing your listening, speaking, reading and writing skills, as well as your grammatical and literary understanding. The course is designed to develop your linguistic proficiency and deepen your understanding of France and French culture.

The units are taught using a variety of learning activities and resources; including authentic written and spoken texts, online media, literature, film and music.

What will I study?

Year 12: Family in 21st Century France, French Contemporary Music, Technology, Cinema, French Culture and Heritage, Volunteering, the novel L'étranger, Grammatical concepts and understanding.

Year 13: How we treat Criminals, Political Engagement and the Right to Vote, Diversity and Integration, the Culture of Protest, Immigration, Marginalisation, the film La Haine, Grammatical concepts and understanding.

Qualification title and awarding body

AQA A-level

How are you assessed?

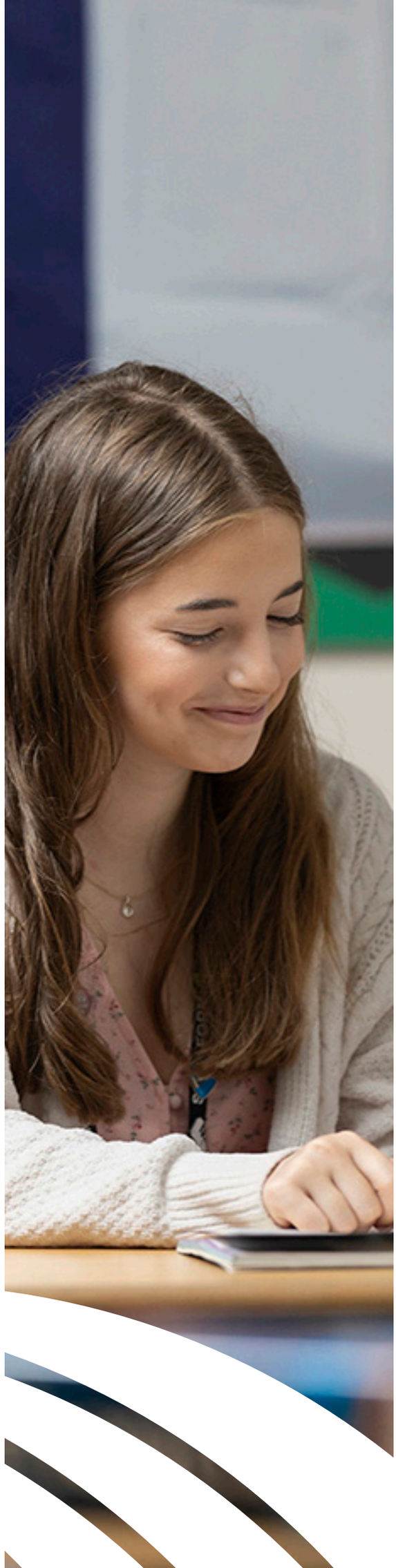
Paper 1 - Listening, Reading and Writing Exam, 2h30 written examination, 50% of the A Level

Paper 2 - Writing exam - essays on the book (L'étranger) and the film (La Haine) 2h written examination 20% of the A Level.

Paper 3 - Speaking Exam - based on the Individual Research Project and a photocard.

Progression

A-level French combines well with all subjects and is regarded as an indicator of academic capability. The ability to communicate in a foreign language is highly desirable skill in all spheres of employment. From translating and interpreting, law and education to business and travel and tourism, whichever career path you take, a language will help you to stand out from other applicants for both academic study and the world of work.



FURTHER MATHS

What are lessons like in this subject?

In further mathematics, students will build upon their knowledge from A Level Mathematics to take key studies into different directions. They will make key links between algebraic and trigonometric methods to ensure that their knowledge and skills and primed to study the subject in Higher Education.

Students will study Core Pure Maths as well as two further modules chosen to best suit the skills of the pupils and to maximise their chances of performing well in their summer examinations

What will I study?

Year 12: Complex numbers, matrices, proof by mathematical induction, volumes of revolution, further vectors, further calculus, graph theory, linear programming and conic sections.

Year 13: Building upon the teachings of year 12 by studying further complex numbers, indefinite integrals, hyperbolics functions, differential equations, activity networks, dynamic programming, t-formulae and much more!

Qualification title and awarding body

Pearson EDEXCEL A Level

How are you assessed?

Paper 1 - Core Pure Mathematics (75 marks - 1 hour 30 mins)

Paper 2 - Core Pure Mathematics (75 marks - 1 hour 30 mins)

Paper 3 - Decision 1 (75 marks - 1 hour 30 mins)

Paper 4 - Further Pure 1 (75 marks - 1 hour 30 mins)

Progression

Accompanying mathematics with further mathematics provides a sound and secure basis for studying mathematics and engineering related courses and University. Potential future employers see this as an extremely worthwhile qualification. Such degrees could lead to a career in finance, accountancy, academia, and so much more.



GEOGRAPHY

What are lessons like in this subject?

Geography is the study of your world and the physical and human processes that help create the modern world we all live on. You will explore how the interrelationships in the physical and human world shape our planet and the challenges that these relationships inevitably bring. The beauty of geography is that we are critical thinkers who can help forge solutions for these problems to help improve our world.

Lessons allow for discussions and debates on contemporary global and local issues allowing for real life situations to be discussed in lesson, as they are happening. You will enhance your understanding of topics you may have looked at during GCSE studies and will gain a greater depth of understanding whilst also working on your skills of critical thinking, decision making and problem solving.

Fieldwork is an important part of geographical study, and your geographical enquiry skills will be developed through the use of GIS and fieldwork both on the school site and on residential fieldwork trips.

What will I study?

Topics are divided into physical and human geography

Physical topics

Natural Hazards, Coastal systems and landscapes, Water and carbon cycles.

Human topics

Changing places, Contemporary urban environments, Global systems and governance.

Qualification title and awarding body

A Level Geography, Awarding Body: AQA, Qualification Code: 7037

How are you assessed?

Assessment is through a combination of examinations and non-examined assessment (coursework).

Paper 1 Exam (Physical Geography - 40%) - Natural Hazards, Coastal systems and landscapes, Water and carbon cycles.

Paper 2 Exam (Human Geography - 40%) - Changing places, Contemporary urban environments, Global systems and governance

Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) (20%) - Geographical Enquiry on a topic of your choice, with a link to specification.

Assessment during the course includes exam style questions, end of topic assessments and mock examinations. Folder checks are completed to ensure lesson notes are concise and completed to a high standard.

Progression

A Level Geography equips you with highly sought after transferable skills including critical thinking, teamwork, problem solving, data analysis and statistical skills, decision making, GIS and research skills. It is extremely valued by employers and universities and shows you can complete reports and extended writing projects through the completion of your geographical enquiry.

Possible degree pathways:

Geography (BA or BSc)
Human Geography
Physical Geography
Environmental Geography
Geography with GIS (Geographic Information Systems)
Urban Planning
Town and Regional Planning
Sustainable Development
International Development
International Relations
Politics
Law
Primary Education
Secondary Geography Education
Journalism
Marine Biology (often with Biology)



HISTORY

What are lessons like in this subject?

In A-Level History lessons, students participate in a wide range of activities designed to develop their historical knowledge, analytical skills and ability to construct persuasive arguments. Lessons include teacher-led discussion, source analysis, independent research, written tasks and group activities. Students are encouraged to think critically about historical interpretations and evaluate evidence from a variety of source material.

A significant focus is placed on developing essay-writing skills, including the construction of effective arguments and the evaluation of historical debates. Students maintain detailed notes and organise their learning materials systematically to support regular assessments and examinations.

In addition, students undertake an independent Historical Investigation (NEA), requiring extensive research and the production of a 4,000-word essay. This provides an opportunity to explore a historical issue in depth and develop the skills needed for university-level study.

What will I study?

Component 1H: Tsarist and Communist Russia, 1855-1964

Students study the transformation of Russia from the rule of the Tsars through revolution, civil war and the establishment of the Soviet Union to the leadership of Khrushchev. Topics include political, economic and social developments under Alexander II, Alexander III, Nicholas II, Lenin, Stalin and Khrushchev, as well as the causes and consequences of revolution and the impact of communist rule.

Component 2S: The Making of Modern Britain, 1951-2007

Students examine the political, economic and social developments that shaped modern Britain from the post-war period to the early twenty-first century. Topics include the governments of Churchill, Macmillan, Wilson, Thatcher, Major and Blair, as well as changing attitudes towards welfare, immigration, the economy and Britain's role in the world.

Historical Investigation (NEA)

Students complete a 4,000-word independently researched essay focusing on Change and Continuity throughout the Seventeenth Century. This coursework component requires students to analyse a range of interpretations and sources, evaluate historical arguments and construct a well-supported investigation.

Qualification title and awarding body

AQA A-Level History (7042)

How are you assessed?

Component 1H: Tsarist and Communist Russia, 1855-1964

Written examination (40% of A-Level)

Component 2S: The Making of Modern Britain, 1951-2007

Written examination (40% of A-Level)

Historical Investigation (NEA)

4,000-word coursework essay (20% of A-Level)

Progression

A-Level History provides an excellent foundation for a wide range of university courses and careers. Students often progress to degrees in History, Politics, International Relations, Law, Journalism and Education. The subject is highly regarded by universities and employers because it develops analytical thinking, research skills, written communication and the ability to evaluate complex information. These skills are valuable in careers such as law, the civil service, politics, teaching, journalism, business, heritage and museum work, and many other professions.



HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

What are lessons like in this subject?

In health and social care lessons, students participate in a variety of learning activities as they progress through the course. Lessons include a range of teaching methods to support students in their learning, including independent research and group tasks. Students learn how the different parts of both the health and social care systems support individual growth and development. They also look at causes and treatments for disease and ill health.

For controlled assessments, study carry out extensive independent research and write a detailed report. This includes principles of health and social care practice and the spread and control of microorganisms. They also complete two externally assessed examinations on human lifespan development and human biology and health

Students maintain a detailed folder of class resources and notes to prepare them for assessments.

In addition, students can benefit from a trip to Lincoln University for a careers event.

What will I study?

Year 12:

Unit 1: Human Lifespan Development: Physical, intellectual, emotional and social development at each life stage; Factors affecting growth and development; Health and social care promotion, prevention and treatment.

Unit 3: Principles of Health and Social Care Practice: Understand the principles of health and social care practice; Organisations, legislation and guidance affecting services; How social determinants affect health status.

Year 13:

Unit 2: Human Biology and Health: Organisation of the human body; Body systems; Disorders of the body and effects on body systems.

Unit 7: Health Science: The concepts of microbiology; The cause and spread of disease in humans; Factors that can influence the development of diseases and infections.

Qualification title and awarding body

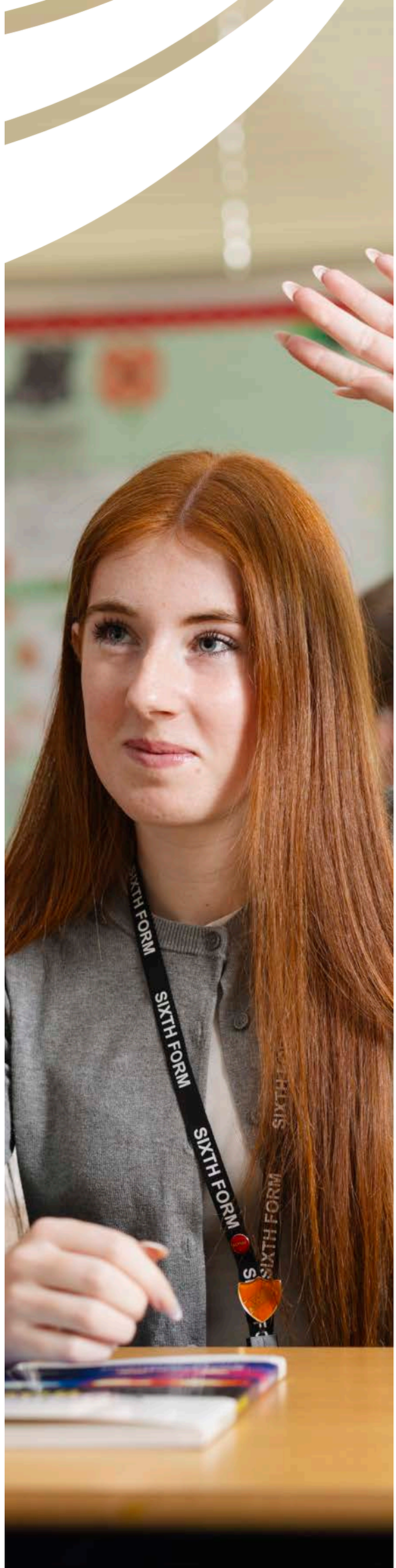
BTEC Level 3 AAQ in Health and Social Care

How are you assessed?

Unit 1: Year 1 Exam
Unit 3: Year 1 Controlled Assessment
Unit 2: Year 2 Exam
Unit 7: Year 2 Controlled Assessment

Progression

Students will develop knowledge and skills throughout this qualification that are key to health and social care related degrees. Students have the potential to develop transferable and study skills becoming well-rounded individuals, better prepared for the demands of Higher Education.



MATHS

What are lessons like in this subject?

The mathematics course at SWRA offers students a varied and enriching study programme that will provide learners with the necessary skills for developing their mathematical ability, whilst encouraging independent and group learning.

Students will study the challenging blend of Core 'Pure' Maths, as well as an equal share of Statistics and Mechanics which account for the applied modules of the course. This provides pupils with a challenging and thought-provoking diet of study that is enough to fulfil any thriving Mathematician's thirst for knowledge.

In lessons, pupils will have the opportunity to develop their algebraic and geometric skills, as well as to develop their fluency become better all-round problem solvers.

What will I study?

Year 12: Algebraic fluency, trigonometry, calculus, vectors, forces, probability and statistical analysis.

Year 13: Building upon the teachings of year 12 by studying partial fractions, trigonometric identities, differentiating and integrating complex functions, inclined planes and The Normal Distribution.

Qualification title and awarding body

Pearson EDEXCEL A Level

How are you assessed?

Paper 1 - Pure Mathematics (100 marks - 2 hours)

Paper 2 - Pure Mathematics (100 marks - 2 hours)

Paper 3 - Statistics & Mechanics (100 marks - 50 marks on each - 2 hours)

Progression

A Level Mathematics is a subject that is highly regarded by all universities and apprenticeships. It is completed well by subjects such as Further Maths, Physics, Computer Science, Business Studies and many more. Studying maths at university can lead to a career in many areas such as accountancy, actuarial science, data analyst, financial analyst, and many more.



MEDIA STUDIES

What are lessons like in this subject?

Media Studies explores how media products shape the way we see ourselves and the world around us. You will investigate a wide range of media forms, examining how meanings are created, how audiences respond, and how media industries operate in an increasingly digital and globalised society.

Lessons are creative, analytical and highly relevant to contemporary culture. You will study media products such as advertising campaigns, television dramas, music videos, films, magazines, newspapers, video games, online media and social media influencers. Through discussion, debate and practical analysis, you will explore issues including representation, audience, media language and industry.

What will I study?

***Unit 1:* Media Products, Industries and Audiences**

Advertising and marketing, Television drama, Music videos, Film industry and regulation, Radio broadcasting, Newspapers, Video games, Audience theories and media consumption, Media industries

***Unit 2:* Media Forms and Representations**

Magazines and print media, Online and social media, Influencer culture, Representation of gender, identity and culture, Media language and narrative, Contemporary and historical media contexts

***Unit 3:* Cross-Media Production (NEA)**

Planning, designing and producing your own media product, Developing creative and technical production skills, Applying media theory to practical media creation, Creating content for a specific audience and purpose

Qualification title and awarding body

A Level Media Studies

Awarding Body: Eduqas (WJEC)

Qualification Code: A680QS

How are you assessed?

Assessment is through a combination of examinations and non-examined assessment.

Component 1: Media Products, Industries and Audiences (35%)

Television
Advertising
Music Videos
Newspapers
Radio
Video Games
Analysis of media language, representation, industry and audience
Written examination

Component 2: Media Forms and Products in Depth (35%)

Magazines
Online media
Film industry
In-depth study of media products

Application of media theories and contexts
Written examination
Component 3: Cross-Media Production (NEA) (30%)

- Creation of an original media product in response to a set brief
- Application of media language, audience and industry concepts
- Production and evaluation of coursework

Progression

A Level Media Studies develops highly transferable skills in analysis, communication, creativity, research, digital literacy and critical thinking. It provides an excellent foundation for both academic study and employment in the creative and professional sectors.

Possible degree pathways:

Media Studies
Journalism
Film and Television Studies
Digital Media
Marketing
Advertising
Public Relations
Communications
Broadcasting

Career opportunities:

Journalism
Marketing and Advertising
Social Media Management
Public Relations
Television and Film Production
Content Creation
Digital Marketing
Publishing
Media Research
Broadcasting and Radio
Graphic and Digital Design



MUSIC

What are lessons like in this subject?

Music lessons are practical, creative and project-based. Students work as performers, composers, producers and sound engineers, developing their own musical specialism while collaborating with others.

Lessons include instrumental and vocal rehearsals, live performances, composition, studio recording, music production and the use of professional music technology. Students will learn how to plan and manage creative projects, respond to industry-style briefs and produce work for real audiences.

Alongside practical music-making, students complete research, planning and evaluation activities. They will maintain a detailed portfolio containing recordings, videos, production work, rehearsal evidence, written reports and reflections on their progress.

Students will also have opportunities to contribute to concerts, showcases, recording projects and other school events, developing the confidence and professional skills required to work within the music industry.

What will I study?

Year 12:

Planning for a Career in Music

Explore career opportunities within the music industry, assess your current skills and create a realistic professional development plan.

Rehearsal Skills and Live Music Performance

Plan and undertake an effective rehearsal process before performing as part of a live music event.

Composing Styles and Music Sequencing

Explore different musical styles and use music software to compose, arrange and produce original material.

Studio Sound Recording and Mixing

Learn how to plan and run recording sessions, use microphones and studio equipment, edit recorded audio and create a professional mix.

Year 13:

Composing Collaboration and Recorded Performance

Work collaboratively to compose, develop and record original musical material in response to a creative brief.

Live Sound Recording and Sound Reinforcement

Develop the technical skills required to set up and operate sound equipment for live performances.

Music Promotion and Event Management

Plan and promote a music event or product, considering audiences, branding, marketing and the practical requirements of event management.

Setting Up a Music Business and Selling Music

Explore how musicians generate income, promote their work and develop sustainable careers within the modern music industry.

Qualification title and awarding body

RSL Level 3 Extended Diploma for Music Practitioners - Performance Pathway

How are you assessed?

The course is assessed through a combination of externally set projects and internally assessed coursework. There are no traditional written examinations.

Assessment evidence may include:

- Live and recorded performances
- Original compositions and music productions
- Studio and live-sound projects
- Rehearsal and development logs
- Digital portfolios and project files
- Presentations, plans and research
- Written evaluations and reflective reports

Students are assessed on both the quality of their final musical outcomes and the planning, development and professional skills demonstrated throughout each project.

Progression

This qualification provides an excellent foundation for university courses in Music Performance, Music Production, Music Technology, Composition, Songwriting, Sound Engineering, Music Business and Events Management.

It can also support progression into employment, apprenticeships or freelance work within the creative industries. Potential careers include performer, songwriter, composer, music producer, recording engineer, live-sound engineer, session musician, music teacher, promoter, artist manager and events organiser.



MEDICAL SCIENCE

What are lessons like in this subject?

A Medical Science lesson is interactive and focused on developing both knowledge and practical skills. Students develop an understanding of complex medical and scientific concepts in a clear and supportive way, encouraging students to ask questions and take part in discussions. Lessons often include a mixture of presentations, group activities, case studies, and hands-on practical work to help students understand real-life healthcare and science applications. Students are encouraged to work independently as well as collaboratively, building confidence and communication skills. Each lesson is designed to help students progress towards their qualifications while preparing them for future careers such as in healthcare, science, and related fields.

What will I study?

Year 12:

Unit 1: Principles of Human Physiology, Anatomy and Pathology

Unit 2: Health Issues and Scientific Reporting

Year 13:

Unit 3: Practical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases

Unit 6: Human Reproduction and Fertility

Qualification title and awarding body

Pearson Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification (AAQ)
BTEC National in Medical Science (Extended Certificate)

How are you assessed?

Unit 1: Year 1 external examination

Unit 2: Year 1 external examination

Unit 3: Year 2 coursework

Unit 6: Year 6 coursework

Progression

After completing this course, students can progress onto higher-level qualifications in medical science, health and social care, nursing & allied health professions, biomedical science, pharmacy, analytical chemistry, sports science, paramedic, clinical laboratory technician, physiologist, forensics science, general science, researcher and healthcare-related subjects. The course can also support entry into apprenticeships, university study, or employment within the healthcare sector. Students develop valuable scientific knowledge, practical laboratory skills, and professional competencies that prepare them for a wide range of careers and further education opportunities in medical and health sciences.



PHYSICS

What are lessons like in this subject?

In A Level Physics lessons, students develop a deeper understanding of the fundamental principles that govern the universe, from the behaviour of particles and waves to the motion of planets and galaxies. Lessons combine theoretical learning with practical investigations, helping students to apply their knowledge to real-world situations and scientific problems.

Students regularly develop their mathematical skills, using equations, graphs and data analysis to model physical phenomena and solve complex problems. Practical work forms an important part of the course, with students carrying out experiments to investigate concepts such as forces, electricity, materials and mechanics. They also learn how to evaluate evidence, analyse uncertainties and draw informed conclusions from experimental data.

A variety of teaching and learning approaches are used, including teacher-led explanations, problem-solving activities, independent research and group discussions. Students are encouraged to think critically, ask questions and develop the analytical skills required for success in both examinations and further study.

What will I study?

Year 12: Measurements and their errors, Particles and radiation, Waves, Mechanics, Materials, Electricity

Year 13: Further mechanics, Thermal physics, Fields, Nuclear physics, Astrophysics

Qualification title and awarding body

AQA A Level Physics

How are you assessed?

There is no coursework on this course. However, your performance during practicals will be assessed. There are three exams at the end of the two years for A-level, all of which are two hours long. At least 15% of the marks for A-level Physics are based on what you learned in your practicals.

Progression

Studying A-level Physics offers a vast number of amazing career opportunities including: geophysicist, healthcare scientist, medical physics, higher education lecturer, radiation protection practitioner, research scientist (physical sciences), scientific laboratory technician, secondary school teacher, meteorologist, structural engineer, acoustic engineer, product/process development scientist, systems developer, and technical author. You can also move into engineering, astrophysics, chemical physics, nanotechnology, renewable energy and more - the opportunities are endless.



PRODUCT DESIGN

What are lessons like in this subject?

Lessons in Product Design combine practical workshop based learning with theory, as students build the technical knowledge and making skills needed to design and manufacture products. Teaching draws on a range of methods, including hands on work with materials, tools and equipment, case studies of existing products and designers, and exploration of new and emerging technologies. Students develop their understanding of materials, manufacturing processes, and the wider social, moral and environmental impact of design and technology. Practical making activities are supervised throughout, giving students the opportunity to develop and refine technical skills such as CAD/CAM, hand and machine tool use, and prototyping methods. Students maintain a portfolio of design work throughout the course, which forms the basis of their major project in Year 13.

What will I study?

Year 12: Core principles of materials, their properties, and how they are worked; performance characteristics of materials and components; digital design and manufacturing tools (CAD/CAM); systems and control approaches; health and safety in design and manufacture; mechanical devices and their application in products.

Year 13: Further materials management and processes; historical and contemporary design movements and designers; the wider effects of design and technology on society and the environment; design methods and processes; how to communicate design ideas effectively. Students also complete an Independent Design and Make Project, in which they identify a design context and brief, then design, make and evaluate a working prototype.

Qualification title and awarding body

Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Design and Technology (Product Design)

How are you assessed?

Component 1: Principles of Design and Technology — a 2 hour 30 minute written exam (worth 50% of the qualification), including short answer, extended writing and mathematical questions on design and technology principles.

Component 2: Independent Design and Make Project — a non-exam assessed portfolio and prototype (worth 50% of the qualification), in which students design, make and evaluate a working solution to a self-identified design brief.

Progression

Product Design equips students with practical, creative and technical problem solving skills valued across a wide range of degree courses and careers. Students often progress to study Product Design, Engineering, Architecture or Industrial/Graphic Design at university, and the qualification supports careers in design, manufacturing, engineering, and other creative and technical industries.



PSYCHOLOGY

What are lessons like in this subject?

In Psychology lessons, students participate in a variety of learning activities as they progress through the course. Lessons include a range of teaching methods to support students in their learning, including independent research and group tasks. Students learn knowledge and understanding of experimental methods and to understand their own behaviour. They will also learn about common mental health conditions, conformity and the importance of maintain key relationships. The course also develops their critical thinking skills and knowledge of social interactions.

Students maintain a detailed folder of class resources and notes to prepare them for their examinations.

What will I study?

Year 12: AS Research methods, AS biopsychology, clinical psychology, memory, attachment and A2 biopsychology

Year 13: Issues and debates, A2 research methods, aggression, relationships, schizophrenia

Qualification title and awarding body

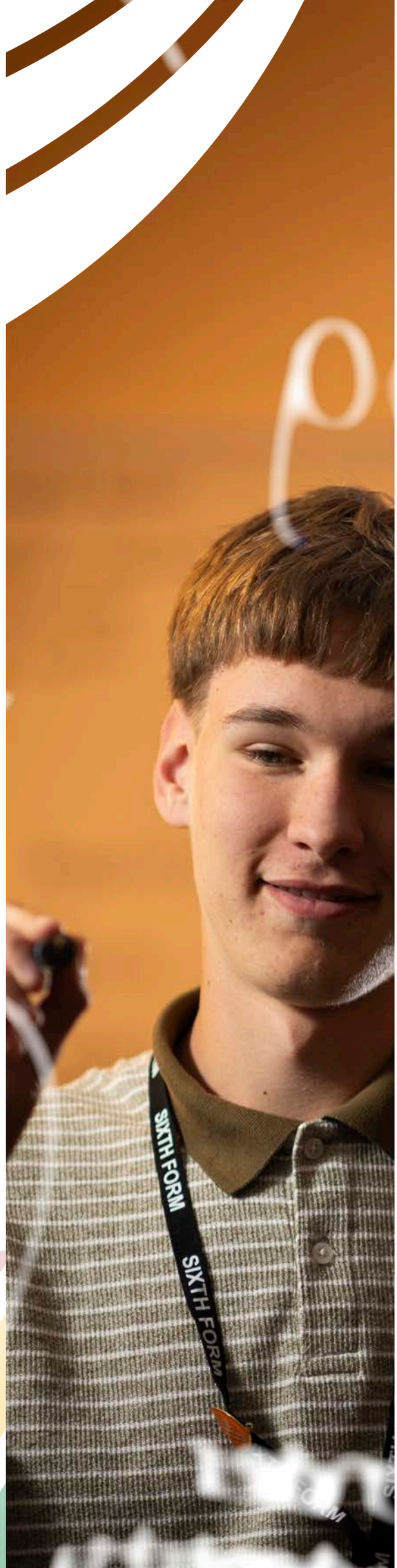
AQA A Level Psychology

How are you assessed?

Year 2: Exam

Progression

Psychology provides an excellent foundation for a wide range of university courses and careers. Students often progress to degrees in Psychology, Criminology, Neuroscience, Education, Sociology and Health & Social Care. The qualification also supports careers in mental health services, counselling, clinical and forensic psychology, social work, nursing, teaching, human resources, research, and other roles focused on understanding and supporting people.



RELIGIOUS STUDIES

What are lessons like in this subject?

In Religious Studies lessons, students engage in a wide variety of learning activities as they explore philosophical, ethical and theological ideas. Lessons include discussion based learning, independent research, evaluative writing, and group tasks that encourage debate and critical thinking. Students develop the ability to analyse complex arguments, question assumptions, and understand how religious and moral perspectives shape human behaviour and society.
Students maintain a detailed folder of class resources, scholarly articles and structured notes to prepare them for their examinations and extended essays.

What will I study?

Year 12: Philosophy of religion - ancient philosophical influences, arguments for God's existence, soul, mind and body. Religion and ethics - normative ethical theories, applied ethics, moral decision making. Developments in religious thought – key theological concepts, religious identity, and the influence of significant thinkers

Year 13: Further Philosophy of religion – religious language, challenges to religious belief. Further religion and ethics – meta ethics, free will and moral responsibility. Advanced developments in religious thought - religion in the modern world, pluralism, gender, and secularisation

Qualification title and awarding body

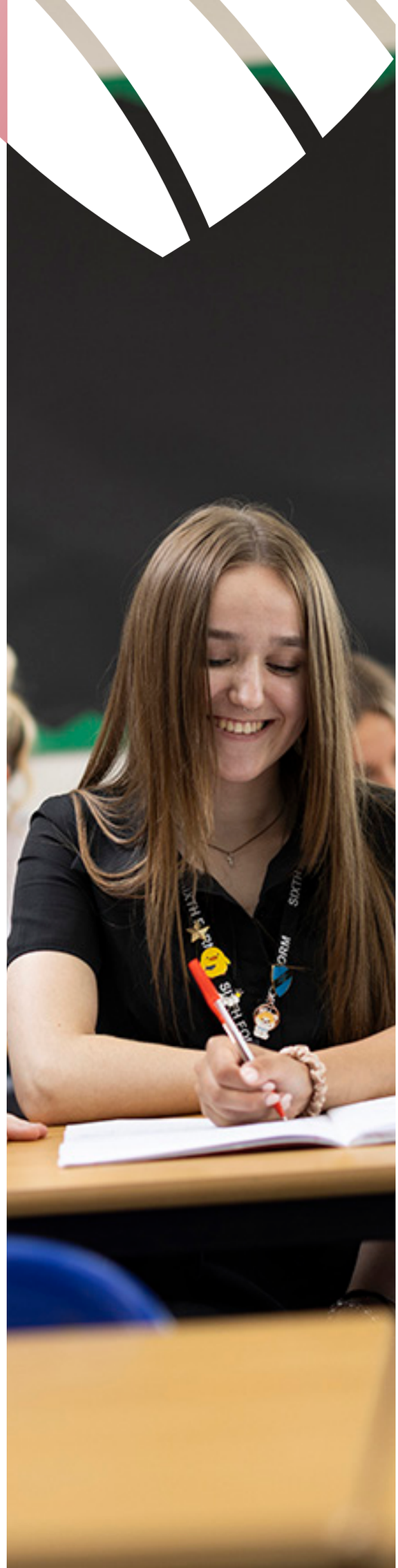
OCR A Level Religious Studies

How are you assessed?

Year 2: Exam

Progression

Religious Studies provides an excellent foundation for a wide range of university courses and careers. Students often progress to degrees in Religious Studies, Philosophy, Theology, Ethics, Sociology, Education, Law and Politics. The qualification also supports careers in teaching, law, social work, counselling, community leadership, public policy, journalism, charity work, and roles that require strong analytical, ethical and communication skills.



UPS

What are lessons like in this subject?

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Uniformed Protective Services (UPS), lessons are a mix of classroom theory, practical activities, teamwork exercises, leadership tasks, fitness-related work, and coursework projects. Theory lessons learn about the roles of the Police, Fire Service, Armed Forces, Prison Service, Border Force, and Ambulance Service. Studying behaviour, discipline, government policies, law and discussing real-life incidents and current affairs. Practical lessons will involve Team-building challenges. Leadership exercises are applied where you take charge of a group task. Communication activities and problem-solving scenarios are applied throughout the course. Outdoor activities and expeditions also feature heavily on the course.

What will I study?

Extended Certificate students' study the following two mandatory units:

1. Behaviour and Discipline in the Uniformed Protective Services which looks at rules, standards, discipline, and conduct in services such as the Police, Army, Fire Service, and Prison Service. This unit is an externally assessed examination.

2. Teamwork, Leadership and Communication in the Uniformed Protective Services which looks at leadership styles, communication skills, teamwork exercises, and practical challenges. This unit is internally assessed coursework. The optional units selected are:

3. Skills for Outdoor Activities and the Uniformed Protective Services (Internal coursework)

4. Expedition Skills (Internal coursework)

Qualification title and awarding body

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Uniformed Protective Services

How are you assessed?

There is one external exam and three pieces of coursework

Progression

University - Many students progress to university degrees such as: Policing, Criminology, Criminal Justice, Public Services or Security Management.

Employment - The course is designed for students interested in: Police Service, Armed Forces (Army, Royal Navy, RAF, Royal Marines), Fire and Rescue Service, Prison Service, Border Force or Ambulance Service.

Apprenticeships - You may also use the qualification to access higher-level apprenticeships in areas such as: Police Constable Degree Apprenticeships, Emergency Services support roles or Security and public sector roles.



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