

Welcome

We are a forward thinking, exciting and happy school with excellent results. We firmly believe we offer a high-quality education.

Our school values are Care, Aspire, Grow and Succeed. These values reflect the ethos in the Sixth Form. Everyone is challenged and supported to think deeply, understand the bigger picture, get involved and contribute to our ever-changing world.

We are a high achieving school with most students gaining high grades. I am proud of the fact that every year our students leave us to follow the pathway that they aspire to. This may be a place at university (from new universities to Russell Group or Oxbridge), a degree or higher-level apprenticeship, a gap year or a career. These successes reflect our ability and determination that every student should attain their aspiration.

Sixth Formers can expect high quality teaching, regular and detailed feedback and careful tracking of their progress. When students struggle, we support them with a range of intervention strategies. We know that A Levels can be a stressful time for students and we offer a range of pastoral support.

Alongside the academic programme, students have opportunities to engage in a wide variety of enhancement activities to ensure breadth beyond the curriculum.

All students also take part in our Community Work Programme, where for one hour a week they volunteer to work within the local community (or within school). This diverse range is a reflection on the advice and guidance that we offer to all students. They feel confident, safe and supported to make the choice that is right for them.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H Ogden'.

Miss Hannah Ogden
Director of Sixth Form

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Our vision is for our students to discover and develop their talents in the pursuit of individual academic achievement, personal growth and success.

At Guiseley School, we aim to instil an ethos of kindness across our whole school community.

We will teach our students to care for one another and encourage a sense of pride in their academic pursuits.

We will aim to give students the confidence to have high aspirations and to acquire the skills and knowledge for their future challenges. We want students to consider the wider world and the opportunities that are available to them.

By providing a stimulating environment and enrichment activities, we will deliver a framework for our students to become strong and successful learners. We will recognise our students' successes and encourage them to stretch further and grow as 21st century citizens.



Transition

Being a Sixth Form student is very different to being in Year 11 and is an exciting time. The benefits include the use of a well-furnished common room, a dedicated Sixth Form ICT suite, opportunities to volunteer, a more informal relationship with staff and excellent careers and higher education advice. Students have time when they are not in lessons.

This is the chance to work independently in the Library, the Sixth Form Work Room, Common Room or in specialist areas e.g. art rooms.

Sixth Form students have the opportunity to work at home during the day under some circumstances. This is carefully monitored but we recognise that not all students learn in the same way and aim to be flexible in our approach.

Sixth Formers carry a responsibility which is the special role they play within the school and local community. Younger students and members of the public attach great importance to the image that Sixth Formers project.

Dress Code

Sixth Form students do not wear a school uniform; instead we have a dress code that has been devised with students.

All Sixth Form students are expected to dress smartly showing that they are ready to work and setting an example to others. The dress code is regularly reviewed with students taking a lead.

All students must wear their ID badge so that it is clearly visible.

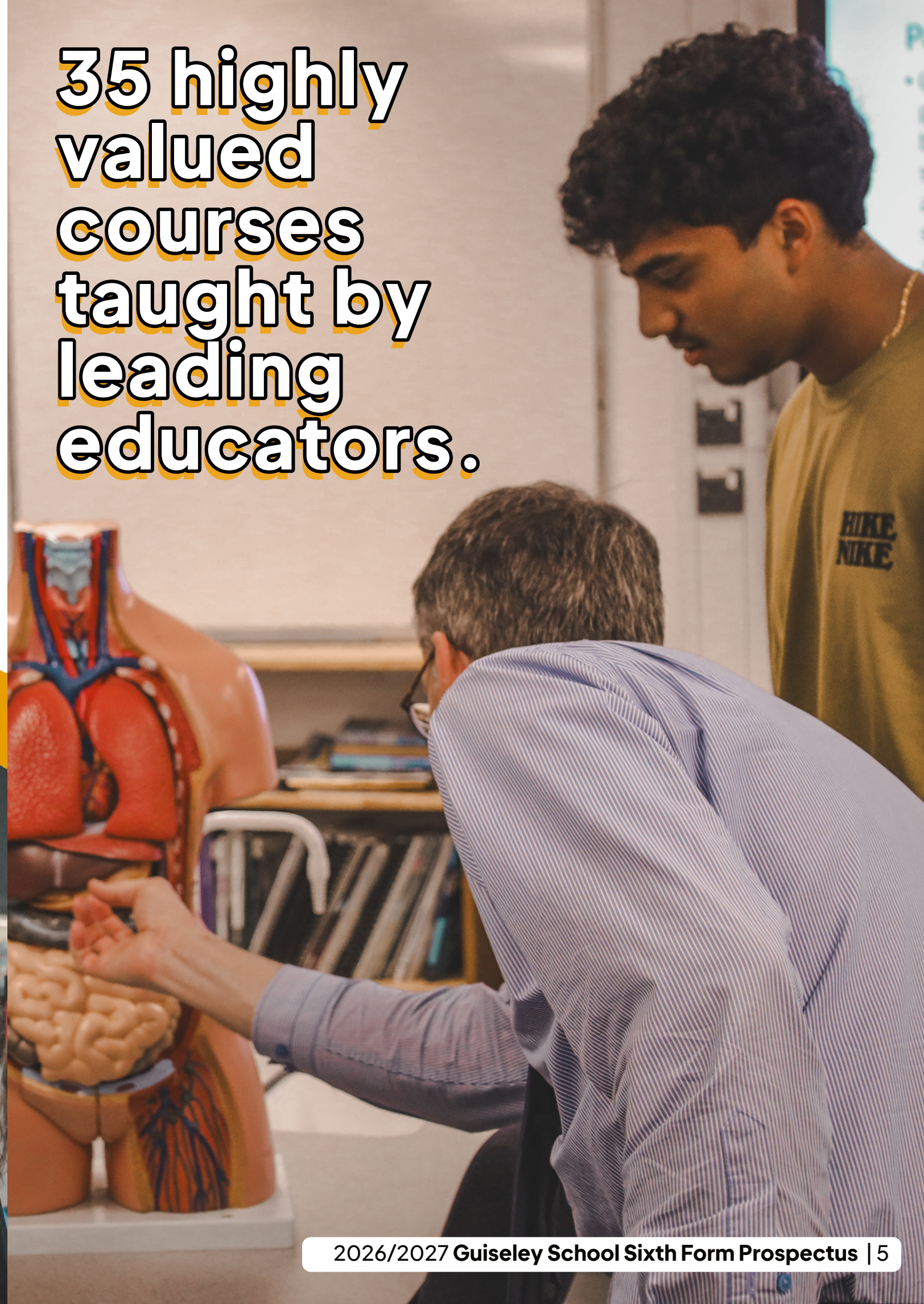
Parent Consultation

We believe that positive relationships between home and school are vital to ensure maximum success for the student.

Parents/Carers of each student will receive regular reviews on their progress.

Annual Parent Consultation Evenings are conducted, and students are expected to attend along with their parents/carers.

35 highly valued courses taught by leading educators.



Our ultimate aim is to make our students ready for the world of work and higher education.

We want all our students to enjoy and thrive during their time in the Sixth Form.

We believe that Sixth Form students are role models for the rest of the school. We are committed to ensuring that students are included in the life of the school and Sixth Form. Examples are:

- The Sixth Form Student Leaders organises social and charity events such as the annual Rag Week, Royal British Legion collections, food bank collections, Year 7 Disco and Year 13 Leavers' Prom
- The Community Work Programme encourages students to support with lower school students or to volunteer in the local community
- Year 7 Mentoring Scheme
- Work experience
- Arts Award
- Sports Leaders Award
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme.

Pastoral Care

Our Form Tutors are highly skilled and experienced staff. They are a primary source of help and advice, a channel of communication and the monitor of punctuality and attendance. Close liaison between the Form Tutor and subject staff ensures that students are well supported throughout the Sixth Form.

Regular one to one discussions will recognise and reward achievements and will help to overcome any challenges students may be facing by giving practical advice and agreeing suitable intervention strategies that work for the student.

We understand that good mental health plays a large part in the ability of students to succeed. We recognise that the pressures of gaining Level 3 qualifications can be stressful at times for some students. We offer a range of care and support mechanisms for students to ensure that they are able to achieve and remain mentally and physically healthy.

PSHE Programme

Personal, Social and Health Education continues in the Sixth Form, where the emphasis will be on careers planning and study skills but other areas will be addressed such as health education, citizenship and personal development. Regular visiting speakers will be used to reinforce particular areas.

We want our Sixth Form students to achieve the highest grade that they are capable of. Our staff use a variety of teaching and learning styles to challenge our students' thinking, foster their creativity and ensure the development of the essential skills that are needed to achieve. Students and staff foster excellent working relationships which lead to success.

All Level 3 qualifications require commitment and dedication from students. Along with academic study we encourage students to develop their independent learning skills. Staff work with students to ensure that they learn and develop these essential skills.

If you decide to join us we will work with you to ensure that you gain excellent exam results and the opportunity to gain experiences away from the curriculum. We will give you support, advice and guidance so that you can continue to achieve in whatever you choose once you have left us.

Sixth Form Qualifications

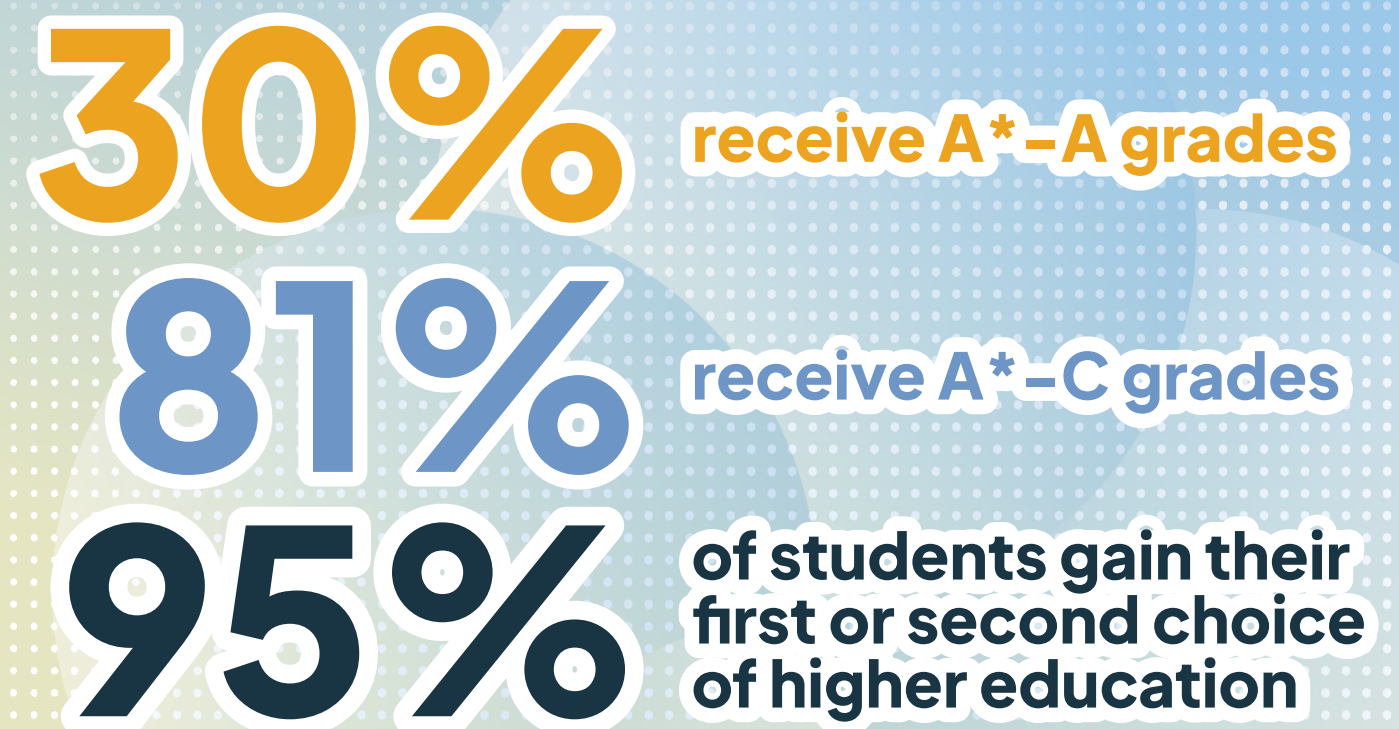
A Levels

This is the traditional academic route, and these subjects are almost entirely exam based, taught in a formal classroom setting, and require a traditional academic approach to succeed.

Applied Subjects

These are Level 3 (A Level equivalent) qualifications, but are a combination of coursework, project work and some exams (roughly 40% exam 60% coursework). These are a better option for students who are well motivated and who have proved to be at a sound academic level, but find it difficult to perform in exam conditions and learn better through project work.

Both types of qualification can lead to university, higher or degree apprenticeships.



Admissions

Admissions Criteria

Guiseley School’s Admissions Policy can be found on our website at: www.guiseleyschool.org.uk.

Entry Requirements

Pathway 1:

Entry requirements: Five Grade 4s including English and Maths, and 6s in subjects of choice (5s will be considered in certain circumstances). Students meeting these entry requirements will be able to choose any combination of subjects from the option blocks below. Students who wish to study four subjects must average a Grade 7 at GCSE.

Pathway 2:

Entry requirements: Five Grade 4s including English and Maths, and 5s in other subjects. Students meeting these entry requirements will be able to choose subjects from Block 1 and Block 2 (see table below).

Pathway 3:

Entry requirements: Five Grade 4s, but a Grade 3 in English or Maths. These students will resit Maths or English, and study three other subjects where they meet the entry requirements.

Block 1 (Vocational) (Grade 4 GCSE required)	Block 2 (Grade 5 GCSE required)	Block 3 (Grade 6 GCSE required)
Applied Science Health and Social Care IT: Data Analytics Sport and Physical Activity Travel and Tourism	Art Criminology Drama Economics English Language English Literature Geography Government and Politics History Media Studies Music Philosophy Photography Product Design Psychology Sociology Textiles (Fashion)	Biology Chemistry Computer Science Further Mathematics (8/9) German Mathematics Physics Spanish

* Please be aware that the Government is currently reviewing some courses and their funding. All courses offered are subject to Government funding, and number of applicants for the course.

Application Process

To apply visit the website: www.guiseleyschool.org.uk/apply-to-sixth-form. Here you will find an online form that you can complete and return.

All applicants will have a meeting with a member of staff where any questions will be answered and you can tell us more about what you wish to do.

If you are reading this you are probably in the process of making some very important decisions.

Whatever you decide – good luck – and if we can help, don’t hesitate to call us. At Guiseley School we aim to give every individual the opportunity to realise their potential in whatever they choose. We create a curriculum to match the abilities and interest of the student whilst keeping an eye on the future.

Success comes in many guises and we are very proud of what our young people can achieve. Whilst we celebrate our Oxford and Cambridge successes, we equally celebrate our National and International representatives in sport, our young musicians performing at the Albert Hall, our artists and the tremendous work done in our local community. Wherever your strengths lie we would like to provide you with the opportunity to succeed whilst building for the future.

Should you have any questions about joining our Sixth Form, please contact the Sixth Form Team at info@guiseleyschool.org.uk.



COURSES AVAILABLE AT SIXTH FORM



* Please be aware that the Government is currently reviewing some courses and their funding. All courses offered are subject to Government funding, and number of applicants for the course.

For more in-depth course information please see our school website: <https://www.guiseleyschool.org.uk/sixth-form/choose-your-subjects> or scan the QR code to the left.

A LEVEL

Awarding Body: AQA

Biology

Introduction

Why study Biology? Global warming, antibiotic resistance, famine, recycling... these are just a few of the problems facing mankind today. As we understand how living things work and how they interact with their environment, Biologists will be able to develop new ways of solving the problems we all face. We can already alter the genetics of living things to enable them to produce important drugs or cope with difficult environments. Imagine designing an organism to do a specific job. Biologists will be the engineers of the future.

It is a rewarding, challenging and varied subject, covering everything from biochemistry through cells and systems, to how whole organisms interact with their environment. It goes well with a range of courses such as chemistry, psychology, criminology, sports science, geography.

A Level Biology is a facilitator subject, one of a group of subjects most commonly required or preferred by universities to get on to a range of competitive degree courses. It will help you keep your options open when choosing a degree.

What will you be studying?

Assessment is solely based on three two-hour exams.

Paper One will examine the topics biological molecules, cells, organisms exchange substances with their environments and genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms.

Paper Two will examine the topics energy transfers in and between organisms, organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environment, genetics, populations and evolution systems, control of gene expression and practical skills.

Paper Three will examine all content and practical skills.

The papers are made up of a mixture of short and long answer questions, comprehension questions and an essay.

Career Pathways

A Level Biology is a facilitator subject that has allowed our students to study the following courses at university and embark on related careers: Dentistry, Medicine, Biochemistry, Nursing, Pharmacy, Optometry, Physiotherapy, Biophysics, Bioengineering, Biomedical Science, Research Scientist, Veterinary Science, Speech Therapy, Cardiac Physiology, Genetic Counsellor, Psychologist, Psychiatric Nurse, Midwifery, Audiology, Radiographer, Food Scientist, Scientific Writer, Dental Therapy/Hygienist, Ecology, and Environmental Science.

The course also gives students the opportunity to gain broad, transferable skills and experiences that can be applied in future study, employment and life such as: communication, critical thinking, independent learning, presentation skills, team work.



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"Biology equips students with the analytical and practical skills to tackle global challenges - from genetic engineering to environmental sustainability."

Chemistry

Introduction

If you want to understand how the world works, why the things around you behave in the way that they do, then Chemistry is the subject for you. It forms the perfect bridge between physics and biology going all the way from understanding how electrons move around an atom to the structure of DNA, and how these ideas can be used to solve modern problems like the information revolution, clean energy and the cure for cancer.

What will you be studying?

The Chemistry course uses the AQA Exam Board and can be split into four parts:

- **Physical Chemistry:** The fundamental stuff. How things work on an atomic and molecular level. You will push further than what you know already and study the physical principles that underpin everything we do in Chemistry.
- **Organic Chemistry:** The chemistry of carbon. This one element gets a topic all to itself where you will learn just how versatile it really is. From underpinning the fuels of human history to the proteins in your body, carbon does it all, and much much more.
- **Inorganic Chemistry:** The chemistry of all of the other elements. While carbon hogs a lot of the glory, the rest of the periodic table has plenty to offer too. Each column and row (group and period as they should be called!) shows a different trend helping us to further solidify our understanding of the world.
- **Practical Skills:** You will dive into classic experiments performed by chemists through the generations that have been specifically selected to run alongside the content of the course. This way you will gain a better appreciation for the theory, as you will be able to make it happen before you.

Career Pathways

To quote the Royal Society of Chemistry, "Not all chemists wear white coats". Due to the complexity of the course, Chemistry will always be a respected subject with many transferrable skills. Often it is a course requirement for anyone planning on going into medicine, dentistry or veterinary medicine, which many of our students have gone on to do. Also, Chemistry is a fantastic stepping stone to further study whether it be in the subject itself but also for maths, physics, biology, geography and engineering.



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Physics

Introduction

Physicists have imaginative yet logical minds and face problem solving tasks involving the application of physical principles and mathematical calculations, as well as meeting concepts which challenge our assumptions about the physical world. Physics is not a fixed body of knowledge to be learned, but a challenging collection of theories and practices with vital implications for our technological future. It will help provide solutions to the problems of managing our planet's resources as well as space exploration to allow us to secure resources in the future. At a time when artificial intelligence is growing the ability to understand quantum computing and neural networks has never been so key.

What will you be studying?

We follow the AQA curriculum where we build on studies at GCSE with a purely examination-based assessment at the end of Year 13. This is in addition to a practical endorsement where you will complete a lab book of twelve required practical lessons

The approach to studying Physics at A Level is a mixture of teacher led activities, independent study, research by students, problem solving and practical investigations.

The topics that you will be studying include:

Measurements and their errors, Particles and radiation, Waves, Mechanics and materials, Electricity, Further mechanics and thermal

"Physics inspires curiosity and precision - students learn to model the universe, from quantum particles to planetary motion, preparing them for tomorrow's breakthroughs."

physics, Fields and their consequences, Nuclear physics.

In addition, you choose one option from: Astrophysics, Medical physics, Engineering physics or Turning points in physics.

Career Pathways

Physics is an essential subject for anyone contemplating a career in technology and many different branches of engineering from civil to aerospace and is a valuable supporting subject for numerous other science-based courses.

Career choices can be as diverse as food science, textile management, astrophysics, environmental studies, electronics, land surveying and media operators. There are also many opportunities in non-physics bases careers using mathematical skills such as economics, banking and financial services.



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Mathematics

Introduction

Understanding Mathematics is key to making sense of the world around us. Studying Maths helps develop many important human abilities, including spatial awareness, problem-solving, logical reasoning, creativity, and communication. A Level Mathematics is designed to foster analytical thinking while equipping students with the skills needed for everyday life and future careers. As a core academic subject, Mathematics plays a vital role, and our goal is to ensure every student achieves the best possible outcomes.

What will you be studying?

We follow the Edexcel A Level Maths course, students will sit three exams at the end of Year 13. Two of these exams assess Pure Mathematics and one exam focuses on Applied Mathematics which is made up of statistics and mechanics. We are very fortunate at Guiseley to have a team of Maths specialists who are all experienced Sixth Form teachers. Support for students is bespoke and there are plenty of opportunities to get involved in external competitions and enrichment experiences.

The Year 12 course begins with a focus on algebra to ensure students have a solid grounding in one of the key areas of Mathematics. We then introduce students to calculus and apply this to problem solving with co-ordinate geometry. Students build on the work they did around proof at GCSE and learn to use known facts and knowledge to construct formal arguments. Learning how to construct and understand proofs not only deepens students' understanding of mathematical concepts but also sharpens critical thinking and reasoning skills that are valuable beyond the classroom.

"Maths trains students to think with clarity and solve problems with confidence - skills that open doors in every field."



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In the Spring and Summer term we begin to teach the Applied branch of Mathematics. In Statistics, students learn to collect, interpret, and analyse data, assess risk through probability, and make evidence-based decisions. Mechanics develops the ability to model real-world physical situations, understand forces and motion, and apply mathematical techniques to solve practical problems.

Career Pathways

Just some of the transferable skills that a Maths A Level can give you include: data analysis, organisation, critical thinking, time management, communication, decision making.

An A Level in Mathematics can lead to a wide range of careers, including actuarial science, data science, statistics, finance, and various roles in technology and engineering. Mathematicians are sought after for their analytical and problem-solving skills in diverse fields.



Further Mathematics

Introduction

Studying A Level Further Mathematics is both important and highly valuable for students with a strong interest in maths or those considering a STEM-related degree. It deepens understanding of mathematical concepts while introducing new areas such as complex numbers and advanced calculus. This not only strengthens problem-solving and logical reasoning skills but also enhances mathematical fluency and confidence. Further Maths challenges and stretches students, preparing them for the rigour of higher education and careers that rely on advanced analytical thinking.

What will you be studying?

We follow the Edexcel A Level Further Maths course, students will sit four exams at the end of Year 13. Two of these exams assess Pure Mathematics, one exam focuses on Decision Mathematics and one assesses Further Mechanics. Pure mathematics makes up 50% of the course and extends and deepens the topics covered in standard A Level Maths, introducing more advanced and abstract mathematical ideas such as matrices, polar co-ordinates and matrices. Decision Mathematics is a branch of mathematics that focuses on solving real-world problems using logical processes, algorithms, and systems. The final unit of Further Mechanics builds on the foundations laid in standard A Level Maths, extending students' understanding of how mathematical principles can describe the physical world. It is more advanced, more theoretical, and often more abstract, requiring confident algebraic and calculus skills.

We are very fortunate at Guiseley to have an experienced team of five Further Maths

"Further Maths stretches students beyond the standard curriculum - developing advanced analytical skills and mathematical fluency essential for STEM success."

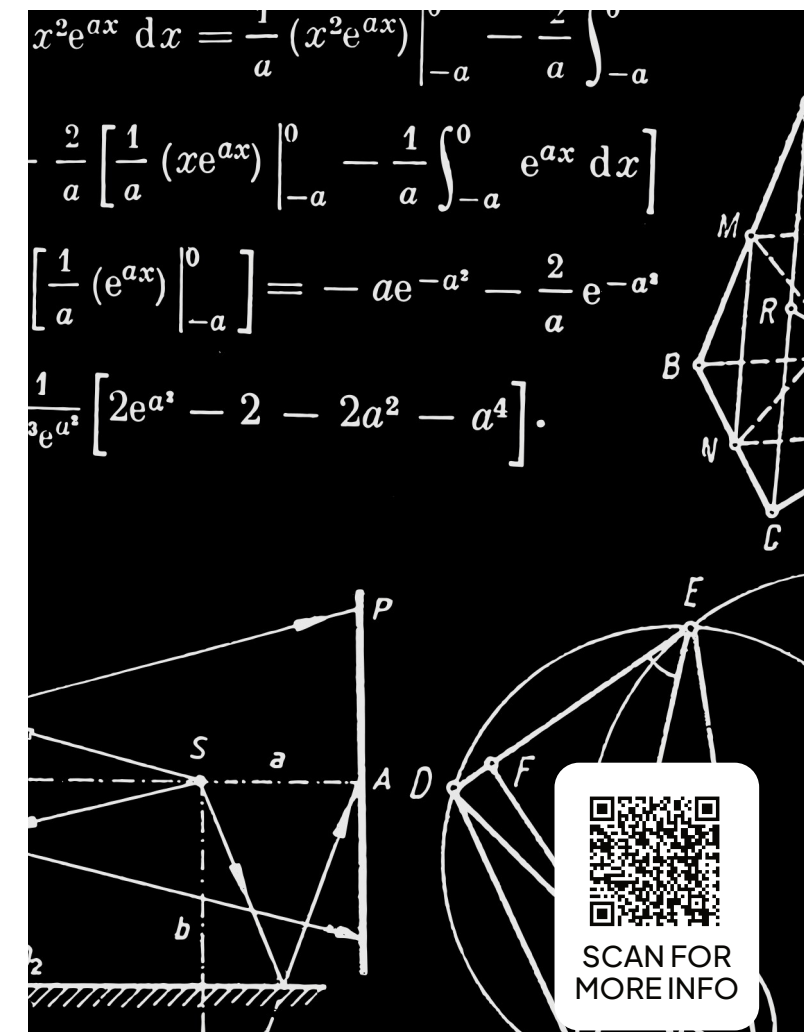


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specialists who are all experienced Sixth Form teachers. Support for students is bespoke and there are plenty of opportunities to get involved in external competitions and enrichment experiences.

Career Pathways

An A Level in Further Mathematics opens up a wide range of exciting and high-demand career pathways, particularly in fields that value strong analytical and problem-solving skills. It is especially beneficial for students aiming to pursue degrees in mathematics, engineering, physics, computer science, or economics, where a deeper understanding of advanced maths provides a significant advantage. Further Maths is highly regarded by top universities and can support entry into careers such as data science, software development, finance, actuarial science, architecture, research, and artificial intelligence. The logical thinking, precision, and resilience developed through the course are highly valued, making it a strong foundation for a diverse range of professional futures.



Computer Science

Introduction

Computer Science is a practical subject where students can apply the academic principles learned in the classroom to real-world systems. It's an intensely creative subject that combines invention and excitement and can look at the natural world through a digital prism. OCR's A Level in Computer Science will value computational thinking, helping learners to develop the skills to solve problems, design systems and understand the power and limits of human and machine intelligence.

What will you be studying?

The course is made up of three components. Two of the components are exam and one is a programming project.

Exam: Computer Systems. This component will introduce learners to the internal workings of the Central Processing Unit (CPU), the exchange of data and will also look at software development, data types and legal and ethical issues.

Exam: Algorithms & Programming. This component will incorporate and build on the knowledge and understanding gained in the Computer systems component. In addition, learners will be able to describe and analyse problems using algorithms.

NEA: Programming Project. Learners will be expected to analyse, design, develop, test, evaluate and document a program written in a suitable programming language. The underlying approach to the project is to apply

"Computer Science equips students to be the architects of tomorrow – combining logic, innovation, and technical skill to build solutions that shape the digital world."

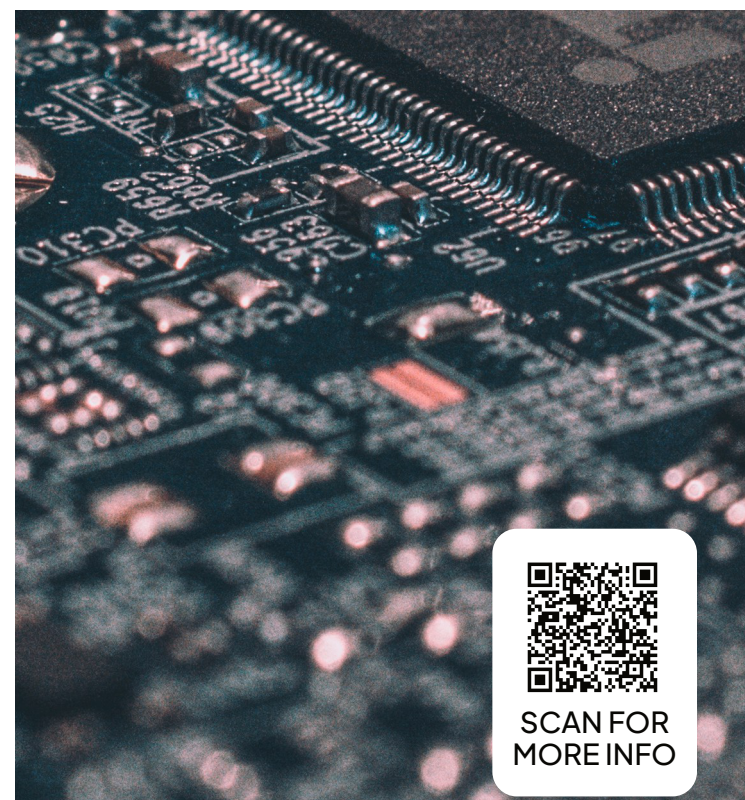
the principles of computational thinking to a practical coding problem.

Both exam components are worth 40% each of the overall course, with 20% allocated to the Programming Project.

Career Pathways

An OCR A Level in Computer Science provides a strong foundation for various career paths, particularly in technology-related fields. These include software development, web development, information security, mobile app development, data science, and game development. Additionally, the skills developed can be applied to roles in IT project management, network administration, and even fields like bioinformatics. If you're considering an A Level in Computer Science (OCR), you're setting yourself up for a range of career opportunities in both traditional tech roles and in industries increasingly relying on technology.

Other potential career paths you can consider include IT Project Management, Network Administrator, Computer Hardware Engineer, Game Development, IT Consultant and Computer Science Teacher.



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Economics

Introduction

The Institute for Fiscal Studies found that Economics is the second most lucrative subject (after Medicine) and the most lucrative for women in terms of lifetime earnings.

'Economics helps us to understand how the world works... and how to make it a better place. It is at the heart of understanding the major social problems of our time, including climate change, inequality, poverty, health care, an ageing population, obesity, and globalisation. Effective solutions to these problems require economic insights.' – The Royal Economics Society.

- A Level Economics is a popular subject – 'Economics is now the eighth most popular A Level in England and the tenth in the UK, with entries up 36% since 2020'.
- No previous study of Economics or Business is required.
- Economics complements a wide variety of subject choices – Mathematics, Geography, English, Politics, History, Science, Criminology, Psychology, Philosophy.
- Economics is a contemporary course, highlighting the inter-relationships between people, firms & governments.
- You will acquire analytical skills, market insights, and working with data – you will be good at distilling and analysing complex problems, from designing and regulating tech industries to understanding consumers, you will have an excellent understanding of markets and incentives, you will likely be comfortable with handling data and using it to generate real-world insights.

What will you be studying?

Two year course, Themes One and Two are studied in Year 12, Themes Three and Four studied in Year 13.

"Economics felt like the best way to understand how the world really works; it felt like the field where I could make a difference!"

- **Theme 1** – Introduction to Markets and Market Failure
- **Theme 2** – The UK Economy – Performance and Policies
- **Theme 3** – Business Behavior and the Labour Market
- **Theme 4** – A Global Perspective

Career Pathways

The Institute for Fiscal Studies found that Economics is the second most lucrative subject. Economics is a subject that is valued by universities and employers. Many students go on to study Economics or Business at university. Post university employment rates for graduates with Economics qualifications are high in sectors such as banking, insurance, accountancy, tourism, marketing, retailing, management, and international business. Employers with the most demand for Economics graduates in the UK are NHS and Amazon and include, Sky, Bayer, GlaxoSmithKline, Shell and The Environment Agency.



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Geography

Introduction

Studying Geography gives students a deep knowledge of complex Global issues. It is truly academic, marrying the Social Sciences like Economics with disciplines like Physics, Biology and Geology. Geographers are skilled in analysis and evaluation and have an excellent grasp on current affairs. Geography is a facilitating subject, creating exciting opportunities.

What will you be studying?

Your study of Physical Geography will develop your understanding of a systems based approach; incorporating topics on Hazards and the complex Water and Carbon cycles. You will develop an understanding of the drivers of climate change and its impacts, as well as delving deeper into coastal geology. The Iceland Trip in Year 12 gives you a real World experience beyond anything you can imagine.

The Human Geography part of the course takes a closer look at our Changing Places, you will broaden your knowledge of Contemporary Urban Environments, looking at how cities develop and progress toward sustainability. A study on global geopolitics in our Systems and Governance unit will take an in depth look at the global economic system and its flaws.

80% of the course is exam based.

The independent project in Geography is worth 20% of your mark and allows you to follow your own interest to create a mini-

“My favourite activity was when we climbed the glacier; I had never done anything like it before and loved all of it. Geography really does take you places.”

dissertation style piece based on 4 days of Fieldwork data collection on the East Coast.

Career Pathways

Geography has always been known as a subject that opens doors. Use an A Level in Geography as a springboard to a career in environmental consultancy, town and transport planning, disaster management, conservation, urban planning, and roles in business, policy, and data analysis through skills like problem-solving, research, and GIS. Successful Geography students are currently working in quantitative surveying; there are no limits to what you can do.



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Government and Politics

Introduction

Studying Politics at A Level helps students understand how governments function, how decisions are made, and how power is distributed in the UK and globally. It develops critical thinking, debate, and analytical skills, encouraging students to evaluate political ideas and systems. Through independent research and discussion, students become informed citizens, confident in expressing views and engaging with current affairs. A highlight of the course is a visit to Parliament, where students see politics in action and deepen their understanding of democratic processes. These skills and experiences are highly transferable to careers in law, journalism, public service, and beyond.

What will you be studying?

Students explore the structure and function of political systems in the UK and the USA, including their constitutions, elections, political parties, pressure groups, and civil rights. Students enjoy getting into the nitty gritty details of how governments function, and are given key examples of how these concepts work in the real world. They are then asked to compare institutions, such as Parliament and Congress, the Prime Minister and President, and the judiciary in both countries. Using their knowledge of the mechanics of government, students are given the opportunity to apply their everyday knowledge of current affairs to key political principles, allowing them to develop skills in analysis, evaluation, and debate, learning to interpret political developments and construct reasoned arguments.

In addition to this, the course also covers core

“Politics challenges students to think critically, debate confidently, and engage with the world – equipping them with the tools to understand power and shape society.”

political ideologies—Liberalism, Conservatism, and Socialism—as well as Feminism and Anarchism.

Career Pathways

Studying A Level Politics opens doors to careers in law, journalism, civil service, international relations, and public affairs. It builds critical thinking, debate, and analytical skills, helping students understand power, decision-making, and global issues. These skills are highly valued by universities and employers, making Politics a smart, future-focused choice. In the past, students who have studied politics have gone on to careers in Law, Civil Service and Government, Economics and Finance, Teaching, Journalism and Media, and many other careers.



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History

Introduction

Taking History A Level is a powerful choice for students who enjoy exploring the past and understanding how it shapes the present. It builds transferable skills such as critical thinking, argument construction, and effective communication. Students learn to evaluate sources, develop independent research projects, and write analytically. These skills are highly valued in careers like law, journalism, politics, and education. History also encourages independent work, fostering self-discipline and intellectual curiosity. Whether pursuing humanities or other fields, History A Level provides a strong foundation for academic and professional success.

What will you be studying?

During your time in history, you will study the causes and impact of the French Revolution, including the fall of the monarchy and the rise of radical politics. This side of the course wraps up by looking at the rise and fall of Napoleon, and his key military battles. In the Britain in the New Century (1900–1950), element of the course, students will explore the political, social and economic shifts and reforms, from the Edwardian Era, through World War I & II to the foundation of the Welfare State in the postwar era. The Popular Culture and Witch Craze unit examines early modern beliefs, festivals, and the persecution of witches across Europe and colonial America. Students analyse causes, key texts like *Malleus Maleficarum*, and changing attitudes shaped by rationalism and science, developing strong analytical and interpretive skills throughout.

“History invites students to explore the roots of today’s world – developing sharp minds, strong voices, and the ability to see beyond the headlines.”

Completing History coursework helps students develop a wide range of transferable skills. They learn to conduct independent research using a variety of sources, critically evaluate evidence, and construct well-reasoned arguments. The process strengthens analytical writing and encourages clear, structured communication. Students also build time management and organisational skills by planning and meeting deadlines. Evaluating sources for reliability and bias enhances their judgment and attention to detail. Through interpreting complex historical issues, students improve problem-solving abilities and gain confidence in working independently.

Career Pathways

An A Level in History opens diverse career pathways, building analytical, research, and communication skills that are valuable across many sectors. You will find historical skills are transferable to careers in law, government, journalism, education, politics, heritage management, public relations, business and a whole range of other careers.



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Philosophy

Introduction

This course is a fantastic opportunity to discuss and debate issues such as, ‘Is the world real of a computer simulation?’, ‘What is the good and how should I behave to achieve it?’ The term “philosophy” means, “love of wisdom.”

In a broad sense, philosophy is an activity people undertake when they seek to understand fundamental truths about themselves, the world in which they live, and their relationships to the world and to each other.

Throughout this course students will be encouraged to be open minded to different ideas and use critical thinking skills when encountering philosophical ideas.

What will you be studying?

Year 12

- **Epistemology:** Students begin the course by asking ‘What is knowledge?’ To answer this, students will study how knowledge is defined and how we can know the knowledge gained is true.
- **Moral Philosophy:** This looks at how we make moral decisions. It involves exploring many different ideas about rules and principles we should follow. Students will apply these moral theories to real life situations, such as simulated killing, to see if they work in practice.

Year 13

- **Metaphysics of God:** This unit is seeking to answer, ‘Can we prove the existence of God?’ Students will study the attributes of God and paradoxes related to them. They will also analyse, through philosophical arguments, whether the existence of God can be proved.

“If you are like me and always ask yourself some ungraspable big questions, philosophy is definitely for you. It gives you the chance to debate and learn a variety of responses.”

- **Metaphysics of the Mind:** This begins with an exploration of whether we have a soul and if so, what is its relationship to the body. They will also consider are zombies conceivable and if so, are they possible? It also looks at exciting developments in modern neuroscience.

Career Pathways

Many prime ministers and world leaders study Philosophy and it does suit many careers within the government, as well as other aspects of politics and public policy. It is also a valued subject for those going into jobs within the law sector, marketing, human resources, and journalism.



SCAN FOR
MORE INFO

Psychology

Introduction

Are you interested in people? Do you wonder why we think, feel, and behave the way we do? If so, A Level Psychology is the perfect subject for you.

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behaviour, covering a wide range of fascinating, thought-provoking and relevant topics ranging from how we form memories to what causes phobias, or mental illness.

During this course, you will learn how psychologists carry out research and how their findings shape our understanding of the world. It is perfect for students who enjoy critical thinking, analysis and debate.

What will you be studying?

The AQA A Level is split into 3 key sections, each assessed through a written examination at the end of Year 13.

Paper One: Introductory topics: In this unit, you will learn about conformity and social norms, how the mind remembers and forgets, including the application of this research to eyewitness testimony, how and why children form attachments plus the consequences when attachments go wrong. You will also learn how to define, explain and treat abnormal behaviour such as phobias, depression and OCD.

Paper Two: Psychology in Context: In this unit, you will explore the different approaches to the study of Psychology and look at how psychologists conduct research, including a number of opportunities to carry out your own independent practical research. You will also

“Psychology gives students the tools to decode human behaviour—combining scientific method with real-world insight to understand what drives us.”

study biopsychology, including the structure and function of the brain and control of biological rhythms.

Paper Three: Issues and Options: In this unit, you will explore in even more depth the topics of gender (including the biological and social influences on gender development), Forensic Psychology (including criminal profiling, explaining and dealing with criminal behaviour) and Schizophrenia (including the diagnosis, explanations for and treatment of the disorder).

Career Pathways

A Level Psychology offers a wide range of potential career pathways. It supports further study to become a psychologist in areas like clinical, forensic, or educational psychology. The subject is also valuable in careers such as teaching, social work, healthcare, and human resources.

You will also develop a number of highly transferrable key skills like critical thinking, problem solving and communication, which are useful in any profession involving people and behaviour.



SCAN FOR
MORE INFO

Sociology

Introduction

A Level Sociology is your gateway to understanding the world!

It is an eye-opening subject that challenges you to see the world in a completely new and critical way. You will explore how society works, why people behave the way they do, and how social structures like family, education, religion, and crime shape our everyday lives. From questioning inequalities to understanding culture and identity, sociology gives you the tools to think critically about the world around you. If you're curious about people, passionate about justice, or want to make sense of current events, Sociology is the perfect subject to inspire and empower your thinking.

What will you be studying?

The AQA A Level is split into three key sections, each assessed through a written examination at the end of Year 13.

Paper One: AQA A Level Sociology Paper One focuses on education and research methods. You'll explore the role of education in society, differences in achievement by class, gender, and ethnicity, and the impact of government policies. The paper also tests your ability to apply research methods to the study of education and assess their strengths and limitations.

Paper Two: AQA A Level Sociology Paper Two covers topics like Education, Families and Households, and Beliefs in Society. Students answer one topic from each section through a mix of short and extended questions, focusing on applying, analysing, and evaluating sociological theories and concepts.

“Sociology opens students' eyes to the hidden forces shaping society – encouraging them to think critically, challenge injustice, and understand the world through evidence and empathy.”

Paper Three: AQA A Level Sociology Paper 3 focuses on Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods. It includes a mix of short-answer and extended essay questions, assessing students' ability to apply sociological theories, analyse patterns in crime, and evaluate research methods used in sociology.

Career Pathways

Studying A Level Sociology opens up a wide range of career paths by building skills in critical thinking, research, and understanding social behaviour. It's a great foundation for careers in areas like social work, criminology, education, journalism, law, human resources, and politics. It also supports progression to university degrees in Sociology, Psychology, social policy, or related fields, leading to roles where understanding people and society is key.



SCAN FOR
MORE INFO

English Language

Introduction

Language is fascinating. From our earliest perceptions and acquisition of speech we use it, in all its subtlety, to target and influence our audience. This course charts the development of language in its many forms, incorporating detailed, wide-ranging study, alongside creative and investigative elements. Demanding and technical, it calls for shrewd observation and judgement – but above all for sensitivity to the real force of linguistic variety.

What will you be studying?

Component One: Language, the individual and society

This unit involves two elements, firstly consideration of how language is used to create meanings and representations. You will explore a range of texts and analyse how the writers use their language choices to represent themselves, their subjects and society in general. Going beyond textual analysis, we must also consider the graphological presentation of the pieces as well as the contextual setting and what influences the texts. The second element is Child Language Development which explores how children learn to speak and write. You will be taught about a wide range of factors that influence acquisition of language and its development and use data sets to inform your understanding of child language.

Component Two: Language Diversity and Change

This unit is all about exploring the ways in which, and reasons why, language is so diverse and ever changing. You will consider your own use of

language and what influences the way you speak through studying idiolect, accent, dialect, sociolect etc. In addition, you will consider how language is used within different groups e.g. occupational groups, gendered groups etc. and gain an appreciation for the variety within language. This unit is also about how language has changed over time and what has contributed to language development.

Career Pathways

This is a staple qualification for any kind of career, but particularly suited, perhaps to: journalism; marketing; teaching; the media (radio/TV/magazines); advertising; industry/commerce requiring specific linguistic skills. But really, it is suitable for any careers involving communication and the skilful reflective use of language.



SCAN FOR
MORE INFO

English Literature

Introduction

You will become an expert in the genre of tragedy and how it has evolved over time. You will explore how writers use their work to voice ideas about society and comment on social injustice. The texts you study here have issues of power and powerlessness at their core with protest issues also being considered. We want to hear your views and interpretations and you will get the chance to analyse, critique, evaluate and compare texts studied.

What will you be studying?

Throughout the course we will consider the ways writers shape meanings in texts and how interpretations can differ. We will also consider the ways in which texts relate to each other and how they are affected by the contexts in which they are written and read.

Component One: Aspects of Tragedy.

An introduction to Tragedy and how the genre has developed over time will be followed by Othello by William Shakespeare, Death of a Salesman by Arthur Miller and Tess of the D'Urbervilles by Thomas Hardy. Studying these tragedy texts, you will track character development and consider where aspects of tragedy are present or indeed absent. This will develop your appreciation of the genre of tragedy.

Component Two: Elements of Social and Political Protest.

Examine how writers use their texts to comment on society and protest the injustice they witness. We start by exploring William

Blake's poetry in Songs of Innocence and Experience before studying The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini and The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood. There is also study of unseen extracts where we will identify and comment on aspects of Social and Political Protest and consider how they are used within the texts.

Career Pathways

English Literature is prized by all FE establishments. Prepares students in particular for: academic study; advertising; creative arts degrees; arts-based study; librarianship; sociology; specific areas of media (some journalism/radio/TV); teaching (all levels); advertising. Any career in which creativity and communication skills are useful.



SCAN FOR
MORE INFO

German

Introduction

In a world which is becoming increasingly smaller, languages are becoming more highly valued. The workplace is a multi-national one and communication is often multi-lingual. Students of languages are effective communicators with an awareness of world issues and opinions on current affairs.

Studying German at A Level offers valuable language skills, cultural insight, strong university prospects, and excellent career opportunities, making it a highly worthwhile choice in today's global and post-Brexit world.

What will you be studying?

A Level German includes themes of study which reflect 'social issues and trends' and 'political, intellectual and artistic culture'. Topics studied in the Sixth Form include: the divided and reunified Germany, family issues, racism and multi-culturalism, modern technology, art and literature, the city of Berlin, political engagement in Germany, popular culture and the EU.

In addition, there is a personalised individual research project sharply focussed and related to the country of study which seeks to extend discussion skills and be personal to the students' range of interests, with possible titles ranging from resistance during Nazi Germany, East German pop music or even the power of the Bundesliga. There is also a cultural study element in which students study a film and a piece of German literature.

Lessons involve analysis of authentic magazine or newspaper articles, as well as watching news bulletins and films to broaden

vocabulary knowledge. Students learn to debate and express their opinions and to counter others' opinions. Pupils' German is developed in all skills areas and students learn how to manipulate language to use it independently. Dedicated time is allocated for individual speaking sessions with a native speaker of German to develop spoken spontaneity and fluency in German.

Career Pathways

A higher qualification in German is a valuable asset to any business with international aspirations and, more importantly, it shows excellent communication and cultural skills.

In the post-Brexit era, the need for foreign language speakers becomes even greater to ensure social, cultural and business links can be maintained.

Students who take German to A Level often pursue the language to degree level. Combined degrees which include a language are becoming popular. Former students combined German with English, History, Business, Management or law.



SCAN FOR
MORE INFO

Spanish

Introduction

Our A Level Spanish is designed not only to deepen your ability to speak, write, listen, and read in Spanish but also to immerse you in the rich and diverse cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. In the 21st Century language skills are ever more important where communication is key. With over 500 million native speakers of Spanish globally, speaking Spanish sets you up for success across the world.

Whether you are passionate about travel, fascinated by global history, or eager to develop skills for a competitive career, A Level Spanish offers a unique blend of language learning and cultural insight. Take the first step towards broadening your horizons and shaping your future with A Level Spanish!

What will you be studying?

Pupils will develop their Spanish knowledge, understanding and fluency, whilst exploring the society and the multiculturalism of the countries where Spanish is spoken. The course develops Spanish language through the study of Hispanic art, literature, film, music, politics and society.

Within the course, pupils carry out an independent research topic on an area of Hispanic life that interests them and dedicated time is allocated for individual speaking sessions with a native speaker of Spanish to develop spoken fluency and spontaneity.

With our passionate specialist teachers, and use of authentic resources like films, music, news and literature we ensure you not only learn Spanish but truly experience it.

Career Pathways

Studying Spanish at A Level opens doors to a wide range of university courses and career paths. Spanish is an invaluable skill to have and is highly regarded by employers across a wide range of industries, such as tourism, government, politics, media, publishing, and journalism.

Language learning teaches transferable skills such as communication, adaptability, resilience and problem solving skills which are valued across the curriculum and give you the ability to see things from a different cultural and political perspective. Being a Spanish speaker allows you to communicate with over 485 million native Spanish speakers across the world.

At degree level Spanish can often be combined with another subject allowing students to maintain a high level of language skill whilst specialising in other areas, such as Business, Marketing, Accounting and Law.



SCAN FOR
MORE INFO

Drama and Theatre

Introduction

A Level Drama and Theatre will develop your ability to create, perform, direct and analyse theatre alongside developing your creativity, confidence and communication and collaborative skills.

You will discover new styles and genres of theatre and have the chance to explore and experiment with them in a supportive environment. If acting is not your thing, then you can complete two units of the course as a designer.

Under the guidance of experienced teachers, we will support and motivate you to develop your skills as a theatre maker, actor, director and designer.

What will you be studying?

We follow the Pearson Edexcel A Level course.

At the start of Year 12 you will be introduced to and explore in class a wide range of practitioners and theatre companies before beginning the Devised unit of work (worth 40%) in January. This unit will challenge you as theatre makers and develop your creativity, research and problem-solving skills.

Across the two years you will study and explore our two set texts (Machinal and Antigone) as well as develop your theatre review skills in preparation for the written paper (40%) in Year 13.

The Text in Performance Exam (worth 20%) will see you interpret extracts from two texts in a group piece and a monologue/duologue or as a designer. Across the course there will be

dedicated lessons focusing on developing performance or design skills.

You will be encouraged to visit the theatre or watch online the National Theatre Collection as well as take part in our many extracurricular activities in school. Our Sixth Form students frequently lead and co-direct productions with the department.

Career Pathways

As well as naturally leading to further study or careers in the Creative and Media Industries, Drama students are valued for their ability to be creative, excellent communicators, collaborators, critical thinkers and highly motivated people, all skills future employers value.

If you want a course which will challenge you both creatively, academically and practically then this is the A Level for you!



SCAN FOR
MORE INFO

Fine Art

Introduction

Fine Art is a course that will take your creativity to new heights, allow you to enjoy new media, techniques and processes, and refine ones you already love! Oil painting, print making, mixed media, ceramics, sculpture... whatever your passion is in Art, taking it at A Level will allow your creative side to flourish! Under the guidance of highly experienced teachers, we will draw out the best of your expression and creativity.

What will you be studying?

We use AQA, and the course is entirely coursework based.

For the opening stages of Year 12 you will be introduced to a wide range of experimental workshops. You will learn the value of reading in Art to learn about the history of art. We encourage you to visit museums and galleries independently to expand your knowledge and enrich your art experience, but we will also organise trips to local galleries. We are very lucky to have excellent resources in school such as a dark room, photography studio, ceramics room, kiln, pottery wheel, easels, and a printing press! Rare for a secondary school, we also offer life drawing with a live model so that students experience this mature, challenging and exciting branch of art.

The Personal Investigation is centred on who you are as an artist, what you want to study, and how you want to work. We have had students create projects based on Physics, Gardens, Abstraction, Feminism, Childhood... the possibilities are endless. This is worth 60% of your final grade.

The externally set assignment still allows a lot of room for your creative mind to wander, but you will work within a time frame of eight weeks for preparation work, culminating in a 15 hour exam.

"Fine Art gives students the freedom to express who they are - exploring ideas, mastering techniques, and creating work that is bold, personal, and powerful."

This entire project is worth 40% of your final grade.

Career Pathways

As well as naturally leading to any further study or career in design and creativity, Fine Art has a huge range of transferable skills; time management, project management, research, critical reflection, peer review, organisational skills, curation and more. Past students have gone to further study Art Foundation courses, creative degrees in Fine Art, Graphics, Museums, Media, and Fashion Design. Fine Art leads to so many careers and opportunities. If you love art and being creative, this is the course for you!



SCAN FOR
MORE INFO

Media Studies

Introduction

Media Studies is an exciting and dynamic course that will help you understand and analyse a wide range of media, including print, film, music videos, and social media. In a world saturated with media messages, this course will give you the tools to decode meaning, recognise how media influences the way we think, and even how it sometimes seeks to exploit our perceptions. At the core of Media Studies is the exploration of how meaning is constructed and communicated. You'll learn how different forms of media shape our understanding of the world, and you'll develop a critical eye for the ways media tries to persuade, inform, or entertain us.

What will you be studying?

But it's not just about analysis – you'll also have the chance to unleash your creativity. As part of your Non-Examined Assessment (NEA), you'll create your own media products, such as film trailers or posters, using our suite of iMacs and industry-standard editing software. We offer the AQA Media Studies A Level. In Year 12, you'll start by building a foundation in key media concepts: media language, representation, industries, and audiences. You'll bring theory to life by applying it to real-world examples, exploring everything from blockbuster films to viral social media campaigns.

Towards the end of Year 12, you'll begin your NEA project, responding to a live brief from the exam board. Year 13 gives you the chance to deepen your theoretical understanding and see how it applies in a wider context. Assessment is through two two-hour exams

“Media Studies can open your eyes. Question everything and create with purpose.”

and your NEA project. The exams focus on media theory and its application across television, magazines, online and participatory media, and video games. Each exam is worth 35% of your final grade, and the NEA is worth 30%.

Career Pathways

Media Studies is a fantastic gateway to further study and careers in media, journalism, broadcasting, video production, and editing. Our students have progressed to top universities and prestigious apprenticeships with organisations like The Telegraph and Sky. Media Studies opens the door to a world of creative and professional opportunities—start your journey with us!



Music

Introduction

A Level Music will accelerate your musicianship to new heights – it's a course where musicality meets academic curiosity. It allows you to broaden your knowledge base and skills across a variety of genres whilst also specialising as a performer or composer. Under the guidance of our highly experienced department, A Level Music will allow musical passions and interests to thrive.

What will you be studying?

The Eduqas Music A Level teaches you to analyse and articulate music, musically.

You will spend Year 12 looking at the development of the symphony, exploring prominent works throughout the classical canon with a key focus on either a classical or romantic symphony. You use this knowledge and musical evidence to compare how particular aspects of this style have developed through time. You will analyse two short twentieth-century works exploring pivotal styles.

Throughout both years, we will look at the works of six musical theatre composers, rock and pop artists or jazz musicians, developing your aural perception skills preparing for unheard listening questions.

For coursework, you choose to specialise more as a performer or a composer. As a specialist performer, you'll prepare a 10–12 min' recital for a visiting examiner as a soloist or as part of an ensemble. Two pieces will reflect differing areas of study (AOS) listed above. You'll also prepare two compositions totalling four–six minutes – one to a brief reflecting the traditions you'll learn about, and the other is free choice.

“Learning in more depth about the music I love has helped me have a greater understanding of what I want to pursue at university!”

As a specialist composer, you'll compose three pieces with a duration of eight–ten minutes – one to a brief, one reflecting a different AOS and a third free choice. Your performance programme will be six–eight minutes consisting of a minimum of two pieces.

Career Pathways

Music can take you anywhere – naturally, you could progress to further musical study at conservatoire or university level, but you'll also develop many transferrable skills: time management, creativity, critical analysis. Guiseley School alumni have gone on to work in music education, perform in the BBC Orchestras and music journalism. Music gives you so many prospects – if you are passionate about music, performing, creating and/or deconstructing the works of past musical greats, this is the course for you!



SCAN FOR
MORE INFO

Photography

Introduction

Photography is a course that will take your ability to new heights, allowing you to enjoy advanced techniques and processes, and refine ones you already love! You will cover elements of digital photography and editing, as well as potentially trying out film photography and dark room techniques. Whatever your passion is in Photography, taking it at A Level will allow you to flourish! Under the guidance of highly experienced teachers, we will draw out the best of your technical ability and creativity.

What will you be studying?

We use AQA, and the course is entirely coursework based.

For the opening stages of Year 12 you will be introduced to how a DSLR camera works, how to use the range of settings to get varied outcomes, and how to edit and present your work to a high standard. You will learn the value of reading in Photography to expand your knowledge. We encourage you to visit exhibitions independently to enrich your photography experience, but we will also organise trips to local galleries and further afield. We are very lucky to have excellent resources in school such as a dark room, photography studio, a range of lighting and DSLR cameras.

The Personal Investigation is centred on who you are as a photographer, what you want to study, and how you want to work. We have had students create projects based on shutter speed, architecture, music... the possibilities are endless. This is worth 60% of your final grade.

The externally set assignment still allows a lot of room for your creative mind to wander, but you will work within a time frame of eight

weeks for preparation work, culminating in a 15 hour exam. This entire project is worth 40% of your final grade.

Career Pathways

As well as naturally leading to any further study or career in design, media or advertising, Photography has a huge range of transferable skills; time management, project management, research, critical reflection, peer review, organisational skills, curation and more.

Past students have gone to further study Art Foundation courses, creative degrees in illustration, animation, photography, business studies and more. Photography leads to so many careers and opportunities. If you love photography this is the course for you!



SCAN FOR
MORE INFO

Product Design

Introduction

Product Design offers you an opportunity via a range of practical problem-solving processes to develop the independent learning, creativity and innovation skills and knowledge needed to solve a variety of design problems currently facing society. The course is intended to reflect the wide-ranging activities of professional designers and develop an understanding of a wide range of materials and processes. You will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the development of the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers.

This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers. Especially those in the creative industries. Project and coursework will contain significant graphic elements; such as coursework presentation, sketching, CAD and modelling. All project work requires a functioning three-dimensional outcome.

This course is best suited to dedicated, creative and hardworking students from the Design and Technology GCSE courses but may also be suitable for those students who have taken Art at GCSE.

What will you be studying?

You will gain a deep understanding of what it means to be a designer. Developing skills and knowledge that will provide you with the tools

to analyse products and problems to identify potential areas for improvement. You will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put learning into practice by producing prototypes of your choice! Utilising a broad knowledge of materials and manufacturing processes, including those used in commercial production, you will be able to apply your technical understanding to create successful solutions to a variety of design problems.

Career Pathways

This course can lead to a variety of higher education and career opportunities including; Teaching Product Design, Interior Design, Graphic Design, Architecture, Manufacturing, Engineering, CAD/CAM Operation, Structural Engineering.

Furthermore, the rapidly developing field of 'new' technologies, such as CAD/CAM and AI, offers an exciting opportunity for those who enjoy integrating Science, Maths and Business into the future of design. Sketchbooks, presentation boards, portfolio and practical outcomes will provide evidence for steps following completion of the course via workplace apprenticeships, foundation studies or university applications.



SCAN FOR
MORE INFO

Textiles (Fashion)

Introduction

The UK's fashion and textile sector is a significant contributor to the national economy, employing hundreds of thousands and ranking among the country's top export industries. Young professionals equipped with a thorough understanding of the creative, commercial, and technical dimensions of this dynamic field are presented with extensive global career prospects. This qualification delivers the essential theoretical knowledge, practical skills, and confidence required for progression into higher education and successful careers across a wide spectrum of industry roles.

What will you be studying?

You will examine the legacy of iconic products, explore the impact of influential designers, and consider how major cultural events have shaped fashion trends over time. The course delves into technological advancements that have revolutionised contemporary apparel and offers insights into possible future developments in fashion.

During the NEA, you will develop competency in various communication and presentation methods to effectively articulate design concepts, alongside opportunities to apply your learning by producing a prototype of your choosing.

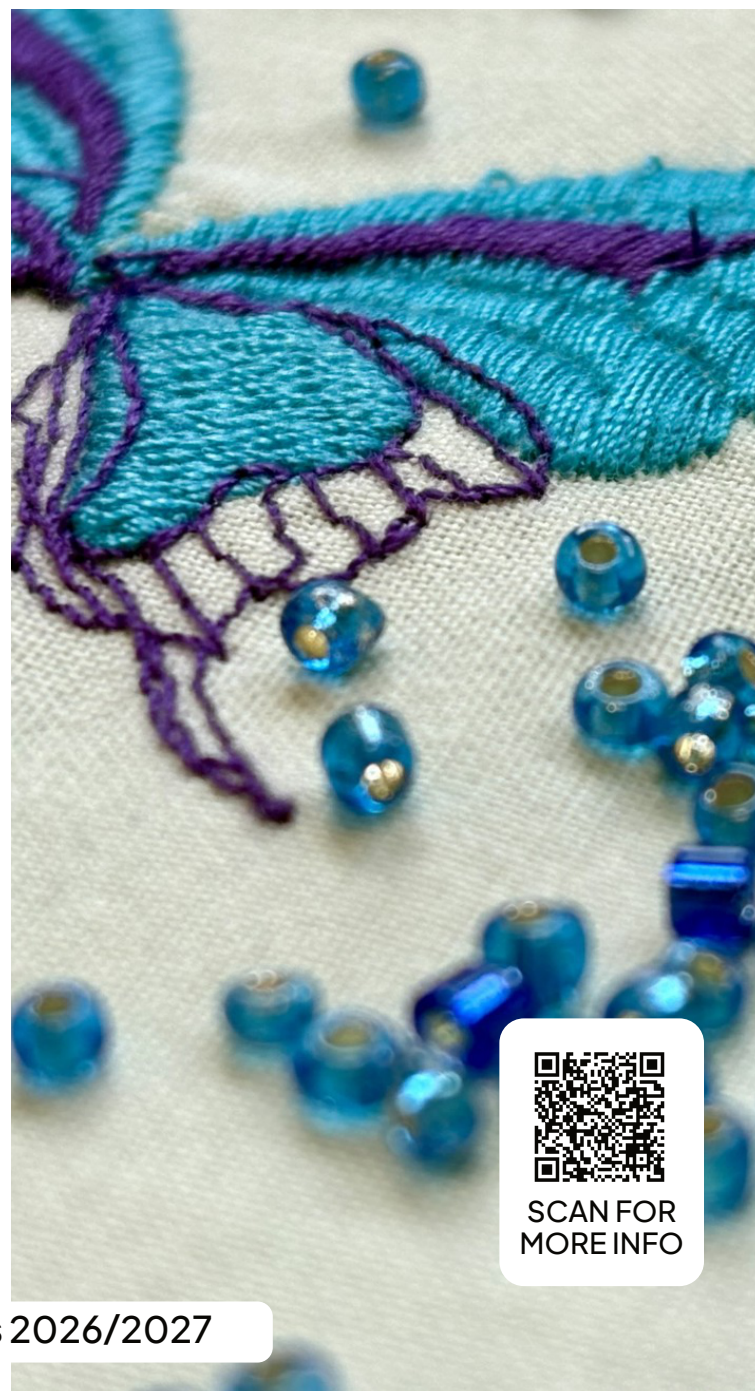
A core component of the curriculum focuses on designing and constructing original pieces using innovative textiles and technologies. In addition to the creative aspects, you will study

"This course equips students with advanced technical skills – from innovative textile construction to professional-level prototyping and presentation."

the commercial side of the industry, including branding and marketing strategies.

Career Pathways

This qualification opens doors to a range of professions, including but not limited to fashion design, merchandising, marketing, public relations, journalism, and roles such as fashion writer, buyer, stylist, or technologist. The rapidly evolving landscape of new technologies further offers promising opportunities for those interested in integrating science, mathematics, and business with the future of fashion.



SCAN FOR
MORE INFO

Applied Science

Introduction

Applied Science is a brand new specification ideal for anybody that enjoyed Science at GCSE and wants to continue with Science without the academic rigour of an A Level in Biology, Chemistry or Physics. It includes planning and performing laboratory investigations, researching the fundamentals of science and consolidating and stretching your GCSE Science knowledge.

What will you be studying?

The first year will comprise of two assessments:

- One piece of coursework based around science investigations (23%)
 - You will research, design and carry out a science investigation, analysing results, evaluating the investigation and making conclusions, just like real research scientists.
- One 90-minute exam on 'Fundamentals of Science' (23%)
 - This tests your knowledge of science taught on the course across Biology, Chemistry and Physics. There will be familiar topics such as cell structure and microscopy, atomic structure, rates of reaction and energy but also some new topics such as enthalpy and medical physics.

The second year of the course will comprise of three assessments:

- One 75-minute exam based around Science in Society (17%)
 - Release material will arrive several weeks before the exam so you will have time to familiarise yourself with the subject matter and predict questions you will be asked in the exam.

Two pieces of coursework chosen from four possible Science options:

- Analytical Techniques in Chemistry (18%)
- Environmental Studies (18%)
- Forensic Biology (18%)

- Medical Physics (18%)

Career Pathways

Applied Science gives students the opportunity to gain broad, transferable skills and experiences that they can apply in future study, employment and life such as: Communication, critical thinking, independent learning, presentation skills, team work.

As a Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate, successful completion gives you UCAS points which can be used for further study on a range of courses or more specifically degrees such as: Biomedical Science, Allied Health and Nursing, Life Sciences, Forensic Science, relevant apprenticeships.



SCAN FOR
MORE INFO

"Applied Science gives students real lab experience and technical confidence – they leave ready to contribute in clinical, forensic, or research settings."

Criminology

Introduction

Are you fascinated by crime, the criminal justice system, and why people break the law? The WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology offers a unique blend of academic study and practical application, giving you the opportunity to explore real-world issues through a mix of Psychology, Sociology, and Law. This course is perfect for students who enjoy critical thinking, debate, and analysing evidence.

What will you be studying?

The WJEC Level 3 Criminology Applied Diploma is equivalent to one A Level and consists of four units, individually assessed through a combination of controlled assessments and external examinations throughout the course.

- **Unit 1: Changing Awareness of Crime (Internally assessed in Year 12)**

In this unit, you will explore how crime is defined, categorised, and reported in society. You will study different types of crime, how the media influences public awareness/perception of crime and examine the impact crime has on individuals and communities.

- **Unit 2: Criminological Theories (Externally assessed in Year 12)**

In this unit, you will explore theories that explain why people commit crimes, including biological, psychological and social influences. You will learn about classic criminologists and how their ideas shape modern crime prevention and justice policies.

- **Unit 3: Crime Scene to Courtroom (Internally assessed in Year 13)**

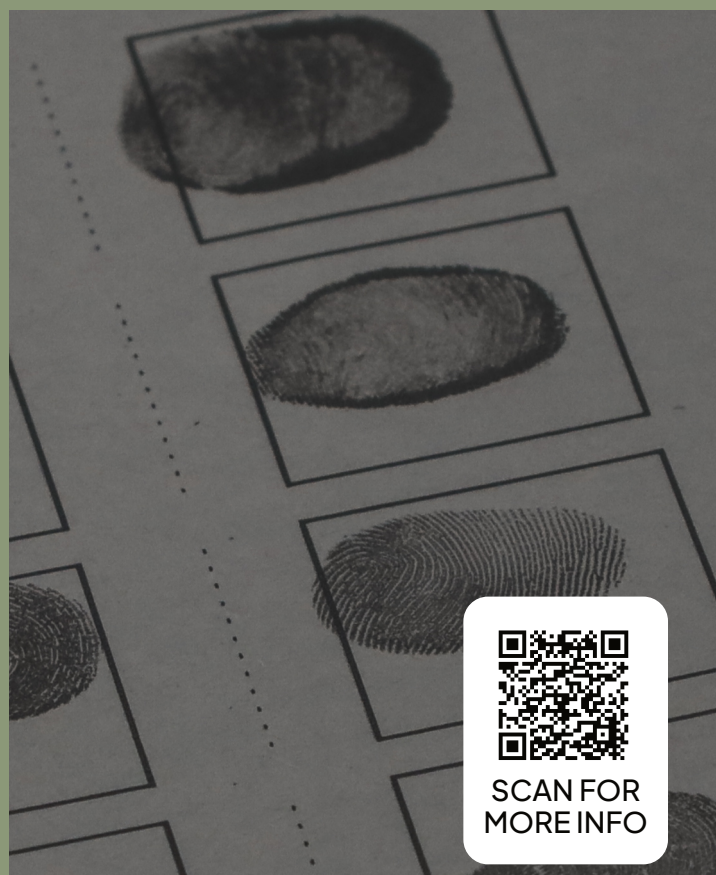
In this unit, you will explore the processes involved from a crime being identified to the verdict being given in court. You'll examine the roles of personnel involved in criminal investigations and analyse what happens during criminal trials. Real-life cases are studied throughout to help you apply your knowledge and understand how theory translates into practice.

- **Unit 4: Crime and Punishment (Externally assessed in Year 13)**

This unit focuses on the purpose and effectiveness of different types of punishment within the criminal justice system. You will examine how laws are made and enforced, and assess the role of agencies like the police, judiciary, and prisons.

Career Pathways

A WJEC Criminology qualification can open doors to various careers within the criminal justice system and related fields. These include the police force, courts, probation and prison services, as well as social work, mental health, and forensic psychology. The qualification also provides a strong foundation for higher education in Law, Sociology, Psychology, and Forensic Science.



SCAN FOR
MORE INFO

"Criminology A Level reveals the truth behind crime, justice, and punishment – empowering students to think critically and act ethically."

Health and Social Care

Introduction

Are you passionate about making a difference in people's lives? The Cambridge Technical in Health and Social Care offers a dynamic and practical route into one of the UK's most vital sectors. Whether you're drawn to nursing, social work, or mental health support, this qualification equips you with the knowledge, values, and skills needed to thrive in a care-focused career. With a blend of theory and hands-on learning, you'll explore how to support individuals with dignity, empathy, and professionalism.

What will you be studying?

This qualification is built around four core units that form the foundation of your understanding:

- **Principles of Health and Social Care (Unit FO90)**

Learn the values that underpin the sector, including respect, safeguarding, and effective communication. Discover how organisations like the NHS and local authorities collaborate to deliver care.

- **Anatomy and Physiology (Unit FO91)**

Explore major body systems and understand how they function. Investigate common health conditions and how they're diagnosed and treated.

- **Person-Centred Approach to Care (Unit FO92)**

Develop tailored care plans that reflect individual needs and preferences. Learn how to promote independence and adapt care to ensure it remains relevant and empowering.

- **Supporting People with Mental Health Conditions (Unit FO93)**

Gain insight into mental health conditions such as anxiety, depression, and schizophrenia.

Understand the impact of mental ill-health and explore legislation, support services, and treatment options.

Assessment includes two externally examined units and four coursework-based units, allowing you to demonstrate your learning in varied and meaningful ways.

Career Pathways

This qualification opens doors to a wide range of rewarding careers, including:

- Nursing and Midwifery
- Paramedic Science
- Youth Work and Counselling
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Primary Teaching
- Social and Community Work

Whether you choose to enter the workforce directly or progress to higher education, you'll be prepared to make a real impact in health and social care.



SCAN FOR
MORE INFO

"Health and Social Care empowers students to make a real difference – combining compassion, knowledge, and practical skills to support others and shape a more caring society."

Sport and Physical Activity

Introduction

Do you love sport and exercise? Are you interested in a career that ranges from physiotherapy to nutritionist to manager of a professional sports team? This course allows students to take the next steps on that path, furthering their knowledge in areas such as physiology and anatomy, psychology and sports coaching. Equivalent to one A Level.

What will you be studying?

Year One – Unit One: Body systems and the effects of physical activity

- 1 hour 30 minute exam. 70 marks
- Gain an understanding of the structures and functions of the key body systems, how these support and impact performance in sport and physical activity and the effects that physical activity, training and lifestyle can have on them.

Unit Two: Sports coaching and activity leadership

- Assignment based portfolio work, including practical delivery
- Develop the skills and understanding necessary to effectively plan and deliver a series of sports sessions, reflecting on your own practice and using this feedback to improve your performance as a sports coach.

Unit 17: Sports injuries and rehabilitation

- Assignment based portfolio work
- Learn how to recognise and treat common sports injuries both immediately and through long-term rehabilitation programmes, the possible impacts of sports injuries and how to minimise the risk of sports injuries occurring.

Year 2 – Unit Three: Sport organisation and development

- 1 hour exam. 60 marks
- Gain an understanding of what sports

development is and why it is important. Understanding of organisations involved in sport in the UK, their roles and responsibilities and how they work together to enable targeted sports development.

Unit 19: Sport psychology

- Assignment based portfolio work
- Understand different motivations for participating in sport and exercise, attribution theory, stress, group dynamics and the impact on mental health and wellbeing, both for elite performer or a member of the general public.

Career Pathways

This, combined with other qualifications, will equip learners with the skills, knowledge and understanding to progress into a higher Education sport related programmes such as; Sport & Exercise Science, Physical Education, Sports Coaching, Sports development as well as Physiotherapy and sports medicine. It also enables progression into apprenticeships, such as Sport Coaching, Personal trainer, Fitness Instructor, Sport Development Officer.



“Studying PE at Guiseley School has been a very enjoyable process. I have had very supportive teachers through the different units, which have offered interest and insight into the world of sport.”

IT:

Data Analytics

Introduction

The Cambridge Advanced National in IT: Data Analytics is for students who are keen to delve deep into the uses of data and its application in a computing environment. Using computational thinking you will have the opportunity to use a problem-solving approach that uses concepts from computer science to develop solutions that can be understood by both humans and computers.

What will you be studying?

Equivalent to one A Level, you will complete two exams and three coursework units over the course of two years. The coursework units will be moderated externally by OCR.

Exam: Fundamentals of data analytics. In this unit you will learn about the fundamental knowledge required in order to understand and manage data.

Exam: Big data and machine learning. In this unit you will learn about the challenges of managing big data and the role of artificial intelligence and machine learning in data science.

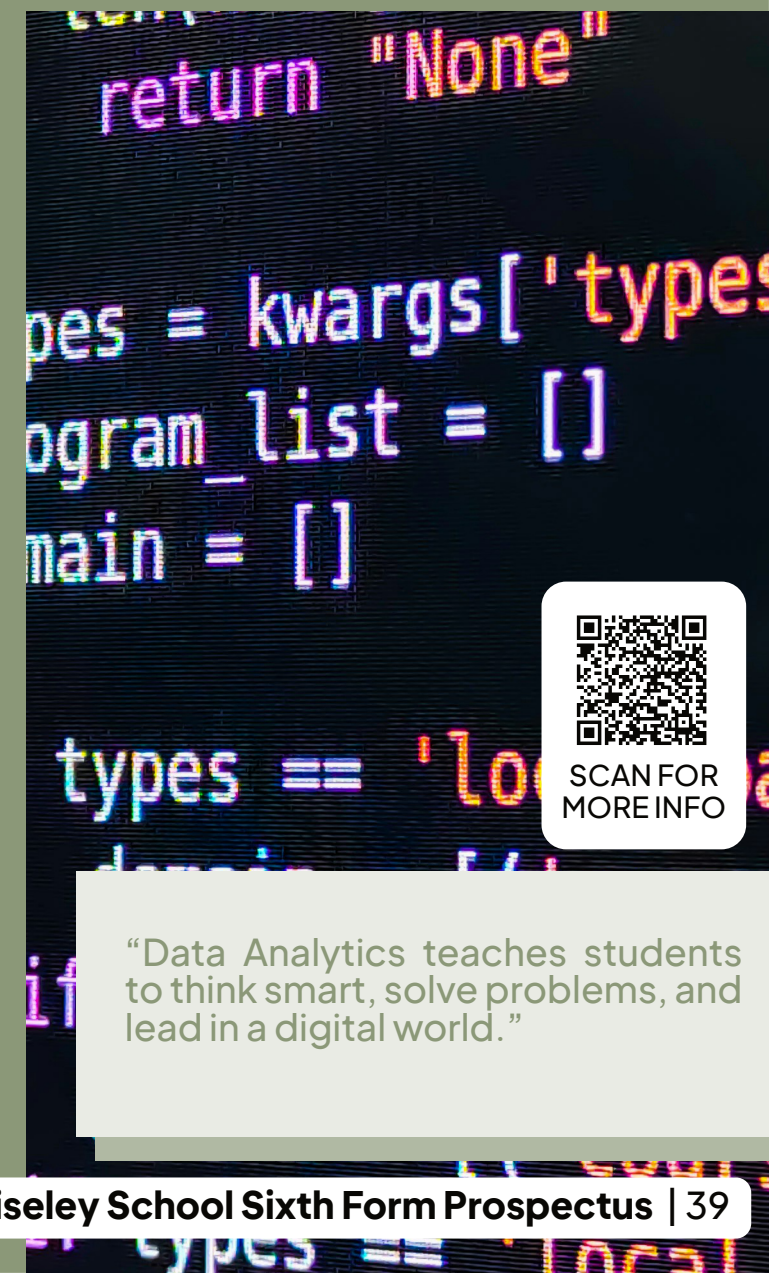
NEA: Spreadsheet data modelling. In this unit you will learn the principles of data modelling with spreadsheets and the knowledge and skills required to plan, design, create, test and review a spreadsheet modelling solution that meets the needs of a specific client.

NEA: Data & the Internet of Everything. In this unit you will learn the principles of the Internet of Everything (IoE), and the knowledge and skills required to plan, design and present an IoE solution.

NEA: Data & Digital Marketing. In this unit you will learn the principles of digital marketing, and the knowledge and skills required to plan, design, create and review digital marketing material that meets the needs of a specific client.

Career Pathways

It will develop knowledge, understanding and skills that will help prepare you for progression to undergraduate study when taken alongside other qualifications and are relevant to the information technology sector. The OCR Level 3 Cambridge Advanced National (AAQ) in IT: Data Analytics (Certificate and Extended Certificate) provides a foundation for careers in data analysis and related fields, preparing students for further study in related disciplines. It equips individuals with skills applicable to various roles like Data Analyst, Business Analyst, and IT Specialist, and can serve as a stepping stone to undergraduate degrees in Data Science, Computer Science, or Business Analytics.



“Data Analytics teaches students to think smart, solve problems, and lead in a digital world.”

Travel and Tourism

Introduction

Is travel your passion? Working with people both in the UK and beyond? Keen to be part of one of the fastest growing industries in the UK?

The value of tourism to the UK economy is approximately £209 billion, and the sector employs around 4 million people.

This course is ideal for students who benefit from a blended approach to assessment, where study takes the form of academic learning alongside practical application to explore the world of the travel and tourism.

What will you be studying?

The BTEC National extended certificate is the equivalent to one A Level and consists of 4 units, individually assessed through a combination of internal and external assessment throughout the course.

- **Unit 1 – The Travel and Tourism Industry (Externally assessed in Year 12):** In this unit, students will learn about the travel and tourism industry in the UK and its growth as major importance to the UK economy.
- **Unit 2 – Different Types of Destinations and their Importance (Externally assessed in Year 13):** Students will investigate the features and appeal of global destinations.
- **Unit 3 – Principles of marketing in travel and tourism (Internally assessed):** Students will explore how to develop a successful marketing plan for use by travel and tourism organisations to attract and engage with customers.
- **Unit 9 – Visitor Attractions (Internally assessed):** Students will visit and conduct research about 2 tourist attractions, focussing on their products, services and focus on the appeal of these attractions and the type of customers that visit.

Career Pathways

A BTEC national extended certificate will give students transferable knowledge, understanding and broad skills such as communicating and presenting ideas that are sought after by further education establishments or employers.

The course supports progression to further study in travel and tourism-related degrees such as; business, marketing, hospitality, or other related fields. It is also a strong foundation for roles in cabin crew, hotel/resort management, travel agencies, visitor attraction management, or event coordination or work abroad.

Completing a level 3 Business, IT and/or language qualification would also compliment this course.



“Travel and Tourism inspires students to explore the world—combining practical skills with global insight to unlock exciting careers and unforgettable experiences.”

Sports Leaders

Introduction

The Level 3 Qualification in Sports Leadership is a nationally recognised qualification that enables successful learners to independently lead purposeful and enjoyable sport/physical activity. The qualification aligns with professional standards for sport and physical activity leadership, especially through the focus on leading inclusive sessions to participants.

What will you be studying?

- **Unit 1:** Developing leadership skills.
- **Unit 2:** Lead safe sport/physical activity sessions.
- **Unit 3:** Know how to plan inclusive sport/physical activity sessions.
- **Unit 4:** Plan, lead and evaluate a progressive series of inclusive sport/activity sessions.
- **Unit 5:** Plan, lead and evaluate a sports/physical activity event.
- **Unit 6:** Demonstrate leading inclusive sport/physical activity sessions to a range of participant groups.

Assessment is a mix of practical observation written tasks (task worksheets provided in the learner evidence record), as well as session plans and evaluations.

Career Pathways

Despite the focus around sport and physical activity the skills the course will provide students with will be valuable in the pursuit of any career. It will provide real life experiences in leadership, communication, organisations, self-management and teamwork.



“Sports Leadership builds confident, capable leaders—empowering students to inspire others through teamwork, inclusion, and real-world experience.”

Arts Award Gold

Introduction

Arts Award Gold is a Level 3 Qualification validated by Trinity College London and approved by the Arts Council. It encourages creativity and independent learning, and will challenge you to develop your arts practice, lead and arts project, investigate topical arts issues and get involved in the arts world.

Through Arts Award Gold you will build your confidence through nurturing your own individual interest whilst equipping you with a range of transferable life skills that will support your educational journey and future employment.

What will you be studying?

Unit One: Personal Arts Development

In this unit you will develop your own arts practice through developing an existing skill alongside a new arts skill. Arts award recognises all art forms from fashion to poetry, rapping to dance, sculpture to film, as well as arts administration and technical roles so you can choose to focus on art forms you are passionate about.

You will develop your understanding and experience of the wider arts section through research into arts opportunities and either work experience or volunteering. Attending and reviewing arts events and experiences is an essential part of Arts Award and you will write a review of any arts event you attend over the course.

The final part of this unit is to research and present your views on an arts issue which you are interested in.

Unit Two: Leadership of an Arts Project

In this unit you will plan, lead, organise and deliver a project. This will involve a public showing of this project and evaluating its success. This project could be anything from running an extra-curricular arts club to creating and producing a short film.

Career Pathways

As well as leading to further study or careers in the Creative and Media Industries, Arts Award Gold students are valued for their ability to be creative, excellent communicators, critical thinkers, strong leaders and highly motivated people, all skills future employers value.

Arts Gold will be an excellent complement to any suite of A Level courses from Sciences to Arts subjects. It will help you stand out from the crowd!



"I loved the freedom of choice of Arts Gold to pursue my own personal interests as well as developing new skills."

Core Mathematics

Introduction

Core Mathematics is a practical and engaging post-GCSE Level 3 Qualification designed for students who've achieved a Grade 5 or above in GCSE Maths but don't wish to take on the full A Level course. This qualification requires a 4+ in GCSE Mathematics, and cannot be taken alongside A Level Mathematics.

Equivalent in size and UCAS points to an AS Level, Core Maths focuses on real-world applications of mathematics, developing valuable skills in areas such as finance, statistics, and risk management. It's particularly useful for students studying A Levels in subjects like sciences, social sciences, and geography, offering a "maths for life" approach that helps address the growing demand for numeracy skills across the economy. At Guiseley, we offer the AQA Level 3 Certificate in Mathematical Studies, giving students a strong foundation in applied maths that's both relevant and highly regarded.

What will you be studying?

Students studying Core Maths will obtain a level 3 certificate in Mathematical Studies using the AQA exam board. The Core Maths course offers a broad and practical approach to mathematics, focusing on real-world problem solving and data interpretation.

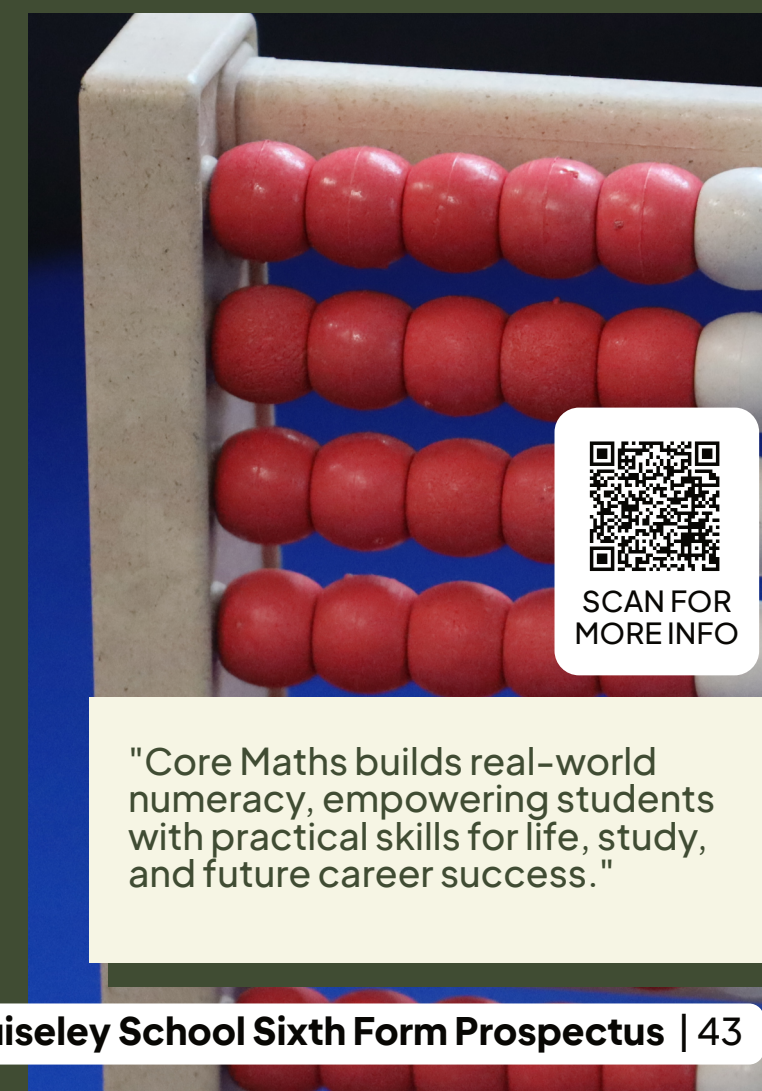
Throughout the qualification, students will develop the ability to interpret mathematical solutions in context, assess the reliability of data and identify sources of error or bias. Key areas of study include understanding risk and probability, statistical variation, and the use of exponential functions to model growth and decay. Students will also explore financial mathematics, percentage change, and the interpretation of graphs—skills essential for everyday decision-making. Importantly, the

course emphasises the critical evaluation of assumptions and models, along with a clear understanding that correlation does not imply causation.

Career Pathways

Studying Core Maths helps students develop their problem-solving skills and prepares them for the maths they will encounter in their day-to-day life. The qualification provides valuable preparation for the quantitative skills they will need for many apprenticeships and degree courses, particularly subjects such as psychology, geography, business-related courses, sports and social sciences, and natural science courses that do not require AS/A Mathematics. Whilst your main area of speciality will not be maths,

Core Maths can support a wide range of careers where problem solving and numeracy are necessary skills including design, management and manufacturing.



"Core Maths builds real-world numeracy, empowering students with practical skills for life, study, and future career success."

Duke of Edinburgh

Introduction

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is a life-changing adventure you don't want to miss. It's about going the extra mile – learning new skills for work and life, getting fitter, making a difference and broadening your horizons.

What will you be studying?

Volunteering: it's all about taking action and making a difference. You can choose the cause that means most to you. From coaching a local football team to starting a campaign, you'll give up your time to change things for the better. It's extremely rewarding – and it can give you the chance to experience the world of work.

Physical: is a chance for you to focus on your health and fitness – and have fun along the way. Try something different or concentrate on something you already do. From yoga to gym, skateboarding to wheelchair tennis – almost any dance, sport or fitness activity can count. You can join a team or do it on your own. It's up to you.

Skills: From coding to cookery, driving to photography – this section lets you learn a new talent, develop existing skills and find something you love doing. If you're interested in a specific field, this could be the perfect chance to do something related to it. You'll grow in confidence and get a real sense of achievement.

Residential: It's a big, exciting and fulfilling experience, spending five days and four nights away from home on a shared activity with people you've never met before. From learning to snowboard in Scotland to helping at a children's camp, there are lots of exciting possibilities for you to get involved with – both in the UK and abroad.

Expedition: Your expedition will give you lifelong memories. With a team of friends, you'll plan your aim, choose your route and do some training to make sure you're prepared – then spend four days and three nights away.

Career Pathways

Completing your Duke of Edinburgh will help you thrive in any career sector, it will give you invaluable skills and experiences to take into the world of work.

Find talents and passions you didn't know you had. Gain skills that employers value, which you can use on your CV. Become more confident and independent.

Stand out from the crowd in college, university and job applications.



"The DofE has been a challenging but immensely rewarding experience for me. I couldn't recommend it more if you want to stretch your limits and grow as an individual!"

Extended Project Qualification

Introduction

We are proud to offer students the opportunity to complete the AQA Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) alongside their other chosen subjects.

The EPQ is your chance to stand out. Unlike your other subjects, the EPQ puts you in control: you choose the topic, you set the direction, and you create something unique that reflects your passions. Whether you want to write an essay, design a product, or carry out a practical investigation, the EPQ gives you the freedom to explore what really interests you.

What will you be studying?

The great thing about the EPQ is that there isn't a fixed syllabus—you design your own project around something that excites you. You can choose almost any topic, as long as it allows you to carry out meaningful research and develop your ideas. Some students write a 5,000-word essay, while others create an artefact—such as a product, performance, or creative piece—supported by a written report.

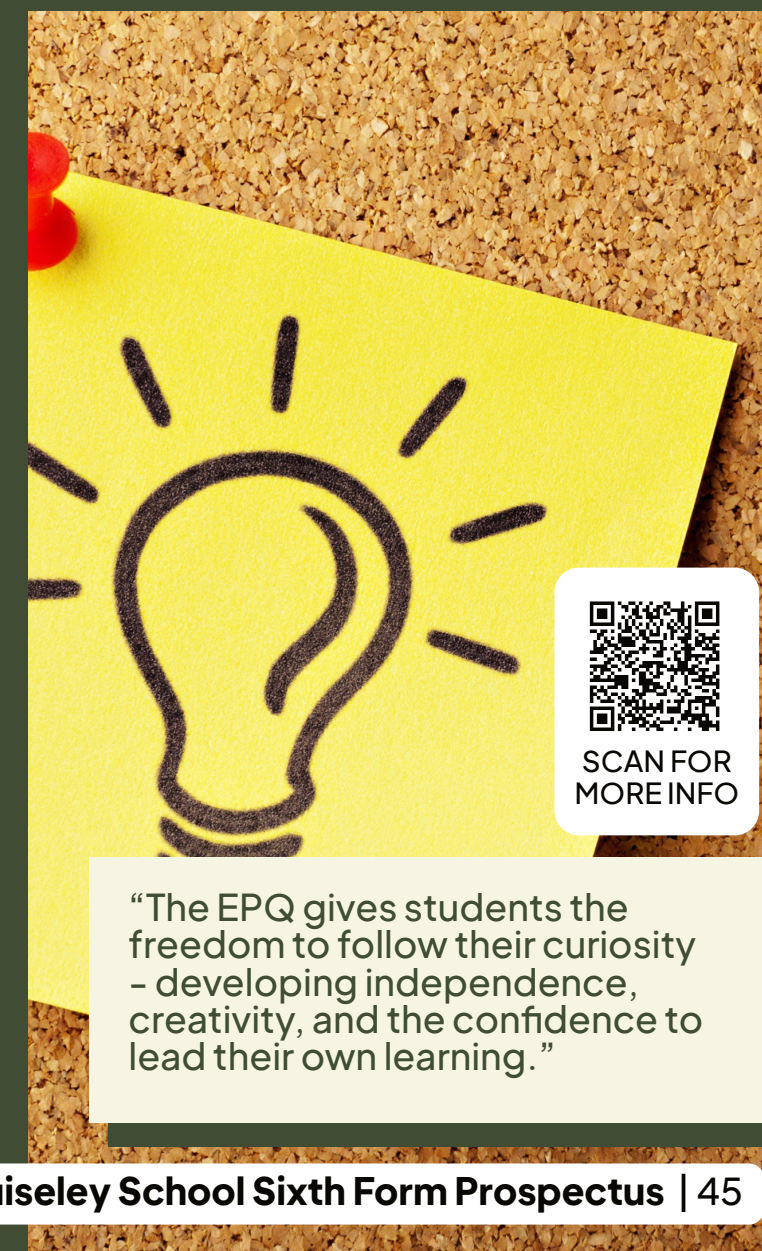
Whichever route you take, you will have a supervisor who will support and guide you through the project and you will have weekly lessons in which you will study key skills, including:

- **Independent research:** learning how to find reliable sources, analyse information, and build evidence.
- **Project management:** planning your time, setting milestones, and meeting deadlines.
- **Critical thinking:** evaluating arguments, weighing up different perspectives, and developing your own informed conclusions.
- **Communication:** presenting your findings to an audience with clarity and confidence.
- **Reflection:** reviewing your progress and learning how to improve as you go, developing skills like academic referencing, note-taking, and delivering presentations.

With support from your supervisor, you'll turn your initial idea into a structured, high-quality project that is completely your own.

Career Pathways

Completing an EPQ gives students a competitive edge when applying for university, apprenticeships, or employment. The skills developed—such as independent research, critical analysis, project management, and confident presentation—are directly transferable to both higher education and the workplace. Many universities also recognise the EPQ when making offers, with some reducing entry requirements for strong performance. Employers also value the qualification because it demonstrates initiative, problem-solving, and the ability to manage long-term projects – qualities that are essential in any career.



"The EPQ gives students the freedom to follow their curiosity – developing independence, creativity, and the confidence to lead their own learning."

