



The Priory Ruskin Academy **Sixth Form** Prospectus 2019 - 2020





# Welcome to The Priory Ruskin Academy Sixth Form

We are delighted that you have expressed an interest in The Priory Ruskin Academy Sixth Form, a vibrant and stimulating learning environment providing specialist staff and excellent facilities that enable our students to develop both academically and as well-rounded and fulfilled young adults.

During their time at Ruskin's Sixth Form, students have important decisions to make and we ensure they are fully supported in every area of their Sixth Form experience, from course choices and advice on how to study independently to individual guidance through their university, apprenticeship or employment applications. In addition to academic support, the emotional well-being of our students is our highest priority and students are supported within a pastoral, tutorial and academic structure designed to meet each individual's needs.

Our commitment to academic success coupled with extensive enrichment opportunities ensures our students leave the Sixth Form with excellent qualifications, a greater understanding of the important role that they have to play in the wider community and a desire to take on the next exciting challenge in their lives. We look forward to working with you during this important time.

Ms R Wyles, Headteacher





*‘The Academy’s expectation for students is high but so too is its desire to develop rounded, cultured, independent thinkers who are well prepared and ambitious for their next step.’*



# Empowering Intellectual Curiosity

The Priory Ruskin Academy Sixth Form offers an extensive range of courses, all taught by dedicated and professional staff who inspire students to achieve their full potential.

Students are able to choose from a range of A Level and BTEC (level 3) courses, allowing students to pursue a very traditional academic pathway, a more vocational route or a balance of the two. Students are able to study 3 subjects (4 will be considered in exceptional circumstances); 3 A Levels, 3 BTECs or a combination.

Students are encouraged to enrich their curriculum and personalise their learning by undertaking the Priory Baccalaureate, volunteering placements or work

experience. There are also numerous trips and visits for students to participate in, ranging from art and theatre experiences locally to field trips nationally and internationally to support academic and personal development.

All students have a Form Tutor with whom they meet on a daily basis. Students and Form Tutors are supported by the Sixth Form Lead, along with a non-teaching progress and support manager.

The Sixth Form team also develops and maintains close links with the families and carers of our students to assist them in supporting their child to achieve their aspirations.

Progress reports are produced at regular intervals throughout the year allowing students and their families to assess the academic progress and efforts made. The Sixth Form team will continually monitor the achievements of the students in their care, celebrating success and implementing supportive strategies where necessary.



# Championing Resilience and Personal Endeavour

Life at The Priory Ruskin Academy Sixth Form is all about new challenges and, throughout their two years in the Sixth Form, there is an expectation for students to become involved in the many extra-curricular activities on offer.

The opportunities are numbered and varied and include: The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, The National Citizenship Service, The Young Enterprise Scheme, successful competitive sports teams, singing lessons, non-competitive sports and fitness activities, cookery lessons, core mathematics qualification and many senior student roles across the Academy – to name just a few.

It is an expectation that all students complete the Key Stage 5 Priory Baccalaureate which, as well as rewarding progress in their courses, sees students complete 60 hours of personal development and a project.

This will ensure students stand out in university and employment applications.

The enrichment activities a student partakes in very much depends on their own interests, with many of the current opportunities being the initiative of individual students; we actively welcome new ideas from our student body.

Being involved in enrichment activities gives students the opportunity to participate in the local community, be active, be creative, engage in debate and work with others.

*‘Enrichment opportunities are interesting and varied, encouraging students to challenge themselves and develop beyond their academic studies.’*









*‘The Academy has a strong sense of community and there is an expectation that Sixth Form students are not only part of this but also take responsibility for helping shape it’*

## Fostering Mutual Respect

The Priory Ruskin Academy Sixth Form encourages its students to hold positions of responsibility. The highest honour is to represent the Academy as either Head Boy or Head Girl.

Other positions of responsibility include Deputy Head Boy and Deputy Head Girl, Prefects, Senior House Captains and Senior Subject Leaders. All Sixth Form students are expected to act as role models to younger students.

Our established Mentoring Scheme sees Sixth Form students support the academic and social progress of younger students within the Academy. This programme has seen great success both in terms of settling new students into the Academy as well as providing our Sixth Form students with

invaluable interpersonal skills and increased confidence. Sixth formers are operating in a range of ‘Ambassador’ roles, including supporting Year 11 students with their GCSE studies.

Sixth Form students facilitate the House Councils which feed through to the Academy Parliament, which meets regularly with the Headteacher and other senior staff. This allows them to fully voice their own views and those of the younger students they represent.



## THE PRIORY RUSKIN ACADEMY

### ADDRESS

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### EMAIL

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### WEBSITE

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### HEADTEACHER

Ms R Wyles

### SIXTH FORM LEAD

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### THE PRIORY FEDERATION OF ACADEMIES TRUST CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Mr I Jones  
Priory House, Cross O'Cliff Hill,  
Lincoln LN5 8PW

### THE PRIORY FEDERATION OF ACADEMIES TRUST CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Mr H Gee  
Priory House, Cross O'Cliff Hill,  
Lincoln LN5 8PW







# The Priory Ruskin Academy

## General Information

### **DRESS CODE**

In Ruskin's Sixth Form, we aim to create a professional working environment. As part of this approach we expect all members of the Sixth Form community to wear clothing which supports this ethos.

Male students are expected to wear a suit/jacket with formal trousers, a shirt, a tie and smart shoes. Top buttons should be fastened at all times.

Female students are expected to wear a suit or jacket with formal skirt, trousers with a shirt, blouse or jumper. Smart shoes should be worn.

There should be some care taken with jewellery. One pair of simple earrings in the lower lobe is acceptable for both genders. Necklaces, bracelets and rings may be worn but need to be in keeping with the formal nature of the dress code. Extreme hairstyles for male and female students should be avoided.

### **16-19 BURSARY FUND**

There is a small fund of money available to the school to assist students who may struggle financially. This money is available if the student fulfils certain criteria which are detailed on the Bursary application form, available during the autumn term.

### **HOLIDAYS**

In line with government and whole Academy policy, we are unable to authorise absence for holidays unless there are exceptional circumstances. Parents/carers who believe their circumstances are exceptional are asked to submit a letter to the Headteacher outlining the reasons for their request.

### **SMOKING**

The Priory Ruskin Academy has a no smoking policy which must be respected by all. Students are forbidden from smoking on any part of the Academy premises or within the immediate vicinity of the Academy.



# The Priory Ruskin Academy

## Term Dates 2019-2020

### **TERM 1**

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019 to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2019

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### **TERM 2**

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2019 to Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019

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### **TERM 3**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020 to Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020

### **TERM 4**

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020 to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

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### **TERM 5**

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020 to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

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### **TERM 6**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020





# How do I choose my A Levels?

The vast majority of students choose three subjects to study in Sixth Form, with four being an option in certain circumstances. It is always advisable to choose subjects that complement each other and demonstrate to universities and employers that you have a range of skills that are relevant to the course/job you are applying for.

## THE SUBJECTS YOU CHOOSE SHOULD REFLECT

- Your interests and subjects that you enjoy
- Any career aspirations you have *(have you researched what the requirements are?)*
- Your best chances of success *(do you prefer all exam based subjects or some subjects with coursework and examinations, such as BTECs?)*

Some subjects are deemed to be facilitating subjects, in that they offer better preparation for students aiming to apply for courses at Oxbridge and Russell Group universities. If students wish to apply to these universities, it is advised that they study at least two of these subjects. The facilitating subjects we offer are:

**ENGLISH LITERATURE**  
**HISTORY**  
**GEOGRAPHY**

**FRENCH**  
**MATHEMATICS**  
**CHEMISTRY**

**PHYSICS**  
**BIOLOGY**

Some common options are shown below. This list is not exhaustive and university prospectuses are the best places to obtain up to date advice on which combinations of courses to choose.

AREAS OF STUDY	COMBINATION MIGHT FOCUS ON	RUSSELL GROUP PREFERENCES
Medical - Medicine, Veterinary medicine, Dentistry, Biomedical	Chemistry, Biology	Chemistry, Biology
Other Medical - Nursing, Physiotherapy, Pharmacy	Health and Social Care/ Sports/Science subjects	Biology
Engineering (Civil, Chemical, Mechanical) and Construction	Mathematics/Technology/ IT/Science subjects	Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry
Business and Finance	Business/Arts/Mathematics	Mathematics
Law	Business/Arts/Humanities	History, English Literature
Architecture	Technology/IT/Art/Mathematics	Art, Mathematics
Health and Sport	Health and Social Care/ Sport/Science	Biology
Languages	Languages	Languages
Theatre, Drama	Creative Arts/Arts/ Performing Arts	History, English Literature
Art and Design	Creative Arts/Technology	Art subjects
English/Liberal Arts/Humanities	Arts/Languages/Humanities	History, Geography, English Literature, Languages



# The Priory Ruskin Academy

## Subjects offered

We offer a wide variety of courses, across the range of curriculum areas. Although the courses appear in the prospectus in alphabetical order, here we show them in their curriculum groups. Please note that these are not option columns but simply show subjects in complementary sub-groups. Please note that a course may not run if there are insufficient student numbers.

### A LEVEL SUBJECTS

Art, Craft and Design	Graphic Communication
Biology	History
Chemistry	Mathematics
Design Technology	Photography
English Language	Physics
English Literature	Politics
French	Psychology
Geography	Sociology

### VOCATIONAL SUBJECTS

Business Studies	Law
Criminology	Performing Arts
Health & Social Care Extended Certificate	Sport Extended Certificate
Health & Social Care Diploma	Sport National Diploma
ICT – Digital Media	Sport National Extended Diploma





# A Levels



*‘The creative nature of the course allows me to really explore my ideas using a range of processes and techniques, I love being able to draw inspiration from so many different sources and styles.’*

Art Student

**COURSE:** AQA ART, CRAFT AND DESIGN

**QUALIFICATION:** A LEVEL

**ASSESSMENT: Year 12 - Component 1:** Coursework Portfolio – 60% of final Year 12 mark. **Component 2:** Internally Set Controlled Test Assignment – 40% of final Year 12 mark. **Year 12 is internally assessed and moderated.**

**Year 13 - Component 1:** Personal Investigation – 60% of final A Level mark. This is a practical investigation supported by written material including an extended essay of up to 3000 words. **Component 2:** Externally Set Controlled Test Assignment – 40% of final A Level Mark. **Year 13 is externally assessed and moderated by AQA.**

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:** 5 or above in GCSE Art, plus successful completion of summer project.

# ART CRAFT AND DESIGN

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

In Year 12 students will complete a series of skills based workshops designed to develop their understanding of and abilities in a variety of practical disciplines, as well as enhancing their ability to discuss and analyse art work using in-depth specialist vocabulary. This first component will also consist of at least one extended project.

Students will also complete an internally set assignment where they will produce a body of work choosing their own starting point from a range of stimuli applying the knowledge and skills developed from the course so far.

**A Level Component 1:** Personal Investigation – Students produce a personal investigation based on an idea, issue, concept or theme as chosen by them. The investigation should be a coherent, in-depth study that demonstrates the student's ability to construct and develop a sustained line of reasoning from an initial starting point to a final realisation.

This is a practical unit with supporting written material of a critical, analytical nature of no less than 1000 words and no more than 3000 words. This component is worth 60% of the overall A Level grade.

**A Level Component 2:** Externally Set Assignment – Students produce a body of work from a choice of eight starting points completing a final outcome under controlled conditions (15 hours). This component is worth 40% of the overall A Level grade.

## ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Enrichment opportunities open to students for the A Level course include gallery visits, internal and external workshops and inspirational site and residential visits around the UK, Europe and America.

## WHY STUDY ART, CRAFT & DESIGN?

The A Level Art and Design course is ideal for students who want to find a way of creatively expressing themselves and allows them to develop their own interests and enjoyment of Art and Design.

The course also gives a solid foundation of knowledge, techniques and processes appropriate to those wishing to pursue Art and Design in Higher Education or a career in the creative industries.





**COURSE:** OCR BIOLOGY

**QUALIFICATION:** A LEVEL

**ASSESSMENT:** 100% through examinations.  
Key ideas in practical work are tested within the examinations and through practical endorsement.

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:** To attain a grade 6 or above at GCSE in Additional Science or Biology.



*‘The laboratory work is really interesting, it really develops an understanding how living things behave and work.’*

Biology Student

# BIOLOGY

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Over the two years students will study topics related to 6 Main areas in Biology, which are designed to prepare students for further study in Biology. These include:

### Module 1: Development of Practical Skills:

Tested in examinations and well as through 12 internally assessed experiments, which will act as practical endorsement, along with the A Level grade.

### Module 2: Foundations in Biology:

The students will study: cell structure, biological molecules, nucleotides & nucleic acids, enzymes,

biological membranes, cell division, cell diversity and cellular organization.

### Module 3: Exchange and Transport:

The students will study: exchange surfaces, transport in animals and transport in plants.

### Module 4: Biodiversity, Evolution and

**Disease:** The students will study: communicable diseases, disease prevention, immune system, biodiversity, classification and evolution.

### Module 5: Communication. Homeostasis and

**Energy:** The students will study: communication and homeostasis, excretion, neurones, hormones,

plant and animal responses, photosynthesis and respiration.

### Module 6: Genetics, Evolution and

**Ecosystems:** The students will study: cellular control, patterns of inheritance, manipulating genomes, cloning and biotechnology, ecosystems, populations and sustainability.

## WHY STUDY BIOLOGY?

The course is designed for those students who may wish to progress to further and higher education in Biology, Medicine, Sports Science or other related sciences and for those students who wish to study the world around them in more detail.

They will have the opportunity to improve on their laboratory skills, through participating in 12 compulsory practical assessments, as well as more light-hearted internal experiments. Science is constantly changing, with new advances in the Biological world all the time; therefore it is an exciting opportunity to delve into the natural world a bit deeper. As teachers we are very passionate about Biology, and part of our aim is to pass this passion onto our students.



*‘ You can really immerse yourself in the subject at A Level - I love the practical side. ’*

Chemistry Student

**COURSE:** AQA CHEMISTRY

**QUALIFICATION:** A LEVEL

**ASSESSMENT:** 100% through examinations.

Key ideas in practical work are tested within the examinations and through practical endorsement.

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:** To attain a grade 6 above at GCSE in Additional Science or Chemistry.

# CHEMISTRY

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Over the two years students will study topics related to the three main areas of Chemistry. This will extend their understanding from GCSE and introduce new areas of study.

### Physical Chemistry

Topics include atomic structure, bonding, rates of reaction, acids and pH, chemical equilibrium and thermodynamics.

### Inorganic Chemistry

Topics are related to understanding patterns in the Periodic Table, complex ions and chemical tests.

### Organic Chemistry

Topics are related to homologous series such as carboxylic acids and amines, polymer structures and analytical techniques used in identifying organic compounds.

Across all three areas students will develop their practical skills and use their understanding of Chemistry to analyse and evaluate experimental work.

## WHY STUDY CHEMISTRY?

The course allows students to study in more detail how the world around them works. Students will develop their analytical and problem solving skills, and learn new laboratory techniques. The course is a stepping stone to further study in Chemistry, Medicine, Biology and other related sciences, but is not exclusively for students intending to pursue a future in science.



**COURSE:** DESIGN TECHNOLOGY - PRODUCT DESIGN (WJEC)

**QUALIFICATION:** A LEVEL

**ASSESSMENT:**

1 Final Exam 50% - Coursework 50%

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

To achieve grade 5 or above in a GCSE Design Technology subject.



‘Product Design allows me to express my creativity through advanced physical projects to a very high standard with limitless options.’

Design Student

# DESIGN TECHNOLOGY PRODUCT DESIGN

*Think about the objects that you love. Your mobile phone with its delicious curves was designed on a computer screen. Maybe a stunning item of furniture. Or a building that you admire sprang from the drawing board of an architect. And it's not a new phenomenon.*

*Our fascination with design goes back to flint arrow heads and earthenware pots. As a designer you are at the crossroads of a number of skills.*

*Of course you need creativity, in order to imagine the shape and function of the object. But you'll also need to know about manufacturing processes, materials and marketing.*

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Your A Level studies cover 2 main areas, exam preparation and coursework. For the exam you will be required develop your subject knowledge in the following areas; designing and innovation, materials & components, processes, industrial & commercial practice, product analysis & systems, human responsibility and marketing & research. This is assessed by a 3 hour written exam.

For the coursework you will undertake a design & make project of your choice where you will submit a completed prototype along with a design portfolio. This project is expected to take approximately 80 hours and is assessed internally.

## WHAT SKILLS WILL I LEARN?

The Product Design course will help you develop a number of skills:

- How to research appropriately for design
- How to generate design and present ideas
- How to choose appropriate materials taking into account their properties
- How to use 3D modelling software & produce prototypes
- How to make products of high quality which could be developed and marketed
- How to put over your point of view fluently
- How to work as a team to achieve results
- How to take responsibility for your own learning.

## WHY STUDY DESIGN TECHNOLOGY?

Design Technology could take you into a number of exciting career paths. Of course there's a direct route into engineering degree or apprenticeship.

Or maybe CAD for industry appeals to you more? This course could take you into architecture, teaching, manufacturing, advertising or product design.





*‘I really enjoy studying English Language at A Level, we study some invigorating topics such as pronunciation, the evolution of English language and language diversity.’*

English Student

**COURSE:** AQA ENGLISH LANGUAGE

**QUALIFICATION:** A LEVEL

**ASSESSMENT:** 100% Examination

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:**  
Grade 6 or above in GCSE English Language

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

English Language offers the opportunity to explore spoken language in all its glory!

The course allows you to interpret what language reveals about people and how diverse our spoken communication can be depending on a variety of factors: from our gender to our age, from our regional background to our chosen profession. This A Level encourages students to consider how these elements of speech affect the way that we are perceived by others and also what they reveal about specific categories of people. The examinations require you to apply your knowledge of language to unseen extracts and to compare how speech is represented in different texts.

## WHY STUDY A LEVEL ENGLISH LANGUAGE?

If you are interested in the theories behind ‘why we talk in the ways that we do’, then this course could be perfect for you. Many theorists will be studied, such as Paul Grice and Stephen Levinson. Although a challenging course, this is a fascinating subject that will make you re-evaluate the ways that you view communication.

There is a great deal of independent study required within this course so please be aware that an interest in reading and theorists is imperative.



**COURSE:** AQA ENGLISH LITERATURE

**QUALIFICATION:** A LEVEL

**ASSESSMENT:**

Examinations 80% - Coursework 20%

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

At least grade 6 in both GCSE English Language and English Literature.

*‘I enjoy possessing the ability to read the works of other people in order to influence my own work.’*

English Student

# ENGLISH LITERATURE

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

The A Level course is designed to be taken over two years with all assessments at the end of the course. A Level Literature aims to encourage students to develop their interest in, and enjoyment of, literature and literary study. This course relies heavily on independent reading and students must be fully prepared for this.

During the two years, students will read widely and independently, both set texts and others that they select for themselves. They will engage critically with texts and develop and effectively apply their knowledge of literary analysis and evaluation.

Texts studied may range from medieval to Elizabethan to texts published in the last 10 years. Students will study prose, drama and poetry and will learn to respond to unseen extracts in the examinations as well as how to effectively respond to texts taught.

Texts studied may be as diverse as William Shakespeare, Sebastian Faulks, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Joan Littlewood and Richard Curtis. Genres studied may include Tragedy, Comedy, World War I Literature, Romantic, Satire and Gothic.

## WHY STUDY LITERATURE?

A Level Literature is a highly regarded and academic A Level which helps students gain university places in a wide range of subjects. It explores the big questions of human existence and requires from the reader understanding, empathy and appreciation. The skills involved in studying Literature include analysis, inference, interpretation, listening and responding. These are important skills needed for university, work and life. On top of this, students learn how to write coherently, accurately, critically and successfully!



*‘It’s not just about learning a language...it’s also about culture and life.’*

French Student

**COURSE:** AQA FRENCH

**QUALIFICATION:** A LEVEL

**ASSESSMENT:** 100% through examinations

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

To attain a minimum grade 5 at GCSE in French.

# FRENCH

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Students will be required to listen and respond to a variety of spoken sources as well as read and respond to a variety of written texts, use language accurately to express ideas and understand and apply grammatical structures.

Over the two years, students will study 4 topics with reference to target language countries as well as in a wider, global context. These include:

- Aspects of French – speaking society: current trends (family changes, cyber-society, voluntary work)
- Aspects of French – speaking society: current issues (tolerance of others, basic laws)

- Artistic culture in the French – speaking world (music, films, literature, regional and national heritage)
- Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world (politics, immigration, demonstrations)

## Examinations: Listening, Reading and Writing

### Written paper

2 hours 30 minutes - 50% of A Level

### Writing

Written exam: 2 hours - 20% of A Level

### Speaking

Oral exam: 21-23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time) - 30% of A Level

## WHY STUDY FRENCH?

The course is designed for those students who may wish to progress to further and higher education in Languages, Engineering, Law, Medicine, Journalism, Banking or a career as an entrepreneur where you will need good language skills to effectively communicate with people in the UK or in the global market.

Historians, politicians and geographers will also benefit from developing language skills that will help them get to know the people and area that they are passionate about.

Learning a language also helps you to learn about, and appreciate, the diversity of different cultures.





**COURSE:** EDEXCEL GEOGRAPHY

**QUALIFICATION:** A LEVEL

**ASSESSMENT:** Three examinations (each 2 hours 15 minutes) and one 3,000 to 4,000 word independent investigation based on fieldwork.

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:** In order to access the course we ask that students have a minimum of grade 5 in GCSE Geography

*‘ A Level Geography has many really interesting topics. It has helped me understand events currently in the news and is now a subject I want to pursue at university. ’*

Geography Student

# GEOGRAPHY

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

AQA Geography is a 2 year course. Study in Year 12 consists of two physical topics and two human topics. The physical topics include Coastal Landscapes and Tectonics. The two human topics include Globalisation and Diverse Places. The course in Year 13 includes a further two physical and two human topics. The two physical topics are The Water Cycle and The Carbon Cycle. The human topics are Superpowers and Health, Human Rights and Intervention.

Across the two years you will be required to complete four days of fieldwork to collect data for a 3,000 to 4,000 word independent

investigation. The third exam paper will be a synoptic investigation of a contemporary geographical issue. This exam is based on a booklet that links all the different topics you will have previously studied.

Students will be loaned course textbooks for most topics and will be expected to do a considerable amount of independent study if they are to achieve the best from A Level Geography.

## WHY STUDY GEOGRAPHY?

An A Level in Geography is highly regarded by universities and can lead to degree courses in Geography, Education, Science

and Environmental Studies. It is welcomed by employers in industry, management, sustainability and chartered surveying. This is because the qualification identifies you as having excellent analytical skills and a strong work ethic.

It is a challenging qualification, which both extends and deepens your knowledge and understanding beyond GCSE Geography.

It provides the opportunity to study new and more sophisticated geographical concepts including complex natural hazards, development in LEDCs and global governance.

Studying A Level Geography deepens your understanding of the world you live in. It gives you the opportunity to study the most exciting hazards and develop an understanding of how to manage and improve the world. It is an interesting and rewarding subject.



**COURSE:** AQA GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION

**QUALIFICATION:** A LEVEL

**ASSESSMENT:** Year 12 AS Level: Component 1: AS Coursework Portfolio – 60% of final AS mark, Component 2: Externally Set Controlled Test Assignment – 40% of final AS mark  
Year 13 A Level: Component 1: Personal Investigation – 60% of final A Level mark, Component 2: Externally Set Controlled Test Assignment – 40% of final A Level Mark

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:** Minimum of grade 5 in GCSE Art.

*‘ You work on briefs relating to real companies - it really prepares you for the future in a competitive industry. ’*

Graphics Student

# GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Candidates are required to work in one or more area(s) of Graphic Communication, such as Illustration, Advertising, Packaging design, Design for print, Communication and Computer Graphics, Multimedia, Animation, Web design, Film, Television and/or Video. They may explore overlapping areas and combinations of areas. Projects investigate a wide array of problems involving the design of books, catalogues, posters, magazines and newspapers, packaging, wayfinding and sign systems, exhibitions, typefaces, websites and mobile apps, and more. As well as practical studio projects, students will work on professional assignments that involve real clients, real budgets, and managing resources.

**AS Component 1:** AS Coursework Portfolio – The Portfolio consists of researching a wide range

of techniques and influences as well as at least one extended collection of work, or project. This is to be based on an idea, concept, theme or issue, from initial starting point to a realisation. This component is worth 60% of the overall AS grade.

**AS Component 2:** AS Externally Set Assignment – Students produce a body of work choosing their own starting point from a variety of design briefs. A portion of the preparatory work is produced unaided under controlled conditions (10 hours). This component is worth 40% of the overall AS grade.

**A Level Component 1:** A Level Personal Investigation – Students produce a personal investigation based on an idea, issue, concept or theme as chosen by them. The investigation should be a coherent, in-depth study that demonstrates the student's ability to construct and develop a

sustained line of reasoning from an initial starting point to a final realisation. This is a practical unit with supporting written material of a critical, analytical nature of no less than 1000 words and no more than 3000 words. This component is worth 60% of the overall A Level grade.

**A Level Component 2:** A Level Externally Set Assignment – Students produce a body of work from a choice of eight starting points completing a final outcome under controlled conditions (15 hours). This component is worth 40% of the overall A Level grade.

## ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Enrichment opportunities open to students for the A Level course include industry visits, external workshops and inspirational site and residential visits around the UK, Europe and America.

## WHY STUDY GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION?

The A Level Graphic Communication course is ideal for students who want to find a way of creatively expressing themselves and allows them to develop their own interests and enjoyment of Graphic Design. The course also gives a solid foundation of knowledge, techniques and processes appropriate to those wishing to pursue Design in Higher Education or a career in the creative industries. This course, skills and knowledge available to them will give them an excellent start to any degree course.



**COURSE:** AQA HISTORY

**QUALIFICATION:** A LEVEL

**ASSESSMENT:** Examinations worth 80% - Coursework 20%

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

To attain a grade 5 at GCSE in History.

*‘The course covers diverse but equally significant periods of history which I find fascinating.’*

History Student

# HISTORY

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

In History A Level, we study England between 1485 and 1529, the growth of political stability, the reign of Richard III, the establishment of secure government by Henry VII and the development of Tudor rule under Henry VIII and Wolsey. Issues to be studied include the roles played by the Kings themselves and their relationships with the nobility, councils and parliaments. Following on from this, students explore a period of 60 years of British history, during which the power of the Tudors strengthened both at home and abroad. Students will be taught to demonstrate understanding of key individuals such as Somerset, Northumberland, Burghley, Leicester and the Tudor monarchs themselves in their exercise of political power.

For our depth study, we focus on Germany after WW1: the Weimar Republic and the rise of Hitler and the Nazis. How did this Austrian corporal exploit the difficulties of the new democracy and create a mass movement that led to him being appointed Chancellor in 1933

after being sent to prison for treason 10 years earlier? We also look at life in Nazi Germany, 1933-45. How Hitler consolidated his power after being appointed Chancellor and turned Germany into a ruthless 1 party dictatorship; how propaganda was used to skillfully create ‘the Hitler Myth;’ how different groups in Germany were controlled such as youth; the police state and levels of conformity and resistance; the German home front in WW2; and finally the utter collapse of the Third Reich in 1945.

The final part of the A Level gives students the opportunity to deepen their knowledge and understanding of Russian History from a pre-revolution perspective. A coursework essay will look at reform and revolution in Tsarist Russia. Students have to decide what the factors were that led to the fall of the Tsars through guided research. The essay will be around 3500 words long, with a 500 word critical source analysis.

## WHY STUDY HISTORY?

The study of History develops the ability to communicate complex ideas and formulate clear arguments that rely on a combination of evidence and personal opinion. The study of the past leads to an understanding of the complex links between politics, religion, ideas, economic events, social structure and international relations. It has often been reiterated by universities that a sound History qualification will be regarded with favour by Admissions staff.

History, either A Level or degree level, is a tremendously versatile qualification as many of the main professions recognise the value of the skills developed, including accountancy, teaching, local/national government, the legal profession, media and publishing, museum services, banking and research posts within universities and television.





*‘It’s challenging but teachers are supportive and the rigour of Mathematics means it is beneficial in the eyes of universities and employers.’*

Mathematics Student

**COURSE:** EDEXCEL MATHEMATICS

**QUALIFICATION:** A LEVEL

**ASSESSMENT:** 2 Internal Exams in Year 12, 1 x 2 hour paper and 1 x 1 hour paper.  
3 External Exams in Year 13, 3 x 2 hour papers.

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:** In order to access the course we ask that students have a minimum of grade 7 at GCSE. Students are expected to work on the summer preparation pack and attend bridging sessions in June/July.

# MATHEMATICS

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Edexcel A Level Mathematics: Acceptance to the Year 13 course will require a minimum grade of D achieved in the Year 12 internal assessments. The course in Year 13 is 3 modules, Pure, Mechanics and Statistics. The content in Year 13 builds upon the skills gained in Year 12.

Students will be expected to do a considerable amount of independent study if they are to achieve the best from A Level Mathematics.

## WHY STUDY MATHEMATICS?

Mathematics at A Level is a highly challenging subject, which offers a wide variety of rewards through being highly regarded for entry to higher education, improved potential in a wide variety of careers but, most importantly, as a study of complex mathematics itself.

Careers favouring Mathematics at a higher level include Medicine, Accountancy, Engineering, Computing, Finance, Law, Marketing and Sciences.

Mathematics at Advanced GCE is a course worth studying not only as a supporting subject for the physical and social sciences, but in its own right. It is challenging but interesting. It builds on work you will have met at GCSE, but also involves new ideas produced by some of the greatest minds of the last millennium.



**COURSE:** AQA GCE PHOTOGRAPHY **QUALIFICATION:** A LEVEL

**ASSESSMENT:** **Year 12: Component 1:** Coursework Portfolio – 60% of final Year 12 mark. **Component 2:** Internally Set Controlled Test Assignment – 40% of final Year 12 mark. **Year 12 is Internally assessed and moderated.** **Year 13 A Level Photography: Component 1:** Personal Investigation – 60% of final A Level mark. This is a practical investigation supported by written material including an extended essay of up to 3000 words.

**Component 2:** Externally Set Controlled Test Assignment – 40% of final A Level Mark. **Year 13 is Externally assessed and moderated by AQA.**

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:** An interest in photography and the visual arts is essential to succeed in this course. Previous study of GCSE Photography, Art or related courses would be preferable. Experience using Adobe Photoshop or similar software would prove advantageous. It is still possible for students to take this course if they have not taken the related courses at GCSE, but they will be asked to prepare a portfolio of work to demonstrate their aptitude.

# PHOTOGRAPHY

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Students will explore a range of photographic media techniques and processes. They will be made aware of traditional and new technologies. They will learn the appropriate use of the camera, lenses, filters and lighting and the ability to edit and manipulate images using Adobe Photoshop. They will explore the visual language of line, form, colour, pattern and texture in the context of photography and learn to appreciate viewpoint, composition and depth of field.

They will use sketchbooks and journals to record and develop their ideas and with digital techniques produce final images. Students will be introduced to Artists in a variety of genres which will include landscape, wildlife, portraiture, still-life, documentary, photojournalism and sport.

## ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Gallery visits, Studio visits, Wildlife parks, Guest speakers, Location shoots, Residential trips.

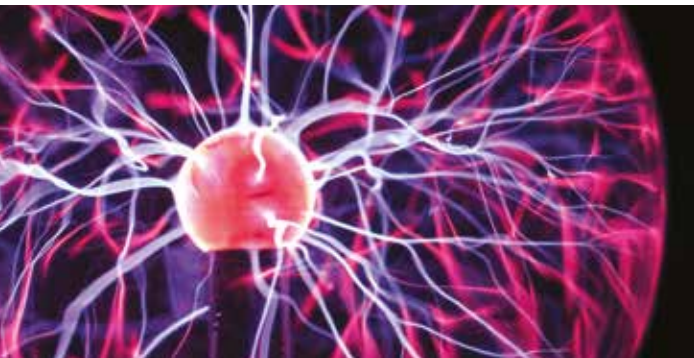
## WHY STUDY PHOTOGRAPHY?

Ideal for those with creative flair interested in a career in the fields of photography, visual arts, journalism or design. This course also provides a strong foundation for those students wishing to pursue Photography or Art & Design in Higher Education.

*\*Students will be required to provide materials at an additional cost and must have a good quality digital camera at home to enable the completion of extended projects and homework.*

*‘A Level Photography allows you to rediscover the world around you and the creative nature of the course means you can challenge yourself far beyond the outlines of a syllabus.’*

**Photography Student**



*‘ There will always be an answer in Physics - it’s not subjective. I really enjoy better understanding the world and how things work. ’*

Physics Student

**COURSE:** AQA PHYSICS

**QUALIFICATION:** A LEVEL

**ASSESSMENT:** 100% through examinations taken at the end of the two year course. Key ideas in practical work are tested within the examinations.

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:** To attain a grade 6 at GCSE in Additional Science or Physics in addition to a 6 or above in GCSE Maths.

# PHYSICS

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

The course consists of four units of theory examinable at the end of Year 13 and two units where practical work is assessed by examination, also at the end of Year 13

### Unit 1 – Particles, Quantum Phenomena and Electricity –

The ingredients of our universe.

**Unit 2 – Mechanics, materials and waves** – Representing motion mathematically, the qualities of materials and the behavior of light.

**Unit 3 – Exam assessed practical.**

**Unit 4 – Fields and further mechanics** – The mathematics behind electric and magnetic fields as well as forces associated with circular motion.

**Unit 5 – Nuclear and Thermal physics** – Radioactivity and the energy associated with chemical reactions. (Unit 5 also includes an optional topic picked from Astronomy and cosmology, Medical Physics, Applied Physics and Turning Points in Physics).

**Unit 6 – Exam assessed practical**

## WHY STUDY PHYSICS?

The course allows students to study in more detail how the universe around them works. Students will develop their problem solving skills, and learn the theories and mathematics behind many phenomena that make the universe tick. The course is a stepping stone to further study in physics, engineering and other related sciences, but is not exclusively for students intending to pursue a future in science.



**COURSE:** EDEXCEL POLITICS

**QUALIFICATION:** A LEVEL

**ASSESSMENT:** 100% Examination

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:**  
GCSE 5 or above in English Language.

*‘The course develops your critical thinking and ability to construct a balanced argument - our class discussions are brilliant.’*

Politics Student

# POLITICS

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Politics is a dynamic, exciting and challenging subject. The political world is constantly changing and raises big questions that have implications for all us. By doing this course you will develop a critical awareness of the nature of politics and political belief and the relationship between political ideas, institutions and processes.

In this A Level, you will acquire knowledge and understanding of the structures of political decision-making in the UK, European Union and the USA.

**Year 1** explores political processes and decision-making in the UK. Students learn about democracy, political parties, elections and the role of Parliament and local government. The course also goes on to look at the role of the Prime Minister and the Cabinet in decision-making and the relationships between government, parliament and judiciary in terms of law making.

The course then looks at the development of the US system of government including the role of the Congress, the office of President, the US electoral system including the role of primaries.

**Year 2** develops skills in comparing and contrasting the UK and US systems and introduces the work of the European Union, its institutions and electoral system. Students then go on to explore political theory looking at liberalism, socialism and conservatism as well as the rise of nationalism.

## WHY STUDY A LEVEL POLITICS?

Politics A Level develops critical skills in essay writing and develops the ability to research and construct a sustained and original argument in debate as well as providing an excellent insight into the impact politics has on our lives.

The overwhelming majority of university courses emphasise independent research, essay writing and sustained argument as key skills for success.

Politics provides an excellent foundation for many degree courses and a good springboard for careers in journalism, local government, law, campaigning, social work, education, humanitarian work and of course politics itself.





*‘Is there anything more interesting  
that human beings? How our  
minds work and how we behave?’*

Psychology Student

**COURSE:** AQA PSYCHOLOGY

**QUALIFICATION:** A LEVEL

**ASSESSMENT:** 100% Examination

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Grade 5 at GCSE in English Language and  
Grade 5 in Science.

# PSYCHOLOGY

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behaviour. The A Level course is linear, meaning that assessment is in the form of examinations taken at the end of Year 13 which cover content studied throughout the two years.

Topics covered include: Social influence; Memory; Attachment; Psychopathology; Biopsychology. Throughout the course, students gain an understanding of methods used when conducting psychological research and also of the issues and debates within the field of psychology.

## WHY STUDY PSYCHOLOGY?

Psychology is a genuinely fascinating subject and gives students an insight into human behaviour. It is an academic subject which is very popular with students who are considering a career in the fields of law, education, mental health, research and childcare, among others. It involves and uses skills from the areas of English, Mathematics and Science and as a result, strong grades in Psychology A Level demonstrate that students are competent in all three areas.



**COURSE:** AQA SOCIOLOGY

**QUALIFICATION:** A LEVEL

**ASSESSMENT:** 100% examination – three 2 hour examinations at the end of the course

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Grade 6 in English and Grade 6 in a Humanities subject

*‘The application of theory and knowledge to what is happening in the world today is what most fascinates me in Sociology.’*

**Sociology Student**

# SOCIOLOGY

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Sociology is the study of how humans interact with each other and how society functions at all levels. It looks to explain some of the inequalities in society and looks at the impact of policy change on the way society works and on groups of people. The A Level course is linear, meaning that assessment is in the form of examinations taken at the end of Year 13 which cover content studied throughout the two years.

Topics covered include: education; families and households; crime and deviance. Throughout

the course, students gain an understanding of methods used when conducting sociological research and also of various sociological perspectives and theories.

## WHY STUDY SOCIOLOGY?

Sociology is, in a nutshell, an insight into everyday life. Students gain an understanding of the political system and become more aware of the way the world works. It is an academic subject which is very popular with students who are considering a career in the fields of law, education, policing, research and the media,

among others. Students of Sociology A Level will end the course as worldly wise individuals with a wealth of skills which will benefit them in their next steps, be that in education or the world of work. Furthermore, the A Level encourages students to question perceptions and not to accept what they are told or what they read at face value.



# Vocational Subjects





*‘I enjoy the fact that Business Studies combines academic theory with practical application. The different units have undoubtedly prepared me both for university and the world of work beyond.’*

Business Student

**COURSE:** BTEC BUSINESS

**QUALIFICATION:** BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate  
(equivalent: 1 A Level)

**ASSESSMENT:** INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:**  
To attain a 4 grade at GCSE in Business

# BUSINESS

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

This is a practical course which will give you the skills for the world of work and help you to add value to business activities in any organisation. You will complete projects and assignments based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands. The Extended Certificate is for learners who are interested in learning about the business sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in business-related subjects.

You will study three mandatory core topics including: *Exploring Business*, *Developing a Marketing Campaign*, *Personal and Business Finance*. Two of these units are externally assessed with one based on a pre-released synopsis. One unit will be internally assessed.

You will also have the opportunity to study one optional unit covering a range of topics which will be internally assessed.

## EXPLORING BUSINESS

In this introductory unit, students study the purposes of different businesses, their structure, the effect of the external environment, and how they need to be dynamic and innovative to survive. Students will gain an overview of the key ingredients for business success, how businesses are organised, how they communicate, the characteristics of the environment in which they operate, and how this shapes them and their activities.

## DEVELOPING A MARKETING CAMPAIGN

In this unit, students will gain skills relating to, and an understanding of, how a marketing campaign is developed. Marketing is a dynamic field

central to the success of any business. Students will explore different stages of the process that a business goes through when developing its campaign and develop your own campaign for a given product/service. Students will examine the marketing aims and objectives for existing products/services and understand the importance of relevant, valid and appropriate research in relation to customers' needs and wants.

## PERSONAL AND BUSINESS FINANCE

In this unit, students study the purpose and importance of personal and business finance. They will develop the skills and knowledge needed to understand, analyse and prepare financial information. This unit includes aspects of both personal and business finance. It will give you the knowledge and understanding to manage your personal finances and will give you

a background to business finance and accounting as you progress to employment or further training.

## WHY STUDY BUSINESS?

While it is obvious that those planning on working in most industries and prospective entrepreneurs should study business, all people should learn as much about business operations as possible. This includes those in the scientific, medical, education and government sectors, along with those who are simply consumers of products and services. Becoming knowledgeable about how businesses operate helps increase your competitiveness in the job market and to understand how the businesses and governments drive our economies.





**COURSE:** WJEC CRIMINOLOGY

**QUALIFICATION:** Level 3 Diploma

**ASSESSMENT:**

50% Controlled assessment - 50% Examination

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Grade 4 in English

*‘If you have an inquiring mind then Criminology is the subject for you! It opens up so many questions and I find exploring the answers fascinating.’*

# CRIMINOLOGY

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Criminology is the study of the criminal justice system, including how crime is defined and how offenders are processed. The Level 3 Diploma course includes elements of internal assessment (controlled assessment) and external assessment (examination). Units 1 and 2 are taught and assessed in Year 12, including one piece of controlled assessment and one examination. Units 3 and 4 are taught and assessed in Year 13, again with one piece of controlled assessment and one examination.

Topics covered include: changing awareness of crime; criminological theories; crime scene to courtroom and crime and punishment. Throughout the course, students gain an understanding of campaigns used within the criminal justice system, as well as how the criminal justice system works from a crime being committed through to prosecution.

## WHY STUDY CRIMINOLOGY?

Criminology offers students the opportunity to gain an understanding of the criminal justice system and become more aware of the way the system works.

It is a vocational subject which is popular with students who are considering a career in the fields of law, criminal justice, social work, probation work and education, among others. Students of the Level 3 Diploma in Criminology will end the course as socially aware individuals with a knowledge and understanding of how crime affects our society and how the influence of the media and policy can affect society's views on crime.



*‘Studying Health and Social Care has really opened my eyes to the different career opportunities and further study routes available relating to the industry - it’s so interesting and rewarding.’*

Health & Social Care Student

**COURSE:** BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care

**QUALIFICATION:** BTEC Level 3 (1 A Level)

**ASSESSMENT:** 4 Units of work (3 mandatory and 1 optional)  
External Assessment 58% (2 x Exams both of which are 1.5 hours long)

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

To attain at least a Merit grade at Level 2 in a BTEC subject.

# HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE EXTENDED CERTIFICATE

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

The Level 3 Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care consists of **three** mandatory units (83%) **plus** one optional unit that provide for a combined total of 360 learning hours for the completed qualification.

Year 12 looks at the units of *Human Lifespan Development (exam)* and *Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs (internal assessment)*

Year 13 looks at the units of *Working in Health and Social Care (exam)* and one other unit chosen from *Sociological Perspectives*, *Psychological perspectives*, *Supporting Individuals with*

*Additional Needs and Physiological disorders and their Care (all internally assessed).*

You will complete assignments for each internally assessed unit and these could include; written essays, verbal or written reports, presentations, role plays, case studies, work placement and observations.

## WHY STUDY HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE?

The study of Health and Social Care will help you to understand the range of settings in which social care takes place, and the different roles and types of work available within the healthcare system. On this course you will study the universal principles

of care that are relevant to a wide range of rewarding careers, including social workers, nurses, health visitors, carers and paramedics. The course will also enable you to develop a detailed understanding of the communication skills and safeguarding procedures necessary to work safely and professionally within the health and social care system.

This course will appeal to students who:

- Enjoy studying a subject that is relevant to their own lives and experiences
- Are interested in developing an understanding of caring organisations and the clients they serve

- Want to study a course which is active and enjoyable
- Want to move onto a related career or higher education course
- Would like to work in the health care sector, teaching, police force, youth work, social work etc.

This qualification supports access to a range of higher education courses possibly, but not exclusively, in health and social care, if taken alongside further Level 3 qualifications. This qualification typically makes up one-third of a study programme.



**COURSE:** BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Health and Social Care

**QUALIFICATION:** BTEC Level 3 (2 A Levels)

**ASSESSMENT:** 8 Units of work (6 mandatory and 2 optional) External Assessment- 46% (2 x Exams both of which are 1.5 hours long)

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:** To attain at least a Merit grade at Level 2 in a BTEC subject, preferably Health and Social Care

*‘ Health and Social Care combines a fantastic learning environment with in-depth course content and practical experience of working with the public. ’*

Health & Social Care Student

# HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE – DIPLOMA

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

The Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care consists of six mandatory units (83%) plus two optional units that provide for a combined total of 720 learning hours for the completed qualification.

Year 12 looks at the units of *Human Lifespan Development (exam)*, *Working in Health and Social Care (exam)*, *Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs (Internal assessment)* and *Promoting Public Health (internal assessment)*.

Year 13 looks at the units of *Enquiries into Current Research in Health and Social Care (external assessment)*, *Principles of Safe Practice in Health and Social Care (internal assessment)*, and *Physiological Disorders and their Care (internal assessment)*.

## COMPULSORY WORK PLACEMENTS WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN A HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SETTING BY ALL STUDENTS ON THIS COURSE AS PART OF THE WORK EXPERIENCE IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE UNIT

You will complete assignments for each internally assessed unit and these could include; written essays, verbal or written reports, presentations, role plays, case studies, work placement and observations.

## WHY STUDY HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE?

The study of Health and Social Care will help you to understand the range of settings in which social care takes place, and the different roles and types of work available within the healthcare system.

On this course you will study the universal

principles of care that are relevant to a wide range of rewarding careers, including social workers, nurses, health visitors, carers and paramedics. The course will also enable you to develop a detailed understanding of the communication skills and safeguarding procedures necessary to work safely and professionally within the social care system.

This course can be taken alongside 1 other qualification in 6<sup>th</sup> form. It can be taken alongside, for example:

an A Level in Biology, which could lead onto a BSc (Hons) in Nursing or Midwifery an A Level in Sociology, which could lead onto a BA (Hons) in Social Work a BTEC Certificate or A Level in Sport, which could lead onto a BSc (Hons) in

Physiotherapy an A Level in Psychology, which could lead onto a BSc (Hons) in Psychology

This interesting and wide ranging level 3 course can lead you onto university, an Apprenticeship or straight into employment. As well as focusing on Health and Care issues, it may be possible to gain qualifications in Food Hygiene and First Aid. You'll also have the opportunity of valuable work experience in a placement with local health and care providers.



**COURSE:** Cambridge Technical Level 3 Digital Media

**QUALIFICATION:** Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Digital Media (equivalent to 1 A Level)

**ASSESSMENT:** Internal and External

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Pre-requisite recommendations: To attain a 4 in English

*‘The course is so relevant to the digital world we live in and really prepares you for a variety of jobs in the industry.’*

# ICT: DIGITAL MEDIA

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

The course in Digital Media has been designed to give an understanding of how different media institutions operate to create products that appeal to specific target audiences. You will gain knowledge and understanding of the pre-production, planning and production processes and go on to create a media product. In the two years you will complete 5 units. Three of the units are mandatory, two externally assessed units which are: Media products and audiences (Unit 1) and Pre-production and planning (Unit 2), and the final mandatory unit is Create a media product (unit 3), which is internally assessed.

The optional units will include two of the following: social media and globalization; journalism and the news industry; advertising media; plan and deliver a pitch for a media product; create a personal media profile and finally cross-media industry awareness.

## WHY STUDY DIGITAL MEDIA?

You will develop transferable skills such as planning, communication, adaptability and leadership. The optional units will encourage the development of time management, research and analytical skills, as well as emphasising the need for good written and verbal communication.

Completion of this course can support progression to go on to study Digital Media in a Higher Education institution and typical job roles within this pathway include: Media planner, Multimedia specialist, Programme researcher, Broadcasting/film/video, Public relations officer, Runner, broadcasting/film/video, Social media manager, Television/film/video producer, Web content manager.





*‘ Law is genuinely interesting and impacts on so many parts of our lives. It is relevant to so many areas of further study and future careers. ’*

Law Student

**COURSE:** BTEC National Extended Certificate in Applied Law

**QUALIFICATION:** BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate (equivalent: 1 A Level)

**ASSESSMENT:** Coursework. One external examination in Applying the Law. One controlled assessments- Dispute Solving in Civil Law.

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:** 4 grade at GCSE in English

# LAW

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Law is one of the most useful and interesting academic subjects to study as it affects nearly all aspects of our everyday life. Law at The Priory Ruskin Academy is taught to the new BTEC specification.

### Year 12 focuses on: Unit 1 - Dispute Solving in Civil Law

Students will explore how civil disputes are resolved, both in the courts and by alternative means. They will examine the making and working of legal precedent and its application in the law of negligence.

### Unit 2 - Investigating Aspects of Criminal Law and the Legal System

Students will research how laws are made and interpreted, who advises and decides on the outcome of criminal cases and the punishments that can be imposed if laws are broken. They will then present advice to clients on non-fatal offence case studies.

### Year 13 focuses on: Unit 3 - Applying the Law

Learners examine the law related to specific crimes, including homicide and offences against property. They will explore the police procedures for dealing with such offences.

### Unit 4 - Aspect of Family Law

Students explore the requirements of a valid marriage and civil partnership, the laws governing the breakdown of relationships, as well as how disputes over children are resolved by the courts.

## ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Possible court visits/ Prison visits to understand the English Legal System and the sentencing/ rehabilitation of offenders. Possible visits to the Inns of Court and Westminster to understand the legal profession and sources of law. We also run an extra-curricular Law Club and take part in the Bar Mock Trials national competition.

## WHY STUDY LAW?

BTEC Extended Certificate in Applied Law (Level 3) is not only an excellent qualification for progression to University and the legal profession. Studying Law develops skills that are highly sought by employers e.g. analytical, research and communication skills. Studying Law can be useful for careers in Public Services, Civil Service, Human Resources, Business and Banking, Teaching, Social Work and Research



### COURSE: PERFORMING ARTS

**QUALIFICATION:** BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate (equivalent: 1 A Level)

**ASSESSMENT:** The BTEC National in Performing Arts uses a combination of assessment styles to give students the confidence to apply their knowledge and succeed. Students complete a series of tasks set in a work related scenario and complete a practical assignment set and marked by the Academy. Students will also complete an externally set task under controlled conditions which will be assessed by BTEC Pearson. Awards will be made at Pass, Merit or Distinction.

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:** Grade 4 or level 2 equivalent in Performing Arts, Expressive Arts, Dance, Drama or Music and a successful audition following a conditional offer.

# PERFORMING ARTS

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate is equivalent to 1 A Level and consists of **three** mandatory units plus **one** optional unit. The course is a combination of practical and written assignments/tasks and internal and external assessment. Students can choose the optional units to suit their individual performance skills (options include Acting, Dance, Singing, Musical Theatre).

## ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Opportunities to see live performances
- Opportunities to work with professional performers
- Opportunities to perform to live audiences
- Opportunities to travel to London, Paris or New York

## WHY STUDY PERFORMING ARTS?

### YOU WILL ENJOY THIS COURSE IF YOU

- Have a passion for performing
- Want to study in brand new, purpose built Performing Arts facilities
- Want to work in the Performing Arts industry
- Want to progress to Higher Education in Performing Arts subjects

*‘The Performing Arts course is definitely a confidence booster. I came into sixth form shy and unsure and now I am leaving with confidence and belief.’*

**Performing Arts Student**



**COURSE:** BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Sport

**QUALIFICATION:** BTEC LEVEL 3 CERTIFICATE (equivalent: 1 A Level)

**ASSESSMENT:** The Extended certificate consists of 4 units. 3 mandatory and 1 optional including Internal and External assessment and formal exam.

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Grade 4 or Level 2 equivalent in PE/Sport

*‘ I like how we get to learn how we can improve all aspects of performance, for example nutrition, training and the psychology of sport. ’*

Sport Student

# SPORT EXTENDED CERTIFICATE

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

The Extended certificate consists of 4 units. 3 mandatory and 1 optional including Internal and External assessment and formal exam.

**Year 12** looks at the units of *Anatomy and Physiology and Professional development in the sports industry*.

**Year 13** looks at the units of *Fitness training and programming for health, sport and well-being and Practical sports performance*.

You will complete assignments for each internally assessed unit and these could include; written essays, verbal or written reports, presentations, role plays, case studies, work placement and observations.

## WHY STUDY SPORT?

This is a very exciting, challenging qualification which can provide a direct route to university or prepare learners for entry into the world of work. It provides an excellent stepping stone for those students who are interested in the following careers.

- Sports management
- Sports Coaching
- Physiotherapy
- Fitness instruction



**COURSE:** BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Sport

**QUALIFICATION:** BTEC Level 3 Diploma  
(equivalent: 2 A Levels)

**ASSESSMENT:** 10 Units of work (7 mandatory and 3 optional) Internal and external assessment and formal exam

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:**  
Grade 4 or Level 2 equivalent in PE/Sport

*‘I really enjoy how we get to apply the theory to practice and see how the body responds and adapts to exercise.’*

**Sport Student**

# SPORT DIPLOMA

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

The new Level 3 Diploma in Sport consists of **seven** mandatory units plus three optional units that provide for a combined total of 720 learning hours for the completed qualification.

**Year 12** looks at the units: *Anatomy and Physiology, Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being, Professional development in the sports industry, Sports leadership, Application of fitness testing.*

**Year 13** looks at the units: *Self-employment in the sports industry, Instructing gym based exercise, Exercise and circuit based activity, Sports Injury management.*

You will complete assignments for each internally assessed unit and these could include; written essays, verbal or written reports, presentations, role plays, case studies, work placement and observations.

## WHY STUDY SPORT?

This is a very exciting, challenging qualification which can provide a direct route to university or prepare learners for entry into the world of work. It provides an excellent stepping stone for those students who are interested in the following careers.

- Sports management
- Sports Coaching
- Physiotherapy
- Fitness instruction





**COURSE:** BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Sport

**QUALIFICATION:** BTEC Level 3 Diploma (equivalent: 3 A Levels)

**ASSESSMENT:** 14 Units of work (10 mandatory and 4 optional) Internal and external assessment and formal exam.

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Grade 4 or Level 2 equivalent in PE/Sport

*‘ Sport is my absolute passion and this course allows me to immerse myself in it - from practical to theory to management - I love it! ’*

**Sport Student**

# SPORT EXTENDED DIPLOMA

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

The new Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sport consists of ten mandatory units plus four optional units that provide a combined total of 1080 learning hours for the completed qualification.

Year 12 looks at the units: Anatomy and Physiology, Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sports Leadership, Practical Sports Performance, Coaching for Performance, Officiating in Sport, Sports Event Organisation and Research Methods in Sport.

Year 13 looks at the units: Professional Development in the Sports Industry, Application of Fitness Testing, Investigating Business, Skill Acquisition, Development and Provision of Sport and Physical Activity, and Current Issues in Sport.

You will complete assignments for each internally assessed unit and these could include; written essays, verbal or written reports, presentations, role plays, case studies, work placement and observations.

## WHY STUDY SPORT?

This is a very exciting, challenging qualification which can provide a direct route to university or prepare learners for entry into the world of work. It provides an excellent stepping stone for those students who are interested in the following careers.

- Sports management
- Sports Coaching
- Physiotherapy
- Fitness instruction



*‘The Key Stage 5 Baccalaureate gives Year 12 students a real sense of purpose by matching their current studies to their future career pathways through enrichment and challenge.’*

Sixth Form Lead



# THE PRIORY BACCALAUREATE

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

The Priory Baccalaureate was introduced across all Priory Federation Academies in September 2016.

The purpose of the Baccalaureate is to provide a framework for all students which recognises the full range of their achievements and learning experiences including academic, technical and vocational qualifications and personal development. It is designed to be inclusive and challenging for all.

The Priory Baccalaureate is a framework for a range of qualifications and experiences that our students work towards rather than a qualification in itself. It has three key components:

### 1. CORE LEARNING

This could be three or more A Levels or equivalent BTEC qualification for the Advanced Baccalaureate.

### 2. PERSONAL ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

This is an Academy-devised programme of that allows students to develop a range of skills and

personal qualities through personal challenge, cultural, community and physical activities involving 120 hours of activity over two years.

### 3. A PERSONAL PROJECT

This is a project that gives students the opportunity to pursue an in-depth study of an area of interest.

We will work with the National Baccalaureate Trust to help establish standards for the depth and quality of each component so that universities and potential employers can see the full range of our students' achievements.

*‘Having the opportunity to support Art lessons and run a creative club has been a wonderful experience.’*

Year 12 Student



*‘ Core Maths keeps you close to the mathematics you use in every day life - it is such a valuable addition to my core subject options. ’*

Mathematics Student

**COURSE:** CORE MATHS

**QUALIFICATION:** AQA Certificate Level 3 Mathematical Studies

**ASSESSMENT:**

Two papers completed in year 13. Paper 1-90 minutes, Paper 2-Statistics techniques, 90 minutes.

**PRE-REQUISITE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

GCSE maths grade 5-9

# CORE MATHS

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

A Core Maths qualification is being offered for students with grades 5-9 in GCSE mathematics who wish to continue to study a level 3 mathematics course alongside their main programme of study in year 12 and 13.

Core Maths will build on and develop mathematical understanding and skills in the application of mathematics to real life problems in a variety of contexts. The qualification gained provides a sound basis for the mathematical demands students face at university and within employment across a broad range of academic, professional and technical fields.

Core Maths will be particularly useful for those progressing to higher education courses with a specific mathematical and statistical content such as psychology, geography and business and management.

The course requires 2 hours a week of teaching time over two years and is equally weighted with an AS equivalent for UCAS points.

## COURSE CONTENT

Analysis of data  
Maths for personal finance  
Estimation  
Critical analysis of given data and models  
The normal distribution  
Probabilities and estimation  
Correlation and regression



# DESTINATIONS 2018

Our 2018 leavers progressed on to a variety of different pathways including higher level apprenticeships, employment and a diverse range of universities:

Bishop Grosseteste University

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De Montfort University, Leicester

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Imperial College London

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Keele University

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Leeds Beckett University

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Loughborough University

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Manchester Metropolitan University

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Northumbria University

Norwich University of the Arts

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Nottingham College

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Nottingham Trent University

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Sheffield Hallam University

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Staffordshire University

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The University of Sunderland

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UCFB

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University of Bristol

University of Derby

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University of Hertfordshire

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University of Leeds

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University of Lincoln

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University of Nottingham

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University of Winchester

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University of York

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York St John University





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