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# Welcome

We are proud to welcome you to Paddington Academy Sixth Form. Paddington Academy is an outstanding non-selective school with 300 students in the Sixth Form. As part of United Learning, our aim is to bring out 'the best in everyone'.

Our Sixth Form is an inclusive one and our mission is to ensure that every student leaves us prepared to thrive in higher education and lead successful lives. Since our inception in 2006 we have sent over 1,000 students to University: 23% to Russell Group universities including Cambridge, LSE, UCL, King's College and Bath to study a wide range of courses including Medicine, Law and Engineering.

Our offer is very simple, we provide outstanding staff of the highest academic calibre to teach, guide and support students for life-long success. Every student has a tutor, who in addition to providing pastoral support, provides 1-2-1 support with the UCAS process. We provide personalised academic and pastoral interventions and encourage students to undertake their own independent academic research projects. Our students have access to a dedicated careers team and a wealth of enrichment opportunities. We also work to develop the outstanding communication and leadership skills needed by students for success in all areas of their future lives.

We have a constant focus on high standards from our students and are relentless in our pursuit of the small things that have a big impact on our school culture. Our community is one where students and families are known, we value parental contact and intend to work alongside families of our students to ensure students succeed.

As a school sixth form, our Key Stage Five students are seen as the leaders of the school community. We value their leadership highly and expect them to be positive role models for our younger students.

James Harding  
Vice Principal

Rebecca White  
SLT Sixth Form

Knowledge is power



# Studying at Paddington Academy

We have sent over 1,000 students to University: 23% to Russell Group Universities including Cambridge, LSE, UCL, King's College and Bath.

89% of A Level grades were A\*-C in 2017, the highest of any school in Westminster and our average A-level grade was a B and our average BTEC grade a Distinction\*.



# The School Day

At Paddington Academy we operate a three period day with the first period beginning at 8.30am. All Year 12 students are expected to arrive by 8:25am every day, if they do not have a lesson period one they will complete timetabled independent study. Any students without a period three lesson may leave at lunchtime. After school we have a range of enrichment opportunities which students may stay for, in addition to this, students who want to may stay until 6.00pm doing independent study on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

On Thursday the sixth form area shuts at 3.45pm.

# Habits

We expect the highest standards of professional behaviour from our students. These are expressed in our Sixth Form Habits which include being on time for every lesson, being prepared for every lesson with all necessary equipment, meeting all deadlines, being polite and working productively at all times. We believe an environment with high levels of challenge and support will enable our students to achieve their best. We are relentless in our pursuit of the small details to ensure students genuinely do achieve their best.

# Independent study

Independent learning, self-motivation and the willingness to put in the hours to achieve their goals are the characteristics of successful Key Stage Five students. The majority of students have three or four 100 minute study periods a week where students study silently in an environment akin to a University library. Our Sixth Form study area is fully equipped with all the resources students need to study effectively.

We offer a unique range of pathways including A-level only, combined and BTEC only programmes to cater for all students.

Every student is entitled to timetabled Independent Study in our fully IT equipped Sixth Form study area.



# Course Choice and Structure

Students studying at Paddington Academy will study one of three pathways:

- A full 4 AS-level pathway
- A combined pathway studying a BTEC and one AS-level
- An Extended Diploma BTEC pathway

All of these pathways lead to a place at University and we will help students to pick the pathway which is right for them to ensure that they achieve the best possible grades. In addition to this, students aspiring to a top university, have the opportunity to study for the extended project qualification. Any students who have not yet achieved a 4 in either English or Maths GCSE will receive timetabled lessons to prepare them to retake this qualification.

## Assessment

Throughout the year students will complete assessment point exams in all courses both A-level and BTEC, these exams are important as we use these to determine readiness for end of year exams. After each assessment point exam there is a review week where we review student progress and meet with students to help them make the next step. All A-level students sit AS exams at the end of their first year, the results of these are used to determine course choices for Year 13 and to inform predicted grades for university applications.

## Homework

Homework will be set at least twice weekly for all subjects. It is expected in the Sixth Form that the amount of time students spend doing independent study and homework is equal to or greater than the amount of time spent studying in lesson. If a student misses a homework deadline or fails to complete the homework to a satisfactory standard then they will be required to complete it after school in detention that day.

# Extra-curricular Offer

Through our dedicated careers team we offer a wide range of Enrichment opportunities including a unique partnership with the National Citizen Service as well as opportunities with Envision, Into University, Take to Law, Career Ready and many more

Every student will take part in university visits throughout their time in the Sixth Form



# Student Leadership

The entire academy benefits from the presence of sixth form students as they are the leaders and the shapers of our culture and ethos. We believe all Key Stage five students are leaders and provide a great many opportunities for students to develop their leadership skills. These include a unique partnership with the National Citizen Service which guarantees every student at Paddington Academy a place on their prestigious programme. Some of the other opportunities available to students include leading the Student Council, becoming a Prefect, taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Awards scheme or the Envision community transformation programme.

# Partnership

We want every student to be able to take part in great enrichment activities that allow them to explore their interests and passions whilst building their character. To achieve this we partner with a great number of organisations to provide students with work experience, university preparation, sector related career guidance and mentoring. The organisations we currently work with include Teach First Futures, Envision, Into University, Career Ready, Business in the Community, Take to Law and Kings College London.

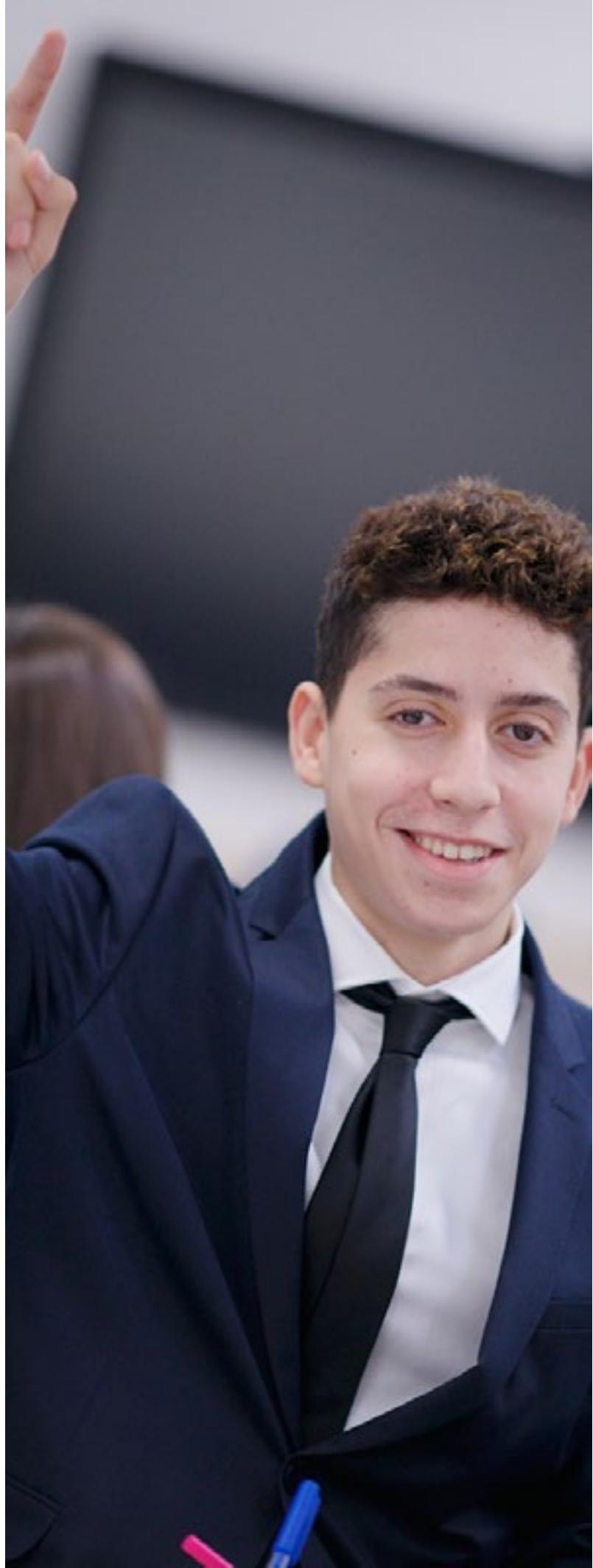
# Careers

We provide students with as much individualised careers support as they need in order to help them make decisions about their future. Our Careers team organise weekly workshops and talks from all different sectors as well as organising many trips to a variety of workplaces over the course of the term. If students want to do work experience in a particular sector or careers team will organise this in a bespoke fashion. In particular our partnership with Career Ready and the range of mentoring and work experience opportunities available through this is extremely popular with students.

# Guidance and Support

We offer highly qualified academic staff with excellent knowledge of each course.

Our community is one with high levels of support where you and your family are known the by the Sixth Form and tutor teams.



# Tutor Programme

We want our students to leave us as well-rounded individuals with a good knowledge of current affairs and their historical context. Through our tutorial programme students study academic texts designed to further their knowledge and understanding of the world around them, the broad knowledge students receive from this programme helps prepare them for university study. Students also have a weekly whole school assembly on a whole range of topics linked to our school ethos.

# UCAS

For many students and families applying to University can be a daunting prospect. We provide every student with a UCAS mentor who supports them in completing the process. In addition to this we provide information sessions on university finance and choosing the right University for both parents and students. We also provide students with support to access bursary funds to finance university. For students who wish to apply to Oxford or Cambridge we provide the support of experienced staff to prepare students for admissions tests and interviews.

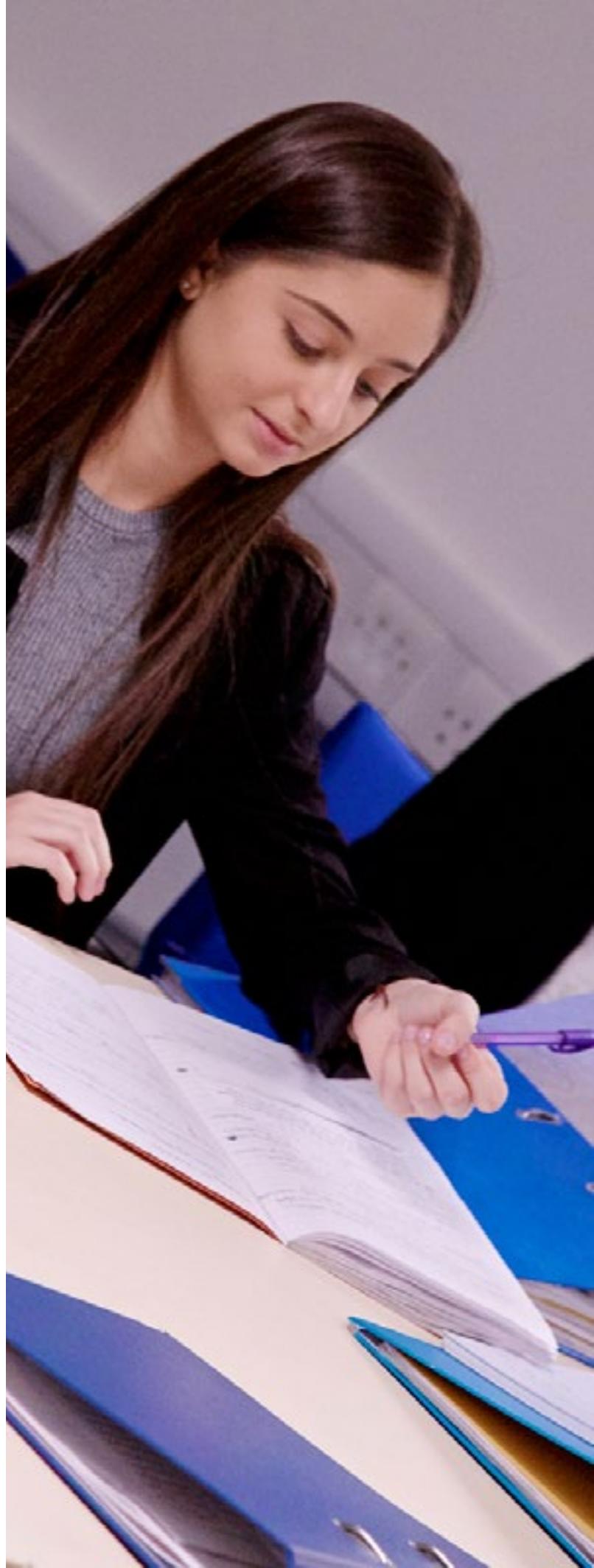
# Pastoral Support

We are proud to be a school where students and families are known, we believe that student success depends on a three-way partnership between the student, the family and the school. Unlike many other Sixth Forms and colleges we want students' families to be actively involved in their education, and we hold termly parents information evenings and provide reports for parents every half term.

# Applying to PA Sixth Form

Leadership opportunities for  
every student

Outstanding facilities including a  
purpose built Sixth Form centre



# Pathways

A significant strength of our sixth form is the wide range of subjects we have on offer and the multiple combinations of subjects that students can take. We invite students to apply to one of three pathways:

## A Level pathway

- Study 3-4 AS levels
- Entry requirement 5 grades at 9-6

## Combined pathway

- Study a 120 credit BTEC and 1 A level
- Entry requirement 5 grades at 9-5

## BTEC pathway

- Study a 180 credit BTEC
- Entry requirement 6 grades at 9-4

## The Application Process

- Please see our website [www.paddington-academy.org](http://www.paddington-academy.org) to download and complete an application form
- Please submit completed applications to [sixthform@paddington-academy.org](mailto:sixthform@paddington-academy.org)
- Our Sixth Form open evening is on the 8th November at 5:00pm
- Closing date for applications is 5th January 2018
- Interviews will take place after the 5th January
- Conditional offers will be made by 1st June

# Option Blocks

When choosing their subjects students must ensure that they only choose one subject per timetable block.

For BTEC courses students doing a 120 credit BTEC must choose both Core blocks and students doing a 180 credit BTEC must choose both Core and the Option blocks.

## A Level

A	B	C	D	E
A-level Mathematics and Further Mathematics		AS English Literature	AS Art and Design	AS Chemistry
AS Biology	AS Chemistry	AS Film Studies	AS Biology	AS Computing
AS Business	AS History	AS Law	AS Economics	AS Product Design
AS Mathematics	AS Mathematics	AS Physics	AS English Literature	AS Geography
AS Music Technology	AS Psychology	AS Psychology	AS Film Studies	AS Sociology
AS Religious Studies	AS Drama	AS Spanish	AS Dance	AS Arabic
AS French				

## BTEC

A	B	C	D	E
Applied Science Core Group 1	Applied Science Core Group 1	Applied Science Core Group 2	Applied Science Option 2	Applied Science Core Group 2
Health and Social Care Option	Health and Social Care Core	Applied Science Option 1	Health and Social Care Core	
Creative Media Production Core	Creative Media Production Core			Creative Media Production Option
Business Core Group 1	Business Core Group 1	Business Core Group 2	Business Option 1	Business Core Group 2
	Business Option 2			

# Subject Entry Requirements

Please see below for each subjects individual entry requirements, these are in addition to the overall entry requirements found in the pathways section.

Subject	Entry Requirements
AS Arabic	Grade 7 in Arabic
AS Art and Design	Grade 6 in Art or submission of portfolio
AS Biology	One grade 6 in Combined Science/ grade 6 in Biology GCSE
AS Business	Grade 6 in Maths and English
AS Chemistry	One grade 6 in Combined Science/ grade 6 in Chemistry GCSE and a grade 6 in Maths
AS Computing	Grade 6 in Mathematics
AS Dance	Grade 6 in Dance GCSE or interview
AS Drama	Grade 6 in Drama GCSE or interview
AS Economics	Grade 6 in both Mathematics and English
AS English Literature	Grade 6 in English Language and English Literature
AS Film Studies	Grade 6 in English Language or English Literature
AS French	Grade 6 in French
AS Geography	A grade 6 in Science and grade 6 in English and a grade 6 in a Humanities based subject
AS History	Grade 6 in English and a grade 6 in a Humanities based subject
AS Law	Grade 6 in English and a grade 6 in a Humanities based subject
AS Mathematics	Grade 7 in Mathematics and B in P2 or P3
AS Maths and Further Maths	Grade 8 in Mathematics
AS Physics	One grade 6 in Combined Science/ grade 6 in Physics GCSE and a grade 6 in Maths
AS Product Design	Grade 6 in Product Design or submission of portfolio
AS Psychology	One grade 6 in Science, a grade 6 in English and a 6 in a Humanities based subject
AS Religious Studies (Philosophy and Ethics)	Grade 6 in English and a grade 6 in a Humanities based subject
AS Sociology	Grade 6 in English and a grade 6 in a Humanities based subject
AS Spanish	Grade 6 in Spanish
BTEC L3 Applied Science	5 grades at 9 - 4 including a grade 5 in English and Maths and one grade 5 in Science
BTEC L3 Business	5 grades at 9 - 4 including a grade 5 in Maths
BTEC L3 Creative Media Production	5 grades at 9 - 4 including a grade 5 in English
BTEC L3 Health and Social Care	5 grades at 9 - 4 including a grade 5 in English



# Arabic

Edexcel 8AR01 | 9AR01

AS | A Level

## Aim

Designed to make language learning enjoyable and stimulating, our Edexcel A level Arabic course rewards advanced research and reading skills, and acknowledges the importance of Arabic language cultures.

## Skills learned

Students are required to convey their understanding of written Arabic through a series of reading tasks. They also need to draw upon and apply their knowledge of Arabic language, grammar and lexis to produce a short translation from Arabic into English, as well as demonstrate an ability to manipulate Arabic language in continuous writing.

Students will be expected to recognise and use Arabic in a variety of contexts and in relation to the following general topic areas:

- Youth culture and concerns
- Lifestyle: health and fitness
- The world around us: travel, tourism, environmental issues and the Arabic-speaking world
- Education and employment.;

## Assessment

Three exams, taken in summer 2019

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing

Paper 2: Writing

Paper 3: Speaking

Teacher: Ms Saad

# Art & Design

Edexcel 8ADO & 9ADO

AS | A Level

## Aim

The AS and A level courses build on prior learning at GCSE. Students will explore practical and critical/contextual work through a range of processes and media, including painting and drawing, printmaking, sculpture and lens-based image making. This course is designed to stimulate students' intellectual, imaginative and creative capabilities.

## Skills learned

- Generate and explore wide range of ideas using appropriate media and techniques;
- How to undertake research, gathering visual material;
- Explore resources, analysing, discussing and evaluating images, objects and artefacts;
- Use knowledge and understanding of the work of others to develop and extend thinking and inform own work;
- Apply knowledge and understanding in making images and artefacts;
- Review and modify work; plan and develop ideas in a wide range of media;
- Organise, select and communicate ideas, solutions and responses, and present them in a range of visual, tactile and/or sensory forms;

## Assessment

**AS:** Personal Investigation (50%) and an externally set assignment (50%)

**A Level:** Personal Investigation (60%) and an externally set assignment (40%)

Teacher: Mr Elias

# Biology

OCR A H020 | H420

AS | A Level

## Aim

You will develop a vast range of skills as you carry out practical investigations, practice interpreting data and begin to communicate your understanding to a wider audience. As such, A-level Biology is not just useful for studying medicine; it will give you the skills you need to succeed in a wide range of jobs and university courses.

## Content

A-level Biologists learn about how life works: we learn about the molecules that act as the building blocks for life, before looking at the cells, tissues and organs that they form in the most complex living things. To complete the AS course, students will study gas exchange and transport systems in animals and plants, as well as biodiversity, evolution and the spread of disease. At A2, we move on to study nerves, hormones, energy, biotechnology and the brain.

## Why

You will enjoy this course if you like discovering and understanding new biological processes and using this knowledge and your creativity to solve problems. Current students say “I love learning about genetics, which helps me to understand news stories”, “It helps you develop a variety of skills including maths & problem solving which will help you to get a place at university”

## Assessment

**AS:** All modules examined in two papers:

**Breadth in Biology** [1h 30 mins, 50% of AS level (multiple choice and short answer questions) and **Depth in Biology** [1h 30 mins, 50% of AS level (longer answer questions)]

**A Level:** All modules examined in three papers:

**Biological processes** (2 h 15 mins, 37% of A-level)

**Biological diversity** (2 h 15 mins, 37% of A level)

**Unified biology** (1 h 30 mins, 26% of A-level)

Teacher: Ms Bentley

# Business

Edexcel 9BSO

A | A Level

## Aim

This course gives students a chance to gain a holistic understanding of business in a range of contexts. Students will also develop a critical understanding of organisations and their ability to meet society’s needs and wants. Students will also be made aware of the ethical dilemmas and responsibilities faced by organisations, as well as apply numerical skills in a range of business contexts.

## Content

- Marketing and people
- Managing business activities
- Business decisions and strategy
- Business from a global perspective

## Why

You’ll enjoy this course if you would like to learn the specific details on how open, run and manage a successful business. This course will prepare any budding business people well and provide them with all the necessary information and knowledge to run a successful business both on a national and global level. You will also look at how businesses operate internationally. As a result, there will be links with content in Economics.

## Assessment

3 exams taken in summer 2020

Teacher: Mr Taufik and Mr Atour

# Chemistry

AQA 7405

AS | A Level

## Aim & Content

This A Level course focuses on the understanding and application of Chemistry concepts. The course builds on prior knowledge from GCSE Science, Additional Science and Triple Science Chemistry. There is a high level of mathematical content in the course and students are required to complete a challenging and wide-ranging set of practical activities.

A Level Chemistry gives students an excellent grounding for higher education by developing practical skills applicable to a variety of industrial contexts, as well as problem solving and critical thinking skills. Studying Chemistry can lead to employment in a range of professions, including forensic science, environmental science and pharmacy. It is essential for anyone wishing to study medicine. The course is divided into Physical Chemistry, Organic Chemistry and Inorganic Chemistry. Physical Chemistry covers topics including atomic structure, bonding, energetics, rates of reaction and electrochemistry. Organic Chemistry covers key classes of organic compounds and their reactions, including alkanes, alkenes, halogenoalkanes and aromatic compounds. Inorganic Chemistry includes the study of the alkaline earth metals, the halogens and the transition metals.

## Why

If you enjoy solving problems with logic, have a high mathematical ability, and have the skill and inclination to explain how substances all around you are made and interact, then you will enjoy Chemistry!

## Assessment

For students who take the full A level, their grade depends solely on their performance in the A level papers at the end of the course:

Paper 1 - 120 minute exam worth 35%

Paper 2 - 120 minute exam worth 35%

Paper 3 - 120 minute exam worth 30%

Note that **AS Chemistry** exists as a stand-alone qualification and it consists of two 90 minutes papers. To fulfill the practical requirements of the course, students must successfully complete a set of 12 core practical activities over the duration of the course and submit their written lab reports. This practical endorsement is reported separately to the A-level grade as a pass or fail.

Teacher: Dr Moss

# Computer Science

OCR H046 | H446

AS | A Level

## Aim

Computer Science is a practical subject where learners can apply academic principles to real world systems. It helps learners to develop the skills to solve problems, design systems and understand the power and limits of human and machine intelligence. The course aims to enable learners to develop an understanding of the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, analyse problems in computational terms through practical problem solving, and think creatively, analytically and logically.

## Content

### Computer Systems

Computer Components

Software and Software Development

Legal, Moral, Cultural and Ethical Issues

### Algorithms and Problem Solving

Elements of Computational Thinking

Problem Solving and Programming

Programming Project (A Level)

## Why

Computer technology is embedded in our everyday lives, from the cars we drive, to the movies we watch, and the ways in which businesses and governments interact with us. This course will enable students to develop an understanding of the principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, logic, algorithms and data representation. They will also design, program and evaluate computer systems that solve problems, making reasoned judgements about these and presenting conclusions.

## Assessment

**AS:** Computing Principles (50% Exam) and Algorithms and Problem Solving (50% Exam)

**A Level:** Computer Systems (40% Exam), Algorithms and Programming (40% Exam) and Programming Project (20% Controlled Assessment)

Teacher: Ms Rexha

# Dance

**AQA 7405**

**AS | A Level**

## Aim

This is a course that looks at both current and historical dance practices, making it more likely to inspire a lifelong passion and appreciation for dance. The course aims allow students to study a range of dance styles for both choreography and performance such as contemporary, jazz and ballet.

## Content

- Performance of solo choreography
- Performance of within a duet/trio
- Critical Appreciation of Rambert Dance Company and Contemporary Dance in Britain (2000 – current)

## Why

Dance is a dynamic qualification which encourages students to develop their creative, physical, emotional and intellectual capacity. “I love Dance because it gives me a chance to express myself and build my confidence, whilst getting fit and developing my creativity.

## Assessment

- Performance & Choreography (50%)
- Critical Engagement (50%)

Teacher: Mrs Naish-Williams

# Drama and Theatre Studies

**AQA 7262**

**AS | A Level**

## Aim & Content

This academic course blends practical drama with the social, cultural and historical context of the texts and ideas being explored.

### 1. Drama and theatre (40%)

Section A & B involves the study of two set plays, with a choice including Antigone (Sophocles), Yerma (Lorca) and Metamorphosis (Berkoff). This challenging written exam covers how texts convey meaning and how they are informed by their social, cultural and historical contexts. Section C sees students analysing and evaluating the work of live theatre makers based on a visit to a professional production.

### 2. Devising Drama (30%)

Students begin by developing knowledge and skills in a variety of forms and styles of theatre including verbatim, Artaud, Complicite, Gecko and Punchdrunk. Groups will then create their own original performance influenced by a style of theatre. The creative process is analysed and evaluated in coursework.

### 3. Making Theatre (30%)

This involves practical exploration and interpretation of three extracts from different plays. Then apply performance style to the performance of one of the extracts to an examiner. A reflective report on their approach to the text and style is submitted.

## Why

This course prepares students to be culturally rich citizens. They learn to evaluate objectively and develop a sound appreciation of the influences that cultural and social contexts can have on decision making.

It also provides students with transferable skills including communication, problem solving, and leadership. These are essential to further education and careers in business. This has seen drama graduates work in sectors including advertising, PR, Media, Civil Service and as successful entrepreneurs.

## Assessment

One written exam, two performances and two coursework submissions

Teacher: Mr Golding

# Economics

Edexcel 9ECO

AS | A Level

## Aim

Economics is about studying the world around us from a behavioural, financial and cultural perspective. The subject looks at all the different factors that affect wealth and human happiness and wellbeing.

Studying economics will develop students' analytical and quantitative skills, together with qualities and attitudes that will equip them for the challenges, opportunities and responsibilities of adult and working life

## Content

- Introduction to markets and market failure
- The UK economy, performance and policies
- Business behaviour and the labour market
- Economics from a global perspective

## Why

You'll enjoy this course if you have an inquisitive mind and enjoy finding out why humans behave the way they do from a microeconomic perspective and why governments choose to spend money on specific things. It uses quantitative techniques to explain these various issues.

## Assessment

3 exams taken in summer 2020

Teacher: Mr Taufik, Mr Littler or Mr Inniss

# English Literature

Edexcel 8ET0 | 9ET0

AS | A Level

## Aim

This is a skills-based approach to exploring range of texts, including poetry, drama and prose from different social, political and historical contexts. The course aims to develop an understanding and appreciation of British literature and develop personal responses to texts, as well as students' ability to critically analyse and evaluate a range of texts. There is also a significant comparative element to the course which challenges students to interpret texts from different contexts and draw links between them.

Students will be exposed to a range of genres and writers, and challenged to become critical readers, exploring the methods that writers use to engage, intrigue, and convey messages to their readers.

## Content

The course will cover:

- Frankenstein by Mary Shelley
- The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood
- A Streetcar Named Desire by Tennessee Williams
- Othello by William Shakespeare
- Selected Poems by Christina Rossetti
- Poems of the Decade poetry anthology

## Why

You'll enjoy this course if you like reading, but also if you enjoy learning about great characters and plots. You'll enjoy it if you like working out the meaning behind language and how writers get across their ideas to have an impact on you - the reader - or an audience.

## Assessment

AS level: two exams

A-level: three exams and a piece of comparative coursework on two texts of your choice

Teacher: Mr Sebastian, Mr Hull or Ms Walters

### Aims

Film Studies for Filmmakers focuses on the craft of film by deconstructing those films most valued for their cinematic qualities. Students develop personal critical engagement of different kinds of film and filmmaking practices. The non-exam assessment gives learners the opportunity of creating their own short film or screenplay. One European film will be a non-English language film and two non-US English Language films.

### Content

- Two American Film comparing one Hollywood film made between 1930-60 and 1961-90, as well as one contemporary Indie
- Two recent UK films and a European film
- Producing a short film or screenplay of 2 ½ and 3 ½ minutes

Students are able to carry on Film Studies to A 'Level as they build upon what they have learned at AS by extending their knowledge into the varieties of global film and film movements such as the silent era and experimental narrative.

Students will study the following:

- Two recent UK films.
- One European and one World film.
- Two film movements.
- Produce a short film or screenplay of 4 to 5 minutes.
- One non-European non-English Language film and one non-US English film.

### Why

Students who love film will enjoy deconstructing film and achieve high level analytical and production skills. They learn to develop an appreciation of cultural diversity and contexts. Many students continue Film Studies at university, as it gives them work and life skills to carry into the workplace.

### Assessment

**AS:** 2 examinations worth 70% and coursework that is 30% and Critical Engagement (50%)

**A Level:** AS exam that will represent 35% of the AL and in addition sit one further exam worth 35% of the overall grade. Coursework is 30%.

Teacher: Miss Slevin

### Aim and Content

Students study technological and social change, looking at diversity and the benefits it brings. They will study highlights of French-speaking artistic culture, including francophone music and cinema, and learn about political engagement and who wields political power in the French-speaking world. Students also explore the influence of the past on present-day French-speaking communities. Throughout their studies, they will learn the language in the context of French-speaking countries and the issues and influences which have shaped them. Students will study texts and film and have the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of their choice.

### Why

You'll enjoy this course if you are passionate about the French language, but also if you enjoy learning about French culture. The course will enable you to develop your fluency in French and to communicate with greater confidence. You'll have the chance to explore French cinema and literature and speak lots of French.

### Assessment

Three exams, taken in summer 2019

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing

Paper 2: Writing

Paper 3: Speaking

Teacher: Mrs Hansen

# Geography

**Edexcel** 8GEO | 9GEO

AS | A Level

## Aims & Content

### Physical Geography

Looking at the role of different processes in shaping our world, and how it is managed by governments around the globe.

**Topics:** Tectonic Processes and Hazards, Coastal Landscapes and Change, the Water Cycle and Security, and Carbon Cycle and Energy Security.

### Human Geography

Looking at the relationships between people and places around the world.

**Topics:** Globalisation, Regenerating Places, Super Powers and Global Development and Connections.

## Why

Geography is recognised as being an academic subject which is well-respected by both universities and employers. It is a fantastic subject to bridge between the Humanities and Science subjects. Geographers develop a range of skills, including data analysis, and understanding of processes as well. They get involved in politics, humanitarian work, health and medicine, engineering and much more!

## Assessment

3 exams taken in Summer 2019 (AS Level) | 2020 (A Level)

Paper 1: Physical Geography.

Paper 2: Human Geography.

Paper 3: Synoptic investigation of a recent issue (A Level Only)

Teacher: Miss Jackson

# History

**AQA** 7041CR

AS | A Level

## Aims

This course helps students understand the significance of historical events, the role of individuals in history and the nature of change over time. Over the course students will gain a deeper understanding of the past through political, social, economic and cultural perspectives. Students will engage with two historical topics which will provide them with the knowledge and skills required to be a successful historian.

## Content

The Tudors (1485 – 1547)

The Cold War (1945 – 1963)

Non-Examined Assessment (coursework) on student selected topic (A Level only)

## Why

History is about people and people are complex, fascinating and a whole lot of other things besides. This is why history is probably the most comprehensive and certainly one of the most intriguing subject there is. If you enjoy making sense of the past in order to fully understand ourselves now, and to understand our possible future, then this is a great A level option!

## Assessment

AS: Two exams taken in 2019

A Level: Two exams taken in 2020 and one piece of coursework

Teacher: Mr Farci

#### Aims

This course provides students with a clear and logical understanding on how the rule of law is applied in today's society and raises their awareness of the responsibilities and rights of individuals. Additionally throughout the course, students will gain an appreciation of the parliamentary law making process and the difficulties faced by law enforcers in interpreting the various rules of law.

#### Content

##### AS Level

Law making: the nature of law and the English Legal System, delegated legislation, statutory interpretation, judicial precedent, law reform, the EU, civil courts, alternative methods of dispute resolution, criminal courts, sentencing, lay people and magistrates, juries, the judiciary, legal personnel, access to justice and funding.

Criminal Law: rules of criminal law, actus-reus, mens-rea, no fault and strict liability, non-fatal offences against the person.

Tort Law: the rules of tort law, liability in negligence: personal injury and damage to property, occupiers' liability, lawful visitors and the Occupiers' liability, lawful visitors and the Occupiers' liability Act 1957, Remedy of compensatory damages.

##### A level

The same as above and

Human Rights Law

Tort of Negligence

#### Why

Law enables students to stimulate their analytical ability, critique skills as well as their decision making and problem solving capabilities especially when applying the rule of law to real life situations. Additionally, this course gives students an insight into the hierarchy of courts and the Parliamentary stages a bill goes through in order to become a rule of law.

#### Assessment

Two exams taken in AS

Two exams taken in A Level

Teacher: Mr Jones, Mr Baker or Mr Wegbe

#### Aims

- Mathematical argument, language and proof
- Mathematical problem solving
- Mathematical modelling

#### Content

**Pure:** Proof, Algebra and functions, Co-ordinate geometry, Sequences and series, Trigonometry, Exponentials and logarithms, Calculus, Vectors.

**Statistics:** Statistical sampling, Data presentation and interpretation, Probability, Statistical distributions, Statistical hypothesis testing.

**Mechanics:** Quantities, Kinematics, Forces and Newton's laws, Moments)

#### Why

- Gain mathematical skills that help with the transition into higher education.
- The fact that maths complements many other A-level subjects.
- Learning mathematical skills that will help them in many careers.
- Understanding of the mathematics that underpin many aspects of our lives.
- Acute logical thinking and problem-solving abilities.
- The ability to process, interpret and analyse information.

#### Assessment

- Two exams, taken summer 2019 (A-Level and AS Level students will sit these)
- Three exams, taken summer 2020

Teacher: Miss Bushell

# Further Maths

Edexcel 9FM0

AS | A Level

## Aims

- Mathematical argument, language and proof
- Mathematical problem solving
- Mathematical modelling

## Content

**Pure:** Proof, Complex numbers, Matrices, Further Algebra and Functions, Further Calculus, Further Vectors, Polar coordinates, Hyperbolic functions, Differential equations, Trigonometry, Coordinate geometry.

**Statistics:** Discrete random variables and expectation, Poisson distribution, Type I and II errors, Continuous random variables, Chi tests, Exponential distribution, Inference

**Mechanics:** Dimensional analysis, Momentum and collisions, Work energy and power, Circular motion, Centres of mass and moments

## Why

- Studying Maths at a deeper level
- Gaining two A-levels in Maths – Maths and Further Maths
- The strong foundation that a deeper understanding of Maths gives them for study in other areas
- That Maths complements many other A-level subjects
- Building mathematical skills that will help them in a variety of careers.
- Understanding of the Mathematics, both practical and theoretical, that underpin nearly all aspects of our lives
- Acute logical thinking and problem-solving abilities

## Assessment

- (Three A-Level Exams taken summer 2019 – see A Level Maths)
- Edexcel: Four A-Level Further Maths exams, taken summer 2020

Teacher: Miss Bushell

# Media Studies

AQA 7571 | 7572

AS | A Level

## Aims and Content

A Level Media Studies engages students in the in-depth study of media products in relation to the four areas of the theoretical framework: media language, media representation, media industries and media audiences. Students are required to study media products from all of the following media forms: television; radio; newspapers; magazines; advertising and marketing; online, social and participatory media; video games and music video. Not only will students understand the cultural, social and historical significance of different media products but they will be given the opportunity to reflect and illuminate the theoretical framework underlying the study of media together with the theoretical perspectives associated with them.

The course provides rich and challenging opportunities for interpretation and in-depth critical analysis, enabling students to develop a detailed understanding of how the media communicate meanings and how audiences respond. Students will learn about the emerging, future developments of the media. Additionally, they are given the opportunity to exam examples of media products they would not normally engage with for example:

- at least one media product produced before 1970
- at least one media product produced for a non-English speaking audience
- at least one media product produced outside the commercial mainstream
- at least one media product targeting, or produced by, a minority group.

## Assessment

**AS:** 1 written exam (70%) - 2 hours 30 minutes + 1 non-exam assessment (30%) whereby students produce a media product for an intended audience for example a music video, a TV advertisement, a website etc.

**A Level:** · 2 written exams (35% +35%) – 2 hours each + 1 non-exam assessment (30%) whereby students make a cross media product for example: a social media webpage and TV advertisement for a Video game

Teacher: Ms Slevin

#### Aims

**Component 1: Appraising music** – students will develop their knowledge and understanding of music in this area of the course through the study of a wide variety of musical styles and periods.

**Component 2: Performance** – In this component, students will be assessed on their ability to perform on their chosen instrument, either in an ensemble or solo. The performance can also be completed as a music production if you are a music technology specialist rather than an instrumentalist

**Component 3: Composition** – students are assessed on their ability to compose music to a brief as well as compose music in a style of their choice

#### Why

You'll enjoy this course if you've enjoyed your time studying GCSE Music and want to take your knowledge, understanding and skill in the three main areas of music study (appraising, composition and performing) to the next level.

#### Assessment

Component 1: Appraising music – 40% (exam)

Component 2: Performance – 35% (performance exam)

Component 3: Composition – 25% (coursework)

#### Aims

**Component 1: Recording**

Students are assessed on their ability to produce a musical recording featuring a variety of instruments in the recording studio

**Component 2: Technology-based composition**

Students are assessed on their ability to create an original composition on Music Technology in response to a set brief

**Component 3: Listening and analysing**

This is a written exam paper designed to assess knowledge and understanding of recording and production techniques through analysis of music recordings

**Component 4: Producing and analysing**

This a practical exam undertaken using music technology, designed to assess knowledge and understanding of editing, mixing and production techniques

#### Why

You'll enjoy this course if you're fascinated by how music is created and recorded. You'll enjoy it if you want to learn how to use music technology to create professional quality recordings.

#### Assessment

Component 1: Recording (coursework) – 20%

Component 2: Technology-based composition (coursework) – 20%

Component 3: Listening and analysing (exam) – 25%

Component 4: Producing and analysing (exam) – 35%

# Physics

**AQA 7408**

**AS | A Level**

## Aims

The A level course focuses largely on the development of laws, theories and models of Physics, including in-depth explorations of practical applications. The course builds on prior knowledge from GCSE Science, Additional Science, and Triple Science Physics.

## Content

Paper 1: Measurements and their errors\*, Particles and radiation\*, Waves\*, Mechanics and materials\*, Electricity\*, Periodic motion

Paper 2 : Thermal Physics, Fields and their consequences, Nuclear physics

Paper 3: General and Practical Principles in Physics: Practical skills and data analysis\* + short and long answer questions on an optional topic.

\*AS Physics consists of two 90 minutes papers made up of the topics starred above

## Why

If you enjoy solving problems with logic, have a high mathematical ability, and have the skill and inclination to explain the world around you, then you will enjoy Physics.

## Assessment

AS will still exist, but it will now be a stand-alone qualification that will NOT contribute to the final A level grade, although the content will overlap significantly. For students who take the full A level, their A level grade depends solely on their performance in the A level papers at the end of the course.

Paper 1 - 120 minute exam worth 34%

Paper 2 - 120 minute exam worth 34%

Paper 3 - 120 minute exam worth 32%

Teacher: Mr Conduct or Mr Harding

# Product Design

**AQA 7551**

**AS | A Level**

## Aims

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. They will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put their learning in to practice by producing products of their choice. Students will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employer.

## Content

- Core technical principles (Material, manufacture, communication, digital design, health and safety)
- Core designing and making principles (Design methods and processes, design theory, technological/cultural changes, critical analysis and evaluation, specialist tools and techniques)
- Additional specialist knowledge (Working properties of materials, use of adhesives/fixings, surface finishes, forming, redistribution and addition processes)

## Why

Product design is about understanding people, questioning existing ways of doing things and seeing opportunities for innovative products that will enrich quality of life. You will gain research skills to uncover unique opportunities and develop technical knowledge and skill to turn such opportunities into desirable products to meet real needs.

## Assessment

Coursework – a design and make task worth 50% of the AS

1 written exam worth 50% of the AS

Teacher: Mr Elias

## Aims

The A level course focuses on the scientific study of human mental processes and behaviours. Knowledge of psychological theories and research is applied to a variety of interesting real life situations! This will help to develop your transferable skills of analysis, evaluation and critical thinking, which will be excellent preparation for higher education.

Studying psychology can lead to employment in areas such as the Media, Marketing, Law, Teaching, Research and Social Policy.

## Content

The course will cover:

- Social influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Approaches in psychology
- Psychopathology
- Research methods

## Why

You will enjoy this if you are interested in the reasons why people behave in the ways they do. The influence of biological, psychological and social factors on behaviour will be explored. If this interests you then Psychology is the course for you.

## Assessment

Two exams, worth 50 % each.

Each paper is 1 hour 30 minutes long

## Aims

This course provides students with an understanding of the key philosophical and ethical questions that shape our world today like how do we know truth? It helps students to understand the nature of logic, truth and reasoning through the analysis of philosophical arguments. Students gain critical and evaluative skills that allow them to organise ideas into their own coherent argument/ reasoning developing core skills of literacy.

## Content

- Philosophy of Religion
- Ethics
- Study of Religion and Dialogues

## Why

Religious studies is a thought provoking subject that requires you to re-evaluate the ever changing world we live in. Students enjoy Religious Studies as it provides them with an excellent opportunity to engage with modern contentious issues, developing social, cultural, political, philosophical and historical awareness. If you are intrigued by the world and people and reasons why we are the way we are today, then Religious Studies is the subject for you!

## Assessment

AS Level Two exams taken in 2018

A Level Two exams taken in 2018

# Sociology

AQA 7191 | 7192

AS | A Level

## Aims and Content

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of sociological theories, concepts and evidence and sociological research methods. Apply sociological theories, concepts, evidence and research methods to a range of issues including Family and Household, Education, Research Methods, Crime and Deviance and Mass Media. Analyse and evaluate sociological theories, concepts, evidence and research methods in order to present arguments, make judgements, draw conclusions.

## Why

You will enjoy this course if you are interested in studying trends in society and learning completing explanations to understand how society functions. If you have a passion for debating social issues and critically evaluating explanations for patterns of behaviour you will enjoy this course.

## Assessment

3 exams taken in Summer 2019 (AS Level) / 2020 (A Level)

Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods

Paper 2: Topics in Sociology

Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods (A Level only)

Teacher: Ms White or Ms Toverljani

# Spanish

AQA 7692

AS | A Level

## Aims

Students will be challenged to develop their speaking and writing and ability to communicate in a range of contexts. They will develop language learning strategies to sustain communication and build fluency and confidence. The course aims to develop students' critical thinking on the culture and society of Spain and Latin America. Students will analyse texts, films and other materials in the original language and develop an appreciation and understanding of their cultural and social context.

## Content

The course will cover:

- Aspects of Hispanic society
- Artistic culture in the Hispanic world
- Multiculturalism in Hispanic society
- Aspects of political life in Hispanic society
- Grammar
- One text and one film from the specification

## Why

You'll enjoy this course if you are passionate about the Spanish language, but also if you enjoy learning about Spanish and Hispanic culture. The course will enable you to develop your fluency in Spanish and to communicate with greater confidence. You'll have the chance to explore Spanish cinema and literature and speak lots of Spanish.

## Assessment

Three exams, taken in summer 2019

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing

Paper 2: Writing

Paper 3: Speaking

Teacher: Ms Loewe

## Aims and Content

Learners will study seven mandatory units:

- Unit 1: Principles and Applications of Science I
- Unit 2: Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques
- Unit 3: Science Investigation Skills
- Unit 4: Laboratory Techniques and their Application
- Unit 5: Principles and Applications of Science II
- Unit 6: Investigative Project
- Unit 7: Contemporary Issues in Science.

Learners are given the opportunity to explore, through the optional units, a particular area of science if they wish, to support progression to applied science courses in higher education.

## Why

This is designed as a two-year, full-time course that meets entry requirements in its own right for learners who want to progress to higher education courses in the applied science sector before entering employment.

## Assessment

4 units are externally assessed by either exam or submission of controlled assessment.

9 units are internally assessed by teachers

## Aim

This qualification gives learners experience of the breadth and depth of the sector that will prepare them for further study or training. This includes the opportunity for learners to choose several topics from a selection of options reflecting the progression pathways in business.

## Content

The learning programme covers the following content areas:

- business environments
- finance
- marketing
- international business
- management.

The optional units have been designed to support progression to business courses in higher education, and to link with relevant occupational areas. They cover content areas such as:

- human resources
- accounting
- marketing
- law.

The Pearson **BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Business** is an Applied General qualification. It is for post-16 learners who want to continue their education through applied learning. It is equivalent in size to three A Levels and has been designed as a full two-year programme. The qualification aims to provide a wide-ranging study of the sector. It is primarily designed for learners studying full time in the 16–19 age group, who wish to pursue a career in business, primarily via higher education to access graduate entry employment with businesses, or alternatively through junior business employment.

## Assessment

- 4 units are externally assessed by either exam or submission of controlled assessment.
- 9 units are internally assessed by teachers

# Health and Social Care

**Edexcel** 601/7198/4

**BTEC L3**

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care

## Aims and Content

In addition to the knowledge, understanding and skills that underpin study of the health and social care sector, this qualification gives learners experience of the breadth and depth that will prepare them for further study in the sector. This includes the opportunity for learners to choose a health studies pathway with options reflecting the progression opportunities in health care.

Learners taking this qualification will study eight mandatory units:

- Anatomy and Physiology for Health and Social Care
- Human Lifespan Development
- Working in Health and Social Care
- Meeting Individual Care And Support Needs
- Principles of Safe Practice in Health and Social Care
- Enquiries into Current Research in Health and Social Care
- Promoting Public Health
- Work Experience in Health and Social Care

Learners are able to select five optional units from their chosen pathway too. These details available on request.

## Why

This qualification is the main focus of a two-year study programme of learning and is equivalent to three A Levels, meaning that learners will be fully prepared for a range of health and social care degree programmes.

The qualification is intended to carry UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to meeting admission requirements to many relevant courses, for example:

- BSc (Hons) in Nursing
- BA (Hons) in Social Work
- BSc (Hons) in Physiotherapy
- BSc (Hons) in Occupational Therapy
- BSc (Hons) in Speech Therapy
- BA (Hons) in Health and Social Care

## Assessment

4 units externally assessed by either exam or controlled assessment

9 units internally assessed

Teacher: Ms George

# Media Studies

**Edexcel** 601/7469/9

**BTEC L3**

**BTEC National Extended Diploma in Creative Digital Media**

## Aim

Over seven units of mandatory content learners develop the underpinning knowledge and skills needed for the media sector. Learners investigate the media industry, looking at the influences of technology and audiences and how media is affected by these factors. They develop research skills through their investigations and understand the differences between primary and secondary research techniques and quantitative and qualitative responses. Learners study how to analyse and deconstruct media representations and develop the communication and planning skills that allow ideas to be produced. Learners refine their presentation skills through pitching media projects and their communication skills are developed by working in teams to complete various media projects. Learners choose optional units in sectors such as, television, film, digital games and interactive media. This enables them to acquire knowledge of various media and media genres which extends their understanding of various sections of the media.

## Why

The qualification is designed for post-16 learners who want to study media related Degree courses in Higher Education or Media related apprenticeships and jobs. Learners gain knowledge and understanding of creative digital media production and develop an understanding of how to work within the media industries. Learners can choose to follow a general programme of study, learning digital production skills in a variety of different media or they can choose to follow an endorsed route in Film, Television and Radio or Interactive Publishing and Media. On average jobs within the creative industries continue to grow at approximately 19% annually. This course will allow students to learn skills and develop a portfolio that will allow you to apply to under-graduate courses at university and apprenticeships within the industry.

## Assessment

- 4 units externally assessed by either exam or submission of controlled assessment.

- 9 units are internally assessed by teachers

Teacher: Ms Slevin



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