



KENSINGTON  
PARK SCHOOL

# A Level Subjects

2023 · 2024



# Art, Craft, and Design

Subject:	Art, Craft, and Design
Exam Board:	AQA
Course Code:	7201
Examination:	40% examination
Coursework:	60% coursework
Complementary A level Subjects:	Music, Drama, Sociology, Psychology, Maths, Physics, English, History

### Why study A level Art, Craft, and Design?

This is a broad-based course exploring practical and critical/contextual work through a range of 2D and/or 3D processes and media associated with two or more of the titles of either fine art, graphic communication, textile design, 3D design or photography.

Students develop practical and theoretical knowledge and understanding of:

- Relevant materials, processes, technologies and resources
- How ideas, feelings and meanings can be conveyed and interpreted in images and artefacts
- How images and artefacts relate to the time and place in which they were made and to their social and cultural contexts
- Continuity and change in different genres, styles and traditions
- A working vocabulary and specialist terminology

### What will you study?

The course introduces students to a range of two-dimensional and/or three-dimensional media, processes and techniques. They are made aware of both traditional and new media, and will explore the use of drawing for different purposes, using various methods and media on a variety of scales. They may use sketchbooks, workbooks, or journals to underpin their work where appropriate.

Students will explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to a range of art, craft and design, from the past and from recent times, including European and non-European examples. This will be integral to the investigating and making processes. Students’ responses to these examples must be shown through practical and critical activities that demonstrate their understanding of different styles, genres and traditions.

Students will be made aware of the four assessment objectives to be demonstrated in the context of the content and skills presented, and the importance of process as well as product.

### Component 1 : Personal Investigation

Students must show evidence of working in areas of study drawn from two or more of the endorsed titles of fine art, graphic communication, textile design, three-dimensional design or photography. This is a practical investigation supported by written material.

In Component 1, students develop work based on an idea, issue, concept or theme leading to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes. Practical elements should make connections with some aspect of contemporary or past practice of artist(s), designer(s), photographers or craftspeople and include written work of 1000 to 3000 words, which supports the practical work.

### Component 2 : Externally-set assignment

Students must show evidence of areas of study drawn from one or more of the endorsed titles. The area(s) of study selected for Component 1 can be the same as, or different to, those selected for Component 2.

In Component 2, students respond to a stimulus, provided by AQA, to produce work which provides evidence of their ability to work independently within specified time constraints, developing a personal and meaningful response which addresses all the assessment objectives and leads to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes.

### University and Career Progression

A degree in one of the many creative areas can lead to a varied and interesting career, whether in fashion, architecture or another area of design, or even in fine art. In addition, A level art students will develop a range of transferable skills that can complement other career choices. The creative industries in the UK is worth £115 billion a year and is a fast growing sector.

Examples of the jobs that you could pursue include:

Artist, photographer, graphic designer, architect, curator, media, marketing, fashion designer, art therapy, illustrator, conservator, product design, gallery assistant, advertising, marketing, arts admin, media, film, theatre, publishing, web development.

Highly desirable transferable skills:

Critical thinking, communication, drawing, conceptualising, Adobe Photoshop, photography, research, problem solving, self-expression, analysis, evaluating.

### Assessment

Question Paper	Exam Weighting	Description
Component 1: Personal Investigation	60%	No time limit
Component 2: Externally-set assignment	40%	Preparatory period (from 1st February) + 15 hours supervised time (in May)





# Biology

Subject:	Biology A
Exam Board:	OCR
Course Code:	H420
Examination:	100%
Coursework:	Practical Endorsement additionally certificated.
Complementary A level Subjects:	Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Psychology, Geography

## Why Study A level Biology?

A Level Biology allows you to explore how the body works in depth and discover the secrets which enable humans to survive. You will explore the clever and intricate functions the body undertakes for key processes such as DNA replication, the cardiac cycle and respiration. You will also learn about the latest biological research and technology such as RNA interference and DNA sequencing. There are a number plenty of exciting practical activities such as heart dissections as well as modifying bacteria to make them glow in the dark.

## What will you study?

### Year 1

The first year of study builds on the areas of Biology covered at GCSE and enables students to think about the ‘how’ and ‘why’ rather than just the ‘what’. It also explores new and deeper aspects which are a step up from GCSE but more fascinating for

this reason. There are four modules assessed in the course and these include Development of Practical Skills in Biology, such as how to evaluate experiments and analyse data mathematically; Foundations in Biology, which includes studying the components of living organisms such as their cells and biological molecules; Exchange and Transport in different living organisms; and Biodiversity, Evolution and Disease, which enables students to learn about immunity as well as different environments around the world. Students complete an extensive course of practical experiments and gain experience with techniques such as dissection and apparatus such as light microscopes.

### Year 2

The second year of study explores new areas building on the foundations set in the first year. It is divided into two modules: Communication, Homeostasis and Energy, which includes the study of nerves and hormones in animals

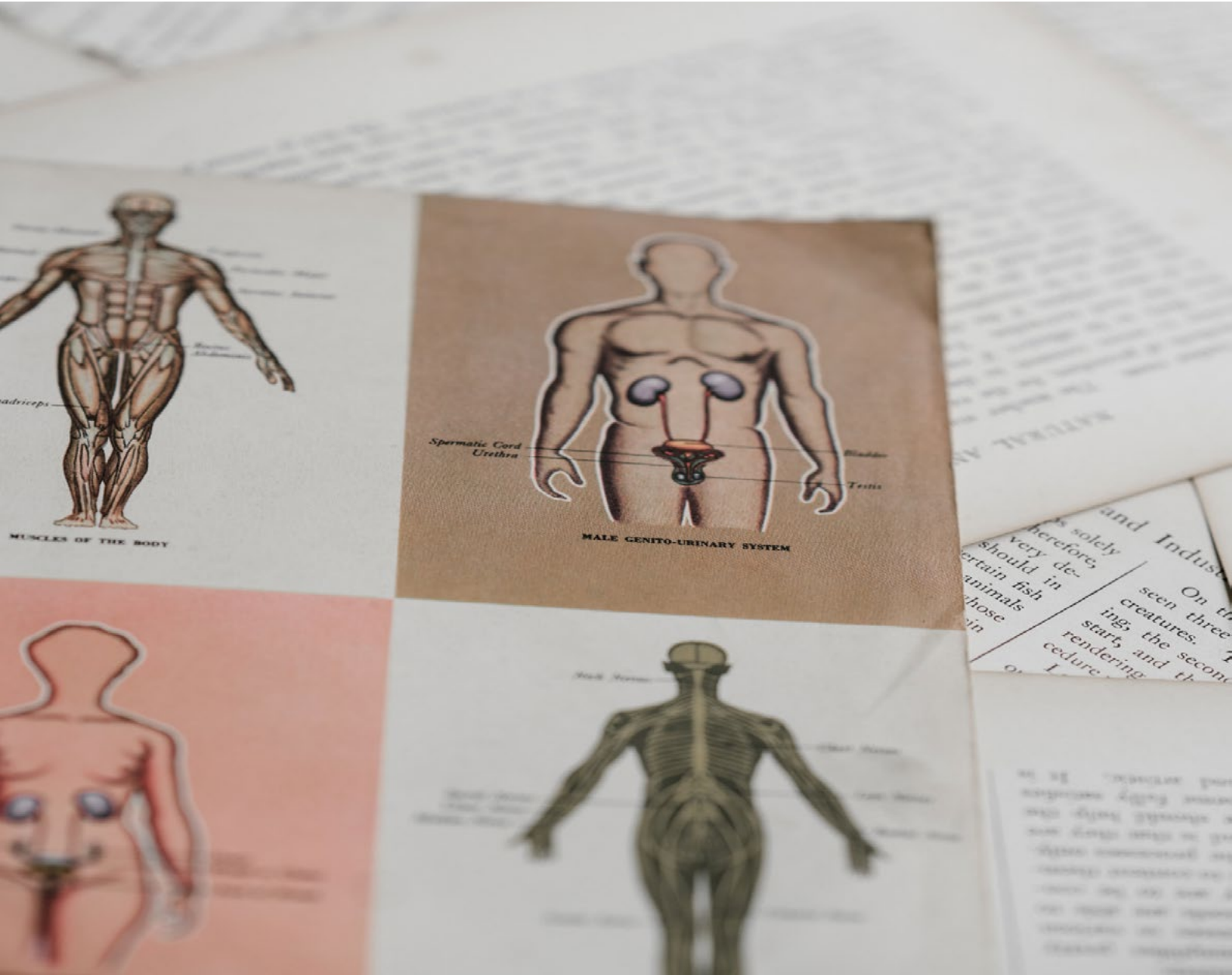


Sciences, Radiotherapy, Molecular Biology, Medicine, Biomedical Sciences, Biochemistry, Biological Engineering, Biotechnology, Dentistry, Pharmacology, Physiotherapy, Nutrition and Dietetics, Sports Sciences, Plant sciences, Natural Sciences, Ecology and Conservation, and Veterinary Sciences.

These could lead to vocational careers such as Sports Coach, Doctor, Radiotherapist, NHS Clinical Scientist, Forensic scientist, Physiotherapist, Vet, Nutritionist, Dentist and Pharmacist. Alternatively, you could pursue a career in academia or industry, for example, drug research, cosmetics or food technology.

## Assessment

Question Paper	Exam Weighting	Description
Paper 1	37%	Biological Processes. Assesses Practical skills, Foundation module, as well as Exchange and Transport and Communication, Homeostasis and Energy.
Paper 2	37%	Biological Diversity. Assesses Practical skills, Foundation Module as well as Biodiversity, Evolution and Disease, and Genetics, Evolution and Ecosystems.
Paper 3	26%	Unified Biology. Synoptic paper on the entirety of the course.
Practical Endorsement	Reported separately	Based on at least 12 internally assessed practicals.





# Business

Subject:	Business
Exam Board:	Edexcel
Course Code:	9BS0
Examination:	100%
Coursework:	None
Complementary A level Subjects:	Computer Science, Maths, Economics, Sociology, Psychology

## Why study A level Business?

A level Business enables students to develop a broad understanding of fundamental business concepts, such as Marketing, Finance, Operations and Human Resources.

Students will learn how their knowledge can be applied in the real world, and will explore the principles of business in today's society. The course will demonstrate the interrelated nature of business using business models, theories and techniques to support analysis of contemporary business issues and situations in today's world.

The course will help students to engage through topics and issues that are relevant in today's society.

## What will you study?

### Year 1

An introduction to key business areas such as marketing, operations, finance and human resource management. This includes a special focus on decision making – particularly how decisions made in one area can affect the rest of the business.

- Topic 1: What is business?
- Topic 2: Managers, leadership and decision making
- Topic 3: Decision making to improve marketing performance
- Topic 4: Decision making to improve operational performance
- Topic 5: Decision making to improve financial performance
- Topic 6: Decision making to improve human resource performance

### Year 2

- Topic 7: Analysing the strategic position of a business
- Topic 8: Choosing the strategic direction
- Topic 9: Strategic methods – how to pursue strategies
- Topic 10: Managing strategic change

## University and Career Progression

A level Business will help you to become a better decision maker; you'll learn essential managerial skills alongside techniques to help you become an analytical problem solver. Moreover, the skills that you learn will be transferable across a broad range of careers.

The course will help you to develop many of the skills that you would require to start your own business, and will enable you to pursue a career in the following areas:

- Human resources
- Sales and Marketing
- Finance
- Operations
- Management
- Law
- Retail



## Assessment

Question Paper	Exam Weighting	Description
Paper 1	35%	100 marks.Marketing, people and global businesses. 2 hours.
Paper 2	35%	100 marks. Business activities, decisions and strategy. 2 hours.
Paper 3	30%	100 marks. Investigating business in a competitive environment. 2 hours.

# Chemistry

Subject:	Chemistry A
Exam Board:	OCR
Course Code:	H432
Examination:	100%
Coursework:	0%
Complementary A level Subjects:	Mathematics, Biology, Physics



## Why study A level Chemistry?

As the study of all the elements and their compounds, Chemistry is both conceptually challenging and requires good factual knowledge. Chemistry looks at all of the elements in the Periodic Table, both on a molecular and macroscopic level. It is regarded as the ‘central science’ that connects many other areas together. New breakthroughs in fields such as genetics, biochemistry, medicine, materials, nanotechnology and drug discovery are all driven by chemistry.

Chemistry is about matter. The molecules that are all around us and how they change and interact with each other. A study of Chemistry helps make many observable everyday phenomena far less mysterious.

As an A level student of Chemistry, you can expect to cover all of the fundamentals that make up the three core areas of Chemistry: Inorganic, Organic, and Physical Chemistry. Most importantly, Chemistry is a fascinating and ever-evolving subject; driven constantly both by new experimental discovery and advances made by theoreticians. If you want to fully understand the workings of the world around you then Chemistry is for you.

## What will you study?

### Year 1

- Calculations in Chemistry
- Atomic & Electronic Structure
- Structure & Bonding
- Redox: Groups II & VI
- Introduction to Thermodynamics

- Introduction to Organic Chemistry & Analytic Methods
- Introduction to Reaction Kinetics
- Introduction to Chemical Equilibria

### Year 2

- Chemical Equilibrium
- Ionic Equilibrium: pH & Buffer Mixtures
- Transition Metals
- Reaction Kinetics
- Thermodynamics
- Electrochemistry
- Carbonyls, Carboxylic Acids & Derivatives
- Organo-Nitrogen Chemistry
- Analytical Techniques: Spectroscopy and Chromatography

## University and Career Progression

Many pupils study Chemistry in conjunction with other sciences and/ or Mathematics and go on to read Chemistry, Natural Sciences, Material Science, Medicine, or Dentistry and Pharmacy at university. The most common combinations of A level subjects are those with Biology, Mathematics, Further Mathematics and Physics.

Chemistry opens the door for many varied careers in a wide range of fields. Chemistry is essential for many positions in industry; is highly desirable for science teaching; and is useful for careers in the public service and management.

Both the public and the private sectors increasingly draw their higher management echelons from Chemistry graduates.

## Assessment

Question Paper	Exam Weighting	Description
Paper 1	37%	Periodic Table, Elements and Physical Chemistry (135 minutes)
Paper 2	37%	Synthesis and Analytical Techniques (135 minutes)
Paper 3	26%	Unified Chemistry (90 minutes)
Practical Endorsement	Reported seperately	Based on at least 12 internally assessed practicals. Six completed in Year 1 and six completed in Year 2.



# Classical Civilisation

Subject:	Classical Civilisation
Exam Board:	OCR
Course Code:	H408
Examination:	100%
Coursework:	0%
Complementary A level Subjects:	English, Languages, RE, Sociology, History, Geography, Art

### Why Study A level Classical Civilisation?

Classical Civilisation is the study of the ancient Greeks and Romans, and of all the peoples they encountered throughout the millennia during which they thrived. By studying the subject, learners are able to delve into the world of the ancients, and consequently understand arguably the most significant influences on our society, and on societies around the world.

Through understanding the culture of the ancient Greeks and Romans, we can delve into the literature, culture, and history of people living in and around the Mediterranean thousands of years ago. This allows learners to fully appreciate and engage with the development of societies such as ours throughout the decades. It therefore enables learners to understand how our modern society can function, and why, sometimes, it does not.

Learning Classical Civilisation enables us to study the fantastic literature

of the ancient Greeks and Romans. Learners will study epic poetry alongside pieces of theatre, love poetry and accounts of key events in Greco-Roman history. These comprise some of the oldest pieces of literature in the Western literary cannon, which enables learners to understand how society has developed over the centuries.

Lastly, Classical Civilisation develops a learner’s ability to comprehend challenging topics. It provides skills such as critical analysis, construction of rigorous arguments from evidence, creative thinking, and an awareness of and empathy for diverse cultures.

### What will you study?

The OCR A level in Classical Civilisation has three components and consists of three externally examined papers.

Component one is on an epic poem (Homer’s *Odyssey* and the *Aeneid*), worth 40% of the A level component. Component two is on culture and

the arts in ancient Greece and Rome, and is worth 30% of the A-level. Component three is on the beliefs and ideas of the ancient Greeks and Romans, and comprises 30% of the A Level.

### Component 1: World of the Hero

In this compulsory component learners will study one of either Homer’s *Iliad* or *Odyssey*, as well as Virgil’s *Aeneid*.

Learners will develop an increasingly sophisticated level of knowledge and understanding of the epics themselves, the way in which they were composed, and the religious, cultural and social values and beliefs of its society.

### Component 2: Culture and the Arts

All of these components include a study of visual/material culture; from the study of theatres and vases depicting performances, to Persian art and archaeological sites, to Roman coins and architecture.

### Component 3: Beliefs and Ideas

All of these components include the study of classical thought; from ideas about politics and correct governance, to what is ‘right’ and ‘wrong’ when it comes to love and desire, to the nature of the gods and their relationship with mankind. The content of all components is equally split between classical thought and either literature or visual/material culture.

### University and Career Progression

A degree in Classical Civilisation is well respected by employers. It will give you a range of subject-specific skills that allow you to navigate the world around you and to make intelligent decisions that will ensure that you excel through your chosen career path. Through studying the ancient world, you will also gain a strong knowledge of how the modern world works.

You will gain a set of core skills that can be transferred to virtually any environment and Classics graduates, therefore, enter the jobs market with specific, practical, intellectual and theoretical skills. Furthermore, many employers seek the transferable skills that you learn from the study of Classical Civilisation. It enables you to become a well-rounded and highly intellectual citizen of the world.

Examples of the jobs that you could pursue include:

Author, Archeologist, Doctor, Veterinarian, Civil Service, Archivist, Public relations, Solicitor, Public administration, Diplomat, Teacher, Musician, Actor, Curator, Lawyer.

Highly desirable transferable skills:

Critical thinking, argument construction, assessing information, cultural awareness, communication research skills, time management, teamwork, problem solving, analytical skills.

### Assessment

Question Paper	Exam Weighting	Description
Paper 1	40%	The World of the Hero, 2 hours 20 minutes
Paper 2	30%	Culture and the Arts, 1 hour 45 minutes
Paper 3	30%	Beliefs and Ideas, 1 hour 45 minutes





# Computer Science

Subject:	Computer Science
Exam Board:	OCR
Course Code:	H446
Examination:	80% written exam
Coursework:	20% non-examined assessment
Complementary A level Subjects:	Science, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Economics, Business, Psychology

### Why study A level Computer Science?

Computer Science encompasses the theoretical aspects of how a computer is designed, used, and applied in order to solve real world problems.

It is an applied subject that provides students with practical problem solving skills in a variety of programming languages, and a strong foundation from which to embark on a career as a Programmer, Data Analyst, Cyber Security Consultant, Web Designer, Games Developer, Electronic Engineer, and much more. It will also suit students who hope to develop their own computer software and hardware.

Students will develop the ability to use technical language appropriately, apply skills in logic to solve problems, and increase their awareness of existing and emergent technologies, as well as their impact on society, organisations, and individuals.

### What will you study?

#### Year 1

- Data structures
- Data representation
- Algorithms
- Programming
- Computer Systems
- Computer organisation and architecture
- Programming

#### Year 2

- Theory of Computation
- Fundamentals of Databases
- Fundamentals of communication and networking
- Big Data
- Consequences of uses of computing
- Fundamentals of functional programming

### University and Career Progression

Computer Science has strong connections to many other disciplines, including Maths, Further Maths, Physics, and Economics. For a number of Computer Science degrees, Maths is a required A level subject. A good grade in Computer Science A level is valued by universities and employers since it requires the development of analytical thinking and problem solving skills.

This course also lays an appropriate foundation for further study of Computer Science, Engineering, and Physics, along with many other related subjects. Many problems in the sciences, engineering, health care, business and other areas can be solved effectively with computers, but finding a solution requires both computer science expertise and knowledge of the particular application domain. Thus, computer scientists become proficient in a wide range of subjects and professions.

### Assessment

Question Paper	Exam Weighting	Description
Paper 1	40%	<b>Computer Principles; 2 hour 30 minutes</b> Written exam covering topics such as the characteristics of contemporary processors, input, output and storage devices software and software development, exchanging data, data types, data structures and algorithmm, and legal, moral, ethical and cultural issues.
Paper 2	40%	<b>Algorithms and Programming; 2 hour 30 minutes</b> Written exam covering topics such as elements of computational thinking, problem solving and programming, and algorithms.
Non-examined assessment	20%	<b>Programming Project</b> Students will choose a computing problem to work through according to the guidance in the specification. Broadly speaking, the report will cover areas such as analysis of a problem, design of the solution, developing the solution, testing the solution and evaluation.



# Drama and Theatre

Subject:	Drama and Theatre A
Exam Board:	Edexcel
Course Code:	9DRO
Examination:	40% Written Exam, 60% Practical
Coursework:	Yes, part of the Devising Component
Complementary A level Subjects:	English, Psychology, Art, History, Sociology



### Why study A level Drama and Theatre?

This course encourages creativity, focusing on practical work which reflects 21st-century theatre practice and developing skills that will support progression to further study of drama and a wide range of other subjects.

Most students choose to study Drama because they enjoy acting, and lessons are as practical as possible. However, there is also an opportunity for students to explore other areas of theatre, such as design or directing. Students will explore the performance texts and work of various practitioners, and will learn to articulate how they would play certain roles, design certain scenes, and interpret a text for performance.

Seeing live theatre is an essential part of the course, and our central London location gives us the perfect opportunity to see a wealth of stimulating productions. This not only helps inspire students but allows them to analyse and evaluate the work of both actors and designers.

### What will you study?

The Pearson Edexcel A level in Drama and Theatre consists of two non-examination assessment components and one externally examined paper.

#### Component 1: Devising

This component focuses on devising.

Content overview:

- Devise an original performance
- Use one key extract from a performance text and a theatre practitioner as stimuli
- Centre choice of text and practitioner
- Performer or designer routes available

#### Component 2: Text in Performance

This component focuses on acting out a section of a play and performing a monologue; design options are also available.

Content overview:

- A group performance/design realisation from a performance text
- A monologue/duologue/design realisation from another performance text
- Centre choice of performance texts

#### Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice

This component leads to the written exam and the students will cover three sections.

- Section A: Live Theatre Evaluation
- Section B: Page to Screen: Realising a Performance Text
- Section C: Interpreting a Performance Text

### University and Career Progression

The study of Drama and Theatre can lead not only to the further study of acting, producing, directing, or set design, but to a wide range of other arts and humanities degree options.

Many students will also embark on a joint degree such as English and Drama, or Psychology and Theatre.

Students who study A level Drama and Theatre gain excellent communication and teamwork skills, which are valued in a broad range of professions.

Examples of the jobs that you could pursue include:

- Actor/Producer/Presenter
- Drama therapist
- Production, Set, Lighting or Sound Design
- Tour or Events Manager
- Community Arts Worker
- Arts Administrator

Highly desirable transferable skills:

- Communication
- Teamwork
- Public Speaking
- Time management
- Problem solving
- Critical Thinking
- Analytical and evaluative skills

### Assessment

Question Paper	Exam Weighting	Description
Component 1	40%	Devising: students will devise an original performance piece in a group using one key extract from a performance text and a theatre practitioner as stimuli; performer or designer routes available.
Component 2	20%	Students will put together a group performance or design realisation from a performance text, as well as a monologue/duologue/design realisation from another performance text.
Component 3	40%	Written Exam.



# Economics

Subject:	Economics
Exam Board:	Edexcel
Course Code:	9EC0
Examination:	100%
Coursework:	N/A
Complementary A level Subjects:	Business, Maths, Politics, Geography, Sociology



### Why Study A level Economics?

Economics is all around us, present in almost every aspect of our lives. A level Economics gives students an understanding of the world we live in and its inner workings. Students will study a range of topics, from what determines the price of goods and services, to why the average standards of living vary so widely within and between countries.

Economics has two main branches: microeconomics and macroeconomics.

Microeconomics is a branch of economics that studies the behaviour of individuals and businesses and how decisions are made based on the allocation of limited resources.

It examines how these decisions and behaviours affect the supply and demand for goods and services, which determine the prices we pay. These prices, in turn, determine the quantity of goods supplied by businesses and the quantity of goods demanded by consumers.

Macroeconomics is a branch of economic that studies how the aggregate economy behaves. In macroeconomics, a variety of economy-wide phenomena is thoroughly examined such as inflation, price levels, rate of growth, national income, gross domestic product, and changes in unemployment. It focuses on trends in the economy and how the economy moves as a whole.

### What will you study?

The Pearson Edexcel A level Economics A is structured into four themes with three externally examined papers. Students build knowledge and understanding of core economic models and concepts in Themes 1 and 2, and then apply their knowledge to more complex concepts and models in Themes 3 and 4. Students will apply their knowledge to both familiar and unfamiliar contexts in the assessments, and will demonstrate an awareness of current economic events and policies.

### Theme 1: Introduction to Markets and Market Failure

This theme focuses on microeconomic concepts. Students will develop an understanding of:

- Nature of Economics
- How markets work
- Market failure
- Government intervention

### Theme 2: The UK Economy – Performance & Policies

- Measures of economic performance
- Aggregate demand
- Aggregate supply
- National income
- Economic growth
- Macroeconomic objectives and policy

### Theme 3: Business Behaviour and the Labour Market

This theme develops the microeconomic concepts introduced in Theme 1 and focuses on business economics. Students will develop an understanding of:

- Business growth
- Business objectives
- Revenues, costs and profits
- Market structures
- Labour market
- Government intervention

### Theme 4: A Global Perspective

This theme develops the macroeconomic concepts introduced in Theme 2 and applies these concepts in a global context. Students will develop an understanding of:

- International economics
- Poverty and inequality
- Emerging and developing economies
- The financial sector
- Role of the state in the macroeconomy



### Assessment

Question Paper	Exam Weighting	Description
Paper 1	30%	Markets and business behaviour. Will assess microeconomics and questions will be drawn from Themes 1 and 3.
Paper 2	35%	Paper 2: The national and global economy. Will assess macroeconomics and questions will be drawn from Themes 2 and 4.
Paper 3	30%	Paper 3: Microeconomics and macroeconomics. Will assess content across all four themes. Students are required to apply their knowledge and understanding, make connections, and transfer higher-order skills across all four themes.

# English

<b>Subject:</b>	English
<b>Exam Board:</b>	OCR
<b>Course Code:</b>	H472
<b>Examination:</b>	80%
<b>Coursework:</b>	20%
<b>Complementary A level Subjects:</b>	Languages, Politics, Sociology, History, Drama

## Why study A level English?

Studying literature is intellectually challenging, intensely personal, and immensely rewarding. If you enjoy reading and talking about books and the ideas they contain, then A level English is the perfect course for you. You will acquire valuable transferable skills which complement a wide range of subjects and careers, such as analysis, argument, critical thinking and teamwork, and will develop your social, moral, and cultural understanding of the world around us. You will be expected to form and voice your own opinions, and to evaluate the opinions of others.

## Why will I study?

A level English is a rigorous, stimulating and challenging qualification which allows freedom of textual choice and includes elements of independent study. The freedom within the non-examined assessment component allows learners to pursue more detailed work in a field of particular personal interest, offering excellent preparation for study at undergraduate level.

## Component 1: Poetry and Drama

Students will study one of the following Shakespearean plays, with a focus on analysis and critical interpretations over time. Potential texts include:

- Hamlet
- Measure for Measure
- Twelfth Night
- The Tempest

Students will study a collection of pre-1900 poetry alongside a drama text, also pre-1900, and will compare the two. Potential texts include:

- John Webster’s The Duchess of Malfi
- Henrik Ibsen’s A Doll’s House
- Christina Rossetti’s Selected Poems
- Samuel Coleridge’s Selected Poems



## Component 2: Contextual Study

Learners will be exposed to a range of extracts from the contextual genre they are studying, with an analytical focus and a contextual awareness. Potential texts include:

- American Literature – Steinbeck, Fitzgerald
- The Gothic – Shelley, Wilde, Stoker

Learners will study two whole texts, with at least one from the list below:

- American Literature – The Great Gatsby or The Grapes of Wrath
- The Gothic – The Bloody Chamber or Dracula

## Component 3: Comparative Essay and Re-Creative Response

The aim of this internally assessed component is to encourage individual study, interest, and enjoyment of modern literature and for learners to develop:

- An appreciation of how writers shape meanings in texts through use of language, imagery, form and structure.
- An understanding of texts informed by an appreciation of different interpretations

- An ability to explore connections across texts, such as stylistic, thematic or contextual

Students will study three literary texts which must include one piece of prose, one piece of poetry, and one drama text. The texts must have been first published or performed in 1900 or later, with at least one having been published or performed in 2000 or later.

## University and Career Progression

Whether you have chosen another humanities subject such as history, modern languages, or classics, or focused on the physical or social sciences, English Literature will compliment and support your interests and give you essential skills. Perhaps chiefly, you will become a more rounded and open individual, ready to take an active part in our remarkably rich cultural environment. A degree in English is highly respected by employers.

Examples of the jobs that you could pursue include:

Journalist, academic researcher, teacher or lecturer, civil servant, paralegal, web editor, publisher, actor, writer or author.

Examples of highly desirable transferable skills include:

Critical thinking, communication, research skills, social, moral, and cultural awareness, teamwork.

## Assessment

Question Paper	Exam Weighting	Description
Paper 1	40%	Poetry and Drama
Paper 2	40%	A Contextual Study
Paper 3	20%	Comparative essay and re-creative response



# French

<b>Subject:</b>	French
<b>Exam Board:</b>	AQA
<b>Course Code:</b>	7652
<b>Examination:</b>	100%
<b>Coursework:</b>	0%
<b>Complementary A level Subjects:</b>	English, Business, Economics, Languages, Politics, Geography, History

### Why study A level French?

In this global, digital age, the ability to be able to share information and communicate with a variety of audiences around the world is extremely powerful. The study of French opens the door to the 60 million native French speakers across continents, and French is also one of the six official languages of the United Nations.

Studying a language not only offers pupils the opportunity to develop their linguistic abilities—including syntax, grammar and translation—but also helps them acquire a wide range of transferrable expertise, including presentation, communication and analytical skills. Moreover, pupils will gain an insight into and awareness of the deep-rooted cultures, history and geography of countries and nations from around the globe.

### Why will I study?

The AQA French course (7652) is structured into four themes and consists of three externally examined papers. Throughout the course,

students will learn the language in the context of French-speaking countries and the issues and influences which have shaped them.

In the first year, students study technological and social change, as well as highlights of French-speaking artistic culture, including francophone music and cinema. In the second year, students study political engagement and political power in the French-speaking world. Alongside these themes, students will study a text and a film and will carry out independent research on an area of their choice.

#### Theme 1: Aspects of French-Speaking Society: Current trends

- The changing nature of family
- The ‘cyber-society’
- The place of voluntary work

#### Theme 2: Artistic Cultures in the French-speaking World

- A culture proud of its heritage

- Contemporary francophone music
- Cinema: the 7th art form

#### Theme 3: Aspects of French-speaking society: Current Issues

- Positive features of a diverse society
- Life for the marginalised
- How criminals are treated

#### Theme 4: Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world

- Teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment
- Demonstrations, strikes – who holds the power?
- Politics and immigration

### University and Career Progression

Studies of graduate employability repeatedly stress the career value of language degrees, which provide pupils with international experience and enhanced cultural awareness, helping them to develop flexibility, resilience and resourcefulness.

Employers value foreign language ability, not just as a specialist skill, but as a personal quality that develops relationship-building, teamwork, and the capacity to move easily in international contexts.

Examples of the jobs that you could pursue include:

Translating, interpreting, teaching and lecturing, intelligence agencies, international business, press and media, IT and technology, marketing and public relations.

Examples of highly desirable transferable skills include:

Critical thinking, communication, research skills, cultural awarenes, and flexibility.

### Assessment

Question Paper	Exam Weighting	Description
Paper 1	50%	Listening, Reading and Writing (translation from English to French and vice versa).
Paper 2	20%	Writing two essays in French, one on the film studied, the other on the literature studied.
Paper 3	30%	Speaking; includes an Individual Research Project (IRP) and a discussion of a sub-theme based on a stimulus card.



# Further Maths

Subject:	Further Mathematics
Exam Board:	Edexcel
Course Code:	9FM0
Examination:	100%
Coursework:	None
Complementary A level Subjects:	Mathematics (compulsory), Physics, Computer Science, Economics



## Why study A level Mathematics?

Further Maths is highly desirable, if not required, by many top universities for undergraduate programmes in Maths, Science and Engineering courses, as well as Computing and Economics. Most students studying Maths or Engineering at Oxford, Cambridge, Warwick or Imperial would require Further Maths, and many top careers from banking to data science would find it advantageous.

Students will cover a broader range of mathematical topics in far more detail than they do in maths, with more scope for rigorous proof and extension work. Many will study further maths as a fourth A level, though it is increasingly common for it to be seen as a third.

## Why will I study?

Students will build upon the core skills learned at A level maths. There is an increased emphasis on further calculus, complex numbers,

matrices, vectors and proof, and further applications of statistics and mechanics. Many students will also be introduced to decision maths, a modern and algorithmic branch of maths with significant overlap with computer science.

In further maths, there are four papers; two are compulsory core pure papers, and there are a further two papers, generally chosen from decision mathematics, further statistics and further mechanics. The further maths course is typically taught consecutively to maths: double mathematicians will complete the maths A level in Year 12 before moving on to the further maths in Year 13. All external exams are sat at the end of Year 13.

Students are examined on their most recent topics via practice tests each half-term. For those who enjoy a challenge, students can also enter national mathematical competitions.

## University and Career Progression

Some of the most interesting and well-paid careers revolve around maths. Careers in finance, medicine, engineering, and business are all open to people with a background in mathematics, as are careers in technology — maths being at the very core of all new technological developments.

Examples of the jobs that you could pursue include:

Consultant, Actuarial analyst, Actuary, Astronomer, Chartered accountant, Chartered certified accountant, Data analyst, Data scientist, Investment analyst, Research scientist (maths), Secondary school teacher, Software engineer, Sound engineer, Statistician

Examples of highly desirable transferable skills include:

Problem-solving, analytic ability, creativity, initiative, logical and methodical reasoning, persistence.

## Assessment

<b>Two compulsory Pure papers (each 75 marks in 1.5 hours)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Paper 1: Core Pure Mathematics 1</li><li>○ Paper 2: Core Pure Mathematics 2</li></ul> <p>Topics Include: Proof, Complex numbers, Matrices, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus, Further vectors, Polar coordinates, Hyperbolic functions, Differential equations</p>
<b>Two optional Applied papers (each 75 marks in 1.5 hours), selected from:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 3A: Further Pure Mathematics 1</li><li>○ 3B: Further Statistics 1</li><li>○ 3C: Further Mechanics 1</li><li>○ 3D: Decision Mathematics 1</li></ul> <p>While every effort is made to accommodate students' preferences, there are restrictions on which papers can be practically covered in the classroom. Generally, students select two papers out of 3B, 3C and 3D.</p>



# Geography

Subject:	Geography
Exam Board:	Edexcel
Course Code:	9GE0
Examination:	80%
Coursework:	20%
Complementary A level Subjects:	Business, Languages, Government and Politics, Sciences, Sociology, History



### Why study A level Geography?

Geography is about the world around us. From the physical landscapes covering our planet to the human ones, it gives students a truly holistic understanding of the world and its processes and interconnections.

Students learn everything from plate tectonics covering earthquakes and volcanoes to globalization and the workings of modern society.

Geography has two main areas which are human geography and physical geography.

**Human Geography** looks at human society and how it functions. It analyzes patterns of human social interaction, their interactions with the environment, and their spatial interdependencies.

**Physical Geography** deals with the processes and patterns in the natural environment such as the atmosphere, hydrosphere, biosphere, and geosphere.

This includes plate tectonics, the carbon and water cycles, rivers and coasts as well as glaciers.

### Why will I study?

The Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Geography A is structured into four topics and consists of three externally examined papers and one coursework element.

Students develop knowledge and understanding of core geographical concepts in Papers 1 and 2, and then build on this and apply their knowledge to more complex interconnections in Paper 3, bringing together their knowledge through the ‘synoptic links’ found throughout the course. Students also complete a coursework element, the Non-Examined Assessment, which is an independent research project on a topic of the student’s choosing.

### Paper 1: Dynamic Landscapes

This theme focuses on physical geography. Students will develop an understanding of:

- Plate tectonics, including the theory of plate tectonics, what causes earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, how natural hazards turn into disasters and how societies can manage the risk.
- Coastal Landscapes and Change, including coastal features and landscapes, sea-level changes, and risks associated with coastlines and how coastlines are managed.
- The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity
- The Carbon Cycle and Energy Insecurity

### Paper 2: Dynamic Places

This theme focuses on human geography. Students will develop an understanding of:

- Globalisation, including looking at the causes and pace of globalisation, political and economic decision making, the

impacts of globalisation on countries, people and cultures and the interconnections with global development and the physical environment.

- Regenerating Places, including how and why places vary, why regeneration might be needed, and how regeneration can be carried out and managed.
- Super Powers
- Migration, Identity and Sovereignty

### Paper 3: Synoptic Themes

The specification contains three synoptic themes within the compulsory content areas:

- Players
- Attitudes and actions
- Futures and uncertainties.

The synoptic investigation will be based on a geographical issue within a place-based context that links to the three synoptic themes and is rooted in two or more of the compulsory content areas. A resource booklet will contain information about the geographical issue.

All questions in the examination draw synoptically on knowledge and understanding from compulsory content drawn from different parts of the course.

### Non-examined assessment

Students are required to undertake an independent investigation that involves fieldwork. The focus of the investigation must be derived

Examples of the jobs that you could pursue include:

Journalist, data analyst, researcher urban planner, environmental and sustainable consulting, meteorologist.

Examples of highly desirable transferable skills include:

Critical thinking, numeracy, commercial and cultural awarness, data analysis.

from the specification the student is studying. The guidance for word length is 3000-4000 words. Students will be supported at all stages of the research project.

### University and Career Progression

A degree in geography is highly respected by employers. You will gain a strong knowledge of how the world works and a variety of highly transferable skills that are sought after by a range of industries and employers.

### Assessment

Question Paper	Exam Weighting	Description
Paper 1	30%	Dynamic landscapes – human geography
Paper 2	30%	Dynamic processess – physical geography
Paper 3	20%	Synoptic themes between content areas bringing together knowledge from the whole course.
Non-examined assesment	20%	Independent research project into a theme of the student’s choosing.





# Government and Politics

Subject:	Government and Politics
Exam Board:	Edexcel
Course Code:	9PLO
Examination:	100%
Coursework:	0%
Complementary A level Subjects:	Economics, English, History, Languages, Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology



### Why study A level Government and Politics?

Government and Politics is a subject that appeals to those interested in current developments in the UK and beyond, political ideas, debating and presenting political controversies. Essentially, all political issues are matters of argument and evaluation.

Government and Politics will attract students who are interested in political causes and ideas, or are interested in different political systems and the impact of globalisation. The course will combine well with a whole range of other subjects, but particularly Economics, Sociology, Psychology, History, English and other Languages.

### What will you study?

Students will examine the concept of democracy and the various forms of political activity; the UK system of government and politics; political ideologies such as liberalism, socialism, conservatism, and anarchism; and a comparative study of global Politics.

### Unit 1: UK Politics

This unit covers core concepts of Politics and how they relate to the UK.

- Democracy and Political Participation
- Political Parties
- Elections and the different electoral systems
- Voting behaviour, including case studies of recent General Elections.
- Ideologies: liberalism, conservatism, socialism

### Unit 2: UK Government

This unit covers the features of the UK system of government, as well as extending the study of different ideologies.

- The UK Constitutions; its sources, nature and recent developments
- Parliament
- Prime Minister and Cabinet
- The Judiciary
- The study of an alternative ideology from a choice of anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism or nationalism.

### Unit 3: Global Politics

This unit covers current international developments and the challenges facing all nations, including global terrorism, poverty, climate change, economic instability, weapons proliferation and failing states.

- The state and globalisation, the features and limitations of national sovereignty.
- Political and economic global governance: the UN, NATO, G7, G20, IMF, World Bank.
- Human rights and environmental challenges.
- Power classifications (hegemony, superpowers, great powers, emerging powers), the impact of types of government; why some nations are more powerful than others?
- Regional blocs, including the European Union; why some are more influential than others?
- Comparative theories and their application

### Assessment

Question Paper	Exam Weighting	Description
Paper 1	30%	UK Politics & Core Political Ideas
Paper 2	20%	UK Governments & Non-Core Political Ideas
Paper 3	30%	Global Politics

### University and Career Progression

Politics can be studied at any university either as a single subject, or through more specialised branches of politics such as International Politics, Political Ideas, and Governments, and/or in combination with other subjects such as PPE (Politics, Philosophy & Economics) or European or Global Political Studies, International Politics & History.

Examples of job that you could pursue include roles in politics, journalism and media, administraion (civil service), or diplomacy.

Highly desirable transferable skills include analysis of varied or complex information, presentatons, researching specialist subjects or ideas and debating.



# History

Subject:	History
Exam Board:	Edexcel
Course Code:	9HI0
Examination:	80%
Coursework:	20%
Complementary A Level Subjects:	Economics, English, Government & Politics, Languages, Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology

## Why study A level History?

History is a popular and diverse subject which would appeal to students with an enquiring and analytical mind. They will learn that historical events and developments have a variety of interconnected causes, and that there are different opinions among historians as to why something happened in a particular way at a particular time.

## What will you study?

Students study the history of the Soviet Union and China or the German Democratic Republic in Year 12, followed by the British Empire in Year 13.

They also have a coursework unit on the historical controversy of the origins of the Cold War superpower conflict between the USA and the Soviet Union after WWII. History will attract students who are interested in the past and the way it influences our modern world. The course combines well with other humanities subjects as well as Economics and Politics, which are closely linked to History.

### Unit 1: The Soviet Union: From Lenin to Yeltsin 1917-91

This unit is covered in a thematic approach across the period 1917-85:

- Soviet government
- Industrial and agricultural change
- Control of the people
- Social developments
- The fall of the USSR c.1985-91 as historical interpretation.

### Unit 2: The German Democratic Republic 1949-90

The study of Communist government is developed through a study of the German Democratic Republic

- Establishing Communist control
- The development of the East German state
- Life in East Germany
- Growing crises and the collapse of Communist rule

### Unit 3: Britain: Losing and Gaining an Empire 1763-1914

The study of how Britain lost one empire in North America through the American Revolution and then gained a far wider and diverse empire over the following century.

It combines breadth and depth studies over the whole period.

- The changing nature and extent of trade
- The changing nature of the British navy
- The loss of the American colonies
- Canada, Australia, India, the Nile Valley

### Coursework Unit: Historical Interpretations of the Origins of the Cold War 1945-53

Students will study interpretations of the origins of the Cold War Superpower rivalry through the works of a range of historians. Students research a produce an essay of up to 4000 words.



## University and Career Progression

History can be studied at all universities either as a single subject or in combination with other subjects such as Economics, Politics or Sociology. There are many different branches of History which might be linked to courses such as African, Asian and Middle Eastern studies, or American Studies.

Examples of the jobs that you could pursue include:

journalism & media, administration (civil service), diplomacy, Education, Research, Think Tanks.

Highly desirable transferable skills:

Analysis of varied, complex information, presentations, researching specialist subjects/ideas.

## Assessment

Question Paper	Exam Weighting	Description
Paper 1	30%	Russia 1917-91: From Lenin to Yeltsin
Paper 2	20%	German Democratic Republic 1949-90
Paper 3	30%	Losing and Gaining an Empire: Britain 1763-1914
Paper 4	20%	Coursework on the Origins of the Cold War 1945-53



# Latin

Subject:	Latin
Exam Board:	OCR
Course Code:	H443
Examination:	100%
Coursework:	0%
Complementary A level Subjects:	English, Maths, Languages, Philosophy, Sociology, History



### Why study A level Latin?

Latin is the key to understanding languages spoken all around the world. As the language of the Romans, it was the language of the Roman Empire, and is therefore the predecessor to many languages spoken in the countries previously conquered by it. The most common of these languages are French, Spanish, Portuguese, Romanian, Italian, English, and Catalan.

By studying Latin, we can delve into the literature, culture, and history of people living in and around the Mediterranean thousands of years ago, gaining insight into the development of societies such as ours.

This course examines both prose and verse texts, allowing learners to look at the lives of prominent Roman figures, as well as the stories of heroes and monsters, domestic Roman life, and scandalous affairs.

### Why will I study?

The OCR A level in Latin has four components and consists of four externally examined papers. Component one is an unseen translation paper, worth 33% of the A level. Component two is a prose composition or comprehension paper, worth 17% of the A level, and components three and four are one prose and one verse set text, which are worth 25% each.

### Component 1: Unseen Translation

This component is designed to enable learners to demonstrate their linguistic competence in Latin. Learners will be required to:

- Translate a passage of unseen narrative prose into English
- Translate a passage of unseen verse into English
- Scan two lines of unseen verse

### Component 2: Prose Composition and Comprehension

This component is designed to enable learners to demonstrate their linguistic competence in Latin.

Learners will be required to:

- **Either** translate unseen material from English into Latin
- **Or** demonstrate understanding of a passage of unseen prose text through comprehension, translation and questions on syntax and accidence

### Component 3: Prose Literature

Learners will study two prose texts and will be required to:

- Understand and respond to passage(s) from a set text
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the wider context of a set text
- Write at length, drawing upon a study of a set text as well as material studied in translation

### Component 4: Verse Literature

Learners should study two verse sets and will be required to:

- Understand and respond to passage(s) from a set text
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the wider context of a set text
- Translate passages of each set text into English
- Critically analyse the literary

style, characterisation, argument and literary meaning of a passage from a set text

- Write at length, drawing upon a study of a set text as well as material studied in translation.

### University and Career Progression

A degree in Latin or Classics is highly respected by employers. It will give you a range of subject-specific and broader transferable skills that will enable you to successfully navigate the world around you and make intelligent and worldly decisions, ensuring that you excel through your chosen career path.

Examples of the jobs that you could pursue include:

Teacher, museum curator, linguist, doctor, diplomat, lawyer, archaeologist, historian, academic, liguist, diplomat.

Examples of highly desirable transferable skills include:

Critical thinking, communication, research skills, cultural awarenes, and flexibility.

### Assessment

Question Paper	Exam Weighting	Description
Paper 1	33%	Unseen Translation – 100 marks, 1 hour 45 minutes
Paper 2	17%	Prose Composition or Comprehension –50 marks, 1 hour 15 minutes
Paper 3	25%	Prose Literature – 75 marks, 2 hours
Paper 4	25%	Verse Literature –75 marks, 2 hours





# Mathematics

Subject:	Mathematics
Exam Board:	Edexcel
Course Code:	9MA0
Examination:	100%
Coursework:	None
Complementary A level Subjects:	Science, Computer Science, Economics, Business, Psychology, Philosophy

Why study A level Mathematics?

Maths is one the most highly regarded A level subjects among both universities and employers, and is a pre-requisite for a vast number of degree courses. People who have studied Maths at A level have an enormous choice of careers, many of which are very well-paid.

Maths is one of the Russell Group universities’ ‘facilitating’ subjects — so-called because they facilitate a wide range of options for degree study. Science, engineering and medicine use many mathematical techniques, and subjects such as Geography, Psychology and Sociology are also likely to have components which will be more easily mastered by those with a solid understanding of Maths.

Why will I study?

Students will build upon the core skills learned at GCSE. There is a marked emphasis on enhanced algebraic skills, especially in

factorisation, equation solving, inequalities and with fractions.

Trigonometric ideas are extended beyond the triangle and extensive use of identities is thoroughly explored.

Traditionally difficult areas, such as curve sketching and a more formal approach to functions, are developed throughout.

Students will develop a deeper understanding of differential and integral calculus, as well as basic differential equations. Throughout the syllabus, there is a renewed emphasis on the importance of proof.

Modelling also features prominently and many questions test traditional topics in a more applied way. Students will explore statistics and mechanics, enabling them to use their mathematical techniques in a wide variety of practical situations. Students are examined on their most recent topics via the half termly EPP tests.

University and Career Progression

Some of the most interesting and well-paid careers revolve around maths. Careers in finance, medicine, engineering, and business are all open to people with a background in mathematics, as are careers in technology — maths being at the very core of new technological developments.

Jobs linked to Mathematics:

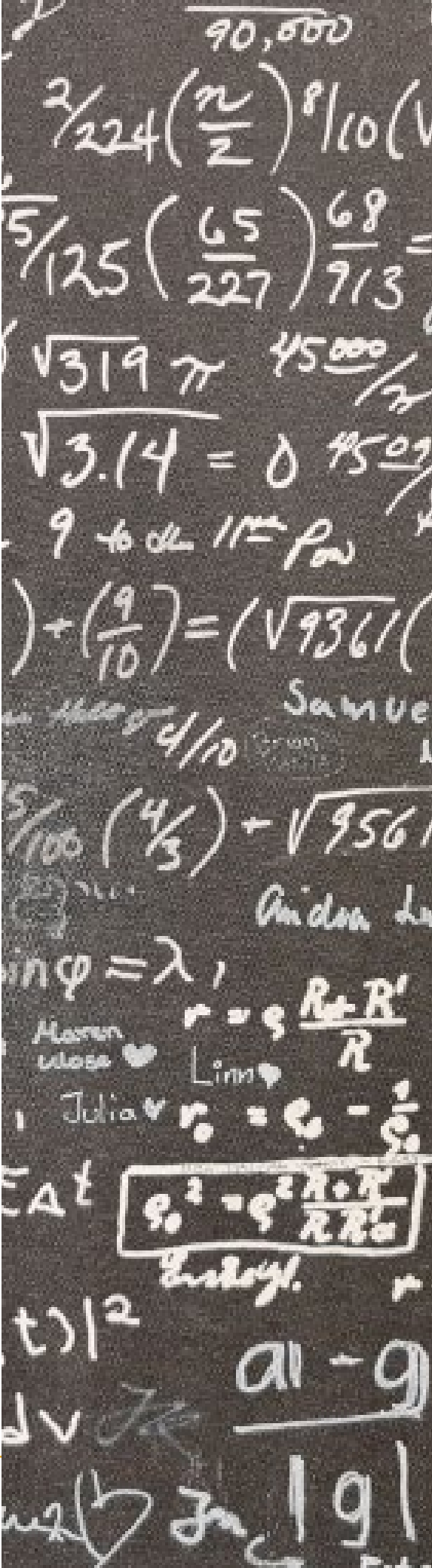
Acoustic consultant, actuary, astronomer, chartered accountant, chartered certified accountant, data analyst, data scientist, investment analyst, research scientist, secondary school teacher, software engineer, sound engineer, statistician

Highly desirable transferable skills:

Problem-solving, analytic ability, creativity, initiative, logical and methodical reasoning, persistence,being able to work under pressure.

Assessment

Paper 1: Pure Mathematics 1 (100 marks in 2 hours)
Paper 2: Pure Mathematics 2 (100 marks in 2 hours)
Content overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Topic 1 – Proof</li><li>Topic 2 – Algebra and functions</li><li>Topic 3 – Coordinate geometry in the (x, y) plane</li><li>Topic 4 – Sequences and series</li><li>Topic 5 – Trigonometry</li><li>Topic 6 – Exponentials and logarithms</li><li>Topic 7 – Differentiation</li><li>Topic 8 – Integration</li><li>Topic 9 – Numerical methods</li><li>Topic 10 – Vectors</li></ul>
Paper 3: Statistics and Mechanics (100 marks in 2 hours)
Content overview
Section A: Statistics <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Topic 1 – Statistical sampling</li><li>Topic 2 – Data presentation and interpretaton</li><li>Topic 3 – Probability</li><li>Topic 4 – Statistical distributions</li><li>Topic 5 – Statistical hypothesis testing</li></ul>
Section B: Mechanics <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Topic 6 – Quantities and units and measures</li><li>Topic 7 – Kinematics</li><li>Topic 8 – Forces and Newton’s laws</li><li>Topic 9 – Moments</li></ul>



# Music

Subject:	Music
Exam Board:	Edexcel
Course Code:	9MU0
Examination:	Appraising 40%
Coursework:	Performing 30% and Composing 30%
Complementary: A level Subjects	Mathematics, Drama, Languages, English

### Why study A level Music?

A level Music allows students to explore and develop their musical potential and become well-rounded musicians. Students will build their confidence in performing, explore their personal composition style, and analyse a wide range of musical genres. Students wishing to take A level Music should have a Grade 6 practical in ABRSM / Trinity / Rock & Pop / Musical Theatre, Grade 3 theory, and/or GCSE Music Grade 6.

### Why will I study?

From the music of Batman to Vaughan Williams, Clara Schumann to Anoushka Shankar, students will explore a diverse range of works, celebrating not only classical music, but contemporary music, music by female composers, and world music. Students will analyse the scores of these set works and listen to wider examples of music from these genres to familiarise themselves with the characteristic features of each style, strengthening their listening skills throughout the course.

These skills will then be tested through familiar and unfamiliar works in the form of a listening paper with some essay questions.

Students will explore different compositional strategies and techniques in order to develop their writing voice and individual sound. Students will use a range of notation and recording software, and will learn to apply the elements of music in more sophisticated writing styles. Weekly composition workshops provide students with one-to-one feedback in order to ensure they are expanding their compositional toolkit to its fullest.

As part of the course, students will go on trips that link to each component, experiencing how different performers interpret the composers’ intentions. Students will also have regular opportunities to perform in the school’s many music groups and concerts, and enter both internal and external competitions, playing for a wide range of audiences.

### Areas of Study

#### Vocal Music

- **J. S. Bach**, Cantata, Ein feste Burg, BWV 80: Movements 1, 2, 8
- **Vaughan Williams**, On Wenlock Edge: Nos. 1, 3 and 5 (“On Wenlock Edge”, “Is My Team Ploughing”, “Bredon Hill”)

#### Instrumental Music

- **Clara Wieck-Schumann**, Piano Trio in G minor, Op. 17: movement 1
- **Berlioz**, Symphonie Fantastique: Movement I

#### Music for Film

- ***Batman Returns*** (Danny Elfman) “Birth of a Penguin Parts I and II”, “Batman vs the Circus”, “The Rise and Fall from Grace”
- ***Psycho*** (Bernard Hermann) “Prelude”, “The City”, “Marion”, “The Murder (Shower Scene)”, “The Toys”, “The Cellar”, “Discovery”, “Finale”

#### Popular Music and Jazz

- **Kate Bush**, “Hounds of Love” “Cloudbusting”, “And Dream of Sheep”, “Under Ice”
- **The Beatles**, “Revolver” “Eleanor Rigby”, “Here, There, and Everywhere”, “I Want to Tell You”, “Tomorrow Never Knows”
- **Courtney Pine**, “Back in the Day” “Inner State (of Mind)” “Lady Day and (John Coltrane), “Love and Affection”

#### Fusions

- **Debussy**, Estampes: Nos. 1 and 2 (Pagodes and La soirée dans Grenade)
- **Anoushka Shankar**, “Breathing Under Water” “Burn,” “Breathing Under Water,” Easy

#### New Directions

- **Kaija Saariaho**, Petals for Violoncello and Live Electronics
- **Stravinsky**, The Rite of Spring: Introduction, The Augurs of Spring, and Ritual of Abduction

#### University and Career Progression

A level Music can lead to many varied and interesting careers, and not only in the creative industries. Jobs directly linked to music include professional performer, music producer, freelance composer, orchestrator/arranger, music therapist, sound technician, music teacher, events manager,

radio producer, arts administrator, theatre stage manager, choreographer, talent agent, or marketing executive.

The study of A level Music also allows students to develop a number of vital transferable skills which are relevant to a wide range of professions, such as collaboration; creativity and self-expression; independent learning; discipline; confidence; performance and presentation skills; analytical and essay writing skills.

#### Assessment

Question Paper	Exam	Description
Performing	30%	Solo/ensemble recital of a minimum of 8 minutes
Composing	30%	Free composition/composition to a brief (20%) and harmonisation of a Bach Chorale (10%)
Appraising	40%	Listening exam with set works across different genres, unfamiliar music and essay questions





# Philosophy

Subject:	Philosophy A
Exam Board:	AQA
Course Code:	7172
Examination:	100%
Coursework:	0%
Complementary A Level Subjects:	English Literature, Sociology, Politics, Economics, Mathematics, History

## Why study A level Philosophy?

Derived from the Greek word ‘philosophia’, ‘the love of wisdom’, Philosophy is the study of the fundamental nature of knowledge, reality, existence, and what it means to be ethical. In a complex 21st century, where the rise of fundamentalism, populism, and fake news threatens the very notion of ‘truth’, the study of philosophy has never been more important. Philosophy has four broad branches: epistemology, ethics, metaphysics, and the philosophy of mind.

**Moral Philosophy** is the branch of philosophy concerned with systematizing, defending, and recommending concepts of right and wrong. Our morals shape our identity, how we relate to people, and how we navigate at times difficult situations and decisions. At the heart of the study of ethics, is the notion that we are moving towards becoming better people and understanding the complex and nuanced notion of what it means to be ‘good.’

**Epistemology** is the branch of philosophy concerned with the study of knowledge and justification. In Epistemology we question the criteria for knowledge and the conditions involved when determining actual truth. What we know, and how we know it, is a fundamental question within the world we live; epistemology challenges us to reconsider our biases and beliefs in the search for truth.

**Metaphysics of God** is the branch of philosophy concerned with the nature and existence of God. If God does exist, how do we prove its existence and if we can, then what can we say about the nature of God. Religion continues to play a pivotal role in the twenty-first century and the study of the metaphysics of God facilitates an analytical, secular, and objective framework whereby to question such entities.

**Metaphysics of Mind** is the branch of philosophy predominantly concerned with the nature of human cognition. While neuroscience has played a fundamental role in understanding

consciousness, philosophical approaches to understanding consciousness have also played a central role in ascertaining how the brain works. In this module, we focus on both philosophical and neurological accounts of consciousness and the functionality of the brain.

## What will you study?

The AQA Level 3 A- level Philosophy (7172) is structured into four themes and consists of two externally examined papers. Students build knowledge and understanding of core philosophical fields and concepts in Themes 1 and 2, and then build on this and apply their knowledge to more complex concepts in Themes 3 and 4. Students will need to apply their knowledge and understanding to both familiar and unfamiliar contexts in the assessments and demonstrate an awareness of current philosophical debates and polemics.

## Theme 1: Epistemology

Students will develop an understanding of concepts such as knowledge, justification, belief, the limits of knowledge, and deductive and inductive logic.

## Theme 2: Moral philosophy

Students will develop an understanding of normative and ethical theories, utilitarianism, Kantian deontology, Aristotelian virtue ethics, applied ethics, and meta-ethics.

## Theme 3: Metaphysics of God

This theme develops the concepts introduced in Theme 1 and focuses on

arguments for the existence of God.

Students will develop an understanding of the ontological argument, the cosmological argument, the teleological argument, criticism of the arguments for God’s existence, religious justification, and the problem of evil.

## Theme 4: Metaphysics of Mind

This theme develops the metaphysical concepts introduced in Theme 2 and applies these concepts in relation to consciousness and decision making.

Students will develop an understanding of consciousness, philosophical approaches to consciousness (Dualist), neurological approaches to consciousness (Physicalist), and functionalism.

## University and Career Progression

A level Philosophy lends itself to a variety of future degree courses, including Law, History, Theology, Business, and Politics, as well as Philosophy itself. Philosophy also combines well with other subjects such as English and Physics in joint honours degrees.

A Philosophy degree is highly respected by employers. Philosophers are able to think broadly; approach problems holistically; explore and analyse different perspectives; and communicate complex ideas in a clear and precise way. These are highly transferable skills that are sought after by a wide range of industries and employers such as think tanks, risk consultancy, civil service, government intelligence, market research analyst, academia, teaching, law, policy analyst, psychologist, management consultant.

## Assessment

Question Paper	Exam	Description
Paper 1	50%	Epistemology and Moral Philosophy. Will assess both epistemology and moral philosophy, and questions will be drawn from Themes 1 and 2. 3 hours, 100 marks.
Paper 2	50%	Metaphysics of God and Metaphysics of Mind. Will assess both metaphysics and God and Metaphysics of mind, and questions will be drawn from Themes 2 and 3. 3 hours, 100 marks.



# Physical Education

Subject:	Physical Education
Exam Board:	AQA
Course Code:	7582
Examination:	70% written exam, 30% performance
Coursework:	0%
Complementary A level Subjects:	Biology, Chemistry, Psychology, Sociology, Business, Philosophy

### Why study A level Physical Education?

A level Physical Education enhances a student’s knowledge and experience of PE and sport, along with associated health issues.

As a subject, Physical Education A level offers a multidisciplinary approach to the participation in, and study of, movement, performance and behaviour in relation to a variety of aspects of PE and sport.

### What will you study?

- Applied anatomy and physiology
- Skill acquisition
- Sport and society
- Biomechanical movement
- Sport psychology
- Sport and society and the role of technology in physical activity and sport

Prospective students of A level PE should be competent scientists, and enjoy studying how the human body and mind is both affected by and affects participation in PE and sport; the place of PE and sport in our society; how the subject has developed historically to fulfil its social role; and developing and acquiring skills and techniques in a variety of physical activities.

It is expected that A level PE students are regularly participating in sport and need to be technically competent in at least one sport. Students are also expected to participate in sports teams (both internal and external) in order to develop the skills necessary to be successful in this subject.

### Paper 1: Factors Affecting Participation and Physical Activity in Sport

- Applied Anatomy & Physiology
- Skill Acquisition
- Sport & Society

### Paper 2: Factors Affecting Optimal Performance in Physical Activity and Sport

- Exercise Physiology & Biomechanics
- Sport Psychology
- Sport, Society & Technology

### Practical performance in Physical Activity & Sport

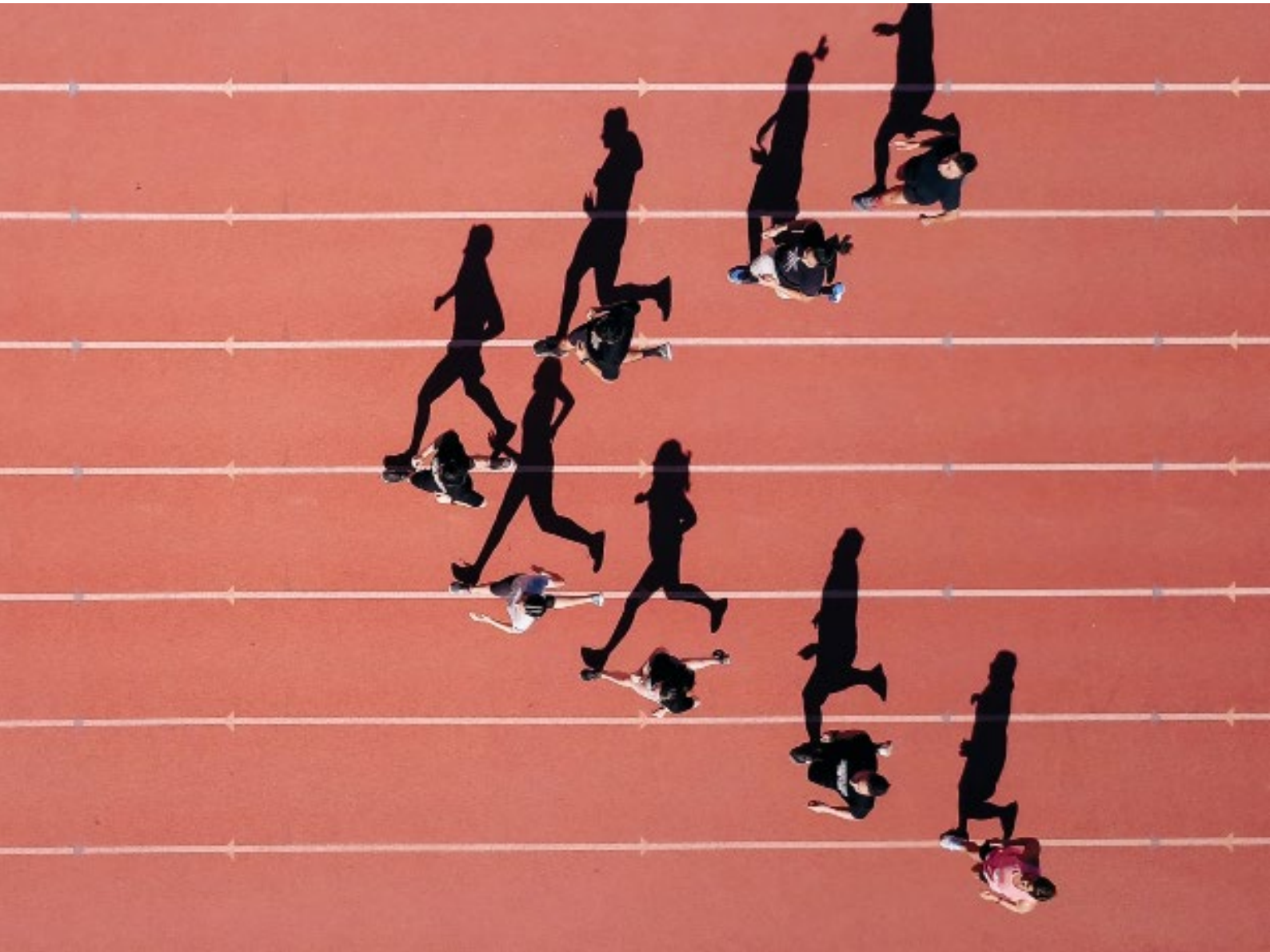
- Students are assessed as either a player/performer or coach in the full sided version of one activity
- Written/verbal analysis & evaluation of performance

### University and Career Progression

Physical Education combines well with a number of different subjects: Psychology, Biology and Sociology in particular are good combinations. Students studying A level Physical Education may go on to study a wide range of degree courses, including Sports Science; Sport Business Management; PE Teacher Training; Physiotherapy & Sports Injury; and Sports Coaching & Development. Students will also gain a number of highly desirable transferable skills including teamwork, communication, resilience, discipline, strategy, flexibility, and an ability to perform under pressure.

### Assessment

Question Paper	Exam	Description
Paper 1	35%	2 hour written examination. 105 marks.
Paper 2	35%	2 hour written examination. 105 marks.
Practical	30%	Internal Assessment with external moderation. 90 marks.





# Physics

Subject:	Physics A
Exam Board:	OCR
Course Code:	H556
Examination:	100%
Coursework:	0%
Complementary A level Subjects:	Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Computer Science, Biology, Chemistry

## Why study A level Physics?

For most science and engineering courses, both A level Physics and Mathematics are required, and although many jobs and degree courses outside science do not require you to have studied a specific subject, studying a ‘facilitating’ A level subject such as Physics can give you an advantage. Studying A level Physics doesn’t restrict your options, it expands them.

As well as being needed for many careers in science and engineering, the skills and knowledge that you can develop by studying physics keeps the door open to doing just about anything else.

## What will you study?

Physics A level is one of the most universally accepted qualifications for progression to university. The course content covers the basis of how things work, from the constituent parts of atoms to the extent of the universe.

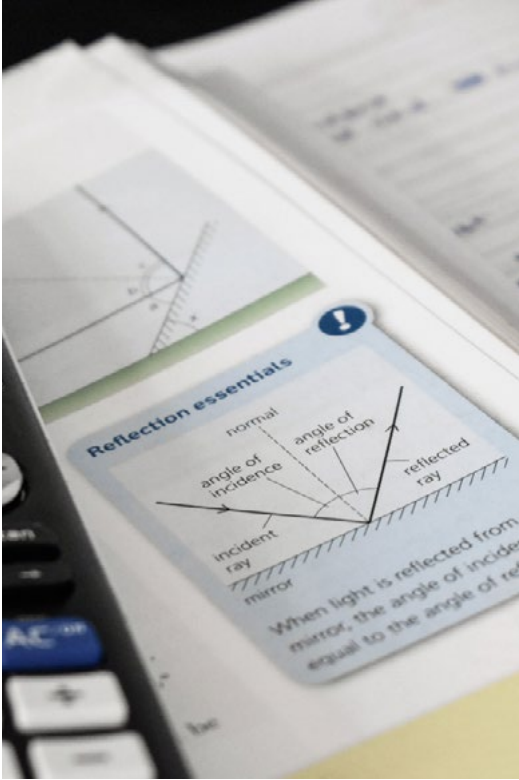
You will integrate the concepts studied with a range of practical experiments throughout each topic, which gives the course both an academic and practical focus.

You will also learn how to apply your knowledge of the key concepts to solve problems in a range of different contexts and applications.

### Year 1

Concepts explored in the first year of A level Physics include:

- Physical quantities and units
- Making measurements and analysing data
- Nature of quantities
- Motion
- Forces in action
- Energy and power
- Materials



- Charge and current
- Energy
- Power and resistanc
- Electrical circuits
- Practical skills in physics
- Waves
- Quantum physics.

### Year 2

Concepts explored in year two include the following:

- Thermal physics
- Circular motion
- Oscillations
- Gravitational fields
- Orbits
- Astrophysics and cosmology apacitors

- Electric fields
- Electromagnetism
- Nuclear and particle physics
- Radiation and nuclear power
- Medical imaging.

## University and Career Progression

Although only a lucky few get the chance to become an astronaut, studying physics can help you land a job in space. You could become a cosmologist and investigate the evolution of the universe, or an astrophysicist who searches for dark matter and black holes.

Physics is a useful subject for those wishing to become a medical doctor, surgeon, or clinical scientist; physics has revolutionised the diagnosis and treatment of illness. Surgery is now routinely carried out using lasers; cancer is treated using radiation; and new ways of using physics to see inside our bodies are being developed every year.

Examples of the jobs that you could pursue include:

Astronaut, Astronomer, Medical Physicist, Structural engineer, Mechanical Engineer, Civil Engineer, Electrical Engineer, Physicist, Architect, Data scientist, Lawyer.

Highly desirable transferable skills:

Critical thinking, data analysis, time management, teamwork, problem-solving, computing, communication, numeracy, research skills.

## Assessment

Question Paper	Exam Weighting	Description
Paper 1	37%	Modelling physics (01) 100 marks 2 hours 15 minutes written paper
Paper 2	37%	Exploring physics (02) 100 marks 2 hours 15 minutes written paper
Paper 3	26%	Unified physics (03) 70 marks 1 hour 30 minutes written paper



# Psychology

Subject:	Psychology A
Exam Board:	AQA
Course Code:	7182
Examination:	100%
Coursework:	0%
Complementary A Level Subjects:	Biology, Maths, Sociology, English, Economics, Philosophy.

## Why study A level Psychology?

Psychology is the scientific study of the brain and behaviour. Students will learn how ideas and theories in each area of psychology have developed; how to critically analyse evidence; and how to undertake practical research. Students will design their own experimental projects, keeping in mind any necessary constraints, and by the end of the course, will be able to comprehend, analyse and form opinions on theories, and present and communicate their knowledge in a clear way.

By acquiring an eclectic set of skills including knowledge application and critical evaluation, psychology students are well positioned to pursue a diverse range of degrees and careers.

Psychology sits well with creative subjects and the humanities, but there is also a sizeable portion of mathematics and science within the course, as well as extended essay writing, so it is certainly not a “soft option.”

## Why will you study?

### Year 1

During the first year of study, students will develop a broad knowledge of key areas of psychology including Memory, Attachment, Psychopathology, Research Methods, Social Psychology and Approaches. Students will study theories and studies; carry out practical demonstrations, apply their knowledge to novel situations; and evaluate and reflect on the evidence gathered.

### Year 2

The second year of study builds on foundations set in the first year, and explores new areas such as cover Research Methods (including statistics), Issues and Debates, Biopsychology, Gender, Aggression and Schizophrenia.

Topics covered include:

- Memory
- Attachment

- Approaches in Psychology
- Psychopathology
- Research methods
- Biopsychology
- Relationships
- Gender
- Cognition and Development
- Eating Behaviour
- Forensic psychology



## University and Career Progression

Studying Psychology will help you develop vital skills, such as attention to detail, being synoptic (linking ideas together), and the ability to evaluate written and numerical evidence from various sources in order to come to a conclusions, and will therefore prepare you well for any university course and the world of work. Typical courses that might be considered after studying A level Psychology might include Neuroscience, Psychology, AI, Teaching and Business. Psychology has elements of both the “hard sciences” and the social sciences, however, and therefore lends itself to a wide variety of career paths.

Examples of the jobs that you could pursue include:

Counsellor, Clinical Psychologist, Educational Psychologist, Neuropsychologist, Researcher, Social Worker, Art Therapist, Organisational Psychologist.

Examples of highly desirable transferable skills include:

Communication, research skills, critical thinking, ethics, analysis, academic writing, evaluation, problem solving, statistics

## Assessment

Question Paper	Exam Weighting	Description
Paper 1	33.3%	Four sections covering four topics (memory, social psychology, attachment and psychopathology). 2 hour paper carrying 96 marks.
Paper 2	33.3%	Three sections covering three topics (approaches, biopsychology and research methods). 2 hour paper carrying 96 marks. Research methods is double-weighted, is worth 48 marks, and occupies 60 minutes of examination time.
Paper 3	33.3%	Four sections covering four topics (compulsory Issues and Debates and then three options out of a total of nine possible topics). 2 hour paper carrying 96 marks.



# Sociology

Subject:	Sociology
Exam Board:	AQA
Course Code:	7192
Examination:	100%
Coursework:	0%
Complementary A Level Subjects:	Philosophy, Psychology, Business, Biology, Government and Politics, Economics

### Why study A level Sociology?

Sociology is a diverse subject concerned with analysing human social behaviour, institutions and social processes.

Pupils examine the development of human society from prehistoric hunter-gatherer groups to contemporary post-industrial societies, and gain an appreciation

of broad trends underlying social change and the formation of the modern world.

Sociology involves the study of wealth, power, status, poverty and social class, as well as politics, race, nationalism and cultural identity.

The course covers the role of family, education, religion, the media, leisure and the arts.

Pupils also study government, social control systems and crime, international politics, globalisation, development and aid.



### What will you study?

#### Year 1

##### Topics include:

- The role and function of education
- Ethnicity and educational achievement
- Gender and educational achievement
- The family and social structure
- Demographic trends and family life
- The social construction of childhood
- Quantitative research methods
- Qualitative research methods

#### Year 2

Concepts explored in year two include the following:

- Gender and crime
- Ethnicity and crime
- Crime and theory
- Social class and crime
- Control, prevention, and punishment of crime
- Marxism and crime
- Globalisation
- Values and ethics

### University and Career Progression

Sociologists work within many different fields such as law, education, politics, social work and international agencies.

They also play a big role in shaping social policy by exposing and examining areas of inequality in society related to, for example, racism or ageism.

Sociology is a great choice of subject for people who want a career in social work, nursing or medicine. However, the subject is also useful in a number of other careers like marketing, advertising, PR, journalism, law or teaching.

Examples of the jobs that you could pursue include:

Youth worker, social researcher, teacher, community development worker, police officer, Civil Service, charity officer, probation officer, international aid worker, SENCo.

### Assessment

Question Paper	Exam Weighting	Description
Paper 1	33.3%	Education with Theory and Methods. 2 hours, 80 marks
Paper 2	33.3%	Topics in Sociology. 2 hours, 80 marks
Paper 3	33.3%	Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods. 2 hours, 80 marks.



# Spanish

**Subject:** Spanish

**Exam Board:** AQA

**Course Code:** 7692

**Examination:** 100%

**Coursework:** 0%

**Complementary A level Subjects:** English, Business, Economics, Languages, Politics, Geography, History

## Why study A level Spanish?

Philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein once said, “the limits of my language mean the limits of my world.” By possessing the power of language, one possesses the chance to open many more doors to new experiences and opportunities. This is particularly true of Spanish, which opens the doors to communicate with the 400 million Spanish speakers of the world.

The study of languages not only allows students to develop their linguistic abilities, including syntax, grammar and translation, but helps them acquire a wide range of transferable expertise, such as presentation, communication and analytical skills.

Moreover, a language serves as a roadmap of culture and history, ensuring students become well-rounded members of society, with the knowledge and skills to be successful in a broad range of careers.

## Why will I study?

The AQA Spanish course is structured into four themes and consists of

three externally examined papers. The approach is a focus on how Spanish-speaking society has been shaped socially and culturally and how it continues to change. In the first year, aspects of the social context are studied, together with aspects of the artistic life of Spanish-speaking countries. In the second year further aspects of the social background are covered, this time focusing on matters associated with multiculturalism.

Students also study aspects of the political landscape including the future of political life in the Hispanic world by focusing on young people and their political engagement.

## Theme 1: Aspects of Hispanic Society

Students may study all sub-themes in relation to any Spanish-speaking country or countries::

- Modern and traditional values
- Cyberspace
- Equal rights

## Theme 2: Artistic Culture in the Hispanic World

Students must study all sub-themes in relation to any Spanish-speaking country or countries:

- Modern day Idols
- Spanish regional identity
- Cultural heritage

## Theme 3: Multiculturalism in Hispanic society

Students may study all sub-themes in relation to any Spanish-speaking country or countries:

- Immigration
- Racism
- Integration

## Theme 4: Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world

Students must study monarchies and dictatorships in relation to any relevant Spanish-speaking country.

Students may study the remaining sub-themes in relation to any Spanish-speaking country or countries.

- Today’s youth, tomorrow’s citizens
- Monarchies and dictatorships
- Popular movements

## University and Career Progression

Studies of graduate employability repeatedly stress the career value of language degrees, which provide pupils with international experience and enhancing cultural awareness, helping them to develop flexibility, resilience and resourcefulness.

Employers value foreign language ability, not just as a specialist skill, but as a personal quality that develops relationship-building, teamwork, and the capacity to move easily in international contexts..

Examples of the jobs that you could pursue include:

Translating, interpreting, teaching and lecturing, intelligence agencies, international business, press and media, IT and technology, marketing and public relations.

Examples of highly desirable transferable skills include:

Critical thinking, communication, research skills, cultural awarenes, and flexibility.

## Assessment

Question Paper	Exam Weighting	Description
Paper 1	50%	Listening, Reading and Writing (translation from English to Spanish and vice versa).
Paper 2	20%	Writing two essays in Spanish, one on the film studied, the other on the literature studied.
Paper 3	30%	Speaking; includes an Individual Research Project (IRP) and a discussion of a sub-theme based on a stimulus card.







KENSINGTON  
PARK SCHOOL

KPS Sixth Form  
59 Queen's Gate,  
South Kensington,  
London, SW7 5JP

Tel: +44 (0)20 7225 0577

[admissions@kps.co.uk](mailto:admissions@kps.co.uk)