



Epsom and Ewell High School Sixth Form Prospectus 2016

Welcome to our sixth form

We are so pleased that you are considering our sixth form for the next stage in your education. This is a very exciting time for you as you hone your skills and talents, and continue to develop through new experiences and opportunities.

At Epsom and Ewell High School, student and staff relationships are the key to success; the teachers here are invested in your education and will help you to gain the tools, skills and grades which you will need to go on to the next stage, whatever you decide that to be. They will encourage you to become independent and reflective learners, with a positive and resilient attitude throughout your time with us and beyond. Applications from external candidates are welcome and new students often comment on the warm atmosphere and the speed with which they settle in.

Although our sixth form students play an inherent part in the whole school life, the sixth form maintains a distinctive character of its own. It is a personal place to study; you will be joining a friendly and caring community where everyone is valued, respected and celebrated for what they achieve and contribute.

We look forward to welcoming you.

Karen Davies

Assistant Headteacher



A message from the Head Boy and Head Girl

Georgia Hinson



Hello, my name is Georgia and I am the current Head Girl of Epsom and Ewell High. I study English Literature, History and Spanish, with the hope of studying English Literature at university.

I cannot recommend the sixth form at EEHS highly enough; it operates like an academic family; we all look out for each other. All students benefit from thorough advice and support for whatever we are going on to post sixth form. We are also enjoying an enrichment programme involving external speakers, workshops and discussions on topics related to people of our age. We are also looking forward to the first ever Epsom and Ewell High School residential, which forms part of the optional extra curricular programme.

Epsom and Ewell High School has taught me to always have aspirations to reach. I would like to pursue a career in journalism, as current affairs and polemic topics are always something I have enjoyed exploring. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Epsom and Ewell High School and would urge you to continue your studies in the sixth form.

Joe Quick



I am so proud to be head boy of Epsom and Ewell High School. The relationship between staff and students is very special. The sixth form is a community with a common goal of achievement and everyone helps each other to get there.

I studied English, Economics and History and I have recently applied to Oxford to study History and German. Post-study, I hope to get a training contract with a political party or with a corporate law firm. Wherever I go to university, my ultimate goal is to become an MP then work my way up the political ranks from there. With EEHS, I attended a live debate on the EU referendum between two politicians, which sparked my interest even further. The teachers are willing to go the extra mile to help, support and prepare you for any challenge you may face.

I strongly recommend Epsom and Ewell High School and all the opportunities that are available you. Our sixth form is a warm and welcoming place to study and we would welcome you anytime should you wish to visit.

Selecting the right course for you

1. Research university entry requirements

If you already know what course you want to study university, your next step should be to research the course's entry requirements. Importantly, many courses require specific A Levels to be studied. As an example, to apply for Medicine, students are generally expected to include science based A Levels such as Chemistry and Biology. By researching entry requirements you will be able to make a well-informed decision without limiting future university applications.

2. This is two years of your life

A Levels take up two academic years of your life. Choosing subjects that you enjoy and have a genuine interest in will make the two years less laborious and more fun. You are also more likely to do well in a subject that you enjoy.

3. Transferable skills gained from A Levels

Studying A Levels will inevitably provide you with an array of transferable skills: it is worth considering which skills would be personally beneficial to gain. As an example, if you are aiming to study Law at university, assessments may be essay focused. Consequently, the ability to structure an essay will be useful and can be gained from studying subjects such as English Literature, History or RE.

4. Syllabus and assessment

Before deciding which A Levels to study, ensure you understand what the course consists of in terms of both syllabus and assessment. As an example, many people assume a PE A Level will be very practical, however, they are unaware that the course largely consists of theory based learning and assessments. By researching the content and assessment of A Levels prior to confirming your choices, you will be better equipped to make the right decision.

5. Still not sure about what to study?

Most importantly, you should be the driver of any decision regarding A Levels, but if you are still struggling there is no harm in seeking advice. The sixth form team are happy to help at any time, please do not be afraid of asking for their advice.

Entry Requirements

At EEHS we aim to help you to build on your achievements from Year 11. There are several ways that you can continue your studies and one of these ways will be the right one for you. There are both traditional academic courses and vocational courses on offer.

Level 3: A Levels

Many students who attain at least 5 good grades at GCSE (at least 3A*-C grades, and a level 5 in English *and* mathematics) choose to study A Levels. In the first year of sixth form they study four Advanced Subsidiary (AS) levels and in the second year of study they continue with 3 of the subjects to attain a full A Level in each subject.

A Levels are essential for entry to many universities and are also a minimum starting point for many professions. They are an academically demanding level of study giving you the opportunity to study a few subjects in depth.

Level 3: BTEC Level 3

These courses are equivalent to an A level at the end of 2 years. They are vocational in nature and carry a large coursework element in which students can obtain a Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction* depending on the level of work. There is an examined element, but significantly less than in A levels. This pathway is available to students who achieve a minimum of a level 4 in English *and* mathematics with 3 A*-C grades at GCSE in addition to this.

Many universities recognise this qualification and students who successfully complete BTEC courses will gain entry to a large number of universities.

What we offer

A Levels

- Art
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Drama and Theatre Studies
- English Literature
- French
- Geography
- German
- History
- Mathematics
- Media Studies
- Photography
- Physics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Sociology
- Spanish

BTECs

- Applied Science
- Applied Law
- Health and Social Care
- Sport
- Travel and Tourism

GCSE

- English Language
- Mathematics

Project Qualification

- Extended Project Qualification Level 3

The application process

Thursday 17th
November

- Attend EEHS' Sixth Form Open Evening

November
25th

- Return your application

December
2nd

- Taster day for internal candidates on selected A-level subjects

January
2017

- Discuss options with a member of the senior leadership team

February
2017

- Receive conditional offer

The sixth form community

Leadership opportunities

All students are given the opportunity to excel, to consolidate their strengths and follow their passions. We encourage all our students to develop as leaders, to have a sense of personal responsibility and team spirit; qualities which are invaluable in future life. As ambassadors for the school our sixth form students are frequently called upon to play a pivotal part in the daily life of the school. This involves input into the school House system, major sport events, music and drama productions alongside charitable and fundraising events. By taking part in a wide range of experiences, students at EEHS develop the personal qualities, skills and the ability to manage themselves and lead others.

Aim High

Every year over 80% of our students will go on to university, including Oxford and Cambridge. As routes into professional qualifications change we are also seeing an increasing number going straight into training for their career from A Level – for example in accountancy – or taking up apprenticeships. We also support and advise students who want to go straight into work or choose to take a gap year. The key is that this is their informed choice, for which they are fully prepared.

Expectations

What characterises our Sixth Form is the high level of expectation of both the teachers and students. Our students learn to manage their time and plan their work. We expect students to be organised, punctual, smart in appearance, ready for work and proactive in exploring everything the sixth form has to offer. Their tutor, together with subject teachers, guide and support in a relationship that is a partnership, with a shared focus on success. All of this underpins students' outstanding achievement.

Resources

The common room and sixth form areas have recently been refurbished, with new computers in all computer suites. Sixth form students have access to the learning resource centre throughout the day, as well as any free classroom.

The sixth form curriculum

A level reform

Under the new system of linear A levels, all the exams that count towards the final grade will be taken only at the end of the two year programme. AS level exams are available to take at the end of Year 12, as a chance to demonstrate progress and ability in a subject, but are not going to count towards the final grade for a full A level.

The Sixth Form Study Programme

We will continue to require students to take 4 AS level exams at the end of year 12. Students then drop one subject (finishing with an AS) and continue with 3 A levels. In order to allow students the best opportunity to succeed, we will continue to enter students for the AS exam at the end of year 12. They provide a very important indicator of progress to inform the decision of which three subjects to continue with at A Level. It is also an excellent opportunity to evidence academic ability and potential for university or apprenticeship applications and employment.

Personal development

There are many opportunities for sixth form students to compliment their efforts in the classroom. These include:

- Duke of Edinburgh
- Year 7 readers
- Help in lessons
- Completing the student voice in lower years
- University links
- Oxbridge and the Sutton Trust
- Student leaders
- Trips and visits

The sixth form team

We want your time at EEHS Sixth Form to be happy and productive. The assistant headteacher, tutors and specialist subject teachers all operate in close consultation to give you the support and guidance you need with every step of your journey. Your tutor will offer you 1:1 advice and guidance on a regular basis. The tutor group system is vertical and includes year 12 and 13 students; this encourages communication, community and mutual support between the 2 years.

UCAS

You will be supported in your application to university by a team of highly qualified and very experienced staff. Your tutor, the careers advisor and the senior leadership team will work with you to plan out your application, compose your personal statement, and complete the UCAS online application form. They will advise on courses, open days and interviews.

We register all of our sixth form students with the online UNIFROG platform. This web-based facility is designed to help students access the right university course or high-level apprenticeship. Its search facility helps you filter through the thousands of university courses available to you ensuring that your choice for the future is the right one and that it is based on a list of criteria that is important to you as an individual.

Enrichment

All students take part in enrichment for one hour a week. This comprises of a range of activities, speakers and workshops to help the students engage in something different to their studies. Activities include:

- Workshops on performance under pressure
- A presentation from the Anthony Nolan Trust
- Team building
- Safe Drive, Stay Alive
- Personal training and nutrition

Destinations

Whatever your chosen path we will offer you the necessary support, advice and guidance to ensure that you are able to plan carefully for your future. The vast majority of our students go direct to university, but as high-level apprenticeships also become a potential means of moving into your chosen career we will encourage you to explore all the options available, and weigh up the value, advantages and disadvantages of all routes, which will mean that you take responsibility for making your own decisions about your future.

Course Outlines



Fine Art

Exam Board	AQA
Head of Department	Miss Maliphant
Entry requirement	B in GCSE Art

Why study fine art?

This popular and exciting course allows you to express and investigate your personal ideas using a variety of materials and techniques. Students will be encouraged to develop and explore their creative ideas independently. Studying Art and Design will provide you with a solid background for a career in many different fields, such as: animation, architecture, fine art, costume design, engineering, illustration, landscape design, product, design and film to name but a few.

Course content

Year 1:

Component 1: Portfolio of work, with no time limit. Students will produce a practical and critical/contextual project using a trip to Kew Gardens as their starting point. Students will develop their own theme, exploring drawing, painting, mixed media, sculpture, ceramics, installation, printmaking, moving image or photography. Students will explore different approaches to recording images, such as observation, expression and imagination, and show an understanding of the conventions of different types of imagery or genres.

Component 2: Externally set assignment, 10 hours of supervised time.

Year 2:

Component 1: Personal investigation, no time limit. Students will produce work using a theme of their own choice, building on the skills developed in Year 1.

Component 2: Externally set assignment, 15 hour of supervised time.

Biology

Exam Board	AQA
Head of Department	Mr Watts
Entry requirement	B in additional and core science GCSE Level 5 in maths

Why study Biology?

You will enjoy and succeed in Biology if you enjoy a challenge and have an active curiosity across a broad range of scientific topics. You will learn a huge, new specialist vocabulary; and you need to be comfortable studying Biochemistry – structure of large molecules, chemical reactions in cells and energy transfers. Past students have gone on to study Medicine, Veterinary Science, Physiotherapy and related courses. Since Biology is a Facilitating Subject, it is well regarded by top universities as part of an applicant's portfolio for a degree in any subject.

Course content

The course content is split into eight modules. Modules 1-4 constitute the stand alone AS level qualification and are examined in 2 papers worth 50% each. Modules 1 to 8, combined with the practical endorsement, constitute the full A level and are examined in 3 papers.

The units explore topics including the detailed structure and biochemistry of plant, animal and bacterial cells; the anatomy, physiology and health of the cardiovascular and nervous systems; the molecular basis of genetics; ecology and forensic entomology. Practical skills are developed through 12 core practicals.

You should be aware that 10% of the marks are maths based questions.



Business Studies

Exam Board	AQA
Head of Department	Miss Doyle
Entry requirement	B in GCSE Business Studies

Why study Business Studies?

Business Studies will enable you to develop a critical understanding of organisations, behaviour and the process of decision-making. You will develop the ability to organise information, ideas and arguments clearly and logically through case studies. From the beginning of a business start-up, to the challenges faced by large multinational corporations, this course is applied to the real world today.

Course content

The following 10 areas will be covered over the two years of study. Units 1-to 6 will be tested in the AS paper.

- What is business?
- Managers, leadership and decision making
- Decision making to improve marketing performance
- Decision making to improve operation performance
- Decision making to improve financial performance
- Decision making to improve human resource performance
- Analysing the strategic position of a business
- Choosing strategic direction
- Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies
- Managing strategic change

Chemistry

Exam Board	AQA
Head of Department	Mr Watts
Entry requirement	B in additional and core science GCSE Level 5 in maths

Why study Chemistry?

Chemistry is the study of substances; what they are made of, how they interact with each other and the role they play in living things. A Level Chemistry is recognised by universities as a rigorous and academic subject that is essential to access careers such as in medicine, dentistry and chemical engineering. Studying A Level Chemistry will develop useful skills that can be applied outside the subject discipline; these include problem solving, numeracy, practical skills and the development of a broad scientific understanding. From research in space, to the depths of the oceans, chemistry helps you understand the world around you and opens up many career opportunities.

Course content

Inorganic, organic and physical chemistry are studied over two years. These topics explore the properties and reactivity of chemical elements; structure, properties, composition, reactions and preparation of carbon containing compounds; physical structure, the amount of energy compounds have and the bonds that hold atoms together. Practical skills are developed through 12 core practicals.

Students will be encouraged to study chemistry in a modern context, and develop practical skills and analyse data.

You should be aware that 10% of the marks are maths based questions.



Drama and Theatre Studies

Exam Board	Edexcel
Head of Department	Miss Hanneghan
Entry requirement	B in Drama or Dance GCSE

Why study Drama and Theatre Studies?

The A level in Drama and Theatre follows the direct progression from GCSE Drama and allows you to further develop your knowledge and skills within theatrical performance and production. You will develop a range of theatre making skills and will have opportunities to make theatre from both published text and through means of devising. You will develop an understanding and appreciation of how the social, cultural and historical contexts of performance texts have influenced the development of drama and theatre. The course will involve both practical workshops and theoretical lessons.

Course content

Component 1: Devising (40%)

You will devise an original performance piece using one key extract from a performance text and a theatre practitioner as stimuli. This will be assessed by your teacher and externally moderated. You will complete a portfolio which can be 2500–3000 written words or recorded/verbal evidence between 12–14 minutes or a combination.

Component 2: Text in Performance Coursework (20%)

A group performance of one key extract from a performance text and a monologue or duologue performance/ design realisation from one key extract from a different performance text. This will be externally assessed by a visiting examiner.

Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice (40%)

Written examination: Section A is a live theatre evaluation – choice of performance. Section B focuses on the practical exploration and study of a complete play text – focusing on how this can be realised for performance. Section C focuses on practical exploration and interpretation of another complete performance text, in light of a chosen practitioner – focusing on how this text could be reimagined for a contemporary audience.

English

Exam Board	Edexcel
Head of Department	Miss Lawlor
Entry requirement	Level 5 in English

Course content

- A study of *A Streetcar Named Desire*
- A comparison between *Frankenstein* and *Never Let Me Go*
- An examination of Shakespeare's *Othello*
- An examination of post 2000 poetry
- An examination of a selection of poems from John Donne
- Coursework: students write a comparative essay on two texts of their choice

Why study English?

A challenging and exciting subject, English Literature offers a range of opportunities for students to develop their literary skills. Through the study of novels, plays and poems students explore conventions of genre. Students have the opportunity to critically analyse, evaluate writers' intentions and reflect on a range of contemporary and historical issues.



French

Exam Board	AQA
Head of Department	Miss Ebanks
Entry requirement	B in French GCSE

Why study French?

Whatever plans you may have for the future, the knowledge of another language can create many new and exciting opportunities to develop a valuable life skill, to travel further afield and also to appreciate the cultural differences that we have in the world today. By the end of the French course, you will be able to successfully communicate with over 200 million French speakers around the world. Therefore an ability to speak French is also a big advantage in the international job market. French works well with any subject due to the wide range of topics that we cover in the course content. Not only will you learn about France itself, but you will also acquire essential communication skills and will gain a greater appreciation for French literature and cinema.

Course content

Year 1:

Paper 1: Listening/Reading/Writing – 40%

Paper 2: Writing about a film or book that you have studied – 30%

Paper 3: Oral exam: Discussion of two topic sub-themes – 30%

Year 2:

Paper 1: Listening/Reading/Writing – 30%

Paper 2: Writing about one film and one book that you have studied – 30%

Paper 3: Oral exam: Discussion of researched topic, followed by discussion of one topic sub-theme – 30%

Topics include aspects of daily life, leisure and entertainment, communication and media, education, environment, technology and culture. You will learn the language and grammar needed to operate at an advanced level but equally important for us is to give you an insight into the 'French way' of thinking.

Geography

Exam Board	AQA
Head of Department	Mrs Stewart
Entry requirement	B in GCSE Geography

Why study Geography?

Whether it is the devastation caused by a natural disaster on the other side of the world or the impact of government cutbacks on their local community, geographers have a keen interest in the world around them. In A Level Geography there are plenty of opportunities to study how our planet is changing and the story behind these changes. This course allows students to further develop their knowledge of places, processes and environments at a range of scales. The course contains elements of physical, social, economic and cultural geography which will help students to have a better understanding of the opportunities and challenges facing decision makers.

Course content

All candidates study core physical and human geography, as well as optional topics of their choice. In each area of study candidates will consider the values and attitudes of decision makers, consider their own values and attitudes and support their learning of ideas through the study of specific case studies. Candidates also develop a variety of geographical skills, which broaden and deepen existing knowledge and are employed with a greater degree of independence.

Topics include:

- Coastal systems
- Hazards
- Changing places
- Fieldwork
- Water and the Carbon Cycle
- Global Systems
- Populations

German

Exam Board	AQA
Head of Department	Miss Ebanks
Entry requirement	B in GCSE German

Why study German?

Whatever plans you may have for the future, knowledge of German will increase your options. Germany is the world's third strongest economy and more than 100 million people speak German as their first language in Europe. Knowledge of German will increase your employment opportunities in business and banking, science and research, media and communication. If you want to be a real player in the 21st century, learning German will give you the edge you need. Many courses at university incorporate a year abroad and German universities are well established partners not only for linguists but for students taking degrees in Science, Engineering, Law and Politics.

Course Content

Year 1:

Paper 1: Listening/Reading/Writing – 40%

Paper 2: Writing about a film or book that you have studied – 30%

Paper 3: Oral exam: Discussion of two topic sub-themes – 30%

Year 2:

Paper 1: Listening/Reading/Writing – 30%

Paper 2: Writing about one film & one book that you have studied – 30%

Paper 3: Oral exam: Discussion of researched topic, followed by discussion of one topic sub-theme – 30%

Topics include:

- Festivals and traditions
- Art and architecture
- Past and present cultural life of Berlin
- Political life

History

Exam Board	Edexcel
Head of Department	Miss Coomber
Entry requirement	B in GCSE History

Why study History?

Universities and employers value a qualification in History as it demonstrates good skills of analysis, evidence handling, problem solving and communication. History will prepare you for a wide range of ideas, from TV or radio to written journalism; from marketing and law to social work and teaching. History compliments many other subjects, and it will enhance your understanding of the world around you by asking you to consider some of the moral, political and social issues of the past and present.

Course content

Unit 1H Britain transformed 1918-1997

- The extent to which Britain was transformed politically, socially, economically and culturally in the years 1918–79.
- Responses to the challenges of war, fluctuations in the economy, technological advancement and the desire for greater social equality.
- A study of the impact of Thatcher's government 1979–97.

Unit 2H The USA, 1955–92: conformity and challenge

- post-1945 affluence,
- racial and political protests in the 1960s
- the rise of right-wing groups in the 1980s and the development of bitter divisions between Democrats and Republicans.

Unit 3H The Witch Craze in Britain, Europe and North America c1580-c1750

- Major witchcraft trials in England, Scotland, Germany and America.

Unit 4 Coursework

- One piece of coursework (3-4000 words) on the historiography of the origins of the Holocaust.

Mathematics

Exam Board	To be confirmed
Head of Department	Miss Burke
Entry requirement	Level 5 in GCSE maths

Why study Mathematics?

Mathematics is a successful and popular choice in the Sixth Form. It is a challenging subject which offers a great deal of enjoyment and satisfaction, whilst offering useful support for a range of other A Levels. All further courses and careers welcome Mathematics A Level in combination with other subjects. Employers actively look for A Level Mathematics as it is such a desirable qualification. It is essential to have Mathematics A Level when progressing on to study many of the sciences, Engineering, Computing and Mathematics at university.

Course content

The Mathematics specifications are still under review for first teaching in September 2017. Whatever board is chosen, students will study pure, statistics and mechanics mathematics. There are two papers that are taken after the end of Year 1 covering the pure, statistics and mechanics topics. At the end of Year 2, students will take 3 exams, testing all of the topics in more depth.



Media

Exam Board	OCR
Head of Department	Mrs Blake
Entry requirement	B grade in GCSE Media

Why study Media?

In our media-saturated world, the need to understand the construction of media texts and their message is more important than ever. The digital revolution has completely changed the way we consume and create media and thus this course aims to equip you with the skills to become critical users and digital craftspeople in the contemporary context.

Course content

- **media language:** how the media through their forms, codes, conventions and techniques communicate meanings
- **media representations:** how the media portray events, issues, individuals and social groups
- **media industries:** how the media industries' processes of production, distribution and circulation affect media forms and platforms
- **media audiences:** how media forms target, reach and address audiences, how audiences interpret and respond to them and how members of audiences become producers themselves

Throughout this course, you will study **nine** different media forms. These are:

- television
- film
- radio
- newspapers
- magazines
- advertising and marketing
- online, social and participatory media
- video games
- music videos.

Photography

Exam Board	AQA
Head of Department	Miss Malipant
Entry requirement	B grade in GCSE art/graphics

Why study Photography?

This course gives you the opportunity to develop and explore creative ideas through the medium of photography. You will work with digital media as well as a variety of creative techniques and processes.

Course content

Year 1:

Component 1: Portfolio of work

Students must produce a portfolio of work including one sustained project inspired by a theme or concept. Students must have an ability to respond to their chosen theme showing an ability to explore elements of visual language, line, form, colour, pattern and texture in the context of Photography. Students will look at viewpoint, composition, aperture, depth of field, shutter speed, movement and the use of the camera, film, lenses, filters and lighting for their work.

Component 2:

Externally set assignment, preparation time from 1st of February, 10 hours of supervised time, 96 marks and 40% of the A- Level

Year 2:

Personal investigation, no time limit, 96 marks and 60% of the A –Level Students will produce practical and critical/contextual work using a theme of their choice. Students build on the skills and techniques developed in year one.

Component 2: Externally set assignment, preparation time from 1st of February, 15 hours of supervised time, 96 marks and 40% of the A- Level

Physics

Exam Board	AQA
Head of Department	Mr Watts
Entry requirement	B in additional and core science, level 5 in Maths

Why study Physics?

Physics is about understanding how the world works. Physicists use imagination as much as mathematics to explain mysteries of the universe! Studying physics will help you to understand all manner of things, from atoms to aeroplanes, robots to radios and from greenhouses to galaxies.

Course content

Year 1:

- The nucleus including particles, antiparticles and photons; hadrons and leptons; the quark model
- Quantum phenomena including photoelectricity, wave particle duality, energy levels and photon emission
- Electricity
- Mechanics, including motion along a straight line, projectile motion, Newton's laws of motion, energy and power
- Properties of materials, including density and the Young modules and waves

Year 2:

- Gravitation and electrostatics
- Magnetism
- Circular motion
- Nuclear and thermal physics
- Medical physics

You should be aware that 10% of the marks are maths based questions.

Psychology

Exam Board	AQA
Head of Department	Miss Kouppas
Entry requirement	Level 5 in GCSE Maths

Why study Psychology?

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind, examining the way people behave and think. It is an extremely popular subject choice; students are offered the opportunity to explore and challenge their own and others' opinions. In Psychology we learn about and perform critical analysis of studies and theories pertinent to the discipline. Psychology at EEHS provides students with the opportunity to achieve both an A-level and to develop a skill set applicable to many areas of their life so that learning continues beyond the classroom.

Course content

Year 1

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

Year 2

- Biopsychology
- Issues and debates in psychology

Option 1

Relationships

Option 2

Schizophrenia

Option 3

Aggression

Religious Studies: Philosophy and Ethics

Exam Board	AQA
Head of Department	Miss Hayes
Entry requirement	Level 5 in English

Why study Religious Studies?

This is unanimously recognised by universities as an academic and challenging subject. It is useful for studying Theology, Philosophy, Law and History at university. It will support careers in teaching, journalism, law, and youth and social work. You will develop a passion for discussing moral issues and investigating topics which affect the society within which we live. Some of the skills you develop are transferable to other subjects, such as the ability to analyse and think critically, and the ability to discuss the strengths of an argument.

Course content

The course is split into three different topics: Philosophy, Religion and Ethics:

Philosophy:

- Evil and suffering
- Arguments for the existence of God
- Religious experience
- Religious language
- Miracles
- The self and life after death

Ethics

- Ethical theories (utilitarianism, virtue ethics, deontology)
- Issues on human life and death
- Issues on animal life and death
- Introduction to meta ethics
- Free will and moral responsibility
- Conscience

Religion

- Religion, gender and sexuality
- Religion and science
- Religion and secularisation
- Religion and religious pluralism
- Sources of wisdom and authority

Sociology

Exam Board	AQA
Head of Department	Miss Kouppas
Entry requirement	Level 5 in English

Why study Sociology?

Sociology is the study of the development, structure, and functioning of human society. During the course you will be able to take part in observations and reflect on what is going on in the real world to help with your understanding of sociological theory. Sociology requires students to be open minded and think critically. In both years, you will examine topic areas in relation to the two core themes (socialisation, culture and identity; social differentiation, power and stratification). Through developing analytical and evaluative skills surrounding real world concepts students leave with a transferrable set of skills applicable to higher education and/or employment, including the police, criminology, politics, social policy, human resources and marketing.

Course content

Throughout the course, you will be able to take part in observations and reflect on the real world; you will have to be open minded and think critically.

Year 1

- Education with Methods in Context
- Families and Households
- Research Methods

Year 2

- Beliefs in Society
- Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods
- Research Methods



Spanish

Exam Board	AQA
Head of Department	Miss Ebanks
Entry requirement	Level 5 in English

Why study Spanish?

In today's world the ability to communicate in a foreign language is one of the most sought after skills in the workplace. This course builds on the progress made at GCSE Level and gives an understanding of not only the language but also the culture and social landscape of Spain and Latin America. The topics studied range from current trends, issues, artistic culture and politics relating to the Spanish-speaking world. You will also have the opportunity to study a book and a film. You will build upon your speaking and writing skills as well as improve your ability to read, listen and translate the language.

Course content

Aspects of Hispanic society

- Media
- Popular culture
- Family/relationships

Artistic culture

- Modern day idols
- Spanish regional identity
- Cultural heritage

Study of literary text or film

- Aspects of multiculturalism in the Hispanic world
- Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world
- Study of a literary text or a film



Applied Law

Exam Board	Pearson
Head of Department	Miss Wallace
Level	BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma

Why study applied science?

As part of the BTEC in Applied Law, students will study law making in the UK, the UK court systems and areas of law such as criminal law and negligence. The study of law helps develop the learner's analytical ability and critical thinking. It also develops problem-solving skills through the application of legal rules. Study at BTEC level provides a useful background for further study of law, either as the main subject or subsidiary part of a degree, foundation degree or for the many professional qualifications that have a law component. The course has been designed in consultation with employers and professional bodies to ensure that it will equip learners with knowledge, understanding and skills required in the legal sector.

Course content

Unit 1 – Dispute Solving in Civil Law

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

Unit 2 – Investigating Aspects of Criminal Law and the Legal System

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

Unit 3 – Applying the Law

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

Unit 4 – Aspects of Tort

Learners explore how the law of tort protects people and the enjoyment of their property. They will examine compensation for loss, damage and injury in aspects of negligence, nuisance and occupiers' liability cases.

Health and Social Care

Exam Board	Pearson
Head of Department	Mr Filmer
Level	BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate

Why study Health and Social Care?

Study Health and Social Care is ideal for people interested in pursuing a career focused on early years (care and education), care of older people or individuals with specific needs. You will study the whole lifespan and consider the many aspects to care. Successful completion of the course could lead to further study, employment or an apprenticeship.

Course content

There are six units covered over the two years of study.

- Developing Effective Communication
- Equality Diversity and Rights in Health and Social Care
- Health and Safety in Health and Social Care
- Anatomy and physiology
- Development through the life phases
- Nutrition for health and social care



Applied Science

Exam Board	AQA
Head of Department	Mr Watts
Level	Level 3 Extended Certificate

Why study applied science?

A level 3 in applied science will give you an insight into the working lives of different types of scientist. It involves practical activities as well as opportunities for independent work and research. You will study aspects of all three sciences.

Course content

Unit 1: Key concepts in science (portfolio)

Unit 2: Applied experimental techniques (written exam)

Unit 3: Science in the modern world (written exam, with pre released material)

Unit 4: The human body

Unit 5: Investigating Science

Plus one optional unit.



Sports Studies

Exam Board	Edexcel
Head of Department	Mr Filmer
Level	BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate

Why study sports studies?

The sport and leisure industry comprises leisure and health centres and private and public sector clubs. Opportunities include working with sports professionals, in fitness, sports coaching and outdoor education. This course provides you with a springboard to a university degree or foundation degree in an appropriate discipline, or to employment.

Course content

You will study 3 core units and 3 specialised units.

The core units are:

1: The body in action

- Understand the structure and function of the skeletal, muscular, cardiovascular and respiratory system and how they respond to exercise.

2: Health and safety in sport

- Know the key factors that influence health and safety in sport. You will be able to carry out risk assessments, and plan safe sporting activity
- Know how to maintain the safety of participants and colleagues

3: Training and fitness in sport

- Understand the fitness requirements of different sporting activities
- Understand different methods of physical fitness training
- Be able to plan, monitor and evaluate a fitness training programme

Specialised units include fitness testing, sports coaching and psychology for sport

Travel and Tourism

Exam Board	Pearson
Head of Department	Mrs Stewart
Level	BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma

Why study Travel and Tourism?

Travel and Tourism is one of the biggest industries in the world and provides a wealth of employment opportunities around the globe. This course is for those interested in studying travel and tourism and considering employment in an exciting and constantly growing sector. The course will provide you with the knowledge, understanding and skills to help you find employment in the travel and tourism sector or to give you entry to a wide range of university courses. The course is structured into units which include customer service skills, destination geography, knowledge of working with children within a holiday environment and business skills.

Course content

The travel and tourism industry is dynamic, wide-ranging and fast-growing, and it offers a huge variety of employment opportunities for young people.

This course will allow you to develop a broad understanding of working environments in the travel and tourism industry. You will also develop communication, presentation and employability skills and learn to identify, select, collect and collate evidence using a variety of resources and range of techniques, including statistical data.

Topics include:

- The travel and tourism industry
- Customer service
- Travel destinations
- Event management
- Tourism development
- Cultural tourism

Extended Project Qualification

Exam Board	Edexcel
Head of Department	Miss Davies
Level	Level 3 (equivalent to an AS)

What is the EPQ?

This is a chance to pursue a real interest or passion and demonstrate your learning beyond the classroom. The aim of the project is to encourage intellectual curiosity and develop independent learning skills that universities wish to see in their applicants. It is the equivalent of an AS Level and it also allows you to produce a detailed piece of work that can be submitted to a university as part of your application if work is requested. It will also allow you to taste university style research and learning. Many universities are revising their offers to a lower grade if the EPQ is being offered alongside A Levels. You submit a research dissertation which is assessed, alongside being graded on the process you go through to complete it.

The aims of the EPQ are to:

- Develop and improve student's own learning as critical, reflective and independent learners
- Develop and apply decision making and problem solving skills
- Extend planning, research, critical thinking, analysis, synthesis, evaluation and presentation skills
- Become an 'expert' in a chosen area

