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**PROSPECTUS 2023-2024** 



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# **WELCOME TO KING ED'S**

We are here to help every student be successful, develop independence and have a positive impact on the community. We are interested in you, what you love and what motivates you, because we know that discovering your inner drive is key to success.

Here you'll find teachers who are passionate about their subjects, who will encourage and inspire you. We have high expectations of all our students to achieve their academic potential, whilst providing unrivalled support, advice and encouragement from our experienced and dedicated pastoral staff.

We are a proudly diverse college community, with students who are committed, friendly and capable. They really do make our college great. We look forward to welcoming you onto campus and for you to discover what King Ed's has to offer.



# WHY KING ED'S

King Edward VI College is not only the largest, but also one of the most successful sixth form providers in the Black Country. Each year, over a thousand young people complete their A level qualifications at King Ed's, going on to be just as successful in employment and at university.

Statistics published in 2020 by the Department for Education unequivocally demonstrate that King Ed's students 'stay the course' and are statistically more likely to achieve three A levels than students at any other local provider. At King Ed's more students progress from Year 12 to Year 13 and more complete all three of their A levels. The average grade achieved by a King Ed's student is a B with over 8 out of 10 results at C or above.

The most recent report from the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) reveals that if a King Ed's student chooses to go to university, the preparation they receive at King Ed's means that on average they are more likely to achieve a first or upper second class degree than students in the state and independent sectors.





### **OUR COURSES**

Accounting

**Applied Science (BTEC)** 

**Biology** 

**Business** 

Chemistry

Classical Civilisation

**Computer Science** 

Criminology (Level 3 diploma)

**Dance** 

Drama and Theatre Studies

**Economics** 

**English Language and Literature** 

**English Literature** 

**Film Studies** 

Fine Art

French

Geography

Geology

Graphics

History - Early Modern

History - Modern

**History of Art** 

Law

**Mathematics** 

Maths and Further Maths

**Media Studies** 

Music

**Music Technology** 

**Philosophy** 

**Physical Education** 

**Physics** 

**Politics** 

**Psychology** 

**Religious Studies** 

Sociology

Spanish

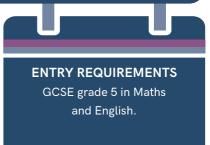
Statistics

**Textile Design** 

# ACCOUNTING

#### WHAT IS ACCOUNTING?

Accounting is the recording, reporting, presentation, and interpretation of financial information which takes place for businesses of all sizes. Chartered accountants operate at the highest levels of business management.



#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

A detailed introduction to the subject, studying the role of the accountant and the underlying principles and concepts of accounting. You will learn about financial records, double entry bookkeeping, the presentation of financial information and the analysis of financial statements and business performance. Assessment is focused on processing numerical and written data, presenting information in a prescribed format and interpreting information in written form, including essay writing.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Many students go on to study accountancy at university or enter the profession through apprenticeships with major accountancy firms.

- Speakers from professional accounting bodies and accounting firms
- Certificate in Financial Studies (Level 3 Qualification in Personal Finance)



# **APPLIED SCIENCE (BTEC)**

#### WHAT IS APPLIED SCIENCE?

Applied Science is the study of biology, chemistry and physics but with a greater focus on how skills in each are used and applied in various real-world scenarios, job sectors and industries. The BTEC Applied Science is equivalent to a full A level.

### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

There are no specific entry requirements for this subject.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will study four units. Unit one is the principles of science and will cover content from A levels in all three science subjects. Unit two focuses on scientific procedures, assessing practical and experimental techniques. Unit three covers investigation skills and will assess your ability to plan and carry out rigorous scientific investigations. Unit four is the study of human physiology and body systems. You will be assessed via both coursework and exam.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Applied Science is studied alongside two other A levels and students progress to university or to take further professional qualifications.

- · Speakers from universities
- Local and national careers advice from organisations such as the NHS



# **BIOLOGY**

#### WHAT IS BIOLOGY?

Biology is described as the science of life and biologists work in many different and diverse fields, including cell biology, medicine, food production and ecology.

### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grades 6-6 in combined science or a grade 6 in Biology (if studied as a separate science) and a GCSE grade 6 in Maths.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The biology course is divided into six modules covering topics including cell biology, biochemistry, DNA structure, function and cell division, gas exchange in animals and transport in plants and animals, disease and the immune response.

You will study biodiversity and classification of plants and animals. The biochemistry of photosynthesis and respiration and research into genetic inheritance, control of gene expression, gene technology, cloning and biotechnology, and ecology.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

A level Biology is a key component in higher education applications for medicine, veterinary science, healthcare science, dentistry, nursing, horticulture, teaching, fisheries and conservation work.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- Teacher-led preparation for BMAT (BioMedical Admissions Test: an entry requirement for some medical and dentistry courses)
- Ecological study of Mary Stevens Park
- Optional residential field-course, usually to Dale Fort, Pembrokeshire

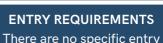
Core Maths
If you achieved
a grade 6 in your
GCSE maths you
will be enrolled
in Core Maths
as part of your
programme.

CLICK HERE
TO FIND
OUT MORE

# **BUSINESS**

#### WHAT IS BUSINESS?

Business is a dynamic subject which is relevant, engaging and topical. Studying the subject can give you the tools and information required to understand how businesses are created, managed and become successful while managing the external environment around them.



requirements for this subject.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will study the four main areas of business, finance, marketing, operations and people. You will consider how businesses develop and implement strategy and look at the models and theories they use. You will study the political, economic and social environmental impacts on decision making and performance. You will look at current issues within business, for example, new legislation, technologies, changing social trends, ethics and Brexit.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Business students tend to progress on to a variety of different courses at university, or use their skills in business to enter direct employment, self-employment or an apprenticeship.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- · Visiting speakers from professional companies and universities
- · Participation in field trips and overseas visits
- · Visits to London and the Bank of England

98.9% PASS RATE

# **CHEMISTRY**

#### WHAT IS CHEMISTRY?

Chemistry is the study of substances, what they are made of, how they interact and what role they play in living things.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The first year of the A level course will cover organic chemistry, including alkanes, alkenes,

alcohols, haloalkanes and organic synthesis reactions, inorganic/physical chemistry including moles, bonding and structure, redox reactions, energy changes, reversible reactions and equilibria. In the second year you will develop a deeper knowledge and understanding and prepare for the external examinations. The course also includes a non-exam assessment practical endorsement.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Chemistry is a highly valued and necessary qualification, required by universities when applying to study degrees in chemistry and chemical engineering, medicine, veterinary medicine, pharmaceuticals, dentistry, optometry and biomedical science.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- The Chemistry Olympiad
- Many chemistry students are involved with the progression pathways for medicine, dentistry, veterinary and pharmacy

Core Maths
If you achieved a grade 6 in your GCSE maths you will be enrolled in Core Maths as part of your programme.



CLICK HERE
TO FIND
OUT MORE

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**GCSE grades 6-6 in combined

science or a grade 6 in Chemistry (if studied as a separate science)

and a GCSE grade 6 in Maths.

# **CLASSICAL CIVILISATION**

#### WHAT IS CLASSICAL CIVILISATION?

Classical Civilisation explores the values and cultural beliefs of classical Greece and Rome, the two societies which are the bedrock of modern European society. Classical Civilisation is an academically demanding, exciting and engaging course that develops a huge variety of skills related to literature, philosophy, history, art and architecture.



GCSE grade 5 in either English Language, English Literature or History.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

One module entitled 'The World of the Hero' is split over two years, where you will study 'Homer's Iliad' in Year 12 and in Year 13 you'll discover Virgil's 'The Aeneid'. Alongside the Iliad you will study a module entitled 'The Invention of the Barbarian', which uses Herodotus Histories and Athenian tragedy to discuss and explore political, historical and philosophical events and beliefs. The final unit is the 'Politics of the Late Republic' exploring the people (Julius Caesar, Pompey the Great, Cicero et al) and events that led Rome to becoming an empire.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Whilst many students go on to study classical subjects at university, the analytical thinking and writing skills students develop through the subject will help in so many other areas of study and are also highly valued by universities and employers.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

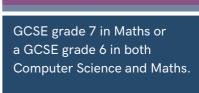
- Visits to the theatre, conferences and the British Museum
- Annual trips to Greece and Rome



# **COMPUTER SCIENCE**

#### WHAT IS COMPUTER SCIENCE?

Computer Science is not about using computers; it is about controlling and shaping the digital world through programming. The core skills you need are to enjoy logical, mathematical problem solving.



#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will concentrate on developing problem-solving approaches and the practical skills of programming which will give you an insight into how the computer works.

We use Python as the main teaching language, but you will be introduced to a range of programming languages and techniques and explore technology developments such as cloud computing, functional computing, and big data.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Many students continue to study computer science or related courses at university, and go on to careers in computer gaming, engineering, finance, and software development.

- Trip to the National Museum of Computing at Bletchley Park
- Student led Python programming club



# **CRIMINOLOGY**

#### WHAT IS CRIMINOLOGY?

Criminology is the scientific study of crime, criminals, and the criminal justice system.
Criminologists investigate different types of crime and suggest ways in which crime can be prevented. They try to provide explanations for criminal behaviour, whilst also identifying and supporting the victims. The Diploma in Criminology is equivalent to one A level.



#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Criminology is a mix of psychology, law and sociology. Unit one explores types of crime, assesses how crime reporting affects public perception and how campaigns are used to bring about change. You will plan a campaign of your own. Unit two focusses on explaining crime using a variety of theories. Unit three centres on understanding the process of criminal investigations from crime-scene to courtroom. Unit four looks at the criminal justice system including law-making and types of punishment.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

This course is particularly suitable for degrees in criminology, law, psychology and sociology. The qualification also provides the skills required within areas of the criminal justice system such as the police, probation, and court services.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- Trips to Magistrates' and Crown Courts
- Guest speakers from industry professionals
- Online workshops with UK Parliament



# **DANCE**

#### WHAT IS DANCE?

Dance is an exciting subject that challenges you physically, academically and creatively. If you want to be physically active, enjoy watching live and recorded performances and want to discover more about the history and development of modern dance in Britain, this is an ideal course for you.



#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will widen your experience and knowledge of dance through technique lessons, creative exploration and theoretical analysis. In practical lessons you develop choreographic, expressive and technical skills to create and perform your own pieces for practical assessments. Theory lessons are based on areas of study and set works, allowing you to engage critically to understand the relationship between the creation, presentation and viewing/appreciation of dance.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Students choose to study dance for a variety of reasons; it may be a passion, future career aim, or perhaps to contrast two purely theoretical courses to add variety to a programme of study. A level Dance can be the first step towards working within the arts industry and there are numerous degree courses at universities and specialist vocational dance and performing arts schools to further your studies.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- Regular trips to see performances by a range of choreographers
- Practical workshops led by professionals
- Participation in public performances and an option to audition for the college dance company



# **DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES**

#### WHAT IS DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES?

You will explore what makes great theatre work: the craft of the playwright, the director's interpretation, the work of performers, and the contribution of technical and design elements.

### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 5 in either English Language or English Literature. Some stage experience is desirable.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will study two challenging and exciting set plays and practically explore three others, performing substantial extracts from each. You will also have the opportunity to devise an original piece of theatre from a stimulus. All your practical work will be informed by your research into some of the best theatre practitioners.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Students go on to study a range of subjects at university. Our students have gained places at prestigious drama schools before pursuing successful careers in theatre and performance. Former students have played lead roles in West End productions of Dear Evan Hansen, War Horse, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time and Dirty Dancing. Drama is an excellent qualification for a wide range of professions and university courses.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- Theatre visits to the West End.
- College productions
- Access to Drama Online and Digital Theatre Plus

100% PASS RATE

# **ECONOMICS**

#### WHAT IS ECONOMICS?

Economics is the study of choice and decisionmaking in a world with limited resources. It examines how societies allocate scarce resources to meet the needs and wants of their citizens.

# ENTRY REQUIREMENTS GCSE grade 6 in GCSE English Language or English Literature and a GCSE grade 5 Maths.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will investigate both micro and macro-economic topics during the two years. Micro topics include how markets work, why markets fail, market structures and labour markets. Macro topics will cover aggregative supply and demand, fiscal and monetary policy, financial markets and international trade and globalisation. All students will complete three exams at the end of their two-year study programme.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Many students go on to study economics at university as it is a highly regarded degree choice and provides opportunities for careers within government, banking, accountancy, management and investment.

- University masterclasses
- Bank of England trip





### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE**

# WHAT IS ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE?

This course combines the most enjoyable parts of literature and language study. You will develop your skills as a reader, writer and communicator, learning how language works in a range of situations.



#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will compare Dracula by Bram Stoker and Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare, exploring how each author uses language to present key characters and themes. You will also study an anthology of non-fiction texts and the play 'A Streetcar Named Desire' by Tennessee Williams. You will also enhance your ability to identify how language is used for specific audiences and purposes and learn how to critically respond to a range of texts, alongside writing your own fiction and non-fiction pieces for coursework.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Most students who study English Language and Literature go on to study similar courses at various universities, including Oxbridge and Russell Group universities. English is a core subject that can lead to a wide variety of careers.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

Trips to the theatre and cinema to see productions of set texts

· Creative writing





# **ENGLISH LITERATURE**

#### WHAT IS ENGLISH LITERATURE?

If you are reading this, it's because you are an avid reader and understand the power of literature to affect hearts and shape minds. You will study prose, poetry and drama texts and develop your skills in critical analysis. You will review modern texts and texts from previous centuries whilst undertaking independent reading.



or English Literature.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will study a wide range of texts and will be encouraged to become an active reader and offer opinions and ideas based on your own interpretations of literary texts, as well as considering the opinions of others. The texts you study will be from different social and historical contexts, including Shakespeare. You will also have the opportunity to study poetry published post 2000 and to develop your skills in analysing unseen poetry.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Universities view English literature favourably, as you have carried out extensive reading and critical analysis. It is also an excellent qualification for a very wide range of professions.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- Trips to theatres, study days and a wide range of revision lectures
- Annual poetry competition
- Guest speakers as part of the Aspire Speakers Series, e.g. poet Liz Berry
- Tutorials for the ELAT admission test for Oxford & Cambridge applicants



# **FILM STUDIES**

#### WHAT IS FILM STUDIES?

Film Studies mixes the analytical study of modern British and American film with the study of classical Hollywood and foreign cinema in context. It also focusses on the practical aspects of film making and developing scripting, storyboarding and film making skills.



#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will study a range of popular British and American cinema, learning about film language, such as sound, lighting, editing, performance and cinematography, as well as theoretical elements, such as representation, narrative, ideology and auteur theory. The films we study include Inception, La La Land, Shaun of the Dead and Pulp Fiction. You are encouraged to keep a portfolio workbook of practical work, planning and film ideas. Coursework involves planning, developing and evaluating a short film project.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Students choose to pursue either full academic, or practical film making degrees. A number of ex-students work in the film, television or media industries, including on shows such as The Apprentice and Britain's Got Talent.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- Trips to working film sets
- · Yearly trip to Warner Brothers' Leavesden studio



# **FINE ART**

#### WHAT IS FINE ART?

Fine Art is an exciting course that will challenge your creativity, technical ability and conceptual knowledge. It is a broad course that allows you to develop as an artist and a creative thinker. You will learn how to use a wide range of traditional and contemporary media, and will also develop your critical thinking skills through discussions, analysis of works and a range of interests.



GCSE grade 5 in a visual arts subject or submit a portfolio of current work for inspection by a member of the visual arts team.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You start with studio-based sessions exploring a wide range of disciplines, covering both traditional media and contemporary methods, giving you the chance to explore techniques such as printmaking, digital photography, illustration, sculpture, painting and drawing. Through a series of projects you will gain autonomy in the direction of your work, leading to your self-directed personal investigation coursework and the AQA externally set assignment.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Many of our students progress to study an arts foundation course. Students have studied a broad range of courses at university including fine art, architecture, illustration, interior design, games design, fashion, photography and film.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- · Visits to sites of artistic interest and galleries occur throughout the year
- · Enrichment activities such as artist workshops and competitions



# **FRENCH**

#### WHAT IS FRENCH?

French is a widely taught language and is spoken in 29 countries by over 300 million people in the world.



#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Building on the knowledge, understanding and skills gained at GCSE, you will learn an interesting spectrum of social, intellectual, historical and political cultural themes throughout the course. You will study both a film and a piece of literature and be asked to undertake a research piece into an area of personal interest in France or of a French speaking country to further develop your cultural awareness.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Students go on to study language at university leading to many different careers or directly into employment. Being fluent in a second language is highly respected in the business world.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

 Cultural trip to France with plenty of opportunities to practise your French and enjoy the local cuisine





# **GEOGRAPHY**

#### WHAT IS GEOGRAPHY?

In today's rapidly changing world the role of geography is of paramount importance. It involves the examination of environmental, social and economic changes and issues in both human and physical environments. We inhabit a dynamic changing world facing many challenges. Geographers investigate these challenges and look at ways we can solve them.



#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will study both physical geography and human geography. In physical geography the topics you study are tectonic hazards, glaciated landscapes, water and carbon cycles, weather and climate and ecosystems. The topics studied in human geography are changing places, global migration and governance of the oceans. You will also look at a range of 21st century challenges, develop data collection and analysis skills and complete an independent investigation that forms the coursework component.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Former students work as environmental impact officers, conservation officers, flood protection managers, climate and location analysts, urban regeneration planners, surveyors and heritage managers.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

· Field trips locally, nationally and internationally

99.2% PASS RATE

# **GEOLOGY**

#### WHAT IS GEOLOGY?

Geology is a detective story where you get to unravel how the planet works and gain an insight into its history and possible futures.



#### **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

There are no specific entry requirements for this subject.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Over the two-year course you will learn how to identify and interpret minerals, rocks, fossils and geological structures. How rocks form and deform through the study of plate tectonics; and how to interpret past climates using evidence.

You will also study how natural resources form and how we exploit them, as well as various geo-hazards and how we can mitigate them.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Many students study geology at university, leading to careers as geoscientists, who are in demand to search for natural energy and mineral resources and study global climate change.

- Local day trips and a residential trip to the Lake District
- There are also optional international trips



# **GRAPHICS**

#### WHAT IS GRAPHICS?

Graphics is the process of communicating and problem solving through visual means.
Graphic designers create, control and combine symbols, images and text to communicate meaning, messages and moods.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will develop your skills and understanding

by studying the work of artists and designers and by exploring traditional and digital techniques including drawing, illustration, typography, photography and print-making. Through concept based design briefs, you will be introduced to a wide range of applications for design work. You will learn to develop and refine ideas and work in a reflective and exploratory way, keeping a detailed record of your creative process.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Many students go on to study visual communications, graphic design, illustration or other art and design courses at university with many going on to work within the UK's vast creative industries. There are also opportunities to enter apprenticeships in design roles that offer a more immediate path to industry.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- Research visit in Year 12 to gather imagery and contextual sources
- Visit to an annual graduate design exhibition such as New Designers or New Blood



#### **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

GCSE grade 5 in a visual arts subject or submit a portfolio of current work for inspection by a member of the visual arts team.

# **HISTORY - EARLY MODERN**

#### WHAT IS HISTORY - EARLY MODERN?

The Early Modern History course covers a period of over 200 years, from the 15th century to the late 17th century.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The Early Modern History course is divided

into four units. In unit one you'll discover The Stuarts from 1603-1660.

Unit two delves into the history of Spain from 1469–1556. Unit three explores the fascinating witch craze and popular culture in the 16th and 17th centuries. The final unit is an independent research essay from a selection of titles offered to you.

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS** 

GCSE grade 6 in either English Language, English Literature

or History.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

History is a course highly regarded by universities and is a recognised route into a wide range of careers.

- Students attend lectures by academic historians and have visited the Commandery Museum to find out about the English Civil War
- Overseas trips to America and Russia have taken place in recent years



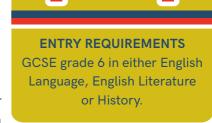
# **HISTORY - MODERN**

#### WHAT IS HISTORY - MODERN?

Modern History covers the period from the 18th century to the present.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The Modern History course is divided into four units, the first unit covers the history of Britain



from 1900–1951. Unit two looks into the course of the American Revolution from 1740–1796. Unit three covers Russia and its rulers from 1855–1964. The final unit is an independent research essay from a selection of titles offered to you.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

History is a course highly regarded by universities and is a recognised route into a wide range of careers.

- · Students attend lectures by academic historians
- · Overseas trips to America and Russia have taken place in recent years
- · Visit to the People's History Museum in Manchester





# **HISTORY OF ART**

#### WHAT IS HISTORY OF ART?

History of Art enables you to explore many aspects of art and architecture from around the world. You learn how to analyse and interpret architecture, painting and sculpture within its historical and artistic context.



GCSE grade 5 in either English Language or English Literature or History.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will look at a wide range of art and architecture drawn from Ancient Greece right through to the present day. You will study two themes, Identities and Nature. You'll analyse works of Turner, Van Gogh and Sir Christopher Wren. You cover two historical periods in depth – Renaissance art in Italy 1420–1520, and British and French art of the late 19th century. You'll look at the societies of the time and will study artists and architects Raphael, Michelangelo, and William Morris, Renoir & Monet in the 19th century.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

History of Art is a popular subject to study at Universities such as Edinburgh, Cambridge, St Andrews, Oxford, Warwick & Birmingham. Many students have gone into careers such as working in the media, PR, design, teaching, curatorship in museums & art galleries, architecture, advertising and the civil service.

- Recent and previous visits have been to museums and art galleries, manor houses and stately homes
- Trips to Italy and Greece



### **LAW**

#### WHAT IS LAW?

Law is a subject which impacts on us all; you'll study how laws are made and the main principles of the English legal system.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will study the English legal system,

law making and areas of both private and public law in England and Wales. Through the study of criminal law, the law of tort and contract law, you will learn, develop and apply the techniques of legal method and reasoning to analyse and offer answers to legal problems, and construct and communicate legal arguments.

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS** 

GCSE grade 5 in either English Language or English Literature.



Our students go on to study a wide variety of degrees including the LLB and other law-related degrees. Some choose alternative pathways by becoming paralegals, legal apprentices or training to become legal executives.

- We visit courts in Birmingham to watch legal cases in action
- Participation in the national bar mock trial competition
- Speakers from the legal system deliver information sessions for law students



# **MATHEMATICS**

#### WHAT IS MATHEMATICS?

This course is a great opportunity to enhance your problem-solving skills, add depth to your prior GCSE knowledge and discover new mathematical concepts. You should choose

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
GCSE grade 7 in Mathematics.

maths if you enjoy being challenged, if you feel the reward from persevering until you find a solution and you want to further develop your logical thinking skills.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You'll study pure mathematics, developing your skills in algebra and trigonometry as well as introducing new topics such as calculus. You'll learn the application of statistical and probability models which allow for analysis in real world contexts. We also look at the use of technology when analysing large sets of data. Finally, you'll study mechanics, the mathematics of forces and motion, which will build on prior knowledge from the physics GCSE.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Mathematics at A level will give you the basic tools of a working mathematician, opening doors to a wide variety of courses and careers and, as a course, is greatly appreciated by universities and employers as a clear reflection of hard work and high level thinking skills.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- Annual trip to Alton Towers
- Maths speakers presenting mathematics live in the context of exciting, real-world applications at Maths Inspiration lecture shows
- UKMT senior maths challenge and other regional challenges each year

98.6% PASS RATE

# **MATHS WITH FURTHER MATHS**

#### WHAT IS MATHS WITH FURTHER MATHS?

Mathematics and Further Maths is a more challenging double A level, designed for students with a love of and talent for mathematics.



#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

In Year 12 students study the full A level Mathematics course and take the exam at the end of the year. In Year 13 these concepts are extended and new ideas, such as complex numbers, matrices and hyperbolic functions are introduced to complete the A level Further Mathematics course.

Please note: students who are planning on studying medicine at university are advised not to study A level Further Mathematics.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Further Mathematics at A level gives you both the mathematical and problem-solving skills necessary to study at a top university. Many of our students go on to university to study mathematics, economics, physics or engineering.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- Annual trip to Alton Towers
- Maths speakers presenting mathematics live in the context of exciting, real-world applications at Maths Inspiration lecture shows
- UKMT senior maths challenge and other regional challenges each year

100% PASS RATE

# **MEDIA STUDIES**

#### WHAT IS MEDIA STUDIES?

Media Studies interrogates the media's role in society, culture, politics and the economy. Focusing on communication processes and their impact on the lives of the individual, we explore a range of media platforms such as television, music videos, radio, advertising, newspapers, the internet and video games.



#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Media Studies focuses on key issues and debates in relation to language, representation, the media industry and audiences. In order to explore the topics at A level, a range of critical and analytical frameworks will be employed to evaluate the way that the media is constructed and operates. Your understanding of media will be developed through theoretical perspectives such as semiotics, feminism, post modernism and post colonialism.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Media Studies can lead to a wide range of degrees with many students going on to work in communication, cultural studies, journalism, business and marketing, politics and teaching.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- · Trips to conferences such as Media Live! in Paris
- · Trips to media places of interest
- · Guest speakers



### **MUSIC**

#### WHAT IS MUSIC?

Music develops practical skills in performing and composing as well as much deeper engagement with music history, theory and analysis. The core repertoire studied is classical music from 1750–1930, plus some musical theatre, but students can also perform and compose in a wide range of other styles.

#### **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

Two of the following three:

- GCSE music grade 5
  - Grade 3 theory
- Grade 5 practical (voice or instrument)

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You learn to compose music in the style of Haydn and other classical composers, supported by a detailed analysis of how this language works. In the second year you will develop your skills in free composition, writing music in any style. You will study the classical and romantic symphony, music of the early twentieth century and musical theatre repertoire by Schonberg, Sondheim and others. In the exam your knowledge will be tested by listening exercises, analytical questions and an essay.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Recent students have gone on to a diverse range of careers, including writing music for theatre, film and television, working on music and sound for games, music outreach, arts administration as well as the more obvious routes of performing and teaching music.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- Heavily discounted music lessons
- Trips to concerts both regionally and nationally
- Be part of our extensive range of choirs, orchestras and other ensembles

100% PASS RATE

# **MUSIC TECHNOLOGY**

#### WHAT IS MUSIC TECHNOLOGY?

Music Technology is designed for students interested in pursuing a career in music production. The Music Technology course is broken up into four units that cover the full spectrum of basic skills needed to progress to a higher level of study or to work in one of the many areas of music production.



There are no entry requirements, but students should play an instrument or sing to a competent standard.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will complete two main coursework tasks; a studio recording that reproduces an existing track and a technology-based composition. There are two exam modules which cover a listening paper in which you analyse and write about unfamiliar commercial recordings, and a technical paper in which you manipulate and mix a range of audio and MIDI materials in exam conditions and then write an essay on a specific aspect of recording/producing technology.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

The A level provides a sound basis for creative music technology degrees and other related courses. It can lead to careers in composing, studio work, and teaching, as well as in publishing and media. It combines particularly well with Music A level. Students who have taken this combination in the past at King Ed's have gone on to successful careers in composing for film, media and theatre as well as a range of jobs in music production.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

 We use our good links with professional studios and institutions in the West Midlands to run a range of trips and visits

**NEW FOR 2023** 

# **PHILOSOPHY**

#### WHAT IS PHILOSOPHY?

Philosophy is the study of the underlying nature of everything from knowledge and existence to morality and the mind. You will learn how to analyse and construct arguments on a range of philosophical topics. An enquiring and analytic mind are a must!



#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

In the first year of the course you will study epistemology, the theory of knowledge and moral philosophy covering topics such as ethics and will. The second year allows you to develop a deeper knowledge and focuses on the philosophy of religion and philosophy of the mind.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Students go on to study a variety of degree courses as the analytic and logical skills developed in philosophy are respected by many professions.

- Opportunities to attend masterclasses and events nationally
- The college runs a philosophy student conference
- Philosophy book club: read philosophical texts and debate with others



## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

#### WHAT IS PHYSICAL EDUCATION?

Have you ever wondered why some people are faster than others, how personality affects performance, or how technology can improve your performance? Then this subject is for you.

#### **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

We have no specific academic entry requirements; however, involvement in one of the practical sports/activities is required.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The main areas of study include physiological aspects of physical activity on the body systems; biomechanics and how they help improve performance and prevent injury; the psychological aspects of sport, how memory models can improve movement skills, and how psychological concepts may affect participation and performance in sport. You will also develop your knowledge of the emergence, ethics and evolution of modern sport.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Physical Education can lead to many exciting and fulfilling careers, such as teaching, sports development, sports medicine, sports management and physiotherapy.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- Representation of the college/clubs in your chosen team sport/activity
- Representation of the West Midlands AoC regional team (if applicable)





## **PHYSICS**

#### WHAT IS PHYSICS?

Physics involves the study of the universe. It is essential to our understanding of the world around us and challenges our imaginations with concepts like relativity and quantum mechanics.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The course content is split into six modules;

module one is development of practical skills; module two covers the foundations of physics. Module three focuses on forces and motion and in module four you study electrons, waves and photons. In Year 13 students complete module five which is the Newtonian world and astrophysics along with module six, which is particles and medical physics. Lessons will incorporate an extensive range of experimental work to enhance the learning experience.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

The analytical, numerate and critical skills developed in physics open up a wealth of career opportunities from mathematical, scientific, medical and computing areas to the business and financial professions.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- Physics Olympiad competition opportunities
- Support for the physics aptitude test for applicants to Oxford University
- Regular guest speakers

Core Maths
If you achieved a grade 6 in your GCSE maths you will be enrolled in Core Maths as part of your programme.

98.1% PASS RATE CLICK HERE
TO FIND
OUT MORE

#### **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

GCSE grades 6-6 in combined science or a grade 6 in Physics (if studied as a separate science) and a GCSE grade 6 in Maths.

## **POLITICS**

#### WHAT IS POLITICS?

The study of politics is the understanding of events which are happening now. These events are not restricted to parliament and congress but impact everyday life for us all.

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS GCSE grade 5 in English Language or English

Literature.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will study British political and electoral systems including political parties and parliament. You will study the American political system including their Constitution, Congress, presidency and how civil rights, courts and pressure groups function. The course covers political ideologies including conservatism, socialism, liberalism and feminism. You will develop strong analytical skills through the study of government policy and using extracts to build your evaluative skills.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Students go to university to study everything from politics and international relations to PPE, history, law, English, and medicine.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- Field trips to parliament and party conferences
- Opportunities to meet visiting MPs, professors and journalists



## **PSYCHOLOGY**

#### WHAT IS PSYCHOLOGY?

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind, brain and behaviour. Psychologists research brain structure and function, mental processes and social behaviours. We aim to answer

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**GCSE grade 5 in Maths.

questions such as, is aggression a product of biology or environment? What causes a phobia to develop? Why do we follow a crowd, when we know we shouldn't?

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

In the first year you will study the foundations of psychology, including social, cognitive and biological psychology. You will conduct your own psychological investigations, where you will design and carry out research. In the second year, you study applied psychology units looking at criminal psychology and the practical tools' psychologists have developed to help police investigations as well as causes of crime and rehabilitations. In clinical psychology you will explore diagnosis and treatment of specific disorders.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Psychology A level can lead to further study in clinical, forensic, educational and occupational psychology. A level Psychology is also considered a second science subject to study medicine at degree level. The diverse range of skills developed such as research and critical thinking are directly transferable to a range of other higher education subjects such as teaching, business studies, policing and law.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- The Natural History Museum, the Freud Museum and visiting Auschwitz
- Visits to universities to experience hands on Psychology and research
- Conferences such as the Behind Bars company and Brain days!



## **RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

#### WHAT IS RELIGIOUS STUDIES?

Religious Studies explores a range of philosophical and ethical issues surrounding religion, appealing to those who are curious about the deeper things in life and the role and impact of religion on modern society.



#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The course is divided into three areas: philosophy of religion, ethics and Christianity. You will study the issues surrounding whether God's existence can be proved and the complexities surrounding religious language. You'll investigate the strengths and weaknesses of religious and non-religious ethical theories and study the history, developments, teachings and practices of one of the most important religions and consider how far Christianity has evolved to meet the challenges of being a believer in the modern world.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Religious Studies is an excellent preparation for many humanities and social science degrees and is well respected by employers due to the literacy and skills of interpretation, analysis and evaluation.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- Annual Rome trip shared with Classics
- Conferences and speaker events at national universities

92.3% PASS RATE

## SOCIOLOGY

#### WHAT IS SOCIOLOGY?

Sociology is the study of social groups and social life in modern societies, and the interaction between individuals within these groups.

# ENTRY REQUIREMENTS GCSE grade 5 in English Language or English Literature.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will study socialisation culture and identity, families, households and education using theoretical debates and arguments, supported by empirical (evidence based) research. You will also review methods of sociological enquiry and you will experience the application of various research strategies. You will cover power and stratification with topics including inequality and world sociology. Sociology is an essay based discipline, and a high standard of written English is required for this subject.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Sociology students go on to study a wide variety of subjects at degree level, including sociology, criminology and psychology. Many courses such as nursing and midwifery specify sociology as a preferred A level subject.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- Seminars or lectures at local universities
- Trip to the International Slavery Museum in Liverpool



## **SPANISH**

#### WHAT IS SPANISH?

Spanish is an official language in 20 countries, and is the native language of over 430 million speakers. This makes it the second most common mother tongue in the world.



#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will study a wide range of cultural, historical, political and social topics; including art and architecture, gastronomy, music and dance and twentieth-century history. We will include elements of medieval society, racism and immigration; monarchies and dictatorships; family life; feminism, and LGBTQI+rights from a Spanish-speaking perspective. You will also study and analyse two pieces of literature and undertake a research piece into an area of personal interest in a Spanish-speaking country.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Students of A level Spanish have gone on to study modern languages, law, English, history, medicine, business studies, economics, music, sciences and maths. Speaking a language is highly valued in the world of business, and fluency in a language can increase your salary by up to 20%.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

 Cultural visit to Madrid to include a tour of the city and visit places such as the Prado museum, Retiro park and the Gran Vía, which really helps to bring the things we learn about alive

100% PASS RATE

## **STATISTICS**

#### WHAT IS STATISTICS?

Statistics is used to research, model, understand, analyse and predict data for situations which involve uncertainty or variability.



#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The subject is taught in a practical way, with multiple mini experiments, practical activities and opportunities to collect data and investigate problems and their solutions using different methods of sampling.

The course builds on the topic of data handling, practical applications of correlation and regression, including their application in the world of business. Probability theory is expanded with the introduction of binomial and normal distribution. We also study a variety of different hypothesis tests.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Past students have gone on to study a variety of degree courses including medicine, dentistry, geography, geology, biological sciences, sports science, nursing, economics, business studies, sociology and psychology.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- · Annual trip to Alton Towers
- Use of Minitab software and data analysis toolpak in excel

100% PASS RATE

## **TEXTILE DESIGN**

#### WHAT IS TEXTILE DESIGN?

Textile Design incorporates surface pattern and constructed textiles; these areas then lead onto designing items including wallpaper, stationery, fabrics, garments and accessories.

#### WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You start with studio-based sessions exploring the visual arts team. a wide range of disciplines, covering both traditional media and contemporary methods, giving you the chance to explore techniques such as printmaking, digital photography, illustration, sculpture,

painting and drawing. Through a series of projects you will gain autonomy in the direction of your work, leading to your self-directed personal investigation coursework and the AQA externally set assignment.

#### WHAT CAN IT LEAD TO?

Students often go directly to a degree course in a range of disciplines. Former students work in the design studios for H&M, Top Man and River Island.

#### TRIPS, VISITS AND ENRICHMENTS

- · Visit to the New Designers in London
- Students are encouraged to visit exhibitions
- Students develop invaluable presentation skills





#### **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

GCSE grade 5 in a visual arts subject or submit a portfolio of current work for inspection by a member of



17 hours of contact time per week based on a 3 subject programme.







Library **Opening Hours** Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.







We don't have a uniform as we want you to be able to express who you are. Just dress











If you've finished your timetabled lessons you don't need to stay on campus.

However, feel free to stay and use our many study spaces and facilities.





5 minute walk from Stourbridge Interchange.







We have a fantastic food offering on campus, but don't fancy it...don't worry there are plenty of choices in the town centre for places to buy something to eat.

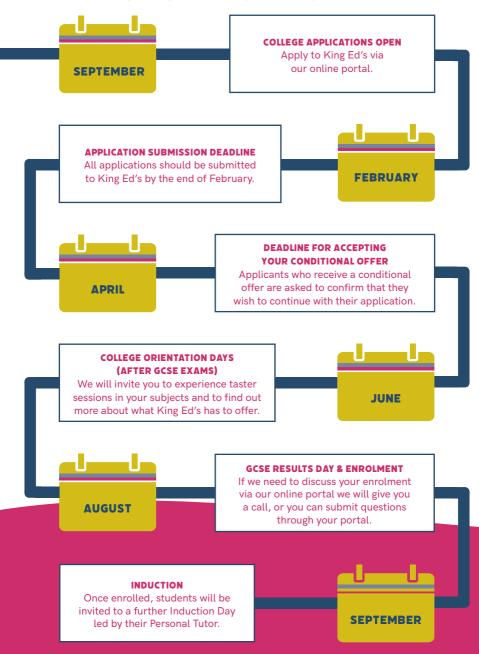








## **APPLYING TO KING ED'S**



### STUDENT SUPPORT

Becoming a student at King Ed's does require you to have a level of independence, but we fully support you during your time with us. Our specialist teams ensure that your pastoral and additional academic needs are met, allowing you to thrive and reach your full potential while you study with us.

#### **Personal Tutors**

All students are assigned a Personal Tutor (PT) whose primary focus is to provide support and guidance throughout your studies. Your PT is someone whom both you and your parents/guardians can contact at any time if you have concerns. You will meet weekly for one-to-one, in person tutorial sessions. Your PT will support your academic progress and help you to develop the skills needed for effective study at A level.

#### **Lead Tutors**

Our Lead Tutors have overall responsibility for your pastoral care. They have access to an array of services for any additional or specialised support required.

#### **Learning Support**

King Ed's is a supportive and inclusive environment and our trained team treats disclosures of any learning, physical or mental health issues sensitively. We ask that any issues be

disclosed at application as this allows us to make appropriate arrangements and, where required, source special equipment. The team will then work with you throughout your studies to ensure your needs are met.

#### Medical Welfare and Counselling

Students have access to a fully qualified medical welfare officer who can support them regarding a number of health issues, offer advice through drop-ins, regular appointments, signposting to other health agencies and providing immediate first aid.

We have a team of qualified counsellors on-site who deal with a variety of issues in complete confidence. Students can refer themselves or be referred via any member of staff. Students are offered an initial assessment and followed by a series of six one-to-one sessions.

#### **Careers Advice**

We have an experienced and fully qualified careers team who offer you one-to-one advice regarding careers, university applications and apprenticeships. They hold progression events throughout the year and also deliver our pathways programmes. They run the Meaningful Employer Engagement (M.E.E) programme which helps you develop plans for your future career through work experience. We have extensive links with industry, commerce and the public sector that ensure your work experience really will deliver the insights you need to make informed decisions about your future.

#### **Career Pathways**

Students with clear career aspirations can join one of our bespoke pathway programmes that offer additional activities for careers in banking/ accounting/finance (BAF); dentistry; engineering; law; medicine; pharmacy and teaching. Each individual programme is tailored specifically and offers talks from industry professionals, relevant work experience, assistance with university applications and aptitude tests.



#### Financial support: 16-19 bursary fund

Each year the College distributes government money provided to assist students who may be experiencing financial hardship. Money is allocated on the basis of household income and can be used by students for anything related to their studies, including transport costs. More guidance can be found on the College's website along with the relevant application form.



#### **Travel support**

Most students living in the West Midlands can make use of the excellent public transport links to travel to college and are entitled to receive the Network West Midlands 16-18 travel card which provides discounted rates.

Those joining King Ed's from further afield can access the College transport which provides a subsidised bus service from the following areas, Bridgnorth, Bromsgrove, Cleobury Mortimer, South Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Sedgley and parts of rural Worcestershire.

Click here for more information



## THE ASPIRE PROGRAMME

Being a student at King Ed's involves much more than just studying for your academic qualifications. We want to ensure that your time with us prepares you for the future. We have carefully developed a careers and enrichment programme, which increases your skills and helps to prepare you for your next steps.

Our Aspire programme is open to any student looking to maximise their potential and develop their skills beyond their A level curriculum. We provide a range of activities and opportunities designed to challenge, inspire and guide you. Students joining the Aspire programme can expect:

- Presentations and debates on a wide range of topics, developing thinking and reasoning skills
- Inspirational talks and lectures by visiting speakers
- Open Day visits to top universities, including Girton College Cambridge and Oriel College Oxford
- Information about summer schools and masterclasses offered by universities.
- Guidance on planning independent research into university choices
- Opportunity to complete the Extended Project Qualification

#### THE LIBRARY

The Library is situated in a stand alone building just above Tesco. The entrance is on Crown Lane just down from the main college campus. There are lots of additional study spaces and computers to use as well as our extensive collection of books to help with your studies.



## **ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**

We offer a range of supplementary qualifications that you can take in addition to your core programme. You can apply for these as part of the start-of-year enrichment sign-up process. Please note that some of these opportunities have limited availability.

#### **Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)**

The EPQ is a project-based qualification, you can take on something you are passionate about or it can be linked to something you are studying. You will gain around half an A level, which also holds a UCAS points value.

The submission could be either a report, essay, creative artefact or an event or performance. You will agree on your area of study in Year 12 and undertake most of the work in Year 13.

#### Level 3 Certificate in Financial Studies (CeFS)

The CeFS qualification is awarded by the Institute of Finance University College, carrying up to 70 UCAS points and is assessed by two external exams. You will cover a range of areas such as making and considering options, handling data, and financial capability. You will experience teamwork and communication skills and have a better ability to understand the financial services sector.

#### Level 3 mathematical studies (core maths)

This one-year qualification carries a maximum of 20 UCAS points and will build on your existing GCSE maths knowledge by developing problem-solving skills, the ability to communicate your mathematical ideas in the areas of statistics, finance and estimation. You will need to have achieved a GCSE grade 5 in maths to do this course. You will also be enrolled onto Core Maths if you are studying Physics or Computer Science and not taking A level Maths or Statistics. Or of you are studying Biology or Chemistry and acheived a grade 6 in your GCSE Maths.



EVERYTHING WE FORGE FOR OUR ENRICHMENT OFFERING ENSURES THE STUDENTS WELLBEING TAKES PRECEDENT, PROVIDING THEM WITH THE TOOLS THEY NEED TO TAKE TIME FOR THEMSELVES, OUTSIDE OF THEIR ACADEMIC DEMANDS. WE FOCUS ON THE FIVE STEPS TO MENTAL WELLBEING BY:



BEING PHYSICAL
AND GETTING
ACTIVE



GIVING BACK TO OTHERS OR THE COMMUNITY



GIVING BACK TO OTHERS



LEARNING A
NEW SKILL



WITH OTHERS

The King Ed's enrichment offering provides students with the opportunity to build knowledge, skills, understanding and personal development through a wide variety of leisure and enrichment activities.

The number of activities we offer has tripled this year and we continue to look for new and exciting opportunities to add to our diverse portfolio, there really is something for everyone. We have staff-led groups which can be both recreational and support your programme of study, and student-led groups that cater to every interest, from medical ethics to the debating society, miniature gaming to dance workshops,

the green society to rainbow reads. We have very active dance and drama companies and offer a wide range of musical ensembles such as choirs and orchestras, and students often form their own bands.

For students who want to participate in a college sports team we have plenty of opportunities to get involved, with swimming, football, netball and rugby teams.

Over the last 12 months we have developed the experiences we can offer students through our affiliations with the Wildlife Trust, Rotary Club, Autin Dance Theatre and Glass Cone to name a few.



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