



Arthur Mellows Village College An Academy

Sixth Form Prospectus

“Delivering learning for life within an aspirational culture”

Graded “Outstanding” consecutively by Ofsted
November 2009 and December 2014

Head of College: M Sandeman
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The Senior Leadership Team

I am delighted that you are considering joining the Sixth Form at Arthur Mellows Village College.

We pride ourselves on being a high performing comprehensive school, rated outstanding by Ofsted. We pursue high standards and offer excellent educational opportunities through the high quality of our teachers, our curriculum and our resources.

Now is the time to consider the options available to you at Post 16 and we believe that Arthur Mellows Village College can provide the appropriate learning environment for you to reach your full potential. We appreciate you are currently ardently studying for your GCSE examinations, but it is important that you take time to select suitable courses. This prospectus will provide you with the appropriate information to begin planning for study in Key Stage 5.

We have considered our subject courses carefully in order to provide a curriculum that will meet the needs of all students, taking into account differing interests, skills and passions. We aim to ensure each student can access their particular selection of subject choices by offering a range of traditional and vocational subjects. It is essential to choose subjects that motivate and inspire you, along with matching your

longer term career goals. Support in this is readily available at the College and we pride ourselves in the information, advice and guidance provided.

In September 2010 the College became one of the new 'Academy' schools as a result of a direct invitation from the Department for Education due to our 'Outstanding' Ofsted status. This 'Academy Status' provides us with greater freedom to help the school innovate and enhance the performance of the young people in our care.

We have also recently formed the 'Four Cs Multi-Academy Trust' in order to provide increased educational opportunities in a wider capacity.

Our priority is to develop the full potential of all our students, whatever their ability.

The College has been consecutively graded by Ofsted as Outstanding in November 2009 and December 2014. Key points from the latest inspection are as follows:

"Students' behaviour is excellent"

"Excellent relationships with their teachers mean the atmosphere within lessons is purposeful and positive"

"Students are unreservedly proud of their school"

One student explained: "Aiming high and trying your best is what this school is about"

"Students are confident, and highly articulate, when speaking"

"Personal development of Sixth Form students is promoted very well"

"The behaviour of Sixth Form students is impeccable"

Arthur Mellows Village College welcomes students from other schools and colleges. This prospectus and information is produced to help make an informed judgement as to the suitability of Arthur Mellows for your Post 16 studies. I hope you will take the opportunity to join us and become part of the range of activities and diverse nature of work that takes place here at Arthur Mellows.

I look forward to welcoming you into the Sixth Form.

MIKE SANDEMAN
Head of College



The Sixth Form Leadership Team: L to R: Mr Cook, Mrs Jones, Ms Kavanagh, Mrs Griggs and Miss Clennett

“Students work hard in lessons and make rapid progress across many subjects” (Ofsted 2014)

Welcome from the Heads of Sixth Form

Hello and welcome.

At Arthur Mellows Village College, we pride ourselves on nurturing within an aspirational culture, supporting you every step of the way. We offer a thorough mentoring and support system which is founded on the idea of having a growth mind-set; one that empowers students and allows them to take ownership of their destiny. We believe that it is not what you come into the Sixth Form with but what you take with you when you leave that matter - academic success and pathways for the future.

Our curriculum has been tailored to meet the needs of today's learners and encompasses a

wide range of subject specialisms and qualifications to enable students to follow both an academic and vocational route. We see each student as an individual and ask them to challenge themselves to become successful adults. Our dedicated team support students every step of the way, from the interview process, to tutor time, to examination results.

We look forward to welcoming you to our Sixth Form.

*MRS GRIGGS AND MS KAVANAGH
Joint Heads of Sixth Form*



Introduction

Sixth Form life at Arthur Mellows is more than just the subjects you study – we will provide you with a diverse range of opportunities, both academic and extra-curricular.

Our curriculum is driven by our students and we continually endeavour to introduce courses that not only meet their needs but equip them to be highly competitive when leaving the College.

We have a thorough Induction Process that ensures the smooth transition for current students and those being welcomed from other schools and colleges. We recognise the differing nature of students, the importance of a variety of learning styles and the opportunity for individual support and guidance.

We have high expectations of our Sixth Form students and in return you will receive exceptional outcomes. A positive attitude, self motivation and the ability to be an active learner will lead to outstanding exam results and future opportunities. Attendance, meeting deadlines and good study habits will ensure excellent learning experiences. We expect you to be a role model that younger students look up to – creating an environment of aspirational and confident students.

Curriculum

Part of your decision to join us will be based upon our curriculum and we have a wide range of course available in various subjects. We continually endeavour to introduce courses that not only meet our students' needs but equip them to be highly competitive when leaving the College. Our curriculum blocks have been created to meet these requirements, taking into account popular subjects and course combinations that allow students to access career routes or university courses.

At Arthur Mellows we offer two pathways: A Levels and a Vocational route. BTEC Nationals are a Level 3 qualification which are recognised by both employers and most universities.

Information about BTEC Nationals and our A Level courses is included in this prospectus. Subject leaders are available for discussion during Sixth Form Open Evening and they will outline which options are available in each subject. Final courses are always subject to minimum numbers and may not run if not viable.

Entry Requirements

- ▶ **A LEVEL:** Students who wish to study A Level courses will need 7 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above, including a minimum of 4 Grade 6's. A Grade 4 in Maths and English will be accepted if students agree to complete a GCSE resit in the subject where they achieved a Grade 4 and following a successful interview. This is at the discretion of the Head of Sixth Form.
- ▶ **BTEC:** Students who wish to study BTEC courses will need 5 GCSE's at 4 or above including Maths and English Language. A Grade 4 in Maths or English will be accepted if students agree to complete a GCSE resit in the subject where they achieved a Grade 4 and following a successful interview. This is at the discretion of the Head of Sixth Form.
- ▶ A recommendation from your current school, as suitability for successful Sixth Form study in three subjects of your choice, from the range offered by the College.
- ▶ Having satisfied the entry requirements specified for each Sixth Form course.



Key Elements

Enrichment

All students have an enrichment option within their timetable. This enables students to select and obtain an exciting specialist qualification away from the normal curriculum. We have a leadership programme for all Year 12 students. Our Year 13 students act as a mentor to the incoming Year 7's. Students can be part of the Young Enterprise Team in which we have achieved regional success. At Arthur Mellows, we pride ourselves in being the most prolific local school in the Duke of Edinburgh Awards. The Arts department provide fantastic opportunities for Sixth Form students and our school play and music performances are always a resounding success.

Sixth Form Committee and Subject Forum

The Sixth Form Committee is made up of students who represent the needs of the Sixth Form. The Subject Forum allows students to have an input into their learning. Representatives undertake an election process and the committee meets regularly to discuss issues and events. Sixth Form students are also important members of the Student Council where issues raised, by either students or staff, are addressed. The committee plays an important role in maintaining the Sixth Form's designated environment within school.

Sport

A range of indoor and outdoor sports are available. There is an interschool fixture list in a variety of sports in which Arthur Mellows enjoys a high level of success. We hold Sixth Form Sports Day and inter-form competitions, along with regular sporting events against other Year Groups and staff teams. We have a state of the art fitness suite and the College is proud to be the longest standing Peterborough holder of the National Sports Mark. The PE department has recently been awarded the Silver Kitemark; this Government led scheme rewards schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community. Our Sixth form students are also given the opportunity to study for Community and Higher Sports Leader Awards.

Charities Events

The main thrust of Sixth Form fund raising is overseen by two elected Charity Representatives on the Sixth Form Committee. Fund raising takes place throughout the entire academic year, with thousands of pounds being raised for various worthwhile causes. National Charities such as Children in Need and The British Legion benefit on an annual basis, whilst funds and awareness are also raised for local organisations.

Visits and Visitors

Throughout the year there are a number of trips arranged for Sixth Form students, including New York, Iceland and Russia. Some of the trips are subject specific but others are open to 'non specialists'. We also run an annual Sixth Form ski trip. In addition, we try to bring a wide range of visitors into school to talk and work with our students.

Social Events

There are regular social events run by the Sixth Form Committee. One of the highlights of the year is undoubtedly the Sixth Form Prom, providing students and staff with an opportunity to relax and celebrate their achievements. We also arrange days out for Sixth Form students.

A Level Curriculum

Art Textiles

Why should I study Art Textiles?

Art Textiles is a creative and challenging course focused on creating visually expressive work through the medium of Textiles. The course will give you a high level of experience and skill in using a wide variety of media and processes whilst developing your experimental and creative abilities in order to produce work that is individual and exciting.

If you are interested in creating work related to Fashion, fabric design, soft sculpture, Artwork or homeware and are willing to push your ideas and creativity to the next level then this is the course for you.

What will I do during the course?

During the course you will work on project based practical coursework where you will be taught how to create pieces of Textiles using a wide variety of processes.

Students produce a huge cross section of work during the course from fashion based projects to soft sculpture and fabric printing. The most important part of the course is the development of a high level of technical skill and creative thinking along side a contextual understanding of both contemporary and historical Artists and designers.



How will I be assessed?

Year 12 is 100% examination. Students will have an exam project which begins in February and is completed in late April. Students are given from February to complete preparation work and then complete a 10 hour practical examination in late April.

Year 13 is 60% coursework and 40% examination.

Where can it lead?

Most students who decide to continue go on to do a one year foundation course. Once this is completed there are numerous degree courses available including Decorative Arts, Fine Arts, Textiles Fashion, Interior Design and Costume making.

What qualifications do I need to start?

Students wishing to study Art Textiles should ideally have studied Art/Textiles at GCSE and gained a Grade 6 or above and a portfolio of previous work. An additional pass at Grade 5 in English would also be preferable.

Biology



Why should I study Biology?

If you are looking to discover more about the natural world, how our bodies work and the inner workings of the cell then A Level in Biology is the obvious choice. Studying Biology draws on your Chemistry, Physics and Maths knowledge to help you understand the life processes of single-celled organisms and complex ecosystems. A Biology A Level qualification will demonstrate your ability to recall facts, analyse data, manipulate laboratory equipment and apply your knowledge in order to discuss the problems faced by society today and in the future.

What will I be doing during the course?

You will cover a wide range of topics including cell structure, biochemistry, animal and plant physiology, ecology, health and disease and genetics. You will learn to plan and carry out scientific investigations, collecting accurate results and analyse data using graphical and statistical methods.

There are six modules:

- **Module 1** - Development of practical skills. Although coursework is no longer part of the course, 12 practical tasks will be completed and assessed via the Practical Endorsement and written exams.
- **Module 2** – Foundations in Biology; covering concepts such as cell structure, biochemistry and cell division.
- **Module 3** – Exchange and Transport; covering the lungs and transport systems in animals and plants.
- **Module 4** – Biodiversity, evolution and disease.
- **Module 5** – Communication, homeostasis and energy; covering the nervous and hormonal systems, photosynthesis, excretion and respiration.
- **Module 6** – Genetics, evolution and ecosystems.

How will I be assessed?

You will sit 2 AS exams at the end of Year 12 however these do not count towards your final A Level grade. At the end Year 13 there will be 3 exams:

- Paper 1 assesses content from Modules 1, 2, 3 and 5 and is worth 37% of the final A Level grade.
- Paper 2 assesses content from Modules 1, 2, 4 and 6 and is worth 37% of the final A Level grade.
- Paper 3 assesses content from all Modules and is worth 26% of the final A Level grade.

There is also the 'Practical endorsement in Biology' which is reported as a Pass separately to the A Level qualification.

Where can it lead?

A good Grade in Biology A Level is a requirement for university courses in medicine, dentistry, veterinary science and other medically related degrees. A Level Biology also provides a useful background to a wide variety of Higher Education courses.

You could go on to study: medicine, dentistry, physiotherapy, pharmacology, pharmacy, chiropody, psychology, forensic science, archaeology, marine biology, biological science, ecology, sports studies, biochemistry, accountancy or even teacher training.

Biology is a science which fits in well with other A Level Sciences but can also be studied with other subjects such as Geography, Physical Education and Maths. In the past some students have successfully combined Arts subjects with a Biology

course. Please check with the Biology staff when you are considering possible A Level combinations.

What qualifications do I need to start?

You must pass GCSE Trilogy (Combined) Science at an overall Grade of 7-7 or above, or Biology in the Single Award Science GCSE at Grade 7 or above, plus at least one other Grade 7 from a Single Science subject. We may consider 7-6 or 6-6 at the teacher's discretion, based on performance, effort in classwork and homework. You must have GCSE Maths at Grade 6, or above to cope with this course. We will not accept BTEC Science as an appropriate entry requirement for this course.

Business Studies



Why should I study A Level Business?

A Level Business will help you to develop your skills, knowledge and understanding of business to successfully follow a programme of study that enables progression to both Higher Education and employment within business. It will develop the key skills of Communication, Numeracy and Information and Communication Technology that are highly valued by employers and Higher Education.

This course will appeal to those who have a keen interest in business, how it operates and for those who want to find out more through using ICT, research and problem solving methods. The course will suit students who are interested in analysing business challenges and developing solutions to them.

What will I do during the course?

1. What is business?
2. Managers, leadership and decision making
3. Decision making to improve marketing performance
4. Decision making to improve operational performance
5. Decision making to improve financial performance
6. Decision making to improve human resource performance
7. Analysing the strategic position of a business
8. Choosing strategic direction
9. Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies
10. Managing strategic change

How will I be assessed?

Students are assessed via a mixture of a case study, data response, short answer and extended response type questions, over 3 written exam papers each worth 33.3%.

Where can it lead?

It can lead to a future in business either via university or after Sixth Form. The vast majority of careers are in business. Business Studies will provide you with the knowledge, understanding and skills for careers in Human Resource Management, Operations Management, Marketing or Accounting and Finance.

What qualifications do I need to start?

Students wishing to study Business will have gained a Grade 5 or above in English and a Grade 6 or above in Maths. If BTEC First Business Certificate or Diploma has been studied students should have achieved a Merit or better or if GCSE Business Studies has been studied a Grade 6 or better.

If 'Business' has not been studied previously academic ability will be based on candidate's overall qualifications and profile.

Chemistry



Why study Chemistry?

Chemistry is a challenging and stimulating subject. It has played a major role in improving living standards and is one of the most successful industries in the UK. In most cases, Chemistry is an essential subject for Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science and some Biological Sciences.

If you enjoy finding out what happens when substances react and why. If you have an enquiring mind and enjoy solving problems. If you enjoy practical work and want to improve your skills and accuracy then an A Level in Chemistry could be what you are looking for. From the moment you are born and throughout your life you are surrounded by Chemistry, in the air you breathe, the food you eat and the clothes you wear.

What will I do during the course?

You will cover a wide range of topics including the Periodic table, organic and physical chemistry, transition elements and analysis. You will learn to plan and carry out scientific investigations, collecting accurate results, analysing and evaluating the data using graphical methods.

There are six modules:

- **Module 1** - Development of practical skills, undertaking 12 practical tasks which will be completed and assessed via the written exams.
- **Module 2** – Foundations of Chemistry; covering concepts such as atoms, compounds, molecules, equations, amount of substance, acid-base reactions, bonding and structure.
- **Module 3** – Periodic table and energy; covering Group 2 and 7, quantitative analysis, enthalpy changes, rates of reaction and equilibrium.
- **Module 4** – Core organic chemistry; covering hydrocarbons, alcohols, haloalkanes, synthesis and analytical techniques.
- **Module 5** – Physical chemistry and transition elements; covering pH, buffers, transition elements, redox and electrode potentials.
- **Module 6** – Organic chemistry and analysis; covering organic and nitrogen compounds, polymers, chromatography and spectroscopy (NMR).

How will I be assessed?

The Government reforms mean that all examinations will be taken at the end of Year 13. There will be 3 exams:

- Paper 1 assesses content from Modules 1, 2, 3 and 5 and is worth 37% of the final A Level grade.
- Paper 2 assesses content from Modules 1, 2, 4 and 6 and is worth 37% of the final A Level grade.
- Paper 3 assesses content from all Modules and is worth 26% of the final A Level grade.

There is also the 'Practical endorsement in Chemistry' which is reported as a Pass or Fail separately to the A Level qualification.

Where can it lead?

Training in Chemistry gives you the skills needed for a wide range of careers: medicine, pharmacy, engineering, materials science, forensic science, biotechnology, journalism, food industry and brewing are just a few of the career opportunities.

What qualifications do I need to start?

You must pass GCSE Trilogy (Combined) Science at an overall Grade of 7-7 or above, or Chemistry in the Single Award Science GCSE at Grade 7 or above, plus at least one other Grade 7 from a Single Science subject. We may consider 7-6 or 6-6 at the teacher's discretion, based on performance, effort in classwork and homework. You must have GCSE Maths at Grade 6, or above to cope with this course. We will not accept BTEC Science as an appropriate entry requirement for this course...

Computer Science



Why should I study Computer Science?

If you have an interest in creating computer programs and learning about the different concepts that underpin computers then Computer Science is an excellent subject for you to study. The Computer Science course at Arthur Mellows is stimulating and challenging, which will call upon a range of skills including problem solving, critical thinking and investigation. The problem solving nature of it lends itself to maths based courses such as Physics and Mathematics. A Computer Science A Level is regarded well by institutions and employers. It is a recognised way of obtaining apprenticeships in a programming institution or to progress on to Computer Science based degrees.

What will I do during the course?

The course equips students with deeper knowledge on problem solving skills by developing students' computational thinking. It also broadens students' knowledge of new technology that is being developed. Students will also undertake a large programming project which will equip them with an understanding of programming.

How will I be assessed?

Computer Science A Level is taught through two exams and one piece of coursework. The exams account for 80% of the final grade, whilst the coursework is 20%. Exam one is based on Computer Systems and the new advances in computing technology. This will require students to understand processes such as the CPU, registers and data representation. Exam two is based on algorithms and problem solving. Students will be required to use their computational thinking processes that they have developed to solve a variety of programming problems. The coursework element requires students to undertake a programming assignment in which they design, create and test a project as they would be expected to do in industry.

Where can it lead?

Computer Science at A Level allows students to apply for apprenticeships in the programming industry or move on to study one of the many Computer Science related courses at university. Due to Computer Science's diverse nature it can lead to many different areas including, Computer games developer, IT technician, Network Engineer, Police Computer specialist, Cryptography, Computer Forensics, Website Designer and other more abstract areas.

What qualifications do I need to start?

Due to the amount of programming required on the course, you should have achieved at least a Grade 6 at GCSE Computer Science and at least a Grade 6 in Mathematics and English Language. Admissions are all at the discretion of the Head of Computing.

Drama and Theatre

Why should I study Drama?

Drama and Theatre is a practical, intellectual and artistic subject. You will explore the structural elements of theatre from the page to the stage. In order to be successful and enjoy this subject, you need to have keen interest in the history of drama, study of practitioners, theatrical forms and conventions that make theatre such a compelling and exciting subject.

You must be able to analyse and critically deconstruct the work studied, created and witnessed. It is expected that a good level of English Literature / Language are achieved due to the critical evaluation required within the written work.

What will I do during the Course?

Lessons are a healthy combination of practical learning supported by the academic theory needed to understand the work being studied. Learning takes place through the following: practical workshops, research, a written portfolio (social/cultural/historical/political), rehearsals, seeing live theatre and exploration of texts. These methods increase understanding of the subject and provide you with more detail and substance to your work.

1: Practitioners in Practice (40%)

Learners research and practically explore practitioner and a section of text. This is assessed in the form of a devised performance and portfolio.

2: Exploring and Performing Texts (20%)

Learners will explore one performance text. This is assessed in the form of a performance which is externally assessed.

3: Analysing Performance (20%)

2 hours 15 minutes written exam.

Learners will study two texts which focus on a particular theme. In the examination they will answer questions about how they would practically communicate the themes in the texts.

4: Deconstructing Texts for Performance (20%)

1 hour 45 minutes written exam.

Learners will interpret and explore practically a performance text considering how to create, develop and direct a performance for an audience

Where can it lead?

When students study Drama and Theatre at A Level it invests the individual with invaluable skills in articulating thoughts, exploring ideas, sharpening communication skills and providing the ability to work within a group situation both in practical and academic setting. Additionally, students develop their ability to structure longer pieces of writing and use sources to support writing, which is an important skill in preparation for any post 18 study. All of these transferable skills can be used in all subjects and in all careers.

'Drama is life with the dull bits cut out' – Alfred Hitchcock

What qualifications do I need to start?

This exciting but demanding course requires great commitment and thinking skills and above all a passion for Drama and Theatre in all its aspects – reading, directing, designing and acting. Teamwork is vital. Drama and Theatre is one of the only A Level subjects where your final result depends on the work of others - and vice versa. The entry requirements are a Grade 5 or above in GCSE English and Grade 6 or above in GCSE Drama.



Economics

Why should I study Economics?

In A Level Economics you will look at the fundamental factors which affect our economy and lives, such as market forces, the business cycle, government economic policies, international trade and the distribution of income and wealth in our society. This course will suit students with a keen interest in world economics and politics, and who are willing to read and research.



What will I do during the course?

The specification is split into 2 main areas microeconomics and macroeconomics. Microeconomics addresses issues such as: 'Why are house prices so high?' 'Can pollution effectively be controlled?' and 'Should governments interfere with markets?' The macroeconomic issues covered include: 'Why does the Government have an inflation rate target and how does it affect us?' 'What happens to the economy if people decide to spend more?' and 'How are we affected by the Chinese and Indian economies?'

Students will also be expected to acquire competence in quantitative skills that are relevant to the subject content and be familiar with the various types of statistical data which are commonly used by economists.

How will I be assessed?

At the end of the second year there are 3 written papers to complete. Each paper is 2 hours long and counts for 33% of the marks for that year. There is a mix of short answer questions and a choice of questions where you can give a longer more detailed answer.

Where can it lead?

Economics is a versatile subject that can help you in a number of careers. Not only could you find yourself working for big corporations, banks or the government but your qualification in economics could also be valuable in a career like marketing, law, journalism or teaching.

Students who take Economics also often study Law, Mathematics, Geography, History, Politics, Philosophy and Languages.

What qualifications do I need to start?

Students wishing to study Economics will have gained a Grade 5 or above in English and a Grade 6 or above in Maths. If Economics has not been studied previously academic suitability will be based on candidate's overall qualifications and profile.

English Language

Why should I study English Language?

To appreciate how amazing and influential it is when you really think about it. We use it and are judged by our use of it every day, but do you really understand how it works and how you can use it and adapt it to your advantage?

You will learn about how language in both spoken and written forms is influenced by gender, technology and understand the manipulative power of the spoken and written word.

You will also have the chance to be a writer and argue key issues about language such as how it could be derogatory towards women or how it is being destroyed by technology. You will also dissect the hidden meanings behind language and learn how those meanings are constructed to achieve different purposes. If you enjoy analysing conversations and texts from rap to recipes this is the choice for you.

What will I be doing on the course?

You will enjoy the opportunity to experiment with coursework in Year 13 and select your own area of interest to unpick data in order to appreciate the impact of the language around us. This could include exploring controversial political speeches (think Donald Trump), the language of the suffragettes or even the use of taboo in teenage conversation! Year 13 also includes learning about how children learn to speak and to what extent language has changed from Shakespeare to Ed Sheeran! You will explore the fundamental structures and functions of writing and speech to appreciate how language operates in different social contexts. There will be theory lessons, discussions, research and heated debates but also assignments involving presentations.

How will I be assessed?

The new A Levels will be linear so the assessment of the student's work will take place at the end of the two year A Level course. The first assessment of the two year course that starts in September, will take place in the summer of the first year, and the final assessment will take place in summer of the second year.

Where can it lead?

Students of English Language will find their skills valuable in almost any management post. It is especially valuable for a career in Law, Politics, Medicine (especially paediatrics), Teaching (especially primary) and is invaluable for any profession that is concerned with people and communication such as Journalism or Public Relations. The course particularly complements Psychology, Sociology and History.

Language has been a popular choice for Sixth Form students who want a broad linguistic experience which will assist them in all walks of life. It enables you to understand the power and influence gained by choosing the right word for the right occasion. It is useful in all career choices. Language is all around you from your bus ticket home to your emails to work colleagues: learn how to use it to your advantage!

What qualifications do I need?

Students will need to have at least a Grade 6 or above in both English Language and English Literature.



English Literature



Why should I study English Literature?

As a facilitating subject, English Literature A Level is highly valued and respected by universities and employers. During the course students will develop analytical, evaluative and reasoning skills as they learn how to construct impressive lines of argument in essay responses.

Essentially, literature is the exploration of the human condition through celebrated literary works; an opportunity to delve into the thoughts, ideas and passions of the human mind; exploring the contradictory wonders and frailties, heroism and flaws, that go with it.

A love of literature is advised but not essential; the course uses literary texts to inspire debate and explore texts and their cultural significance. Alongside an appreciation of the literary merits of a particular work, students will also develop an understanding of a wide range of historical periods as they interrogate a text against its societal

Where can it lead?

Students of English Literature find their knowledge and skills useful in courses and careers where ideas, analysis and communication skills are vital. English Literature is very well regarded by higher education institutions. It will enhance opportunities in almost any area of commerce, industry or social services.

Of the two English syllabuses on offer at this level, this is the qualification which most encourages intellectual, open-minded, rigorous and independent thought. In a sense, the 'pure' Literature course is the most established and natural step towards English at university, given that most degree courses are Literature based. English Literature is also favoured very highly by the top universities, including Oxford and Cambridge.

What qualifications do I need to start?

Students will need to have at least a Grade 6 or above in both English Language and English Literature.

context. Students are expected to think critically about texts and ask questions, making judgements and defending their opinions with robust argument. How does the dystopian vision of *Nineteen Eighty-four* compare to our own societies? Does the audience feel any sympathy for Malvolio in *Twelfth Night*? Are there any serious messages to take away from the comedy *Private Lives*?

What will I do during the course?

Throughout the A Level you will read a number of texts covering poetry, prose and drama; these will range from Shakespeare to modern writers. The examinations are 'closed book' and rely on a vast understanding of the text and awareness of the context in which the texts are written and received.

How will I be assessed?

A Level: assessed by two exam components (80%) and a non-examined component (20%) to be assessed in the summer of the final year.

Film Studies

Why should I study Film Studies?

Film Studies at A Level looks to embrace film as both an art form and a medium of communication that spans decades. If you love the cultural and historical heritage that films offer as a reflection of the world, then Film Studies at A Level is definitely for you.

What will I do during the course?

During the course you will engage with film's broad, cultural and historical heritage and gain an understanding of how meaning has been created through film from the silent era to the present day. You will explore the historic European film movements that helped shape filmmaking in the 20th century and explore how film represents different cultures and societies, investigating the ideologies that shape film, and that are shaped by film.

Throughout the course you will explore different film forms, including short films, experimental films, documentary films and silent films. In addition, you will explore production processes, technologies and significance of both viewing conditions to the spectator and the digital in film.

You will study a wide range of films prescribed by the exam board from Europe and the US, including early 1930's cinema to modern day. You will also apply your own analytical and creative skills in your own production of a short fiction or experimental film or screenplay and produce an evaluation of your work.



How will I be assessed?

You are assessed across the course in three ways:

Component 1: Film History- Film Form in US Cinema from the Silent Era to 1990 and European Cinema History (35% of overall A Level Grade-external examination)

Component 2: Critical Approaches to Film- Contemporary British and US Film; Documentary and Ideology (35% of overall A Level Grade-external examination)

Component 3: Making a Short Film- Students will EITHER produce a 5 minute short film OR a 10 minute screenplay for a short film, incorporating a digitally photographed storyboard together with an evaluation of the production in relation to professionally produced set short films (30% of overall A Level Grade- internally assessed and externally moderated)

Where can it lead?

Many students who study Film Studies and Media Studies at A Level will go on to study or work in the Media Industry. This could include broadcasting, programme researcher, camera operator, media production and media coordinator.

A Level Film Studies CAN be studied together with A Level Media Studies or BTEC Creative Media at Level 3.

What qualifications do I need to start?

Students wishing to study Film Studies should ideally have gained a Grade 5 or above in English Language/English Literature. Although students do not need to have studied Media at GCSE level, an interest in Media and Film is encouraged.

Fine Art



Why should I study Art?

If you love images and objects that are not only visually stunning but able to make you think about or question the world around you, then this is the subject for you. Fine Art not only focuses on developing a high level of technical ability but forces you to examine the world and your surroundings. It teaches you to understand the past and comment on the present in a creative and individual manner and gives you the tools to think like a philosopher with the technical skill of a master craftsman.

If you love to create and have something to say then choose Fine Art.

What will I do during the course?

Firstly, you will develop skills in a wide variety of media and learn to push your technical abilities to a higher level. You will then start to examine the work of Artists from a range of historical and contemporary sources and use these to inform your work.

However, the main focus is on creativity and understanding visual language in order to create pieces of Art that truly stand out and demonstrate individuality and skill.

How will I be assessed?

Year 12 is 100% examination. Students will have an exam project which begins in February and is completed in late April. Students are given from February to complete preparation work and then complete a 10 hour practical examination in late April.

Year 13 is 60% coursework and 40% examination.

Where can it lead?

Most students who decide to continue go on to do a one year foundation course. Once this is completed there are numerous degree courses available including Decorative Arts, Fine Arts, Set design, Special effects, Textiles and Computer Generated Design. Art is also an important subject if you wish to study Architecture.

What qualifications do I need to start?

Students wishing to study Fine Art should ideally have studied Art at GCSE and gained a Grade 6 or above and a portfolio of previous work. An additional pass at Grade 5 in English would also be preferable.

French



Why should I study Modern Languages?

94% of the world's population does not speak English as their first language. 75% do not speak English at all. We live in a multi-lingual world and UK companies are now realising that they need foreign languages to compete when trading internationally.

Your ability to talk freely in a language other than English will also enhance the enjoyment you get from travelling and make it easier for you to pick up a second or even a third foreign language. If you have an enquiring mind, a retentive memory and a real desire to communicate, languages are for you.

What will I do during the course?

The aim of the A Level course is to develop a range of practical skills which will help you

communicate in the written and spoken language for a variety of purposes. Time is spent fostering an awareness and understanding of the cultural, social, commercial and political background of the countries where the language is spoken. The course offers enjoyment, intellectual stimulation and challenge.

How will I be assessed?

During both years of the A Level course your listening, reading, speaking, writing and translation skills will be assessed.

Where can it lead?

Language skills are highly prized in the job market, not only for their practical applications but also as a proof that you have a good level of intellectual ability. According to recruitment agencies, salary uplift for those

using languages at work can be anything from 8% to 20% depending on how central languages are to the role. If you have an A Level in a Modern Foreign Language employers value the key skills developed by language learners, these include communication skills, team work, interpersonal skills, presentation techniques, organisational skills and good learning strategies.

What qualifications do I need to start?

Students choosing to study French A Level will be expected to have studied GCSE French and gained at least a Grade 6 in the higher tiered papers. Modern Foreign Languages is a traditional academic subject and studying at A Level requires students to apply themselves and have a strong work ethic

Further Mathematics

Why should I study Further Mathematics?

Further Mathematics is designed to broaden and deepen the mathematical knowledge and skills developed when studying A Level Mathematics. It is studied alongside A Level Mathematics and provides a stimulating experience for those who enjoy the subject. The course will develop your knowledge of applied and pure topics of A2 mathematics to a higher level.

What will I do during the course?

The course builds upon the techniques in algebra, geometry, trigonometry and calculus developed from the pure content of the A Level course. Students will also develop knowledge of applied areas of mathematics such as, statistics and decision. You will also develop your knowledge of how to use technology, especially graphical calculators, effectively to support your mathematical knowledge.

How will I be assessed?

Further Mathematics is assessed solely through examinations. At the end of the second year there will be four examination papers, each worth a quarter of the A level grade. Two of the papers will assess the pure content with the remaining examinations assessing the applied content.

Where can it lead?

Further Mathematics at A Level allows students to move on to study many degree courses. However, its study is recommended for anybody wishing to proceed towards degree courses such as Mathematics and Physics.

What qualifications do I need to start?

You need to have studied all of the higher tier of GCSE Mathematics. Due to the more advanced nature of the Further Mathematics course students will ideally have gained a Grade 8 in GCSE Mathematics, however students gaining a Grade 7 will be considered at the discretion of the Head of Mathematics.

If you complete a Further Maths qualification as part of your GCSE curriculum, the results will be taken into account.



Please note, you must study A Level Mathematics to be permitted to study A Level Further Maths.

Future Designers - Product Design

Why should I study Product Design?

Studying Product Design at A Level develops students' knowledge, understanding and skill for designing for the future. Product Design encompasses a wide range of design disciplines but is firmly rooted to the skills required to design and make high quality products. Products that are fit for purpose, satisfy wants and needs, enhance our day-to-day lives and most importantly, give students the opportunity to demonstrate their design ability.



What will I do during the course?

This qualification emphasises two key factors, designing and making. All modern designers have to consider numerous issues when designing new products. New products need to provide solutions rather than add to the existing problems. Students will explore original ideas that question and challenge what could be.

Good design is vital to our world, it is important, therefore, that we enthuse future designers with a passion for designing their futures.

How will I be assessed?

The course is split evenly between 50% coursework and 50% examination.

The coursework is a design and make project, based on a developed brief, it will assess the ability to identify, investigate and outline unique design possibilities. Students will analyse and evaluate design decisions, including prototypes to establish quality end products that could be taken into the commercial world.

The examination includes a mix of structured and extended questions assessing students' knowledge and understanding of technical, designing and making principles. Along with their ability to analyse and evaluate wider issues in the design world.

Where can it lead?

The subject develops a number of key skills including:

Planning for tasks and carrying out experiments; development of creativity and innovative practice; exploring new practical skills and developing subject knowledge; problem solving; working with others.

What qualifications do I need to start?

Students will need to have a Grade 6 at GCSE in one of the following Design and Technology subjects: Product Design or Engineering. Some consideration will be given to students who obtain a Grade 5 and may be accepted on a probationary period after discussion with the Head of Department.

Geography



Why should I study Geography?

“Geography is a subject that holds the key to the future”, Michael Palin.

Do you know why it rains? Why volcanoes erupt? How our energy needs are changing or what globally we are doing to ensure the planet survives for the next generation? How are we managing cities of over 10 million people in the developed and less developed parts of the world?

Studying Geography will raise your awareness of current issues over the use of resources and the environmental impact of our globally growing population. The world around us is changing, and the A Level course will allow you to appreciate the current physical and human processes and issues. The course will also help make you a better, more rounded person.

What will I do during the course?

You will be involved in a mixture of group work, discussions, presentations and the use of ICT and GIS (Geographical Information Systems).

Across the different units you will study a mixture of physical, environmental and human Geography. There is a wide breadth of topics to study, from Tectonic Processes to Superpower Geographies and from Energy and Water Insecurity to Globalisation.

You will also have the opportunity to participate in a residential field trip to South Wales. The Geography department also offers extracurricular trips, for example in 2018 the department is running a joint trip with Media to Iceland and New York.

How will I be assessed?

The Geography course is now linear, which means you will be assessed after two years of studying. You will be assessed through a mixture of external examinations (80% of A Level) and coursework (20% of A Level)

Where can it lead?

Geographers learn many transferable skills that will make you suitable for a wide range of opportunities, both in Further Education and the work place. The subject gives you a grounding in many other areas, such as Science, Maths, ICT, Business... to name just a few! It also makes you highly employable. Research by the Russell Group representing the top 20 UK universities found that Geography was amongst the list of preferred A Level subjects on their entry requirements.

What qualifications do I need to start?

You need to have studied GCSE Geography and to have achieved a Grade 6 or above.

German

Why should I study German?

Ninety-four percent of the world's population does not speak English as their first language. Seventy-five percent do not speak English at all. We live in a multi-lingual world and UK companies are now realising that they need foreign languages to compete when trading internationally.

Your ability to talk freely in a language other than English will also enhance the enjoyment you get from travelling and make it easier for you to pick up a second or even a third foreign language. If you have an enquiring mind, a retentive memory and a real desire to communicate, languages are for you.

What will I do during the course?

The aim of the A Level course is to develop a range of practical skills which will help you communicate in the written and spoken language for a variety of purposes. Time is spent fostering an awareness and understanding of the cultural, social, commercial and political background of the countries where the language is spoken. The course offers enjoyment, intellectual stimulation and challenge.

How will I be assessed?

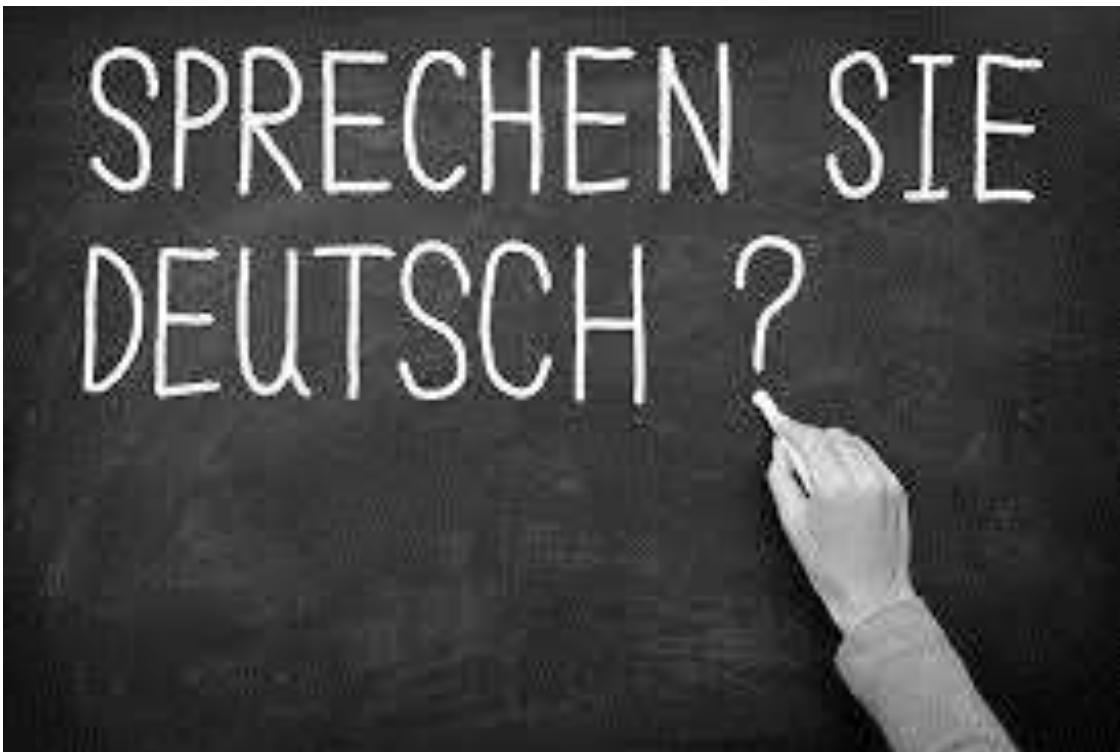
During both years of the A Level course your listening, reading, speaking, writing and translation skills will be assessed.

Where can it lead?

Language skills are highly prized in the job market, not only for their practical applications but also as a proof that you have a good level of intellectual ability. According to recruitment agencies, salary uplift for those using languages at work can be anything from 8% to 20% depending on how central languages are to the role. If you have an A Level in a Modern Foreign Language employers value the key skills developed by language learners, these include communication skills, team work, interpersonal skills, presentation techniques, organisational skills and good learning strategies.

What qualifications do I need to start?

Students choosing to study German at A Level will be expected to have studied German at GCSE and gained at least a Grade 6 in the higher tiered papers. Modern Foreign Languages is a traditional academic subject and studying at A Level requires students to apply themselves and have a strong work ethic.



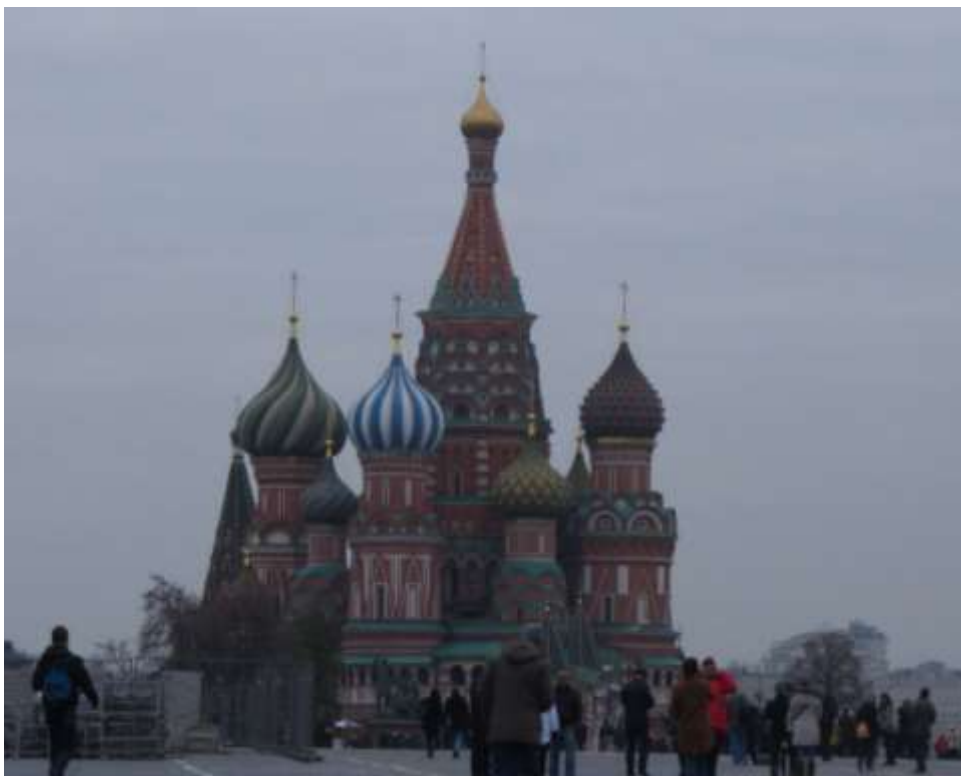
History

Why should I study History?

History helps to build a clear understanding and appreciation of today's complex world. In order to understand our place in the world we need to know where we come from and this means knowing about history. You will seek out the evidence, sort out the facts from the fiction, analyse what you have discovered, before arriving at a true understanding of what really happened. It is about understanding people and it develops a high level of communication.

The topics that we investigate will help our students to understand the issues surrounding:

The formation of the modern British political system, American culture and society as well as modern international relations. History is a subject that brings together a wide range of skills and reading of complex visual and textual sources. This makes History a challenging but highly respected subject by universities and employers alike.



What will I do during the course?

- The Early Stuarts, the Origins of the Civil War, the execution of Charles I and the Interregnum.
- The USA in the 19th Century: Westward Expansion and Civil War 1803-1890.
- Russia and its Rulers 1855-1964
- Topic based essay on the Cold War (coursework)

How will I be assessed?

- The Early Stuarts, the Origins of the Civil War, the execution of Charles I and the Interregnum. Worth 25% of total A Level, One 1 ½ hour exam.
- The USA in the 19th Century: Westward Expansion and Civil War 1803-1890. Worth 15% of total A Level. One 1 hour exam.
- Russia and its Rulers 1855-1964. Worth 40% of total A Level. One 2 1/2 hour exam.
- Topic based essay on the Cold War (coursework). Worth 20% of total A Level. One 3,000-4,000 piece essay. Non-examined unit.

Where can it lead?

History is a subject that is well recognised by employers and universities. History develops important skills such as: analysis of information, communication of complex ideas and empathetic understanding of other peoples motives.

History students often go on to work as: Lawyers, Journalists, Accountants, Economics, Business Managers, Politicians, Teachers, Military Leaders as well as successful business leaders to name but a few careers.

What qualifications do I need to start?

You need to have studied GCSE History and to have achieved a Grade 6 or above. Students achieving a Grade 5 will be considered at the discretion of the Head of History

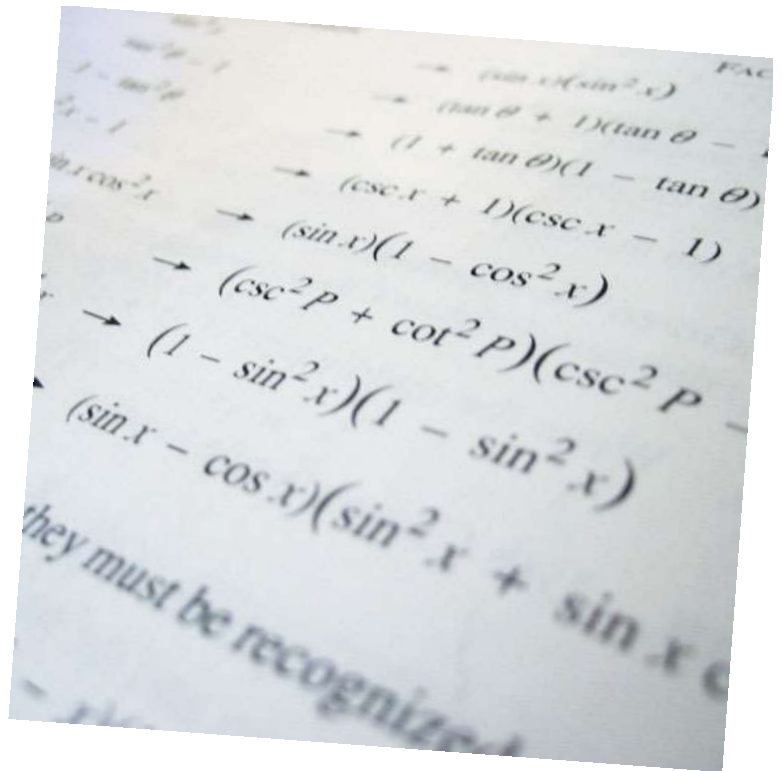
Mathematics

Why should I study Mathematics?

The main reason for studying Mathematics to an advanced level is that it is interesting and enjoyable. Students like the challenge, the clarity, and the fact that you know when you are right. The solution of a problem has an excitement and a satisfaction.

Mathematics is an intriguing subject to study on its own. However, it is a fundamental basis for all Science based subjects and as such is a much sought after qualification. Mathematics allows students to use their imagination, logical thought and intuitiveness to investigate and solve problems using different skills.

Mathematics A Level is well regarded by both institutions and employers and is recognised by the very top Universities for its challenging content and is therefore an excellent qualification to obtain.



What will I do during the course?

The course builds on the algebraic knowledge developed throughout GCSE Mathematics, whilst introducing new pure mathematics content such as calculus. You will also develop your knowledge of the applied areas of mathematics such as statistics and mechanics. You will also develop your knowledge of how to use technology effectively, especially graphical calculators, to support your mathematical knowledge.

How will I be assessed?

Mathematics is assessed solely through examinations.

At the end of the second year there are 3 written papers to complete. Each paper is 2 hours long and counts for 33% of the A level grade. Two of the papers assess pure content and the third paper assesses a combination of statistics and mechanics.

Where can it lead?

Mathematics at A Level allows students to move on to study many degree courses. For students wishing to study Mathematics and Physics at University the completion of AS/A2 Further Mathematics is recommended. Owing to its diverse nature from mathematical proof to mathematical modelling its value is recognised by careers in many areas including Computing, Accountancy, Economics, Business, Banking, Air Traffic Control, Retail Management, Architecture, Surveying, Cartography, Psychology, and, of course, Teaching to name but a few.

What qualifications do I need to start?

You need to have studied all of the higher tier of GCSE Mathematics and need to have achieved a Grade 7 or better. Students achieving a Grade 6 will be considered at the discretion of the Head of Mathematics.

If Edexcel Awards or Level 2 Further Maths qualification have been completed at GCSE, these results will be taken into account

Media Studies

Why should I study Media Studies?

Media Studies involves the analysis of the images, sounds and text that we experience via different media such as: films, advertising, TV, magazines, newspapers and websites.

We consistently achieve excellent results and have been featured in the Good Schools Guide for having achieved the best results at A Level compared to schools across the country, most recently in 2015.

What will I do during the course?

The course is constructed to offer a balance between the theoretical and the practical, involving the study of existing media texts and leading to the creation of your own media products. The new syllabus covers 9 different media forms, from newspapers and magazines (and on-line versions) to music video, long-form TV drama, videogames, radio and a little bit on film marketing.



How will I be assessed?

The course is split between two exams (35% each) and a practical coursework task. This is to produce a music promotional package across 3 media forms – a promo video, a band website and a CD digipak, supported by a blog. The exams are 2 hours long and involve some unseen textual analysis of newspapers (The Daily Mail and The Guardian) as well as mini-essays on such diverse topics as 'Minecraft', the Radio 1 Breakfast Show and the 1967 and 2015 versions of 'The Jungle Book'. We do not offer Media Studies as an AS, so all the exams will be taken at the end of Year 13.

Where can it lead?

Media Studies is a wonderful link subject between a wide range of option choices leading to a vast array of long-term career options. The days when Media Studies was not taken seriously by universities are long gone. Our students have gone on to pursue successful careers in such diverse careers as law and advertising, as well as being the more obvious option for those wishing to pursue work in the media world itself.

What qualifications do I need to start?

Because of the practical nature of the course, we have enjoyed great success with students of all abilities, not just those with obvious academic potential. We have a number of students who excel because of their skill at using digital technologies, though they may have found more traditional academic skills like essay-writing very challenging. We also accept students who have not taken the subject previously – enthusiasm and a willingness to learn new skills are more important to academic success on this exciting course.

Music

Why should I study Music?

Do you ...

- love playing an instrument and performing?
- like exploring and creating new music?
- enjoy listening to music from a range of styles?
- wonder about how and why music has developed the way it has?

If yes, then the A Level Music course is for you. Where else can you play music and get coursework credit for it, create and record your own music, listen to music in class, and learn about different styles of music?

What skills will I need to be successful on this course?

Students who choose to study A Level Music study three areas: Performing, Composing and Developing Musical Understanding. The majority of the performance preparation would be completed at home, hopefully with the support of an instrumental teacher. The composition will be completed in class, using Sibelius or Logic. This can be in a traditional style, or use music technology. Musical understanding and appraisal will be taught through the study of music of many different styles, and students will develop a deep understanding of the music.

How will I be assessed?

The A Level Music course is a balance of coursework and examinations. Coursework is worth 60% of the course: The remaining 40% of the course is assessed in a 2 hour examination.

The course caters for a wide range of musicians. Students are free to choose any instrument(s) and/or voice(s) and perform music in any style. The level of performance is expected to correspond to a minimum of Grade 5 (AS) and Grade 6 (A2) of graded examinations.

Students are expected to have some music theory knowledge and skills. Grade 5 Theory will really benefit you in this course. An ability to read music is an integral tool in understanding how music works. Music reading skills play an important role in all three units of the course, especially in Developing Musical Understanding.



Where can it lead?

The A Level Music course provides an excellent basis for lifelong learning and for Higher Education courses in Music, and many students who take A Level Music continue their studies at university. The three units of the course can lead to studies in performance, composition, musicology, ethnomusicology, sound engineering, conducting, popular music and jazz and music education.

What qualifications do I need to start?

It is recommended the students have GCSE Music, or Grade 3 music theory before embarking on the A Level Music course. However, students with limited music reading skills will be considered for the A Level Music course. It is also essential that students are confident performers BEFORE starting the course. A minimum of Grade 4 standard should have already been achieved

Physical Education

Why should I study Physical Education?

This course leads to a variety of career options; it has many different elements to it and now has a practical base. If you enjoy your sport and want to develop your knowledge and understanding of the subject, this is the one for you.

What will I do during the course?

Students who choose to study Physical Education at A Level will cover the following topics: Anatomy and Physiology, Skill Acquisition and Sports and Society Exercise Physiology and Biomechanics, Sport Psychology and Sport and society and technology in sport.

How will I be assessed?

Physical Education runs as a linear course with students sitting all of their exams and submitting coursework at the end of the course.

A Level consists of paper 1 and paper 2 taken at the end of the 2 year course.

Paper 1 is a 2 hour exam worth 35% of the A Level. Topics include;

- A - Anatomy and Physiology
- B - Skill Acquisition
- C - Sport and Society

Paper 2 is a 2 hour exam which will contribute to a further 35% of the A Level. Topics include;

- A - Exercise Physiology and Biomechanics.
- B - Sport Psychology
- C - Sport and Society and Technology in Sport.

Practical assessment

This is 15% Practical Assessment in one sport which needs to have clear video evidence to support it and 15% coursework based on the practical element.



Where can it lead?

A Level Physical Education explores many areas in sport and is seen as a very useful insight into the many different careers there are in sport today. These range from fitness instructors to physiotherapists and sports scientists, to coaches and teachers. Many careers such as the Forces, Police or Nursing see knowledge of sport and fitness as invaluable. Sports Nutrition is a growing industry and there are many opportunities in this area of further study. There are many university courses that either continue sport science, nutrition, technology, coaching or development of the sports industry, the list is endless. Even if none of these are your chosen path the knowledge you have gained of looking after your body the right

way is going to be useful to you throughout your whole life.

What qualifications do I need to start?

As the course has Science content of how the body works, a Grade 6 or above is essential in Science. It is not necessary to have taken GCSE PE to follow this course at A Level.

A Level PE is suitable for students who have a genuine interest in physical activities and who want to learn how and why the body and mind work together to improve physical performance. As the course is divided between practical skills and the theory of sport it is open to a wide audience. Continuing to play or coach your sport outside school is a really important aspect of the course

Physics

Why study Physics?

If you have an enquiring mind, enjoy a challenge, and like solving problems, then you should consider studying Physics. From the smallest part of the human body to the great clusters of galaxies, Physics helps us understand how our world works. The applications, like the career opportunities, are infinite.

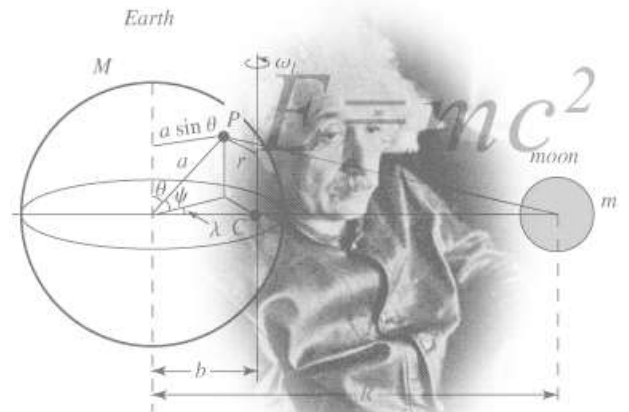
What will I do during the course?

The course aims to develop essential knowledge and understanding of the subject, its applications and skills. It aims to show the link between theory and experiment and how Mathematics can be used to explain physical principles.

The A Level Physics course consists of 12 modules:

- Unit 1 - Mechanics (motion, forces, energy and power)
- Unit 2 - Electrical circuits
- Unit 3 - Materials
- Unit 4 - Waves and the particle nature of light.
- Unit 5 - Further mechanics
- Unit 6 - Electric and magnetic fields
- Unit 7 - Particle physics
- Unit 8 - Thermodynamics
- Unit 9 - Space
- Unit 10 - Nuclear Radiation
- Unit 11 - Gravitational Fields
- Unit 12 - Oscillations

Practical work is an essential component of the course. The Science Department is well resourced with equipment and the emphasis is on individual work. There are a number of set practical activities which will be included in each section of the course. These must be completed to achieve the qualification. You will be expected to apply your understanding of Physics principles to the design of experiments, realistic interpretation of results and evaluation of the methods used. You will also be encouraged to develop your IT skills and to show initiative and self-reliance in your studies.



How will I be assessed?

All assessment will take place at the end of Year 13. The assessment consists of 3 exam papers: Papers 1 and 2 are one hour 45 minutes long and will assess all 12 units from the course. Each of these papers contributes 30% to the total assessment.

The third paper lasts for 2 hours and 30 minutes. It may draw on any of the topics in the specification and will include synoptic questions that may draw on 2 or more different topics. The paper will also include questions that assess conceptual and theoretical understanding of experimental methods that will draw on students' experiences of the core practicals. This paper contributes 40% to the total A Level grade.

There is a further science practical endorsement for A Level Physics. This qualification will assess students on their use of relevant apparatus and techniques to develop and demonstrate specific practical skills. These skills will be assessed through 12 identified practical activities within each qualification. This assessment outcomes will be reported separately on students' certificates as either 'pass' or 'fail'. To achieve a pass, students must

demonstrate that they are competent in all of the practical skills listed in the subject content requirements for physics.

Where can it lead?

Employers today actively seek out people who can prove their ability to think logically, understand complex ideas and apply them to the real world. Whether you want to pursue a career in Science, Medicine, Sport, Industry, Business, Education or the Media, Physics can help give you the edge.

What qualifications do I need to start?

You must pass GCSE Trilogy (Combined) Science at an overall Grade of 7-7 or above, or Physics in the Single Award Science GCSE at Grade 7 or above, plus at least one other Grade 7 from a Single Science subject. We may consider 7-6 or 6-6 at the teacher's discretion, based on performance, effort in classwork and homework. You must have GCSE Maths at Grade 6, or above to cope with this course. You are strongly recommended to take AS or A Level Maths. We will not accept BTEC Science as an appropriate entry requirement for this course.

Psychology

Why should I study Psychology?

If you are interested in finding out why people behave the way they do or how the brain works then Psychology could be for you. Psychology is a popular subject that has links with many other subjects such as Biology, Sociology and Media whilst building on skills gained at GCSE in subjects such as Mathematics, English and, in particular, Science. The most exciting aspect of Psychology is that it is about you! It relates to almost every aspect of life from romance to rugby so even if you have not finalised your career plan just yet, it will fill you with knowledge about the world, the characteristics and capabilities of humans, and perhaps tell you something about how you 'tick'!



What will I be doing on the course?

You will have the opportunity to discuss, write about and test a range of concepts and theories about behaviour on topics such as memory and abnormality. You will be involved in debates on hot topics such as the value of drug treatments for abnormal behaviour; you might write fictional letters to victims of bullying to demonstrate your knowledge; and you could carry out experiments to test the memory of your friends. From writing to role playing, testing to talking about, such a varied and interesting science based subject offers endless activity possibilities.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed by examination only. The AS qualification will be assessed by two ninety minute examinations at the end of Year 12. The A Level qualification is examined by three, two hour exams at the end of Year 13. These questions aim to test your understanding as well as your ability to apply the concepts and theories of Psychology.

Where can it lead?

Psychology A Level is often the first step towards a career in Psychology in areas such as education, health, forensics, industry and sport. Students often go on to complete undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in varying fields of Psychology en route to becoming a Chartered Psychologist. Others use their Psychology qualifications to enhance their skills in other professions such as teaching, advertising or public relations. For further information about careers in Psychology go to: www.bps.org.uk

Psychology is also useful in many other careers because it develops a number of transferable skills which are useful in many jobs and professions such as problem solving, critical analysis, decision making, statistics and IT skills.

What qualifications do I need?

English GCSE Grade 9 to 6 and Science GCSE Grade 6 or above are essential. This is a popular, yet challenging, science based subject, so priority will be given to students with GCSE Science 9 to 7 Grades.

Religious Studies - Philosophy and Ethics



Why should I study Philosophy and Ethics?

The issues associated with Philosophy and Ethics are all around us today. There is no escaping the relevance of topics such as sexual ethics, the environment and business ethics. This is an exciting, popular and interesting A Level due to its relevance to today's society, as well as being a highly regarded academic subject.

The course provides opportunities for students to develop important skills such as analysis, evaluation, communication problem solving and independent learning. It gives students the opportunity to study some of the fundamental questions which people have always asked about life: why are we here, how should we behave and what happens to us when we die?

What will I do during the course?

In Year 12 and Year 13 students will complete three units on Philosophy, Ethics and Hinduism.

In Year 12 students study ethical theories such as Natural Law and Situation Ethics. They then apply the theories to topics such as abortion and euthanasia. Students also study Hinduism focusing on religious views of life, which focus on some key areas of controversy that shape modern views of the world, such as the problem of evil and suffering.

In Year 13 students study ethical language, virtue and medical ethics. Within Hinduism, students consider social/historical developments, works of scholars (for example Sankara) as well as religion and society. In Christian philosophy students will study influences of developments in religious belief, works of scholars and religious language.

How will I be assessed?

At the end of each year of this course you will sit one exam for each of the three sections of the course.

Where can it lead?

If you plan to go to university then this course is good preparation for a number of courses, obviously Philosophy and Ethics, but it also has direct links to Sociology, History, Psychology, Environmental Science, English, Media Studies, Law, Medicine, Education and Business to name a few.

Alternatively if you are interested in a career in child care, nursing, social work, the media, the Armed Forces, the Police or retail then Philosophy and Ethics is a much valued subject because of its relevance to the world in which we live. Philosophy and Ethics is about people and how we live and is an invaluable subject whatever your future plans.

What qualifications do I need to start?

Grade 9 to 6 in RE GCSE Short course or full course and a Grade 9 to 6 in English is desirable too.



Sociology

Why should I study Sociology?

Sociology involves the study of society and the influences it has in shaping us as individuals. By studying Sociology you will better understand the world you live in whilst advancing your academic skills.

Sociology is the study of people in social groups. You will become more socially aware and will start to see society in a whole new light as you learn about culture, identity, social class, gender and race and ethnicity.

At AS and A Level we examine how we learn certain values and ways of behaving, and how our membership of social groups gives meaning to our lives and shapes our identities.

You will acquire knowledge and critical understanding of contemporary social processes and structures; appreciate the significance of theoretical and conceptual issues in sociological debate; understand sociological methods; reflect on your own

experience of the social world in which you live; develop skills which enhance your ability to participate more effectively in adult life. If you are interested in human behaviour, then this subject will interest you.

What will I do during the course?

At A Level you will study Families and Households, Education and Sociological Methods, Crime and Deviance and Beliefs in Society. You will build up a broad knowledge around these topics, whilst also developing the ability to critically evaluate different perspectives relating to society, covering issues such as social control and the impact of social structure on the individual.

How will I be assessed?

You will be internally assessed throughout the course, particularly at the end of each topic, to check your understanding. This will be mostly in the form of essays, but may also be in the form of a

presentation to the rest of the group. The AS qualification will be assessed by two, ninety minute examinations at the end of Year 12. The A Level qualification is examined by three, two hour examinations at the end of Year 13.

Where can it lead?

A number of students have gone on to study Criminology and Sociology at university. Sociology is particularly useful for those interested in joining the “expressive” professions, such as social work, the Police, the Law and teaching.

What qualifications do I need to start?

You need to be able to write essays and so at least a Grade 6 in English Language is required. Apart from this, the potential for hard work, dedication and an interest in current affairs and debating issues is a big advantage

Spanish

Why should I study Spanish?

Ninety-four percent of the world's population does not speak English as their first language. Seventy-five percent do not speak English at all. We live in a multi-lingual world and UK companies are now realising that they need foreign languages to compete when trading internationally.

Your ability to talk freely in a language other than English will also enhance the enjoyment you get from travelling and make it easier for you to pick up a second or even a third foreign language. If you have an enquiring mind, a retentive memory and a real desire to communicate, languages are for you.

What will I do during the course?

The aim of the A Level course is to develop a range of practical skills which will help you communicate in the written and spoken language for a variety of purposes. Time is spent fostering an awareness and understanding of the cultural, social, commercial and political background of the countries where the language is spoken. The course offers enjoyment, intellectual stimulation and challenge.

How will I be assessed?

During both years of the A Level course your listening, reading, speaking, writing and translation skills will be assessed.

Where can it lead?

Language skills are highly prized in the job market, not only for their practical applications but also as a proof that you have a good level of intellectual ability. According to recruitment agencies, salary uplift for those using languages at work can be anything from 8% to 20% depending on how central languages are to the role. If you have an A Level in a Modern Foreign Language employers value the key skills developed by language learners, these include communication skills, team work, interpersonal skills, presentation techniques, organisational skills and good learning strategies.

What qualifications do I need to start?

Students choosing to study Spanish at A Level will be expected to have studied Spanish at GCSE and gained at least a Grade 6 in the higher tiered papers. Modern Foreign Languages is a traditional academic subject and studying at A Level requires students to apply themselves and have a strong work ethic.



BTEC CURRICULUM (LEVEL 3)

Applied Science

Why should I study Applied Science?

BTEC National in Applied Science offers a more practical and vocational approach that can be lacking in more traditional routes, by applying learning to real-life situations. This will suit students who prefer a practical, hands-on approach which will provide an opportunity for independent research into science.

Students will undertake a number of units for which they will present evidence, based on actual work and studies. They offer a wider range of assessments including assignments, tasks and written exam. This balanced approach means students can showcase for future employers how they apply their learning to relevant, everyday workplace challenges. It will develop the key skills of Communication, Numeracy and use of Information and Communication Technology that are highly valued by employers and Higher Education.

What will I do during the course?

Students will study a minimum of 6 Units over 2 years. These will include the four mandatory units below, plus two other optional units.

- Unit 1: Principles and Applications of Science
- Unit 2: Practical Scientific Techniques
- Unit 3: Science Investigation skills
- Unit 4: Laboratory Techniques and their Applications in Industry.



How will I be assessed?

Progress will be assessed throughout the course, allowing students to gauge their own performance on a continuing basis, just like in a real workplace.

Students will take an exam for Unit 1. For Unit 3, students will complete a task set by the exam board that will comprise of a practical and a question and answer booklet that will be marked by the exam board. For units 2, 4 and the two optional units, students will write an assignment for each Unit which will be assessed by their Science teachers and moderated by the exam board.

Where can it lead?

It can lead to a future in science, either via University, or after Sixth Form, depending on the other subject(s) taken and individual institutional requirements. On completion, you can study a range of medically related degree courses, such as Genetics, Nutrition, Applied Biology, Pharmacology, Biomedical or Biological Sciences, Biochemistry, Radiology, and Chiropody. Where appropriate, students may opt to do Higher National Diploma courses or consider employment in the Medical sector such as a hospital or pharmaceutical laboratory.

This course is not normally a route into highly competitive areas such as Medicine, Dentistry or Physiotherapy.

What qualifications do I need to start?

Students wishing to study Applied Science will need to satisfy the entry requirements to Arthur Mellows Sixth Form. Students will also need to have gained 2 Science GCSE's at Grade 6 or better or achieved a Merit or better if the BTEC first awards in 'Application of Science' and 'Principles of Applied Science' have been studied. We may also consider Science GCSE's at Grade 5 at the teachers' discretion, based on performance, effort in classwork and homework. Students will also need to have a Grade 5, or above, in Maths.

Business

Why should I study BTEC Business?

BTEC Business will help you to develop your skills, knowledge and understanding of business to successfully follow a programme of study that enables progression to both Higher Education and employment within business. It will develop the key skills of Communication, Numeracy and Information and Communication Technology that are highly valued by employers and Higher Education.

This course will appeal to those who are interested in business organisations, the markets they serve and how to deal with customers. The course will suit students who prefer a practical, hands-on approach which will provide an opportunity for independent research into real business.

BTEC Business provides students with an insight into how to add value, control costs, boost profits, make sales and be successful in the world of business.

What will I do during the course?

Students studying the Extended Certificate will study the following units

- Unit 1:** Exploring Business
- Unit 2:** Developing a Marketing Campaign
- Unit 3:** Resource and Business Finance
- Unit 4:** Managing an Event

This is the equivalent of one A Level.

Students studying the Foundation diploma will study the units above plus:

- Unit 8:** The Recruitment and Selection Process
- Unit 22:** Market Research

This is the equivalent of 1 ½ A Levels.

How will I be assessed?

Units 1, 4, 8 and 22 are assessed via a combination of unit assignments written and assessed by teachers internally,

Unit 2 is assessed through controlled assessment task set and assessed by the exam board and Unit 3 is an hour written exam.

Where can it lead?

It can lead to a future in business either via University or after Sixth Form. The vast majority of careers are in business. BTEC Business will provide you with the knowledge and skills for careers in Human Resource Management, Operations Management, Marketing or Accounting and Finance.

What qualifications do I need to start?

Students wishing to study Business will need to satisfy the entry requirements to Arthur Mellows Sixth Form. If students have studied Business at Level 2, they must have achieved at least a Pass or Grade 5. Enthusiasm for the subject and a good work ethic are also vital for success.



Creative Media - Digital Film and Video Production

Why should I study Digital Film and Video Production?

Digital Film and Video Production involves the creation of the images, sounds and text that are required for different media such as: films, advertising, TV, magazines, newspapers and websites.

This is a vocational course and, as such, only 33% is externally assessed in the form of a project set by the exam board, it is not an exam but is undertaken in strict assessment conditions. The rest of the course is internally assessed, moderated externally and is composed of one mandatory unit and three optional units chosen by us.

What will I do during the course?

The course is constructed to offer meaningful outcomes and develop practical skills such as Film Production (Fiction), Single Camera Techniques, Film Editing, and either Script Writing or Story Boarding.

How will I be assessed?

The course has no exam element, but a major part of the assessment involves a set practical task given to us by the exam board and completed under very strict conditions in a limited timeframe. All other elements of the course involve practical tasks that are heavily supported by written evidence produced by the student that clearly identifies the skills and techniques that have been learned and developed over the course.

This means that students **MUST** stay up to date with their written evidence throughout the course and be exceptionally well organised, independent, self-starters who can work with a minimum of supervision. We cannot accept students who need to be pushed and prodded to complete assignments and we will check closely with other subjects that have coursework elements to be sure that you are consistent in meeting deadlines.

What qualifications do I need to start?

Because of the practical nature of the course, we have enjoyed great success with students of all abilities, not just those with obvious academic potential. We have a number of students who excel because of their skill at using digital technologies, though they may have found more traditional academic skills like report-writing very challenging. We also accept students who have not taken the subject previously – enthusiasm and a willingness to learn new skills are more important to academic success on this exciting course.



Engineering

Why should I study BTEC?

This qualification has been designed as a full-time course that supports progression to an apprenticeship in engineering. If taken as part of a programme of study that includes other BTEC Nationals or A Levels, it supports progression to Higher Education.

What will I do during the course?

Students study a range of units over 2 years:

Mandatory course units are:

UNIT 1: Engineering Principles - Learners apply mathematical and physical science principles to solve electrical, electronic and mechanical-based engineering problems.

Assessment: 2 hour formal exam.

UNIT 2: Delivery of Engineering Processes Safely as a Team - Learners explore how processes are undertaken by teams to create engineered products or to deliver engineering services safely. They then work as a team to manufacture their own product or deliver a service.

Assessment: Coursework (internally assessed)

UNIT 3: Engineering Product Design and Manufacture. - Learners will explore engineering product design and manufacturing processes and will complete activities that consider function, sustainability, materials, form and other factors.

Assessment: Supervised Assessment (externally assessed)

UNIT 4: Applied Commercial and Quality Principles in Engineering - Learners explore commercial engineering, for example key business activities and cost control, quality systems and value management, which engineering organisations use to create value.

There will be a further three internally assessed specialist units covering:

- Computer Aided Design,
- Manufacturing and secondary machining techniques
- Fabrication manufacturing processes.

How will I be assessed?

A range of different assessment methods are used across the course. Some units are externally assessed through the use of a formal exam or a supervised assessment. Other units are assessed internally by your teacher, through the completion of written and practical assignments.

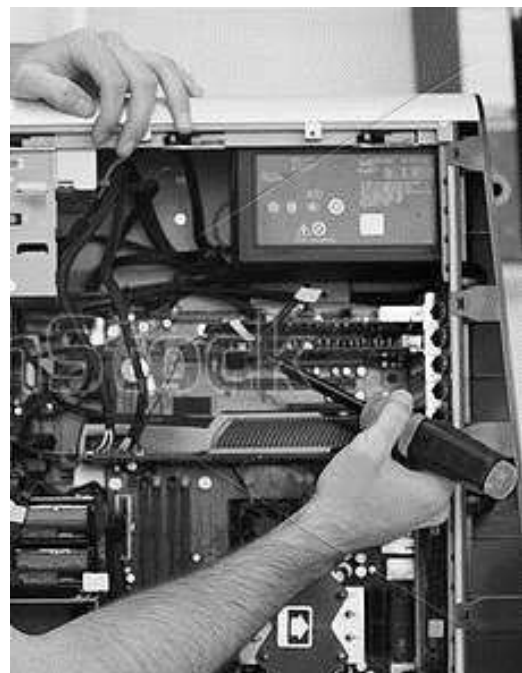
The quality of the course is audited annually by the exam board to ensure that national standards are maintained.

Where can it lead?

This qualification can lead to further study or progression into employment through apprenticeship. Studied in combination with A Level Physics and Maths, this qualification would help students follow an academic route to Engineering at Degree level.

What qualifications do I need to start?

Students wishing to study Engineering will need to satisfy the entry requirements to Arthur Mellows Sixth Form. If students have studied Engineering at Level 2, they must have achieved at least a Merit. Students must also have achieved a Grade 6 in GCSE Physics, Maths and any other Design and Technology subject that they are studying. Enthusiasm for the subject and a good work ethic are also vital for success.



Health and Social Care

Why should I study Health and Social Care?

This subject is designed for people who think they might like to work in a Health or Social Care setting. If you are interested in studying for a career in primary school teaching, nursing, midwifery, occupational therapy, radiography, physiotherapy, social work, nursery nursing, health education/promotion, psychology or caring for the elderly or disabled, or any other roles in health, social care or education, then this is the course for you!

Health and Social Care will help you to develop your understanding of health and social care issues. It will introduce you to some of the skills and knowledge that you need to work in health and caring professions. Throughout this course, you will develop the ability to apply your knowledge, understanding and skills to a range of health and social issues, thus preparing for further study and training.

The NHS is one of the largest employers in Europe and there are many vacancies and career opportunities in a variety of areas. For a full insight of the opportunities available go to www.stepintothenhs.nhs.uk

What will I be doing?

For the Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate you will be studying three units in Year 12:

- Building positive relationships in Health and Social Care (coursework)
- Equality, diversity and rights in Health and Social Care (Exam)
- Health, safety and security in Health and Social Care (Exam)

In Year 13:

- Anatomy and physiology for Health and Social Care (Exam)
- The impact of long term physiological conditions (coursework)
- Nutrition for Health.



How will I be assessed?

The course contains exams and assignments.

Where can it lead?

You can study Health and Social Care as a subject at university however it is also useful for employment in the NHS. This course offers a broad education as a foundation for the courses and careers outlined. Students are encouraged to become independent in research and skilful in presenting findings. Students will develop confidence and skills that are invaluable in both higher education and employment. In recent years students have gone on to work as paramedics, dieticians, midwifery and nursing.

What qualifications do I need to start?

Students must matriculate with the Arthur Mellows requirement for entry into Sixth Form.

ICT (Information Communication Technology)

Why should I study Level 3 Nationals in ICT?

The Introductory diploma in ICT course gives you the opportunity to develop your skills in a selection of different areas by using appropriate ICT tools, capturing and handling data, making decisions, working independently, presenting, and communicating information.

This course is relevant to anyone using ICT in his or her everyday life, as well as those planning a career in the industry. The course is designed to encourage students to select and use ICT appropriately, enabling them to independently produce high-quality outcomes.

As well as developing problem solving, communication and project management skills the course also encourages students to reflect critically on their own and others' use of ICT.

What will I do during the course?

The course is broken down into a number of specific units where you will need to carry out practical 'hands on' tasks using a range of up to date software packages. The portfolios for each unit produced will showcase your work. Additionally, there are two mandatory exams that you will study for. One in year twelve and finally one in year thirteen.

Where can it lead?

The Introductory Diploma in ICT course qualifies for the same UCAS points as any other subject and could lead you on to study for a degree or other further education courses in a variety of subjects. It could also lead to further work based training within IT related employment.

What qualifications do I need to start?

You must have a least 4 GCSEs at grade 9 to 4, one of which must be a level 2 qualification in ICT at a grade 6 or equivalent level or a Distinction* in ECDL.



The course consists of five units of coursework, three of which are mandatory. Two of the mandatory units are in the form of exams. The remaining units are assessed by your teacher and moderated by the examination board. This means that you will have a very clear indication of how well you are doing throughout the course.

Music Performance

Why should I study Music BTEC?

The BTEC Extended Certificate (1 A Level equivalent) or National Foundation Diploma (1 ½ A Level equivalent) in Music will build and develop the necessary practical skills and understanding to begin a successful professional career in music or move on to further study.

The course is aimed at students who love music. You will develop your skills in performance and composition. You can perform and compose music in any style. You will also study elements of music theory that support the different musical areas of the course. You will learn about how the music industry works in a way that will prepare you for a possible career in it.

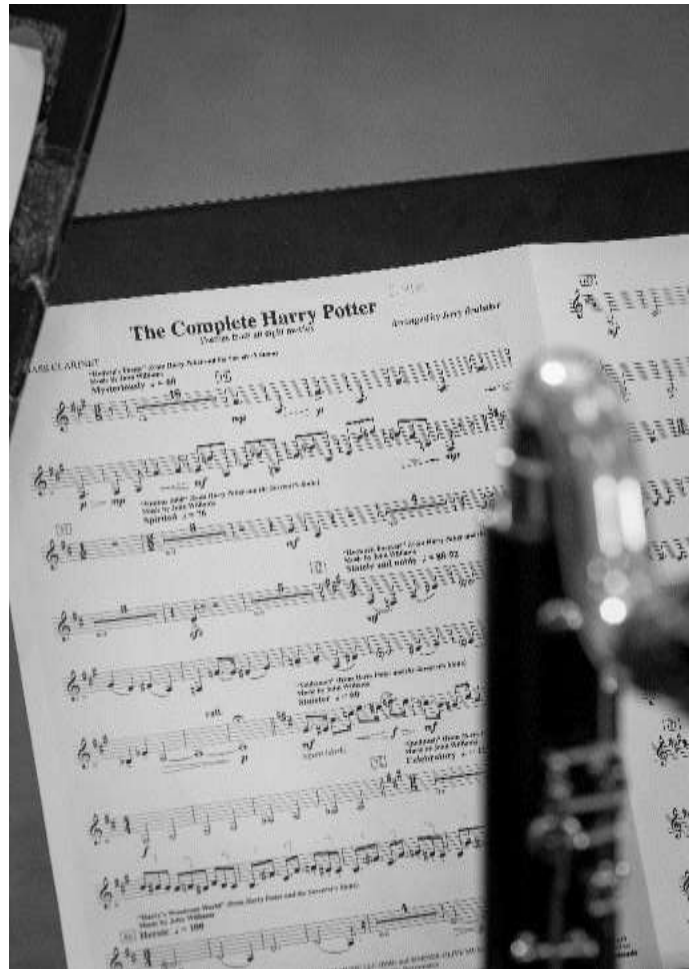
Where possible, we choose additional units that support the skills and interests of those on the course. Some examples of units are: composing and arranging music, solo music performance, working and developing as a musical ensemble, pop music in practice, music in the community and aural skills.

What skills will I need to be successful on this course?

Students who are successful on this course are confident performers, in any style, and using any instrument. It is beneficial to have taken GCSE music, but students with the right experience and skills will be considered without it. You do not need to have graded exams, but you must be able to perform to a high standard. You need to have an interest in music and the music industry and must want to improve as a practical musician. You will need to be a team player, and have the ability to work independently. It is essential that you meet deadlines.

How will I be assessed?

The course is made up of 4 or 6 units spread over the two-year course. Each unit is based on a series of assignments, which are assessed internally, and some units are assessed externally.



What qualifications do I need to start?

Students wishing to study Music Performance will need to satisfy the entry requirements to Arthur Mellows Sixth Form. If students have studied Music Performance at Level 2, they must have achieved at least a Merit or Grade 6. Enthusiasm for the subject and a good work ethic are also vital for success.

Where can it lead?

The BTEC National Foundation Diploma in Music will allow you to progress further into Higher Education to study music or the performing arts, or the points can be used towards any university application.

Sport

Why should I study BTEC?

This course is respected by employers and Universities alike and provides learning opportunities that will allow students to gain a range of skills that support progression into the next stage of education or into many different avenues of employment. Students will develop throughout the course transferable interpersonal skills, including working with others, problem solving and independent study. Research methods and analytical reasoning are also important skills that are developed throughout the course. They will gain a broad understanding of the many aspects of the sports industry as a whole and will be able to apply their knowledge in work related contexts.



What will I do during the course?

National Foundation Diploma students will study the following mandatory topics:

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being
- Professional Development in the Sports Industry
- Sports Leadership

We have plenty of flexibility in selecting optional units and we can meet the needs and interests and career aspirations of the group.

- Application of Fitness Testing
- Sports Psychology
- Practical Sports Performance
- Coaching for Performance
- Research Methods
- Sports Event Organisation

How will I be assessed?

Anatomy and Physiology will be assessed through a one hour and 30 minute examination. Fitness Testing will be a synoptic assessment, students' work will be assessed externally through case studies, marked off site.

All other units will be taught and assessed internally and assessed using a variety of ways, presentations, reports, etc.

Where can it lead?

Sport is a very vibrant industry in today's world with many career options. Every year Sport and the active leisure sector outperforms the rest of the UK economy, particularly with the impetus the London 2012 has given us. BTEC Sport and Exercise Science can help prepare you for many different paths such as Physiotherapy, Journalism, Sport Coaching or Management to name but a few as Sport and Exercise scientists continue to be a growing presence in the world of sport. Whether you choose to continue onto further study at university or seek employment after the Sixth Form this course will have given you an insight into the rigours of the modern sport. You will develop many work based skills including team work, working from a prescribed brief, working to deadlines and presenting information effectively, all essential for the modern day work place.

What qualifications do I need?

Students wishing to study a National Foundation Diploma in Sports will need to satisfy the entry requirements to Arthur Mellows Sixth Form. If students have studied Sports and Exercise at Level 2, they must have achieved at least a Pass or a Grade 5. Enthusiasm for the subject and a good work ethic are also vital for success.

Travel and Tourism

Why should I study Travel and Tourism?

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 aims to encourage you to develop broad skills, knowledge and understanding of the Travel and Tourism industry.

The course combines in depth academic study of one industry with the chance to develop business skills. It is therefore a valuable qualification in its own right and also an excellent stepping stone to a career in the travel and tourism, or wider business world.

What will I do during the course?

You will study the 4 mandatory units, and two others.

Unit 1. The World of Travel and Tourism.

The travel and tourism industry in the UK is growing and is of major importance to the economy. You will develop the skills needed to examine, interpret and analyse a variety of statistics that measure the importance of tourism to the UK.

Unit 2. Global Destinations

You will investigate the features and appeal of global destinations.

Unit 3. Managing The Customer experience

You will explore and apply ways of managing internal and external customer experience to support organisational success and develop your customer service skills.

Unit 4. Travel and Tourism Enterprises.

You will identify a gap in the market for a new travel and tourism enterprise. You develop a plan and marketing strategy and organise a pitch of the new idea to generate interest.



How will I be assessed?

There is a mixture of exam and assignment based assessment.

Unit 1 is assessed using a traditional exam, whereas unit 2 is based on pre-release material which helps you prepare to complete a task set by the exam board under controlled conditions.

All other units are based on assignments and are marked by your teachers.

Where can it lead?

A university course linked to Travel, Tourism or Business; or jobs that require good research, analytical, customer service or management skills.

What qualifications do I need to start?

A BTEC in Business Studies or Travel and Tourism would be beneficial or a Geography GCSE at grades 9 to 4. Students must also have satisfied the entry requirements to Arthur Mellows Sixth Form.





ENRICHMENT

Community Sports Leadership Award (CSLA)

Why should I study?

Sports Leaders UK is the Awarding Organisation who provides this nationally recognised qualification which is accredited by the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF). The Award equips people with the skills and motivation to create and run sporting activities. It teaches generic leadership skills such as organisation, planning, communication and teamwork. It is a fun and practical qualification with no entrance requirements or final examinations to sit. Assessment is continual, based on your observed leadership skills and completion of all of the units and additional criteria below.

This course is practical and fun yet offers you the chance to gain a nationally recognised award which sets you apart and demonstrates you can take responsibility and show initiative. It will develop your leadership skills and increase your confidence in leadership situations.

What will I do during the course?

This is predominantly a practical course with some written evidence of each unit required. You will learn how to devise and plan sports sessions. You will 'practice' these leadership skills amongst the group and within the school and wider community. You will organise fitness sessions and tournaments and lead a variety of sports sessions for Primary pupils visiting the school.

How will I be assessed?

There is no final exam. You will be continually assessed throughout the course, based on your leadership attributes, planning, organisation and interaction with the youngsters you work with. You must complete a Record of Achievement and show some written evidence of each unit of work.

Where can it lead?

This course is an ideal step on the leadership ladder. Many of the leadership skills gained are universal so they can be used within any aspect of daily life-not just sporting.

Candidates could go on to gain further Sports Leadership Awards such as the Level 3 Higher Sports Leader Award offered in Year 13, which holds UCAS points. Many go on to gain a Sports specific national governing body award and continue to coach within this Sport. Some go on to work within the sports and leisure or coaching industry.

What qualifications do I need to start?

You do not need any prior qualifications. It is helpful if you have completed your Level 1 in Junior Sports leadership but is by no means essential (this is offered in Years 10 and 11 at AMVC). You do not need to be 'sporty' - you simply need enthusiasm and a desire to develop your leadership skills in a practical situation.



Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Why should I study EPQ?

Have you ever thought to yourself 'I wish we could learn about . . .'? Or yearned to carry out a scientific experiment? Direct your own film? Investigate a topic close to your heart? The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) will enable you to do exactly that. You decide on the topic for your project and we teach you the skills that enable you to pursue it.

There are many benefits associated with EPQ. It could be used to support your personal goals for higher education and/or career development, you might use it to add depth or breadth to an examination subject you are working on, or to draw connections between different subjects. Additionally, the qualification aims to provide you with good preparation for a number of the skills sought by both employers and higher education, for example: independent learning skills, problem solving, project planning, research skills and presentation skills.

What will I do during the course?

EPQ comprises of 3 key requirements:

1. Create a 5000 word dissertation (long essay) OR an artefact (creation) with a 1000 word report on a subject of your choice
2. Record your progress using a 'Production Log'
3. Present your findings (either formally - in front of a small audience, or informally - by creating exhibition materials to show at a school event)

Throughout the year lessons will involve learning a range of project management skills to support your project development. You will also be assigned a mentor to guide you and promote your skills.

How will I be assessed?

EPQ is a skills-based qualification, assessed at **A2 Level**, equivalent in size to an AS and graded A* to E. The 4 assessment objectives assess your skills at 'managing' the project; your use of sources

to gather data; the development of your project and its outcomes; and your ability to reflect upon both the outcomes of the project and your own project skills. The qualification is entirely coursework so there is no examinable component. Your completed project, the production log and presentation evidence, along with any additional materials that provide evidence of your skills will be submitted for internal assessment, and then sent to external moderators before a grade is awarded.

Where can it lead?

- Dr Geoff Parks, director of admissions at Cambridge University, said: "The potential benefits of extended projects are enormous. Cambridge is one of many universities which support extended projects as good preparation for degree-level study."
- "We welcome applications from students offering the Extended Project alongside A Levels. We value the research skills and independent learning that the Extended Project is designed to develop." Newcastle University
- "The University welcomes the introduction of the extended project qualification. Some of our departments may include the extended project as part of an offer, particularly where it has relevance to their subject". University of Bath

In addition, careers in project management might be inspired by completion of this qualification, and the new skills you develop are highly sought by employers in all areas of industry.

What qualifications do I need to start?

Preferably Grade 5 or above in English. However, students who can demonstrate they possess the appropriate independent learning skills plus Grade 6 in four other subjects at GCSE will be considered.

Young Enterprise Programme (YEP)

Why should I study?

You will have the unique opportunity of working with local business people; this will help to give you an insight to the world of work. You will also be introduced to many of the life skills and skills you will need in the workplace such as team working, decision making, innovation and the importance of good communication skills. In addition, you will gain an understanding of wealth creation especially if your company makes a profit.

What will I do during the course?

You work as part of a team to set up and run a Young Enterprise Company, this will involve attending meetings with your Business Advisor, attending conferences, taking part in local and national competitions, selling your products and competing in Trade Fairs in Stamford, Huntingdon, Peterborough, Bedford and Cambridge. You will take a director's role to ensure the smooth running of the company in producing, marketing and selling your product. You will also report weekly and at the end of the year on progress, successes and improvements. In addition, you will learn about managing personal finance, getting value for money, budgeting and financial planning, choosing a place to live, interpreting financial documents and protecting personal financial security.

Where can it lead?

You can be sure that whatever you do in the future, being an active part of the Company Programme will give you an insight into the world of business and work. It will also help when considering career choices and show you that, no matter who you are or what you choose to do, enterprise is not merely a word; it is an attitude of life. It will be an impressive addition to your CV and UCAS application.

What qualifications do I need to start?

You do not need any previous qualifications or experience to take part in the Young Enterprise Company Programme. All Year 12 students with different skills, interests and experience are welcome.



St Johns Ambulance

First Aid Training

Course background

- 140,000 people die each year in situations where first aid could have helped save their lives - as many as die from cancer
- You can never predict when you might be faced with a life or death situation. But if it comes to it, we want to make sure you have the skills and confidence to be the difference between a life lost and a life saved.

What does it entail?

- There is a broad range of topics, where we'll look at how to recognise different conditions, protect people from further harm and promote their recovery. This will include everything from dealing with Asthma to using Zinc Oxide tape (actually it won't because we don't use that in First aid any more, but Spinal Injury is as far as the A-Z goes!).
- Learning First Aid will give you something amazing – the confidence to do the right thing when it really counts.



Sixth Form Newsletter

Course background

Do you enjoy English? Are you captivated by the Media? Do you think that you have the potential to write and engage an audience? Or take pictures and report the news? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then the Sixth Form Newsletter is the Enrichment opportunity for you.

What does it entail?

With experience relevant for degrees and employment in English, publishing, the media or journalism we will be developing the Sixth Form newsletter even further this year by extending our online content, articles and outreach to the wider community. Developing written styles, tackling social media content and liaising with the local media we will make the Sixth Form Newsletter a highlight within the school. Excellent for UCAS applications as well as experience for CV building, this enrichment is a fantastic opportunity to enhance your skills and explore your contribution to wider Sixth Form life.

AMVC SIXTH FORM SCOOP October 2017

Hello and welcome to the first edition of the new Sixth Form Newsletter.

The start of a new school year is always really busy with homework, new teachers, new classes, more homework, new people and yet more homework, so for the Sixth Form Scoop team to put this together to such a high standard is a real achievement. Thanks to everyone on the team: Alisha, Ben, Clark, Eleanor, Esme, George, Joe, Kim, Lewis, Lucy, Luis, Maria, Matthew, Sophie and Tara. We hope you enjoy this edition and, with the variety of articles on offer, find something that interests you. As always, please let us know about any feed-back or features you want to see. This would be really helpful — it only makes future issues better.

The Newsletter Team Happy Reading!

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1. Teacher Q and A
2. Agony Aunt
3. News/Topical
4. Film Review
5. Book Review
6. Music Review
7. Politics Page
8. AMVC Geographical
9. Photography and Amazon Deals

How to apply Sixth Form Committee

To apply to Arthur Mellows Village College students must use the online application form at:

www.arthurmellows.org

This will register your interest in a place in our Sixth Form and show us your preferred subject choices.

If there is any aspect of our Sixth Form that you would like to discuss or if you would like any further information please do not hesitate to contact us.





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