

Arthur Mellows Village College

Sixth Form Prospectus

2026/2028

"Delivering learning for life within an aspirational culture"



Respect ◆ Responsibility ◆ Excellence

Head of College: J Gilligan

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Welcome from the Head of College



It is with great pride that I welcome you to our exceptional Sixth Form – recognised by Ofsted (May 2025) as Outstanding.

We are delighted that inspectors noted that our students receive teaching that is ‘consistently highly effective’ from teachers who ‘know their students well and help them make excellent progress’ and are then exceptionally well prepared for further education, training or employment’

The Sixth Form is a pivotal stage in your journey – a time for advanced learning, independence, and personal growth. At Arthur Mellows, we are committed to helping every student achieve their full potential through:

- **Outstanding teaching** from expert subject specialists
- **Exceptional**
- **Pastoral care** from our dedicated Sixth Form team
- **Excellent facilities** that enhance learning and student life

Our curriculum is broad and flexible, offering both academic and vocational pathways to match your aspirations. You will receive personalised advice and guidance to help you choose the right subjects and plan confidently for your future.

What makes our Sixth Form truly special is its strong sense of community. Our students are not just learners – they are leaders, role models, and active contributors to the life of the College.

Whether you are joining us from another school or continuing your journey here, we look forward to supporting you as you strive for excellence and prepare for a bright and successful future.

John Gilligan
Head of College



The Sixth Form Leadership Team: L to R:

Miss Stark, Mrs Ferris, Mrs Cox, Mrs Barnsley, Mrs Clennett, Ms Sheen,
Mrs Price, Miss Adams, Mrs Compton

Ofsted Rated Outstanding May 2025

Welcome from the Director of Sixth Form

Hello and welcome prospective students, parents and carers.

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 matters - 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. Success in our Sixth Form is not just about academic success but about students' wider selves, therefore, alongside our subjects we offer a range of opportunities to enrich their education ensuring they are equipped with skills and knowledge to go into adulthood. We see each student as an individual and ask them to challenge themselves to become successful adults. Our dedicated team supports 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 CLENNETT

Director of Sixth Form/Assistant Headteacher



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 on our curriculum and we have a wide range of courses available in various subjects. 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 three pathways: A Levels, Vocational route and a combination of both. Vocational courses (BTECs, OCR Nationals / Technicals and AAQs) are Level 3 qualifications which are recognised by both employers and most universities.

Information about our A Level and Vocational courses is included in this prospectus. Subject leaders are available for discussion during our 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 Maths, English Language and a minimum of 4 Grade 6s or above *.
- ▶ **VOCATIONAL:** Students who wish to study Vocational courses will need 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or above including Maths and English Language *.
- ▶ A recommendation from your current school, as suitability for successful Sixth Form study in 3 subjects of your choice, from the range offered by the College.
- ▶ Meet the entry requirements specified to each Sixth Form course.

* Maths / English – If a student attains a Grade 3 in **ONE** of these subjects consideration of a place will still be given.



Key Elements

Enrichment

All students have an enrichment option within their timetable. This enables students to gain specialist skills beyond their subjects in areas they are passionate about. We have a Leadership Programme for all Year 12 students whereby students gain valuable work experience voluntarily to both contribute to their community and develop skills. Our Year 13 students take part in the Buddy Programme mentoring Year 7 students during their transition to secondary school life. 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 whole school productions and music performances are always a resounding success, fully equipped with professional lighting and sound.

Silent Study

All Sixth Form students have timetabled lessons of silent study where they work in designated rooms which are supervised by staff. All subjects set specific work to be completed outside of lesson, whether it is desk or IT based. This enhances students' understanding of their curriculum and has a positive impact upon their independence as a learner.

Professional Development

Students have Professional Development sessions within their timetable which educate them on a range of things including safe driving, post Sixth Form options, and physical and mental health.

Pastoral Support

We pride ourselves on having an excellent team who work together to support our Sixth Form students; Head of Sixth Form, Assistant Heads of Sixth Form, Pastoral Assistants, Silent Study Supervisors and Professional Tutors. All trained members of the team can offer the best possible information, advice and guidance to our students in terms of academia, future prospects and wellbeing. Students also have access to the whole school support systems such as careers advice and counselling.

Sixth Form Committee

The Sixth Form Committee is led by our Sixth Form Student Leadership Team; Head Boy, Head Girl, Deputies and Assistants. Our team is then made up of many committees who lead on areas and initiatives they are most passionate about. This includes Social, Charity, Politics, Diversity and Culture to name some. 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.

Charity 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 Cancer Research UK benefit on an annual basis, whilst funds and awareness are also raised for local organisations

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.

Facilities

Arthur Mellows boasts a range of facilities for Sixth Form students. Teaching spaces are of a high standard and each subject area has access to state of the art, specialist equipment that enhance post 16 studies. The bespoke facilities provided for our Sixth Form include:

- Three Sixth Form only ICT suites
 - Sixth Form Study and Reference Room
 - Sixth Form Coffee Lounge
 - A new Sixth Form Centre with a large social space, a refectory and dining area as well as a large outdoor seating space and Serenity Garden
- Students also have special access to areas in specific departments, for example the Sixth Form Art Room.

Key Elements (Continued)

Trips, Visits and Visitors

Throughout the Sixth Form there are a number of trips arranged for Sixth Form students, previously these have included New York, Iceland and Austria. Some of the trips are subject specific but others are open to 'non specialists'. We also run a Sixth Form ski trip. In addition, we bring a wide range of visitors into school to talk and work with our students. Our visitors support with a range of specialist information including awareness of employment and / or apprenticeship opportunities, and health advice.

Sport

A range of indoor and outdoor sports are available through extra-curricular clubs. There is an interschool fixture list in a variety of sports in which Arthur Mellows holds a high level of success. We hold a Sixth Form Team Building Day, along with regular sporting events against other Year Groups and staff teams. We have a state of the art fitness suite that students can access. Our Sixth Form students are also given the opportunity to study for the Higher Sports Leader Award as their enrichment option which enables students to develop leadership skills within a sporting context as they support the provision offered by the College to local primary schools.



Quote from Parent

"Please pass on our extreme thanks and appreciation to the staff for all their incredible effort and planning into the New York / Washington trip. Our daughter had a blast and a wonderful opportunity to experience [this](#) with friends as well."

A Level Curriculum

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 given feedback throughout the skill building project from September – December. From January the coursework (60%) portion of the course is started, students will sit a mock exam in which they will produce an interim final piece.

Year 13 students continue to develop their coursework until February, where their coursework will be marked and moderated. Students work on their exam project (40%) and sit a 15-hour controlled exam where they will produce a final piece.

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 have studied Art at GCSE and gained a Grade 6 or above and a portfolio of previous work. A Grade 5 in English would also be preferable.



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 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.

The most important part of the course is the development of high level technical skill and creative thinking alongside a contextual understanding of both contemporary and historical Artists and designers.

How will I be assessed?

Year 12 is given feedback throughout the skill building project from September to December. From January the coursework (60%) portion of the course is started, students will sit a mock exam in which they will produce an interim final piece.

Year 13 students continue to develop their coursework until February, where their coursework will be marked and moderated. Students work on their exam project (40%) and sit a 15-hour controlled exam where they will produce a final piece.

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 have studied Art / Textiles at GCSE and gained a Grade 6 or above. A 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 mock exams at the end of Year 12 which do not count towards your final A Level grade. 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 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 at the Head of Department'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.

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?

Theme 1: Marketing and People

Theme 2: Managing Business Activities

Theme 3: Business Decisions and Strategy

Theme 4: Global Business

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 three written exam papers. Each paper is two hours long. Students follow the Edexcel course.

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 Tech Award in Enterprise 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 equilibria, rates of reaction, 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?

You will sit 2 mock exams at the end of Year 12 which 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 a 'Practical endorsement in Chemistry' which is reported as a Pass or Fail separately to the A Level qualification. Many universities require a Pass in this element as a condition of their offer.

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 at the Head of Department'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.

Classical Civilisations

Why should I study Classic Civilisations?

Classical Civilisations is an exciting mixture of literature, history, and drama. Students have the opportunity to study elements of the theatre, literature, visual/material culture, and philosophy of the classical world while acquiring an understanding of their social, historical, and cultural contexts. The course is designed to feed the natural curiosity surrounding the wonders of the ancient world and popular reimagining's of classical myth. Modules include the study of Homer's *Iliad*, Virgil's *Aeneid*, Ancient Greek Theatre, and Politics of the Late Roman Republic.

What will I do during the course?

Content Overview	Assessment Overview	
<p>The World of the Hero</p> <p>This is a compulsory component consisting of an in-depth study of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one of Homer's <i>Iliad</i> or <i>Odyssey</i> • and Virgil's <i>Aeneid</i> <p>This component is solely focused on the study of literature in translation.</p>	<p>The World of the Hero H408/11</p> <p>100 marks</p> <p>2 hours 30 minutes</p> <p>Written paper</p>	<p>40% of total A Level</p>
<p>Component Group 2: Culture and the Arts</p> <p>Learners must study one component in this component group, chosen from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greek Theatre (H408/21) • Imperial Image (H408/22) • Invention of the Barbarian (H408/23) • Greek Art (H408/24) <p>Components in this group involve the study of visual and material culture. In all except Greek Art this is combined with the study of literature in translation.</p>	<p>Culture and the Arts H408/21, H408/22, H408/23, H408/24</p> <p>75 marks</p> <p>1 hour 45 minutes</p> <p>Written paper</p>	<p>30% of total A Level</p>
<p>Component Group 3: Beliefs and Ideas</p> <p>Learners must study one component in this component group, chosen from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greek Religion (H408/31) • Love and Relationships (H408/32) • Politics of the Late Republic (H408/33) • Democracy and the Athenians (H408/34) <p>Components in this group involve of an area of classical thought, in combination with either the study of literature in translation or visual/material culture.</p>	<p>Beliefs and Ideas H408/31, H408/32, H408/33, H408/34</p> <p>75 marks</p> <p>1 hour 45 minutes</p> <p>Written paper</p>	<p>30% of total A Level</p>

How will I be assessed?

This course is assessed through 3 written exams, all of which require extended writing and interaction with scholarly literature. Formative assessments will include presentations, essays, knowledge tests, and discussion.

Where can it lead?

The study of A Level Classical Civilisation can often lead to the university-level study of Classics, Drama, English, History, History of Art, Philosophy, and Politics. Though this is not where it ends. The A Level opens up doors in the world of film and TV correspondence. Critical analysis and evaluative skills are valued by all walks of employment and study - the A Level is situated perfectly at this intersection.

What qualifications do I need to start?

You will need at least a Grade 6 at GCSE English Literature or Language or a related subject. One of the challenges presented in Classical Civilisations is the demanding language and intricate ideas presented in culture and plays. You will need an analytical mind to really access this course.



Computer Science

Why should I study Computer Science?

You are living in the Digital Age! Computer programmes have all but infiltrated every aspect of our lives. Computer scientists theorise, design, develop, and apply the software and hardware for the programmes we use day in day out – sounds pretty important to us. Therefore, programming can be a life changing experience as it changes the way that you think about the world around you. It will make you a more accomplished problem solver and much more resilient in life. A Computer Science A Level is regarded well by institutions and employers. This is why graduate employers in banks and management consultancies recruit heavily from university Computing departments, so it could lead onto an exciting career path that isn't necessarily Computer Science based. The possibilities are endless!

What will I do during the course?

The Computer Science course will, above all else, be relevant to the modern and changing world of computing. Component 1 introduces learners to the internal workings of the Central Processing Unit (CPU), the exchange of data and will also look at software development, data types and legal and ethical issues.

Component 2 relates principally to problem solving skills needed by learners to apply the knowledge and understanding encountered in Component 1. This will include elements of computational thinking, algorithms and programming.



Computer Science is a practical subject where students can apply the academic principles learned in the classroom to real-world systems. This practical experience will include the use of Raspberry Pis, experimenting with aspects of physical programming such as LEDs and sensors. In preparation for completing your programming project, you will develop skills creating video games using a game engine,

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through two exams and a piece of coursework. The exams will be sat at the end of the two year course.

- Unit 1 Computer Systems (exam) – 40% of final A Level grade
- Unit 2 Algorithms and Programming (exam) – 40% of final A Level grade
- Unit 3 Programming Project (coursework) – 20% of final A Level grade

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 is valued by universities, employers and apprenticeship providers since it requires the development of analytical thinking and problem solving skills. This course also lays an appropriate foundation for further study of Computer Science, Engineering, Physics or related subjects in higher education.

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 a variety of other exciting career paths.

What qualifications do I need to start?

Students will need to have at least a Grade 6 GCSE in Computer Science or Maths.

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. Students follow the AQA course.



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 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 GCSE Economics has been studied a Grade 6 or better is required.

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 the contexts of power, gender and 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 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 political speeches, 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 evolved and 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?

A Level: assessed by two exam components 80% and non-exam assessment 20%.

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, Teaching Politics, Medicine 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, and a passion for reading, is 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 context. Students are expected to think critically about texts and ask questions, making judgements and defending their opinions with robust argument. How far do you agree that everything is dark, deadly and cheerless at the end of *King Lear*? Does Agatha Christie present King's Abbot as a society that is only motivated by greed? To what extent is the Mariner a victim in the poem 'The Rime of the Ancient Mariner'?

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. Some of the examinations are 'closed book' and rely on a confident 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.

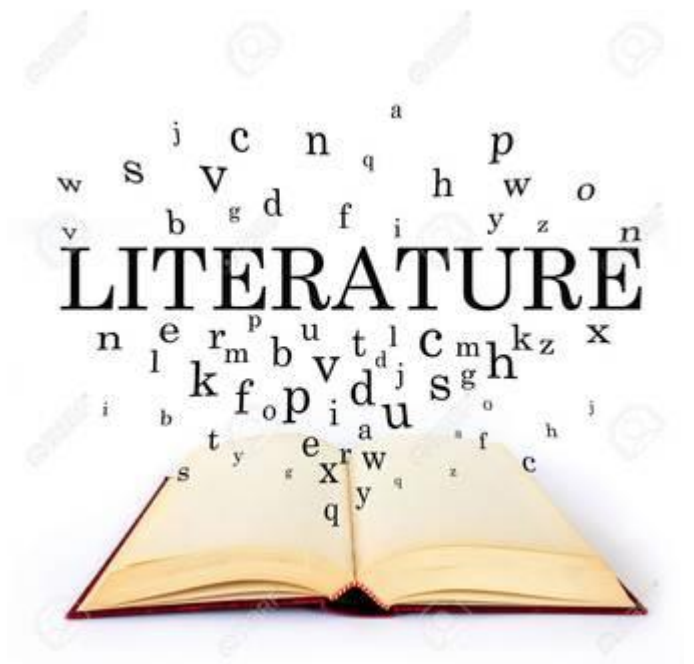
Where can it lead?

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

Of the three English qualifications on offer at this level, this is the qualification which most encourages open-minded, rigorous and independent thought and debate. In a sense, the 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.



English – Combined (Language and Literature)

Why should I study English Language and Literature?

Language or Literature? A tricky choice! Perhaps you want to study further texts but are slightly put off by the volume of reading in Literature? Maybe you have an interest in English in the world around you but also want to stay rooted somehow in the familiar realms of plays, novels and analysing and creating non-fiction texts. English Language and Literature gives you the skills to study and appreciate literary classics, taking into account the cultural and historical contexts present in the texts. Studying A Level English Language and Literature will hone your skills in communication, interpretation and analysis. You will use your creativity to explore all kinds of spoken, written and multimodal texts and the relationships between them, as well as exploring authorial voice. At the same time, your own writing will develop as you create your own original fiction and non-fiction works, drawing on other authors and novels for inspiration, on themes that resonate with your own personal interests.

What will I be doing on the course?

One of the most exciting aspects of this course is that it will open an entirely new area of study to you. Linguistics is the study of how language works both in speech and writing. You will learn how to apply the information and skills gained in your own creative pieces and critical analysis. You will also study a selection of drama, alongside literary prose and with a range of non-literary texts including such as: screenplays; podcast; blogs; interviews; reviews and travelogues to name a few.

How will I be assessed?

This subject includes two A Level examinations at the end of the second year. There will also be a coursework element which is internally assessed and externally moderated.

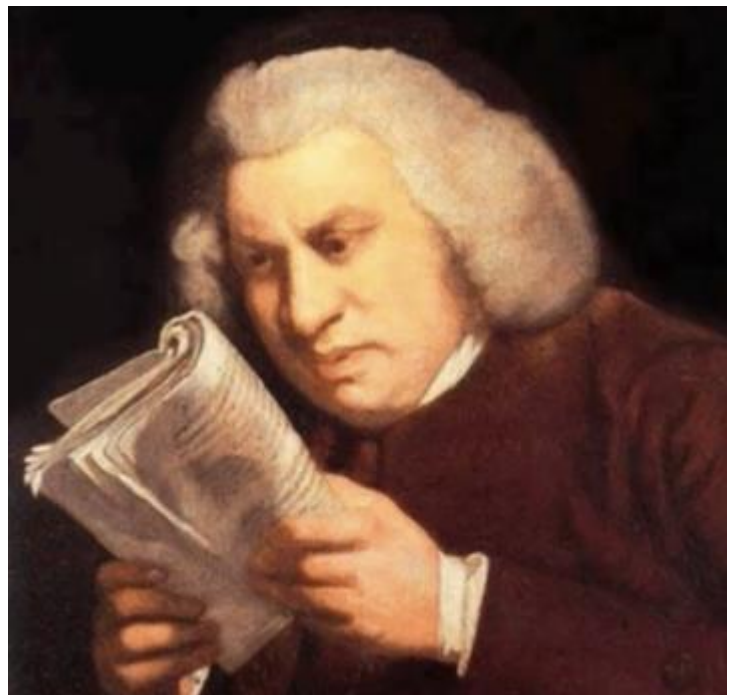
Where can it lead?

Combined has been a popular choice for Sixth Form students 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 but also allows you to develop your knowledge of the literary canon.

It is useful in all career choices, but especially those that have language at their core, such as journalism, teaching and law.

What qualifications do I need to start?

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



Film Studies

Why should I study Film Studies?

This course is an ideal course for students who want to explore how and why films are made. A Level film focuses on the analysis and deconstruction of film over a wide historical timeframe. It allows you to engage with films from early silent cinema to 1930s Hollywood films to contemporary and experimental cinema. It is for those who love film and want to know more about production, narrative and style.

What will I do during the course?

During the course you will study 12 different films as well as producing your own short film. You will study films from set categories: American, British, Independent, Global, Documentary, Experimental and Silent Film. These are analysed in a number of different frameworks including: film form, meaning and response, context, spectatorship, narrative, ideology, authorship, critical debates and theoretical debates. Film studies requires you to develop an inquisitive mind and consider the deeper social, political and economic contexts of those films.



Throughout the course you will also explore a wide range of influential film directors such as Hitchcock, Del Toro and Scott. Film Studies also takes in the forefathers of cinema by evaluating the impact of key pioneers on the film industry including The Lumiere Brothers, DW Griffiths, Charlie Chaplin and Sergei Eisenstein. In essence you will live and breathe the cinema with opportunities to develop your own film-making skills in the coursework component.

How will I be assessed?

Film Studies will introduce you to a wide range of film-making processes so that you develop through discussion, analysis and debate, a wide range of technical skills for both constructing and deconstructing film. This will give you the ability to develop your own creative skills as you explore these film-making techniques from different times and places. The coursework element allows you to experiment with a variety of film-making technology and film-editing software to develop your creative skills.

Across the course we will study films under these headings:

Hollywood 1930-1990	British Film since 1995	Documentary Film	Experimental Film
American Film since 2005	Global Film	Silent Cinema	Short Film

The exam is weighted with 70% written examination (2 papers each worth 35%) and 30% Non-exam assessment.

Where can it lead?

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

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 or English Literature. Although students do not need to have studied Media at GCSE level, an interest in Media and Film is encouraged.

French

Why should I study Modern Languages?

94% of the world's population do 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 inquiring mind, a retentive memory and a real desire to communicate, languages are for you. French has influenced the English language, so studying French can help you understand English better. Studying French can help you learn more languages, as it's the most commonly taught second language in the world

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. You will have access to a range of enrichment opportunities for example through a residential trip to France, a French culture trip to London and French experience events at school. You will have one to one support with a native French Language Assistant to enhance your speaking skills and improve your fluency in French.



How will I be assessed?

The A Level course is linear which means you will sit several exams at the end of the two years whereby the following skills are assessed: listening, speaking, reading, writing and translation.

Where can it lead and what are career prospects?

Studying French can help prepare you for University as it is an A Level that admissions officers like to see. French can be studied on its own or be combined with a very wide range of subjects including other languages from scratch or as joint honors. In addition to this you can also study: Linguistics, French studies, International Relations, Business, Economics, Management. Language skills can open up a wide range of employment opportunities, especially in sectors like hospitality, journalism, law, marketing, teaching, translation, diplomacy, broadcasting, journalism, nursing, medicine and finance.

Employers value the key skills developed by language learners. These include communication skills, team work, interpersonal skills, organisational skills, critical thinking and problem-solving. 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.

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 Tier.

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.

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, and 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 5 or above.



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 1603-1660.
- 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 people's 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



Law

Why should I study Law?

Studying Law at A Level equips you with essential skills including critical thinking, analytical reasoning, and communication abilities. You will learn about the British Legal System and how it works, society from a legal perspective, the interaction and connections between law, morals and society as well as different areas of the law. This course will help you to develop academic skills including analysis and evaluation as well as see connections with business, economics, politics, technology and history.

What will I do during the course?

The AQA Law specification is split into the following topics:

The Nature of Law and the English Legal System - This topic will underpin the theoretical and procedural workings of the English justice system, offering a deeper foundation of knowledge that can be applied throughout their studies. This topic will be present in all three of the exams at the end of Year 13 therefore it is a vital component of their studies throughout the course.

Criminal Law – This topic will offer students an in-depth look at the intricacies of Criminal Law, learning about rules and principles surrounding criminality and how liability is established through elements such as the actus reus and mens rea. They will learn about a multitude of offences from theft all the way to murder and the case law that surrounds them, as well as possible defences.

Tort Law – Also known as civil wrongdoing. Tort Law encompasses the civil law surrounding harm that has been caused due to an act or an omission. Students will learn about the principles of these civil torts and how we apply tests to establish who is at fault for the wrongdoing. Negligence and liability are key elements that are explored as well as how civil disputes are remedied and how damages are awarded.

Human Rights Law – This topic will explore the history surrounding the origins of Human Rights Law and how it became enshrined within English legislation. We will establish the rules and principles that brought about human rights and explore how their use in international courts such as the European Convention of Human Rights and nationally in the Human Rights Act protect us. We will also look at their restrictions as well as the criticisms that come with Human Rights Law.

How will I be assessed?

At the end of Year 13 there are 3 written papers to complete. Each paper is 2 hours long and count for 33% of the marks for that year. Each paper provides a combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions. Students follow the AQA course.

Where can it lead?

Law is a versatile and prized qualification which can open doors for a wide variety of different future careers. Some students take A Level Law because they already know that they want a career in the legal sector, which is a thriving part of the UK economy. The A Level gives an excellent introduction for students who wish to go on and read Law at university or to start a legal apprenticeship. Universities recognise the advantages of A Level Law and the old view that it should not be studied has long since depleted. However, A Level law is not just for students who want to enter the legal professions. It is a well-respected subject and is a welcome addition to many A Level programmes of study due to its relevance across all business and community sectors. A Level Law provides valuable foundation for both Law degrees and related fields like business, journalism, politics and public service.

What qualifications do I need to start?

Students wishing to study Law at A Level will have gained a Grade 6 or above in English and a Grade 5 in a humanities-based subject (History, Geography or RE) in addition to the College entry requirements to gain access to the Sixth Form provision at AMVC.



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 higher.

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



Mathematics - Further

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 A Level 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 have gained a Grade 8 in GCSE 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.



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, 5 or above in English and Distinction or 6 in GCSE PE. It is not necessary to have previously studied PE to follow this course at A Level, however students need to be actively competing in at least 1 sport for the duration of the course.

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 your sport outside school is essential 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
- 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?

At the end of Year 12 you will sit 2 mock exams which do not count towards your final A Level grade. All official assessments 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 practical's. 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 at the Head of Department'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 A Level Maths.



Politics

"Just because you do not take an interest in politics, doesn't mean politics won't take an interest in you." – attributed to Pericles, 5th century BC.

Why study A Level Politics?

Recent months have seen unprecedented events in the political arena both in the UK and abroad. This course will allow you to see beyond the belief that we have no real say in the running of our country. It is aimed at raising awareness of the current, and historical political landscape and will help you to understand that engagement in the political process is vital. It will help you to understand that through the use of the pressure points built into the system, every individual really does have the opportunity to change the world.

Politics, at its heart, is about understanding people and why we behave in the way that we do.

This course will allow you to study the political systems in both the UK and the US, whilst completing in depth studies around core political ideologies.

What will I do during the course?

Paper 1: UK Politics
Paper 2: UK Government
Paper 3: Comparative Politics

UK Politics

Section A: Political Participation

You will study what it means to be a democracy, the political parties, and analyse the electoral system and voter behaviour.

Section B: Core Political Ideas

You will study Liberalism, Conservatism and Socialism.

UK Government

Section A: UK Government

You will study the constitution, Parliament, Prime Minister and Executive, relationships between the branches.

Section B: Non- core Political Ideas

You will study Nationalism.

Comparative Politics

You will study the US Constitution and federalism, US Congress, US Presidency, US Supreme Court and civil rights, democracy and participation, comparative theories.

How will I be assessed?

- 3 papers, each worth 84 marks
- Due to the nature of the course, all questions are essay based. The questions range from 12 marks, to 30 marks. Each paper holds the same weight (84 marks)

Where can it lead?

Politics is a well-respected subject, recognised by employers and universities alike. The course develops important skills such as: analysis and evaluation of information, effective communication of complex ideas, team work, forming and sustaining ideas and arguments. Political students can go on to work in a number of roles including Politics, Education, Law, Accountancy, International organisations, the list is endless!

What qualifications do I need to start?

Ideally, you will need to have achieved a Grade 6 in English Language. Complimentary GCSE subjects such as History, and R.E will be beneficial. Students achieving a Grade 5 in English will still be considered at the discretion of the subject leader.



Product Design

Why should I study Product Design?

In the A Level Product Design course, students explore design and innovation, focusing on creativity, problem-solving and practical skills. Topics include materials, industrial processes, design development, and sustainability. The course involves real-world projects, allowing students to turn concepts into reality using advanced technology and design software.



What will I do during the course?

This qualification focuses on the dual aspects of designing and making, highlighting the importance of creating solutions rather than contributing to existing problems. Students will explore innovative ideas that challenge the status quo. The programme aims to inspire future designers with a passion for shaping their future through effective design.

How will I be assessed?

The course is divided equally between coursework and examination (50% each). The coursework focuses on a design and make project that encourages unique design exploration and prototype evaluation for commercial viability. The exam includes structured and extended questions to assess students' understanding of design principles and their ability to analyse design-related issues.



Where can it lead?



A Level Product Design offers various career opportunities in fields like industrial design, architecture, engineering, fashion, graphics, and interior design. Students gain transferable skills such as creative thinking, problem-solving, and project management, which are valued across industries. Many pursue design-related degrees or enter apprenticeships in the creative sector.

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.



Psychology

Why should I study Psychology?

Psychology is the scientific study of human behaviour. 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; understand which parts of the brain are responsible for specific behaviours; 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 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. There is a strong scientific basis to Psychology with some essays to assess understanding.

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 Language GCSE Grade 9 to 6 and Science (Biology) 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 peace and conflict. 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 caste system. In Philosophy students consider topics such as the problem of evil and suffering and the existence of God.

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 Year 13 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?

RE GCSE Short course Grade 6 or above or full course Grade 6 or above. A Grade 6 or above in English is also desirable.

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 ethnicity.

At 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?

You will study Families and Households, Education and Sociological Methods, Crime and Deviance and Media. 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 quizzes or a presentation to the rest of the group. The A Level qualification is examined by three, two hour examinations at the end of Year 13. Each exam is equally weighted.

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, journalism, 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?

94% of the world's population do 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.

Spanish A Level can lead to a wide array of exciting options for the future including working abroad, with multi-national companies, in numerous fields.

University Courses and Career Prospects

Spanish can be studied on its own or be combined with a very wide range of subjects including other languages from scratch or as joint honors. In addition to this you can also study: Linguistics, Hispanic Studies, International Relations, Business, Medicine, Nursing, Economics, Management, Influencer. Languages improve your skills and career in any role in any sector such as law, teaching, translation, diplomacy, nursing, medicine, broadcast journalist logistics and finance.

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 inquiring 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. You will have access to a range of enrichment opportunities for example through a residential trip to Spain, a Spanish culture trip to London and Spanish experience events at school. You will have one to one support with a native Spanish Language Assistant to enhance your speaking skills and improve your fluency in Spanish.

How will I be assessed?

During 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 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, teamwork, 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.

Cultural activities

- Spanish trip
- London cultural trip
- Spanish experience restaurant
- Live Latin music
- Dancing salsa



VOCATIONAL CURRICULUM

Applied Science Level 3 Nationals (AAQ) - Extended Certificate

Why should I study Applied Science?

If you cannot decide between Biology, Chemistry and Physics this course contains a smaller chunk of the A level content of each one, and it allows you to combine both exams and coursework.

This course will also equip you with practical skills and techniques along with science investigation skills that would make you an asset in any scientific career or science-based higher education course.

What will I do during the course?

You will study three units that will be assessed by formal exams. These will be:

Principles and Application of Biology

Structure and function of cells and tissues, biological molecules, enzymes and their role in organisms

Principles and Application of Chemistry

Structure of the Periodic Table and its implication on the physical and chemical properties of substances, and analysis of different bonding methods of atoms

Principles and Application of Physics

Waves and their applications, force principles and their application in transportation, and construction of electrical circuits.

You will also complete two coursework units in which you will learn and carry out practical techniques and then write up a report about the skills you have learned, this work will be marked by your teacher. These will be:

Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques

In this unit, you will carry out the skills of chromatography, colorimetry, titration and building electrical circuits; and you will learn about standard laboratory equipment and laboratory safety

Science Investigative Skills

In this unit, you will research, plan, carry out and evaluate your own scientific investigation

How will I be assessed?

3 x 1 hour examinations (one each for Biology, Chemistry and Physics)

2 x extended coursework projects

Where can it lead?

Working in any type of laboratory such as a medical laboratory, forensic science, food science, research laboratory; work or further study in healthcare, nursing, radiotherapy, medicine* or veterinary science* (*with foundation year)

What qualifications do I need to start?

Grade 5,5 or above in Combined Science GCSE or two grade 5s or above in either Biology, Chemistry or Physics GCSE plus grade 4 or above in Mathematics.



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.

There are 4 possible courses of study:

Extended Certificate – 1 A Level equivalent
(Part 1)

Foundation Diploma – 1 ½ A Level equivalent
(Part 1 and Part 2)

Diploma – 2 A Level equivalent
(Part 1, Part 2, and Part 3)

Extended Diploma – 3 A Level equivalent

What will I do during the course?

Students studying the Extended Certificate (1 A Level equivalent) will study the following units:

Unit 1: Exploring Business

Unit 2: Developing a Marketing Campaign

Unit 3: Personal and Business Finance

Unit 27: Work Experience in Business (students are expected to find and complete 40 hours of work experience during the summer of Year 12)

Students studying the Foundation Diploma (1 ½ A Level equivalent) will study the units above plus:

Unit 16: Visual Merchandising

Unit 4: Managing an Event

Students studying the Diploma

(2 A Level equivalent) will study all the units above plus:

Unit 5: International Business

Unit 6: Principles of Management

Students studying the Extended Diploma

(3 A Level equivalent) will study all the units above plus:

Unit 7: Business Decision Making

Unit 9: Team Building in Business

Unit 17: Digital Marketing

Unit 19: Pitching for a New Business

Unit 31: Effective Management of Personal Debt

How will I be assessed?

Units 2, 3, 6 and 7 are all externally assessed through either a set assessed task or a formal examination. All other units are assignments written and assessed by teachers internally.

Where can it lead?

It can lead to a future in business either via university or an apprenticeship. Many 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 or Enterprise 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.



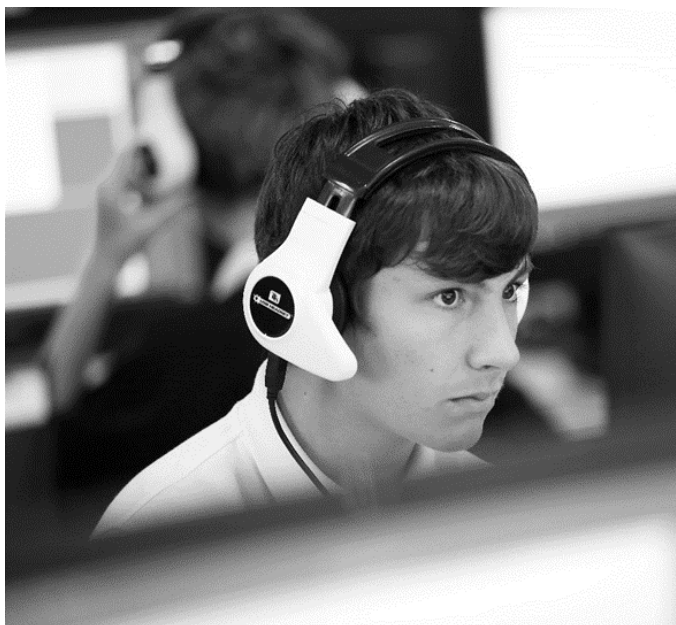
Computing L3 Cambridge Advanced Nationals (AAQ): Application Development (Extended Certificate)

Why should I study Level 3 Advanced Nationals in Computing?

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

This course is relevant to anyone using IT in their everyday life, as well as those planning a career in the industry. The course is designed to encourage students to select and use IT 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 IT.



What will I do during the course?

The course is broken down into three coursework units where you will need to carry out practical 'hands on' tasks using a range of up-to-date software packages. Additionally, there are two mandatory exams that you will study for. One in Year 12 and finally one in Year 13.

How will I be assessed?

Unit title	How is it assessed?	Mandatory or optional
F160 Fundamentals of application development	EXAM	Mandatory
F161 Developing application software	EXAM	Mandatory
F162 Designing and communicating UX/UI solutions	NEA	Mandatory
F164 Website development	NEA	Optional
F165 Immersive technology solution development	NEA	Optional

Where can it lead?

The Advanced Nationals in Computing 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?

Students must matriculate with the Arthur Mellows requirement for entry into Sixth Form. It is preferable that students also have a level 2 qualification in IT.

Digital Media - Cambridge Technicals Level 3 Extended Certificate

Why should I study Media Studies as a vocational course?

The creative media industries are one of the biggest employers in the UK and this course is designed to prepare students for the world of work, though it is equivalent to an A Level in terms of UCAS points and is highly regarded by employers and universities. It is very student-centred in its approach, with more focus on practical skills rather than academic theory.

We have offered Media Studies as a post-16 course for over 3 decades with consistently excellent outcomes and have been nationally recognised twice in the Good Schools Guide. However, this exciting vocational course is ideally suited to students who have taken the BTEC Media course at Key Stage 4 but is very accessible to newcomers to the subject, especially to students who are knowledgeable about popular culture.

What will I do during the course?

The course is based around a series of linked client briefs, ranging from pitching an idea for a film, writing a script for the film, whilst there are opportunities for students to complete units based on their longer-term aspirations which might include free-choice units on animation, designing videogame game characters, photography or special effects. Each unit involves the study of existing texts and the planning and construction of real media products. We also look at media theory to provide an academic foundation for student learning.

How will I be assessed?

The course is split between two exams taken in Year 12 and 4 practical units to be started in Year 12 and completed by the end of Year 13. The exams cover pre-production skills like planning, scripting, time management and storyboarding, as well as looking at media audiences and products in contemporary culture, based on case studies into film, video games, and other media forms.

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. 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 in using digital technologies, though they may have found more traditional academic skills like essay-writing quite 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; however, students will need to satisfy the entry requirements to Arthur Mellows Sixth Form.



Engineering Level 3 (AAQ) – Extended Certificate

Why should I study Level 3 Engineering?

This qualification has been designed as a full-time course that supports progression to an apprenticeship in engineering. It will develop knowledge, understanding and skills that will help prepare students for progression to undergraduate study and are relevant to a range of careers within the engineering sector.

What will I do during the course?

Students study 4 units over 2 years, 2 exam units and 2 coursework units.

Mandatory core course units:

UNIT F130 - Principles of Engineering - Students apply mathematical and physical science principles to solve electrical, electronic and mechanical-based engineering problems.

Assessment: 90 minutes externally assessed exam.

UNIT F131 - Materials Science & Technology

Every manufactured product is made from one or more materials, selected to meet a variety of needs, such as the properties needed by the part, the appearance desired by the user, and the ability to be manufactured into the required shape, whilst considering sustainable engineering practices. In this unit students will learn about material properties, the types of material and their relative properties, and how these properties can be affected by different processing/manufacturing techniques. Students will also learn about how materials fail in-service.

Assessment: 75 minutes externally assessed exam.

UNIT F132 - Engineering In Practice

– In this unit students will learn how to analyse products, produce engineering CAD drawings and make a mechanical prototype and a prototype of an electronic circuit. Working on a product with several components, students will focus on one mechanical prototype and one prototype electronic circuit that contributes to the product. Students will also evaluate your manufactured prototypes to see how successful they have been.

Assessment: Coursework (internally assessed).



Optional Course unit:

UNIT F136 – Computer Aided Manufacture (CAM) - CAM is used extensively in manufacturing, helping to create products with a higher degree of speed, accuracy and consistency than would otherwise be possible. In this unit students will learn how CAM systems are used in manufacturing. Students will develop the skills to be able to program and use Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machines to produce components and to use CAD/CAM to manufacture a component, evaluating their component against a working drawing.

Assessment: Coursework (internally assessed).

How will I be assessed?

A range of different assessment methods are used across the course. Some units are externally assessed through a formal exam or a supervised assessment. Other units are assessed internally by your teacher, through the completion of written and practical assignments. Feedback will be provided on assignments, with support and opportunities for improved work to be reassessed.

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. Students must have an interest in Engineering and enthusiasm for the subject, alongside a good work ethic which is vital for success. The course is best suited to students who wish to study forms of engineering at university, those applying for apprenticeships or work in the engineering industry.

Food Science and Nutrition – Level 3 Applied Diploma

Why should I study the Applied Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition

If you are interested in studying for a career within Food Technology, such as new product development, food management marketing or manufacturing, or similarly, if you have a real passion for cooking and may be interested in future careers in catering, nutrition and dietetics, food consulting or even teaching, then this course is for you. Students are encouraged to become independent in research, skilful and creative in practical and experimental work and develop confidence and skills that are invaluable in both higher education and employment.

What will I do during the course?

The course is split into 4 units as below and will involve regular regular practical food lessons.

WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition			
Unit Number	Unit Title	Structure	Assessment
1	Meeting Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups	Mandatory	Internal and External
2	Ensuring Food is Safe to Eat	Mandatory	External
3	Experimenting to Solve Food Production Problems	Optional	Internal
4	Current Issues in Food Science and Nutrition	Optional	Internal

How will I be assessed?

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria	Marks	%
LO2 Understand properties of nutrients	AC2.1 Explain how nutrients are structured	14-22	15-25%
	AC2.2 Classify nutrients in foods		
	AC2.3 Assess the impact of food production methods on nutritional value		
LO3 Understand the relationship between nutrients and the human body	AC3.1 Describe functions of nutrients in the human body	22-31	25-35%
	AC3.2 Explain characteristics of unsatisfactory nutritional intake		
	AC3.3 Analyse nutritional needs of specific groups		
	AC3.4 Assess how different situations affect nutritional needs		
LO4 Be able to plan nutritional requirements	AC4.1 Evaluate fitness for purpose of diets	22-31	25-35%
	AC4.2 Calculate nutritional requirements for given individuals		
TOTAL		90	100%



Where can it lead?

Food Technology is an ideal subject for those students wishing to pursue a career in the food industry, catering or teaching Food. It is important to stress the level of theory especially food science which is heavily chemistry based. Food is a highly competitive and challenging industry offering a wealth of employment opportunities. A qualification in Food science provides a valuable pathway to Higher Education for those who wish to study the subject at this level.

- BSc Food and Nutrition
- BSc Human Nutrition
- BSc (Hons) Public Health Nutrition
- BSc (Hons) Food Science and Technology



What qualifications do I need to start?

Students wishing to do Food Science and Nutrition should have studied Food Preparation and Nutrition at GCSE and gained a Grade 5 or above. Students must also have achieved a Grade 5 or above in GCSE Combined Science/Biology.

Health and Social Care Level 3 (AAQ)

Why should I study Health and Social Care?

The OCR Level 3 Cambridge Advanced National (AAQ) in Health and Social Care (Extended Certificate) will develop knowledge, understanding and skills that will help prepare you for progression to undergraduate study and are relevant to the health and social sector.

You might be interested in this qualification if you want to apply what you learn to practical, real-life contexts, such as:

- Using a person-centred approach to recommend care and support
- Recommending support for individuals
- Creating and presenting advice and guidance

You will develop the following transferable skills that can be used in both higher education and other life and work situations:

- Communicating and collaborating effectively with individuals
- Creating and presenting/delivering information to an individual
- Independent learning and self-directed study

What will I be doing?

For this qualification, students must complete six units:

- Two mandatory externally assessed units
- Two mandatory NEA units
- Two optional NEA units



How will I be assessed?

Unit title	Guided learning hours (GLH)	How is it assessed?	Mandatory or optional
Principles of health and social care	80	EXAM	Mandatory
Anatomy and physiology for health and social care	80	EXAM	Mandatory
Person-centred approach to care	50	NEA	Mandatory
Supporting people with mental health conditions	50	NEA	Mandatory
Supporting people with long term physiological conditions	50	NEA	Optional
Investigating public health strategies	50	NEA	Optional
Supporting people in relation to sexual health, pregnancy and postnatal health	50	NEA	Optional
Supporting healthy nutrition and lifestyles	50	NEA	Optional

Where can it lead?

This course will help you progress to further study in related areas such as:

- BSc Nursing / BSc Paramedic Science
- BSc Midwifery / BSc Public Health and Wellbeing
- BSc Health and social care / BA Social Work

What qualifications do I need to start?

Students must matriculate with the Arthur Mellows requirement for entry into Sixth Form. If students have studied Health and Social Care at Level 2, they must achieve a Level 2 Pass grade.

Music Performance

Why should I study Music Performance BTEC?

The BTEC Extended Certificate (equivalent to one A Level) 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 studies.

The course is aimed at students who love music. You will develop your skills in performance, both in a band, and as a soloist. You will be required to improve your performance skills quickly, alongside the study of music theory that supports 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 units that support the skills and interests of those on the course. Some examples of units are: Music Theory and Harmony, composing music, solo music performance, working and developing as a musical ensemble and working as a session musician.

How will I be assessed?

The course is made up of 4 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.

These units involve:

- A study of the Music industry and the roles and links within it.
- Working as a musical ensemble; looking how to develop as a band musician, developing your own skills and giving regular public performances
- Practical music theory and harmony; developing your understanding of key musical concepts through a practical medium
- Developing as a musician individually; looking at how to perform in different styles (optional)
- Composing music (optional)

What qualifications do I need to start?

Students wishing to study Music will need to satisfy the entry requirements to Arthur Mellows Sixth Form. You will ideally have studied music at Key Stage 4, however if you have the skills and passion needed the course can be completed without a Key Stage 4 qualification. This may be demonstrated through a brief audition. If you have previously never used Logic, you may need to spend extra time at the start of the course learning the key skills. It is **essential** that you play a musical instrument (this can include your voice) to a high standard at the start of the course and have some performance experience. To achieve in this course, you also need to be prepared and able to write to a high standard and demonstrate research skills.



You need to be a team player, being prepared to compromise within a musical group. Much of this course is group based. You also need to be highly organised and self-motivated, as the development aspects are self-driven. We use technology in all aspects of the course, and you need to be willing to use and adapt how you work frequently.

This course is a good foundation for further education in music and is an excellent companion course for media.

Sport

Why should I study Vocational Sport?

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 and Extended Certificate 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
- Practical Sports Performance

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
- Coaching for Performance
- Sports Event Organisation
- Sports Leadership



How will I be assessed?

Anatomy and Physiology will be assessed through a one hour 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. Vocational Sport 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 BTEC Tech Award at Level 2 or GCSE PE they must have achieved at least a Level 2 Merit or a Grade 5. Enthusiasm for the subject and sport as a whole, along with a good work ethic are also vital for success.

Travel and Tourism

Why should I study Tourism?

The Tourism industry is dynamic, wide ranging and fast growing. We investigate popular and emerging tourism destinations from across the globe and the different organisations which are involved in developing, marketing, and preserving these destinations. We ask how different sectors in the tourism industry respond to crises like pandemics and climate change, and how they use technology to develop sustainably.

You will develop employability skills such as:

- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Planning and organisation
- Creativity and innovation

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

What will I do during the course?

Year 12

Unit 1 The World of Travel and Tourism (1.5hr exam)

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. You will also examine the structure of the industry and how tourism will develop in the future.

Unit 3 Principles of Marketing in Travel and Tourism (coursework)

You will develop marketing skills through evaluating effective customer communication and examining the aims and objective of tourism organisations and destinations. You will use market intelligence to plan and produce a promotional campaign for a new travel and tourism product or service.

Year 13

Unit 2 Global Destinations (3hr exam)

You will investigate the appeal of global destinations to different types of tourists, factors which affect a destination's popularity, and evaluate how travel itineraries meet customer needs. Pre-release materials are provided two weeks before the supervised assessment period, giving you time to carry out research.

Unit 9 Visitor attractions (coursework)

You will learn about events, as well as built and natural attractions, analysing their commercial success, appeal, funding, use of technology and response to visitor needs.



How will I be assessed?

The BTEC National level 3 extended certificate in Travel and Tourism is equivalent to one A Level. The qualification weighting is 58% external assessment and 42% coursework.

Where can it lead?

The qualification will give you transferable knowledge, understanding and broad skills such as communicating and presenting ideas. 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 vocational qualification 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 CURRICULUM

British Sign Language (BSL)

Why should I study British Sign Language?

The BSL Enrichment was brand new to the school from September 2023 and has had a great success rate with all those who sat it achieving a Level 1 Certificate. It is an independent course comprising of online modules with support from a Year 13 student. The course itself is designed for students wanting to learn British Sign Language and is flexible so that you can fit it in around your studies across Year 12.

The resources and teaching are led by The British Sign Language Association online and set you up to have the Level One Certificate in British Sign language. You learn things such as finger spelling, the alphabet, awareness and how to have conversations.

We are also looking to run Sign Language charity events in the future to raise awareness, reduce barriers that some people face and raise much needed funds for charities who support.

Where can it lead?

You will learn a new language that can be used in everyday life, it is also a great skill to have for future opportunities in employment or at university. If you are looking to go into teaching or healthcare, this could be the thing that sets you apart from the rest!



Combined Cadet Force (CCF)

Why should I study?

If you want to aim higher, feel more confident and get a head start on your future join the Army Cadets.

Becoming an Army Cadet has heaps of benefits. The most obvious being that you get to take part in loads of exciting and challenging activities such as fieldcraft, adventure training, first aid and shooting, to name but a few. As you complete the APC syllabus, you will learn leadership skills, discipline, give you self-confidence, as well as a wide range of transferable skills such as: the ability to command tasks; make decisions under pressure and work as an effective team player as well as independently. These skills will equip you for life and add an extra string to your bow at times when competition for university places and employment is fierce.

Additionally, all cadets over 16 also have access to apply to attend extra Adventure Training Courses where they can gain additional qualifications. Find out more here: <https://armycadets.com/who-we-are/cadet-centre-for-adventurous-training/ccat-activities/>

What qualifications do I need?

None! The cadets is open to both new and existing cadets, you will just start at different points in the syllabus. There is a cost to joining cadets, £30 per term (Autumn, Spring, Summer). This includes all the uniform, with the exception of the boots which can be purchased for £30 and would be yours to keep. The cost of weekend camps are kept to a minimum, normally around £20 per weekend camp.

What will I do during the course?

On a Tuesday you would come to school in your army uniform, ready for parade straight after school 3:15-4:20pm. During this time you work through the Army Proficiency Certificate (APC) training syllabus, which includes: Adventure Training, Drill and Turnout, Expeditions, Fieldcraft, First Aid, Navigation, Military Knowledge, Skill at Arms, Communication Systems and more. In addition to the after school parades, there will be a number of training weekend camps, as well as a week long summer camp, where we will go and test the skills you are learning on an army base.

Where can it lead?

You have control of how much you get out of joining CCF. You can simply work through the cadet syllabus, or you can choose to attend additional courses, competitions and adventurous training ran by the MOD. These include, but certainly not limited to; Combat Cadet competition, Senior Cadet Instructor course, Master Cadet, Beginner/Intermediate Ski courses, Kayaking Instructor course and so much more.



Creative Writing



Course background

Do you enjoy English? Creative writing? Do you think that you have the potential to write and engage an audience? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then Creative Writing is the Enrichment opportunity for you.

What does it entail?

Over the course of the year we will be looking at various styles of writing ranging across both non-fiction and fiction. We will look at script writing, poetry, short stories, descriptive writing, articles and reviews. Exploring key skills and components of different writing styles whilst pushing your own creative boundaries by finding and developing a strong writing voice. At the end of the year we will look for you to share your portfolio of work by inviting parents / guardians to see the amazing talent that you have.

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.

Duke of Edinburgh (Gold Award)

Course background

Participating in the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award in Sixth Form offers you excellent opportunities to discover new interests and talents which you may not otherwise have the opportunity to explore. It is a tool to develop essential skills for life and work and most employers and universities also recognise this achievement as it shows a high level of commitment and dedication.

What does it entail?

Whilst in Year 12, we can offer you the opportunity to sign you up for the Gold Award. This involves 5 sections (skills, physical, volunteering, expedition and residential) for varying lengths of time. It allows you to undertake your practice expedition at the end of Year 12 and the qualifying expedition after exams in Year 13. For the qualifying expedition we undertake a trip to the Lake District for 5 days to walk around the beautiful Cumbrian mountains and lakes.

The Award enables you to grow as an individual and realise that you can do new things, complete challenges as well as learning about commitment and being a team player.



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

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.



Level 2 Peer Mental Health Mentoring

Why should I study?

The course prepares students to become mental health peer mentors. It also enables them to have a developed understanding of mental health and wellbeing strategies as well as tools for mentoring and coaching which can support them now and in the future. It will make a real difference to you and the individuals you support.

What will I do during the course?

By taking part in this programme, students will be able to:

- Appreciate that mental health and wellbeing fluctuate
- Know how to protect good mental health for themselves and their peers
- Recognise the signs and symptoms of poor or declining mental health in themselves and their peers
- Support their own mental health in challenging, stressful or changing situations
- Apply a range of listening, questioning and other mentoring skills

How will I be assessed?

Our Mental Health Peer Mentoring Programme is run in partnership with [Minds Ahead](#). It is accredited by the [Royal Society for Public Health](#) and provides students with the opportunity to earn a Level 2 Award in Peer Mentoring.

Students will be taught by Ms Kavanagh, Senior Mental Health Lead. They will be given an assessment booklet which they will complete across the course and submit online to Minds Ahead for marking. Once completed you will certify as a Level 2 Peer Mentor.

Where can it lead?

This qualification can open doors for future qualifications and is great for those interested in supporting the mental health of themselves and their peers.



Level 3 Qualification in Sports Leadership

Why should I study?

The Leadership Skills Foundation is the Awarding Organisation who provides this nationally recognised qualification which is accredited by the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF). The qualification 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 practical qualification with no entrance requirements or final examinations to sit. Assessment is continual, based on your observed leadership skills and completion of all units.

This course is practical, and it 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 written evidence required for each unit. 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. You will work specifically with 3 of the following groups: Children, older people, people with disabilities, ethnic minority groups, women and girls or any other relevant group within your community.



<https://leadershipskillsfoundation.org/>

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 detailed Learner Evidence Record demonstrating written evidence of each unit of work. You must demonstrate the ability to work safely around younger students and safeguard their well-being while under your supervision.

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. The skills learnt are transferable, such as organisation, communication, problem-solving and working as part of a team.

The qualification is worth **16 UCAS points** and is valued within the workplace and at university. Many candidates go on to gain a Sports specific national governing body coaching award and continue to coach within specific sports. 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. You must be prepared to work outside of school hours within the school/community to gain the volunteering hours required. In addition, you must complete the evidence folder and ensure the safety of those students under your supervision.

Managing My Money for Young Adults

Course Information

Managing your money really is a true skill for life. This free Open University course will give you the confidence and tools to be in control whether you are:

- Still studying at school or college
- Starting work or an apprenticeship
- Going to university

This course has been awarded the Young Money Financial Education Quality Mark.



- On successful completion, you are awarded an Open University Digital badge to download and share and this badge has recognised status with employers
- You gain the skills and tools to take control and avoid money worries in future
- You can use this course for your Duke of Edinburgh Award skills development
- You get free online tools to help you budget easily and effectively
- You get a free Statement of Participation to go with your other achievements
- You can talk about this independent learning in job interviews and on your university statement

Course Learning Outcomes

After studying this course, you will be able to:

- Budget effectively, take into account changes such as getting older and leaving the family home
- Understand how to choose and manage bank and savings accounts
- Understand how to finance further and higher education studies
- Borrow sensibly and manage debts effectively
- Plan ahead to make life's goals financially achievable

You will study eight straight-forward online sessions of 1-2 hours each with:

- Plenty of **step-by-step animations and practical tips** to help you straight away
- **Real-life case studies** featuring current school students and university students who reflect on their experiences living away from home for the first time
- Useful **videos** from money experts

There are also **short quizzes** to help you remember what you have studied.

You will learn how to make your money work harder and go further online and at your own pace. At any time, you can save your work and return to the course.

Useful websites / reading materials

<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/>



Peer Mentoring

Do you want to make a difference? Do you want to be a role model? Are you passionate about helping others?

If the answers to the questions are YES, then we want you for our mentoring programme!

What would it involve?

You will be matched with a student from Years 7-10 depending on your skills and for 1 lesson a week you will meet with them and provide support.

You will receive specialist training beforehand from Mrs Kamminga and Mrs Albone on how to support students and ideas for each session with students.

It's fun and there are no entry requirements, just the desire to want to support others and a positive attitude. There is no final examination to sit at the end of the year.

What will you get out of this?

The skills you will learn throughout the process will support you with your aspirations for higher education and/or career development. You can include your experience in your personal statement or your CV.

The mentoring sessions will provide you with a wide range of skills from listening to using empathetic language to being more organised.

What do students already involved think about it?

- 'I really love my subject and wanted to help others who were struggling'
- 'It's very different from what I normally do at school'
- 'I have found it really useful to have someone to talk to about school'
- 'My mentor really listens to me'



How to apply

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.





Just a thank you to you and the staff at AMVC. Our son received his A level results and has done brilliantly. He's off to Leeds Uni to study Economics. We would like to thank you all for your help, support and teaching skills over the past 2 years.

My daughter who also studied at AMVC is now a secondary school teacher tells me how challenging teaching can be but how rewarding it is. Teachers make a huge impact on children's lives and set the children up for their future into young adults and beyond.

Thank you



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