



SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS

2017/18

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Contents

The Sixth Form at Katharine Lady Berkeley's School	3
Key Contacts.....	3
Choosing Courses.....	4
GCSE requirements for individual courses	6
Supporting your studies	7
Post 16 Bursary Funding Support 2017	7
Higher Education and Careers Advice	9
Enrichment	9
Extra-curricular activities.....	9
Katharine Lady Berkeley's School Sixth Form Contract	10
Dress Code	11
Biology	12
Business	13
Chemistry	14
Drama and Theatre Studies	15
Economics	16
English Literature	17
Film Studies	18
Art: Fine Art.....	19
Geography	20
Art: Graphic Communication (Graphic Art)	22
History.....	23
Languages	24
French and Spanish	24
Japanese.....	25
Mandarin Chinese	26
Mathematics and Further Mathematics.....	27
Core Mathematics.....	28
Music.....	29
Art: Photography - Lens and Light based Media	31
Physical Education.....	32
Physics	33
Product Design.....	34
Psychology.....	35
Sociology	36
2016 GCE A Level Examination Results	37
Overall results at the end of Year 13	37
Destinations of students leaving Year 13 in 2016.....	38

The Sixth Form at Katharine Lady Berkeley's School

Katharine Lady Berkeley's School is a rural comprehensive school with language college status. Situated in beautiful countryside on the edge of a Cotswold town, it was founded in 1384 making it one of the oldest state schools in the country. Currently it has 1503 students attracted from Wotton-under-Edge and nearby villages as well as a significant number from further afield.

The Sixth Form currently numbers 296 students, mainly from Katharine Lady Berkeley's School but with some having transferred from other schools or having moved into the area.

The next two years offer you many exciting opportunities, which will be rewarding as well as challenging. By taking Sixth Form courses at Katharine Lady Berkeley's School, you are choosing a caring and structured environment which will help you to realise your potential.

We provide excellent teaching, a good working environment and sound guidance on all aspects of post GCSE studies. The last two full OFSTED reports, in 2008 and 2012, have rated the achievement of students and quality of provision in our sixth form as being outstanding. In our last inspection, in October 2012, the following comments were made about our sixth form:

- The achievement of sixth form students is outstanding as a result of outstanding teaching.
- Sixth form students take an extremely positive role in creating the school's climate and ethos.
- The leadership and management of the sixth form are outstanding.

For existing students, the staff know you and you know them, but for new students you will find that you quickly feel a part of this Sixth Form.

Many of our students go onto higher education and we have a strong tradition of students entering Oxbridge. Whatever your goals, we will help you to achieve them.

The Sixth Form is the time when some of the most important decisions in your life are made and our aim is that you feel supported and confident in the choices you make.

Hannah Khan
November 2016

Key Contacts

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Choosing Courses

Entry requirements and programmes of study

Entry requirements are determined by subject – see page 6 for details. Admission is dependent upon having achieved a minimum of the following passes at GCSE:

- 3 grade B and 2 grade C including a grade 4 in at least one English GCSE.
- Or
- 1 grade A, 1 grade B and 3 grade C including a grade 4 in at least one English GCSE.

For the purposes of the above, for English and mathematics in 2017, the following grade equivalences are used:

Grade A – Grade 7

Grade B – Grade 5

Grade C – Grade 4

Students must also have the grade requirements for individual subjects which enable them to follow a programme of study (see below).

Programmes of study:

To study 4 subjects: We recommend that students with mainly A*, A and B grades at GCSE (grades 6 to 9 for English and mathematics) would be best suited to studying 4 subjects in Year 12. At the end of Year 12, most students will reduce their programme to 3 subjects for Year 13. Please see the table on page 6 for specific subject requirements.

To study 3 subjects: We recommend that students with mainly B and C grades at GCSE (grades 4 or 5 for English and mathematics) would be best suited to studying 3 subjects in Year 12. Please see the table on the next page for specific subject requirements.

A typical Year 12 timetable

With the current 50 period timetable over a fortnight, you will spend nine periods on each of your courses. Your A level studies will be supported by private study sessions. In addition to this, students have one hour of enrichment each week and an additional life skills session each fortnight..

Which courses can I choose?

There are many courses offered as described in this prospectus. The schedule is as follows:

- Students make their initial selection of subjects in January;
- The option blocks will then be created (see below). During this process, we endeavour to achieve the best 'fit' with students' choices. This is also the stage at which we make decisions about the numbers of groups for each subject and also whether some subjects will not be timetabled due to low numbers;
- All students will be interviewed in March;
- Students can change their options after this time in light of altering circumstances or unexpected exam results. These changes can only be incorporated within the option blocks which will, by this stage, have been finalised.

Option Blocks

The A levels subjects will be grouped into four option blocks. These blocks are created in order to allow as many students as possible to take the combination they request. If a particular student's requested combination cannot be accommodated, discussions will take place in order to try to identify an alternative combination which does fit into the option blocks.

What should I do next?

If you are considering taking A levels:

- decide which subjects you enjoy and in which you are achieving good grades;
- ask your teachers for their views about your suitability for different courses;
- look at your career options and check which subjects are needed;
- seek advice from Miss Khan, careers staff, your tutor, teachers, parents etc, but **make the decision yourself**;
- keep your options open, perhaps by applying to more than one establishment, e.g. school and a college.

What advice can you give on subject combinations?

All courses will entail hard work and require commitment.

You need to ask the question, "What am I going to do after my A levels?"

- The choice needs to be a positive one based on good research. You will be spending two years studying the subject so it is an important decision.
- Some university courses require specific subject combinations. For example, Engineering and Physics require Mathematics and Physics, medical subjects often require Chemistry. If you know what subjects you will be doing, it is a good idea to look at the websites of the universities that are of interest to you.
- There are some subjects such as Business Studies and Economics that may be seen as too closely related and therefore not demonstrating commitment to a broad range of study. You need to find out more about the courses and whether the combination is right for you.

New specifications are being introduced for all A level subjects over a 4 year period for first teaching from September 2015 to September 2018. In some cases the course outlines in this booklet are based on the draft specifications. However, in most cases, there few, if any, changes between the draft and final specifications such that the descriptions given are a fair reflection of the courses that will be offered.

What happens when I get my GCSE results?

If your grades are what you had hoped for and you have met the entry requirements for your chosen subjects, you will need to confirm with us that you wish to take up your place in the sixth form. If, however, you have not gained the results that you needed, you must come and talk to us on results day. If you are not sure, be on the safe side and talk to us.

GCSE requirements for individual courses

Subject	Requirement if studied at Year 11	Requirement if not studied at GCSE
Art: Fine Art or Graphic Design	B in Art or Graphic Art ⁽¹⁾	B in Design Technology
Biology	B in Biology and one other science or B in both Core and Additional Science. Grade 5 in Mathematics. ⁽²⁾	
Business	B in Business Studies	5 in at least one English GCSE AND Grade 4 in Mathematics
Chemistry	B in Chemistry and one other science or B in both Core and Additional Science. Grade 5 Mathematics. ⁽²⁾	
Drama	B in Drama ⁽¹⁾	5 in at least one English GCSE
Economics	NA	5 in at least one English GCSE AND Grade 5 in Mathematics
English Literature	6 in English Language AND Literature	
Film Studies	NA	5 in at least one English GCSE
French	B in French	
Geography	B in Geography ⁽¹⁾	5 in at least one English GCSE AND Grade 4 in Mathematics
History	B in History ⁽¹⁾	5 in at least one English GCSE
Japanese	B in Japanese	
Mandarin Chinese	B in Mandarin Chinese	
Mathematics	6 in Mathematics	
Mathematics (Further)	7 in Mathematics	
Mathematics (Core)	4 in Mathematics	
Music	B in Music	5 in at least one English GCSE together with proficiency on at least one instrument or voice to the equivalent of ABRSM Grade 5 or higher
Physical Education	B in Physical Education ⁽¹⁾	Entry requirements for Biology
Photography	NA	Submission of a portfolio
Physics	B in Physics and one other science or B in both Core and Additional Science. Grade 5 Mathematics. ⁽²⁾	
Product Design	B in Design Technology ⁽¹⁾	B in Fine or Graphic Art
Psychology	NA	5 in at least one English GCSE AND Grade 4 in Mathematics
Sociology	B in Sociology ⁽¹⁾	5 in at least one English GCSE
Spanish	B in Spanish	

- The requirements above apply to students in Year 11 in 2016/17 who will receive grades 9 to 1 in English and mathematics.
- GCSE and iGCSE are equivalent to each other.

- (1) If a student achieves a grade C but **has** met the entry requirements demanded of a student who has not studied the subject at GCSE, the department will consider the application based on the student's approach to the GCSE course.
- (2) If a student achieves grades A and C for Core Science and Additional Science (either way round), they may be accepted with consideration of work ethic, approach to the GCSE course and the breakdown of their specific modular marks.

Supporting your studies

All students are assigned to a tutor who sees you on a daily basis. Your tutor will monitor your welfare and progress and is likely to contribute to a reference when you leave the school. There is an emphasis on mentoring and monitoring through tracking sheets, formal reports and parents' evenings.

The change from teacher-directed learning to self-directed learning will be one of the main changes that you experience.

Private study is a crucial aspect of every student's routine. You will be expected to spend some of your free periods in the Sixth Form study library. This provides an ideal working environment and is resourced with computers, linked to the school network and internet. The main school library is also available for independent study.

Post 16 Bursary Funding Support 2017

1 Introduction

The 16-19 Bursary Fund is paid by the Education Funding Agency (EFA) to Schools and Colleges so that they may provide financial help to students whose access to or completion of education might be inhibited by financial considerations.

Each school is allocated a fixed sum of money for the 16-19 Bursary Fund. This varies from year to year.

This fund is designed to help support those young people who face the greatest barriers to continuing in education post 16. The fund has two elements: the Guaranteed Bursary for vulnerable young people and the Discretionary Bursary for young people facing financial barriers to participation. These funds can be used by the students to help pay towards the costs related to participation in full-time education, such as transport, educational visits, university open days, interviews, books and equipment.

2 Criteria and Eligibility

*5% of the total funding available will be held back for administration and 15% of the total funding will be held back for applications that are received after the initial deadline for applications (i.e. change of circumstances & new students). To be considered for the first round of bursary applications the initial deadline must be met. The amounts given below are for the 2016/17 academic year.

(A) Guaranteed Bursary: These students will receive £1200 for the year based on enrolling on a Full Time (EFA funded) course and meeting the Student "Commitment Condition" stated below.

Guaranteed Bursary students are:

- Young people in care
- Care Leavers
- Young people **personally** in receipt of income support
- Disabled young people in receipt of Employment Support Allowance who are also in receipt of Disability Living Allowance

Please note: Original sources of evidence will be required by the school.

(B) Discretionary Bursaries: The remaining sum* will be allocated as follows:

Eligible applicants are identified as falling under one of the three bands:

Band A – Students who have successfully claimed Free School Meals for the current academic year or whose Household income is less than £16,190.

Evidence could include: Original Local Authority letter/school transition data or P60, self-employment income statement, Universal Credit notice

Band B – Students whose home Household income is less than £20,817

Evidence could include: P60, self-employment income statement, Universal Credit notice

Band C - Students whose home Household income is less than £25,520

Evidence could include: P60, self-employment income statement, Universal Credit notice

Each band has a specific weighting multiple for a share of this fund as shown below:

Size of maximum payment depends upon the band, number of applicants and the total amount of funding available.

e.g.

Band	Weighting Multiple	No. of eligible students
A	3	a
B	2	b
C	1	c

3 Conditions of Funding

Students will be reviewed at the end of each month (re: their attendance, timekeeping and conduct) throughout the year. In order for the previous month's funds to be authorised, students must have **no unauthorised absences**.

Students who are eligible for this funding should be aware that the additional financial support they receive in the form of the grant must be used to help off-set costs directly linked to their education.

Additional support for transport:

Once applications have been submitted, students will be informed about the additional contribution that can be made to support transport and educational visits.

The allowance for transport will be based on a tiered system with two bands:

Band 1: students living less than 3 miles from the school who were entitled to/would have been entitled to free transport to and from KLB in Year 11.

Band 2: students living more than 3 miles away from school.

Distances will be calculated using AA Route Planner.

Additional support for educational visits:

The allowance for educational visits will be assessed after all applications are made and will depend on the trips linked to subjects studied.

Payments for transport and visits may be made straight a travel company, parent or the school's trip account as appropriate.

Free School Meals:

Students entitled to FSM will have an allocation of £3 available in the canteen each day.

Students will be required to inform the school of changes in their financial circumstances.

Higher Education and Careers Advice

You may have already given some thought to your future plans. It may seem like a long way ahead for many of you. At Katharine Lady Berkeley's School, help and advice is on hand throughout the Sixth Form. Your tutors, subject staff and the Sixth Form team are all available to offer guidance in addition to school's Higher Education Consultant and the Careers Adviser.

The Higher Education programme begins in earnest in the summer term of Year 12 when the whole of Year 12 attends a regional university convention. Most universities and colleges are represented here and provide information on the range of courses open to students.

In the summer term, we focus on the application process for Higher Education. This commences with the Higher Education evening for parents and students. Students are taken through the procedures in assemblies and tutorial activities. There are copies of all prospectuses in the Sixth Form study library and students are encouraged to access relevant web-sites.

For those seeking employment, we offer specialist support from the Sixth Form careers adviser and careers advice and recommend employment 'fairs' which detail opportunities. Assistance is given in the preparation of CVs and interview techniques.

Enrichment

All Year 12 students select an enrichment programme which they will follow for the year. Enrichment activities take place every fortnight and they provide an excellent opportunity for students to add breadth to what they have to offer a future employer and, in many cases, it will be rewarding for students to give something back to the community. Students can select from the following activities:

- First Aid Course
- Sports Leaders (Levels 2 and 3)
- Community service in a primary school
- Other community service e.g. working with charities
- Relevant work experience (e.g. veterinary practice)
- Sign Language
- PE
- Book club
- Community service in care homes
- Young Enterprise
- Help with younger students in lessons

Extra-curricular activities

All students are encouraged to pursue other interests outside of their studies. You all have an important role to play within the school and local community.

Listed below are some of the opportunities available to Sixth Form students:

- Prefects
- Paired reading with students in Years 7 and 8
- Supporting the Year 8 literacy programme
- Helping out at open evenings and parents' evenings
- Charities committee
- Sixth Form committee – an active group of students who meet weekly to discuss Sixth Form issues and organise events
- Drama and music productions
- Supporting Year 7 tutor groups
- Counselling younger students (Talk In Confidence)
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Work Experience

There are also regular trips and social events.

Katharine Lady Berkeley's School Sixth Form Contract

Successful education is based on a good partnership between students, parents or carers, and the school. All partners must recognise their responsibilities and seek to carry them out to the best of their abilities.

The responsibilities of students

I will:

- take responsibility for my own learning;
- attend regularly and punctually;
- abide by the school's rules and behaviour policy;
- complete work on time and to the best of my ability;
- work quietly and independently in private study areas respecting others' right to work;
- comply with the rules in relation to the computer network;
- treat the Common Room with respect;
- dress in accordance with the published dress code;
- show respect for the needs of all other students and staff, regardless of their race, gender, sexuality, religion or other personal circumstances.

I understand that if I do not keep to the terms of this contract I may be asked to leave the Sixth Form.

The responsibilities of parents and carers

I/We will:

- ensure that my/our son/daughter attends school punctually and complies with the dress code;
- avoid taking holidays during term time;
- support my/our son/daughter in their studies and other opportunities for learning;
- support the authority of the school in its expectations of hard work, good behaviour, respect for others and care of school equipment and premises;
- respond quickly to enquiries about my/our son's/daughter's education and welfare and make every effort to attend meetings and report evenings affecting his/her progress;
- make the school aware of any concerns or problems that might affect my/our son's/daughter's work or behaviour.

The responsibilities of the school

The school will:

- provide an ethos based on learning, achievement, aspiration and student responsibility;
- aim for the highest standards of work and behaviour through good teaching and pastoral care;
- report regularly on your son's/daughter's progress and keep you informed of any concerns;
- respond quickly to all enquiries about your son's/daughter's education and welfare;
- provide comprehensive and personalised careers advice;
- provide information and offer opportunities for you to know more about and be involved in the daily life of the school.

Teachers will:

- set, mark and monitor work;
- take account of the individual circumstances of students;
- be firm and fair in their dealings with students

Further Guidance on Expectations

- Prompt attendance is required to registration, all lessons and assemblies. See later guidance on the use of study periods.
- If you know that you will be absent from a lesson you should obtain permission from the Head of Sixth Form or Deputy Head of Sixth Form.
- Teachers will expect you to have caught up with work before the next lesson.
- Work will be set by staff, but you should also set yourself wider reading.
- Part-time work might be important for some sixth formers, but should be carefully limited in terms of hours.
- You will be expected to dress in a way that is suitable for the working day. This includes not wearing outfits that are too revealing.
- Mobile phones/headphones should not be used when walking around the school site.
- Please be aware at all times that you are a role model to younger students.

Dress Code

The aim of the dress code is to create a good image of the sixth form to the rest of the school and the community. Clothing to be worn in a smart manner.

Boys Dark blue/black/dark grey, plain or pinstripe suit
 Plain or striped shirt
 School sixth form tie (available from the school shop or Reception)
 Smart, dark shoes
 V-necked sweater – dark, plain
 Boys are not permitted to wear jewellery
 Hairstyles should be tidy and inconspicuous.

Girls Dark blue/black/brown/dark grey plain or pinstripe suit or coordinating jacket and skirt/trousers
 Worn with a smart shirt or top
 Footwear should be smart dark shoes, boots or sandals.
 Girls are allowed to wear one pair of earrings.
 Hairstyles should be tidy and inconspicuous.

Biology

Examinations Board: OCR A level specification
Head of Subject

H421
Miss V Allin

Course Outline

A Level Biology attracts those who are interested in the living world and how organisms function and survive. The OCR course emphasises the way in which scientists work and explores many real-world applications of biology – past, present and future. Students’ enthusiasm will be stimulated and independent learning, research skills and practical techniques will be promoted. Students will also develop the ability to think synoptically, bringing together information from different parts of the course in order to promote depth, as well as breadth, of knowledge.

As a science subject it will develop skills in information and data collection, analysis, evaluation and understanding. Science encourages reasoned, critical thinking, teamwork, as well as presentation and research skills; attributes highly prized by employers.

Course Content

Teaching Modules	Assessment
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Development of practical skills in biology Planning, implementing, analysis and evaluation.2. Foundations in biology Cells, membranes, organisation, biological molecules and enzymes.3. Exchange and transport Exchange surfaces, transport in animals and transport in plants.4. Biodiversity, evolution and disease Disease and the immune system, biodiversity, classification and evolution.5. Communication, homeostasis and energy Communication, homeostasis, excretion, hormones, the nervous system, plant and animal responses, photosynthesis and respiration.6. Genetics, evolution and ecosystems Cellular control, inheritance, genetic engineering, biotechnology, cloning, ecosystems and sustainability.	<p>Exam 1 – Biological processes 2 hour 15 minutes written paper 37% of total A level (100 marks)</p> <p>Exam 2 – Biological Diversity 2 hour 15 minutes written paper 37% of total A level (100 marks)</p> <p>Exam 3 – Unified Biology 1 hour 30 minutes written paper 26% of total A level (70 marks)</p> <p>Exams will assess content from a combination of modules 1-6.</p> <p>Practical Endorsement in Biology Non-exam assessment. Reported separately to grade.</p>

Trips

An integral part of the Year 13 course is fieldwork. The students are encouraged to attend a residential course during the summer term of Year 12 in order to develop understanding of ecology, biodiversity and conservation, ecological investigation techniques, statistical analysis and data interpretation skills.

Throughout the two years of A Level study students may also get the opportunity to go on day trips to venues such as the Roya College of Surgeons for lectures or visits.

Entry Requirements

Two 'B's from both core and additional science or a 'B' in Biology from separate science. A '5' in mathematics.

Career Possibilities

Biology can be used as an entry qualification for a variety of courses at higher education including medicine, radiography, genetics, forensics sciences and environmental science. During the A Level course students will have the opportunity to discuss post-16 options and meet with a variety of biological professionals in order to explore biological careers beyond the obvious.

Business

Examinations Board: AQA A level specification
Head of Subject

7132
Mr S Pegg

Course Outline

Business A level is designed to demonstrate the interrelated nature of business using business models, theories and techniques to support analysis of contemporary business issues and situations. Therefore students, in addition to studying more traditional topics such as marketing, finance, operations and HR, will investigate relevant current issues such as digital technology, supply chain management, business ethics and globalisation. Furthermore, the new specification introduced in September 2015 has been intentionally devised to be more academically rigorous than its predecessors.

Year 12

Students will investigate;

- What is business?
- Managers, leadership and decision making
- Decision making to improve marketing performance, operational performance, financial performance and human resource performance

Year 13

In addition to the above components, students will also investigate;

- Analysing the strategic position of a business
- Choosing strategic direction
- Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies
- Managing strategic change

Assessment

The A-level is assessed by three two hour written exams at the end of the course.

Paper 1: Multiple-choice questions, short answer and two essays.	33.33% of A Level
Paper 2: Three compulsory data response questions.	33.33% of A Level
Paper 3: One compulsory case study consisting of six questions.	33.33% of A Level

Entry Requirements

See table on page 6

Career Possibilities

Although an A level in business is not a necessary requirement for any route beyond A level, higher education or employment, an A level qualification in business clearly provides a good general introduction to the world of business which we all face daily and as such is relevant in a wide range of vocational areas. All businesses (and other organisations like charities and hospitals) need sound business skills behind them!

Chemistry

Examinations Board: OCR A Level specification
Head of Subject

H432
Dr M Ziegler

Chemistry is the science of the composition, structure, properties, and reactions of matter. In their study of A level chemistry students will

- develop a broad understanding of atoms and compounds, and study in detail the interactions of some chemical substances.
- apply their knowledge of chemical systems to a range of contexts.
- apply their mathematical knowledge from GCSE to a variety of contexts.
- carry out a range of practical techniques including chemical analysis and synthesis.

Course details

As with all chemistry courses students will study elements of Physical, Organic and Inorganic Chemistry and will undertake laboratory experiments to consolidate and apply their knowledge and understanding.

Students will undertake three examination papers. Question styles include multiple choice (15 marks, components 01 and 02 only), short answer question styles (structured questions, problem solving, calculations, practical) and extended response questions.

Component	Number of marks	% of total A level	Topics covered
Periodic table, elements and physical chemistry (01)	100	37	Development of practical skills in chemistry, Foundations in chemistry, Periodic table and energy, Physical chemistry and transition elements
Synthesis and analytical techniques (02)	100	37	Development of practical skills in chemistry, Foundations in chemistry, Core organic chemistry, Organic chemistry and analysis
Unified chemistry (03)	70	26	All
Practical endorsement in chemistry (04)*	Practical activities are embedded within the learning outcomes of the course to enhancing learners' understanding of chemical theory and practical skills. These skills are assessed during class time and reported separately to OCR.		

Entry Requirements

See table on page 6

Career Possibilities

Studying A level chemistry can lead to variety of careers. This includes a career in the chemical industry, chemical research, engineering, medicine, veterinary science, dentistry, food science, nursing and many more.

Drama and Theatre Studies

Examinations Board: Edexcel

**A level specification
Head of Subject**

**9DR0
Ms S Hind**

Course Outline

Year 12 Component 1: Exploration and performance

This unit is designed to provide students the opportunity to perform one extract of a text and a monologue or duologue. This will be performed to the teacher examiner and moderated through a film by the exam board. They will demonstrate their performance skills in a performance environment using additional lighting, set and sound equipment. A portfolio of evidence of 2000-2500 words is also written which documents their process and records how they came to create their extract on stage.

Year 12 Component 2: Theatre Makers in Practice

This is a written examination and students will be working on a text and a live performance over the year in preparation for writing the exam at the end of the year. Section A is a Live Theatre Evaluation involving pupils analysing something they have seen on stage. Section B is called 'Page to Stage' and involves students answering two questions on how they might interpret and realise an unseen extract of a studied text. Students answer as a performer and a designer.

Year 13 Component 1: Year 13 Component 1: Devising 40% internally assessed

This is a unit that allows pupils to create their own piece of drama using their imagination and creativity. They will devise an original performance using one extract from a text and one practitioner influence. In addition, they will write a portfolio of 2500-3000 words documenting their process for their rehearsals and devising. This will be performed to the teacher examiner and moderated through a film by the exam board. They will demonstrate their performance skills in a performance environment using additional lighting, set and sound equipment.

Year 13 Component 2: Exploration and performance 20% - Internally assessed

Similar to component 1 at Year 12, this unit is designed to provide students the opportunity to perform one extract of a text and a monologue or duologue. This will be performed to the teacher examiner and moderated through a film by the exam board. They will demonstrate their performance skills in a performance environment using additional lighting, set and sound equipment. They have the option of reworking and improving the scripted performances from Year 12, or working on a new text altogether.

Year 13 Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice 40% externally assessed

This is a written examination that builds on the skills learnt for the examination in Year 12. Section A is a Live Theatre Evaluation involving pupils analysing something they have seen on stage, this could be the same production seen for the examination in Year 12 or could be something different. They can revisit their notes and take these into the exam with them. Section B is again 'Page to Stage' and involves students answering two questions on how they might interpret and realise an unseen extract of a studied text. Students answer as a performer and a designer. They will revisit their notes made in Year 12 and continue to design for the script studied here.

The addition to the written exam in Year 13 is Section C titled 'Interpreting a Performance Text' which involves students studying another text and developing a concept for a performance of this text writing as a director understanding the contrasts of their performance to when it was originally performed. This section involves knowledge of theatre history, as well as understanding the social, historical and political influences on playwrights.

Entry Requirements

See table on page 6

Career Possibilities

Drama and Theatre Studies A level compliments a range of subjects and develops advanced skills in communication, presentation, creativity, analysis and teamwork; all of which are extremely useful for a range of careers and much sought after in the working environment.

Economics

Examinations Board: **AQA**

A level specification
Head of Subject

7136
Mr S Pegg

Course Outline

Economics has become increasingly high profile in recent years. Fears of a Euro meltdown and of the Brexit vote and its implications are just two topics rarely out of the news recently, throwing a light on the importance of, and divisions within, this subject area.

Economists are often in healthy debate with each other over these issues as well as topics such as poverty and globalisation. It is this controversy which makes economics lively and interesting and which allows students the opportunity to make their own judgements and form their own opinions and should help develop skills, qualities and attitudes, which will equip them for the challenges, opportunities and responsibilities of adult and working life.

Year 12

- The operations of markets and market failure (Microeconomics)
e.g. The economic problem, price determination, competitive and concentrated markets.
- The national economy in a global context (Macroeconomics)
e.g. How the macroeconomy works, measuring economic performance and macroeconomic policy

Microeconomics addresses issues at the individual, firm or market level such as "Why do house prices fluctuate?", and "Should government interfere with markets?"

Macroeconomics examines issues affecting the economy as a whole such as an analysis of EU & Euro membership, globalisation & unemployment.

Year 13

- Markets and market failure (Microeconomics)
e.g. Behavioural economics, the labour market, and the distribution of income, wealth: poverty and inequality
- National and international economy (Macroeconomics)
e.g. Financial markets, international trade and globalisation
- Economic principles and issues (Synoptic)

Assessment

The A-level has three, two hour written examinations:

Paper 1: Markets and market failure:	33.3 % of A Level
Paper 2: National and international economy:	33.3 % of A Level
Paper 3: Economic principles and issues:	33.3 % of A Level

Across the three papers students will be examined via multiple choice, short answer, more extended written answers including essays and case study related questions.

Entry Requirements See table on page 6

Career Possibilities

An A level in economics is not a necessary requirement for entry to a degree course in any subject, not even economics, but it is a highly relevant, versatile and well respected qualification for anyone wishing to pursue a wide range of courses in higher education or anyone considering 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 support in a career like insurance, accountancy, marketing, law, journalism or teaching. Some knowledge of economics is useful in all walks of life – you can't avoid it!

English Literature

Examinations Board: OCR

**A Level specification:
Head of Subject
KS5 Co-ordinator**

**H472
Mr J Jones
Ms J Champion**

Course Outline

Two externally assessed examinations and one coursework component:

Component 1: Drama and Poetry pre-1900 Examination.

There are two sections in this examination. The first section consists of a two-part question on Shakespeare: the first part is focused on an extract from a play and the second part is focused on wider knowledge of the play as a whole. In the second section, candidates apply a knowledge of one drama text and one poetry text to a general literary question.

Component 2: Comparative and Contextual Study Examination.

There are two sections in this examination. The first section consists of close reading (an unseen text) and the second is a comparative essay on set prose texts. The paper will be split into different topic areas such as American Literature, The Gothic, Dystopian Fiction, Women in Literature and the Immigrant Experience. There will be a choice for students from a list of core set texts and suggested set texts.

Component 3: Coursework.

Candidates are required to study three texts from across the genres of poetry, drama and prose. Task One offers a choice between a critical piece and a re-creative piece with a commentary. Task Two is a 'linked texts' essay focusing on connections and comparisons between two texts.

Entry Requirements

In addition to the general requirements for the Sixth Form, candidates need to have passes at Grade 6 or above in both English Language and English Literature.

Career Possibilities

Employers see A level English as a high status course since it develops both intellectual skills and personal qualities. These include clear expression, reason, imagination, cultural awareness, critical acumen, and a mature grasp of human predicaments, behaviour and moral values. It is particularly important for careers in writing, journalism and media, librarianship, and publishing; but it is also useful for a wide variety of other careers – anything, in fact, where the qualities outlined above are valued.

Film Studies

Examinations Board: OCR

**A Level specification:
Head of Subject**

**H410
Mrs K Elms**

Course Outline

From September 2017, we will offer the OCR Advanced GCE courses in Film Studies. As with other subjects, students will gain an Advanced qualification after two years. The course consists of three overarching units, with several components in each, and a range of theoretical and practical study. Examinations are taken in June of the second year. Units are as follows:

Content overview	Assessment Overview	
<p>Learners will develop knowledge of film form through the study of at least three US set films from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Silent Era • 1930–1960 • 1961–1990. <p>Learners will also study at least two set films from two major European film movements or stylistic developments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soviet montage • German expressionism • Italian neo-realism • French new wave. 	<p>Film History</p> <p>105 Marks</p> <p>2 hour paper</p>	<p>35% of total A Level</p>
<p>Learners will further develop knowledge and understanding of key critical approaches to film and of narrative, genre, representations and spectatorship. Learners must study at least one set film from each of the categories below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contemporary British • Contemporary US • Documentary • Non-European Non-English Language • English Language (Non-US) • US Independent 	<p>Critical Approaches to Film</p> <p>105 Marks</p> <p>2 hour paper</p>	<p>35% of total A Level</p>
<p>Learners must study one compilation of short British fiction films and one compilation of short British experimental films. Learners have the opportunity to demonstrate knowledge, understanding and skills through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the production of a 5 minute short film or a 10 minute screenplay for a short film (incorporating a digitally photographed storyboard) • an evaluative analysis of the production in relation to professionally produced set short films. 	<p>Making Short Film</p> <p>90 Marks</p> <p>Non-examined assessment (NEA)</p>	<p>30% of total A Level</p>

Entry Requirements

See table on page 6

Career Possibilities

Through the close analytical study of world cinema, Film Studies equips students with the following transferable skills: how to research, evaluate and organise information; independence and teamwork; self-motivation and discipline; creative and imaginative approaches to problem solving and perhaps, most importantly, cultural awareness of the human condition. Students typically go on to find work in the following areas: Film, Marketing, Media, Advertising, Arts Administration and any other field of work where the above skills are valued.

Art: Fine Art

Examinations Board: Eduqas

**A level specification
Head of Subject**

**A651QS
Mrs W Picken**

Course Outline

The A level portfolios explore the foundation skills which every artist and designer relies upon. The course establishes close links between drawing, painting, print making, sculpture, photography and mixed media work, and will inspire expressive responses to themes relating to a personal or social context.

The course begins with teacher led work which gradually develops into student directed independent work. In Year 13, the personal investigation enables students to direct their own path of work.

The course includes an optional residential study visit to a centre of cultural interest such as Manchester, Barcelona or Paris, which provides the opportunity to set class based work in a first-hand context. Visits to London galleries may also be offered. Where possible working artists and designers will be invited in to work with the students.

A Level Examination

Personal investigation	60% of the assessment
Eternally set assignment	40% of the assessment

15 hours examination time

Entry requirements

See table on page 6

Career Possibilities

An A level qualification is usually followed by a 1 year Art Foundation Course which then leads directly to a degree in an Art related subject. Students also have the option of applying directly to some degree courses.

An Art related qualification will open the doors to the ever expanding creative industries; a major growth area in Britain and abroad. Employment opportunities for creative students exist in Fine Art, Photography, Fashion, Illustration, Architecture Film and Television, Theatre, Museum Curator, Research, Interiors, Textile Design, Craft and the Applied Arts. British designers are highly respected in the international marketplace and many will find successful careers abroad.

Geography

Examinations board: Edexcel

A level specification
Head of subject

9GEO
Mr J W Myers

Students considering Geography as an option should be curious and have an interest in the human and physical world around them. The Edexcel syllabus provides students with the opportunity to develop an in-depth understanding of physical, human and environmental geography and to become critical, reflective and independent learners. Geographical skills and fieldwork are embedded throughout the course. Students will be required to participate in **four days of fieldwork** spread over the two years. Two of these days will be carried out during Year 12 and currently involve a visit to a **residential fieldwork centre** for which there is a cost.

Year 12

Content overview

Unit 1: Dynamic landscapes

Topic 1: Tectonic processes and hazards: Content includes investigating why some locations are more at risk from tectonic hazards, the reasons why some hazards develop into disasters and an evaluation of the strategies used in the management of tectonic hazards.

Topic 2: Coastal landscapes and change: This option will investigate how coastal landscapes vary from place to place and the processes that have led to these differences. The threats and extent of sea level change and erosion will be considered and an evaluation of how coastlines are being managed to meet the needs of all players will be assessed.

Unit 2: Dynamic places

Topic 3: Globalisation: Content includes investigating the causes of globalisation and why it has accelerated in recent decades. The impacts of globalisation on communities shall be explored and how different players respond to its challenges.

Topic 4: Shaping and regenerating places: This option explores why economies vary from places to place, why regeneration is needed in some locations and how this is managed, evaluating its likely success.

Year 13

Unit 3: Physical systems and sustainability

Topic 5: The water cycle and water insecurity: This topic explores factors that influence the hydrological system over both short- and long- term timescales, how water insecurity occurs and why this is such a global issue.

Topic 6: The Carbon cycle and Energy security: Content includes the carbon cycle and how it operates to maintain planetary health. The demand for energy and how it has caused significant changes to the carbon stores and how the carbon and water cycles are linked to the global climate system.

Unit 4: Human systems and geopolitics

Topic 7: Superpowers: Through this topic, students explore the global superpowers and how have they changed over time as well as the impacts of these superpowers on the global economy, political systems and the environment.

Topic 8: Global development and connections:

Either Option 8.1: Health, Human rights and intervention*: This option investigates issues linked to development and human rights. The impacts of both aid and military intervention are explored on communities.

Or Option 8.2: Migration, identity and sovereignty*: The impacts of globalisation on international migration are explored in this option. The role of nation states in a globalising world is investigated and the threats to national sovereignty evaluated in a more globalised world.

Unit 5: An Independent investigation

Each student will have the opportunity to carry out an independent investigation and incorporate a range of fieldwork techniques and data collection. This investigation is to be internally assessed and externally moderated. A written report will be produced of between 3000-4000 words and contributes towards 20% of the A' Level.

A Level examination:

Papers 1 and 2 will assess the above units of work and include short answer questions, resource linked questions and include more demanding extended writing questions. Each paper is 2 hours long and contributes towards 30% of the A' level.

Paper 3: The synoptic investigation will be based on a geographical issue within a place based context that draws on knowledge and understanding from the compulsory content across the course. This includes both short answer questions and those that require more extended writing. The paper is 1 hour and 45 minutes long and worth 20% of the A' Level.

* Note: Options will be decided by teaching staff during 2017.

Entry requirements

See table on page 6

Art: Graphic Communication (Graphic Art)

Examinations Board: Eduqas

**A level specification
Head of Subject**

**A654QS
Mrs W Picken**

Course Outline

The A level portfolios explore the foundation skills which every artist and designer relies upon. The course will be vocationally orientated and will explore creative responses within personal, commercial, social and environmental contexts. The work establishes close links between corporate design, packaging, illustration, printmaking and the use of photography and digital imaging.

The course begins with teacher led work which gradually develops into student directed independent work. In Year 13, the personal investigation enables students to direct their own path of work.

The course includes an optional residential study visit to a centre of cultural interest such as Manchester, Barcelona or Paris, which provides the opportunity to set class based work in a first-hand context. Visits to London galleries may also be offered. Where possible working artists and designers will be invited in to work with the students.

A Level Examination

Personal investigation	60% of the assessment
Eternally set assignment	40% of the assessment

15 hours examination time

Entry requirements

See table on page 6

Career Possibilities

An A level qualification is usually followed by a 1 year Art Foundation Course which then leads directly to a degree in an Art related subject. Students also have the option of applying directly to some degree courses.

An Art related qualification will open the doors to the ever expanding creative industries; a major growth area in Britain and abroad. Employment opportunities for creative students exist in Advertising, Illustration, Photography, Film and Television, Web Design, Computer Games and Animation, Corporate Design and Publicity, Architecture. Related opportunities exist in Product Design, Fashion, Interiors, Craft and the Applied Arts. British designers are highly respected in the international marketplace and many will find successful careers abroad.

History

Examinations Board: OCR

**A level specification
Head of Subject**

**H505
Mrs K Medcroft**

Course Outline

The Department offers a modular course which aims to stimulate interest in and promote the study of history. It also aims to:

- develop a coherent knowledge of the past – both within and across the topics chosen;
- develop and apply understanding of historical concepts – including explanation, evidence, interpretations and significance;
- develop the techniques of critical thinking in a historical context – and the skills necessary to analyse and solve historical problems;
- develop critical awareness of a range of historical dimensions – conditional and contingent, synchronic and diachronic;
- develop the ability to communicate historical arguments and conclusions clearly and succinctly with reference to appropriate historical terminology.

Course Structure

Modules taught in Year 12

British period study and enquiry:

1485 – 1558 The Early Tudors. Enquiry Topic: Mid Tudor Crises 1547 - 1558

Non-British period study:

1919 – 1963 Democracy and Dictatorship in Germany

Modules taught in Year 13

Thematic study and historical interpretations:

Civil Rights USA 1865 - 1992

Topic based essay (coursework), 3000 – 4000 word essay of students' choice but agreed by the exam board.

Examinations

British period study and enquiry, 1hr 30 mins paper – 25% of total A level

Non-British period study, 1hr paper – 15% of total A level

Thematic study and historical interpretations, 2hr 30 mins paper – 40% of total A level

Topic based essay (coursework) – non exam assessment – 20% of total A level

Entry Requirements

See table on page 6

Career Possibilities

A qualification in History at A Level is appreciated wherever the processing of information and the formation of judgements based upon it are required. Thus, students of History often find employment in managerial and administrative areas, including commerce and banking. Another common outlet is in the field of communications, especially journalism, politics, publishing or broadcasting. Career opportunities in which historical knowledge is directly used include museum and archive work, librarianship, some parts of the travel industry and, of course, teaching. In addition to this, the subject can be of considerable non-vocational value in the understanding of institutions and appreciation of literature and the environment.

Languages

French

Examinations Board: AQA A level specification 7652
Head of Subject Miss S Jones

Spanish

Examinations Board: AQA A level specification 7692
Head of Subject Miss S O'Sullivan

Mandarin Chinese

Examinations Board: Cambridge International Level 3 Pre-U Certificate
Head of Subject Mrs M Tate

Japanese

Examinations Board: Edexcel A level specification 9JA01
Head of Subject Mr D Thompson

French and Spanish

Course Outline

The syllabus builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills gained at GCSE, including a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinks, research and creativity. All topics are firmly embedded in the countries whose language you are studying. Successful students will attain a high level of proficiency in speaking and listening, in addition to reading and writing.

A Level is a 2 year linear course with all assessment at the end of Year 2.

AS is a stand-alone qualification at the same standard as the current AS.

Year 12

You will study :

- *One theme from Social Issues and Trends (eg: Family, Cyberspace, Voluntary work)*
- *One theme from Political/Intellectual and Artistic Culture (eg: Music, Regional Identity, Cultural Heritage, Festivals, Art)*
- *One book or film from a set list.*
- *Grammar*

Year 13

You will study :

- *A further theme from Social Issues and Trends (eg: Multiculturalism in Spain/France, Poverty, Criminality, Immigration, Racism)*
- *A further theme from Political/Intellectual and Artistic Culture (eg: Politics and Youth, The European Union, Monarchies)*
- *One book or film (this has to be a book if a film studied in Year 1) from a set list.*
- *Grammar*
- *Individual Research Project for speaking assessment.*

Examinations:

You will be assessed on all 4 skills. Writing, Reading and Listening in Final Papers. The speaking test, taken separately, will involve you talking about your Individual Research Project.

Japanese

Course Outline

The A level in Japanese will continue to consist of both AS and A2 examinations for those students starting Year 12 in 2017. It is one of a very few subjects nationally that is being redeveloped for first teaching only from 2018.

The AS course focuses on the Reading and Writing skills. A thorough knowledge of the GCSE course, especially kanji, is important, as the course builds on prior learning.

The topics covered in Year 12 are:

- Youth Culture and Concerns.
- Lifestyle: Health and Fitness.
- The World around Us.
- Education and Employment.

Students will be required to read about the topics in Japanese, write short essays and will be introduced to basic Japanese to English translation techniques. They will need to learn at least 200 kanji in addition to the 200 kanji from the GCSE course, as well as to expand their vocabulary to cover the above topics.

For the A level in Year 13, an extra 3 topics are added to the course. These are:

- Customs, Traditions, Beliefs and Religion.
- National and International Events.
- Literature and Arts.

A further 200 kanji will be learnt during Year 13, and students will develop skills in English to Japanese translation. Students will also study a region of Japan and a set text in depth, on which they will write an essay. The course enables students to study Japanese language and culture in a variety of contexts, both modern and historical.

Career Possibilities

Study of foreign languages helps improve your powers of expression and precision in the use of language as a whole. You also gain an understanding of other countries' culture and how to operate in a society quite different from that of the UK.

Languages are useful for a wide range of professions, as they are considered to be challenging subjects at A level. This is particularly the case with Japanese. Learning to use grammar develops your ability to apply logic to deal with other problems. Kanji-learning emphasises attention to detail and forces you to develop good techniques for learning and memorisation.

Many past students of A level Japanese at Katharine Lady Berkeley's School have taken the subject at university, or used it to facilitate their entry onto other courses, such as medicine, law, engineering, business or art.

Mandarin Chinese

Cambridge International Level 3 Pre-U Certificate

Course outline

"The course aims to bring the teaching and learning of Mandarin Chinese into close contact with the target language, culture and, above all, with authentic language. The development of Mandarin linguistic skills is complemented by the development of analytical study skills and essay-writing skills for the Chinese Culture component, thus resulting in a course which provides a very sound foundation for study at university level."

Students are examined in Spoken Chinese, Listening, Reading and Translation from Chinese into English, Writing and Usage, and Chinese Culture (Geography, History from 1911 to 1966, Film).

Topics covered at Pre-U level are:

- Family
- Young people
- Education
- Media
- The Environment
- Work and Leisure

A range of textbooks is used for this course as listed below. In addition, supplementary resources from other textbooks and the recent news are used.

- Easy Steps to Chinese books 7 & 8 (Chinese Made Easy)
- Edexcel Chinese for AS (Hodder)
- Edexcel Chinese for A2 (Hodder)
- China: From Empire to People's Republic 1900 - 1949 (Access to History – Michael Lynch)
- The People's Republic of China 1949 - 1976 (Access to History – Michael Lynch)

University Recognition

Universities were involved at every stage in the development of the Cambridge Pre-U qualification and have welcomed the clarity of the grading system which allows the most selective universities to distinguish between candidates who may have the same grade at A level. Universities around the UK accept Cambridge Pre-U as equivalent to A levels. The qualification is also accepted by a range of US universities, including all of those in the Ivy League. A parents' guide to the Cambridge Pre-U is available on the school website in the 'Language College' section under the 'Information' menu.

A level Equivalence

Pre-U grade	UCAS Points	A level Grade	A level points
Distinction 1	tbc		
Distinction 2	145	A*	140
Distinction 3	130	A	120
Merit 1	115		
Merit 2	101	B	100
Merit 3	87	C	80
Pass 1	73		
Pass 2	59	D	60
Pass 3	46	E	40

Career Possibilities

Languages are very useful in many careers, e.g. the diplomatic service, business and commerce, banking, marketing, catering, armed forces, law, education, secretarial and office work. The Chinese Pre-U course offered at KLB is useful for any students who wish to use language in their future careers.

Mathematics and Further Mathematics

Examination Board: To be confirmed

At the time of compiling this prospectus, the new 2017 specifications for A level mathematics have not been ratified by Ofqual. It is anticipated that we will use either the OCR or Edexcel specifications.

Course Outline

Whilst Mathematics used to be a modular course, as of September 2017 examinations will take place solely at the end of the course. All students will be assessed on their knowledge of Pure Mathematics, Mechanics and Statistics. Pure Mathematics is the largest part of the course and includes more familiar topics such as trigonometry and graphs, but also new concepts for example calculus and iterative methods. Mechanics is concerned with the motion of objects and what changes motion. In mathematics we use models to represent this motion and solve problems. While Statistics is an area of Mathematics mainly concerned with the analysis of data, identifying trends and forming hypothesis to criticise and/or support your ideas.

The assessment objectives include a greater emphasis on modelling, problem-solving and reasoning, so some questions are likely to be long with little scaffolding. This builds on the increase in problem-solving in GCSE so students will be better prepared. The examinations will be taken at the end of the course rather than in modules and it is expected that questions will link different aspects of the course.

Entry Requirement and Preparatory Work

Mathematics is challenging subject at A Level, requiring discipline and application from the outset. We advise any student intending to take up the course to engage with preparatory algebra and number work over the summer break, beginning with the Bridging Tasks that will be provided. The experience of many students shows that familiarity with these aspects of the Grade 8/9 GCSE content has a very significant impact on success in the AS mathematics course. It may be the case that students with good grades from GCSE sets other than 1 and 2 will have less experience in these areas and a willingness to invest in pre-course study is highly desirable in such circumstances.

All students on the course will complete a transition test in the first few weeks of the course; where the need is identified, students will be expected to take advantage of the additional support sessions after school on a Thursday. Should a student continue to show a low attainment by the end of Term 1, (mid-October), a formal conversation will take place in order to determine whether this or Core Mathematics programme would provide the best opportunity for success.

Career Possibilities

Mathematics combines well with most other subjects, being highly regarded by employers and higher education institutions. Statistics is particularly useful in combination with Economics, Business Studies, Medicine, Geography and Biology. Mechanics combines well with Physics, Engineering and Design Technology. The logical nature of the subject makes it ideal for a wide variety of careers.

Further Mathematics

Further Mathematics is a challenging course studying several of the topics in Mathematics A level, for example calculus and trigonometry, to a greater depth. In addition the pure mathematics includes new topics such as complex numbers, matrices, polar coordinates and hyperbolic functions. Half of the course is applied mathematics, including further mechanics and statistics as well as possibly some decision mathematics. At the time of writing the examination boards are yet to finalise the content.

Further mathematics is recommended for students who are interested in mathematics, physics or engineering courses at university. Due to the challenging nature of the course it has a higher entry requirement at GCSE than Mathematics.

Core Mathematics

Examinations Board: This will be determined with reference to the subject combinations of those applying for the course.

Examples of the course:

- **OCR Level 3 Certificate in Quantitative Reasoning (MEI) and Level 3 Certificate in Quantitative Problem Solving (MEI).**
- **AQA Level 3 Mathematical Studies**
- **Edexcel Level 3 Mathematics in Context**

Course Outline

Core Maths is a new course for those who want to develop their mathematics skills but are not planning to take A Level mathematics.

It is a two-year course leading to a Level 3 qualification – the same level as an AS qualification, with the same UCAS points tariff (40% of a full A level). Each of the main examination boards offers a variation on the course and the names of individual qualifications under the Core Maths umbrella are specific to the exam board – Core Maths is not a qualification title in itself.

It should be noted that whilst the number of teaching periods each fortnight will be less than that for an AS course, this is a two-year programme. It will not be possible to leave the course at the end of Year 12 with a partial qualification.

Core Maths has been designed to maintain and develop maths skills with wide applications and will include a financial maths element. It will also support other A-level subjects – in particular sciences, geography, business studies, psychology and economics.

The skills developed in the study of mathematics are increasingly important in the workplace and in higher education; studying Core Maths will help you keep up these essential skills.

The qualification is assessed by final examination.

Entry Requirements

You will need a grade 5 or above in mathematics at GCSE.

Why Core Maths?

The family of Core Maths qualifications are designed to consolidate and build on mathematical understanding and develop skills in the application of mathematics to authentic problems.

It will support students in the mathematical components of a wide range of A level courses, developing confidence and preparing them for the range of varied contexts that they are likely to encounter in additional vocational and academic study as well as in future employment.

Music

Examination Board **Eduqas** **A Level specification: 601/8146/1**
Head of Subject **Mr G Bull**

Course Outline

This is a highly practical course - 60% practical and 40% written/listening:

Year 12

Component 1 - Performing Music

Component 2 - Composing

Component 3 – Appraising (listening and writing)

Year 13

Component 1 - Performing Music (Recital) (35% or 25%)

Component 2 - Composing (2 pieces) (25% or 35%)

Component 3 – Appraising (listening and writing exam 2hr 15 mins) (40%)

Assessment

The individual parts are briefly expanded on below:

Year 12

Performing

Students perform at least 2 pieces on an instrument (or voice) of their choice, for between 6 and 8 minutes, towards the end of Year 12 in preparation for Year 13. Any style is suitable, but 1 piece must reflect one of the Areas of Study (Western Classical Music *or* Jazz). The standard level of difficulty is Grade 5 as specified by the current graded examination boards (Associated Board, Trinity Board, etc)

Composing

Students prepare and submit 2 compositions, one reflecting the musical language, techniques and conventions associated with the Western Classical Tradition, and a second piece to a brief set by the student.

Appraising

There are two areas of study:

The Development of the Symphony 1750-1830 (Mendelssohn Symphony 4 – Italian)

Analysis question on prepared symphonic repertoire plus aural perception and comparison questions on unprepared symphonic repertoire.

Jazz 1920-50 (Ragtime, Dixieland, Early Jazz, Big Band and Be-bop)

Aural perception questions on unprepared jazz repertoire and essay question on wider cultural context.

Year 13

A Level Performing

Candidates perform to a visiting external examiner:

- at least 2 pieces on an instrument (or voice) of their choice, 6 - 8 minutes (25%)
- at least 3 pieces on an instrument (or voice) of their choice, 10 -12 minutes (35%)

Again, any style is suitable, but pieces must reflect different Areas of Study (Western Classical Music, Pop/Rock, Music Theatre, Jazz, 20th/21st century music). The standard level of difficulty for A Level is Grade 6 as specified by the current graded examination boards (Associated Board, Trinity Board, etc)

A Level Composing

3 compositions (one to a set brief, two as free compositions) 8 - 10 minutes (35%)

2 compositions (one to a set brief, one as a free composition) 4 - 6 minutes (25%)

In both options the first, set, brief will reflect musical language, techniques and conventions associated with the Western Classical Tradition, while free compositions will reflect another Area of Study (Pop/Rock, Music Theatre, Jazz, 20th/21st century music)

A Level Appraising

Candidates sit a 2hr 15 mins paper based on prepared and unprepared musical extracts from three Areas of Study (A + B/C/D + E/F):

Area of Study A: (compulsory) *The Development of the Symphony 1750-1900*
examined on analysis and wider context of 2 set works - Haydn Symphony 104 (London), and Mendelssohn Symphony 4 (Italian)

Area of Study B: *Rock & Pop*

Area of Study C: *Music Theatre*

Area of Study D: *Jazz*

Area of Study E: *Into the 20th century*

Area of Study F: *Into the 21st century*

Questions include:

1. Set work analysis with a score
2. Extended responses on wider context
3. Unprepared extracts of music with and without a score
4. Comparison questions

Entry Requirements

GCSE Music at grade B or above. Students whose GCSE options did not include Music may be considered based on other instrumental and academic ability – please see page 6 for details.

Career Possibilities

The skills required for A Level Music are many and diverse: development of concentration, memory and speed of thought; practical and creative skills; understanding and use of physics and Mathematics; analytical skills; awareness of social history and the ability to develop arguments and justify individual views through essay writing. It is therefore an ideal complement to other A Level subjects, whether Languages, Humanities, Sciences or Craft subjects, and can be seen as ideal training for a wide variety of careers outside music.

As a subject, Music is prized by Higher Education establishments. There are plenty of career possibilities in Broadcasting, Recording, Publishing, Teaching (classroom and instrumental), Performing, Composing (including for TV/Film), Therapy, Instrument Making and Repair. The social benefits of advanced academic and practical musicianship cannot be underestimated. Involvement in music-making is also good for your health...

Art: Photography - Lens and Light based Media

Examination Board: Eduqas

**A level specification
Head of Subject**

**A656QS
Mr R Hall**

Course Outline

The A level portfolios explore the foundation skills which every artist and photographer relies on. The course will be vocationally orientated and will explore creative responses within personal, commercial, social and environmental context. The work combines photographic technical knowledge and creative flair.

The course begins with teacher led work which gradually develops into student directed independent work. In Year 13, the personal investigation enables students to direct their own path of work.

The course includes an optional residential study visit to a centre of cultural interest such as Edinburgh, Barcelona or Paris, which provides the opportunity to set class based work in a first-hand context. Visits to London galleries may also be offered.

A Level Examination

Personal investigation	60% of the assessment
Eternally set assignment	40% of the assessment

15 hours examination time

Entry Requirements

See table on page 6

Career Possibilities

An A level qualification could be followed by a 1 year Foundation Art course which leads directly to a degree in a related photographic/film making field. Some students also have the option of applying directly to some degree courses which can be linked to journalism, television, film making and advertising.

A photographic related qualification will open the doors to the ever expanding creative industries; Commercial, News/Journalistic, Fine Art, Freelance, Advertising, Portrait and Fashion. Other related areas include Animation and Film Making. The British creative industry is highly respected in the international marketplace and many will find successful careers abroad.

Physical Education

Examinations Board: OCR

**A level specification
Head of Subject**

**H555
Mr R Daniel**

Course Outline

The Physical Education specification takes a multidisciplinary approach, encouraging the development of different methods of enquiry drawn from a wide range of disciplines. The focal point is on the performer and the performance. The specifications are based on the interaction between the theory and practice of Sport and Physical Education.

Year 12

Candidates study the following:

- applied anatomy and physiology
- skill acquisition
- history of sport
- sports psychology
- biomechanics

Year 13

- exercise physiology
- sports psychology
- sport in society
- contemporary issues in physical activity and sport
- biomechanics

Practical

Performance or coaching
Evaluation and analysis of performance for improvement

Units of Assessment

Examination	2 papers	70%
Coursework		30%
	Evaluation and Planning	
	Practical Performance	

Entry Requirements

See table on page 6

Career Possibilities

A Physical Education A Level provides an excellent prerequisite to many courses in further education and numerous career opportunities. Sports Science, sports law, leisure recreation management, sports journalism, physiotherapy and sports psychology are just a few careers which can be studied after A Level Physical Education.

Physics

Examination board: OCR

**A Level specification
Head of Subject**

**H557
Mr P Cullwick**

Course outline

Students study physics within a context-based approach on the Advancing Physics course, which was originally developed by the Institute of Physics. The course develops students' understanding of fundamental physical concepts and how to apply these to everyday and technological settings.

The Advancing Physics course is split into six modules: Modules 1 and 2 are skill based modules taught throughout the A level qualification in conjunction with the other, content based, modules. Modules 3 and 4 will be taught during Year 12. Students completing the A Level course will complete the remaining modules in Year 13 and will also be assessed against the requirements of the practical endorsement. The modules can be summarised as:

Module 1: Development of practical skills

Module 2: Fundamental data analysis

Module 3: Physics in action – Communications and designer materials

Module 4: Understanding processes – Waves and quantum behaviour, space, time and motion

Module 5: Rise and fall of the clockwork universe – Models and rules, matter in extremes

Module 6: Field and particle physics – Electric and magnetic fields, fundamental particles of matter

Assessment

Assessment for the A level course is by three exam papers which assess the content and skills from modules 1-6:

- Fundamentals of physics (41%)
- Scientific literacy in physics (37%)
- Practical skills in physics (22%)

Practical endorsement for physics – candidates complete a minimum of 12 practical activities to demonstrate practical competence. Performance is not assessed by exam, but by teacher assessment throughout the course on a pass/fail basis.

Entry Requirements

See table on page 6.

Due to the level mathematical content there is a requirement of a minimum grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics. It is also recommended (but not required) that students have attained a minimum grade 5 in GCSE English.

Career Possibilities

A pass at A level provides access to many careers in the major science based professions such as Engineering, Meteorology, Medical Physics and Material Science as well as to many other non-science based professions.

Product Design

Examinations Board: EDEXCEL **A level specification**
Head of Subject

9RM01/9GR01
Mr P Hanney

Course Outline

The course for both Resistant Materials and Graphic Products is made up of two components, Principles of Design and Technology and an Independent Design and make project.

A level Product Design aims to:

Provide an opportunity for students to develop their own creativity, capability and entrepreneurial skills. They will also learn how to apply knowledge and understanding to a range of technological activities and to develop critical thinking and collaborative skills.

Component 1: 50% of A level

Principles of Design and Technology examination

Component 2: 50% of A level

Independent Design and Make project. Students have to design and make a final product based on a problem that has been identified.

Entry Requirements

See table on page 6

Career Possibilities

The Design Technology A level course is the application of Design, Science and Technology to meet the needs of manufacturing industry today. It is a suggested course for students wishing to study a wide range of careers including foundation course at Art College, Architecture, Building, Engineering, Graphics, Product Design, Industrial Design, Manufacturing as well as providing students with an understanding and appreciation of their environment and how to respect and improve it.

Psychology

Examinations Board: OCR

A level specification
Head of Subject

H567
Mr J Sturt

Course Outline

Psychology is the scientific study of mind and behaviour. Therefore students of psychology will:

- Gain hands on experience of a range of different research methods encouraging active learning. This is the part of the course where the scientific method is most prominent.
- Appreciate how psychological knowledge and understanding develops over time.
- Explore applications of psychology and gain an insight into how psychological theory can be applied to real world situations.

Year 12

Students will be looking at the four main techniques for collecting/analysing data as well as carrying out their own practical activities. Psychological approaches, perspectives, issues and debates will be taught through twenty classic and contemporary studies.

Year 13

Students will be looking at the four main techniques for collecting/analysing data as well as carrying out their own practical activities. As well as revisiting studies from Year 12, and practising more advanced statistical techniques there are three additional components; issues in mental health, criminal psychology and environmental psychology.

Assessment

Component 1:	Research methods	1 x 2hr paper	30% of A Level
Component 2:	Psychological themes in core studies	1 x 2hr paper	35% of A Level
Component 3:	Applied psychology	1 x 2hr paper	35% of A Level

Entry Requirements

See table on page 6

Career Possibilities

Studying psychology at A Level could lead to careers including forensics, education, counselling, the prison service, the health sector, sport and exercise, advising businesses, teaching, further research and many more.

Sociology

Examinations Board: OCR

**A level specification
Head of Subject**

**H580
Mr L Poole**

Course Outline

Are you interested in people? Would you like to understand why people behave the way that they do? If the answer is yes, you should study sociology. Sociologists are keen to study topics such as: crime and deviance; 'the family' and; the media. Sociologists attempt to provide answers to key questions in society such as: Why do people commit crime?; Is the family in decline in the contemporary UK?; Are individuals and groups treated fairly in society?; Why do certain groups underachieve in education?

Sociology is defined as the study of individuals and groups in society. Sociologists conduct research to gather evidence and answer important questions. Sociology is a very popular option at A Level and this exciting course allows students to debate and question the society we live in. Students are reminded that it is not essential to have studied the subject at GCSE to be accepted on the course. Sociology allows students to apply their experiences to sociological theory and ideas.

Assessment

H580/01: Socialisation, Culture and Identity	30%
- An Introduction To The 'Individual and Society'	
- 'The Family'	
- 'The Media'	
H580/02: Researching and Understanding Social Inequalities	35%
- Research Methods	
- Understanding Inequalities – class and gender	
H580/03: Debates In Contemporary Society	35%
- Globalisation and The Digital Social World	
- Crime and Deviance	

Please note that a Crown Court visit will be arranged for all Year 12 students in the Summer Term. Parents/carers are asked for a small contribution to cover the transport of the students to the Crown Court

Entry Requirements

See table on page 6

Career Possibilities

A sociology student will have the skills needed for many jobs. Sociology allows learners to assess arguments and understand what makes people tick. Therefore, popular careers involve the police, teaching, law, social work, media, politics and health.

2016 GCE A Level Examination Results

GCE A Level examination results achieved by students completing their sixth form courses.
Number of students in Year 13: 146

The 2016 A2 results for each subject are as follows:

Subject	Total	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U
Art (Fine)	16	4	2	5	5	0	0	0
Biology	24	6	3	3	6	4	1	1
Business Studies	12	0	2	4	3	3	0	0
Chemistry	14	1	4	4	3	0	1	1
Chinese	4	1	2	1	0	0	0	0
Drama	9	0	2	3	3	1	0	0
Economics	23	2	7	7	5	2	0	0
English	35	6	3	12	10	4	0	0
French	10	0	3	3	3	1	0	0
Film Studies	11	0	4	5	2	0	0	0
Food Technology	5	0	0	4	1	0	0	0
Geography	26	0	5	9	7	4	1	0
German	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Graphic Art	9	1	3	4	1	0	0	0
History	34	0	4	17	10	2	1	0
Japanese	4	0	0	2	2	0	0	0
Mathematics	45	6	13	8	8	8	1	1
Further Mathematics	9	1	4	1	2	1	0	0
Music	5	0	1	2	0	0	1	1
Physical Education	11	1	2	3	3	1	1	0
Physics	24	2	3	5	6	3	3	2
Philosophy	5	0	0	1	4	0	0	0
Photography	10	1	3	4	2	0	0	0
Product Design	4	0	0	1	2	0	1	0
Psychology	33	0	5	13	10	2	3	0
Sociology	32	2	15	9	4	1	1	0
Spanish	7	0	2	2	1	2	0	0

Overall results at the end of Year 13

The overall key statistics for A level results in Summer 2016 and the previous 4 years are as follows:

	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
% entries resulting in grades A*/A	30%	40%	36%	32%	34%
% entries resulting in grades A*/A/B	61%	69%	66%	65%	66%
% entries resulting in grades A* to C	86%	87%	88%	84%	87%
% entries resulting in grades A*-E	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%
average points per entry	219.1	225.9	228.9	227.3	225.4

Destinations of students leaving Year 13 in 2016

Surname	Forename	University/College	Course
Acton	Jamie	University of Manchester	Chinese and Japanese
Adams	Theo	Stroud College	Art Foundation
Allen-Wilkins	Joel	Aberystwyth University	Film, Television, Drama and Theatre
Ames	Finlay	Gap year	
Aquino	Reginald	University of the West of England	Interior Architecture
Ashley	James	University of Manchester	Biochemistry & Industrial Experience
Barnes	Sam	Falmouth University	Architecture
Barnes	Sophie	University of Plymouth	Graphic Communication with Typography
Barnes	Jessie	Gap Year	
Barnett	Ben	University of Birmingham	Geography
Barton	Alice	University of Manchester	Midwifery
Bates	Ryan	University of Portsmouth	Engineering Geology and Geotechnics
Baxendine	Grace	University of Birmingham	Modern Languages (4 years)
Beales	Ella	University of Sussex	English and History
Beckett	Jack	University of Salford	Psychology and Criminology
Belton	Maisie	Hartpury College	Animal Behaviour and Welfare
Bennett	James	University of Reading	Architecture
Blacker	Rosanna	University of Gloucestershire	Physical Education
Bowyer	Niamh	University of Worcester	Law
Bradridge	William	University of Northampton	Mechanical Engineering
Burt	Georgina	University of the West of England	Politics and International Relations
Butcher	Sophie	Hartpury College	Animal Science and Management
Butcher	Rhion	University of Winchester	Politics and Global Studies
Butter	Sam	University of Bath	Mechanical Engineering
Caddick	Cameron	University of Worcester	Sports Studies
Carolan	Georgina	Employed	
Carter	Rachel	University of the West of England	Business and Management
Chalmers	Beccy	Employed	KLB PESSA during gap year
Chappell-Coleman	Samuel	Employed	
Childs	Lauren	Falmouth University	Film
Clare-Hudson	Jessie	Gap Year	
Cocking	Ella	University of Nottingham	Business & Economy Contemporary China
Colston	Christopher	Oxford Brookes University	Business and Management
Denning	Lucy	University of Worcester	Sports Studies
Driver	Amy	University of York	English
Edmonds	Hannah	University of Nottingham	Hispanic Studies
Edmondson	Bethany	Cardiff University	Psychology
Eley	Martha	Bournemouth Art University	Art Foundation
Farr	Adam	Gap Year	
Farrell	George	University of Leicester	International Relations
Fletcher	Emily	University of Exeter	Modern Languages (4 years)
Ford	Madison	Bath College	Art Foundation
Fox	Pia	University of Worcester	Business and HR Management
Franklin	Alice	University of Warwick	Mathematics
Freer	Thomas	Cardiff University	Biochemistry
Furnival	Thomas	University of Plymouth	Mechanical Engineering
Fussell	Amelia	University of Sussex	American Studies and History
Gilder	Jonny	Buckinghamshire New University	Football Business and Marketing
Gillman	Dorothy	University of Manchester	Japanese Studies

Surname	Forename	University/College	Course
Glover	Matthew	University of Warwick	Automotive Engineering
Green	Caitlin	University of Manchester	Physics with Astrophysics
Gregory	Ben	Gap Year	
Gurmin	Molly	University of Nottingham	Modern European Studies
Harris	Alex	Gap Year	
Harrod	Eleanor	Bath College	Art Foundation
Henshaw	Emily	Bath College	Art Foundation
Honeyborne	Katharine	Cardiff University	Geography (Human)
Hulbert	Hannah	Oxford Brookes University	Sociology
Ind	Courtney	Stroud	Art Foundation
Isaac	Lucy	Gap Year	
Jenner	Katie	Birmingham Conservatoire	Music - specialism clarinet
Jones	Whitney	University of Plymouth	Psychology
Jones	Alex	Gap Year	
Jungelson	Andrew	University of Gloucestershire	History
Kinnison-Cook	Meghan	Falmouth University	Illustration
Kosteletos	Andreas	University of Birmingham	Biomedical Science
Lang	Catherine	University of Exeter	Mathematics
Langridge	Florence	University of Plymouth	Biological Sciences
Latimer	Daniel	Loughborough University	Chemical Engineering
Lawrence	Ross	Oxford University	French and Linguistics
Lewis	Angharad	Oxford Brookes University	English Literature
Lewis	Chloe	Bath Spa University	Psychology
Lloyd	Ellie	Bath College	Art Foundation
Lumsden	Molly	Employed	
Lynton-Jenkins	Millie	Falmouth University	Film
Mackay	Lily	University of Southampton	Spanish and Latin American Studies
Maitre	Nicholas	Gap year	
Malecki	Dan	University of Plymouth	Computing with Foundation Year
Mansfield	Emily	Durham University	Law
Marrow	Tommy	University of Portsmouth	Business and Management
Martin	Benjamin	Cardiff University	Mechanical Engineering (Year in Industry)
McAleese	Tom	University of Portsmouth	Marine Biology
McGettigan	Hannah	Employed	
Milan	Perry	Falmouth University	Film
Miller	Nicholas	University of Portsmouth	Mechanical Engineering
Minter	Theo	Norwich University of the Arts	Film and Moving Image Production
Mockford	Joe	Gap year	Music Production (2017)
Moncrieff	Edward	University of Portsmouth	Geography
Moore	Joseph	University of Plymouth	Management, Government and Law
Morgan	Hannah	Bath College	Art Foundation
Morse	Rachel	University of Surrey	Chemical Engineering.
Moss	Chloe	Gap Year	
Musty	Georgia	University of Southampton	Psychology
Newman	Ben	Loughborough University	Electronic and Electrical Engineering
Nicholls	Ellen	University of Plymouth	Business
Noone	Peter	Leeds Beckett University	Marketing
Noviss	William	Bath College	Art Foundation
O'Leary	Madelaine	University of Birmingham	History and Russian Studies (4 years)
O'Sullivan	Milly	Imperial College, London	Chemistry with a Year in Industry
Pederick	Elise	Bath College	Art Foundation

Surname	Forename	University/College	Course
Pepler	Alexander	Gap Year	
Phillips	Steph	Oxford Brookes University	Sociology
Piper Whitehouse	Samuel	University of Gloucestershire	Journalism
Pritchard	Henry	University of Portsmouth	Economics, Finance and Banking
Quinnell	Jake	Royal Holloway, London	Geology
Rashley	Sophie	University of Birmingham	English
Rawlings	Elizabeth	Cardiff University	Neuroscience
Rich	Howard	Oxford University	Medicine
Robin-Mays	Maxim	Bath College	Art Foundation
Sadler	Callum	University of Exeter	Business
Sanders	Clara	University of York	Artist Development
Scott	Sarah	Leeds University	Sociology
Shine	Dane	Creative Arts University, Farnham	Fashion Journalism
Skelton	Sam	Apprenticeship	
Slater	Sean	Bath College	Art Foundation
Smith	Brandon	University of Worcester	Business Management (Placement Year)
Smith	Millie	Oxford Brookes University	English Literature/Drama
Spill	Georgia	Employed	
Spokes	Josh	University of Nottingham	Physics (4 years)
Spreadborough	Melissa	Royal Holloway, London	Liberal Arts with an International Year
Sprosen	Lara	University of Birmingham	Drama and Theatre Arts
Stacey	Elizabeth	Keele University	English and History
Stephens	Kimberly	Gap Year	
Thomas	Megan	Gap Year	
Tomlinson	James	University of Plymouth	Mechanical Engineering
Tovey	Lauren	University of Reading	Entrepreneurship and Management
Turk	Rosanna	Bath College	Art Foundation
Megan	Thomas	University of Portsmouth	Quantity Surveying
Valentine	Ed	Lancaster University	History
Veldkamp	Lydia	Gap Year	
Venter	Elee	Bath College	Art Foundation
Wade	Amy	University of Sheffield	Politics and Sociology
Webb	Dominic	Swansea University	Geography
Wells	Reuben	Royal Navy	
Werrett	Natalie	University of Law	Law
Weston	Eleanor	University of Exeter	Art History and Visual Culture and Drama
Wheeler	Chelsea	Oxford Brookes University	Business Management/Japanese Studies
White	Marcus	Gap Year	
Whiting	Emma	University of Plymouth	Geography
Woodland	Christopher	University of Sheffield	Archaeology and History