

A' Level English Literature

Why study English Literature?

If you enjoy reading and exploring writers' ideas and techniques, then this is the course for you. English Literature introduces you to great writers who open your mind to new ideas and ways of thinking. It gives you the chance to explore feelings, themes and context through the study of a wide range of literary texts: poems, plays and novels.

What skills will I gain?

English Literature develops your

- reading and writing skills.
- critical faculty.
- ability to express your ideas and opinions creatively and logically.
- ability to work in groups and independently.
- research skills.
- ability to analyse and synthesise ideas and information.
- knowledge and appreciation of your own language and culture.

What will I study?

Component 1: Drama

In this unit, you will study a Shakespeare play and a modern drama with the focus on either tragedy or comedy. Texts may include Shakespeare's 'Othello' and Tennessee Williams' 'A Streetcar Named Desire'.

Component 2: Prose

The texts you will read in this part of the course will share a theme, for example, 'Women and Society'. At least one text will be written before 1900.

Component 3: Poetry

Students are required to study two selections of poetry; one specified post-2000 poetry text and either one specified selection of poems from one pre- or post-1900 text. This will be either a single named poet or a literary movement.

Non-examination Assessment:

For this part of the course students will submit one extended comparative essay comparing two texts. Essays will explore the links and connections between their texts, different interpretations and the contexts in which they were written and received.

How will I be assessed?

Yr13
Drama – one exam: 2hr 15
Prose – one exam: 1hr 15
Poetry – one exam 2hr 15
Non-examination Assessment – one comparative essay of 2,500 – 3,000 words.

What goes well with English literature?

Everything! As one of the facilitating subjects, English Literature develops a whole range of skills and personal qualities, all of which are in great demand and highly valued on most degree courses and in most workplaces.

Prerequisites

You need Grade 5 or above in GCSE English Language and/or English Literature

Film Studies

Overview:

Film is one of the main cultural innovations of the 20th century and a major art form of the last hundred years. Those who study it characteristically bring with them a high degree of enthusiasm and excitement for what is a powerful and culturally significant medium, inspiring a range of responses from the emotional to the reflective. Film Studies consequently makes an important contribution to the curriculum, offering the opportunity to investigate how film works both as a medium of representation and as an aesthetic medium.

What will I study?

The WJEC Eduqas specification is designed to introduce A level learners to a wide variety of films in order to broaden their knowledge and understanding of film and the range of responses films can generate. This specification therefore offers opportunities to study mainstream American films from the past and the present as well as a range of recent and contemporary British films, American independent films and global films, both non-English language and English language. The historical range of film represented in those films is extended by the study of silent film and significant film movements so that learners can gain a sense of the development of film from its early years to its still emerging digital future. Studies in documentary, experimental and short films add to the breadth of the learning experience.

Practical Work:

Production work is a crucial part of this specification and is integral to learners' study of film. Studying a diverse range of films from several different contexts is designed to give learners the opportunity to apply their knowledge and understanding of how films are constructed to their own filmmaking and screenwriting. This is intended to enable learners to create high quality film and screenplay work as well as provide an informed filmmaker's perspective on their own study of film.

Aims:

The WJEC Eduqas A level in Film Studies aims to enable learners to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

- a diverse range of film, including documentary, film from the silent era, experimental film and short film
- the significance of film and film practice in national, global and historical contexts
- film and its key contexts (including social, cultural, political, historical and technological contexts)
- how films generate meanings and responses
- film as an aesthetic medium
- the different ways in which spectators respond to film.

It also aims to enable learners to apply critical approaches to film and apply knowledge.

The specification is additionally designed to reflect the diversity of film culture through both filmmakers and the films they make. The wide choice of films offered includes films by women directors and films which represent particular ethnic and cultural experiences. Over sixty films are offered from which eleven feature-length films will be chosen. In addition, a compilation of short films will be studied.

WJEC's Eduqas A level specification consequently provides a framework for the systematic study of a broad range of film as well as providing opportunities for creative work, an integral part of film study. Most of all, it offers the opportunity to explore a range of important ideas and emotions, reflect on art and technology and connect theory and creative practice in ways which are designed to provide an absorbing and motivating educational experience.

What goes well with this subject?

This fits particularly well with English, art, sociology, design technology, business, travel and tourism. However, its broad skills base makes it an ideal accompaniment to any subject.

Where can it lead?

It is an ideal base for degree courses in film, literature, publishing, journalism, website design, radio and television production, event management, advertising, marketing and film studies.

Pre-requisites

Grade 5 or above in GCSE English Language and/or Literature, and an interest in Film.

AS/A2 Mathematics

Why study Mathematics?

Mathematics is the study of the underlying principles behind the practical sciences. Without the existence of mathematical principles both science and engineering would remain purely experimental. Mathematics provides a window onto the physical world and underpins a wide range of subjects.

What skills will I gain from studying Mathematics?

Studying Mathematics will equip you with a wide range of skills including:

- Algebraic manipulation
- Trigonometry
- Calculus
- Properties of graphs
- Solving complex problems
- The study of statistics
- The use of mathematical models to investigate real life problems in mechanics.

What will I study?

Pure Mathematics, Mechanics and Statistics.

How will I be assessed?

AS Mathematics **Pure Mathematics (2 hours)** and **Mechanics and Statistics (1 hour 15 minutes)** make up the AS exam. All exams will be sat in the June of Year 12.

This is an optional exam and will not be taken by all students.

A Level Mathematics **Pure Mathematics Paper 1 (2 hours), Pure Mathematics Paper 2 (2 hours)** and **Mechanics and Statistics (2 hours)** make up the A level Mathematics course. All exams will be sat in the June of Year 13.

If pupils complete the AS exams these marks will not go towards their A-level Maths exam.

What goes well with Mathematics?

Popular subject combinations include further mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology and business studies, although we have many students who also do art or photography.

Where can Mathematics lead?

Mathematics forms the basis of many other disciplines and allows students to pursue many career options, including mechanical engineering, electrical/electronic engineering, civil engineering, physics and chemistry.

Increasingly mathematics is recognised as giving pupils the analytical skills required for success in a wide range of areas; these include law, media and film, ICT and music technology.

Prerequisites

Five or more Grade 6 or above GCSE passes including at least a Grade 7 in mathematics.

Calculators

Students doing A level Mathematics will need a calculator that has the ability to compute summary statistics and access probabilities from standard statistical distributions. We recommend students use the Casio fx-CG50 graphical calculator in order to support them with their course.

GCSE Mathematics

You may need to improve on the GCSE grade that you obtained at the end of Year 11. We offer a one year course in maths to help you turn your grade 3 into a grade 4 or higher. However, you must be prepared to work very hard in order to achieve a grade 4 or better at the end of Year 12.

AS/A2 Biology

Why study Biology?

Biology is the study of all living things. Studying biology at A Level provides not only an understanding of how your own body works but also explores the way humans interact with the rest of the natural world - for good or ill. It is full of fascination, from the chemical reactions that occur in every cell through the intricate workings of the brain and nervous system to the amazing way our heart pumps blood and our muscles contract. It will explain how the incredible structure of DNA allows it to control our whole development and how the great natural cycles of the earth have maintained equilibrium for so long.

What skills will I learn?

This course will require you to carry out practical work to find out the answers to various problems. You will need to analyse the data to spot the patterns they show. You will learn the skills needed to measure environmental changes, hopefully on a residential field course. You will learn teamwork as well as how to take responsibility for your own learning.

What will I study?

- Topic 1** Biological molecules
- Topic 2** Cells
- Topic 3** Organisms exchange substances with their environment
- Topic 4** Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms
- Topic 5** Energy transfers in and between organisms
- Topic 6** Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
- Topic 7** Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
- Topic 8** The control of gene expression

How will I be assessed?

The new specification requires that A2 exams be assessed at the end of Year 13. There are three exams, each are two hours long.

Paper 1 to assess topics 1-4 (35%)

Paper 2 to assess topics 5-8 (35%)

Paper 3 to assess topics 1-8 (including a 25 mark essay question) (30%)

There will also be twelve practical tasks that you will be assessed on.

What goes well with Biology?

Biology complements a great number of other subjects. The traditional 'three science approach' is very popular but it also fits well with PE, geography and maths.

Where can Biology lead?

Biology is a stepping stone to a variety of careers, including: medicine, medical research, dentistry, veterinary science, forestry, agriculture and farming, environmental and conservation work, environmental health, brewing, the food industry, as well as teaching.

Prerequisites

Grade 7 or higher in Biology or Combined Double Award Science.

The utmost commitment to hard work, self supported study outside of lesson time and using text books to back up work in lessons to further develop your understanding.

A Level Chemistry

Why study Chemistry?

Chemistry is a fantastic subject where you fully use your brain to understand the ideas and make the required links. It is a subject for the committed student - put a lot of effort in and you get a lot out of it. A Level Chemistry develops and takes further the ideas introduced at GCSE as well as introducing totally new areas and concepts. You study the chemistry of the Periodic Table and also go on from the alkanes and alkenes at GCSE to learn about alcohols, esters, amines and many more organic chemicals. There is every day relevance to our work as we consider the chemistry of drugs, dyes, designer polymers, the ozone layer, steels and much more.

What skills will I gain from studying Chemistry?

Studying Chemistry will develop your thinking and analytical skills. The subject involves building up knowledge and key ideas and so will develop your ability as a learner and your individual study skills. Chemistry is fundamentally an experimental subject and there are numerous links to use practical experiences to link theory to reality.

What will I study?

Year 1 covers three themes of Chemistry.

- **Physical Chemistry including atomic structure, bonding, energy and equilibrium.**
- **Organic Chemistry including alkanes, alkenes, alcohols and organic analysis.**
- **Inorganic Chemistry including group 2 alkaline earth metals and group 7 halogens plus trends in the periodic table.**

Year 2 develops these three themes of Chemistry.

- **Physical Chemistry including reaction rates, thermodynamics, acids and bases and electrochemical reactions.**
- **Organic Chemistry including polymers, DNA and molecules of life, medicines and organic synthesis.**
- **Inorganic Chemistry including transition metals, colour chemistry and period 3 elements and their compounds.**

How will I be assessed?

For AS/Year 1: There are two 90 minute exams. Paper 1 covers content from the Inorganic and some Physical themes plus relevant practical skills. Paper 2 covers the Organic and remaining Physical content plus relevant practical skills. Both papers have multiple choice questions and structured questions covering theory and practical skills. All questions are drawn from year 1 of the course. AS does not count as part of the overall A Level.

For A Level: There are three 120 minute exams. Paper 1 covers Inorganic and some Physical content with relevant practical skills. Paper 2 covers the Organic and remaining Physical Chemistry plus relevant practical skills. Paper 3 covers Any Content and Any Practical Skills and Any data Analysis. Paper 1 and 2 both comprise long and short answer questions. Paper 3 comprises a variety of long and short answer as well as multiple choice questions. Content for the three exams is drawn from any part of the two year course. In addition to the three exams there is also a course of practical activities in which you can demonstrate practical competence. This is the Practical Endorsement for Chemistry and your performance in this is reported separately to the A Level grade.

What goes well with Chemistry?

Chemistry goes well with many subjects at A Level. It is often combined with other sciences and also with maths. Two or three sciences are very commonly taken. However, some students take chemistry as their only science. Chemistry is also often combined with history and geography and indeed can go alongside every other subject

Where can Chemistry lead?

Chemistry can lead in many directions in terms of Higher Education. It is essential for students going on to study chemistry, biochemistry, medicine, veterinary courses, natural sciences, pharmacology and pharmacy as well as being often essential for forensic science. It is useful and sometimes essential for students going on to study biology related courses. In addition to all of the above courses, The Lakes School's chemistry students have gone on to study physiotherapy, history, accountancy, environmental sciences, chemical engineering, genetics, and many other subjects.

Prerequisites

Grade 7 or above for Chemistry GCSE or grade 7 or above for Combined Double Award GCSEs.

AS/A2 Physics

Why study Physics?

Physics is the study of how the world works. Have you ever looked up at the night sky and wondered where it all comes from, or how your mobile phone works, or how did we actually manage to put a man on the moon before calculators were even invented?

From being woken up in the morning by your clock radio to snuggling down at night under the duvet, all modern life depends on physics.

What skills will I gain from studying Physics?

At times you will need to work independently to solve problems, both practical and mathematical. At other times you will need to work collaboratively as part of a team to make a presentation or deliver a talk. Mostly, you will develop your abilities to think logically and laterally.

What will I study?

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 1 Measurements and their errors | 2 Particles and radiation |
| 3 Waves | 4 Mechanics and materials |
| 5 Electricity | 6 Further mechanics and thermal physics |
| 7 Fields and their consequences | 8 Nuclear physics |

Options

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 9 Astrophysics | 10 Medical physics |
| 11 Engineering physics | 12 Turning points in physics |
| 13 Electronics | |

How will I be assessed?

The new specification requires that A2 exams be assessed at the end of Year 13. There are three exams, each of two hours, at the end of Year 13. There will also be twelve practical tasks that you will be assessed on.

What goes well with Physics?

Nearly all subjects will go with physics – it depends where your career aspirations are. Obviously, if you are interested in the sciences or engineering then physics will go well with maths, chemistry, biology, technology and ICT. Equally, many students in the past have also studied art, business studies, geography and history, and have been interested in careers such as surveying or architecture.

Where can Physics lead?

Anywhere is the simplest answer. Universities tend to regard physics very highly as a traditional subject with high academic rigour. It is, of course, ideal for all careers in science or engineering, from aerospace to computing. Many past students have gone on to a wide range of careers, from management to working for NASA.

Prerequisites

Normally the expectation would be grade 7 or higher in Physics or Combined Double Award Science and grade 7 or above in mathematics.

Level 3 Extended Certificate in Applied Science

Why study Applied Science?

To understand the nature of science and the work scientists do, students should actively experience the scientific environment. This can be achieved through a variety of approaches, including links and visits with local employers, extended practical investigations, case studies and research. Applied Science is an exploration of the broader areas of science and combines aspects of biology, chemistry and physics and applies these subjects to areas as diverse as health, pharmaceuticals and materials.

What skills will I gain from studying Applied Science?

Applied Science allows you to work in many different ways; this could include:

- working on your own or as part of a team
- doing short projects or longer assignments
- using the internet to find information
- looking at processes and products, either in local companies or through case studies
- designing products
- gaining work experience

What will I study?

Year 12

Unit 1: Key Concepts in Science: taught units on selected Biology, Chemistry and Physics topics.

Unit 2: Applied Experimental Techniques: building a portfolio of evidence of completed practical investigations linked to the taught units of module 1.

Unit 3: Science in the Modern World. Research based on pre-released materials.

Year 13

Unit 4: The Human Body

Unit 5: Investigating Science

Unit 6: Organic Chemistry

How will I be assessed?

Year 12: Two 1 ½ hour written examination papers covering content of modules 1 and 3 plus an externally moderated independent portfolio for module 2.

Year 13: One 1 ½ hour written examination paper covering content of module 4 plus two externally moderated independent portfolios covering modules 5 and 6.

All Level 3 units will be assessed by either externally moderated portfolio submission or written exams in June. Each unit carries an equal weighting towards the final grade achieved. The units are graded Pass, Merit, Distinction with the overall qualification graded as P, M, D, D*.

It is important to note that portfolio evidence is produced independently based on general teacher guidance without the opportunity to draft and re-draft. It must be done well first time. Re-takes are permitted but without any additional teacher guidance or assistance *at all*.

What goes well with Applied Science?

The course has been successfully combined with a broad range of subjects, including mathematics, geography, ICT, business, OEd and PE.

Where can Applied Science lead?

The course is designed to allow students flexible progression routes when moving on to higher education, further training or employment and the course is eligible for UCAS points. Previous students have gone on to study biomedical science, forensic science, midwifery, nursing and sports science, as well as a range of other careers.

Prerequisites

Applied science is a demanding course. You will be expected to achieve at least a grade 5 in GCSE science as well as in mathematics. You must be well organised, work independently and able to meet strict deadlines.

AS/A2 Computer Science	
Why study Computer Science?	
Some people just like computers and learning to programme! However, on a wider level the thinking skills developed in the programming part of the course are good indicators to future employers/admissions tutors that you have a logical mind and can cope well with abstract concepts.	
What skills will I gain from studying Computer Science?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · understand the processes of computation; · problem solving through practical computer science using Visual Basic (VB.net); · awareness of how ICT hardware and networks actually work 	
What will I study?	
Programming, Data structures, Algorithms, Theory of computation, Data representation, Computer systems, Computer organisation and architecture. Consequences of uses of computer science. Communication and networking, Databases, Big Data, Functional programming, Problem solving, Practical project. You can read the details of these units at aqa.org.uk	
How will I be assessed?	
Paper 1:	practical test at a computer
Paper 2:	theory exam
20% coursework project (A2 only)	
What goes well with Computer Science?	
All subject combinations.	
Where can Computer Science lead?	
AS/A2 level Computer Science is a good 'taster' to see if you would like to take a full time course in a computer science related area. The career prospects for computer science graduates are pretty good; at a recent university open day 95% was the figure quoted for graduates of the course entering related employment at graduate entry level.	
Prerequisites	
No formal barriers, but you would expect to get a 6+ in GCSE maths. You would also expect to have access to a computer running at least Windows XP and connected to the internet at home.	
Students thinking about computer science need to be aware that getting sufficiently familiar with VB.net would take a few hours per week practising programming at home.	

A-level History

"To stay ignorant of the past is to remain forever a child."

Cicero, 106BC – 46BC

History is about people and people are complex, fascinating, frustrating and a whole lot of other things besides! This is why History is probably the most comprehensive and intriguing subject of all. It can be inspiring or alarming, heartening or disturbing, a story of progress and civilisation or of catastrophe and inhumanity. But History's importance goes well beyond the subject's intrinsic interest and appeal. Our beliefs and actions, our cultures, institutions and ways of living, our values and our means of making sense of ourselves are all shaped by the past. If we want to understand ourselves fully today, and to understand our possible futures, we have no choice but to study the past.

What topics would I study?

A 2013 survey by Cambridge University found that 50% of the top ten most popular A-level History courses in the UK focussed on just two people, Henry VIII and Hitler, and that the single most popular topic in the entire country was the Russian Revolution. That is why we don't teach those courses here at The Lakes School. We want you to stand out from the crowd. Instead, we seek to stimulate your sense of intrigue and discovery and develop your skills of enquiry and debate by pursuing two more unusual and yet highly respected topic areas.



UNIT 1: The Age of the Crusades, 1071-1204

In this topic area, you would study the repeated attempts by Christian Europe to take back the Holy Land from Islamic hands. By investigating the causes and events and outcomes of the first four Crusades, and historians' interpretations of them, you would gain an uncommonly robust understanding of this seminal period in the history of Europe and the Middle East and a valuable perspective on global events today.



UNIT 2: The Wars of the Roses, 1450-99

In this topic area, you would study the challenges faced by those in power during one of the most convulsive periods our nation has ever undergone. By investigating key players' motivations, actions and impact through first-hand contemporary accounts, you would gain an incredible insight into the social, political and religious forces at work as our country emerged painfully from the Medieval period and into the Early Modern era.



UNIT 3: Historical Investigation on a chosen pre-1485 topic

For your coursework, which you would research, plan and write up independently over the two year course, you would be free to choose from a varied list of questions. All relate to the Ancient and Medieval periods only. Topics range from Alexander the Great, the triumph of Athens and the fall of the Roman Republic up to Alfred the Great, the Vikings, the Norman Conquest, King John and Henry V.

What are the requirements?

History is an extremely challenging subject so a willingness to work hard in lessons and then follow up your learning with extensive further reading in your own spare time is essential. An 8 in GCSE History is preferable but a 7 is the minimum grade that will be accepted. Alongside this, a 7 in GCSE English would be desirable.

AS/A2 Geography

Why study Geography?

Geography is becoming an increasingly relevant subject as pressing issues of resource management and climate change dominate the media. Geography students will look to investigate these issues in depth and consider possible solutions to these global challenges.

Students will begin the course by developing their understanding of global hazards, focusing on tectonic and hydro-meteorological events. They will consider the difficulties nations face in attempting to manage their increasingly vulnerable populations and reduce the economic burden of coping with disasters. We also tackle controversial issues such as fair trade, inequality in development and the growing concerns of a rapidly rising population. Geography equips students with a broader outlook on complex world issues. We aim to encourage pupils to develop their own opinions and raise awareness of sensitive issues such as inequality, conflict and development.

What skills will I gain from studying Geography?

Geography provides pupils with a wide range of transferable skills. Coursework and extended essays encourage the use of skills such as report writing, statistical analysis and critical thinking. Geography students are often presented with a wide range of source material and will learn how to critically evaluate information throughout the course. Enquiry-based lessons aim to promote independent learning and improve pupils' ability to consider and assess different opinions on environmental issues.

What will I study?

- AS** **Unit 1:** Tectonics
 Unit 2: Globalisation
 Unit 3: Coastal Landscapes
 Unit 4: Regeneration
- A2** **Unit 5:** Water Cycle
 Unit 6: Carbon Cycle
 Unit 7: Superpowers
 Unit 8: Migration, Identity & Sovereignty

How will I be assessed?

A2:	Paper 1:	2hrs 15	30%	Topics 1,3,5,6
	Paper 2:	2hrs 15	30%	Topics 2,4,7,8
	Paper 3:	2hrs 15	20%	Synoptic Decision Making Paper
	Independent Investigation			Coursework element (20%)

What goes well with Geography?

Geography is a broad-ranging academic subject that fits easily alongside a science or social science-based subject, as well as a range of other A level and BTEC subjects.

Where can Geography lead?

As well as offering a sound basis for studying geography and geographically-based subjects at university, geography equips students with a wide range of skills that can be transferred easily into the world of work.

Prerequisites

Grades 9 to 6 in geography, maths and English are preferable but students will be considered on individual merit.

A Level Art	
Why study A Level Art and Design?	
Studying A level Art and Design will develop your creativity and is a key qualification for entry to a wide range of careers in the arts.	
YEAR 1	
A general Art & Design course covering Fine Art (Drawing, Painting and Printmaking), Graphic Communication (Art applied to Design Brief), Photography and Sculpture/3D Design	
YEAR 2	
Students will be given the opportunity to specialise in one of the areas studied in Year 1 or to continue on a general Art & Design pathway	
What skills will I gain from studying A Level Art and Design?	
You will learn to record from observation using drawing and photography, gathering visual information (including studying work by other artists, designers and craftspeople). You will experiment with a wide range of art media leading to more resolved final pieces. You can expect to develop these skills in your own space (within the VIth Form Art Studio) and on trips to galleries in London (2 day residential) and Glasgow/Edinburgh/Liverpool/Manchester.	
What will I study?	
A Level Units	
Unit 1 – Portfolio (60% of total A Level marks) A practical unit where a range of skills and techniques will be developed over the two years leading to an extended project on a set theme. Also includes a personal investigation based on a photographer/artist/art movement or genre of 1000-3000 words.	
Unit 2 – Externally Set Assignment (40% of total A Level marks) A practical unit developing work on one of a choice of 8 themes culminating in a 15 hour final piece.	
How will I be assessed?	
The assessment objectives are similar to GCSE Art: AO1 Artist Research, AO2 Experimenting with Media, AO3 Recording and AO4 Personal Response. Your work will be assessed regularly throughout the course (with interim assessments giving clear targets to improve work before final deadlines).	
What goes well in Art and Design	
Studying A Level Art will help to develop your creativity. Creativity is a key transferrable skill, and one which is increasingly prized by employers both within and outside the arts. Creativity is an exciting way of approaching life in a sometimes unconventional way, taking risks and making use of the full range of opportunities available.	
Where can Art and Design lead?	
Art and Design is a key qualification for students wishing to study creative courses in higher education such as Fine Art, Illustration, Graphic Design, Fashion, Textiles and Animation. We advise on career/college courses, assist in the development of a portfolio for entry, write references and help with the application process. We also have a good ongoing relationship with the 3 local Art Colleges who offer excellent Foundation (pre-degree) courses in Art and Design.	
Prerequisites	
Apart from in exceptional circumstances a Grade 6-9 (5 by negotiation) at Art GCSE is usually essential to study this course.	

AS/A2 Music (AQA)

Why study A Level Music?

This course is an ideal continuation for students who have completed GCSE/BTEC Music and wish to include a Creative Arts option in their choices for Year 12-13. Music is a unique subject which brings together practical skills, creativity, analysis, emotional intelligence, use of technology/ICT, language and writing skills. A Level Music also makes links with wider learning in other subjects such as history, art, sociology, psychology and ICT/technology. Creative Arts subjects are appealing to many universities and employers as they can demonstrate a more rounded, multi-dimensional profile when combined with other subjects.

All students choosing A Level Music must be committed to regular practice on an instrument/voice, open to exploring a wide range of musical styles through academic study, and interested in developing their own creative ideas. It is a challenging course

What will I study?

Component 1: Appraising Music (40% of total marks)

In this component you will study a range of notated music, videos and recordings to build up your vocabulary and analytical skills, whilst also developing the listening and writing skills needed to complete the exam at the end of your AS/A2 year. All students will study the Western Classical Tradition, as well as choosing 1 (AS) or 2 (A2) other Areas of Study: Pop Music, Music for Media, Music for Theatre, Jazz, or Contemporary Traditional Music.

Component 2: Performance (30-35% of total marks)

Towards the end of your AS/A2 year you will submit recordings of you performing as a soloist and/or as part of an ensemble. Any instrument/voice can be used. Suitable music should be chosen early on to allow you to reach the peak of your ability at the time of recording. Regular, focused practice is essential, and ideally you will have a 1-1 teacher available to help you with your specialist instrument/voice throughout the year. The final performance(s) must be a minimum of 6 minutes (AS) or 10 minutes (A2).

Component 3: Composing (25-30% of total marks)

For both AS and A2 Level Music you will compose 2 pieces, to be submitted towards the end of the course. One is a free composition, in which you can explore your own ideas, interests and areas of strength to gain maximum marks. The other composition must be in response to a brief, e.g. writing for a specific film scene, using a given melodic idea, or using a given set of instruments. The total duration of the compositions should add up to at least 4m30s.

Where can Music lead?

For students who wish to continue with music at University or as a career, A Level Music is straightforward choice. There are a huge range of jobs available in the music industry today, besides the more obvious role of performing. Project managers, editors, promoters, engineers and technicians, social media and advertising teams, teachers, therapists, consultants, and much more, all depend on people with a musical background to contribute to the success of the industry, both in the UK and internationally. For students who may not be looking for a music-related career, A Level Music can be a useful way of demonstrating creativity, practical skills and a detailed understanding of international culture which may help you to stand out as a university or job candidate.

Prerequisites

A good result in GCSE Music is preferable, although exceptional students who have completed BTEC Music may also be considered. Continued practice and 1-1 lessons on an instrument/voice is essential.

For more information, please speak to our Music Department, current AS/A2 Music students, or search online for AQA A Level Music.

A2 Drama and Theatre Studies (Edexcel)

Why study Drama and Theatre Studies?

Drama and theatre studies are the study of drama, its performance and development through history. The focus of the course is on practical skills and their application to both text and improvised work.

What skills will I gain from studying Drama and Theatre Studies?

Studying drama you will learn how to work effectively as a group of actors, developing a piece of drama for an audience. It will also help you further develop your performance skills and ability to criticise the performance and design skills of professionals. Also, your ability to think creatively in a short space of time will be stretched. Project-based activities will show you how to develop an idea into a complete performance.

What will I study?

Component 1 Devising :	Presentation of a devised piece of drama.
Component 2 Text in performance :	Presentation of extracts from a play a monologue or duologue.
Component 3 Theatre Makers in practice :	Study of two plays and one theatre practitioner

How will I be assessed?

Component 1 Devising :	(40%) Performance and a written log of process.
Component 2 Text in performance :	(20%) Performance of extracts.
Component 3 Theatre Makers in practice :	(40%) 2hr 30min exam

What goes well with Drama?

Drama is a challenging academic subject that fits easily alongside any subject.

Where can Drama lead?

Drama is a broad and relevant arts subject that allows students to pursue careers such as stage management, design and performance. However, a strong focus on team skills, human behaviour and communication make drama a hugely beneficial subject in any career.

Prerequisites

Grade 9 - 6 drama or English

Business Studies - Cambridge Technical Examinations

Why study CTEC Business Studies?

Business is the heart of the economy, encouraging innovation and creating wealth. The world of work is continually changing and employers are constantly requiring employees who have appropriate skills to be able to contribute towards the success of their organisation. The course gives students core business skills which have a very practical use in the world of work. The core units give learners an introduction to and understanding of business activity, management of resources, marketing and communication.

What skills will I gain from studying business?

- Understanding of the concepts and principles of business and their application in the business environment
- Knowledge of how and why businesses operate in the way that they do
- Ability and understanding of how to communicate effectively and appropriately with businesses
- Ability to present information in the correct and appropriate format using relevant information technology
- Ability to apply knowledge to a business situation to achieve results

What will I study?

Created in collaboration with leading businesses, the qualifications explore all aspects of the business world including practical activities - ideal for a wide range of learning styles.

You will learn how a business might evolve. From a small start-up business to a large multinational organisation, you will consider a range of different business types and gain an understanding of how the choice of business type might affect the objectives that are set. You will also look at the internal workings of businesses, including their internal structure and how different functional areas work together. Plus, by looking at the external constraints under which a business must operate, you will gain an understanding of the legal, financial and ethical factors that have an impact. You will also explore ways in which businesses respond to changes in their economic, social and technological environment; and gain an appreciation of the influence different stakeholders can have upon a business. The business world places a high value on the ability to research, analyse and evaluate information in order to make considered decisions and you will have the opportunity to gain these vital skills. Alongside this you will develop practical employability skills, including the ability to communicate effectively with both internal and external stakeholders, and to manage your time effectively.

How will I be assessed?

50% examination 50% coursework

There are 2 examinations for two units, 'The Business Environment' and 'Working in Business'. It is also a **practical** course where you will be expected to participate in group work including running an event. Part of the assessment is based on how well you collaborate and lead others.

What goes well with Business?

This course will fit in well with most other AS and A levels and is **highly valued by universities and employers.**

Where can Business lead?

As this course is equivalent to an A Level and carries UCAS points, it can be used to go on to higher education to achieve a degree in business, human resources, marketing or accounting. The qualification is also extremely beneficial when seeking employment as the skills that you obtain are used in every organisation.

Prerequisites

For acceptance on to the course you are required to have 5 GCSE grades 9 - 6 including Maths and English.

A Level Design and Technology

Why choose A Level D&T?

D&T is a unique subject that provides a structured approach to 'learning through doing'. Our course is the only one that offers a pathway for either 'Product Design' or 'Textiles'.

Summary of key points

- 2 areas of study: Fashion and Textiles and Product Design
- Well thought through, logical specification
- Good progression and flow to Higher Education
- Maximum marks available for designing and making

Summary of Assessment

Component 1: Design and Technology in the 21st Century

Written examination: 3 hours

50% of qualification

Learners take a single examination in one of the following endorsed areas:

- fashion and textiles
- product design.

The examination includes a mix of structured and extended writing questions assessing learners' knowledge and understanding of:

- technical principles
- designing and making principles

along with their ability to:

1. analyse and evaluate wider issues in design and technology.

Component 2: Design and make project

Non-exam assessment: approximately 80 hours

50% of qualification

A sustained design and make project, based on a brief developed by the candidate, assessing the candidate's ability to:

- identify, investigate and outline design possibilities
- design and make prototypes
- analyse and evaluate design decisions and outcomes, including for prototypes made by themselves and others

The design and make project will be based within the same endorsed area as the written examination.

What goes well with Design & Technology?

Design & Technology is a broad-ranging subject that is aimed at developing and applying skills, knowledge and understanding from subjects spanning the curriculum. Students may see this as an ideal opportunity to focus on extending their experience through a creative pathway. For this they may also study Art & Design. For others with more technical aspirations maths and physics may be an equally valid combination.

Where can Design & Technology lead?

We like to keep informed of the successes of past students and many are now working successfully in the design industry. The students below regularly re visit the D&T department to give talks about their careers:

- Jennifer Varty is now chief textile pattern designer for an international clothing company based in New York (Studied Textile Design At Southampton University).
- Graham Hetherington is an automotive designer working for Tesla. (Studied Automotive Design at Coventry University).

- Paul Farrah now runs his own design company here in Windermere. (Studied Product Design at Loughborough University).
- Jimi Wade took an apprenticeship at BAE systems in Barrow and now works for Furmanite in Kendal as a design engineer.

Prerequisites

We expect all of our incoming A Level students to have passed GCSE Design & Technology with at least a grade 5.

Please note that this is a full A Level course designed to be delivered over two years.

There is not the option to gain an AS qualification.

For more information speak to Mr Sharp or Miss Anderson

A Level Physical Education

Course Outline

This 'new' specification in A Level Physical Education was introduced in September 2016. As with all previous syllabi the subject combines both theoretical knowledge and understanding along with practical performance and the ability to observe a live performance and evaluate/analyse it.

There are **3 written/theory papers** as detailed below, which are taken at the end of the 2 year course, all combining to be worth **70%** of the overall grade.

Paper 1:	Physiological factors affecting performance Applied anatomy & physiology Exercise physiology Biomechanics	(30% of total A Level) 90 marks / 2 hour paper
Paper 2:	Psychological factors affecting performance Skill acquisition Sports psychology	(20% of total A level) 60 marks / 1 hour paper
Paper 3:	Socio-cultural issues in physical activity & sport Sport & society Contemporary issues in physical activity & sport	(20% of total A level) 60 marks / 1 hour paper

Homework (exam questions, reading, revision) will be set on a weekly basis for each of the three theory areas.

COURSEWORK (or 'Non-exam assessment' / NEA) **(30% of total A Level)**

Part 1: Practical Performance in ONE activity only. (15%)
(This can be either as a PERFORMER or as a COACH).

Part 2: 'The Evaluation & Analysis of Performance for Improvement'. (15%)

A verbal response to a 'live' performance, where students comment on strengths and weaknesses of the performance they see, then suggest a plan to improve the performance of the observed weaknesses.

It is essential that students who wish to study 'A' Level Physical Education are regularly involved in their chosen physical activity out of school.

Although not essential, students will benefit from having studied Physical Education at GCSE level (minimum grade 5). Students must have attained at least grade 5 in English and Maths and 5 in GCSE science, although a minimum of 66 is preferable.

Studying Physical Education at A Level is excellent preparation for students wishing to progress to degree level study in Physical Education, Sports Science, Sports Studies or coaching.

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Sport & Outdoor Activities

Why study BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Sport & Outdoor Activities?

If you enjoy outdoor activities and are looking for a course that includes developing your practical skills then consider the BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Sport & Outdoor Activities. This course suits those who enjoy the outdoors, are keen to challenge themselves to learn new skills, and are practically minded and prefer to learn and work on assignments over the duration of the course, rather than a final exam. This course is taken over 2 years and is equivalent to 1.5 A levels. All BTEC courses include key skills (skills transferable to any career or path of life) and also allows learners to develop and demonstrate their ability to communicate effectively, work well with others, manage their own development, use ICT to support all aspects of their work, and solve problems in a variety of circumstances.

Course Outline

Learners taking this qualification will study 6 units:

Unit A: Careers in the Sport & Active Leisure Industry

Unit B: Health, Wellbeing and Sport

Unit C4: Personal Skills Development in Outdoor Activities

Unit 24: Health & Safety Factors in Outdoor Learning

Unit 25: Outdoor Activity Provision

Unit 27: Expedition Experience

From these units, students will gain the underpinning knowledge, skills and behaviours needed to work in the Sport and Outdoor Activities Sector. Students will focus on exploring factors affecting the outdoor sector and how to maintain health and safety, including in respect of the equipment and facilities required for participation in outdoor activities. Students will develop and reflect on their personal skills and environmental responsibilities when delivering various outdoor activities.

What could this qualification lead to?

This qualification is aimed at students looking to progress to employment as an Assistant Outdoor Activities Instructor. The Institute of Outdoor Learning (IOL) has confirmed endorsement that this qualification can lead to employment in this job role.

The qualification, like 'A' Levels, also attracts UCAS Tariff points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to entry requirements for many related courses. When combined with other qualifications, such as other A Levels or another BTEC/CTEC National Level 3 course, in a two-year, full-time study programme, students can progress to higher education degree programmes, such as BA Hons in Outdoor Adventure Leadership, a BSc Hons in Outdoor Adventure and Environment and a BSc Hons in Outdoor Adventure Leadership and Management.

Prerequisite

It is essential that students who wish to study this course are regularly involved in a range of outdoor and adventurous activities both in school and in their own time. Although not essential, students will benefit from having studied BTEC Level 2 First Award in Sport (minimum grade Level 2 Pass). Students must have attained at least grade 4 in English or Maths and 4-4 in GCSE science.

A Level – Extended Project Qualification

Why choose to do an Extended Project?

This is an opportunity to explore a topic of your own choice. It provides a context for developing critical thinking and project management skills. The emphasis in the assessment of the course is on the process of developing skills in research, organisation, communication and presentation. The EPQ will help you secure UCAS points!

What skills will I gain?

You will practise and improve the following skills which are key to undergraduate study...

- Research and planning.
- Time management and personal organisation.
- Critical analysis of data.
- Self-evaluation and reflection.
- Communication and presentation.
- Self-motivation.

What teaching will I receive?

This course emphasises the importance of independent learning which is vital as you travel towards higher level study. You will receive specific teaching on the skills listed above and you will receive support and advice from a member of staff who will support you closely with your project.

What will I produce?

- You will complete a log book in which you will record all your planning and research. You will also reflect on your own progress and note any changes you make in your plans.
- You will either:
 - write a 5000 word essay on a subject of your own choosing.
 - or make an artefact e.g. a fashion collection, a film, a computer game plus a 1000 word essay to support your project.
 - or organise an event e.g. sport, arts or an exhibition or competition plus a 1000 word essay to support your project.
- You will also deliver a presentation to an audience explaining the journey and the findings of your project.

How will I be assessed?

The log book, essay, evidence of the artefact + presentation notes and slides are marked internally like coursework. You are assessed on the process and research skills as much as the quality of the final essay or artefact. You are also assessed on how you manage difficulties and barriers that you encounter and how you change your project in response to your research.

What goes well with EPQ?

Everything! Universities love the EPQ because they know that students who have completed a project have already demonstrated the skills they will need at University. The independent learning and self-motivation that they are looking for are all necessary for this course. Previous EPQ students at The Lakes School have reported that, at their University interview, the lecturer just wanted to talk to them about their EPQ and it was the key thing that helped them receive an offer from their preferred University.

University of Bath: 'We regard this qualification as excellent preparation for higher education study.'

Queens University Belfast: 'The university would like to see a higher take-up of this qualification.'

Prerequisites

To be successful with your EPQ you will need to bring an enquiring mind, a desire to immerse yourself in a project that is of personal interest to you and a willingness to embark on a project when you don't really know where it will lead. The key to doing well with an EPQ is the ability to embrace some uncertainty and to talk through your project ideas regularly with your supervisor.