



## A Level English Literature

### 'A' Level English Literature

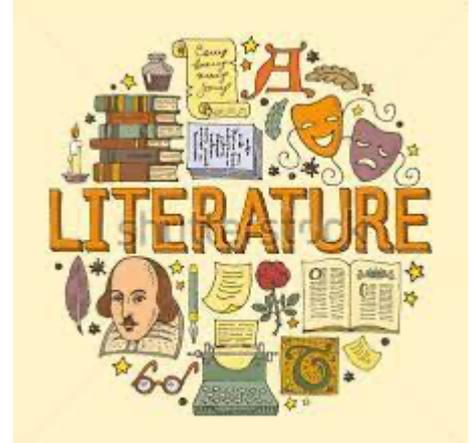
#### Why study English Literature?

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.

*Teaching children to climb their own mountains*

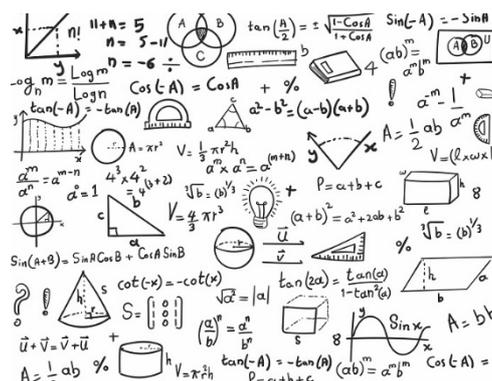




# A Level /AS Level Mathematics

## 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.

# A Level Further Mathematics

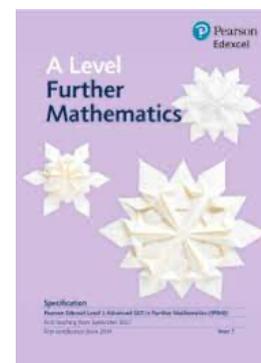
## Why study Further Mathematics?

Further mathematics gives students a more complete understanding of how mathematics fits into the world around us. It looks in more depth at how pure mathematics is used to describe a wide range of subjects. The study of decision mathematics gives good insight into how complex networks function.

## What skills will I gain from studying Further Mathematics?

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

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



## What will I study?

You will study four units Core Pure Mathematics 1 and Core Pure Mathematics 2 then any two from column A or a matching pair from column A and B

Column A	Column B
Further Pure Mathematics 1	Further Pure Mathematics 2
Statistics 1	Statistics 2
Mechanics 1	Mechanics 2
Decision 1	Decision 2

## How will I be assessed?

### AS Mathematics

**Core Pure Mathematics 1** and **Further Mathematics (Option 1 and 2)** make up the AS exam and consist of two 1 hour 40 minute examinations. 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

**Core Pure Mathematics 1, Core Pure Mathematics 2, Further Mathematics Option 1** and **Further Mathematics Option 2** make up the A level Mathematics exam and consist of four 90 minute examinations. 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 Further Maths?

Popular subject combinations include maths, physics, chemistry, biology and business studies.

## Where can Further 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.



# A Level Biology

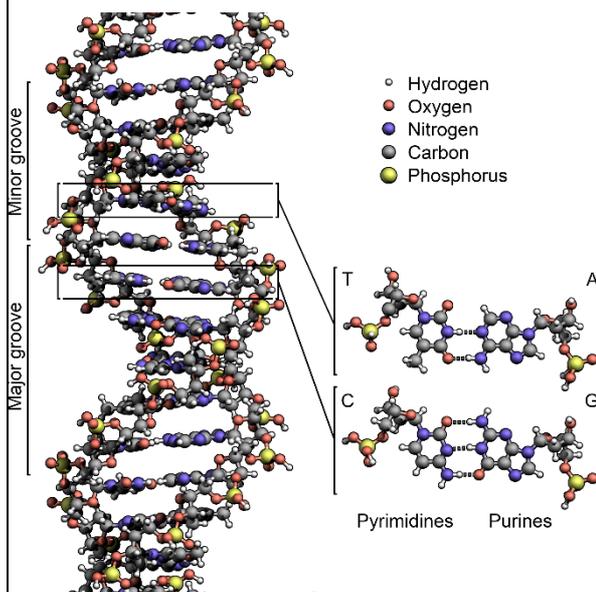
## What is Biology?

Biology is the study of living organisms and the interactions between them. Living systems are complex, even more so than you might imagine! But in that complexity lies the beauty of life, and completing an A-level in Biology will change the way you see living organisms forever.

Nobel prize-winning physicist Richard Feynman discusses this in *The Pleasure of Finding Things Out*.

*"I have a friend who's an artist and has sometimes taken a view which I don't agree with very well. He'll hold up a flower and say "look how beautiful it is," and I'll agree. Then he says "I as an artist can see how beautiful this is but you as a scientist take this all apart and it becomes a dull thing," and I think that he's kind of nutty. First of all, the beauty that he sees is available to other people and to me too, I believe..."*

*I can appreciate the beauty of a flower. At the same time, I see much more about the flower than he sees. I could imagine the cells in there, the complicated actions inside, which also have a beauty. I mean it's not just beauty at this dimension, at one centimetre; there's also beauty at smaller dimensions, the inner structure, also the processes. The fact that the colours in the flower evolved in order to attract insects to pollinate it is interesting; it means that insects can see the colour. It adds a question: does this aesthetic sense also exist in the lower forms? Why is it aesthetic? All kinds of interesting questions which the science knowledge only adds to the excitement, the mystery and the awe of a flower. It only adds. I don't understand how it subtracts."*



## What will I study?

**Biochemistry:** How do molecules react with each other to create the processes of life?

**Cell Biology:** There is a lot more going on inside a cell than you could possibly imagine! You will delve into this fascinating world of tiny machines.

**Genetics:** How does our amazing DNA encode the instructions for making us? And how are those instructions read?

**Organisms:** How do our bodies (and those of other plants and animals) work? You will learn about several major organ systems and how they work.

**Ecosystems:** How are all living things on the planet connected? And how do we look after them?

## Where does 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.

Note that to continue into higher education in any science subject you are likely to need the right combination of A-level subjects. If you are considering any science subject you should speak to your science teacher or Dr Rigby to discuss your choices as soon as possible.

## What are the requirements?

Life is complex, and therefore so is Biology. There is a big jump in challenge from GCSE to A-level, so you need to be committed to working hard as well as having at least grade 7 in Biology or Combined Science. You should also consider taking 4 subjects initially in case the demands of the subject are too great.

## A Level Chemistry

***“Chlorine is a deadly poison gas employed on European battlefields in World War I. Sodium is a corrosive metal which burns upon contact with water. Together they make a placid and unpoisonous material, table salt. Why each of these substances has the properties it does is a subject called chemistry.”***

***Carl Sagan, Broca's Brain: The Romance of Science***

### What is Chemistry?

Chemistry is the study of matter and the way it behaves. It is sometimes called the 'central' science because it provides a foundation for understanding so many other subjects. For example, chemistry explains aspects of plant chemistry (botany), the formation of igneous rocks (geology), how atmospheric ozone is formed and how environmental pollutants are degraded (ecology), the properties of the soil on the moon (cosmochemistry), how medications work (pharmacology), and how to collect DNA evidence at a crime scene (forensics).



Because of its central position in so many other subjects, chemists are some of the most sought-after people in the job market. Those who go on to university to study Chemistry have one of the highest rates of pay for any degree subject.

### What will I study?

Chemistry is divided into three broad categories:

**Physical chemistry** is the study of the laws governing matter. Some of these topics will be familiar to you from GCSE such as rates of reaction or exothermic/endothermic reactions. At A-level this part of Chemistry becomes very mathematical and so one of the requirements of the course is a grade 7 in GCSE maths. There is also common content with Physics A-level in this part of the course.

**Inorganic chemistry** is the study of the elements and the periodic table. You will learn more about the groups you know from GCSE and learn just how powerful the periodic table is when it comes to predicting the properties of a substance. This part of the course prepares students well for going on to study subjects such as geology and so geography A-level goes well with this part of the course.

**Organic chemistry** is the study of carbon containing compounds. A whole branch of chemistry looking at just one element you say? Carbon is a special element as you will learn, it is the basis for all life on earth, plastics and many of the fuels we use today. This part of chemistry goes very well with A-level Biology as there is common content to both qualifications.



### Where does Chemistry lead?

Chemistry is a steppingstone to a variety of careers, including medicine, medical research, dentistry, veterinary science, chemical engineering, forensics, geology and many others.

Note that to continue into higher education in any science subject you are likely to need the right combination of A-level subjects. If you are considering any science subject you should speak to your science teacher or Dr Rigby to discuss your choices as soon as possible.

### What are the requirements?

Chemistry is a demanding subject and so you must be prepared to work hard in order to succeed. Grade 7 (preferably higher) in Chemistry or Combined Science along with grade 7 or higher in GCSE mathematics. You should also consider taking 4 subjects initially in case the demands of the subject are too great.

# A Level Physics

*“Not only is the Universe stranger than we think, it is stranger than we can think.”*  
(Werner Heisenberg)

## Why Physics?

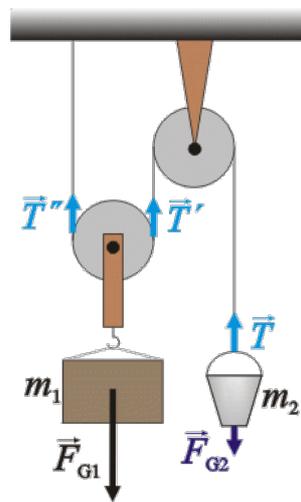
If you like asking big questions like what stars are made of, why do things move or how can we see thoughts then physics is for you. Physicists look for all the hidden laws that explain why all matter (that's every physical thing) and energy in the known universe exists, where it comes from and how it behaves the way it does. Physicists use the laws they uncover to develop new materials, machinery, and technology to improve our lives and help us explore the universe further, from computers to telescopes and spacecraft.



Physics is a “facilitating subject”, meaning that it's highly regarded whatever degree or career path you choose. It's considered essential for science and engineering courses, so it keeps a lot of doors open for you. Physics opens these doors because of the skills and ways of thinking it teaches you. You'll pick up mathematical and analytical techniques that are valued in a huge range of careers. You'll become a critical and creative thinker, and a problem solver.

## What will I study?

1. Particles and radiation
2. Waves
3. Mechanics and materials
4. Electricity
5. Further mechanics and thermal physics
6. Fields and their consequences
7. Nuclear physics
8. Optional topic – normally you will study Astrophysics



## Where does Physics lead?

Physics can lead to further study in many subjects such as engineering, astrophysics, medicine and many other STEM related subjects such as meteorology (the study of weather patterns) or geophysics (how the earth works). It can lead to careers in sectors such as medical physics, VFX and gaming, robotics, renewable energies, climate change, finance, law, government or armed forces.



## What are the requirements?

Grade 7 or higher in Physics or Combined Science.  
Physics is the most mathematical of all the science subjects and so you must be very comfortable with GCSE maths and have achieved at least a grade 7 in that subject as well. You should also consider taking 4 subjects initially in case the demands of the subject are too great.

## Applied Science

### What is Applied Science?

Applied Science is the study of Biology, Chemistry and Physics but with a greater focus on how skills in each are used and applied in various real-world scenarios, job sectors and industries. The Level 3 Extended Certificate BTEC in Applied Science is the equivalent of one full A level and offers students the chance to study the sciences in equivalent detail and complexity as an A level programme in the sciences.



### What will I study?

You will study four Units throughout this course.

Unit 1 - **Principles of Science** will cover fundamental content from A levels in all three science subjects.

Unit 2 - **Scientific Procedures** will assess practical and experimental techniques. You will get lots of time to become competent in some key scientific techniques.

Unit 3 - **Investigation Skills** will assess your ability to plan and carry out a scientific investigation.

Unit 8 - **Physiology of Human Body Systems** focusses on the workings of the human body. In particular, the unit focuses on the musculoskeletal, lymphatic, and digestive systems.



### Where does Applied Science lead?

Applied science is a good option for anyone thinking of going into science related higher apprenticeships or other vocational science-based subjects such as nursing, physiotherapy or sports science.

Note that to continue into higher education in any science subject you are likely to need the right combination of A-level subjects. If you are considering any science subject you should speak to your science teacher or Dr Rigby to discuss your choices as soon as possible.

### How is the BTEC course assessed?

Assessment is 50% coursework and 50% exam based. You will need to be able to demonstrate competence in the laboratory, carrying out experiments to a high level of precision and skill under exam conditions.

### What are the requirements?

At least a grade 5 in Combined Science (or equivalent) with good passes in both English and Maths.

# A Level 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?

- understand the processes of computation;
- problem solving through practical computer science using Python);
- 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](http://aqa.org.uk)

## How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: practical test at a computer

Paper 2: theory exam

20% coursework project (A2 only)



*Computer Science is the operating system of all innovation*  
*Steve Ballmer , Head of Microsoft*

## What goes well with Computer Science?

All subject combinations.

## Where can Computer Science lead?



A 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 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.

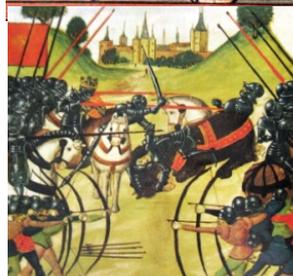
### What topics would I study?

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.

# A Level 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?

<b>Year 12</b>	<b>Unit 1:</b> Tectonics
	<b>Unit 2:</b> Globalisation
	<b>Unit 3:</b> Coastal Landscapes
	<b>Unit 4:</b> Regeneration
<b>Year 13</b>	<b>Unit 5:</b> Water Cycle
	<b>Unit 6:</b> Carbon Cycle
	<b>Unit 7:</b> Superpowers
	<b>Unit 8:</b> Migration, Identity & Sovereignty



## How will I be assessed?

<b>Paper 1:</b>	2hrs 15	30%	Topics 1,3,5,6
<b>Paper 2:</b>	2hrs 15	30%	Topics 2,4,7,8
<b>Paper 3:</b>	2hrs 15	20%	Synoptic Decision Making Paper
<b>Independent Investigation</b>			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 and Design

## 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 V1th Form Art Studio) and on trips to galleries in London/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.





# A Level Drama and Theatre Studies

## 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 Edexcel 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

# A Level Business Studies

## Business Studies - Cambridge Technical Examinations

The courses we offer:

### **Single Business (equivalent to 1 A Level)**

OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Business

### **Double Business (equivalent to 2 A Levels)**

OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Diploma in Business



### **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 examinations but 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 study Design & Technology?

Design and Technology is a unique subject that provides a structured approach to 'learning through doing'. The course is the only one that offers a pathway for either 'Product Design' or 'Fashion & Textiles'.

### What will I study?

During the first year of the course you will learn & develop a variety of technical, designing & making skills, through short projects. Alongside these practical based projects, you will undertake theoretical learning of design & technology in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. During your second year you will undertake a design and make project based on a brief you will create as well as a 3-hour written examination paper.

### How will I be assessed?

The course is Edquas Design & Technology (product design or fashion & textiles pathway)

### Component 1 (50% of the qualification-Design & Technology in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century)

You will take a 3-hour written examination paper in either fashion and textiles or product design at the end of 2-year course. The exam will assess technical, designing & making principles, alongside your understanding of wider issues in design & technology, through a mix of structured and extended writing questions.

### Component 2 (50% of the qualification – Non-exam assessment-coursework)

This component is a design and make project based on a brief you create. This project assesses your ability to identify, investigate and outline design possibilities, design and make prototypes, as well as being able to analyse and evaluate design decisions and outcomes including prototypes made by you and others (professionals/peers)



### 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 student 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

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.*



*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.*

*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 55 in GCSE science, although a minimum of 66 is preferable.*

## 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.



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.

**WELLBEING  
THROUGH  
SPORT.**

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.

***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 44 in GCSE science***

## A Level / AS Spanish

### Why study Languages?

Languages are all around us; they are used in so many situations whether at work, on holiday or just casually in day-to-day life - we live in a multilingual global society.

Choosing an A-level language is a really smart move if you want a fascinating subject that offers you a range of career possibilities at the end and are a lot of fun along the way. A-level language courses are interesting and varied subjects to study and give you a broad range of knowledge and skills.

Learning a language is a never-ending process; languages are constantly changing, bringing in new words and getting rid of old ones.



The skills and qualifications that you gain from studying a language at A-level are incredibly important tools to have under your belt.

### What is the A-level course like?

A-level languages build upon your existing knowledge gained at GCSE, giving you a sound understanding of using your language in a variety of contexts and situations - at home, abroad, with friends or in the workplace. The emphasis of the A-level language course focuses on improving communication in your foreign language through different means as well as being able to use it in a variety of situations, developing your key skills areas and most importantly to encourage you to fall in love with learning languages.

The topics that you'll cover are really varied so you not only greatly improve your language speaking ability, use of grammar, different tenses, and know tonnes more vocabulary - but you'll also learn about culture, history, literature, society, the environment and lifestyle.

The aim of the A-level modern language course is to help you to develop an interest in speaking a foreign language, to gain awareness of the need to speak foreign languages, to appreciate the nature and diversity of different cultures and people and to acquire knowledge, skills and understanding for practical use, further study and employment.

### What will I study?

AS	A Level
<b>Theme 1:</b> Aspects of Hispanic-speaking society: current trends <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family</li> <li>• Cyber society</li> <li>• Gender equality</li> </ul>	<b>Theme 1 &amp; 2 of the AS course plus Theme 3:</b> Multiculturalism in Hispanic society <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Immigration</li> <li>• Racism</li> <li>• Integration</li> </ul>
<b>Theme 2:</b> Artistic culture in the Hispanic-speaking world <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The influence of celebrities</li> <li>• Regional identity in Spain</li> <li>• Heritage and culture</li> </ul>	<b>Theme 4:</b> Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young people's political engagement</li> <li>• Monarchy and dictatorship</li> <li>• Popular movements</li> </ul>
A book <u>or</u> a film in Spanish ( <i>Crónica de una muerte anunciada</i> by Gabriel Garcia Marquez ; <i>Ochos apellidos vascos</i> by Emilio Martínez-Lázaro)	A book <u>and</u> a film in Spanish ( <i>Crónica de una muerte anunciada</i> by Gabriel Garcia Marquez ; <i>Ochos apellidos vascos</i> by Emilio Martínez-Lázaro)
<b>How will I be assessed?</b>	
<b>Paper 1</b> Listening, reading and writing (1 hour 45 min– 45% of AS) <b>Paper 2</b> Writing (1 hour 30 min – 25 % of AS) <b>Paper 3</b> Speaking (12-14 min – 30 % of AS)	<b>Paper 1</b> Listening, reading and writing (2 hours 30 min– 50% of AS) <b>Paper 2</b> Writing (2 hours – 20 % of AS) <b>Paper 3</b> Speaking (21-23 min – 30 % of AS)

### What goes well with Spanish?

Spanish 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 Spanish lead?

Languages are an invaluable skill to have. Having a language can increase your salary from 8 to 20% and gives you a head start on other potential employees as by speaking another language you're vital to any company who does international business (and there are a lot of them). Plus, a language is also a pre-requisite for lots of university courses so it's something to consider if you're thinking about university in the future. Languages are key to the exciting multinational world we live in!

### Prerequisites

Grades 9 - 6 in Spanish and 9 – 5 in Maths and English are preferable but students will be considered on individual merit.

## A Level – Extended Project Qualification

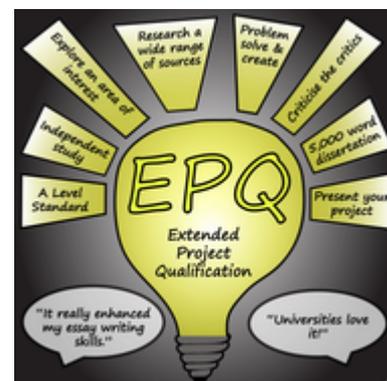
### Why choose to do an Extended Project?

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?

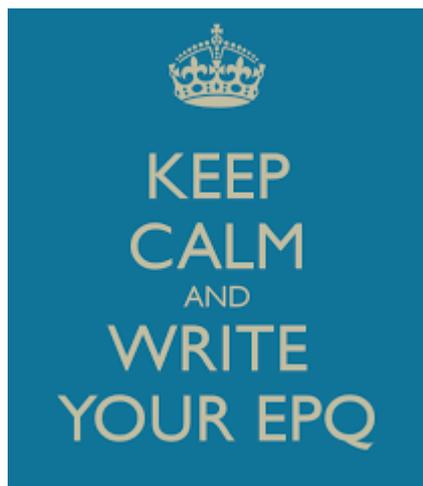
This course emphasises the importance of independent learning which is vital as you travel towards higher level study. You will receive specific teaching on the skills listed above and you will receive support and advice from a member of staff who will support you closely with your project.

### 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.

