



# THE THOMAS ALLEYNE ACADEMY

Achieving excellence through personal growth

## SIXTH FORM

Prospectus 2023-2024



# HEAD TEACHER'S WELCOME



I am delighted to welcome you to the Thomas Alleyne Academy.

The Thomas Alleyne Academy is an 11-18 co-educational comprehensive academy in Stevenage. We are proud of our reputation as a happy, caring and safe community where success is expected, achieved and celebrated.

This is an exciting time in the history of Thomas Alleyne's. Over the last three years, we have seen rapid improvements in all aspects of our work, which were rightly recognised in our recent Ofsted report. We are a good school with outstanding leadership and management.

Young people have been educated on our present site since the school was founded by Thomas Alleyne, Rector of Stevenage, in 1558. Throughout our history we have

been committed to achieving excellence in all that we do.

We are proud of our sixth form where we have seen superb results in recent years. Alongside an impressive range of academic A-Level courses, we recognise our responsibility to develop the whole student. We focus on achieving personal best and through our unique study skills and coaching programme develop our students as resilient independent thinkers and problem solvers. Our focus on aspiration and destination allows our students to make a successful transition into university, apprenticeships or work.

Mark Lewis  
Head Teacher



**100% PASS RATE ACHIEVED**

**FOR A LEVEL COURSES**

# A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SIXTH FORM

Dear Student

I would like to welcome you to The Thomas Alleyne Academy Sixth Form.

We offer a broad range of humanities, social sciences, maths and A levels. In addition we now offer a range of BTEC Level 3 vocational courses and an even wider selection of A levels through our partnership with Local Stevenage Schools. Please take the time to carefully read through the sixth form offer. I hope you will gain an insight into how we plan the curriculum to ensure that all students gain the experience and qualifications needed to progress onto their chosen career choices.

Sixth Form courses are an important stepping stone to your future and we want to support and guide you through this process. As young adults in the Sixth Form,

you are a part of the whole school community as well as the wider community of the partnership. We expect your support in helping younger students by setting a good example and being a positive role model. An important part of your role is to help in the running of the school through Student Parliament and by volunteering to support in lessons and homework clubs. This will contribute to your development, and support your future university and job applications. We know that we can help you to achieve your best.

We appreciate that making the decision to join our Sixth Form is a big step as it affects your whole future. Choosing the right pathway to success at this stage will enable you to achieve your full potential and ambition later on.

Kate Barfoot  
Head of Sixth Form



# LIFE IN SIXTH FORM

## Your Guarantees

You will have access to outstanding teaching and learning. We are constantly improving and looking for new ways to develop and enhance your education. We want to instill aspiration in you, inspire your creativity and prepare you with the confidence and resilience for your future.

You will be part of a community that is proud of its achievements and is passionate about its work.

## Your Choices

A Levels may be studied exclusively or you may take a combination of A Levels and BTEC courses alongside our study skills and enrichment programme.

The majority of your exams will be taken at the end of Year 13. Education, as a sector, is constantly evolving and improving to keep courses fresh, interesting and useful for you. If you have any questions about a particular course structure or your subject teacher changes, please ask the Head of Sixth Form.

*For details of the subjects on offer please log onto [www.tas.herts.sch.uk/](http://www.tas.herts.sch.uk/) and navigate to the sixth form section*

## Study Skills and Enrichment

The Study Skills Programme is unique to the Academy, providing you with a range of enrichment activities in order to develop the skillset required to be independent and successful in the workplace. You will have a supervised study skills session each week that will help you make a successful transition from GCSE and become more confident and efficient in your approach to study and learning.

In addition to your chosen subjects, you will be required to take part in a variety of enrichment activities, develop employability skills and receive guidance on progression opportunities, further education courses and careers. Through the Study Skills Programme, we are able to harness the talents and expertise of prominent keynote speakers in education and the local business community. We have very strong links with our Outreach Liaison Officers at the University of Bedfordshire, the University of Hertfordshire and other Higher Education providers. Our students are offered the opportunity to engage in trips and activities designed to not only retain and develop skills, but to inspire a love of learning. The range of opportunities for all students is designed specifically to help them aim high and take pride in working towards their goals.





## Application

You can apply to Thomas Alleyne Sixth Form by filling in the application form. You can download a copy from the Sixth Form section of The Thomas Alleyne Academy website. Guidance meetings and taster sessions are available to help students make decisions regarding subject choices.

We expect all Sixth Form students to act as role models for younger pupils. For this reason, you must always demonstrate the highest standards in your appearance.

## Dress Code

The Thomas Alleyne Sixth Form is a professional working environment. This means that you should wear the same clothes to schools that a professional person would wear to work in an office.

## Financial Support

You can apply for a bursary to help with education-related costs if you are aged 16-19 and either studying at a school or college (not university) in England, or on a training course, including unpaid apprenticeships or speak to a member of the sixth form staff for more information.

## Virtual Work Experience Opportunities

All students will be given the opportunity to participate in these events. For our present Year 12 students we have organised a range of employability skills through bespoke companies and keynote speakers.

For example, during October half term, students will be able to participate in a wide range of work experience with a variety of careers with major companies and firms such as:

- <https://www.ignitepotential.com/>
- <https://www.speakersforschools.org/>
- <https://www.santanderjobs.co.uk/settingpotentialfree/work-experience.php>
- <https://www.socialenterprise.org.uk/>
- <https://www.tesco-careers.com/office-professional-services/property/>
- <http://www.ukyoungartists.co.uk/>

# OUR CURRICULUM & SUBJECTS

We aim to provide students with a range of subjects that have been carefully chosen to meet their interests and provide them with pathways that will enable them to make secure decisions about their futures. The subjects we offer are in option blocks that provide the most popular pathways into university study, higher apprenticeships and employment. The option blocks for subjects also enable students to make subject choices

that compliment each other in terms of skills and knowledge. If you have a career goal in mind and are unsure of what subjects to choose; we can offer you expert sixth form careers advice. Please contact the head of sixth form or our outreach coordinator at [barfootk@tas.herts.sch.uk](mailto:barfootk@tas.herts.sch.uk) or [newberyg@tas.herts.sch.uk](mailto:newberyg@tas.herts.sch.uk) for guidance.

BIOLOGY

CHEMISTRY

DIGITAL IMEDIA

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

MATHEMATICS

PSYCHOLOGY

SPORT & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

BUSINESS STUDIES

COMPUTER SCIENCE

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

HISTORY

PHYSICS

SOCIOLOGY



# YOUR ROLE

## Mentoring

We expect all Sixth Form students to commit to being part of the school community by volunteering to mentor younger students. This provides a valuable opportunity for you to take part in collaborative working experiences and to enhance your communication skills, as well as developing your sense of social responsibility. Through working with teaching staff and students we expect students to grow as leaders, with responsible attitudes towards work and towards helping each other. We ensure that you enter the world of work better equipped to treat others with mutual respect and understanding.

## Student Parliament

We are committed to helping you develop skills so that you leave Sixth Form as a confident and responsible person aiming for success in your chosen path. Sixth Form students are encouraged to

play an active role in attending and participating, as well as leading the Student Parliament. We aim for all Thomas Alleyne Sixth Form students to be active participants in citizenship at a local and national level and share experiences of bringing about positive change in the community they live in.

## Position of Responsibility

We expect all Sixth Form students to set an example to the rest of the school and we are proud of the mature way Sixth Form students conduct themselves. Each year, students are able to apply for posts of responsibility such as Senior Prefects. You will be selected on merit and on how your previous involvement in school life has shown you to be suitable for the specific role.



# YOUR ACADEMY

## Sixth Form Destinations 2023

During our study skills periods students are given bespoke advice and guidance on options and pathways after completion of their programme of study. We understand university is not for all students and we have qualified staff to help students plan higher apprenticeship applications or embark on their first career move.

Students are given advice and guidance on cv writing, apprenticeship applications and mock interviews. Networking with local businesses in our community has resulted in many exciting placements and work shadowing experiences for our students.

Progressing to higher education is, for most of our students, a natural step after A levels. On average 98% of our students gain a conditional offer from their first choice of university. Professional advice, guidance and tailored support is given to all students whether they are applying to Oxbridge, Russell Group Universities or Foundation Degrees. Advice on independent living, student finance, budgeting and postgraduate study and employment are discussed in 1-2-1 meetings with all students.

## Entry Requirements

A minimum of grade 4 in English and Maths is required with higher grades for certain subjects. Please visit: [www.tas.herts.sch.uk](http://www.tas.herts.sch.uk) for further information on subject requirements

Parents may seek further support about progression into Sixth Form by contacting Mrs Barfoot—[barfootk@tas.herts.sch.uk](mailto:barfootk@tas.herts.sch.uk). Please call Mrs Barfoot,

Head of Sixth Form or Mrs Newbery, Outreach Coordinator on 01438 344341. (Sixth Form Direct Line Number) for a consultation meeting.

## Curriculum Offer

As a Sixth Form student, you will be required to take a Study Skills Programme alongside your subject choices; which is designed to equip you with the skills needed for independent study and progression. Most students will have the opportunity to engage in work experience in Year 12. and all subjects provide enrichment opportunities.

## Dates for your diary

### October

Parents attend support information  
18th October—Open Evening

### October

Applications open

### December

Deadline for applications and confirmation of application

### January and February

Sixth Form interviews

### March

Conditional offer letters of places

### July

Induction and enrolment

# YOUR RESPONSIBILITY & WELLBEING

## Becoming Independent

Sixth Form is a time for you to prepare for success. You will need to take responsibility and focus on your achievement. You will be given targets for your courses and you must apply yourself and work hard to achieve or exceed these targets. To be successful as a Sixth Form student at The Thomas Alleyne Academy, you will have to focus on the following areas:

### Attendance

You should attend all of your lessons, meetings and other school activities. Try to ensure that all medical and other appointments are made outside of teaching hours. You must be punctual and arrive to all lessons on time.

### Organisation

Be organized and have the right materials and equipment for your lessons.

### Planning

Keep on top of your workload and deadlines. Plan carefully to give yourself enough time to complete your work to a standard that you are proud of. Use your diary to help you understand your timetable and homework schedules.

### Preparation

Understand the requirement for your course, in particular the type of examinations and coursework you will need to complete. Try to revise topics regularly, attend extra sessions and workshops, and read around your subject so that you achieve your potential.

## Communication

Follow the feedback that your teachers give you in order to improve. If you are unsure of something, you must be proactive and speak to your teachers for help.

### Look after yourself

Get enough sleep on a regular basis, eat a healthy diet and keep hydrated with water rather than sugary drinks. All of these factors play a vital part in ensuring that your brain is working effectively

## Student Wellbeing

Student well being is at the heart of our core values and an important part of ensuring progress. Every sixth form student has a dedicated specialist sixth form tutor to support well being and learning. Extending your knowledge and skills by working independently is an integral part of your study programme in sixth form which is supported by our dedicated team in the sixth form study centre.



**100% OF STUDENTS APPLYING  
TO UNIVERSITY GAINED  
THEIR SUBJECT OF CHOICE**

# SENIOR STUDENTS AND ENRICHMENT

## Working Independently and Part of a Team

Sixth Form lessons are designed to engender a work-ready ethos. Lessons will focus on activities that prepare you for the real world of work or for university seminars. You can expect to work collaboratively with other students to achieve lesson outcomes and there will be plenty of opportunities for you to develop all the skills that are necessary for the work place such as communication, teamwork and presentation and research techniques.

## Enrichment and Clubs

At The Thomas Alleyne Academy, we believe that academic life needs be about more than just your timetabled lessons. We live in a continually evolving world and through our enrichment offer, we are able to offer a broad spectrum and extensive range of experiences that enrich and underpin our curriculum. Lessons are designed to ensure that you feel motivated and inspired. We continually strive to raise your aspirations and awareness, and encourage you to maintain a professional attitude for every task you face.

We provide varied and bespoke activities which enable you to reflect on and build your independence and confidence. Some of the subject matter covered includes independent living skills, financial awareness and budgeting, health and safety, coping in emergencies and raising funds for charities in the local community. Each week, outside speakers are invited to give presentations to all our sixth form students on a variety of topics and experiences that you can get involved with.

*For details of the subjects on offer please log onto [www.tas.herts.sch.uk/](http://www.tas.herts.sch.uk/) and navigate to the sixth form section*

Visiting Careers and University Fairs gives students a chance to meet professionals and enhance their 'soft' skills.

Networking with businesses in our local community has resulted in many exciting work experience placements.

Students attend the 'What Career/What University Fair at Olympia London. The day gives all our students an insight of post graduate employment and apprenticeships available at post 18.

Our students participate in a complimentary curriculum programme where they attend undergraduate shadowing schemes, and keynote speakers visit our Academy to discuss industry and future careers.



## Examination board

AQA Biology B

## Assessment

The subject is assessed through three final exams taken at the end of two years of study.

## What will I study?

### Course content: Year 12

- Biological Molecules
- Cells, Viruses and Reproduction of Living Things
- Classification and Biodiversity
- Exchange and Transport

### Course content: Year 13

- Energy for Biological Processes.
- Microbiology and Pathogens
- Modern Genetics
- Origins of Genetic Variation
- Control Systems
- Ecosystems

Our A-level in biology programme will give you practical experience of this diverse and exciting sector. The focus is on key concepts in biology, including topics on modern genetics, cells, viruses and reproduction of living things, biological molecules and ecosystems. This programme encourages creative thinking and problem solving skills, you will also learn how to collect and analyse data, all of which are valuable, transferable skills.

## Why study A Level Biology?

Biology is an ever-developing subject that encompasses everything from the molecular study of life right up to the study of animal and plant communities. With the sector being so broad, the need for skilled biologists is ever present. Depending on individual interests, biology careers range from the study of living organisms, such as animals, plants, humans or even bacteria, to helping to develop biological knowledge and understanding of living processes for a number of different purposes, including treatment of disease and sustaining the natural environment.

If you are interested in learning more about yourself, the world you live in and the other organisms you share the world with, then you should enjoy studying biology.

## Your future pathways

A-Level Biology is essential for studying the following at university: biology, medicine, veterinary science, dentistry, physiotherapy, psychology, biochemistry and pharmacy, agricultural science, plant and animal sciences, genetics, environmental science. Studying Biology will also give you skills which are applicable to other subjects and careers, such as problem-solving skills and the ability to collect and analyse data and trends.



## Why study Business Studies?

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Business Studies will teach you about all areas of business including financial decision-making and solving business problems. You will also cover the following topics: finance, marketing, human resource management, logistics, business or entrepreneurship. The course encourages the practical application of business concepts by exploring and researching events in the business world and relating these to theories and practice. You will study this subject at The Thomas Alleyne Academy.

You need Business Studies at GCSE, grade 6 in order to take A-level Business. Several topics in the course are developments of work covered at GCSE, but many will be new. It is more important that you have a genuine interest in Business Studies and want to learn how a business is organised and managed.

## Your future pathways

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A level Business Studies leads to a vast range of careers such as business management, accountancy and finance, marketing, tourism management and international business. Business students can also progress to a wider range of careers such as banking, sales product management and general management.

### Examination board

Edexcel

### Assessment

The subject is assessed through final exams taken at the end of two years of study

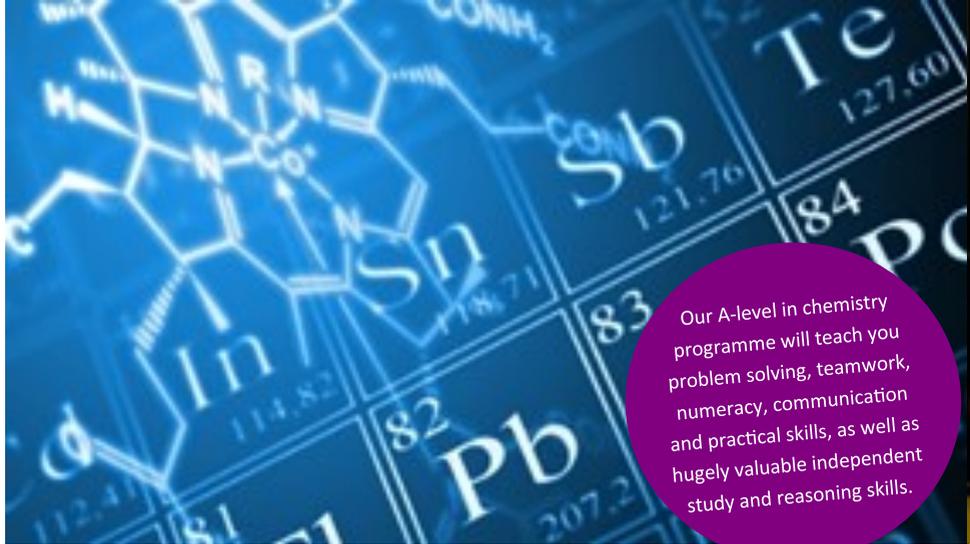
## What will I study?

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Business is a dynamic subject. You will learn about the diverse nature of business enterprise and the interdependence of the various parts of the business world. You will explore business success and business failure, investigate local, national and global business markets and understand businesses need to adapt and respond strategically to the changing environment in which they operate to survive and grow.

In year 1, you will learn how businesses work. You will be introduced to marketing and people functions before investigating entrepreneurs and business start-ups. You will explore how business finance and operations work, and understand the impact of external influences.

Year 2 moves from functions to strategy. You will explore influences on business strategy and decision-making, and understand how businesses mitigate risk and uncertainty. Global business and the opportunities and issues facing businesses in today's global world.



Our A-level in chemistry programme will teach you problem solving, teamwork, numeracy, communication and practical skills, as well as hugely valuable independent study and reasoning skills.

## Examination board

AQA

## Assessment

The subject is assessed through three final exams taken at the end of two years of study.

## What will I study?

A-level Chemistry covers a wide variety of basic concepts such as the structure of the atom; the interaction of matter and energy; how to control reactions; patterns in the Periodic Table and understanding carbon-based molecules. Amongst topics you will learn new knowledge and skills and build on GCSE Chemistry, in order to understand and apply ideas. Many topics include mathematics calculations, so you should feel comfortable using equations and numbers. Chemistry is a hands-on science and you will carry out experiments regularly in order to consolidate class work but also to build your skills and confidence in completing safe and accurate practical work. Chemistry A-level is a highly respected A-level as a variety of skills are tested, see below for which subjects complement A-level Chemistry.

## Why study A Level Chemistry?

Chemistry helps us to understand the world in which we live and underpins a wide range of science-based degree courses and careers. Success with A-level chemistry will prepare you for a future in chemistry, pharmacy, pharmacology, chemical engineering, biochemistry, biomedical sciences, medicine and dentistry. This course is designed to be stimulating, enjoyable and challenging. We want you to develop a passion for the subject and understand its practical relevance, as well as learn from the experiences of those already in the industry.

Class time is supported by trips, conferences and workshops provided by GSK and industry visits.

## Your future pathways

Studying an A-level Chemistry related degree at university gives you all sorts of exciting career options, including:

- Analytical chemist
- Chemical engineer
- Clinical biochemist
- Pharmacologist
- Doctor
- Research scientist (physical sciences)
- Toxicologist
- Chartered certified accountant
- Environmental consultant
- Higher education lecturer
- Patent attorney
- Science writer
- Secondary school teacher

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4 import calendar
5 import math
6 import pytz
7 import io, base64
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class AdmissionExtensionOnlineController(http.Controller):
    @http.route('/get/type_wise_program', website=True, auth='none')
    def type_wise_program(self, **kwargs):
        if len(kwargs['types']) <= 0:
            return "None"
        types = kwargs['types']
        program_list = []
        domain = []
        if types == 'local_bachelor_program_hsc':
            domain = [('course_id.is_local_bachelor_program_hsc', '=')
        elif types == 'local_bachelor_program_a_level':
            domain = [('course_id.is_local_bachelor_program_a_level')
        elif types == 'local_bachelor_program_diploma':
            domain = [('course_id.is_local_bachelor_program_diploma')
        elif types == 'local_masters_program_diploma':
            domain = [('course_id.is_local_masters_program_diploma')
        elif types == 'international_bachelor_program_bachelor':
            domain = [('course_id.is_international_bachelor_program_bachelor')
        elif types == 'international_masters_program_bachelor':
            domain = [('course_id.is_international_masters_program_bachelor')
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## Why study A Level Computer Science?

The course has an emphasis on computational thinking. Computational thinking is a kind of reasoning used by both humans and machines. Thinking computationally is an important life skill. The study of computation is about what can be computed and how to compute it. Computer Science involves questions that have the potential to change how we view the world. This subject will be studied at The Thomas Alleyne Academy.

Computing / Computer Science is about designing new algorithms to solve new problems. In this sense Computer Science is no more about computers than astronomy is about telescopes. Many great challenges lie in the future for Computer Scientists to solve. This course, with its emphasis on abstract thinking, general problem-solving, algorithmic and mathematical reasoning, scientific and engineering-based thinking, is a good foundation for understanding these future challenges.

## Your future pathways

The course specification has been designed for students who wish to go on to higher education courses or employment where knowledge of Computing would be beneficial. One can study Computing and go on to a career in medicine, law, business, politics or any type of science.

### Examination board AQA

### Assessment

The course is assessed through exams taken at the end of two years of study

## What will I study?

The first year specification includes two units. Unit 1 is a practical, on-screen, examination which allows students to demonstrate their knowledge of the fundamental principles of the subject, focusing on programming through a problem-solving scenario using pre-release material. Unit 2 focuses on the hardware and software aspects of Computing and the social and economic consequences of Computing.

The second year specification builds on this content, with Unit 3 focusing on computational thinking, what can be computed, programming and problem-solving including communication and networking. Unit 4 is an internally assessed unit, with students required to complete a report on a computer-based programmed solution to a problem-solving exercise of their choice.



## Examination board

CTEC

## Assessment

A combination of internally assessed units and exam assessed units.

## What will I study?

This course is made up of multiple units. Two units will be selected to meet the needs of the specific cohort. The mandatory Units studied will include:

- **Media products and audiences:** develop your understanding of how different media institutions operate in order to create products that will appeal to specific target audiences.
- **Pre-production and planning:** You will understand the preproduction process that the creative media industry follow when creating a product.
- **Create a Media product:** To plan and produce a media product

## Why study Digital Media?

The digital creative media industry is one of the fastest growing sectors of the economy. It's also one of the coolest and most rewarding places to be. If you've ever felt the need to express yourself and you've a love for technology, this is the course for you. Digital Media involves learning to do everything required to make films, TV programmes, and advertising campaigns - whether you want to work in photography, video, sound, editing or gaming. You will need to be able to work independently as well as be part of a team and a passion for creativity is vitally important, as are organisational, research and analytical skills.

## Your future pathways

You'll be set for an honours programme in a wide variety of disciplines including publishing, media, graphic design, advertising, PR, communications and more, Alternatively jump straight in to industry with an entry level role or apprenticeship.



## Examination board

AQA

## Assessment

A combination of coursework and final exams taken at the end of two years of study.

## What will I study?

In A-level English you will draw on the academic field of Stylistics in order to create an integrated course which brings together literary and non-literary discourses. This integrates literary and linguistic fields via shared concepts about the way language choices create representations, both in literary and non-literary texts: words create worlds, both in literature and elsewhere.

The topics and titles of the subject content clearly signpost the key areas of study and separate the content both logically and distinctively. 'Telling Stories' focuses on how and why stories are told, the ways in which writers and speakers present stories, and how language choices help to shape the representations of different worlds and perspectives. 'Exploring Conflict' retains this focus on language choices but looks at how these choices help to construct ideas of conflict between people, and between people and their societies. 'Making Connections' focuses on language use in different types of text and requires you to make active connections between a literary text and some non-literary material.

## Why study A Level English?

The A-level English course is designed to allow students to think critically and independently around a range of iconic texts. Students will study a variety of texts over the course of two years, including two anthologies provided by the school. The specification provides opportunities for students to explore ideas & recurring themes in literature through time by close analysis of language. This course integrates literary and linguistic fields via shared concepts about the way language choices create representations, both in literary and non-literary texts. It focuses on how and why stories are told, the ways in which writers and speakers present stories, and how language choices help to shape the representations of different worlds and perspectives.

The aim is to demonstrate conceptual understanding of the choices made and the effects created, as well as demonstrating an understanding of the original text. Above all, the course exposes students to wonderful works of Literature for the sheer pleasure of reading.

## Your future pathways

A-level English Language & Literature develops a student's analytical skills, enhances their ability to construct a persuasive and logical argument and improves their oral and written communication skills. The study of English will compliment any future studies in the Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences and Law faculties at University, in fact all courses that require analytical and critical thinking.



## Examination board

AQA

## Assessment

Two three hour exams

## What will I study?

- **The living environment:** the interaction of living organisms with each other and their abiotic environment, and how an understanding of this can inform decisions
- **The physical environment:** understanding how anthropogenic activities are interconnected with physical processes, to formulate management strategies
- **Energy resources:** The importance of energy resources in both past and future developments
- **Pollution:** how the properties of materials and energy forms interact to result in environmental change.
- **Biological resources:** understanding of the challenge posed by the need to provide food and forest resources for a growing human population without damaging the planet's life support systems.
- **Sustainability:** develop a holistic understanding of sustainability and the circular economy

## Why study A Level Environmental Science?

Are you interested in finding out more about the impact of human activity on our planet? Perhaps you are interested in discovering ways in which environmental damage can be halted or even reversed.

If this sounds like you, then come and join with likeminded people by choosing A Level Environmental Science.

As a student you will have the opportunity to gain insights and understanding of how geographical and biological components are interrelated in terms of the environment.

This scientific subject will lead you to both answers and more questions, and sits particularly well alongside subjects like Biology, and Chemistry.

## Your future pathways

Your interest in the environment could take you along a number of career paths, including: ecology, wildlife conservation, environmental impact assessment, aquaculture, local government, town planning and transport design.

If you choose to progress into higher education you will have opportunities to enter new fields such as ecotoxicology, climatology, geobiology or marine biology.



## Why study A Level History?

The study of History is attractive to students who are fascinated by the past. It provides a broad, satisfying course for students and enables them to develop through independent thought, enhance their analytical skills and learn how to interrogate historical evidence. Students will need an enquiring mind, be motivated and be able to enjoy reading, essay writing, and sharing ideas. A genuine interest in the subject is essential.

## What will I study?

### Unit 1 - Tsarist and Communist Russia, 1855-1964

This is a 'breadth' study; this topic explores how people became disillusioned with the monarchy; causes of reform and how this contributed to revolution. It addresses the rise and emergence of the Communist dictatorship, assessing the changing role of leaders such as Lenin, Stalin and Khrushchev and the changes that occurred to the political, economic and social conditions within the USSR.

### Unit 2 - The Making of Modern Britain, 1951-2007

This option provides an in depth study of the key political, economic, social and international changes which helped mould Britain in the second half of the 20th century. It explores concepts such as government and opposition, class, social division and social change. It encourages students to reflect on Britain's changing place in the world as well as the interrelationship between political policies, economic developments and political survival.

## Examination board

AQA

## Assessment

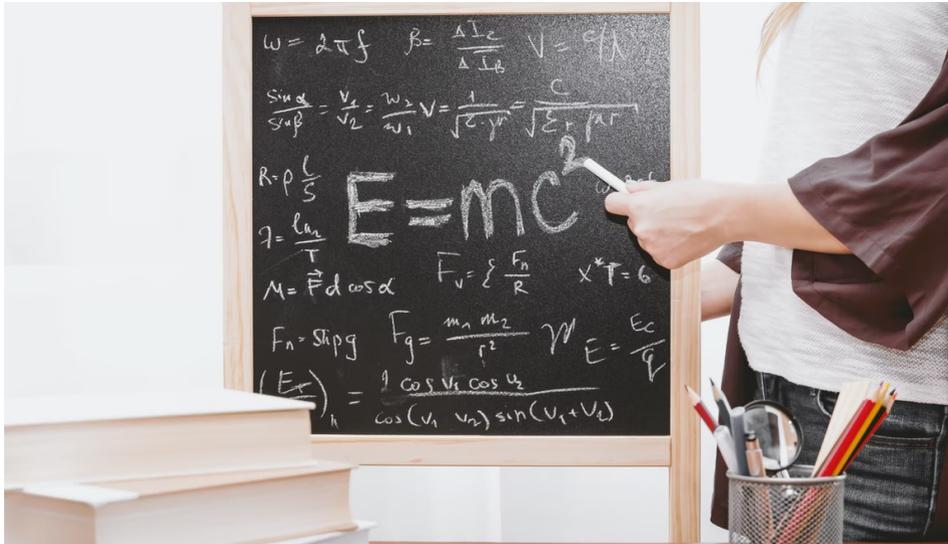
One piece of written coursework and two exams taken at the end of two years of study

## Your future pathways

Students will gain a thorough theoretical knowledge of the subject which will enable them to progress towards studying History at degree level. Alternatively, the study of History will enhance your academic profile and provide evidence of study skills and knowledge which will equip you with a sound basis upon which to study other subjects at degree level such as English and other Social Sciences. If you choose to progress to employment after completing you're a Levels, this qualification will show evidence of excellent research skills and an ability to understand complex theories and instructions.

### Unit 3 - Historical Investigation coursework:

This unit requires the student to complete and submit an independently researched investigation; students set, research, investigate and answer their own approved question, culminating in the completion of a 4000-word project.



## Why study Mathematics?

If you don't have much of a mathematical background, it can be quite hard to explain why studying advanced Maths is of such immense value that it is seen as the premier A-level. If you pick up a text and thumb through it, it looks impenetrable: it might as well be written in a foreign language with a strange script, like Mandarin.

The subject deals simply with the foundation of the ideas which have shaped our scientific world, its technologies, and the thought-patterns which will be needed for the next generations of scientists, economists, statisticians and engineers. It has also influenced deeply the world of philosophers and poets.

## What will I study?

### Pure Mathematics (66%)

Methods and techniques which underpin the study of all other areas of mathematics, such as, proof, algebra, trigonometry, calculus, and vectors.

### Statistics (17%)

Working with data from a sample to make inferences about a population, probability calculations, modelling real life data using statistical distributions and hypothesis testing.

### Mechanics (17%)

The study of the physical world, modelling the motion of objects and the forces acting on them.

## Examination board

Edexcel

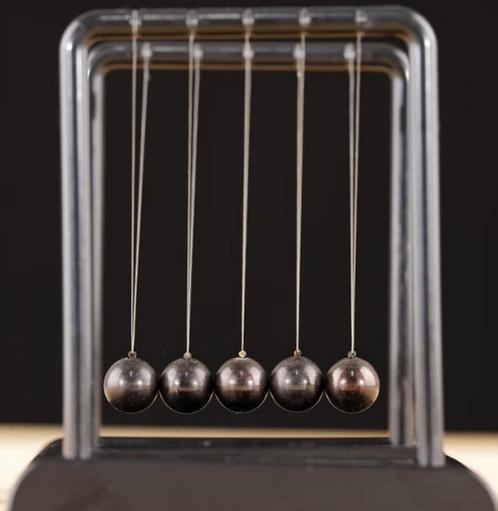
## Assessment

The courses are assessed through exams taken at the end of two years of study. The papers are on core maths, statistics and mechanics.

## Your future pathways

The course specification has been designed for students who wish to go on to higher education courses or employment where knowledge of Mathematics would be beneficial. It is also designed to be way in which students who really enjoy Maths can develop their mental powers.

"Taking maths at A-level is more helpful for landing a place at a Russell Group university than studying at a grammar or private school, research from University College London's Institute of Education suggests. There is even a maths premium for degree subjects that are not directly related to maths or which require a different skillset, such as languages and humanities." - Source: <https://schoolsweek.co.uk/a-level-maths-is-more-useful-for-top-university-places-than-private-school>



## Why study A Level Physics?

A level Physics gives you the opportunity to explore the phenomena of the universe and to look at theories that explain what is observed. This subject combines practical skills with theoretical ideas to develop descriptions of the physical universe. You will learn about everything from kinematics to cosmology and many recent developments in fascinating topics, such as particle physics. If you are interested in the limits of space, the beginning of time and everything in between this is the subject for you. Physics is more than a subject – it trains your brain to think beyond boundaries.

Physics allows you to delve into the laws that explain why everything in the universe – from quasars to Quavers – exists. It explores where energy comes from, how it behaves and how it can be transformed. It also examines the forces of nature – like gravity – and how they work. You'll gain an understanding of how sustained flight works and why satellites don't fall from the sky. Apart from when they do.

It's a multi-faceted subject that can lead to a fascinating and fulfilling career, whether your interests lie in theoretical or experimental physics.

## Your future pathways

Students will develop skills that will enable them to increase Mathematical prowess, think analytically with the ability to write and follow instructions for others; think outside one topic box to draw together knowledge from all topics to solve problems; tabulate data logically.

### Examination board

AQA

### Assessment

The subject is assessed through three final exams taken at the end of two years of study.

## What will I study?

### Year 12

- Particles and radiation
- Waves and optics
- Mechanics and materials
- Electricity
- Skills in AS physics

### Year 13

- Further mechanics
- Thermal physics
- Gravitational and electric fields
- Capacitors
- Magnetic fields
- Nuclear physics

### Optional units [1 chosen]

- Astrophysics – Students traditionally follow this option but others can be offered
- Medical physics
- Engineering physics
- Turning points in Physics



## Examination board

Edexcel

## Assessment

Pearson examination and internal research coursework (see assessment section)

## What will I study?

If you choose to study Applied Psychology you will study three mandatory units covering the following content area:

- Applications of Psychological Approaches
- Conducting Psychological Research
- Health Psychology
- One optional unit (TBC)

## Your future pathways

This qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to admission requirements to many relevant applied psychology courses.

When combined with other relevant qualifications, you could progress onto degree courses such as Occupational Health, Child Psychology, Sport Psychology and much more.

## Why study BTEC Applied Psychology?

If you have a passion for science, health and people, then this is the course for you! Lesson activities will vary and will include the use of case studies, independent research, structured tasks, presentations and group work.

You will develop the knowledge and understanding of key approaches and theories in psychology and apply these to issues relevant to contemporary society, for example lifestyle choices and unhealthy behaviours such as addiction.

You will learn about the types and characteristics of mental disorders, approaches to treatments, and the role of professionals in supporting and promoting mental health. In addition to exploring the scientific process in psychological research methodology through conducting your own psychological research project.

## Assessment

### Year 1

- Psychological Approaches (external examination) 25%
- Psychological Research (internal research coursework) 25%

### Year 2

- Health Psychology (external examinations) 33%
- Unit 4 (internal coursework task) 17%



## Why study A Level Sociology?

These subject enables candidates to:

- Acquire knowledge and a critical understanding of contemporary society.
- Understand sociological theories and a range of research methods.
- Reflect on their own experience of the social world in which they live.
- Develop thinking and debating skills which will enhance their ability to participate more effectively in adult life. Students engage in active learning through discussions, debates and activities. Sociology classes are lively places where you will be free to express ideas and consider different viewpoints. There will be weekly homework and research tasks to underpin and develop understanding.

## Your future pathways

Sociology offers you a number of useful skills and also provides training for a wide range of careers. These include market research, public relations, social work, teaching, advertising, sales, media and broadcasting, personnel management and even the Police and the Armed Forces

### Examination board

AQA

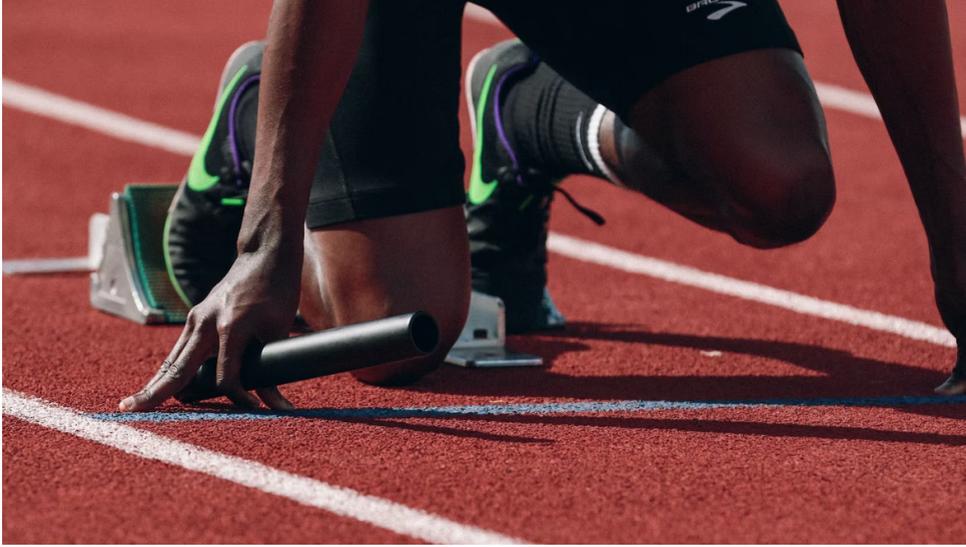
### Assessment

Three papers at the end of two years of study

## What will I study?

The course consists of four units studied across two years.

- Education with Theory and Methods: Candidates will study the policies and theories relating to education as well as learning about sociological research methods.
- Families and Households: We will study the relationship of the family to social structures and social change and the policies and theories relating to these.
- Globalisation: We will be looking at the forces of globalisation and how they shape our lives, including trade, aid, debt and cultural factors, the role of transnational corporations and governments. War and conflict are also examined.
- Crime and Deviance with Theory and methods: We will be studying patterns and social explanations of crime, deviance, social control and studying theories and methods relating to these areas. We will also be setting crime in a global context with human rights and environmental issues.



## Examination board

OCR Cambridge Technicals

## Assessment

Internally assessed units of work and examinations.

## What will I study?

The course is made up of 5 units. Two of the units that students will study are optional units and will be decided in consultation with the students. The mandatory units include:

- **Body Systems and the effects of physical exercise:** In this unit you will gain an understanding of the structures and functions of the key body systems, how these support and impact performance in sport and physical activity and the effects that physical activity, training and life-style can have on them.
- **Sports coaching and activity leadership:** This unit will give you an understanding behind the theory of what makes good sports coaches and activity leaders and methods that can be employed to improve the performance of participants.
- **Sports Organisation and development:** you will gain an understanding of the organisations involved in sport in the UK, their roles and responsibilities and how they work together

## Why study CTEC Sports?

The OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Sport and Physical Activity introduces the sector for learners looking to build a career in sport, within one of its occupational areas. These areas include careers in exercise and fitness, coaching, leadership and sports development.

This course provides a more practical, real-world approach to learning alongside a theoretical background, giving learners the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need to prepare for employment.

## Your future pathways

Sports offers you a number of transferrable skills that can be applied to a wide range of careers. These may include physiotherapy, sports coaching, personal trainers, sports development and biomechanics.



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