

COURSE

CHEW VALLEY
SIXTH
FORM
Learn Grow Achieve

BOOKLET 2021

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ART

You will have the opportunity to study new and traditional aspects of Art, Craft and Design, as well as visiting local and national galleries.

“It’s creative and relaxing, challenging and exciting. I love it!”

Art and Design A Level
Exam Board OCR

Head of Subject

Mr S O’Connell

Course Description

Most suitable for students achieving a high grade for GCSE Art, grade 6 or above. Sketchbook and portfolio work will be produced during the course, based around a number of chosen themes.

Entry Guidelines

Students who have met the Sixth Form’s entrance criteria, including Art.

Course Content and Assessment

The variety of art forms covered could include:

- **Fine Art:**
Painting, printmaking or sculpture
- **Graphic Communication:**
Illustration, packaging or advertising
- **Photography:**
Traditional, digital or moving image
- **Textile Design:**
Printed and digital textiles, fashion design or constructed textiles
- **Three Dimensional Design:**
Ceramics, product design or jewellery
- **Critical and Contextual Studies:**
Art theory, artistic movements or architecture

A Level

- **Component 1:**
Personal Investigation
Worth 60%
 1. Portfolio of practical work
 2. Written study of a minimum of 2000 words
- **Component 2:**
Externally set task
Worth 40% (15 hour practical exam)

PHOTOGRAPHY

You will have the chance to explore and practise new and traditional photographic techniques, including both film and digital, darkroom processing and Photoshop image manipulation.

“Seeing the world through my camera lens has changed my perspective on life!”

Art and Design: Photography A Level
Exam Board OCR

Head of Subject

Mr S O’Connell

Course Description

Sketchbook, prints and portfolio work will be produced during the course, based around a number of chosen themes. Students will need a camera, and to purchase a studio pack via the school.

Entry Guidelines

Students who have met the Sixth Form’s entrance criteria. Art at GCSE is an advantage.

Course Content and Assessment

Photographic art forms covered will include:

- **Portraiture**
- **Landscape photography**
- **Commercial photography**
- **Still-life photography**
- **Documentary photography**
- **Experimental imagery**
- **Editorial imagery**
- **Photographic installation**
- **The photographic process**
- **Moving image**
- **Animation**

A Level

- **Component 1:**
Personal Investigation
Worth 60%
 1. Portfolio of practical work
 2. Written study of a minimum of 2000 words
- **Component 2:**
Externally set task
Worth 40% (15 hour practical exam)

TEXTILES

Studying A Level Textiles provides a worthwhile, satisfying and complete course of study, which broadens experience, develops imagination, fosters creativity and promotes personal and social development.

“This course enabled me to discover depths and talents I was previously unaware of.”

Art and Design: Textiles A Level
Exam Board Eduqas

Head of Subject

Mrs J Ashman

Course Description

Critical, practical and theoretical study in art, craft and design is purposefully integrated to provide exciting, challenging and meaningful learning experiences.

Entry Guidelines

Students who have met the Sixth Form's entrance criteria and studied Art or Textiles at GCSE.

Course Content and Assessment

Summary of course content:

- Recording from direct experience, observation and imagination.
- Developing ideas for their work, investigating visual and other sources of information.
- Exploring and using a range of media for working in two and/or three dimensions.
- Reviewing, modifying and refining work as it progresses and realising intentions.

Topics Covered:

- Contextual Understanding
- Creative Making
- Reflective Recording
- Personal Presentation

A Level

- Component 1
Personal Investigation (non-exam assessment)
Worth 60%
- Component 2
Externally Set Assignment (exam assessment)
Worth 40%

PRODUCT DESIGN

The course offers a unique opportunity for students to identify and solve real problems by designing and making products in a wide range of contexts in relation to their personal interests.

“We always work in small groups and have one-to-one help from the teachers”

Product Design A Level
Exam Board Eduqas

Head of Subject

Mrs J Ashman

Course Description

It will encourage you to study the relationships between designer, manufacturer and user. It will allow you to develop an appreciation of the importance of creativity and innovation to good design practice, and to understand the key principles of designing and making.

Entry Guidelines

Students who have met the Sixth Form’s entrance criteria and achieved well in any area of Design and Technology at GCSE.

Course Content and Assessment

A Level

- Component 1
Design and Technology in the 21st Century
Written examination 3 hours
50% of qualification

Core knowledge and understanding is presented in six distinct topic areas:

- Impact of new and emerging technologies
- Evaluation of new and emerging technologies
- Energy
- Modern and smart materials
- Ecological and social footprint
- Investigating and analysing the work of others

You are required to study all of the content in these six areas, to ensure you have a broad knowledge and understanding of design and technology and that you are able to make effective choices in relation to which materials, components and systems to utilise within design and make activities.

- Component 2
Design and make project
Non-exam assessment 80 hours
50% of qualification

The core skills that you are required to develop and apply are presented in nine topic areas:

- Understanding design and technology practice takes place within contexts
- Identifying and understanding user needs
- Writing a design brief and specifications
- Investigating challenges
- Developing ideas
- Using design strategies
- Communicating design ideas
- Developing a prototype
- Making decisions

You are required to cover all of the content in these areas to ensure you are able to apply a broad knowledge and understanding of design and technology principles within design and make activities.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

A modern, practical and relevant course allowing you to demonstrate an excellent level of ICT and Computing skills ready for employment or higher education.

“All the lesson resources are put on the ICT website so you can work and learn at your own pace.”

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Information Technology
Exam Board Pearson Edexcel

Head of Subject

Mrs J Gardiner

Course Description

Pearson Level 3 Certificate in Information Technology is intended as an Applied General qualification and is equivalent in size to one A Level. It is designed for learners who are interested in an introduction to the study of creating IT systems to manage and share information alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in IT.

Learners will develop a common core of IT knowledge and study areas such as the relationship between hardware and software that form an IT system, managing and processing data to support business and using IT to communicate and share information.

The objective of this qualification is to give learners the opportunity to develop their knowledge and skills in IT systems, systems management and social media in business. This will enable learners to progress to further study in IT or other sectors. This will allow progression to a variety of degrees when combined with other suitable Level 3 qualifications.

Entry Guidelines

Students who have met the Sixth Form's entrance criteria. Students should have a good standard of written English and ICT skills, along with a passion for Computing.

Course Content and Assessment

Learners will study three mandatory units:

- Unit 1: **Information Technology Systems (synoptic)**

- Unit 2: **Creating Systems to Manage Information**

- Unit 3: **Using Social Media in Business**

This qualification includes a choice of optional units, including:

- Unit 5: **Data Modelling**

- Unit 6: **Website Development**

COMPUTER SCIENCE

The perfect course for academic learners who want to extend their knowledge of Computer Science, including programming, even further. The A Level Computer Science qualification helps students understand the core academic principles of Computer Science. Classroom learning is transferred into developing real-world systems through the creation of an independent programming project. Our A Level will advance the students' technical understanding and their ability to analyse and solve problems using computational thinking.

Computer Science A Level
Exam Board OCR

Head of Subject

Mrs J Gardiner

Course Description

Computer Science is a practical subject where students can apply the academic principles learned in the classroom to real-world systems. It's an intensely creative subject that combines invention

and excitement, and can look at the natural world through a digital prism.

To be a Computer Science student, you will possess:

- An understanding and ability to apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including: abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms and data representation;
- The ability to analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including writing programs to do so;
- The capacity to think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically;
- The capacity to see relationships between different aspects of Computer Science;
- Mathematical skills.

Entry Guidelines

Students who have met the Sixth Form's entrance criteria. Students should have a grade 6 or above in GCSE Computer Science and Maths.

Course Content and Assessment

Students will study:

- **The characteristics of contemporary processors, input, output and storage devices**
- **Software and software development**

- **Exchanging data**
- **Data types, data structures and algorithms**
- **Legal, moral, cultural and ethical issues**
- **Elements of computational thinking**
- **Problem solving and programming**
- **Algorithms to solve problems and standard algorithms**

The learner will choose a computing problem to work through according to the guidance in the specification.

- **Analysis of the problem**
- **Design of the solution**
- **Developing the solution**
- **Evaluation**

- **Computer systems Unit 1:**
140 marks - 2 hours and 30 minutes written paper (no calculators allowed)
40% of total A Level

- **Algorithms and programming Unit 2:**
140 marks - 2 hours and 30 minutes written paper (no calculators allowed)
40% of total A Level

- **Programming project**
Unit 3 Repository or
Unit 4 Postal
Non-exam assessment
20% of total A Level

BUSINESS

A highly practical course where you will have the opportunity to apply relevant business ideas and techniques to your work. You will investigate local and national businesses through a variety of research methods.

“We have learnt key skills such as organisation, self-discipline and independence as well as team working.”

Applied Business Level 3 Certificate
Exam Board AQA

Head of Subject

Mrs J Gardiner

Course Description

This is a practical course that offers an A Level equivalent qualification. Through a mixture of coursework and external examinations, students will apply their learning to real life businesses.

They will develop key skills of research, problem solving, decision-making and communication.

Approximately two thirds of assessment

is coursework, and a significant amount of lesson time is devoted to completing it. Visits to business organisations provide an essential way of gathering up to date information. Students are encouraged to discuss and share ideas and, in some lessons, students will produce assignment projects, including devising a recruitment campaign.

Entry Guidelines

This course is not just aimed at those who have studied Business at GCSE, although this is an advantage. It is equally suitable for well-motivated students who have an interest in a business career.

Course Content and Assessment

Year 12 - Level 3 Certificate

- **Unit 1 Financial Planning and Analysis**
Year 12 exam worth 1/3 of marks.
- **Unit 2 Business Dynamics**
Year 12 coursework worth 1/3 of marks.
- **Unit 3 Entrepreneurial Opportunities**
External assignment worth 1/3 of marks. Assessed in June of Year 12.

Year 13 - Level 3 Extended Certificate

- **Unit 4 Managing and Leading People**
External examination worth 1/3 of marks.
Assessed in June of Year 13.
- **Unit 5 Developing a Business Proposal**
Year 13 coursework worth 1/3 of marks.
- **Unit 6 Managing an Event**
Year 13 coursework worth 1/3 of marks.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

A fascinating exploration of how we manipulate language for different audiences and purposes by studying a range of literary and non-fiction texts.

“This course has opened my eyes to the importance of studying linguistics to analyse literary texts.”

English Language and Literature A Level
Exam Board Edexcel

Head of Subject

Mr G James

Course Description

This course is aimed at students who enjoy reading widely in a range of genres and are interested in developing the skills of a versatile writer. You will need to be open to and interested in new and different forms of texts. You should be confident in challenging interpretations and offering alternative viewpoints.

The majority of the course will be assessed through terminal exams, accounting for 80% of the final grade. You will read a wide range of literature covering an engaging selection of prose,

poetry and drama, both modern and classic.

The course will provide you with a chance to explore a selection of linguistic texts dating back to the start of the previous century, with a focus on how context and audience shape our use of language. The coursework requires you to craft two complex and substantial pieces: one with a fiction focus and one a non-fiction focus.

Entry Guidelines

You need a grade 5 or above in both English Literature and English Language GCSE for this course. You should already be a keen reader who pushes yourself to consider a wide range of writing, both in terms of fiction and diverse non-fiction.

Course Content and Assessment

- **Component 1**
Voices in Speech and Writing
Section A: Voices in the 20th and 21st Century - one comparative essay question on one unseen extract selected from either 20th or 21st Century sources and one text from an Edexcel anthology studied in class, covering a wide range of linguistic texts.
Section B: Drama - one extract-based essay question on the studied drama text. This is an open book exam, meaning you are allowed a copy of the text with you.
Worth 40% of total grade

- **Component 2**
Varieties in Language and Literature
Section A: Unseen prose non-fiction texts - one essay question on an unseen prose non-fiction extract. The unseen extract is linked to a theme studied for Section B.
Section B: Prose fiction and other genres - one comparative essay question on one prose fiction anchor text and one other text from a theme, that could include drama and poetry. Possible themes include ‘Love and Loss’, ‘Society and the Individual’ and ‘Encounters’.
Worth 40% of total grade
- **Coursework**
Investigating and Creating Texts
Students select two texts (one fiction, one non-fiction) related to their chosen topic. They will produce two pieces of creative writing, using their texts as stimuli and/or style models, and one commentary on both.
Worth 20% of total grade

ENGLISH LITERATURE

A course that will challenge you to think for yourself. You will read a range of powerful literature and develop a critical voice which is able to tackle complex ideas analytically and eloquently.

“English Literature has helped me to look at books differently and inspired me maybe to write my own.”

English Literature A Level
Exam Board Edexcel

Head of Subject

Mr G James

Course Description

On this course you will enhance your enjoyment of reading and develop a perceptive, critical eye. A wide range of texts and genres are studied. You will learn to explore and consider different people's perspectives and to communicate your own opinions through discussion. You will learn to become good at conveying an argument by considering creative, abstract and philosophical ideas. You will, of course, develop your skills in written analysis, discussion and literary criticism.

The majority of the course will be assessed through terminal exams, accounting for 80% of the final grade. You will read a wide range of literature covering the finer points of Shakespeare's work, a selection of prose, poetry and drama from across a range of literary periods and explore how to respond to the challenges of unseen texts.

Entry Guidelines

You need a grade 5 or above in both English Literature and English Language GCSE for this course. You should already be a keen reader who pushes yourself to consider a wide range of writing, both in terms of fiction and analytical non-fiction.

Course Content and Assessment

■ Component 1 Drama

Section A: You will study a Shakespeare play AND a collection of critical essays from the exam board. In the exam, you will answer one essay question on the Shakespeare text.

Section B: One essay question on another drama text studied in class.

Worth 30% of total grade

■ Component 2 Prose

You will study two prose texts from a chosen theme and one of which will

be pre-1900. The possible themes include: 'Childhood', 'The Supernatural' and 'Crime and Detection'. In the exam, you will answer one comparative essay question from a choice of two and it is open book, meaning you are allowed a copy of the text with you.

Worth 20% of total grade

■ Component 3 Poetry

Section A: You will study a selection of modern poetry from 'Poems of the Decade', an Anthology of Poetry covering pieces from 2002-2011. In the exam, you will answer one comparative essay question on an unseen poem written post 2000 and a named poem from the collection. It is open book, meaning you are allowed a copy of the text with you.

Section B: You will study a selection of poetry from a literary period OR a range of poetry by a named poet from within a literary period. In the exam, you will answer one question from a choice of two on your studied movement / poet. Again, this section is open book.

Worth 30% of total grade

■ Coursework

A comparative essay referring to two literary texts of your choosing. You will devise an analytical question and produce a 2500-3000 word essay based upon it.

Worth 20% of total grade

MEDIA STUDIES

A lively, challenging and practical course which will develop your creative skills in designing and making a media production.

“It’s creative, interesting and it’s given me a lot of insights into the media world.”

Media Studies A Level

Head of Subject

Mr E Sanderson

Course Description

This is a lively, challenging course teaching the practical and creative skills needed for making a convincing media product whilst also developing your knowledge and understanding of existing media and the industries that produce it. You will have the opportunity to develop real skills with industry standard equipment and the software used to produce short films, music videos and webpages.

Entry Guidelines

You **DO NOT** have to have studied GCSE Media Studies to qualify for the course. You will need a Grade 4 or above in GCSE English. We’re after students who are interested in all aspects of the media and keen to understand how it works.

Course Content and Assessment

A Level

- **Component 1 Media Messages**
Candidates focus on contemporary news in the UK, exploring how newspapers and their online counterparts are responding to the internet, shaping their message and catering to their audiences. A detailed study of a number of music videos, magazines and print adverts is completed in order to explore media language and the concept of representation.
- **Component 2 Evolving Media**
Candidates study a variety of media texts including video games, film and radio in order to understand how specific industries engage specific audiences. Students will compare two long form TV drama programmes, exploring the technical and narrative construction of specific episodes.
- **Component 3 Non-exam Unit**
This is a coursework unit, which is internally assessed and externally moderated. In response to a brief set by the exam board, candidates draw on their developing knowledge of audience, representation and genre to produce a music video and accompanying website.

GEOGRAPHY

A chance to study the ever-changing planet on which we live. It involves multi-dimensional skills, being a bridge between the arts and the sciences.

“Geography is the only subject that deals with the past, present and most importantly the future of our planet.”

Geography A Level
Exam Board AQA

Head of Subject

Mrs E Shuttleworth

Course Description

Modern geography is an all-encompassing discipline that seeks to understand the Earth and all of its human and natural complexities. The course offers students the chance to study the key features, inhabitants and phenomena of Earth. Geography will excite students' minds, challenge perceptions and stimulate their investigative and analytical skills. There will be an opportunity to attend field trips to Devon and other areas of the South West to investigate both human and physical geographical phenomena.

Entry Guidelines

Students who have met the Sixth Form's entrance criteria and who are likely to have achieved a grade 5 or above in Geography at GCSE.

Course Content and Assessment

- **Unit 1 Physical Geography**
 1. Water and carbon cycles
 2. Coastal systems and landscapes
 3. HazardsWritten exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
Worth 40% of A Level

- **Unit 2 Human Geography**
 1. Global systems and global governance
 2. Changing places
 3. Population and the environmentWritten exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
Worth 40% of A Level

- **Unit 3 Geographical Investigation**

Students complete an individual investigation which must include data collected in the field. The individual investigation must be based on a question or issue defined and developed by the student relating to any part of the specification content.

3,000–4,000 words: marked by teachers, moderated by AQA
Worth 20% of A level

HISTORY

An exciting study of selected topics, most of which are drawn from 19th and 20th Century American History. You will develop the ability to articulate and express historical arguments through discussion, debate and presentation.

“History helps us understand change and how the society we live in came to be. There is no better way to understand current events and our own place in the world.”

History A Level
Exam Board OCR

Head of Subject

Mrs T O’Brien

Course Description

The course offers candidates the opportunity to study History in length and breadth as well as in depth, to develop expertise in a variety of skills and to acquire knowledge and understanding of the periods covered.

Entry Guidelines

Students who have met the Sixth Form’s entrance criteria and who are likely to have achieved a grade 6 or above in GCSE History.

Course Content and Assessment

The main focus of the A Level course is the History of the USA, 1803-1992, but the Year 12 module allows for the study of Tudor Britain, 1547 - 1603:

- Unit 1
Delve into a world of rebellion, competing nobles and religious change.
Assessed by exam
- Unit 2
Find out about the complexity of the relationship between Native Americans and the US government.
Assessed by exam
- Unit 3
African Americans, women and workers. How did they work together and in opposition to each other to achieve civil rights in America?
Assessed by exam
- Unit 4
Non-exam assessment (topic based essay of 3000 - 4000 words in length)
This independent study can be chosen from almost any time in the past. A chance to research and write about a topic you have always been interested in.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

A chance to develop insights into areas of knowledge, belief and thought central to understanding this modern world.

“You get to know your classmates really well and this allows you to express your own point of view really freely.”

Religious Studies A Level
Exam Board Eduqas

Head of Subject

Ms L Pope

Course Description

An opportunity to study religion, philosophy and ethics in a critical, enquiring and reflective way. It incorporates a balance of teacher-directed work and individual student enquiry.

Entry Guidelines

Students with curiosity, healthy scepticism and an inquisitive mind. Students who have met the Sixth Form's entrance criteria and a grade 5 or above in English at GCSE.

Course Content and Assessment

■ Unit 1

The study of Buddhism

An investigation into the beliefs and practices of the Buddhist religion including modern challenges to the religion and Buddhist responses to pluralism, secularisation, atheism and gender equality.

Assessment is by examination.

■ Unit 2

Philosophy

Arguments for and against the existence of God, the challenge of secularisation and the psychology of religion.

Assessment is by examination.

■ Unit 3

Ethics

Ethical theory and the application of ethics to two current issues, for example: sexual ethics and medical ethics.

Assessment is by examination.

MATHEMATICS

Extend your mathematical knowledge; develop your logical reasoning and problem solving skills. Maths at A Level builds on the work you have done at GCSE as well as introducing new topics such as Calculus.

“I really enjoyed the challenge; it’s a lot tougher than GCSE Maths, but a lot more rewarding.”

Mathematics A Level
Exam Board Edexcel

Key Stage 5 Co-ordinator

Mr C Philpott

Course Description

The course will enable students to:

- Use mathematical skills and knowledge to solve problems.
- Solve problems by using mathematical arguments and logic.
- Simplify real-life situations so that Mathematics can be used to show what is happening and what might happen in different circumstances.

- Use Maths in real-life contexts.
- Use a calculator and information technologies appropriately.

Entry Guidelines

Students who love Maths and have achieved a grade 7 or above at GCSE (Higher). Students will be considered if they have achieved a grade 6 at GCSE, but they will also require a recommendation from their Key Stage 4 teacher, along with a meeting to discuss their GCSE performance in more detail.

Course Content and Assessment

A Level

- **Pure Mathematics**
- **Statistics**
- **Mechanics**

Assessment will be through three two-hour exams at the end of Year 13.

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

If you have a real enthusiasm for Mathematics and enjoy exploring and practising the subject, Further Maths could be for you. It would be particularly useful for those considering university courses in Mathematics, Physics or Engineering.

“Provides considerably more depth than the single Maths course alone.”

Further Mathematics A Level
Exam Board Edexcel

Key Stage 5 Co-ordinator

Mr C Philpott

Course Description

The course complements A Level Mathematics. This course is for students who would enjoy the opportunity to learn some extra Mathematics at a higher level while also developing their skills as an independent learner. The course would be in addition to A Level Mathematics and would need to be taken as a fourth subject.

Entry Guidelines

Students who excel and have achieved a grade 8/9 in GCSE Mathematics. Students should have been in set I in Years 10 and 11 and will require a recommendation from their Year 11 teacher.

Course Content and Assessment

A Level

- **Pure Maths 1 & 2**
2 examination papers, worth 25% each.

- **Options 1 & 2**
(Pure Maths, Statistics, Mechanics, Decision Maths)
2 examination papers, worth 25% each.

All exams are taken at the end of Year 13.

FRENCH

A chance to discover the French Speaking World! Learn about French culture, language and people in an authentic and exciting environment.

“It boosts your confidence because you develop a skill which many employers and universities really value.”

French A Level
Exam Board AQA

Head of Subject

Mrs H Robinson & Mrs I Nicolas

Course Description

The course builds on and extends the language skills acquired at GCSE. You will further your knowledge of grammar and structures as well as widening your vocabulary. You will study aspects of French society such as culture, history, politics, business and current affairs as well as a literary text and/or film. You will also have the opportunity to go on a homestay trip to Paris to further develop your language skills and broaden your cultural experience.

Entry Guidelines

Students who have done well at GCSE and who are motivated and committed.

Course Content and Assessment

A Level

- **Paper 1** Listening, Reading and Translation into English and French
- **Paper 2** Written response to literary works and film
- **Paper 3** Speaking

Social Issues and trends

- Changing family structures
- The ‘cyber society’
- The place of voluntary work
- Life for the marginalised and the treatment of criminals

Political and artistic culture in French speaking countries

- A culture proud of its heritage
- Contemporary Francophone music
- French cinema
- Young people and the right to vote
- Demonstrations and strikes
- Politics and immigration

SPANISH

A chance to discover the Spanish Speaking World! Learn about Spanish culture, language and people in an authentic and exciting environment.

“I enjoy learning Spanish as it opens my options for the future; it’s a fun and supportive environment to learn in.”

Spanish A Level
Exam Board AQA

Head of Subject

Ms Iglesias-Fuertes

Course Description

The course builds on and extends the language skills acquired at GCSE. You will further your knowledge of grammar and structures as well as widening your vocabulary. You will study aspects of Spanish society such as culture, history, politics, business and current affairs as well as a literary text and/or film. You will have the opportunity to go on an educational and cultural trip to Salamanca to further develop your language skills and broaden your cultural experiences.

Entry Guidelines

Students who have done well at GCSE and who are motivated and committed to further their Spanish studies.

Course Content and Assessment

A Level

- **Paper 1** Listening, Reading and Translation into English and Spanish
- **Paper 2** Written response to literary works and film
- **Paper 3** Speaking

Social Issues and trends

- Changing family structures
- The World of Work
- Impact of tourism on Spain

Immigration and Spanish multicultural society

- Historical and contemporary immigration
- Integration and multiculturalism

Political and artistic culture in Spanish speaking countries

- Music
- The media
- Festivals and traditions
- The Franco dictatorship
- From dictatorship to democracy

PERFORMING ARTS

If you are interested in Music, Dance or Drama, this is the course for you. You may be keen on performing, creating or the more visual and technical aspects of the three subjects. All will be explored during the course.

“The CTech is a fun, creative and inspirational course that develops your confidence, self-awareness, teamwork and communication skills.”

Performing Arts – Cambridge Technical Exam Board OCR

Head of Subject

Mr S Conway

Course Description

This is an exciting, 2 year course which is equivalent to 1x A Level, with a Distinction* grade worth the same UCAS points as an A grade at A Level. You will complete **5 units** of work which will develop your skills, further your interest and allow you to obtain a qualification which is acceptable to universities, institutes of higher education and conservatoires. All of the marks for the course come from these 5 units.

You will gain experience of many **practical skills**. The

best way to develop these is under **performance conditions**; as a result, you will be given the opportunity to be involved with **productions** both in and out of school. You will also study a number of key **practitioners** in your chosen subject area and this study will include, where possible, **workshops, theatre or concert visits**, enabling you to see for yourself how pieces were created and intended to be performed. Finally, you will study the role that your chosen skills can play in community engagement.

Entry Guidelines

Students who enjoy working as part of a team and who are enthusiastic about Dance, Drama or Music. You **DO NOT** have to have studied any of the subjects at GCSE level but you must be interested in all aspects of performing.

Course Content and Assessment

Prepare to work in the Performing Arts sector

A research unit with a 10 minute pitch to camera, 5 minute audition piece and portfolio of written work.

Commissioning a Brief

A 2000 word proposal in which you outline your ideas for a community arts project.

Influential Performance practice

2 x contrasting pieces of practical work based on a practitioner from your chosen subject area.

Combined Arts

A new performance piece by integrating 2 or more different art forms or styles.

Improvisation

A devised performance based on stimulus chosen by the school.

2/3 of your marks come from **practical work**. In this work you can be assessed upon acting, dance, music or production. It will be **your choice** which area you wish to specialise in. You could keep the same specialism for all 5 units or change for different units. It is up to you. The final **1/3** of your marks come from **written coursework** which you produce during the course.

Component 3 Written exam

A 2½ hour written exam in 3 sections. Section 1 will ask you to write a review of a piece of live theatre seen during the course. Sections 2 & 3 will ask questions on 2 texts studied.

Worth 40% of the A Level.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

You will develop your knowledge of both scientific and sociological aspects of physical education and sport. These combinations of topics will help you to access a variety of courses at university.

“Stimulating, actively engaging and enjoyable lessons that help learning.”

Physical Education A Level
Exam Board OCR

Head of Subject

Mr S Monk

Course Description

This course aims to develop and extend students' skills and knowledge within the field of Physical Education. It focuses on both the performer and performance and involves the interaction between theory and practice. There is opportunity for both practical performance and the development of scientific and sociological knowledge of Physical Education.

Entry Guidelines

Students with a genuine interest in studying Physical Education at a higher level. You will probably have achieved a grade 6 (or equivalent)

on a KS4 PE/Sport course and grade 5s or higher in Science. You will also be participating in at least one approved practical activity on a regular basis, ideally outside of school in addition to school clubs.

Course Content and Assessment

A Level

- Unit 1
Physiological Factors Affecting Performance
Anatomy and Physiology, Exercise Physiology and Biomechanics.
2 hour written paper, consisting of short answer and extended 'synoptic' questions.
Worth 30% of A Level.
- Unit 2
Psychological Factors Affecting Performance
Skills Acquisition and Sports Psychology.
1 hour written paper, consisting of short answer and extended 'synoptic' questions.
Worth 20% of A Level.
- Unit 3
Socio-cultural and Contemporary Issues
Sport, society and technological influences.
1 hour written paper, consisting of short answers and extended 'synoptic' questions.
Worth 20% of A Level.

- Unit 4
Performance within Physical Education
Practical performance or coaching of a sport or activity from the approved DfE list.
Evaluation and analysis of performance for improvement.
Non-Examined Assessment.
Worth 30% of A Level.

BTEC SPORT

You will gain a strong base of knowledge from across the Sports Sector, especially within the coaching and performance field. There will be opportunities to gain vocational experience and additional related qualifications. This qualification can help you to access further vocational qualifications, employment or university.

- BTEC National Extended Certificate in Sport (One A Level equivalent)
- BTEC National Diploma in Sport (Two A Level equivalent)

Exam Board Edexcel/Pearson

Head of Subject

Miss J Hibbert

Course Description

This course can be chosen either as a single or double option pathway. There are some examined and some coursework units. The focus is on the body systems and how this can be applied to programming improvements in fitness, health, sport and well-being. In addition, there will be a vocational focus on the sports industry. If

you choose the double option then the psychological aspects of performance will also be considered. Optional units can take in sports performance and sports leadership.

Entry Guidelines

Students who have a genuine interest in studying Sport at a higher level. You will have gained either a 5 at GCSE PE or a Level 2 pass in the Cambridge National Sport Studies course. You will also already be regularly participating in at least one practical activity both in and out of school. You must be willing to attend school clubs for your chosen sport and be prepared to be a role model for younger students.

Course Content and Assessment

Extended Certificate in Sport

(One A Level equivalent)

- Unit 1
Anatomy and Physiology
Written exam.
- Unit 2
Fitness training and programming for health, sport and well-being Coursework - externally marked.
- Unit 3
Professional development in the sports industry

One optional unit from:

- Unit 4 **Sports Leadership**

- Unit 5 **Application of fitness testing** Unit 6 **Sports Psychology**
- Unit 7 **Practical Sports Performance**

Diploma in Sport

(Two A Level equivalent)

- Unit 1
Anatomy and Physiology
Written exam.
 - Unit 2
Fitness training and programming for health, sport and well-being
Coursework - externally marked.
 - Unit 3
Professional development in the sports industry
 - Unit 4
Sports Leadership
 - Unit 22
Investigating business in sport and active leisure
Coursework - externally marked.
 - Unit 23
Acquiring Skill in sport
- Three optional units from:
- Unit 6 **Sports Psychology**
 - Unit 7 **Practical Sports Performance**
 - Unit 10 **Sports Event organisation**
 - Unit 17 **Sports Injuries**

BTEC NATIONAL IN UNIFORMED PROTECTIVE SERVICES

You will develop the knowledge, understanding and skills that you will need to prepare for employment in the Public Sector environment but also to take your studies to a higher level through degree-based courses. The main focus is the Uniformed Protective Services but the course also covers wider elements of this area of work, such as the justice system and psychology behind criminality. This qualification focuses on, but is not limited to, the uniformed protective services such as the police service, fire and rescue service, armed services and prison service.

BTEC National Extended Certificate in Uniformed Protective Services (One A Level equivalent)

Exam Board Edexcel/Pearson

Head of Subject

Miss J Hibbert

Course Description

The course aims to prepare students to become occupationally ready to take up employment within the uniformed protective services as well as for degree courses in Applied Psychology and

Criminology, Social Work and Forensic Science depending on the combination with other subjects. As providers of vital roles within the economic and social welfare of British society, students will learn and develop strong skills that are required across all employment areas.

Entry Guidelines

We want students who have a desire to work with people, especially as part of a team, and who are willing to listen and develop their interpersonal skills. Students need to have met the Sixth Form's entrance criteria, but these can be in any subjects.

Course Content and Assessment BTEC National Extended Certificate in Uniformed Protective Services (One A Level equivalent)

There are two compulsory units:

■ Unit 1

Behaviour and Discipline in the Uniformed Protective Services.

The content of this psychologically based unit examines a range of theories that underpin behaviour and how they are applied in the uniformed protective services. You will explore how authority is used to benefit both the individual and society. This is the only externally assessed unit and takes the form of a 2 hour exam to be taken in Year 12.

■ Unit 2

Teamwork, Leadership and Communication in the Uniformed Protective Services.

This unit studies the dynamics of team building and team leadership. Students participate in team-building activities, and learn the methods of communication used by the uniformed protective services. Students will gain the skills needed to communicate with and lead teams. An internally set and assessed unit, with external moderation.

These are combined with two optional units from the following choices, all of which are internally set and assessed:

■ Introduction to Criminology

Learners explore the theories of criminology used to explain, measure and tackle crime and criminal behaviour in England and Wales

■ Expedition Skills

Learners develop the skills needed to plan, participate in and reflect on outdoor expeditions

■ Police Powers and the Law

Learners explore key elements of the legal system relating to the criminal trial process

■ Professional Development in the Uniformed Protective Services

Learners gain knowledge needed for different career pathways in the uniformed protective services.

BIOLOGY

You will enjoy this course if you are interested in all aspects of living organisms, how they work and how they interact with their environment.

“I loved that there is a topic for everyone’s interests, from photosynthesis to emphysema.”

Biology A Level
Exam Board AQA

Head of Subject

Mr J Walford

Course Description

This course offers the opportunity to study in greater depth many of the concepts first encountered at GCSE. You will develop a logical approach to problem solving combined with practical applications in experiments and fieldwork.

Entry Guidelines

Students who have achieved a grade 6 or above in Biology or Combined Science GCSE.

Course Content and Assessment

There are eight modules:

- **Biological molecules: structure and functions of proteins and enzymes, carbohydrates and lipids.**
- **Cell ultrastructure and membranes.**
- **How organisms exchange substances with their environment: digestion, gas exchange.**
- **Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms.**
- **Energy transfers in and between organisms: a detailed look at photosynthesis and respiration.**
- **How organisms respond to changes in their environments.**
- **Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems.**
- **The control of gene expression.**

In addition, all students will have the opportunity to attend a residential field trip to Slapton Field Study Centre in Devon in July of Year 12.

A Level

- **Paper 1 - Covers modules 1 to 4**
Worth 35% of the A Level

- **Paper 2 - Covers modules 5 to 8**
Worth 35% of the A Level
- **Paper 3 - Covers modules 1 to 8 with questions about practical techniques, data handling and an extended essay**
Worth 30% of the A Level

CHEMISTRY

An understanding of the chemical world from a molecular level up to an industrial scale. You will develop the skills of analysis, problem solving, concept realisation and application.

“It is a challenging course, but very interesting.”

Chemistry A Level
Exam Board AQA

Head of Subject

Mrs L Hodgson

Course Description

This course allows candidates to build up a detailed all-round knowledge of Chemistry, relevant to modern day society. An A Level in Chemistry is highly regarded in higher education as it shows an ability to analyse, problem-solve, understand and apply difficult concepts. We cover the production of dyes, medicines and explosives. There are practical sessions throughout the two years.

An A Level in Chemistry is mandatory for medicine, veterinary sciences and dentistry. We have several opportunities to visit the world-renowned Department of Chemistry at Bristol

University, including a day in their state-of-the art laboratories.

Entry Guidelines

Students with a natural fascination about atoms and molecules and their interactions. You will need grade 6 or above in Combined Science and at least a grade 6 in Mathematics.

Course Content and Assessment

A Level

- **Unit 1 Physical Chemistry**
Atomic structure, energetics, rates of reaction and acids/bases.
- **Unit 2 Inorganic Chemistry**
Periodicity with a focus on the halogens and alkaline earth metals.
- **Unit 3 Organic Chemistry**
This unit focusses on the main organic compounds, mechanisms of their reactions and forensic analysis.

In-depth study of the three modules above. The course is assessed by three 2-hour papers sat at the end of Year 13, which will make up 100% of the A Level grade. Practical skills are assessed in all three papers.

Students will also be expected to produce a portfolio of laboratory reports which will be

completed over the two years. This will provide the evidence for them to achieve the practical endorsement award.

PHYSICS

The perfect foundation for a wide range of careers, this course will challenge you to think critically about the universe, its origins and its future, whilst developing invaluable skills in problem-solving and abstract thinking.

“It alters the way you think of the world around you.”

Physics A Level
Exam Board AQA

Head of Subject

Mr T Sperring

Course Description

The course aims to provide insights into how the universe works and how the laws of Physics can be applied in practical and technological contexts. It delves into the microscopic when dealing with quantum physics and quarks, through the application of forces, waves and fields to everyday life, reaching to the macroscopic when looking at cosmology and space. The subject is endlessly fascinating, philosophical, complex and inspiring. It is ideal for those who like a challenge and ponder the big

questions.

A Physics A Level displays skills that are highly valuable in modern society. It shows your ability to understand complex ideas, think logically, solve problems, apply mathematical skills and operate practically in a laboratory environment. The skills open the door to many different career and higher education opportunities.

Entry Guidelines

Students who enjoy Science and will achieve a grade 6 or above in Combined Science or 6 in Physics, plus grade 7 in Maths due to the recent increase in demand of mathematics in the A Level course. It is strongly recommended to be taking A Level Mathematics alongside this course.

Course Content and Assessment

Core Content

- **Measurements and their errors**
- **Particles and radiation**
- **Waves**
- **Mechanics and materials**
- **Electricity**
- **Further mechanics and thermal physics**
- **Fields and their consequences**
- **Nuclear physics**

Options

- **Astrophysics**
- **Medical physics**
- **Engineering physics**
- **Turning points in physics**
- **Electronics**

At the end of the two year course there will be two written papers assessing knowledge and skills from the core content. Students also undertake twelve required practical tasks over the two years, which are formally written up and examined in paper 3 along with the option topic.

PSYCHOLOGY

Develop your understanding of the scientific study of the mind and behaviour.

“Psychology gives a great insight into the human mind and involves fun and lively debates.”

Psychology A Level
Exam Board AQA

Head of Subject

Mrs K Martin

Course Description

This course aims to give students the opportunity to understand why humans think and behave in the ways they do. It will introduce students to the key ideas and theories behind the subject as well as developing a wide-ranging understanding of how Psychology impacts on the world.

The first year of the course acts as an introduction to Psychology. Topic areas in the first year will include Memory, Social Influence, Attachment, Psychopathology, Research Methods and the theoretical approaches adopted within Psychology. The second year will involve studying the above areas in more depth as well as looking specifically at Biopsychology, Issues and Debates

in Psychology, Relationships, Schizophrenia and Forensic Psychology.

Entry Guidelines

Students who have met the Sixth Form's entrance criteria, including at least two grade 5s in Science.

Course Content and Assessment

A Level

- Paper 1
Introductory Topics in Psychology (Social Influence, Memory, Attachment, Psychopathology)
2 hour exam - Worth 33% of A Level course, assessed in Year 13.
- Paper 2
Psychology in Context (Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology, Research Methods)
2 hour exam - Worth 33% of A Level course, assessed in Year 13.
- Paper 3
Issues and Options in Psychology (Issues and Debates in Psychology, Relationships, Schizophrenia, Forensic Psychology)
2 hour exam - Worth 33% of A Level course, assessed in Year 13.

SOCIOLOGY

A better understanding of how society works, society's influence on you, and your influence on the world.

"I've even found myself discussing lessons at home."

Sociology A Level
Exam Board AQA

Head of Subject

Miss E Fletcher

Course Description

The course aims to give students the opportunity to study society to understand how and why it functions the way it does. Students will apply sociological ideas to contemporary society and their own experiences to further develop their understanding of both our society and others around the world.

The first year of the A Level course acts as an introduction to Sociology. Students will study the Sociology of the family, understanding how it is changing in our society; the Sociology of Education, analysing the reasons why different groups in society achieve differently; and the research methods that sociologists use to find

out about the world.

Second year students will study Beliefs in Society, looking at how belief in religion is on the decline and being rapidly replaced by alternatives; Crime and Deviance, looking at explanations for why crime occurs; and Theory and Methods, which is a more in-depth look at the way Sociologists find out about the world.

Entry Guidelines

Students who have met the Sixth Form's entrance criteria and any student with an interest in the social world around them.

Course Content and Assessment

A Level

- Paper 1
Education with Theory and Methods
2 hour exam - Worth 33% of A Level course, assessed in Year 13.
- Paper 2
Topics in Sociology (Families and Households, Beliefs in Society)
2 hour exam - Worth 33% of A Level course, assessed in Year 13.
- Paper 3
Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods
2 hour exam - Worth 33% of A Level course, assessed in Year 13.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

This course is designed to provide you with an introduction to and overview of the Health and Social Care sector. It provides an ideal route to Health and Social Care pathways.

Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care
Exam Board OCR

Head of Subject

Mrs K Martin

Course Description

Health and Social Care is a vocational course designed to give students an insight into the knowledge and skills required to work within the Health and Social Care sector. Students will develop knowledge and skills that can be directly transferred to the workplace on completing the course, or enable progression onto degree/apprenticeship level.

Entry Guidelines

Five full GCSEs at 4 or above including English Language. Passes or above at Level 2 in a Cambridge National qualification are accepted as alternatives to GCSE qualifications. If students have taken Health & Social Care as an option at

KS4, they would be expected to have achieved at least a Level 2 Pass.

Course Content and Assessment

All students will study modules in the areas of:

- **Building positive relationships in Health and Social Care**
- **Equality, diversity and rights in Health and Social Care**
- **Health, safety and security in Health and Social Care**
- **Anatomy and physiology for Health and Social Care**

Other optional modules include the following:

- **Nutrition for health**
- **Sexual health, reproduction and early development stages**
- **Psychology for Health and Social Care**
- **Sociology for Health and Social Care**

The course includes a mixture of coursework and exams, with approximately 55% of the course assessed by exams and 45% by coursework.

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