

Sociology (AQA)

Sociology is the study of society and social change. Students study topics which relate to people, social groups and institutions in society. They develop an understanding of structural and interpersonal forces operating in society, and have the opportunity to explore reasons for continuity and change from a range of different perspectives. Topics include families and households, education, media and crime and deviance. This involves looking at class, gender and ethnicity. This helps students to develop an understanding of people and communities on a local, national and global level.

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 5 in English, GCSE grade 4 in mathematics and science

MFL Spanish (AQA)

This course covers a wide variety of topics across culture, current affairs and global issues and gives students the opportunity to develop their command of the foreign language, so that they are able to manipulate complex ideas and structures. Individual speaking sessions with a national are included and students attain a good level of fluency. Studying a language at this level produces students who are good communicators and listeners and equips them to become effective global citizens fit for the working world. Assessment comprises a speaking exam and two written papers which include reading and listening components.

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 5 in Spanish

Extended Project Qualification (AQA)

A research project aimed at dedicated students who wish to enhance their portfolio of qualifications. Highly regarded by top universities, the EPQ enables students to demonstrate their ability to work independently in a style expected at university level.

Entry requirements: Available to all Sixth Form students

Ambitious Applicants Programme

For students who aspire to attain places at Oxford and Cambridge universities and for those interested in courses in medicine, dentistry and veterinary studies.

GCSE Resits

We also offer resits in either GCSE English or Mathematics for those students who were not successful in gaining the national standard grade, but who have been accepted into the Sixth Form.

The school reserves the right to withdraw a subject if it is not viable to run it.



A Level Courses

Students choose 3 subjects in the Sixth Form. Here you will find the details of each subject and their entry requirements.

“The range of courses available is extensive.”

(OFSTED)



Art (AQA)

Within art there are two possible routes: fine art or photography. In both subjects we build upon what you have achieved in your GCSE qualification and provide you with further opportunities to experiment with a wide variety of processes, materials, skills and techniques. There will be trips to galleries and students will keep a gallery book of their own visits and inspirations. You will respond expressively and analytically and be encouraged to identify and explore your own content through practical and theoretical study.

Fine Art: There will be a foundation year, followed by coursework: component 1 (60%) and an externally set exam: component 2 (40%). This course is ideal for students who have an interest or passion for art as well as those interested in following a career which requires an art and design qualification. **Entry requirements:** GCSE grade 4

Photography: You will broaden your knowledge of the technical processes of photography and photographers and respond expressively. This course is suitable for students who are new to this subject as well as students who have previously taken GCSE photography. **Entry requirements:** GCSE grade 4

Biology (AQA)

This course allows students to gain an understanding of essential biological principles and the contributions of science to modern society. It provides an excellent foundation for students interested in careers in medicine, biomedical and health sciences and veterinary medicine.

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 7 in combined science or biology and GCSE grade 6 in mathematics

Business Studies (OCR)

Business Studies is a relevant subject for anybody considering a managerial career in either the private or public sectors. The course looks at both internal and external factors at play in business decision making and develops a student's analytical and evaluative responses through the use of case studies and data. Given globalization, business is playing an even greater role in the life of everybody on the planet and so it is ever more vital to gain an understanding of the issues covered by this course.

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 4 in business studies if taken or GCSE grade 5 in English and maths

Chemistry (AQA)

A-level Chemistry is a rigorous, challenging and ultimately rewarding course that develops students' scientific skills and knowledge. The traditional chemistry course has been updated to include a range of contemporary issues and exciting experiments. Students studying chemistry have a raft of transferable skills which opens up a wide range of career opportunities such as forensic science, medicine, biochemistry, dentistry, nursing or pharmacy. It will equip students for a career in industry such as engineering or in scientific research.

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 7 in combined science or chemistry and grade 6 in mathematics

Computer Science (AQA)

With computing there is a clear distinction between this subject and ICT. The course promotes abstract thinking, general problem-solving, algorithmic and mathematical reasoning, scientific and engineering-based thinking. The specification is designed for students who want to expand their knowledge of computers and possibly go on to use computing in a career. The course looks at both theory and practical exercises, with the opportunity to learn a programming language and demonstrate this in a practical task along with examined topics.

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 5 in computer science or demonstrate sufficient evidence of programming skills and grade 5 in mathematics

Design & Technology (AQA)

Within this course students are able to study product design or fashion and textiles. Both enable you to develop innovative and creative skills through the creation of high quality products. Both balance contemporary technologies, materials and processes alongside established practices. There is an emphasis on understanding and applying iterative design processes. Students will use their creativity and imagination to design and make prototypes that solve real and relevant problems, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values. Assessment is by two exams (50%) and a portfolio project (50%).

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 5 in design and technology

Economics (Edexcel)

Economic decisions and activities impact on many different areas of society and on our own everyday lives – interest rate changes, personal taxation, unemployment and consumer behaviour, to name but a few. By studying economics, you will become more aware of how political and economic decisions affect you as an individual and as part of the global economy. Universities and employers regard economics as a numerate discipline. It has the reputation of being a demanding subject, and therefore a qualification in it is a valuable asset. A-Level Economics links subjects in the arts, science and mathematics areas.

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 5 in mathematics and GCSE grade 5 in English

English Language (AQA B)

This course teaches you about how language works and how to create your own texts. You will find out about how power, gender and language technology affect language. You will also discover how we learn to speak and how language has evolved over time.

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 5 in English language

English Literature (AQA B)

This course helps you to understand more about how writers create stories. You will explore and analyse a wide range of narratives, including: the tragedy genre, Shakespeare, political and social protest literature, a modern novel, poetry and also texts chosen by you as a coursework option.

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 5 in English literature

MFL French (AQA)

This course covers a wide variety of topics across culture, current affairs and global issues and gives students the opportunity to develop their command of the foreign language, so that they are able to manipulate complex ideas and structures. Individual speaking sessions with a national are included and students attain a good level of fluency. Studying a language at this level produces students who are good communicators and listeners and equips them to become effective global citizens fit for the working world. Assessment comprises a speaking exam and two written papers which include reading and listening components.

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 5 in French

Geography (AQA)

We are looking for students who have a lively and enquiring mind, are interested in the environment and global affairs, and have a willingness to explore new ideas and an ability to communicate their ideas effectively. This course will appeal to those students who enjoy studying a subject that is relevant to their own lives and experiences. Do you want an opportunity to carry out practical work outdoors as well as in the classroom?

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 5 in geography

History (AQA)

History is a wide ranging and valued A-Level course. It develops students' skills in analysis and interpretation as well as an appreciation of change over time. We consider the impact of leadership in both the 16th and 20th centuries, through the study of the Tudor monarchs and Russia under Lenin and Stalin. You will also be able to choose your own direction with regard to the coursework question on Civil Rights in the USA, which promotes independent research.

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 5 in history and GCSE grade 5 in English

Mathematics (Edexcel)

The mathematics course covers pure mathematics (2/3 of content) as well as mechanics and statistics (1/6 of content each). The course helps develop logical thinking skills and teaches mathematical techniques to support studies in other subjects, such as the sciences.

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 7 in mathematics

Further Mathematics (Edexcel)

The course develops additional aspects of mathematics beyond those met in Mathematics A-Level, including further pure mathematics and further mechanics. The course is intellectually challenging and develops the ability to think logically and in the abstract. This course is recommended for those who intend to study mathematics or a related degree at university.

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 8 in mathematics. Students must also study A-Level mathematics

Media Studies (AQA)

This linear course comprises two examinations which test students' understanding of a range of media contexts and debates. Students extend their analytical skills with application of media theory and academic study. Students demonstrate their imagination, creativity and technical ability by producing a number of authentic media texts across different media platforms. The final piece of coursework counts as 30% of the A Level.

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 5 in media if taken. GCSE grade 5 in English language if media hasn't been studied at GCSE

Performing Arts: Dance, Drama & Musical Theatre (BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate)

During this course you explore the world of drama, musical theatre and dance and learn to analyse and devise imaginative, engaging performance. The course combines theoretical and practical elements with emphasis on the practical. Students work in groups, experimenting, shaping and sequencing their ideas. Theatre visits are organised and are an integral aspect of the course. If performance is your passion, you will have a fantastic time on this course.

Entry requirements: BTEC First Award Level 2 Merit or above or GCSE grade 4 in English.

Physical Education (OCR)

The course enables students to gain an in-depth understanding of physical activity and sporting performance, how the body deals with the sporting environment, the role that technology plays in sport, how sport has developed and its position now within society. There are eight areas of study: applied anatomy, exercise physiology, biomechanical movement, the role of technology, skill acquisition, sport psychology, sport and society and contemporary issues in sport. Assessment is by exam and students' practical performance is also assessed.

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 5 in PE and GCSE grade 4 in science

Physics (AQA)

This course builds on many of the ideas taught at GCSE but also introduces a range of new and exciting concepts, such as particle physics and quantum phenomena. Physics is mathematical in its content and the A-Level course requires a step up from the skills needed in GCSE Science. Many of the topics that we study at GCSE are revisited but given a more mathematical structure. Practical work features heavily in lessons and by studying this course, students will also develop their investigative and problem solving skills.

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 7 in combined science or physics and grade 7 in mathematics

Politics (Edexcel)

Politics equips students with the skills to analyse, evaluate and debate. The course covers how and why people take part in politics, as well as how political systems work, for example the UK Parliament and US Congress. We will also be studying ideologies and their impact on politics. The course necessarily covers topical issues.

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 5 in English language

Psychology (AQA)

Psychology can be defined as the scientific study of mind and behaviour. Students study topics which relate to their everyday experience and develop the ability to understand human behaviour from a range of different perspectives which they apply to different circumstances. Topics include memory, attachment, social influence, biopsychology, schizophrenia, relationships and forensic psychology. This helps them to become knowledgeable, critical thinkers.

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 5 in English and science and GCSE grade 4 in mathematics

Religious Studies, Philosophy and Ethics (Edexcel)

Students will consider philosophical issues and questions: the nature and influence of religious experience, problems of evil and suffering, philosophical language, works of scholars and influences of developments in religious belief. In addition there will be a study of ethical theories: application of ethical theories to issues of importance, ethical language, deontology, virtue ethics, medical ethics and beginning and end of life issues. The social, historical and religious context of the New Testament is studied, including historical-critical challenges, ethical living and the works of scholars.

Entry requirements: GCSE grade 5 in RS if taken or GCSE grade 5 in English