

ARNOLD LODGE



SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS

For September 2024 Entry



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Who will you be?

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At Arnold Lodge

Our academic results - particularly the progress pupils make - are exceptional. The A Level results from our 2022w cohort at Arnold Lodge Sixth Form were outstanding, with 29% of grades at A*-A, 63% at A*-B, and a 99.5% pass rate. We are very proud of the achievement of our pupils. While the headline figures are excellent, it is our value added (the number of grades scored above targets taken from external benchmarking) that truly reflect the quality of our provision. For every examination taken in 2022, Arnold Lodge pupils scored on average 2.1 grades higher than targeted. Over the years, the results received by pupils at Arnold Lodge Sixth Form have been excellent. In more recent years, in 2019, our BTEC and A Level results continued our upward trend with 1.4 of a grade higher than targeted per pupil, a 100% pass rate and 18% more A*/A grades than targeted. For 2020, our results at BTEC and A Level were, once again, first rate; 10% at A*, 32% A*-A, 55% A*-B and a 100% pass rate. 2021 followed in a similar trend with 21% at A*, 58% at A*-A, 69% A*-B and a 100% pass rate, and in 2022 45% of grades were at A*-A, 73% at A*-B and pupils achieved a 100% pass rate. The key thing is that, each year, our pupils attain more than their target grades showing that we are able to drive pupils to their very best marks at A Level and BTEC. Whatever your ambitions, Arnold Lodge Sixth Form will be able to support you to achieve your very best academically.

What is unique about Arnold Lodge Sixth Form?

ALS Sixth Form offers a range of A Level and BTEC subjects to provide a truly bespoke Sixth Form curriculum. Whether pupils are looking to apply to Oxbridge with a full set of A grades or if they need to re-sit English & Mathematics GCSEs as part of a BTEC and A Level combined course, our curriculum and approach to education provides the opportunity and support for each pupil to fulfill their aspirations. This flexibility, coupled with an average Sixth Form class size of 10, allows us to give significant teaching time, academic challenge and personal support to ensure our pupils achieve their very best academically.

How are students stretched beyond the formal curriculum?

It's not just the examination performance that makes ALS Sixth Form outstanding; the confidence and wider skills that our pupils develop over their two years of study –

skills such as **communication, creativity, critical thinking and collaboration** – provide a wonderful foundation for study at university and the world of work. Our enrichment programme provides a breadth of opportunity and experience for our Sixth Form pupils. As part of enrichment, pupils will learn to cook, to budget, tackle their EPQ, be given opportunities to visit universities and prepare themselves for their futures.

Arnold Lodge aims to support pupils to be happy and confident whilst developing their skills and knowledge so they can be successful in their aspirations. Our core values – honesty, hard work and kindness – are central to the success of our school and these are given as much importance in our Sixth Form as they are throughout the rest of the school.

How will an education at Arnold Lodge's Sixth Form benefit my child in subsequent years?

Our former pupils have been very successful in receiving their first choice university and, for quite a number, unconditional offers. Much as this is a reflection of high quality academic outcomes, it also demonstrates the advice and guidance that pupils receive throughout the UCAS process.

Is financial support available?

The Douglas Hall Sixth Form Academic Scholarship carries a significant reduction in fees. It is typically awarded to pupils who are set to achieve all grades 8 or 9 in their GCSEs. Selection involves interviews in the subjects that candidates wish to take at A Level, a general interview, references and an academic assessment.

This booklet contains information which I hope you will find useful. Should you have any further questions about Arnold Lodge Sixth Form, please to not hesitate to get in touch.

Best wishes,



David Preston
Headteacher

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September 2024

Every child deserves the opportunity to fulfill their own potential in an environment where they feel safe, supported and encouraged to improve, progress and grow. This central ethos of Arnold Lodge continues through into our Sixth Form.

To ensure that we provide the flexible and bespoke education we pride ourselves on, we also offer BTEC subjects alongside a range of A Level options for pupils. Few independent schools in the country offer this sort of flexibility and the opportunity to take both A Level subjects and BTEC combined provides pupils with a wonderful opportunity to build a programme of study at Sixth Form that is exactly right for them.

While this prospectus is designed to give you more information on the topics studied and what pupils can expect from those subjects, this is not definitive. If you would like more information on a particular subject, please contact the named teacher on the subject page. Similarly, if there is a subject you're interested in which is not listed, please let us know.

Subject Options

- Art, Craft & Design
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Creative Digital Media Production
- Design Technology
- English Literature
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Music
- Performing Arts (Acting)
- Physics
- Politics
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Sport (Single or Double Award)



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Dress and Expectations

As a Sixth Form student you will be relied upon to dress in a manner that is interview ready. This means dress of a business standard, suitable for life in a busy office. The following guidelines may help:

GIRLS	BOYS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trousers may be full or $\frac{3}{4}$ length, but no shorter. Any cropped trousers must be formal and tailored. • Skirts and dresses should not be too short (with a hem at least on the knee). • Shirts, blouses and other smart tops may be worn, plus smart shoes. • Jewellery in Sixth Form should be appropriate to a business environment. One nose piercing with a small, discreet stud is allowed. • Nails must be discreet in appearance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ties must be worn with the top button fastened. • Smart jumpers, cardigans or waistcoats may be worn over a shirt and tie. • Hooded tops are not permitted.

YOUR EXPECTATIONS OF US	OUR EXPECTATIONS OF YOU
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A programme that is matched to your interests and aspirations • A tutor who monitors your progress, provides guidance and assistance in setting targets for improvement, and supports you in other aspects of life • Structured private study time with regularly set and marked work to be completed during private study • Support in developing good study skills and dealing with stress • A higher education and careers guidance programme suited to your needs, with expert advice • The opportunity to take part in the wider school, including inter-House and extra-curricular activities and involvement in the education of younger children • Opportunities for your parents to come into school to discuss your progress • Regular reports on your progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be determined to make the most of your time in the Sixth Form • Accept responsibility for your own learning with support from your tutor and subject teachers • Complete all your work to the best of your ability and by the deadline set • Effectively use your private study time in school • Act as a positive role model for the younger students in both the school and the community • Adhere to the Sixth Form dress code • Maintain an excellent record of attendance and excellent punctuality • Discuss with your tutor in advance if you need to be absent • Use the signing in/out system correctly • Contribute to the life of the school and of the Sixth Form in as many ways as possible

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What can I expect from ALS Sixth Form?

Sixth formers at Arnold Lodge School can expect:

- **Seminar style classes**, which ensures that the teaching is cooperative and that learning is paced to suit the individual.
- **Regular, accurate and personal feedback about work, progress, targets and expected grades** means that students and parents are fully able to take part in and guide the Sixth Form experience. A policy of 'no surprises' avoids problems late in the course and enables all to get the best from their studies.
- **Support for self-study.** Using the Study Hub as a base, Sixth Formers can expect a specifically designed room for self-study and the opportunity to develop self-study skills. This space was designed to give the pupils plenty of space to study and revise, as well as the support to manage their time to achieve their very best.
- **Periods of non-contact with teachers.** Alongside normal periods of non-contact used for self-study, Sixth Form students can expect one Games session per week along with one session of Enrichment. Enrichment will focus on life skills to make sure that, when completing their courses at ALS, Sixth Formers have the right skills and knowledge for their next steps be that work, apprenticeship or university.
- **An Enriching Experience:** Enrichment afternoons are used to build life experiences and transferable skills for our Sixth Form pupils. This covers team building activities, financial skills, enterprise, cooking, careers, guest speakers covering a whole range of topics, UCAS to prepare applications and even then this is just a snippet of the programme. The time is used to ensure that, when our pupils complete their courses, they are equipped for their next adventure be that a gap year, a career, an apprenticeship or their first choice university.



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Entry Recommendations & Academic Standards for A Level

The following information provides an idea of the sort of standard pupils can expect to work at A Level based on their GCSE grades. This is useful information but is not definitive. Arnold Lodge will never accept that a pupil is a pre-determined set of data. Some pupils flourish when studying A Levels and others find it a real step up to maintain their GCSE pace. Either way, our highly experienced staff will be there to provide the support, guidance and advice necessary to help all pupils to progress and attain the very best that they can.

- The recommended minimum criteria for progression into ALS Sixth Form is **five GCSEs at grade 5 and above**, including English and Mathematics.
- To access the A Level pathway five grade 6s at GCSE including English and Mathematics at 5+ is required.
- In most subjects, a **grade 6 in that subject** or a closely related one is preferred, but in **languages, mathematics and the sciences a grade 7** is the advised starting point. A full breakdown by subject can be found on the following page.

These are recommendations rather than rigid requirements. Discussions can be held with pupils and those not meeting this standard or not expecting to do so may be accepted after further discussion. Progression from the Lower Sixth to the Upper Sixth is conditional on achieving pass grades (A to E) in the subjects to be taken at A2 level.



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Subject Specific Entry Requirements

To be accepted into Arnold Lodge Sixth Form, students must have achieved a grade 5-9 in English Language and Mathematics plus three other GCSE subjects at grade 5 or above. The criteria for entry to the 3 A Level pathway is 5 grade 6s as well as pass grades in English and Mathematics. In addition to these basic requirements, each subject has specific entrance requirements which need to be met/exceeded in order to be enrolled onto the course.

SUBJECT	SPECIFIC ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
A Level Art, Craft & Design	Candidates should have gained a minimum of a grade 6 in Art and Design at GCSE in order to study this course. A portfolio of student work would also be beneficial.
A Level Biology	Candidates should have gained a minimum of a grade 7 at GCSE Biology or a 76 if a dual award was completed. Maths at Grade 7+ is also required.
A Level Business	Candidates should have gained a minimum of a grade 6 at GCSE Business if studied. If Business was not taken at GCSE then a 5+ in Maths and English is needed.
BTEC Business	Candidates need to have achieved at least 5 grade 4s including Maths and English.
A Level Chemistry	Candidates should have gained a minimum of a grade 7 at GCSE Chemistry or a 76 if a dual award was completed. Maths at Grade 7+ is also required.
A Level Computer Science	Candidates should have gained a minimum of a grade 6 at GCSE Computer Science or a 7+ in GCSE Maths if not studied.
BTEC Creative Media	You do not need to have studied GCSE Media to study this course. A grade 5+ at GCSE English is required.
A Level Design Technology	Candidates should have gained a minimum of a grade 6 at GCSE Design Technology or have grade 6+ in English and Maths. A portfolio of student work would also be beneficial.
A Level English Literature	Candidates should have gained a minimum of a grade 6 at GCSE English Language or English Literature.
A Level Geography	Candidates should have gained a minimum of a grade 6 at GCSE Geography where studied. All students would need a grade 5+ in Maths and English.
A Level History	Candidates should have gained a minimum of a grade 6 at GCSE History or at GCSE English where not studied.
A Level Mathematics	Candidates should have gained a minimum of a grade 7 at GCSE Maths.
Level 3 VQ Music	Students must have Grade 6 in an instrument and a grade 7+ at GCSE Music.
BTEC Performing Arts (Acting)	Candidates should have gained a minimum of a grade 5+ at GCSE Drama or a Merit in Performing Arts.
A Level Physics	Candidates should have gained a minimum of a grade 7 at GCSE Physics or a 76 if a dual award was completed. Maths at grade 7+ is also required.
A Level Politics	Candidates should have gained a minimum of a grade 6 at GCSE History or English.
A Level Psychology	Candidates should have gained a minimum of a grade 6 at GCSE Psychology where studied. A 5+ in English and Maths at GCSE is required.
A Level Sociology	Candidates should have gained a minimum of a grade 6 at GCSE Psychology where studied. A 5+ in English at GCSE is required.
A Level Spanish	Candidates should have gained a minimum of a grade 7 at GCSE Spanish.
BTEC Sport (Single or Double)	Successful completion of GCSE PE is preferred but not a pre-requisite.

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Choosing Subjects

While picking subjects to study in Sixth Form can be a very difficult decision, the flexible nature of our curriculum means that pupils are given the option of a range of A Level and BTEC subjects which allows them to mix and match between the two types of qualifications to create a bespoke programme of study specifically aimed at their interests, skills and talent.

- When picking their courses, students should take into consideration that **4 to 6 hours of teaching** and **3 hours of private study** will be spent on each A Level subject and the equivalent time for BTEC subjects per week.
- It is important to consider **future careers** along with likes and dislikes at GCSE, and take advice from school, parents and other sources of information before selecting.
- For some years, the old routes of sciences and maths to the exclusivity of the arts and vice versa have not applied. Students may choose from a broad range of subjects and mix traditional with modern subjects to produce a combination which suits them best and well equips them for the future.
- If studying A Levels, pupils will pick three A Level subjects and in exceptional circumstances, pupils may take four.

We are here to help with your decision - and if you feel that you would like further support to make the right choice, please contact **Miss Gulliver** (agulliver@arnoldlodge.com) who will happily help you.



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The Douglas Hall Sixth Form Scholarship

In honour of Mr Douglas Hall who was Headmaster of Arnold Lodge during the early 20th Century, Arnold Lodge has introduced the Douglas Hall Sixth Form Scholarship. The scholarship may be honorary or carry a fee reduction for exceptional excellence. The Douglas Hall Scholarship will be available for academic excellence, particularly in the subjects pupils are wishing to study.

Scholarship assessment takes place in the academic year before a pupil looks to join Arnold Lodge and parents are usually notified of a decision within two or three weeks of assessment. Pupils must be recommended by their current Headteacher. Before being assessed, parents must register their child after which a reference from the pupil's current school will be requested.

A very limited number of assisted places may be available for entry to Arnold Lodge in cases where a pupil does not meet the requirements for a scholarship. Arnold Lodge will also consider bursary applications from parents of children who have been awarded a scholarship but may not be able to consider Arnold Lodge for financial reasons. Parents can apply to have the scholarship augmented by a bursary, subject to a means test. All awards are subject to the school's ability to fund them within the context of its overall budget, and therefore levels cannot be guaranteed.

The Headteacher has the right to withdraw a scholarship at any time if behaviour, commitment and progress are not being maintained.

For more information on the Douglas Hall Scholarship, contact Admissions (admissions@arnoldlodge.com).



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Higher Education Destinations

Accountancy and Finance - Northampton University
Applied Sports Science with Management - Loughborough University
Business Management - Exeter University, University of Lancaster
Business with Marketing - Birmingham City University
Business Management with Geography - Liverpool Hope University
Computer Science - University of Plymouth; University of Lancaster
Criminology - Oxford Brookes
Dentistry - King's College London
Economics - University of Manchester
English - University of Warwick
Football, Business and Media - UCFB
Human Sciences - UCL
History and Politics - University of Birmingham
Law with Social Sciences - University of Warwick
Modern Languages with Business - University of Nottingham
Music Production - Coventry University
Politics and International Relations - Loughborough University
Psychology - Sussex University





WJEC
Level 3 Applied Certificate & Diploma
CRIMINOLOGY

Written by an experienced Criminology teacher and examiner, this highly visual and engaging textbook will support you through your WJEC Level 3 Applied Certificate in Criminology course and help to prepare you for assessment. Tailored by WJEC, this book offers high-quality content you can trust.

ART, CRAFT & DESIGN

A Level

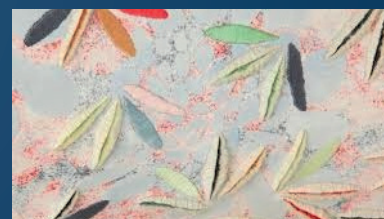
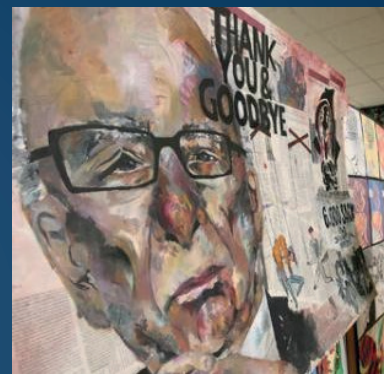
Lead teacher:	Mr Browitt	Duration:	2 years
Level of course:	A Level	Exam board:	AQA
Course requirement:	A minimum of a grade 6 in GCSE Art and Design.		

What will I study?

Year 12 - Year 12 is a preparatory course which develops skills, contextual understanding and course knowledge ready for Year 13. Throughout the year pupils work on a combination of sustained projects and practical workshops. They will also have the opportunity to complete a mock personal investigation essay.

Year 13 - Component 1: Personal investigation. You will choose your own starting point and explore this to reach an outcome. This will include a written study to support your work (1000-3000 words). **There is no time limit (96 marks maximum). 60% of A Level.**

Component 2: Externally set assignment where you choose from a series of questions. You will demonstrate your knowledge, creativity and skills through your exploration and presentation. **Prep time plus 15 hours supervised time (96 marks maximum). 40% of A Level.**



What can I do after this course?

After studying Art and Design many go on to higher education or to the world of work. Art and Design can be successfully combined with other Arts based subjects or as a contrast to Science or Maths based subjects. Art and Design is a subject relevant to everyday life and is useful for many careers. Students may choose to pursue either Art or Design based courses or creative careers following on from this course.

Further details

Students wishing to study Art and Design should be aware that the course requires a substantial amount of visual coursework as well as supporting written work. Students should also be prepared to research and analyse a large number of artists' and designers' work which will necessitate a high degree of independent learning outside of lessons, including gallery and museum visits. The specification for A Level Art and Design directly relates to and follows on from GCSE Art and Design, however students have greater flexibility, creative input and time in order to stretch their abilities. Across the course, students must cover a minimum of two disciplines within their work from fine art, textiles, photography, graphic design and 3D.

Email contact

Mr J Browitt

Email: jbrowitt@arnoldlodge.com

BIOLOGY

A LEVEL

Lead teacher:	Mr Brewer	Duration:	2 years
Level of course:	A Level	Exam board:	AQA
Course requirement:	A minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE Biology.		

What will I study?

Year 12:

Unit 1: Biological molecules

Unit 2: Cells

Unit 3: How organisms exchange substances with their environment

Unit 4: Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms

Year 13:

Unit 5: Energy transfers in and between organisms (A Level only)

Unit 6: How organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments (A Level only)

Unit 7: Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems (A Level only)

Unit 8: The control of gene expression (A Level only)

Assessment: How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: 35% of A level 2hr written paper (91 marks)

Paper 2: 35% of A level 2hr written paper (91 marks)

Paper 3: 30% of A level 2hr written paper including an essay (78 marks)

Practical endorsement in Biology - a minimum of 12 practical activities.

What can I do after this course?

After studying Biology A Level many students go on to higher education or to the world of work. Biology is a subject relevant to everyday life and is useful for many careers. The skills acquired studying Biology equip students for careers in the clinical and health professions as well as other biological related areas. Biology also can be successfully combined with other subjects as it requires excellent analytical skills, as well as the ability to communicate effectively.

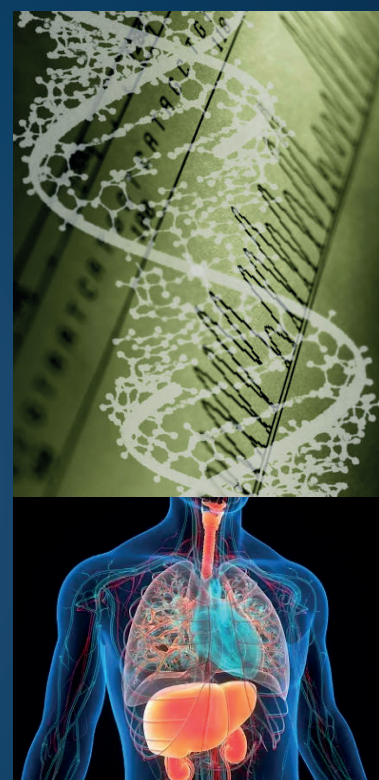
Further details

- Students wishing to study Biology should be aware that the course contains a significant quantity of maths so candidates should therefore be comfortable handling data.
- Students should also be prepared for a high degree of independent learning outside of lessons.
- For further details, please see the link here for the specification used: [tinyurl.com/327e4dnm](https://www.tinyurl.com/327e4dnm).

Email contact

Mr D Brewer

Email: dbrewer@arnoldlodge.com



BUSINESS

A Level

Lead teacher:	Mrs Caviezel-Cox	Duration:	2 years
Level of course:	A Level	Exam board:	Edexcel
Course requirement:	A minimum of grade 6 in GCSE Business if studied. If Business was not taken at GCSE then a grade 5+ in Maths and English is needed.		

What will I study?

Theme 1: Meeting customer needs, the market, marketing mix and strategy, managing people, entrepreneurs and leaders.

Theme 2: Raising finance, financial planning, managing finance, resource management, external influences.

Theme 3: Business objectives and strategy, business growth, decision-making techniques, influences on decisions, assessing competitiveness, managing change.

Theme 4: Globalisation, global markets and business expansion, global marketing, global industries and companies (multinationals).



Assessment: How will I be assessed?

Paper 1 - Themes 1 & 4
35% of total / 2 hours / 100 marks

Paper 2 - Themes 2 & 3
35% of total / 2 hours / 100 marks

Paper 3 - Assesses all four themes and is based on pre-release material
30% of total / 2 hours / 100 marks



What can I do after this course?

After this course students will have developed transferrable skills such as financial management, communication, being able to undertake research, evaluation, analysis and independence. Students will also work on skills such as numeracy and literacy in order to make a smooth transition to the next level of study. The course prepares pupils for degree courses related to the subject, degree apprenticeship and other apprenticeship opportunities, and also the “real world” of work.



Email contact

Mrs L Caviezel Cox

Email: lcaviezelcox@arnoldlodge.com

BUSINESS

BTEC

Lead teacher:	Mrs Sweetman	Duration:	2 years
Level of course:	Level 3 Extended Certificate	Exam board:	Pearson Edexcel
Course requirement:	At least 5 grade 4s including Maths and English.		

What will I study?

The core units included are:

1. Exploring business
2. Developing a marketing campaign
3. Personal and business finance (Externally assessed examination)

One optional unit is also studied and is chosen by the school to meet the needs of the cohort. The modular approach to study coupled with the coursework units provides a different approach to learning that can benefit those who prefer this to the linear study of A Level and the qualification carries the same number of UCAS points as one A Level.

Assessment: How will I be assessed?

By nature BTECs provide 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. Assignments are graded as pass, merit, distinction or distinction* and are put together in three forms:

1. Assignment set and marked internally (42% of course)
2. Assignment set and marked by the examination board (47% of course)
3. External examination (11% of course)

What can I do after this course?

Completion of the BTEC Business course can take students in many different directions in further study at university such as Marketing, Finance, Human Resources, Logistics and Retail. It also provides the foundation level study for apprenticeships or degree apprenticeships. The course provides an insight into functions that are relevant to all sectors of the economy and as such is ideally suited to students that are passionate about business and are either planning on starting their own business or pursuing a career in business.



Email contact

Mrs L Sweetman

Email: lsweetman@arnoldlodge.com

CHEMISTRY

A Level

Lead teacher:	Mrs Jaffri	Duration:	2 years
Level of course:	A Level	Exam board:	AQA
Course requirement:	A minimum of grade 7 in GCSE Chemistry or a 76 if a dual award was completed. Maths at Grade 7+ is also required.		

What will I study?

The course is made up of three units: Organic, Inorganic and Physical Chemistry. For each of the Organic and Inorganic units, the Physical Chemistry aspects are intertwined with the subject content, to allow a greater understanding of the relevance of these techniques. This course is designed to be taught as a two year course with the AS content being taught in the first year. This allows a greater flexibility for students who are unsure whether to sit an AS or the full A Level course.



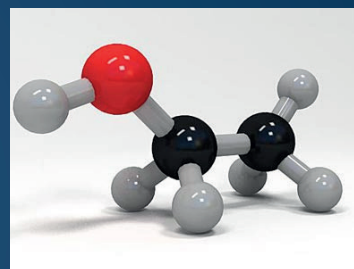
Assessment: How will I be assessed?

A LEVEL:

Paper 1: Inorganic Chemistry and relevant Physical Chemistry topics, plus practical skills - 2 hours, 105 marks, 35% of A Level.

Paper 2: Organic Chemistry and relevant Physical Chemistry topics, plus practical skills - 2 hours, 105 marks, 35% of A Level.

Paper 3: All content - 2 hours, 90 marks, 30% of A Level.



Practical endorsement in Chemistry - a minimum of 12 practical activities.



What can I do after this course?

Chemistry is a perfect choice of subject for people who would like a career in health and clinical professions such as nursing, medicine, biochemistry or forensic science, as well as opening up many industrial routes for example in the petrochemical or pharmaceutical industries. It is a gateway to many degree courses due to the nature of the content studied and the skills learnt as part of the A Level course.

Further details

Chemistry is conceptually difficult but also includes a requirement for a significant amount of learning of facts. Teaching of this is of course split between theoretical and practical work, with practical assessments playing a key part.

Email contact

Ms S Jaffri

Email: sjaffri@arnoldlodge.com

COMPUTER SCIENCE

A Level

Lead teacher:	Mr Sweetman	Duration:	2 years
Level of course:	A Level	Exam board:	Cambridge International
Course requirement:	A minimum of grade 6 in GCSE Computer Science or a grade 7+ in GCSE Maths if not studied.		

What will I study?

Paper 1: Information Representation, Communication, Hardware, Processor Fundamentals, Systems Software, Security, Privacy and Data Integrity, Ethics and Ownership, and Databases

Paper 2: Algorithm Design and Problem-solving, Data Types and Structures, Programming, Software Development

Paper 3: Data Representation, Communication and Internet Technologies, Hardware and Virtual Machines, System Software, Security, Artificial Intelligence

Paper 4: Computation Thinking and Problem Solving, Further Programming

Assessment: How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: Theory Fundamentals (25%) - 1 hour 30 min examination

Paper 2: Fundamental Problem-solving and Programming Skills (25%) - 2 hour examination

Paper 3: Advance Theory (25%) - 1 hour 30 min examination

Paper 4: Practical (25%) - 2 hours 30 min examination

What can I do after this course?

A good grade in Computer Science at A level is valued by universities and employers since it requires the development of analytical thinking and problem solving skills. This course also lays an appropriate foundation for further study of Computer Science, Engineering, Physics or related subjects in higher education.

Many problems in the sciences, engineering, health care, business and other areas can be solved effectively with computers, but finding a solution requires both computer science expertise and knowledge of the particular application domain. Thus, computer scientists often become proficient in other subjects.

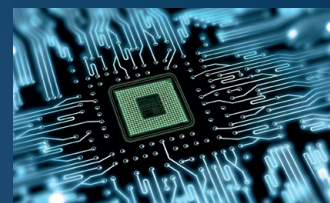
Further details

Computer Science is conceptually difficult and requires a lot of problem solving skills, computational and analytical thinking as well as the high level mathematics - a calculator is not permitted. Teaching of this is of course split between theoretical and practical work, with practical assessment playing a key part to learning the theoretical work. Students who wish to study for a Computer Science degree should combine it with A Level Mathematics as this is a pre-requisite at many universities.

Email contact

Mr S Sweetman

Email: ssweetman@arnoldlodge.com



DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

A Level

Lead teacher:	Mrs Conway	Duration:	2 years
Level of course:	A Level	Exam board:	AQA
Course requirement:	A minimum of grade 6 in Design Technology or a grade 6+ in English and Maths.		

To study Design Technology students must have a creative flair and artistic ability. An interest in quality design should also be evident.

What will I study?

The course consists of 2 main topic areas. These are;

- Technical Principles
- Designing and Making Principles

These areas are delivered in a mixture of practical design work and industrial visits alongside taught content. The main part of the subject is the practical design NEA which is detailed below.

Assessment: How will I be assessed?

Exam Element: Technical Principles - 30%
Designing and Making Principles—20%

NEA: Design and Make Project : Students will undertake a design and make project showcasing their designing skills (50%)

Students will be able to follow their own design journey for the NEA and have the opportunity to design something to solve a real world problem. Previous project examples have been; a remote control for a wake board trainer, a new eco Geography building for a school; a rugby training aid; a lighting solution for an artist's easel; and an interactive fitness trainer. The list goes on and is only limited by your imagination and creativity.

What can I do after this course?

A good grade in DT leads on to many university courses including Engineering, Architecture, and Product Design amongst others. University is not the only route following success in DT. Many apprenticeship schemes actively recruit DT graduates as they can demonstrate problem solving skills alongside academic ability.

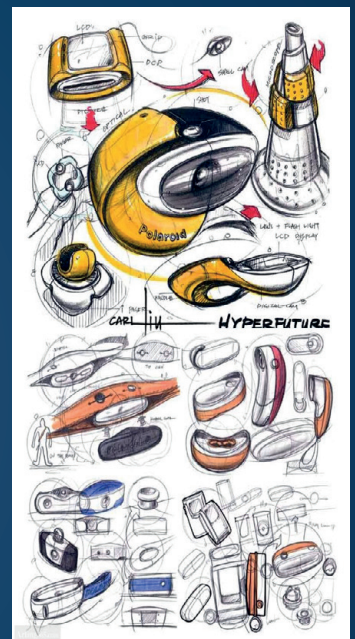
Further details

Product Design is a journey through the design process. We don't set out to design a thing, we set out to solve a problem through design. Students often select a design problem from an aspect of their lives they enjoy, a hobby or sport interest, for example. This leads to a very diverse range of projects that cross fertilise creatively between them.

Email contact

Mrs L Conway

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ENGLISH LITERATURE

A Level

Lead teacher:	Mrs Darby & Mr Durand	Duration:	2 years
Level of course:	A Level	Exam board:	AQA
Course requirement:	A minimum of grade 6 in English Literature or English Language.		

What will I study?

Unit 1: Love Through the Ages

Study three texts: one poetry and one prose text, of which one must be written pre-1900, and one Shakespeare play.

Unit 2: Texts in Shared Contexts: The Literature of WWI and its Aftermath

Study of three texts: one prose, one poetry and one drama, of which one must be written post-2000.

Unit 3: Critical Study (essay)

One extended essay - 2,500 words. Comparing two texts.

Assessment: How will I be assessed?

- **Unit 1:** Written Examination (3 hours)
- **Unit 2:** Written Examination (2.5 hours)
- **Unit 3:** Critical Essay (2,500 words)

What can I do after this course?

After studying for your English Literature A Level you can progress to a Literature degree in Higher Education. English Literature A Level is the key through all gateways; whether this is business, research, education or finance as it requires a close attention to detail, detailed analysis, imaginative and creative responses and problem solving, as well as requiring students to demonstrate excellent written communication skills and higher order thinking skills. English Literature is well respected and can aid you in any path you wish to take.

Further details

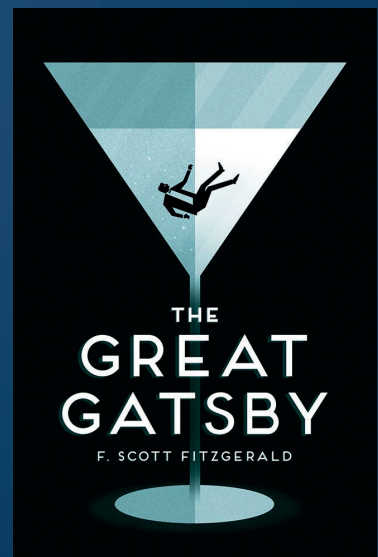
Students wishing to study English Literature should be aware that they will be required to undertake independent research and extended reading away from the course. This course intends to foster a love of literature through a seminar-style approach; the learning will be shared, not dictated.

Students should be comfortable taking written exams and writing extended pieces of independent coursework.

Email contact

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Mr N Durand

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Email: ndurand@arnoldlodge.com



GEOGRAPHY

A Level

Lead teacher:	Miss Davenport	Duration:	2 years
Level of course:	A Level	Exam board:	AQA
Course requirement:	A minimum of grade 6 in GCSE Geography where studied. All students will need a grade 5+ in Maths and English.		

What will I study?

Physical Geography: Water and Carbon Cycles; Glacial Systems and Landscapes; Hazards.

Human Geography: Global Systems and Global Governance; Changing Places; Contemporary Urban Environments

Geography Fieldwork Investigation: An individual investigation including data collected in the field. This can be related to any aspect of specification content and must be developed by the individual.



Assessment: How will I be assessed?

Physical Geography (40% of A Level) - 2 hour 30 minutes exam paper, 3 sections, 120 marks total. Sections A and B are 36 marks each, section C is 48 marks.

Human Geography (40% of A Level) - 2 hour 30 minutes exam paper, 3 sections, 120 marks total. Sections A and B are 36 marks each, section C is 48 marks.

Both exams contain a mixture of short answer, levels of response and extended prose questions.

Fieldwork investigation (20% of A Level)

This is a 3000-4000 word investigation worth 60 marks. It will be marked by the teachers and moderated by AQA.



What can I do after this course?

Geography combines very well with both science and arts subjects at A Level. It is an academic subject highly regarded by top universities as 'a facilitating subject most likely to be required for entry to degree courses'. Geography develops skills valuable in many careers.



Further details

Geography is unique in bridging the natural sciences, social sciences and economics. It is for those who find the physical nature of our planet awesome, care about the impact humans have on it, and hold views about how we should respond to the many challenges we face.

Email contact

Miss R Davenport

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HISTORY

A Level

Lead teacher:	Ms Smith	Duration:	2 years
Level of course:	A Level	Exam board:	AQA
Course requirement:	A minimum of a grade 6 in GCSE History or in GCSE English where not studied.		

What will I study?

Unit 1: The Tudors, 1485– 1609

Unit 2: The Cold War, 1945–1991

Unit 3: Coursework: Social revolution in Britain during the Twentieth Century

Assessment: How will I be assessed?

Unit 1: Written Examination - 2 hours 30 minutes (40%)

Unit 2: Written Examination - 2 hours 30 minutes (40%)

Unit 3: Coursework Essay - 3,500 words (20%)

What can I do after this course?

After studying for your History A Level, you will be perfectly equipped for further study in Higher Education. You will be prepared to take on research tasks, to collate, analyse and evaluate data, to work independently and to assert your own informed opinion. History is excellent for anyone wishing to work as journalists, teachers, researchers, in the media, financial sales, marketing or even as a historian.

Further details

Students wishing to study History should be aware that the course will require a high level of independent research and analysis. You will be required to read historical works and to judge their significance and bias in your own opinion.

History will be taught in open seminars so expect to come to lessons prepared to debate and discuss. Students should be comfortable taking written exams and producing independent, extended written pieces of coursework.



Email contact

Ms C Smith

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MATHEMATICS

A Level

Lead teacher:	Mr Brewer	Duration:	2 years
Level of course:	A Level	Exam board:	Edexcel
Course requirement:	A minimum of grade 7 at GCSE Maths.		

What will I study?

Paper 1 covers core mathematical concepts including: Proof, Algebra and Functions, Coordinate Geometry, Sequences and Series, Trigonometry, Exponentials and Logarithms, Differentiation, Integration, and Numerical Methods.

Paper 2 covers any content from Paper 1 and content from: Vector, Quantities and Units in Mechanics, Kinematics, Forces and Newtown's Laws, and Moments.

Paper 3 covers any content from Paper 1 and content from Statistical Sampling, Data Presentation and Interpretation, Probability, Statistical Distributions, and Statistical Hypothesis Testing.



Assessment: How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: Core Content (33%) - 2 hour examination

Paper 2: Pure Mathematics with Mechanics (33%) - 2 hour examination

Paper 3: Pure Mathematics with Statistics (33%) - 2 hour examination



What can I do after this course?

Advanced GCE Mathematics is a much sought after qualification for entry to a wide variety of full-time courses in higher education. There are also many areas of employment which place a high value on the skills required for A Level mathematics, such as logical thinking, problem solving and statistical analysis. Careers which either require A Level maths or are strongly related include: economics, medicine, architecture, engineering, accountancy, psychology, teaching, information and communications technology and physics.



Further details

An essential part of mathematical study is the challenge of analysing and solving a problem. You will be expected to select and apply the mathematics you have learnt in order to solve problems set in a real-life context. You will not have to write essays but you are required to communicate and justify your solutions clearly and logically. Mathematics is about 'doing' rather than learning facts, so you will also need to be committed to the substantial amount of practice required to achieve in this subject.

Email contact

Mr D Brewer

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MUSIC

Level 3 VQ

Lead teacher:	Miss Pearson	Duration:	2 years
Level of course:	Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma	Exam board:	RSL
Course requirement:	Grade 3 in an instrument and a grade 4+ in GCSE Maths and English, or a Level 2 Functional Skills Qualification.		

What will I study?

This course covers a broad range of skills and styles of music through studying composing for different mediums, performance skills and wider knowledge of the music industry. You will study a number of core modules as well as optional modules, which cover content such as 'composing for film & documentary', 'composing for different musical styles', 'improving instrumental performance' and 'contextualising music'.

Please note that pupils must be able to play an instrument or sing in order to pursue this course. Suitability will be decided on a case by case basis via an audition.

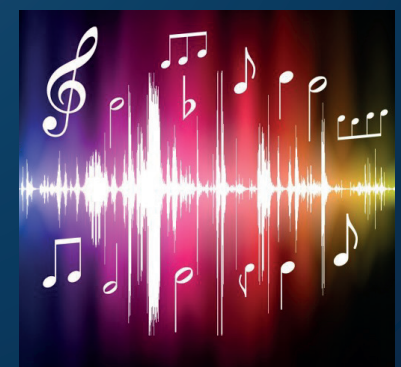
Assessment: How will I be assessed?

The course is not exam based. You undertake a mixture of practical and theoretical/analytical project-based work which is split into different units. Pupils are assessed on the portfolios they create of this work during each unit.

The course consists of practical sessions, harmony seminars, workshops and live performances, covering a range of skills and knowledge, consisting of core and specialist elements. An overall grade is awarded for each unit.

What can I do after this course?

This qualification enables you the opportunity to prepare yourself for a place in the music industry or for entry to a Higher Education course.



Email contact
Miss C Pearson

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PERFORMING ARTS - ACTING

BTEC

Lead teacher:	Miss Drury	Duration:	2 years
Level of course:	BTEC Level 3	Exam board:	Pearson
Course requirement:	A minimum of grade 5+ in GCSE Drama or a merit in Performing Arts.		

What will I study?

The BTEC Level 3 Performing Arts (Acting) course provides practical training to develop your acting skills, alongside your wider appreciation for theatre history and performance styles.

The course is assessed entirely through NEA (non-exam assessment) and so there is no written exam. Please note that written work is included in the course, but is completed across the modules rather than at the end. Pupils will attend a wide range of shows to enhance their experience and broaden their references.

This course is equivalent to one A Level and marked using grades: Pass, Merit, Distinction and Distinction*.

Assessment: How will I be assessed?

You will complete five units whilst studying Performing Arts (Acting). These units include a group devised performance, and a scripted production. You will have many performance opportunities during the course as we study the work of different theatre companies and practitioners as well as learning about acting for screen and the stage.

Assessment is continuous throughout the course and marked by your teacher. One unit is assessed by a visiting examiner. Marks are moderated by the awarding body.

What can I do after this course?

The Extended National Certificate in Acting is suitable for those wishing to pursue a higher education in Performing Arts, or those with a passion for the subject who'd like to gain a range of transferable skills.

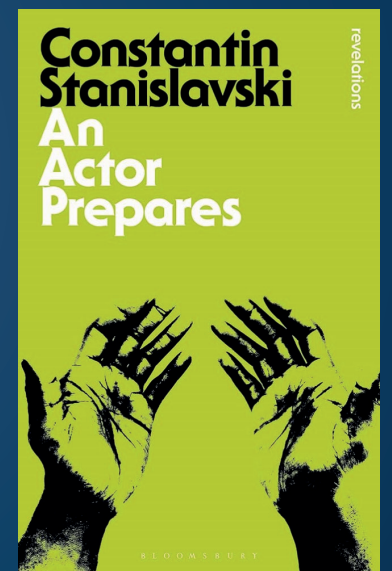
Further details

In order to be successful, pupils will need to be confident performers who excel in the practical aspects of the subject, due to the high number of performance-based assessments. Pupils should appreciate both the practical and theoretical sides to the subject, as we study theatre history as well as professional practice. Pupils should demonstrate excellent levels of playfulness and team care in order to fulfil their potential on this course.

Email contact

Miss C Drury

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PHYSICS

A Level

Lead teacher:	Mr Hawkins	Duration:	2 years
Level of course:	A Level	Exam board:	AQA
Course requirement:	A minimum of grade 7 in GCSE Physics or a 76 if a dual award was completed. Maths at grade 7+ is also required.		

What will I study?

A Level students will study 9 units in total. 8 are compulsory: Measurements and their Errors, Particles and Radiation, Waves, Mechanics and Materials, Electricity, Further Mechanics and Thermal Physics, Fields and their Consequences and Nuclear Physics. The 9th unit is optional, with a choice from Astrophysics, Medical Physics, Engineering Physics, Turning Points and Electronics. The first 5 topics can be assessed separately as an AS Level, giving greater flexibility for students who are unsure whether to sit an AS or the full A Level course.



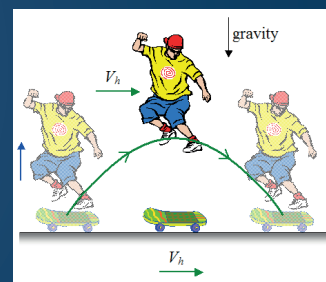
Assessment: How will I be assessed?

A Level:

Paper 1: (Units 1-5 + 6.1 (Periodic motion)) 2 hours, 85 marks - 34% of A Level.

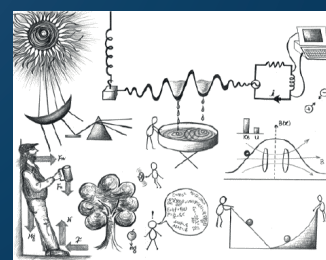
Paper 2: (Units 6.2 - 8) 2 hours, 85 marks - 34% of A Level.

Paper 3: (Practical skills and data analysis and optional module) 2 hours, 80 marks - 32% of A Level.



What can I do after this course?

Physics is a perfect choice of subject for people who would like a career in technical and practical areas such as engineering, design, electronics or computing, as well as opening up many industrial routes, for example in the petrochemical or manufacturing industries. Due to the challenging and analytical nature of the subject, physics is highly valued by prospective employers.



Further details

Physics is conceptually difficult but also includes a requirement for a significant amount of learning of facts. It features a large amount of high level mathematics, so you should be comfortable manipulating equations and using trigonometry. Teaching of this course is split between theoretical and practical work, with practical assessments playing an important part.

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Mr A Hawkins

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POLITICS

A Level

Lead teacher:	Mr Colledge	Duration:	2 years
Level of course:	A Level	Exam board:	AQA
Course requirement:	A minimum of a grade 6 in GCSE History or English.		

What will I study?

Paper 1: Government and Politics of the UK

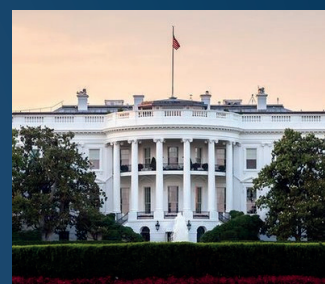
This paper focuses on the make up of politics in the UK from the way the government works through to how we interact with the democratic process.

Paper 2: The Government and Politics of the USA

This paper focuses on the politics of the USA and requires a comparative study of the structural, rational and cultural similarities and differences between the US political system and the UK.

Paper 3: Political Ideas

This paper focuses on political ideologies covering Liberalism, Conservatism, Socialism and then one additional ideology from Nationalism, Feminism, Multiculturalism, Anarchism and Ecologism.



Assessment: How will I be assessed?

A Level:

Paper 1: Government and Politics of the UK

Written exam: 2 hours - 33 % of A Level

Paper 2: The Government and Politics of the USA

Written exam: 2 hours - 33 % of A Level

Paper 3: Political Ideas

Written exam: 2 hours - 33 % of A Level

What can I do after this course?

Covering news and current affairs from the UK and US, Politics helps you understand how the UK country is run and develops research, written communication and debate skills. It also helps grow your confidence. It's ideal if you're considering studying politics, sociology, ethics, advertising or journalism at university and is highly regarded by employers in industries including politics, international organisations, the media, government and the civil service.

Email contact

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PSYCHOLOGY

A Level

Lead teacher:	Mrs Bhandal	Duration:	2 years
Level of course:	A Level	Exam board:	AQA
Course requirement:	A minimum of grade 6 in GCSE Psychology where studied. A grade 5+ in GCSE English and Maths is required.		

What will I study?

A Level Psychology is a fascinating course where you will learn about a range of theories, studies and ideas that will help you to understand human behavior and how the mind works. Why do we follow what other people do? How can we explain depression and OCD? What does research show about the link between the brain and behaviour? Some of the topics covered in Year 12 are Social Influence, Memory, Attachment, Psychopathology, Biopsychology and Research Methods.



Assessment: How will I be assessed?

Assessment will involve a small number of multiple choice questions, short answer questions and extended response style questions (16 marks). External assessment will involve sitting three examinations at the end of the two year course, all equally weighted: (33.3% of the A Level)

Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology (2 hours)

This paper covers Social Influence, Memory, Attachment and Psychopathology.

Paper 2: Psychology in Context (2 hours)

This paper covers Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology and Research Methods.

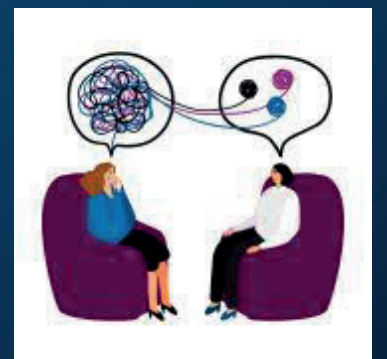
Paper 3: Issues and Options in Psychology (2 hours)

This paper covers Issues and Debates in Psychology, Relationships, Aggression and Schizophrenia.



What can I do after this course?

Psychology is a wonderful subject to study because it will give you a number of transferable skills, such as critical thinking. An understanding of the human mind is useful in a number of careers. The common degree courses taken by students who have an A Level in psychology are: Psychology, English Studies, Law, Sociology, Business Studies, Marketing and Human Resources, Teaching, Sport and Exercise Science and Law.



Email contact

Mrs M Bhandal

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SOCIOLOGY

A Level

Lead teacher:	Ms Graves	Duration:	2 years
Level of course:	A Level	Exam board:	AQA
Course requirement:	A minimum of grade 6 in GCSE Psychology where studied. A grade 5+ in GCSE English is required.		

What will I study?

Sociology involves the study of the relationship between the individual and society. It follows a scientific approach in that sociologists can only make and present arguments about society and people's behaviour on the basis of factual evidence and reasoned theoretical arguments. Sociology also involves the development of critical thinking by asking questions about who we are as people, how we live our lives and how this is influenced by the way society is organised. You will study in detail specific aspects of society such as family life and relationships; the role of religion; the education system; social inequality; globalisation; crime and deviance.



Assessment: How will I be assessed?

Assessment will involve the writing of short and long essay style answers.

External assessment will involve sitting three examinations at the end of the two year course:

Unit 1: Education with Theory and Methods (120 minutes)

Unit 2: Topics in Sociology: Families and Households; Beliefs in Society (120 minutes)

Unit 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods (120 minutes)

What can I do after this course?

Sociology provides you with a range of skills which are transferrable to other subjects and job roles. Sociology is useful for anyone thinking of becoming a teacher, social researcher social worker, youth worker, probation officer and working in marketing and advertising. Sociology is a highly respected A Level by the leading universities in the UK.

Further details

Sociology is the study of society and how certain social institutions and cultural values influence us in our daily lives as well as all people around the world. It can be a very positive tool for young people to help them understand their place in the world as well as how society operates around them. Importantly, in an age of globalisation and digital communication technologies such as smartphones and social media platforms, who we are as people and why we live the lives we do has become an even more important question. Sociology will provide you with some answers to these questions and importantly allow you to make up your own mind about them.



Email contact

Ms A Graves

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SPANISH

A Level

Lead teacher:	Miss Morgan	Duration:	2 years
Level of course:	A Level	Exam board:	AQA
Course requirement:	A minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE Spanish.		

What will I study?

The content of the course focuses on several interesting aspects of Spanish life, including history, politics, social issues and culture. Students will also gain a deeper knowledge and understanding of grammar and vocabulary. In addition, students will study a set text and a film.



Assessment: How will I be assessed?

Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes (50% of A Level)

- Listening and responding to a variety of spoken passages (30 marks)
- Reading and responding to a variety of texts (50 marks)
- Translation into English; a passage of minimum 100 words (10 marks)
- Translation into Spanish; a passage of minimum 100 words (10 marks).



Written exam: 2 hours (20% of A Level)

2 questions to be answered in Spanish on one set text and a film. Students are advised to write approximately 300 words per essay.

Oral exam: 21–23 minutes (30% of A Level)

- Discussion of a sub-theme (5-6 minutes) with the discussion based on a stimulus card which is studied during 5 minutes preparation time (25 marks).
- Presentation (2 minutes) and discussion (9–10 minutes) of individual research project (35 marks).



What can I do after this course?

After studying Spanish A Level, many students go on to higher education before entering the world of work in this country or abroad. Spanish requires excellent listening skills, the ability to communicate effectively and logical thinking to get to grips with all the grammar. These skills are all highly valued both by universities and employers.

Further details

Students wishing to study Spanish should be aware that all the units contain a significant quantity of new grammar and vocabulary. As listening and reading texts are authentic, students will need to spend time independently reading Spanish texts, listening to Spanish TV/Radio or watching Spanish films in order to develop their listening skills. Students need to be comfortable with sitting terminal papers and committed to the substantial revision that will be required when preparing for the examinations.

Email contact

Miss B Morgan

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SPORT

BTEC (Level 3 Single Award)

Lead teacher:	Mr Thomas	Duration:	2 years
Level of course:	Level 3 Single Award	Exam board:	Pearson
Course requirement:	Successful completion of GCSE PE is preferred by not a pre-requisite.		

What will I study?

The National Extended Certificate in Sport (Single Award which is equivalent to one A level).

Units Studied

Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology: Learners explore how the skeletal, muscular, cardiovascular and respiratory systems function and the fundamentals of the energy systems.

Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being: Learners explore client screening and lifestyle assessment, fitness training methods and fitness programming to support improvements in a client's health and well-being.

Unit 3: Professional Development in the Sports Industry: Learners explore the knowledge and skills required for different career pathways in the sports industry. Learners will take part in, and reflect on, a personal skills audit, career action plan and practical interview assessment activities.

Unit 4: Sports Leadership: Learners study what makes a good leader, the different capacities of this role, and the leadership skills and techniques necessary when leading activities in different roles.

Assessment: How will I be assessed?

Externally-assessed units

Examinations for Units 1 and 2:
All learners take the same assessment at the same time, normally with a written outcome.

Internally-assessed units

Coursework for Units 3 and 4:
These will range from written assignments, practical assessment, presentations, interviews.



What can I do after this course?

After studying BTEC Sport you may go on to higher education or to the world of work. Physical Education is recognised as a science and is of benefit to people with an eye to a career in leisure, teaching or coaching, physiotherapy, nursing, sports management, sports journalism, sports psychology or nutrition.

Further details

The qualification is equivalent in size to one A Level. You will study four units of which three are mandatory and two are external.

Email contact

Mr C Thomas

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SPORT

BTEC (Level 3 Dual Award)

Lead teacher:	Mr Thomas	Duration:	2 years
Level of course:	Level 3 Dual Award	Exam board:	Pearson
Course requirement:	Successful completion of GCSE PE is preferred by not a pre-requisite.		

What will I study?

The National Diploma in Sport (Dual Award which is equivalent to two A levels).

Units

- Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology: See single award.
- Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being: See single award.
- Unit 3: Professional Development in the Sports Industry: See single award.
- Unit 4: Sports Leadership : See single award.
- Unit 5: Application of Fitness Testing: Learners gain an understanding of the requirements of fitness testing and learn how to safely conduct a range of fitness tests for different components of fitness.
- Unit 17: Sports Injury Management: Learners study the signs and symptoms of sports injuries, application of basic treatment and rehabilitation methods, injury risk factors and injury prevention.
- Unit 22: Investigating Business in Sport and the Leisure Industry: Learners investigate how business operates in the sport and active leisure industry and how it responds to trends and other influences to meet the needs of clients and to benefit the business.
- Unit 23: Skill Acquisition in Sport: Learners study the factors that contribute to a skilled performance in sport and examine how sports performers learn and develop their skills.
- Unit 25: Rules, Regulations and Officiating: Learners explore the historical development of the rules and regulations in a selected sport, and apply them while officiating.

Assessment: How will I be assessed?

Externally-assessed units

Examinations for Units 1, 2 and 23 – all learners take the same assessment at the same time, normally with a written outcome.

Internally-assessed units

Coursework for Units 3, 4, 5, 17 and 25.

These will range from written assignments, practical assessment, presentations, and interviews.

What can I do after this course?

After studying BTEC Sport you many go on to higher education or to the world of work. Physical Education is recognised as a science and is of benefit to people with an eye to a career in leisure, teaching or coaching, physiotherapy, nursing, sports management, sports journalism, sports psychology or nutrition.

Further details

The qualification is equivalent in size to two A Levels. You will study nine units, of which six are mandatory and three are external.

Email contact

Mr C Thomas

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ALS lets ME
ASPIRE
Who will you be?



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