

THE WESTGATE SCHOOL

SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS

2026

#equippedforlife



#equippedforlife

We pride ourselves on our commitment in ensuring every student is '#equippedforlife'. This is at the heart of what we do to ensure that students have every opportunity to thrive during their time at this school and beyond.

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WELCOME FROM THE 6TH FORM TEAM

At The Westgate Sixth Form, our aim is to provide you with every opportunity possible to reach your goals of the next stage of your life be that Further Education, employment, or training. For this, you can hold us to account.

To that end, we are constantly trying to evolve our curriculum in an effort to meet the needs of our young people and offer a range of courses. With that in mind, our Sixth Form operates very much in a school setting as opposed to a college environment signified by supervised study sessions.

Your personal and academic welfare is catered for by our Sixth Form Head Team, who has a specific focus of leadership whilst your careers education will be in the hands of one of the best careers programmes country wide.

A personal development skillset is a key educational component of Sixth Form students as they edge closer to adult life. Here at The Westgate School, we have a high expectation of our Sixth Former's contribution the school community in developing leadership skills and qualities that can enhance their CV and application prospects. The headline opportunity is our Student Leadership Team.

At the end of their time at The Westgate School, previous cohorts of students have gone on to incredible opportunities through Higher Level Degree Apprenticeships like Engineering at Mars, Business Transformation Analyst at Deloitte and Digital Marketing at The Westgate School.

Others have successfully started their degrees in universities such as:

~ Philosophy and Psychology at St. Andrews University
~ History at University of Oxford
~ Sociology at Loughborough University
~ Biomedical Science at University of Reading
~ Pharmacology at Kings College London
~ Mechanical Engineering at Brunel University
~ Law at Royal Holloway University
~ Nursing at Kings College London
~ Music at Richmond University of London
~ Accounting with Finance at the University of Portsmouth
~ Neuroscience at the University of Bristol
~ Biochemistry at the University of Surrey
~ Fashion Marketing at the University of the Arts London
~ English Literature at the University of Reading
~ Social Work at the University of Birmingham

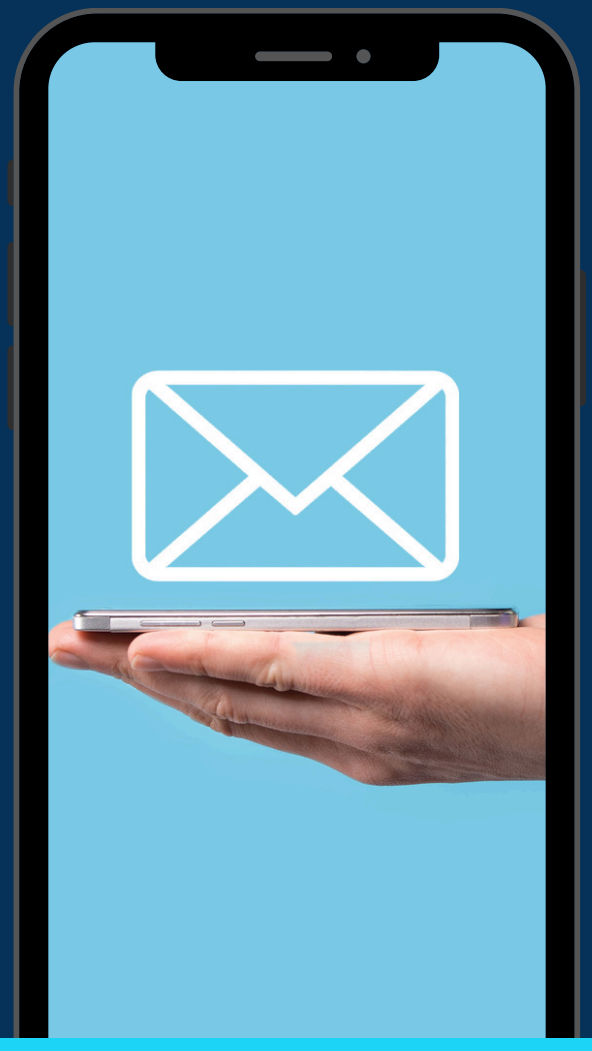
THE SIXTH FORM HEAD TEAM

At The Westgate School's Sixth Form, we are dedicated to providing pastoral and academic support. Through tailored intervention initiatives and personalised one-to-one guidance, we support every student to achieve their personal best.

The Sixth Form Team takes great pleasure in supporting students throughout their educational journey - from their transition into Year 7 and the challenges of Key Stage 3, to excelling in GCSEs at Key Stage 4, and finally specialising in academic disciplines at Key Stage 5 as they prepare for their future aspirations.

We are proud of the transformation our students undergo, becoming confident and capable young adults. Whether their next step is university, an apprenticeship, or entering the workforce, we ensure they are #equippedforlife - both academically and personally.

For any questions or queries, please see the list of key contacts in our Sixth Form Leadership Team below.



GET IN TOUCH WITH THE TEAM

Head of Sixth Form
Dr M Cole
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Home School Communications
Ms A Hayes

WHY WESTGATE SIXTH FORM?

Our main objective is to focus on the academic, social, physical, and spiritual development of each individual. From the moment students join us in the Sixth Form at The Westgate School, we endeavour to ensure that they realise their unique potential.

Our Sixth Form curriculum is broad, balanced and reflects our wider community to allow all students the opportunity to be successful. We secure each student a personalised learning pathway by offering a wide variety of courses that include:

- A-Level Course
- BTEC Courses
- Hybrid (Mixture of A-Level and BTEC Courses)

The Westgate School's Sixth Form examination results build upon the high levels of progress made at GCSE and reflects the high-quality teaching and learning that is a hallmark of why our school has a historic track record of examination success. The quality of provision in The Westgate School's Sixth Form is of the highest standard and is regularly monitored to ensure that students receive the best education and opportunities available.

For many of our young people The Westgate Sixth Form has opened doors to their desired University, Universities that they had not considered before, and apprenticeships.

We are proud to share many of our students secured their firm and/or insurance choices at University whilst others have gone on to secure Apprenticeships and employment.

Students are always encouraged to seek new learning opportunities inside and outside the classroom and every year we are excited to see what a new cohort can accomplish. Inevitably, each year we are proud of what our young people at The Westgate School achieve and feel privileged to be an integral part of their journey.

If students want to receive a further education that will leave them well-rounded, informed and with the skills and qualifications that will equip them for the next steps in their life, then we would like them to consider investing their next two years at The Westgate School. We invite students to choose from our selection of courses and look forward to discussing their future as a welcome member of The Westgate School's Sixth Form.












YOUR WESTGATE EXPERIENCE

We believe that a student's Sixth Form experience should encourage them to be engaged not only within school, but the wider community and to become responsible citizens who are ready for the challenges of the twenty first century. The Sixth Form Leadership Team ensures that from the very first day of Year 12, students are empowered to establish good study systems whilst actively promoting them to embark upon new experiences through our broad enrichment programme.

Students have internal opportunities to develop their leadership competencies and skills by joining the Student Leadership Team. Sixth Form students at The Westgate School can be a prefect, mentor students, contribute to the school and local community, gain work experience throughout their time in our school and are actively encouraged to take full advantage of the range of extra curricular activities on offer. Several of our clubs and societies were established by former students and many of these exiting initiatives are constantly evolving, which include:

- **Charity fundraising activities**
- **Debating society**
- **Cinema Club**
- **Internal and External Sports Fixtures**
- **Duke of Edinburgh's Award**
- **Literature Club**
- **United Kingdom Mathematics Trust**

We also work hard to engage our students with the working world, and we offer a collapsed timetable for one week during Year 12 to allow students to seek out their own work experience placements that is related to their future pathway. We engage with our local universities such as The University of Reading and Royal Holloway for student information events and taster days and also help students take advantage of the variety of summer school opportunities which universities offer, to help them experience the amazing facilities that they have to offer.

The Westgate School's personal development curriculum has been strategically designed to ensure that students are thoroughly supported in ensuring that they make the right choice in whatever pathway they want to pursue.

Our Sixth Form Team offer advice and guidance on writing UCAS personal statements, letters of applications to apprenticeship schemes and provide bespoke advice for those who opt for a Level 3 or degree level apprenticeship.

The Citizenship and Character Education curriculum is designed to educate, inform, and empower students with the knowledge and skills necessary to become healthy, safe, and respectful young adults, prepared for life and work in modern Britain. The Citizenship curriculum also comprehensively supports careers and progression choices, and includes a significant element of personal development focusing on leadership.

In addition to this, students have timetabled periods for Dance/Fitness in which they will have dedicated time for physical activity. The aim of Dance/Fitness is to allow students to take some time away from the academics, have fun, and collaborate with friends to ensure that they are feeling energised for the day.

"There is clear ambition for all to achieve their best and academic achievement has strengthened."

~Ofsted, 2025



PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral care forms an integral part of The Westgate School and we are proud of the exceptional support and care we offer our students from Year 7 and through to Sixth Form. If a student is going to succeed then it is essential that they feel safe and happy in their learning environment.

The Westgate School's Sixth Form focuses on the individuality of our students, we do not merely churn out university applicants, and we strongly believe that our ongoing care and personal support is at the heart of our relationship with students. The foundation of our success rests on the achievements and happiness of our young people.

We have a dedicated, highly-skilled, caring and specialised team which focuses on safeguarding, pastoral care, attendance and admissions. The team build trusting relationships with our students where they go above and beyond to ensuring 'barriers are removed' so our children can succeed and are **#equippedforlife**.

What can the Pastoral Team help with?

The Pastoral Team will play an integral part in the transition of students to Sixth Form where they will get to know your child. The care of students is of upmost importance where they are safely supported with their social and emotional well-being developing lifelong skills. The team are extremely pro-active in ensuring that they can resolve potential barriers and develop:

- **Etiquette within lessons and within and outside the school community**
- **Support attendance including home visits**
- **Developing friendships**
- **Mental Health through the use of their Mental Health First Aiders**
- **Building resilience and respect**

All students are able to approach the team to discuss any concerns they have and know that there will always be someone ready to listen. All of our staff are trained, where we also have a highly-qualified safeguarding team who are able to support both children and families with more sensitive or difficult situations or where a greater level of support is required.

Communication between home and school is vital in this process and, therefore, we welcome open and honest communication shared with parents and school to ensure we work collaboratively in the best interest of the students. As we value this care so highly, all pastoral staff are non-teaching so are available throughout the working day.

We are extremely proud of how often visitors comment upon the wonderful atmosphere as they walk around the school. We strongly promote our values with the focus being placed on a different area for each half term and the whole school community takes part in various challenges or reflections based on these values.

The strong communication and interaction that is formed between our staff and students is one of the key features of the Sixth Form experience at The Westgate School. Although colleagues work hard to support students in all that they do, we appreciate and understand that sometimes students can get a little overwhelmed.

As young adults, many are trying to figure out how to manage new responsibilities, juggle part-time jobs alongside their studies whilst maintaining a social life and other relationships. Should this happen, students will have access to a superb Pastoral Team and an expert School Counsellor who will guide, support, and help students access agencies throughout their Sixth Form journey.

Worried? Need to talk?

The Pastoral Team are always here to help our students through an open-door policy. Students safety is of the upmost importance, where The Westgate School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. If students are worried about anything, they can email their concerns to ***worry@westgate.slough.sch.uk***.



SEND

Our staff are highly skilled in all aspects of Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities and continually seek opportunities to improve their professional development and contribute to the overall ethos, work and aims of the school.

Our team work with students who have physical needs, carrying out a programme of Physiotherapy as instructed by the local Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy teams.

We support pupils who may require assistance in eating or drinking and with their personal care requirements, whilst continually promoting inclusion and acceptance of all students. Our aim is to increase their independence and self esteem.

The SEND team run a break time club, where students with Special Educational Needs can come and sit in a quiet nurturing environment. Our staff are also present at lunchtime in the canteen to assist and supervise our pupils.

Support is also available after-school to encourage our students to attend our varied extra-curricular activities.

Exam Access Arrangements and supervision is also given to our students who have special consideration for examinations.

SEND

All students who have an EHCP will be allocated a SEND Mentor, this will be a member of staff from our SEND team.

Their mentor will have a full understanding of the individual student's needs and requirements and they will assist in promoting the growth and development of the student. They will provide guidance, motivation and support throughout their time at The Westgate School.

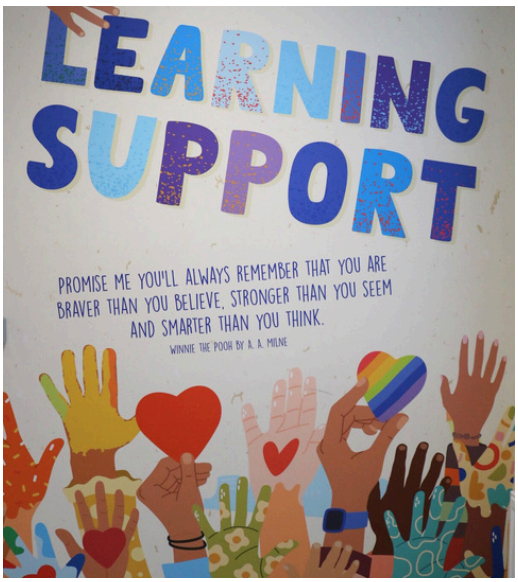
They will liaise with class teachers to ensure the students needs are being met with the aim of helping them to achieve their full potential.

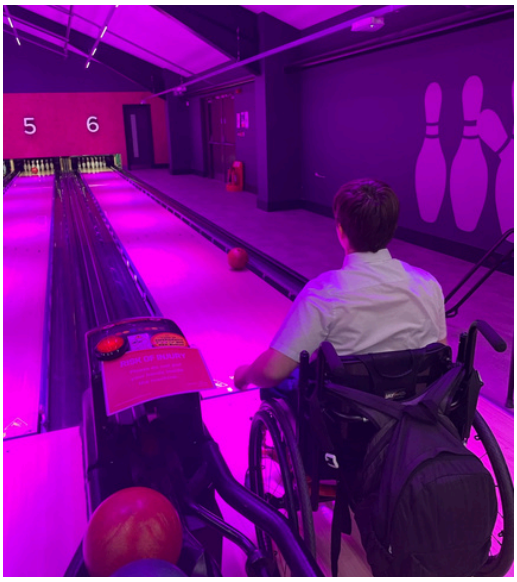
SEND Mentors will give feedback to students and their families in relation to their progress and achievement, under the guidance of the SENDCo.

Our specialist resource base is for the physically impaired where we have the capacity to provide support for 15 students.









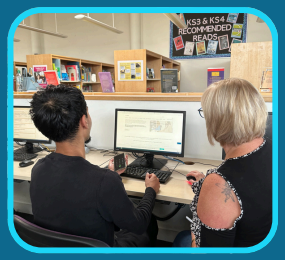
LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE

At the Westgate Learning Resource Centre (LRC) we love books! Our LRC staff are here to help you no matter what you are looking for. We have a huge selection of fiction, non-fiction, study texts and graphic novels. Lose yourself in a mystery or a fantasy world, have an adventure, laugh out loud, fall in love or shed a tear. Learn about science, religions of the world, history, geography, cooking, design, sports – learn about yourself. Wind your way through the dark streets of Gotham or the next Yu-Gi-Oh! adventure.

But it's not just about the books...

We have computers available for students to use and plenty of space for you to sit and study. We are open before and after school as well as break and lunchtimes. We pride ourselves in providing the opportunity to facilitate literacy development, reading for pleasure, and independent learning.









The LRC has comfortable areas for silent individual study, quiet collaborative work and research and has technology available to support students. The LRC contains resources specifically for the subjects taught in the Sixth Form and maintain close links with faculties to ensure that they have relevant book stocks, revision guides and academia to support each qualification at Key Stage 5.

Each year, we celebrate our much-loved Harry Potter Book Day, featuring enchanting themed displays and a variety of creative, book-inspired activities. We also offer other engaging opportunities, such as our ever-popular Chess Club.









Our library also runs themed book displays and events throughout the year, from Winter and Halloween collections to Pride Month, Black History Month, and Remembrance Day. We also celebrate National Poetry Day, Children's Mental Health Week, and more, with fun activities like 'Blind Date with a Book' to inspire students to explore new reads and genres.

SIXTH FORM CAREERS GUIDANCE PROGRAMME

We are committed to providing a high-quality careers education programme to students and their parents from their very first day at school. In Sixth Form, it is even more targeted and intense. We believe that every student deserves time and support to make the right choices for their post Sixth Form career path.

In line with the statutory guidance produced by the DfE, students receive careers advice embedded into the curriculum in addition to dedicated one to one opportunities and group work.

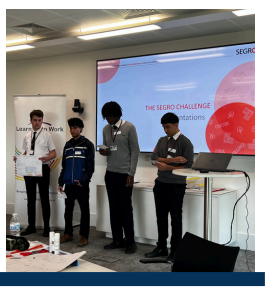
Students will have experienced the following opportunities by the time they leave school:

- Access to Labour Market Information and future study opportunities.
- The needs of individual students will be tailored and measured.
- All students will have experienced meaningful encounters with employers by the time they leave school.
- Students will attend a range of off-site careers learning opportunities which will include Work Experience in Year 12.
- Encounter in-depth information from further and higher education providers and apprenticeships.

Some ongoing examples of careers activities and opportunities:

- Workplace and University visits
- Careers-themed programmes during Citizenship lessons
- Subject-specific group employer engagement sessions
- Private careers interviews
- Superb resources including a licence to use Unifrog (including parents) on any device, and visits to careers fairs and events
- Business mentoring schemes and Alumni support and guidance
- Work experience for Year 12 students during Term-time
- Employer visits and support with employability skills and attributes
- CV/application writing skills and mock interviews conducted
- Updated apprenticeship information and support with applications and interviews



We are very proud to have the ongoing support of a wide range of organisations including:

O2

BRITISH AIRWAYS

abbvie

OSBORNE

Learning to Work

MARS WRIGLEY

ucb



SUBJECTS WE OFFER

WHICH COURSE?

Choosing what to study after Year 11 is one of the most important decisions you will make. Get it right, and your time in the Sixth Form will prepare you successfully for the next stage of your life-long learning journey. Students are encouraged to talk to their subject teachers, Sixth Form Head Team and our subject teachers about their post-18 plans and are here to help you to consider the relevant courses that will enable you to access the best universities, apprenticeships and high-quality employment.

Our curriculum offers a broad range of courses and has been designed to give you the opportunity to choose wisely for your post-18 plans. With such a wide range of Key Stage 5 courses to choose from, selecting the most appropriate combinations to study can be difficult. Try to make this an informed decision by carefully researching the different courses and where those subject choices might lead. Although the subject information within this prospectus will assist you with your decision making, as a starting point, take a moment to consider the questions below:

WHICH SUBJECTS REALLY INTEREST YOU?

This is important because you will be studying these subjects for the next two years and you will need to be motivated to consistently deliver your best effort.

WHICH SUBJECTS ARE YOU GOOD AT?

By choosing subjects you are naturally good at, you will increase your chances of success. This is crucial because being accepted to the top universities and securing the best employment opportunities is becoming increasingly competitive.

WHICH SUBJECTS ARE YOU QUALIFIED TO STUDY?

Identify whether you meet the course entry requirements by looking at each individual subject guide.

ARE THERE SUBJECTS THAT YOU HAVE NOT STUDIED BEFORE WHICH SOUND INTERESTING?

If so, carry out some further research into what each subject involves and where it might take you moving forward.

WHICH SUBJECTS FIT WELL TOGETHER?

Some combinations naturally work well together, for example, Maths and the Sciences or History and English Literature. However, you may prefer a more broad and balanced choice of subjects to keep your options open. If you are unsure, ask for advice.

DO YOU HAVE A CAREER PATH IN MIND?

If so, research which qualifications you might need in the future and therefore what subjects you might need to study in the Sixth Form.

IS THERE A DEFINITE COURSE OR UNIVERSITY THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND?

Research what subjects and grades you will need to study the course you have your heart set on. Some of the more selective universities are quite specific about the subjects you need to study and therefore doing your research before undertaking A-Levels and Level 3 qualifications is essential. Look at university websites, www.ucas.com, speak with university admissions officers or The Westgate School's Careers, Enterprise and Business Links Manager to find out.

DO YOU WISH TO FOLLOW A DIFFERENT ROUTE?

Have you considered Higher-Level Apprenticeships? Do they have specific requirements to meet before applying? We have excellent career advice from both internal and external sources to assist you with this.

Students are encouraged to talk to their subject teachers, Sixth Form Team and our Careers, Enterprise and Business Links Manager about their post-18 plans.

ART
(A-LEVEL)



QUALIFICATION: A-Level Art | **EXAM BOARD:** AQA
ENTRY REQUIREMENT: GCSE Art (Grade 5) or GCSE Photography (Grade 5)

""Art is not what you see, but what you make others see." ~ Edgar Degas

About studying Art...

In A-Level Art

- *Students will develop their artistic skills and creativity through a wide range of practical experiences, exploring a variety of traditional and contemporary art materials, techniques and processes. They will experiment with drawing for different purposes, using a range of media, methods and scales to develop their own individual artistic style. Sketchbooks, journals and workbooks will provide opportunities to record ideas, document experimentation and reflect on their creative journey.*

- *Students will explore and analyse the work of influential artists, designers and craftspeople from different periods, cultures and backgrounds, including both European and non-European influences. Through research, observation and practical experimentation, they will develop an understanding of different artistic styles, movements and traditions, using these influences to inspire and inform their own work.*

- *Throughout the course, students will develop the four key assessment objectives: developing ideas, exploring materials and techniques, recording observations and producing personal and meaningful outcomes. Equal importance is placed on the creative process and the final outcome, encouraging students to become confident, independent and reflective artists.*

Assessment

Component 1: Personal investigation
- **96 marks**
- **60% of A-level**

Non-exam assessment (NEA) set and marked by the centre and moderated by AQA during a visit to the centre. Visits will normally take place in June

Component 2: Externally set assignment
- **Preparatory period + 15 hours supervised time**
- **96 marks**
- **40% of A-level**

Non-exam assessment (NEA) set by AQA, marked by the centre and moderated by AQA during a visit to the centre. Visits will normally take place in June.

THE FUTURE

A-Level Art and Design provides excellent preparation for university courses in Fine Art, Graphic Design, Illustration, Fashion Design, Photography, Animation, and Architecture. It also offers a valuable foundation for a wide range of creative and design-related careers, including interior design, product design, advertising, media, and digital arts. It develops essential skills in creativity, critical thinking, visual communication, experimentation, and independent thinking. It complements other A-Level subjects such as Photography, English, Media Studies, and Design and Technology, while opening up opportunities across the creative industries.

Head of Department
Mr R Zawistowski
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BIOLOGY *(A-LEVEL)*



QUALIFICATION: A-Level Biology | **EXAM BOARD:** AQA
ENTRY REQUIREMENT: GCSE Combined Science (Grade 6-6) OR GCSE Biology (Grade 6), plus GCSE Mathematics (Grade 6)

"Science knows no country, because knowledge belongs to humanity, and is the torch which illuminates the world." *~Louis Pasteur*

About studying Biology...

TOPICS

In A-Level Biology, 8 topics are covered over 2 years:

- *Topic 1:* Biological Molecules
- *Topic 2:* Cells
- *Topic 3:* Organisms Exchange Substances with their Environment
- *Topic 4:* Genetic Information, Variation, and Relationships Between Organisms
- *Topic 5:* Energy Transfers In and Between Organisms
- *Topic 6:* Organisms Respond to Changes in their Internal and External Environments
- *Topic 7:* Genetics, Populations, Evolution, and Ecosystems
- *Topic 8:* The Control of Gene Expression

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1:
- 35% of A-Level | 2 Hours | 91 Marks
- Topics 1, 2, 3 and 4
- Mixed question types including short and long answer
- Extended response questions

Paper 2:
- 35% of A-Level | 2 Hours | 91 Marks
- Topics 5, 6, 7 and 8
- Mixed question types including short and long answer
- Comprehension question

Paper 3:
- 30% of A-Level | 2 Hours | 78 Marks
- Topics 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8
- Structured questions
- Critical analysis of experimental data
- Essay question

Teacher-Assessed CPAC:
12 required practicals

THE FUTURE

A-Level Biology provides good preparation for university courses in medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, and other medically related degrees. It also proves a useful foundation for a wide variety of higher education courses such as physiotherapy, psychology, pharmacy, forensic science, ecology, and sports science. It complements other A-Level courses such as Chemistry, P.E., and Mathematics.



Head of Department
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BUSINESS *(BTEC)*



QUALIFICATION: BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate | **EXAM BOARD:** Pearson Edexcel

ENTRY REQUIREMENT: Minimum Sixth Form entry requirements MUST be met

"Build your own dreams, or someone else will hire you to build theirs"
~Farrah Gray

About studying Business...

TOPICS

Year 12
Unit 1: Exploring Business
Unit 2: Developing a Marketing Campaign

Year 13
Unit 3: Personal and Business Finance
Unit 4: Recruitment and Selection in Business

(This course is equivalent to one A-Level)

This course provides candidates with a critical understanding of the following:

- Business ownership, organisation and the impact of its external environment
- Management of human, physical and technological resources, sources of finance and interpretation of financial statements
- The role of marketing in organisations, marketing research and planning, how and why customer groups are targeted and developing a marketing mix
- Business information, constraints in the use of information and how to communicate business information
- Finance for life and work, understanding the constraints and possibilities we face in life both as a worker and a consumer
- Purpose of accounting, cash flow forecasting, preparing profit and loss accounts and balance sheets, using ratio analysis
- The importance of team and team development, leadership skills and attributes and working effectively in teams
- Recruitment planning, legal requirements, documentation for recruitment, interviewing
- Role of an event organiser, planning an event, run a business event, follow up after an event
- Determine production costs and calculating prices, break even analysis, use data to predict performance, use budgetary techniques
- Present a business idea, skills and development needed to run a business, legal and financial aspects, produce a business proposal.

It encourages candidates to acquire a range of important and transferable skills:

- Data skills – candidates will be expected to manipulate data in a variety of forms and to interpret their results
- Presenting arguments and making judgments and justified recommendations on the basis of the available evidence
- Recognising the nature of problems, solving problems and making decisions using appropriate business tools and methods
- Planning work, considering the demands of the task and the time needed
- Conducting research into a specific theme in preparation for one or more tasks
- Challenging their own assumptions using evidence that has become available

ASSESSMENT

50% coursework - 2 units are assignment based over the 2 years

50% exam based - 1 exam in year 1 which is unit 2 and 1 exam in year 2 which is unit 3

Students must complete all Units to pass. Students are awarded Pass, Merit or Distinction depending on their written, practical, or verbal responses to meet specified marking criteria for each unit. The aggregation of these units can lead to Distinction* being awarded.

THE FUTURE

This qualification is designed to provide highly specialist, work-related knowledge and skills needed to prepare for employment. It will also provide progression opportunities to higher education, degree, and professional development programmes. They attract UCAS points that equate to A-Level qualifications. On successful completion of a BTEC Level 3, Business qualification, a learner can progress to employment and/or continue their study at university.

Head of Department
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CHEMISTRY *(A-LEVEL)*

QUALIFICATION: A-Level Chemistry | **EXAM BOARD:** AQA
ENTRY REQUIREMENT: GCSE Chemistry (Grade 6), plus GCSE Mathematics (Grade 6)

"Science knows no country, because knowledge belongs to humanity, and is the torch which illuminates the world." *~Louis Pasteur*

About studying Chemistry...

TOPICS

Year 12 & 13

- Inorganic Chemistry
- Physical Chemistry
- Organic Chemistry
- Practical Skills in Chemistry
- Advanced Inorganic Chemistry
- Advanced Physical Chemistry
- Advanced Organic Chemistry

The course includes practical activities and teaches the process of scientific investigation which is an important part of learning. The course includes practical skills and a minimum of 30% of the examinations will access higher level mathematics.

ASSESSMENT

Written Exams:
Unit 1: Physical and Inorganic Chemistry (2 hours)

Unit 2: Organic and Inorganic Chemistry (2 hours)

Unit 3: Practical skills and all Chemistry (2 hours)

Teacher-Assessed CPAC:
Practical skills in Chemistry

THE FUTURE

Chemistry A-Level provides good preparation for studying medicine, pharmacy, veterinary science, or chemical engineering in further or higher education. It complements other A-Level courses such as Biology and Mathematics.



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COMPUTER SCIENCE *(A-LEVEL)*

QUALIFICATION: A-Level Computer Science | **EXAM BOARD:** OCR
ENTRY REQUIREMENT: GCSE Mathematics (Grade 6)

"The computer was born to solve problems that did not exist before."
~ Bill Gates

About studying Computer Science

TOPICS

Computer Science is divided into three components:

• Computer systems component (01) contains the majority of the content of the specification and is assessed in a written paper recalling knowledge and understanding.

• Algorithms and programming component (02) relates principally to problem solving skills needed by learners to apply the knowledge and understanding encountered in Component 01.

• Programming project component (03 or 04) is a practical portfolio based assessment with a task that is chosen by the teacher or learner and is produced in an appropriate programming language of the learner's or teacher's choice.

ASSESSMENT

Computer systems (01) - 40%
140 marks
2 hours and 30 minutes
written paper (no calculators allowed)

Algorithms and programming (02) - 40%
140 marks
2 hours and 30 minutes
written paper (no calculators allowed)

Programming project (03) - 20%
Moderated upload
70 marks
non-exam assessment

THE FUTURE

A Level Computer Science provides excellent preparation for university courses in Computer Science, Software Engineering, Cybersecurity, Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, and Games Development. It also offers a valuable foundation for a wide range of technology-related careers, including software development, web design, systems analysis, robotics, and IT consultancy. The course develops essential skills in problem-solving, logical thinking, programming, and computational thinking. It complements other A Level subjects such as Mathematics, Physics, and Further Mathematics, opening up exciting opportunities in the rapidly growing digital and technology industries.



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GEOGRAPHY
(A-LEVEL)



QUALIFICATION: A-Level Geography | **EXAM BOARD:** Pearson Edexcel
ENTRY REQUIREMENT: Minimum Sixth Form entry requirements MUST be met

"Geography is the study of the world as a home for people" *~Yi-Fu Tuan*

About studying Geography...

CONTENT

Area of study 1 -

- **Topic 1:** Tectonic Processes and Hazards
- **Topic 2:** Landscape Systems, Processes and Change – 2B: Coastal Landscapes and Change

Area of Study 2 -

- **Topic 3:** Globalisation
- **Topic 4:** Shaping Places – 4A Regenerating Places

Area of Study 3 -

- **Topic 5:** The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity
- **Topic 6:** The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security

Area of Study 4 -

- **Topic 7:** Superpowers
- **Topic 8:** Global Development and Connections – 8A Health, Human Rights and Intervention.

ASSESSMENT

PAPER 1 (PAPER CODE: 9GE0/01)
Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes
30% of the qualification | 105 marks

Content overview
- *Topic 1:* Tectonic Processes and Hazards
- *Topic 2:* Landscape Systems, Processes and Change – 2B: Coastal Landscapes and Change
- *Topic 5:* The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity
- *Topic 6:* The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security

PAPER 2 (PAPER CODE: 9GE0/02)
Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes
30% of the qualification | 105 marks

Content overview
- *Topic 3:* Globalisation
- *Topic 4:* Shaping Places – 4A Regenerating Places
- *Topic 7:* Superpowers
- *Topic 8:* Global Development and Connections – 8A Health, Human Rights and Intervention.

PAPER 3 (PAPER CODE: 9GE0/03)
Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes
20% of the qualification | 70 marks

The specification contains three synoptic themes within the compulsory content areas:
- *Players*
- *Attitudes and actions*
- *Futures and uncertainties.*

NON-EXAMINED ASSESSMENT
20% of the qualification | 70 marks

Content overview
- The investigation report is internally assessed and externally moderated.
- The student will produce a written report of 3000–4000 words

THE FUTURE

'Geographers look at issues from a wide perspective and develop a range of skills which are attractive to a very broad range of future employers'

'No other subject can offer you such an extensive array of skills as Geography can'.

Geography can provide careers in anything that you are passionate about. If you care about the planet become an environmental consultant or work in environmental law. If you are interested in people, you can get involved in aid work, politics, economic development or analysis. Geography takes your skills and interests and helps you apply them to real world scenarios.

Head of Department
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HISTORY *(A-LEVEL)*



QUALIFICATION: A-Level History | **EXAM BOARD:** Edexcel
ENTRY REQUIREMENT: Minimum Sixth Form entry requirements MUST be met

"History belongs in the past but understanding it is the duty of the present"
~Shashi Tharoor

About studying History...

The A-Level History course has been designed to help students understand the significance of historical events, the role of individuals in history and the nature of change over time so that students will develop a deeper understanding of the past through political, social, economic, and cultural perspectives. We believe that the topics we have selected will not only cultivate an interest in history, but it will also equip students with the knowledge and skills required to succeed as historians.

An A-Level in History will include a variety of exciting historical topics. It is our strong desire to ensure that History should captivate the learner and develop a desire within them to continue learning beyond the confines of the classroom.

This A-Level fosters the development of critical and reflective thinking with an understanding of historical topics and issues; and encourages an awareness of the importance of historical awareness in explaining contemporary issues.

We aim to ignite and engage learners' passions and interests. We will create independent learners, critical thinkers, and decision-makers – all personal assets that can help students stand out as they progress to Higher Education and/or the workplace.

THROUGH STUDYING HISTORY, YOU WILL:

- Develop your interest and enthusiasm for history and an understanding of its intrinsic value and significance
- Acquire an understanding of different identities within society and an appreciation of aspects such as social, cultural, religious, and ethnic diversity, as appropriate
- Build on your understanding of the past through experiencing a broad and balanced course of study
- Improve as an effective and independent learner and as a critical and reflective thinker with a curious and enquiring mind
- Develop the ability to ask relevant and significant questions about the past and to research them
- Acquire an understanding of the nature of historical study, for example that history is concerned with judgements based on available evidence and that historical judgements are provisional
- Develop your use and understanding of historical terms, concepts, and skills
- Make links and draw comparisons within and/or across different periods and aspects of the past
- Organise and communicate your historical knowledge and understanding in different ways, arguing a case and reaching substantiated judgements

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: Breadth Study with Interpretations
- Britain, c1780-c1870, Democracy, Protest and Reform
- 60 Marks | 30% of A level | 2 hours 15 minutes

Paper 2: Depth Study
- The Unification of Germany, c1840-71
- 40 marks | 20% of A level | 1 hour 30 minutes

Paper 3: Themes in breadth with Aspects in depth
- Germany, 1871-1990: united, divided and reunited
- 60 marks | 30% of A level | 2 hours 15 minutes

Coursework
- An independent investigation on the historiography of a key event or period
- 40 marks | 20% of the A level

THE FUTURE

The study of history opens up a wide range of careers that facilitate general academic qualifications, in addition to those that require specific historical knowledge and is therefore looked upon favourably by Russell Group Universities. An A-Level in History is useful for careers in law, civil service, journalism, personnel management, public relations, social work, politics, police force, media and many more owing to the skills and competencies students develop within the subject.

Head of Department
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HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE *(BTEC)*



QUALIFICATION: Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification BTEC National in Health and Social Care (Extended Certificate) | **EXAM BOARD:** Pearson
ENTRY REQUIREMENT: GCSE English Language or Literature (Grade 4) or BTEC Health and Social Care (Level 2 Merit)

"Without a sense of caring, there can be no sense of community"
~Anthony J. D'Angelo

About studying Health and Social Care...

WHAT DOES IT INCLUDE?

Students will complete 1 internal and 2 external units, then an optional internal unit that will be decided prior to starting the course.

Compulsory units of work:

- Human Lifespan and Development
- Human Biology and Health
- Principles of Health and Social Care Practice

Optional units of work:

- Health, Policy and Wellbeing
- Promoting Health Education
- Safe Environments in Health and Social Care
- Health Science

ASSESSMENT

Human Lifespan and Development: External Assessment

-Students examine physical, intellectual, emotional and social development across the human lifespan, the interaction between biological and social factors in health and well-being and how health care professionals provide effective care.

Human Biology and Health: External Assessment

-Students explore the organisation, structure and normal physiological functioning of the human body, and the effect on health of common disorders of the body systems.

Principles of Health and Social Care Practice: Internal Assessment

-Students focus on the principles that underpin meeting the care and support needs of individuals, which are the foundation of all services within health and social care.

Optional units: Internal Assessment

THE FUTURE

An AAQ Pearson Health and Social Care qualification can lead to various career opportunities in healthcare, social work, and management. It can pave the way for further education in fields like nursing, social work, or public health.

Graduates may pursue roles such as care assistants, social workers, health managers, or mental health support workers.

The qualification also enhances key skills for leadership and management positions and offers opportunities for entrepreneurship or volunteering in the sector.



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MATHEMATICS
(A-LEVEL)



QUALIFICATION: A-Level Mathematics | **EXAM BOARD:** Pearson Edexcel
ENTRY REQUIREMENT: GCSE Mathematics (Grade 6)

"Mathematics knows no races or geographic boundaries; for mathematics, the cultural world is one country." *~David Hilbert*

About studying Mathematics...

A-Level Mathematics aims to enable students to understand mathematics and mathematical processes in a way that promotes confidence, fosters enjoyment, and provides a strong foundation for progress to further study as well as extend their range of mathematical skills and techniques. Students will become increasingly responsible for their own learning and the evaluation of their own mathematical development. This is intended to be a two-year course.

PURE MATHEMATICS 1

Content overview:

- Proof
- Algebra and functions
- Coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane
- Sequences and series
- Trigonometry
- Exponentials and logarithms
- Differentiation
- Integration
- Vectors

PURE MATHEMATICS 2

Content overview:

- Proof
- Algebra and functions
- Coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane
- Sequences and series
- Trigonometry
- Differentiation
- Integration
- Numerical methods

STATISTICS

Content overview:

- Statistical sampling
- Data presentation and interpretation
- Probability
- Statistical distributions
- Statistical hypothesis testing

MECHANICS

Content overview:

- Quantities and units in mechanics
- Kinematics
- Forces and Newton's laws
- Moments

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: Pure Mathematics 1

- Written examination: 2 hours
- 33.33% of the qualification
- 100 marks
- Students must answer all questions
- Calculators can be used in the assessment

Paper 2: Pure Mathematics 2

- Written examination: 2 hours
- 33.33% of the qualification
- 100 marks
- Students must answer all questions
- Calculators can be used in the assessment

Paper 3: Statistics and Mechanics

- Written examination: 2 hour
- 33.33% of the qualification
- 100 marks

The assessment comprises two sections:
Section A – Statistics and Section B – Mechanics

- Students must answer all questions
- Calculators can be used in the assessment

THE FUTURE

A-Level Mathematics consolidates and develops GCSE level mathematics and supports the transition to higher education or employment in any of the many disciplines that make use of quantitative analysis including calculus.

Head of Department
Mr C Campbell Hassan
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FURTHER MATHEMATICS *(A-LEVEL)*



QUALIFICATION: A-Level Mathematics | **EXAM BOARD:** Pearson Edexcel
ENTRY REQUIREMENT: GCSE Mathematics (Grade 7)

"Pure mathematics is, in its way, the poetry of logical ideas."
~ Albert Einstein

About studying Further Mathematics...

A-Level Further Mathematics builds upon the knowledge and skills developed in A-Level Mathematics, introducing students to more advanced and challenging mathematical concepts. Students will explore topics including complex numbers, matrices, further algebra, calculus, vectors, differential equations and mathematical proof. These areas develop a deeper understanding of mathematical principles and encourage students to apply their knowledge to increasingly complex problems.

Alongside the core pure mathematics content, students will study additional areas of mathematics, with opportunities to explore topics such as further statistics, mechanics and decision mathematics. Throughout the course, students will develop advanced problem-solving skills, logical reasoning, mathematical modelling and the ability to construct and interpret mathematical arguments. The course encourages independent thinking, precision and resilience when tackling challenging problems.

THE FUTURE

A-Level Further Mathematics builds on the knowledge and skills developed through A-Level Mathematics, providing an excellent foundation for studying mathematically demanding university courses such as Mathematics, Engineering, Physics, Computer Science, Economics and Finance. It develops advanced problem-solving, logical reasoning and analytical skills, preparing students for challenging academic study and a wide range of careers in science, technology, engineering and finance. Further Mathematics is particularly valuable for students considering degrees in Mathematics or related subjects at leading universities and complements A-Level Mathematics, Physics, Computer Science and Economics.

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: Core Pure Mathematics 1
Paper 2: Core Pure Mathematics 2

- Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes
- 25% of the qualification
- 75 marks
- Students must answer all questions
- Calculators can be used in the assessment
- Content overview Proof, Complex numbers, Matrices, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus, Further vectors, Polar coordinates, Hyperbolic functions, Differential equations

Further Mathematics Optional Papers
Each paper is: Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes 25% of the qualification 75 marks

CONTENT OVERVIEW STUDENTS TAKE TWO OPTIONS FROM THE FOLLOWING EIGHT:

OPTION 1 PAPERS
3A: FURTHER PURE MATHEMATICS 1
3B: FURTHER STATISTICS 1
3C: FURTHER MECHANICS 1
3D: DECISION MATHEMATICS 1

OPTION 2 PAPERS
4A: FURTHER PURE MATHEMATICS 2
4B: FURTHER STATISTICS 2
4C: FURTHER MECHANICS 2
4D: DECISION MATHEMATICS 2

THERE ARE RESTRICTIONS ON WHICH PAPERS CAN BE TAKEN TOGETHER. STUDENTS CHOOSE A PAIR OF OPTIONS, EITHER:
• ANY TWO OPTION 1 PAPERS, OR
• A MATCHING PAIR OF OPTION 1 AND OPTION 2 PAPERS

THIS MAKES A TOTAL OF TEN DIFFERENT OPTION PAIRS.

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MEDIA STUDIES *(A-LEVEL)*



QUALIFICATION: A-Level Media Studies | **EXAM BOARD:** WJEC EDUQAS
ENTRY REQUIREMENT: Minimum Sixth Form entry requirements MUST be met

"The media's the most powerful entity on earth. They control the minds of the masses." *~Malcolm X*

About studying Media Studies...

A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE MEDIA COURSE:

- Media Studies insists upon the importance of a full understanding of the new media which dominate the contemporary landscape.
- Students will cover a broad range of media. The specification also ensures the placing of contemporary media in an historical context and an understanding of the key media concepts of language, representation, audiences and institutions.
- Media Studies is a broad course in which you study everything from music videos to websites, magazines to games. The course is organised into 3 components, 2 are exam based and 1 is coursework.

YEAR 12 AND 13

Component 1: Investigating the Media

-In this section, a whole range of media forms are considered. You will analyse media language and explore representations in the media, using relevant theories and consider representations. You will also develop knowledge and understanding of key aspects of media industries and study media audiences, considering aspects such how they are targeted and how they respond to media texts.

Component 2: Media Forms and Products in Depth

-This section will allow you to explore texts in more detail with comparative analysis. The areas you will study are Television in the Global Age, Magazines: Mainstream and Alternative Media and Media in the Online Age.

Component 3: Cross-Media Production

-Using industry standard software, you will create an individual cross-media production using traditional and digital forms – for example a film marketing campaign.

ASSESSMENT

30% Coursework | 60 marks
35% Exam | 90 marks
35% Exam | 90 marks

THE FUTURE

With an earned degree in Media Studies, you have several career options.

For example, Media Studies gives you the foundation knowledge to then go on to work in sectors such as, newspaper, production managers, sound and vision engineers, film/video producers, advertising journalists, assistant publicists and PR and communications officers.



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PHYSICS
(A-LEVEL)



QUALIFICATION: A-Level Physics | **EXAM BOARD:** AQA
ENTRY REQUIREMENT: GCSE Combined Science (Grade 6-6) or GCSE Physics (Grade 6) plus GCSE Mathematics (Grade 6)

"Science knows no country, because knowledge belongs to humanity, and is the torch which illuminates the world." *~Louis Pasteur*

About studying Physics...

IN A-LEVEL PHYSICS 9 TOPICS ARE COVERED OVER 2 YEARS:

Year 12

- Measurements and their errors
- Particles and radiation
- Waves
- Mechanics and materials
- Electricity

Year 13

- Further mechanics and thermal physics
- Fields and their consequences
- Nuclear
- Optional topic from: Astrophysics, Medical physics, Engineering physics, Turning points in physics, Electronics

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1 – Topics 1-5 and 6.1 (Periodic motion)

- 2 hours | 85 marks | 34% of the A-level
- 60 marks of short and long answer questions and 25 multiple choice questions

Paper 2 – Topics 6.2 (Thermal Physics) 7 and 8

- (assumed knowledge of topics 1-6.1)
- 2 hours | 85 marks | 34% of the A-level
- 60 marks of short and long answer questions and 25 multiple choice questions

Paper 3 – Section A – Practical skills and data analysis; Section B – Optional topic 9

- 2 hours | 80 marks | 32% of the A-level
- 45 marks of short and long answer questions on practical experiments and data analysis and 35 marks of short and long answer questions on the optional topic

Teacher-assessed CPAC: Practical skills in Physics.

- The course includes practical skills and a minimum of 40% of the examinations will access higher-level mathematics.

THE FUTURE

Studying A-level Physics offers an infinite number of amazing career opportunities, including Medical Science, Geophysics/Seismology, Engineering, Meteorology, Radiology, Architecture and Astrophysics.

It complements other A-level courses such as Mathematics, Computer Science and Chemistry.

Head of Department
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PSYCHOLOGY *(A-LEVEL)*



QUALIFICATION: A-Level Psychology | **EXAM BOARD:** AQA (Specification A)
ENTRY REQUIREMENT: Minimum Sixth Form entry requirements MUST be met

"The desire to understand the world and the desire to reform it are the two greatest engines of progress." *~Bertrand Russell*

About studying Psychology...

Psychology can best be described as the science of human mind and behaviour, and psychologists carry out experiments relating to several everyday experiences:

- Why do people obey?
- What happens when we get stressed and can we stop it happening?
- Are people intelligent because of what they were born with or what their environment has given them?
- Does watching violent television programmes make you a violent person?

If you can write accurately and fluently; think logically and make judgements on what you see; listen to and work well with other students, then you should do well in Psychology.

CONTENT

Paper 1 - Introductory Topics in Psychology
- Social Influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Psychopathology

Paper 2 - Psychology in Context
- Approaches in Psychology
- Biopsychology
- Research Methods

Paper 3 - Issues and Options in Psychology
- Issues and Debates in Psychology
- One from: Relationships; Gender; Cognition and Development
- One from: Schizophrenia; Eating Behaviour; Stress
- One from: Aggression; Forensic Psychology; Addiction

ASSESSMENT

In Year 12 & 13 – all exam papers are taken at the end of the 2 years course of study.

Paper 1 - Introductory Topics in Psychology
- 2 hour written exam
- 96 marks | 33.3% of A-Level
- Questions - Four compulsory sections all requiring written answers

Paper 2 - Psychology in Context
- 2 hour written exam
- 96 marks | 33.3% of A-Level
- Questions - Three compulsory sections all requiring written answers

Paper 3 - Issues and Options in Psychology
- 2 hour written exam
- 96 marks | 33.3% of A-Level
- Questions - One compulsory section. Three sections offering a choice of three topics. Students answer one question from each section.

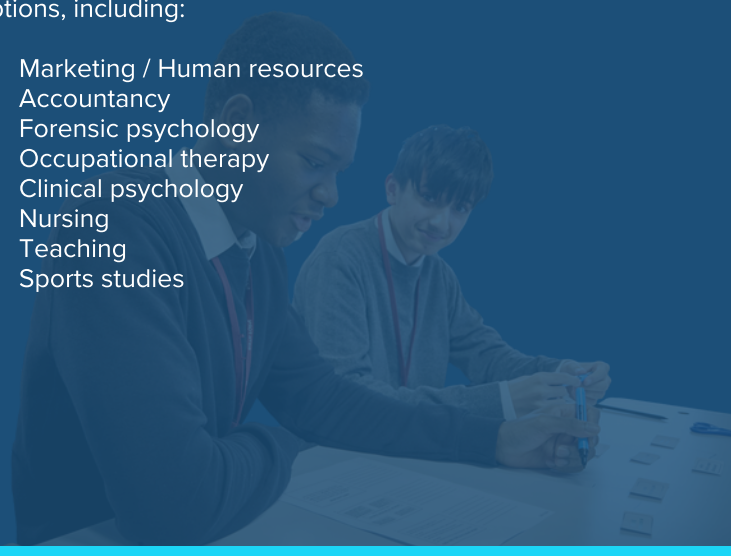
THE FUTURE

Psychology gives you a good grounding in the skills of writing and arguing which you will need at university, and insights into a range of areas that could prove useful to you in the future. They will also develop their mathematical knowledge and research skills.

These skills are all relevant and transferable to higher education courses of study or to the workplace.

Possible career options studying psychology at university can give you a whole host of exciting career options, including:

- Marketing / Human resources
- Accountancy
- Forensic psychology
- Occupational therapy
- Clinical psychology
- Nursing
- Teaching
- Sports studies



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SOCIOLOGY *(A-LEVEL)*



QUALIFICATION: A-Level Sociology | **EXAM BOARD:** AQA
ENTRY REQUIREMENT: Minimum Sixth Form entry requirements MUST be met

"The desire to understand the world and the desire to reform it are the two greatest engines of progress." *~Bertrand Russell*

About studying Sociology...

Sociologists ask lots of questions about the relationships between groups of people within society and we focus on how our everyday experiences shape our lives. In particular, we study patterns of behaviour within social groups and the impact of class, gender, ethnicity and age on social relationships.

Studying sociology offers insights into social and cultural issues. It helps you develop a multi-perspective and critical approach to understanding issues around culture, identity, religion, crime, families and social power. More than once during the course you're bound to ask yourself the question, *"why has society developed like this? With poverty, ignorance, crime and injustice."*

YEAR 12

Education with Methods in Context

Is it true girls do better than boys? Why are there some groups in school who always do better in exams? What happens to the gangs in school who don't follow the rules? How do sociologists gather information about educational achievement? Are some methods more useful than others?

Research Methods and Topics in Sociology - Families and Households

What is meant by 'family' and 'households'? What is the function or purpose of the family in society? Is divorce really increasing? What does this mean for the family? Why in some countries do men have more than one wife and in other cultures it is women who take on multiple husbands? How do families support the UK's capitalist economy?

YEAR 13

Crime and Deviance with Methods

What is meant by 'crime' and 'deviance'? Which social groups are most likely to be the victims or perpetrators of crime? How do sociologists explain crime and deviance? What is the role of the media, the police and other social organisations in explaining and controlling crime?

Topics in Sociology – Beliefs in Society

The AQA Sociology topic of Beliefs in Society examines the role of religion, science, and ideology in society, exploring how they influence individuals and social structures. It moves beyond simple definitions to assess how belief systems contribute to social change and stability. By studying a range of perspectives, you will develop a critical understanding of why people believe what they do and the impact of those beliefs on the world.

ASSESSMENT

3 Written Exams with equal weighting:

- Paper 1 Education with Theory & Methods.
- Paper 2 Topics in Sociology.
- Paper 3 Crime & Deviance with Theory & Methods.

THE FUTURE

Sociology is a useful qualification for a wide range of university courses. The subject is of particular interest to anyone considering a career in social work, nursing, teaching, journalism and the police.

Head of Department
Dr M Cole
MCO@westgate.slough.sch.uk

"We are guided by our strong moral compass to deliver an inclusive curriculum which is broad and balanced and provides all children with opportunities to thrive in and outside of the classroom."

~Headteacher, 2025



THE ADMISSIONS PROCESS

Admission to The Westgate School's Sixth Form will be as a result of applicants meeting the entry requirements.

Application Process:

1. The Westgate School's Sixth Form Open Evening
2. Applications Open (*Please see website for link to apply online*)
3. Applications Close
4. GCSE Results, Enrolment Meetings and Offer Confirmation (*Please see website for admissions policy*)

Basic Entry Requirements:

We require a minimum of five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above for Level 3 courses – which **MUST** include GCSE English Language **or** GCSE English Literature **and** GCSE Maths at Grade 4 or above – and then meet the requirement for the specific subject qualification chosen.

A GCSE total point score of at least 37 points for both internal and external students in your best 8 subjects (which MUST include English and Mathematics). For example: *English Language (Grade 6), English Literature (Grade 6), Mathematics (Grade 5), Biology (Grade 6), Chemistry (Grade 5), Physics (Grade 5), PE (Grade 4), Religious Studies (Grade 5) - Would give a total points of 42 points based on the "Best 8 subjects".*

Subject Specific Entry Requirements:

Please refer to the subject specifications within this prospectus for guidance on the requirements for each qualification at Sixth Form.

Students will be expected to enrol on a two-year, full time, planned programme of study. Entry level criteria has been carefully established for all A-Level and Level 3 qualifications to give our students the best opportunity to achieve their potential, with meaningful results that will help them to move on with their post-18 plans.

Offers will be made on the basis of predicted performance at GCSE, with the requirement that the above grades are achieved in the final examinations prior to entry to the Sixth Form and the student's chosen subjects can be accommodated on the timetable in feasible group sizes.

All offers made during Year 11 are conditional on students meeting the grade criteria specified and will only become firm offers upon confirmation of actual GCSE results. Offers will be made in writing and offers will be confirmed once the school has seen verification of GCSE results.

Where learners have achieved better results than the predicted grades, they will be considered based on the grades achieved for any places that become available as a result of other learners failing to meet the required entry levels.

Please note that The Westgate School's admission arrangements expressly permit consideration of exceptional or other circumstances to allow entry criteria to be varied in individual cases. This is at the discretion of the Westgate School's Sixth Form Leadership Team.

Internal Students:

Priority will be given to existing students at The Westgate School transferring from Year 11 who meet the entrance criteria.

All internal students at The Westgate School will be given a time slot when they will be able to apply for a place at The Westgate School's Sixth Form. All students must choose three subjects and must also choose at least one reserve subject.

Please note that although internal students may have secured a place at The Westgate School's Sixth Form, their specific courses cannot be guaranteed. Places at The Westgate School are confirmed during GCSE Results Day and if large numbers of students meet the entry criteria, oversubscription criteria will be used to determine places to students on a first-come first-served basis.

If a student is not happy with the remaining courses on offer, it would be their choice to withdraw and find a place at another institution.

External Students:

All external students who wish to apply for a place at The Westgate School's Sixth Form will be given a time slot when they will be able to apply for a place. All students must choose three subjects and must also choose at least one reserve subject.

International students may also be admitted to The Westgate School's Sixth Form but are required to provide certified evidence that they have achieved the entry requirements at GCSE level.

External students may be offered a pre-admission meeting before any offer of a place is given. Please note that an offer of a pre-admission meeting does not constitute an offer of a place. If successful, external students will be informed in writing of a place following their pre-admission meeting. The Westgate School will request a reference from the current educational establishment of each external student prior to pre-admissions meeting and a decision will not be taken until all necessary documentation has been received.

Please note that although prospective external students may have secured a place at The Westgate School's Sixth Form, their specific courses cannot be guaranteed. Places at The Westgate School are confirmed during GCSE Results Day on a first-come first-served basis. This means that following the admission of internal students transferring from Year 11, all remaining places will be allocated to learners who have met the entry requirements for the course of study on a first-come, first-served basis.

Where there are more learners seeking places than the number of places available, the oversubscription criteria will be applied. In this situation, prospective students would be informed and a date by which final places would be confirmed. If a student is not happy with the remaining courses on offer, it would be their choice to withdraw and find a place at another institution.

Please see The Westgate School Sixth Form Admissions Policy for further information.

Withdrawing an Offer:

After a place has been offered, The Westgate School reserves the right to withdraw the place in the following circumstances:

- When the parent or learner has failed to respond to an offer within a reasonable time (1 week); ***or***
- When a parent or learner has failed to notify the school of important changes to the application information; ***or***
- The admission authority offered the place on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application from the parent or learner or where the school has been given inaccurate information.

Right To Appeal:

Should an application for a place be refused, students/parents/carers have a statutory right of appeal which will be held by an independent appeal panel. In these circumstances, students/parents/carers should write to The Clerk to the Governors at The Westgate School.

16-19 BURSARY

Each year, The Westgate School receives funds from the government to support some students who might find themselves in financial hardship. Consequently, some students may be eligible for the 16-19 Bursary Fund.

The 16-19 Bursary Fund is a scheme made available from the government through its funding body – the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) – for 16–19-year-olds to aid students for whom access to, or completion of, education is inhibited by financial constraints or barriers.

WHAT IS THE BURSARY FOR?

This bursary is available to those students who would otherwise find it difficult to continue with their education. It is to be used primarily to pay for the following:

- **Trips** – any field trip that relates to a course being taken. No additional subsidies will be available
- **Uniform/Business Dress** – any purchase must conform to The Westgate School's dress code for Sixth Form
- **Educational IT Equipment and Software e.g. Laptop or Tablet** – The Sixth Form Leadership Team can purchase this item on behalf of the applicant and loaned to the applicant for the duration of their time at The Westgate School. The equipment will be regularly checked and maintained by the school
- **Public Transport**
- **Stationery**
- **Books** – The Westgate School can order these on the applicant's behalf
- **University Visits and Interviews** – a maximum of two open day visits can be made during Term-time.
- **Other Educational Resources or Suitable Educational Expenses**

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

To be eligible to receive either a 'Guaranteed Bursary' or 'Discretionary Bursary', young people must be 16, 17 or 18 years of age at the time of their application, be studying at The Westgate School's Sixth Form and meet the ESFA residency qualifications as set out via the following link: ***https://www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund***

Receiving the 16-19 Bursary Fund does not affect entitlement to other means-tested benefits such as Income Support, Jobseekers Allowance, Child Benefit, Working Tax Credit and Housing Benefit. If, however, the student is in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (or Personal Independence Payments), parents can no longer receive certain household/family benefits for that child, such as Child Benefit.

Eligible students will receive a Bursary with additional support, which is dependent on meeting agreed attendance, punctuality and behaviour criteria and any student who qualifies will be eligible to submit financial claims to support their education. These claims are reviewed by The Westgate School and awarded appropriately.



APPLICATION DEADLINES

Initial deadlines for receipt of applications for The 16-19 Bursary Fund, including all required evidence, is within the first half-term of the academic year and will be specified at the beginning of the academic year. Further applications can be made at any time after this date but will be subject to funding being available.

If you believe that you qualify for a bursary or have any questions of queries regarding it, please contact The Westgate School's Sixth Form Leadership Team who will be more than happy to clarify or support an application.

APPLY NOW

01753 521320

admissions@westgate.slough.sch.uk

https://www.westgate.slough.sch.uk/

Cippenham Lane, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 5AH

