



#equippedforlife

The
Westgate School



SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS

www.westgate.slough.sch.uk



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CONTENTS

Headteacher's Welcome	04
The Sixth Form Team's Welcome	05
Why Westgate's Sixth Form?	06
Your Westgate Experience	07
Pastoral Care	10
SEND	12
Learning Resource Centre	15
Careers	16
Which Course?	17
Subjects	18
• Biology	19
• Business	20
• Chemistry	21
• Computer Science	22
• Core Maths	23
• Criminology	24
• English Literature	25
• Film Studies	26
• Fine Art	27
• French	28
• Geography	29
• Health & Social Care	30
• History	31
• Law	32
• Mathematics	33
• Media Studies	34
• Music Performance	35
• Photography	36
• Physics	37
• Psychology	38
• Religious Studies	39
• Sociology	40
• Spanish	41
• Sport	42
EPQ	43
The Admissions Process	44
16-19 Bursary Fund	44

Headteacher's Welcome

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to our Sixth Form where 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 Head of Sixth Form and two Deputy Heads of Sixth Form, each with 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

- Mr. J. Gargan, Headteacher



The Sixth Form Team's Welcome

The Westgate School's Sixth Form Leadership Team consists of 14 members of staff, 8 of which are tutors who have daily contact with their students. We provide pastoral and academic support, intervention initiatives and one-to-one guidance to ensure that each student achieves their personal best.

The Sixth Form Leadership Team at The Westgate School take great pleasure in supporting the journey student's take from starting Year 7 at secondary school and adapting to Key Stage 3, rising to the challenges of GCSEs at Key Stage 4 and then transitioning to Key Stage 5 to pursue their future aspirations in our Sixth Form by specialising in academic disciplines.

We are proud of the transformation they make into mature young adults, and we ensure that each individual is **#equippedforlife** – academically and personally – if they choose to make the huge leap into the world of work, undertake an apprenticeship or study at university.

Please see below the list of key contacts in our Sixth Form Leadership Team should you have any questions or queries.



CONTACT

Head of Sixth Form

Mrs. S. Ashraf - STA@westgate.slough.sch.uk

Deputy Heads of Sixth Form

Miss. M. Richards - MRI@westgate.slough.sch.uk

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Sixth Form Administrator

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Sixth Form Email

Sixth Form Team - KS5TEAM@westgate.slough.sch.uk

Why Westgate's 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-Levels
- 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. In the most recent examination series, 6% of students attained A*-A, 20% of students achieved A*-B, 55% of students achieved A*-C and 96% of our students' results were A*-E. 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.

The Sixth Form curriculum has been carefully planned to ensure accessibility for all types of students. Consequently, the Westgate School's Sixth Form continues to surpass the national average of students going to university.

Our Higher Education Coordinator oversees the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and coaches students through the various pathway applications to ensure that they have choice and control of their futures. Indeed, the guidance we provide every student in helping them to decide their next steps is outstanding and we also utilise our Careers, Enterprise and Business Links Manager to ensure that student's embrace the opportunities we have on our doorstep whilst helping them to network with potential employers.

The Westgate School's 'Outstanding' Ofsted Report (2018) states that ***"students put in the hard work and get three times that back from staff. Pupils felt well informed about their future next steps, including local career possibilities and the availability of apprenticeships."***

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
- ~ Reading Buddies Scheme
- ~ Cinema Club
- ~ Sixth Form Fitness Club
- ~ Internal and External Sports Fixtures
- ~ The Video Game Society
- ~ Duke of Edinburgh's Award
- ~ The Music Appreciation Society
- ~ 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 Sixth Form Tutor Programme 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 specialist Form Tutors 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 Tutor Programme goes beyond academic preparation. It also places a strong emphasis on Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) and PSHE. We believe that a well-rounded education includes fostering emotional intelligence, healthy relationships, and mental well-being. Through this Personal Development curriculum, we provide students with the knowledge and skills to make informed decisions about their personal and social lives, ensuring they are equipped not only for academic success but also for a fulfilling and balanced life in the real world.

As part of our commitment to offering the best opportunities to our sixth form students, The Westgate School is proud to be a member of Eton Connect. Through this association, our students gain access to ETONX, a digital platform that provides a wealth of resources and courses to further enhance their educational journey. ETONX offers a wide range of interactive and engaging courses designed to develop essential life skills, leadership abilities, and global awareness. Our students also gain access to the Eton Summer School university preparation courses which take place in July each year. These are a fantastic opportunity for student to delve deeper into their chosen subject area whilst also gaining support to prepare for University applications.



All students and staff belong to one of four communities in school which are Peters, Hackett, Thomas and McGowan. These communities work together to ensure that they make a positive contribution to their school and the wider community.

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They engage in healthy competition, most notably on our school's sports day, carry out projects involving students from all year groups as well as raising funds for charities. Throughout the year there are competitions between the communities where students work together across different year groups to compete as well as contributing to their community house points.



'The Westgate School's mission is to create a safe and positive environment in which all students reach their true potential and feel prepared for future life through outstanding opportunities and personalised learning.'

Ofsted 2014

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**.

The Pastoral Team's core values are centred around being open and honest, treating students with respect and kindness while always being compassionate, attentive and supportive.

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
- Medical Care
- Developing friendships
- Mental Health through the use of their Mental Health First-Aiders
- Building resilience and respect

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.

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.



"Your safeguarding approach is impressive, effective and supports students well-being"
Ofsted 2018

SEND

Our team of Learning Support Assistant's play a vital role in supporting and the development of our students throughout their Westgate journey. 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 Learning Support Assistant's provide care and support to students who require additional help in order to enable them to access learning and they assist the teachers in supporting them. The LSA's support students who have an EHCP and those that are on the SEND Register. This support may take place in the classroom or outside of the main teaching area. We offer targeted specialist SEND interventions in Literacy, Numeracy, Mindfulness, ASD, Occupational Therapy, Lego Therapy, Handwriting and Social Stories.

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.

Our LSA's accompany teaching staff and students on visits, trips and out of school activities to ensure everyone has full access to all planned events.

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.

Our LSA staff are fully trained to lead and implement the physiotherapy plan and report for your child within school hours if it is within their EHCP provision.

We also offer OT intervention on a weekly basis for students that have been advised by an occupational therapist. We use their report to devise a personalised intervention which takes place in Tutor Time.

We have an intervention space where we run numerous Maths, Literacy and Lego therapy interventions.





"Students behave extremely well and exhibit very positive attitudes to learning and are highly focused on achieving as well as they can, so they can be successful in their future careers and lives"

Ofsted 2018

Learning Resource Centre

At the Westgate Learning Resource Centre (LRC) we love books! Our LRC Manager and LRC Assistant 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...

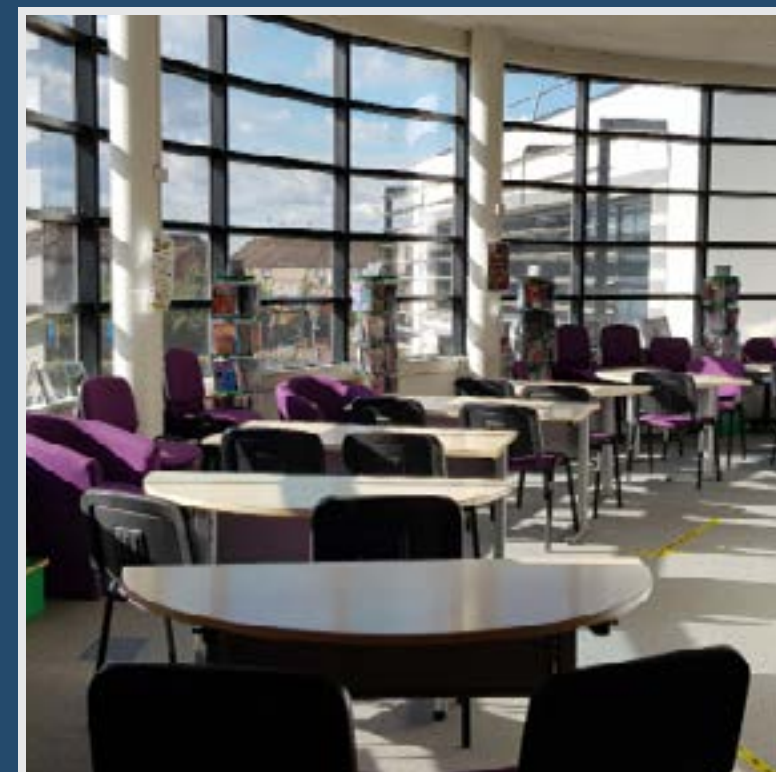
We have computers available for students to use and plenty of space for you to sit and study. We are open before and after school as well as break and lunchtimes. These can get particularly noisy but that's ok – we really are no ordinary library! We pride ourselves in providing the opportunity to facilitate literacy development, reading for pleasure, and independent learning.

The Learning Resource Centre is designed exclusively for Sixth Form students. 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.

Every February we hold our annual Harry Potter Book Night after school. Quizzes, games, lots of fun and food! This is always popular with students from every year group. Other after-school clubs on offer are chess and sign language.

The LRC has also organised author visits to Westgate. This gives the opportunity for students to do workshops, listen to the advice and experiences of the authors and purchase signed books!

We look forward to welcoming you to our LRC very soon.



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, group work and students in Sixth Form receive one-to-one guidance and dedicated support from the Careers, Enterprise and Business Links Manager.

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

1. Access to Labour Market Information and future study opportunities.
2. The needs of individual students will be tailored and measured.
3. All students will have experienced meaningful encounters with employers by the time they leave school.
4. Students will attend a range of off-site careers learning opportunities which will include Work Experience in Year 12.
5. Encounter in-depth information from further and higher education providers and apprenticeships.
6. Personal and private guidance by an independent advisor and be supported in school by the Careers, Enterprise and Business Links Manager.

Some ongoing examples of careers activities and opportunities:

- Workplace and University visits
- Tutor Time careers-themed programmes
- 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 by employers
- Updated apprenticeship information and support with applications and interviews
- Impartial information for Post-18 options



WE ARE VERY PROUD TO HAVE THE ONGOING CAREERS SUPPORT OF A WIDE RANGE OF ORGANISATIONS INCLUDING:



MARS WRIGLEY



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 Form Tutors, subject teachers, Sixth Form Leadership Team and our Careers, Enterprise and Business Links Manager 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 them for the next two years and you will need to be motivated to consistently deliver your best efforts.

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 any subjects that you have not studied before which sound interesting e.g. *Psychology* and *Criminology*?

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, History and English Literature and Art, Drama and Photography. 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 several tools at to assist you with this, including the Unifrog software as well as excellent career advice from both internal and external sources.

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

Biology

Level: A-Level | **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel Biology B

Entry Requirement: GCSE Combined Science (Grade 6-6) OR GCSE Biology (Grade 6), plus GCSE Mathematics (Grade 6)

In A-Level Biology, 10 topics are covered over 2 years:

Year 12

Topic 1: Biological Molecules

Topic 2: Cells, Viruses and Reproduction of Living Things

Topic 3: Classification and Biodiversity

Topic 4: Exchange and Transport

Year 13

Topic 5: Energy for Biological Processes

Topic 6: Microbiology and Pathogens

Topic 7: Modern Genetics

Topic 8: Origins of Genetic Variation

Topic 9: Control Systems

Topic 10: Ecosystems

For more details on the full specification please visit the Pearson Edexcel website:



Assessment

Paper 1 (9BI0/01): Advanced Biochemistry, Microbiology and Genetics (1 hour and 45 minutes)

Paper 2 (9BI0/02): Advanced Physiology, Evolution and Ecology (1 hour and 45 minutes)

Paper 3 (9BI0/03): General and Practical Principles in Biology (2 hours and 30 minutes)

Teacher-Assessed CPAC: Practical skills in Biology. The course includes practical skills and a minimum of 10% of the examinations will access higher-level mathematics.

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.

Dr. A. Thelwell, Curriculum Leader for Science
AKT@westgate.slough.sch.uk

Business

Level: BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate | **Exam Board:** Pearson Edexcel

Entry Requirement: Minimum Sixth Form entry requirements **MUST** be met

Year 12

- Unit 1:** Exploring Business
Unit 2: Developing a Marketing Campaign

Year 13

- Unit 3:** Personal and Business Finance
Unit 8: Recruitment and Selection in Business

(The 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

42% coursework assignments – set and assessed by us, moderated by the board.

25% practical exam and 33% exam – set and marked by the board.

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.

Mrs. Z. Khan, Curriculum Leader for Computing and Business Studies

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Chemistry

Level: A-Level | **Exam Board:** AQA

Entry Requirement: *GCSE Combined Science (Grade 6-6) OR GCSE Chemistry (Grade 6), plus GCSE Mathematics (Grade 6)*

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.

For more details on the full specification please visit the AQA website:



Assessment

Three 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.

Dr. A. Thelwell, Curriculum Leader for Science
AKT@westgate.slough.sch.uk

Computer Science

Level: A-Level | **Exam Board:** OCR

Entry Requirement: GCSE Computer Science (Grade 6) and GCSE Mathematics (Grade 6)

This course is great for students with a genuine interest in Computer Science and who have achieved Grade 6 at GCSE.

The knowledge of programming and how you can use your computer in the most advantageous way for you will allow you to solve many issues or projects in any field of future work in an inventive and effective way. The important skills you learn from this course and this subject will be transferable and highly valued by employers in any future career you pursue.

The OCR A Level in Computer Science will encourage learners to be inspired, motivated and challenged by following a broad, coherent, practical, satisfying and worthwhile course of study. It will provide insight into, and experience of how computer science works, stimulating learners' curiosity and encouraging them to engage with computer science in their everyday lives and to make informed choices about further study or career choices. The key features of this specification encourage

- Emphasis on problem solving using computers
- Emphasis on computer programming and algorithms
- Emphasis on the mathematical skills used to express computational laws and processes, e.g. Boolean algebra/logic and comparison of the complexity of algorithms
- Less emphasis on ICT

Assessment Overview

Computer Systems - 40% of total grade (Written Paper)
2 hours and 30 minutes | 140 marks | No calculators allowed

Algorithms and Programming - 40% of total grade (Written Paper)
2 hours and 30 minutes | 140 marks | No calculators allowed

Programming Projects - 20% of total grade (Repository or Postal)
Non-exam assessment (carried forward) | 70 marks

If you wish to study Computer Science at University, then it is highly recommended you take this course as it builds a solid foundation for further study. Computer Science is a facilitating subject which opens up a broad variety of courses for you to study later on.

The Future

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.

Mrs. Z. Khan, Curriculum Leader for Computing and Business Studies

ZK@westgate.slough.sch.uk

Core Maths

Level: AS Level 3 | **Exam Board:** AQA

Entry Requirements: GCSE Mathematics (Grade 6)

Core Maths is designed for students with a grade 6 or above in GCSE Maths who are taking Chemistry, Biology, Psychology or Business Studies but are not moving forward with a full A Level Maths course. This course will be taken in addition to three A level courses. The use of real-life scenarios will appeal to students who prefer a less abstract approach and appreciate the value of everyday maths and problem-solving skills. It will also support you through further/ higher education and the learned skills will be useful in future employment. The qualification has the same UCAS tariff points as an AS qualification.

A course of study leading to this qualification should enable students to study a maths curriculum that complements other areas of their study, work or interest leading to the application of maths in these areas:

- Develop mathematical modelling, evaluating, and reasoning skills.
- Learn about personal finance.
- Solve problems, some of which will not be well defined and may not have a unique solution.
- Solve substantial and real-life problems encountered by adults.
- Use ICT as an exploratory tool for developing mathematical understanding and when solving problems.
- Develop skills in the communication, selection, use and interpretation of maths.
- Enjoy maths and develop confidence in using IT.

Assessment

Paper 1 (compulsory content, taken by all students)

assesses:

- Analysis of data.
- Maths for personal finance.
- Estimation.

Paper 2 (optional content – students take one paper only)

Either paper 2A assesses:

- Critical analysis of given data and models including spreadsheets and tabular data.
- Statistical techniques.

Or paper 2B assesses:

- Critical analysis of given data and models including spreadsheets and tabular data.
- Critical path and risk analysis.

Or paper 2C assesses:

- Critical analysis of given data and models including spreadsheets and tabular data.
- Graphical techniques.

(All papers are worth 60 marks and take 90 minutes.)

**Mr. D. Jury, Curriculum Leader for
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Criminology

Level: Level 3 Diploma | **Exam Board:** WJEC EDUQAS

Entry Requirement: Minimum Sixth Form entry requirements MUST be met

Not all types of crime are alike. What different types of crime take place in our society? How do we decide what behaviour is criminal? What is the difference between criminal behaviour and deviance? How do we explain why people commit crime? What happens to those who commit a crime? Why and how do we punish people? What organisations do we have in our society to control criminality?

An understanding of criminology is relevant to many job roles within the criminal justice sector, including police officers, probation and prison officers, and social workers. With their critical thinking, analytical and communication skills, criminology graduates are also attractive to employers outside the criminal justice sector in areas such as social research and politics.

The WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Criminology has been designed to provide learners with underpinning knowledge, understanding and skills to progress to further study and training. It offers exciting and interesting experiences that focus learning for 16-19-year-old learners and adult learners through applied learning, i.e., through the acquisition of knowledge and understanding in purposeful contexts linked to the criminal justice system.

The qualification is generally delivered over two years and is likely to be studied in schools or colleges alongside GCE A-Levels and other Level 3 vocational qualifications. Learners completing this qualification often go into the fields of Sociology, law, criminology, psychology, and the police force.

The Future

Progression to Higher Education course such as degrees including:

- Criminology
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Law
- Political Science
- History
- Social Policy and other related subjects

Career routes can include the police, CSI units, forensic services, social work, the National Probation Service, the courts and Tribunal Service, the National Offender Management Service and the legal profession.

Ms. F. Choudhury, Curriculum Leader for Criminology
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Assessment

The WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Criminology is made up of four mandatory units:

Unit 1: Changing Awareness of Crime
(Internal 8 Hr Controlled Assessment) 90 GLH

Unit 2: Criminological Theories
(External 1hr 30 exam) 90 GLH

Unit 3: Crime Scene to Courtroom
(Internal 8 Hr Controlled Assessment) 90 GLH

Unit 4: Crime and Punishment
(External 1hr 30 exam) 90 GLH

English Literature

Level: A-Level | **Exam Board:** OCR

Entry Requirement: GCSE English Literature (Grade 6)

Year 12 & 13

You will study ALL the texts for Component 1 of the A-Level. These include:

- Drama and Poetry pre-1900 exam. 60 marks and 40% of qualification in a closed book exam. Texts studied for this are Hamlet, Rossetti poetry and The Duchess of Malfi.
- Comparative and contextual study exam. 60 marks and 40% of qualification in a closed book exam. Texts studied for this are Dracula and The Bloody Chamber.
- Coursework: close reading, creative writing, and a comparative essay. Texts studied will cover prose, poetry and a play. Total marks available for coursework is 40 and it is worth 20% of final grade.

The Future

With an earned degree in Literature, you have several career options. For example, approximately 50% of writers and editors start out in the information sector to include book, newspaper, periodical, and directory publishers.

Following that is television and radio broadcasting, motion picture and screenplays, software publishers, internet service providers, web search portals, data processing services, and other related online services.

Mr. N. Lilley, Curriculum Leader for English
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Assessment

There are five assessment objectives in the OCR A-Level in 'English Literature'. Learners are expected to demonstrate their ability to:

A01 Articulate informed, personal and creative responses to literary texts, using associated concepts and terminology, and coherent, accurate written expression.

A02 Analyse ways in which meanings are shaped in literary texts.

A03 Demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received.

A04 Explore connections across literary texts.

A05 Explore literary texts informed by different interpretations.

Film Studies

Level: A-Level | **Exam Board:** WJEC EDUQAS

Entry Requirement: *Minimum Sixth Form entry requirements MUST be met.*

Film Studies explores the production contexts, texts and their spectatorship reception of cinema. Students will cover film Movements, Hollywood, British Industries, Global film and Documentary. The specification also explores historical contexts and an understanding Film Micro and macro- from the analytical to the broad. Film Studies is a focused course in which candidates study screenplays, shot language, sound, editing and performance, Star and Narrative theories.

The course is organised into 3 components, 2 are exam based and 1 is coursework.

Year 12 and 13

Component 1: Varieties of Film and Filmmaking • In this section, Classic and New Hollywood are juxtaposed (Vertigo and Alien). You will analyse film language and explore character, setting, narrative and themes in the films, using relevant theories and consider Modern American (LaLa Land and Winter's Bone/Cpt Fantastic) and British cinema (This is England and Trainspotting/Under the Skin). You will also develop knowledge and understanding of key aspects of genre, era and audiences, considering aspects of spectator response and directorship.

Component 2: Global filmmaking Perspectives • This section will allow you to explore Spanish and South American cinema (Pan's Labyrinth and City of God) in more detail with comparative analysis. You will also study Documentary (Amy), Experimental Film (Pulp Fiction/Memento) and Silent Cinema (Sunrise) to appreciate perspectives and ideologies in a rich and resonant experience.

Component 3: Film Production • Using industry standard software and hardware, you will create film screenplays and sequences. We will use links with Pinewood Studios, Virtual and Top Notch studios to ensure an industry standard, excellent outcome. The Curriculum carries a comparative study into Short Film, which ties in to the analysis of students' own productions.

Assessment

Coursework: 30% | 60 marks.

Examination Paper 1: 35% | 90 marks

Examination Paper 2: 35% | 90 marks.

The Future

With an earned degree in Film Studies, you have many local and regional career options. For example, Film Studies gives you the foundation knowledge in Film Marketing, Promotion, Production and Distribution, newspaper journalism, criticism and review fields, production managing, sound and vision engineering, film/ video production, assistant publication and PR and communications.

Mr. T. Freeman, Curriculum Leader for Media and Film Studies

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Fine Art

Level: A-Level | **Exam Board:** AQA

Entry Requirement: GCSE Art (Grade 5) or Graphics (Grade 5)

Year 12

Component 1: You will be introduced to a theme as a group but will be expected to respond in a personal way. Your work will be regarded as a **portfolio** of art.

Within this unit you will be expected to explore through a range of different media and techniques, chosen to address the evidence for the four assessment objectives.

Within this unit you will be expected to explore through a range of different media and techniques, chosen to address the evidence for the four assessment objectives. You will have the opportunity to work in a variety of materials and will cover **photography, textiles, oil paints, clay, and sculpture**.

Component 2: This is an externally set assignment. The controlled test consists of a range of questions, to be used as starting points. You are required to choose one question.

The controlled test is in two parts, like GCSE. There is a preparatory period, during which you are required to carry out your initial research, investigations and identify artist, designers, and craftspeople whose work you wish to make connections with. The second period is a timed 10-hour unaided test when you are required to make a personal response.

Year 13

Component 1: You are required to conduct a practical investigation, into an idea, issue, concept or theme, supported by written material. The focus of the investigation must be identified independently and must lead to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes.

Practical elements should make connections with some aspect of contemporary or past practice of artists, designers, photographers or craftspeople and include written work of no less than 1000 and no more than 3000 words which supports the practical work.

Component 2: This is an externally set assignment. The controlled test consists of a range of questions to be used as starting points. You are required to choose one question. The controlled test is in two parts. During the preparatory period you are required to carry out your initial research, investigations and identify artist, designers, and craftspeople

whose work you wish to make connections with. The second period is a timed, 15 hours, unaided test when you are required to make a personal, final response.

Assessment

Component 1: Coursework 60%.

Component 2: Externally set assignment. Controlled test is 15hrs and worth 40%.

The Future

Qualifications in art will be essential for students seeking a foundation course placement at Art College, or university, as a first step toward an arts-based degree. This course will allow students to consider further education and employment in areas such as: fine art, illustration, graphic design, product design, film and TV, web design, film and theatre set design, architecture, fashion, interior design, and other art-based disciplines.

Further information

You will have the opportunity to go on several trips throughout course. Each trip will support your work and strengthen your knowledge. The visits consist of galleries, museums, and points of interest (London, Brighton, Windsor).

Mrs. E. Swift, Curriculum Leader of Art
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French

Level: A-Level | **Exam Board:** AQA

Entry Requirement: GCSE French (Grade 6)

The A-level specification builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills gained at GCSE. It constitutes an integrated study with a focus on language, culture and society. It fosters a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity, which are valuable to the individual and society. The content is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or further study, including a modern languages degree.

Core content

1. Social issues and trends
2. Political and artistic culture
3. Grammar
4. Literary texts and films Students must study either one text and one film or two texts from the list below.

Texts

- Molière *Le Tartuffe*
- Voltaire *Candide*
- Guy de Maupassant *Boule de Suif* et autres contes de la guerre
- Albert Camus *L'étranger*
- Françoise Sagan *Bonjour tristesse*
- Claire Etcherelli *Elise ou la vraie vie*
- Joseph Joffo *Un sac de billes*
- Faïza Guène *Kiffe kiffe demain*
- Philippe Grimbert *Un secret*
- Delphine de Vigan *No et moi*

Films

- *Les 400 coups* François Truffaut (1959)
- *Au revoir les enfants* Louis Malle (1987)
- *La Haine* Mathieu Kassovitz (1995)
- *L'auberge espagnole* Cédric Klapisch (2002)
- *Un long dimanche de fiançailles* Jean-Pierre Jeunet (2004)
- *Entre les murs* Laurent Cantet (2008)

Assessments

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing

Written exam | 2 hours 30 minutes | 50% of A-level

- Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends
- Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues
- Artistic culture in the French-speaking world
- Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world

Paper 2: Writing

Written exam | 2 hours | 20% of A-level

- One text and one film or two texts from the list set in the specification
- Grammar

Paper 3: Speaking

Oral exam | 21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time) | 30% of A-level

- Individual research project
- One of four themes (Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends, Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues, Artistic culture in the French-speaking world, Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world)

The Future

With our world becoming more globalised by the day, the ability to speak another language, even if only to A-Level, can open up many doors in your career and academic life. French is spoken by 74 million people across the world, notably in France and former French territories. Being able to speak French can provide you with travel and work opportunities. In fact, according to the British Council's 2013 report 'Languages for the Future', 49% of UK businesses look for employees who can speak French, meaning studying the language will be a huge asset to your career. With a projected 750 million speakers by 2050, being able to speak the French language is a powerful skill to have. With France being one of the UK's largest European trading partners, French can provide you with a number of career opportunities. Besides the travel and work opportunities, an A-Level in French will be useful for careers in translation, interpreting, law, civil service, journalism, personnel management, public relations, marketing, social work, politics, police force, media, education and many more.

Mrs. N. Siddiqui, Curriculum Leader for Modern Foreign Languages

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Geography

Level: A-Level | Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirement: GCSE Geography (Grade 6)

Studying A-Level Geography provides you with a variety of valuable skills and knowledge that can be transferred and used across other subject areas and in everyday life

What does the course include:

Component 1: Physical Geography

- Water and carbon cycles
- Hot desert systems and landscapes
- Coastal systems and landscapes
- Glacial systems and landscapes
- Hazards
- Ecosystems under stress

Component 2: Human Geography

- Global systems and global governance
- Changing places
- Contemporary urban environments
- Population and the environment
- Resource security

Component 3: Geography Fieldwork Investigation

- Fieldwork requirements
- Investigation requirements

Assessment

Component 1 – Physical Geography

Written exam | 2 hours 30 minutes | 120 marks | 40% of A-Level

Section A: Water and carbon cycles

Section B: Hot desert systems and landscapes or Coastal systems and landscapes or Glacial systems and landscapes

Section C: Hazards or Ecosystems under stress

Component 2 – Human geography

Written exam | 2 hours 30 minutes | 120 marks | 40% of A-Level

Section A: Global systems and global governance

Section B: Changing places

Section C: Contemporary urban environments or Population and the environment or Resource security

Component 3 – Geography fieldwork investigation

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

3,000 - 4,000 words | 60 marks | 20% of A-level

The Future

The study of A Level Geography can lead into a wide variety of career opportunities and higher education courses.

Progression to Higher Education courses such as degrees including:

- Geography
- Environmental Science
- Geology
- Civil Engineering
- Archaeology
- Sociology

Employment opportunities such as:

- Architectural technologist •Business analyst •Cartographer
- Data analyst •Environmental consultant •Social researcher
- Geographical information systems officer •Palaeontologist
- Marketing executive •Secondary school teacher
- Construction manager •Landscape architect •Market researcher
- Nature conservation officer •Political risk analyst
- Sustainability consultant •Transport planner •Town Planner

Miss. L. Woods, Curriculum Leader of Geography
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Health & Social Care

Level: *BTEC Level 3* | **Exam Board:** *Pearson Edexcel*

Entry Requirement: *Minimum Sixth Form entry requirements MUST be met.*

Students must study the 3 mandatory units within the qualification:

Unit 1: Human Lifespan Development (90GLH)

Unit 2: Working in Health and Social Care (120GLH)

Unit 5: Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs (90GLH)

Unit 12: Supporting Individuals with Additional Needs (60GLH)

*Unit 1 and 2 include a written exam.

In addition to the above Units, students will complete a further optional unit to gain the required guided learning hours.

Assessment

Unit 1 and 2 are assessed through a written examination that is set and marked by the exam board. All other units are internally assessed and verified within the BTEC qualification and are subject to external moderation.

Students will complete a series of assignments that are submitted in a variety of formats to their unit teacher for marking and feedback throughout their studies. Each unit within the qualification has specified assessment and grading criteria which are to be used for grading purposes.

A summative unit grade can be awarded at Pass (E grade), Merit (C grade) or Distinction (A grade). Each individual assignment must be successfully completed for the course to be passed overall.

The Future

The study of these qualifications can lead into a wide variety of career opportunities and higher education courses.

All the BTEC qualifications that are offered prepare students to continue their studies in Higher Education. In addition, many students can choose to transfer their acquired skills directly into the workplace in a variety of health and social care related careers.

Miss. G. Walton, Curriculum Leader for Health and Social Care

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History

Level: A-Level | Exam Board: OCR

Entry Requirement: GCSE History (Grade 6)

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

British period study and enquiry

- Britain 1930-1997
- 50 marks | 25% of A-Level | 1 hour 30 mins

Non-British period study

- The French Revolution and the rule of Napoleon 1774–1815
- 30 marks | 15% of A-Level | 1 hour

Thematic study and historical interpretations

- Rebellion and Disorder under the Tudors 1485–1603
- 80 marks | 40% of A-Level | 2 hour 30 mins

Topic-based essay

- This can be on a topic of the student's choice
- 3000-4000 words | 20% of 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.

Ms. S. Ashraf, Curriculum Leader for History
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Law

Level: A-Level | Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirement: *Minimum Sixth Form entry requirements MUST be met*

Studying Law will give you an understanding of the role of Law in today's society and raise your awareness of the rights and responsibilities of individuals.

By learning about legal rules and how and why they apply to real life, you will also develop your analytical ability, decision making, critical thinking and problem-solving skills. All these skills are highly sought after by higher education and employers.

Topics of Study

1. Nature of Law

This examines the relationship of law with society, morality and justice, and explores fundamental concepts such as the 'Rule of Law' and 'Parliamentary Sovereignty'

2. The English Legal system (all papers)

This unit covers how law is made both centrally within parliament, and by decisions made in the appeal courts. You learn about key legal institutions, including the civil and criminal court hierarchy, and the various processes and personnel involved in the practice of law;.

3. Criminal Law (Paper 1)

This considers both Fatal (Murder, Voluntary and Involuntary manslaughter) and Non-Fatal Offences Against the Person (Assault, Battery, Actual Bodily Harm, Grievous Bodily Harm) as well, as offences against property. Criminal legal theory is also studied to provide context;

4. Law of Tort (Paper 2)

5. This explores various torts ('wrongs') including Negligence and Private Nuisance, and explores concepts such as 'Liability' and deals with the 'Remedies' available to the courts;

6. Human Rights (Paper 3)

You will study the historical development of human rights and the legal theory underlying the current approach.

Assessment

3 Written exams with equal weighting

Paper 1: Nature of Law, English Legal systems, Criminal Law

Paper 2: Nature of Law, English Legal systems, Tort Law

Paper 3: Nature of Law, English Legal systems, Human Rights

Where can Law take you to:

As well as being innately interesting, A level Law provides a taster for Law at university (though it is not required), and gives students a head start compared to those who have never studied Law before.

A level Law is also useful for those with no intention of reading Law at university. It is stimulating, promotes critical thinking, and deals with current issues such as 'right to die', or the legal significance of Brexit. It encompasses skills and knowledge that are relevant and prized in many vocational areas. It is a great A level to prepare students for a wide variety of careers including business, the civil service, local government, banking and finance.

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Mathematics

Level: *A-Level* | **Exam Board:** *Pearson Edexcel*

Entry Requirement: *GCSE Mathematics (Grade 6)*

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.

Mr. D. Jury, Curriculum Leader for Maths
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Media Studies

Level: A-Level | **Exam Board:** WJEC EDUQAS

Entry Requirement: *Minimum Sixth Form entry requirements MUST be met.*

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 as 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.

Mr. T. Freeman, Curriculum Leader for Media and Film Studies

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Music Performance

Level: *BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Music Performance* | **Exam Board:** *Pearson Edexcel*

Entry Requirement: *GCSE Music (Grade 5) and students must also be undertaking peripatetic music lessons for their chosen instrument.*

What does it include?

You will study all of the compulsory units of work and will choose one unit of work from the optional block.

Compulsory units of work:

- Ensemble Music Performance Techniques (Task)
- Practical Music Theory and Harmony (Assignment)
- Professional Practice in the Music Industry (Task)

Optional units of work:

- Composing Music (Assignment)
- Music Performance Session Styles (Assignment)
- Solo Performance (Assignment)
- Music Software Skills (Assignment)

Assessment

Practical Music Theory and Harmony: Internal Assessment

- Learners develop knowledge and understanding of music theory and harmony and apply their understanding in practical scenarios.

Professional Practice in the Music Industry: External Assessment

- Learners explore what it is that makes someone a professional in the music industry and how to put forward a bid for work.

Ensemble Music Performance: External Assessment

- Learners work as part of a musical ensemble and develop their skills and techniques in rehearsal and performance.

One of the following options: Internal Assessment

- **Composing Music:** Learners explore composing music from the initial stages to the final product, developing skills for composition in a variety of styles.

- **Music Performance Session Styles:** Learners explore the styles of music encountered in the role of a modern session musician.

- **Solo Performance:** Learners explore the preparation and performance of music as a soloist before performing in front of an audience.

- **Improvising Music:** Learners develop the ability to improvise when performing in a range of musical styles and contexts.

The Future

The study of Music BTEC provides an excellent basis for Higher Education courses in Music. It can lead to careers in performance, composition, publishing and media, music production, sound engineering, arts administration, event management, popular music and jazz and music education.

Music helps you to develop a variety of skills such as analysis, dedication, group skills, self-confidence and self-reliance. It stretches your imagination and makes you think and react quickly. These are skills valuable to all types of employers. Music BTEC will introduce you to the Music Industry sector and give you the underpinning skills needed to meet industry requirements.

Ms. K. Francis, Curriculum Leader for Performing Arts
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Photography

Level: A-Level | **Exam Board:** AQA

Entry Requirement: GCSE Art (Grade 5) or GCSE Photography (Grade 5)

The right photograph can be thought provoking, heart-warming, challenging, eye-opening, sometimes even world changing.

A Brief Overview

This course is for you if you want to understand the difference between a good photo and a great photo. It will teach you not only how to use a camera in different conditions, but also how to think creatively, experiment and develop stunning images. You'll be a person with imagination, who enjoys trying out new techniques and styles.

The creative potential stimulated in this course will enable you to apply creative, analytical, and critical thinking and problem solving, to visually communicate ideas through photography. This awareness can also be employed to any other course that you do.

You will develop critical analyses of artists' work; helping to develop your own ideas through reaction, practical application, and written reflections. Throughout the course, you will learn about a variety of photographic media, techniques and processes including hands-on experimentation with traditional and modern techniques.

What You Will Learn

Component 1: You will develop work based on an idea, issue, concept, or theme leading to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes. Practical elements should make connections with some aspect of contemporary or past practice of artist(s), designer(s), photographers, or craftspeople and include written work of no less than 1000 and no more than 3000 words, which supports the practical work.

Component 2: You will respond to a stimulus, provided by AQA, to produce work which provides evidence of your ability to work independently

within specified time constraints, developing a personal and meaningful response which addresses all the assessment objectives and leads to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes. The second period is a timed, 15 hours, unaided test when you are required to make a personal, final response.

Assessment

Component 1: Coursework | 60% of Grade

Component 2: Externally set assignment.
Controlled test | 15 hours | 40% of Grade

The Future

Photography could lead to academic or vocational degrees relating to art careers, advertising, commercial work, editorial, fashion, film, food, forensic, industrial, architectural, aerial, portraiture and wedding photography, sports and travel, press photography, photojournalism, fine art, editing, fashion photography or styling, the film industry, forensic science, curating, image library.

Further information

You will have the opportunity to go on several trips throughout course. Each trip will support your work and strengthen your knowledge. The visits consist of galleries, museums, and points of interest.

Mrs. E. Swift, Curriculum Leader for Art and Photography
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Physics

Level: A-Level | **Exam Board:** AQA

Entry Requirement: GCSE Combined Science (Grade 6-6) or GCSE Physics (Grade 6) plus GCSE Mathematics (Grade 6)

In A-Level Physics 9 topics are covered over 2 years:

Year 12

1. Measurements and their errors
2. Particles and radiation
3. Waves
4. Mechanics and materials
5. Electricity

Year 13

6. Further mechanics and thermal physics
7. Fields and their consequences
8. Nuclear
9. Optional topic from:
 - Astrophysics
 - Medical physics
 - Engineering physics
 - Turning points in physics
 - Electronics

For more details on the full specification please visit the AQA website:



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 assess 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.

Dr. A. Thelwell, Curriculum Leader for Science
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Psychology

Level: A-Level | **Exam Board:** AQA (Specification A)

Entry Requirement: Minimum Sixth Form entry requirements *MUST* be met

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.

Assessment

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

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

Ms. F. Choudhury, Curriculum Leader for Social Sciences

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In Year 12 - Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology	In Year 12 - Paper 2: Psychology in Context	In Year 13 - Paper 3: Issues and Options in Psychology
Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Influence • Memory • Attachment • Psychopathology 	Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approaches in Psychology • Biopsychology • Research Methods 	Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 – 2 hour written exam (96 marks. 33.3% of A Level) Questions - Four compulsory sections all requiring written answers.	Assessment – 2 hour written exam (96 marks. 33.3% of A Level) Questions - Three compulsory sections all requiring written answers.	Assessment – 2 hour written exam (96 marks. 33.3% of A Level) Questions - One compulsory section. Three sections each offering a choice of three topics. Students answer one question from each section.

Religious Studies

Level: A-Level | **Exam Board:** WJEC EDUQAS

Entry Requirement: GCSE Religious Studies (Grade 6)

Year 12

- **Unit 1: Christianity:** This unit will focus on studying the core beliefs and traditions within Christianity and searching for their origins. It explores the wide range of diversity within the religion by looking at the different fundamental and liberal beliefs held by some Christians. Examples of this are the different views on the nature of God (Is God a man or woman?) or the different views on the validity of the Bible (Is it truth or written for a hidden purpose?).
- **Unit 2: Philosophy:** This unit is designed to challenge the most fundamental aspects of religion and faith. Does God exist and can we actually prove this? We look at a range of philosophers from the ancient Greeks such as Plato, Aristotle and Socrates, to modern scholars such as Richard Swinburne and Richard Dawkins.
- **Unit 3: Ethics:** Ethics: This is a look into how people make moral decisions. We look at modern theories of Utilitarianism and Situation Ethics and older more traditional ideas such as Natural Law. Through rigorous debate, we attempt to apply these theories to modern ethical dilemmas such as euthanasia, stem cell research and adultery.

Assessment

Units 1-3: 3 Examined Essay Papers combining AS and A2 knowledge, understanding and evaluation. (2 hours each)

The Future

The study of Religious Studies is useful for any field requiring written or verbal communication skills. It is also great for building up logical thinking patterns and problem solving. It is particularly useful for careers in law, civil service, journalism, personnel management, public relations, social work, police force, media and many more.

Mr. A. Sheriff-Vickers, Curriculum Leader for Religious Studies

ASV@westgate.slough.sch.uk

Year 13

- **Unit 1: Christianity:** At this level the unit examines the depths of what it means to be Christian. The unit covers the history and diversity of Christianity from the early Church started by the 12 disciples, right up to how it has spread into modern day British society. We look at how Christianity has been influenced by developments within society including challenges from science and secularism and new concepts of wealth and equality.
- **Unit 2: Philosophy:** At this level the philosophy unit once again goes deeper into the ideas of the metaphysical. We assess the validity of religious belief including religious experiences and mysticism. We debate theories of philosophers such as William James and Immanuel Kant to attempt to once and for all answer the question; is it reasonable to believe in the existence of God?
- **Unit 3: Ethics:** At this level we assess the nature of ethical decision making and attempt to discover if we are at all free to make decisions for ourselves. We will evaluate if the language we have to explain morality is actually useful and if we should listen to our own conscience or submit to the morals of a divine creator (God).

Sociology

Level: A-Level | Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirement: *Minimum Sixth Form entry requirements MUST be met*

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 – Media

Over the last few years the media has gone through rapid technological changes. This has had a massive impact on the way we communicate, how we entertain ourselves and even how we think. Is this a good thing? Is the media always objective? Does it represent social groups fairly? Who owns the media anyway? Do they try to tell us how to be?

Assessment

3 Written Exams with equal weighting:

Paper 1 Education with Theory & Methods.

Paper 2 The Family and Media.

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.

Miss. F. Choudhury, Curriculum Leader for Social Sciences

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Spanish

Level: A-Level | **Exam Board:** AQA

Entry Requirement: GCSE Spanish (Grade 6)

Subject content

The Spanish A-level specification builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills gained at GCSE. It constitutes an integrated study with a focus on language, culture and society. It fosters a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity, which are valuable to the individual and society. The content is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or to further study, including a modern languages degree.

Core content:

1. Social issues and trends
2. Political and artistic culture
3. Grammar
4. Literary texts and films

Students must study either one text and one film or two texts from the list below.

Texts

- Federico García Lorca *La casa de Bernarda Alba*
- Gabriel García Márquez *Crónica de una muerte anunciada*
- Laura Esquivel *Como agua para chocolate*
- Ramón J. Sender *Réquiem por un campesino español*
- Carlos Ruiz Zafón *La sombra del viento*
- Isabel Allende *La casa de los espíritus*
- Gustavo Adolfo Bécquer *Rimas*
- Fernando Fernán-Gómez *Las bicicletas son para el verano*
- Luis de Castresana *El otro árbol de Guernica*
- Gabriel García Márquez *El coronel no tiene quien le escriba*

Films

- *El laberinto del fauno* Guillermo del Toro (2006)
- *Ocho apellidos vascos* Emilio Martínez-Lázaro (2014)
- *María, llena eres de gracia* Joshua Marston (2004)
- *Volver* Pedro Almodóvar (2006)
- *Abel* Diego Luna (2010)
- *Las 13 rosas* Emilio Martínez-Lázaro (2007)

Assessment

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing

Written exam | 2 hours 30 minutes | 50% of A-level

- Aspects of Hispanic society
- Artistic culture in the Hispanic world
- Multiculturalism in Hispanic society
- Aspects of political life in Hispanic society
- Grammar

Paper 2: Writing

Written exam | 2 hours | 20% of A-level

- One text and one film or two texts from the list set in the specification
- Grammar

Paper 3: Speaking

Oral exam | 21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time) | 30% of A-level

- Individual research project
- One of four themes (ie Aspects of Hispanic society or Artistic culture in the Hispanic world or Multiculturalism in Hispanic society or Aspects of political life in Hispanic society)

The Future

Beyond your academic career, languages can open doors to various professional opportunities. Spanish is the second most widely spoken language in the world, with over 400 million speakers. The ability to reach so many potential clients will be seen as a massive advantage to a hiring company. If you have a desire to work abroad, or in a multinational company, language skills will be highly prized. In addition, with many UK companies wishing to maintain strong European relationships post-Brexit, languages will only continue to grow in importance. An A-Level in Spanish will be useful for careers in translation, interpreting, law, civil service, journalism, personnel management, public relations, social work, politics, police force, media, education and many more.

Mrs. N. Siddiqui, Curriculum Leader for Modern Foreign Languages

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Sport

Level: *BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate* | **Exam Board:** *Pearson Edexcel*
Entry Requirement: *GCSE Physical Education (Grade 5) or BTEC Sport (Level 2 Merit)*

All students must study the following compulsory units within the qualification:

Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology

Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being

Unit 3: Professional Development in the Sports Industry

Unit 4: Sports Leadership

Assessment

Units 1 and 2 are externally assessed and examinations will be sat in the summer term at the same time as other national examinations. The other taught units are internally assessed and verified within the BTEC qualification and are subject to external moderation.

Students will complete a series of assignments that are submitted in a variety of formats to their unit teacher for marking and feedback throughout their studies. Each unit within the qualification has specified assessment and grading criteria which are to be used for grading purposes.

A summative unit grade can be awarded at Pass (E grade), Merit (C grade) or Distinction (A grade). Each individual assignment must be successfully completed for the course to be passed overall.

The Future

The study of these qualifications can lead into a wide variety of career opportunities and higher education courses. All the BTEC Sport qualifications that we offer prepare students to continue their studies at higher educational establishments.

In addition, many of our students choose to transfer their acquired skills directly into the workplace in a variety of sports related careers.

In respect of employment this qualification can lead to employment in teaching, coaching, physiotherapy, sports journalism, and sports analyst work.

Mr. J. Francis, Curriculum Leader for P.E.
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EPQ - Extended Project Qualification

Level: Level 3 Extended Project Qualification | Exam Board: AQA

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: By application on admission and enrolment into Sixth Form.

The EPQ is an opportunity to undertake a project investigating a subject about which you feel strongly. You may choose a topic related to your other courses or take the opportunity to follow a personal passion. It provides a context for critical thinking and project management skills. The EPQ is delivered in partnership with the University of Southampton.

You choose your area of study in negotiation with a supervisor and submit it for formal approval. You identify and draft your main aims and objectives before planning, researching and delivering your project.

The process is recorded in a production log, which is submitted with your final project. You will have to obtain and select information from a wide range of different sources, analyse your data and show that you understand the complexities of the topic you have chosen.

Topics Covered

- Formulating aims and objectives
- Planning a project
- Taking notes and record-keeping
- Assessing the reliability and validity of sources
- Critical thinking
- Research methodology
- Referencing and plagiarism
- Decision making

Assessment

Every student has a production log to complete as a documented journey of their project. This is all documented on AQA's Project Q platform.

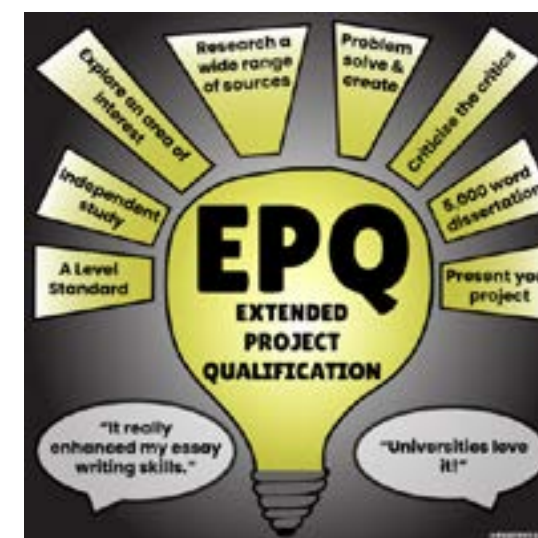
The evidence of your project is likely to be a 5,000-word written report, but it may be an artefact accompanied by a 1,000-word report.

Near the end of your project, you will make a presentation of your research, which will be video-recorded, and you will be expected to answer questions.

Skills Acquired

Completing the EPQ will help you develop your own organisational, project management and independent learning skills.

These will help you become a more confident student in other areas of study.



Course Leaders

Mrs. S. Ashraf - STA@westgate.slough.sch.uk

Miss. M. Richards - MRI@westgate.slough.sch.uk

Mr. I. Adegbulugbe - IA@westgate.slough.sch.uk

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 and GCSE Maths – and then meet the requirement for the specific subject qualification chosen.
- A GCSE total point score of at least 40 points 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.

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.

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.

16-19 Bursary Fund

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.
- **Book Deposit for the Learning Resource Centre.**
- **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/overview>.

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 or 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.

The Westgate School

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