

Sixth Form Prospectus

2018



Kettering Buccleuch Academy
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

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Welcome

It is with great pride that I welcome you to our Sixth Form at Kettering Buccleuch Academy.

Kettering Buccleuch Academy offers a unique House System that underpins all of our core values, which in turn makes our academy a supportive, safe and exciting place to learn. This continues and thrives in the Sixth Form. The academy itself is a stunning building and we pride ourselves in the individually designed learning areas.

Our Sixth Form has grown dramatically over the last two years with a significant number of students now joining us from schools in the surrounding area. As part of this continued expansion, we are excited to be offering a wider range of vocational courses than ever before, to include Applied Business, Applied Law, BTEC Dance and many more.

Our priority to you as a student is to work with you as an individual to enable you to fulfil your full potential and develop self-confidence. You will be challenged daily to enable you to achieve.

When you join our Sixth Form you will be fully supported by a committed team of staff and your peers. With state of the art facilities and a dedicated corridor along with a common room and many study areas, you will be studying in a vibrant and dynamic environment.

Recognising the importance of our students being fully informed in a fast changing world, the common room has many magazines and periodicals available to develop your learning across subject areas such as science, geography and law.

As a Sixth Form student you will also benefit from a wide array of enrichment and development opportunities, including sporting activities, work experience, university trips and social events. You can expect excellent support with apprenticeship/job or UCAS applications, provided by specialist staff with proven success at helping students achieve places at Russell Group universities.

Active involvement in our academic leadership and mentoring programme, working with different year groups within the academy, will help you to develop the skills and experience needed to support you in the future.

We very much hope you will see what we see every day and that we will be welcoming you to our Sixth Form in 2018 to study in our stunning environment.

Thank you,
Dino



Introduction

Some Sixth Forms are too much like school. Some colleges are too impersonal.

Here at Kettering Buccleuch Academy we offer the best of both worlds. Students have the freedom to express themselves as young adults, whilst still receiving all the support and guidance they were used to up to the age of sixteen. Our academy offers you an inspiring place in which to learn. Students have their own wing which houses the sixth form common room and a sixth form staff team who are available to support and guide students. As well as the facilities of our award nominated building, ICT provision is embedded within teaching and learning. As well as fully equipped IT suites, there are also suites of iPads and laptops available for use within many subject areas.

Our academy is a friendly, lively environment with an ethos of hard work. Students are successful and often obtain A Level results higher than would be expected from their GCSE results. We offer a high quality education together with support to enable the students to develop into independent, confident and responsible adults. Year on year we are increasing our range of courses in order to ensure we meet students' needs. Students are in tutor groups enabling effective academic tutoring, individual support and guidance to ensure that they take full advantage of the rich educational and social opportunities on offer.

We know the aspirations of every student are different and our tutoring and pastoral systems will ensure that your individual needs are fully met. All our students receive support and extensive careers guidance which helps with a smoother transition into and beyond the sixth form. We have staff fully trained on the UCAS system, apprenticeships and other post-18 pathways. This ensures that students are fully prepared to apply for aspirational universities or employment once they complete their sixth form studies.

Students are given many opportunities to make a contribution to the academy community through supporting in lessons across all areas of the academy, mentoring younger students, running extra-curricular clubs, leading House activities, to name a few. Our House system is the foundation of all school life, ranging from pastoral care and support, extra-curricular activities and leadership opportunities and a range of sixth form and whole school inter-House competitions.

Alongside the opportunities that the House system creates, we also personalise support to different types of sixth form learners at KBA. Such opportunities include Oxbridge residentials, Russell Group residentials, mock interviews, Nuffield Science placements, the Competitive Edge Programme, the EPQ qualification, first aid courses, STEP paper preparation, careers and apprenticeships guidance, leadership opportunities, work shadowing opportunities, Villiers residential, GCSE resit guidance and lessons, university summer schools, peer mentoring and training, Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, overseas residentials, complementary studies and university open day visits.

We realise that moving on to sixth form courses can be a daunting experience for students and their parents, but here at the academy we have well-established procedures that make the process as smooth as possible, whether you are joining us from another school, college or our own Year 11. We are very proud of our sixth form students and invest significantly to give them the very best experience possible.

I look forward to welcoming you into the Sixth Form in September 2018. Until then, work hard to achieve the highest grades possible in your GCSEs.

Miss Meg Kedie

Head of Sixth Form



Sixth Form Curriculum

This guide gives details on each of the courses we offer. Please read each one carefully so that you are sure that the courses you are choosing are right for you. In addition, below is some important information to include when making your choices.

All students applying to do Level 3 qualifications are expected to take a minimum of three separate subjects (ie either A Levels, BTEC Diplomas or Cambridge Technicals), higher ability students may choose to take four subjects. This is at the discretion of the sixth form team.

Types of Course Offered

Throughout this guide we use the term 'Level 3 courses'. These include A Levels, Cambridge Technical qualifications and BTEC qualifications. With the exception of Maths and English GCSE resits, all the qualifications are Level 3.

The different types of courses on offer can have different methods of assessment: for example, all A Levels are linear, with exams at the end of year 13. Some A levels still have a coursework component such as History. In Cambridge Technical and BTEC qualifications there is more coursework and a smaller proportion of examined units. This information will be clearly stated on the subject guide pages.

A Level Courses

These are linear, two year courses assessed entirely at the end of the second year. All students will take end of year internal Year 12 exams in May and June 2018. Students will need to achieve at least a D grade in these exams in order to continue a subject into Year 13. There will be one resit opportunity in July.

Vocational Courses

These courses are mostly assessed through coursework based assignments with some assessment through examination. Vocational courses are related more to the 'world of work' and, as a student taking a course of this type, you will complete a portfolio of coursework tasks.

Greater emphasis and responsibility is placed on self-reliance, independent research, time management, organisation skills and meeting of deadlines. Our BTEC in Applied Law is an example of a vocational based course.

Resit classes in GCSE Maths and English will be compulsory for all students where they have achieved a grade 3. Alongside the Level 3 courses, students will also complete activities in Complementary Studies, Global Learning, one or more enrichment opportunities, which includes working within the school community



Enrichment Courses

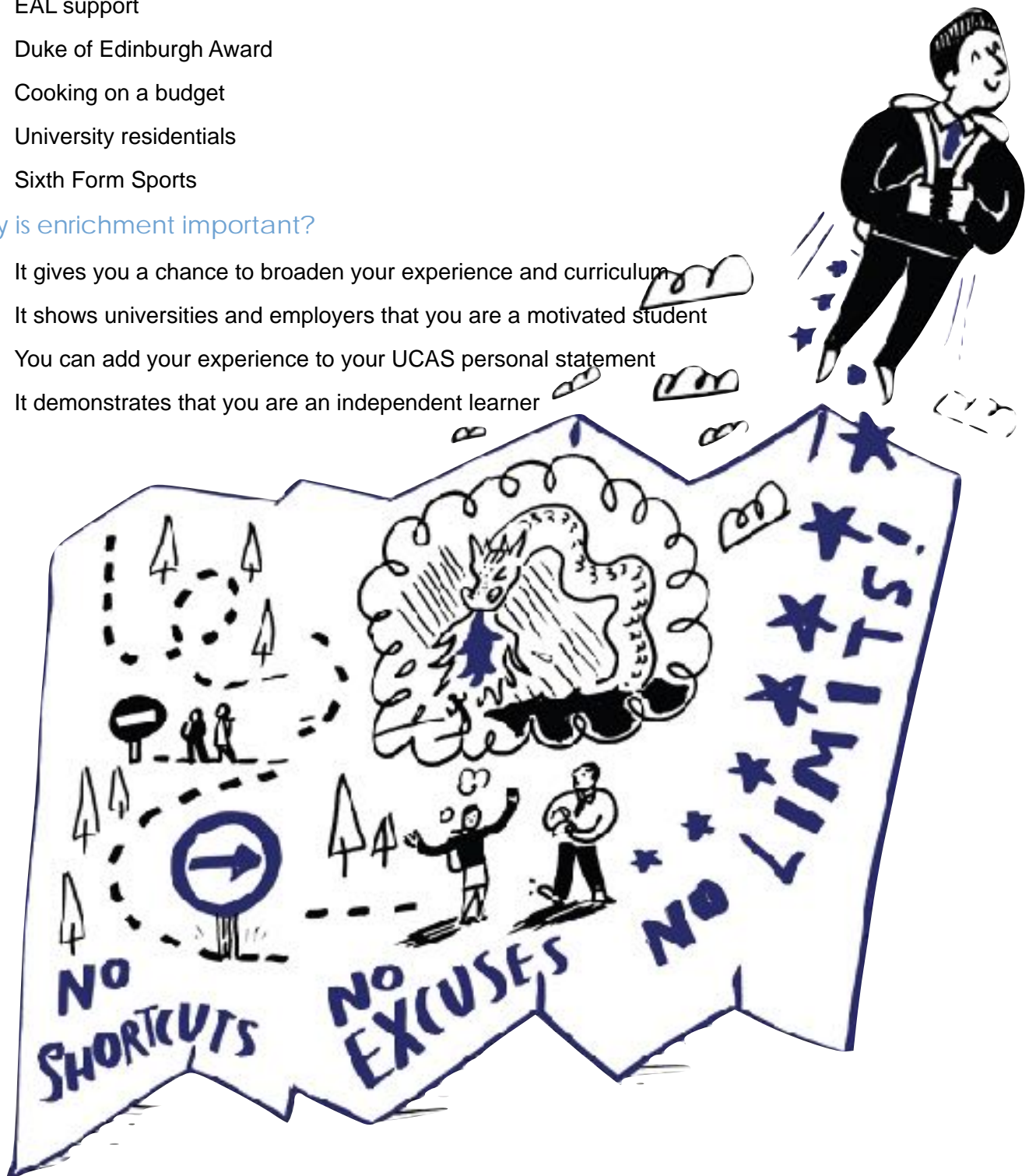
Our enrichment programme enables you to take part in a range of leisure and learning activities; clubs and work in the community that won't just help you stand out from the crowd when applying to university, but also let you have fun along the way. Activities take place at a range of different times appropriate to the nature of the activity.

Some examples of enrichment activities:

- Academic mentoring
- Work shadowing
- Classroom Assistant in the Primary School
- EAL support
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Cooking on a budget
- University residentials
- Sixth Form Sports

Why is enrichment important?

- It gives you a chance to broaden your experience and curriculum
- It shows universities and employers that you are a motivated student
- You can add your experience to your UCAS personal statement
- It demonstrates that you are an independent learner



Entry Requirements

General Entry Requirements

The expectation is that students wishing to take A Levels would have a *minimum* of 5 GCSEs at grade 5 or above (or equivalent) to include English and Maths.

For vocational courses, the expectation is that students would have a **minimum** of 5 GCSEs at grade 4 or above (or equivalent) to include English and Maths.

Specific Entry Requirements

Individual subjects also have their own minimum entry requirements which are aimed at ensuring students only take up a subject in which they are able to succeed.

Students have to meet the general minimum entry requirements detailed above and the subject specific minimum entry requirements for the subject they wish to study.

Attitude To Learning

In addition to the general and specific entry requirements, KBA students need to have displayed an appropriate attitude to learning during Year 11. For external applicants, a suitable reference is required in order to ascertain this.

All Year 11 students will be interviewed in December following receipt of a report or reference with relevant



The Application Process

October 2017	Options talks for KBA Year 11 students
8th November 2017	Sixth Form Open Evening for parents and students. Application forms distributed.
24th November 2017	Complete an application form and submit it by 24/11/17.
14 th and 15 th December 2017	Student interviews take place during the school day. Offer letters will be sent out following the interviews. A good attitude to learning will be required to secure a place.
14 th December 2017	External applicants interview evening. Offer of a place will be subject to a suitable reference.
2 nd July 2018	Sixth Form Induction Day.
23 rd August 2018 (9am)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCSE examination results. • Students can confirm their place if they have the required grades and do not wish to change their courses. • Students who wish to make changes to their course choices following results will need to have an interview with sixth form staff • Students who have not previously applied and now wish to can enquire about places.

Further Information

Sixth Form Dress Code

The sixth form dress code is smart casual. All clothing should be suitable for wearing in a school environment, maintaining modesty. We are keen to treat our sixth formers as the young adults they are and whilst we are very rigorous in our monitoring of their work we like to give them more freedom when it comes to expressing their personality through their appearance. However, shorts, sportswear, flip flops, crop or vest tops, short skirts, T shirts with inappropriate text or logos, excessive jewellery or make-up, are examples of dress that would not be suitable.

Curriculum Offer

Please bear in mind that this prospectus contains information on the courses we are currently planning to offer in September 2018. Interest shown by students, uptake on courses in September, changes to staffing, funding, timetable, restrictions and other circumstances may mean that we may have to withdraw a course

Careers and the Future

Please bear in mind that certain degree subjects require specific A Levels to be studied. On the following pages there are some examples of degree courses which usually require specific A Levels.

If you have a specific university course in mind please ring the Admissions Tutors for that course as this will enable you to check their entry requirements. See Sixth Form staff for details of how to do this or access the



SCIENCE DEGREE COURSES	
Degree Subject	A Level Requirement
Agriculture	Chemistry is usually essential and Maths or Physics or Biology are preferred
Bacteriology and Microbiology	Chemistry is required or preferred and 1 or 2 of Maths/Physics/Biology
Biochemistry	Chemistry is often required and one or two of Maths/Physics/Biology
Biology	Biology is essential. Chemistry is often required and Physics or Maths is useful
Botany	Chemistry and Biology are usually required and Physics or Maths is useful
Building	Maths and Physics are often preferred. Arts/Technology subjects are permissible
Chemical Engineering	Chemistry and Maths are usually required and Physics preferred
Chemistry & Polymer Science	Chemistry is usually required and Maths and/or Physics
Computer Science	Maths required or preferred by many universities but many courses accept a mixture of Arts and Sciences
Physics	Physics and usually Maths are required. Chemistry is useful
Electrical/Electronic Engineering	Physics and Maths are usually required. Chemistry is useful
Medicine	Chemistry essential and two of Maths/Physics/Biology preferred
Veterinary Science	Chemistry essential and two of Maths/Physics/Biology

DEGREE COURSES ACCEPTING MIXED ARTS AND SCIENCE A LEVELS

Degree Subject	A Level Requirement
Archaeology	Most subjects acceptable
Architecture	Maths preferred by some Universities. Physics preferred by some; aptitude for Art desirable but no university requires 'A' level Art. Portfolio of work is often required. Design subjects can also be accepted.
Business Studies	Maths sometimes required
Economics	Maths preferred by some. 'A' level Economics not required
Geography	Geography essential; Geology / Biology / History / Language / Maths / Physics Chemistry / Economics useful
Law	Generally there are no subject requirements. English and History would be useful but Maths and Science subjects also welcomed.
Philosophy	Both Arts and Sciences equally acceptable. Maths and Foreign Languages useful.
Psychology	Generally there are no subject requirements. Mixture of Arts and Sciences acceptable for most courses. Some may require a science.
Sociology	Generally there are no subject requirements.
Surveying	Maths and Physics preferred
Town and Country Planning	Some may request Maths/Physics/Geography

ARTS DEGREE COURSES

Degree Subject	A Level Requirement
English	Most subjects acceptable. English usually required.
Fine Art (Art History)	Art an advantage but not essential, although a portfolio of work usually is
Diploma of Art & Design	Maths and English GCSE Grade C preferred. No specified 'A' Levels but a portfolio of work required. Foundation year usually required. 2 'A' Levels an advantage
French	French required
German	German required
Modern Languages	'A' Levels in two modern foreign languages preferred. One can be accepted.
History	History preferred.
Music	Music required
Politics	Most subjects acceptable; History / Economics / Maths / Foreign Language / English / Geography/ Law all supply useful background
Theology	Religious Studies not essential
Classics	Latin or Greek required for some courses

Students looking to take a degree subject which they have not studied at school often find the Extended Project Qualification a valuable opportunity to research that area in more depth. This is a worthwhile addition to an applicant's overall academic profile.

Medical and veterinary applicants are required to do a minimum period of work experience.

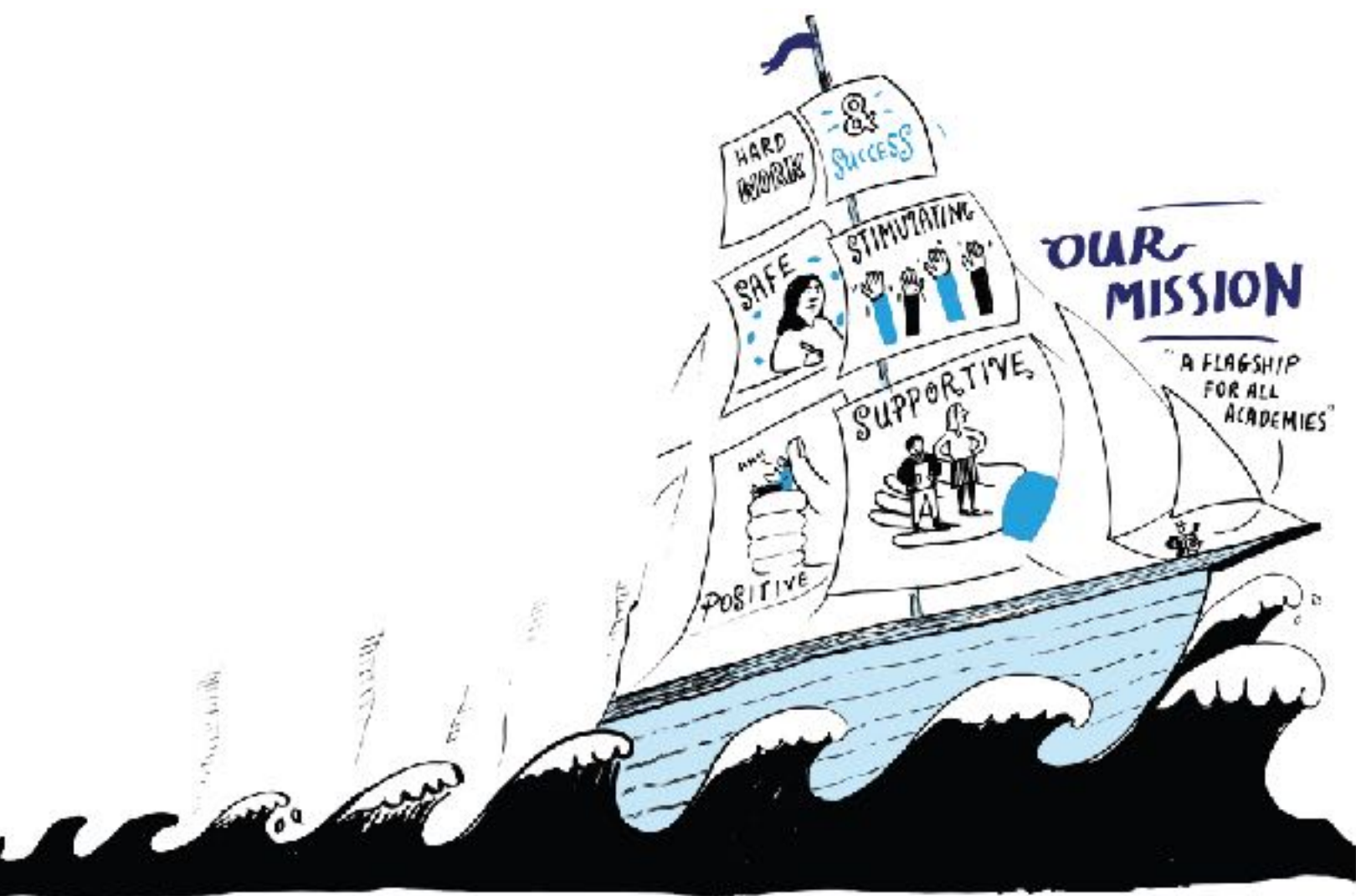
The most important requirement for all courses is good GCSE and Advanced Level or Level 3 results..

Students will be interviewed for all courses at Oxford and Cambridge as well as for medical courses, art, drama, music, architecture, engineering and some courses at other universities.

Interviews and open days are held in the autumn and spring, and universities will make offers throughout the period from October – April, which are usually conditional upon A Level/Level 3 results. Universities have minimum A Level requirements which are published and which will form their "Standard offer" level. A conditional offer will require a pupil to achieve the standard offer level – regardless of that pupil's predictions (for example, Oxford will offer AAA for English even where an applicant is predicted A*A*A*).

Students should be aware that a growing number of courses are now requiring pupils to sit pre-tests. The results from these are used as part of the selection process.

- The Biomedical Admissions Test (BMAT) is required for Medicine, Bio-Medical and some Veterinary Science courses at Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial, UCL, Leeds, Brighton and Royal Veterinary College.
- The UK Clinical Admissions Test (UKCAT) is required by virtually all other schools of Medicine and Dentistry.
- The National Admissions Test for Law (LNAT) is required for Law at some top institutions



University Destinations

Students from Kettering Buccleuch Academy have left our Sixth Form to continue their studies at some of the top universities in the United Kingdom and abroad.

Here are some of the universities being attended and courses being followed by last year's Year 13

University	Course
University of Leeds	Maths
De Montfort University	Criminolog
University of Northampton	Childhood and Youth Studies
University of Liverpool	Bio-Chemistry
University of Warwick	Maths
University of Cumbria	Outdoor Education
Oxford University	Law
University of East Anglia	Psychology
University of Chester	English Literature
University of Liverpool	Psychology
Bristol UWE	Film making
University of Leicester	Medicine
University of Liverpool	Biological Sciences
University of Newcastle	Mechanical Engineering
University of Liverpool	Law with a year abroad
University of Newcastle	Fine Art
De Montfort University	History
University of Stellenbosch (S.Africa)	Financial Economics
Nottingham Trent University	Physics
University of Leicester	Medical Physiology
University of Liverpool	Maths
Coventry University	Sports Management
University of Leicester	Computer Science

Prestigious Apprenticeships

Whilst the majority of Sixth Form students leave to pursue Higher Education at university level, others go on to enter the world of work and have secured prestigious apprenticeships such as:

- Level 4 engineering apprenticeship with JPP Consulting (civil and structural engineers)
- Level 4 apprenticeship as a quantity surveyor with Anglian Water



Kettering Town Football Academy

A unique opportunity

If you are interested in developing your techniques, skills and overall football performance, alongside studying selected A Levels, then joining Kettering Town Football Academy is the only option for you.

What we offer

Kettering Town Football Academy offers Post 16 students the opportunity to experience an exclusive football scholarship programme using Premier League technology, run by head coach Luke Graham. Luke has a wealth of playing and coaching experience in professional football and a proven track record in providing an excellent educational experience for aspiring footballers.

What does it involve?

A carefully planned programme will involve the technical, tactical and physical preparation of players during three coaching sessions per week. As part of the programme personalised fitness testing, strength & conditioning sessions and DVD analysis will be implemented to improve every Kettering Town Academy player. To maximise performance, players will be regularly assessed using heart rate monitors, GPS tracking and heat map devices and a biomechanical assessment machine. Our state of the art 'TOCA' football equipment – created to deliver footballs at precise speeds, locations and trajectories, is used to develop the technical abilities of all players in an accelerated training experience.

What playing opportunities will there be?

Kettering Town Academy players will participate in intra-squad matches for the purpose of squad selection, inter-college fixtures against other sixth form college teams and fixtures against higher level, semi-professional clubs.

As a Kettering Town Academy player you will also have the opportunity to train with our international players from all over the world and also the possibility to experience football abroad. In addition to our educational Under 19 teams, we have Under 18 and Under 21 teams which can provide a genuine, direct pathway through to Kettering Town first team opportunities.

Other information

A 'Future Lions' App has been designed to improve communication with players; displaying fixtures, up to date league





Subject Information

Advanced Level Qualifications



**A
LEVEL**
Examination Board:
EDEXCEL
Specification:
Art and Design:
Fine Art



What will I need before taking this course?

Students will need to have studied an art or design based course at GCSE and achieved a Grade 5 or above.

Students should have also experienced working with different artistic media methods

What will you do?

Fine art offers opportunities for students to use their creativity to express themselves. They will develop their understanding of creative processes, their ability to observe and to think, to solve problems and to communicate in a visual way. It will enable students to work independently and to make their own discoveries by exploring ideas, other artists' work and different materials and techniques

A Level Fine Art is a practical course in which students learn by doing, so they will be able to create imaginative personal work. Students will find out about a whole range of media, techniques and processes. They will develop their creativity and independent thought whilst learning to express themselves visually and letting their imaginations flourish.

Who is the course for?

Anyone with an interest in and a talent for art and/or design

Unit	Title
1	Personal Investigation
2	Externally Set Assignment

All students will sit a standalone AS qualification as part of preparation for the final A2 exam.

Assessment and Feedback

Students are involved with weekly group sessions whereby learners discuss their practice and set targets. Students will have opportunities to discuss their work in progress during group critiques as well as 1:1 with their tutors.

Termly self and teacher assessments take place using the assessment criteria

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

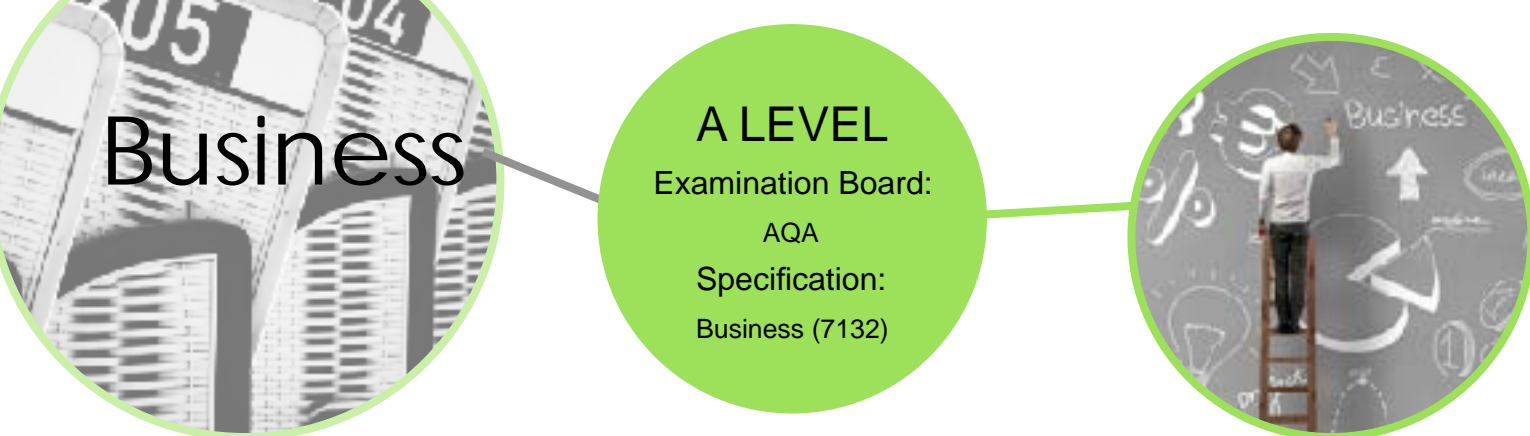
A Level Fine Art builds on the skills, knowledge and understanding developed through study at GCSE. At the end of the A-level course you will have the skills, knowledge and understanding needed for higher education.

Possible options include:

- Art foundation course
- Art, design, graphics, architecture, fashion, product design, media based degrees
- Apprenticeships
- Careers as a photographer, artist, designer, product designer, a role in the media or animation industries, gallery curator – endless possibilities.

Minimum Requirements

Students will need to have studied an art or design based course at GCSE and achieved a Grade 5 or above.



What will I need before taking this course?

There is no requirement to have previously studied business at GCSE.

What will you do?

It is a comprehensive course that, in the first year, looks at the basics behind businesses, why they set up, what they aim to do and how they set about achieving these aims. Following this grounding, you then go on to study four different functional areas and the impact they have on business, the four areas being operations, finance, human resources and marketing.

Year 13 concentrates on the strategic aspects of business and looks at to how businesses position themselves to achieve their corporate aims and objectives.

Who is the course for?

Anyone who has an interest in how businesses are set up and run. If you wish to follow a career in business, this is the

Unit	Title	Unit	Title
1	What is business?	6	Decision making to improve human resource performance
2	Managers, leadership and decision making	7	Analysing the strategic position of business
3	Decision making to improve marketing performance	8	Choosing strategic direction
4	Decision making to improve operational performance	9	Strategic methods : how to pursue strategies
5	Decision making to improve human financial performance	10	Managing strategic change

course for you!

Assessment and Feedback

There will be a mixture of teaching styles as we look at a variety of different concepts and topics. This will be related to real business case studies so you can see how it all works in the real world. There will be visits to local companies to support your learning and to cement your understanding of how businesses actually function.

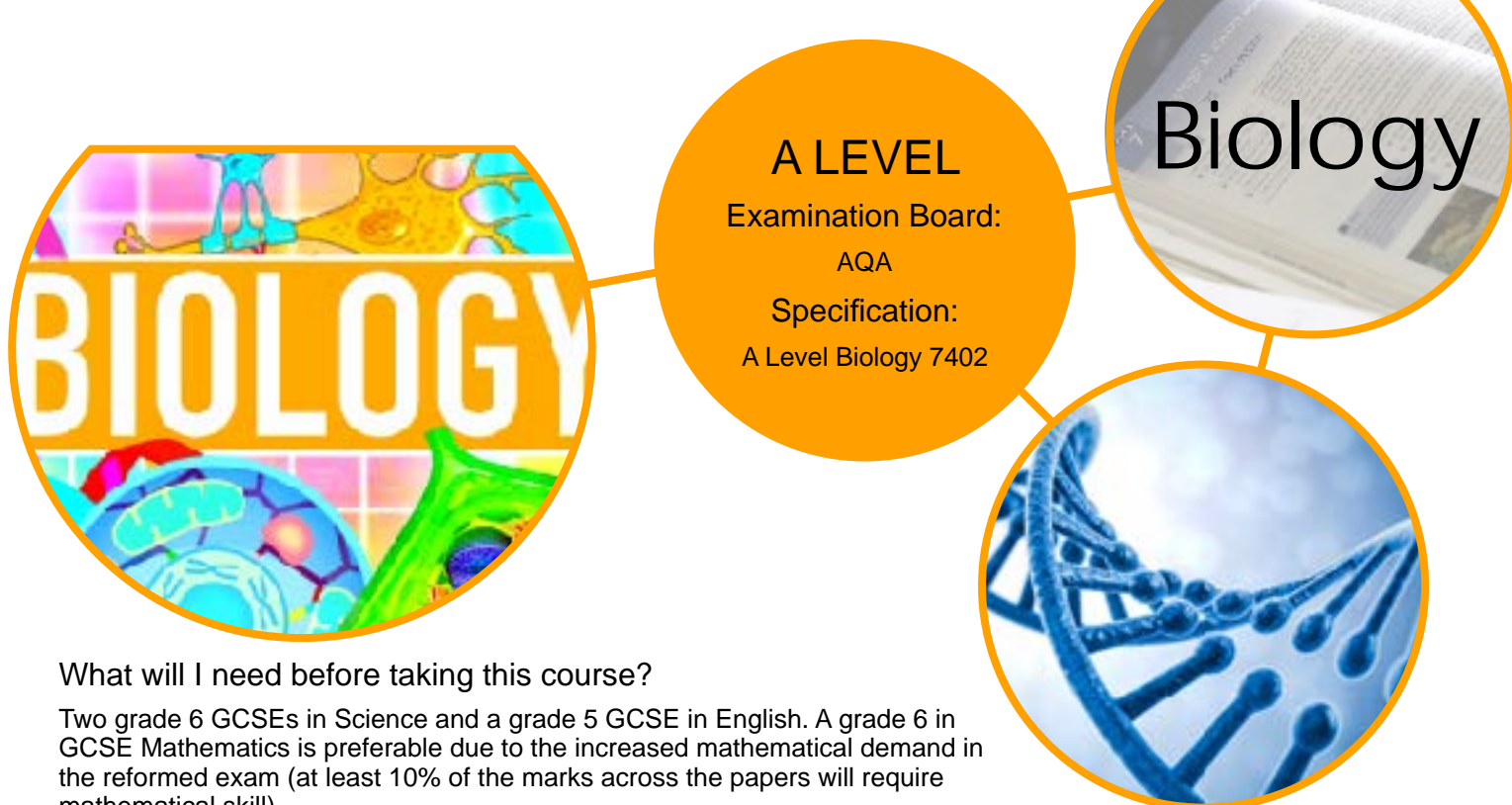
Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

This qualification lays a foundation for further study of business, many students go on to study business or a related discipline at university. It will also prepare you thoroughly for an apprenticeship scheme or similar career choice.

The course covers such a diverse range of careers including accountancy, business, management and self-employment.

Minimum Requirements

5 GCSEs at least grade 5, to include a grade 5 or above in English and Maths.



What will I need before taking this course?

Two grade 6 GCSEs in Science and a grade 5 GCSE in English. A grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics is preferable due to the increased mathematical demand in the reformed exam (at least 10% of the marks across the papers will require mathematical skill) .

What will you do?

A Level Biology is, at heart, a practical investigation based course. As much as possible you will “learn through doing” and will complete 12 core practical investigations which will be written up. You will become familiar with fundamental

Unit	Title	Unit	Title
1	Biological Molecules	5	Energy transfers in and between organisms
2	Cells	6	Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
3	Organisms exchange substances with their environment	7	Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
4	Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms	8	The control of gene expression

scientific ideas including how the heart and lungs work, how our DNA controls our body and the fine detail of photosynthesis and respiration.

Who is the course for?

This course has been designed by AQA in consultation with major universities so that it prepares students to progress onto prestigious university level Science courses. This course is perfect for anyone with a logical, methodical and inquisitive brain who would like to know more about how and why things work in living organisms. Aspiring neuroscientists, doctors, physiotherapists, microbiologists, veterinarians and more are all welcome!!

Assessment and Feedback

You will complete an exam-style assessment at the end of each topic to provide you with a realistic picture of your progress towards your exams. There will be mock exams at the end of year 12 which will mirror the style of the Year 1 exams. The course is then formally assessed at the end of the 2nd year in 3 2 hour long exams which assess understanding, practical skills and essay skills.

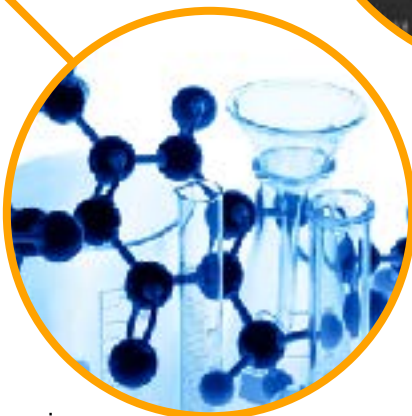
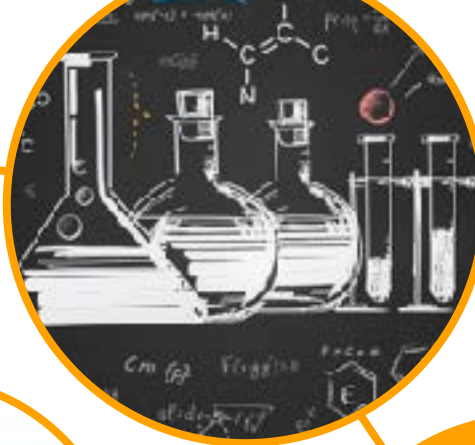
Feedback is given in writing and verbally and will be provided for all assessments. This is alongside regular marking of your classwork.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

Upon completion of an A Level in Biology there are a number of options you can pursue. These include, but are not limited to, a degree within the Biological Sciences, Medicine, Pharmacy or other disciplines of science including Physics and Chemistry. An A Level in Biology is also a good foundation for a career in whichever field you choose – A Level Biologists are very sought after for their well-rounded skill set; choosing A Level will not close any doors to your future.

Minimum Requirements

Chemistry



What will I need before taking this course?

At least two grade 6 GCSEs in Science and a grade 5 GCSE in English. A grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics is preferable due to the increased mathematical demand in the reformed exam (at least 20% of the exam marks will require mathematical skill).

What will you do?

A Level Chemistry is a course heavily dependent on practical investigation. All of the key theories and fundamentals of Chemistry are related to practical investigation above and beyond the 12 core practical investigations which will be written up. You will become familiar with fundamental scientific concepts such as atomic structure and bonding, reaction energetics and thermodynamics, to more complex calculations based on acid base titrations and rates of reaction, interpretation of IR and mass spectrum data and organic chemistry.

Who is the course for?

This course has been designed by AQA in consultation with major universities so that it prepares students to progress onto prestigious university level Science courses. This course is perfect for anyone with a logical, methodical and inquisitive brain who would like to know more about how and why atoms and molecules behave as they do. Aspiring,

A LEVEL

Examination Board:

AQA

Specification:

A-Level Chemistry 7405

Unit	Title
3.1	Physical Chemistry
3.2	Inorganic Chemistry
3.3	Organic Chemistry

doctors, pharmacologists, research chemists, veterinarians and more are all welcome!!

Assessment and Feedback

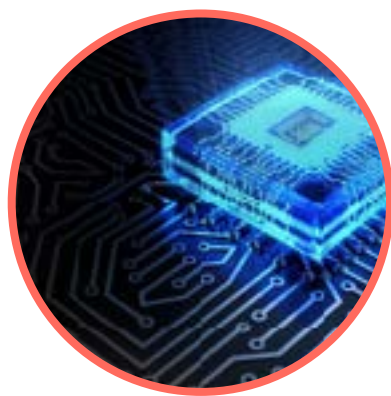
Throughout each topic and at the conclusion of each topic you will be assessed using a range of accessible but rigorous methods. You will complete an exam-style assessment at the end of each topic to provide you with a realistic picture of your progress towards your exams. Feedback is given in writing and verbally and will be provided for all assessments. This is alongside regular marking of your classwork and learning conversations between teacher and student. At the end of year 12 you will sit mock exams that will mirror the Year 1 exams. The course is then formally assessed at the end of the 2nd year in three 2 hour exams which consist of long/short answer questions and a short section of multiple choice questions.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

Upon completing an A Level Chemistry course there are a number of options open to you. These include, but are not limited to, a degree within the any of the Sciences, those with an interest in health and welfare may opt for Medicine, Veterinary, Pharmacology and those with a more analytical research mind may look at Chemical Engineering, research Chemistry or Pharmaceuticals. An A Level in Chemistry is also a good foundation for a career in whichever field you choose as A Level Chemists are highly sought after for their well-rounded skills and analytical mind set.

Minimum Requirements

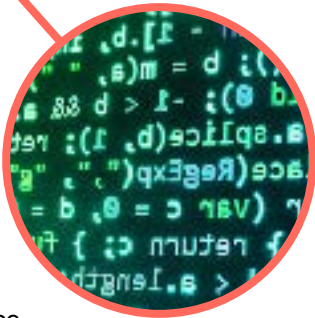
To succeed on this course you will need two grade 6 GCSEs in Science from the double weighted Trilogy award or the 3 separate science GCSEs. You will also need a grade 5 GCSE in English. A grade 6 in Maths is preferable as at least 20% of your exam marks will come from your mathematical skill.



**A
LEVEL**
Examination Board:
OCR
Specification:
Computer Science
H446



Computer Science



What will I need before taking this course?

Students will need to have completed GCSE Computer Science and have a genuine interest in computer systems and programming them.

What will you do?

Computers are all-pervasive in modern life and computer science is the discipline that has made this possible. The Computer Science qualification will inspire and challenge students to apply the knowledge they gain, with the creative and technical skills they acquire. As well as learning how to program in both low and high level programming languages, the course provides the opportunity to learn about the structure of the processor, how programs are translated into the ‘1s’ and ‘0s’ that the processor can understand, database design, network infrastructure, modern web technologies and elements of law related to computer use..

Who is the course for?

OCR has developed the A Level Computer Science qualifications in consultation with teachers, employers and higher education to provide students with qualifications that are highly applicable to university courses and beyond.

Assessment and Feedback

Unit	Title
1	Computer systems
2	Algorithms and programming
3	Programming project

There are three units; an examined theory module (worth 40%) that deals with the workings of modern computers as well as legal, moral and ethical issues; an examined programming module (worth 40%) that explores the student’s understanding of computational thinking and algorithms and tests their problem solving skills; and a programming task (externally moderated, worth 20%) which challenges the learner to fully develop a solution to a real-world problem.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

Skills learnt in computing are highly applicable to university courses and beyond. The Russell Group’s “Informed Choices” cite it as a “useful A Level” for 18 separate degree disciplines, including medicine, engineering, economics and mathematics.

Minimum Requirements

GCSE Computer Science, GCSE English and GCSE Maths at grade 5 – there is a fairly high level of mathematics involved, including Boolean algebra and industry-standard algorithms.

Drama and Theatre Studies



What will I need before taking this course?

You will need GCSE English Language and Literature at a level 4 or above. It is advised that you have studied GCSE drama and achieved a level 4 or above.

What will you do?

The course focuses on the practical exploration of performance texts, including the exploration of theatre practitioners. The performance texts will be studied for the written exam and will require the students to articulate how they would perform in certain roles and interpret a text for performance.

One aspect of the written exam focuses on a Live Theatre Evaluation. Pupils will be expected to visit the theatre at least two times over the course of the two years.

The expectations are that pupils will commit to two hours per week where necessary rehearsal will have to take place on an independent level. Rehearsals with the director and sound/lighting technician will also be an expected requirement.

Who is the course for?

This is a two year linear course for pupils who wish to pursue a career in acting. The course has many links with English Literature as we study, analyse and articulate our understanding of three play texts.

A LEVEL

Examination Board:

EDEXCEL

Specification:

Drama and Theatre
Studies 9DRO

Unit	Title
1	Devising 9DRO/01
2	Text in performance
3	Theatre makers in practice

Assessment and Feedback

You will be assessed continuously throughout the course on the practical application of skills and the written.

In year 12 you will have a chance to explore and understand the key practitioners and devise a mock version of the devised unit prior to the exam. Unit 1 will be completed at the end of year 12.

Unit 2 is assessed in the following year February by a visiting examiner and Unit 3 is assessed at the end of Year 13.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

Whilst acting jobs are few and far between and often about luck, the skills nurtured within the two years allow students to acquire life skills that will have a huge impact in any career they choose. Drama and Theatre Studies will help you to become a more confident, creative and articulate communicator.

Minimum Requirements

English Language and Literature at grade 5 or above.

Economics

A LEVEL

Examination Board:

OCR

Specification:

Economics (H460)



What will I need before taking this course?

You will need to have a good command of English and maths and have an interest in economic issues.

What will you do?

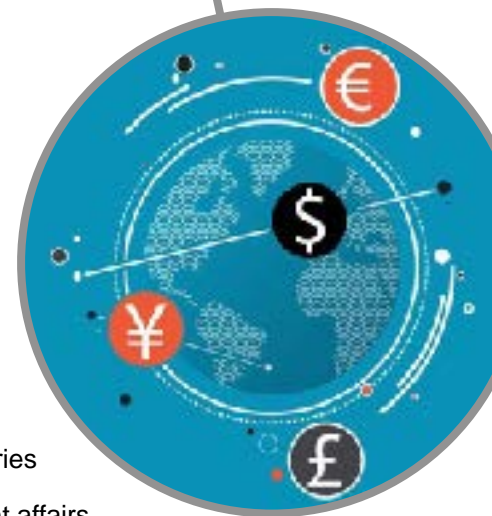
There are three papers at the end of Year 13, one each on micro- and macro-economic theory and one on Themes in economics.

You will study economic concepts and theories through a consideration of economic issues, problems and institutions that affect everyday life.

You will investigate the basic economic problem and then work through a variety of theories and concepts to further your understanding of economics and how to solve economic problems. It is suitable for anyone with an interest in how the economy works and current affairs.

Who is the course for?

Anyone who is interested in how the economy works and current affairs.



Unit	Title	Unit	Title
1	Scarcity and choice	8	Competition and market power
2	How competitive markets work	9	Labour markets
3	Market failures and government intervention	10	Imperfections and market failures
4	Economic objectives and macro equilibrium	11	Aggregate demand and supply
5	Economic growth	12	Economic policies - fiscal and monetary
6	Unemployment	13	Global economics
7	Inflation	14	Financial economics

Assessment and Feedback

You will learn through a variety of methods the concepts and theories and how to apply them to economic circumstances. You will receive feedback throughout the course by both written and verbal means.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

Studying A-level economics will allow you to progress to further study of economics or related subjects in higher education. There are a wide range of careers available including local and national government, business, journalism and self-employment.

Minimum Requirements

A minimum of 5 GCSEs at least grade 5, to include a grade 6 or above in maths.

English Language and Literature

What will I need before taking this course?

Grade 5 GCSE English Literature and English Language

Good reading habits and an interest in how language works in use. Great textual analysis skills.

What will you do?

0 You will complete study on a number of literary texts, including modern fiction and poetry. You will have the chance to study a modern novel and its themes and then re-create the content into your own original writing. You will learn to complete analytical commentary of your own work. Additionally, you will explore a number of texts centring on the city of Paris and analyse them using a system of language levels.

Who is the course for?

If you enjoy reading and writing about language and literature and have achieved a good standard in your GCSEs then



A LEVEL

Examination Board:

AQA

Specification:

A 7707

Unit	Title	Unit	Title
1	Paris : People and Places analysis of short texts using the language levels	4	Independent Study : Making Connections
2	Imagined Worlds exploration of a modern dystopian novel 'The Handmaid's Tale'	5	Exploring Conflict : Writing about Society directed creative writing and commentary based on 'The Kite Runner'
3	Poetic Voices stylistic approaches to modern poetry Seamus Heaney	6	Exploring Conflict : Dramatic Encounters exploration of writers' methods and modes in either 'A Streetcar Named Desire' or 'All My Sons'

this course may be for you. You will also need to be happy writing essays. You will be the sort of person who enjoys directed creative writing (writing based on a given topic).

Assessment and Feedback

Assessment will usually be in the form of formal essays but expect to be asked to prepare work independently and present it to class for an assessed piece of work. You will also expect regular timed and mock exams to prepare you for the rigours of A Level examination. A formal mock will be scheduled twice in Year 12 to assess suitability to progress to the next level.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

Many Language and Literature students go onto university to study the course there. The A Level is highly regarded by most universities and it is an excellent choice for other subjects, even if you want to study medicine! Students move onto careers in teaching, publishing and journalism, but English can also take you in many other directions

Minimum Requirements

Grade 5 or above in GCSE English Literature and GCSE English Language



What will I need before taking this course?

Students will need Grade 5 GCSE English Literature and English Language and good reading habits

What will you do?

You will complete study on a number different genre texts including one Shakespeare play, poetry across time, the modern novel and fiction from another time. You will also have the chance to study a play text from the 20th century and complete detailed literature analysis of unseen poetry and prose texts.

At the beginning of Year 13, you will be able to use the skills you have gained to complete an independent study of your own choice of two texts from different times.

Who is the course for?

If you enjoy reading and writing about literature and have achieved a good standard in your GCSE then this course may be for you. You will also need to be happy writing essays.

Unit	Title	Unit	Title
1	Love through the Ages poetry across time and Shakespeare's 'Othello'	4	Independent literature study
2	Love through the Ages Unseen prose and fiction across time	5	Modern prose and drama 'The Help' and 'Cat On A Hot Tin Roof'
3	Introduction to modern texts : the modern identity	6	Unseen prose and modern poetry plus revision of other topics

Assessment and Feedback

Assessment will usually be in the form of formal essays but expect to be asked to prepare work independently and present it to class for an assessed piece of work. You will also expect regular timed and mock exams to prepare you for the rigours of A Level examination. A formal mock will be scheduled twice in Year 12 to assess suitability to progress to the next level.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

Many Literature students go onto university to study the course there. The A Level is highly regarded by most universities and it is an excellent choice for other subjects, even if you want to study medicine! Students move onto careers in teaching, publishing and journalism, but English can also take you in many other directions.

Minimum Requirements

A minimum of GCSE grade 5 in English Language and English Literature

French

A Level

Examination Board:

EDEXCEL

Specification:

9FRO

What will I need before taking this course?

A keen interest in language learning with experience gained at KS4. Students will already have a clear understanding of key grammar points and will be skilled in speaking, reading, writing and listening and will be looking to stretch their knowledge during the course. They will enjoy independent study in French and will read and listen to articles in the target language for pleasure.

The course is 100% exam; there is no controlled assessment/ coursework.

What will you do?

Students will build on their knowledge from the GCSE French course by studying a wide variety of topics and at the end of the course will be able to hold their own in demanding, intellectual conversations. Apart from their competence in the language, by studying French, students will need to show a good knowledge of social issues, current trends and artistic culture in the French-speaking world in the first year of study. As part of the syllabus students will also study a text and a film in the target language. Grammar and key skills (Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking) will also be developed further. In addition to the work covered in the in the first year, you will examine

Unit	Title
1	Listening, reading and translation
2	Written response to works and translation
3	Speaking

multiculturalism, political life and history in French-speaking society. There will also be an individual research project based on these topics.

Who is the course for?

Keen linguists who enjoy and recognise the importance of speaking a modern foreign language. Future careers could include working in the Foreign Office or Diplomatic Service as well as in business, travel and education sectors. Being able to speak a foreign language to A Level demonstrates clearly to Universities and prospective employers that you have the necessary communication skills and dedication to play a key role in our global community.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

Students go on to study a variety of courses at university including: Modern Foreign Languages, History, English Language and Literature, Business and Marketing and Economics, leading to key roles in interpreting and translation, primary or secondary teaching, journalism, business and sales, foreign aid, Diplomatic and Foreign civil service and EAL teaching to name but a few.

Minimum Requirements

At least a Grade 6 in GCSE French.

Geography

A LEVEL

Examination Board:

AQA

Specification:

Geography 7037

What will I need before taking this course?

You will need to have a GCSE in Geography and an interest in the world around us.

What will you do?

There are 4 units over two years that look at analysing the interplay between humans and their surroundings. Geography students analyse the world around them and investigate modern day, real life case studies. In addition to this geographers need to be able to carry out fieldwork.

Who is the course for?

The course is for anyone who has an interest in society, politics, the environment and the economy. Anyone who has an inquisitive nature who takes an interest in current affairs will find this course interesting. People of a scientific disposition will also

Unit	Title	Unit	Title
1	Changing Places	4	Water and Carbon Cycles
2	Global Systems and Global Governance	5	Coastal Systems and Landscapes
3	Contemporary Urban Environments	6	Hazards

enjoy the physical geography elements of the course.

Assessment and Feedback

Students will be regularly completing past papers and analysing marks schemes. The formal grade will come from 2 exams, based on Human geography [40%] and Physical geography [40%], at the end of Year 13 and from a geographical investigation [20%] which must include data collected in the field based on a question or issue.

Students will be taught how to interpret features, trends and patterns from a variety of geographical sources including:

- OS maps and thematic maps
- maps presenting statistical data
- data tables
- photographs, aerial photographs and satellite and other images (including GIS)
- graphs
- diagrams (flow charts, spider diagrams, sketch diagrams and maps)
- the results of statistical analysis.

Students are expected to develop an understanding of social and economic geography, develop an awareness and understanding of sustainable development and environmental issues and to consider our physical landscape.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

The close link between the subject and the world around us makes for a long and varied list of related careers for example working with development or aid agencies, environmental work, using Geographical Information Systems, working for the census office and in tourism and recreation. This A-level can lead into degrees in Geography and related joint honours degrees along with Environmental Science. It is therefore a flexible A-level.

Minimum Requirements

Geography GCSE Grade 5 or higher. GCSE English and Science Grade 5 or higher.

German

SPRECHEN SIE
DEUTSCH?

A Level

Examination Board:

EDEXCEL

Specification:

9GNO

What will I need before taking this course?

A keen interest in language learning with experience gained at KS4. Students will already have a clear understanding of key grammar points and will be skilled in speaking, reading, writing and listening and will be looking to stretch their knowledge during the course. They will enjoy independent study in German and will read and listen to articles in the target language for pleasure.

What will you do?

Students will build on their knowledge from the GCSE German course by studying a wide variety of topics and at the end of the course will be able to hold their own in demanding, intellectual conversations. Apart from their competence in the language, by studying German, students will need to show a good knowledge of social issues, current trends and artistic culture in the German-speaking world in the first year of study. As part of the syllabus students will also study a text and a film in the target language. Grammar and key skills (Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking) will also be developed further. In addition to the work covered in the first year, you will examine multiculturalism, political life and history in German-speaking society. There will also be an

Unit	Title
1	Listening, reading and translation
2	Written response to works and translation
3	Speaking

individual research project based on these topics.

Who is the course for?

Keen linguists who enjoy and recognise the importance of speaking a modern foreign language. Future careers could include working in the Foreign Office or Diplomatic Service as well as in business, travel and education sectors. Being able to speak a foreign language to A Level demonstrates clearly to Universities and prospective employers that you have the necessary communication skills and dedication to play a key role in our global community.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

Students go on to study a variety of courses at university including: Modern Foreign Languages, History, English Language and Literature, Business and Marketing and Economics, leading to key roles in interpreting and translation, primary or secondary teaching, journalism, business and sales, foreign aid, diplomatic and foreign civil service and EAL teaching to name but a few.

Minimum Requirements

At least a Grade 6 in GCSE German.



A LEVEL
 Examination Board:
 EDEXCEL
 Specification:
 9H10



What will I need before taking this course?

A GCSE in History, an ability to discuss, debate and articulate views about events in history.

What will you do?

- Discussions and debates on different historical issues
- Reading and researching around different topics
- Graded tasks with given success criteria e.g. essay writing, individual/group presentations, role-play, debates
- Practice exam technique by looking at exam questions

Who is the course for?

- Anyone who loves finding out about the past and gets a ‘buzz’ when learning about people and societies in the past
- Someone who is prepared to do a lot of reading and writing in preparation for their lessons
- Someone who likes to think analytically and consider issues and controversies in depth
- Anyone who likes to argue their opinion and persuade people what they should believe

All students will sit a standalone AS qualification as part of preparation for the final A2 exam.

Unit	Title	Unit	Title
1	Britain, 1625-1701: conflict, revolution and settlement	3	Civil rights and race relations in the USA 1850-2009
2	Russia in revolution, 1894-1924	4	Coursework - topic TBC (20%)

Assessment and Feedback

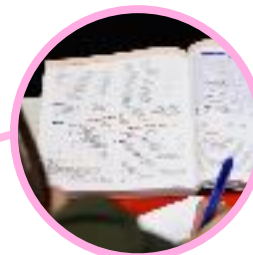
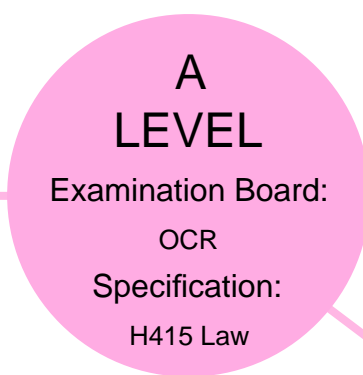
- Unit 1 – Written examination: 2 hour and 15 minutes. Two essay questions and a source question.
- Unit 2 – Written examination: 1 hour and 30 minutes. One essay question and a source question.
- Unit 3 – Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes. Two essay questions and a source question.
- Unit 4 – Coursework: Two extended essays.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

The opportunities with a History degree are endless. You could study and gain a degree/masters/PHD in History at university. Career opportunities can include Archaeologist, archivist, historical researcher, museum work, teaching, tour guide, university lecturer, civil service, insurance and risk, intelligence work, law, library and information work, office management, publishing, politician.

Minimum Requirements

GCSE English Grade 5 or above.
 GCSE History grade 5 or above would also be advantageous.



What will I need before taking this course?

At least 5 GCSEs at grade 5 and above including at least a grade 5 in GCSE English. Students also need an interest in current affairs, sound essay writing skills and to have fully researched what is involved in studying Law as a subject.

What will you do?

A Level consists of three units that provide a grounding in the main principles of English law covering its structure, personnel and functions. This includes juries, solicitors, barristers and judges and the civil and criminal legal process. Students also cover key principles of the criminal law eg assault and murder and tort law eg the law of negligence and will either study the key principles of the law of contract or human rights law.

Every unit is assessed by written examination. There is no coursework.

Who is the course for?

Students who have a good standard of written English, who enjoy debate and problem solving and who have a keen

Unit	Title
1	The Legal System and Criminal Law
2	Law Making and the Law of Tort
3	Further Law - Human Rights or Contract Law

interest in current affairs.

Assessment and Feedback

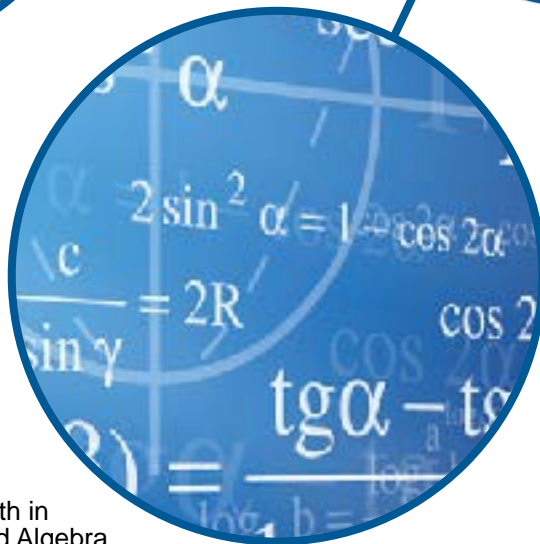
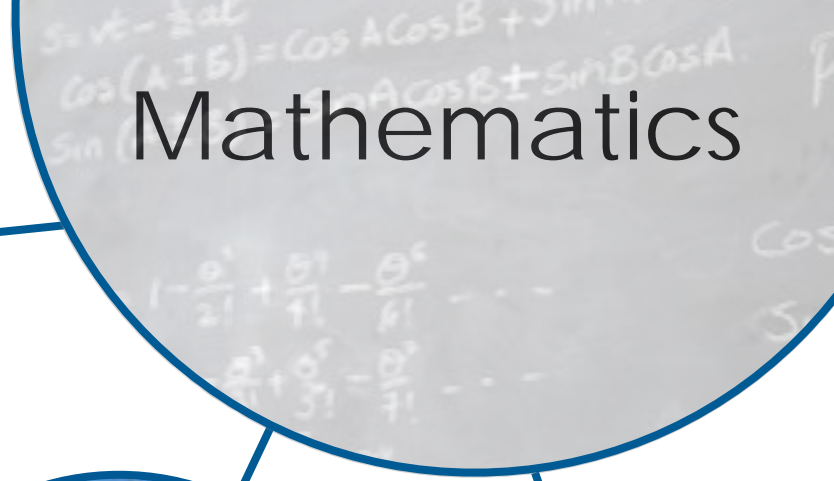
Students will be assessed through end of topic tests and essays. Students will also take part in debates and give presentations on the material studied. Progress will be reviewed on a regular basis with targets set to guide improvement.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

The course will introduce students to the career opportunities that the law itself has to offer from solicitors, barristers and legal executives. The subject is also relevant to a wide range of other careers including; business related careers, accountancy, journalism, the police, social work and the civil service. However, the relevance of studying law goes beyond entering a profession that includes elements of law. As a discipline requiring analysis, logic and problem solving, the skills developed will be useful in the context of most degree courses and many jobs. It will enable students to cope with legal situations encountered in the future. Through studying law, students will come to realise that there are no problems - only solutions!

Minimum Requirements

At least 5 GCSEs at grade 5 and above including at least a grade 5 in GCSE English.



What will I need before taking this course?

The equivalent of a grade 6 at GCSE Maths and an interest in working logically and solving problems.

What will you do?

Maths is a requirement for many jobs and courses. The CBI predicts that by 2014 the UK will need an extra 730,000 people with Maths, Science, Technology and Engineering qualifications and those people with A level Maths earn on average 10% more than those without. Students will be analysing, communicating and investigating problems both in teams and independently. Problem solving and Algebra is at the heart of A level Mathematics.

Who is the course for?

Students who wish to progress with Mathematics, Sciences, Engineering and many other choices. It is for students who

Unit	Title	Unit	Title
1	Pure mathematics paper including topics such as calculus, algebraic manipulation, trigonometry and geometry	3	Two pure papers aligned with the AS pure paper content but assessed at A level standard
2	Statistics and Mechanics paper including data presentation and interpretation and use of technology in Kinematics, Newton's laws and statics.	4	Statistics and Mechanics paper aligned with content of the AS paper but assessed at A level standard.

enjoy a commitment to hard work and have an interest in working logically, problem solving and algebraic manipulation.

Assessment and Feedback

There will be at least two long homework assignments per week to assess progress and understanding. There will be end of chapter assessments with practice exam questions. Mock papers also be a mode of further assessment.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

The study of maths can lead to a variety of exciting professional careers: research, law, commerce, teaching, medicine, engineering, finance, Business and government service to list a few.

Minimum Requirements

The equivalent of GCSE Mathematics Grade 6 as a minimum. (Higher tier teaching set in year 10 and 11)

Further Mathematics

What will I need before taking this course?

Particularly strong candidates can consider Further Mathematics as an addition to Mathematics A Level. The course is particularly demanding of time and effort. A thorough knowledge of Higher level GCSE work is assumed and therefore candidates should have achieved Grade 7 in GCSE maths. You need to have an interest in working logically and problem solving and it works really well along with physics.

What will you do?

Students will acquire knowledge and skills and the ability to apply mathematics and recognize its significance to other disciplines. Students will experience mathematical activity, develop resourcefulness in solving problems and improve understanding of mathematical reasoning. The qualification is both deeper and broader than A level mathematics. AS and A level further mathematics build from GCSE and A level mathematics. As well as building on algebra and calculus introduced in A level mathematics, the A level further mathematics core content introduces complex numbers and matrices, fundamental mathematical ideas with wide applications in mathematics, engineering, physical sciences and computing. The non-core content includes options that can enable students to specialise in areas of mathematics that are particularly relevant to their interests and future aspirations. A level further mathematics prepares students for further study and employment in highly mathematical disciplines that require knowledge and understanding of sophisticated mathematical ideas and techniques.

Who is the course for?

Unit	Title	Unit	Title
1	Pure 1: Differential equations, Integration, numerical methods, Imaginary/Complex Numbers	4	CORE Pure 2: Hyperbolic functions, further calculus and Polar coordinates.
2	Further Pure : Matrix algebra, use of Taylor and Maclaurin series. Further Differential equations	5	Further pure Further differential equations, Coordinate systems and eccentricity.
3	Decision Algorithm and graph theory, CPA, and linear programming.	6	Decision Linear programming, and further graph theory.

Students who wish to progress with Mathematics, Sciences, Engineering and many other career choices. It is for students who enjoy a commitment to hard work and have an interest in working logically, problem solving and algebraic manipulation.

Assessment and Feedback

Assessment is carried out throughout the year, termly with test papers and practice exam questions with on-going feedback.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

Further Mathematics is particularly useful for students moving on to degree courses with a large mathematical content. However, some students are simply interested in the course in its own right.

Minimum Requirements

Grade 7 or higher in Higher GCSE Mathematics and studying A Level Mathematics.

**A
LEVEL**

Examination Board:

EDEXCEL

Specification:

9FMO



What will I need before taking this course?

Students interested in this course must have an interest in creative technology and contemporary media issues. Students must also have a good degree of literacy and a willingness to study independently.

What will you do?

Students develop their understanding of the media through the consistent application of the four areas of the theoretical framework: **media language**: how the media through their forms, codes, conventions and techniques communicate meaning; **media representations** how the media portray events, issues, individuals and social groups; **media industries**: how the media industries' processes of production, distribution and circulation affect media forms and platforms; **media audiences**: how media forms target, reach and address audiences, how audiences interpret and respond to them and how members of audiences become producers themselves.

Who is the course for?

Media Studies is suited to students who are creative, technically-minded and able to work independently. This subject also requires students to be able to write under pressure during examinations and learn, understand and apply knowledge relating to the study of the media.

Students undertaking this course must have the capacity to work to high academic standards.

Unit	Title
1	Media Messages Music video, advertising and marketing, magazines, newspaper and online, social and participatory media.
2	Evolving Media Radio, video games, film and long-form television drama.
	Making Media Students apply their knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework in the production of their own individual cross-media product from a choice of set briefs

Assessment and Feedback

On-going assessments are made through evidence produced on your blog. You will complete timed essays and undertake discussion activities to monitor progress. A mock examination will be taken to assess progress in Year 12.

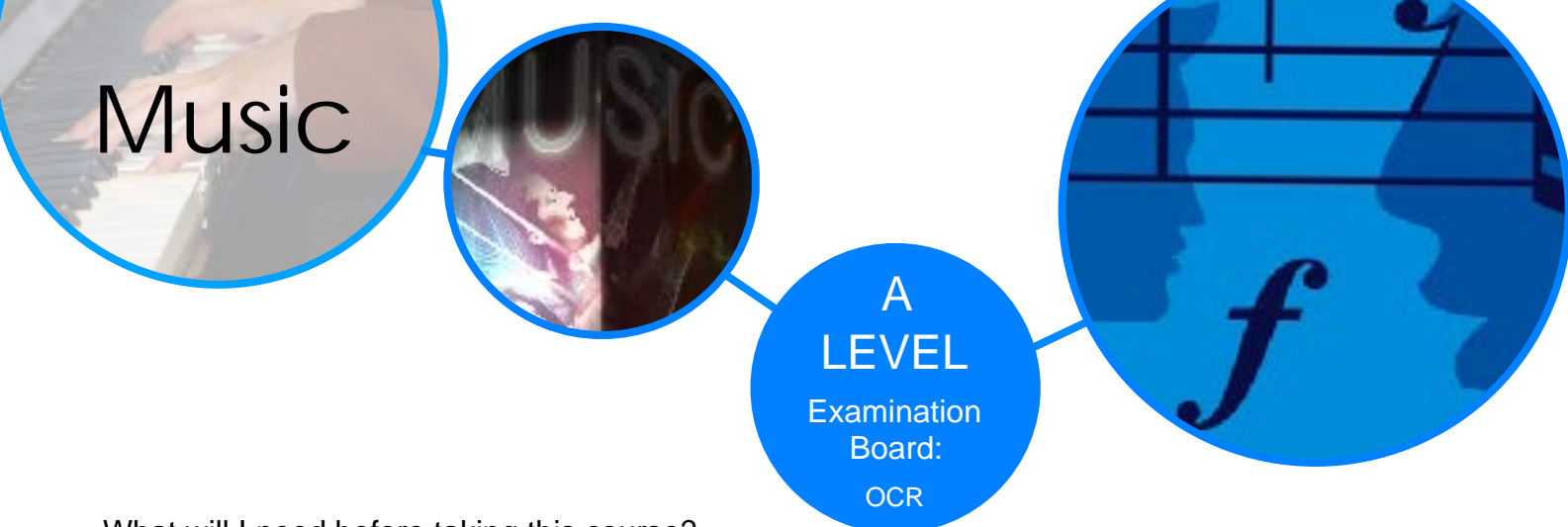
Units 1 and 2 are examination based and account for 70% of the final grade. Unit 3 is non-examination assessment and accounts for 30% of the final grade.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

Three quarters of media studies graduates find work within six months, higher than the average for all graduates. An A-Level in media studies will not get you a job in the media, no more than an A-level in maths will get you a job as a mathematician. However, it is an excellent introduction, not only to the concepts, but more importantly to the skills needed to work in the media. Media Studies is not a traditional academic subject, like physics or French, but it is a subject for the modern world and it tests a variety of skills. You would have to study two or three A-levels to test the number of skills found in media studies, and these are skills for life.

Minimum Requirements

It is necessary that students wishing to take Media Studies have a grade 5 or above in English. Students should be able to work independently during non-examination assessments.



What will I need before taking this course?

An interest in a range of musical styles and an ability to play a musical instrument to at least grade 4 standard or sequence effectively.

What will you do?

You will be working as a practical musician within your class to enhance your performance, composition, and listening skills. You will develop a deeper understanding of the theory of music by studying set works in which they are applied.

Who is the course for?

Anyone who has a keen interest in creating and listening to different styles of music, alongside some pre-existing skills and knowledge, and who wishes to broaden their experience and deepen their understanding of live and recorded music would be suitable for this course.

Unit	Title
1	Performance This unit gives students the opportunities to extend their performance skills by delivering a recital as soloists and/or as part of an ensemble. Again, you can perform music in any style, on any instrument(s) and/or voice as a soloist and/or as part of an ensemble. Notated and/or improvised performances may be submitted. The minimum amount is 6 minutes duration, but if you choose the performance option, you need to submit 3 pieces, lasting a minimum of 10 minutes, and including one focused study piece.
2	Composition The composition section further develops students' composition skills. The compulsory element is for two pieces with a minimum duration of 4 minutes. If you choose to specialise in composition, this is extended to 8 minutes, and you are also expected to submit some composition exercises too.
3	Further Musical Understanding This unit focuses on listening to music, familiar and unfamiliar, and understanding how it works. Set works provide the focus for much of the unit. Students will also listen to a wide range of unfamiliar music. They will learn how to compare and contrast pairs of excerpts, contextualise music and identify harmonic and tonal features through listening exercises.

Students will sit a standalone AS Level at the end of Year 12 in preparation for the A Level.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

A-level Music develops the practical skills of performing and composing alongside listening to a variety of music and developing ideas about how and why it was written and/or performed. Whilst an artistic and practical subject, Music is recognised by universities as an academic A-level and provides a good step towards degrees in a wide range of subject areas including Sciences, Mathematics, Languages, Humanities and Arts. It is a requirement to have passed A-level music for most Higher Education music courses, but is also considered a valuable subject to take for entry other degree courses.

Minimum Requirements

Grade 5 or above in GCSE Music. Candidates must be having lessons on their chosen instrument. Candidates are expected to participate in Music Department activities. Some understanding of the rudiments of Theory is needed for this course. Working at a Grade 5 level is very helpful.



Music Technology

A LEVEL

Examination Board:
EDEXCEL/PEARSON
Specification:
Music

What will you do?

You will be working as a recording studio engineer within your class to enhance your composition, production, and listening skills. You will develop an understanding of production tools and techniques to capture, edit, process and mix an audio recording as well as creating, manipulating and structuring sounds to produce technology-based compositions.

Who is the course for?

Anyone who has a keen interest in creating and listening to different styles of music, alongside some pre-existing skills and knowledge, and who wishes to broaden their

Unit	Title
1	Recording Development and extension of knowledge for AS level. Assessed by a practical piece of coursework.
2	Technology based Composition You must produce one composition based on a brief which must total 3 minutes and be accompanied by a log book and authentication form.
3	Listening and Analysing This 1 hour 30-minute written examination made up of 2 sections and relating to all 3 areas of study.
4	Producing and Analysing This exam requires the application of knowledge related to two areas of study: recording and production techniques for both corrective and creative purposes and principles of sound and audio technology.

experience and deepen their understanding of music production technology would be suitable for this course

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

Students can progress from this qualification to:

- music schools and university courses that relate to music technology
- university courses that will benefit from the skills acquired from this GCE
- employment where music technology skills are essential, for example trainee producer or engineer, studio manager

Minimum Requirements

GCSE Grade 5 in Music (or grade 5 ABRSM), GCSE Grade 5 in Maths and Science

Philosophy and Ethics

A LEVEL
Examination Board:
AQA
Specification:
7062



What will I need before taking this course?

An interest in questioning unanswerable questions about life, death and the universe (Philosophy) and the thirst to understand how we come to recognise what is morally wrong or morally right (Ethics). An interest in arguing for or against religious arguments is also important (Religion). You will need to be a quick and deep thinker. You will need to be able to apply the arguments of traditional and modern scholars as well as generate your own views. Finally, you will need excellent abilities in literacy to be able to convey your knowledge and understanding through written examinations.

What will you do?

You will be preparing for two examinations to be taken at the end of Year 13. You will learn through a variety of lesson activities including group work, independent research, debate, peer teaching, oral presentation, problem solving games and exam technique workshops.

Who is the course for?

Anyone! It requires a lot of reading and writing but also a lot of discussion. We touch on political, social, moral, spiritual

Unit	Title
1	Philosophy of Religion and Ethics
2	Study of Religion and Dialogues

and cultural issues as well as philosophy and ethics itself. It is a subject for Atheists, Agnostics and Theists who feel passionate about life, death and the universe.

Assessment and Feedback

In Philosophy and Ethics you will consistently use skills including; analysis, evaluation, critical thinking, problem solving, research, communication and more! This means that Philosophy and Ethics students are specialising in a fantastic subject whilst maintaining transferable skills for any future career or higher education.

You will:

- Understand scholarly views towards philosophical and ethical issues
- Investigate how to apply scholarly theories to modern moral dilemmas e.g. business, environment, abortion, sex.
- Analyse texts from a wide variety of scholars
- Construct your own persuasive arguments
- Debate and discuss philosophical and ethical issues

Lessons include a mixture of text analysis, video analysis, debate, discussion, critical thinking, essay structure and writing style coaching.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

Careers using Philosophy and Ethics include; advertising, PR and communications, media, journalism, publishing, politics, teaching, law, medicine, social work, event management, marketing, working with charities and much more. Philosophy and Ethics is a highly regarded academic subject. It is traditional enough to be highly respected by employers and universities but modern enough to engage with people of any age. You would have to study two or three A Levels to test the number of skills found in Philosophy and Ethics, and these are skills for life.

Minimum Requirements

Grade 5 in English and a grade 5 in Religious Studies is an advantage.

A LEVEL

Examination Board:

AQA

Specification:

Physical Education
7582



Physical Education



What will I need before taking this course?

Candidates will have ideally obtained a grade 5 in GCSE PE or obtained a Merit – Distinction* in the Level 2 BTEC Physical Education award

What will you do?

The course involves two written, two hour exams that form 70% (35% for each paper) of the student's final grade. It also includes a practical / coursework element that forms 30% of the student's final grade over the two years.

Who is the course for?

The course is aimed at students who are looking to pursue a career within sport beyond A level. It will also help support their university applications.

Unit	Title	Unit	Title
A	Applied Anatomy and Physiology	A	Exercise Physiology and Biomechanics
B	Skill Acquisition	B	Sport Psychology
C	Sport and Society	C	Sport and Society and Technology in sport
Practical	Students assessed as a performer or coach in the full sided version of the selected activity	Coursework	Written / verbal Analysis and Evaluation of your performance

Assessment and Feedback

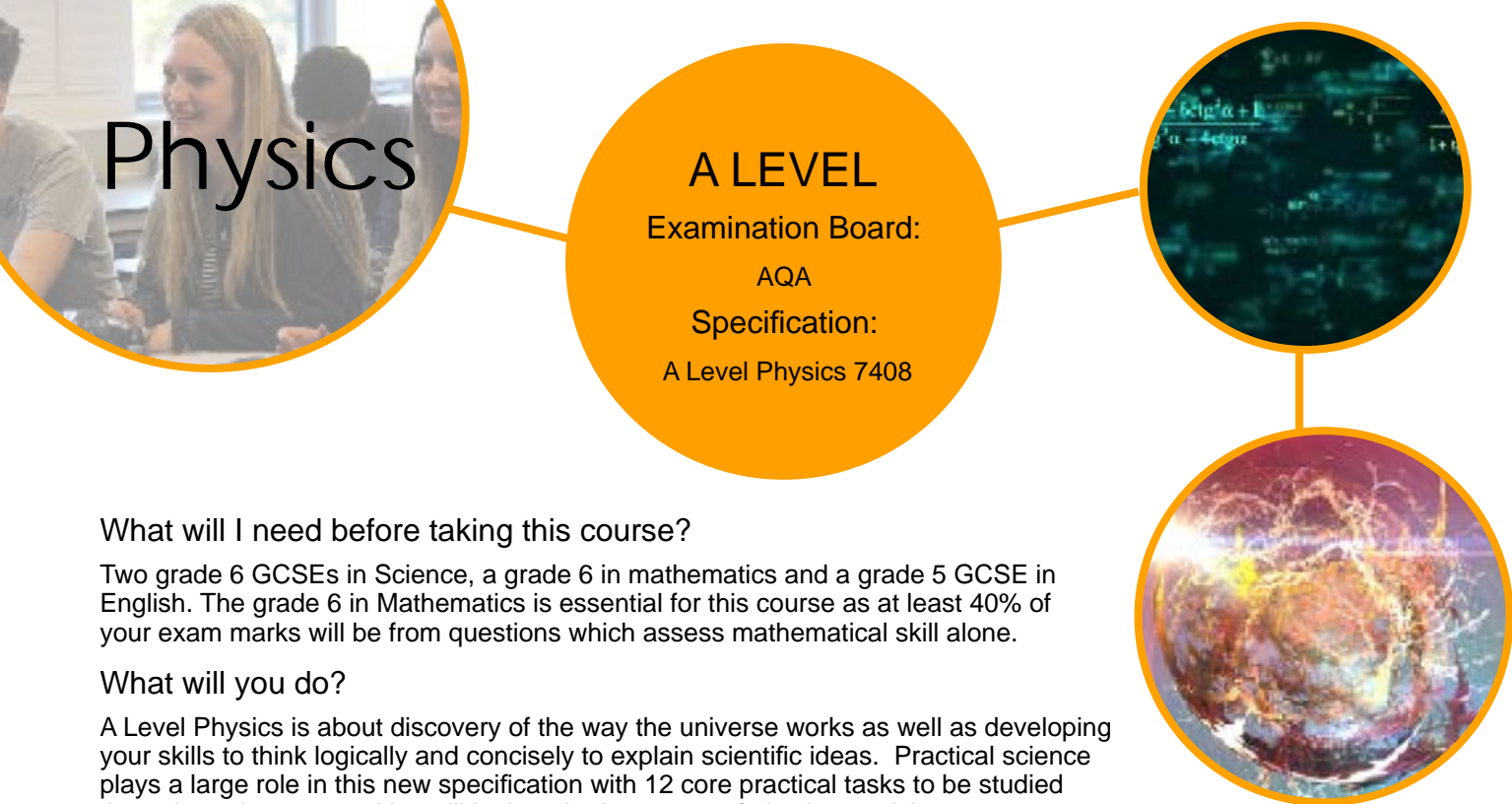
- Question and Answer
- Examination / Past paper questions
- Homework
- End of unit tests / assessment
- Marking of topic booklets

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

Attend university and study a range of sports courses. This can then allow career choices in many areas such as PE teaching, physiotherapy, sports coaching, and leisure management.

Minimum Requirements

The candidate will have obtained at least a grade 5 at GCSE Physical Education grade or obtained a Merit – Distinction* in the Level 2 BTEC Physical Education award.



What will I need before taking this course?

Two grade 6 GCSEs in Science, a grade 6 in mathematics and a grade 5 GCSE in English. The grade 6 in Mathematics is essential for this course as at least 40% of your exam marks will be from questions which assess mathematical skill alone.

What will you do?

A Level Physics is about discovery of the way the universe works as well as developing your skills to think logically and concisely to explain scientific ideas. Practical science plays a large role in this new specification with 12 core practical tasks to be studied throughout the course. You will look at the key areas of physics particles, waves, energy, forces, fields and electricity.

Who is the course for?

This course has been designed by AQA in consultation with major universities so that it prepares students to progress onto prestigious university level Science courses. This course is perfect for anyone with a logical, mathematical and inquisitive brain who would like to know more about how the universe works. Aspiring doctors, engineers, computer scientists, programmers, architects and designers should consider this course.

All students will sit a standalone AS qualification as part of preparation for the final A2 exam.

Unit	Title	Unit	Title
1	Measurements and their errors	6	Further mechanics and thermal physics
2	Particles and radiation	7	Fields and their consequences
3	Waves	8	Nuclear physics
4	Mechanics and materials	Plus...	One option from: Astrophysics, Medical physics, Engineering physics, Turning points, Electronics
5	Electricity		

Assessment and Feedback

Throughout each topic and at the conclusion of each topic you will be assessed using a range of accessible but rigorous methods. You will have access to regular interactive progress checks that will develop your exam technique. You will then complete an exam-style assessment at the end of each topic to provide you with a realistic picture of your progress towards your end of course exams.

Feedback is given in writing and verbally and will be provided for all assessments. This is alongside regular marking of your classwork and learning conversations between teacher and student.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

Upon completion of an A Level in Physics there are a number of options you can pursue. These include, but are not limited to, a degree within the natural sciences, medicine, engineering, architecture, computer science and mathematics. An A Level in Physics is also an excellent choice for almost any University course. Physics is held in very high esteem by all institutions and it will not limit your options in the future.

Minimum Requirements

To succeed on this course you will need two grade 6 GCSEs in Science from either the double weighted Trilogy award or the 3 Separate Science GCSEs. You will also need a grade 5 in English. A grade 6 GCSE in Maths is also required as 40% of the course will examine mathematical skills.

A LEVEL

Examination Board:

AQA

Specification:

7182



Psychology



What will I need before taking this course?

An interest in understanding the complexities of human behaviour, a critical mind-set and a desire to explore psychological research across a range of topics. A basic understanding of our physiology and statistical analysis will be useful as several topics focus on the body's response and the significance of data collected from psychological research.

What will you do?

You will be preparing for examinations in a range of disciplines within Psychology including social, cognitive, developmental and biological Psychology, in addition to exploring how psychological research is conducted and assessed.

Who is the course for?

Psychology is a course for students who are inquisitive, analytical and interested in exploring the reasons behind human behaviour. If you wish to work within a variety of

Unit	Title
1	Introductory Topics In Psychology
2	Psychology In Context
3	Issues & Options In Psychology

disciplines such as the biological, computer and forensic sciences, humanities or education then this is the course for you.

Assessment and Feedback

Students will receive written feedback on homework every week, formal assessment approximately every two to three weeks and verbal feedback every lesson.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

Students can go on to study a variety of courses at university or work in several disciplines such as social care, mental health, education, business, military, law, forensics, counselling, media, aviation, research, careers and sports.

Minimum Requirements

GCSE English at grade 5 or higher.

Sociology

A LEVEL

Examination Board:

AQA

Specification:

7192



What will I need before taking this course?

A GCSE grade 5 in English Language or English Literature and a desire to understand the complexities of human behaviour and society.

What will you do?

Sociology is a social science studying the patterns of, and reasons for, human behaviour, social organisation and culture. Sociology helps us to explore and understand the society in which we live and how its various elements fit together and influence each other. It is a subject that combines scientific methodology and humanities based investigation to allow Sociologists to understand what drives and creates change in our cultural norms.

Throughout the two year course you will explore topics including “Who commits crime and why?”, “Is education a way of controlling the working classes?”, “Are families no longer important?” and “Why might girls outperform boys in education?”. Your lessons will include a series of debates, analysing and manipulating scientific research, examining case studies and carrying out investigations.

Who is the course for?

The course is literacy rich and ideally you would need to be comfortable with writing your answers in an extended format,



Unit	Title	Unit	Title
1	Families and Households	3	Beliefs in Society
2	Education and Research Methods	4	Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

using evidence. You would also need to enjoy having lively debate about controversial ideas and working with others.

Assessment and Feedback

Sociology students will receive regular and detailed feedback on a range of homework, essays, exam questions and learning tasks. This will be both written and verbal and will allow you to be secure in your attainment and progress. This is a two year course with 100% examination at the end of the course. Students will take the AS exam at the end of Y12 but the grade achieved in this will be replaced by the final A Level grade and will not be counted towards it. This allows you, the student, to have your progress externally checked by the exam board at the half way point of the course.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

An A Level in Sociology can lead to a plethora of careers including jobs in advertising, media, journalism, careers guidance, social services, the police and teaching amongst many others. It can also lead to a wide range of degree level subjects. A qualification in the subject will also tell employers that you are a person who can debate a passionate subject, understand demographics and deal with difficult situations in an empathetic and level headed way.

Minimum Requirements

A minimum of a GCSE grade 5 in either English Language or English Literature.

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

AS LEVEL

Examination Board:

AQA

Specification:

Level 3 Extended Project Qualification (7993)

What will I need before taking this course?

At least 8 GCSEs at grades 5-9 including at least a Grade 6 in GCSE English and maths and preferably science.

What will you do?

This is a Level 3 Qualification equivalent to half an A Level. It has some taught elements that include research skills, referencing, report writing etc. It also requires a large amount of independent project work and regular meetings with your supervisor.

- Choose an area that interests you
- Draft a title and aims of the project for formal approval
- Plan, research and carry out the project
- Deliver a presentation to a specified audience
- Provide evidence of all stages of project development and production for assessment

All projects must include a written report of between 1000 and 5000 words.

A project which consists solely of written work should be approximately 5000 words; projects where the majority of the evidence is provided in other formats should include a report which is at least 1000 words.

Who is the course for?

- Students who want to develop and evidence the key skills that Russell Group and other top universities and employers demand in candidates.
- Students who have a passion for an area that they want to explore in depth.

Assessment and Feedback

Students will have their project reviewed at certain points by their Supervisor. The evidence for final assessment will comprise the following:

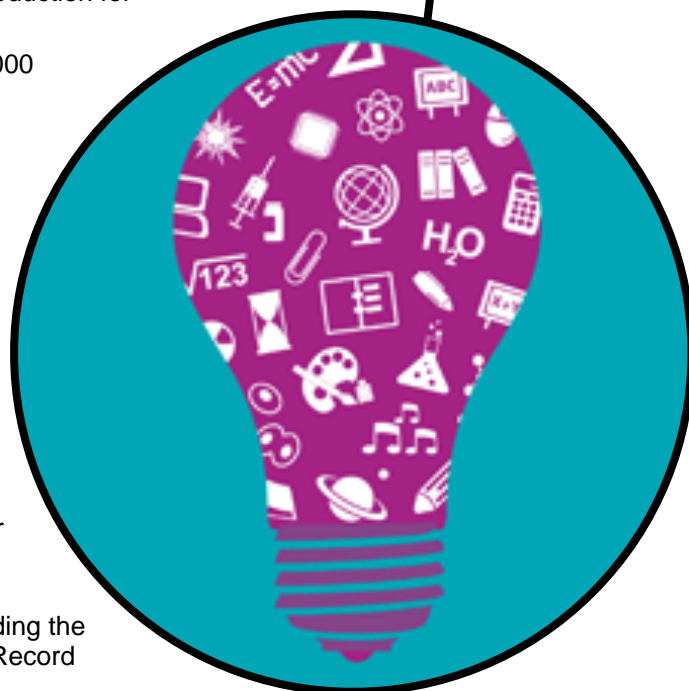
- the completed Production Log and Assessment Record including the Project Proposal Form, Presentation Record and Candidate Record Form
- the project product including a written report and any other evidence, as appropriate, depending on the topic or subject area chosen

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

The course gives additional UCAS points and is accepted by almost all universities. As it is excellent evidence of key skills, some universities reduce their UCAS offers to students who achieve the EPQ at a high grade.

Minimum Requirements

At least 8 GCSEs at Grades 5-9 including English and Maths at Grade 6 or above.



Subject Information

Vocational Qualifications

Kettering Buccleuch
Academy



Applied Business

BTEC LEVEL 3

Examination Board:

AQA

Specification:

Level 3 Extended Certificate
in Applied Business



What will I need before taking this course?

You need to be good at working independently on tasks that are set and to be disciplined in your approach.

What will you do?

You will learn about business through practical experience from real world assignments. You will have to take responsibility for your own learning and work to a brief, managing your time efficiently to complete the different tasks.

Who is the course for?

This is a vocational qualification and is aimed people who are not as well suited for the more academic route of straight A-levels. There are a range of assessments – both practical and written – to allow you to demonstrate your learning and achievement in different ways.

Unit	Title	Unit	Title
1	Financial planning and analysis	4	Managing and leading people
2	Business dynamics	5	Developing a business proposal
3	Entrepreneurial opportunities (synoptic assessment unit)	Optional	Marketing communications

Assessment and Feedback

Due to the nature of the course, the teaching and learning will be skewed towards a more vocational element with a look into different businesses and how the theory relates to them.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

This qualification will allow you to pursue a career in business which has numerous different applications. It will showcase your ability to prepare for the real world of work. It will give you an excellent grounding in the real business world.

Minimum Requirements

At least 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 or higher including Grade 5 in Maths.

Children's Play, Learning and Development



**BTEC
LEVEL 3**

Examination
Board:

What will I need before taking this course?

An interest in spending time and working with children under the age of 8 is an absolute must as this course involves a 50 hour placement where you will be expected to take part in planning activities, engaging the children in them and evaluating them afterwards.

What will you do?

You will be preparing for an examination, carrying out a placement in a child care setting and producing a portfolio of work covering numerous areas related to the development and learning of children up to the age of 8 years old. The course covers various aspects of children's development including their physical, intellectual, emotional and social needs.

Who is the course for?



Unit	Title	Unit	Title
1	Child Development (Exam)	4	Health and Safety in Early Years Settings (Portfolio)
2	Play & Learning (Portfolio)	8	Safeguarding in Early Years (Portfolio)
3	Meeting Children's Physical Development, Physical Care and Health Needs (Portfolio)	9	Observation, Assessment & Planning (Portfolio)

Students wishing to work directly with young children or progress into Higher Education to gain further qualifications within this area.

Assessment and Feedback

- The work covered in Year 12 forms 50% of the 2 year qualification.
- Portfolio: Students will receive verbal feedback every lesson. They will also receive written feedback on each piece of work handed in, with the opportunity to re-do an assessment if it doesn't meet either their or the assessor's requirements.
- Examination lessons: Students will receive written feedback on homework every week, formal assessment approximately every two to three weeks and verbal feedback every lesson.

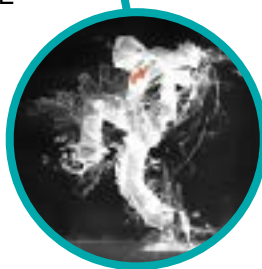
Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

- Direct entry into employment within Child Care.
- Further BTEC courses alongside employment.
- Degree courses e.g. Nursing, Primary Teaching or Early Childhood Studies.

Minimum Requirements

GCSE English Language grade 4 and GCSE Mathematics grade 4.

A GCSE in Child Development is desirable but not essential.



What will I need before taking this course?

In order for you to achieve a good grade at this level of study with encourage pupils to be involved in dance lessons outside of the school curriculum as well as having studied Dance at GCSE and achieved a Grade 4 or higher.

What will you do?

Dance will be studied in a range of forums, techniques, styles and applications. Students will gain a thorough understanding of dance both practically and theoretically. This will be in areas such as choreographic awareness in practical lessons to anatomical understanding through theoretical setting.

Who is the course for?

This course is designed for anyone who has a passion for dance has the drive and determination to

Unit	Title	Unit	Title
1	Investigating Practitioners' work	2	Developing Skills and Technique for Live Performance
3	Group Performance Workshop	12	Contemporary Dance Technique

develop their wider understanding of the subject.

Assessment and Feedback

During the 2 years of study you will complete coursework which will be aided with an assignment brief. As well as this you assessed on your practical performance ability with coursework to support where necessary.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

Dance course at university, professional performer, stage school, dance teacher, choreographer, dance practitioner, dance therapist.

Minimum Requirements

You must *either* have Grade 4 or above in GCSE Dance or have a history of participation in dance lessons or performances outside school.



BTEC LEVEL 3

Examination Board:

EDEXCEL

Specification:

Extended Certificate in
Health and Social
Care

Health and Social Care



What will I need before taking this course?

A definite interest in working in either the Health, Social or Education sector with clients or people who have specific needs.

What will you do?

You will study four different topics covering sociological and psychological issues within the health and social care sector as well as careers and how practitioners within these sectors provide care and meet individual needs.

Who is the course for?

Students wishing to work directly within the Health or Social Care sector or progress into Higher Education to gain further qualifications within this area.

The work covered in Year 12 forms 50% of the two year qualification.

Unit	Title	Unit	Title
1	Human Lifespan Development	5	Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs
2	Working in Health and Social Care		One other optional unit

Assessment and Feedback

- Portfolio: Students will receive verbal feedback every lesson. They will also receive written feedback on each piece of work handed in, with the opportunity to re-do an assessment if it doesn't meet either their or the assessor's requirements.
- Examination lessons: Students will receive written feedback on homework every week, formal assessment approximately every two to three weeks and verbal feedback every lesson.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

Direct entry into employment within the Health or Social Care sector..

Further BTEC courses or training alongside employment.

Degree courses.

Minimum Requirements

GCSE English Language Grade 4 and GCSE Science Grade 4.

IT (Cambridge Technicals)



LEVEL 3

Examination Board:
OCR

Specification:
IT Introductory Diploma

What will I need before taking this course?

Students will need to have completed the OCR Cambridge Nationals qualification to level P2 or above, or the GCSE Computing to Grade 4 or above, plus have a genuine interest in IT and its role in organisations.

What will you do?

Cambridge Technicals have been designed to give you opportunities to demonstrate and develop the practical application of knowledge and understanding in the areas of work that appeal to you. This will enable you to develop your research skills as you work, both independently and with colleagues, to progress through your qualifications. There are five units of study: two examined, mandatory units and a further three which have been selected from the range of available units on the "Application Developer" pathway.

Who is the course for?

OCR have worked with universities to make sure the Level 3 Cambridge Technicals are designed to provide students with the depth and breadth of knowledge, as well as the understanding of skills required for further study in this



Unit	Title
1	Fundamentals of IT
2	Global Information
3	Application Design
4	Project Management
5	Web design and Prototyping

subject area at university.

Assessment and Feedback

Students will receive feedback from their teachers to support their research skills and units of study to facilitate the highest marks.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

Study for a degree in related subjects such as ICT, computer science, information systems, multimedia, software engineering, computer networking, e-business and information management.

Minimum Requirements

Grade 4 in GCSE Computing or P2 or above in OCR Cambridge National course.



What will I need before taking this course?

Students will need at least 5 GCSEs at A*- C. Students also need an interest in current affairs, good organisational skills and sound report writing and research skills.

What will you do?

Law involves analysing a wide range of issues and problems. It is a vibrant and exciting subject. It helps you to be self-confident in dealing with issues, disputes and other people. You will study specific areas of English law in detail and then some areas of the substantive law to include criminal, tort and family law. You will practice developing an argument through using supportive evidence and case law. Additionally, it will involve working as part of a team on group activities, conducting independent research and delivering presentations.

Who is the course for?

Students who are interested in studying law but prefer a more practical style of learning and a more assignment based approach.

Unit	Title
1	Dispute Solving in the Legal System
2	Understanding Law Making
3	Aspects of Legal Liability
4	Aspects of the Law of Tort

Assessment and Feedback

Two units are assessed through assignments that are marked internally and then externally moderated. The other two units are assessed through controlled assessment. Students will be given pre-release material that they have to prepare work for and then complete a written assignment under timed conditions.

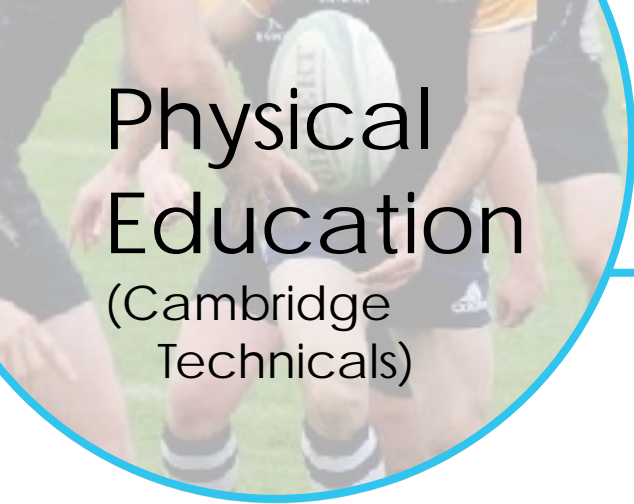
Students develop their skills through practical sessions, group and personal tutorials. The course will involve a mix of practical and theory lessons. Practical lessons will consist of role plays, presentations and relating theory to practice by using visits, guest speakers and your own research.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

As well as a career in law, accountancy, journalism, marketing, public relations, social work, teaching, business and government are all careers that utilise the skills and knowledge that the subject provides. It will allow you to progress to a Degree course or seek employment as a Trainee Professional.

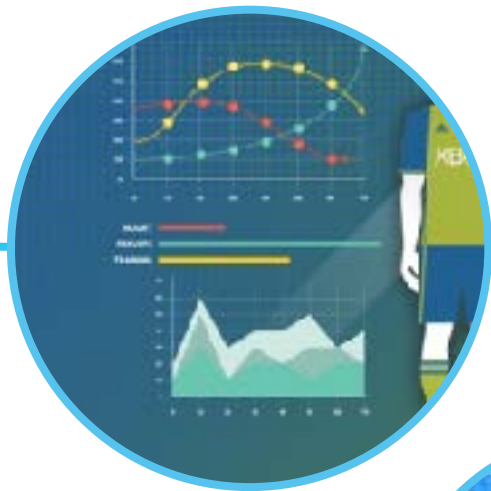
Minimum Requirements

At least 5 GCSEs at grade 4 and above. A grade 4 in English is acceptable.



Physical Education

(Cambridge Technicals)



LEVEL 3
Examination Board:
OCR
Specification:
Diploma 05827



What will I need before taking this course?

The candidate will have ideally obtained a grade 4 at GCSE PE or obtained at least a Pass in the Level 2 BTEC Physical Education award

What will you do?

Students will complete two externally moderated exam units which involve a written paper being completed. All other units will then be internally moderated whereby students complete coursework assignments on computers.

Who is the course for?

The course is aimed at students who are looking to pursue a career within sport beyond A level. It will also help support their University applications.

Unit	Title
1	Body system and the effects of physical activity
2	Sports coaching and activity leadership
3	Sport organisation and development
5	Performance analysis in sport and science
8	Organisation of sports events

Assessment and Feedback

Students are taught the key content needed to complete the assignments independently within the internally assessed units (Coursework). Feedback is provided through the tracking of student progress and the completion of the unit front sheets. For the external units (Exams) students are taught all of the theory aspects and will complete past paper questions etc, in preparation for these written papers.

Progression – What can I do at the end of the course?

Attend University and study a range of sports courses. This can then allow career choices in many areas such as PE Teaching, Sports Coaching, and Leisure management.

Minimum Requirements

The candidate will have ideally obtained a grade 4 at GCSE PE or obtained at least a Pass in the Level 2 BTEC Physical Education award.

Notes

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Notes

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SECONDARY CAREERS AND HIGHER EDUCATION EVENT

Kettering Buccleuch Academy



Thursday 8th March 2018*

Need help planning your future...?

This event will include a variety of talks from university and apprenticeship providers.

National and regional employers will also be available to offer advice on the career

routes within their industries

3aaa	John Lewis	RAF
Adecco	JPP Consulting Civil and Structural	Royal Navy / Royal Marines
AimHigher	Engineers	RPC Containers
Army	Kettering Borough Council	Sainsbury's
Babcock International	Kier Construction	Santander
BBC	Knights of Old	Shoosmiths Solicitors
Bedfordshire University	Limitless Training Club	Starting Off
Bishop Grosseteste University, Lincoln	Loughborough University	Tresham College
BT Internet	Mintridge Events	UCFB Wembley
Chartered Institute of Logistics & Transport	MMC Hardmetal U.K. LTD	Unilever
Citigroup Global Markets Ltd	National Citizenship Service	United Teaching
Costain Engineering	Newcastle University	University of East Anglia
Crown Prosecution Service	NHS Trust (Voluntary)	University of Leicester
De Montfort University	Nital Training & Development	University of Lincoln
DHL	Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue	University of Northampton
Eastern School of the Performing Arts	Northampton Town Football Club	University of Portsmouth
EW Languages	Northamptonshire Police	Untied Utilities
Hewlett Packard	Optimax	Vets for Pets
Homeinstead	Optimum Computers	Wilson Browne Solicitors
Institute of Civil Engineers	Project ASK	Year Out group
	Projects Abroad Uk	
	Prospects	

* 2018 Timings and details of exhibitors will be confirmed in the new year.



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