

The Minster School Sixth Form



Prospectus

Great Results - Great Futures - Great Choice

2024

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This school is highly effective so that the outcomes in all areas are outstanding.

OFSTED

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WELCOME

Thank you for showing an interest in The Minster School Sixth Form. We are very proud of our students and their achievements as well as the high quality educational experience that we offer. As an outstanding Sixth Form provider we believe in developing students as young people to succeed in life as well as achieving fantastic examination results.

We hope that this prospectus gives you a flavour of our Sixth Form and encourages you to visit us to find out more. Details of our events for prospective students can be found on the Minster School website.

If you would like to discuss the Sixth Form please contact us using the details on this page.

For further information about The Minster School Sixth Form please visit our website:

www.minsterschool.org.uk/sixthform

Follow us on social media:

@minster_post16

@minster_school

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Mrs E Crowther Post-16 Administrator

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When you become a member of our sixth form you will become part of a community where succeeding together is at the heart of all that we do.

Welcome from the Head Teacher

Mr Ben Chaloner

Thank you for considering The Minster School Sixth Form as the destination for your Post-16 education. Each year we welcome back many students who have been part of our school community for a number of years, as well as meeting new faces joining us for the first time. It is this blend of students which helps make our sixth form an exciting and vibrant environment for you to excel in your studies.

We are proud to have a track record of academic success across all subjects. This is due to students making the most of the opportunities offered to them through high quality teaching and excellent pastoral care. When you become a member of our sixth form you will become part of a community where succeeding together is at the heart of all that we do.

We truly believe that our sixth form provides an education of the highest order. We offer an extensive curriculum, giving you the opportunity to study over 30 different courses. Classes focus upon delivering the knowledge and developing the skills for you to be successful and best prepared for your future.

Few decisions are more important than the next steps in your education. We hope that the resources here and on our website will give you an insight into what makes The Minster School a compelling choice.

Welcome from the Director of Post 16

Mr Justin Samuels

As you would expect from a great sixth form, we have high expectations and our skilled Post 16 tutor team will help you meet these; both looking after your needs and helping you to overcome challenges to achieve your ambitions.

As a Minster School Sixth Former, your experience is so much more than A-Levels alone and our enrichment programme enables you to develop in leadership roles and participate in clubs. We are really looking forward to the welcome return of overseas visits and hosting visiting speakers.

We are proud of our sixth form and invite you to join us. Please come and see for yourself our superb facilities and learn first-hand what we have to offer for the next important step in your education.







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Our enrichment programme enables you to develop in leadership roles and participate in clubs.

SIXTH FORM HEAD TEAM

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We are incredibly proud to have the opportunity to represent our school and be part of such a vibrant and supportive community..

We aim to be approachable and supportive, ensuring that all students have a voice and are represented.







Welcome from the Head Team

Academic Year 2023-24

As the Head Team, we are incredibly proud to have the opportunity to represent our school and be a part of such a vibrant and supportive community. Our main goal is to organise whole school events and activities that unite people together, bringing a sense of belonging and community among students and the staff body. We firmly believe that a strong and welcoming community is the foundation for academic success and personal growth. We are enthusiastic to see students pursue their passions and discover new ones. We aim to be approachable and supportive, ensuring that all students have a voice and are represented. We are exited to make a positive impact on our school and contribute to overall growth and devlopment of the students. Together, lets embrace the challenges, celebrate the successes and create lasting connections.

SUCCEEDING TOGETHER

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as though you were working for the Lord"

Colossians 3:23

Wisdom

Learning to think critically, act justly and consider the views of others

Our Key Virtues

Optimism

Showing gratitude for what we have and having positive hope for the future

Resilience

Developing selfbelief to take on new challenges, persevere and seek support from those ground

Kindness

Considering the needs of others and acting through compassion and care

Service

Using our gifts and talents for the benefit of others in school and in the wider community

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Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as though you were working for the Lord

Colossians 3:23

Facilities

SIXTH FORM FACILITIES

As a Sixth Form student at The Minster School, you will benefit from our state of the art, modern school buildings. There are a number of dedicated sixth form spaces available to you throughout the school day. We also have fantastic facilities for extra-curricular activities such as sport and performing arts.

O I INDEPENDANT STUDY AREA

Conference style seating, including facilities for individual and collaborative group work.



O2 SILENT STUDY AREA

Exclusive to sixth formers, available throughout the day.



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POST 16 DINING AREA

Open throughout the day.



O4 SCHOOL LIBRARY

A space to work and use a wide range of resources linked to your subjects.



Great Results

Great Results

The Minster School Sixth Form has a long tradition of achieving great results in examinations, due to the combination of hard work by students, support at home and excellent teaching in school. Students achieve the highest grades, in 2023 there were 109 A* grades, 44 students gained 3 x A* or A grades at A Level and 65% of all grades were a B or higher. These enabled them to access universities, apprenticeships and employment of their choice.

Our most recent Ofsted inspection found us to be Outstanding: "All aspects of provision were judged to be of the very highest quality and as a result students make outstanding progress. The school has done exceptionally well in ensuring high levels of consistency across all subjects and for all groups of students. This highly impressive picture applies equally to the sixth form"





Great Futures

Each year around 75% of our Year 13 students progress to university, with 31% of our students securing places at Russell Group Universities, the most prestigious institutions in the UK. University places are not the only successful outcome for our students. We are proud that we support our students in achieving their ambitions through securing higher level Apprenticeships, Art Foundation courses and employment. Our students pursue a wide range of careers, mirroring the choices that are available within our Sixth Form subjects. Our tutors are experienced in supporting students to attain entry to a vast range of courses, including Medicine and Law, which remain popular among our students.

If you are considering applying to either Oxford or Cambridge, you require specific qualities as well as outstanding academic qualifications. Our Sixth Form Oxbridge group gives you the best possible chance of success with your application. This includes visiting speakers, advice from Oxbridge students and admissions tutors from Oxford or Cambridge to help you to prepare. We have an annual programme of mock interviews, tailored for all students likely to have a university interview, but also available for any Sixth Form student. We run a 'Progression day' in Year 12 that focuses on making successful applications for university courses and apprenticeships. We also support students with other non-university pathways and a work experience week for all Year 12.

CURRICULUM ENRICHMENT

In addition to academic studies, we want you to embrace a wide range of opportunities through our enrichment programme.

ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT

You have the choice of studying for either the Extended Project Qualification or Core Mathematics. These qualifications develop independent learning skills and support applications for post-18 study and employment.

'EPQ gave me the chance to discover and create something that I'm really passionate about. It taught me how to work truly independently and was very worthwhile'.

- Thea . A* EPQ student

SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT

You will also undertake lessons which encourage you to consider and discuss wider spiritual and ethical issues. Students are able to develop their understanding further, challenge themselves and share interesting debating points, in keeping with our Christian values.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS

At The Minster School, learning extends beyond the classroom. Many curriculum areas offer opportunities to widen the experience of a subject by attending residential or day visits. Examples of visits which have taken place include Perlethorpe (Biology), London (Music and Performing Arts), Iceland (Geography), New York (History), Leon (Spanish) and many more within the local area.

"The Spanish exchange programme in Leon was an amazing experience, especially for improving your language, challenging yourself and meeting new people!"

- Charlotte, Spanish student



In order to prepare for university and employment it is essential that you develop your confidence and leadership skills. Our Sixth Form students take on a range of responsibilities to develop themselves further and to contribute to the school community:

ENRICHMENT GROUPS

These groups meet regularly and new members are welcomed at any time. Examples include:

Charity Leaders

Environmental Action Group

Musical Theatre

Ugive Uchange (Fundraising group for education outside of our local community)

Young Enterprise

Sporting clubs

Music groups

Drama groups

Duke of Edinburgh Award

STUDENT LEADERSHIP ROLES

Head Team – elected annually by peers and teachers

Sixth Form Prefects - a leadership role rewarding contributions made to The Minster School

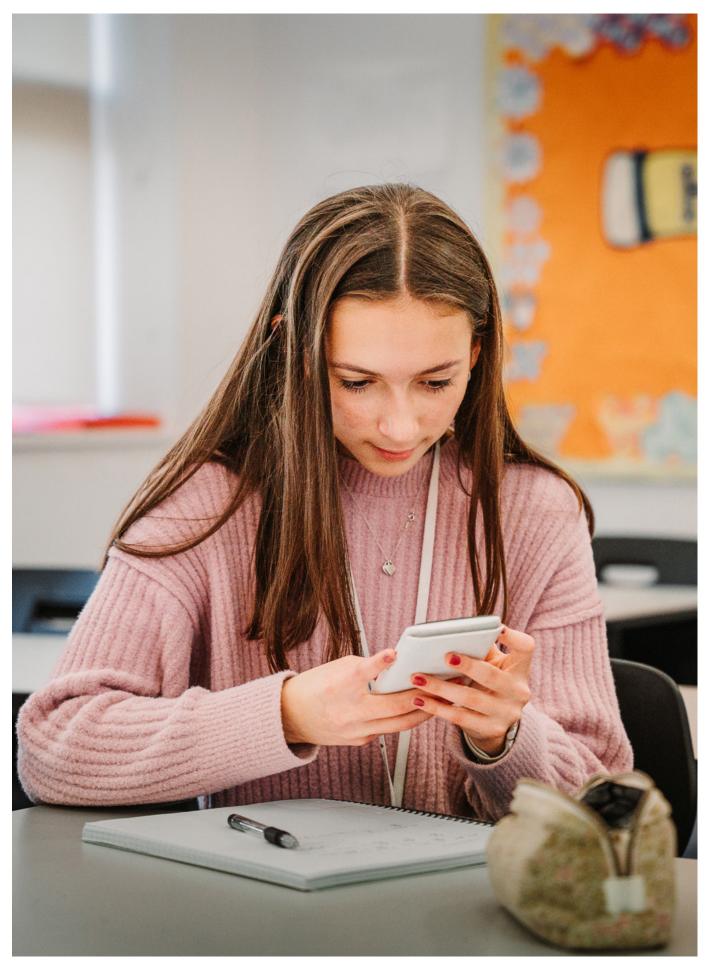
Minster Mentors - providing support for younger students

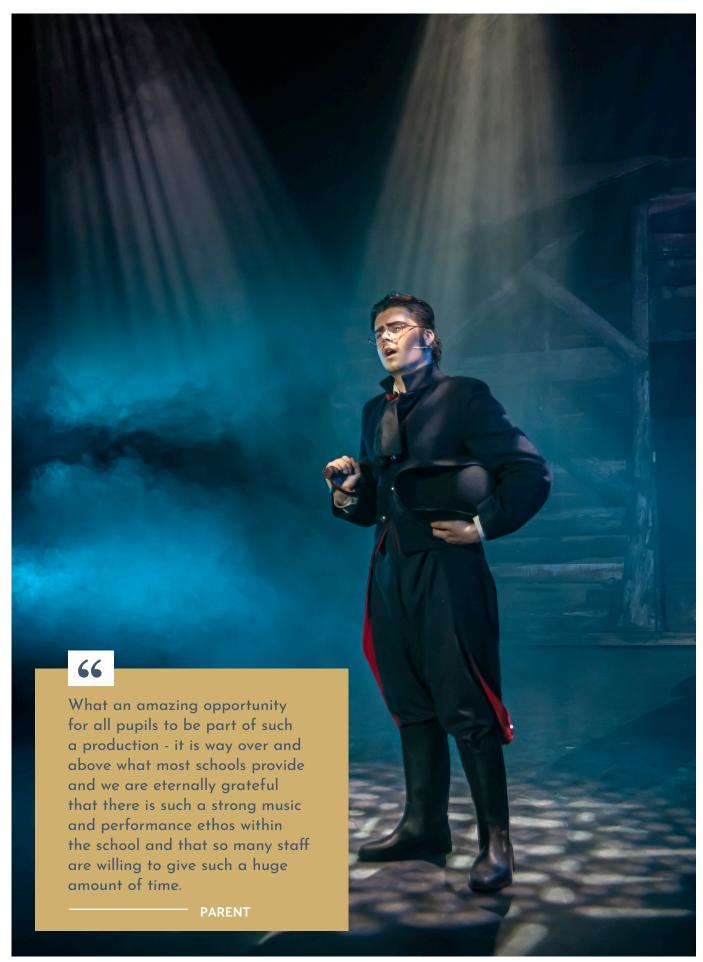
Sports Leaders – developing leadership skills through a qualification

Subject Ambassadors – supporting lower school lessons in your specialist subject

Year 12 and 13 Student Council - representing your peers

Diversity Ambassador - ensuring different groups of people are represented within the student body





TUTORING

You will have a dedicated tutor as your main contact point in school. Our tutors deal with the 'whole student'. At the heart of what we do is supporting you to be the best that you can be through our school ethos:

Succeeding Together Wisdom - Optimism - Resilience - Kindness - Service

Our Sixth Form Tutor Programme is structured around three key themes:

Post-16 Study Skills

Tutor sessions focus on the value and the skill of independent learning and managing your time effectively. You will develop a range of revision strategies and be guided through making the most of your time in school and at home.

Leadership and Enrichment

You are encouraged to take advantage of a wide range of opportunities to develop your skills and interests, maintaining a healthy balance between studying and other activities. We also expect you to be a leader and role model for the main school through delivering assemblies, leading workshops and supporting younger students.

The tutor programme includes sessions designed to raise awareness on areas such as Driver Safety, Mental and Sexual Health and becoming a Blood Donor.

Transition and Progression

Tutor sessions provide guidance on the process of applying for university, apprenticeships or careers. Alongside timetabled sessions the tutor provides one-to-one tutorial sessions to help you fulfil your potential. Our tutors are sixth form specialists and their experience with the UCAS application system gives you the best possible chance of success.

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Our tutors deal with the 'whole student'.

At the heart of what we do is supporting you to be the best that you can be through our school ethos.

SIXTH FORM SUPPORT

PASTORAL SUPPORT Miss Wilmot

At The Minster School Sixth Form we believe that, in order for students to reach their full potential, it is important that they are supported in every aspect of their student life. For this reason, in addition to the tutor team, we have a Post 16 Student Support Assistant. This role is dedicated to supporting the progression of students and helping them to remove any barriers to learning.

Our Post 16 Student Support Assistant is based in the Sixth Form office and is available daily for one to ones and drop-in sessions. Students may be referred by their teachers or parents, or they can arrange a meeting independently. This support covers a variety of areas, from being someone to talk to, help with stress management, advice on workload and study skills, and signposting to self-help and external services. The Post 16 Student Support Assistant is also a point of contact for parents and liaises as appropriate between teachers and students.



GENERAL ENQUIRIES Mrs Crowther

Mrs Crowther is our Post 16 Administrator and available to help with a range of matters at the Sixth Form Office reception. If students have a simple query or issue with their timetable, Mrs Crowther can help. Mrs Crowther organises our major Sixth Form events and trips and visits, making her the first point of communication. Mrs Crowther is also the primary contact if students or parents want to contact a teacher. When students have questions or are unsure about something, asking in the Sixth Form Office will give students the reassurance they need. In addition, Mrs Crowther also works directly with any Minster School Sixth Former interested in pursuing a law-related career after leaving school.



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS & APPLICATIONS

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA FOR 2024 ENTRY

Students commencing sixth form study in September 2024 will need to have achieved at least five GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including GCSE English Language or Maths. Students commencing a subject will need to have achieved the subject entry requirements outlined on each subject page.

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The Minster School has a really fantastic ethos of caring. It cares about the students, it shares information with parents, it lets the parents get involved should they want and it gets involved in the local community. This in turn reflects on the students who care about others.

(Parent of a Year 12 student)

APPLICATIONS & ADMISSIONS CYCLE 2024 ENTRY

Applications should be submitted by Friday 24th November 2023.

Applications submitted later will be accepted but early submission makes it much more likely that your subject combinations will be available. If you wish to make changes to subject choices let us know at the earliest opportunity. Mr Samuels is willing to discuss subject choices with students at any time. Please note that the availability of some subjects and subject combinations will depend on levels of demand and staffing.

Important note: We very much welcome applications from students currently at other schools. We endeavour to provide students with their first choice combination of subjects but we cannot guarantee all combinations can be met, particularly if students change subject choices after an initial application.

Sixth Form applications can be made online via the school website at www.minsterschool.org.uk/sixthformadmissions

In the event that we have more applications than places, governors will invoke the agreed admissions arrangements scheme for 2024, a copy of which can be found on the website.



ENGLISH GEOGRAPH' IGIOUS SCIENCE DESIGN & MODERN PHYSICAL

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STUDIES SCIENCE

GREAT CHOICE

EATRE ECHNOLOGY NOLOGY DREIGN LANGUAGES DIES DUCATION

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The school's attention to character building is motivational and inspiring. The efforts the teachers go to in order to ensure that we are as good as we can be is phenomenal.

STUDENT

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SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM

GREAT CHOICE

The Minster School Sixth Form is proud to offer you a wide range of over 30 courses. Due to the size of our Sixth Form we are able to cater for most combinations of subject choices meaning that we can enable you to study for the qualifications you need. Students take three subjects throughout Year 12 and 13. The only exceptions to this model are:

- Students who are approved to take Further Mathematics as a fourth subject. For most of these students this will mean not studying the Extended Project Qualification as an academic enrichment.
- Students who are taking a re-sit course in either GCSE English Language or Mathematics

Our curriculum is reviewed annually and this may be subject to change. Further information on entry requirements and applications is available on www.minsterschool.org.uk/sixthformadmissions

PROGRAMME OF STUDY

All students are expected to study three subjects. Students are free to choose from a range of A Level and equivalent courses, more details of which can be found later on in this prospectus. In addition to this, students will opt to choose either the Extended Project Qualification, Core Mathematics or Further Mathematics (see page 58 for more details). Finally, all students will also study a course on 'Faith, Culture and Life' in Year 12 as well as participate in tutor and whole school activities throughout both years.

MINSTER SCHOOL SIXTH FORM SUBJECT ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the entry requirements for the sixth form as a whole, individual subjects have entry requirements that are intended to ensure that students commencing those courses in Year 12 have a strong possibility of success at the end of Year 13. These can be found on each subject page in this prospectus. Achievement of the subject entry requirements guarantees that a student can take the subject, as long as the course runs in that year and the student's combination of subjects allows it. Where the subject entry requirement is not met, each case will be looked at on an individual basis in discussion before entry into the subject. If you meet our entry requirements for the sixth form, but do not have the grades to take the subjects that you wish, you will have a meeting to support you in choosing an appropriate set of subjects to study.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The nature of the course:

Studying Edexcel English Language allows you to analyse the social aspects of language and how our choices are affected by gender, age, occupation and ethnicity. You will undertake your own investigation into how gender is represented in spoken and written texts. You will also explore the development of English over time and consider how and why language has changed. There is also the opportunity for creative writing: you will produce two original pieces within a chosen genre aimed at different audiences. English Language encourages you to ask important questions and to challenge accepted views about how we shape our identity through the words we choose.

Course components:

Component 1: Language Variation Examination worth 35%.

Component 2: Child Language Examination worth 20%.

Component 3 Investigating Language Examination worth 25%

Component 4: Crafting Language Non-Examined Assessment worth 20%

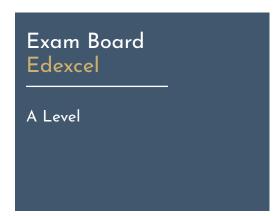
Future pathways:

English A level can lead on to careers in:

- Teaching
- lournalism
- Law
- Advertising
- Publishing
- Academic research

Entry Requirements:

GCSE English Language Grade 5



ENGLISH LITERATURE

The nature of the course:

Studying OCR English Literature allows you to explore classic and modern texts in detail, including a detailed investigation of the Gothic genre through the classic novel Dracula and Toni Morrison's powerful work Beloved. You will have the opportunity to study a Shakespeare play as well as contemporary drama and a selection of classic poetry. There is also the chance to study quality fiction of your choice in preparation for two coursework pieces. Keen readers and independent thinkers relish the class discussions and wide range of tasks.

Course components:

Component 1: Shakespeare and pre-1900 poetry. Examination worth 40%.

Component 2: Comparative and contextual study: The Gothic Examination worth 40%.

Component 3 Literature post 1900

Non-Examined Assessment of 3000 words worth 20%

Future pathways:

English A level can lead on to careers in:

- Teaching
- Journalism
- Law
- Advertising
- Publishing
- Academic research

Entry Requirements:

GCSE English Literature Grade 5

Exam Board OCR

A Level

English

MEDIA STUDIES

The nature of the course:

The A level course provides an excellent introduction to a variety of media texts. Each area has a specific set text, set against other examples from this media form. It is an exciting and dynamic course which looks at current media issues, events and forms, whilst providing an historical understanding of how these forms came into being. There is a robust study of media theory which is applied to these texts and helps the students appreciate how texts are constructed to target different audiences.

Students gain an understanding of media language, different types of representations and industry issues. This is achieved through independent research, discussion and practical work – especially for the Non-Examined Assessment.

Course component:

Component 1 - Examination worth 35%

A range of forms and media products in relation to relevant aspects of the Media frameworks.

Component 2 - Examination 35%

An in-depth study into three media forms in relation to the frameworks: television, social media platforms and magazines.

Non Examined Assessment - Component 3 worth 30%

Students choose ONE area: Television, advertising & marketing (Film or music), magazines

A statement of aims and intentions (500 words) and a production aimed at a specified audience

Future Pathways

- Marketing
- Public/Media Relations
- Television, film and radio production
- Digital media production

Entry Requirements:

GCSE English Language Grade 5 or GCSE English Literature Grade 5



GEOGRAPHY

The nature of the course:

Geography A level is a Russell Group Facilitating Subject. It provides you with a dynamic and contemporary opportunity to engage with the world around you. From looking closely at landscape systems such as glaciation, to understanding how people perceive the places around them, Geography Paper 1 and 2 topics inspire a love of the dynamic world around us and explores your role and impact within it. In the Debates Paper 3, you will further develop your knowledge of both Global Diseases and Natural Hazards, whilst developing the skills to critically discuss issues in depth. The independent investigation offers students the opportunity to choose an area of the specification they are most interested in and use their fieldwork and analytical skills to explore it more deeply. Geography A Level is a reputable course which provides you with highly employable and transferable skills to prepare you for University and future careers.

Course components:

Component 1: Physical systems (Glaciated Landscapes and Earth's Support Systems) - Examination - 24% of A-level grade.

Component 2: Human interactions (Place, Migration and Power & Borders) - Examination - 24% of A-level grade.

Component 3: Geographical Debates - Examination - 32% of A-level grade.

Component 4: Non-examined assessment - 4,000 word fieldwork project - 20% of A-level grade.

Please note that a requirement of the specification is that students must complete at least four days of fieldwork, gaining skills in the human and physical elements of the course. As a result, there will be trip costs of approximately £350 (Year 12 residential to Snowdonia and Year 13 day trips).

Future pathways:

Geography A level can lead on to careers in:

- · Law
- Business and Economics
- Geoscience, Environmental Science and Conservation
- Planning, Mitigation and Risk analysis Urban, Hazards,
 Climatic, Geophysical
- Government and Politics
- Medicine (if studied with Biology and Chemistry)

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Geography Grade 5

Exam Board OCR

A Level

Humanities

HISTORY

The nature of the course:

History explores different periods to help develop a sense of perspective over time, to understand a wide range of opinions and interpretations and to formulate ideas and judgements. You will study the nature and development of government and society over time in unit 1, and in unit 2 you will explore the creation of a dictatorship in the 20th century and its subsequent impact on society. You will also complete an historical investigation on an aspect of 19th century American history which will require independent research, an understanding of historical interpretations and a thorough interrogation of primary sources.

Course components:

Unit 1: The Tudors: England 1485-1603

Examination worth 40%

Unit 2: Revolution and Dictatorship: Russia 1917-1953

Examination worth 40%

Unit 3: Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness: USA 1775-1928 Non-examined Assessment of 3500-4500 words worth 20%

Future pathways:

History A level can lead to careers in

- Teaching
- Museum and heritage management
- Journalism
- Law
- Politics

Entry Requirements:

GCSE History Grade 5



POLITICS

The nature of the course:

Politics is a dynamic course that combines looking at current political events in the both the United Kingdom and the USA. In Unit 1 and 2 the key areas that are covered include the nature of democracy and how effective the government is. Students also explore the traditional political ideas of conservatism, liberalism and socialism. Unit 3 explores US Politics, including the role of the President, US elections, Congress and the constitution Within this, students have to compare and contrast US and UK systems. An interest in current affairs is strongly encouraged.

Examination is based on the interpretation of source material and essay writing.

Course components:

Unit 1: UK Politics Examination worth 33%.

Unit 2: UK government Examination worth 33%.

Unit 3: Government and Politics of the USA Examination worth 33%

Future pathways:

Politics A Level can lead on to careers in:

- Politics
- Law
- Journalism
- · Civil service

Entry Requirements:

None

Exam Board Edexcel

A Level

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

The nature of the course:

The Religious Studies; Philosophy, Ethics and Developments in Religious Thought course aims to help you gain knowledge and understanding of the development of Western philosophy from Plato to the present day. You will be encouraged to develop an informed and personal response to a range of philosophical and ethical issues and examine significant social and historical developments in religious thought. The course examines questions of belief and morality in the light of religious teachings.

Students will explore religious beliefs, values, teachings and practices that shape religious identity.

Course components:

Unit 1: Philosophy of Religion Examination worth 33.3%

Unit 2: Religion and Ethics Examination worth 33.3%

Unit 3: Developments in Christian Thought Examination worth 33.3%

Future pathways:

Religious Studies A level can lead on to careers in:

- Teaching
- Law
- Medicine
- Journalism

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Religious Studies Grade 5



COMPUTER SCIENCE

The nature of the course:

Computer Science is a practical subject where students can apply the academic principles learned in the classroom to real-world systems. It's an intensely creative subject that combines invention and excitement. The aims of this qualification are to enable learners to develop:

- An understanding and ability to apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science
- The ability to analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving problems
- The capacity to think creatively, analytically, logically and critically
- The capacity to see relationships between different aspects of computer science
- Mathematical skills

Course components:

- Unit 1 Computing principles component (O1) Examination worth 40%
- Unit 2 Algorithms and problem solving component (02) Examination worth 40%
- Unit 3 Programming Project Non Examined worth 20%

Future pathways:

Computer Science A level can lead on to careers in:

- Databases
- Data Mining
- Embedded Systems
- Graphics, Vision, Games, and Animation
- Hardware Design/Engineering
- Robotics and Control Systems
- Systems Development
- Software Engineering
- User Interface and Human-Computer Interaction

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Computer Science Grade 5

Exam Board OCR

ICT & Computing



The nature of the course:

Designed in collaboration with experts spanning the breadth of the sector, the Cambridge Technicals in IT focuses on the skills, knowledge and understanding that today's universities and employers demand.

IBM, Barclays, CompTIA, Cisco, BT, Naace and Tech Partnership (SSC)

Important points for this qualification are:

- Attracts UCAS points at Level 3
- Recognised by top colleges and HEIs to ensure the units include content and skills, that's employers are seeking

Course components:

Year 12

Unit 1 - Fundamentals of IT Examination worth 50%.

Unit 2 - Global Information Examination worth 50%.

Year 13

Unit 3 - Cyber Security Examination worth 33%

Unit 8 - Project management Coursework worth 33%

Unit 17 - Internet of Everything Coursework worth 33%

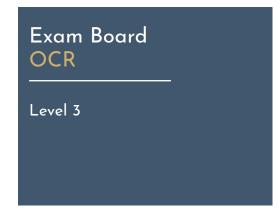
Future pathways:

ICT can lead on to careers in:

- IT Infrastructure Technician
- Emerging Digital Technology Practitioner
- Application Developer
- Data Analyst

Entry Requirements:

None



MATHEMATICS

The nature of the course:

This course builds on and extends areas of Mathematics you have seen during your GCSE course as well as introducing new and exciting concepts and ideas. You will cover topics such as Algebra, Quadratics, Sequences and Series, Trigonometry, Graph Work, Differentiation and Integration. The course is challenging and will require you to have good understanding of abstract concepts as well as being able to apply this understanding to questions which model a real world problem. The course comprises of two parts; the Pure Mathematics content which is worth 66.6% of the qualification, and the Applied Mathematics content testing work on Mechanics and Statistics worth 33.3%. This course is academically challenging - you need to be prepared to work hard to be successful and not give up!

Course components:

Paper 1 Pure Mathematics 33.3% of the course (2 hours)

Paper 2 Pure Mathematics 33.3% of the course (2 hours)

Paper 3 Statistics and Mechanics 33.3% of the course (2 hours)

Future pathways:

- Accountancy and Finance
- Engineering
- Physics
- Actuarial Science
- Natural Sciences
- Economics

	Entry	Requ	ıirements
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GCSE Mathematics Grade 6

Exam Board Edexcel

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

The nature of the course:

This course is for people who love doing Maths! It is academically challenging and runs in parallel with the A level Mathematics course. You will learn about Complex Numbers, Matrices, Series, Proof, Polar Coordinates, Hyperbolic Functions and Differential Equations. The course will require to understand and work with some abstract concepts as well as apply this understanding to mathematical problems set in a real world context. It is likely that you will study Further Statistics and Mechanics as part of this course although there are other papers that mean we could tailor this part to your individual needs. This is often chosen as a fourth A level by our most able Mathematicians and Scientists so if you like a challenge then this course is for you! Please note that the AS Further Mathematics course can also be chosen as your 'academic enrichment' option.

Course components:

Paper 1 - Further Pure Mathematics - 25% of the course (1 hour)

Paper 2 - Further Pure Mathematics - 25% of the course (1 hour)

Paper 3 - Further Mechanics - 25% of the course (1 hour)

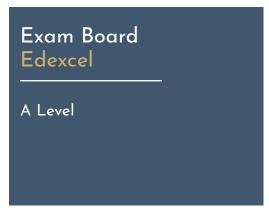
Paper 4 - Further Statistics - 25% of the course (1 hour)

Future pathways:

- Accountancy and Finance
- Engineering
- Physics
- Actuarial Science
- Natural Sciences
- Economics

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Mathematics Grade 7



MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

The nature of the course:

The A level course in French, German and Spanish focuses on language, culture and society through the study of a range of exciting and current topics relevant to young people today. You will develop a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, intercultural understanding, research skills and creativity. You will gain valuable cultural insights by analysing a book and a film from the target language country. You will gain practical skills, in high demand in many professions and industries, which demonstrate a high level of intellectual ability. The content is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or to further study, including a modern languages degree but equally a degree with a languages or international element or year abroad.

Course components:

Unit 1: Listening, Reading and Writing (2 hours 30 minutes) Examination worth 50%.

Unit 2: Extended Writing - essays on the studied book and film (2 hours) Examination worth 20%.

Unit 3: Speaking (21–23 minutes - including 5 minutes preparation time). Stimulus card, presentation and discussion of Independent Research Project. Speaking examination worth 30%

Future pathways:

Modern Foreign Language A level can lead on to careers in:

- Translation
- Interpreting
- Work in multinational teams
- Business
- International posts
- Teaching

Entry Requirements:

French - GCSE French Grade 6 German - GCSE German Grade 6 Spanish - GCSE Spanish Grade 6

Exam Board

DRAMA & THEATRE

The nature of the course:

This course is based around practical exploration of texts or ideas. You will gain a thorough understanding of Drama and Theatre, develop your analytical skills and creativity skills and an ability to communicate effectively with others.

Course components:

Unit 1: Devising - Exploration of a performance in light of a practitioner. You must record the process in a portfolio. This is internally assessed and externally moderated worth 40%.

Unit 2: Text in Performance - Group performance from a performance text as a performer or designer. You will perform or design a monologue or duologue from a different text. This is externally assessed by a visiting examiner worth 20%.

Unit 3: Theatre Makers in Practice – Part 1: Study one set text from a choice of six which must be explored practically as a performer and a designer. Part 2: Choice of one set text from nine. You will create an interpretation of the chosen text as a director for a contemporary audience in light of a practitioner. Part 3: Evaluation of a piece of live theatre you have seen. This is a written 2hrs 30mins examination worth 40%

Sec A: Live Theatre Evaluation

Sec B: Questions on a set text

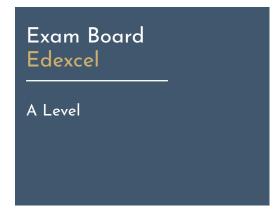
Sec C: Director's interpretation on a set text

Future pathways:

- Acting
- Directing
- Stage Management
- Marketing
- Law
- Education/Teaching
- Psychology
- Drama Therapy
- Community Arts Worker

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Drama Grade 5 or Merit at Level 2 BTEC Performing Arts





The nature of the course:

The course develops your musical strengths and interests focusing on the main components of performing, composing and appraising. You are encouraged to engage critically and creatively with a wide range of music and musical contexts, whilst nurturing your individual passion for music.

As a strong academic subject, Music has an excellent reputation with universities as a rigorous and analytical A Level. This is reflected in lessons with the study of music from different cultures and historical periods based including the following areas of study; The Western Classical Tradition, Rock & Pop Musical Theatre, Jazz, Into the Twentieth Century and Into the Twenty-first Century alongside more practical studies, developing skills of performance and composition.

Many continue their musical study at conservatoire or university, whilst others pursue non-music related degrees and careers.

Course components:

Performing - 35%/25% - Either a 10-12 minute or 6-8 minute solo or ensemble recital to a visiting examiner*

Composing - 35%/25% - Either 8-10 minutes or 4-6 minutes portfolio of compositions* Appraising - 40% - Listening and written paper based on the areas of study outlined above

*Weighting between performance and composition is chosen by student

Music/Music-related pathways

- Composer/performer
- Music therapy
- Music teaching
- Sound production
- Music publishing and Arts Administration

Non Music/Music-related pathways

Music A Level is considered a good platform for most subjects at degree level. Many doctors, mathematicians, scientists and linguists are also musicians.

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Music Grade 5 (if a student has not taken GCSE Music, Music Instrumental or Voice at Grade 5 and Music Theory at Grade 5)

Exam Board Eduqas

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

The nature of the course:

Music Technology A Level focuses on recording, sequencing and composing music alongside analysing the impact that technology has had throughout the history of popular music. Through the course students will understand a wide range of production techniques as well as developing recording skills to demonstrate an understanding of sound and acoustics.

In lessons, students combine practical skills and creativity with analytical listening and theoretical understanding to explore new areas of music technology, in order to complete a portfolio of work using Logic Pro. Students learn how to use the recording studio and how to manipulate sounds creatively.

Course components:

Component 1: Recording - 20%

One multi-track recording consisting of a minimum of 7 instruments

Component 2: Technology-based composition - 20%

One 3-minute composition chosen from 3 briefs set by Pearson. Synthesis and sampling/audio manipulation and creative effects must be used

Component 3: Listening and analysing - 25%

A listening exam answering questions on music technology production techniques

Component 4: Producing and analysing - 35%

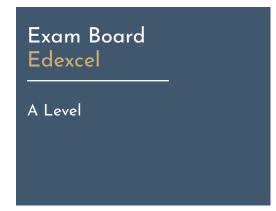
Written/practical exam involving questions on editing, mixing and production techniques

Future pathways:

- · Sound engineering, mixing and mastering
- · Sound production, creative sound design
- · Composing for TV, film or computer games
- Music Technology also supports the pursuit of non music-related careers and combines particularly well with Music, Physics, Media Studies and ICT

Require	

None



MUSICAL THEATRE

The nature of the course:

A practical and theoretical approach to the world of Performing Arts with a Musical Theatre pathway. This vocational course develops transferable skills and expects students to understand and demonstrate the role of the performer in a wider, professional context. Students work practically in groups and individually to develop performance skills in a range of musical theatre styles that are showcased to public audiences. The course requires students to research, present, keep a detailed written portfolio and write essays on theoretical aspects of musical theatre and the work of practitioners.

Students are expected to take part in workshops and attend theatre visits as part of the course to develop their knowledge and understanding of musical theatre.

Course components:

Unit 1: Investigating practitioners work (90hrs) - Year 12 - External

Research into two practitioners (e.g. Bob Fosse and Andrew Lloyd Webber) and one theme (all given on your exam paper). You will then write up your findings and links between the practitioner and the theme in a three hour controlled assessment of 2000 words.

Unit 2: Developing skills and techniques for live performance (90hrs) - Year 12 - Internal

A presentation of the 'Role of a Performer', two performances from contrasting musical styles and a journal including skills audits, targets and rehearsal logs.

Unit 3: Group performance workshop (120hrs) - Year 13 - External

Work as a group to devise an original musical theatre performance based on a stimulus. This is performed as a 'work in progress' piece to a live audience. Alongside this, you will document the process by completing 4 one hour 'milestone moment' controlled assessments.

Variety Performance: (60hrs) - Year 13 - Internal

An essay of the key features of a variety show, a variety performance and a journal including skills audits, targets and rehearsal logs.

Future pathways:

Performer
 Law

Acting
 Education/Teaching

Directing
 Psychology

Stage management • Community Arts Worker

Marketing

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Drama Grade 5 or Level 2 BTEC Performing Arts Merit

Exam Board Edexcel

Level 3 BTEC

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The nature of the course:

The content of this course allows learners to study PE in an academic setting, enabling them to critically analyse and evaluate their physical performance and apply their experience of practical activity in developing their understanding of the subject. A level PE will equip learners with both a depth and breadth of knowledge, understanding and skills relating to scientific, socio-cultural and practical aspects of physical education

Course components:

Unit 1: Physiological factors affecting performance Examination worth 30%.

Unit 2: Psychological factors affecting performance Examination worth 20%.

Unit 3: Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport Examination worth 20%

Unit 4: Performance in physical education Non Examined Assessment worth 30%

Future pathways:

A level PE can lead on to careers in:

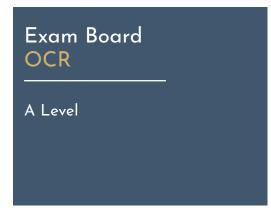
- Sports Science
- PE Teaching
- Physiotherapy
- Sports Medicine
- Sports Dietitian
- Sport Psychology
- Sports Coaching

Entry Requirements:

Cambridge National Sports Studies L2 Merit and Grade 6 Science (66 Double or 6s in both Biology and Physics) or

GCSE PE Grade 5

Grade 5 Science (55 Double or 5s in both Biology and Physics)





The nature of the course:

Biology is a course that combines theory and practical work to develop your knowledge and understanding of the natural world. Biology has a scientific foundation and touches on elements within the other two science disciplines (Chemistry and Physics), but also relies on your ability to conduct research, problem-solve and apply your knowledge to different situations. You will study the fundamental principles of Biology throughout the two year course and this information is grouped into 8 sections.

The first 4 are studied in year 12 and the next 4 in year 13. There is a field trip to Perlthorpe in the summer of year 12 and there are 12 required practicals to complete over the two years.

Course components:

Section 1: Biological molecules Section 2: Cells

Section 3: Organisms exchange substances with their environment

Section 4: Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms Section 5: Energy transfer in and between organisms

Section 6: Organisms respond to changes in their environments Section 7: Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems Section 8: The control of gene expression

Exams - all exams are at the end of year 13 Paper 1: Covers sections 1-4: 2 hours - 35%

Paper 2: Covers sections 5-8: 2 hours - 35% Paper 3: Covers sections 1-8: 2 hours - 30%

Future pathways:

Biology A level can lead on to careers in:

- Medicine
- Associated Health Service Careers
- Conservation
- Scientific Research
- Teaching
- Local Government

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Science Grades 66 or GCSE Biology Grade 6 with GCSE Maths Grade 4

Exam Board AQA

CHEMISTRY

The nature of the course:

Chemistry is a course that combines theory and practical work to develop your knowledge and understanding of the natural world, our environment and modern innovations that enhance the quality of our lives. Chemistry has a direct impact upon daily life, from the foods we eat and medicine we take, to the materials and technologies in our home and the environment we live in. In Year 1 you will study the fundamental principles of chemistry, organic chemistry and the periodic table and energy. In Year 2 you will study physical chemistry and transition elements together with organic chemistry and analysis.

Practical skills are assessed throughout the course and a Practical Skill Endorsement is awarded on successful completion.

Course components:

Exam 1: Periodic table, elements and physical chemistry Examination worth 37%.

Exam 2: Synthesis and analytical techniques Examination worth 37%.

Exam 3: Unified chemistry Examination worth 26%.

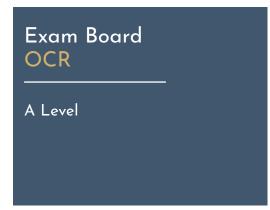
Future pathways:

Chemistry A level can lead on to careers in:

- Medicine
- Dentistry
- Pharmacy
- Veterinary Science
- Chemical Engineering
- Forensic Science

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Science Grades 66 or GCSE Chemistry Grade 6 with GCSE Maths Grade 5



PHYSICS

The nature of the course:

Physics is interesting, stimulating and intellectually challenging. We will look at matter from the tiniest sub atomic particles, to the vast swirling galaxies at the outermost limits of the universe. Your studies will take you from quarks to quasars, from positrons to pulsars and most other things in between. You will use mathematics to make predictions about the universe, but it won't just be theory. Most subjects will be introduced by practical demonstrations, which you will do for yourself whenever possible. You will see the physics come to life in the laboratory.

Course components:

What does the course involve? Core content:

Unit 1 - Measurements and their errors

Unit 2 - Particles and radiation

Unit 3 - Waves

Unit 4 - Mechanics and materials

Unit 5 - Electricity

Unit 6 - Further mechanics and thermal

Unit 7 - Fields and their consequences

Unit 8 - Nuclear physics

Unit 9 - Astrophysics Unit 5 - Electricity

Future pathways:

Physics A level can lead on to careers in:

- Engineering
- Computing
- Medicine
- Scientific research
- Finance
- Business

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Science Grades 66 or GCSE Physics Grade 6, with GCSE Maths Grade 6

Exam Board AQA

BUSINESS STUDIES

The nature of the course:

By taking a holistic approach to business, the course examines the interrelated nature of business using business models, theories and techniques to support the analysis of contemporary business issues and situations. The course is designed to engage students through topics and issues that are relevant in today's society. Students will study key contemporary developments, such as digital technology, business ethics and globalisation. The course will develop the knowledge and skills required to analyse data, think critically about issues and make informed decisions – all skills that are needed for further study and employment.

Course components:

Paper 1: Business 1 - Weighting = 1/3

Paper 2: Business 2 - Weighting = 1/3

Paper 3: Business 3 - Weighting = 1/3

Future pathways:

A Business qualification can lead to the following careers:

- Accountant
- Business advisor
- Project manager
- Human resources manager
- Marketing executive
- Management consultancy

Entry Requirements:

None



ECONOMICS

The nature of the course:

Economics is a course that examines macro and microeconomics issues. On a macro level you will study economies as a whole and their key macroeconomic objectives such as low unemployment and steady economic growth. This will include an analysis of the long-term implications of BREXIT, COVID, current labour shortages and the cost of living crisis. In microeconomics, you will study the decisions made by individuals and firms. This includes, for example, why some industries tend to be dominated by a few large companies e.g. the supermarket and mobile phone industries, and how regulation has failed to prevent water companies pumping raw sewage into our rivers. It also analyses why individuals make what economists call 'irrational choices' such as choosing to lead unhealthy lifestyles or buy cars that pollute their environment.

Course components:

Paper 1: Markets and Market failure (micro) Weighting = 1/3

Paper 2: National and international economy (macro) Weighting = 1/3

Paper 3: Economic principles and issues (a combination of both) Weighting = 1/3

Future pathways:

An Economics qualification can lead on to careers in:

- Accountancy
- Investment banking
- Economics adviser to businesses
- Financial risk analyst
- Financial adviser
- Management consultancy

Entry F	Requir	rements
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GCSE Maths Grade 5

Exam Board

PSYCHOLOGY

The nature of the course:

Psychology is a forward thinking and innovative subject that investigates why we behave in the manner we do, helping us understand the human psyche and giving insight into the motivations behind our actions. A-level Psychology offers a solid understanding of the key psychological concepts and theories, which can help you develop your knowledge of the critical elements of human behaviour.

A-level psychology covers a wide range of topics, so you will have several areas to apply the knowledge you gain. Most importantly, it offers an extensive introduction to the core areas of human psychology, such as:

Social psychology - the study of people's social relationships. It focuses on why we conform and why we are more prone to obey authority figures.

Cognitive psychology - the study of internal mental processes. It sheds light on how mental processes play a role in memory.

Developmental psychology - the exploration of how people develop and change from the moment they are born. **Psychopathology** - the study of the causes and treatments for of mental disorders.

Biological psychology - the investigation of how evolutionary forces and genetics influence human behaviour.

Course components:

The full A level course is examined at the end of the 2 years by three 2 hour exams.

- Paper 1: Social Influence, memory, attachment, psychopathology
- Paper 2: Approaches, biopsychology, research methods
- Paper 3: Issues & debates, relationships, schizophrenia and addiction

Future pathways:

With further study, Psychology A level can lead on to careers in:

- Clinical psychology
- Counselling psychology
- Educational psychology
- Forensic psychology
- Further education
- Health psychology
- High intensity therapist
- Occupational psychology

Entry Requirements:

None



FASHION & TEXTILES

The nature of the course:

This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives you the practical skills and theoretical knowledge of design, including design movements, manufacture, buying and marketing within the fashion and textiles industry. You will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences within the industry. You will also have opportunities to put your learning in to practice by producing prototypes within the market area of your choice using iterative design. You will gain a real understanding as well as the skills and knowledge needed to work in the creative textile industry.

Course components:

Examination - Technical principles (30%), Designing and making principles (20%) Non-exam assessment (NEA) - (50%) - Design and make portfolio and prototype

Future pathways:

Fashion and Textiles can lead to careers in:

- Design based careers (fashion, costume, protective clothing, technical textiles)
- · Technologists (fibre technologist, fabric technologist, garment technologist, product development)
- · Trends & Fashion (colourist, stylist, Trend forecaster, Visual Merchandiser)
- Retail (Buyer, Merchandiser, Advertising & marketing)

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Product Design Grade 5 or GCSE Art Grade 5

Exam Board AQA

PRODUCT DESIGN

The nature of the course:

The Design and Technology (Product Design) course reflects the demands of a truly modern and evolving society, equipping you with design skills for the future. You will be able to recognise design needs and develop an understanding of how current global issues, including integrating technology, impacts on today's world. In the independent design and make project you will, in consultation with a client, identify a problem and design context. You will develop a range of potential solutions which include the use of computer aided design and evidence of modelling. You will be expected to make decisions about the designing and development of the prototype in conjunction with the opinions of the user group or client. You will realise one potential solution through practical making activities with evidence of project management and plan for production. You will incorporate issues related to sustainability and the impact your prototype may have on the environment.

Course components:

Component 1: Principles of D&T

- Written exam (2.5 hours) - 50% of the qualification

Component 2: Independent Design and Make Project

- Non-examined assessment - 50% of the qualification

Future pathways:

Design & Technology: Product Design A level can lead on to careers in:

- Architecture
- Industrial or product design
- Engineering
- Graphic design
- Exhibition design
- Furniture design
- Interior and spatial design

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Design and Technology Grade 5 or GCSE Art Grade 5



FINE ART

The nature of the course:

Fine Art is a course that combines both practical and critical/contextual work through a range of processes and media. You will learn about the way artists work and communicate ideas and information visually. You will analyse their work and link this to the development of your own ideas. The course offers a broad based study in which you will develop your creative and thinking skills to solve problems. It will enable you to build on and improve your own knowledge of processes and techniques by experimenting with new and traditional techniques.

Course components:

Component 1: Coursework; including a personal investigation and related study of continuous prose between 1000 - 3000 words - 60%

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment - 40%

Future pathways:

- Architect
- Fine artist
- Illustrator
- Museum/gallery curator
- Interior Designer

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Art Grade 5

Exam Board Edexcel

Design & Technology

FOOD SCIENCE & NUTRITION

The nature of the course:

The Level 3 Diploma has been designed to provide you with underpinning knowledge, understanding and skills to progress to further study and training in a food related degree or career. An understanding of food science and nutrition is relevant to many industries and job roles. Hotels and restaurants, food manufacturers and government agencies also use this understanding to develop menus, food products and policies that support healthy eating initiatives. This is an applied qualification which means that each unit within the qualification has an applied purpose which acts as a focus for learning. You will research authentic case studies and consider how the use and application of learning impacts on individuals, employers, society and the environment.

Course components:

To achieve a WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition (QCF) three units are completed which include unit 1 and Unit 2 which are mandatory.

Unit 1 Meeting Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups - Mandatory Unit Internal assessment worth 25% externally assessment worth 25%

Unit 2 Ensuring Food is Safe to Eat - Mandatory unit External assessment worth 25%

Unit 3 Experimenting to Solve Food Production Problems - Optional Unit Internal assessment worth 25%

Unit 4 Current issues in Food Science and Nutrition- Optional Unit Internal assessment worth 25%

Future pathways:

- Dieticians
- Nutritionists
- Sports Coaches
- Public Health Roles
- Product Development

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition Grade 5 or Level 2 Merit Hospitality and Catering Exam Board WJEC

Level 3 Diploma

PHOTOGRAPHY

The nature of the course:

The course encourages you to generate and to develop ideas showing an understanding of the context of photographic genres through both practical and theoretical work. You will focus on digital photography and you will be expected to develop your knowledge and understanding of the uses of light, pixel and digital processes. You will study the visual elements of composition, colour, image manipulation and use of a range of tools including, software packages and hardware; printers, scanners, cameras.

Course components:

Component 1: Coursework; a personal project consisting of a written study (1,000-3,000 words) and a portfolio of your own images - 60%

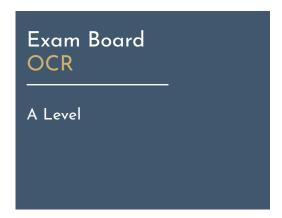
Component 2: Externally Set Assignment - 40%

Future pathways:

Photography A level can lead on to careers in:

- Portrait Photographer
- Commercial Photographer
- Scientific Photographer
- Photojournalist/News Photographer
- Freelance Photographer

Entry Requirements	•
None	



Academic Enrichment

ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

What does the course involve?

EPQ is studied in Year 12 and is at an equivalent level of study to A levels, earning UCAS points. Students work on a project of their choice and complete either a 5,000 word written project or an artefact accompanied by a 1,000 word evaluation. Completion of EPQ prepares students for further study and develops research, literacy and evaluation skills which are invaluable to other courses.

Universities and employers place high value on the successful completion of a project which is relevant to students' chosen academic or vocational route.

The skills developed through the Extended Project are directly relevant to their university-level study. Students can refer to the Extended Project in their UCAS personal statements and have, upon occasion been asked to bring their project to interview when due to its relevance to their university course.

CORE MATHEMATICS

What does the course involve?

Core Mathematics is a one-year course which carries UCAS points equivalent to an AS level qualification. Students study and develop their mathematical skills beyond GCSE. This course is a practical approach to mathematics, which supports other A level qualifications and can be studied by anyone who has achieved grade 5 in GCSE Higher Mathematics. Universities and employers value numeracy skills as well as literacy. Core Mathematics develops key mathematical skills and demonstrates your ability to process and analyse data effectively.

Core Mathematics is a particularly useful course for students who are not studying maths, physics or computing at A Level as it develops and demonstrates a wide range of skills that may not be covered in your other studies.

AS FURTHER MATHEMATICS

Please see page 40 for information about this course along with entry requirements.

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The Minster School has a really fantastic ethos of caring. This in turn reflects on the students who care about others.

PARENT



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