

# **Heathcote School**

**and**

# **Science College**

## **Sixth Form Curriculum Guide 2012 - 2013**

Our sixth form curriculum offers academic as well as vocational pathways and is suitable for a wide range of learners. Our extensive enrichment programme is designed to help students gain further qualifications and to develop other skills and interests.

You have the opportunity to discuss the courses offered with staff during the open evening. If you have further questions about the course, or would like advice on which courses are suitable for you, please contact the teacher named on the course description. You can do this in person by speaking to them in school, or by telephoning or emailing the school.

Phone: 020 8498 5110

Email: [heathcote@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk](mailto:heathcote@heathcote.waltham.sch.uk)

We'd like to thank the year 11 students and the staff at Heathcote School who have helped us to design this curriculum.

## **Academic pathways:**

This route is for students who want to study A-Levels. Most of the students who follow an academic pathway aim for a place in Higher Education but A-Levels can also lead directly into many areas of employment. Students will normally begin to study four AS-Levels in year 12. The A Level courses available, listed alphabetically, are:

- Accounting
- Art and Design
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Design Technology: Product Design (3D Design)
- Drama
- English Language
- English Literature
- Geography
- History
- Information and Communication Technology (Applied)
- Mathematics
- Physical Education (PE)
- Physics
- Psychology

## **Vocational pathways:**

These courses focus on particular areas of study and are designed to help students develop into a particular career. Students who follow a vocational course might move into employment but most of the courses are also routes into Higher Education.

Some vocational pathways are available at level 2 and level 3. Level 3 courses are equivalent to A Levels and are suitable for students who have 5 or more A\*-C GCSE grades, or equivalent. Students who are unsure whether to study a level 2 or a level 3 course should discuss the options with their teachers.

The vocational courses available, listed alphabetically, are:

- Construction (Maintenance Operations Level 2)
- Fashion, Hair, Make up and Styling (Level 2)
- Music Technology: Level 2 in Music Production & iMedia
- Performing Arts (Level 2)
- Sport (Level 2 and Level 3 courses available)

## **Enrichment**

All students are required to take part in the enrichment programme. You will be able to choose from a wide range of courses to ensure you get a well-rounded sixth form experience. Details of the enrichment courses are given in the main prospectus.

Note: Courses are subject to teacher availability and student numbers. As a growing sixth form, we may be able to offer alternative courses, provided there is sufficient demand. Please contact a member of the sixth form team if there is a course you would like added to the curriculum.

## **Accounting A – Level**

Do you have your eye on a career in finance, maths, retail or business? Are you a logical thinker who loves working with numbers? Then an AS or A Level in Accounting is perfect for you. Accounting is about measuring, recording and presenting information about the financial dealings of a business. Accountants review this information to make sure that companies operate properly, keep accurate records and make the best use of their resources. It's more than just number-crunching!

### **What will you learn?**

You will explore the main ideas behind financial and management accounting, studying the key areas for producing and analysing accounts.

By the end of the course, you should be able to produce final accounts and to interpret a wide range of financial documents. The course is split into four modules, two taken at AS and two for A2.

At AS, you will learn the fundamentals of record keeping and the purposes, techniques and consequences of effective financial accounting. You will come to understand how accounting helps in measuring, monitoring and planning successful businesses.

At A2 you study in greater depth how accounting techniques aid business management and decision making. You will explore areas such as costing, capital investment, budgeting and social accounting issues.

### **How will you learn?**

- Textbooks
- Discussion
- Case studies
- Educational visits
- Internet resources
- Group Presentations

### **Where will it take you?**

With an AS or A Level in Accounting, you can study for a degree in Accounting or a similar subject such as Business, Law or Mathematics. You can also choose to enter further accounting training via a professional body such as CIMA or ACCA.

During the course, you will develop skills in reason, planning and strategic thinking that will be valued by employers in any industry. However, if numbers are your thing, then you may want to consider a career as an Accounting Technician, Investment Banker, Financial Risk Analyst or Treasurer.

An A Level in Accounting can lead to careers in areas such as business, marketing, management and accountancy as well as into higher education.

### **Who to talk to?**

Mr McClurg or Mr McCarney.

### **What will I need to study this course?**

To study A Level Accounting, you will need 5 or more A\*-C grade GCSEs, or equivalent, including English and Mathematics.

## **Art and Design A – Level**

Opening your mind and letting your imagination and flair explode into a painting, sculpture or installation. Expressing your ideas and opinions visually is a great skill. A Level Art and Design could be the beginning; from jewellery making to design engineering, the possibilities are endless.

### **What will you learn?**

Studying A Level Art and Design enables students to develop:

- Intellectual, imaginative, creative and intuitive powers.
- Investigative, analytical, experimental, practical, technical and expressive skills.
- Aesthetic understanding and critical judgement.
- Independence of mind through developing your own ideas, and refining your intentions and personal outcomes.
- An interest in, enthusiasm for and enjoyment of, art, craft and design.
- Experience of working with a broad range of media, including traditional and new media technologies.
- An understanding of the inter-relationships between art, craft and design processes and an awareness of the contexts in which they operate.

The course is split into 4 units. Units 1 and 2 are studied at AS level and units 3 and 4 at A2. In both years of the course, you will need to complete two set assignments in Critical and Contextual Studies, one of which is set by the examination board. At AS, the assignments are each between 1000 and 3000 words. For A2, they are between 2000 and 5000 words.

### **How will you learn?**

- Producing sketchbooks showing research, development, experimentation and refinement
- Improving knowledge on artists and crafts people by producing critical studies
- Working to deadlines
- Educational visits
- Developing a portfolio
- Working with professionals
- Presentations

### **Where will it take you?**

Art and Design can lead to employment or university study in fine art, 3D sculpture, ceramics, textiles, theatre design, photography, architecture, fashion and many other related areas.

### **Who to talk to?**

Ms Ahmet and Ms Welham.

### **What will I need to study this course?**

To study Art and Design A Level you will need 5 or more GCSEs at A\*-C, including Mathematics and Art. You will need a minimum of grade B in English Language GCSE and you will need to have an Art Portfolio.

## **Biology A Level**

From the study of microorganisms to the study of mammoths, Biology looks at a wide range of exciting topics.

### **What will you learn?**

At AS level, there are three areas of study, designed to give you a solid grounding in Biology.

Unit 1:	Biology and Diseases	33.3%
Unit 2:	The Variety of Living Organisms	46.7%
Unit 3:	Investigative and Practical Skills.	20 %

Unit 3 is a practical assignment which is intended to sharpen your investigative skills.

At A2, you build on that firm foundation and, like in the first year, there are two academic topics plus a practical assignment. The academic topics are 'Populations and Environment', and 'Control in Cells and Organisms'. In the practical assignment you will investigate another area of Biology.

### **How will you learn?**

- AS textbooks
- Biology websites
- CD Roms
- Biology study day
- Independent learning
- Field courses (may be residential).

### **Where will it take you?**

Biology A Level can lead to careers in health or clinical areas. These include medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, physiotherapy, pharmacy, optometry, nursing, zoology, marine biology, and forensic science. It can also lead into a variety of Higher Education courses including teaching, nursing, medicine, environmental science, pure science, and applied sciences.

### **Who to talk to?**

Mr Britto or Ms Mahmood

### **What will I need to study this course?**

To study A Level Biology you will need 5 or more A\*-C grade GCSEs, or equivalent, including at least a B grade in English language and a B grade in additional science or Biology GCSE.

# Business Studies A Level

From understanding how businesses are owned, to keeping accounts; marketing through new social media and the interaction of organisations in a global economic world, A level Business has a wide range of exciting topics that relate to the world we live and work in.

## What will you learn?

At AS level, there are two areas of study, designed to give you a solid grounding in Business. You will be introduced to the challenges involved in starting a business, including financial planning, and the issues you might face. You will also study how to improve an established business through making tactical decisions and influencing the operation.

Unit 1 – BUSS1  
Planning and Financing a Business  
40% of AS  
1 hour 15 minutes examination

Unit 2 – BUSS2  
Managing a Business  
60% of AS  
1 hour 30 minutes examination

At A2, you build on that firm foundation and explore how to manage larger businesses, including different strategies for improving and measuring the performance of those businesses. Finally you consider the effect that external factors can have on business and how to plan for and manage change.

## How will you learn?

- AS/A2 textbooks
- Websites
- CD Roms
- Independent learning
- Visits to businesses in London
- Guest speakers on specific topics

## Where will it take you?

An A level in Business is ideally designed for those who wish pursue a career in the commercial world and study further at University either Business or a business related course.

## Who to talk to?

Mr Brooks or Ms Sheridan

## What will I need to study this course?

To study A Level Business you will need 5 or more A\*-C grade GCSEs, or equivalent, including at least a B grade in English Language and a C grade in Mathematics.

## Chemistry A Level

Whether you want a career in medicine or industry, chemistry gives a solid platform upon which careers are built.

### What will you learn?

At AS level, there are three areas of study.

Unit 1:	Foundation Chemistry	33.3%
Unit 2:	Chemistry in Action	46.7%
Unit 3:	Investigative and Practical Skills.	20 %

In unit 1 you will cover topics like atomic structure, periodicity and organic chemistry. In unit 2 you study kinetics, alkenes and analytical techniques. Unit 3 is a practical assignment which is dedicated to sharpen your investigative and practical skills – its “How Science Works”.

At A2, you study a further selection of academic areas, building on the skills you have developed at AS and also continue with your practical studies.

### How will you learn?

- AS textbooks
- Chemistry websites
- CD Roms
- Industry visits
- Visiting chemistry lecturers
- Independent learning

### Where will it take you?

Chemistry A Level leads to careers in health or clinical professions or in industry. These include medicine, nursing, biochemistry, dentistry or forensic science and the petrochemical or pharmaceutical industries. Chemistry A Level can also lead to Higher Education courses such as teaching, nursing, medicine, environmental science, pure science, applied sciences and physiotherapy.

### Who to talk to?

Mr Britto or Ms Baporia

### What will I need to study this course?

To study A Level Chemistry you will need 5 or more A\*-C grade GCSEs, or equivalent, including at least a B grade in additional science or Chemistry GCSE.

## **Design & Technology: Product Design (3D Design) A Level**

Mobile phones, cars and buildings all started as ideas on a drawing board. With creativity their shape and functions evolved, but they also needed manufacturing and marketing.

### **What will you learn?**

This course is centred around designing and making quality products using a variety of tools, materials and manufacturing processes. The ability to communicate ideas effectively will be developed through practical tasks, graphical presentation and the production of a design folder. Appreciation of future career paths will be enhanced through field work, presentation tasks and working with practical designers and professionals.

The course is split into 4 units. Units 1 and 2 are studied at AS level and units 3 and 4 at A2.

Unit 1:	Materials, Components and Application
Unit 2:	Learning Through Designing and Making
Unit 3:	Design and Manufacture
Unit 4:	Design and Making Practice

In studying this course, you will develop your capacity to design and make products, and appreciate the complex relationships between design, materials, manufacture and marketing.

### **How will you learn?**

- Focused Practical Tasks (2 projects)
- Presentations, interviews, speeches, discussions and debates analysing the design and value of products including moral and social considerations
- Independent coursework development: analysis of a brief, research, planning, designing, testing and evaluation
- Field work experience, site work
- Educational visits to related design organisations (museums, retailers, suppliers, manufacturers)
- Professionals within design – working with practising product designers
- Site visits to Universities
- Work with existing products to generate design ideas

### **Where will it take you?**

3D product design can lead to employment, or university study, in a variety of fields including: product design, conceptual modelling, graphic design, furniture design, interior design, architecture and other related areas.

### **Who to talk to?**

Mr Dolan or Ms Blake

### **What will you need to study this course?**

To study Design and Technology: Product Design you will need 5 or more GCSEs at A\*-C including English, Mathematics and either Art or a DT subject.

## **Drama A Level**

Within the structure of the course you will work both practically and theoretically to develop your skills and knowledge of drama to greater depth through the study of both plays and improvisation.

### **What will you learn?**

The A Level course is split into four units;

#### **Unit 1: Exploration of Drama and Theatre**

Through practical workshops you will study two contrasting plays. You will also be required to write an evaluation of a live theatre production that we take you to see. This unit is assessed through coursework.

#### **Unit 2: Theatre text in Performance**

This offers the students the opportunity to demonstrate their performance skills. The first is the performance of a monologue or duologue. The second is a group piece of performance directed by the teacher. Both pieces will be staged to a visiting examiner from EdExcel.

#### **Unit 3: Exploration of Drama in Performance**

This unit allows you to create your own piece of unique theatre through improvisation. The finished performance will be staged in front of an invited audience and the whole process of the creation will be assessed by your teachers.

#### **Unit 4: Theatre Text in Content**

The final unit allows you once again to explore different texts and to develop your views and understanding of theatre from an analytical point of view. A choice of different historical periods will be given and comparisons made between the original staging of the works and the theatre of today.

(Units 1 and 2 are studied for AS, 3 and 4 follow on to make the full A Level)

### **How will you learn?**

- Practical workshops
- Experiencing live theatre
- Text books/ teacher knowledge
- Independent research/ Educational visits

### **Where will it take you?**

You could study drama further at University as a main subject or a subsidiary. It is often studied as a combined degree with English. It could lead to jobs in the entertainment industry in general or you could study it purely out of passion for the subject itself.

### **Who to talk to?**

Ms Rowton or Miss Hill

### **What will you need to study this course?**

To study Drama A Level, you will need 5 or more A\*-C grades at GCSE including Drama and English Language.

# English Language A Level

The English Language AS/A2 Level course encourages students to develop their interest and appreciation of English through learning about its structures and its functions, its developments and its variations.

## What will you learn?

In AS students are introduced to the study of language by exploring spoken and written language in use in three contexts: language and power, language and gender, and language and technology. This is assessed through a written exam. Students also develop their ability to express themselves by producing two pieces of original writing aimed at different audiences and in different genres. Students will be given the opportunity to be critical of their own writing through the commentary that accompanies these pieces of coursework.

At A2 students will develop their understanding of the key concepts and theories surrounding language use and in particular the acquisition of language by children and the development of English over time. This element of the course is assessed through written examination. The second unit of the A2 syllabus encourages students to investigate and analyse language through a variety of methods. Students also have the opportunity to use their investigation as well as their writing and editing skills to create a piece of media for a non-specialist audience.

## How will you learn?

- Discussion and debate
- Close readings of texts
- Independent research and reading
- Guest speakers
- Presentations
- Small group work and tasks
- Educational visits

## Where will it take you?

A levels are the traditional path of study for students interested in furthering their education at University level, particularly if you are interested in studying English Language, Linguistics or Journalism. This subject links well with English Literature, History, Psychology and Performing Arts.

## Who to talk to?

Ms Elgie or Ms Bashal

## What will you need to study this course?

To study English Language A Level, you will need 5 or more A\*-C grades at GCSE including at least a grade B in English Language. The course suits those who are able to take responsibility for their own learning as this gives students a strong grounding in academic research and working with data.

# English Literature A Level

The English Literature AS/A2 Level course contains detailed study of poetry, prose and drama ranging from 12th century to 21st century literature.

## What will you learn?

In AS the focus is on comparing the ways in which stories are told and how they construct different realities. Through studying two novels, collections of poetry as well as dramatic tragedies, students will pay close attention to how narrative works in texts, make connections across texts through the exploration of narrative, and be introduced to notions of genre through the study of drama. Students will have one written exam and one piece of coursework to complete in this year.

At A2 students will focus on developing their understanding of texts and genres through the study of pastoral or gothic texts, which will be assessed through a written examination. Students will also extend their independent reading and awareness of critical methods and readings through a comparative study as well as the creation of their own pieces of creative writing.

## How will you learn?

- Discussion and debate
- Close readings of texts
- Independent research and reading
- Guest speakers
- Presentations
- Small group work and tasks
- Educational visits

## Where will it take you?

A levels are the traditional path of study for students interested in furthering their education at University level, particularly those interested in studying English Literature. This subject links well with English Language, History, Psychology and Performing Arts.

## Who to talk to?

Ms Jacobson or Ms Elgie

## What will I need to study this course?

To study English Literature A Level, you will need 5 or more A\*-C grades at GCSE including at least a grade B in English Literature. The course suits those with an aptitude for reading who find analysing a wide range of texts and writing essays to be enjoyable.

# Geography A Level

“Geography makes the world go round.”

## What will you learn?

At AS level you will study two units in depth and at A2 you will study two more.

- AS Unit 1 Global Challenges: The meaning, causes, impacts and management of global challenges and how we can influence global challenges through our own lives.
  - Topic 1 – World at Risk
  - Topic 2 – Going Global
- AS Unit 2: Geographical Investigations: A closer look at how physical and human issues influence lives and can be managed. Two topics are studied, one physical and one human.
  - Topic 1 – Extreme Weather or Crowded Cities
  - Topic 2 – Unequal Spaces or Rebranding Places
- A2 Unit 3 – Contested Planet: The use and management of resources is a key issue for geography in today’s world. Consumption patterns highlight stark inequalities between regions, countries and groups of people. Many resources are finite and rising consumption means that difficult decisions over the use of resources will have to be taken more frequently.
  - There are six compulsory topics: Energy Security, Water Conflicts, Biodiversity Under Threat, Superpower Geographies, Bridging the Development Gap and The Technological Fix?
- A2 Unit 4 – Geographical Research: Students select and study one of the following research options: Tectonic Activity and Hazards, Cold Environments – landscape and change, Life on the Margins – the food supply problem, The World of Cultural Diversity, Pollution and Human Health at Risk, Consuming the Rural Landscape – leisure and tourism

## How will you learn?

- Fieldwork
- Using information technologies including GIS
- Discussion and Debate
- Group work
- Individual research/investigation
- Using a range of media
- Educational Visits

## Where will it take you?

Geography is a good way into any number of jobs because it combines social and physical sciences thus providing transferable skills. Potential careers include conservation work, environmental health, architecture, urban planning, pollution analyst, environmental consultancy.

## Who to talk to?

Mrs Beattie

## What will you need to study this course?

To study A Level Geography you will need 5 or more A\*-C grade GCSEs, or equivalent, including a B grade or above in Geography.

## **History A Level**

“If you know your history, then you know where you’re coming from.”

### **What will you learn?**

At AS level you will study two units in depth and at A2 you will study two more.

- AS Unit 1 Historical Themes in Breadth. This includes:
  - A World Divided – Communism & Democracy
  - Stalin’s Russia
  - Politics, Presidency & Society in the USA
- AS Unit 2 British History Depth Study.
  - Britain in the Later 20th Century – Responding to Change
- A2 Unit 3 Depth Studies and Historical Controversies
  - War and Peace in the 20th Century – International Relations
- A2 Unit 4
  - This is a Historical Enquiry coursework piece

### **How will you learn?**

- Source analysis
- Discussion, debate
- Using a range of media e.g. film, newspapers etc
- Role play
- Educational visits

### **Where will it take you?**

Studying History A Level can lead to further study at university or directly into employment in Law, Archaeology, Journalism, Museums, the Diplomatic Service, Researcher or Media.

### **Who to talk to?**

Mrs Beattie

### **What will you need to study this course?**

To study A Level History you will need 5 or more A\*-C grade GCSEs, or equivalent, including a B grade or above in History.

# **Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Applied A Level**

ICT has become crucial to business and industry. This course will help you learn how to design ICT solutions to 'real life' problems.

## **What will you learn?**

You will study ICT in a variety of contexts and create a range of ICT solutions for different end users. You will develop your skills, knowledge and understanding of ICT which will prepare you for further study or training. You will learn about the applications of information systems in a range of organisations. You will apply your knowledge in order to design ICT solutions to solve 'real life' problems. As well as developing ICT skills in a range of software programmes, you will also gather valuable experience of planning, research and project management.

Through taking this course, you will:

- Develop practical skills in graphic design, desktop publishing, presenting business information and improving the use of office applications.
- Gain an understanding of ICT systems and how they work in organisations.
- Learn to work to create ICT solutions that are user-focused.
- Develop planning and project management skills as part of working to a set brief.

## **Where will it take you?**

Taking this course could lead to further study at university in Applied ICT or in related areas such as ICT, computer science, information systems, multimedia, software engineering, computer networking, e-business or information management. It could also lead directly into employment.

## **Who to talk to?**

Ms Nash

## **What will you need to study this course?**

To succeed at this course you should be interested in ICT and its impact on organisations and society. You should have an ability to work hard, and at times, independently. You will need 5 or more A\*-C grades in GCSEs or equivalent and a good grade at ICT GCSE (or equivalent) is desirable.

# Mathematics A Level

Challenging but interesting, Mathematics builds on the work you have met at GCSE but also involves new ideas that some of the greatest minds of the last millennium have produced. Mathematics serves as very useful support for many other qualifications, as well as being a sought after qualification for the workplace and courses in Higher Education.

## What will you learn?

Mathematics at AS and A level is divided into three branches:

### *Core Mathematics*

When studying core mathematics at AS and A level you will be extending your knowledge of such topics as algebra and trigonometry as well as learning some brand new ideas such as calculus. If you enjoyed the challenge of problem solving at GCSE then you should find the prospect of this course very appealing.

### *Statistics*

When you study statistics you will learn how to analyse and summarise numerical data in order to arrive at conclusions about it. You will extend the range of probability problems that you studied for GCSE by using the new mathematical techniques studied in the core mathematics units of the course.

Many of the ideas you will meet in this course have applications in a wide area of other fields, from assessing what your car insurance is going to cost, to how likely the earth is going to be hit by a comet in the next few years.

### *Mechanics*

When you study mechanics you will learn how to describe mathematically the motion of objects and how they respond to forces acting upon them, from cars in the street to satellites revolving around the planet. You will learn the technique of mathematical modelling; that is, of turning a complicated physical problem into a simpler one that can be analysed and solved using mathematical methods.

At AS, you will study Core 1, Core 2 and Statistics 1. For A2, you will study Core 3, Core 4 and Mechanics 1. All of the courses have equal weighting and each is assessed by a 90 minute exam. In both years one module is examined in the January. This is Core 1 for Year 12 and Core 3 for Year 13. The remaining modules will be examined in June at the end of the academic year.

## Where will it take you?

Mathematics supports the study of a wide range of other courses at A Level and at Degree level, especially in the sciences, geography, psychology, sociology and medical courses. Many of the ideas you will meet in the course form an essential introduction to such important modern fields of study such as cybernetics, robotics, biomechanics and sports science, as well as the more traditional areas of engineering and physics. Employers value the skills learnt through studying Mathematics A Level.

Higher Education courses or careers that either require A level Mathematics or are strongly related include:

Economics	Medicine	Architecture
Engineering	Accountancy	Teaching
Psychology	Environmental studies	Computing
Information Technology	Law	

## Who to talk to?

Mrs Hargreaves, Mr Shafier or Ms Geldenhuys

## What will you need to study this course?

To study Mathematics A Level, you will need 5 or more A\*-C grades at GCSE, or equivalent, including at least a grade B in Mathematics GCSE.

# Physical Education (PE) A Level

This specification builds on the student's experience from Key Stage 4 and GCSE to enhance their knowledge and increase their understanding of the factors that affect performance and participation in physical education. The qualification looks to equip students with skills and knowledge required for higher education or the world of work.

## What will you learn?

The course is divided into four units (PHED1, PHED2, PHED3 and PHED4). Students complete PHED 1 and 2 to achieve the A/S Level and PHED 3 and 4 for the A level.

PHED1 includes:

- Opportunities for, and the effects of, leading a healthy and active lifestyle
- Applied Exercise Physiology
- Skill Acquisition
- Opportunities for Participation

PHED2 includes:

- Analysis and evaluation of physical activity as a performer and/or in an adopted role(s)
- Practical Sport
- Application of theoretical knowledge

PHED3

- Optimising performance and evaluating contemporary issues within sport
- Applied physiology
- Sport Psychology
- Evaluating contemporary influences

PHED4:

- Optimising practical performance in a competitive situation
- Practical Sport
- Performance, Analysis and Evaluation

## How will you learn?

Learners will be assessed and taught through a variety of methods. Units PHED1 and PHED3 are the theoretical aspect of the course and are taught in a classroom. These units are assessed by a 2 hour written examination at the end of the each year and are 60% of that year's work. PHED2 and PHED4 are the practical sports units of the course. They are 40% of the year's work and are assessed internally by the sports teacher. An external examiner will visit to mark and oversee these practical units.

## Where will it take you?

Some learners may wish to gain this qualification in order to enter a specialist area of employment, others to progress to higher education. Depending on the combination of A level subjects, students may go on to study degrees in physical education, sports science, physiotherapy, sports coaching or sports journalism.

## Who to talk to?

Mr N.Hutchins – Head of Physical Education  
Mr A. McCarney – Asst. Head teacher/ P.E. teacher  
Miss N.Armitage – Head of Girls P.E.

## What will you need to study this course?

To enroll on PE A Level you will need to have a GCSE at grade B or higher in Physical Education and at least a grade C in double award science, or equivalent. Learners are expected to have a genuine interest in sport and compete or officiate in sport at a high level.

## Physics A Level

Physics helps us to understand the world around us, the world inside us and the world beyond us.

### What will you learn?

At AS level, there are three areas of study.

Unit 1:	Particles, Quantum Phenomena and Electricity	40%
Unit 2:	Mechanics, Materials and Waves	40%
Unit 3:	Investigative and Practical Skills.	20%

Throughout the course you will develop an in depth knowledge and understanding of the principles of physics, gain hands-on practical and data analysis skills and will appreciate how science works and its relevance beyond the laboratory.

At A2, you will continue to develop your practical skills and will explore more topic areas, seeing how physics links to other sciences and how it underpins technologies.

### How will you learn?

- AS textbooks
- Physics websites
- CD Roms
- Physics study days
- Industry visits
- Visiting physics lecturers
- Independent learning

### Where will it take you?

Physics A Level leads to a wide range of careers, for example in journalism, law, finance, medicine, engineering, computer science or astronomy. It forms the basis of many sciences and can lead to Higher Education courses in architecture, bio-physics, chemistry, geology, medicine, optics and others. It is also valued in Business, economics and law.

### Who to talk to?

Mr Britto or Mr Bailey

### What will I need to study this course?

To study A Level Physics you will need 5 or more A\*-C grade GCSEs, or equivalent, including at least a B grade in Mathematics and a B grade in additional science or Physics GCSE.

# Psychology A Level

Psychology is the scientific study of how people think, feel and behave. Through research, psychologists try and provide theories to explain various aspects of human behaviour. Studying psychology enables us to gain a better understanding of ourselves and other people.

## What will you learn?

Through this course (AQA Specification Psychology A) you will develop knowledge and understanding of the different areas of psychology. You will also see how topical issues such as eating disorders or stress can be better understood and managed by looking at them from a psychological perspective.

The AS is a one year course consisting of two units.

The A2 is also a one year course where you will study two further units.

- AS Unit 1: Cognitive Psychology (memory), Developmental Psychology (attachment) and Research Methods including ethics.
- AS Unit 2: Biological Psychology (stress), Social Psychology (conformity and obedience) and Individual Differences (abnormality),
- A2 Unit 3: A choice of 3 topics in depth from: Biological rhythms and sleep, Perception, Relationships, Aggression, Eating behaviour, Gender, Intelligence and Learning, Cognition and Development.
- A2 Unit 4: This unit has 3 sections which include Psychopathology (schizophrenia, depression and anxiety), Psychology in Action (media, addictive behaviour and anomalous psychology i.e. paranormal psychology) and Research Methods.

## How will you learn?

Discussion and debate, Textbooks, Independent Study, Presentations, Group work, Role play, Exploration of relevant websites and through the development of skills of analysis and evaluation.

## Where will it take you?

Psychology is useful for many careers, including social work, law, business management, counselling and advertising. A Level Psychology can lead to many courses at university, including Psychology, Sociology or Psychotherapy and psychologists work in a number of fields including education, forensics, sport and counselling.

## Who to talk to?

Ms Greany

## What will I need to study this course?

To study Psychology A Level, you will need 5 or more A\*-C grades at GCSE, including English Language and Mathematics.

## **Construction: Maintenance Operations at Level 2 (City and Guilds accreditation)**

An introduction to a wide range of construction skills, this course is respected by employers in the construction industry.

### **What will I learn?**

The Constructions Awards Alliance Maintenance Operations at Level 2 course is a City and Guilds accredited course, equivalent to an NVQ. Through the course, you will gain hands on training and experience in:

- Brickwork and masonry repairs
- Plumbing
- Carpentry
- Painting and decorating
- Flooring
- Bricklaying
- Tiling

### **How will I learn?**

The course lasts for one year (38 weeks), three days a week. It will be taught using demonstrations, class lectures and practical skills and help you to develop excellent personal skills.

Lessons will be mainly practically based, making use of the construction area, but will also include some theory. Theory studied includes safe working practices, gaining an understanding of materials and construction methods. These aspects may be taught in a classroom.

Each individual unit on the course gets accredited. They are assessed through ongoing practical assessments and multiple choice tests.

### **Where will it take me?**

This course can lead onto a Level 3 course in a specific trade of your choice. It could also lead to an apprenticeship or into employment. The broad set of skills developed through the course means that contractors in the refurbishment, renovation or maintenance industries target candidates who have successfully passed it.

### **Who to talk to?**

Mr Swain or Mr McCarney.

### **What will I need to study this course?**

Students who wish to study this course must have a strong interest in construction, and have a good attendance and punctuality record. An understanding of Mathematics and English is also required.

## **Fashion, Hair, Make Up and Styling (Level 2)**

Including: Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Certificate in Fashion and Clothing  
City & Guilds Level 2 Award in Photographic Make-up and Dressing Hair  
City & Guilds Level 2 Award in Body Art

This course is for young people who are passionate about clothes, hair and make up, and want to make their first step towards a future career in the Fashion industry. On the course you will learn all about fashion, including design, manufacture, styling, hair and make up techniques.

### **What will I learn?**

You will gain a wide range of skills aimed at giving you an insight into the different creative aspects of the fashion industry. This includes Fashion Design and Manufacture, Graphic Design, Fashion and Photographic Make-Up and Hair Dressing, Fashion Styling and Photography.

This means that you will get the chance to:

- design and make your own clothes,
- style recording artists,
- create hair and make-up looks for models as part of your own photo shoots,
- and work on a professional Fashion Show.

The qualifications you will gain are:

- Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Certificate in Fashion and Clothing
  - Unit 1- Fashion Design Ideas
  - Unit 3- Digital Design Skills for Fashion
  - Unit 5- Construction Techniques and Processes
- City & Guilds
  - Level 2 Award in Photographic Make-up and Dressing Hair
    - Unit 220 The art of photographic make-up
    - Unit 227 The art of dressing hair
  - Level 2 Award in Body Art
    - Unit 212 Create an image based on a theme within the hair and beauty sector
    - Unit 221 Body art design

### **How will I learn?**

The course will be taught using demonstrations, class lectures and practical skills and will help you to develop excellent personal skills.

Lessons will be a mixture of practical and theory, and will make use of the hairdressing suite and class rooms in the new sixth form centre, as well as the textiles room in the main building.

### **Where will it take me?**

Learners who complete the course will have a head start in their chosen specialism, and gain the qualifications to progress onto employment, or further training including an Advanced Apprenticeship in Fashion & Textiles or Hair and Beauty.

### **Who to talk to?**

Mr Bookatz or Mr McCarney.

### **What will I need to study this course?**

Students who wish to study this course must have 4 GCSEs at grades A\*-C, or have completed an appropriate Foundation Learning programme. They must have a passion for fashion and beauty and a good attendance and punctuality record.

## **Music Technology: BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Music Production, Business and iMedia.**

This course is aimed at young people who are passionate about music production and want to learn all the skills that are needed to make professional tracks in pre-production and the recording studio environment. They will then go on to learn how to market their material using all of the amazing technology that is now available to the world of the iMedia student. It will be taught in partnership with DV8 Music & Media.

### **What will I learn?**

On this course students will study a range of skills aimed at developing them into the modern Performer / Musician. This will include how to use computers to create music, to develop multi-track recording techniques, to work with others to produce music, to perform music to an audience and to understand the business side of the music industry.

Alongside this, students will study creative media production, which will include video production, photography techniques, digital graphic skills and interactive media production skills. The whole course is designed to prepare students for the hi-tech, music orientated world that we live in and will be an exciting look at what opportunities there are for young people looking for a career in 'Music & Media'.

### **How will I learn?**

BTECs are vocational qualifications suitable for a wide range of learners, built to accommodate a broad spectrum of learner ambitions. They provide a more practical, real-world approach to learning alongside a key theoretical background.

Although the main area of study on the course is a music BTEC, it has been tailored to offer a music production focus and as such, selects many of the units that are based around modern music & production techniques. This means that students will be creating music on workstations as well as producing music in the brand new, state of the art recording studio. This might lead to an additional Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Diploma in Music or Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Extended Certificate in Creative Media Production.

### **Where will it take me?**

Learners who have completed the BTEC Diploma in Music will have a grounding in a range of musical skills and areas, which will act as a solid background for progression to qualifications in Music, Music Technology or Music Business at Level 3.

Learners who complete a BTEC Level 2 Certificate, Extended Certificate or Diploma in Creative Media Production will obtain a qualification which will enable progression to further study, training, or employment, and enable them to make informed choices with regard to a career in the creative media sector. They will also have developed media technology skills that may be applicable in other work situations or will enable them to progress to Level 3 qualifications in other sectors (for example, in Art and Design or Music Technology).

Both of these qualifications together will also make an excellent basis for a route into apprenticeships in music and iMedia related companies.

### **Who to talk to?**

Mr Michealides, Mr Olugbo, Mr Bookatz or Mr McCarney

### **What will I need to study this course?**

Students who wish to study this course will need a minimum of 4 A\*-C grade GCSEs, a passion for Music Production and Media and an avid interest in new technology and music and media software.

## **BTEC Performing Arts Level 2 Diploma**

This course is for people who are passionate about dance, singing and especially drama. This course is a one year course, three days each week and is roughly equivalent to 4 GCSEs.

### **What will you learn?**

Students will have opportunities to devise and perform in plays and learn dance and develop singing skills. You will get involved in productions and see professional musicals and stage shows. You may also take part in workshops with performing arts professionals.

If you have no prior knowledge of the subject, you will get an introduction to the practical and theoretical elements of drama, dance, performance technology and singing. If you do have some previous knowledge or experience you will get the opportunity to develop and build on that experience.

You will study units such as:

- Performing plays
- Devising
- Mask making
- Dance
- Singing
- Performing arts business
- Production project.

### **How will you learn?**

You will normally work in a group of students, as well as individually. Much of the work is practical, so emphasis is placed on your ability to work as a member of a team; you learn through classroom activities, professional workshops and performances.

Assessment is through assignment based work. The emphasis is on practical performance, although there is a certain amount of written work required. The work is graded into pass, merit and distinction. In order to achieve the diploma you are required to pass all areas of the course.

You may study GCSE English and Maths on days when you are not timetabled for performing arts. At some points in the year when productions are scheduled, you will need to attend extra sessions for rehearsals.

As part of the course we encourage and organise group visits to a range of performances by professional theatre and dance companies. In the past, students have visited productions such as the musical *Carousel* and the stage show *The Woman in Black*. Where possible we will also arrange workshops with professional performing arts practitioners.

### **Where will it take you?**

This course provides a foundation for further study in this field and possible later progression to a career in the performing arts.

### **Who to talk to?**

Ms Rowton or Ms Argyrakis

### **What will you need to study this course?**

Students will need to have two or more GCSEs at grade D or above, including English Language or to have successfully completed a Foundation Level course including functional skills in English.

## **BTEC SPORT LEVEL 2**

The course is designed to provide specialist work-related qualifications in Sport. BTEC Sport will give learners the basic knowledge, understanding and skills they need to prepare for employment in the sports industry. The qualification is assessed by coursework and has no final exam. It is broadly equivalent to four GCSEs. The course is run over 15 hours per week- covering three school days. Sixth form enrichment time is included within the three days.

### **What will I learn?**

The course consists of between 7- 8 different units selected from a list of 20. Programme leaders and course tutors will decide upon the units best suited to the group of learners on the course, subject to the requirements of the qualification. Each unit is broken down into Pass, Merit and Distinction grading criteria.

Examples of units that might be selected are:

- Fitness Testing and Training
- Practical Sport
- Outdoor and Adventurous Activities
- Anatomy and Physiology for Sport
- Injury in Sport
- Sports Development
- Psychology for Sports Performance
- Nutrition for Sports Performance
- Sport and Leisure Facility Operations
- Effects of Exercise on the Body Systems
- Business Skills in Sport

### **How will I learn?**

Learners will be assessed and taught through a variety of methods. The course is kept as practical and work based as possible. Each unit will lend itself to various assessment methods such as designing leaflets/ booklets, creating posters, interviews, role-plays, officiating roles, performances in sporting activities, first aid courses, leadership qualifications, governing body qualifications, video evidence, educational visits, witness statements, webpage creations, work experience, workshops, reports, coaching others, blogs and recordings, etc.

The teaching methods used are wide ranging and challenging in preparation for the diversity of the current day workplace.

### **Where will it take me?**

The course will prepare individuals for the workplace or further education. It will provide entry to BTEC National Level 3 courses in related areas such as Sport and Sport Sciences, Public Services, etc. It will also provide entry to A- level qualifications in related areas. Pupils opting for this route will be expected to qualify with Distinction levels from the BTEC Level 2 in Sport.

The BTEC provides employment pathways into a variety of settings, including Leisure centres, Health/ Fitness clubs, Sports facility providers, Gymnasiums, Personal Trainers, Coaching, Sports Development, Sports Leadership and local community links involving Sports and fitness.

### **Who to talk to?**

Mr Hutchins, Mr McCarney, Miss Armitage or Mr Monksfield

### **What will I need to study this course?**

To enroll on the above course you are expected to have achieved 2 or more GCSEs at grade C or above. Learners would be expected to have sporting interests in their own spare time.

# **BTEC National Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sport (Development, Coaching and Fitness)**

BTEC Nationals are Level 3 qualifications designed to provide highly specialist work-related qualifications in a range of vocational sectors. The qualification is a two year course consisting of various units. These give learners the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need to prepare for employment. The qualification will provide career development opportunities for learners already in work, and allow those wishing to progress into higher education such as a university degree course or professional development programme. This course is equivalent to three A Levels.

## **What will I learn?**

The course consists of between 18 - 20 different study units which are selected from a substantial list. Programme leaders and course tutors will decide upon the units best suited to the group of learners on the course, subject to the requirements of the qualification. Possible units include:

- The Physiology of Fitness
- Sports Coaching
- Sports Development
- Assessing Risk in Sport
- Sports Nutrition
- Current Issues in Sport
- Sport as a Business
- Leadership in Sport
- Sports Injuries
- Principles of Anatomy and Physiology in Sport
- Fitness Testing for Sport and Exercise
- Outdoor and Adventurous Activities
- Exercise, Health and Lifestyle
- Practical Team Sports
- Practical Individual Sports
- Rules, Regulations and Officiating in Sport
- Psychology for Sports Performance
- Analysis of Sports Performance

## **How will I learn?**

Learners will be assessed and taught through a variety of methods. The course is kept as practical and work based as possible. Each unit will lend itself to various assessment methods such as designing leaflets/ booklets, creating posters, interviews, role-plays, officiating roles, performances in sporting activities, first aid courses, leadership qualifications, governing body qualifications, video evidence, educational visits, witness statements, webpage creations, work experience, workshops, reports, coaching others, blogs and recordings, etc.

The methods are wide ranging and challenging in preparation for the diversity of the current day workplace. Learners are also expected to reference much of their work and complete detailed written pieces of work in preparation for possible university degree work in the future.

The BTEC National Extended Diploma in Sport is equivalent to 3 A levels and requires approximately 20 hours a week to study.

## **Where will it take me?**

There is potential for the qualification to prepare learners for appropriate direct employment in the vocational sector and it is suitable for those who have decided that they clearly wish to enter a particular specialist area of work. The qualification also enables students to progress to a higher education degree, HND or other professional development programme.

## **Who to talk to?**

Mr Hutchins, Mr McCarney, Miss Armitage or Mr Monksfield

## **What will I need to study this course?**

To enroll on the above course you would be expected to have achieved 5 or more GCSEs at grade C or above. GCSE Physical Education or BTEC First Extended Certificate would be an advantage. Learners would be expected to have sporting interests in their own spare time.