



Sixth  
Form

# Curriculum



Our philosophy is directed towards your development as a mature, independent young adult, well able to direct and organise your own academic studies, social life and role in society. Our ultimate aim is that you will thrive in whatever you choose to do once you have completed your studies at RSA Academy Arrow Vale Sixth Form.



# Applied Science

## Course Title

Applied Science

## Awarding Body

Edexcel

## Course Level

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate  
2 Year

## Course Description

The BTEC Level 3 Certificate and Extended Certificate in Applied Science are vocational qualifications. The course is designed to give learners the knowledge, understanding and technical skills to prepare them for employment or to continue their study in higher education. The content is divided up into manageable sized topics allowing the learning of new and existing concepts to be secured before developing the skill of application. This style of course will enable to learners who prefer portfolio based assessment; students will have to be committed throughout as the grading is through continuous assessment.

## Course Content

The course requires students to study aspects of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The course develops students' scientific knowledge and practical skills, as well as introducing new areas. Over the year students will study modules in: Fundamentals of science, Scientific Practical Techniques, Scientific Application.

The course develops students' scientific knowledge and practical skills, as well as introducing new areas. Students complete compulsory units in Principles and Applications of Science 1 and also Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques.

Students completing the extended certificate must also complete a Science Investigation Skills unit.

## Assessment

Principles and applications of Science 1 is a 1 hour 30 minutes written exam set and marked by Edexcel. The paper is split into three sections, Biology, Chemistry and Physics that are each worth 1/3 of the grade.

There are 4 assignments in the first year and a further 4 assignments in the second year.

Students will complete a practical assessment and written exam in the second year.

## Progression Routes

BTEC Level 3 Certificate and Extended Certificate in Applied Science is a good academic option which combines well with many other subjects, science and non-science based. The course can lead to employment within a science laboratory environment, or can be used as a steppingstone into a whole range of careers, e.g. lab technician, forensic scientist, botanist, and medical physicist.

## Entry Requirements

To allow success in this interesting and challenging course students are required to have an entry of at least a level 4 at GCSE Science or a Distinction in BTEC Science, with the additional of at least a level 4 in GCSE Maths.

(All courses are subject to change dependent on student uptake and suitability)



# Art and Design

## Course Title

Art and Design : Fine Art

## Awarding Body

AQA

## Course Level

A Level - 2 Year

## Course Description

The A Level in Art and Design provides students with the opportunity to develop personal responses to ideas, observations, experiences, environments and cultures in practical, critical and contextual forms. The flexibility of the course allows students to work from their strengths in order to produce an extended collection of work based on an idea, concept, theme or issue which demonstrates the students' ability to sustain work from an initial starting point.

## Course Content

Students will produce practical and critical/contextual work in one or more area including painting, drawing, mixed-media, sculpture, land art, installation, printmaking, film, animation, television, video and photography: lens-based and/or light-based media.

## Assessment

### 2 year A Level:

Year 12 work is mainly skills development in preparation for year 13,

- Personal Investigation, supported by a 1000-3000 word essay – 60%
- Externally set assignment project, with 15 hour exam – 40%

## Progression Routes

The successful completion of an A Level in Art and Design will help to lay an appropriate foundation for further study of Art and Design or related subjects in Higher Education. In addition, it is suitable for the diverse range of candidates who wish to develop their interest in and enjoyment of Art and Design, and its value in lifelong learning.

## Entry Requirements

Students must have undertaken GCSE Art and Design and achieved a level 4 or above.

(All courses are subject to change dependent on student uptake and suitability)



A person wearing a dark jacket and a hat is in a forest, setting up a camera on a tripod. The background shows several trees and a path. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent purple filter.

# Art and Design

## Course Title

Art and Design : Photography

## Awarding Body

AQA

## Course Level

A Level - 2 Year

## Course Description

The A Level in Art and Design: Photography provides students with the opportunity to develop personal responses to ideas, observations, experiences, environments and cultures in practical, critical and contextual forms. The flexibility of the course allows students to work from their strengths in order to produce an extended collection of photographic work based on an idea, concept, theme or issue which demonstrates the students' ability to sustain work from an initial starting point.

## Course Content

Students will investigate a range of artists and photographers, learn a range of different photography and editing techniques, develop creative thinking and analytical skills and respond to given titles in order to generate a body of developmental work and outcomes. Students will be required to undertake regular independent photoshoots outside of school to ensure a creative portfolio, which will help students to get the higher marks.

## Assessment

### 2 year A Level:

Year 12 work is mainly skills development in preparation for year 13,

- Personal Investigation, supported by a 1000-3000 word essay – 60%
- Externally set assignment project, with 15 hour exam – 40%

## Progression Routes

The successful completion of an A Level in Art and Design: Photography will help to lay an appropriate foundation for further study of Photography or related subjects in Higher Education such as Art, Graphic Design, Media or Marketing. In addition, it is suitable for the diverse range of candidates who wish to develop their interest in and enjoyment of photography.

## Entry Requirements

Students must have access to a DSLR camera outside of school.

Students must have undertaken GCSE Photography and achieved a 4 or above, in order to ensure an understanding of the skills involved and the creative process.

(All courses are subject to change dependent on student uptake and suitability)



# Biology

## Course Title

Biology

## Awarding Body

AQA

## Course Level

A Level - 2 year

## Course Description

Biology is an exciting course where key concepts within the natural living world are studied and investigated. The content is divided up into manageable sized topics allowing the learning of new and existing concepts to be secured before developing the skill of application. Biological studies are continuously expanding in the modern world with new developments being discovered all of the time. Taking Biology can provide an entry into a range of higher education routes (not just science based) and can support many employment opportunities.

## Course Content

**Year 12** : Students will complete four topics in their first year of study comprising Biological molecules, Cells, Organisms exchange substances with their environment and finally Genetic Information, variation and relationships between organisms. There are 6 compulsory practical's that need to be completed in addition to other practical's to support your learning.

**Year 13** : Students will complete a further 4 units entitled Energy transfers in and between organisms. Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments, genetics, pop-

ulations, evolution and ecosystems and finally The control of gene expression. There are a further 6 compulsory practical's that need to be completed in addition to other practical's to support your learning.

## Assessment

Throughout the course students will be provided with continuous support, guidance and examination practice to allow them to succeed during assessment.

A2 – 3 exam papers, each 2 hours long and you shall be assessed on your practical skills.

## Progression Routes

A Level Biology is a good academic option which combines well with many other subjects, science and non-science based, providing a firm foundation for those who wish to continue to higher education. Biology is necessary for many careers, including Forensic Science, Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacology, Veterinary Science and Marine Biology. Many employers, for those who wish to seek employment, also hold it in high regard.

## Entry Requirements

GCSE level 6 in Science/Biology, English and Mathematics.

(All courses are subject to change dependent on student uptake and suitability)





# Business

## Course Title

Business

## Awarding Body

Edexcel

## Course Level

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate  
2 Year

## Course Description

Students will learn how a business might evolve. From a small start-up business to a large multinational organisation, students will consider a range of different business types and gain an understanding of how the choice of business type might affect the objectives that are set. Students will also look at the internal workings of businesses, including their internal structure and how different functional areas work together.

## Course Content

There is a range of units to choose from, including The Business Environment; Working in Business, Business Decisions, Customers and Communication, Marketing and Market Research, Human Resources, Accounting and Resource

Management. The topics will be determined by the interests of the majority of the students at the start of the course, though some are mandatory

## Assessment

Two units in year 12 and a further three units in year 13. One unit is a mandatory assessment task

## Progression Routes

Students can go onto study business at university or may choose to enter into a business apprenticeship ranging from marketing, HR, admin to operations. Some students may also consider running their own business; there is a strong influence of entrepreneurship on the course

## Entry Requirements

Level 4 in Maths and English Language.

(All courses are subject to change dependent on student uptake and suitability)



A student with long dark hair tied back, wearing a white lab coat, is seen from behind, working at a lab bench. The background shows a kitchen or food science laboratory setting with a window and various equipment.

# Food Science & Nutrition

## Course Title

Level 3 Applied Diploma Food Science & Nutrition

## Awarding Body

WJEC

## Course Level

Level 3 Diploma - 2 year

## Course Description

This is a new qualification which provides students with the opportunity to develop their understanding of food, science and nutrition. This course will help students to develop menus, food products and policies that support healthy eating initiatives. It has been designed to offer exciting, interesting experiences that focus learning for 16 - 19 year old learners through applied learning, i.e. through the acquisition of knowledge and understanding in purposeful, work-related contexts, linked to the food production industry.

## Course Content

Students will complete three units over the two year qualification in the following areas:

- Meeting Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups
- Ensuring Food is Safe to Eat
- Experimenting to Solve Food Production Problems
- Current issues in food science and nutrition

## Assessment

Written examination and internally assessed assignments

- 2 written exams
- Graded synoptic assessment

Final grade awarded - PASS/MERIT/DISTINCTION/DISTINCTION\*

## Progression Routes

Progression to a food degree course in nutrition or public health. It could also lead to employment in food science/public health.

- BSc Food and Nutrition
- BSc Human Nutrition
- BSc (Hons) Public Health Nutrition
- BSc (Hons) Food Science and Technology

## Entry Requirements

GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition level 4 or above

(All courses are subject to change dependent on student uptake and suitability)



# Chemistry

## Course Title

Chemistry

## Awarding Body

AQA

## Course Level

A Level - 2 year

## Course Description

Chemistry is the science of matter; everything we touch, taste, smell, see and feel is made of chemicals. The content is divided up into manageable sized topics allowing the learning of new and existing concepts to be secured before developing the skill of application. Chemists' investigations are continuously expanding in the modern world by transforming the everyday materials around us into amazing things. Taking Chemistry can provide an entry into a range of higher education routes (not just science based) and can support many employment opportunities.

## Course Content

**Year 12** : Students will complete three examinable units. The AS course contains questions on physical, organic and inorganic content. You will further study atomic structure, bonding, energetics, periodicity and an introduction to organic chemistry.

**Year 13** : Students will complete three examinable units. Students go in to further depth in their organic, inorganic and physical chemistry.

Topics that are covered in A level are thermodynamics, rate equations, electrode potentials, transition metals, nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy and an introduction to aromatic chemistry.

## Assessment

Throughout the course students will be provided with continuous support, guidance and examination practice to allow them to succeed during assessment.

A2 – 3 exam papers, each 2 hours long and you shall be assessed on your practical skills.

## Progression Routes

A Level Chemistry is a good academic option which combines well with many other subjects, science and non-science based, providing a firm foundation for those who wish to continue to higher education. Chemistry is necessary for many careers, including Forensic Chemistry, Medicine, Chemical Engineering, Food and Flavour Chemistry and many more. Many employers, for those who wish to seek employment, also hold it in high regard.

## Entry Requirements

GCSE level 6 in Science/Chemistry, English and Mathematics.

(All courses are subject to change dependent on student uptake and suitability)





# 3D Craft & Design

## Course Title

A Level Art and Design: 3D - Craft & Design

## Awarding Body

AQA

## Course Level

A Level - 2 Year

## Course Description

This is a new qualification which provides students with the opportunity to develop personal responses to product design briefs, documenting their ideas, observations, experiences, environments and cultures in practical, critical and contextual forms. 3D work will make use of DT skills, offering the opportunity to work in wood, plastic, textiles and ceramics amongst other things.

## Course Content

Students will go through the design process, carrying out research into designers, drawing and experimenting with materials, before developing personal outcomes.

## Assessment

### 2 year A Level:

Year 12 work is mainly skills development in preparation for year 13,

- Personal Investigation, supported by a 1000-3000 word essay – 60%
- Externally set assignment project, with 15 hour exam – 40%

## Progression Routes

Progression to a design degree course in product design or manufacturing it could also lead to employment in product design with the option to work on a degree whilst in employment.

## Entry Requirements

Students are required to gain at least a level 4 at GCSE in Art and/or DT to complete this course.

(All courses are subject to change dependent on student uptake and suitability)



# Creative and Performing Arts

## Course Title

RSL Level 3 Diploma in Creative and Performing Arts

## Awarding Body

RSL

## Course Level

Level 3 Diploma - 2 Year

## Course Description

The core skills being developed in this qualification are:

- the ability to recognise and understand the interrelationship between performer, designer and director.
- the understanding that texts and extracts studied may represent a range of social, historical and cultural contexts.
- the ability to analyse and evaluate their work and the work of others.
- the ability to understand how performance texts can be interpreted and performed .

## Course Content

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable students to:

- develop and apply an informed, analytical framework for making, performing, interpreting and understanding drama and theatre.
- understand the place of relevant theoretical research in informing the processes and practices involved in creating theatre and the place of practical exploration in informing theoretical knowledge of drama and theatre.

- develop an understanding and appreciation of how the social, cultural and historical contexts of performance texts have influenced the development of drama and theatre.
- understand the practices used in 21st-century theatre making.

## Assessment

- ⇒ External Core Unit – Performance Preparation.
- ⇒ Internal Core Unit– Planning for a career in the Creative and Performing Arts.
- ⇒ Optional Units – Audition techniques, Contemporary Theatre, Drama in the community, Elizabethan and Jacobean Theatre, Approaches to Acting.

## Progression Routes

Completion of the Diploma in Drama and Theatre Studies can allow access to a variety of creative degree level courses, which might include; Drama, Acting, Theatre Studies, English and Media. The course also develops personal skills which are needed for the wider world of work.

## Entry Requirements

GCSE Drama and English at level 4 or a Distinction\* RSL Level 2.

(All courses are subject to change dependent on student uptake and suitability)



# English Literature

## Course Title

Advanced Level English Literature

## Awarding Body

AQA

## Course Level

A Level - 2 year

## Course Description

The course covers the study of literature, building on the work completed at GCSE level. The texts that students will study throughout the duration of the course will cover two themes: Love through the ages and World War One. Students will study a range of prose fiction, poetry, drama and non-fiction texts that will span across a range of literary time periods. Students will also be expected to complete a range of wider reading outside of lessons. Teaching is primarily through group and class discussion, developing analysis skills.

## Course Content

For paper one, students will focus on love through the ages. They will be assessed on their understanding of a Shakespeare play (*Othello*), pre 1900 love poetry and *The Great Gatsby*.

Students' second examination will focus on World War One literature. Paper two will assess students'

understanding of three texts: one prose, one drama and one poetry.

In addition to the two examinations, students will also complete an independent coursework task which requires them to compare two texts across time. This task will allow students to explore an area of literature which they are interested in from their own wider and independent reading.

## Assessment

- **A2**
  - ⇒ Paper 1: 40%
  - ⇒ Paper 2: 40%
  - ⇒ NEA: 20%

## Progression Routes

The course offers, through a range of study, the chance to develop analytical skills. Students develop wider reading and research skills which will prepare them for further study. It can be used as the pathway to further study in higher education as well as being a recognised qualification, well known and well regarded by employers.

## Entry Requirements

GCSE level 6 in English Language and Literature.

(All courses are subject to change dependent on student uptake and suitability)



# French or Spanish

## Course Title

French A Level or Spanish A Level

## Awarding Body

AQA

## Course Level

A Level - 2 year

## Course Description

An A-level in a modern foreign language helps students develop confident, effective communication skills in the chosen language and a thorough understanding of the culture of countries and communities where it is spoken. It develops an interest in, and enthusiasm for, language learning and encourages students to consider their study of the language in a broader context.

The approach is a focus on how French/Spanish society has been shaped, socially and culturally, and how it continues to change. In the first year, aspects of the social context are studied, together with aspects of the artistic life of the countries in which the language being studied is spoken. In the second year further aspects of the social background are covered, this time focusing on issues such as life for those on the margins of French-speaking society as well as looking at the positive influences that diversity brings. Students also study aspects of the political landscape in the Francophone or Hispanic country, looking at immigration from the political perspective and at the way in which political power is expressed through action such as strikes and demonstrations. They also look at how their peers in the target language country engage in political life.

## Course content

Students study all sub-themes in relation to any country or countries in which the target language is spoken;

The changing nature of family  
The 'cyber-society'  
The place of voluntary work  
Positive features of a diverse society  
Life for the marginalised  
How criminals are treated  
A culture proud of its heritage  
Contemporary francophone music  
Cinema: the 7th art form  
Teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment  
Demonstrations, strikes – who holds the power?  
Politics and immigration  
Grammar  
A target language film  
A target language novel

## Assessment

- Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing
- Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes; total raw mark: 100
- Paper 2: Writing
- Duration: 2 hours; total raw mark: 80
- Paper 3: Speaking
- Duration: 21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes supervised preparation time); total raw mark: 60

## Progression Routes

BA Honours in a language

BA Honours joint degree comprising a language and a second subject

BA Honours degree major in subject 1 and minor in subject 2

## Entry Requirements

Relevant MFL GCSE (French/Spanish): Level 6 or above.

(All courses are subject to change dependent on student uptake and suitability)



# Geography

## Course Title

Geography

## Awarding Body

AQA

## Course Level

A Level - 2 year

## Course Description

A Level Geography is about understanding the world around us. The ways in which land and the environment change over time are important, as is the relationship between humans and the earth in a variety of places globally and locally. Students will be expected to develop their own views in relation to these issues and understand the views and roles of others.

## Course Content

### Year 12

- Physical geography:
  - ⇒ Water and carbon cycles
  - ⇒ Coastal systems and landscapes
  - ⇒ Hazards
- Human geography:
  - ⇒ Changing places

### Year 13

- People and the environment
- Geography fieldwork investigation
- Geographical skills
- Global systems and global governance

## Assessment

- A Level – 2 examinations, each 2 ½ hours
- Non-examination assessment

## Progression Routes

A Level Geography is very well recognised by employers and universities because it requires students to develop a deep understanding of the world around them. They will also be able to understand a variety of information quickly and assess its importance. Therefore the course is well suited to students who are continuing their education or choosing to find challenging work in the 21st Century.

## Entry Requirements

Students are required to gain at least level 4 or above including English and Mathematics.

(All courses are subject to change dependent on student uptake and suitability)



# Health & Social Care

## Course Title

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care

## Awarding Body

Pearson

## Course Level

Level 3 – 2 year

## Course Description

This course is equivalent to 1 A-level and is graded Pass to Distinction\*. It is designed to introduce students to a wide variety of work in a range of health and social care settings. This course will also develop various skills which are required when working in health and social care settings, such as communication, independence, initiative and research.

## Course Content (Year 12)

- Unit 1 - Human Lifespan Development
- Unit 5 - Meeting Individual Care Needs.

## Course Content (Year 13)

- Unit 2 - Working in Health and Social Care
- Unit 14 - Physiological Disorders and their care

## Assessment

- 66% Coursework
- 33% Examination

## Progression Routes

All units studied are applied to the care sector, which includes health care settings, early years care and education, and social care. As a result of this, completion of this course may lead to further and higher education and on to careers such as nursing, primary education, social worker, residential carer or counsellor.

## Entry Requirements

Level 4 in English Language and Maths. Prior study of the subject at GCSE is not necessary but would be desirable.

(All courses are subject to change dependent on student uptake and suitability)





# History

## Course Title

History

## Awarding Body

AQA

## Course Level

A Level - 2 year

## Course Description

A Level History at Arrow Vale will offer students an understanding to assess some of the most significant events, people and processes of the last 200 years. Students will learn about the past in a variety of ways including collaborative work such as debates and presentations. Throughout the course students will be expected to analyse the events of the past, evaluate a variety of opinions about what happened as well as suggest and defend their own interpretations.

## Course Content

### Year 12

Unit 1 - The British Empire, c1857–1967

This option allows students to study in breadth issues of change, continuity, cause and consequence in this period through the following key questions:

Why did the British Empire grow and contract? What influenced imperial policy? What part did economic factors play in the development of the British Empire? How did the Empire influence British attitudes and culture? How did the indigenous peoples respond to British rule? How important was the role of key individuals and groups and how were they affected by developments?

Unit 2 - The Cold War, c1945–1991

This option provides for the study in depth of the evolving course of international relations during an

era of tension between communist and capitalist powers which threatened nuclear Armageddon. It explores concepts such as communism and anti-communism, aggression and détente and also encourages students to reflect on the power of modern military technology, what hastens confrontation and what forces promote peace in the modern world.

### Year 13

History in Year 13 builds on the knowledge learnt year 12 and extends the periods of study. In addition, students will undertake a personal study, comprising a taught course as well as their own in depth research and extended essay of 3000 words (Non-Examined Assessment). This will focus on the Tudor time period, one of the most famous dynasties in English history.

## Assessment

- 2 written exams
- 3 questions (one compulsory) in each exam
- Non-Examined Assessment

## Progression Routes

A Level History is very well recognised by employers and universities because it demonstrates an ability to summarise, analyse and evaluate, as well as write at length to support an opinion. It demonstrates students' ability to think, work and write at the highest analytical levels. Skills such as using evidence and developing opinions are vitally important skills.

## Entry Requirements

Students are required to gain a level 4 or higher in GCSE English Language.

(All courses are subject to change dependent on student uptake and suitability)



# Information Technology

## Course Title

BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in ICT

## Awarding Body

Edexcel

## Course Level

BTEC Level 3 - 2 Year

## Details of Course and Assessment

“Information Technology (IT)” is not to be confused with “**Computing**” courses. This course is based on the study and use of computers to develop problem-solving skills through the practical application of IT. This qualification is designed for learners who are interested in an introduction into the study of creating IT systems to manage and share information alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses; not necessarily in IT. You will study the role of computer systems and the implications of their use in personal and professional situations. You will also design, create, test and evaluate a relational database system to manage information. There are also Units that focus on the creative use of IT, which includes Using Social Media in Business, Data Modelling and Website Development.

The course is assessed through 360 guided learning hours of study, which is delivered over **four** units of work. This course comprises of 66% coursework and an externally set written examination which is equivalent to 33%. On completion, you will be awarded a **BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate**, which is equivalent to **one** ‘A-Level’ grade. A successful coursework portfolio is based on the completion of 4 “Passed” units of work, split over the two years of year 12 and year 13. Therefore, you must view this course as two years of study, as no award is issued after the first year.

## Assessment

Continuous assessment together with exam board set controlled assessment tasks in year 12. Exam and continuous assessment in year 13.

## Mandatory Units:

- Information Technology Systems
  - ⇒ Externally set written exam – 2 Hours
- Unit 2 Creating Systems to manage Information

⇒ Externally set and assessed under supervised conditions (10 Hours)

- Unit 3 Using Social Media in Business
  - ⇒ Internally set and assessed
- Unit 1 Information Technology Systems
  - ⇒ Externally set exam
- Unit 6 Website Development
  - ⇒ Internally set and assessed

## Qualities and Commitment Expected from the Student:

Even though it is not necessary for students to have studied Computing/IT at GCSE level, they must have a very keen and lively interest in IT. Students will need a logical mind with a persistent and methodical approach to solving problems. All students will be expected to do additional reading and study outside of lesson times to help develop a wider understanding of the applications of computers and the effects of their use.

*This course is best suited to students that prefer a combination of examinations and vocational, assignment-based learning and can work maturely and independently on portfolios of work, based on different tasks. A key requirement from all students is their commitment to work hard and meet all assignment deadlines.*

## Progression Routes

All BTEC qualifications are nationally recognised by universities, business and industries. They have been designed to provide a broad education as a foundation for training, leading to employment and for study to higher and degree level education courses.

## Entry Requirements

Level 4 or above in English and Mathematics.

Level 4 or above in GCSE ICT/IT or a PASS grade in BTEC Level 2 First in ICT course.

(All courses are subject to change dependent on student uptake and suitability)



# Mathematics

## Course Title

Mathematics

## Awarding Body

Edexcel

## Course Level

A Level - 2 Year

## Course Description

This qualification will enable students to:

- understand mathematics and mathematical processes in a way that promotes confidence, fosters enjoyment and provides a strong foundation for progress to further study.
- extend their range of mathematical skills and techniques.
- understand coherence and progression in mathematics and how different areas of mathematics are connected.
- apply mathematics in other fields of study and be aware of the relevance of mathematics to the world of work and to situations in society in general.

## Course Content

Pure Maths, including proofs; algebra; geometry; sequences and series; trigonometry; exponentials and logarithms; differentiation and integration; and vectors

Statistics and mechanics, including statistical

sampling; data presentation and interpretation, probability, statistical distributions, quantities and units in mechanics, kinematics and forces & Newton's Laws

## Assessment

- ⇒ Paper 1: Pure Mathematics 1
- ⇒ Paper 2: Pure Mathematics 2
- ⇒ Paper 3: Statistics and Mechanics
- ⇒ Each paper is: 2-hour written examination 33.33% of the qualification 100 marks

## Progression Routes

The academic rigour of A Level mathematics is recognised by all universities and as such it is often chosen as an accompanying A Level for entry into science based degree courses including physics, chemistry, biology, medicine and psychology, as well as the more obvious routes into pure mathematics, statistics, accountancy and IT based degrees.

## Entry Requirements

GCSE level 7 in Mathematics

(All courses are subject to change dependent on student uptake and suitability)



# Further Mathematics

## Course Title

Further Mathematics

## Awarding Body

Edexcel

## Course Level

AS

## Course Description

The study of Further Mathematics will extend students' ability to:

- reason logically and recognise incorrect reasoning
- generalise mathematically
- construct mathematical proofs
- use their mathematical skills and techniques to solve challenging problems which require them

Course content: Core Pure Mathematics: Proof, Complex numbers, Matrices, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus, Further vectors.

Options: Further Statistics, Further Decision Mathematics, Further Mechanics Mathematics

## Course Content

Further Pure Maths 1, including Proofs; complex numbers; matrices; further algebra & functions;

further calculus, vectors.

One of the optional units – Further Pure Maths 2; Further Statistics; Further Mechanics; Decision Mathematics.

## Assessment

Paper 1: Core Pure Mathematics (\*Paper code: 8FM0/01) Written examination: 1 hour and 40 minutes 50% of the qualification 80 marks

Paper 2: Further Mathematics Options (\*Paper codes: 8FM0/2A-2K) Written examination: 1 hour and 40 minutes 50% of the qualification 80 marks

## Progression Routes

The academic rigour of A Level mathematics is recognised by all universities and as such it is often chosen as an accompanying A Level for entry into science based degree courses including physics, chemistry, biology, medicine and psychology, as well as the more obvious routes into pure mathematics, statistics, accountancy and IT based degrees.

## Entry Requirements

GCSE level 7 in Mathematics

(All courses are subject to change dependent on student uptake and suitability)





# Film Studies

## Course Title

Film Studies

## Awarding Body

WJEC/EDUQAS

## Course Level

A Level - 2 year

## Course Description

We study a diverse range of film, including documentary, film from the silent era, experimental film and short film. The course looks at the significance of film and film practice in national, global and historical contexts. We investigate film and its key contexts (including social, cultural, political, historical and technological contexts). The course aims to analyse and evaluate how films generate meanings and responses through form as an aesthetic medium and how we as spectators respond differently to film.

## Course Content

11 films to be studied across two years. All films will be studied in relation to the key elements of film, contexts and audience responses. Most films also have a specialist area of study to focus on.

## Assessment

**Component 1:** Varieties of film and filmmaking  
Written examination: 2½ hours  
35% of qualification

**Component 2:** Global filmmaking perspectives  
Written examination: 2½ hours  
35% of qualification

**Component 3:** Production  
Non-exam assessment  
30% of qualification

## Progression Routes

Film is one of the main cultural innovations of the 20th century. Those who study it characteristically bring with them a high degree of enthusiasm and excitement for what is a powerful and culturally significant medium, inspiring a range of career opportunities in creative, technical and directorial positions. Many students continue to university, to pursue education in Media and Film.

## Entry Requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in English  
GCSE Grade 5 or above in Media or Film (if studied)

(All courses are subject to change dependent on student uptake and suitability)



# Music

## Course Title

Music for Music Practitioners - Performing

## Awarding Body

RSL

## Course Level

Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma

## Course Description

Music is constantly evolving, inspiring creativity and expression in a way that no other subject can. Developing and applying musical knowledge and skills can ensure that students form a personal and meaningful relationship with music. They will be encouraged to engage critically and creatively with the music to through research, practical application, evaluation and review.

## Course Content

The course is 90 credits and the pupils are able to choose units that add up to the 90 credits required.

The course has 1 externally assessed core unit and 1 internally assessed core unit. The rest can be made up with a wide range of units. These include:

- Composing, Contextual Studies, Live Music Production, Music Business Music Facilitation, Music Performance, Music Technology and Practical Musicianship.

Students will need to perform a 15 minute performance which will be observed and reviewed to allow for evaluation of the pupils' performance skills.

Pupils can perform as soloists and/or in groups (ensembles). This will allow pupils freedom for their choice of music and will allow for the pupils to witness and experience what the current music industry feels like to work in.

## Assessment

⇒ Coursework Evidence

Pupils will be expected to work on their evidence portfolio and submit completed work periodically. This will ensure the pupils are making progress, developing their musical skills and are applying these to real world situations.

## Progression Routes

University degree in Music, Music College performing degree, Level 3 Extended Diploma for Music Practitioners.

## Entry Requirements

RSL Level 2 Music Practitioners will allow for pupils to already understand the requirements for the course and understand processes for musical development, practice and consolidation. Pupils should also have the ability to play (at least one) instrument to minimum of Grade 5 standard.



# Sport

## Course Title

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Sport

## Awarding Body

Pearson

## Course Level

Level 3 - 2 year

## Course Description

The course is an Applied General qualification for post-16 learners who want to continue their education through applied learning and who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment in the sport sector. This course will develop various skills which are required when working in the sports sector such as communication, problem solving, self-management, adaptability and resilience

## Course Content

### Course Content (Year 1)

- Unit 1 - Anatomy and Physiology
- Unit 7 - Practical Sports Performance

### Course Content (Year 2)

- Unit 2 - Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being
- Unit 14 - Professional Development in the Sports Industry

## Assessment

- 33% (Portfolio Evidence)
- 66% Examination

## Progression Routes

All units studied are applied to sport and sports industries. As a result of this, completion of this course may lead to further and higher education and on to careers such as sports coaching, PE teaching, physiotherapy and sports administration.

## Entry Requirements

Level 4 in English, Maths and a Merit or above in Sport.

(All courses are subject to change dependent on student uptake and suitability)



# Physics

## Course Title

Physics

## Awarding Body

OCR

## Course Level

A Level - 2 year

## Course Description

The Physics course takes you on a thrilling journey in discovering the science behind 'matter and energy'. The content is divided up into manageable sized topics allowing the learning of new and existing concepts to be secured before developing the skill of application. Physical science is continuously expanding in the modern world with new developments being discovered all of the time, most recently being the CERN Large Hadron Collider. Taking Physics can provide an entry into a range of higher education routes (not just science based) and can support many employment opportunities.

## Course Content

**Year 12** : Students will complete four topics – Development of practical skills in physics, foundations of physics, forces and motion and also electrons, waves and photons.

**Year 13** : Students will complete a further two units in year 13 – Newtonian world and astrophysics followed by particles and medical physics.

Throughout the two year course, students also need to complete 12 compulsory practical's for the pass or fail Practical assessment.

## Assessment

Throughout the course students will be provided with continuous support, guidance and examination practice to allow them to succeed during assessment.

A2 – 2 exam papers, each 2 ¼ hours plus 1 of 1 ½ hours, and you shall be assessed on your practical skills.

## Progression Routes

A Level Physics is a good academic option which combines well with many other subjects, science and non-science based, providing a firm foundation for those who wish to continue to higher education. Physics is necessary for many career pathways, including Medical Physics, Communications, Energy, Meteorology, and Nanotechnology. Many employers, for those who wish to seek employment, also hold it in high regard.

## Entry Requirements

GCSE level 6 in Science/Physics, English and Mathematics.

(All courses are subject to change dependent on student uptake and suitability)



# Psychology

## Course Title

Psychology

## Awarding Body

AQA

## Course Level

A Level - 2 year

## Course Description

A Level Psychology offers the opportunity to study human behaviour and the human mind in a scientific fashion. Students will learn some of the common theories of Psychology and will analyse these through practical experiments and data collection.

## Course Content

**Year 12** : Students will study two topics - Introductory topics in Psychology where students will learn about social influence, memory and attachment. The second unit, Psychology in Context includes approaches in psychology, psychopathology and research methods.

**Year 13** : In Year 13, students will build on their knowledge and also study Issues and options in Psychology. Students will be expected to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of psychological concepts, theories, research studies; research methods and ethical issues in relation to the specified Paper 3 content; apply psychological knowledge and understanding of the specified

Paper 3 content in a range of contexts; analyse, interpret and evaluate psychological concepts, theories, research studies and research methods in relation to the specified Paper 3 content; and evaluate therapies and treatments including in terms of their appropriateness and effectiveness.

## Assessment

A Level – 3 exam papers, each 2 hours long

## Progression Routes

A Level Psychology is well suited to those students who have an interest in pursuing the subject as a career, such as an Educational Psychologist or Clinical Psychologist. It complements subjects such as Health and Social Care, Biology or Forensic Science. It is a rigorous subject that will prepare all students for either university or employment because it leads to a better understanding of human nature, and the research methods requires students to be analytical.

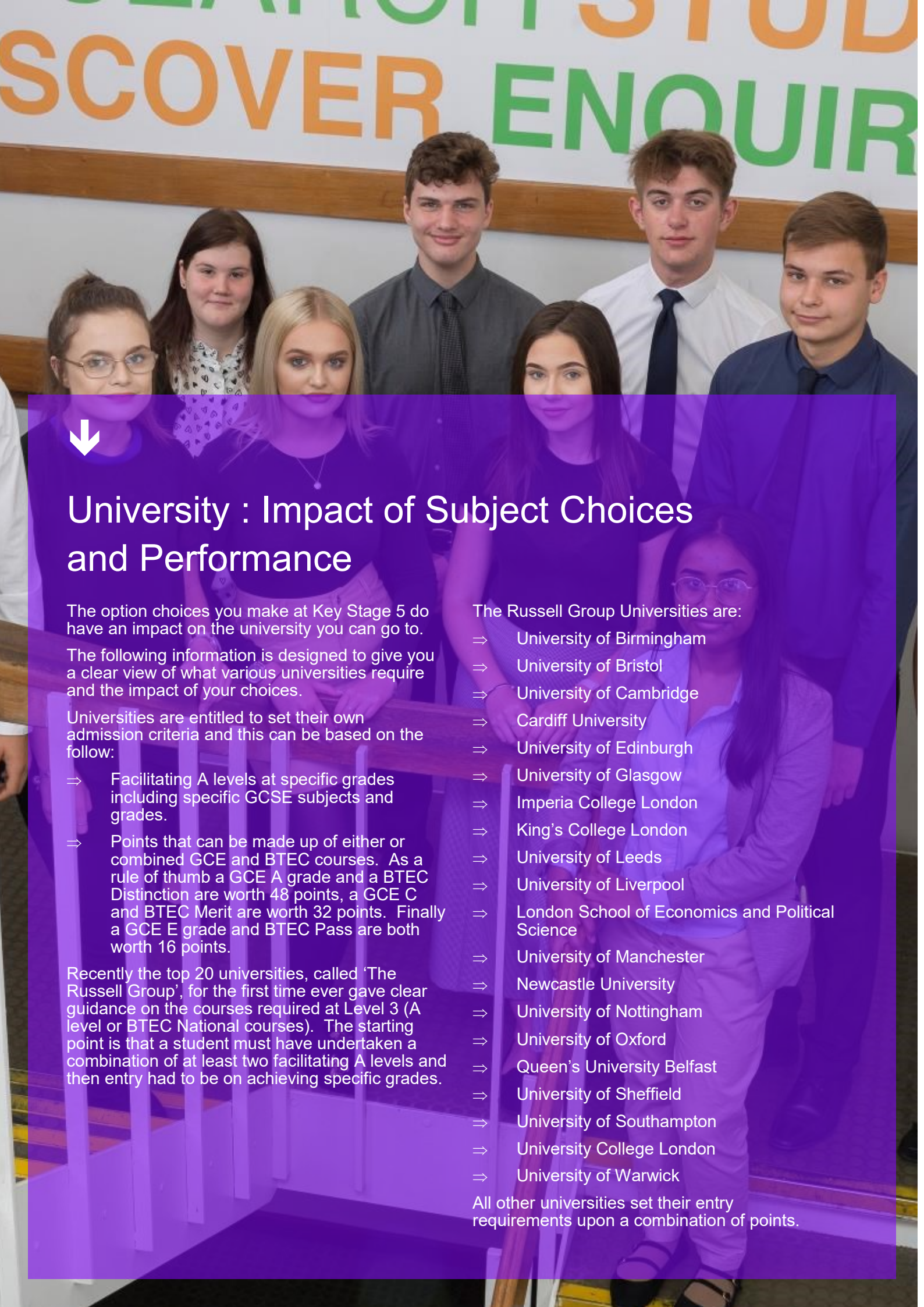
## Entry Requirements

Level 5 in English Language, Maths and Science.

(Please note that the course may run as a Level 3 BTEC )

(All courses are subject to change dependent on student uptake and suitability)





## University : Impact of Subject Choices and Performance

The option choices you make at Key Stage 5 do have an impact on the university you can go to.

The following information is designed to give you a clear view of what various universities require and the impact of your choices.

Universities are entitled to set their own admission criteria and this can be based on the following:

- ⇒ Facilitating A levels at specific grades including specific GCSE subjects and grades.
- ⇒ Points that can be made up of either or combined GCE and BTEC courses. As a rule of thumb a GCE A grade and a BTEC Distinction are worth 48 points, a GCE C and BTEC Merit are worth 32 points. Finally a GCE E grade and BTEC Pass are both worth 16 points.

Recently the top 20 universities, called 'The Russell Group', for the first time ever gave clear guidance on the courses required at Level 3 (A level or BTEC National courses). The starting point is that a student must have undertaken a combination of at least two facilitating A levels and then entry had to be on achieving specific grades.

The Russell Group Universities are:

- ⇒ University of Birmingham
- ⇒ University of Bristol
- ⇒ University of Cambridge
- ⇒ Cardiff University
- ⇒ University of Edinburgh
- ⇒ University of Glasgow
- ⇒ Imperia College London
- ⇒ King's College London
- ⇒ University of Leeds
- ⇒ University of Liverpool
- ⇒ London School of Economics and Political Science
- ⇒ University of Manchester
- ⇒ Newcastle University
- ⇒ University of Nottingham
- ⇒ University of Oxford
- ⇒ Queen's University Belfast
- ⇒ University of Sheffield
- ⇒ University of Southampton
- ⇒ University College London
- ⇒ University of Warwick

All other universities set their entry requirements upon a combination of points.



# Work Experience



All students in Year 12 all undertake a minimum of one week work experience in an area of their choice.

In some courses students will be able to access work experience one morning or afternoon per week throughout the year to supplement career aspirations and practical application of learning. We have a range of contacts, but we also encourage students to seek opportunities that best match their aspirations for the future.

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# Enrichment

All students are able to access a wide variety of enrichment experiences, from debating and Young Enterprise, to cooking for university. Some of these experiences are student led and some are provided by staff. The aim is to make sure that students have experiences beyond their studies and are able to pursue areas of interest.













# Curriculum

Sixth  
Form



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