Welcome

Whether you are thinking about moving onto University, an apprenticeship, employment or a gap year, you can be sure that you will find courses to suit and challenge you at our Sixth Form. With over 30 courses to choose from, we provide varied curriculum that gives you the opportunity to choose subjects you will love and succeed in over the next two years.

We are proud of our Sixth Form and our Sixth Formers. We have a clear sense of community and we know what we do well: academic challenge, life beyond the classroom and providing a supportive environment for you to thrive in.

In this prospectus you can find out how to build your Study Programme and a little about what Sixth Form, and Sixth Formers, are like. You can also see details of all of the courses available to you and find out how to apply. You can find our application form and other helpful information on our website.

We look forward to welcoming you into our Sixth Form as Year 12 in 2020.

Rob Morgan, Head of Sixth Form

“We set no limits on what we can achieve.”
Welcome from the Student Council

Hi, I’m Chloe and I am the President of the Sixth Form Council. I am studying Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics, I joined Churchill from Worle School at the beginning of Year 12. I aspire to become a neurosurgeon and study Medicine at University next year. I have gained leadership qualities by leading weekly meetings, where we discuss upcoming events and how to improve our already flourishing Sixth Form. Our events include fundraising activities and enterprise activities, we also have a range of sub-committees that work on specific topics such as mental health, environmentalism and our annual Revue. All our money raised for the Year 13 Leavers’ Ball and our charity Guide Dogs.

Hi, we’re the Vice Presidents of our Sixth Form Council. With the ability to pool together ideas from throughout our student body, our Council plays an important role in developing new ideas, planning and putting them into action. We are an active group that seek to make a difference to our community, listening to the voice of our fellow Sixth Formers and looking for opportunities to improve. It’s important that we show kindness to each other and try to maintain the ‘outstanding’ reputation. Churchill lives up to the challenge, particularly through the Specialist Tutor Program as it really helps to actively involve students in their studies and is a great support system. In our roles in the Council, we hope that we can play our part too.
Entry into Sixth Form

Entry Criteria

To join our Sixth Form you need to achieve Level 5 in three of your GCSEs and a Level 4 in two others. To join particular Sixth Form courses you will need to meet the specific subject’s entry criteria. You can see what they are later in the Prospectus. Your chosen subjects form the main part of your ‘Study Programme’. Most students follow the ‘general study programme’ but if you have good reason you may wish to opt for the ‘enhanced study programme’.

A Levels, BTECs or CTECS?

All of our courses are ‘Level 3’ which means that they are all A Level or equivalent, for example a Distinction * has the same UCAS points as an A* at A level. Most of our subjects are A Level but we offer BTECs and CTECs in some subjects because the diploma style of learning suits the subject better. The biggest benefit of these courses is their modular assessment method, whereas A Levels are linear courses with all of the exams at the end. By choosing three subjects you are able to choose a broad curriculum rather than focusing on a single route. You can have a mixture of A levels with BTECs or CTECS. If you are considering a particular University course that you think might require a particular subject it is worth checking the UCAS website to help you make your choices.
General Sixth Form Study Programme Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Option</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Study</td>
<td>3 A Levels or equivalent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic extension study</td>
<td>EPQ or Core Maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic support (for those not taking EPQ)</td>
<td>Study Skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pastoral Care</td>
<td>Tutor Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progression and planning</td>
<td>Specialist Tutor Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellbeing and wider experience</td>
<td>Work experience, volunteering, university</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>visits, physical activity and sport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent learning</td>
<td>Private study lessons</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Note: If you have not achieved a Level 4 in GCSE English or maths before starting Sixth Form, you will have re-take lessons added to your study programme. Re-take exams are taken in November and May.

Enhanced study components

Students who achieve Level 7 or above in the majority of their GCSE subjects are entitled to apply for an Enhanced Study Programme if they wish. This includes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Option</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Study</td>
<td>4 A Levels (one may be taken as an AS*)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic extension study</td>
<td>EPQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pastoral Care</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Art, Art-Textiles, Photography, Music, Music Technology and Design and Technology are only available as a two year programme
Specialist Tutor Programme

We know how important it is to have inspirational and specialist teachers. We also know how important it is that you get the opportunity to explore your interests and refine your focus, particularly as you begin to plan the steps you want to take after Sixth Form.

We make sure this happens through our ‘Specialist Tutor Programme’. Every Tutor Group is specialised with a particular theme and a Specialist Tutor to guide and support you. Whether you are a budding musical performer, a future politician, physicist, economist or environmentalist you will find specialist support and a wide range of super-curricular activities to help you develop your passion.

You will see your Specialist Tutor every day and you’ll have dedicated time to explore your interests through our Specialist Tutor Programme every week through projects, visiting speakers and seminars. We are proud of STP and work closely with a wide range of employers, apprenticeships and HE providers to deliver it.

Our Specialist Tutor themes are:

- Sport and Fitness
- Psychology and Social Sciences
- Creative Arts
- History and Politics
- Maths
- Science and Health
- Science and Medics
- Economics and Business
- Music and Music Technology
- Performing Arts
- English and Media
- IT and Business
- Science and Engineering
- Geography and Environmentalism.
Guidance and Progression

Activities in the Specialist Tutor Programme are tailored to make sure that students with particular interests are well supported in their preparation for the future. In addition, the UCAS application process is delivered through large and small group sessions from outside speakers and our own experts. Students who are keen to pursue courses at Russell Group Universities or Oxbridge are also encouraged to take part in our associated programmes with Bristol University through ‘Access to Bristol’ and Cambridge University’s ‘HE+’ scheme to help them prepare.

For students keen to progress into employment or apprenticeships we offer extended programmes with local employers such as Edwards Vacuum, Specsavers and more, helping you to be ‘industry-ready’ by the time you leave Sixth Form.
Important Information

The Sixth Former’s Hours

We expect every Sixth Former to be fully committed to their study programme, meeting deadlines and taking an active interest in their learning. Sixth Formers choose to be here and choose their subjects; interest and commitment to your studies is essential. We expect good communication and maturity from our Sixth Formers; good attendance and punctuality are vital characteristics of an engaged student.

We have a full-time timetable. The Sixth Former’s day starts at 8.40am and finishes at 3.20pm on Monday to Thursday, with an early finish (2.40pm) on Fridays. Every student has private study built into their timetable to enable them to develop independent learning skills and manage their workload effectively. You are expected to put plenty of time aside for home learning too.

The Sixth Former’s Role

As a Sixth Former, you will want to do well – the very best you can – and hopefully surpass expectations. You will be passionate about your studies, flourishing in the subjects you’ve chosen and excited about where they might take you. You will almost certainly have one eye on your future plans, your time in Sixth Form goes quickly so it helps to be thinking ahead. You will be a community-minded person and an excellent role-model to other students, always helpful, kind and considerate.
The Sixth Former’s Transport

Most students opt for the ‘vacant places’ scheme on the existing school bus programme (please see the website for further details). Some students use public transport; we offer a shuttle bus that transports students who catch the 126, helping them to get safely to and from the closest bus stop (near the Railway Inn, Sandford) to Churchill every day. We continue to work with local bus companies to help ease transport issues so please check our website for further developments during the year.

Many students cycle or lift share. Students are able to store bikes safely on site and can park their cars in the Academy car park once they have obtained a parking permit.

Financial Assistance

The Government allocates funds to the Academy to support students who are in need of financial assistance. The support is usually given to students who are, or have been, in receipt of Free School Meals. However, there are exceptions as the fund is discretionary. If you think you may be eligible please complete the Post 16 Bursary Form on the website or collect one from the Sixth Form Office. We are keen to support students in removing financial barriers to learning wherever we can. The bursary fund can be used for a wide range of purposes including: IT equipment, stationery, transport to open days, fieldtrip costs and much more.

Trips

We have a wide range of trips, too many to list here, but you might be interested to find out when and where the big trips are taking place. For example, recent trips have included Berlin, the USA, Kenya and Austria.
Beyond the Classroom

The range of opportunities available to Sixth Formers beyond the classroom is too vast to list here. Our aim is to provide extra-curricular and super-curricular activities that give you ample opportunity to develop your character and to translate your love of learning from the classroom to the wider life.
In Focus: Industry placements

We expect every Sixth Former to take part in Work Experience, for around 30 hours, to help them prepare well for their future choices and develop their skills. The hours can be spent over one dedicated week or an hour every week, or something in between. We let you decide how and when to organise your placement so that you can do the most valuable activity possible. You log your work experience on Grofar, an online careers profile, so that you can connect together your experiences, skills and plan for your next steps.

We are fortunate to have a wide range of employers and Universities who work with us. I’m pleased to announce that two of our employers are going to work even more closely with a few students over the coming years. Specsavers and Edwards Vacuum are offering an extended industry placements for students with particular A Level profiles to help you become their workforce of tomorrow. Places will be awarded based upon strength of application (in October of Year 12) and are likely to include the following opportunities over the course of Year 12 and 13:

- Extended, high quality, work experience
- Industry visits
- Interview and application preparation
- Mentoring
- Talks and workshops
- Links with Higher Education and training

We’re delighted to see employers willing to support the Academy and help prepare our students through high quality investment to be ‘Edwards-ready’ or ‘Specsavers-ready’ by the time they leave Sixth Form.
In Focus: Performing Arts Community Project

“As a member of the Performing Arts course, I was part of a project which aimed to lift the spirits of those at a local Homeless shelter, Somewhere To Go, in Weston-Super-Mare. As a class, we wanted to bring the uplifting effects of song and dance to the disadvantaged and vulnerable adults that attend the centre.

The project took place over a few months and consisted of weekly visits to the shelter. We spent time during our lessons polishing off our renditions of the enthusiastically requested Mr. Blue Sky, Build me up Buttercup, Wonderwall and we even attempted to recreate the works of Eminem! There were plenty of smiles and bopping heads in the audience when we performed! After a few weeks, we were even gifted with seeing the inner-performers of those at the homeless shelter as they joined in the act, joining forces to create a cover choir!

After hearing the stories of some of the people at Somewhere To Go, I became increasingly aware of the privileged position that I am in; to be able to be part of a project that could put a smile on the face of others, from significantly different backgrounds, was infinitely rewarding.

My class and I felt so rewarded by the experience that we knew it was imperative to leave a legacy. We spent the weeks following our visits raising money, in order to buy an electric piano and other instruments for the centre. We have since heard that there is now rarely a quiet moment in the centre and many people have been inspired to take up learning a new skill. The music lives on!”

Orla Doherty, Year 13
In Focus: Volunteering

We expect every Sixth Former to take part in volunteering. It’s a great way to build your skills, confidence and experience; it’s also important to recognise you’re a role model to others and you have a part to play in society.

Louise Partridge, Year 13, describes what she’s done this year:

“I volunteer for Boost Academy. This is a non-profit organisation based in Weston-Super-Mare. I help with the trampoline rebound therapy for children struggling with any school and learning difficulties, disabilities and mental health issues. From this, I have been given the opportunity to become a qualified coach in this area of trampolining and have also been lucky enough to meet the Mayor of Weston and High Sheriff of North Somerset.

Boost Academy has moved to a new centre which as well as trampoline rebound therapy now offers music lessons, education and tutoring as well as counselling for children, young people and adults. I have decorated the new space with relevant art work for the organisation.

I have enjoyed making a difference in the children’s lives. I have found the whole volunteering experience hugely rewarding and it has boosted my own self confidence.”
In Focus: Alumnus
Elliot Scott

Elliot was the Council President in 2016. We asked Elliot what he has been doing since he left Sixth Form.

“In between University and Sixth Form I went on a gap year, during which I took part in the ICS (International Citizen Service) scheme. ICS is a government-funded overseas volunteer programme. I spent part of it, three months, living in Nigeria where I was working with a mixture of Nigerian and EU volunteers and living with two Nigerian boys. It was an absolutely incredible opportunity to take part in; it felt like sustainable volunteer work with a genuine view to improving the lives of the people we were working with.

I left Churchill in 2017 and am now studying Drama at the University of Manchester. My move to university was so much easier by the experiences I had during ICS, spending time away from home in an unfamiliar environment, working with strangers and all kinds of different challenges. In turn, my time on ICS was made much easier by the experiences I had at Churchill, particularly in terms of the leadership and organisational skills the programme demanded. While at Churchill, I was the President of the Sixth Form Council for a year.

I learnt an enormous amount about organising people and running activities, which proved immensely helpful. Also, the fact that I chose to pursue Drama as a degree (despite being set on studying History throughout Sixth Form) is testament to the fantastic Performing Arts department at the school, without whom I truly would not be doing what I am doing now. It is my dream to become a writer and the opportunities I had at Sixth Form to perform my own work, (whether through Performing Arts, at the Christmas Revue, or through the Gabblers after-dinner speaking competition I was involved in) made me realise that writing was just what I wanted to do.”
Moving On

UNIVERSITIES

Aberystwyth University: 3
Bath Spa University: 3
Bournemouth University: 4
Bristol UWE: 1
Cardiff Metropolitan University: 1
Cardiff University: 6
Liverpool Hope University: 1
Northbrook College Sussex: 1
Nottingham Trent University: 3
Oxford Brookes University: 2
Plymouth University: 8
Queen Mary University of London: 1
Sheffield Hallam University: 1
Southampton Solent University: 1
Swansea University: 4
The Manchester College: 1
The Manchester Metropolitan University: 4
The University of Gloucestershire: 2
The University of Kent: 1
The University of Liverpool: 1
The University of Manchester: 4
The University of Stirling: 1
University of Bath: 3
University of Bristol: 1
University of Cambridge: 1
University of Exeter: 5
University of Newcastle upon Tyne: 1
University of Oxford: 2
University of Reading: 3
University of Southampton: 4
University of Surrey: 1
University of Sussex: 2
University of Winchester: 1
University of Wolverhampton: 1
University of Worcester: 1
University of York: 1

No. of Students

32% of students going to HE went to a Russell Group University.

11% progressed into Apprenticeships and employment

20% students have taken a Gap Year

- 8-10
- 6-7
- 4-5
- 2-3
- 1
# Application Process

## Key Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13th November 2019</td>
<td>Sixth Form Open Evening. Application season begins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th January 2020</td>
<td>Apply to us before this date and we will almost certainly be able to provide you with the choices that you want.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th January 2020</td>
<td>Any applications after this date will need to fit into the option blocks that will be built based upon students subject choices received prior to the 6th January.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th January - Easter 2020</td>
<td>Interview season. Interviews are conducted by Mr Morgan, Mr Hildrew or Mr Travis. During your interview we will find out about your interests, your chosen subjects and your plans for the future. We will offer you a place based upon your interview and confirm the offer in writing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th June 2020</td>
<td>Sixth Form Induction Day. Meet your tutor, teachers and take part in your induction lessons for your subjects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th August 2020</td>
<td>GCSE results day followed by Sixth Form and subject choice confirmation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that subject choices can, and do, change throughout the year. Please apply based upon your best choices at the time and if you change your mind, please contact us.
List of Subjects

Applied Science
Art*
Art Textiles*
Biology
Business Studies
Chemistry
Design & Technology*
Economics
English Language
English Literature
Food Science
French
Further Mathematics
Geography
Government & Politics
History
Health & Social Care

IT*
Law
Mathematics
Media Studies
Music*
Music Technology*
Performing Arts
Philosophy & Ethics
Photography*
Physical Education
Physics
Psychology
Sociology
Spanish

Core Maths
Extended Project Qualification

* only available as a two year programme
Cambridge Technical in Applied Science qualifications provides students with the underpinning knowledge and understanding of scientific principles and practical techniques to carry out experiments safely and accurately. Students will have the opportunity to collect, analyse, evaluate and present primary data and evaluate the analytical techniques to improve the quality and collection of data. Cambridge Technicals provide a strong base for progression to university, apprenticeships or work and are recognised for UCAS tariff points.

**Topics/areas covered:**

**Science fundamentals:**
Chemical structures of elements and compounds, reactions in chemical and biological systems, cell organisation and structures, principles of carbon chemistry, importance of inorganic chemistry in living systems, and structures, properties and uses of materials.

**Laboratory techniques:**
Importance of health and safety and quality systems to industry, separate, identify and quantify the amount of substances present in a mixture, determine the concentration of an acid or base using titration, examine and record features of biological samples, identify cations and anions in samples and use the aseptic technique.

**Control of hazards in the laboratory:**
The types of hazard that may be encountered in a laboratory, health and safety procedures, designing a safe functioning laboratory to manage the risk presented by hazards.

**Microbiology:**
Classify and identify micro-organisms, use of micro-organisms in agriculture, use microbiology in food production, the action of antimicrobials on microorganisms.

**Product testing techniques:**
The influence of regulatory bodies on development of consumer products, how product testing determines the development of consumer products, use quantitative titration techniques on consumer products, use extraction and separation techniques on consumer products.

**Leading to:**
Careers in Health Care and the Health Service, Medical Careers and Animal Care.

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**Subject specific entry requirements:**
1 x Grade 5 and 1 x Grade 4 in GCSE Science and Grade 4 in GCSE Maths

**Skills required:**
- Independent Learning
- Commitment
- Adaptability - learning from your mistakes, and applying them to move forward
ART - A Level

Fine Art at A Level builds on the foundations laid in GCSE. Those who enjoy working in a practical and creative way will revel in the opportunity to express their ideas. Using a variety of methods and materials they will experiment visually and extend their skills, developing personal projects that respond to a range of themes. The course encourages students to recognise the need to communicate and express ideas visually and to be able to project plan and problem solve. Skills which are desired in all professions.

**Topics/areas covered:**

**Year 12**
Coursework units based on the theme of Narrative and a chosen theme based on the current Edexcel Exam question. Students wishing to enter work at AS level will have a ten hour, two day practical exam.

**Year 13**
Coursework unit based on a given theme, made up of developmental work and final pieces. Essay (1500 words) continuous prose based on area of study. Exam unit, externally set broad based theme. Development of ideas in portfolio/sketchbook leading to 15 hour practical exam.

**Leading to:**
- Architect
- Interior Designer
- Textiles Designer
- Art Teacher
- Sign Writer
- Scenery Painter
- Landscape Architect
- Graphic Designer
- Animator
- Floristry

The list is huge and varied!

**Extra:**
- Life drawing classes
- Gallery visits
Art Textiles is a perfect way for students wishing to extend and develop their Art, Textiles and Fashion studies to a greater depth.

Throughout the course students will expand and develop their existing skills. They will explore a variety of traditional and experimental techniques to produce outcomes that range from fashion garments to textile art. Students will be encouraged to develop their work independently based upon their individual interests. The course will be enriched with opportunities for observational drawing and gallery visits.

**Topics/areas covered**

The course consists of four units, as follows:

Unit 1 - Coursework: Expressive
Unit 2 - Controlled Assignment (10 hours)
Unit 3 - Coursework: Contextual Study
Unit 4 - Controlled Test (12 hours)

**Leading to:**

- Fashion Designer
- Fashion Merchandising
- Sales and Marketing
- Fashion and Textiles Buyer
- Garment Technologist
- Fashion Journalist
- Pattern Maker
- Fashion Illustrator

These are just a few examples of jobs available within the Fashion and Textiles sector.

**Extra:**

- Join the Fashion Show, help to organise and showcase your own garments/accessories in the ‘End Of Year Fashion Show’.
- Visit exhibitions to develop your appreciation of art.
- 1:1 help to build your portfolio ready to progress on after A Levels.

**Subject specific entry requirements:**

- Grade 5 in GCSE Art or Art Textiles

**Skills required:**

- Analytical thinking
- Curiosity
- Independence
BIOLOGY - A Level

Biology at A Level builds on the foundations taught in GCSE. If you have a passion for understanding the living world and have a desire to take this further you will enjoy the opportunity to study a diverse range of topics in a new and in-depth way. The A Level in Biology covers a broad range of biological concepts. You will discover how to develop different application skills that enable you to apply your theoretical knowledge in unfamiliar situations. Interpreting and analysing data to draw conclusions are key skills that are highly regarded in many professions.

**Topics/areas covered:**

**Year 12**
- Biological molecules
- Cells
- Organisms exchange substances with their environment
- Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms

**Year 13**
- Energy transfer in and between organisms
- Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
- Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems

**Leading to:**
A wealth of varied career options such as:
- Medicine, Veterinary Sciences, Nursing, Emergency Services, Dentistry, Biological Research, Careers within the NHS, Teaching, Bio-Engineering, Food industry, Pharmacology, Pharmacy, Environmental Conservation, Zoology, Biotechnology, Forensics, Various careers in government and policy, careers within Science publishing.

**Extra:**
- A residential field trip at the end of the Year 1 course (usually in July) to cover the practical techniques required for one of the required practical tasks relating to ecology.
- Trips to university workshops/lectures
- Biology ‘101’ drop in sessions at lunchtimes and after school where you can access help and support.

**Subject specific entry requirements:**
- 2x Grade 6 in GCSE Science, including Biology and Grade 5 in GCSE Maths

**Skills required:**
- Perseverance and resilience
- Problem solving and investigative
- Self-motivation and organisation
BUSINESS STUDIES - A Level

Business is front page news. The way companies operate is under greater scrutiny than ever before, while TV programmes like The Apprentice and Dragons’ Den have raised the profile of business to a new generation. The new Business Studies A Level enables students to engage with, explore and understand business behaviour and develop a critical understanding of what business is and does. Business Studies at A Level assesses quantitative skills, which make up a minimum of 10% of the overall marks. The skills tested include ratios, averages, fractions, percentages and calculation of profit and loss.

Topics/areas covered in Year 12 & 13:

- What is business?
- Managers, leadership and decision making
- Decision making to improve marketing performance
- Decision making to improve operational performance
- Decision making to improve financial performance
- Decision making to improve human resource performance
- Analysing the strategic position of a business
- Choosing strategic direction
- Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies
- Managing strategic change

Leading to:


Extra:

- Business trip to Thatchers
- BASE Competition – students undertake business challenges that enable them to develop key employability skills and understand what it’s like to be an ICAEW Chartered Accountant.
- Opportunity to be an active participant of our recently formed “Churchill’s Economic and Business Society” - involving monthly external speakers.

Subject specific entry requirements:

Grade 5 in GCSE Maths or Grade 6 in GCSE Business Studies

Skills required:

- Analytical/logical thinking skills
- Extended writing skills
- Evaluative writing skills
Chemistry is both a fascinating and challenging science course that contains a good balance of practical work and theory.

Chemistry helps students to develop a wide range of skills such as practical work, report writing, calculations and theory work. Students with a good grade at Chemistry A Level are well respected by universities. Chemistry is recognised as a challenging and demanding course that requires hard-work, self-motivation and good study skills.

Students enjoy the greater range of practical work at A Level, under the three main areas.

Topics/areas covered:

**Year 12**
- Organic Chemistry 1
  Introduction to organic chemistry, Alkanes, Alkenes, Alcohols and Organic analysis.
- Physical Chemistry 1
  Atomic structure, Amount of substance, Bonding, Energetics, Kinetics, Oxidation, reduction and redox equations.
- Inorganic Chemistry 1
  Periodicity, Group 2, the alkaline earth metals, Group 7 and the halogens.

**Year 13**
- Organic Chemistry 2
  Optimal isomerism, Aldehydes and ketones, Carboxylic acids and derivatives, Acylation, Aromatic chemistry, Amines, Polymers, Amino acids, proteins and DNA, Organic synthesis and NMR.
- Physical Chemistry 2
  Thermodynamics, Rate equations, Equilibria, Electrode potentials, Acids and bases.
- Inorganic Chemistry 2
  Properties of period 3 elements and their oxides, Transition metals, Reactions of ions in aqueous solutions.

**Leading to:**

There are many options available to students after studying Chemistry A Level. Chemistry complements any science related degree or job; it is also essential for many degrees such as further chemistry, biochemistry, medicine or veterinary science, chemical engineering, environmental science, drug design and synthesis, pharmacy, material science, and many more. Chemistry graduates are also highly valued in the world of finance and commerce.

**Extra:**

- Weekly Chemistry 101 sessions at lunchtime where you can access help and support.

**Subject specific entry requirements:**

- 2x Grade 6 in GCSE Science, including Chemistry and Grade 5 in GCSE Maths

**Skills required:**

- Logical and analytical thinking
- Investigative and problem solving
- Self motivation and organisation
Core Maths is a Level 3 qualification to be taken alongside your other three or four Sixth Form subjects. The course is aimed at students who would benefit from studying Maths beyond GCSE but do not want to study an A Level in Maths.

The Core Maths qualification is designed to maintain and develop real-life mathematical skills. The content can be directly applied to work, life and other subjects.

The applicability of Core Maths to the Maths used in A Level courses will help you to perform better in your other subjects. A Level subjects specifically supported by Core Maths include:

- Applied Science
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Economics
- Geography
- Physics
- Psychology
- Sociology

The qualification is equivalent to an AS Level but has a smaller time commitment, which means it can easily fit around your other subjects.

**Topics covered:**
- Personal finance: budgeting, saving, income tax and student loans
- Data analysis techniques including those used in A-level Psychology, Geography and Sociology
- Interpreting the types of graphs and charts that are regularly referred to in A-level Sciences, Business Studies and Economics
- Estimating numbers relevant to business needs e.g. electricity usage given the size of a household, petrol usage given distance travelled, income from membership fees given how people use a gym
- Consideration of how data can be used in the media to mislead

Mathematical aptitude is becoming increasingly important in the workplace and in higher education. Studying Core Maths will help you to keep up with these essential skills.

**Subject specific entry requirements:**
Grade 4 in GCSE Maths

**Skills required:**
- A readiness to make connections between concepts learned in different subjects
- An enjoyment of problem solving
- A motivation to succeed
Design and Technology at A-Level allows you to specialise and excel whether you have come from a GCSE background in Graphics or Resistant Materials, or neither. Students master knowledge and understanding of materials and processes and design and make a range of projects. The whole design and make process is explored allowing students to evidence the key skills that the Government, Industry and Universities are crying out for... including the ability to research, problem solve, design, develop, make and evaluate.

**Topics/areas covered:**

**Year 12**
- Materials and Processes theory
- Making projects - including entry into a competition at The North Somerset Show
- Computer Aided Design
- Design Era studies

**Year 13**
- Coursework which is worth 50% of the course:
- A Design and Make project with a real client who you will find and work with. Previous Clients include ITV, Bristol Airport, The Houses of Parliament, even The Wurzels!!

**Leading to:**

- Designing
- Computing (including game design)
- Engineering
- Manufacturing
- Construction
- Architecture
- Publishing
- Aviation industry
- Military
- Teaching
- Theatre

The list is endless! Creative industries is the fastest growing sector of the UK economy.

**Extra:**

- Vocational work to keep you sharp and bring you up to A*
- Trips to university workshops/lectures
- After school making sessions where required
The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is taken in addition to your other Sixth Form subjects. It is an AQA Level 3 course and is equivalent to an AS Level. Essentially it is a 5000 word project, chosen on a topic of your choice that you are not currently studying as part of your A Level specifications. There are a number of taught sessions delivered by a team of supervisors as well as regular review meetings.

**The EPQ requires you to:**

- Choose an area of interest
- Draft a title and aims of the project for formal approval by the centre
- Plan, research and carry out the project
- Deliver a presentation to a specified audience of fellow students and your supervisor
- Provide evidence of all stages of project through a production log

**Topics/areas covered:**

You can complete your EPQ on any topic area that interests you, it might be related to a career you are interested in, a hobby or an extension to a favourite topic within a subject that you want to learn more about. A 5000 word dissertation or the production of an artefact such as a performance piece, a dance a presentation to a group or a scientific report. You then deliver a presentation to a group of individuals about the “journey” you have been on throughout your project. The written report is then submitted to your supervisor for marking. You will receive a grade for your project equivalent to an AS level which you can use to support your UCAS application.

**Extra:**

You will be assigned a supervisor who will meet with you at specific intervals during your project to review your progress and support you with the completion of your EPQ. You will also deliver your presentation to your supervisor who will also mark your finished project.
ECONOMICS - A Level

Economics at A Level is a rigorous, highly respected subject, it is not essential to have studied Economics at GCSE. An interest in the UK and global economy is vital. With economic issues top of the agenda in the UK, EU and the wider world, it is an exciting time to be studying this subject. We cover both micro-economics (individual markets such as oil) and macro-economics (the national economy). You will learn to analyse and evaluate topics such as market forces, competition, the power of large companies, labour markets, externalities, behavioural economics, economic growth, unemployment, inflation, financial markets, Europe and globalisation.

**Topics/areas covered in Year 12 & 13:**

Individuals, firms, markets and market failure:
- Economic methodology and the economic problem
- Individual economic decision making
- Price determination in a competitive market
- Production, costs and revenue
- Competitive and concentrated markets
- The labour market
- The distribution of income and wealth: poverty and inequality
- The market mechanism, market failure and government intervention in markets

The national and international economy:
- The measurement of macro-economic performance
- How the macro-economy works: the circular flow of income, AD/AS analysis, and related concepts
- Economic performance
- Financial markets and monetary policy
- Fiscal and supply-side policies
- The international economy

**Leading to:**

Economics provides a strong grounding for the following professions:
- Economist
- Management consultant
- Accountant
- Financial and banking sector executive
- Teacher
- Politician
- Market analyst
- Journalist

**Extra:**

- Attendance at regional Sixth Form Economics Conference

Subject specific entry requirements:
- Grade 6 in GCSE Maths or GCSE Economics

Skills required:
- Analytical/logical thinking skills
- Extended writing skills
- Evaluative writing skills
ENGLISH LANGUAGE - A Level

English Language A Level offers students the opportunity to develop their English skills by engaging creatively and critically with a wide range of texts and discourses. Investigate the presentation of stereotypes in the media, learn a huge range of new linguistic terms, explore how language changes when used for written, spoken and electronic communication, discover how children develop their ability to use language, create your own original texts and uncover why language changes across time and place.

Topics/areas covered:

Year 12
Component 1: Language and the individual
Component 2: Language varieties

Year 13
Component 1: Language, the individual and society
Component 2: Language diversity and change
Component 3: Coursework- “Language in action”

Leading to:

English Language students often go on to careers in:

- Journalism
- Writing
- Teaching
- Television
- Publishing
- Media
- Advertising & Marketing
- Law

Extra:

- Creative writing weekend at Springhead
- KS5 book groups and clubs are offered

Subject specific entry requirements:
Grade 5 in GCSE English Language

Skills required:
- Analytic / evaluative
- Keen interest in Language
- Autonomous / independent learning
ENGLISH LITERATURE - A Level

English Literature A Level offers students the opportunity to develop their literary analysis skills by engaging creatively and critically with a diverse range of novels, plays and poems from both the past and the present. More of what students are used to – but on a bigger scale – e.g. we compare two poets rather than just two poems! Discover the great plays, novels and poems through the ages, including Shakespeare’s Hamlet, Bronte’s Jane Eyre and John Keats’ work. It’s an opportunity to explore life’s great themes: love, death, revenge, nature, betrayal, power and being young!

Topics/areas covered:

Year 12
Component 1: Pre 1900 prose fiction
Component 2: Poetry and Drama

Year 13
Component 1: Pre 1900 poetry and Post 1900 poetry
Component 2: One Shakespeare play & a pair of plays; one pre-1900, one post-1900
Component 3: Unseen prose and unseen poetry
Component 4: Prose study coursework

Leading to:

English Literature students often go on to careers in:

- Law
- Journalism
- Writing
- Teaching
- Television
- Publishing
- Media
- Advertising & Marketing

Extra:

- Creative writing weekend at Springhead
- KS5 book groups and clubs are offered
If you enjoy cooking and want to develop your practical skills as well as learning about healthy eating and the science behind the food we eat, then this is the course for you.

An understanding of Food Science and Nutrition is relevant to many industries and job roles. The Food and Drink Industry is one of the largest sectors across the globe – everyone has to eat every single day – thus there will always be jobs available. Skills can be utilised for many different aspects of the food world, with jobs in marketing, teaching, safety, quality management, nutrition, sales, teaching and many, many more.

**Topics/areas covered:**

- Developing a range of practical skills
- Meeting the nutritional needs of specific groups e.g. vegetarians, diabetics
- Ensuring Food is safe to eat e.g. food poisoning
- Experimenting to solve Food production problems e.g. mass production
- Current issues in Food Science and Nutrition e.g. the new sugar tax, obesity in the UK

**Leading to:**

Here are some of the many possibilities in job roles
- Food Technologists
- Nutritionists
- Butchers
- Chefs
- Marketing Managers
- Food Buyers
- Dieticians
- Environmental Health Officers
- Food Stylists
- Sports coaches and Fitness Instructors.
- Food Manufacturers and Government Agencies also use this knowledge to develop menus, food products and policies that support healthy eating initiatives

**Extra:**

Trips to our established Food Industry connections:
- Somerset Charcuterie; Butchery courses; Thatchers; Chocolate making workshops; University of Cardiff – specialise in Food manufacture and buying.
- Restaurant visits including The Pony & Trap in Chew Magna
An ability to speak French and English is an advantage on the international job market. Knowledge of French opens the doors to French companies in France and other French-speaking parts of the world (Canada, Switzerland, Belgium, and North and sub-Saharan Africa). As the world’s fifth biggest economy and number-three destination for foreign investment, France is a key economic partner. We believe being able to speak another language is an essential tool in the cosmopolitan world we live in. If you are bilingual, you will be more marketable and have more career choices than your monolingual counterpart when you leave school.

**Topics/areas covered:**

Aspects of French-speaking society:
- The changing nature of family
- The ‘cyber-society’
- The place of voluntary work
- Life for the marginalised
- How criminals are treated

Artistic culture in the French-speaking world
- A culture proud of its heritage
- Contemporary francophone music
- Cinema

Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world
- Teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment
- Demonstrations, strikes
- Politics and immigration

**Leading to:**
- Teacher
- Language trainer
- Translator
- Engineering
- Banking
- Civil service
- Travel and tourism
- Secretary/PA
- Marketing
- Public relations
- Pharmaceutical work

**Extra:**

Whenever possible we encourage our students to take part in organised trips to foreign language lectures, films and events and have good contacts with our local universities.

**Subject specific entry requirements:**

Grade 6 in GCSE French

**Skills required:**
- Diligence
- Perseverance
- Logic
A Level Further Mathematics is a challenging qualification that extends knowledge and understanding beyond A Level Mathematics. Mathematically rich university courses such as Mathematics, Engineering, Finance, Computing or the Sciences look favourably upon, and sometimes require, a Further Mathematics qualification. Students considering these options should strongly consider Further Mathematics, especially those students thinking about studying a fourth A Level.

**Topics/areas covered:**

- Pure Mathematics: complex numbers, matrices, differential equations
- Statistics and Mechanics studied in more depth than at A-level
- Discrete Mathematics: networks, computer algorithms, game theory

**Leading to:**

Further Mathematics is particularly valuable to STEM professions but has an extensive list of future possibilities:

- Engineering
- Accountancy / Finance
- Medicine
- Manufacturing
- Computer Science
- Any other science
- Teaching
- Statistical analysis (with data from social networks now readily available, this is a rapidly developing industry).
- Intelligence analysis (spying, code breaking)

**Extra:**

- UKMT National Challenge competitions
- Trips to universities
- Weekly support sessions after school
GEOGRAPHY - A Level

Subject specific entry requirements:
Grade 5 at GCSE in Geography

Skills required:
- A genuine interest in world issues
- Problem solving skills
- Evaluative skills

Understanding that Geography is part of all aspects of life helps enable students to engage critically with real world issues and develop their knowledge and love of places. Geographers will be required to apply their own geographical knowledge, understanding and skills to make sense of the world around them, keeping up to date with relevant and real case studies. Our qualification offers an issue based approach to studying geography, enabling students to explore and evaluate contemporary geographical issues.

Topics/areas covered:

**Year 12**
- Topic 1 - Tectonic processes and hazards
- Topic 2 - Landscape systems, processes and change: Coastal landscapes
- Topic 3 - Globalisation
- Topic 4 - Shaping places and Regenerating places
Coursework: Independent investigation

**Year 13**
- Topic 5 - The water cycle and water insecurity
- Topic 6 - The carbon cycle and energy security
- Topic 7 - Superpowers

**Leading to:**
Geography is a broad subject, important in its own right yet complements other subjects well. Geography provides many transferable skills, valued by all employers.

Careers which may specifically use Geography include: Cartographer, Hydrologist, Weather Presenter, Estate Manager, Town Planner, Teacher, Aid Worker, Travel Agent, Remote Sensing Analyst, Geologist, Flood Prevention Officer, Conservation Officer, Transport Manager, Diplomat, Charity Coordinator, Eco-Tourism Advisor, Civil Engineer, Refugee Advisor, GIS specialist and many, many more.

**Extra:**
- ‘There are 4 days compulsory fieldwork which is undertaken as a residential trip to a Field Studies Centre at Slapton Ley, Devon in Year 12
- Opportunity to subscribe to Geographical Review magazine.
GOVERNMENT & POLITICS - A Level

Rarely has there been a more vibrant and important time to be studying Government & Politics. From the Brexit negotiations and the rise of Corbynism on the left, to the global appeal of populism and the election of Donald Trump in the USA - an understanding of Politics is proving to be crucial in a fast-changing world. This subject will appeal to anyone who cares about the future direction of their country, Europe and the world. Lessons will involve debates and discussions on the current issues and recently we have had a trip to Parliament and a visit from our MP, John Penrose. Students also get the opportunity to take part in the prestigious North Somerset Schools Parliamentary Debating Competition, hosted by the current Secretary of State for International Trade, Liam Fox MP.

Topics/areas covered:

UK Government & non-core political ideas
The constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches.

Non-core political ideas, students will study: one idea from the following: anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism, nationalism.

Comparative study of US and UK system

Leading to:
Politician, Political Researcher, Law, Journalism, Teaching, Accountancy, Management consultancy, the Media plus many more. A huge range of other careers value the critical skills that are required at A Level Politics.

Extra:
- Links with Parliament and local MPs
- North Somerset Political Debating competition

Subject specific entry requirements:
Grade 5 at GCSE in any Humanities subject

Skills required:
- A genuine interest in current affairs.
- Enquiry skills
- Critical thinking skills: constructing balanced arguments based upon political issues.

UK Politics & core political ideas
Democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media.
Core Political Ideas, students will study: conservatism, liberalism, socialism
This versatile subject is perfect for those who are interested in learning about the health and social care sector. Whilst some students may have studied BTEC or GCSE Health and Social Care, it is not essential, although an interest in the subject is vital. We cover a variety of different topics, including the factors affecting human life span development and explore what it is like to work in the health and social care sector, including roles and responsibilities of workers and organisations, such as following policies and procedures and understanding the roles of doctors, nurses, midwives and occupational therapists. In year 1 and 2 you will have one piece of course work to complete and one exam which will be assessed externally.

**Topics/areas covered:**

- Human life span and development
- Working in Health and Social Care
- Meeting the individual needs of others and Psychological perspectives

**Leading to:**

- Nursing
- Education
- Social Work
- Midwifery
- Occupational Therapists
- Health Care Assistants

**Extra:**

Work experience is strongly encouraged and often provides excellent experience in the practical aspects of the course.
The aim of A Level History is to develop an interest in the past and to acquire an understanding and sound knowledge of selected periods or themes. Historians develop their awareness of historical concepts, appreciate the nature and diversity of historical sources and methods and grasp a variety of approaches to aspects and periods of history. Students think independently and make informed judgements of issues, cultivating empathy with people in diverse places and at different times.

**Topics/areas covered:**

**Year 12**
- Britain, 1625-1701: conflict, revolution and settlement.
- Russia in Revolution, 1894-1924.

**Year 13**
- Germany, 1871-1990: united, divided and reunited.
- Coursework

**Leading to:**

A wealth of varied career options such as:
- Law,
- Journalism,
- Politics,
- Teaching,
- Accountancy,
- Management

A huge range of other careers value the critical skills that are required at A Level History.

**Extra:**

- Extra reading around the topics is necessary to gain an A*.
- Trips to History conferences with keynote speakers will be available.
- The History department currently runs two exciting trips for 6th form students, one to The United States and one to Berlin. These are voluntary but aim to complement your course and wider enjoyment of History.

**Subject specific entry requirements:**

Grade 5 in GCSE History

**Skills required:**

- Research, finding sources.
- Critical thinking skills: constructing balanced arguments from evidence.

Consultancy, Librarian.
Cambridge Technicals ICT is a highly regarded, vocational qualification. Students are assessed both in exams and through work completed in lessons.

Students will develop their creative skills through web design and app development, as well as learning how to become an effective project manager.

There is also a focus on how organisations use IT technologies and information/data up to a global scale.

**Topics/areas covered:**

**Year 12**
- Application Design
- Web Design and Prototyping
- Project Management

**Year 13**
- Fundamentals of IT
- Global Information

**Leading to:**

Can you name a career where ICT skills are not important?

**Subject specific entry requirements:**

Grade 5 in GCSE ICT or equivalent

**Skills required:**

- Ability to work independently
- Creativity
- Research skills
- Organisation
Law at A Level is a popular and highly respected course which can lead to a wide range of legal based career opportunities. Law is an ever developing subject so an interest and awareness of cases reported often serve as good discussion points used in class. With legal issues constantly in the news and laws changing in the UK, it is a great opportunity to study this fascinating subject. During the 2 years of this course we will investigate: The Nature of law, Civil, Criminal and Humans Rights Law.

Topics for civil law include: Fault, Magistrates and Negligence. Some of the criminal topics include Murder, Defences, Theft and Attempts. You will learn how the legal system works within the UK and EU and how laws are made and used within the courts. You will use analytical skills to help interpret case law in order to advise on legal issues taught and you will gain an in depth understanding of how laws are made and interpreted.

**Topics/areas covered:**

**Year 12 topics cover**
Nature of law and English Legal System, Criminal law part 1 , Civil Law Part 1

**Year 13 topics cover**
Criminal law part 2 , Civil Law Part 2 and Human Rights

**Leading to:**
Legal personnel, Lawyer, Solicitor, Barrister, Judge, Legal Executive, Police work, Teacher, Researcher, Banking, Journalism plus many more!

**Extra:**
- Trip to Bristol Crown Court Year 12
- Trip to Bristol Civil Court Year 13

**Subject specific entry requirements:**
Grade 5 in GCSE English (Lit or Lang)

**Skills required:**
- Analytical/logical thinking skills
- Extended writing skills
- Evaluative writing skills
MATHEMATICS - A Level

Your phone runs on maths, aeroplanes stay in the air because of maths, dosages of medicines are measured using maths, diseases are analysed and prevented using maths, Formula 1 cars are streamlined using maths, weather is predicted using maths, financial systems fluctuate because of maths, space shuttles are launched because of maths. Studying maths beyond GCSE only opens doors.

Leading to:
Maths can lead to a host of future possibilities...
- Engineering
- Accountancy / Finance
- Medicine
- Manufacturing
- Computer Science
- Any other science
- Teaching
- Statistical analysis (with data from social networks now readily available, this is a rapidly developing industry)
- Intelligence analysis (spying, codebreaking)

The list is huge and varied: mathematical experts are in demand across all kinds of industries.

Extra:
- UKMT National Challenge competitions
- Trips to universities
- Weekly support sessions after school

Subject specific entry requirements:
Grade 6 in GCSE in Maths

Skills required:
- Diligence
- Perseverance
- Logic

Topics/areas covered:
- Pure Mathematics: algebra, proof, geometry, functions, differentiation, integration
- Mechanics: vectors, movement, forces, Newton’s Laws (topics help with Physics)
- Statistics: data analysis, probability, hypothesis testing (topics help with Psychology, Geography, Biology, Economics)
MEDIA STUDIES - A Level

Media Studies is the perfect blend of creative and theoretical thinking, offering students the chance to achieve results through both practical film making and more traditional exam based assessment. The newly established two year A Level course develops a clear understanding of key media theories for students coupled with a restructured selection of briefs for coursework, allowing students to produce their own practical work alongside the written aspects of study. Students will demonstrate skills of enquiry, critical thinking, decision-making and analysis; they will engage in critical debate about academic theories used in media studies and become highly proficient in the use of creating new media products.

Topics/areas covered:

- The study of all aspects of media, including: audio-visual media such as television, film, music videos and video games; radio and podcasts; print media including newspapers, magazines and advertising; and online media including web campaigns and blogs. Media language: how the media through their forms, codes, conventions and techniques communicate meanings
- Representation: how the media portray events, issues, individuals and social groups
- Media industries: how the media industries’ processes of production, distribution and circulation affect media forms and platforms
- Audiences: how media forms target, reach and address audiences, how audiences interpret and respond to them, and how members of audiences become producers themselves.

Leading to:

Students of Media Studies often go on to pursue careers in
- Film/Television production
- Journalism,
- Advertising and Marketing
- Fashion/Art Photography
- Psychology, Sociology, Cultural studies.

Extra:

- Centre frequently commended for its wide range of topics covered in coursework
- Media students have access to modern cameras, editing software and computers

Subject specific entry requirements:

Grade 5 in GCSE in English (Lit or Lang)

Skills required:

- Creativity / artistic
- IT / modern tech capable
- Analytical/evaluative
- Autonomous/independent
MUSIC - A Level

Subject specific entry requirements:
Grade 6 in GCSE Music and Grade 5 in a suitable performance instrument.

Skills required:
- Organisation
- Resilience
- Enthusiasm

Students experience all three main musical disciplines of performing, composing and listening and understanding. The course therefore builds upon the skills developed in GCSE Music.

Listening and analysis work is based around set works in all musical styles including Film Music, Pop and Jazz from the past 50 years alongside classical works.

Topics/areas covered:
Performance - 30% course marks taken in the form of a recital/performance lasting for at least eight minutes.
Composition - 30% course marks
Listening and Analysis - 40% course marks (exam)

Leading to:
This course can lead to further study in Music at under-graduate level in Performance, Composition or Analysis. It can further lead to a job as Music Therapist, Musician, Private Music Teacher, Secondary/Primary School Teacher, Sound Technician, Broadcaster/film/video, Arts Administrator Broadcast Engineer, Community Arts Worker, Event Organiser, Radio Broadcast Assistant, Radio Producer or Theatre Stage Manager.

Extra:
- As part of the course, you will be involved in composition workshops, visits to performances which are sponsored through the Cavatina Music Trust and are expected to continue having lessons on your main instrument.

The Music department offers a variety of extra-curricular opportunities, including
- Gospel Choir
- Christmas Concert and productions at The Playhouse Theatre

Teacher, Secondary/Primary School Teacher, Sound Technician, Broadcaster/film/video, Arts Administrator Broadcast Engineer, Community Arts Worker, Event Organiser, Radio Broadcast Assistant, Radio Producer or Theatre Stage Manager.

Grade 6 in GCSE Music and Grade 5 in a suitable performance instrument.

Skills required:
- Organisation
- Resilience
- Enthusiasm

Students experience all three main musical disciplines of performing, composing and listening and understanding. The course therefore builds upon the skills developed in GCSE Music.

Listening and analysis work is based around set works in all musical styles including Film Music, Pop and Jazz from the past 50 years alongside classical works.

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Performance - 30% course marks taken in the form of a recital/performance lasting for at least eight minutes.
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Leading to:
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Extra:
- As part of the course, you will be involved in composition workshops, visits to performances which are sponsored through the Cavatina Music Trust and are expected to continue having lessons on your main instrument.

The Music department offers a variety of extra-curricular opportunities, including
- Gospel Choir
- Christmas Concert and productions at The Playhouse Theatre

Teacher, Secondary/Primary School Teacher, Sound Technician, Broadcaster/film/video, Arts Administrator Broadcast Engineer, Community Arts Worker, Event Organiser, Radio Broadcast Assistant, Radio Producer or Theatre Stage Manager.
At A Level, students experience all three main music technology disciplines of recording, sequencing and producing. In addition, the course also offers composition. The course therefore builds upon the skills developed in BTEC Music Technology course. Listening work is based around the development of music technology and production techniques.

**Topics/areas covered:**

**Component 1 - Recording (20% of the course marks)**
The course will cover how to use production tools and techniques to capture, edit, process and mix an audio recording from a choice of 10 tracks set by the board.

**Component 2 - Technology-based composition (20%)**
The course will develop your composition skills enabling you to create, edit, manipulate and structure sounds to produce a technology-based composition.

**Component 3 - Listening and analysing – written examination (25%)**
The course will cover the history of recording and production techniques in the context of a series of unfamiliar recordings, from many different styles of music.

**Component 4 - Producing and analysing – written and practical examination (35%)**
You will use all of the skills you have developed from Components 1-3 and use them in an unfamiliar project setting in exam conditions.

**Leading to:**

This course can lead to further study in Music Technology at undergraduate level. It can further lead to a job as Music therapist, Musician, Secondary/Primary school teacher, Sound technician, broadcasting/film/video, Arts administrator Broadcast engineer, Community arts worker, Event organiser, Radio broadcast assistant, Radio producer or Theatre stage manager, Recording Engineer, Live Sound Engineer, working for a Record Company, multi-media industry.

**Extra:**

The Music department offers a variety of extra-curricular opportunities, including

- Gospel Choir
- Christmas Concert and productions at The Playhouse Theatre
The course offers students the chance to discover all the aspects that make up Performing Arts. As a Production Company you will be commissioned to develop and run projects for the local community, take part in a large scale musical or develop skill based work in your chosen route. This will give you the very best chance of progression into your individual specialist choices or into the industry. You will gain outstanding skills based in performing arts with many opportunities for workshops with industry professionals providing you with all the skills to either enter the industry direct or for progression on to further specialist training.

**Topics/areas covered:**

You will have to partake in the compulsory units for Year 1;
- Unit 1 - Prepare to Work in the Performing Arts Sector
- Unit 2 - Proposal for a Commissioning Brief
- Unit 3 - Influential Performance Practice

In Year 2 you will partake in one compulsory unit and then have the option to choose one unit from a specialism.
- Unit 4 - Combined Arts (compulsory unit)

Examples of units from a Specialism
- Performing Repertoire
- Health and Fitness for Performance
- Improvisation
- Current Issues in Performing Arts

**Leading to:**
- Actor
- Singer
- Dancer
- Musical Theatre
- Educator
- Working within the Community

**Extra:**
- Workshops
- Trips
- Theatre in Education opportunities
- Participating in large scale productions
Philosophy and Ethics at A Level builds on the foundations laid at GCSE. Those who are successful with this subject will enjoy applying a wide range of concepts to enable them to confidently interpret, contextualise and analyse the expressions of religious and world views that they encounter. The course will enable students to make a smooth transition to the next level of study. The whole course trains students to become analysts who can appreciate both sides of an argument. This is a valuable skill, and is sought after in any profession. Religion, Philosophy and Ethics explores the world as people find it exciting, provocative, and vital. Only these disciplines show us a world people live and die for, and the God and Gods people worship in their lives and deaths.

**Topics/areas covered:**

1. Philosophy of Religion
2. Religion and Ethics
3. Study of Buddhism

**Leading to:**

Philosophy and Ethics is a subject which is both accepted and welcomed by all Universities. It is an option which fits well with many other A Levels especially other Humanities subjects such as History, Politics and Geography.

If you are interested in the following careers then Philosophy and Ethics may be the subject for you;

- Health Care
- Education
- Prison Services
- Journalism
- Emergency Services
- Armed Forces
- Social Care / Social Work
- Human Resources and Law

The list is long and very varied; if you want to work with people then this is the subject for you.

**Subject specific entry requirements:**

Grade 5 at GCSE in RE or Philosophy & Ethics or a Grade 6 in an alternative Humanities subject

**Skills required:**

- Analytical and open minded
- Able to forming an argument both verbally and in an essay
- Diligence / perseverance
PHOTOGRAPHY - A Level

We are lucky at Churchill Academy to be able to offer both Digital and Dark room facilities for Photography. Students are taught from scratch for those with little or no experience, and we build on previous experience for those with some basic knowledge.

**Topics/areas covered:**

**Year 12:**
Students will experiment with landscape and portrait Photography in this first year and will learn to use both digital and film SLR cameras.

Unit 1 – Introduction to photography; 'Nature' includes natural and man-made environments as the theme. We teach students how to use a digital camera, we look at the elements that make a good photograph, introduced to Photoshop, Dark room techniques including Film SLR Cameras, and Photograms.

All practical work is fully supported by analysis and understanding of the work of other photographers.

Unit 2- Mock Exam; Students develop visual awareness and investigate their ability to perceive understand and express concepts and feelings through portrait photography. They are given an externally set exam brief, and produce a proposal of their own based on this. We teach studio photography and build on Photoshop and digital skills.

**Year 13 Project:**
Students are encouraged to choose an area of photography that they are interested in. Students produce Contemporary Fine Art Photography which may include three dimensional installations and additional practitioners. Year 13 students decide the type of Photography that they would like to pursue and are supported by their teachers.

**Leading to:**

Photography A Level is a good stepping stone to go on to study a Foundation Course or Degree in Photography or Art. Former students have gone on to study at the UK’s top Universities for the Arts such as Falmouth University. However, you may choose to become a professional photographer straight from school.

An A Level in Photography would also be an excellent qualification if you were thinking of a career in a number of other industries too; Journalism, Web Designer, Graphic Designer, teacher, Blogger, working in advertising and or media.

**Subject specific entry requirements:**

Standard Sixth Form entry criteria

**Skills required:**
- An ability to think creatively and respond to a brief
- An ability to communicate effectively and take on advice
- An ability to work independently and develop ideas from research
A Level specifications in Physical Education should equip students with both a depth and breadth of knowledge, understanding and skills relating to scientific, socio-cultural and practical aspects of physical education.

**This will require Students to:**

- Develop theoretical knowledge and understanding of the factors that underpin physical activity and sport and use this knowledge to improve performance
- Understand how physiological and psychological states affect performance
- Understand the key socio-cultural factors that influence people’s involvement in physical activity and sport
- Refine their ability to perform effectively in physical activity and sport by developing skills and techniques and selecting and using tactics, strategies and/or compositional ideas
- Develop their ability to analyse and evaluate to improve performance
- Understand the contribution which physical activity makes to health and fitness
- Improve as effective and independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers with curious and enquiring minds

**Topics/areas covered:**

- Applied anatomy and physiology
- Skill acquisition
- Sport and society
- Biomechanical movement
- Sport psychology
- Sport and society and the role of technology in physical activity and sport

**Leading to:**

Former students of this subject have gone to study at some of the UK’s top universities. They are reading exciting and challenging degree programmes such as Sports Equipment Product Design, Sport Psychology, Sports Management, Biomedical Sciences and Primary Education with QTS.

Physics A Level is a course for people that are curious about the world around them; from the largest to the smallest scales. The course builds on GCSE Science, taking topics such as forces and electricity further to deepen understanding and introduce exciting new ground like quarks and relativity.

**Topics/areas covered:**

**Year 12**
- Measurements and their errors
- Particles and radiation
- Electricity
- Mechanics and materials
- Waves

**Year 13**
- Further Mechanics
- Thermal Physics
- Fields and their consequences
- Nuclear Physics
- Periodic Motion
- Turning points in Physics

**Leading to:**

Physicists can think clearly and imaginatively to solve problems and use Maths to model situations to deal with big numbers - so they are in great demand (and well paid). For many professions and degree courses A Level Physics is essential.


**Extra:**

- Lunchtime support sessions
- Extra lectures and activities, with other schools
- Study trip

**Subject specific entry requirements:**

2x Grade 6 in GCSE Science, including Physics and Grade 6 in GCSE Maths

**Skills required:**

- Desire to learn
- Ready to complete homework thoroughly and meet deadlines.
- Mature approach to work and self-motivated to make progress.
PSYCHOLOGY - A Level

Psychology offers students an opportunity to make sense of human behaviour. This course provides a general introduction to psychology theory, research and application, an awareness of the diversity and limitations of psychological knowledge and an understanding of the methods of psychology research. The course will provide students with valuable analytical skills, which will enable them to critically examine the evidence for and against an argument.

Topics/areas covered:

Year 12
- Memory (including eye witness testimony)
- Attachments (between parents and children)
- Research Methods (designing studies and data analysis)
- Theoretical Approaches & Biopsychology
- Social Influence (Obedience and Conformity)
- Psychological Disorders & Treatments

Year 13
In addition to the Year 12 contents:
- Bio-psychology (e.g. neurotransmitters, adrenaline) & approaches in further depth
- Research methods in further detail (e.g. Statistics)
- Issues and debates (determinism, nature-nurture)
- Forensic psychology (offender profiling, explanations & treatment)
- Cognition & development (explanations & autism)
- Schizophrenia (explanations & treatments)

Leading to:
Apart from being a highly relevant course for those wishing to study Psychology and other related courses at degree level, this course is ideally suited to those students whose careers might involve dealing with people in either work or social situations such as management, selling, advertising, journalism, personnel, teaching, nursing, youth and social services.
Sociology is the scientific study of society. It encourages political and social engagement with contemporary social issues and is a subject which students find both challenging and stimulating. A wide range of topics is offered, from families and relationships, crime and deviance, to new forms of social media, and social inequality. A Level Sociology is very good preparation for university where strong essay writing skills are important.

**Topics/areas covered:**

**Year 12**
- Component 1
  - Socialisation, Culture and Identity
  - Section A - Introducing socialisation culture and identity
  - Section B - Families and Relationships

- Component 2 - Social inequality and Research Methods
  - Section A - Research Methods and researching social inequalities
  - Section B - Understanding social inequalities

**Year 13**
- Component 1
  - Socialisation, culture and identity
  - Section A - Socialisation, culture and identity
  - Section B - Families and relationships

- Component 2
  - Researching and understanding social inequalities.

- Component 3
  - Debates in contemporary society
  - Section A - Globalisation and the digital social world
  - Section B - Crime and Deviance

**Leading to:**

Universities recognise that Sociology A Level provides students with a very good foundation in social, political and policy knowledge. Graduates of Sociology have higher levels of employment than many other subjects.

Teaching, Police Force, Medicine, Politics, Civil Service and Journalism

**Extra:**
- Trips to University lectures / seminars
- Trip to Bristol Crown Court
- Visiting speakers
There are more than 400 million Spanish speakers worldwide. It is the official language in twenty-one countries and is the third most widely-spoken language in the world, after English and Mandarin. Experts predict that by the year 2050, there will be 530 million Spanish speakers, of which 100 million will be living in the United States.

We believe being able to speak another language is an essential tool in the cosmopolitan world we live in. If you are bilingual you will be more marketable and have more career choices than your monolingual counterpart when you leave school.

Topics/areas covered:

Aspects of Hispanic society
- Modern and traditional values
- Cyberspace
- Equal rights

Multiculturalism Hispanic Society
- Immigration
- Racism
- Integration

Artistic culture in the Hispanic world
- Modern day Idols
- Spanish regional identity
- Cultural heritage

Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world
- Today’s youth/Tomorrow’s citizens
- Monarchies and dictatorships
- Popular Movements

Leading to:

Occupations involving Languages include:
- Teacher
- Language trainer
- Translator
- Engineering
- Banking
- Civil Service
- Travel and Tourism
- Secretary / PA
- Marketing
- Public Relations
- Pharmaceutical Work
- Journalism and Media
- Transport and Distribution

Extra:

Whenever possible we encourage our students to take part in organised trips to foreign language lectures, films and events and have good contacts with our local universities.
Study Skills is an introductory programme that helps students bridge the gap from GCSE to A levels. It’s a bit of a cliché, and it is frequently said, that the jump from GCSE to A levels is a big one. If you can master the techniques of study at a higher level than you have before, you will have a better chance of getting the grades you want. Sessions are fortnightly until just after Christmas, after this point we expect that you will have accomplished the skills that you need to succeed and you gain an extra private study session.

**Additional information:**

There is no qualification for this subject. Students choose EPQ or Study Skills to help them master the techniques of study. Students who only just meet the entry criteria for Sixth Form are advised to take this option. In addition to the sessions listed you may also have workshops to help maximise your skills.

**Topics/areas covered:**

Sessions focus on the following themes:

- Independent learning
- Note making
- Reading skills
- Writing essays
- Improving memory
- Improving concentration
- Managing your time

**Subject specific entry requirements:**

Standard Sixth Form entry

**Skills required:**

- Willingness to be a better student
- Able to think about your own learning skills and find ways to improve