WELCOME

We provide a stimulating environment in which students learn exceptionally well and develop life skills that prepare them for the future. We have high expectations for all students to work hard so that they reach the highest levels of attainment possible, but we also place the utmost importance on student welfare and personal development and know that our students are safe, and feel safe, all of the time. It is incredibly important to us that our young people understand the world they live in and make informed, reasoned personal choices. Our aim is to help students grow into deeply considerate, responsible, community-aware young people, well equipped to succeed in further education and able to gain and thrive in the employment of their choice. Our ethos of ‘All Different. All Equal. All Achieving.’ underpins everything that we do here at Aston Manor Academy.

We are incredibly proud of our highly-qualified, experienced and committed ‘family’ of staff, our high quality pastoral care and our excellent facilities, which have been developed to make students’ learning more effective. These include:

- Specialist areas for all subjects
- A well-equipped main library with multimedia resources
- Several modern, state-of-the-art ICT suites, including the latest Apple Mac hardware
- An extensive design and technology area which offers the facility to cook, design and produce
- Two new, exclusive Sixth Form buildings
- A curriculum support / inclusion centre
- Dance, drama and music studios
- A brand-new science laboratory
- A range of mobile technology devices including iPads and digital cameras
- A newly-refurbished sports hall with separate gymnasium
- Health and fitness room and outdoor fitness facilities
- A floodlit, all-weather AstroTurf pitch

We have over 750 students in Years 7-11 and approximately 200 in our Sixth Form. This results in a friendly, close-knit community in which every individual is valued and supported. The Sixth Form has grown significantly over the past five years and we continue to welcome external students to join our ‘Outstanding’ provision.

We have a range of pathways to cater for all students’ needs. These include A Levels, BTEC Level 3 and a Level 2 Pre-Apprenticeship Programme. We have a highly successful Sports Academy within the Sixth Form, too. These sports include Football, Basketball, Boxing and Golf. Sports students receive daily, professional coaching and alongside being able to compete in national leagues, they are provided with the relevant foundations required to continue their area of expertise at university, gain places on sports scholarships and make crucial links with professional clubs.

We are very proud of our Sixth Form results:

- 100% pass rate in all Sixth Form subjects (both A Levels and Vocational)
- A*-B grades 50%
- A*-E grades 100%
- Top 2% in the country for our vocational results
- 94 Distinction* grades achieved this year

Destinations University 86%, Apprenticeship and Employment 14%

"Leaders encourage students to participate in setting and renewing targets to improve their learning."

OFSTED 2017
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Our primary aim at Aston Manor Academy Sixth Form is to ‘maximise achievement for all’. We believe that providing a positive and caring environment in which students feel supported will allow them to develop into mature, fulfilled and enriched young adults.

To ensure our students develop into well-rounded young adults when they leave the Sixth Form, we provide a variety of academic and vocational programmes, along with a varied range of opportunities and experiences as part of our enrichment programme.

Our students are supported throughout their learning by a dedicated team of staff who support them to reach their full potential. To ensure this, we encourage our students’ total commitment to engage fully in their learning, be prepared to work hard, be involved in the wider aspects of Sixth Form life and manage their time well.

I am passionate about our Sixth Formers being positive role-models for the younger pupils who will see them as a source of inspiration. There will be an opportunity for students to become mentors both in a pastoral and academic field, and to be part of our Senior Academic Ambassador Team.

As part of the enrichment, there will be opportunities for students to liaise with local universities and apprenticeship providers. Key speakers will be invited into school, who will deliver specific advice and guidance about applying for university. Sports clubs, work placements and residential trips will also compliment students’ Sixth Form experience.

We have recently been graded as an ‘Outstanding Sixth Form’ by Ofsted, something which I am very proud of.

Please feel free to book an appointment for your personalised tour with our Sixth Form Team.

Daniel Preston
Assistant Head Teacher with Responsibility for Sixth Form

“Leaders have very high expectations and these are well communicated to students. Students speak of the ways in which leaders motivate them to achieve. The leadership of the sixth form is imaginative and resourceful.”

OFSTED 2017
THE SIXTH FORM EXPERIENCE

PASTORAL AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT
The Sixth Form Team consists of:
Deputy Headteacher
Mrs Stacey Lander
Assistant Headteacher & Raising Standards Leader at Key Stage 5
Mr Daniel Preston
Head of Year 12/13
Mrs Harjinder Kaur
KS5 Academic Mentor
Miss Gemma Allport
Admin Assistant
Mrs Sharon Robinson

We operate an open door policy, so you have access to someone in the Sixth Form Team at all times. With the extra support available in the Sixth Form, we are able to carefully monitor attendance and act immediately on any concerns.

PERSONAL TUTORING
Aston Manor Academy prides itself on its care for each student’s academic and pastoral wellbeing. Students are assigned to a tutor group and a tutor who is responsible for overseeing their academic and pastoral needs. You will be required to attend an interview with your personal tutor at least once every three weeks. Interviews will focus on:
• Attendance and Punctuality
• Academic Progress

• Enrichment
• Pastoral issues
• Setting of smart targets for personal and academic growth

COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS/CARERS
Sixth Form students receive one detailed written report per year, usually in late March. In addition, an interim report is issued in November of the autumn term for Year 12. Interim reports identify a student’s target grade, which is based on past performance, an expected grade which is based on current performance and an approach to learning for the current session.

‘GIFTED AND TALENTED’
Aston Manor endeavours to provide for the individual needs of all of its students and, therefore, we will seek to provide learning opportunities and experiences appropriate and specific to the more able, gifted and talented students within the school community. As well as providing appropriate learning for such students during lessons, enrichment opportunities are organised and students can also receive financial support to pursue their own interests out of school.

CAREERS GUIDANCE
Ways in which students will be supported in their preparation for application to Higher or Further Education or for employment include:
• Organisation of Open Day visits.
• Provision of External Speakers in response to demand.
• Support for Work Experience placements;
• Support for ‘Taster Courses’.
• 1:1 support.
• Practice Interviews with a senior member of staff.

DURING YEAR 13, STUDENTS WILL BE SUPPORTED
• Through the UCAS application process or application to Apprenticeship or Employment.
• In making arrangements for Student Loans and Tuition Fees.
• On the UCAS results process and the Clearing System.
“The transition from my previous school into Aston Manor was great; the staff and students are really welcoming and there is a friendly atmosphere”

KIERON DAWSON, SIXTH FORM STUDENT

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES
Enrichment refers to activities that encourage subject-based skills, ensuring greater success in specific subjects, as well as activities that give broader experiences to students. These experiences not only help students to perform better in interviews when completing with others, but also to develop a more rounded character, which helps when applying for university apprenticeships and employment.

We encourage all of our students to get involved in our wide range of enrichment activities and opportunities in the Sixth Form, such as:

- Sporting activities, including football, basketball, table tennis, and more
- Leadership opportunities, for example: Academic Ambassadors and the Sixth Form Committee
- Debating Team
- Envision, Social Action Project
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Cooking skills
- Young Enterprise
- Sport Leaders
- Extended Project
- First Aid
- Mentoring (younger students)
- Community work outside the Academy, for example, volunteering in local primary schools and retirement homes

WORK EXPERIENCE
All students on all of our programmes will take part in work experience during Year 12 and some will do further work experience or volunteering throughout the year.

FACILITIES FOR SIXTH FORM STUDENTS
In addition to the facilities available to the rest of the school, the Sixth Form has two dedicated buildings consisting of a Sixth Form study room (with access to computer facilities) and Sixth Form only classrooms.

We encourage all of our students to get involved in our wide range of enrichment activities.
CHOOSING A COURSE

Think carefully about what sort of course or courses you wish to take. You will be spending a lot of time studying and should enjoy it. All Sixth Form study requires significant time to be devoted to study both in and out of school. There are no ‘easy’ subjects!

Subject choices at Sixth Form can affect your future career pathways. For example, you cannot study maths at university if you have not studied it at A Level, although sometimes studying a subject in the Sixth Form is not a prerequisite for university study.

Make sure you get advice, so that you know whether your choices are compatible with any career ambition you may have. The Academy’s careers staff will be able to help you with this.

Choose a course for the right reasons. Do not choose a course just because your friend wants to study it or because you like a particular teacher. Often, as you grow, friendships change and teachers move on. Also, what is right for one person need not be right for another.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A LEVELS AND LEVEL 3 VOCATIONAL COURSES?

A LEVELS
• Are mainly accessed through exams
• Involve greater, in-depth study
• Expect more self directed study and reading for the subject

VOCATIONAL COURSES
• Assessed by ongoing coursework
• Include exams for at least one mandatory unit
• Some vocational courses have one or two days a week of work placement as part of the course
• Provide more opportunities for work related learning

16 - 19 STUDY PROGRAMMES
All students in full or part-time education, aged 16 to 19, will be expected to follow a study programme tailored to their individual needs, education and employment goals.

ALL STUDENTS SHOULD BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO FOLLOW A COURSE THAT:
• Includes qualification(s) that are of sufficient size and rigour to stretch the student and are clearly linked to suitable progression opportunities in training, employment or higher levels of education;
• Requires students to work towards GCSE 9-4 grade in maths and English (or other qualifications that will act as a stepping stone for achievement of these qualifications in time), if they have not already achieved this.
• Allows for meaningful work experience related to the vocational area of the study programme, which develops employability skills and/or creates potential employment options.
• Includes other activities, unrelated to qualifications, that develop the skills, attitudes and confidence that support progression.

Please note: The availability of subjects advertised in this brochure is subject to change.
Our curriculum has been structured to allow personalisation of your learning to be facilitated, and we would encourage you to do this if appropriate - the programmes listed are effectively a guide, or starting point for you. In practice, you may find that you wish to take advantage of elements of different pathways, for example by taking a mixture of A Levels or L3 BTECs.

**THE GENERAL A LEVEL PROGRAMME**

A Levels are excellent, well-known, well-understood and demanding qualifications that will give you a good academic grounding in the subject(s) that you choose and will allow you to progress onto virtually any university course as long as you choose a suitable combination of subjects and achieve appropriate grades. You will choose three subjects in Year 12 and continue with these until the end of Year 13. Those wanting to attend any of the Russell Group universities, may wish to choose the following facilitating subjects: Maths, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, English Literature, Languages, Geography and History.

**THE SOCIAL AND MEDICAL CARE PROGRAMME (EG NURSING, MIDWIFERY, SOCIAL WORKER)**

The programme consists of the BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care, equivalent to two A Levels, or the extended Diploma, equivalent to three A Levels. You may also wish to study one or two additional qualifications such as related A Levels, for example, Biology, Psychology, Sociology, or a BTEC Level 3 in Applied Science. This qualification is ideal for students who enjoy working with people and may be thinking about careers in care-related settings after leaving the Sixth Form. This route provides progression to university courses in nursing and midwifery. Students will need to participate in work placements which can be done on a Wednesday.

**THE MEDICAL PROGRAMME (EG DOCTOR, PHARMACIST, DENTIST, OPTOMETRIST ETC)**

For those of you who wish to have a medical career, it is essential that you study both Biology and Chemistry. You should also study two other science subjects, for example, Physics, Maths or Psychology.
SPORTS ACADEMY PROGRAMME

The Aston Manor Sports Academy is aimed at Post 16 students who have an interest in playing sport on a regular basis within nationwide leagues, competitions and tournaments. Students involved within the Football, Basketball and Boxing Academy take part in regular fixtures and competitions against schools and colleges across the West Midlands. Alongside the sports academy, students will study a BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Sport and will choose one other subject from the wide selection of courses Ason Manor Sixth Form has to offer.

This tailored sporting programme allows students to develop their sporting repertoire both practically and theoretically. Students are involved in regular, specialised sport-specific training sessions throughout the two year programme and are provided with personalised training programmes which are monitored and evaluated throughout the year by specialised coaches and trainers. This allows coaches to gain an insight into the physical fitness levels of each athlete, alongside regular analysis of performances within weekly fixtures.

The Aston Manor Sports Academy programme gives students a direct pathway and opportunities to gain a first-hand experience within the sports industry. Some career options include: sports coaching, PE teacher, personal trainer etc.

“Inspectors observed exceptional progress in all subjects, both academic and vocational.”

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These are one year, Level 2 Programmes which are appropriate for those who are not yet ready to undertake qualifications at Level 3 or those who are keen to undertake a more vocational route. Students will choose a specialist vocational qualification in discussion with the Sixth Form team.

Students will spend two days each week completing their vocational course, with one of those days being work experience. The further three days will be spent in school, when students will take further subjects to support them in securing the next stage of their education or employment.

Students will need to study English or Mathematics at Level 2 in order to improve their GCSE grades, if they have not already obtained a grade 4 or above. All students are required to study for the WorkSkills BTEC qualification. Students taking WorkSkills will improve their employability skills, teamwork skills and ability to manage oneself better.

Subject to meeting ongoing course requirements, the successful completion of this pathway will enable students to access the Level 3 programmes we have available.

Apprenticeship Progression Programmes are available in the following areas:

- Business Administration
- Childcare
- Retail
- Customer Services
To secure your place on a Level 3 Course at Aston Manor Academy Sixth Form, you must ensure you gain five 5 - 9 grades at GCSE (including English and maths at a 5).

Certain courses have additional specific requirements, as shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A- LEVEL COURSES</th>
<th>REQUIREMENTS</th>
<th>VOCATIONAL COURSE</th>
<th>REQUIREMENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>5 in English</td>
<td>Art and Design</td>
<td>5 in Art &amp; Design</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>5 in Science &amp; 5 in English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
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<td>Law</td>
<td>4 in English</td>
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<td>Chemistry</td>
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<td>Accountng</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Fashion</td>
<td>Merit at KS4 &amp; 4 in English</td>
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<td>RE</td>
<td>6 in RE</td>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>4 in English &amp; Maths &amp; Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>6 in Geography</td>
<td>Food &amp; Nutrition</td>
<td>C in RM at GCSE</td>
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<td>C in Food at GCSE</td>
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</table>
HOW DO I APPLY?

Obtain an application form from the back of the prospectus, the sixth form office or download it from the school website.

FOR INTERNAL APPLICATIONS
• Complete your application form and return to the Sixth Form Office.
• Please find the deadline for returning your application form on the form itself.

FOR EXTERNAL APPLICANTS ONLY
The application form is in two parts:
• Part one - which is to be completed by the student and returned to Aston Manor Sixth Form;
• Part two - which is confidential, and should be passed on to and completed by an appropriate person (such as the student’s tutor, or head of year) at the applicant’s school and sent separately to Aston Manor Academy Sixth Form.
• Please find the deadline for returning your application form on the form itself.

ENROLLING AT ASTON MANOR ACADEMY SIXTH FORM
November
December
January
July
August
Open Evening
Interviews
Conditional Offers sent out
Sixth Form Induction
Enrolment on to courses on GCSE results day

Exact dates will be published on the website as they become available. We aim to give as much support and guidance as possible to any prospective students. If you have any questions or would like further guidance, please contact us.

“Teachers make sure that learning and assessment are imaginative, thoroughly planned and meticulously tracked in lessons.”

OFSTED 2017
SAFEGUARDING

SUMMARY OF SAFEGUARDING & CHILD PROTECTION FOR STAFF, VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS

Aston Manor Academy is committed to the highest standards in protecting and safeguarding the children entrusted to our care. Our school will support all children by:

• Promoting a caring, safe and positive environment within school
• Encouraging self-esteem and self-assertiveness
• Effectively tackling bullying and harassment

If you have a concern that a child is being harmed, is at risk of harm, or you receive a disclosure (intentionally or unintentionally) you must contact one of the following staff members as quickly as possible:

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
SANDRA COLEMAN (Assistant Head Teacher)

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
JILL SWEENEY (Head Teacher)

Designated Senior Safeguarding Person
EMMA SMITH (Pupil & Family Support)

Designated Senior Safeguarding Person
STACEY LANDER (Deputy Head Teacher)

Designated Senior Safeguarding Person
DANIEL PRESTON (Assistant Head Teacher)

“Safety is of paramount importance to students and teachers. Students understand how to keep themselves safe on the internet. They understand what to do should they encounter radicalisation and extremism.”

OFSTED 2017
A LEVEL & VOCATIONAL COURSES
A LEVEL BIOLOGY

EXAMINATION BOARD
AQA

GENERAL INFORMATION

Biology A-level goes into much more detail than you will have covered at GCSE. It will give you the skills to make connections and associations with all living things around you. Biology literally means the study of life and if that’s not important, what is? Being such a broad topic, you’re bound to find a specific area of interest, plus it opens the door to a fantastic range of interesting careers.

The new course, launched in September 2015, is very similar in content to the old specification but it is 100% examination. Practicals will be assessed in examinations and you will be “endorsed” for your practical skills, which universities will take into account when you apply.

Students will need to do a lot of reading around the subject and commit to independent, out of lesson learning. In addition, 10% of the marks awarded will be linked to mathematics, so students that study biology must have an ability to apply mathematical concepts, for example, standard index, significant figures and percentage calculations.

PRACTICALS

Biology, like all sciences, is a practical subject. Throughout the course you will carry out practical activities including:

- Using microscopes to see cell division
- Dissection of animal or plant systems
- Aseptic technique to study microbial growth
- Investigating activity within cells
- Investigating animal behaviours
- Investigating distributions of species in the environment.

In the new course, there is a real emphasis on practical work - so expect lots of lab time!

ASSESSMENT

There are three exams at the end of the two years for A-level, all of which are two hours long. At least 15% of the marks for A-level Biology are based on what you learn in your practicals.

TOPICS COVERED

YEAR 1
1. Biological molecules
2. Cells
3. Organisms exchange substances with their environment
4. Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms

YEAR 2
5. Energy transfers in and between organisms
6. Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
7. Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
8. The control of gene expression

POSSIBLE CAREER OPTIONS

Studying A Level Biology at university gives you all sorts of exciting career options, including:

- Clinical molecular geneticist
- Nature conservation officer
- Pharmacologist
- Research scientist
- Higher education lecturer
- Dentist
- Doctor

Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from Mr N Turner and Mr A Rashid (KS5 Biology teachers) or Miss J Gumbs (Head of Science).
AIMS OF THE COURSE
The course is structured into four themes and consists of three externally examined papers. Students are introduced to business in Themes 1 and 2 through building their knowledge of core business concepts and applying them to business contexts to develop a broad understanding of how businesses work. Breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding, with applications to a wider range of contexts and more complex business information, are developed in Themes 3 and 4, this requires students to take a more strategic view of business opportunities and issues. Students are encouraged to use an enquiring, critical and thoughtful approach to the study of business, to understand that business behaviour can be studied from a range of perspectives and to challenge assumptions.

WHAT IS IT ABOUT?
Students will develop an understanding of:
• Marketing and people;
• Managing business activities;
• Business decisions and strategy;
• Global businesses.

ASSESSMENT
100% Exam made up of 3 exam papers
Paper 1: Marketing, people and global businesses
Paper 2: Business activities, decisions and strategy
Paper 3: Investigating business in a competitive environment

WHERE CAN I GO AFTER COMPLETING THIS COURSE?
Business Studies allows students the opportunity to continue studying to university degree level or HND on courses such as business management, business administration, accountancy and finance, human resource management, marketing, retail management, tourism management and international business. They can also enter a wide range of careers, ranging from banking, sales, product management and general management to working in public sector organisations or charities.

Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from Mrs A Shokar (Head of Business Studies).
EXAMINATION BOARD
AQA

STRUCTURE AND CONTENT
First Year:
Physical Chemistry
Including atomic structure, amount of substance, bonding, energetics, kinetics, chemical equilibria and Le Chatelier’s principle.
Inorganic Chemistry
Including periodicity, Group 2 the alkaline earth metals, Group 7(17) the halogens.
Organic Chemistry
Including introduction to organic chemistry, alkanes, halogenoalkanes, alkenes, alcohols, organic analysis.

Second Year:
Physical Chemistry
Including thermodynamics, rate equations, the equilibrium constant Kp, electrode potentials and electrochemical cells.
Inorganic Chemistry
Including properties of Period 3 elements and their oxides, transition metals, reactions of ions in aqueous solution.
Organic Chemistry
Including optical isomerism, aldehydes and ketones, carboxylic acids and derivatives, aromatic chemistry, amines, polymers, amino acids, proteins and DNA, organic synthesis, NMR spectroscopy, chromatography.

ASSESSMENT
There is no coursework on this course, but your performance during practicals will be assessed. There are three exams at the end of the two years, all of which are two hours long. At least 15% of the marks for A-level Chemistry are based on what you learned in your practicals.

PRACTICALS
Throughout the course there will be number of practical activities, some of which are required for examination. These will include:
• measuring energy changes in chemical reactions
• tests for identifying different types of compound
• different methods for measuring rates of reaction
• studying electrochemical cells
• preparation of organic solids and liquids
• an advanced form of chromatography for more accurate results

POSSIBLE COURSES
Chemistry, Biology, Pre-clinical medicine, Mathematics, Pharmacology.

POSSIBLE CAREERS
Analytical chemist, chemical engineer, clinical biochemist, pharmacologist, doctor, research scientist (physical sciences), toxicologist, chartered certified accountant, environmental consultant, higher education lecturer, science writer.

Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from Miss J Gumbs (Head of Science).
AIMS OF THE COURSE

English Literature A Level ensures that candidates explore texts thoroughly, analytically, critically and evaluatively. Students will compare the way that stories are told and construct their own perceptions and realities of narratives. Moving forward, students will reflect on the cultural meanings and significance of texts and analyse academic critical comments to enhance and vary their own interpretations. In Year 1, students will:

- Pay close attention to how narrative works in texts and explore thematic links between texts
- Make connections and comparisons across texts
- Draw on cultural and historical background of texts to enhance reflections and understanding
- Evaluate linguistic and structural devices to interpret writer’s intentions

In Year 2, students will:

- Extend their independent reading
- Extend their awareness of critical methods and readings
- Develop independent comparison and analysis skills
- Develop ability to craft ideas in a sophisticated and erudite manner

STRUCTURE AND CONTENT IN YEAR 1

Component 1 - 60%: Poetry and Drama (open book exam). Section A - comparative essay on a choice of two poems (24 marks) Section B - detailed exploration of a drama text (48 marks).

Component 2 - 40%: Prose (open book exam). A comparative essay question on a studied theme. Two novels will be studied in preparation for this: one pre-1900 and one post-1900 (44 marks). Themes include: Childhood; Colonisation; Crime and Detection; Science and Society; The Supernatural; Women and Society.

STRUCTURE AND CONTENT IN YEAR 2

Component 1 - 30%: Drama (open book exam) Section A - an essay exploring Shakespeare and wider critical reading (35 marks). Section B - an essay exploring another Drama (25 marks). This will be the drama studied in Year 1. Component 2 - 20%: Prose (open book exam) A comparative essay question. Two novels will be studied in preparation for this: one pre-1900 and one post-1900 (40 marks). These are the two novels studied in Year 1. Component 3 - 30%: Poetry (open book exam). Section A - comparative essay on a choice of two poems (30 marks). This will be one poem from the anthology studied in Year 1, compared with an unseen poem supplied by the exam board for that examination. Section B - one essay on specified poetry from a specific poet or literary period (30 marks). Coursework - 20%: (Internally assessed). A 2500 - 3000 word comparative essay on a choice of two personally selected texts linked by theme, movement, author or period (60 marks).

TEXTS STUDIED


ASSESSMENT

Year 1: 100% external assessment - two exams.
Year 2: 80% external assessment - three exams. 20% internal assessment.

WHERE CAN I GO AFTER COMPLETING THIS COURSE?

If you want to develop an interest in and enjoyment of English Literature, thoroughly enjoy reading widely, critically and independently, then this is the course for you! You will read a variety genres from ‘across the centuries’ alongside critical works about these texts and how we read them. What career doesn’t require a good reader? We will spend time discussing and deliberating over varied interpretations, writers’ intentions and wider critical symbolic messages, therefore if you are opinionated and enjoy ‘hunting’ for the deeper meaning, you’re who we’re looking for!

From journalism to video-game design, all jobs need a thoughtful, creative, intelligent candidate – skills which come from studying A Level English Literature.

CAREER PROSPECTS INCLUDE

Professional Journalist; Author; Critic; Lawyer; Teacher; Management; Marketing; Human Resources; Public Relations; TV and Radio; Publishing; Events Management

Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from Miss Z Jones (KS5 English Teacher).
EXAMINATION BOARD
Edexcel

AIMS OF THE COURSE
You will find about 200 million French speakers who live on all continents around the world. French is a key language in the European Union of 27 nations, the world’s largest economic entity, and also international organisations such as the UN, the International Olympic Committee and the International Red Cross.

French is a language of business, as France is one of the top five global economies. It is also a language of technology and medicine. French fashion designers, artists, writers, musicians, chefs and film makers have had a wide influence throughout the world. French is a language of tourism.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THIS COURSE?
Learning the French language will help you to get to know another people and culture. You should have an interest in the world around you and be prepared to understand how global issues affect France in particular.

A willingness to express your opinions orally and to engage in conversation on a range of topical issues is essential. A desire to understand how language functions and a willingness to assimilate a wide range of vocabulary and grammar will ensure success.

STRUCTURE AND CONTENT
About 75% of English words come from French. When studying French at AS or A Level, you will build on the skills you have already acquired at GCSE level. Whether following the AS or the A Level course, you will study a series of different topics. Each topic is explored by using a variety of materials and a range of learning styles. Sometimes you will be working independently, at other times you will be doing pair-work and on other occasions you will be working as a class group.

The kinds of work set will expand your knowledge of vocabulary and grammar, whilst providing practice in writing and speaking in French. Written texts are used as a basis for discussion, vocabulary building and comprehension. CD, cassette and video recordings also promote good comprehension. Weekly oral lessons are held with native speakers to improve your confidence and competence in this vital skill.

Some of the topics we cover are: problems facing young people in France, the environment, the French speaking world and French cinema, film and DVD.

To study AS and A Level French, students will be expected to have a minimum of five GCSEs at grade 5 - 9 or above including French grade 5.

ASSESSMENT
- Just like at GCSE, you will be assessed in all four skills: listening, reading, speaking and writing.
- Unit 1 – Oral: General conversation and discussion of two topics which have been studied during the year.
- Unit 2 – Listening, Reading and Writing: Comprehension tasks based on authentic materials; translation into English; essay in French based on topics studied during the year.

WHERE CAN I GO AFTER COMPLETING THIS COURSE?
Because of globalisation, employers are looking for people with languages not just to work abroad but for good jobs in the UK. Speaking more than one language is a skill which will increase your marketability. It also helps you communicate better and gain a valuable insight into other cultures. You can go on to study French at university. There are numerous courses which offer French with another subject, so if you do not wish to specialise then this can be a good option.

Students have gone on to study French, French Studies, French with IT, and International Business. Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from Mrs I Affane (Head of MFL).
EXAMINATION BOARD
AQA

AIMS OF THE COURSE
History deals with human beings and the human story of our past. It gives us a perspective and understanding of the present and it helps satisfy our curiosity about the world. It is an ‘academic’ subject which is highly respected and valued by universities and employers. By the end of this course, as a good historian, you will be able to:

- Evaluate competing interpretations and arrive at secure judgements.
- Absorb and manage a good deal of information.
- Order and analyse information.
- Use and refine judgements based on evidence.
- Express an argument persuasively and with clarity.

STRUCTURE AND CONTENT
In the first and second year you will study the following units:
Unit 3: Historical Investigation.

ASSESSMENT
For the full A-level there will be three components:
Unit 1: There will be a written examination for 2hr 30mins where you will answer 3 essay questions. This counts for 40%.
Unit 2: There will be a written examination for 2hr 30mins where you will answer 3 essay questions. This counts for 40%.
Unit 3: You will complete coursework consisting of 1 essay (3500 words). This counts for 20%.

WHERE CAN I GO AFTER COMPLETING THIS COURSE?
Even if you don’t want to work with old documents, History is a useful and often necessary subject for a lot of careers and not just the obvious ones. It is a useful qualification for Law, Journalism, Media, Business, Finance and Public Sector careers/study. Even if you are aiming to be a scientist, all scientists have to communicate effectively. Their projects are not isolated but carried out in a context that relates to the whole of society. Employers and universities like to see that you follow a balanced course. History could be important in creating that balance.

Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from Mrs B Sanghera (Head of History).
EXAMINATION BOARD
AQA

AIMS OF THE COURSE
Mathematics is the study of concepts and patterns. It is the ability to solve problems, and to think logically and creatively. During A Level Mathematics, you will continue to develop your understanding of concepts in higher GCSE Mathematics, but you will also start to learn about whole new mathematical concepts. You will also learn to apply your skills to solve much more complex problems. If you love problem solving, then Mathematics A Level is for you!

STRUCTURE AND CONTENT
A level Mathematics will build on many of the topics covered at GCSE. However, there will be a greater emphasis on mathematical modelling, problem solving, reasoning and proof. You will also study two applied topics, mechanics and statistics, alongside pure mathematics. In the statistics component of the course, you will learn how to use statistical software to analyse a large data set.

YEAR 1
Pure Mathematics – Linear, quadratic and polynomial equations; coordinate geometry and graphs; introductory calculus; indices and logarithms; trigonometry and vectors.
Statistics – Measures of location and dispersion; sampling and probability
Mechanics – Newton’s laws of motion and kinematics in one dimension.

YEAR 2
Pure Mathematics – Sequences and series; further calculus and trigonometry; parametric equations; differential equations and numerical methods.
Statistics – Statistical distributions and hypothesis testing.
Mechanics – Kinematics in two dimensions; statics and equilibrium

ASSESSMENT
You will be assessed at the end of the second year with three two-hour exams. You can use a calculator in all three exams. There are no exams at the end of the first year. The exams will test your understanding of all topics covered in the course. Two-thirds of the questions will be on pure mathematics and the remaining third will cover statistics and mechanics. The statistics questions will be based on the large data set.

WHERE CAN I GO AFTER COMPLETING THIS COURSE?
Mathematics A Level is a highly admired and sort after A Level by universities and employers. It is useful for many professions and courses which require problem solving, logical thinking and creativity, like Engineering, Medicine, Accounting, Economics, Business and Architecture

Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from Mrs S Ali (Head of Maths).
A LEVEL PHYSICS

EXAMINATION BOARD
AQA

AIMS OF THE COURSE
This course will develop your essential scientific knowledge and understanding, as well as establish sound links between theory and experiment. Physics is highly regarded by universities as a test of problem-solving and logical thinking. Physics is an important qualification for many universities and careers. You will gain hands-on, practical skills and data analysis skills and you will learn to appreciate how science works and its relevance beyond the laboratory.

A-Level Physics is very similar in content to the old specification but it is 100% examination. Practicals will be assessed in examinations and you will be “endorsed” for your practical skills, which universities will take into account when you apply for them.

STRUCTURE AND CONTENT
Year 1:
1. Measurements and their errors
2. Particles and radiation
3. Waves
4. Mechanics and materials
5. Electricity
Year 2:
6. Further mechanics and thermal physics
7. Fields and their consequences
8. Nuclear physics
One of the following options:
9. Astrophysics
10. Medical physics
11. Engineering physics
12. Turning points in physics
13. Electronics

ASSESSMENT
There will be 3 exams, all 2 hours long. Paper 1 will assess Sections 1 – 5 and 6.1 (Periodic motion). Paper 2 will assess Sections 6.2 (Thermal Physics), 7 and 8 and will use assumed knowledge from sections 1 to 6.1. The 3rd and final paper will comprise of 2 sections: Section A: Compulsory section: Practical skills and data analysis and Section B (the option): Students enter for one of sections 9, 10, 11, 12 or 13.

PRACTICALS
Throughout the course there will be number of practical activities, some of which are required as they can be examined. These will include:
- investigating interference and diffraction of laser light
- measuring acceleration due to gravity
- investigating systems that oscillate
- investigation of the links between temperature, volume and pressure
- safe use of ionising radiation
- investigating magnetic fields.

POSSIBLE COURSES
Acoustics, Applied Physics, Astrophysics, Electronics, Engineering – from Aerospace and Civil to Mechanical and Marine Engineering, Geophysics, Optometry, Physics, Radiography.

POSSIBLE CAREERS

Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from Mr A Dowe and Mr A Robinson (KS5 Physics teachers) or Miss J Gumbs (Head of Science).
EXAMINATION BOARD
AQA

AIMS OF THE COURSE
Psychology is a study of human behaviour. Its aim is to accurately define and describe the causes of behaviour, so people can practically understand, predict and change it. One of the goals of the A level Psychology course is to provide students with an opportunity to acquire a better understanding of how the human mind works and how this affects behaviour, by studying individuals, groups and societies.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THIS COURSE?
I will be able to:
• Understand self, other people, moral behaviour and thought as well as cultural differences and similarities.
• Know and critically understand the explanations for human behaviour.
• Appreciate the variety and complexity of the human mind and human relationships.
• Describe and evaluate a range of research methods and their relevance within Psychology.
• Develop skills of written and verbal communication, interpretation, analysis and evaluation.

STRUCTURE AND CONTENT A LEVEL
Students will study three components over two years.

Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology
• Social influence: Why do we conform? Why do we obey? How do we resist social pressures?
• Memory: How does your memory work? Eyewitness testimony and how to improve your memory?
• Attachment: Why do we form attachments? How and when do we form attachments?
• Psychopathology: What is abnormality? How phobias, depression and OCD are explained.

Paper 2: Psychology in Context
• Approaches in psychology: Origins of psychology.
• Biopsychology: The nervous system and the functions of neurotransmitters and hormones
• Research methods: What methods does psychology use to study behaviour? What are the advantages and disadvantages?

Paper 3: Issues and Options in Psychology
• Issues and debates in psychology: issues include gender bias, culture bias, Nature Vs. Nurture, free will Vs. determinism
• Relationships: How do relationships form, maintain and breakdown?
• Schizophrenia: What causes schizophrenia? How do we treat it?
• Forensic Psychology: offender profiling, why do we offend? How do we deal with offenders?

ASSESSMENT
Paper 1: 2 hrs worth 33.3.% of total A Level
Paper 2: 2 hrs worth 33.3.% of total A Level
Paper 3: 2 hrs worth 33.3.% of total A Level

WHERE CAN I GO AFTER COMPLETING THIS COURSE?
Psychology has very wide applications and is extremely popular at university and with employers. Psychology learnt at A Level can be applied in all aspects of life and work e.g. raising children, teaching, medicine, social work, office work etc

Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from Mr M John (Head of Social Sciences).
EXAMINATION BOARD

AQA - Religious Education

AIMS OF THE COURSE

Would it surprise you to learn that more students now take Religious Studies at A Level than at any other time in the past? Why do you think the subject has become so popular? Maybe it's because our society has become so multi-cultural that issues of religion are headline news. What people believe and how they behave has become a fascinating area for study. Would you like to learn more about religion and morality from a worldwide perspective? If so, then opt for Religious Studies and join the many thousands of students in the UK who can see the advantages of taking a very colourful subject that will teach the life skills of critical thinking, evaluation, cultural understanding and empathy.

Just as important in explaining the rise in the number of students taking religious studies, is the fact that employers really value the qualification. One major High Street computer games retailer has recently told its recruitment teams: “when employing staff look out for students of religious studies – they are usually very solid, reliable, thinking people who are likely to have good logical skills and also be very people orientated.”

STRUCTURE AND CONTENT

COMPONENT 1: A STUDY OF RELIGION

Component 1: A Study of Religion
Written examination: 2 hours
33% of qualification
100 marks
Learners will be assessed on one of the following options from a choice of six:
Option B: Islam
This component provides learners with the opportunity to undertake an in-depth and broad study of their chosen religion covering themes ranging from religious figures and sacred texts to practices that shape religious identity.

COMPONENT 2: PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION

Written examination: 2 hours
33% of qualification
100 marks
This component provides learners with the opportunity to undertake an in-depth and broad study of fundamental philosophical themes, ranging from arguments for the existence of God to the use of religious language.

COMPONENT 3: RELIGION AND ETHICS

Written examination: 2 hours
33% of qualification
100 marks
This component provides learners with the opportunity to undertake an in-depth and broad study of fundamental ethical themes, ranging from ethical language and thought to freewill and determinism.

WHERE CAN I GO AFTER COMPLETING THIS COURSE?

There are three main ways of ‘using’ religious studies in the world of work:

• Careers where it is important or useful to have knowledge of what really matters to people: health care, child care, medicine, psychologist, customer services.

• Careers which make good use of the research, investigatory and report writing techniques learned in studying religion: law, police work (forensic), psychology, public services, management.

• Careers where you need specific knowledge of religions: teaching, social work, archaeology, museum work, fine art, conservation/natural history, architecture, youth work and ministry.

Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from Mrs F Ashraf (Head of R.E).
EXAMINATION BOARD
OCR

AIMS OF THE COURSE
Sociology is the scientific study of society. It is about all kinds of social relationships that people share with each other, in their families, in their schools and in work. The methods developed by sociologists are used in many other academic areas such as in market research and management studies.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THIS COURSE?
I will be able to:
• Reflect on my own experience of the social world in which I live.
• Know and critically understand what social organisations are and how they operate.
• Appreciate the importance of theory and concepts in sociological debate.
• Describe a range of research methods and their relevance within sociology.
• Develop skills of written and verbal communication, interpretation, analysis and evaluation.

STRUCTURE AND CONTENT A LEVEL
Students will study three components over two years.

Component 1:
Socialisation, Culture and Identity
• This component introduces learners to the key themes of socialisation, culture and identity and develop these themes through family and relationships. These options develop skills that enable individuals to focus on their personal identity roles and responsibilities within society and develop a lifelong interest in social issues.

Component 2:
Researching and Understanding Social Inequalities
• This component explores the method of sociological research and develops the knowledge and understanding of social processes and change in the context of social inequality and difference. It also develops critical and reflective thinking with a respect for social diversity in terms of social class, gender, ethnicity and age.

Component 3:
Debates in Contemporary Society
• This component engages learners in theoretical debates and how these relate to a contemporary global society.

ASSESSMENT
Socialisation, Culture and Identity (01) 1hr 30mins worth 30% of total A level.
Researching and Understanding Social Inequalities (02) 2hrs 15mins worth 35% of total A level.
Debates in Contemporary Society (03) 2hrs 15mins worth 35% of total A level.

WHERE CAN I GO AFTER COMPLETING THIS COURSE?
Sociology is a fantastic general subject for students because most professional careers require students to have some knowledge of Sociology and social theory. Most degree courses include some Sociology: There are also many degree courses where A level Sociology will be really helpful; Sociology, Criminology, Law, Psychology, Anthropology. Sociology opens doors to many areas of employment: Counsellor, Community worker, Probation Officer, Social worker, Charity fundraiser, teacher even medicine.

Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from Mr M John (Head of Social Sciences).
AAT LEVEL 3 ACCOUNTANCY

EXAMINATION BOARD
Association of Accountants (AAT)

AIMS OF THE COURSE
The Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT) qualification provides practical, internationally recognised finance and accounting skills which can open doors for you in many industries across the world. This one-year course develops students’ accounting knowledge and gives them the skills they require to find employment within the field of accounting or acceptance onto an accounting related higher education programme. This introductory level is where you’ll get to develop your skills in finance administration, double-entry bookkeeping, basic costing principles and purchase, sales and general ledgers financial accounting, cost accounting, spreadsheets, professional ethics in accounting and finance, preparing AAT returns, plus additional qualifications.

WHERE CAN I GO AFTER COMPLETING THIS COURSE?
Successful students progress into Higher Education, AAT Professional Diploma in Accounting qualification (after one year of relevant work experience) or employment. What sort of job could I expect after completing the intermediate level?

• Accounts Assistant
• Accounts Payable and Expenses Supervisor
• Accounts Payable Clerk
• Assistant Accountant
• Audit Trainee
• Bookkeeper
• Corporate Recovery Analyst
• Credit Controller
• Finance Assistant
• Insolvency Executive
• Payroll Administrator
• Payroll Supervisor
• Practice Bookkeeper and Payroll
• Tax Accountant
• Tax Assistant.

What’s my potential salary after completing AAT Level 3 Diploma in Accounting?
After completing AAT Advanced Diploma in Accounting, your typical salary range will be between £11,000 to £24,000.

Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from Mr J Kemp (AAT Course Leader).
EXAMINATION BOARD
Edexcel

AIMS OF THE COURSE
• Level 3 Applied Science is an exciting and rewarding course, designed to support you in vocational science and moving into the science based workforce.
• The course includes practicals, lectures, discussion, seminars, site visits, guest speakers, internet research and access to library resources.
• This course will develop your understanding of chemistry, biology and physical science in respect to its applications in a Science workplace.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THIS COURSE?
You will:
• Learn and develop practical skills that can be used in modern laboratories.
• Develop an understanding of fundamental scientific principles and a focus on human physiology and genetics.
• Opportunities to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal qualities and attributes essential for successful performance in working life.

STRUCTURE AND CONTENT: EXTENDED CERTIFICATE (1 A Level)
Compulsory units covered
• Unit 1 – Principles and Applications of Science 1 (90GLH) – assessed externally by exam.
• Unit 2 – Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques (90GLH) – assessed internally by coursework.
• Unit 3 – Science Investigation Skill (120GLH) – assessed externally by a Pearson/Edexcel set task.
• Unit 8 – Physiology of Human Body Systems (60GLH) - assessed internally by coursework.

Additional units will be offered to pupils who qualify for the Diploma (2 A-level) if offered. These will include:
• Unit 4 – Laboratory Techniques and their Applications (90GLH) - assessed internally by coursework.
• Unit 5 - Principles and Applications of Science 2 (120GLH) – assessed externally by exam.
• Unit 6 – Investigative Project (90GLH) - assessed internally by coursework.
• Unit 12 - Diseases and Infection (60GLH) assessed internally by coursework.

ASSESSMENT
Diploma: Exam: 29%, Task 17%, Coursework 54%
Ext cert: Exam: 25%, Task: 33%, Coursework 42%

WHERE CAN I GO AFTER COMPLETING THIS COURSE?
Agriculture, Forensics, Research laboratory, Nurse, Police, Science technician
The Level 3 Applied Science course has been a stepping stone for past pupils going on to study nursing, childcare and occupational therapy. It links very well with the BTEC Level 3 in Health and Social Care.

Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from Mrs M Astle (BTEC Lead Teacher and Lead Internal Verifier).
BTEC LEVEL 3 IN ART & DESIGN

360 GLH EQUIVALENT TO 1 A LEVEL

Aims of course
The BTEC course is a vocational qualification aimed at giving you a work focused alternative to A levels. The course is designed to give you the opportunities to demonstrate and develop the practical application of knowledge and understanding in the areas of work that appeal to you. Learners develop art and design projects and gain an understanding of the creative process. This will enable you to develop your research skills as you work, both independently and with colleagues, to progress through your qualifications.

It is designed for post 16 learners who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment, possibly in the creative industries, as part of a programme of study alongside other BTEC Nationals or A Levels.

Over 2 years pupils will complete 4 Units of work which will require 360 GLH 6 Hours of teaching and learning per week.
3 of the 4 units are mandatory, 1 is optional
2 of the mandatory units are externally set

UNIT TITLES
1. Visual Recording and Communication. [externally set]
2. Critical and Contextual Studies in Art and Design. [externally set]
3. The Creative Process
4. Fine Art Materials, Techniques and Processes

WHO ARE THEY FOR?
The BTEC level 3 course is suitable for students aged 16+ who are at school or college. And they form a natural progression from GCSEs.

WHAT PROGRESSION OPPORTUNITIES DOES A BTEC COURSE PROVIDE?
If you prefer to learn in a way that’s practical and work-related, then the BTEC course is ideal. The great thing about it is that you keep your options open.
The three choices open to you on successful completion of the course are:
Employment, where you can put your new practical skills towards generating an income.
Apprenticeships, where you can continue to learn in a work place environment whilst earning a wage.
Higher education, such as a degree course at university.

Access to higher education is possible if you take the Level 3 qualifications because they have UCAS points.

ASSESSMENT
Assessment is specifically designed to fit the purpose and objective of the qualification. It includes a range of assessment types and styles suitable to vocational qualifications. There are three main forms of assessment that you should be aware of: external, internal and synoptic.

External units are 90 or 120 GLH
All external units must be passed at P, M or D level

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
This qualification provides an introduction to Grade B at GCSE. Art is required.

Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from Mrs L Latham (Head of Art).
BTEC LEVEL 3 IN BUSINESS STUDIES

EXAMINATION BOARD
Pearson

(Single)
AIMS OF THE COURSE
This qualification provides an introduction to and understanding of the Business environment, management of resources, marketing and communication— all fundamental to the success of business organisations. This course also addresses sector needs and skills gaps such as in the finance, administration and management areas.

YEARS STRUCTURE AND CONTENT:
YEAR 12 STRUCTURE AND CONTENT:
Unit 1- Exploring Business (coursework)
Unit 3 Personal and Business Finance (exam)
YEAR 13 STRUCTURE AND CONTENT:
Unit 2 Developing a Marketing Campaign (controlled assessment)
Unit 4-Making an Event (coursework)
Unit 23-The English Legal System (coursework)

ASSESSMENT
2 internal units
2 external units (exam and controlled assessment)

(Double)
AIMS OF THE COURSE
This qualification provides an introduction to and understanding of the Business environment, management of resources, marketing and communication— all fundamental to the success of business organisations. This course also addresses sector needs and skills gaps such as in the finance, administration and management areas.

YEAR 12 STRUCTURE AND CONTENT:
Unit 1- Exploring Business (coursework)
Unit 2- Developing a Marketing Campaign (controlled assessment)
Unit 4-Managing an Event (coursework)
Unit 23-The English Legal System (coursework)

YEAR 13 STRUCTURE AND CONTENT:
Unit 5- International Business (coursework)
Unit 6- Principles of Management (controlled assessment)
Unit 8- Recruitment and selection (coursework)
Unit 3- Personal and Business Finance (exam)

ASSESSMENT
5 internal units
3 external units (exam and controlled assessments)

WHERE CAN I GO AFTER COMPLETING THIS COURSE?
BTEC Business is a course that when chosen with a good combination of subjects, could open many doors. Most employers and universities want to be assured that potential candidates are able to contextualise information and apply knowledge and theory.

The vocational aspect of the course lends itself to practical application where each unit is contextualised into current business scenarios; allowing students to develop their ‘real’ knowledge of business.

Students go on to universities having completed the course whereas others may use their grades to opt for an apprenticeship scheme and enter employment in the Business sector.


Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from: Mrs A Shokar (Head of Business Studies).
BTEC LEVEL 3 IN ART & DESIGN - FASHION & TEXTILES

EXAMINATION BOARD
Pearson

AIMS OF THE COURSE
Cambridge Technicals are vocational qualifications that are designed to give you a work-focused alternative to A Levels.
They’ve been designed to give you opportunities to demonstrate and develop the practical application of knowledge and understanding in the areas of work that appeal to you. This will enable you to develop your research skills as you work, both independently and with colleagues, to progress through your qualifications.
The assessment for the qualifications is task-based, so you won’t need to take exams to achieve Cambridge Technicals qualifications.
This qualification provides an understanding of art, design and craft through engagement with the work of artists and designers. Students have the opportunity to gain practical and creative skills by working with the 2D and 3D materials, processes and techniques of their choice.
Over the 2 years, pupils will complete 6 Units of coursework which will require 360 guided teaching hours - 5 Hours of teaching and learning per week.

WHO ARE THEY FOR?
Cambridge Technicals are suitable for students aged 16+ who are at school or college. They’re available at Level 2 and Level 3*, so they can follow on from your GCSEs.

STRUCTURE AND CONTENT A2
Pupils MUST COMPLETE the 2 years as you cannot achieve AS in this subject.
Qualifications
Cambridge Technical Level 3 Introductory Diploma is the equivalent of one A Level grade.
You will achieve either:
Pass - Grade E - 40 UCAS points
Merit - Grade C - 80 UCAS points
Distinction - Grade A - 120 UCAS points
Distinction * - Grade A* - 140 UCAS points
Units to complete:
Unit 1 - Art and Design in Context
Unit 50 - Fashion Design
Unit 51 - Fashion Production
Unit 52 - Textile Design
Unit 53 - Upcycling Fashion Products
Unit 54 - Fashion Illustration

WHY CHOOSE FASHION AND TEXTILES?
If you prefer to learn in a way that’s practical and work-related, then Cambridge Technicals are ideal.
The great thing about them is that they keep your options open – so if you’re not fully convinced that a vocational way of learning is right for you, Cambridge Technicals keep the door open for a move to higher education further down the line.

WHAT PROGRESSION OPPORTUNITIES DO CAMBRIDGE TECHNICALS PROVIDE?
The great thing about them is that they still give you a choice of opportunities once you’ve completed them. The three choices open to you are:

Employment, where you can put your new practical skills towards generating an income
Further education, such as a higher-level qualification at school or college
Higher education, such as a degree course at university.
Access to higher education is possible if you take the Level 3 qualifications because they have UCAS points.

ASSESSMENT
Assessment is in line with OCR assessment procedure.
All units will be centrally assessed and then externally moderated by OCR.

Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from Mrs S Hunton (Head of Design and Technology).
LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA IN FOOD SCIENCE & NUTRITION

EXAMINATION BOARD
WJEC

OVERVIEW
This is an exciting, hands-on course which is suited for anyone interested in food, science and nutrition. An understanding of food science and nutrition is relevant to many industries and job roles. Care providers and nutritionists in hospitals use this knowledge, as do sports coaches and fitness instructors. Hotels and restaurants, food manufacturers and government agencies also use this understanding to develop menus, food products and policies that support healthy eating initiatives. Many employment opportunities within the field of food science and nutrition are available to graduates.

The WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition has been designed to provide learners with underpinning knowledge, understanding and skills to progress to further study and training. It offers exciting and interesting experiences that focus learning for 16-19 year-old learners and adult learners through applied learning, i.e. through the acquisition of knowledge and understanding in purposeful contexts linked to the food production industry.

STRUCTURE AND CONTENT
The WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition is made up of four units:

1 Meeting Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups
   Structure - Mandatory
   Assessment - Internal and External

2 Ensuring Food is Safe to Eat
   Structure - Mandatory
   Assessment - External

3 Experimenting to Solve Food Production Problems
   Structure - Optional
   Assessment - Internal

4 Current Issues in Food Science and Nutrition
   Structure - Optional
   Assessment - Internal

All learners must take Units One and Two and then select either Unit Three or Unit Four.

ASSESSMENT
The WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition is assessed through a combination of a written exam and external assignment set and marked by WJEC and two centre marked assignments.

PROGRESSION
Together with relevant Level 3 qualifications such as AS and A Levels in Biology, Chemistry, Sociology and Maths and/or Level 3 qualifications in Hospitality or Science, learners will gain the required knowledge to progress to higher education degree courses, such as:

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

Any questions, please come and see Mrs S Hunton (Head of Design and Technology).
EXAMINATION BOARD
Pearson

AIMS OF THE COURSE
BTEC L3 in Health and Social Care provides underpinning knowledge for the National Occupational Standards in Health and Social Care/Health and acts as a robust introduction to these two sectors. It prepares our learners for employment in this sector or for higher education.

The course is also mapped to the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework, which was developed as part of the process for updating the way NHS staff roles are defined and developed.

WHAT WILL I LEARN ON THIS COURSE?
This course lends itself to be delivered through a creative approach, using learners’ experiences as a focal point and enabling learning to be as active, practical and work-related as possible. Alongside this, it provides robust opportunities for learners to gain knowledge and understanding of a wide range of subject areas relating to health and social care through case studies.

Health and Social Care (1 A level)
Unit 1 Human Lifespan Development (Exam)
Unit 2 Working in Health and Social Care (Exam)
Unit 5 Meeting Individuals Care and Support Needs (Coursework)
Unit 10 Sociological Perspectives (Coursework)

Over the 2 years BTEC National Diploma in Health and Social Care (2 A levels)
Unit 1 Human Lifespan Development (Exam)
Unit 2 Working in Health and Social Care (Exam)
Unit 5 Meeting Individuals Care and Support Needs (Coursework)
Unit 7 Principles of Safe Practice in Health and Social Care (Coursework)
Unit 8 Promoting Public Health (Coursework)
Unit 10 Sociological Perspectives (Coursework)
Unit 19 Nutritional Health (Coursework)
Unit 4 Enquiries into Current Research in Health and Social Care (Externally Assessed)

WHY CHOOSE BTEC HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE L3?
Develop Employability Skills:
• Self-management: readiness to accept responsibility, flexibility, time management, readiness to improve on performance
• Teamwork: respecting others, co-operating, negotiating, persuading, contributing to discussions
• Problem Solving: analysing facts and circumstances and applying creative thinking to develop appropriate solutions
• Communication and Literacy: application of literacy, ability to produce clear, structured written work, and oral literacy (including listening and questioning)
• Application of numeracy: manipulation of numbers, general mathematical awareness and its application in practical contexts.

ASSESSMENT
Assessment is in line with BTEC assessment procedures. The course selected has to be fully completed within 2 years to achieve the qualification.
Grading system is Pass/Merit/Distinction.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
5 GCSEs including Grade 4/5 in English and Maths GCSE and above.

WHAT SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES WILL I NEED?
The main skills that are needed to start the course are:
• Commitment: to make sure attend all lessons.
• Hard working: to be motivated and self-driven to succeed.
• Effective communication: to be confident, especially when stuck on work, one must not to leave it to the last minute.
• Passion: to be happy and to ensure that this subject is a subject you want to study for 2 years.
• Good organisation and time management: to meet deadlines on time.

WHAT CAREER COULD THIS LEAD TO?
Any areas of nursing like for Disability to Child and Adult etc. Plus, teaching at primary or secondary level, even early years to youth work, social work and counselling. This subject can also support with other pathways in fields of Sociology and Psychology or even a Science.

WHICH UNIVERSITIES CAN I APPLY TO?
Some examples...
Birmingham City University – Nursing or Children and Integrated Professional Care or Early Years
UCB – Health and Social Care
Aston University – Psychology
Wolverhampton University – Health Care Science
Newman University – Primary Education Studies

Please contact Mrs J Kular (KS5 HSC Teacher) for further details.
BTEC LEVEL 3 IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

WHO IS THIS QUALIFICATION FOR?
Pearson

AIMS OF THE COURSE
The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Information Technology is intended as an Applied General qualification covering 360 GLH and equivalent in size to one A Level. It is designed for learners who are interested in a basic introduction to the study of IT alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in IT. Learners will develop a common core of IT knowledge and study areas such as managing and processing data to support business and using IT to communicate and share information.

STRUCTURE OF QUALIFICATION

WHAT DOES THIS QUALIFICATION COVER?
The objective of this qualification is to give learners the opportunity to develop their knowledge and skills in IT systems, systems management and social media in business. This will enable learners to progress to further study in the IT sector or other sectors. Learners will study three mandatory units:
- Unit 1: Information Technology Systems (synoptic)
- Unit 2: Creating Systems to Manage Information
- Unit 3: Using Social Media in Business.
This qualification includes a choice of optional units, including:
- Unit 5: Data Modelling
- Unit 6: Website Development.
This will allow progression to a variety of degrees when combined with other suitable Level 3 qualifications.

WHAT COULD THIS QUALIFICATION LEAD TO?
When taken alongside other Level 3 qualifications, including BTEC Higher Nationals or A Levels in complementary or contrasting subjects, such as mathematics, physics, science, arts or technology, the qualification gives learners the opportunity to progress to a degree in an information technology discipline or a degree where information technology related skills and knowledge may be advantageous. This qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as meeting admission requirements to many relevant courses. As the content is equivalent in size to one A Level, higher education representatives have confirmed that it is appropriate to allow learners to choose their optional units from a wide range so that they can explore their own choice of areas for further study. The qualification supports entry to, for example:
- HND in Business
- BA (Hons) in Computer Arts
- BSc (Hons) in Fashion Buying Management
- BSc (Hons) in Software Development for Animation
- BA (Hons) in Accounting and Finance. Some university courses may require the achievement of specific units and learners should always check the entry requirements for degree programmes with specific higher education providers.

Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from Mr J Richards (Head of ICT).
EXAMINATION BOARD
Pearson

AIMS OF THE COURSE:
To give learners the opportunity to achieve a nationally recognised Level 3 vocationally-specific qualification in the legal sector.
To give learners the opportunity to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal skills and attitudes essential for successful performance in working life and to allow access to employment opportunities in the legal sector.
The specification is designed to appeal to both full-time learners interested in a career in law, and to those who already have experience of working in the sector.

YEAR 12 STRUCTURE AND CONTENT:
Unit 1: Dispute Solving in Civil Law (controlled assessment)
Unit 2: Investigating Aspects of Criminal Law and the Legal System (coursework)

YEAR 13 STRUCTURE AND CONTENT:
Unit 3: Applying the Law (controlled assessment)
Unit 4: Aspect of Family Law (coursework)

ASSESSMENT
2 internal units
2 external units (controlled assessments)

WHERE CAN I GO AFTER COMPLETING THIS COURSE?
Enter employment in the legal sector.
Progress onto higher education vocational qualifications such as the Edexcel Level 5 BTEC Higher National in Business (Law).
Progress onto a Foundation Degree in Business and Law.
Progress onto a law honours degree.

Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from: Mrs A Shokar (Head of Business Studies).

“In Law a man is guilty when he violates the rights of others. In ethics he is guilty if he only thinks of doing so.”
Immanuel Kant
Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Sport (Equivalent to 3 A Levels)
14 units of which 10 are mandatory and 4 are external.
Mandatory content (78%).
External assessment (42%)

STRUCTURE AND CONTENT
Mandatory Units (x10 units)
1 Anatomy and Physiology (Externally assessed)
2 Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being (Externally assessed)
3 Professional Development in the Sports Industry
4 Sports Leadership
7 Practical Sports Performance
8 Coaching for Performance
9 Research Methods in Sport
19 Development and Provision of Sport and Physical Activity (Externally assessed)
22 Investigating Business in Sport and the Active Leisure Industry (Externally assessed)
23 Skill Acquisition in Sport

OPTIONAL UNITS (X4 UNITS)
5 Application of Fitness Testing
6 Sports Psychology
10 Sports Event Organisation
11 Research Project in Sport
17 Sports Injury Management
18 Work Experience in Active Leisure
20 Leisure Management
21 Leisure Centre Operations
24 Sports Performance Analysis
25 Rules, Regulations and Officiating in Sport
26 Technical and Tactical Demands of Sport
27 Principles and Practices for Outdoor and Adventurous Activities
28 Environmental Sustainability for Outdoor and Adventurous Activities

ASSESSMENT
Mandatory content (78%).
x2 Exams (External)
x2 Written Synoptics (External)
Practical Assessment also included within selected units
Ongoing opportunities to develop sports leadership skills and experience (primary sports competitions, sports days, sports event organisation, Inter-house competitions)

CAREER PATHWAYS
Sports related degree at a university (Sports Coaching, Sports Exercise Physiology, Sport Psychology, Sports Studies)
Direct pathway to the sports industry, range of careers including; Sports Coach, PE Teacher, Fitness Instructor, Personal Trainer, Leisure Centre Manager, Physiotherapist.
Full-time employment within the Sport and Leisure industry.

Please contact Mr D Brown (Director of Sports Academy) for further details.
The Football Academy

The Football Academy is run in conjunction with West Bromwich Albion. The two-year course aims to provide students with the opportunity to study for a nationally recognised qualification in BTEC National Diploma in Sport, there is a further option to study the BTEC Extended National Diploma in Sport which equates to 3 A Levels. Students receive expert coaching and guidance from West Bromwich Albion football coaches throughout the programme. The Football Academy compete in British College League and the West Midlands Club; there are additional friendlies and tournaments played throughout the season.

Home fixtures and regular training will be held at both Moor Lane and The Hub training grounds based in Birmingham. Students will have direct access to the excellent state of the art sport and fitness facilities as part of their training programme. Students will also have access to regular strength and conditioning sessions in addition to personal technical skill based aims.

Students will have opportunities to obtain additional nationally recognised qualifications throughout the duration of the course:
- FA Level 1 Coaching Qualification (with the view to gain a further FA Level 2 Qualification dependant on proficiency at a coaching level)
- Referee Course Level 1
- First Aid Qualification
- Experience leading a range of sports activities and festivals for Aston Manor Academy and West Bromwich Albion
- Opportunities to attend WBA home football games

There are a number of pathways which students can follow upon completion of the BTEC National Diploma in Sport and involvement within the Football Academy, these include:
- Sports related degree at a university
- Direct pathway to the sports industry, range of careers including; Sports Coach, PE Teacher, Fitness Instructor, Personal Trainer, Leisure Centre Manager, Physiotherapist
- Full-time employment within the Sport and Leisure industry

Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from: Mr D Brown (Director of Sports Academy).

“In vocational sport, students talked with pride about how they took part in sport outside school. Students could discuss ball velocity and trajectory, and link this to their work in physics. Students spoke of how graph skills helped them plot optimum throwing technique.”

OFSTED 2017
Aston Manor Academy, East West Basketball Schools and All City Basketball have joined together to deliver a unique Basketball experience for the Aston Manor Academy students from the 2015/16 academic year. East West Basketball Schools will be overseeing the player development of the Aston Manor Basketball Academy. Emphasis will be made on improving the technical, tactical, physical and mental ability of each student athlete at the academy. We aim to achieve this through rigorous testing, video analysis and basketball educational visits both nationally and abroad.

Since this is an independent programme and is not affiliated to any one club, we are entirely focused on the development of each individual and any student athlete who attends the Aston Manor Basketball Academy. Students will return to their own individual clubs as improved players in every aspect.

Both the Head Coach (Paul Douglas) and Associate Head Coach (Curtis Xavier) have played and coached at BBL level, played and coached at international level as well as having extensive national and international contacts for any student athletes wishing to extend their careers after leaving the Basketball Academy.

Home fixtures and regular training will be held at The Lighthouse Centre based in Birmingham. Students will have direct access to the excellent, state of the art sport and fitness facilities as part of their training programme. Each member of the Aston Manor Basketball Academy will be provided with a tailor made strength and conditioning programme. In addition to this, a huge emphasis will also be put on developing each student athlete’s speed and quickness to aid overall performance.

Students will have opportunities to obtain additional nationally recognised qualifications throughout the duration of the course:

- Basketball Level 1 Coaching Qualification
  (with the view to gain a further Basketball Level 2 Qualification dependant on proficiency at a coaching level)
- Basketball Refereeing Course Level 1
- Table Officiating Course Level 1
- First Aid Qualification
- Experience leading a range of sports activities and festivals for Aston Manor Academy and East, West Basketball Schools

There are a number of pathways which students can follow upon completion of the BTEC National Diploma in Sport and involvement within the Basketball Academy, these include:

- Sports related degree at a university.
- Direct pathway to the sports industry, range of careers including; Sports Coach, PE Teacher, Fitness Instructor, Personal Trainer, Leisure Centre Manager, Physiotherapist.
- Full-time employment within the Sport and Leisure industry.

Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from: Mr D Brown (Director of Sports Academy).
Aston Manor Academy and Aston Amateur Boxing Club have joined together to deliver a unique boxing experience for the Aston Manor Academy students from the 2015/16 academic year. The Boxing Academy is aimed at individuals with a range of boxing experience from being a novice through to competitive level boxers. Aston Boxing Club alongside Boxing Director (John Homer) will be overseeing the development of the boxers, both physically and mentally. Emphasis will be made on improving the technical, physical and mental ability of each student athlete at the academy; we aim to achieve this through rigorous fitness testing, video analysis and boxing educational visits nationally.

Competitive bouts will primarily be held at various locations across the West Midlands, with other competitions around the UK. Students will have direct access to the excellent, state of the art sport and fitness facilities as part of their training programme. Each member of the Aston Manor Boxing Academy will be provided with a tailor made strength and conditioning programme.

In addition to this, a huge emphasis will also be put on developing each boxers fitness, speed, agility and quickness to aid overall Boxing performance.

Students will potentially have opportunities to obtain additional, nationally recognised qualifications throughout the duration of the course:

- Boxing Level 1 Qualification
- First Aid Qualification
- Boxing Judging Qualification (with the view to gain a further Boxing Referee Qualification dependant on proficiency at a judging level)
- Experience leading a range of sports activities and festivals for Aston Manor Academy and Aston Boxing Club

There are a number of pathways which students can follow upon completion of the BTEC National Diploma in Sport and involvement within the Boxing Academy, these include:

- Sports related degree at a university
- Direct pathway to the sports industry, range of careers including; Sports Coach, PE Teacher, Fitness Instructor, Personal Trainer, Leisure Centre Manager, Physiotherapist
- Full-time employment within the Sport and Leisure industry

Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from Mr D Brown (Director of Sport)
APPRENTICESHIP PROGRESSION PROGRAMME SUBJECTS
EXAMINATION BOARD
City & Guilds

AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME
The programme is aimed at motivating students who would like the chance to experience working life in a supported way. It allows you to learn skills and gain a qualification while putting these skills into practice. You will receive work place experience, support from your manager and assessor as well as off-the-job support from your tutor.
The programme offers 1 or 2 day vocational training to enhance the school curriculum; these programmes can be tailored around students.

STRUCTURE AND CONTENT
Your qualification consists of a QCF (Qualification Credit Framework). This contains units with a credit value. You will need complete a set amount of credits to achieve the qualification.

ASSESSMENT
Your assessor will help you with units and credit choices towards your qualification which will match the job role.
Regular assessor visits to discuss progress and to collect evidence.

WHAT WILL I DO
• Develop skills and knowledge relevant to vocational studies.
• Gather evidence of your growing competence by building up a portfolio of work.
• Learn about health and safety in the workplace.
• Understand what makes a good employee, and appreciate the importance of their school studies for their future job.

WHERE CAN I GO AFTER COMPLETING THIS PROGRAMME?
The programme is designed to feed into the wider family of apprenticeships, and the qualifications gained may help build up credits towards post 16 qualifications.
Subject availability is dependent on student interest. Other courses such as motor vehicle, engineering and hair dressing can be made available if there is sufficient demand. Please speak to staff for further details.
EXAMINATION BOARD
Pearson

AIMS OF THE COURSE
The BTEC Workskills qualification has been designed to offer learners a flexible programme of study to improve their understanding and application of employability skills. This qualification has been developed to ensure that the knowledge, skills and understanding they provide are relevant, current and useful for learners and potential employers.

THE COURSE WILL APPEAL IF YOU
• Would like to gain more information and experience of work related skills and knowledge
• Want to find out more about career progression through research, team work and independent study
• Enjoy studying an area that will broaden your experiences
• Want the opportunity to apply the theory of the course to practical work in the workplace.
• Enjoy discovering about yourself in ‘hands-on’ situations
• Wish to study a course which is active, fun and enjoyable

STRUCTURE AND CONTENT AT LEVEL 2
You will learn by completing assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations. You will use independent learning skills to research information from a variety of sources and have the opportunity to explore case studies from different types of jobs.

The course introduces you to particular areas of employment and provides a good basis to progress to advanced work-related qualifications.

Examples of Units:
Self-management Skills
Produce a CV
Managing your own money
Applying for jobs
Achieving success in an interview
Investigating career choices
Skills and Qualities for Employability

ASSESSMENT
Each unit is assessed internally and graded by a portfolio piece of work. You will receive feedback on your progress throughout the course. Evidence of coursework can be recorded through a number of means such as PowerPoint presentations, wall displays, Word reports, role play assessment and working in teams.

WHERE CAN I GO AFTER COMPLETING THIS COURSE?
Learners are able to access sustainable employment or to enter employment or an apprenticeship.

Learners for whom further study is the next stage can progress to a Level 3 occupational qualification.

Progress into a career in a wide range of jobs having experienced the skills which will help you understand what is required.

Further details about any aspect of the course can be obtained from Mrs H Kaur.
Bilal joined the Sixth Form having completed his secondary education at AMA. With a GCSE AVPS of 40.00 he was advised to pursue a vocational route – securing Distinction* in his BTEC Diploma Health and Social Care and Applied Science. As a result of his achievements, Bilal successfully reached his long term ambition of securing a place at Staffordshire University to study (BNurs) Paediatric Nursing.

MARYAM AWAD

Maryam joined AMA Sixth Form as an external student in September 2014, with a GCSE AVPS of 51.40. She was advised to pursue an academic route, choosing A Levels in English Literature, RE, Sociology and Psychology. Upon completion of her time with us Maryam achieved AAB, securing a place at University of Birmingham to study (LLB) Law with Business Studies.

MOHAMMED BILAL KHAN HUSSAIN

Bilal joined the Sixth Form having completed his secondary education at AMA. With a GCSE AVPS of 40.00 he was advised to pursue a vocational route – securing Distinction* in his BTEC Diploma Health and Social Care and Applied Science. As a result of his achievements, Bilal successfully reached his long term ambition of securing a place at Staffordshire University to study (BNurs) Paediatric Nursing.
BUS ROUTES
• Handsworth  No. 11
• Inner Circle  No. 08
• Kingstanding  No. 33
• Erdington  No. 65
• Castle Vale  No. 67
• Birmingham  No. 01
• Great Barr  No. 51
• Perry Common  No. 07