



TARPORLEY
SIXTH FORM COLLEGE



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COMMUNITY . PRIDE . GROWTH

SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS 2022-2023

“Working together to develop confident and independent learners”

Why study at Tarporley Sixth Form College?

- A range of A-Level subjects taught by specialists and supported by extra-curricular activities such as university visits, work experience and a diverse enrichment programme.
- Rated as Outstanding by Ofsted.
- Outstanding exam results.
- Guidance and support throughout your studies helps you to fully realise your potential.
- You will be happy here; our students always tell us that studying at Tarporley was the best decision they made, providing them with a balance of independence and support which enabled them to progress to their destination of choice.

Annabel - Head Student

STUDYING

Art, English Literature & Psychology

FUTURE AMBITIONS

Reading English Literature or Psychology at university

ADVICE FOR YEAR 12

Embrace every opportunity at Tarporley as our school can support you so that you become a well-rounded individual who isn't afraid to push themselves out of their comfort zone.

HIGH ASPIRATIONS





“The teachers at Tarporley are extremely supportive and have helped me improve in my chosen subjects. The community feel of the Sixth Form has allowed me to work hard and focus on achieving my goals.”

Jamie - Head Student

STUDYING

Economics, History & Mathematics

FUTURE AMBITIONS

Reading Economics and Management at the University of Oxford

ADVICE FOR YEAR 12

Speak to as many new people as you can, find what it is you enjoy and push yourself to try new things.

INDEPENDENT
ENQUIRERS



“Firstly I’d say that the teachers are remarkable in terms of pushing us to exceed our best, and that they challenge us continually to broaden our knowledge. I’d also say that the sixth form has provided me with so many opportunities and never falls short of informing us of all the possibilities for the future, whether that be university or not.”

Harriet - Year 13

STUDIED

Art(A*), Media Studies(A*) & Photography(A*)

POST SIXTH FORM

Reading Graphic Design at the University of Chester

ADVICE FOR YEAR 12

Follow your passions and study what excites you; you never know where they may take you.

**CONFIDENT
COMMUNICATORS**

“The Sixth Form is outstanding.
It is highly successful in
helping students to move on to
higher education, training or
employment.”

Ofsted



Welcome from the Director of Sixth Form

Welcome to Tarporley High School and Sixth Form College. The decisions that you are going to make this year are very important and require careful consideration.

This prospectus is only part of the information you require to make an informed decision and I, along with Mrs Helsby (Sixth Form Pastoral Manager) are more than happy to help you with any questions you might have.

Here at Tarporley Sixth Form College we enjoy the privileged role of supporting our students throughout these exciting but challenging two years. From the Conway Residential, the final Prom at Peckforton Castle to those all-important examination results, we aim to prepare students for the academic and personal journey that lies ahead, offering guidance and monitoring every step of the way.

We are very proud of the standards achieved by past and present students in all areas of school life. We have regular contact with former students who often visit college to advise Sixth Formers on the rigours of A Level and post-18 pathways. We are committed to excellence and make no apologies for expecting the most of our students; consequently we push them very hard.

Our consistent results at A-Level show that we have a very effective recipe for success and our students go on to pursue a wide range of courses at an incredibly wide variety of destinations. Our Sixth Formers are leaders in the school and we have high expectations of them. Students are expected to work with commitment to their studies. The adult atmosphere of the Sixth Form means that students have more responsibility for their own learning. However, we provide support and opportunities for our students so that they can maximise their potential.

We welcome applications to our Sixth Form from students who have a real desire to excel academically, embrace new challenges and become a part of our vibrant community.

I look forward to working with you.

Kind Regards

Mrs T. McMillan

Mrs McMillan

A network of support

The academic structure and pastoral systems in the Sixth Form are very strong and are there to support our students throughout their A-Level studies. From the beginning of Year 12 through induction, monitoring of academic progress and guidance throughout the year, to post 17 and post 18 choices, our students are given personalised support in order to maximise their chances of success.


As well as highly experienced tutors, we are fortunate to have a Sixth Form Pastoral Manager who works full time with our students, providing specific and personalised support including study skills and academic support.

We offer a Year 12 residential induction in the first week of the Autumn term. The activities are very varied, providing a foundation for A-Level study; from giving students the chance to make new and long lasting friendships, to enabling the tutors to give individualised pastoral support that will underpin their Sixth Form years.

Students are given crucial information about life in the Sixth Form and the skills they need to be successful over the next two years.

Mr Brownley
(Deputy Director of Sixth Form)





Teachers who love teaching, teach young adults to love learning

We are committed to supporting all our students to maximise their huge potential, both academically and personally during their time in the Sixth Form; creating memories that will be carried with them throughout their lives.

Our enthusiastic teachers share a love of teaching and learning.

At the forefront of educational developments, their imaginative, innovative and broad, inclusive approach to teaching and learning drives, inspires and challenges our learners.

Students benefit from teachers who are specialists of their subjects and who consistently engage in professional development.

Their drive and devotion to their subject coupled with their pedagogical knowledge and experience of the curriculum is a keystone in the achievement of our students.



Beyond the classroom

We pride ourselves on the support that we offer to our students in their post 18 choices. Most of our students go to university once they leave us.

Throughout Years 12 and 13, students are:

- Guided through the application process
- Spoken to by representatives from a number of Higher Education providers
- Taken to the UCAS conference
- Taken to the Oxbridge convention
- Taken on a bespoke university visit
- Given personalised support to ensure that all aspects of the UCAS application form are as rigorous as possible
- Supported by visitors from a range of universities, industries and apprenticeship providers
- Given plenty of opportunities to enhance their personal statement through enrichment activities, work experience and visits to and from industry.

“Almost all students successfully complete their A-Level courses, enabling them to successfully move on to higher education or career options. Rigorous tracking arrangements are in place with support that is both timely and appropriate contributing to the strong success rate.”

Ofsted

Mrs Helsby
(Sixth Form Pastoral Manager)

Community

Joining our Sixth Form is an opportunity to develop interests and skills as an independent, motivated learner and a chance to take on a range of responsibilities and interests.

Having smaller class sizes in our Sixth Form means that students receive a great deal of individual support leading to rapid progress with their skills and knowledge. Tailored study group sessions help our students with the skills they need to make the best possible progress with their subjects, whilst extra revision and study support sessions are offered by subject specialists throughout the year.

As well as their A-Level studies, we offer our students a comprehensive Pastoral programme in addition to various enrichment activities.

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) which develops individual research skills, is also offered in Year 12.

Students choose a combination of subjects from a set of option blocks which are drawn up following consultation with Year 11 in the Spring Term.

The curriculum is supported by a range of educational visits including theatre visits, university workshops, art residencies and visits to industry, allowing our students to learn outside of the classroom.

“Achievement in the Sixth Form is outstanding. From average starting points, students’ progress is significantly above national averages by the end of Key Stage 5.”

Ofsted

Enriching Lives

Enrichment is hugely important; it provides students with some balance to their academic studies as well as giving them an advantage over other applicants in their future university, college or job applications.

Mr Gibbons is the Sixth Form Student Development Lead and he oversees these many exciting activities.

“Sixth Form provided me with so many opportunities and never fell short of informing us of all the possibilities for the future, whether that be university or not. I felt very inspired and driven to do well, not only for myself, but for my teachers and peers as we all encouraged each other.”

“You have taken my daughter to heights which I don’t think we would have considered without you.”



Broadening horizons

- Some of our students apply to be a Lead learner in a subject. This means working closely with teachers to support learning in lower school lessons; developing their confidence and communication skills.
- The Advanced STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Leaders Award gives students a real insight into the world of industry.
- An official work experience week in Year 12 means that all students are supported to organise a meaningful vocational placement to support their future aspirations.
- Our volunteer programme supports career goals, including local hospitals, care homes, schools and nurseries.
- The Duke of Edinburgh Award (Gold).
- Many of our students gain experience of being an elected representative during their membership of the Sixth Form. Opportunities for this include: Head Students, the Sixth Form Council, the Safeguarding Team, the 2015 Committee and the Whole School Council.
- We have fixtures against other institutions in sports such as football, rugby, hockey, netball and basketball.
- Support with charity work across Europe, Africa, South and Central America and South East Asia.
- Student ambassadors with the Holocaust Educational Trust.
- TERM magazine is a student-led publication that has won awards at the Shine National Media Awards, London, for five consecutive years.
- Art Residential for Cheshire’s finest artists in Tuscany.
- Students have the opportunity to lead Wednesday Enrichment Clubs, become ‘Reading Buddies’ and mentors to lower school students.
- Sixth Form lunchtime Clubs: Debate Club, Philosophy Club and Feminism Society.

Partnership

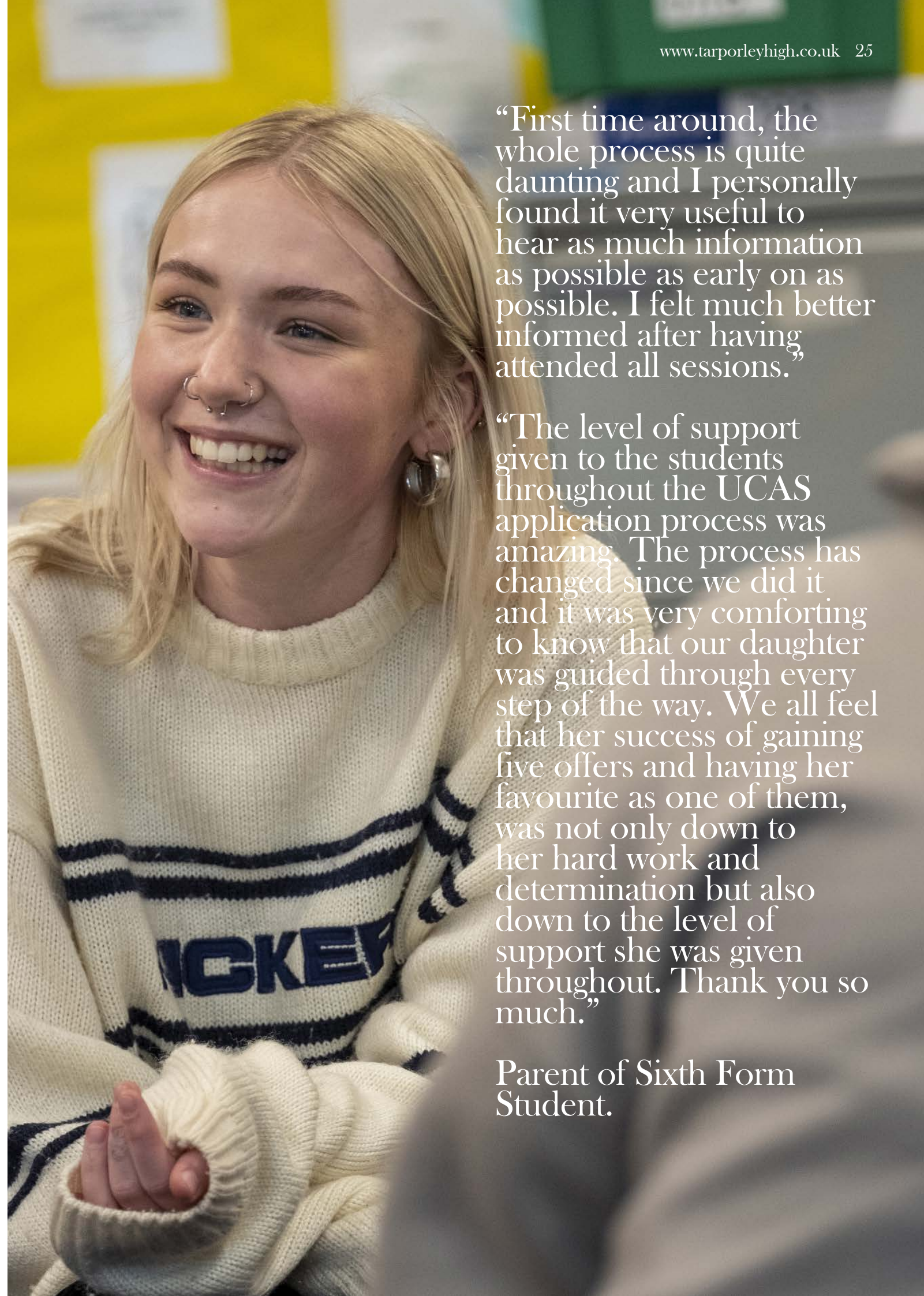
At Tarporley, we firmly believe that a friendly and co-operative relationship with parents and carers is vital for the full achievement of our educational aims. As such, we value our positive partnership with parents who play very important roles in supporting their child's learning.

Excellent communication between home and school, including Parent Consultation Evenings, the school website, newsletters, e-mails and text messages encourage closer links and better understanding. In addition, interim progress reports are issued every term with a summative report in the summer.

In order to support parents, we also host a number of information evenings; the first is held in September to explain how parents can support their child with their studies; another explains the university application process and a further evening explains student finance which parents find very useful.

For further information about Tarporley Sixth Form College, please do not hesitate to contact us directly or view our website: www.tarporleyhigh.co.uk

“Our daughter has completely flourished in the Sixth Form; I have always felt that the nurturing environment that you provide has helped her through and that as parents, we had a real ‘ally’ in the school.”



“First time around, the whole process is quite daunting and I personally found it very useful to hear as much information as possible as early on as possible. I felt much better informed after having attended all sessions.”

“The level of support given to the students throughout the UCAS application process was amazing. The process has changed since we did it and it was very comforting to know that our daughter was guided through every step of the way. We all feel that her success of gaining five offers and having her favourite as one of them, was not only down to her hard work and determination but also down to the level of support she was given throughout. Thank you so much.”

Parent of Sixth Form Student.

Sixth Form A -Level Subject Information

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“Art is the most intense mode of individualism that the world has known.”

- Oscar Wilde

Art & Design

An overview of Art & Design at A-Level

When the world went into lockdown; what did a lot of individuals turn to? When we were unable to go out shopping and had to entertain ourselves; how did people express themselves? There was a huge emphasis on the creative arts; whether it be the NHS rainbow or lockdown photography; Art prevailed as a hugely important output for society.

Are you a creative, independent young mind? Do you see the world differently? Are you not averse to taking risks? Are you dedicated and passionate about Art? Are you a self-motivated worker? If you answered YES to these questions then A-Level Art & Design is the course for you.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

Art & Design is the choice for individuals who are passionate about creativity and are keen to take risks, be bold and learn new skills. Students need to have the confidence to pursue personal lines of enquiry independently and with dedication using free time to develop their ideas. It is ideally for students who will have secured a minimum of a grade 6 at GCSE, preferably a grade 7 and have strong drawing skills.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

Throughout the course, students will be required to demonstrate an ability to research ideas in depth, both through an exploration of artists and their work to other contextual sources such as museum visits with an ability to analyse and offer personal judgements. Furthermore pupils will need to have a substantially developed ability to draw and record ideas; this will provide them with the fundamental skills required to develop and extend practical and theoretical skills; experimenting with a wide range of media and processes from personally selected starting points. Students may have the opportunity to experience visits to local and national galleries and practical workshops.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

Our creative industries are a real success story. They are worth more than £36 billion a year; they generate £70,000 every minute for the UK economy; and they employ 1.5 million people in the UK. According to industry figures, the creative industries account for around £1 in every £10 of the UK's exports. Art plays a fundamental role in this industry. Art combines well with History, Business Studies, Media Studies, English, Mathematics, Science and Expressive Arts. Many students go on to Foundation courses leading to specialist degrees in a wide variety of Arts subjects including: Fine Art, Art History, Graphic Design, Fashion Design, Illustration, Textiles, Film & Animation, Silversmithing, Ceramics, Millinery, Industrial Design, Interior Design, Advertising & Marketing, Photography and Architecture.



“An understanding of the natural world and what’s in it, is a source of not only a great curiosity but also fulfilment.”

- David Attenborough

Biology

An overview of Biology at A-Level

A Level Biology is a stimulating course which explores complex biological concepts inside the human body and in the natural world. The course delves into the incredible molecular world inside our cells and relates the mechanisms to real life experiences by linking topics to contemporary issues, current medical debate and headlines. Practical work includes techniques used in hospital laboratories as well as more traditional biological investigations.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

This course is perfect for anyone who has a fascination with the world around us, the human body, the causes of diseases and advances in medicine. During the two years of study you will learn about the way scientists work and the contributions of science to modern society. The entrance requirements are a preferred grade 6 in GCSE Biology or GCSE Core and GCSE Additional Science.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

Successful Biology students enjoy the hard work and demands of this subject and are capable of applying theory to unfamiliar situations. Biology students enjoy the intellectual challenge of the work, can cope with abstract concepts and work with increasing independence in order to deal with the intensity of the study required. An ability to interpret graphs and experimental evidence is essential.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

A-Level Biology is an essential component in many science and medical degree courses such as Dentistry, Medicine, Biological Science, Biomedical Science, Physiotherapy and Forensic Science. The course will also develop transferable skills that can support many degree courses such as Law, Geology and Environmental Science. Students in the past have also gone to University to study courses in Architecture, Marine Biology, Genetics, Biochemistry, Human Anatomy and Agricultural Studies.



“True entrepreneurs never stop learning from their own successes and failures – and from one another.”

- Deborah Meaden

Business Studies

An overview of Business Studies at A-Level

Studying Business Studies at A-Level allows students to investigate and explore the local, national and international world of commerce. Students cover a range of topics such as marketing, finance and operations. Students will take part in off-site visits to put their learning into practice in the real world. Students will benefit from the knowledge of guest speakers who will address them on a range of topics. Examinations test students on their knowledge, their ability to apply learning to a specific context as well as their analytical and evaluation skills.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

Business Studies will appeal to students who enjoy learning about real world issues. Students who enjoy current affairs and topical issues will be able to engage in up-to-date activity. Students with a desire to investigate strategy and leadership styles will become aware of such techniques and theories. Debate and presentation skills are important and developed and students' confidence is improved.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

Over the course, students will be required to demonstrate the ability to analyse and interpret data. Students will need to use basic mathematical skills to carry out formulae which then help to support arguments for particular points of view. Students will need to make decisions and justify these decisions with evidence backing up their rationale.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

Some of our previous students have gone on to read a range of subjects at university including Business Studies, Accounting, Economics, Law, Human Resources and International Business Management. Careers which Business Studies allows students to embark on are varied. The skills developed are relevant in many industries and workplaces. All students are equipped for their future be it in academia or the workplace.



“Chemistry is necessarily an experimental science: its conclusions are drawn from data, and its principles supported by evidence from facts.”

- Michael Faraday

Chemistry

An overview of Chemistry at A-Level

The study of Chemistry places you at the centre of science, as it provides links with a diverse range of subjects. Chemistry allows you to acquire not only a powerful battery of analytical skills for problem solving, but also the ability to analyse critically and to question the scientific status quo. These skills are transferrable to almost any context, and are highly valued amongst the scientific community and in the world of commerce and finance.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

Chemistry is the choice for students who are curious about the way our world works; from the atomic scale all the way up to major industrial processes. Students need to be imaginative and creative thinkers who can explore many abstract concepts. Ideally students will have achieved at least a grade 6 in GCSE Chemistry.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

Chemistry A-Level is a mixture of theoretical and practical work. Chemistry theory requires students to think logically, have good numerical skills and be able to describe and explain chemical processes. In practical tasks students will be required to work in a methodical and timely manner, using a variety of unfamiliar chemicals safely to produce new substances.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

Some of our previous students have gone on to read a range of subjects at University including Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Sciences, Engineering and of course Chemistry. Students who excel at Chemistry go on to take up careers doing a wide range of jobs that include Doctors, Dentists, Vets, Engineers, Architects, Accountants, Financial Traders, Journalists, Nuclear Scientists, Pharmacists, Solicitors, Barristers, Politicians, Teachers and Lecturers.



“Computers themselves and software yet to be developed will revolutionise the way we learn.”

- Steve Jobs

Computing

An overview of Computer Science at A-Level

We live in a digitised, computerised, programmable world, and to make sense of it, we need computer science. An engineer using a computer to design a bridge must understand the limitations of the numerical methods used, how the maximum capacity estimates were computed and how reliable they are. An educated person using a government database or bidding in an eBay auction should have a basic understanding of the underlying algorithms of such conveniences, as well as the security and privacy issues that arise when information is transmitted and stored digitally. These are computing issues. A Computer Science A-Level starts you on the journey to understanding or even building the systems we all use in life.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

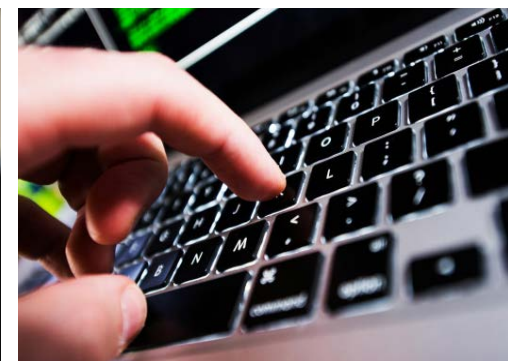
Computer Science suits students who like to look to the future, and have an inquisitive mind about how technology works. Students need to be logical thinkers, like identifying and exploring systematic processes. Students who can think laterally and creatively to solve problems flourish at Computer Science.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

Throughout the course, students learn logical reasoning, algorithmic thinking, design and structured problem solving, all concepts and skills that are valuable well beyond the computing classroom. Students gain awareness of the resources required to implement and deploy a solution and how to deal with real-world and business constraints. Students should have an ability to think logically, and good mathematical thinking is very useful.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

Computing opens the doors to many opportunities. Some of our previous students have gone on to read various Computer Science disciplines at university. Professionals with Computer Science backgrounds have never been in more demand in the UK and worldwide than they are today. Computer Scientists are employed in as varied positions from development of new movie techniques, to understanding the genetics of disease. There are many jobs that stem from Computer Science such as Software Developers, System Analysts, Engineers, Creative Designers, Game Developers, Network Managers, Scientists and Researchers.



“All the world’s a stage and all the men and women merely players; they have their exits and their entrances and one man in his time plays many parts.”

- William Shakespeare

Drama

An overview of Drama & Theatre at A-Level

Drama and Theatre is a rewarding course which not only educates students by developing their knowledge and understanding of Drama but also through acquiring skills needed in all aspects of life. Studying Drama and Theatre at A-Level gives you the opportunity to build a comprehensive understanding of Drama theory and practical skills. Throughout the course you will read, analyse, direct and perform plays ranging from Ancient Greek theatre, through the Elizabethan era and to the more modern work of Brecht, Berkoff, and other contemporary playwrights. You will be introduced to theatre practitioners and their repertoire, applying their techniques to your personal exploration of devising theatre. This course provides students with the chance to explore theatre through the ages, developing their analysis of characters, themes and the social, cultural and historical aspects of play texts, whilst giving them ownership and the confidence to apply more advanced Drama techniques to their practical and directorial study.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

Drama and Theatre Studies is the choice for students who love reading a range of plays, practically and theoretically exploring their thoughts and analysis of characters, themes and relationships, researching topics to use as devising tools, performing roles as part of an ensemble and through a monologue and directing theatre. Ideally for students who will achieve at least a grade 6 in GCSE English Literature.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

Over the course, students will be required to demonstrate the ability to analyse and interpret using textual evidence as well as exploring the social, historical and political context of a text, through both practical and theoretical exploration. Furthermore, they should have the ability to investigate, research, direct and apply different approaches to creating drama in their practical work. Students will also need to analyse Live Theatre through the form of a review and direct a play set in the Elizabethan era for a more contemporary audience.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

Some of our previous students have gone on to read a range of subjects at university including Business and Management, English Literature and American Studies. Students who excel at Drama and Theatre go on to take up careers doing a wide range of jobs that include PR, Directing and Film Producers, Journalists and Broadcasters, Solicitors, Barristers and Politicians, Teachers and Lecturers, Editors, Researchers and Writers, Film-makers, Actors and Directors, Copy-writers, Publicists and Marketing Managers and Civil Servants.



“Successful investing is anticipating the anticipations of others.”

- John Maynard Keynes

Economics

An overview of Economics at A-Level

Economics allows students to investigate the national and international economy. Ever wondered why interest rates are so important? Have you considered why the government doesn't help poverty more? Economics allows the exploration of economic theories and the consideration of strategies used to avoid market failure. Students develop analytical and evaluative skills whilst also improving their ability to analyse data effectively. Students will be taught and encouraged to use a range of sophisticated quantitative and qualitative evidence to structure arguments as well as demonstrate a strong understanding of key economic principals. Students will be able to explore economic methodologies and market structures in lessons and through extended essay writing.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

Economics would suit students with a hunger for new knowledge. Students will be able to analyse, interpret data and evaluate situations and scenarios. Students who enjoy learning about the real world will flourish in Economics. Students who have a genuine passion for learning about the world in which they live would suit Economics. If you enjoy watching the news and reading about the latest Economic, Political, Business and current affairs you will enjoy this subject. Students studying maths and science will do well in and enjoy Economics, as a social science.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

Students need the ability to absorb new concepts and theories at a reasonable pace. Students need to be able to interpret data and use diagrams to support statements they make. In the essay questions, students will develop their ability to structure and paragraph responses. Judgements need to be made and evaluative statements will be used for conclusions. As an Economics student you will need to possess and develop certain skills such as being able to research and analyse data, graphs, diagrams and text, you will need to have a very high degree of accuracy and attention to detail, and be able to debate, present and communicate confidently to your peers.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

Some of our previous students have gone on to read a range of subjects at university including Economics, Business Management and Politics. Economics can lead to a wide range of careers in Economics and Finance-related professions including: Accountant, Actuarial Analyst, Chartered Accountant, Data Analyst, Economist, Finance and Banking, Financial Risk Analyst, Financial Planner, Forensic Accountant, Investment Analyst, Statistician, Stockbroker.



English Language

An overview of English Language at A-Level

Studying English Language develops a range of important skills including writing, analysis and discussion. Exploring and investigating a variety of texts including spoken, written and multimodal texts offers a fascinating insight into how and why we use language. Understanding how and why men and women speak differently, discovering how we acquire speech, how technology has produced a new form of language altogether and how the English language has evolved over the past 2000 years are topics which are truly fascinating and quite addictive! Additionally, students are given opportunities to develop their own writing in a range of genres and styles. You become journalists and authors, producing original, creative texts which you decide yourself and which could exist in the real world – chapter 1 of a new fantasy novel, an article bemoaning English football performances, a TV drama script, an article for Vogue magazine, a lively, entertaining text to engage young readers..... the choice is yours!

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

Students who want to understand and enjoy the English language in all of its forms and styles will enjoy this course. If you love to write then this subject is for you. Students who enjoy focusing more on shorter non-literary texts from a wide range of areas, both spoken and written, plus students who enjoy writing for a range of audiences and purposes will thrive on this course.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

Students will be required to analyse and interpret a range of texts and apply theoretical perspectives as well as linguistic terminology to them. Writing is a key component and students will develop these skills throughout the two years. Being methodical and being able to investigate language in action are key skills which will support your studies. You will become data gatherers and will see how language affects and influences every aspect of our life.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

Many of our students pursue their studies in English Language further at university; courses include Linguistics, Speech Therapy, Creative Writing, Marketing and Journalism. A range of careers stem from these courses such as a number of options within the media, teaching and speech therapy. Language enables us to communicate persuasively, articulately and confidently - in our writing and in our speech; these are essential skills in any field and will be welcomed by any employer.



“If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart.”

- Nelson Mandela

Timms: “Most of the stuff poetry’s about hasn’t happened to us yet.”

Hector: “But it will Timms. It will. And then you will have the antidote ready! Grief.

Happiness. Even when you’re dying. We’re making your deathbeds here, boys.”

- Alan Bennett, The History Boys

English Literature

An overview of English Literature at A-Level

Studying English Literature gives you the opportunity to read and analyse a range of novels, poetry and plays from throughout the ages. Passionate about Shakespeare? Interested in Orwell's '1984'? Want to find out more about 'The Great Gatsby'? English Literature provides students with the chance to explore the universal human experience whilst honing critical thinking and debating skills across a range of diverse and stirring texts.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

English Literature is the choice for students who love reading, thinking, analysing, discussing, writing, arguing and debating. Students need to be passionate about reading and exploring texts and enjoy the opportunities for debate. Ideally for students who will achieve at least a grade 6 in GCSE English Literature.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

Over the course, students will be required to demonstrate the ability to analyse and interpret using textual evidence as well as exploring the social, historical and political context of a text. Furthermore, they should have the ability to investigate and apply a range of critical interpretations to the texts they read.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

Some of our previous students have gone on to read a range of subjects at university including English Literature, American Studies and Creative Writing. Students who excel at English go on to take up careers doing a wide range of jobs that include Journalists and Broadcasters, Solicitors, Barristers and Politicians, Teachers and Lecturers, Editors, Researchers and Writers, Film-makers, Actors and Directors, Copy-Writers, Publicists and Marketing Managers and Civil Servants.



“The study of Geography is about understanding the complexity of our world, appreciating the diversity of cultures that exists across continents.”

- Barack Obama

Geography

An overview of Geography at A-Level

Geography at Key Stage 5 investigates the rapidly changing world in which we live. We examine the core principles of Geography through investigating numerous different places around the world. We aim to show students that every action has a consequence not only locally but also globally. Geography is important, because it opens our eyes; Local is no longer local, but a collision point for the interaction of many 'locals' drawn from a global stage. With technology increasingly drawing the world closer together, it is important that the role of Geography in helping the public in understanding this complex and unpredictable world is championed!

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

Geography would be an excellent subject choice if you have an interest in current world issues and a genuine interest in the unpredictable world in which we live. It will also interest you if have an interest in: geo-politics, sustainability, future world scenarios, effective management of resources and an interest in what is going on in the world around you now and in the future. It will improve your analytical skills as well as being able to look at topics from several different perspectives, whilst greatly improving your essay and report writing skills. Ideally you will have achieved a grade 6 at GCSE. However, we do have students who successfully complete the course who have not taken Geography at GCSE.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

Discussion and analysis; problem solving; handling data; teamwork; presentations; debating skills; practical fieldwork skills; primary and secondary data collection along with evaluation; essay and report writing skills. All of these are life skills and skills that employers would be looking for and you will get the chance to develop these skills through studying a contemporary subject. You will also develop the skills of becoming an independent learner through studying an enquiry based subject utilising the most up to date information available.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

Recent Geography students have gone onto study Geography degrees or combined degrees as well as Masters Level study. Geography opens the door to numerous careers due to the excellent skills that you will develop together with the up to date knowledge of world issues. What employers like is the fact that Geography graduates are able to see an issue from several viewpoints, analyse data effectively and reach sensible valid conclusions. 'According to the Higher Education Careers Services Unit (HECSU) survey, Geography graduates had a better than average chance of getting work.' (BBC news website)



“History cannot give us a program for the future, but it can give us a fuller understanding of ourselves, and of our common humanity, so that we can better face the future.”

- Robert Penn Warren

History

An overview of History at A-Level

History is a fascinating and challenging discipline. At A-Level you can study the past in much more depth and truly understand the key events and people that shaped our world. We endeavour to assess the reasons why major historical events occurred and to also assess the impact on society. We look to build on the key skills acquired at GCSE and develop them further, to ensure that you leave the course as a deeper thinker and as someone who values the importance of learning about the past.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

We are looking for students with a passion for learning about the past. We want students who what to ask questions about the past and who aren't satisfied with a simple answer. History requires students that have an enquiring mind and are ready to question the world they live in. You need to be interested in the stories of people and to want to find out more about how changes in leadership, society and religion can profoundly affect everyone. To opt for History A-Level you will need to achieve a grade 6 at GCSE level. Students can apply without GCSE History but they will require excellent results in English.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

In History you will develop an understanding of new and complex concepts and ideas. You will need to enjoy reading and be able to interpret and analyse historical evidence. You will learn how to decipher the arguments of historians and how to decode historical sources. History lessons will be designed to encourage you to think independently and to ask questions about the topics we are studying. If you enjoy a good argument, then History is the subject for you as you'll be required to decide on an argument and defend it with evidence.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

Students have gone on to study History at university and many have specialised in particular areas such as European Political History or International Relations. History is a popular degree subject and is highly regarded by many blue-chip companies. Careers that would be suitable for students with a History degree are Law, Teaching, Journalism, Heritage and Museum Work, Marketing and Advertising. History trains transferable skills that can be adapted to an extremely wide range of possible career paths.



“We are changing the world with technology.”

- Bill Gates

“One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way.”

- Frank Smith

ICT

An overview of ICT at A-Level

Studying ICT gives you the knowledge and understanding to use a variety of software package such as Spreadsheets, Databases and Photoshop, which are commonly used in all lines of business, education, retail and industry. You will also gain an understanding of how to use social media for business purposes which is useful for employment in information technology and in a variety of business sectors. In addition you will gain an understanding of how the recent advances in technology, affect you and the world around us. By using and learning about industry standard software you can ensure that you have a solid grounding to use any software package to a high level. Studying ICT supports creativity, logical thinking and project planning, to help support your wider learning.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

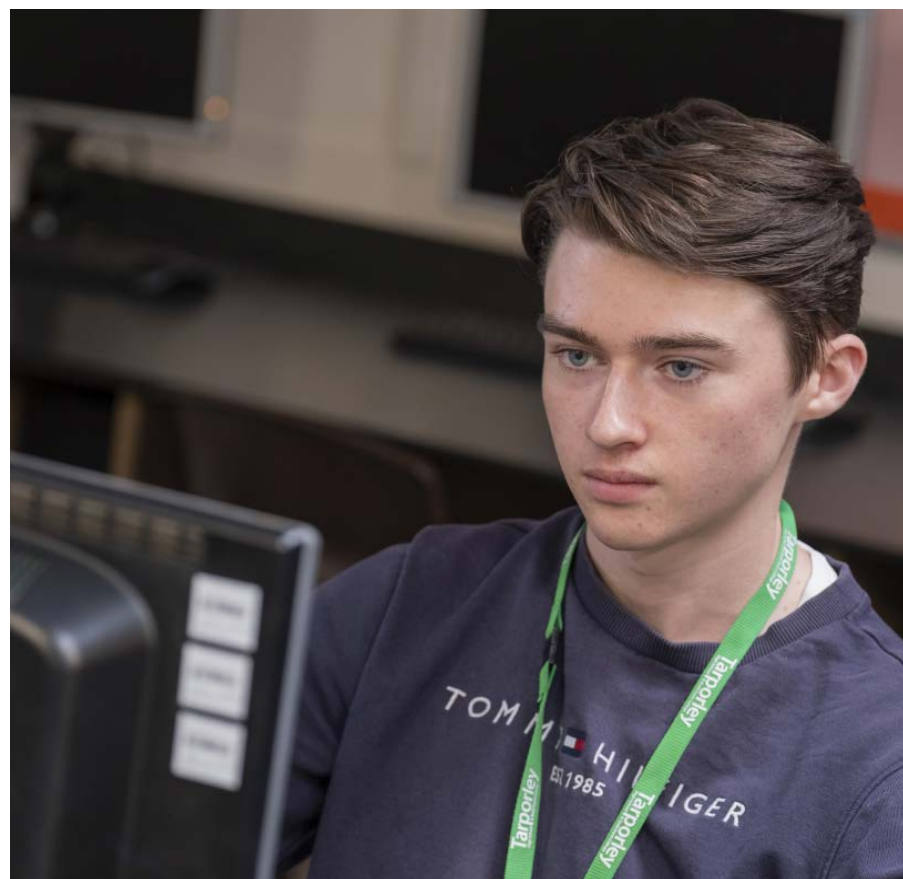
ICT is the choice for students who like to demonstrate their creativity, understand how to present information effectively in the 21st century and want to develop skills in research and presentation. Also, students who enjoy social media and are considering a future in Marketing. Students should be confident at trying and exploring new IT tools, however there is no prerequisite to have studied ICT at GCSE – everyone is welcome.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

Students will be required to show that they can effectively research and find data and sources of information to solve problems, interpret data and present it in a suitable format appropriate to the audience and purpose specified. Students will also learn skills of project planning. Students need to be able to be critical reflectors as well as self-motivated to meet project deadlines.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

You may choose to study ICT further at university, or you may use the skills you have learned to support your study of other subjects. All skills learnt on the course are useful transferable skills for the world of work. In addition, the social media skills give you a starting point for progression to roles such as social media specialist, content developer and web developer. ICT careers are dynamic and fast moving, offering incredible opportunities for students to make a start in building their careers. If you decide to enter the world of work, the skills learned will support you in almost every job you can think of.



An overview of French, German & Spanish at A-Level

Are you passionate about the language you are learning? Do you want to explore the culture and traditions of the countries where that language is spoken? Do you love grammar? The A-Level Modern Foreign Languages courses focus on improving communication in your foreign language in a variety of situations, exploring the diversity of different cultures and developing key analytical skills. Most importantly, they encourage you to develop a love for learning languages.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

This course would appeal to students who enjoy their GCSE language studies and want the opportunity to learn about the culture, history, literature, film and lifestyle of the countries where that language is spoken. This is a subject for students who want to consider and express their opinions on a range of topics and who have a sound understanding of grammatical structures. Ideally, these students will achieve at least a grade 6 in their GCSE Modern Foreign Language.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

Over the course, students will be required to demonstrate the ability to respond to a variety of written and spoken sources covering different contexts, styles and genres. They will have to use language appropriately for different purposes and speak and write accurately to express facts and ideas and to present explanations, opinions and information. They will have to demonstrate an understanding of grammatical systems and different structures.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

A language complements a whole variety of A-Level subjects and you may need languages for all sorts of career destinations. Language qualifications can lead to jobs in Translating, Interpreting, Finance, Sales and Marketing. Teaching and working for International Organisations (such as the UN and the EU).



“Doing mathematics should always mean finding patterns and crafting beautiful and meaningful explanations.”

- Paul Lockhart

Mathematics

An overview of Mathematics at A-Level

It is said that Maths is the King of Arts and the Queen of Sciences as there is little in life that is untouched by the subject. Mathematics gives students a powerful tool to explore why things work and understand how applications of mathematical ideas have transformed our lives. Concepts become clearer and more beautiful with practise, this in turn makes it easier to see the relationships between different areas of study. Mathematics has an aura of certainty about it, yet students will acquire skills to explain why there is uncertainty.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

Students who enjoy their mathematics, get excited by solving complex problems and thrive on challenge are well suited to Mathematics. Students need to be independent learners and curious about how maths relates to everyday life, eager to ask questions and gain deep understanding. They will be creative and able to think critically, with an ability to apply knowledge in different contexts. A-Level Maths is ideally for students who are expected to get at least a grade 6 at GCSE, preferably a grade 7.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

A strength in traditional mathematics skills such as algebra, graphs and trigonometry are crucial for success at A-Level as the four core modules build on this knowledge substantially. The Probability and Statistics module develops statistical techniques and probability rules that students have started to learn at GCSE, whilst the Mechanics module builds on the Laws of Mechanics, forces and motion met in GCSE Physics. Students need to be well organised, tenacious and have ability to analyse and interpret questions.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

Many students who achieve A-Level Maths will go onto university and are usually very appealing to admissions tutors. Mathematics is sought after in many types of career such as Accountancy, Computing, Engineering, Medicine, Management, Science, Pharmacy, Teaching, Veterinary Science and many more.



Further Mathematics

An overview of Further Mathematics at A-Level

Mathematics gives students a powerful tool to explore why things work and understand how applications of mathematical ideas have transformed our lives. Concepts become clearer and more beautiful with practise, this in turn makes it easier to see the relationships between different areas of study. Mathematics has an aura of certainty about it, yet students will acquire skills to explain why there is uncertainty.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

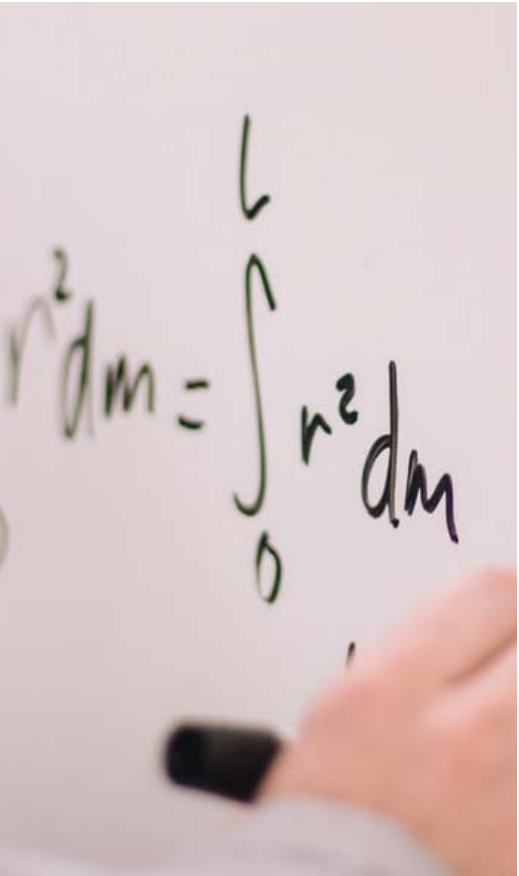
A Further Maths qualification is for students who are dedicated and enthusiastic about their mathematics and feel a genuine 'buzz' from solving complex problems correctly. They will thrive on challenge, being competent and independent learners, curious about how maths relates to everyday life. It is vital students have clear communication skills and are able to ask questions to gain deep understanding. They will be creative and able to think critically, applying knowledge in different contexts. A-Level Further Maths is ideally for students who are expected to get at least a grade 7 at GCSE, preferably a grade 8 or 9.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

As this subject is run in conjunction with A-Level Maths a strength in traditional mathematics skills such as algebra, graphs and trigonometry are crucial for success with the core modules building on this knowledge substantially. The Probability and Statistics module develops statistical techniques and probability rules that students have started to learn at GCSE, whilst the Mechanics module builds on the Laws of Mechanics, forces and motion met in GCSE Physics. The Further Maths qualification taken in year 13 develops this knowledge still further exploring some more demanding aspects of mathematics. Students need to be well organised, tenacious and have ability to analyse and interpret questions.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

Most students who achieve A-Level Further Maths will go onto read Mathematics or Engineering at university. Students who excel in Mathematics can pursue many types of career such as Accountancy, Computing, Engineering, Medicine, Management Science, Pharmacy, Teaching, Veterinary Science and many more.



“The media’s the most powerful entity on earth. It has the power to make the innocent guilty and to make the guilty innocent, because the media controls the minds of the masses.”

- Malcolm X

Media Studies

An overview of Media Studies at A-Level

Studying Media Studies furthers your creativity, your critical understanding of the world around you and builds excellent technical skills. You will create original and inventive new texts – from film trailers to magazine covers and you will learn to analyse and interpret the media texts which influence every aspect of our lives. Many new media terms and theoretical concepts will allow you to form your own views and give technical interpretations. You will study key concepts such as genre, narrative and representation: representation is the way the media represent individuals, groups, events and issues. Media representation is the portrayal of reality for the audience but that reality may not be a mirror of the world around us. You become sophisticated analysts, able to decode media texts and see how they have been constructed for a specific purpose and target audience.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

Students who want to understand and enjoy the Media in all of its forms and styles will enjoy this course. We look at any aspect of the media – from film, advertising, music videos and magazines to comic books, anime, computer games and CGI animation. If you love to create original texts which look authentic and would engage real audiences, and if you love keeping up with popular culture and social attitudes then this course is for you. You become expert at analysing and deconstructing media texts and will never look at a film or piece of drama again without considering its use of camera shots, lighting or codes and conventions!

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

An artistic eye, good technical skills and good English skills are essential. Students will be required to create new media artefacts or products, analyse and interpret a range of texts and apply theoretical perspectives. You will need to be aware of what is happening in the media, in terms of new media products, the impact of digital technology, or simply knowing what issues are considered newsworthy, topical or controversial. To understand the media you need to use it, watch it, read it, analyse it, be aware of its impact.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

Many of our students pursue Media Studies further at university; courses include Practical Production and Film-Making, Animation, Advertising and Journalism. A range of careers stem from these courses such as a number of options within the Media, Marketing and Teaching.



“Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything.”

- Plato

Music

An overview of Music at A-Level

The A-level Music course offers you the opportunity to develop into a well-rounded, confident and creative individual. These are all characteristics that employers covet and will stand you apart from the crowd. Through Performance and Composition, students will deepen their levels of self-confidence and ingenuity as well as communication and teamwork abilities. Listening and Appraising Music will enhance their high level analytical, critical thinking and evaluation skills.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

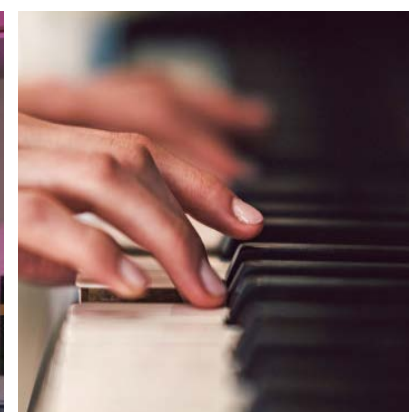
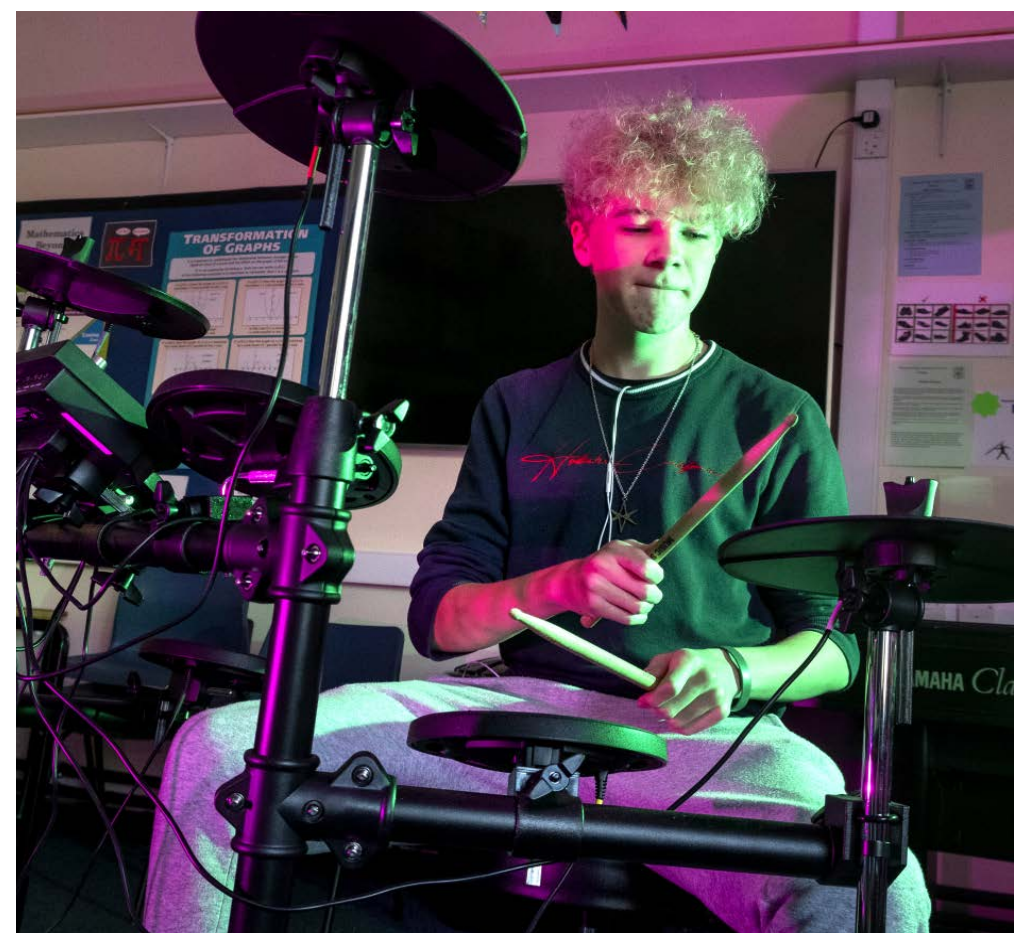
A-Level Music is for students who want to take their current study of music to the next stage. Students must be passionate about musical performance, and be ready to perform music on their own and with others. The course suits competent musicians who are keen to enhance their creativity and expression through composition. It is an ideal course for students who are interested to learn about a range of musical styles through in-depth study and analysis.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

Students extend their skills, knowledge and understanding of music and take part in creating their own compositions, which includes refining their ICT skills. Students will engage in and extend their appreciation of the diverse and dynamic heritage of music thus promoting spiritual and cultural development. Throughout the course, students will develop adaptability, resilience and analytical skills as they immerse themselves in the broad range of styles and genres covered.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

The confidence gained through two years of creative work and advancing a range of transferable skills will be valuable characteristics that will interest top universities and employers. An A-Level in music will provide students with the knowledge needed to enter into the thriving multi-billion-pound music industry or branch out into other fields. Students who excel at Music also go on to take up careers in a wide spectrum of areas, for example medicine, journalism, education, marketing and many others.



“What I like about photographs is that they capture a moment that’s gone forever, impossible to reproduce.”

- Karl Lagerfeld

Photography

An overview of Photography at A-Level

We engage with Photography everyday. Through the media and news, to scrolling through Instagram, Snapchat and Facebook - we all engage with the importance, power and influence of Photography. Are you an imaginative, independent young mind? Do you see the world from a range of perspectives? Are you not averse to taking risks? Are you dedicated and passionate about Photography? Are you a self-motivated worker? If you answered YES to these questions then A-Level Photography is the course for you.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

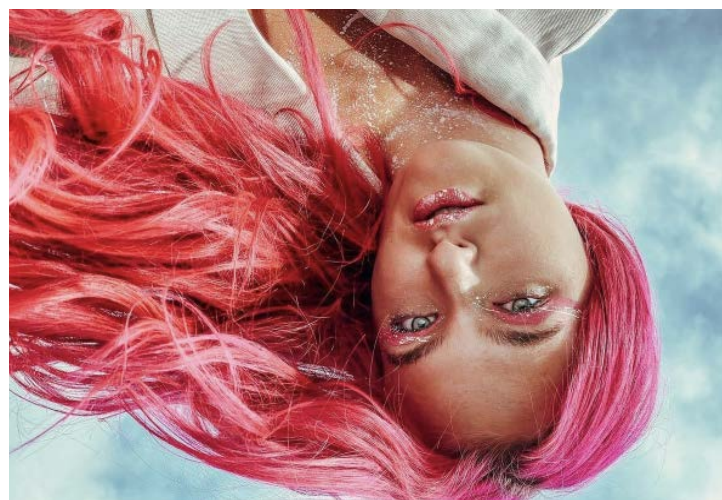
Photography is the choice for individuals who are passionate about creativity and are keen to take risks, be bold and learn new skills. Students need to have the confidence to pursue personal lines of enquiry independently and with dedication using free time to develop their ideas. It is beneficial for students to have pursued Art and Media based courses at GCSE securing a minimum of a grade 6, but anyone who is interested in the creative world is welcome.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

Throughout the course, students will be required to demonstrate an ability to research ideas in depth, both through an exploration of photographers and artists and their work to other contextual sources such as museum visits with an ability to analyse and offer personal judgements. Furthermore students will need to have an ability to draw and record ideas; this will provide them with the fundamental skills required to develop and extend practical and theoretical skills; experimenting with a wide range of media and processes from personally selected starting points. High fluency and accessibility to ICT programmes such as Photoshop are beneficial. Students may have the opportunity to experience visits to local and national galleries and practical workshops.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

Our creative industries are a real success story. They are worth more than £36 billion a year; they generate £70,000 every minute for the UK economy; and they employ 1.5 million people in the UK. According to industry figures, the creative industries account for around £1 in every £10 of the UK's exports. Photography plays a fundamental role in this industry and can lead to a range of careers in the media and arts industry.



“If winning isn’t everything, why do they keep score?”

- Vince Lombardi

Physical Education

An overview of PE at A-Level

Studying Physical Education provides the opportunity to study a wide range of theoretical areas in sport and physical activity. These include physiology, psychology and socio-cultural issues which allow you to develop knowledge of the factors that affect and optimise performance.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

Students with a passion for sport and a desire to gain a deeper understanding of physical education will find the course engaging and enjoyable. Students must be involved in performing or coaching in sport and will have achieved a grade 6 or higher at GCSE PE. Students who have an interest in pursuing a career in sport and/or are aspiring to study sport at university would benefit from this course.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

A good understanding of human biology is beneficial for the physiological aspects of the course. Knowledge of the principles that underpin the methods of training and some social and psychological concept knowledge would also be beneficial. Students should be performing or coaching regularly in a recognised sport and be committed to continue to develop their practical sporting skills throughout the course.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

Studying Physical Education at A-Level will equip you for undergraduate study in many sports disciplines such as sports science, exercise physiology, bio-mechanics, sports psychology or sport development. This can eventually lead directly into careers such as Physiotherapy, Teaching, high level training and coaching.



“You dig deeper and it gets more and more complicated; you get confused, and it’s tricky and it’s hard, but it is also beautiful.”

- Brian Cox

Physics

An overview of Physics at A-Level

Studying Physics gives you the opportunity to read and analyse laws that have been developed over time and applying ideas from the greatest minds that have lived, including Einstein, Planck, Newton, Thompson and Curie. Physics provides students with the chance to explore how the universe appears and why and how it may change in the future.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

Physics is the choice for students who will enjoy reading, thinking, analysing and discussing how the world we inhabit follows basic rules and laws, which can be described using language and Mathematics. Students need to be inquisitive and open to new ideas about how the world appears to work and be prepared to work through ideas until they are ingrained in their being. Students should be achieving at least a grade 6 in GCSE Physics and at least a grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics and ideally studying Mathematics at A-Level, as work is built upon the skills developed at GCSE.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

Over the course, students will be required to demonstrate the ability to use appropriate terms correctly and develop their mathematical abilities in a range of areas. In addition, they should have the ability to undertake research and apply a range of practical techniques to collect accurate data, analyse data using mathematical techniques, using language to explain concepts and using mathematics to solve high order numerical problems.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

Some of our previous students have gone on to read a range of subjects at university including Physics, Astrophysics, Engineering, (all types) Law, Chinese, Mathematics and Economics. Students who shine at Physics go on to take up careers doing a wide range of jobs that include Engineers, Teachers, Research Fellows, Finance and Project Development.



“Design can be art. Design can be aesthetics. Design is so simple, that’s why it is so complicated.”

- Paul Rand

Product Design

An overview of Product Design at A-Level

Studying Product Design gives you the knowledge and skills you need to make a real impact on the world. Not only will you make your own products to an extremely high standard, you will also gain a greater understanding of how the objects in our environment have evolved and how they need to change to retain a place in contemporary society. Product design gives you the opportunity to bring your ideas and your imagination to life, to really understand what people want and need. Are you enthusiastic about making? Do you have an interest in style? Do you want to change the world? Product Design provides you with the chance to explore your creativity whilst at the same time producing practical outcomes. It will help you develop a true understanding of how technology, as a force, has altered the path of human history. How it influences society and most importantly of all, the choices we make about the way we live our lives surrounded by technology itself.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

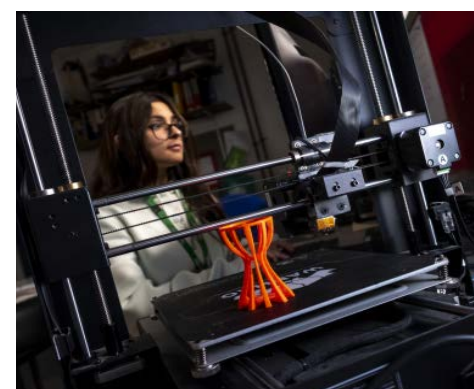
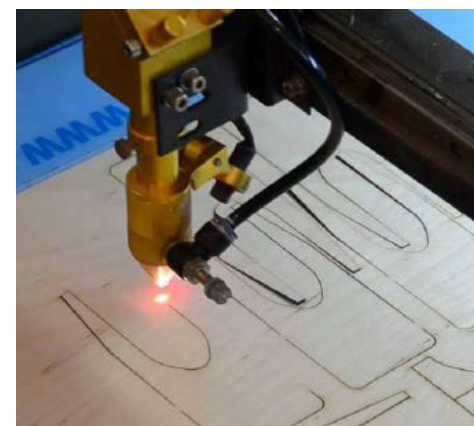
Product Design is the choice for anyone who loves to make, draw, invent and dream about an improved future. You may consider yourself an ‘ideas person’. We can help you with the making. You may be a craftsperson, then we can help you progress with our great facilities and construction experience. Product Design is for anyone who thinks in terms of positive change and is aware of the importance of quality products and systems.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

It is not so much the skills you have; it is about the skills you want to develop. It is our job to help you make progress in drawing, making, thinking skills and planning. If you have any level of skill in these areas and can back it up with the enthusiasm for the subject then you should consider yourself an ideal candidate. It is how we harness the variety of skills and talent that make it such an enjoyable subject to work in.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

In its most direct form this subject can lead to a range of alternatives including Mechanical, Technical and Automotive Engineering, Industrial Design, Furniture Design, Modern Apprenticeships and Building Studies. Even if your course does not specify technology as a requirement, it is still essential that you gain the project management expertise and practical, physical skills that this subject brings. Coping with the theory at university is one thing, but knowing how materials respond is best learned through practical experience. Other areas in which this subject plays a part are Graphic Design, Architecture, Project and Business Management, Health and Safety and careers where the sciences are applied in a real world situation.



“The brain is wider than the sky.”

- Emily Dickinson

Psychology

An overview of Psychology at A-Level

When you have an opinion of something or whenever you experience an emotion, Psychology is the subject that helps us to understand why we think, feel or behave as we do. Psychologists observe and measure human behaviour and their therapies are based on scientific study. Often studies in Psychology are controversial in nature which can initiate some interesting discussions. Psychology has links with many disciplines including Biological, Computer and Forensic Science as well as Humanities such as Sociology, Philosophy, Anthropology and even Literature. It involves study of theory, empirical evidence and practical applications. This mix of disciplines helps to make Psychology such a fascinating subject.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

Individuals who have a keen interest in understanding the human mind and behaviour by studying and evaluating psychological research will thrive on this course. With this in mind, students studying literacy based subjects like English and History do very well in Psychology because the demands of essays in the exams are similar, and there is a lot of reading around the subject. English GCSE is necessary as there are a lot of essays and analysis of research which requires evaluation and in-depth critical thinking. Psychology is a Science so the research methods component is more mathematical. Therefore, it would be important to have a good grasp of basic statistics in Maths due to the importance placed on the ability to analyse data. A subject such as Biology also complements Psychology well, to meet the demands of the scientific elements of the course.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

The ability to outline and apply knowledge and evaluate research and theories are the key skills in Psychology. Students will formulate arguments, work independently and in groups and engage in wider reading and independent research to be successful.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

Psychology is a very popular subject at university level; however, it is an equally useful subject for studying other subjects at higher education, for example: Law or Nursing. Careers relating to Psychology include: Policing, Nursing, Teaching, Counselling, Human Resources and Personnel. University study in Psychology can lead to careers in areas of Applied Psychology, including: Clinical, Educational, Sports, Criminal, Forensic, Counselling, Environmental and Organisational Psychology.



“Just as a candle cannot burn without fire, men cannot live without a spiritual life.”

- Paul Rand

Religious Studies

An overview of Religious Studies at A-Level

In essence, Religious Studies is concerned with thinking about the 'big' questions in life, such as: who am I? (what is the nature of humanity?); where am I? (what is the meaning and nature of the world around me?); how should I live? (is there right and wrong?); and what happens when I die? You will explore these issues through the study of the Philosophy of Religion and Ethics at A-Level, rather than through the study of specific religions or scriptures. The aims of the course are to encourage interest in and intelligent understanding of the issues raised by religion and to train you to think knowledgeably and logically about them. The course is equally suitable for those who have a religious commitment and those who have none – fair and rational consideration and evaluation of a range of perspectives is expected.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

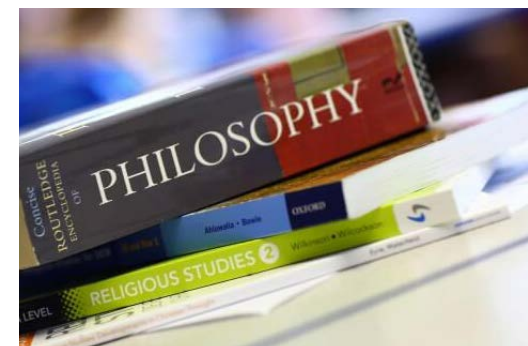
Religious Studies (RS) is a subject that covers a very wide range of issues and skills. Most people do not study RS because they want to become theologians or to work in the church (although if these are possible future vocations, you probably should be studying RS at A-Level). Nor do you have to have any strong religious views yourself (RS involves exploring and challenging religious convictions).

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

You will enjoy RS if you are interested in the type of issues it covers; you will be good at it if you can train yourself to think logically and accurately, to understand a range of theories and to evaluate them critically, to study primary source material carefully and to represent the ideas of others fairly, and to write clear, well-organised essays. RS is principally a subject that involves reading and essay writing, so your ability in subjects such as English and History at GCSE may indicate your likely suitability for the subject at A-Level. You do not need to have studied RS at GCSE.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

RS is a fascinating subject, which will train you in skills of analysis, logical thought, empathy and literacy. These are quite clearly skills which will prepare you well for both university and beyond. It directly provides a foundation for courses in Philosophy, Religious Studies and Theology. However, the skills and challenges involved in studying RS at A Level are highly relevant to a wide range of courses in the humanities and social sciences.



“Fashion is very important. It is life-enhancing and, like everything that gives pleasure, it is worth doing well”.

- Vivienne Westwood

Textiles

An overview of Textiles at A-Level

A-Level Fashion and Textiles gives you a greater understanding of the world of fashion, how textiles are used to convey identity and the industry which creates them. This is practical design course with the opportunity to design and make a range of Fashion pieces. By developing an experimental approach to a range of textiles practices including dye, print, digital, stitch and embellishment. Through a series of creative projects you will learn how to develop ideas by engaging with drawing and research, how to create textiles samples and realise your ideas into final outcomes. Learning about artists, designers and textiles from diverse cultures will underpin your independent piece of NEA coursework. Above all, Textiles gives you the opportunity to bring your ideas to life and to really understand what people want to wear and how it enriches their lives.

Do you have an interest in fashion and style? Do you want to have an impact on the world? Do you want to make a change? Textiles provides you with the chance to explore your creativity. It will help you develop a true understanding of how Textiles has influenced and altered popular culture, how it influences society and most importantly of all, the choices we can make regarding what we wear and their impact on the world. Understand the ever-changing developments in the Fashion Industry.

Who would suit or enjoy the course?

Textiles is the choice for anyone who loves to sew, design, draw and dream about an improved stylistic future. You may consider yourself an 'ideas person'. We can help you with the making. You may be a craftsperson, then we can help you progress with our great facilities. Textiles is for anyone who thinks in terms of positive change and is aware of the importance of quality products and systems.

What skills are needed and involved in the course?

In Textiles it is not so much the skills you have; it is about the skills you want to develop. Creativity and enthusiasm, however, are essential. If this applies to you then you could be an ideal candidate. We will harness your skills and talent to ensure you reach your full potential.

Where can this subject lead me to in the future?

Naturally a career in fashion is a glamorous idea. The industry is diverse with many different roles – a fashion job can be anything from running exotic photo shoots in far-flung corners of the world, to managing a trend-spotting blog in the fashion media. Careers include Garment Technologist an innovative job in the development of new materials through testing combinations of yarns, textiles and fibres. Fashion Designer which is the highest profile job in the industry in a range of apparel for a range of companies, boutique labels or for freelance. Retail buyers, Merchandising or Personal stylists who work closely with manufacturers and suppliers to bring Fashion to the High Street. Or use Textiles artistically as a Fashion Stylists using Photography to shoot looks, or fashion illustration or as a Textile designer creating 2D designs for patterns to be used in printed, woven and knitted textiles. There are two major fields in the industry: interiors (carpets and upholstery), and fabrics for clothing. Fashion public relations roles have a glamorous appeal, and the job is very people-focussed. PRs work with fashion labels and retailers to build a strong brand profile and public image, and assist with the media coverage of new product launches. Or you may consider being a Fashion writer. Working alongside Fashion PRs and produce editorial copy for the extensive fashion media industry. Fashion writers work for newspapers, magazines, fashion websites or blogs, and television.



“The Sixth Form college is an outstanding setting with wonderful staff that actually care about individual needs.”



