Welcome to St John Fisher Sixth Form

Dear students,

A warm welcome to our Sixth Form; thank you for taking the time to read our prospectus and consider studying with us. We are proud to teach at St John Fisher. We aim to educate and inspire - not just the students inside our building, but the wider community as well.

We are a high achieving sixth form with the expertise required to ensure that you reach your potential. Many of our students go on to take up university places at a wide variety of destinations, including Russell Group institutions.

We offer a plethora of academic and vocational qualifications and also work in partnership with local grammar schools in a collegiate approach for sixth form provision. This highly successful partnership has enabled us to extend the opportunities on offer to all our students so that there are challenging and appropriate qualifications for all.

As an SJF student, you’ll be encouraged to take an active role in school life, developing your skills for learning beyond the classroom. You’ll be offered opportunities to volunteer, both in school and outside in the wider community. Year 12 students undertake a work experience placement; Year 13 students form our student leadership team, acting as peer mediators and mentors to younger pupils.

Above all, we are a Catholic sixth form, which means that we have a uniquely warm and supportive ethos. The word ‘Catholic’ originally meant ‘universal’, and we are proud to be a comprehensive school with students from a wide variety of backgrounds, of all faiths and none. Everyone is welcomed here and helped to reach their goals.

Whether you want your next steps after Sixth Form to be work, an apprenticeship, or an Oxbridge application, we will support you to be both the brightest and the best person that you can possibly be.

We look forward to meeting you and inspiring you to take the next important steps to achieving your aspirations.

MRS D. LENNON
Headteacher

MRS E. L. BAILEY
Assistant Headteacher
Head of Sixth Form

"Teaching in the sixth form is good. Teachers use their strong subject knowledge to provide stimulating activities that encourage independent study and structured learning. As a result, students develop a high level of knowledge and understanding in their subjects."

OFSTED 2019

"The headteacher’s uncompromising vision of a high-quality education for all pupils has led to improvements in the quality of education since the last inspection."

OFSTED 2019
A Level & Vocational Subjects

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7. Art and Design A Level
9. Biology A Level
10. Business BTEC Level 3
11. Chemistry A Level
12. English Literature A Level
13. Geography A Level
14. Politics A Level
15. Health and Social Care BTEC Level 3
17. History A Level
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Applied Science
BTEC Level 3

Introduction
The Level 3 BTEC in applied science offers students a more independent learning experience than traditional science A Levels. Students will complete two coursework units and two externally assessed units. It is ideal for learners seeking vocational aspects of science as well as strong links to science related careers. Each unit is broken into assignments that link the content to scenarios that allow learners to understand how science is used in industry.

Course content
Students will complete units that allow them to develop their practical skills and scientific understanding.

BTEC Grade A Level Equivalent
Pass E
Merit C
Distinction A
Distinction* A*

Links to other subjects and careers
Having the applied science Level 3 BTEC can open up a world of possible scientific careers.
Possible career choices that require BTEC Level 3 in applied science include:
- Biological testing
- Biotechnology
- Independent research
- Food industry jobs
- Nutrition
- Nurse
- Zoo keeper
- Animal care
- Veterinary nurse
- Scientist
- And many others

Art and Design
A Level

Introduction
A Level Art and Design - Two year course
Students will have the opportunity to work across a range of disciplines which could include: Fine Art, Illustration, Graphic Communication, 3D Design, Print making, Fashion design and Photography. At all stages of the course there will be opportunities to generate and develop ideas, students will research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas towards producing personal resolved outcome(s).

Course content
Component 1 - Personal Investigation (60% of final mark)
During the first year, students will be set a series of projects, which will enable them to explore a range of disciplines before selecting a chosen specialist area. At the end of this year each individual will be expected to identify a personal area of investigation (in conjunction with their teacher) that brings together their previous learning. Students will produce a sustained and in depth body of work which will be submitted for final assessment.

Overview of assessment
Incorporates three major elements: supporting studies, practical work, and a personal study.

Component 2 - Externally Set Assignment (40% of final mark)
Students will receive an examination style paper issued by the examining board, AQA, in February of their second year that contains a theme and suggested starting points which they will use to form a new body of work.

Overview of assessment
Incorporates two major elements: preparatory studies and the 15 hour examination.

Entry requirements
Minimum of 5 9-4 grades at GCSE and GCSE grade 4 in Art.

Entry requirements
Minimum of 5 9-4 grades at GCSE.

Links to other subjects and careers
- Graphic design
- Illustrator
- Artist
- Interior designer
- Game design
- Web design
- Design for performance
- Product designer
- Advertising
- Teacher

Science, my lad, is made up of mistakes, but they are mistakes which it is useful to make, because they lead little by little to the truth.

JULES VERNE
Introduction

Biology involves the study of a wide range of exciting topics ranging from molecular biology to the study of ecosystems. The human genome has been sequenced, work on Alzheimer’s disease and cancer continue to make breakthroughs. In Kenya, 350 people die every day from AIDS and in South East Asia the skies are dark with smoke as the Bornean rainforests are burned to grow oil palms. Biologists are concerned with all these issues.

Course content

In the first year, students will complete four topics: “Biological Molecules”, “Cells”, “Organisms exchange substances with their environment” and “Genetic information, variation and relationship between organisms”. These four topics give a solid grounding in biology. Over the year, students will carry out at least six practical investigations.

Year two helps students to build on the knowledge and skills learnt in year one. They will study four further topics: “Energy transfers in and between organisms”, “Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments”, “Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems” and “The control of gene expression”. Within these topics students will complete a further six practical investigations.

To gain an A-level qualification, students will have three examinations at the end of year 13: paper 1 will cover any content from topics 1-4, paper 2 will cover any content in topics 5-8 and paper 3 will cover any content from topics 1-8. All papers are 2 hours long and 15% of the marks for each paper will assess practical skills.

Entry requirements

Minimum of 5 9-4 grades at GCSE including a 6 or above in trilogy or triple science.
Business
BTEC Level 3

Introduction
The BTEC business qualification at level 3 is designed to provide highly specialist, work-related qualifications. It gives students the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to prepare for further study or employment. The qualification provides career development opportunities for those wishing to progress onto employment or further training such as further or higher education. Studying business will equip students with the knowledge and skills required to consider starting their own business.

Course content
Students will study for a BTEC Level 3 which is equivalent to one A Level. The course is assessed via 40% coursework and 60% external examination.

Units include:
1. Exploring business
2. Marketing
3. Finance
as well as a further optional unit.

Entry requirements
5 9-4 grades at GCSE.

Links to other subjects and careers
The study of business has many other subject links such as – Economics – Media – Psychology – ICT
Related Careers Include
– Entrepreneur
– Marketing
– Web design
– Accountancy
– Economist

Chemistry
A Level

Introduction
Students will experience the excitement and intellectual challenge of contemporary chemistry by exploring the frontiers of research in the environmental and technological applications of chemistry. Students will be challenged by the rigorous theoretical content of the course but will have the opportunity to consolidate and extend knowledge as every topic is revisited several times.

Course content
In the first year, students will compete four topics: "Development of practical skills in chemistry (1)", "Foundations in chemistry (2)", "Periodic table and energy (3)", and "Core organic chemistry(4)". These four topics give a solid grounding in all aspects of chemistry. Over the year, students will carry out at least six practical investigations.

Year two helps students to build on their knowledge and skills learned in year one. They will study two further topics: "Physical chemistry and transition elements (5)" and "Organic chemistry and analysis (6)". Within these topics students will complete a further six practical investigations.

To gain an A level qualification, students will have three examinations at the end of year 13: paper 1 will cover any content from topics 1,2,3 and 5, paper 2 will cover any content in topics 1,2,4 and 6; and paper 3 will cover any content from topics 1-6. All papers will be between 75 and 95 minutes long with 15% of the marks for each paper assessing practical skills.

Entry requirements
Minimum of 5 9-4 grades at GCSE including a 7 grade in Combined Science. Students will also need a 6 grade in maths.

Links to other subjects and careers
A Level chemistry is usually essential for degree courses in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy and chemical sciences. Skills acquired in chemistry such as numeracy, analytical thinking and literary precision, are valued in careers such as research, marketing, finance and computing. Chemistry has obvious links with biology, physics and geography, but it can also be linked with most other subjects. Chemistry is not an easy A Level option but it opens doors to many careers and is highly regarded by the academic world and industrialists.

"Chemistry represented an indefinite cloud of future potentialities which enveloped my life to come in black volutes torn by fiery flashes, like those which had hidden Mount Sinai."
PRIMO LEVI
English Literature
A Level

AQA Syllabus number: A Level (7712)

Introduction
The new A Level Literature specification approaches the study of literature through the lens of historicism, encouraging the independent study of a range of texts within a shared context, giving logic and meaning to the way that texts are grouped for study. This unifying approach facilitates the inclusion of a range of wider reading, thus extending students’ experience and appreciation of literature.

Course content
A2 - Paper 1: Love through the ages
Study of three texts: one poetry and one prose text, of which one must be written pre-1900, and one Shakespeare play. Examination will include two unseen poems.
Assessed through a written exam:
- Written exam: 3 hours
- Open book in Section C only
- 75 marks
- 40% of A-level

A2 - Paper 2: Texts in shared contexts: WW1 and its aftermath
Study of three texts: one prose, one poetry, and one drama, of which one must be written post-2000.
Assessed through a written exam:
- Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- Open book
- 75 marks
- 40% of A-level

Non-examined assessment:
Independent critical study:
Texts across time
- Comparative critical study of two texts, at least one of which must have been written pre-1900
- One extended essay (2500 words) and a bibliography

Entry requirements
Minimum of 5 9-4 grades at GCSE including a 5 in English Language and English Literature.

Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.
JOSEPH ADDISON

Geography
A Level

Edexcel Syllabus number: 9GEO

A Level Geography may be studied at one of our consortium partner grammar schools.

Introduction
A Level Geography is designed to address a wide range of contemporary themes and issues, so students can understand the world around us and what could impact its future. The syllabus covers the key ideas and debates in the world today, such as climate change, globalisation, urban regeneration and management of the world’s resources. Students will explore a range of issues and examine potential solutions to them. There are a minimum of 4 compulsory days of coursework required to study this course.

Course content
- Tectonic Processes and Hazards
- Landscape Systems, Processes and Change - Glaciated Landscapes and Change or Coastal Landscapes and Change
- The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity
- Globalisation
- Shaping Places – including Regenerating Places or Diverse Places
- Superpowers
- Global Development and Connections - Health, Human Rights and Intervention or Migration, Identity and Sovereignty
- The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security
- A synoptic unit based on a geographical issue in a place-based context. Students will consider three themes: players, attitudes and actions and futures and uncertainties.

Geography is assessed through three examination papers (80% of the course) and one non-examined assessment, wherein students undertake field work and write an investigation report (20% of the course).

Entry requirements
A minimum of 5 9-4 grades at GCSE including a 6 in GCSE Geography.

Links to other subjects and careers
Geography offers a host of career opportunities:
- Meteorology
- Data collectors
- Climatology
- Global warming researcher
- Teacher
- Seismologist
- Vulcanologist
- Lecturer
- Opportunities in the travel industry and many more
Politics
A Level
Edexcel Syllabus number: 600/4781/0

Introduction
Government and politics is a highly respected A Level amongst both universities and employers. Students taking the course will benefit from the skills acquired; developing an enquiring mind whilst exploring new concepts and challenging old ideas. Students will develop an ability to communicate their own ideas eloquently and effectively, as well as the ability to argue a coherent case. This exciting course will appeal to students who enjoy debating and challenging ideas which affect their everyday lives now and in the future.

Course content
The areas studied are:
- Governing the UK - Executive, legislative & judicial functions
- People and politics - Electoral systems & engagement
- Ideological traditions: Conservatism, Socialism, Anarchism, Nationalism, Ecologism & feminism
- Comparative politics: Government and politics of the USA, Comparing the UK and US political systems

Entry requirements
Minimum of 5 9-4 grades at GCSE including a 4 grade in English.

Links to other subjects and careers
Government & politics links well with:
- History
- English
- Sociology
- Psychology
- Foreign languages
- Philosophy

There are numerous careers that require the skills that the study of politics develops. These include:
- Law
- Business
- Accountancy
- Politics
- Archaeology
- Diplomatic Service
- Teaching
- Journalism

Health and Social Care
BTEC Level 3
Pearson Level 3 RQF Extended Certificate

Introduction
Health and social care is the biggest growth industry in Europe and this course gives students an opportunity to work in this area. The health and social care department is supportive as well as active, fun and energetic. Students will visit the Gurdwara Temple in Gravesend as part of their “Culture and diversity” unit and spend a day with the British Red Cross to complete a Basic First Aid certificate. The course also contains visits from the school nurse and a dementia care worker, as well as a whole day relating to mental health care. Every student also has the opportunity to look after a cyber-baby to practise their parenting skills!

Course content
Students will study for a BTEC Level 3 which is equivalent to one A Level. The course is assessed via 40% coursework and 60% external examination.

Four units will be studied, including:
1. Human life span and development
2. Working in health and social care
3. Meeting individual care and support needs
4. One other optional unit.

Entry requirements
Minimum of 5 9-4 grades at GCSE.

Links to other subjects and careers
This course provides the knowledge, skills and understanding to progress into a career in the health and social care industry such as:
- Nursing
- Social work
- Child care
- Midwifery

“"To enjoy good health, to bring true happiness to one’s family, to bring peace to all, one must first discipline and control one’s own mind. If a man can control his mind he can find the way to Enlightenment, and all the wisdom and virtue will naturally come to him.”

BUDDHA
History
A Level

AQA Syllabus number: A Level (7042)

Introduction
Through the study of the past, we can understand how our own world works. Through the study of history, students will develop certain common skills such as the ability to use sources, how to construct valid and justified arguments and how to examine change over time and explore the reasons for change. A good historian will use the skills that they develop in the subject to sort fact from fiction, opinion from fact and to use evidence to piece the jigsaw together. We will never truly know what happened in the past, or why, but the good historian will argue that by looking at the evidence and making decisions we can form judgements - a skill highly valued by employers.

Course content
A-level students must take assessments in all three of the following units, in the same year.

Unit 1. Breadth study
The Tudors 1485-1603 (the consolidation of the Tudor dynasty 1485-1547 and the reigns of Henry VII and Henry VIII) plus the reigns of Edward VI, Mary I and Elizabeth I.
- Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes.
- 40% of A Level

Unit 2. Depth study
Democracy and Germany 1918-1945 (the Weimar Republic 1918-1933, the new Democratic Republic in Germany and the rise of the Nazis) plus the Nazi dictatorship 1933-45
- Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes.
- 40% of A Level

Unit 3. Historical investigation
A personal study based on a topic covering 100 years, e.g. Russia and their revolution.
- 3,500 - 4,000 words
- 20% of A Level

Entry requirements
Minimum of 5 9-4 grades at GCSE, including a 4 grade in English.

Links to other subjects and careers
History links well with English, sociology, economics, foreign languages and religious studies. There are numerous careers that require the skills that the study of history develops. These include: medicine, business, finance, accountancy, politics, archaeology, diplomatic service, restoration, teaching and law.
ICT Cambridge Nationals
OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Introductory Diploma

OCR Syllabus number: 600/4623/5

Introduction
A qualification in information technology opens up an incredible world of opportunities for work, not only within the technology industry itself, but also in supporting roles within other industries. The Level 3 Cambridge Technicals certificate offers students the opportunity to develop technical skills and knowledge as well as their communication skills. Students will be required to plan and manage a project so decision making and problem solving skills are also important.

Course content
The course is assessed using a variety of methods. Elements are assessed externally by examinations and set tasks and internally set tasks. The course consists of two mandatory units and four optional units studied across two years.

The mandatory units provide learners with an insight into the IT sector as they investigate the pace of technological change, IT infrastructure, the flow of information on a global scale and important legal and security considerations. They also reflect on important developments in the sector around information security, requiring learners to consider how data should be protected and the response of the IT sector to emerging threats such as cyber terrorism. The optional units include Project management, Product development, Systems analysis and design and the Internet of Everything.

All units assist in the development of transferrable skills such as communication and problem solving. The optional units encourage the development of time management, research and analytical skills as well as emphasizing the need for good written and verbal communication skills.

Entry requirements
Minimum of 5 9-4 grades at GCSE.

Mathematics
A Level

Edexcel Syllabus number: 9MA0

Introduction
Core mathematics is the study of: algebraic techniques, functions, sequences and series, exponential and logarithms, trigonometry, co-ordinate geometry, differentiation, integration, numerical methods, vectors and proof. Students will use these skills and techniques to solve problems in core mathematics and statistics and mechanics. Statistics is the analysis of data graphically and calculating statistical measures. The theory of probability is used to set up mathematical models of random experiments. Students will then compare sets of observations, draw conclusions and make predictions about future events. An important aspect of statistics is measuring the significance of such conclusions and predictions. In mechanics, students will set up simple models of practical situations in order to study the action of forces on bodies.

Course content
This qualification is linear, meaning that students will sit all their exams at the end of the course. The A Level qualification builds on the skills, knowledge and understanding set out in the GCSE subject content for Mathematics. A Level Mathematics has 100% prescribed content, with pure and applied in a 2:1 ratio. Mechanics and Statistics are part of the compulsory content. The A Level Mathematics qualification follows a three-paper model, with calculator usage allowed in all papers.

Paper 1 - Pure Mathematics 1 (2 hours)
Paper 2 - Pure Mathematics 2 (2 hours)
Paper 3 - Statistics and Mechanics (2 hours)

In the second year, students study a further two core mathematics units and one application unit of statistics and mechanics. Each unit is assessed by examination at the end of two year course.

Entry requirements
Minimum of 5 9-4 grades at GCSE including a 6 grade in mathematics.

Links to other subjects and careers
The study of mathematics links well with other subjects such as the sciences and IT. Career options include roles within:

- Finance
- Economics
- Communication
- Transportation
- Engineering
- Architecture
- Biomedical science
- Physics
- Education
- Medicine
- Dentistry

"I think there is a world market for maybe five computers."

WINSTON CHURCHILL

"God used beautiful mathematics to create the world."

PAUL DIRAC
Media Studies
A Level
Eduqas Syllabus number: 603/1149/2

Introduction
Media studies introduces students to many forms of media institutions from TV sitcoms, reality shows, music videos, advertising and films. Media studies encourages students to question the power that the media has to select news, sell products and to question the techniques used to appeal to target audiences. Students will look at key concepts such as stereotyping, hybrid genres, representations of people and news selection and censorship. The course allows students to be creative, imaginative, artistic and to practise their ICT skills. Simultaneously, it enables students to question the political power that the media has to influence, stereotype and select news.

Course content
Component 1: Media products, industries & audiences
Students investigate media industries and texts, focusing on the codes and conventions of a range of genres. Analysing how meaning and representation is constructed through the use of media language is a key aspect of this component; students also explore the concept of audience, discovering how consumers are targeted by media companies and how their responses may depend on media contexts. Written exam: 2 hour 15 minutes 35% of A level.

Component 2: Media forms & products in depth
This component allows students to study three media forms in more detail: television, magazines and online media. Through the exploration of set texts (including Life on Mars, Vogue and Zoella), they develop a profound understanding of how media industries, their conventions and audiences, develop and change over time. Written exam: 2 hours and 30 minutes 35% of A level.

Component 3: Cross-media production
In order to create their own media production in response to a specific brief set by the exam board, students will need to hone their research and practical skills. They will use a range of technology such as Photoshop to create two forms of professional media texts which suit audience and genre. Texts produced may include magazine covers, posters advertising films, or even music videos. 30% of A level.

Entry requirements
Minimum of 5 9-4 grades at GCSE including a 4 in English.

Performing Arts
BTEC Level 3
Pearson Level 3 subsidiary diploma

Introduction
Performing Arts enables students to learn a variety of skills in drama. Performing arts offers a balance between practical performance, research and theory. A number of external speakers, workshops and experiences supplement the lessons and are documented as part of students’ internal assessment. Students are also assessed in their rehearsals, performances, journals and written work. This course offers great flexibility for anyone interested in the performing arts or entertainment industry.

Course content
Students will study for BTEC Level 3 sub diploma (equivalent to one A Level). The course is 100% coursework which will be externally moderated.
- Performance workshop
- Rehearsing for performance
- Performing to an audience
- Audition Speeches

Entry requirements
Minimum of 5 9-4 grades at GCSE.

Links to other subjects and careers
Performing arts naturally links to careers within the entertainment industry such as:
- Acting
- Broadcasting
- Make up artist
- Special effects
- Set design
- Directing
- Production

However, there are links to other career pathways such as
- Drama therapy
- Music therapy
- Education
- PR

“"The world is a complicated place, and there’s a lot of division between people. The performing arts tend to unify people in a way nothing else does.""

SHAKUNTALA DEVI
Physics

A Level

Delivered at Consortium Schools Edexcel

Introduction

Physics is the study of everything: from a scale smaller than an atom to the entire Universe; from the recreation of events at the Big Bang to every area of our everyday lives. Physics explores and tries to understand the underlying patterns and connections between it all.

Course content

A Level physics is a 2 year linear course, with assessment at the end of the course, covering the material studied and will also include questions involving the use of mathematical skills (10%) and practical skills. From September 2015, A Level physics will be 100% externally assessed; this means there are no coursework elements. Instead, students will be required to complete 100% of total A level Entry requirements

A level Paper 1 Advanced Physics 1


- Assessment: 1 hour 45 minutes written paper (90 marks)
- 30% of total A level Entry requirements

A level Paper 2 Advanced Physics 2

Working as a Physicist, Materials, Waves and the Particle nature of Light, Thermodynamics, Space, Nuclear Radiation, Gravitational Fields and Oscillations.

- Assessment: 1 hour 45 minutes written paper (90 marks)
- 30% of total A level Entry requirements

A level Paper 3 General and Practical Principles in Physics

All topics across the full A level specification including testing of students’ knowledge and understanding of practical skills and techniques.

- Assessment: 2 hours 30 minutes written paper (120 marks)
- 40% of total A level Entry requirements

Entry requirements

Minimum of 5 9-4 grades at GCSE including a 7 grade in triple or trilogy science. Students will also need a 6 grade in maths.

Links to other subjects and careers

The logical and mathematical skills in physics are relevant to a vast number of careers and can be used as an entry point to a number of careers not all associated with physics. As a working physicist you may find yourself; trying to predict the stock market in the City, testing satellites for space missions, doing medical physics in a hospital, trying to understand the underlying pattern of our everyday lives. Physics explores patterns and connections between it all, and tries to understand the underlying science. Students will also need a 6 grade in maths.

Physics exploration covers the material studied in GCSE and will also include questions involving the use of mathematical skills (10%) and practical skills.

AQA Specification: 7552

Overview of assessment

Paper 1

What’s assessed?
- Technical principles

How it’s assessed?
- Written exam: 2 hours and 30 minutes
- 120 marks
- 30% of A-level

Paper 2

What’s assessed?
- Designing and making principles

How it’s assessed?
- Written exam: 1 hour and 30 minutes
- 80 marks
- 20% of A-level

Questions
- Mixture of short answer and extended response.

Product Design

A Level Design and Technology

Introduction

This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers, especially those in the creative industries. Students will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers.

Course content

A level Design and Technology: Product Design requires students to engage in both practical and theoretical study. This specification requires students to cover design and technology skills and knowledge as set out below. These have been separated into two areas:

- technical principles
- designing and making principles.

Overview of assessment

Paper 1

What’s assessed?
- Technical principles

How it’s assessed?
- Written exam: 2 hours and 30 minutes
- 120 marks
- 30% of A-level

Questions
- Mixture of short answer and extended response.

How it’s assessed?
- Substantial design and make project
- 100 marks
- 50% of A-level

Evidence
- Written or digital design portfolio and photographic evidence of final prototype.

Entry requirements

5 9-4 grades at GCSE or equivalent. Minimum of Grade 4 in GCSE Product Design.

Links to other subjects and careers

- Carpenter
- Architect
- Civil engineer
- Structural engineer
- Mechanical engineer
- Set designer
- Product designer
- Automotive engineer
- Building surveyor
- Motorsport engineer
- Landscaper
- Marine engineer

Contact us

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Psychology
A Level

AQA Syllabus number: 7182

Introduction
Psychology is the scientific study of human mind and behaviour: how we think, feel, act and interact individually and in groups. Psychology is concerned with all aspects of behaviour and with the thoughts, feelings and motivations underlying that behaviour. It is both a thriving academic discipline and a vital professional practice. We are all interested in what makes people tick and how this understanding can help us solve major problems in society. Psychology is a science and can help us solve major problems in society. Psychology is a science and helps by observing, measuring and testing, then arriving at conclusions that are rooted in sound scientific methodology.

Their conclusions can make a real difference to human lives.

Course content
A-Level - Paper 1 (33.3% of A-Level)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Introductory Topics in Psychology</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Influence</td>
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<td>Memory</td>
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<td>Attachment</td>
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<td>Psychopathology</td>
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A-Level - Paper 2 (33.3% of A-Level)

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<th>Psychology in Context</th>
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<tr>
<td>Approaches in Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biopsychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Methods</td>
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A-Level - Paper 3 (33.3% of A-Level)

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<th>Issues and Options in Psychology</th>
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<td>Relationships, gender, cognition and development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Schizophrenia, eating behaviour, stress</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aggression, forensic psychology, addiction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Entry requirements
Minimum of 5 9-4 at GCSE including 5 in English, 4 in maths and 4 in science.

Links to other subjects and careers
Psychology is a helpful subject for many possible careers and courses in Higher Education. Whilst it is relevant for careers/courses in the ‘caring professions’ such as clinical psychology or social work, it is also relevant to many more including journalism, business, teaching, scientific and social research, counselling and criminology. It links well with other humanities subjects as well as the sciences.

Religious Studies (Philosophy and Ethics)
A Level

OCR Syllabus number: H573

Introduction
A Level Religious Studies provides the opportunity for students to gain a deeper understanding of the big questions of human reasoning and religious worship. Students will engage in topical issues and acquire knowledge and a critical understanding of major issues that are relevant to learners in the 21st century. Students are involved in engaging with and responding critically to a wealth of philosophical, ethical and religious concepts, equipping them with analytical skills readily transferable to other subjects.

Course content
Students will study 3 components: philosophy of religion, religion and ethics and development in religious thought based on an in-depth study of Christianity.

In the first year, Philosophy of Religion learners will study ancient Greek school of thought including Plato and Aristotle, debate the meaning of religious language, as well as philosophical issues and questions raised by religion and belief. These include arguments regarding the existence or non-existence of God, the nature and influence of religious experience and the problems of evil and suffering. Religion and ethics is characterised by the study of ethical theories like Kant, Utilitarianism and Natural Moral Law, exploration of key concepts like meta-ethics and conscience and the applying these to euthanasia and business. Developments in religious thought provides an opportunity for the systematic study of one religious tradition covering a broad range of issues including secularism, gender and liberation theology.

In the second year of the course, students will continue to study aspects of the 3 components. In philosophy of religion, learners will study the nature of God and issues in religious language. In religion and ethics, students will study ethical language and thought, the idea of conscience and sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious beliefs.

Developments in religious thought will include analysis of social and historical developments in theology and religious thought and key themes related to the relationship between religion and society.

Entry requirements
Minimum 5-9 grades at GCSE including a 5 grade in religious education and a 4 grade in English.

Links to other subjects and careers
The study of philosophy and ethics is universally desirable due to the skills that it cultivates. Specific links can be made to English, history, sociology and psychology. Students can go into careers in law, politics, medicine, business, marketing, crime prevention, social work and education.
Sociology
A Level

Introduction
Sociology offers a distinct and highly informative perspective on human behaviour, offering an insight into the interactions between people and posing challenging social and moral questions. It is a vast discipline that allows students to explore anything from celebrity culture to mass media and violence. The methods of study developed by sociologists will equip students with a broad base of knowledge and skills that will differentiate them in the market place. Students will learn methods used by sociologists in research and analyse evidence to formulate new ideas and concepts.

Course content
A Level – Sociology Paper 1 – Education with Methods

Content
= Education Methods in Context

Assessment
= 2 hour written exam 80 marks 33.3% of A level

Questions
= 2 sections each offering a choice of 4 topics.
Students answer 1 topic from each Section

A Level Sociology Paper 2 – Topics in Sociology

Content
= Families and Households and Beliefs in Society

Assessment
= 2 hour written exam 80 marks 33.3% of A level

Questions
= 2 sections each offering a choice of 4 topics. Students answer 1 topic from each Section

A Level Sociology Paper 3 – Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

Content
= Crime and Deviance and Theory and Methods

Assessment
= 2 hour written exam 80 marks 33.3% of A Level

Questions
= 2 compulsory sections all requiring written answers

Entry requirements
Minimum of 5 9-4 grades at GCSE including a 4 grade in English.

Links to other subjects and careers
Sociology can lead to careers in law, education, social work, counselling, research, policy analysis, politics and human resources. Sociologists can enter the corporate world as well as not for profit organisations and government.

Travel and Tourism
BTEC Level 3

Introduction
Travel and tourism is one of the biggest growth industries in Europe and this course gives you the chance to get involved in that industry. The travel & tourism department is exciting, active and vibrant and will provide you with all the support and guidance you need for you to succeed in your application to university or to get you qualified and employed. The BTEC provides you with the knowledge, skills and understanding you will need when moving towards a career in travel & tourism such as work in travel agencies, airlines, holiday companies and hotels. It is also a stepping stone to the degree in travel & tourism taught at many UK universities. We offer a clear progression route that will see you get to where you want to be.

Course content
Students will study for a BTEC Level 3 which is equivalent to one A Level. The course is assessed via 40% coursework and 60% external examination.

Students will study four units, including:
1. The World of Travel and Tourism
2. Global Destinations
3. Principles of Marketing
4. Visitor Attractions

Entry requirements
Minimum of 5 9-4 grades at GCSE.

Links to other subjects and careers
Travel links to many subjects but especially:
= ICT
= Business studies
= Sports (Olympics)
= Maths (tourism statistics) and Geography

It links to a variety of careers within the leisure, tourism and hospitality industries and previous students are now working as:
= Tour reps
= Pilots
= Staff at Gatwick Airport
= PGL group leader – PGL group leader

“\nThe world is a book, and those who do not travel read only a page.\n”

ST. AUGUSTINE
Hospitality
BTEC Level 2

Edexcel Syllabus number: 600/4786/0

Introduction
This course is designed to improve the students’ knowledge and understanding of the hospitality industry and related sectors. Students will study in depth the business involved, customer service and the impact it may have on the area surrounding the attraction. This course also involves trips to local companies in order to gain extensive background knowledge of successful hospitality businesses.

Course content
This is a 75% coursework based course. Students study the following units:
Unit 1 Introducing the Hospitality Industry
Unit 2 Working in the Hospitality Industry
Unit 3 Food and Health and Safety in the Hospitality Industry
Unit 6 Planning and preparing and cooking food

Entry requirements
Minimum of 5 9-1 grades at GCSE.

Links to other subjects and careers
The study of hospitality has many other subject links such as:
- Travel
- Geography,
- Business and health.
Successful completion of this course will allow students to move to level 3 qualifications in their next year of study.

Health and Social Care
BTEC Level 2

Edexcel Syllabus number: 600/4782/3

Introduction
This course is a great introduction to the world of health and social care. Throughout this course there are opportunities to develop personal, learning and thinking skills. You will become an independent enquirer and a creative thinker. ICT functional skills will be developed by using ICT systems to research and produce evidence for your assessment activities.

You will be set assignments to complete throughout the course. They may take the form of projects where you research, produce presentations and complete written work. You will also undertake practical activities and analyse case studies.

Course content
This course is assessed by 75% coursework and 25% exam.
Students study the following units:
Unit 1 Introducing the Hospitality Industry
Unit 2 Human Life Span Development (Exam)
Unit 3 Care values for Health and Social Care
Unit 6 Communication for Health and Social care

Entry requirements
Minimum of 5 9-1 grades at GCSE.

Links to other subjects and careers
Health and social care level 2 links well to science and sport studies. This course is for anyone who wishes to go on into a health care or social care profession or to study further at level 3 at our sixth form. Students have gone on to study health and social care at university, nursing, midwifery etc. Successful completion of this course will allow students to move to level 3 qualifications in their next year of study.

“"There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure.””
COLIN POWELL

“"To keep the body in good health is a duty... otherwise we shall not be able to keep our mind strong and clear.””
BUDDHA
Travel and Tourism
BTEC Level 2

Edexcel Syllabus number: 600/6512/6

Introduction
This course is designed to improve the students’ knowledge and understanding of the travel and tourism industry and related sectors. Students will study in depth the business involved, customer service and the impact it may have on the area surrounding the attraction. This course also involves trips to destinations such as Colchester Zoo and Woburn Safari Park in order to gain extensive background knowledge of successful tourist businesses.

Course content
This is 75% coursework and 25% exam. Students study the following units:
1. The UK Travel and Tourism Sector (exam)
2. UK Travel and Tourism Destinations
3. International Travel and Tourism Destinations
4. The Travel and Tourism Customer Experience

Entry requirements
Minimum of 5 9-1 grades at GCSE.

“\nThe key is to set realistic customer expectations, and then not to just meet them, but to exceed them — preferably in unexpected and helpful ways.\”
RICHARD BRANSON

“I still enjoy travelling a lot. I mean, it amazes me that I still get excited in hotel rooms just to see what kind of shampoo they’ve left me.\”
BILL BRYSON

Links to other subjects and careers
This course links to many subjects but especially
– ICT
– Business studies
– Sport (Olympics)
– Maths (Tourism Statistics)
Successful completion of this course will allow students to move to level 3 qualifications in their next year of study.
Entry Requirements Per Subject

### Entry for Level 2
Subjects require a minimum of 5 GCSE Grades 9-1 from 5 subjects

### Entry for Level 3
Subjects require a minimum of 5 GCSE Grades 9-4 from 5 subjects

Below are subjects with specific entry requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
<th>ART</th>
<th>MATHS</th>
<th>ENGLISH</th>
<th>SCIENCE</th>
<th>PRODUCT DESIGN</th>
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<td>BTEC Applied Science</td>
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<td>A Level Geography</td>
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<td>A Level Government and Politics</td>
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<td>A Level Product Design</td>
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**We offer**
A welcoming and smooth transition from Key Stage 4 and a challenging learning environment.

- A designated Sixth Form Area with computer rooms, excellent teaching facilities and Cafe Yuushuu.
- A range of academic and vocational courses at levels 3 and 4 to cater for all students.
- Excellent individual academic and pastoral support.
- A dedicated team of staff to guide you through UCAS, university choice and career options. We also offer a work experience placement in Year 12.

- An enrichment programme designed specifically to develop your skills in leadership, working in teams both within the school and supporting pupils in primary schools, developing your subject specific knowledge for either university or employment.
- An exciting future supporting you to make your dreams a reality.
- Oxbridge programme for the most able students in our cohort, utilising a combination of subject specific tutorials, pastoral support and visits to Russell Group universities to enable our students to succeed when applying.

"St John Fisher school has positive working relationships with our local schools, including our local Grammar schools. Through these partnerships and consortium arrangements we are able to work flexibly to personalise timetables where appropriate."
Introducing additional courses

Higher Education Preparation
As part of the enrichment time, students participate in programmes to prepare them for Higher Education. These include guidance on student finance, UCAS application advice and providing opportunities for students to seek guidance and advice from young people who are currently studying at university. This is in addition to guidance provided by Medway Youth Trust and staff at the school.

Core RE
The Religious Studies course is a programme that is aimed at supporting students’ spiritual and ethical development in a changing world. Alongside collective worship and extracurricular activities offered by the school, this programme is aimed at developing the whole student and enabling them to see how their studies come together to answer the bigger questions of life. The course develops skills such as questioning, presentation, analysis and reflection, skills that apply to all other subjects and will prepare students for the next stage of their academic or working life.

Frequently asked questions about A-Levels:
Q: Must I choose only subjects that I will be studying at university?
A: If you are going to study a specific subject like medicine or accountancy then it is important that you choose subjects that are listed as essential criteria in the university brochure. However, if you are considering a subject that has no specific subject criteria, the UCAS points score totalled from your A-Level results is the primary target.

Q: When will I take my examinations?
A: You will take your A Level examinations at the end of Year 13.

What are Level 2 Qualifications?
Level 2 programmes of study are a one year course and equate to 3 GCSE equivalent grades. In addition to our range of successful BTEC courses, Students study GCSE English and Mathematics. Many of these BTEC courses will be offered at level 2 (GCSE Level) and level 3 (post-16) to ensure that students access the right courses at the appropriate level. This also offers the potential for students on level 2 courses to work towards a level 3 course of your choice the following year if a merit at level 2 is achieved.

What Happens Next?
Once you have a good idea of the course and subjects you are interested in, you should complete the St John Fisher Application Form through the Sixth Form area on the school website: www.stjohnfisher.school
Alternatively you can ring the school office on 01634 543 123 or email office@stjohnfisher.school and we will send you an application form.

Current St John Fisher students and all external applicants should complete their applications by the dates listed at the back of this pack. You will then be called for interview. Internal candidates will be interviewed during the school day. External candidates will be interviewed on a first come, first served basis. Applicants will receive confirmation of their conditional place after interview. Students accepting a place at St John Fisher are expected to attend an enrolment day to confirm their place. This will take place in late August after GCSE results have been released and you will be contacted to confirm your time to attend. We look forward to receiving your application. If you have any further questions regarding opportunities at St John Fisher, please do not hesitate to contact the sixth form team or the school.

Leaders in the sixth form have worked hard to raise the aspirations of students. High quality careers advice, visits to universities and inspirational visiting speakers have resulted in higher numbers of students securing university places.

OFSTED 2019
UPPER SITE (YEARS 9-13)
Ordnance Street, Chatham ME4 6SG

There is a small amount of visitor parking as you drive through the main entrance; please use the yellow intercom as you drive in to speak to a receptionist and ask for the barrier to be lifted.

If the visitor spaces are full, the receptionist will direct you to the overflow carpark on Charles Street (drive out of the school, turn left, and it is the first driveway on your left hand side).

LOWER SITE (YEARS 7-8)
79 Maidstone Road, Chatham ME4 6DG

There is a very limited amount of parking in the front carpark on Maidstone Road; if you need to park in this area for accessibility reasons, it is strongly recommended that you contact reception and book a space in advance.

There is additional visitor parking on Scotteswood Avenue (drive out of the school gates, turn left, and it is the first driveway on your left). Having parked, you will need to walk out of the car park back along Scotteswood Avenue and Maidstone Road to Main Reception to sign in.