



St. John Fisher
CATHOLIC COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

INSPIRING ACHIEVEMENT NURTURING SUCCESS

Sixth Form Prospectus



“This year’s got off to an amazing start! Lessons are really engaging and make learning each topic so much easier to understand. Teachers are always supportive, giving clear explanations and sharing great resources to help us study independently. Their encouragement really motivates me to push myself and keep working hard. I’m excited to see my effort pay off in my A Levels!”

DAVID ORISA-KINGSLEY
HEAD BOY



MRS DYPNA LENNON
HEADTEACHER



MR OZAN AKIF
ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER
HEAD OF SIXTH FORM



**SCAN THE QR CODE
TO APPLY FOR
SIXTH FORM TODAY**

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. At St John Fisher, we help our students to do and be better for themselves, their families, and their communities. We are a Catholic school that includes, involves and inspires everyone.

As a high achieving sixth form, we have 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. Our Oxbridge and Medics programmes provide personalised support for students seeking to go on to top universities.

As a proudly comprehensive school, we offer a plethora of academic and vocational qualifications, ensuring that there are challenging and appropriate pathways for students of all abilities. We moved into brand new school buildings in Spring 2023, meaning that you have world-class educational facilities in which to pursue your studies.

As a SJF student, you will 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 12 and 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 we will put in place whatever academic or pastoral support is required to help you reach your 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.

DYPNA LENNON

OZAN AKIF

Why Choose to Study at St. John Fisher?

1

A FIRST-CLASS EXPERIENCE

At St John Fisher, our unwavering commitment is to ensure that all students not only reach but exceed their full potential, regardless of their starting point. We firmly believe in their ability to thrive and succeed, and we create an environment that embraces the Gospel values, fostering a sense of reassurance and confidence in their academic journey.

2

A PASSION FOR LEARNING GUIDED BY CHRISTIAN VALUES

As a Catholic School, we are deeply committed to providing our students with opportunities for faith development. We ensure that they have the space to reflect on their faith and participate in community acts of worship. Beyond this, our sixth-form students are integral to the school's life, contributing to its ethos and community spirit by helping the Chaplaincy team plan and lead liturgical events, assemblies, and services.

3

PASTORAL CARE

Transitioning to KS5 is a time of great opportunity and challenge. At St John Fisher, we are deeply committed to the overall development of the student into a mature and responsible young person. This commitment is evident in our comprehensive pastoral programme, where each student is assigned a form tutor to provide support and guidance.

7

ENRICHMENT

Our diverse extracurricular programme is designed to provide a well-rounded combination of academic and extra curricular. In addition to our extra courses, students can participate in various enriching experiences, including a range of sports clubs, subject-specific after-school support, exciting day trips, and visits to theme parks.

8

OXBRIDGE PROGRAMME

Students who consistently achieve a grade 6 or higher across all of GCSE subjects will be allowed to apply for a specialised program tailored to prepare them for applying to prestigious universities such as Oxbridge and other elite Russell Group universities. Our specialised senior teachers will provide personalised assistance, which includes a detailed review of their personal statements, specialised coaching for entrance examinations, and comprehensive practice for mock interviews.

9

MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS PROGRAMME

Are you dreaming of a medical career as a doctor, midwife, physiotherapist, or other medical professional? Our exclusive programme, in partnership with universities and local hospitals, offers unparalleled career support through hands on experience in the medical and educational fields. Join us and take the first step towards your dream profession!



5

A UNIQUE CURRICULUM

Our Sixth-Form curriculum is not just unique; it's exciting. It offers students a blend of academic challenges, such as advanced coursework and research projects, and personal challenges, like leadership roles and community service. This unique combination is designed to prepare students for the competitive world of work or university whilst also fostering personal growth and development.

10

CAREERS & WORK EXPERIENCE

SJF students benefit from individual sessions with a career adviser. Our unwavering commitment to you is evident in our recognition of the crucial role that skilled advice and guidance play in shaping the life chances of students. We are dedicated to ensuring you feel reassured and confident about your future.

4

HIGHER EDUCATION PREPARATION

During enrichment time, our students engage in programmes designed to prepare them for higher education. These programs offer valuable guidance on student finance and UCAS applications and opportunities for students to seek advice from current university students. Medway Youth Trust and our dedicated school staff provide this additional guidance, ensuring our students are well-equipped for their academic journeys.

6

HIGH-QUALITY FACILITIES

We encourage independent learning through our superb Independent Study Learning Resource Room and adjoining Library IT suite. These facilities allow students to access additional resources, study for further qualifications, and access extensive experiences from partners such as the University of Kent and Cambridge Queens College.

11

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SJF's dynamic leadership programme empowers students to engage in diverse areas across the school. From providing support in specific subjects to contributing to chaplaincy programmes, charitable fundraising, and shaping the school environment, there are abundant opportunities for students to make a meaningful impact.

12

CORE RE

The Religious Studies course is a unique programme that offers a distinctive approach to supporting the spiritual and ethical development of students in a changing world. This programme shapes each student's comprehensive development through collective worship and various extracurricular activities, broadening their perspective to understand how their studies contribute to addressing life's profound questions.



What Can I Study at St. John Fisher?

APPLIED SCIENCE
BTEC - LEVEL 3

The Applied Science course equips you with a comprehensive understanding of the principles and applications of biology, chemistry, and physics, as well as practical scientific procedures and techniques.
SEE PAGE 6-7

ART & DESIGN
A LEVEL

This course offers students the opportunity to explore a variety of materials processes and techniques in both traditional and new media.
SEE PAGE 8-9

BIOLOGY
A LEVEL

Biology involves the study of a wide range of exciting topics ranging from molecular biology to the study of ecosystems.
SEE PAGE 10-12

BUSINESS STUDIES
BTEC - LEVEL 3

More than just a qualification, the business course equips you with the knowledge and skills to start your own business, opening up a world of exciting career possibilities.
SEE PAGE 12-13

CHEMISTRY
A LEVEL

Students will experience the excitement and intellectual challenge of contemporary Chemistry by exploring the frontiers of research in the environmental and technological applications of the subject.
SEE PAGE 14

PRODUCT DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY
A LEVEL

This course offers students the opportunity to develop the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence necessary to succeed in many careers.
SEE PAGE 15

ENGLISH LITERATURE
A LEVEL

English Literature, A Level's historicist approach to studying literature, is a journey of independent exploration. It rests upon reading texts within a shared context, believing that no text exists in isolation.
SEE PAGE 16-17

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE
BTEC LEVEL 3

The health and social care department is not only active and fun but also supportive, creating an environment where you can feel secure and confident in your learning journey.
SEE PAGE 18-19

HISTORY
A LEVEL

Through studying history, you will develop the ability to use sources, construct valid and justified arguments and examine change over time. You will also learn to explore and debate the reasons for these changes.
SEE PAGE 20-21

CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL IN ICT
CTEC - LEVEL 3

Students will gain 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 the importance of legal and security considerations.
SEE PAGE 24

MATHEMATICS
A LEVEL

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.
SEE PAGE 25

MEDIA STUDIES
A LEVEL

Studying the mass media (from traditional forms such as film, or more recently social media) allows you to explore issues in our modern, increasingly digitised society.
SEE PAGE 26-27

PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS
A LEVEL

You will delve into the disciplines of ethics and philosophy of religion, honing your critical analysis skills to construct balanced, informed arguments and responses to religious, philosophical, and ethical ideas.
SEE PAGE 26

POLITICS
A LEVEL

Are you interested in how the world works, someone who believes they could and should make a difference in society? If so, Politics A Level might be your course.
SEE PAGE 28

SOCIOLOGY
A LEVEL

Studying sociology equips you with critical thinking skills and a sociological perspective on the world, providing valuable insights into social issues and inequalities.
SEE PAGE 30-31



PHYSICS
A LEVEL

Physicists explore and probe the furthest reaches of the earth to study the smallest pieces of matter. Join them to enter a world deep beneath the surface of normal human experience.
SEE PAGE 27

PSYCHOLOGY
A LEVEL

Throughout this linear course, we focus on explaining cognitive processes like memory, psychopathology, which includes phobias and schizophrenia, and the biological basis for aggression and gender identity.
SEE PAGE 29


SCAN THE QR CODE TO APPLY FOR SIXTH FORM TODAY

BTEC APPLIED SCIENCE

Pearson BTEC Level 3
610/3965/2

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Applied Science (AAQ) equips you with a comprehensive understanding of the principles and applications of biology, chemistry, and physics, as well as practical scientific procedures and techniques. This knowledge is valuable for further studies in science and for a wide range of careers in the scientific and technical fields.

COURSE CONTENT

Unit 1 – Externally examined

This unit explores the critical components of biological science. It will examine cells and tissues, their varied structures and functions and the biological components that interact with their existence.

Unit 2 – Externally examined

You will explore some of the fundamental concepts which underpin the chemistry and chemical reactions of the world around you.

Unit 3 – Externally examined

You will explore using practical and mathematical skills to study waves, motion and electricity.

Unit 4 – Internally assessed

You will be introduced to quantitative laboratory techniques, including chromatography, colorimetry and laboratory safety, which are relevant to the scientific laboratory environments.

Unit 5 – Internally assessed

This unit enables you to understand the skills required to undertake an investigative project.



GRADES I NEED

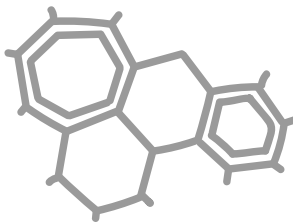
- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- Grade 4 in Science



LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

The qualification is designed to be taken alongside A levels as part of a study programme. It can link to learning in a range of A-level subjects, such as Biology, chemistry, physics, psychology, and Sociology.

You can pursue further education in various scientific disciplines or enter the workforce directly as laboratory technicians, research assistants, or environmental consultants. The analytical, research, and technical skills gained are also valuable in fields such as healthcare, forensic science, pharmaceuticals, and biotechnology.



99%

of parents said that the school has high expectations of their child

PARENT VOICE

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

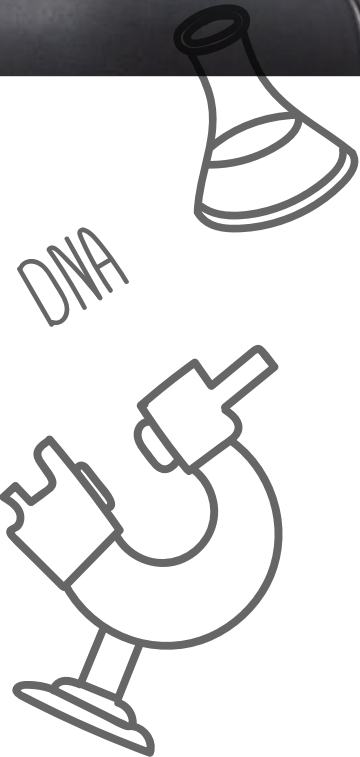
Unit 1, 2 and 3

A summary is given below.

UNIT	TYPE	AVAILABILITY
Unit 1: Principles and Applications of Biology	• An external examination set and marked by Pearson • 50 marks	January and May/June First Assessment May/June 2026
Unit 2: Principles and Applications of Chemistry	• An external examination set and marked by Pearson • 50 marks	January and May/June First Assessment May/June 2026
Unit 3: Principles and Applications of Physics	• An external examination set and marked by Pearson • 50 marks	January and May/June First Assessment May/June 2026

Unit 4 and Unit 5

These two units will be assessed through internal assessments as outlined above.



97%

of students rated the support
that they get from teachers
as excellent/good

STUDENT VOICE

A LEVEL ART

AQA Syllabus

7202

The AQA A level Fine Art course offers students the opportunity to explore ideas using a wide range of media, techniques and approaches, including new technologies, to develop personal responses to various stimuli. Students use a sketchbook as a visual resource in which they develop independent ideas. The course broadens students' visual literacy and develops creative thinking and problem-solving skills.

Students can realise ideas in the following art disciplines:

- Drawing • Painting • printmaking • sculpture • mixed media • textiles • digital • photography • film

A-level Art is an excellent foundation for the study of all Art and Design degree courses including Fine Art (drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, and lens-based media), Textiles, Fashion, Graphic Design, Interior, Furniture, Jewellery, Web, Game design, Illustration and Architecture

COURSE CONTENT

Component 1 – Personal Investigation

A practical unit of coursework supported by an extended research-based essay of 1000- 3000 words. In the first two terms of the A level course, students complete a skills-based project that allows them to explore a range of disciplines before choosing the focus of their personal investigation. The personal investigation provides the opportunity for students to build an in-depth body of practical work alongside the supporting essay. The whole project is submitted for assessment before the commencement of Component 2. Non-examination assessment marked by the centre.

- No time limit
- 96 marks
- 60% of A-level

Component 2 – Externally Set Assignment

Students receive an examination style paper containing themes and suggested starting points, issued by the examining board, AQA, in February of Year 13. They have a preparatory period to explore thoroughly their chosen starting point before the 15-hour exam where they will realise final outcomes for the project.

- Preparatory period + 15 hours supervised time
- 96 marks
- 40% of A Level



GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- Grade 5 in Art or DT



LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

- Teacher
- Illustrator
- Graphic Designer
- Textile Designer
- Fashion Designer
- Set or Costume Designer
- Games Designer
- Web Designer
- Furniture or Product Designer
- Architect
- Interior Designer
- Photographer
- Film maker



A LEVEL BIOLOGY
AQA Syllabus
7401

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.



GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- Grade 6 in Science
- Grade 6 in Mathematics



LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

Biology is a great choice of subject for people who want a career in health and clinical professions such as medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, physiotherapy, pharmacy, optometry, nursing, midwifery, zoology, marine biology or forensic science.

There is a biological revolution taking place at the moment. Many jobs are being created in industries using biology which did not exist 10 years ago. The need for employees with qualifications in biology has never been greater.

Lessons are challenging as it's a big jump from GCSE's

I can talk to the teachers if I have a problem

Thank you to the school for making me feel safe

They are very supportive and onboard to help, to uplift my grade

Student's Voice

This School is great at supporting students

I think that all the teachers are absolutely wonderful, and I really value the opportunity to learn from them



I love my school and my teachers

BTEC BUSINESS STUDIES

Pearson BTEC National Level 3 Extended Certificate in Business
601/7159/5

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 offers career development opportunities for those wishing to progress onto employment or further training such as further or higher education. More than just a qualification, this course equips students with the knowledge and skills to start their own business, opening up a world of exciting career possibilities.

COURSE CONTENT

Units include:

Year 12

1. Exploring Business (Unit 1) - this is a coursework unit studied throughout Year 12. You explore the features of different businesses and analyse what makes them successful. This includes ownership and liability, purpose, sectors, scope and size. You learn about stakeholders, their influence, and effective business communications. You investigate how businesses are organised, including hierarchical and flat structures. You examine the environment of businesses and look at business markets and investigate the role and contribution of innovation and enterprise to business success.

2. Personal and Business Finance (Unit 3) is an externally examined unit. You will be given an understanding of the importance of managing personal finance. You will explore the finance sector, looking at types of organisations and their advantages and disadvantages. Students will be introduced to the purpose of accounting and be able

to select and evaluate different sources of business finance. You will learn how to make break-even and cash-flow forecasts and complete statements of comprehensive income and financial position to evaluate business performance.

Year 13

1. You need to prepare a rationale and then create a plan for a marketing campaign for a given product or service. The unit includes the role of marketing, types of markets, branding, and influences on marketing activities. You will be taught how to use information to develop the rationale for a marketing campaign with work examples to include market research. You will spend time practising how to plan and develop marketing campaigns using SWOT analysis and research data to determine target markets.

2. Recruitment and Selection Process (Unit 8). You will learn how effective recruitment and selection contribute to business success as well as job advertising.



GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- Grade 4 in English



LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

The study of Business has many other subject links, such as

- Economics
- Media
- Psychology
- ICT

The Business course provides transferable knowledge and skills that prepare learners for progression to university. These include the ability to learn independently, the ability to research actively and methodically, the ability to give presentations and the ability to be active group members.

Throughout the Business course, you acquire theoretical knowledge and develop practical skills highly valued in the job market. These include cognitive and problem-solving skills, critical thinking, approaching non-routine problems, applying expert and creative solutions, and using systems and technology–
Related Careers Include:

- Marketing
- Web Design
- Accountancy

You undertake a recruitment activity to demonstrate the process leading to successful job offers.

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

You will study for a BTEC Level 3, equivalent to one A Level. The course is assessed through a balanced combination of 40% coursework and 60% external examination, ensuring a comprehensive evaluation of your knowledge and skills.

Year 12

Unit 3, Personal and Business Finance.

This is an examined unit. It is taken in January, with an opportunity to resit in May.

Unit 1, Exploring Business, is a

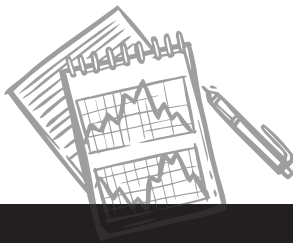
coursework unit in which you complete assignments that are assessed by our teachers and then externally verified by the examination board.

Year 13

Unit 2, Developing a marketing campaign.

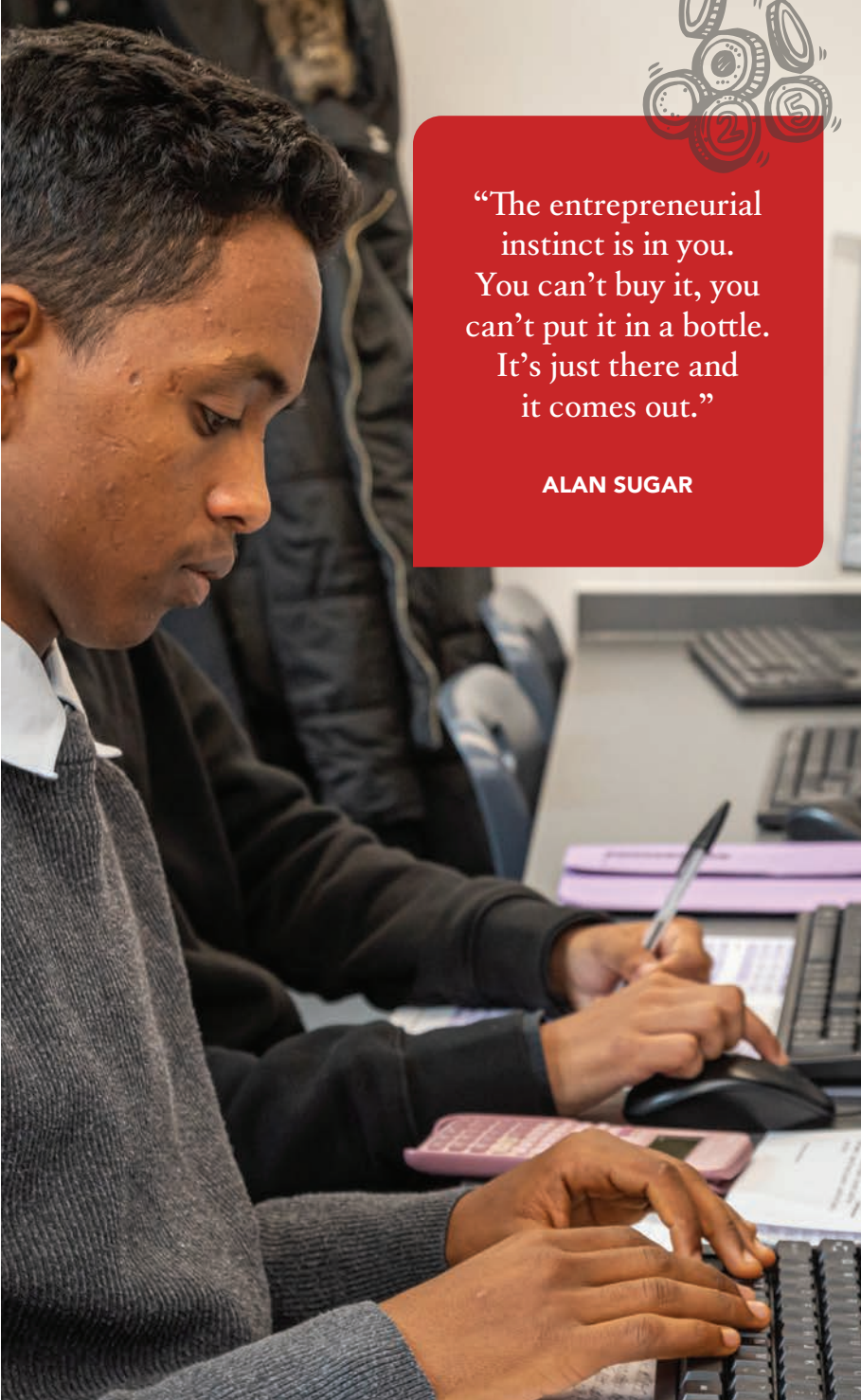
This task is externally assessed as an examination. It is taken in January, with a possible resit opportunity in May.

Unit 8, Recruitment and selection process. This is a coursework unit in which you complete assignments assessed by your teachers and then externally verified by the examination board.



“The entrepreneurial instinct is in you. You can’t buy it, you can’t put it in a bottle. It’s just there and it comes out.”

ALAN SUGAR



A LEVEL CHEMISTRY

AQA Syllabus

7405

Students will experience the excitement and intellectual challenge of contemporary Chemistry by exploring the frontiers of research in the environmental and technological applications of the subject.

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 cover: atomic structure, energetics, periodicity, bonding, kinetics and organic chemistry. Over this year, students will carry out six of the required practical investigations.

Year two helps students to build on their knowledge and skills learned in year one. During this second year, they will study thermodynamics, electrolysis, equilibrium and further organic chemistry.

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
- Paper 3 will cover any content from topics 1-6.
- All papers will be between 75-95 minutes long.

PRACTICALS

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

- measuring energy changes in chemical reactions
- tests for identifying different types of compound
- different methods for measuring rates of reaction
- studying electrochemical cells
- preparation of organic solids and liquids
- an advanced form of chromatography for more accurate results.

EXAMS

There is no coursework on this course. However, your performance during practicals will be assessed. At least 15% of the marks for A-level Chemistry are based on what you learned in your practicals.



GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- Grade 6 in Science
- Grade 6 in Mathematics



LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & 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 including research, marketing, finance and computing.

Chemistry has obvious links with Biology, Physics and Geography, but it can also be linked with most other subjects. It opens doors to many careers and is highly regarded by the academic world and industrialists.



A LEVEL PRODUCT DESIGN (DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY)

AQA Syllabus

7552

The AQA A-Level Design and Technology: Product Design course offers students the opportunity to develop the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence necessary to succeed in many careers. They will be able to develop an understanding of what it means to become a designer and build upon skills which are sought by both higher education providers and employers.

COURSE CONTENT

Throughout the course, students will be expected to explore a variety of techniques and are required to develop a sustained understanding of the following areas:

- Materials and their applications
- Classification of materials
- Performance characteristics of materials
- The use of adhesives and fixings
- Digital design and manufacture
- The requirements for product design and development
- Health and safety
- Design for manufacturing, maintenance, repair and disposal
- Feasibility studies

SKILL DEVELOPMENT

- Students will develop a range of skills, including:
- Practical Experience: Hands-on experience in creating prototypes and using various tools and technologies.
- Theoretical Knowledge: Understanding the historical, social, cultural, environmental, and economic influences on design and technology.
- Problem-Solving: The ability to tackle design challenges and develop innovative solutions.

EXTERNALLY ASSESSED EXAMINATIONS: 50% OF A LEVEL

PAPER 1 KEY CONTENT: TECHNICAL PRINCIPLES	PAPER 2 KEY CONTENT: DESIGNING & MAKING PRINCIPLES	NEA (NON EXAM ASSESSMENT)
Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes	Written exam: 1 hours 30 minutes	Design and development of portfolio and prototype
120 marks	80 marks	200 marks
30% of A Level marks	20% of A-Level marks	50% of A-Level marks



GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- Grade 5 in DT or Art



LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

Product Design has been shown to improve product quality, increase customer satisfaction, and generate revenue. Another important benefit to this subject is that it supports cost reduction.

The qualification is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to meeting admission requirements for many relevant courses in a variety of areas of the technology sector, for example:

- BSc Hons Product Design Technology
- BSc Hons Architectural Design Technology
- BA Hons Communication Design
- BA Service Design
- BSc Hons Digital Design
- architectural technology practices
- Architecture firms
- Local authorities
- Government agencies
- Housing associations
- Construction organisations
- Manufacturers

A LEVEL ENGLISH LITERATURE

AQA Syllabus

7712



English Literature, A Level's historicist approach to studying literature, is a journey of independent exploration. It rests upon reading texts within a shared context, believing that no text exists in isolation. Each text is considered the product of the time in which it was produced. This approach encourages you to explore the relationships between texts and the contexts within which they are written, received and understood. Studying texts within a shared context enables you to investigate patterns of similarity and difference using various reading strategies and perspectives. English Literature A Level prioritises making autonomous meaning, empowering you to debate and challenge the interpretations of other readers as you develop your own informed personal responses.



GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- Grade 5 in English Literature



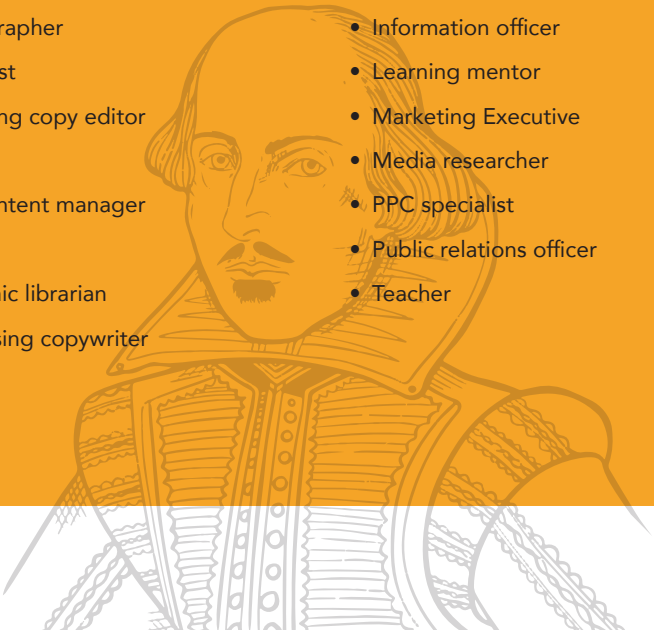
LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

- History, Politics and Sociology.

These combinations of essay-based subjects cover the core requirements for most English Literature courses and provide you with a strong foundation in the relevant areas of study. A-level history can help you understand literary works' historical and cultural contexts, and A-level politics and Sociology can help you understand literary works' social and political contexts.

An A Level in English Literature can give you access to many career opportunities and a lifelong passion for studying the written form.

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Digital copywriter | • Arts administrator |
| • Editorial Assistant | • Education consultant |
| • Lexicographer | • Information officer |
| • Journalist | • Learning mentor |
| • Publishing copy editor | • Marketing Executive |
| • Teacher | • Media researcher |
| • Web content manager | • PPC specialist |
| • Writer | • Public relations officer |
| • Academic librarian | • Teacher |
| • Advertising copywriter | |



COURSE CONTENT

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. The examination will also include two unseen poems.

Paper 2: Texts in shared contexts -

Option 2A: WW1 and its aftermath
Study of three texts: one prose, one poetry, and one drama, of which one must be written post-2000.

Non-examined assessment:

Independent critical study: Texts across time. The following text is being studied: Frankenstein' Mary Shelley'

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

Paper 1: Assessed through a 3 hours written exam:

Paper 2: Texts in shared contexts - Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes

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

As well as a novel of your choice to compare with the above.



“Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.”

JOSEPH ADDISON



HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE (LEVEL 3)

Pearson Level 3 BTEC National in Health and Social Care

610/3964/0



The Extended Certificate is for students interested in learning about the health and social care sector alongside other fields of study. It is designed to be part of a programme of study that includes A Levels to progress to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in health and social care-related subjects.

Health and social care is Europe's biggest growth industry, and this course gives you an opportunity to work in this area. The health and social care department is not only active and fun but also supportive, creating an environment where you can feel secure and confident in your learning journey.



Lessons are taught using various media, from PowerPoints and Nearpod to paper-based workbooks and practical tasks. You will have an E-revision account and are encouraged to use this resource to reinforce your learning at home. You have access to all class materials and lessons via Teams. Independent homework tasks are set regularly every week to consolidate learning.

Coursework is broken down into discrete tasks with tight deadlines, helping to promote organisational skills. Students learn to work independently to prepare them for university and future careers.

COURSE CONTENT

The qualification has three mandatory units covering the following topics:

Year 12

- Human Lifespan and Development –

PIES and factors affecting growth and development, interventions and the different professionals providing care and treatment

Visits from various health and social care professionals discussing their roles and responsibilities enrich the curriculum. Students have the opportunity to experience wearing a pregnancy bump and parenthood with cyber babies.

- Health and Social Care Practice – Core principles, values and legislation that underpin and influence health and social care and the effect of social determinants on an individual health status

Year 13

- Human Biology and Health – Human body structure and systems, normal physiological functioning and the impact of common disorders. In term two, you can attend a grade booster workshop at



GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- Grade 4 in English



LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

The following subjects would be suitable to combine with this qualification: Psychology, Biology, English.

In Health and Social Care, we study body systems, which overlap with the content of biology A level. We also examine psychological theories of attachment and cognitive development, which are covered in Psychology A level.

You will develop a tremendous amount of knowledge and skills from the mandatory units. These include the professional values and skills expected of professionals, including communication and listening skills and organisational and critical thinking skills. Cultural and social intelligence when working with individuals across the lifespan with different needs, alongside methods of managing challenging situations. You will also develop interpersonal skills required when working with others, including compassion and empathy, time management, learning and academic skills such as research. You develop skills and knowledge crucial to health and social care-related degrees. This qualification can lead to progression to a wide range of degrees and careers, e.g., Nursing, midwifery, social work, and professions allied to health, such as occupational therapy.



“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.”

BUDDAH

Westfield Vue Cinema before taking the external examination for Human Biology and Health in January.

Optional unit

- Health Science – Types of infections and their potential impact on a local, national and international scale.

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

You complete four units of work. Two units are externally assessed by written examination, and the other two are internally assessed through coursework assignments.

Year 12 Exam content

- Human Lifespan and Development. The unit will be assessed through one written examination, which will be 80 marks long and last 1 hour and 30 minutes.
 - The first assessment availability is May/June 2026, with a resit opportunity in Jan 2027
 - Coursework (internally assessed and then externally verified)
- Health and Social Care Practice – Core principles, values and legislation that underpin and influence health and social care and the effect of social determinants on an individual health status

Year 13 Exam content

- Human Biology and Health - The unit will be assessed through one written examination of 80 marks lasting 1 hour and 30 minutes
 - This will be assessed in Jan 2027 with a resit opportunity in May/June 2027
 - Coursework (internally assessed and then externally verified)
- Health Science – Types of infections and their potential impact on a local, national and international scale

A LEVEL HISTORY

Pearson Edexcel

9HI0

Through the study of the past, we can understand how our own world works. In the present, our world faces many challenges, and the skills which history teaches have never been more important. Through the study of history, students will develop the ability to use sources, to construct valid and justified arguments and to examine change over time. They will also learn to explore and debate the reasons for these changes. 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. However, the good historian will argue that by looking at the evidence and coming to decisions we can form considered judgements and make considered arguments - skills *highly valued* by employers.

COURSE CONTENT

Paper 1 and Paper 2: Conquest, Control, and Resistance in the Medieval World

Part 1: The Crusades, c1095-1204

- Crusading and the Holy Land during the 12th Century
- The Fourth Crusade and the Conquest of Constantinople

Part 2: Anglo-Saxon England and the Anglo-Norman Kingdom

- The Norman Conquest of England, 1066 - 1084
- Church, State, and Society in Anglo-Norman England

Paper 3: Poverty, Public Health, and the State in Britain, c1780-1939

- Industrialisation and Social Change, c1780-1939
- Public Health Reform and the State, c1780-1939
- Pauperism and the Poor Law during the 19th Century
- Public Pressure and Public Health during the 19th Century



GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- Grade 5 in English



LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

History has close links with various subjects, at A Level and beyond. Economics, English Literature, Philosophy and Ethics, Politics, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sociology, and the study of languages are each enriched and reinforced by the study of the past. At university, the analytical skills which History teaches mean there is a strong link between History and Law. Many History graduates go on to practice Law in their professional careers.

History opens the door to a wide variety of potential careers. Some of these are directly linked to the study of the past, such as archaeologist, museum curator, or teacher. However, others are linked to the world of business, such as marketing officer or editorial assistant. History is an ideal preparation for politics, the law, and journalism. From Prime Ministers, to barristers, to broadcast journalists, History qualifications at Sixth Form and beyond are well represented at the highest levels of achievement.

91%

of parents said that they would recommend St.John Fisher to another parent

PARENT VOICE

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS:

Paper 1. Breadth study with

interpretations: The Crusades, c1095-1204. Reasons for the crusades, the First, Second, and Third Crusades. Muslim responses to the crusades. Case Study: The Failure of the Fourth Crusade. Written exam: 2 hours 15 minutes. – 30% of A Level

Paper 2: Depth study:

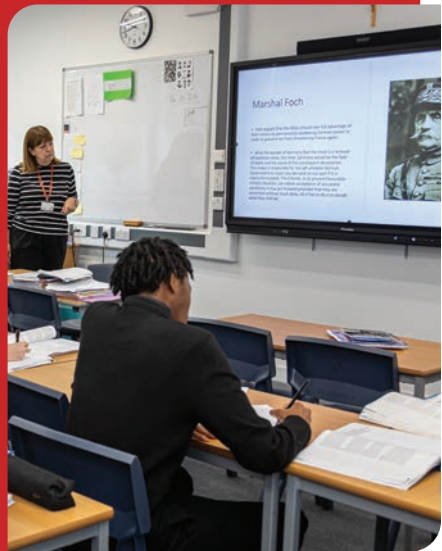
Anglo-Saxon England and the Anglo-Norman Kingdom, c1053-1106. Anglo-Saxon society between 1053 and 1066. The Norman Conquest of England, 1066-1084. State, Society, and the Church in Anglo-Norman England. Written exam: 1 hours 30 minutes. – 20% of A level

Paper 3: Themes in Breadth with

Aspects in Depth: Poverty, Public Health and the State in Britain, c1780-1939. Industrialisation and social change during the 19th century. Poverty and the poor law during the 19th century. Political change during the 19th century. Public and individual pressure for public health reform. Written exam: 2 hours 15 minutes. – 30% of A level

Coursework:

An independent research project, which investigates a historical development and evaluates historical interpretations of that development. 3,000-4,000 words. 20% of A level



CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL IN ICT

OCR Syllabus
601/7098/0-05839

The qualification aims to develop students’ knowledge, understanding and skills of the principles of IT and Global Information Systems. Level 3 Cambridge Technicals in IT focus on the requirements that today’s universities and employers demand. Students will focus on the design, implementation and management of an organisation’s IT Infrastructure. Additionally, they will learn about the activities and roles that are carried out in the workplace such as selecting hardware and software for clients, and learning how to build, upgrade or develop computer systems and networks that are safe and secure.

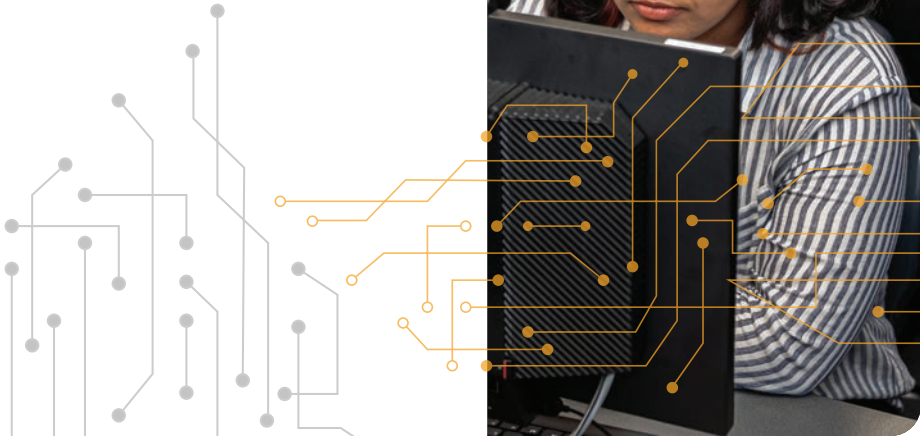
COURSE CONTENT

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 three 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 transferable skills such as communication and problem solving. The optional units encourage the development

of time management, research and analytical skills, as well as emphasising the need for good written and verbal communication skills.

Students will study the mandatory units 1 (Fundamentals of IT), 2 (Global Information) and 4 (Computer Networks) in the first year, with all units being externally assessed. In the second year, students will study optional units as described above.



GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- Grade 5 in English
- Grade 5 in Mathematics



LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

This qualification opens the door to a range of careers including roles within:

- The game design industry
- Web and animation development
- Network management
- Network security
- Digital forensics
- Mobile app development



A LEVEL MATHEMATICS

Edexcel Syllabus
9MA0

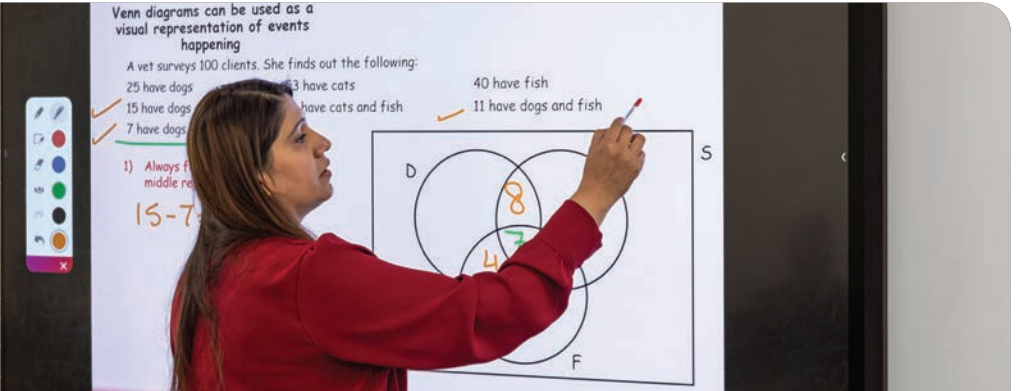
Core mathematics is the study of: algebraic techniques, functions, sequences and series, exponential and logarithms, trigonometry, co-ordinate geometry, differentiation, integration, numerical methods, vectors and proof. Students will use these skills and techniques to solve problems in core mathematics 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 and networks that are safe and secure.

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.



GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- Grade 7 in Mathematics



LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & 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



A LEVEL MEDIA STUDIES

Eduqas Syllabus

603/1149/2

Studying the mass media (from traditional forms such as film, television, advertising or news to more recent ones such as online and social media) allows you to explore issues of the utmost importance in our modern, increasingly digitised society. Our course offers you the opportunity to delve into the theoretical processes underpinning media industries and texts and develop your practical skills, empowering you to navigate the media landscape confidently.

COURSE CONTENT

Component 1: Media Products, Industries and Audiences

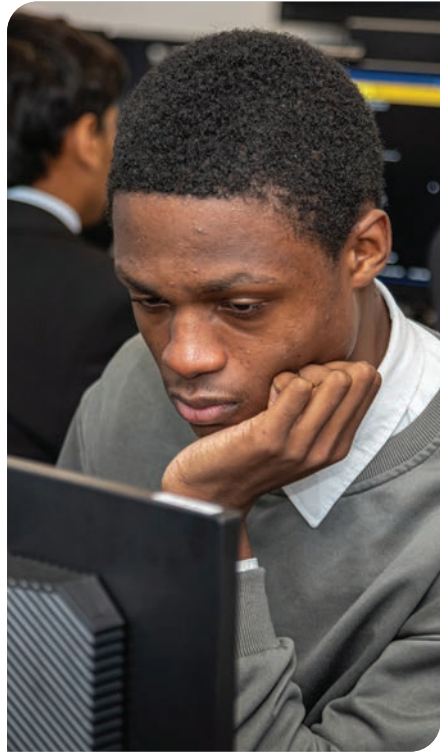
You investigate media industries and texts, focusing on the codes and conventions of various genres.

Component 2: Media Forms and Products in Depth

This component allows you to study three media forms in more detail: television, magazines and online media.

Component 3: Cross-media Production

To create their own media production in response to a specific brief set by the exam board, you will be given the opportunity to improve your research and practical skills.



GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- Grade 5 in English Language



LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

Media Studies complements most other A Levels. Whether you are interested in sociology, psychology, business, politics, economics, or creative arts, subjects like Art and Media Studies can seamlessly integrate into your academic journey, enhancing your understanding of various disciplines.

An A Level in Media can lead to some exciting and rewarding careers:

- Media Content Creator
- TV News Reporter / Video Journalist
- Journalism
- Brand / Social Media Affiliate
- Media Buyer
- Laboratory Media Technician
- Social Media Specialist
- Media Teacher
- Web Design
- Advertising
- Script Writing
- Radio and audio work
- Digital Media Content Creator
- Media Production
- Editing and Directing

“Sixth form life at SJF is highly rewarding. It offers independence, motivation and many extra opportunities. The smaller classes lead to greater focus and stronger relationships among peers and teachers. There are many opportunities, especially within sixth form, such as leadership roles, peer mentoring and ambassador roles. These pathways build confidence and encourage individual responsibility, allowing students to manage tasks in a way that prepares them for the future.”

MATILDA McCOY
HEAD GIRL

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

Component 1: Media Products, Industries and Audiences. Written exam: 2 hours 15 minutes

Component 2: Media Forms and Products in Depth. Written exam: 2 hours and 30 minutes

Component 3: Cross-media Production
Coursework: 30% of A level



A LEVEL PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS

OCR Syllabus

H57

This qualification is about understanding and appreciating religious beliefs and teachings and applying this knowledge in real-world situations. You will delve into the disciplines of ethics and philosophy of religion, honing your critical analysis skills to construct balanced, informed arguments and responses to religious, philosophical, and ethical ideas.

COURSE CONTENT

The course has three components:

Philosophy of Religion

- Ancient philosophical influences
- The nature of the soul, mind and body
- Arguments about the existence or non-existence of God
- The nature and impact of religious experience
- The challenge for religious belief of the problem of evil
- Ideas about the nature of God
- Issues in religious language

Religion and Ethics

- Normative ethical theories
- The application of ethical theory to two contemporary issues of importance
- Ethical language and thought
- Debates surrounding the significant idea of conscience
- Sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious belief

Development of Christian Thought

- Religious beliefs, values and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world

- Sources of religious wisdom and authority
- Practices which shape and express religious identity and how these vary within a tradition
- Significant social and historical developments in theology and religious thought
- Key themes related to the relationship between religion and society

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

- The exam for each component will be worth 120 marks and represents 33.3% of the total marks for A Level.
- These exams will be externally assessed written papers lasting 2 hours each and testing both AO1 and AO2.
- Each paper will contain four essay questions, with you choosing three out of the four to answer.
- Questions can target material from any area of the specification.
- Two questions might be set from one specification section, or all questions might be from different sections.
- Each essay will be worth 40 marks and test AO1 and AO2.



GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- Grade 5 in English Literature
- Grade 5 in English Language

Please note that you do not need to have studied RE or Philosophy & Ethics previously



LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

A level Religious Studies has deep connections to Mathematics, Politics, History, Sociology, Psychology, Biology, Physics and Law. This interdisciplinary approach will broaden your horizons and deepen your understanding of the world.

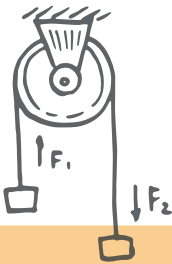
Related careers in A-level Religious Studies include education, journalism, law, criminology, social work, medical research, and politics.



A LEVEL PHYSICS

AQA Syllabus

7408



Physicists explore the fundamental nature of almost everything we know. They probe the furthest reaches of the earth to study the smallest pieces of matter. Join them to enter a world deep beneath the surface of normal human experience.

COURSE CONTENT

A-level Physics lasts two years, with exams at the end of the second year.

The table below shows the topics covered in each year.

EXAMS

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

PRACTICALS

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

- investigating interference and diffraction of laser light
- measuring acceleration due to gravity
- investigating systems that oscillate
- investigation of the links between temperature, volume and pressure
- safe use of ionising radiation
- investigating magnetic fields.

These practicals will give you the skills and confidence needed to investigate the way things behave and work. It will also ensure that if you choose to study a Physics-based subject at university, you'll have the practical skills needed to carry out successful experiments in your degree.



FIRST YEAR OF A-LEVEL	SECOND YEAR OF A-LEVEL
Measurements and their errors	Further mechanics and thermal physics
Particles and radiation	Fields
Waves Mechanics and energy	Nuclear physics
Electricity	And one more optional topic



GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- Grade 6 in Science
- Grade 6 in Mathematics



LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

Studying A-level Physics offers an infinite number of amazing career opportunities including:

- Geophysicist/field seismologist
- Healthcare scientist, medical physics
- Higher education lecturer
- Radiation protection practitioner
- Research scientist (physical sciences)
- Scientific laboratory technician
- Secondary school teacher
- Meteorologist
- Structural engineer
- Acoustic engineer
- Product/process development scientist
- Systems developer
- Technical author.

You can also move into engineering, astrophysics, chemical physics, nanotechnology, renewable energy and more, the opportunities are endless.



A LEVEL POLITICS

Pearson Edexcel Syllabus

9PLO(3a)

Are you interested in how the world works, someone who believes they could and should make a difference in society? Have you ever questioned why things are how they are and felt you could do it better? Do you enjoy debating and considering different points of view? If so, Politics A Level might be your course.

Politics is not just a subject but a tool for understanding and shaping the world around us. It's a highly respected and versatile A Level, attractive to universities and employers. Over the 2-year course, you will study the workings of the British political system, including how the right to vote was fought and won and the many contemporary issues affecting the UK and its citizens today. Your knowledge and understanding will be further enhanced and broadened when you study Political ideologies, the foundations of our political ideas and debates, and American Politics, with its clear comparisons to the British political system.

A Level Politics is about learning facts and figures and developing your analytical and communicative skills. It is a journey of personal growth, where you are encouraged to challenge each other and explore different ideas to formulate coherent arguments verbally and in writing. It is, therefore, not surprising that the Russell Group universities, including Oxford and Cambridge, offer Politics at the degree level, demonstrating the academic and prestigious value attached to the A Level.

COURSE CONTENT

Political Participation:

- Democracy and participation
- Political parties
- Electoral systems
- Voting behaviour and the media.

UK Government:

- The constitution
- Parliament
- Prime Minister and executive
- Relationships between the branches.

Political Ideologies:

- Liberalism
- Conservatism
- Socialism
- Feminism

US Politics:

- The Constitution
- Congress
- The Presidency
- The Supreme Court
- Elections
- Parties and Pressure Groups



GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- Grade 5 in English Language



LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

- Politics A Level goes well with the following subjects:
- Sociology
- Psychology
- History
- Philosophy and Ethics
- English

Politics A Level is beneficial to a wide variety of careers, including:

- Law
- Teaching
- Business
- Journalism
- Archaeology
- Accountancy
- Media
- Advertising
- Diplomatic Service
- Government/Public Servant

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

- Papers 1 and 2 consist of two 30-mark essays, one based on a source and one 24-mark essay.
- Paper 3 consists of two 12-mark questions comparing the USA and UK systems and two 30-mark essays.
- All papers are equally weighted and last 2 hours.

A LEVEL PSYCHOLOGY

AQA Syllabus

7182

Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour. It is both a thriving academic discipline and a vital professional practice. Throughout this linear course, we focus on explaining cognitive processes like memory, psychopathology, which includes phobias and schizophrenia, and the biological basis for aggression and gender identity. We also examine the role of authority in obedience and other social influence processes that govern our world today.

Research methods are included in all topic areas, and you will embed skills in the scientific method together with critical and analytical thinking. This subject also requires an adeptness in mathematical reasoning and extended writing.

By taking A-level Psychology, you can gain a profound understanding of human thought and behaviour, which is highly applicable in various career sectors. This subject also complements other A-level subjects, making it a versatile choice for you.

COURSE CONTENT

The course covers a range of topic areas.

In Year 12, you will study:

- Social influence: Why do people conform? What makes some people obey? How can a minority influence a majority?
- Memory: How are memories stored? What are the different models of memory? How accurate is eyewitness testimony?
- Attachment: How do we form attachments in early childhood? What can animal studies tell us about human attachments?

- Psychopathology: What counts as abnormality? How can you treat phobias, depression and OCD?
- Approaches in Psychology: What are the different psychological approaches? How does their explanation of behaviour differ?

In Year 13, you will study:

- Biopsychology: What are the different ways of studying the brain? How are sleep cycles affected by internal and external pacemakers?
- Research Methods: Which research methods do psychologists from different approaches use? How do ethics influence research?
- Issues and Debates in Psychology: What is the nature/nurture debate, and what do psychologists think? How have gender bias and cultural bias affected Psychology?
- You will also study three option topics: Gender, Schizophrenia and Aggression.

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

- You will sit three 2-hour exam papers at the end of the course, each worth 33.3% of the final grade.



GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- Grade 5 in English
- Grade 6 in Science
- Grade 4 in Mathematics



LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

Psychology is a subject that bridges various disciplines. It shares skills with English, History, Sociology, Philosophy, and Politics. It is closely linked to other sciences like biology, as it examines the role of hormones, genetics, and brain structures in behaviour.

Psychology is a popular choice at university as it is an incredibly useful subject for many career paths and courses in higher education. Whilst it is relevant for careers/courses in clinical psychology, law, or social work, it is also appropriate for many others, including journalism, business, teaching, scientific and social research, marketing, and criminology.

- Paper 1, Introductory Topics in Psychology include: Social Influence, Memory, Attachment, & Psychopathology.
- Paper 2, Psychology in Context includes: Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology, & Research Methods.
- Paper 3, Issues and Options in Psychology includes: Issues and Debates, Gender, Aggression, & Schizophrenia.

A LEVEL SOCIOLOGY

AQA Syllabus

7192

Studying Sociology at our school is an enriching decision that will open doors to a deeper understanding of society and human behaviour. Our Sociology department prides itself on achieving excellent results, with students excelling in their exams and pursuing diverse career paths in social work, research, law, criminology and more. Studying sociology equips you with critical thinking skills and a sociological perspective on the world, providing valuable insights into social issues and inequalities. Our dedicated team of teachers are passionate about sociology and committed to helping you explore and analyse the complexities of society.

Join us in unravelling the intricacies of society, challenging assumptions, and making a difference in the world through the study of Sociology. We believe that Sociology is not just a subject but a lens through which to view and understand the

world. We look forward to welcoming you and supporting you on your journey of exploration and discovery. If you have an open and inquiring mind and an interest in current affairs and the social issues of today, then sociology is definitely for you.



GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- Grade 5 in English language



LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

Sociology is a social science subject, so it is closely linked with other subjects such as Psychology, History, Government, and Politics. It also works well alongside English due to the need for excellent writing ability.

Sociology provides an excellent starting point for any Social Science Degree, from Economics, Psychology, and Politics to Criminology and Philosophy which all the best universities offer.

Sociology can lead to many career options, including teaching, nursing, the police, advertising, journalism, research, marketing, business, social work, and youth work. Sociology is an academic subject that teaches transferable skills such as critical analysis, independent thinking, and research, so it is up to you which area of work you choose to pursue afterwards.



COURSE CONTENT

During Year 12, you will focus on two topic areas. You will look at Families and Households, covering issues such as why family structure is changing and why governments seek to intervene in family life. You will also study education, which covers the reasons why some people fail in education.

Year 13 builds on the knowledge from Year 12. You will study a unit on Crime and Deviance, which includes looking at social reasons why people commit crimes. You will then study Beliefs in Society, covering issues such as the different functions of Religion in modern societies. During both Years 12 and 13, you will also focus on the different sociological methods used by sociologists. There will be opportunities throughout the two years to attend exam workshops.

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

A level Sociology is a linear qualification, which means exams take place at the end of the two years. This means your learning and understanding of the subject will be continuously assessed and built upon throughout the course, culminating in the final exams.

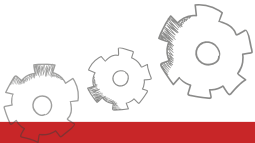
A Level Sociology is an academic, written-based subject; therefore, you will be required to write extensively in detail, focusing on higher-order thinking skills, which includes the application, analysis and evaluation of knowledge in the form of extended writing essays, plus structured questions.

The three A-level exams each count for a third (33.3%) of the final mark:

- **Paper 1:** a two-hour exam on education and Research Methods in Context,

with associated sociological theory and methods

- **Paper 2:** a two-hour exam on the topics of Family and Beliefs in Society
- **Paper 3:** a two-hour exam on Crime and Deviance, with associated sociological theory and methods



“I love sociology with a passion, I'm starting to understand and enjoy philosophy”

STUDENT VOICE

BTEC (LEVEL 3) SPORT STUDIES
Pearson National Extended Certificate In Sport
603/0458/3

Sports Studies offers students a unique opportunity to understand the dynamics of the sports, leisure, and physical activity industry. This course equips you with the knowledge and skills crucial for anyone considering a career in this field. You will engage deeply with topics such as anatomy and physiology, fitness testing, practical sports performance and the business side of sports, ensuring you are well-prepared for the industry's challenges.

Additionally, the course delves into the business aspects of sports. You will explore topics such as marketing, management, and event organisation.

COURSE CONTENT

Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology In unit 1, we examine some of the Musculoskeletal topics we covered in GCSE PE and analyse how these systems operate during sports and physical activity.

Unit 7: Practical Sports Performance In unit 7, we apply some of the theory concepts to performances in several sports and analyse how we can further develop these skills.

Unit 3: Professional development in the sports industry
This unit explores what makes someone more employable in the sports industry. In years 1 and 2, you will have the opportunity to choose two additional optional units. These units are designed to provide a deeper understanding of specific areas within the sports industry, allowing students to tailor their learning to

their career aspirations. One optional unit will be internally assessed and externally assessed, providing a balanced assessment experience.

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

- **Unit 1** – Externally assessed, written exam (mandatory unit) worth 120 GLH.
- **Unit 7** – Internally assessed (mandatory unit) worth 60 GLH.
- **Unit 3** – Internally assessed (mandatory unit) worth 60 GLH.
- Two additional (optional units) to be assessed following the mandatory units.



GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- Grade 4 in GCSE PE or equivalent sport qualification; or Grade 4 in Science or English Language



LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

Science, specifically biology, is used heavily within this sports qualification, so it has a natural link to it.

- Physiotherapist
- Sports Coach
- PE Teacher
- Leisure centre employee /manager
- Sports analyst
- Sports commentator
- Sports business owner
- Team manager (sport)
- Nutritionist
- Personal trainer



LEVEL 2 RAISING ASPIRATIONS PATHWAY

At St. John Fisher Catholic Comprehensive School, we believe that every young person deserves the opportunity to succeed and to fulfil their potential. Our Year 12 Raising Aspirations Pathway has been designed specifically to support students who have demonstrated commitment and determination throughout their GCSE studies but have narrowly missed out on a Level 3 place.

This pathway is offered by invitation only and provides a carefully structured, supportive, and inspiring route into further education. Typically, students eligible for this programme will have achieved around four GCSEs at grades 9–4.

A Supportive and Ambitious Programme

The **Raising Aspirations Pathway** is a **one-year, full-time programme** that allows students to build confidence, develop valuable vocational skills, and gain the qualifications they need to progress to Level 3 study.

Students will study three **Level 2 vocational courses**, carefully chosen to reflect their interests and future ambitions. In addition, they will have the opportunity to **resit GCSE English and/or Mathematics** if they need to improve their grades. This combination ensures that students not only gain practical and academic qualifications but also develop the study habits, resilience, and focus required for long-term success.

Throughout the year, students will benefit from:

- **High-quality teaching and personalised support** from dedicated staff who know each student well
- **Smaller class sizes** to allow for individual attention and targeted guidance
- A focus on **employability skills**, teamwork, and independent learning
- **Pastoral care and mentoring** to help students stay motivated and on track
- A range of **enrichment opportunities**, including guest speakers, careers advice, and work-related learning experiences



To be considered for progression, students must meet the following expectations:

- Achieve a **grade 4 or above** in their English and/or Mathematics resit examinations
- Achieve at least **two Distinction grades** in their Level 2 vocational courses
- Achieve at least **one Merit grade** in one of their Level 2 vocational courses
- Maintain **95%+ attendance and punctuality** throughout the year

Students who meet these requirements will be **well placed to continue their studies at Level 3**, where they are supported to choose from a wide range of academic and vocational courses.



A Stepping Stone to Future Success

The Raising Aspirations Pathway is not just about gaining qualifications - it's about helping young people **rediscover their confidence, raise their ambitions, and plan for their futures**. Many of our students go on to achieve excellent results at Level 3, and later progress to **university, apprenticeships, or skilled employment**.

We are proud to provide a learning environment that is **nurturing, ambitious, and faith-driven**, where every student is encouraged to see their potential and take the next step in their educational journey with confidence.

Please note that **places on this pathway are limited and subject to change**.



OUR FACILITIES

St. John Fisher Catholic Comprehensive School moved to a purpose-built, single-site school on City Way during the 2022-23 academic year. We now have the world-class facilities that our students, staff and community deserve.

Situated at the top of the hill between Chatham and Rochester, with amazing views looking out across the River Medway, our school offers a wide range of outstanding teaching and learning facilities designed to support the delivery of our challenging curriculum. These include a multi use games area (MUGA), a football pitch, a large sports hall, a dance studio, a gym, and kiln room. State-of-the-art IT facilities are available throughout the building, including an interactive TV in every classroom, while a dedicated library space looks out over our beautiful courtyard, providing an inspiring place for independent study.

On the next three pages, you will see more images of the learning spaces at our wonderful school.



SCAN THE
QR CODE TO
APPLY FOR
SIXTH FORM
TODAY





“The teachers at SJF are incredibly supportive. They play a crucial role in the positive learning environment at this school. I find them very approachable and I trust them to guide me with my academic progress. This helps me navigate difficult tasks, pushing me to be the best version of myself.”

MATILDA McCOY
HEAD GIRL



98%

of parents agreed that their child does well at St.John Fisher

PARENT VOICE



ST. JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

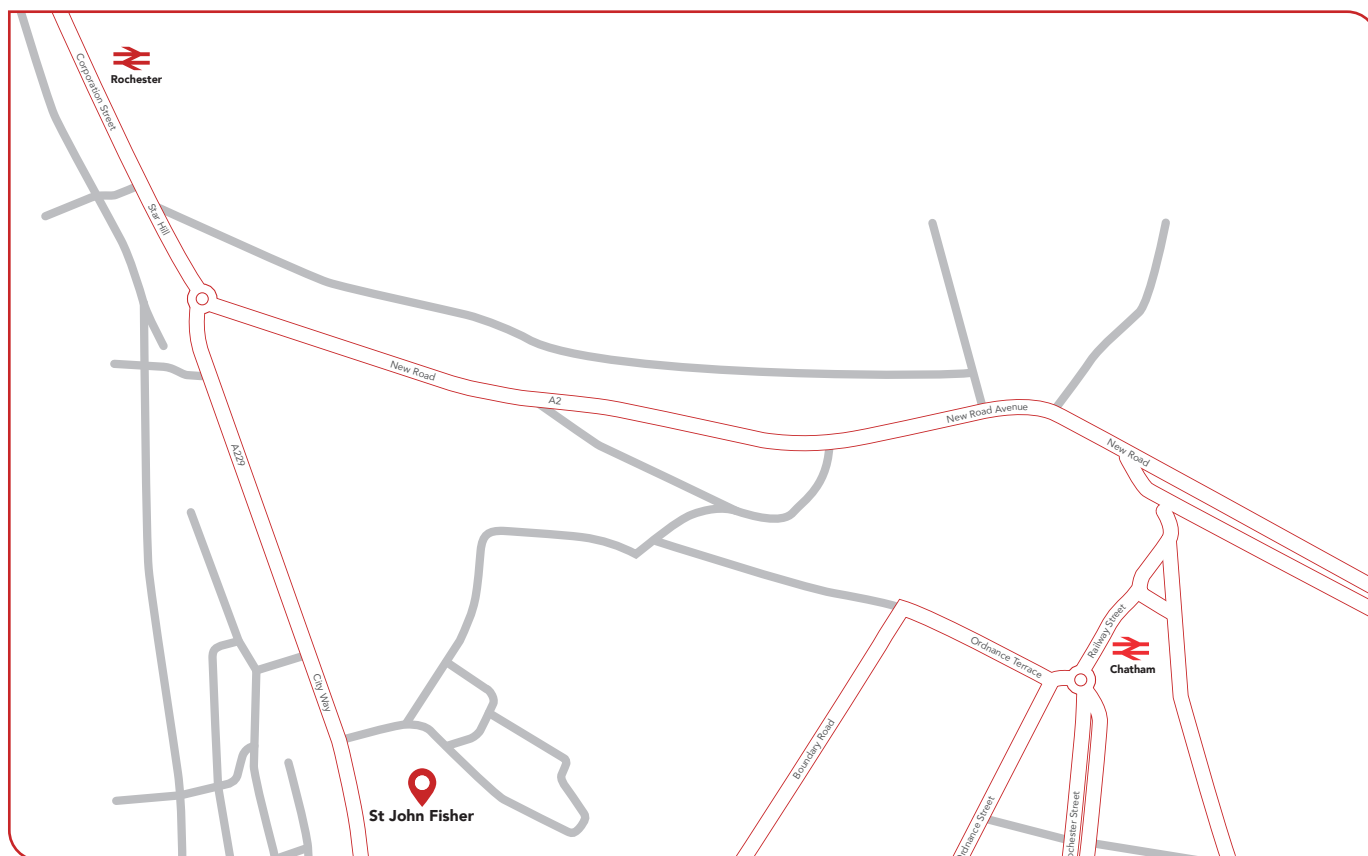
CITY WAY, ROCHESTER

Please use the intercom as you drive or walk in.

Visitor car parking is clearly signposted close to the front of the school.

For information about booking a tour, please visit

<https://stjohnfisher.school/home/admissions/>



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