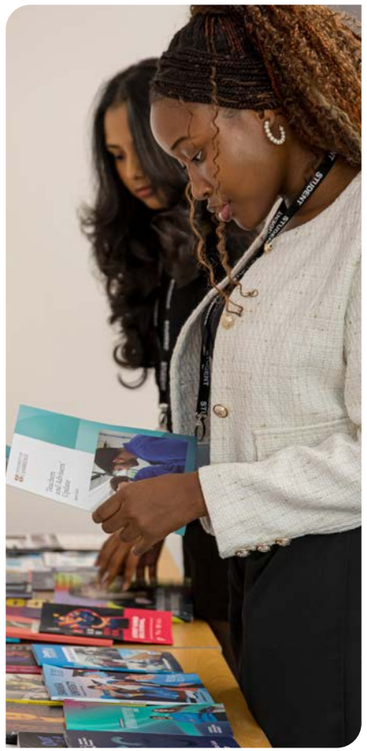


INSPIRING ACHIEVEMENT NURTURING SUCCESS

Sixth Form Prospectus

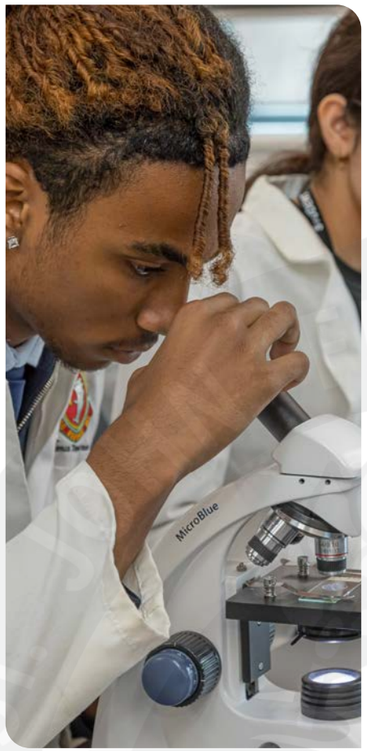


"SJF has a great support system. All the teachers push their students to the best of their ability. They also give a lot of good resources when students are in need of help"

STAFF VOICE

"Students are encouraged to aim high, stay motivated and achieve as much as you can"

STUDENT VOICE









MRS DYMPNA 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.

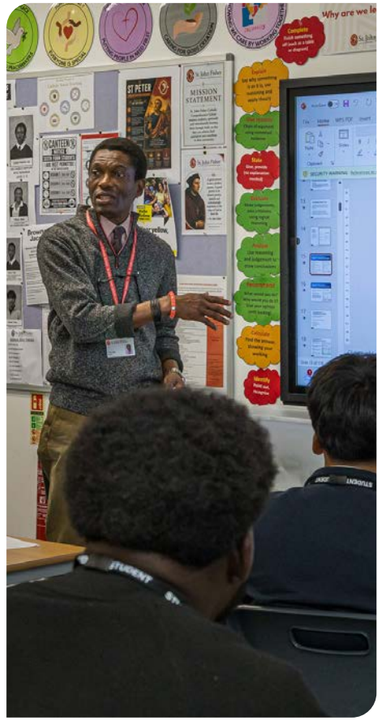
DYMPNA LENNON **OZAN AKIF**

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 7 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!

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.

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 AND DESIGN FINE ART
A LEVEL

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.

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 - 11

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

COMPUTING APPLICATION DESIGN
LEVEL 3

Bring your ideas to life with Computing Application Design. Combining practical, project-based coursework with external examinations, this two-year course develops your skills in designing, building, testing and maintaining software.

SEE PAGE 16 - 17

ENGLISH LITERATURE
A LEVEL

What happens when society controls what we think, say and believe? Explore these questions through Dystopia, alongside Shakespeare, pre-1900 drama and poetry, and modern literature.

SEE PAGE 18 - 19

GEOGRAPHY
A LEVEL

Geography helps you make sense of the world and the challenges shaping our future. You will explore dynamic landscapes, climate change, globalisation, inequality, superpowers and the changing nature of places.

SEE PAGE 20 - 21

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 22 - 23

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 24 - 25

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 26

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 27

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 28

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 30



RAISING ASPIRATIONS
BTEC - LEVEL 2

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.

SEE PAGE 32 - 33

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 34 - 35

VOCATIONAL SPORT, FITNESS AND COACHING STUDIES
NATIONAL EXTENDED CERTIFICATE IN SPORT

Vocational Sport, Fitness and Coaching Studies is an exciting and dynamic course designed for students who are passionate about sport and want to develop the knowledge and skills needed for the rapidly growing sport, fitness and physical activity industry.

SEE PAGE 36 - 37

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 29

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 31

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.



"I appreciate the support we got from our Head of Year and our teachers"

STUDENT 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.

APPLIED SCIENCE

A LEVEL ART AND DESIGN FINE 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. Projects are predominantly practical, with an extended essay accompanying Component 1. Students are introduced to the work of different artists through visual inspiration, gallery visits and workshops. The course broadens students' visual literacy and develops creative thinking and problem-solving skills.

YEAR 12 / FIRST YEAR / UNITS OR COMPONENTS: In the first two terms of the course, students complete a skills building project that allows them to explore a range of media and approaches. They develop their independent learning and creative thinking skills in preparation for Component 1. This project is not submitted for final assessment of the A Level.

Component 1-Personal Investigation
This is a practical unit of coursework supported by an extended research-based essay of 1000- 3000 words. The personal investigation provides the opportunity for students to build an in-depth body of practical work alongside the supporting essay. Students choose the focus of their personal investigation and embark on this project in January of Year 12.
Component 1 is worth 60% of the A Level qualification.



YEAR 13 / SECOND YEAR / UNITS OR COMPONENTS: Component 1: Personal Investigation Students continue practical work for their Personal Investigation and complete their research-based essay by January of Year 13. The Personal Investigation and essay demonstrate the clear journey of the project from initial investigation to final outcome. The practical work and essay each cover the four A Level assessment objectives. Due to the individual and independent nature of the Personal Investigation, tutorial sessions are used to discuss ideas and support each student to progress and refine their project.

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. Students choose one starting point from the paper. They have a preparatory period to explore thoroughly their chosen starting point before the 15-hour exam where they complete final outcomes for the project. The preparatory work and that produced in the 15 hours is marked together against the four assessment objectives.

GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- Grade 5 in Fine Art, Art Textiles, Art, Craft and Design or Art Three-Dimensional Design

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

Which Sixth Form subjects complement this course?

Media Studies, English, History, Biology, ICT, DT.
If planning to study Architecture Mathematics and Physics are needed alongside Art.

What university courses, apprenticeships or careers could it support?

Degrees specialising in Fine Art, Photography or any of the Design disciplines.

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, Architect, Special Effects Designer, Jewellery Designer, Shoe Designer, Illustrator, Landscape Architect, Animatronics Designer, Model Maker, Make-up artist.



ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

Component 1: Personal Investigation NEA 60% of the A Level mark

The focus of the Personal Investigation is chosen by each student.

The project is marked as a whole against the four assessment objectives.

At the end of the course Component 1 is assessed by the school and an AQA moderator visits to ensure marking is in line with AQA standards.

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment NEA 40% of the A Level mark

Examination style paper set by AQA. Preparatory period + 15 hours supervised time under exam conditions.

Component 2 is assessed by the school and an AQA moderator visits to ensure marking is in line with AQA standards.

"It is a great experience with quiet environments like the private study room"

STUDENT VOICE

ART AND DESIGN FINE ART

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.





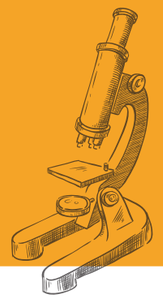
GRADES I NEED

- 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.



It's a good experience, Sixth Form is very inclusive

This school promotes good Christian values that truly make a difference in people

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

SJF helped me develop important skills like time management, organisation and teamwork

Sixth form provides a great opportunity to become independent and prepare for university and future careers



The library is peaceful with efficient computers and a wonderful librarian who can access any book to desire

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

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

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

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.

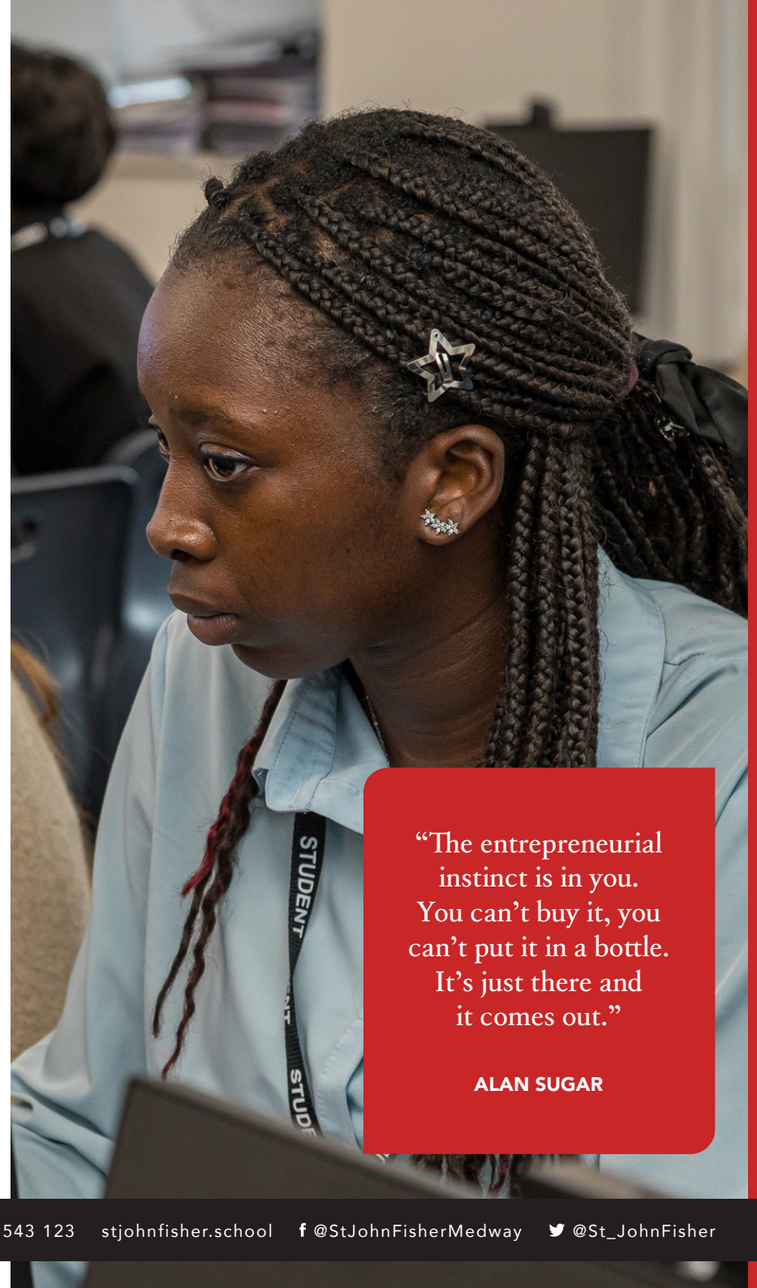
Unit 1, Exploring Business, is a coursework unit in which you complete assignments that are assessed by our teachers and then externally verified by the examination board.

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.





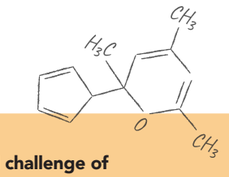
"The entrepreneurial instinct is in you. You can't buy it, you can't put it in a bottle. It's just there and it comes out."

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.

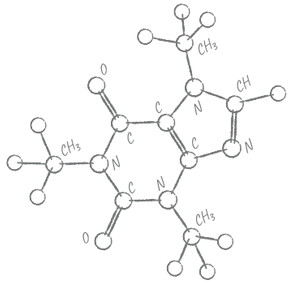
GRADES I NEED

- 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.





CHEMISTRY

AAQ COMPUTING APPLICATION DESIGN (LEVEL 3)

OCR Syllabus

610/3718/2

GRADES I NEED

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

Why Study AAQ Computing in Sixth Form?

1. Balanced Assessment Model: Unlike traditional single-exam A-Levels, the AAQ blends external examinations with internal, project-based coursework. This allows you to build and showcase a portfolio of real software applications over two years.

2. Industry-Relevant Skills: Learn how software is designed, built, tested, and maintained in professional tech environments - using industry-standard tools, frameworks, and Agile principles.

3. High Demand for Tech Professionals: Mobile and web applications power every sector of the modern economy, from fintech and healthcare to entertainment and retail.

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

Designed to sit alongside A-Levels (such as Mathematics, Computer Science, Business Studies, Graphic Communication, or Media), giving you a well-rounded curriculum for university or higher apprenticeships.

1. Higher Education & Degree Options

- The Level 3 AAQ is fully recognized by universities across the UK for undergraduate admissions.
- Popular degree options include:
- BSc (Hons) Computer Science
- BSc (Hons) Software Engineering
- BSc (Hons) Web & Mobile Application Development
- BSc (Hons) User Experience (UX) & Digital Product Design
- BSc (Hons) Data Science & Artificial Intelligence
- BSc (Hons) Games Development & Design

2. Career & Apprenticeship Routes

- If you prefer to step directly into the workforce or pursue A Level 4/6 Degree Apprenticeship, this qualification provides direct entry routes into roles such as:
- App / Mobile Developer (iOS/Android)
- Software Engineer / Junior Developer
- UI/UX Designer
- Web Developer / Front-End Developer
- Cyber Security Analyst / Software Tester
- IT Project Coordinator / Systems Analyst



COURSE CONTENTYEAR 12 / FIRST YEAR / UNITS OR COMPONENTS:

F160: Fundamentals of Application Development

- Overview: Explores the core concepts behind software creation.
- Key Topics: Hardware and software infrastructure, hardware requirements for applications, data formats, application design principles, and project delivery methodologies.

F161: Developing Application Software

- Overview: Focuses on the core programming skills required to construct functional software solutions.
- Key Topics: Algorithmic logic, control structures, data structures, code implementation using high-level programming languages, testing procedures, and debugging strategies.

F162: Designing and Communicating UX/UI Solutions

- Overview: Covers user-centered design principles for digital products.
- Key Topics: User Experience (UX) research, User Interface (UI) wireframing and prototyping, accessibility and usability guidelines, client requirements interpretation, and pitch presentation.

YEAR 13 / SECOND YEAR / UNITS OR COMPONENTS:

F163: Game Development

- Overview: Focuses on the interactive design and mechanics of digital games.
- Key Topics: Game mechanics, narrative structure, 2D/3D asset integration, user interaction design, and game engine implementation.

F164: Website Development

- Overview: Covers modern front-end web design and execution.
- Key Topics: HTML/CSS/JavaScript structure, responsive design across desktop and mobile devices, web usability, and client web deployment.

> "Good support through SLT, specifically PCL"
>
> **STUDENT VOICE**

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

F160 FUNDAMENTALS OF APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT	**F161** DEVELOPING APPLICATION SOFTWARE	**F162** DESIGNING AND COMMUNICATING UX/UI SOLUTIONS	**F163** GAME DEVELOPMENT	**F164** WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT
External Exam: 1 hours 15 minutes	External Exam: 1 hours 15 minutes	Coursework	Coursework	Coursework
60	60	60	60	60

A LEVEL ENGLISH LITERATURE

OCR Syllabus

H472/601/4725/8

What happens when society controls what we think, say and believe? Explore these questions through Dystopia, alongside Shakespeare, pre-1900 drama and poetry, and modern literature. You will examine power, freedom, identity and belonging, encountering different cultural perspectives through your coursework texts. Discussion, close reading and independent research will help you develop your own interpretations and express them in persuasive essays. Choose English Literature if you enjoy reading, debating ideas and discovering how writers challenge our understanding of the world.

COURSE CONTENT

YEAR 12 / FIRST YEAR / UNITS OR COMPONENTS: Drama and poetry pre-1900: study a Shakespeare play, such as Othello and compare a pre-1900 play with poetry, exploring language, dramatic methods and historical context.

Comparative and contextual study - Dystopia: compare novels such as George Orwell's Nineteen Eighty-Four (1984) and Aldous Huxley's Brave New World, and explore wider dystopian writing. Examine surveillance, freedom, inequality and control, developing the skills to analyse an unseen prose passage.

YEAR 13 / SECOND YEAR / UNITS OR COMPONENTS: Literature post-1900: study three texts across prose, poetry and drama, including at least one published or performed in 2000 or later. Culturally diverse coursework choices, such as Zadie Smith's White Teeth, will broaden your perspectives. Produce a close-reading essay or creative response with commentary, and a comparative essay.

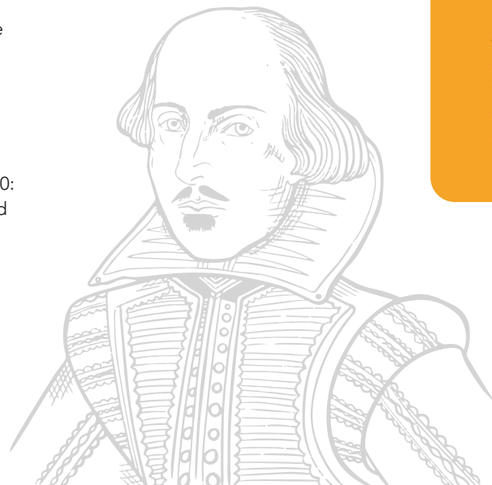
ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

Drama and poetry pre-1900: 2 hours 30 minutes, 40%.

Comparative and contextual study - Dystopia: 2 hours 30 minutes, 40%.

Both examinations are closed book.

Literature post-1900 coursework: 20%, assessed by teachers and moderated by OCR.



GRADES I NEED

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

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

Which Sixth Form subjects complement this course?

Film Studies, History, Religious Studies and other subjects involving interpretation, discussion and extended writing.

What university courses, apprenticeships or careers could it support?

Supports further study in English, film, humanities, law and related disciplines. The ability to interpret evidence, researchindependently and communicate clearly is useful in journalism, publishing, teaching, law, communications and the wider creative industries. It can also support applications for relevant apprenticeships.





"Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body."

JOSEPH ADDISON

ENGLISH LITERATURE

A LEVEL GEOGRAPHY

Pearson Edexel Syllabus

9GEO

A-Level Geography helps you make sense of the world and the challenges shaping our future. Following the Edexcel specification, you will explore dynamic landscapes, climate change, globalisation, inequality, superpowers and the changing nature of places. Through real-world case studies and fieldwork, you will investigate fascinating geographical issues and develop skills in critical thinking, data analysis, research and problem-solving. Geography encourages you to question, explore and understand different perspectives. Whether you are interested in people, places or the environment, this highly relevant subject opens doors to a wide range of university courses and future careers.

COURSE CONTENT

YEAR 12 – BUILDING GEOGRAPHICAL UNDERSTANDING Physical and human geography foundations

1. Tectonic Processes and Hazards Explore earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and tsunamis, investigating why tectonic hazards occur and how their impacts vary between places.

2. Landscape Systems, Processes and Change Discover how landscapes develop and change over time. Study either coastal or glaciated landscapes, examining the processes that shape them and how people manage them.

3. Globalisation Investigate how the world is increasingly interconnected through trade, migration, technology and global businesses, and consider the benefits and challenges of these connections.

4. Shaping Places Explore how places develop their identities and how economic, social and cultural changes affect communities. Study either regenerating places or diverse places.

5. Fieldwork and geographical skills Collect and analyse geographical data, use maps and statistics, and begin developing an independent investigation into a geographical question.



GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- Grade 5 in Geography, English, Science or History.

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

A-Level Geography complements subjects such as Biology, Geology, Sociology, Economics, Politics, History and Mathematics, bringing together scientific, social and environmental perspectives. It develops valuable transferable skills, including critical thinking, data analysis, research, problem-solving and communication. These skills are highly valued by universities and employers. Geography can lead to degrees and careers in environmental science, sustainability, urban planning, climate research, international development, disaster management, business, finance, teaching and geographic information systems (GIS). Whether you are passionate about tackling climate change, understanding global inequalities or shaping sustainable communities, Geography provides an excellent foundation for a wide range of future pathways.



YEAR 13 – EXPLORING GLOBAL CHALLENGES Complex geographical issues, independent research and evaluation

6. The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity Examine how water moves through the environment, how human activity affects water supplies, and why access to safe, reliable water is a global challenge.

7. The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security Investigate carbon stores and flows, climate change, energy demand and the challenges of securing sustainable energy supplies.

8. Superpowers Explore the economic, political and cultural influence of global superpowers, their relationships with other countries and the changing balance of global power.

9. Global Development and Connections Examine global inequalities and the relationships between countries and communities. Depending on the chosen option, explore either health, human rights and intervention, or migration, identity and sovereignty.

10. Independent Investigation (coursework) Design and carry out an individual geographical investigation using fieldwork, research and data analysis. Students produce an independent report of 3,000–4,000 words.

11. Synoptic Investigation Bring together knowledge from across the course to investigate a geographical issue in a specific place. Evaluate the roles of different players, attitudes and actions, and possible futures and uncertainties.

ASSESSMENT / EXAMS

(also see chart below)

- **Written examinations:** Students answer questions involving geographical knowledge, case studies, data interpretation, calculations and extended written responses. Paper 3 requires students to apply knowledge from across the course to a geographical issue.
- **Independent investigation:** and fieldwork: Students design and undertake an individual geographical investigation, collecting and analysing data and evaluating their findings. Coursework is marked by teachers and externally moderated by Pearson Edexcel.
- **Practical skills:** Fieldwork, research, statistical analysis, mapping and data presentation are developed throughout the course and assessed through the independent investigation and written examinations.

The Pearson Edexcel A-Level Geography qualification is assessed through three written examinations and an independent investigation. There is no separate practical examination.

PAPER 1 KEY CONTENT: DYNAMIC LANDSCAPES	PAPER 2 KEY CONTENT: DYNAMIC PLACES	PAPER 3 KEY CONTENT: SYNOPTIC INVESTIGATION	NEA (NON EXAM ASSESSMENT)
Written exam: 2 hours 15 minutes	Written exam: 2 hours 15 minutes	Written exam: 2 hours 15 minutes	3,000 – 4,000 - word individual coursework report
30% of A Level marks	30% of A-Level marks	20% of A-Level marks	20% of A-Level marks

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 Nearpods 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 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.

GRADES I NEED

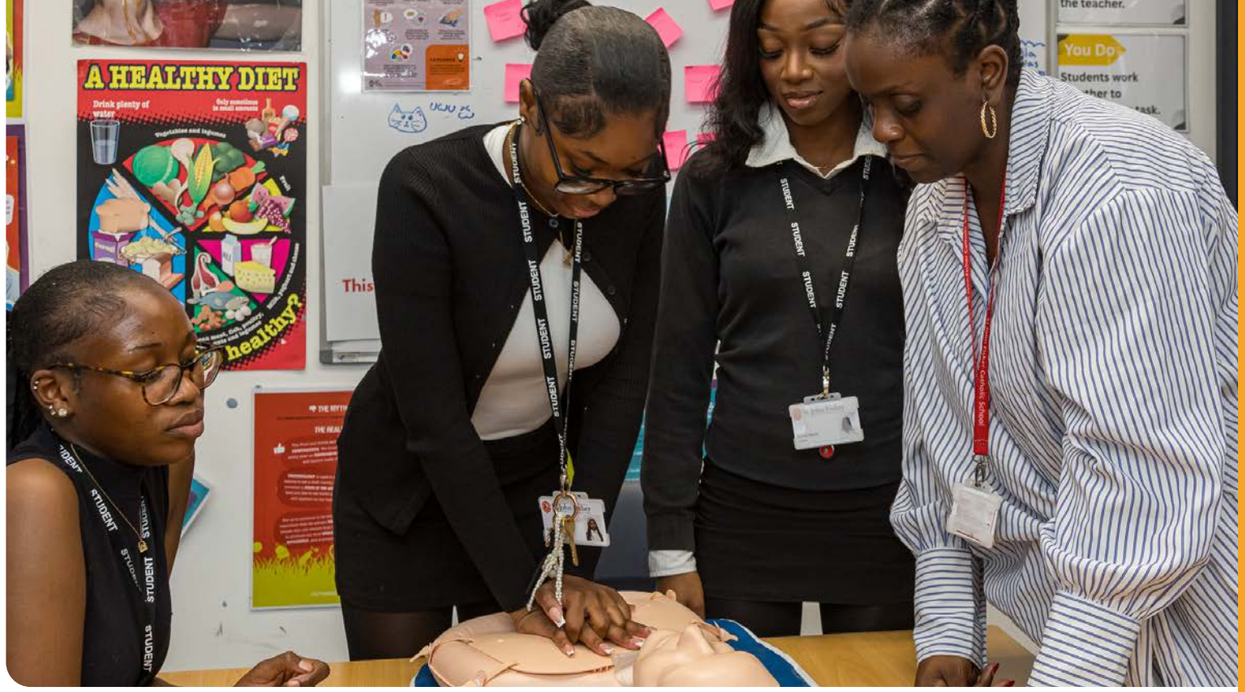
- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- Grade 4 in English

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.



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

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

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: Rebellion and Disorder under the Tudors, 1485-1603

- Establishing the Tudor state: the reigns of Henry VII and Henry VIII
- Defending the Tudor state: the reigns of Edward VI, Mary I, and Elizabeth I



GRADES I NEED

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

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

Which Sixth Form subjects complement this course?
English Literature, English Language, Philosophy and Ethics, Religious Studies, Sociology, Politics

What university courses, apprenticeships or careers could it support?

University Course:
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.

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.



There are so many resources in both academics and universities, aiding students in making decisions for the future

STAFF VOICE

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS:

History is assessed through **three examinations** and an **NEA** (coursework) component.

Paper 1A (Breadth Study with Interpretations) – The Crusades, c1095-1204. Time = 2 hours 15 minutes (30% of total)

Paper 2A (Depth Study) – Anglo-Saxon and the Anglo-Norman Kingdom, c1053-1106. Time = 1 hour 30 minutes (20% of total)

Paper 3 (Themes in Breadth with Aspects in Depth) – Option 31: Rebellion and Disorder under the Tudors, 1485-1603. Time = 2 hours 15 minutes (30% of total)

NEA/Coursework (20% of total)



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 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.

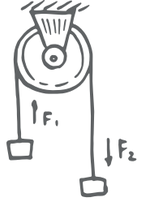
Related careers in A-level Religious Studies include education, journalism, law, criminology, social work, medical research, and politics.



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 Edexel 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
- Conservativism
- 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 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 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

IN YEAR 12

- 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

- 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 ethicsinfluence 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.

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 t**wo 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 Pathwayis 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.**

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**

NATIONAL EXTENDED CERTIFICATE IN SPORT
VOCATIONAL SPORT, FITNESS AND COACHING STUDIES

Pearson

603/0458/3

Vocational Sport, Fitness and Coaching Studies is an exciting and dynamic course designed for students who are passionate about sport and want to develop the knowledge and skills needed for the rapidly growing sport, fitness and physical activity industry. Throughout the course, you will explore key areas including anatomy and physiology, fitness training, sports coaching, leadership and practical performance. You will learn how the body responds to exercise, how to improve sporting performance and how effective coaches inspire others. Combining academic learning with practical experiences, the course provides an excellent foundation for university, apprenticeships and careers in sport, fitness, coaching and leisure.

COURSE CONTENT

YEAR 12 / FIRST YEAR / UNITS OR COMPONENTS: Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology In Unit 1, we build upon some of the anatomy and physiology knowledge covered at GCSE. You will explore the skeletal, muscular, cardiovascular and respiratory systems and develop your understanding of how these systems work together during sport, exercise and physical activity.

Unit 4: Sports Leadership
In Unit 4, you will explore the roles, responsibilities, skills and qualities of successful sports leaders. You will develop your own leadership skills through practical experiences, including planning, leading and reviewing sports activities and sessions. The unit will help you develop confidence, communication, organisation and leadership skills that can be transferred into future education and employment.

YEAR 13 / SECOND YEAR / UNITS OR COMPONENTS: Unit 2: Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being In Unit 2, you will explore the importance of health, fitness and well-being and investigate how lifestyle choices can affect an individual's health and sporting performance. You will learn how to interpret fitness and health information and use this knowledge to design appropriate training and lifestyle programmes.

Unit 3: Professional Development in the Sports Industry This unit explores the wide range of careers and opportunities available within the sports industry. You will investigate the skills, qualifications and personal qualities employers are looking for and consider how you can develop your own employability and career pathway.

GRADES I NEED

- Grade 4 In English
- Grade 4 In GCSE PE/BTEC Sport or Science

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

Courses that work well alongside Vocational Sport, Fitness and Coaching Studies include Biology, Psychology, Business, Health & Social Care and Applied Science. These subjects complement the scientific, leadership, health and professional elements of the course and provide a strong combination for progression into sport-related university courses, apprenticeships and careers.

What university courses, apprenticeships or careers could it support?

- Physiotherapist
- Sports Coach
- PE Teacher
- Leisure Centre Employee / Manager
- Sports Analyst
- Sports Commentator
- Sports Business Owner
- Team Manager (Sport)
- Nutritionist
- Personal Trainer



"Life at SJF integrates you into a community where academics and well being is constantly prioritized. Admist all the trials and tribulations as a young person inevitably experiences in life, we are ensured adequate support during hardships by one pastoral team and positively reminded of our academic potential by one dedicated team of staff. Supported through diversity, inspired to excel."

STAFF VOICE

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.



VOCATIONAL SPORT, FITNESS AND COACHING STUDIES



LIFE AT ST JOHN FISHER – HEAD BOY & GIRL

"For me, the best thing about Sixth Form is the sense of community. There is a real encouragement to work hard and aim high, alongside support from teachers who take the time to help when you need it.

The library and private study spaces give us somewhere to focus, work independently and spend more time on anything we find challenging. Sixth Form can be demanding, but knowing that support is there makes a real difference.

Being here has encouraged me to think bigger about my future and what I could achieve."

NEVILLE BINGEPINGE
HEAD BOY

Life at St John Fisher is about much more than what happens in the classroom. It is a place where you are encouraged to grow, challenge yourself and get involved in the wider school community. From sixth form, you have so many opportunities to take on responsibility, support younger students, get involved in events and develop your confidence as a leader.

For me, one of the best things about being at St John Fisher is the sense of community. Whether it is supporting a school event, taking part in a Mass or simply being there for other students, you quickly realise that everyone has a part to play. The school's Catholic ethos is also a big part of everyday life, encouraging us to think about how we treat others and the kind of people we want to become.

Being Head Girl has given me the opportunity to experience this from a different perspective. I have been able to represent students, work alongside staff and contribute to making school life the best it can be. Sixth form can definitely be challenging, but at St John Fisher, you are encouraged to make the most of your time here, find your strengths and leave with more than just your qualifications.

FIKUNMI OGUNSOLA
HEAD GIRL

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.

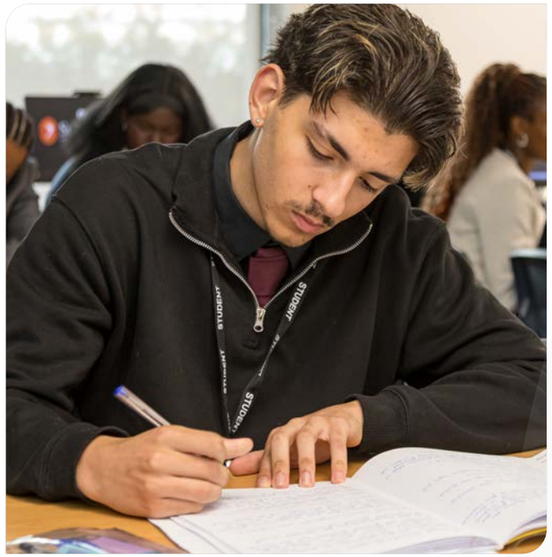
Situated at the top of the hill between Chatham and Rochester, with amazing views looking out across the River Medway, our school offers a wide range of outstanding teaching and learning facilities designed to support the delivery of our challenging curriculum. These include a multi use games area (MUGA), 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



OUR FACILITIES



"I appreciate the support we got from our Head of Year and our teachers"

STUDENT VOICE







"I like how the school hosts events to bring the whole school community together whilst promoting good values. For example, Culture day, Yellow Day, Anti-bullying week and Eco-day."

STUDENT VOICE





NOTES

St. John Fisher
CATHOLIC COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

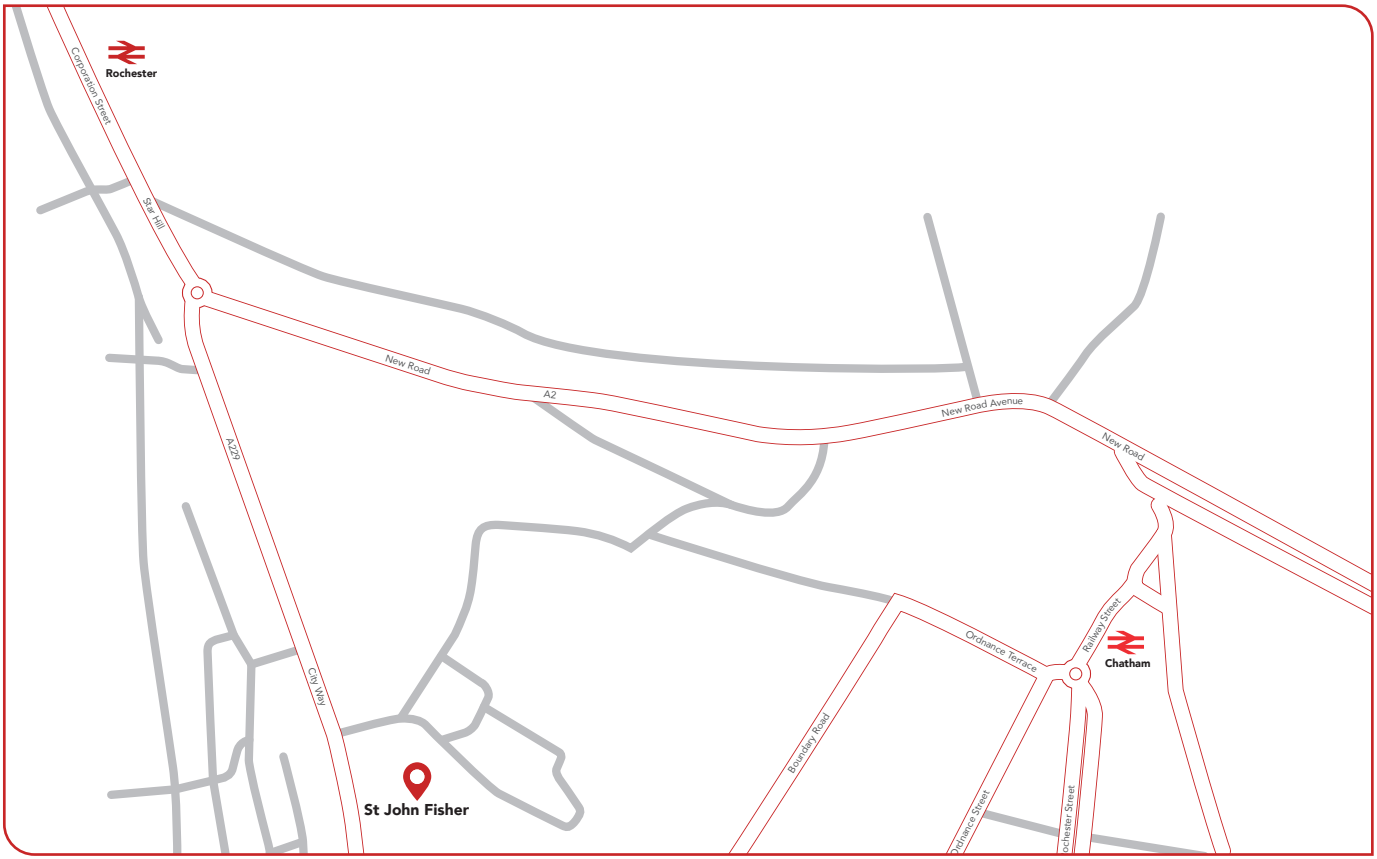
NOTES

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/



St. John Fisher
CATHOLIC COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

St John Fisher Catholic
Comprehensive School
City Way, Rochester
ME1 2FA

t 01634 543123
e office@stjohnfisher.school
w www.stjohnfisher.school