Dear students,

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

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

We offer a plethora of academic and vocational qualifications and also work in partnership with Fort Pitt Grammar School in a collegiate approach for Sixth Form provision. This highly successful partnership has enabled us to extend the opportunities on offer to all our students so that there are challenging and appropriate qualifications for all.

As an SJF student, you’ll be encouraged to take an active role in school life, developing your skills for learning beyond the classroom. You’ll be offered opportunities to volunteer, both in school and outside in the wider community.

MRS D. LENNON
Headteacher

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

Welcome to St John Fisher Sixth Form

The Headteacher and the leadership team are passionate about driving up standards at the school.

OFSTED

Year 12 students undertake a work experience placement; Year 13 students form our student leadership team, acting as peer mediators and mentors to younger pupils.

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

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

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

The Sixth Form is good. Students achieve good results in a variety of subjects. More students are choosing to stay at the school to study in the Sixth Form.

OFSTED
ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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BTEC LEVEL 3
Applied Science

EDEXCEL SYLLABUS NUMBER: (QCF) 500/6725/4

INTRODUCTION
The Level 3 BTEC in applied science offers students a more independent learning experience than traditional science A Levels. Students will complete three course work units each year; each of these units have equal weighting. It is ideal for learners seeking vocational aspects of science as well as strong links to science related careers. Each unit is broken into assignments that link the content to scenarios that allow learners to understand how science is used in industry.

COURSE CONTENT
Learners must complete the compulsory units 1, 2 and 4 in year 12. Unit 1 covers biology, chemistry and physics at a deservedly rigorous level. Unit 2 explores how science is used in industry. Unit 4 looks in detail at how techniques are used in laboratories.

In year 13 learners will complete units 18, 31 and 32. Unit 18 looks at genetics and genetic engineering, unit 31 explores criminology and unit 32 allows learners to collect and analyse evidence.

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

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Minimum of 5 9 - 4 grades at GCSE. 4 in Science.

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND CAREERS
Possible career choices that require BTEC Level 3 in applied science include:

- Biological testing
- Biotechnology
- Independent research
- Food industry jobs
- Nutrition
- Nurse
- Zookeeper
- Animal care
- Veterinary nurse
- Scientist
- And many others

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

A LEVEL
Art and Design

AQA SYLLABUS NUMBER: 2200

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

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

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

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

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

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Minimum of 5 9 - 4 grades at GCSE or BTEC Level 2 Pass in Art or Design or Product Design.

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND CAREERS

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

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

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

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

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Minimum of 5 9 - 4 grades at GCSE including a 5 or above in trilogy or triple science.

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND 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.

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

COURSE CONTENT
BTEC Level 3 subsidiary Diploma (equivalent to one A Level) with 100% coursework.

Units are:
1. The Business environment
2. Business Resources
3. Introduction to Marketing
4. Business communication and two other optional units.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
5 9 - 4 grades at GCSE.

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND CAREERS
The study of business has many other subject links such as
- Economics
- Media
- Psychology
- ICT

RELATED CAREERS INCLUDE
- Entrepreneur
- Marketing
- Web Design
- Accountancy
- Economist

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
INTRODUCTION

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

COURSE CONTENT

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

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

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

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

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

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND CAREERS

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

“Chemistry represented an indefinite cloud of future potentialities which enveloped my life to come in black volutes torn by fiery flashes, like those which had hidden Mount Sinai.”

PRIMO LEVI

A LEVEL

Government & Politics

INTRODUCTION

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

COURSE CONTENT

The areas studied are likely to be:

- Governing the UK - Executive, legislative & judicial functions
- People and politics - Electoral systems & engagement
- Ideological traditions: Conservatism, Socialism, Anarchism, Nationalism
- Individualism & feminism
- Comparative politics: EU or American political system

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

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

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND CAREERS

Government & politics links well with:

- History
- English
- Sociology
- Psychology
- Foreign languages
- Philosophy

There are numerous careers that require the skills that the study of politics develops. These include:

- Law
- Business
- Accountancy
- Politics
- Archaeology
- Diplomatic service
- Teaching
- Journalism

“The best argument against democracy is a five-minute conversation with the average voter.”

WINSTON CHURCHILL
INTRODUCTION
Our students are enthused by the prospect of delving into unfamiliar texts as we teach them the skills with which to analyse them on a deeper level than they have before. We aim to introduce our students to a wide range of authors, particularly those that they may not have come across in their personal reading.

The AQA English Language and Literature combined course offers a range of engaging texts with a variety of options to ensure that our teaching staff can personalise the learning of their students according to the texts they are likely to enjoy. There is a focus on the origins and analysis of the English language that then informs the students' own understanding and interpretations of texts in both prose and poetry. They will be introduced to a range of nonfiction texts centred on a single theme to which they will then develop their own responses and reactions.

COURSE CONTENT

Paper 1: People and Places
- Remembered Places – the representation of place
- Re-creative Writing – adapting and shaping original material
- Critical commentary – evaluating own writing
- Methods of language analysis are integrated into the activities assessed

Written exam: 2 hour 30 minutes
- 100 marks
- 40% of A Level

Paper 2: Exploring Conflict
- Writing about society
- Critical commentary – evaluating own writing
- Dramatic encounters
- Methods of language analysis are integrated into the activities assessed

Written exam: 3 hour
- 100 marks
- 40% of A Level

The A Level course also expands on these exams with the addition of an NEA (non-examined assessment) worth 20% of the A Level.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Minimum of 5 9 - 4 grades at GCSE including a 5 grade in English Language and English Literature.

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND CAREERS
The study of English links well to higher education options including communication studies, creative writing, journalism, media studies and theatre studies as well as further study of English itself.

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. Examination will include two unseen poems.

Assessed through a written exam:
- Written exam: 3 hours
- Open book in Section C only
- 75 marks
- 40% of A-level

Paper 2: Texts in shared contexts. Choice of two options:
- Option 2A: WW1 and its aftermath
- Option 2B: Modern times: literature from 1945 to the present day

Study of three texts: one prose, one poetry, and one drama, of which one must be written post-2000

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

Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.
JOSEPH ADDISON
BTEC LEVEL 3
Health and Social Care

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

COURSE CONTENT
Students will study for BTEC Level 3 subsidiary diploma which is equivalent to one A Level. The course is 100% coursework which will be externally moderated.

1. Human life span development
2. Working in health and social care
3. Meeting individual care and support needs
4. Midwifery

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Minimum of 5 9 - 4 grades at GCSE.

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND CAREERS
This course provides the knowledge, skills and understanding to progress into a career in the health and social care industry such as:
- Nursing
- Social work
- Child care
- Midwifery

A LEVEL
History

AQA SYLLABUS NUMBER: A LEVEL (7042)

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

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

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

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

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

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND CAREERS
History links well with English, sociology, economics, foreign languages and religious studies. There are numerous careers that require the skills that the study of history develops. These include: medicine, business, finance, accountancy, politics, archaeology, diplomatic service, restoration, teaching and law.

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

BUDDHA

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

Those who fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it.

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

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

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

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Minimum of 5 9 - 4 grades at GCSE.

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND 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.

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

COURSE CONTENT
In the first year, students study two core mathematics units and one application unit of statistics and mechanics. Each unit is worth 16.67% of the overall A Level grade.

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

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND CAREERS
The study of mathematics links well with other subjects such as the sciences and IT. Career options include roles within:
- Finance
- Economics
- Communication
- Transportation
- Engineering
- Architecture
- Biomedical science
- Physics
- Education
A LEVEL
Media Studies

INTRODUCTION
Media studies introduces students to many forms of media institutions from TV sitcoms, reality shows, music videos, advertising and films. Media studies encourages students to question the power that the media has to select news, sell products and to question the techniques used to appeal to target audiences. Students will look at key concepts such as stereotyping, hybrid genres, representations of people and news selection and censorship.

The course allows students to be creative, imaginative, artistic and to practise their ICT skills. Simultaneously, it enables students to question the political power that the media has to influence, stereotype and select news.

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

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

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Minimum of 5 9 - 4 grades at GCSE including a 4 in English.

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND CAREERS
Careers linked to media studies include:
– Journalism
– Web design
– Advertising
– Script writing
– Radio and audio work
– Digital media
– Media production
– Editing and directing

BTEC LEVEL 3
Performing Arts

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

COURSE CONTENT
Students will study for BTEC Level 3 sub diploma (equivalent to one A Level). The course is 100% coursework which will be externally moderated.

– Performance workshop
– Rehearsing for performance
– Performing to an audience
– Variety performance
– Storytelling as performance
– Audition Speeches

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Minimum of 5 9 - 4 grades at GCSE.

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND CAREERS
Performing arts naturally links to careers within the entertainment industry such as:
– Acting
– Broadcasting
– Make up artist
– Special effects
– Set design
– Directing
– Production

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

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

DAVID RUBENSTEIN
INTRODUCTION

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

COURSE CONTENT

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

A level Paper 1 Advanced Physics 1

Working as a Physicist, Mechanics, Electric Circuits, Further Mechanics, Electric and Magnetic Fields, Nuclear and Particle Physics.

A level Paper 2 Advanced Physics 2

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

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

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

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND CAREERS

As a working physicist you may find yourself: trying to predict the stock market in the City, testing satellites for space missions, doing medical physics in a hospital, trying to predict the next major earthquake, developing flight simulation software, or designing an Olympic stadium. In other words, the skills developed studying physics can be the passport to almost any career.

Physics is really nothing more than a search for ultimate simplicity; but so far all we have is a kind of elegant messiness.

BILL BRYSON

OVERVIEW OF ASSESSMENT

Unit 1

25% of A Level
2 hour written paper – 80 marks

Unit 2

25% of A Level
Coursework – approx. 50 hours – 80 marks

Unit 3

25% of A Level
2 hour written paper – 84 marks

Unit 4

25% of A Level
Coursework – approx. 60 hours – 85 marks

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND CAREERS

– Product Designer
– Product Design Engineer
– Industrial Designer
– Graphic Designer
– Architect
– Interior Designer
– Jewellery Designer
– Fashion Designer
– CAD Technician
– Animator
– Gaming Designer

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

– 5 9 - 4 grades at GCSE or equivalent, with at least a Merit or grade 4 in a relevant Vocational qualification or GCSE.
– Minimum Grade 4 in GCSE Design & Technology (eg. Product Design)
A LEVEL

Psychology

AQA SYLLABUS NUMBER: 7182

INTRODUCTION

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

AQA SYLLABUS NUMBER: 7182

COURSE CONTENT

A-Level - Paper 1 (33.3% of A-Level)
Introductory Topics in Psychology
– Social Influence
– Memory
– Attachment
– Psychopathology

A-Level - Paper 2 (33.3% of A-Level)
– Psychology in Context
– Approaches in Psychology
– Biopsychology
– Research Methods

A-Level - Paper 3 (33.3% of A-Level)
Issues and Options in Psychology. One from each of the following:
– Relationships, gender, cognition and development
– Schizophrenia, eating behaviour, stress
– Aggression, forensic psychology, addiction

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:
Minimum of 5 9 - 4 at GCSE including 5 in English, 4 in maths and 4 in science.

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND CAREERS

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

A LEVEL

Religious Studies

(Philosophy and Ethics)

OCR SYLLABUS NUMBER: H573

INTRODUCTION

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

COURSE CONTENT

In the first year, students will study 3 components: philosophy of religion, religion and ethics and development in religious thought based on in-depth study of Christianity.

In the second year, students will continue to deepen their understanding of the three components. In philosophy of religion, learners will study the nature of God and issues in religious language. In religion and ethics, students will study ethical language and thought, the idea of conscience and sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious beliefs. Developments in religious thought will include analysis of social and historical developments in theology and religious thought and key themes related to the relationship between religion and society.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Minimum of 5 9 - 4 grades at GCSE 4 grade in English.

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND CAREERS

The study of philosophy and ethics is universally desirable due to the skills that it cultivates. Specific links can be made in:
– English
– History
– Sociology and psychology

Students can go into careers in:
– Law
– Politics
– Medicine
– Business
– Marketing
– Crime prevention
– Social work and education
A LEVEL

Sociology

AQA SYLLABUS NUMBER: (A LEVEL 7192)

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

COURSE CONTENT
A Level – Sociology Paper 1 – Education with Methods
Content
  – Education Methods in Context
Assessment
  – 2 hour written exam 80 marks 33.3% of A Level
Questions
  – 3 compulsory sections all requiring written answers
A Level Sociology Paper 2 – Topics in Sociology
Content
  – Families and Households and Beliefs in Society
Assessment
  – 2 hour written exam 80 marks 33.3% of A Level
Questions
  – 2 sections each offering a choice of 4 topics. Students answer 1 topic from each Section

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Minimum of 5 9 - 4 grades at GCSE including a 4 grade in English

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND CAREERS
Sociology can lead to careers in law, education, social work, counselling, research, policy analysis, politics and human resources. Sociologists can enter the corporate world as well as not for profit organisations and government.

BTEC LEVEL 3

Sport

EDEXCEL SYLLABUS NUMBER: 601/7218-6

INTRODUCTION
This qualification provides a thorough foundation for students who are interested in working in the sport and active leisure industry. Students will improve their knowledge and understanding of the links between physical exercise and its relationship to anatomy and physiology.

COURSE CONTENT
BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate is equivalent to one A Level. The course is 100% coursework which will be externally moderated.

Students will study:
1. Anatomy and Physiology
2. Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being
3. Professional Development in the Sports industry and one other optional unit

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Minimum of 5 9 - 4 grades at GCSE. Students must wear the St John Fisher P.E. Kit.

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND CAREERS
Upon completion of this qualification, students can pursue careers or further education in:
  – Exercise and fitness
  – Coaching and leadership
  – Sports development

“You can’t put a limit on anything. The more you dream, the further you get.”

MICHAEL PHELPS
BTEC LEVEL 2
Hospitality

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

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Minimum of 5 9 - 4 grades at GCSE.

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND CAREERS
Travel links to many subjects but especially:
- ICT
- Business studies
- Sports (Olympics)
- Maths (tourism statistics) and Geography

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

COURSE CONTENT
This is a 75% coursework based course.

Students study the following units:
- Unit 1 Introducing the Hospitality Industry
- Unit 2 Working in the Hospitality Industry
- Unit 3 Food and Health and Safety in the Hospitality Industry
- Unit 6 Planning and preparing and cooking food

BTEC LEVEL 3
Travel and Tourism

INTRODUCTION
Travel and tourism is one of the biggest growth industries in Europe and this course gives you the chance to get involved in that industry.

The travel & tourism department is exciting, active and vibrant and will provide you with all the support and guidance you need for you to succeed in your application to university or to get you qualified and employed.

The BTEC provides you with the knowledge, skills and understanding you will need when moving towards a career in travel & tourism such as work in travel agencies, airlines, holiday companies and hotels. It is also a stepping stone to the degree in travel & tourism taught at many UK universities. We offer a clear progression route that will see you get to where you want to be.

COURSE CONTENT
BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma (equivalent to one A level). This course is 100% coursework which is externally moderated.

Students will Study:
1. The world of Travel and Tourism
2. Global Destinations
3. Managing the Customer Experience and one other optional unit

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Minimum of 5 9 - 4 grades at GCSE.

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND CAREERS
The study of hospitality has many other subject links such as:
- Travel
- Geography,
- Business and health.

Successful completion of this course will allow students to move to level 3 qualifications in their next year of study.

ST. AUGUSTINE

"The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only a page."
**BTEC LEVEL 2**

**Health and Social Care**

**EDXCEL SYLLABUS NUMBER: 600/4782/3**

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

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

**COURSE CONTENT**
This course is assessed by 75% coursework and 25% exam.

- **Unit 1** Human Life Span Development (Exam)
- **Unit 2** Care values for Health and Social Care
- **Unit 3** Communication for Health and Social care
- **Unit 6** The Impact of Diet on Health

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**
Minimum of 5 9 - 1 grades at GCSE.

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

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**BTEC LEVEL 2**

**Travel and Tourism**

**EDXCEL SYLLABUS NUMBER: 600/6512/6**

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

**COURSE CONTENT**
This is 75% coursework and 25% exam.

- **Unit 1** The UK Travel and Tourism Sector (Exam)
- **Unit 2** UK Travel and Tourism Destinations
- **Unit 3** International Travel and Tourism Destinations
- **Unit 4** The Travel and Tourism Customer Experience

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**
Minimum of 5 9 - 1 grades at GCSE.

**LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS AND CAREERS**
This course links to many subjects but especially
- ICT
- Business studies
- Sport (Olympics)
- Maths (Tourism Statistics)

Successful completion of this course will allow students to move to level 3 qualifications in their next year of study.

“**To keep the body in good health is a duty... otherwise we shall not be able to keep our mind strong and clear.**”

BUDDHA

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

RICHARD BRANSON

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

BILL BRYSON
St John Fisher Sixth Form
Entry Requirements Per Subject

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**ENTRY FOR LEVEL 2**
Subjects require a minimum of 5 GCSE Grades 9 - 1 from 5 subjects

**ENTRY FOR LEVEL 3**
Subjects require a minimum of 5 GCSE Grades 9 - 4 from 5 subjects

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Below are subjects with specific entry requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Maths</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Science</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEVEL 3 COURSES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>BTEC Applied Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
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<td>A Level Chemistry</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Level Government and Politics</td>
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<td>A Level English Language and Literature</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Level English Literature</td>
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<td>A Level History</td>
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<td>A Level Mathematics</td>
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<td>A Level Sociology</td>
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**We offer:**

A welcoming and smooth transition from Key Stage 4 and a challenging learning environment.

- A designated Sixth Form Area with computer rooms, excellent teaching facilities and Cafe Yuushuu.
- A range of academic and vocational courses at levels 2 and 3 to cater for all students.
- Excellent individual academic and pastoral support.
- A dedicated team of staff to guide you through UCAS, university choice and career options.
- An enrichment programme designed specifically to develop your skills in leadership, working in teams both within the school and supporting pupils in primary schools, developing your subject specific knowledge for either university or employment.
- An exciting future supporting you to make your dreams a reality.

**Entry Criteria:**

In order to be successful at post-16, students must have a solid academic base and the potential and motivation to build upon it. We are very proud of our Sixth Form and have set criteria that will ensure we continuously strive to ‘Raise Aspirations and Deliver Excellence.’

To guarantee a place to study for Advanced Level and BTEC Level 3 courses, students must:

- Achieve at least 5 9 - 4 passes at GCSE level or equivalent.

To guarantee a place to study for BTEC Level 2 courses, students must:

- Achieve 5 9 - 1 passes at GCSE level.

To guarantee a place to study at any level, students must also meet the criteria of individual subjects as well as the criteria set by the Assistant Headteacher responsible for Key Stage 5.

- All courses are subject to timetabling considerations and student interest.
(Level 3 Qualifications)

Students studying only A Levels at St. John Fisher Sixth Form usually follow a traditional core of 3 - 4 subjects taken in Year 12 and then may reduce to 3 subjects in Year 13.

Fort Pitt Grammar School

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A LEVEL COURSES</th>
<th>GCSE in subject</th>
<th>Maths</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Science</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
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<td>Drama</td>
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<td>Economics</td>
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<td>Film Studies</td>
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<td>French</td>
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<td>German</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today.

MALCOLM X

Entry requirements at our partnership schools:

University of Kent

As part of the enrichment time, students participate in programmes to prepare them for Higher Education. These include guidance on student finance, UCAS application advice and the "Stepping-Up" programme delivered by student ambassadors from The University of Kent. This gives students the opportunity to seek guidance and advice from young people who are currently studying at university. This is in addition to guidance provided by Medway Youth Trust and staff at the school.

CORE RE

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

Introducing additional courses
Level 2 Qualifications

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

What Happens Next?

Once you have a good idea of the course and subjects you are interested in, you should complete the St John Fisher Application Form through the Sixth Form area on the school website: www.stjohnfisher.school Alternatively you can ring the school office on 01634 543123 or email office@stjohnfisher.com and we will send you an application form.

Current St John Fisher students and all external applicants should complete their applications by the dates listed at the back of this pack. You will then be called for interview. Internal candidates will be interviewed during the school day. External candidates will be interviewed on a first come, first served basis.

Applicants will receive confirmation of their conditional place after interview. Students accepting a place at St John Fisher are expected to attend an enrolment day to confirm their place. This will take place in late August after GCSE results have been released and you will be contacted to confirm your time to attend.

We look forward to receiving your application and if you have any further questions regarding opportunities at St John Fisher please do not hesitate to contact the sixth form team or the school.

Finally, it is important to remember that the university that you apply to will require evidence of your Year 12 PPE grades, therefore, it is essential that you achieve success in both Year 12 and Year 13.

Q&A

Frequently asked questions about A-Levels:

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

Q. Why do students take 3 A Levels in Year 13?
A. Universities only make offers on the basis of your performance in three A Level subjects; and so, students often focus on their very best subjects in their final year.

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

Q. What are the BTEC & Level 2 Options?
A. BTEC & Level 2 Options include Hospitality, Travel & Tourism, and Health & Social Care.
Teaching is strong in the sixth form. Teachers use skilful questioning to address misconceptions, fostering good progress to meet or exceed targets.

OFSTED
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