

## Level 3 Advanced Subjects

### **Art and Design – OCR - Linear**

Year 12: students develop their art skills and create work based on a given theme. Year 13: students concentrate on more personal art work and produce an extended contextual study. Assessment is by coursework and practical examination.

### **Biology – Edexcel - Linear**

Throughout the course there are opportunities for the development of practical skills. **Year 12:** curriculum covers *Lifestyle, Transport, Genes and Health* in exam paper 1: topics 'Lifestyle, Health and Risk' and 'Genes and health'. Exam paper 2 covers *Development, Plants and the Environment*: on topics 'Voice of the Genome' and 'Biodiversity and natural resources'. **Year 13:** curriculum covers *The Natural Environment and Species Survival* in exam paper 1: topics 'On the Wild Side' and 'Immunity, Infection and Forensics'. *Energy Exercise and Co-ordination* will be covered in paper 2: topics 'Run for your Life' and 'Grey Matter'. Both papers 1 and 2 will also test all AS units. Paper 3 - *General and Practical Applications in Biology* tests all topics across the full A level specification. A section of the paper will include questions based on a pre-release article.

*Entry Requirements: Minimum GCSE grade 6 in both English and Math and grade BB in Science. 60% and above for the Biology entry exam.*

### **Business Studies – AQA - Linear**

Business Studies aims to teach you the basics of what it is to run a business. Imaginatively, it puts the student at the centre of the decisions you would have to make from starting your own business to analysing how other businesses operate. It combines both a practical attitude to solving problems with the theoretical techniques used to help a firm to arrive at the best solution. The whole course offers introductions to the main areas of business management, marketing, accounting and finance and operations.

### **Chemistry – AQA - Linear**

The study of substances, their properties and interactions. Students will cover: Physical, Organic and Inorganic Chemistry, these provide a basis for different practical topics which may be used for experimental and investigative skills. The course is now linear with all exams being taken at the end of year 13. There are 12 core practicals which AQA require evidence of, 6 will be completed in year 12 and 6 more in year 13. Entry requirements: Minimum GCSE grade 5 in English, grade 6 in maths and grade BB in science.

### **Classical Civilisation – OCR - Linear**

Students study 2 units in year 12 and 2 units in year 13, completed with an exam and there is no coursework. In year 12 students will study elements of the language, literature and history of the classical world with Homer's *Odyssey* and *Life in Roman Cities*. By studying this you will acquire some understanding of the culture, politics, and social life of Rome and/or Greece at significant periods in their history. It will also help you to understand how our own society has been influenced by the principles and systems of the classical world. If you are intellectually curious and interested in history, reading and then this could be for you.

### **Computer Science – OCR - Linear**

In year 12 students will study: Unit 1 Computer Systems. This is 40% of the course, examined, and covers processing characteristics (input, output and processing), software, data, legal, moral and ethical issues. Unit 2 Algorithms and Programming is again examined, 40% of the course and covers computational thinking, programming and problem solving, decomposition, algorithm design. In year 13 students will complete units 1 & 2 and study Unit 3, a Programming project, accounting for the final 20% of the course

### **Dance – AQA – Non Linear**

A-Level Dance aims to develop and extend the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to participate in dance including performance, composition and appreciation. The study of dance enables students to develop socially whilst promoting creativity, fitness and well-being. Students will also develop their confidence, self-esteem and team working skills. Assessment includes a combination of practical dance tasks alongside creative extended writing assignments.

Year 1 - Component 1: Performance and Choreography: Students will choreograph and perform a solo dance and perform in a duet /trio.

Component 2: Critical Engagement: This component is a written exam and focuses on the knowledge, understanding and critical appreciation of two areas of study, one compulsory and one optional area of study from a choice of four. Students will also have to reflect and demonstrate and understanding of their own choreographic and performance practice. The exam paper is split in split into

three sections: Section A: short answer questions on own practice (15 marks), Section B: short answer questions on the compulsory area of study (15 marks)., Section C: two essay questions on both areas of study – compulsory essay

(25 marks) and an essay from a choice of four (25 marks)

*Year - Component 1: Performance and Choreography:* Students will learn and perform a solo linked to a specified practitioner within an area of study. They will also have to perform in a quartet and choreograph group dance.

*Component 2: Critical Engagement:* This component is a written exam and focuses on the knowledge, understanding and critical appreciation of two set works. One of these set works is a compulsory set work within the compulsory area of study and the other is an optional set work within the corresponding area of study, from a choice of four. The set works and areas of study relate to those from year 1 of the course.

### **A-Level Drama and Theatre – Edexcel - Non Linear**

Over the two years students will study three components that build upon skills learnt at GCSE whilst introducing new practices, texts and practitioners. The components include:

#### *Component 1: Devising*

Students will explore an extract from a text in light of a practitioner and use this exploration to create ideas for a devised piece. They will analyse and evaluate the process of devising as well as the final performance. All of this will be recorded in a written portfolio.

#### *Component 2: Text in Performance*

Students will perform two extracts from two different texts, one has to be either a monologue or duologue and the other a group piece. They will develop their performance / design skills and will need to understand the context of the extracts within the text. For each extract they will have to produce a short written piece of work that articulates the intention for the character they are performing or the design they have created and will communicate their intention in performance.

#### *Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice*

This component focuses on preparing the student for a written exam. Students will explore a set text practically and theoretically, for example looking at style, genre, interpretation of characters, staging and use of costume. There are three sections to the written paper: Section A - Live Theatre Evaluation, Section B – Questions on a set text and Section C – The Director’s Interpretation

### **Economics – AQA - Linear**

Studying Economics, you will learn more about how the world works. You will learn more about the impact decisions have on the firm, industry and at a national level. You will learn more about the impact of international trade; both good and bad. You will discover the effect government policies have on the economy. It will help you make more informed decisions as both a consumer and as a future voter. Students do not need to have studied this subject before. It is desirable to have a Grade 5 in GCSE Maths and English Language.

### **English Language – AQA - Linear**

In English Language, there are 3 units to study – Unit 1: Language, Society and the Individual and Unit 2: Language, Diversity and Change. These two examinations make up 80% of the marks. The other 20% will be assessed through coursework: Unit 3: original writing and a commentary and language investigation. Student should have a grade 6 in English.

### **English Literature – Edexcel - Linear**

For A Level English Literature, students will study towards three exams and the completion of a 3000 word coursework essay, all to be submitted at the end of year 13. The examinations comprise of: Drama: both Modern and Shakespearean; Poetry: an anthology of post 2000 modern poetry, an in depth study of a particular poet, movement or period of poetry and the analysis of an unseen poem; Prose: A comparison of two thematically linked texts. The coursework component asks students to conduct an independent study into how two texts explore a series of key themes or ideas using critical theory and an understanding of socio-historical context.

### **Extended Project Level 3 Qualification - AQA**

This subject allows students to research a topic of their choice. It’s a one year course and ends with submission of 5000 word research thesis and public presentation of the chosen topic. The thesis is smaller if EPQ is a piece of art. It’s a highly academic subject, research often goes beyond A-levels and students also visit external libraries.

### **Further maths – Exam Board TBC - Linear**

Year 12: Students complete modules in Further Pure Maths & Decision Maths. Year 13: Students complete modules in Further Pure Maths, Mechanics & Statistics. Students will be building upon the work covered in their GCE (A’ Level) Maths course. This is subject to change upon the final specifications being accredited. Entry requirement for this course is a grade 7 in the new GCSE. Further maths must be taken in conjunction with A level maths.

### **Geography – Edexcel - Linear**

This is an issues based qualification that studies contemporary geographical themes and issues. Students study a range of physical and human topics over two years. For example, Tectonic processes, Globalisation and Superpowers. Students are examined at the end Year 13 with 3 exams. Students also attend a fieldwork residential.

The results collected will be used by the student to write an independent investigation that counts for 20% of their final grade.

### **History – OCR - Linear**

Students will study a range of topics including examined units on Russia in Revolution, Tudor Protest and Rebellion and Civil Rights in America. There is also an internally assessed coursework unit which gives students an opportunity to focus on a topic of their interest. All units will involve a variety of learning styles and will include source analysis, research and essay skills. Students will be required to work independently and consider a range of interpretations and viewpoints.

### **Mathematics – Exam Board TBC - Linear**

The course covers six wide-ranging units that fall into the following areas: pure maths, mechanics and statistics. Exam Only. Entry requirement: minimum of a grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics AND passing the Maths department's entrance test.

### **Media Studies – AQA - Linear**

The new course which begins in September 2017 will provide students with a refreshed and relevant qualification. Through studying media studies students will view, evaluate and analyse a variety of media products, and develop practical skills spanning a range of media forms. You'll find contemporary, diverse topics and varied and engaging content, helping your students to develop research, problem-solving skills as well as their creativity. They'll also refine their debating skills through the discussion of contemporary issues from a range of perspectives. This new qualification is linear. Linear means that students will sit all their exams and submit their non-exam assessment at the end of the two-year course.

Core Content:

1. Media Language 2. Media Representation 3. Media Industries 4. Media Audiences

Entry requirements: Grade 5 in English Language. B in Media Studies GCSE (If they have taken it).

### **Modern Foreign Languages (French, German and Spanish) – AQA - Linear**

At AS level students study: Changes in French society, namely the notion of marriage, the role of technology and the artistic culture and politics of the countries of the target languages.

Exams are in Listening, Reading, Translation and an essay based on a book or film as well as a Speaking exam.

At A2 level students study: immigration in the Target Language country, and one aspect of History in that country e.g. the resistance movement in World War 2 (French), the re-unification of Germany, (German) and Franco's dictatorship (Spanish).

Exams are in Listening, Reading, Translation and an essay on a book or film as well as a presentation and discussion in a Speaking exam.

### **Music – Edexcel - Linear**

At A' Level, students study Music history through set works and complete both a written and a listening exam on these works. Music Harmony is part of the written exam. Students complete composition coursework and give performance recitals at both A' Level; the new specification is a 2 year course. We do not offer AS music.

### **Music Technology – Edexcel - Linear**

At AS and A' Level, students explore music using music technology. Students learn a range of recording techniques via close mic recording and sequencing, as well as effects processing and mastering. They learn to use recording software and operate a studio. The composition tasks are based on a stimulus given by the exam board. Students are expected to sit an exam at the end of AS and A' Level.

### **PE – OCR - Linear**

Year 12: anatomy and Physiology, Skill Acquisition and Sports and Culture. Year 13: Historical, Sports Psychology and Exercise Psychology. In both years: Practical analysis of performance.

### **Photography – OCR - Linear**

This is a creative visual course with a strong practical element. Students will need their own digital cameras. Some lessons will take place away from the school site. Assessment is by coursework and practical examination.

### **Physics – AQA - Linear**

Year 12: Particles, Quantum Phenomena, Measurements and their errors, Waves, Mechanics and Motion, Materials, Electricity. Year 13: Fields, Further Mechanics and Motion, Simple Harmonic Motion, Nuclear, Thermal, Gases, Options (choose 1): Astrophysics, Medical Physics, Engineering, Turning Points, and Electronics. 100% assessment by examination. Entry requirements: Minimum GCSE grade 5 in English, 6 in Maths and BB in Science.

**Politics – Edexcel - Linear**

UK focus in Year 12, including electoral systems, political parties & the government and politics of the UK (and a trip to parliament!) In Year 13 students study the government and politics of the USA. Students complete a final written exam, at the end of year 13 with a mixture of shorter and longer answer questions.

**Product Design – OCR - Linear**

During the two year course pupils will study a range of materials and develop a technical understanding of how products function and are made to appropriately support the design and manufacture of design solutions. Input will be received about the wider design principles and the effect of design on users and the world we live in.

Market needs and opportunities for new products will be identified to initiate and develop design solutions and make and test prototypes/products. Core knowledge will give guidance on how a product can be developed through the stages of prototyping, realisation and commercial manufacture.

Critical thinking will be developed through enquiry and problem solving, exploration, creation and evaluation of iterative designs. Freedom in approach is encouraged towards designing and making so as not to limit the possibilities of project work or the materials and processes being used.

The content requires the application of mathematical and scientific knowledge, understanding and skills. This content reflects the importance of Design and Technology as a pivotal STEM subject.

**Psychology – AQA - Linear**

Newly reformed Psychology course offers scientific exploration of several core topics and ends with three public exams. Paper 1 contains Social Influence, Memory, Attachment and Abnormality. Paper 2 contains: Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology and Research Methods. Paper 3 contains: Issues and Debates in Psychology, Relationships, Stress and Addictions. Minimum entry Requirements: GCSE Grade 5 in Maths and English and a C in Science.

**Sociology – AQA - Linear**

The course involves an in-depth study of several specialised topics and ends with three public exams after two years of studying. Paper 1 contains: Education and Research Methods in context. Paper 2 contains: Family and Households and Beliefs and Religion. Paper 3 contains: Crime and Deviance and Theory and Methods. Minimum entry requirements: GCSE grade 5 in English is essential and C Grade in Science is highly recommended.

**Textiles – AQA - Linear**

This is a practical, hand-on course exploring textile production and design with an emphasis on developing strong art and design skills. A coursework 'Portfolio' is required in which students use observational studies and experiments with different media as a starting point. A personal final piece is produced based on sketchbook experiments, which could be a fashion piece, a hanging, a printed length or a furnishing object.

**Turkish – OCR - Linear**

Students will develop an interest in, and enthusiasm for, language learning. It helps students further develop the skills of listening, reading and writing at A' Level beyond GCSE. Students will learn about the culture of countries where Turkish is spoken and will be able to communicate with people in these countries.

## Level 2 Intermediate Subjects

### **Applied GCSE – Health and Social Care**

Promoting health and well-being, understanding the provision of care to the elderly, personal development, relationships and nursery are the central themes in this course.

### **BTEC Business Level 2 Extended Certificate**

Edexcel exam board. Students will study a range of units which cover areas such as starting up a business, marketing, finance, human resources and other areas of running a business. Students will be assessed by completing 6 units of coursework and two units being externally examined. Students will gain the equivalent of 2 GCSEs upon full completion of the course.

### **BTEC Level 2 Award in the Principles of Coaching Sport**

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This course is designed to give students the opportunity of gaining a vocational qualification in Sports Coaching. The level 2 Award is equivalent to 1 GCSE. This course is vocational/work related and is assessed through various types of coursework, there is no final exam. Coursework will be through practical and written assessments and will require all learners to be very well organised so that important deadline are not missed.

Students will cover 4 units of work-

1. Understanding the principles of safe and equitable coaching practise
2. Understanding the fundamentals of coaching programmes
3. Understanding the principles of planning coaching programmes
4. Understanding how to support the participants lifestyle through coaching programmes

To be successful on this course you will need 35-40 GCSE average point score, including Grade 4 or higher in English Language. You must be a keen sportsperson who is interested in coaching as a possible career and a learner who is organised and independent.

### **BTEC Certificate in Textiles – Level 2**

It will provide students the opportunity to develop a range of skills and techniques in textiles by enabling them to experiment with and creatively use media, materials, techniques and processes to develop textile samples into creative fashion or interior outcomes.

The course is unit based and is made up of briefs or set tasks with scope for personal interpretation. Emphasis is made on recording appropriate visual sources, creative exploration and experimentation with materials, techniques and processes.

### **Computer Science GCSE**

Students will work on three units. Computer Systems (studying Hardware, Software, Computer communications and networking) is examined, and is 40% of the course. Computational Thinking (studying Algorithms, Programming techniques, Producing robust programs, Computational logic, Translators and facilities of languages, Data representation) is 40% of the course. The final unit, Programming project, (in which students design and create programming solutions to set problems) is 20% of the course.