

8 May 2026

FAO Y7-9 Parents/Carers - LBTCW, ParentPay Payment Reminder

This is a polite reminder that if your child has been offered a place in the paid activities during Learning Beyond The Curriculum Week, payment has been set up on ParentPay. Please complete the payment to secure your child's place.

FAO Y7-10 Parents/Carers - House T-Shirts

ParentPay has now been opened up to pay for these. The deadline for payment is **Friday 8 May**.

Youth Activity Club! May Half Term

Please see the attached poster.

Reminder - Food Hall, Topping Up Accounts

Please note that if students do not have money in their dinner accounts they will not be served by staff in the Food Hall.

We would like to remind parents/carers of the following:

- dinner accounts can be topped up via ParentPay (if you are having difficulties accessing ParentPay, please email us at pcs-enquiries@swale.at)
- in your account settings a notification can be set up to alert you as to when your child's ParentPay account balance is low
- students with biometric (fingerprint) consent can check their account balance daily using our balance checker, located by our Student Support Desk at Reception
- students entitled to Free School Meals should budget their allowance across break and lunch (if their entire allowance is spent at morning break time, no more purchases can be made at lunch)
- if students' accounts cannot be topped up for the following day in order to make a purchase in Food Hall, they should bring a packed lunch instead

If your child purchases their lunch from the Food Hall, **please ensure their accounts are topped up the day before as balances in accounts do not update instantly** (we recommend topping up 24 hours before).

Thank you for your support.

Messages from PCS Careers Team



'Passport Style Photo' Needed - Message from East Sussex College

A reminder that students have been asked to submit a 'passport style photo' for their account (e.g. a photo which clearly shows their face). This is for safeguarding purposes and will only be viewed by the Events team and tutors on the day. Please can you remind your child of the importance of a clear photo. Students who do not have a clear photo will be contacted and asked to update their profile.

FAO Y10 Parents/Carers - Taster Days at Seaford Head Sixth Form

Please find attached a letter to parents/carers and students inviting them to Year 10 Taster Days at Seaford Head Sixth Form, taking place on either **Wednesday 17 June or Thursday 18 June 2026**.

This is an excellent opportunity for students to experience a full day in the Sixth Form and take part in four lessons from subjects they are interested in exploring further.

The aim of the day is to give students the opportunity to:

- Sample a range of four A Level/BTEC lessons
- Visit our Sixth Form Centre and access facilities in Seaford
- Meet our inspiring Sixth Form staff and teachers

The Taster Day will run from 8.45am to 3pm.

There is also a link to the new Sixth Form Prospectus attached in the letter, along with a document detailing the list of A Level and BTEC courses running from September 2027. Students will have the opportunity to select four subjects on the day.

FAO Y10 Parents/Carers - Year 10 Taster Day at East Sussex College - Message from ESC

Please make sure you sign up for a Taster Day with the link below:

<https://www.escg.ac.uk/whats-on/open-events/>

FAO All Students - University of Brighton

As you may be aware we have very close links with both the University of Sussex and the University of Brighton. As a school, our students benefit from University visits, lectures and bespoke study days as well as workshops, discussion groups and assemblies at PCS. For any students who are interested in the work of university students there are some public graduation shows that they can visit, or you can visit with them. [Click on the link to find out more.](#)

BrightMed Applications Now Open! - Message from Brighton and Sussex Medical School

Deadline: Sunday 19th July

BrightMed is our flagship Widening Participation programme at BSMS. The scheme identifies and supports young people from across Sussex who have the potential to become tomorrow's doctors.

As a BrightMedder, young people will take part in regular Saturday sessions on the University of Sussex campus, including lectures, seminars and hands-on activities. Year 12 students who are part of BrightMed may also be eligible for the Guaranteed Interview Scheme (please see [our webpage](#) for more information).

The programme works with students from Year 9 to Year 12 who live or study in Sussex, and who meet our eligibility criteria. We are currently looking for young people in Years 8 to 11 to apply to join BrightMed next year.

You can read more about BrightMed, including eligibility criteria [on our webpage](#).

Interested students should complete the relevant application form:

[Students currently in Years 8-10](#)

[Students currently in Year 11](#)

If you have any questions about BrightMed or the application process, please email outreach@bsms.ac.uk

BrightMed Applications Now Open! Deadline: Sunday 19 July - Message from BSMS Outreach

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Interested students should complete the relevant application form:

[Students currently in Years 8-10](#)

[Students currently in Year 11](#)

If you have any questions about BrightMed or the application process, please email outreach@bsms.ac.uk

BSMS Open Day - Saturday 6 June, 9.30am-4.30pm - Message from BSMS Outreach

We're excited to announce that booking is now open for the BSMS Open Day this summer. Our event will be held in the Medical Teaching Building and run concurrently with the University of Sussex Open Day on the same campus.

Visitors should select the subject which they are interested in when completing the registration form. To be sent information regarding the BSMS Open Day, registrants must select "Medicine." [Register here.](#)

We want to make sure that everyone can visit us at an Open Day, so the University of Sussex are offering to help with travel costs for eligible visitors plus one guest. Find out more about [help to travel to an Open Day here.](#)

Upcoming Key Dates ([PCS School Calendar](#))

- **Monday 11 May to Tuesday 16 June** - Summer Exam Season
- **Monday 11 May** - Y10 University of Sussex trip (selected students)
- **Tuesday 12 May** - Y10 University of Brighton trip (selected students)
- **Tuesday 12 May** - Y7 Girls Football Fixture (Lancing Football Club)
- **Thursday 14 May** - Health Promotion Event (in the Food Hall during lunch)

PCS Vacancies

Current vacancies at PCS are outlined below and can be found on [our website](#) (<https://www.swale.at/vacancies>).

Curriculum Leader of Science

Start date: September 2026

Deadline for applications: Friday 15 May

Interview date: w/c Monday 18 May



S6H

SEAFORD HEAD SCHOOL

Achieving Excellence Together

April 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Year 10 Students,

Year 10 Taster Days at Seaford Head School Sixth Form – September 2027 Entry

As part of our Post-16 programme and introduction to further education at Seaford Head School Sixth Form, we are delighted to invite Year 10 students to attend one of our Taster Days at our Sixth Form Centre on either **Wednesday 17th June** or **Thursday 18th June 2026**.

This is an excellent opportunity for students to experience a full day in the Sixth Form and take part in four lessons from subjects they are interested in exploring further.

The aim of the day is to give students the opportunity to:

- Sample a range of four A Level/BTEC lessons
- Visit our Sixth Form Centre and access facilities in Seaford
- Meet our inspiring Sixth Form staff and teachers

The Taster Day will run from **8:45am to 3:00pm**.

Our current prospectus can be viewed here:

[Prospectus-2027-2028.pdf](#)

Also attached is a list of A-Level and BTEC courses which will be running from September 2027 - it would be a good starting place for your child to review these pages before making a decision about subjects to study on the Taster Day.

Since reopening in 2014, our Sixth Form has gone from strength to strength. We are committed to supporting all students in achieving their long-term aspirations, whether that be employment, apprenticeships, university, or entrepreneurship. Our success is built on experienced subject specialists, dedicated pastoral support, and high-quality careers guidance from our Level 6 Careers Advisor.

We are particularly pleased that increasing numbers of students from outside Seaford are choosing to join us. This year, applications from external students have more than doubled, and we continue to welcome applications from students who are motivated, enthusiastic, and keen to contribute to our inclusive learning community.



Part of the
SEAFORD
LEARNING TRUST

01323 891623

reception@seafordhead.org

Arundel Road, Seaford,
East Sussex BN25 4LX





Students should arrive at the Sixth Form Centre by **8:45am** for registration and a short tour before lessons begin. Taster sessions will run throughout the day, and students are expected to attend all sessions and remain on site until the end of the day.

Booking a Year 10 Taster Day:

Students can sign up using the link below:

<https://outlook.office.com/book/TasterDays2026@seafordheadschoo.onmicrosoft.com/?ismsaljsauthenabed>

Booking Instructions:

1. Click the link to the bookings page
2. Select Taster Day One or Two (choose your preferred date)
3. In the calendar, select the date of your chosen Taster Day
4. Enter your contact information
5. Select the four taster sessions you would like to attend

The deadline for registration is **Friday 15th May 2026**. After this date, we will confirm students' subject choices.

Students should select one subject from each of the four option blocks and ensure they are on track to meet the entry requirements outlined in the prospectus. For example, students should only select A Level Maths if they are predicted at least a grade 7 at GCSE. Please note that subject choices cannot be changed on the day, so students should choose carefully. Refreshments will be provided at break time; however, students should bring their own lunch.

If you have any questions regarding the Taster Days or our Sixth Form courses, please do not hesitate to contact us at: clarecallard@seafordhead.org

We look forward to welcoming you to our Sixth Form.

Yours sincerely,

Sam Alvarez

Mrs S Alvarez
Head of Sixth Form



Welcome to Seaford Head School Sixth Form's Subject Information Pages

A Welcome from Mrs Alvarez, Head of Sixth Form

Choosing your Sixth Form pathway is an important and exciting step. Here at Seaford Head, we are proud to offer a wide range of A-Level and BTEC courses designed to support your ambitions.

It's a good idea to explore subjects you're interested in, check entry requirements, and think about your future plans, including university pathways and career aspirations. Each course page provides detailed information about course content and entry requirements to help you make informed decisions.

Open Days

Prospective students and their parents/carers will also be warmly invited to attend one of the following Open Days in October 2026. There will be talks, tours, and opportunities to meet subject teachers and current students.

- Thursday 8 October: 6:00–8:00 pm
- Saturday 10 October: 10:00 am–12:00 pm

Applications Open in November 2026

Apply to Seaford Head Sixth Form via our website: www.seafordhead.org

Please ensure your application form is submitted by **Friday 18 December 2026** to be considered a priority applicant.

Please read the following pages to explore your future with confidence.
Discover the courses, opportunities, and support that will shape your next
steps.

Creative Arts:

- A-Level Art, Craft & Design
(including Photography)
- A-Level Media Studies
- A-Level Music Technology
- BTEC in Performing Arts (Acting)

Standard Entry Guidelines

5 GCSEs with a mixture of grades 9-5 in a least 5 different subjects including English Language and Mathematics

A-Level Art, Craft & Design (Including Photography)

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements:

Standard plus grade 5 in GCSE Art or a Level 2 BTEC Art at Distinction.

How is the subject assessed?

You are assessed on four key skills:

- Researching and analysing artists and art
- Exploring ideas, materials and techniques
- Recording observations and ideas
- Developing and presenting your own final response

What will I study?

You'll build on your KS4 skills and work on a larger, more ambitious scale. You'll use a range of materials and techniques, including drawing, painting, printmaking, clay, 3D work, photography and digital media. You can also choose to specialise in 3D Design if you wish.

Areas of Study Include: Painting and drawing in a range of media

How is the subject Assessed:

- **Coursework:** completed across Year 12 and Terms 1–2 of Year 13 (60%)
- **Exam Project:** a student-led project completed in Terms 3–4 of Year 13 (40%)

Is this subject right for me?

If you're ready to get creative and push your ideas further, this course is a great fit. You'll build your skills through regular homework (around two hours a week), exciting themed projects, and gallery visits—both in class and on your own.

What Next?

A-Level Art & Design leads to creative degrees and careers such as architecture, product design and sculpture. Through practical projects and artist research, you'll build a strong portfolio and develop key creative and technical skills for your future.

A-Level Media Studies

Exam Board: Eduqas

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 5 in GCSE Media Studies (if taken) or a Level 2 BTEC in a related subject at Distinction.

How is the subject assessed?

Exams: Two written exams at the end of Year 13 (70%)

Coursework: A practical media project plus written evaluation in Year 13 (30%)

You will be assessed on:

- Analysing media and how meaning is created
- Using media theories and concepts
- Researching and planning productions
- Creating and evaluating your own media work

What will I study?

You will explore film, TV, advertising, music videos, radio, video games, and online media. You will learn how media industries work, how audiences respond, and how different groups are represented. You will also create your own media products such as film marketing, magazines, or digital content.

Key areas include:

- Media language and representation
- Media industries and audiences
- Set texts across film, TV, advertising, music videos and online media
- Practical media production

Is this subject right for me?

This subject is ideal if you're curious about the media and enjoy analysing how it shapes the world around us. You should be prepared for at least 2 hours of independent study each week, including research, analysis, and coursework planning. An interest in current media, politics, representation (such as gender and ethnicity), and creativity is essential. The more media you engage with, the stronger your work will be.

What Next?

This qualification can lead to university courses or careers in media, film, television, advertising, journalism, digital marketing, content creation, and the wider creative industries.

A-Level Music Technology

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements

Standard plus basic music keyboard skills

How is the subject assessed?

- **Examinations:** a mix of theory and practical (60%)
- **Coursework** (40%)

What will I study?

The course is largely practical, with coursework and hands-on exams that test your skills.

You will :

- Learn the theory behind music technology and get hands-on with industry-standard software and recording studios.
- Produce a professional rock/pop track and create your own original music using a range of production techniques.
- Explore how professional music is made and sharpen your listening skills to spot production techniques in real tracks.

Is this subject right for me?

This subject is for you if you love music and enjoy creating, performing and recording. It suits students interested in rock, pop and dance styles who like practical, hands-on learning. You should be able to work independently as well as collaboratively, and may want a practical course to balance more academic A-Levels.

What Next?

This course can lead to careers in music production, recording and composition, such as trainee producer, sound engineer or studio manager. It also supports progression to music technology courses at college or university, as well as a wide range of other degree pathways.

BTEC in Performing Arts (Acting)

Exam Board: National Extended Certificate: Pearson

Entry Requirements

Standard. Please note you do not need to have studied GCSE Drama or BTEC Performing Arts, but taking part in school productions or drama clubs will be helpful.

How is the subject assessed?

- **Unit 1:** written exam (30%)
- **Unit 2:** practical performance with logbook (20%)
- **Unit 3:** practical exam with performance (30%)
- **Optional Unit:** practical performance with logbook (20%)

What will I study?

You will explore the performing arts industry and build core skills in communication, performance and creativity. These skills are transferable to many other areas and help develop confidence, teamwork and presentation ability.

How am I assessed?

Mandatory assessment:

- **Unit 1:** Investigating Practitioners' Work
- **Unit 2:** Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance
- **Unit 3:** Group Performance Workshop

Optional unit (choose one):

- Interpreting Classical Text for Performance
- Acting Styles
- Developing the Voice for Performance
- Variety Performance

Is this subject right for me?

This subject is right for you if you enjoy a variety of creative activities and are interested in the performing arts. It's ideal if you want to develop as a performer, designer, and informed audience member. You'll need to take part in live performances, attend rehearsals outside lessons, and watch live theatre.

What Next?

This qualification earns UCAS points and can lead to a wide range of university courses. You'll also build key employability skills—problem-solving, teamwork, communication, adaptability and self-management—valued by both universities and employers.

English & Communication:

- A-Level English Language
- A-Level English Literature
- A-Level English Literature & Language
 - A-Level Film Studies

Standard Entry Guidelines

5 GCSEs with a mixture of grades 9-5 in a least 5 different subjects including English Language and Mathematics

A-Level English Language

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 5 in English Literature GCSE.

How is the subject assessed?

Paper 1: Language, the Individual and Society- written examination, 2hrs 30 min (40%)

Paper 2: Language, Diversity and Change - written examination, 2hrs 30min (40%)

Non-Examined Assessment: Language in Action - Produce a folder of work containing: 1 x original writing piece, 1 x Reflective Commentary, 1 x Language Investigation - 3,500 words in total (20%)

What will I study?

- Build the skills to communicate with impact and creativity.
- Share your ideas confidently in discussions, while listening and responding to others.
- Read a wide range of texts with insight, exploring how writers use language and structure to shape meaning.
- Learn to follow and analyse arguments, and understand how language is used to persuade, inform, explain and describe.
- Develop your writing to become more confident, sophisticated and powerful.

Is this subject right for me?

Choose this if you enjoy thinking, discussing and writing about how language works in different contexts.

Be ready for a more analytical, almost scientific approach — including detailed grammar.

What Next?

Studying English Language develops key skills in communication, analysis and writing—highly valued across careers such as Law, Business, the Civil Service, Teaching, and beyond. It equips you to think critically, research effectively and communicate with confidence in any field.

A-Level English Literature

Exam Board: AQA (Spec A)

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 5 in English Literature GCSE.

How is the subject assessed?

Paper 1: Love Through the Ages Written Examination - 3 hours (40%)

Paper 2: Texts in Shared Context - Modern Times: Literature from 1945 to the present day

Written Examination - 2 hours 30 minutes (40%)

Non-Examined Assessment: Texts Across Time - Production of a 2500 word essay, comparing two texts (one pre-1900) in relation to a chosen theme (20%)

What will I study?

You will:

- Explore and enjoy novels, poems and plays.
- Discover how writers use ideas, themes and settings to shape meaning and influence your thoughts and emotions.
- Develop a sharp eye for language, analysing how and why writers craft their work in particular ways.
- Uncover the influences behind their writing and what drives their creative choices.

Is this subject right for me?

Choose this if you enjoy — or love — reading novels, plays and poetry.

You should be keen to discuss ideas, explore meanings and dig deeper through research.

If you like analysing texts and thinking critically about what you read, this subject is for you.

What Next?

English Literature opens the door to a wide range of careers. Through studying literary texts, you'll develop strong skills in analysis, communication and writing—highly valued in fields such as Law, Business, the Civil Service, Teaching and beyond. It equips you to think critically and communicate effectively in any profession.

A-Level English Literature and Language

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 5 in English Literature GCSE.

How is the subject assessed?

Paper 1: Telling Stories – written examination(3hrs) - 40%

Paper 2: Exploring Conflict – written examination (2hrs 30min) - 40%

Non-Examined Assessment: Making Connections (20%) - Produce a folder investigating thematic or linguistic connections between literary text and non-literary text (3,000 words total)

What will I study?

Develop creative and effective communication skills as you share ideas in discussions and respond to others. You'll read both fiction and non-fiction with insight, exploring how writers use language and structure, while learning to analyse arguments and recognise techniques used to persuade, inform, explain and describe. Along the way, you'll build your writing to become more confident, sophisticated and impactful.

Is this subject right for me?

Choose this if you enjoy both reading and analysing a wide range of texts, from novels and poetry to non-fiction and real-world language. You should be interested in how language works as well as how writers craft meaning and ideas. A willingness to discuss, debate and write in depth is essential, along with curiosity, critical thinking and a commitment to developing your analytical and communication skills.

What Next?

English Language and Literature opens doors to a wide range of careers. You'll build strong skills in analysis, communication and writing—valued in fields like law, business, the civil service and teaching. It prepares you to think critically and communicate clearly in any profession.

A-Level Film Studies

Exam Board: Eduqas

Entry Requirements

Standard plus a Grade 5 in English Literature GCSE.

How is the subject assessed?

Component 1: Varieties of film and filmmaking—Written examination (2.5 hours) 35%

- Section A: Hollywood 1930-1990 (Vertigo & Do The Right Thing)
- Section B: American film since 2005 (Joker & Get Out)
- Section C: British film since 1995 (This is England & Mangrove)

Component 2: Global filmmaking perspectives—Written examination (2.5 hours) 35%

- Section A: Global film (Pan's Labyrinth & Parasite)
- Section B: Documentary film (Amy)
- Section C: Film movements – Silent cinema (Spies)
- Section D: Experimental film (Memento)

Component 3: Short Film Production—NEA 30%

What will I study?

Film is a major 20th-century art form. You will study a range of films across genres, contexts, and time periods, exploring how meaning is created through cinematography, editing, sound, performance, and mise-en-scène, and how filmmakers use narrative, genre, and representation to shape audience response.

Is this subject right for me?

This course is ideal for students passionate about film as a cultural and creative medium. It particularly suits those who enjoy English, History, or Politics. You should be interested in analysing films in detail and also keen to explore film production and videography for the NEA coursework element.

What Next?

This qualification provides a strong foundation for further study in Film, Media, Higher Education, or employment. It builds transferable skills in analysis, communication, and production, leading to careers such as film editor, screenwriter, journalist, cinematographer, and film critic.

Humanities:

- A-Level Geography
- A-Level Government & Politics
 - A-Level History
 - A-Level Philosophy

Standard Entry Guidelines

5 GCSEs with a mixture of grades 9-5 in a least 5 different subjects including English Language and Mathematics

A-Level Geography

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 6 in Geography GCSE, and grade 5 in 2 Sciences.

How is the subject assessed?

80% Examinations 20% Non Examined Assessment (NEA)

Paper 1: Physical Geography = 40%

Paper 2: Human Geography = 40%

Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) Independent Fieldwork Investigation= 20%

What will I study?

You will explore topics such as Hazards, Population and the Environment, Changing Places, Coasts, Water and the Carbon Cycle, Global Systems and Governance and also carry out an individual investigation.

Is this subject right for me?

This subject is for you if you: have a real interest in the world around you and its sustainable management and want to apply your understanding in real-world contexts; want to develop your skills in researching and evaluating information and analysing data; like problem solving.

What Next?

Geography graduates have some of the highest employment rates, with opportunities across a wide range of careers. There's no single "geography job"—instead, geographers work in diverse sectors including travel and tourism, environmental management, business, global development, the built environment, teaching, government and Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

A-Level Government & Politics

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 6 in GCSE History or Geography.

How is the subject assessed?

100% Examinations:

- 3 exams
- Each exam lasts 2 hours

What will I study?

This course gives you a strong understanding of how political systems work in both the UK and the USA. Students will study:

- UK Politics: democracy, participation, electoral system and voting behaviour
- UK Government: the roles of the Prime Minister, Parliament and the Judiciary
- Political Ideologies: Conservatism, Socialism, Liberalism and Feminism
- US Politics

Is this subject right for me?

Politics enables students to develop a wide range of relevant skills including the ability to understand, synthesise and interpret political information. You will learn to identify connections, similarities and differences between the areas studied.

What Next?

Progress to university with A Levels—then turn a Politics degree into careers such as Civil Service Fast Streamer, Government Social Research Officer, Political Assistant, Public Affairs Consultant, PR Executive, Social Researcher, Journalist, or PR Officer.

A-Level History

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 6 in GCSE History.

How is the subject assessed?

Two exams plus one independently researched essay:

- **Paper 1 – The Tudors, 1485–1603:** 2 hr 30 min exam (40%)
- **Paper 2 – Russia, 1917–1953:** 2 hr 30 min exam (40%)
- **Coursework (NEA):** Independent historical investigation (3,500–4,500 words) (20%)

What will I study?

You will explore the:

- 20th Century Russian History: the downfall of the Tsar, the Russian Revolution and Stalin's dictatorship.
- Tudor History: Henry VIII - Elizabeth I
- Students will also carry out a historical investigation into a topic of their choice.

Is this subject right for me?

If you enjoy debate, analysis and exploring the past in depth, A-Level History is for you. You'll study the Tudors and 20th-century Russia in detail, developing strong research skills and the confidence to argue your ideas clearly.

What Next?

A-Level History is highly valued by universities and employers. It builds skills in research, analysis and evaluation, enabling you to form clear, well-supported arguments. You'll gain confidence working independently and collaboratively, and communicate ideas effectively through writing and presentations—skills valuable across many careers.

A-Level Philosophy

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 6 in GCSE Religious Studies and/or grade 6 in English.

How is the subject assessed?

Two 3-hour exams, each worth 50%. There is no coursework.

What will I study?

- **Epistemology:** a study of the theory knowledge
- **Moral Philosophy:** a study of normative ethical theories
- **Metaphysics of God:** a study of the concept of God
- **Metaphysics of Mind:** a study of minds and mental states

Is this subject right for me?

Philosophy is a challenging and thought-provoking subject exploring big questions about knowledge, truth and morality. It suits curious, open-minded students who enjoy debate and want to broaden their thinking. It pairs well with a wide range of subjects, from History and English to Maths and the sciences.

What Next?

A-Level Philosophy develops independent thinking and the ability to tackle complex real-world and “big” questions. Strong essay writing and critical analysis skills are highly valued by universities and employers. It is a respected qualification that supports a wide range of careers, including law, journalism, education, business, public services and medicine.



Mathematics & Computing:

- A-Level Mathematics
- A-Level Further Maths
- A-Level Computer Science

Standard Entry Guidelines

5 GCSEs with a mixture of grades 9-5 in a least 5 different subjects including English Language and Mathematics

A-Level Mathematics

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics. Students with grades 5 or 6 could consider Core Maths (*Level 3 Certificate in Mathematical Studies*).

How is the subject assessed?

100% examination: 3 papers, each 2 hours long.

What will I study?

A balanced A-Level covering Pure Mathematics (building on GCSE skills) and Applied Mathematics (Statistics and Mechanics). Statistics focuses on analysing and interpreting data, while Mechanics applies maths to real-world physics and engineering problems.

Is this subject right for me?

If you can study A-Level Mathematics, you should. It develops strong analytical, problem-solving and research skills. The course builds a solid mathematical foundation, preparing you for university study or employment in a wide range of fields.

What next?

Mathematics A-Level students and graduates are highly sought after by employers.

Maths is a core transferable skill across science, engineering, technology and many other fields. However, 59% of employers report difficulty finding candidates with strong mathematical skills.

It is recommended or required for a wide range of degree courses, including Computer Science, Accounting, Chemistry, Biology and Life Sciences, Medicine, Nursing, Dentistry, Business, Finance, Architecture, Geology, Psychology, Surveying and even Philosophy.

A-Level Further Mathematics

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 8 in GCSE Mathematics. Students with grades 5 or 6 could consider Core Maths (*Level 3 Certificate in Mathematical Studies*).

How is the subject assessed?

100% examination: 4 papers, each 1.5 hours long.

What will I study?

You'll learn more advanced maths, including topics like complex numbers, vectors, and curves. You'll also choose some extra units: one focuses on deeper pure maths (like harder calculus and equations), and another looks at statistics—using maths to analyse real-world data and make predictions.

Is this subject right for me?

Further Maths is a challenging but highly respected A-Level. It's a good choice if you really enjoy maths and are willing to spend extra time working on it. It helps you build strong skills that universities and employers value.

What Next?

Further Mathematics students and graduates are in high demand by employers.

Mathematics is a key transferable skill across science, engineering, technology and many other fields. Currently, 59% of employers report difficulty recruiting people with strong maths skills.

It is recommended or required for a wide range of degree courses including Computer Science, Accounting, Chemistry, Biology and Life Sciences, Medicine, Nursing, Dentistry, Business, Finance, Architecture, Geology, Psychology, Surveying and even Philosophy.

A-Level Computer Science

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 6 in Mathematics and grade 5 in GCSE Computer Science (if taken).

How is the subject assessed?

A-Level Computer Science is assessed at the end of the course through exams and coursework:

- Paper 1: 2 hours 30 minutes on-screen exam focused mainly on programming and some theory (40%)
- Paper 2: 2 hours 30 minutes written exam covering theory (40%)
- NEA: A practical programming project where you design, build, test and evaluate your own solution, documented in a report of around 40 pages (20%)

What will I study?

You will cover programming and problem solving, theory of computation, data representation, computer systems, hardware and software, networking, and databases. You will also explore ethical issues linked to modern and emerging technologies.

Is this subject right for me?

This course suits students who enjoy programming and logical problem solving. You should be prepared to research independently and apply logical thinking to complex problems.

What Next?

This A-Level can lead to a range of university degrees, including Computer Science, Computing, Games Design, Web Design and Artificial Intelligence. .

Modern Foreign Languages:

- A-Level French
- A-Level Spanish

Learning a language...

- Improves your grasp of English
- Broadens your understanding of world affairs
 - Expands your career opportunities
 - Strengthens international connections
- Makes travel easier and more enjoyable
- Helps connect cultures and promote global understanding

Standard Entry Guidelines

5 GCSEs with a mixture of grades 9-5 in a least 5 different subjects including English Language and Mathematics

A-Level French

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 6 at GCSE French.

How is the subject assessed?

100% Examinations

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Translation (French-English) - 2 hrs, 40 mins (40%)

Paper 2: Written Response to Works and Translation - 2 hrs, 40 mins (30%)

Paper 3: Speaking (Internally Assessed) - 23 mins (30%)

What will I study?

You will build strong skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing French, alongside a solid grasp of grammar and French-speaking culture.

Topics include French society, media, traditions, immigration and multiculturalism, and the Occupation and Resistance in World War II. You'll also study a French film and book, and complete an independent research project.

Enrichment opportunities may include a trip to Paris, a revision day in London, and a multilingual poetry competition at the French Institute.

Is this subject right for me?

If you enjoy languages, communication, and exploring other cultures, French A-Level is for you. Studying a language improves your English, builds confidence and broadens your understanding of the world. It also enhances career opportunities, helps you connect with people internationally, and makes travel more enjoyable and rewarding.

What Next?

A language is a valuable asset in almost any career—whether literary, scientific or humanities-based. It opens doors to work in the UK or abroad with internationally focused companies and is highly respected across all industries. French can also be combined with a wide range of university degrees, such as Business with French.

A-Level Spanish

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 6 at GCSE Spanish.

How is the subject assessed?

100% Examinations

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Translation - 2 hours 30mins (50%)

Paper 2: Writing - 2 hours (30%)

Paper 3: Speaking (Internally Assessed) - 23 mins (30%)

What will I study?

Hispanic society and multiculturalism and aspects of political life in Hispanic society, in addition to the film 'Volver' by acclaimed Spanish filmmaker, Pedro Almodóvar and the play La Casa de Bernarda Alba by Federico García Lorca.

Is this subject right for me?

A-Level Spanish builds confidence and strong communication skills, along with a deep understanding of the culture and society of Spanish-speaking countries.

What Next?

A language is a powerful asset in any career—from corporate to creative industries and beyond. It opens doors to work in the UK or abroad with international companies and is highly respected across all sectors. Spanish can also be combined with many university subjects, such as History and Spanish.

Science:

- A-Level Biology
- A-Level Chemistry
- A-Level Physics

Standard Entry Guidelines

5 GCSEs with a mixture of grades 9-5 in a least 5 different subjects including English Language and Mathematics

A-Level Biology

Exam Board: OCR

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 7/6 in Combined Science, or grades 7-6-6 in Biology, Chemistry and Physics, plus Grade 6 in GCSE Maths.

How is the subject assessed?

100% examination. Students must also complete a required set of practical activities to achieve a practical endorsement.

- Paper 1: Biological Processes – 2 hours 15 minutes (37%)
- Paper 2: Biological Diversity – 2 hours 15 minutes (37%)
- Paper 3: Unified Biology – 1 hour 30 minutes (26%)

What will I study?

This course focuses mainly on human biology, including how major organs such as the heart, lungs, liver, pancreas, kidneys and nervous system function and are regulated.

You will also study key biological molecules like enzymes, DNA and proteins, as well as wider topics including transport, biodiversity, evolution and disease.

Is this subject right for me?

If you're interested in life and living processes and enjoyed Biology at GCSE, this course will build on your enthusiasm and understanding.

You'll be supported by experienced, enthusiastic teachers who will help you achieve your full potential.

What Next?

A-Level Biology is essential for many careers and provides excellent preparation for many more. It develops valuable skills in analysis, evaluation and independent study, which are highly sought after by employers.

Careers include Medicine, Nursing, Midwifery, Physiotherapy, Sport Science, Veterinary Science, Dentistry, Forensics, Pharmacy, Biotechnology, Conservation, Oceanography and Biology Teaching.

A-Level Chemistry

Exam Board: OCR A

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 7/6 in Combined Science, or grades 7-6-6 in, Chemistry, Biology and Physics, plus Grade 6 in GCSE Maths.

How is the subject assessed?

100% examination. Students must also complete practical work to achieve a practical endorsement.

- Paper 1: Periodic Table, Elements and Physical Chemistry – 2 hours 15 minutes (37%)
- Paper 2: Synthesis and Analytical Chemistry – 2 hours 15 minutes (37%)
- Paper 3: Unified Chemistry – 1 hour 30 minutes (26%)

What will I study?

You will study Physical, Inorganic and Organic Chemistry through a range of topic-based units. Practical skills are developed alongside theory and assessed through written exams and a practical endorsement.

Is this subject right for me?

Chemistry suits students with a wide range of interests. Whether you are aiming for medicine or industry, it provides a strong foundation for many future careers.

What Next?

This A-Level provides a strong foundation for a wide range of careers.

It can lead to health and clinical professions such as Medicine, Nursing, Biochemistry, Dentistry and Forensic Science, as well as careers in industry including the petrochemical and pharmaceutical sectors.

It also supports many university degrees, including Chemical Engineering, Medicine and Forensic Science, among many others.

A-Level Physics

Exam Board: OCR

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 7/6 in Combined Science, or grades 7-6-6 in Physics, Biology and Chemistry plus Grade 6 in GCSE Maths.

How is the subject assessed?

100% examination. Students must also complete required practical work to achieve a practical endorsement.

- Paper 1: Modelling Physics – 2 hours 15 minutes (37%)
- Paper 2: Exploring Physics – 2 hours 15 minutes (37%)
- Paper 3: Unified Physics – 1 hour 30 minutes (26%)

What will I study?

The OCR A-Level Physics course builds on GCSE Science and covers Forces and Motion, Electrons, Waves and Photons, the Newtonian World and Astrophysics, and Particles and Medical Physics.

Is this subject right for me?

Physics is about understanding how the universe behaves and predicting how it will act using scientific laws. It explains how the world works, but not why those laws exist.

What Next?

Physics opens doors to a wide range of careers and university courses, including engineering, astronomy and aeronautics, as well as less obvious fields such as accountancy and management.

Few subjects offer such a broad range of education and career opportunities.

Social Sciences:

- A-Level Business
- A-Level Economics
- A-Level Psychology
- A-Level Sociology

Standard Entry Guidelines

5 GCSEs with a mixture of grades 9-5 in a least 5 different subjects including English Language and Mathematics

A-Level Business

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 5 in Mathematics and English Language GCSE and a minimum of three other subjects at grade 5 or above.

How is the subject assessed?

100% examination: 3 papers, each 2 hours long.

- **Paper 1:** Two data-response questions with structured and extended responses (35%)
- **Paper 2:** Two data-response questions with structured and extended responses (35%)
- **Paper 3 :** Based on a pre-released context, issued in November of Year 13 (30%)

What will I study?

In Year 1, you will study Marketing and People, Finance, Resource Management and External Influences.

In Year 2, you will focus on Business Objectives, Strategy and Decision Making, Change Management, and Global Business.

Is this subject right for me?

This course suits students interested in how businesses operate and the factors that influence them. You should be confident taking part in discussions, using real-world examples, organising your work and meeting deadlines.

You also need to build clear, logical arguments and be comfortable with numeracy, as around 10% of the assessment involves calculations.

What Next?

This course prepares you for both employment and higher education.

Career paths include Marketing, Event Management, E-commerce, Finance and Recruitment, as well as a wide range of business roles. It also leads to degrees in Business, Marketing, Retail Management, Public Relations and Finance.

A-Level Economics

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 6 in Mathematics

How is the subject assessed?

100% examination: 3 papers, each 2 hours.

- **Paper 1:** Multiple-choice, short answers, data response (including calculations, interpretation, explanation and evaluation) and one essay (33%)
- **Paper 2:** Same structure as Paper 1 (33%)
- **Paper 3:** 30 multiple-choice questions and 3 report-style questions (33%)

What will I study?

In Year 1, you will look at the fundamentals of supply, demand and prices by studying markets and market failure, as well as the UK macroeconomy—its performance and policies.

In Year 2, you will focus on business behaviour and the labour market, the psychology of individual decision making through behavioural economics, and the macroeconomy from a global perspective, including trade and protectionism, exchange rates, and economic development.

Is this subject right for me?

This course suits students interested in how the world works socially, financially and culturally. You should enjoy discussion, developing arguments and building analytical, numerical and problem-solving skills.

What Next?

This course can lead to university degrees in Economics, including specialist areas such as environmental, labour, public sector or monetary economics.

You could also study applied subjects like Business Economics, Mathematical Economics or Business.

Career paths include finance, banking, insurance, accountancy, management and consultancy, as well as roles as professional economists.

A-Level Psychology

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 5 in two GCSE Science subjects.

How is the subject assessed?

100% examination:

- You will sit 3 separate exam papers
- Each exam lasts 2 hours
- Each paper counts for about one-third (33.3%) of your final grade

What will I study?

A-Level Psychology looks at how the mind works and why people behave the way they do. You will study topics such as memory, attachment, mental health and the biological influences on behaviour. The course develops skills in research, analysis and critical thinking through real-life applications.

Is this subject right for me?

This course suits students who enjoy science and are interested in how people think, develop and behave in real-world situations. You should be willing to research, analyse data and evaluate information. Some topics can be sensitive and open to debate, so an interest in discussion is helpful.

What Next?

A-Level Psychology can lead to university study and a wide range of career pathways.

It develops valuable transferable skills such as communication, critical thinking, problem solving and independent research.

Career options include Medicine, Psychology, Social Work, Counselling, Teaching and the Police Force, among many others.

A-Level Sociology

Exam Board: OCR

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 5 in Mathematics and English Language GCSE and a minimum of three other subjects at grade 5 or above.

How is the subject assessed?

100% examination.

- Paper 1: 1 hour 30 minutes, 90 marks (30%)
- Paper 2: 2 hours 15 minutes, 105 marks (35%)
- Paper 3: 2 hours 15 minutes, 105 marks (35%)

What will I study?

You will explore how society is structured and how people interact within groups and institutions. Topics include culture, socialisation, identity, youth subcultures, globalisation, the digital world, crime and deviance, and social inequality. You will also study how sociologists collect and analyse data using different research methods.

Is this subject right for me?

This course suits students interested in how society works and what influences human behaviour. It explores key questions such as why crime rates differ between groups, why some people experience poverty, why gender differences exist in education and careers, and how digital technology shapes our identities and social lives. Sociology is an independent reading, discussion and essay-based subject. Students will take an active part in discussing ideas with their peers and as a whole class on a regular basis.

What Next?

A-Level Sociology can lead to university courses such as Sociology, Politics, Advertising, Media, Film and Journalism.

It also opens up careers in areas like Advertising, Media, Journalism, Careers Guidance, Counselling and Teaching.

Sport:

- A-Level PE
- BTEC National Diploma in Sport

Standard Entry Guidelines

5 GCSEs with a mixture of grades 9-5 in a least 5 different subjects including English Language and Mathematics

A-Level PE

Exam Board: AQA

Entry Requirements

Standard plus a grade 6 in PE (if taken).

You also need to be good at a sport and play for a club at a decent level .

How is the subject assessed?

- 70% written exams at the end of Year 13: -Paper 1: Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport, Paper 2: Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport
- 30% non-exam assessment: Practical performance in physical activity and sport

What will I study?

PE isn't just playing sport — you'll learn the science and psychology behind sport, plus show your ability in a real sport.

Written exams:

- How your body works (muscles, heart, breathing)
- How you learn and improve skills
- How sport affects society (e.g. culture, media, participation)
- How your body responds to exercise and training
- How movement works (biomechanics)
- How your mind affects performance (confidence, motivation, nerves)
- How technology is used in sport

Coursework (non-exam part):

- Perform or coach in one sport and
- Analyse performance

Is this subject right for me?

Ideal if you enjoy sport, compete regularly, and want to understand the theory behind performance. You should be ready to balance practical performance with academic study.

What Next?

A-Level PE helps you develop valuable skills Builds skills like teamwork, resilience and analysis. It can lead to careers in sport, fitness, and health — e.g. PE teacher, physiotherapist, coach, sports scientist or personal trainer.

BTEC National Diploma in Sport

Pearson Level 3 –720 GLH Equivalent to 2 A Levels

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 5 in GCSE PE or equivalent grade 4 in BTEC Sport/VCERT

How is the subject assessed?

Assessment is through a mix of external exams and internal coursework:

- 3 external examinations
- 6 internal assessments

What will I study?

You will study 9 units, including 5 mandatory units:

- Anatomy & Physiology
- Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being
- Investigating Business in Sport and the Active Leisure Industry
- Professional Development in the Sports Industry
- Sports Leadership
- Fitness Testing & Training
- Practical Sports Performance
- Coaching for Performance
- Skill Acquisition in Sport

Is this subject right for me?

This course suits students with a wide range of sporting interests. It's ideal if you enjoy sport and are considering a future career in the sports industry.

What Next?

This qualification carries UCAS points and is recognised by universities.

It combines well with many subjects and can lead to a wide range of higher education courses, depending on your choices.

Additional Subjects for Enrichment:

- Level 3 Mathematical Studies (Core Maths)
- EPQ—Extended Project Qualification

Standard Entry Guidelines

5 GCSEs with a mixture of grades 9-5 in a least 5 different subjects including English Language and Mathematics

Level 3 Mathematical Studies (Core Maths)

Level 3 Certificate: AQA

Equivalent in UCAS points to an AS Level

Entry Requirements

Standard: grade 5 in Mathematics and English Language GCSE and a minimum of three other subjects at grade 5 or above.

How is the subject assessed?

100% examination: 2 papers, each 1 hour 30 minutes.

What will I study?

This course builds on GCSE Maths with a focus on statistics, algebra, probability, estimation, modelling and financial maths. You'll apply maths to real-life situations such as business, personal finance and global issues, developing strong problem-solving skills.

Is this subject right for me?

Ideal if you're not taking A-Level Maths but still need strong numerical and analytical skills. It supports subjects like Psychology, Sociology, Science and Geography.

What Next?

Only around 20% of students continue Maths after GCSE—making your skills highly valuable.

Core Maths develops practical numeracy for real life and work, including data analysis, financial planning and using technology.

It builds confidence in problem solving and is valued by employers and further education providers alike.

EPQ — Extended Project Qualification

Exam Board: AQA

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is delivered in Year 12 as part of the Enrichment Programme. Open to students with an average GCSE score of 6.5+.

What will I study?

Develop independent research skills and produce either a 5,000-word essay/report or a creative artefact (e.g. artwork, music, or a book). You'll learn how to research, reference sources and structure an in-depth project on a topic you choose.

Is this subject right for me?

This is a great choice for students who enjoy working independently and taking ownership of their learning. Ideal if you're curious to explore a topic beyond your main subjects, want to strengthen your research skills, or are preparing for university, where independent study is essential.

You will develop a range of valuable academic skills, including:

- Strong essay writing
- Confidence in independent research
- Organisation and time management

What Next?

Sign up for the EPQ enrichment session that will run every week during enrichment time.

Talk to your subject teachers about areas or topics in which you may be interested and you could even start to research material that could become the basis of your extended essay.

Look online for further information about the EPQ:

[Level Three Projects 7993 | Specification | AQA](#)



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