

Brine Leas Course Guide



Brine Leas Sixth Form
An Academy

Believe, Learn, Succeed



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This course will suit you if: You want to develop your skills in drawing and painting in an individual way using both traditional and contemporary techniques; You enjoy experimenting with a range of artistic techniques and processes such as printmaking, painting, collage and photography; You are interested in gaining an appreciation of the work of both traditional and contemporary artists.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 7202

Are you passionate about drawing and painting? Are you intrigued by the various techniques used by artists? Do you want to experiment with a range of artistic techniques and processes? If so, you should consider studying Art as an option.

Our Fine Art course offers an exciting way for you to consider, create and discuss fine art to enlighten your perspective on the changing face of art. You'll develop skills in fine art through assignments that encourage you to work in a variety of ways such as: undertaking primary and secondary research, drawing and sketching, expanding ideas, reviewing and refining to create your own masterpieces. This process will enable you to express yourself and also develop your appreciation of the work of others. There are two components to your A level, a personal investigation and an externally set assignment. Sketch books are vital to each of the components as you will need to fully support the exciting and expressive work you produce. Whilst studying for your Art A level you will have the opportunity to go on a residential trip.

Within this A level you will produce an in-depth study within which you will investigate an idea, issue, concept or theme selected by you. This personal study will stem from an aspect of contemporary or past artists, photographers, designers or craftspeople. You will research and meaningfully develop your ideas from an initial starting point to the final finished pieces. This personal investigation is also supported by a written outcome.

In addition, you will complete an externally set assignment. This component will be made available to you during your second year from the 1st February. For the externally-set assignment you will create and develop ideas to a finished outcome in response to one of the eight exciting starting points you will be given. This will further develop your skills, acquired throughout the course, with individuality and independence.

'Fine art is that in which the hand, the head and the heart of man go together.' John Ruskin.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Graphic Communication, Photography, Drama, Textile Design, Mathematics, Physics.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Fine artist; Museum/gallery curator, Printmaker, Education, Art therapist, Designer.

Assessment Method:

100% coursework.

Additional Support:

You are welcome to continue to work on your pieces within the Art teaching spaces, at any time.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade C/5, if studied at GCSE, Grade B/6 would be preferable.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

You are advised to purchase art materials to work on pieces at home and/or within your own time. Further costs stem from a residential visit to Tattenhall which is approximately £90.

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Residential visit to Tattenhall and a visit to London Galleries.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

You should attend one or more art galleries.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Leeds College of Art - Fine Art; University of Warwick - History of Art; Newcastle College - Foundation Year Art; University of Hertfordshire - Fine Art.

Biology

This course will suit you if: you enjoy science, are interested in learning about how living organisms function and interact with each other and enjoy practical work.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 7402

Are you interested in finding out how organisms and animals work? Are you fascinated in how we have evolved and the things that make us sick or improve our health? Do you have a thirst for understanding how your organs and organ systems work together to maintain a healthy lifestyle? If so, you should consider Biology as an option.

Biology A-level will give you the skills to make connections and associations with all living things around you. Biology literally means the study of life, from recent epidemics, such as ebola, to new treatments for cancer, to our changing views towards antibiotics. Being such a broad topic, you're bound to find a specific area of interest. Biology is a practical subject. Throughout the course you will carry out practical activities that will develop your skills and confidence needed to investigate how living things behave and work. There is no coursework at Biology A level; however, your practical activities will be assessed throughout the year by your subject tutor, during a series of essential practical skills linked to theory.

The topics covered will give you the opportunity to use microscopy to study the cell structure of a variety of organisms. Biologically important molecules such as carbohydrates, proteins, water and nucleic acids are studied with respect to their structure and function. The structure and mode of action of enzymes in catalysing biochemical reactions is studied. The significance of surface area to volume ratio in determining the need for ventilation, gas exchange and transport systems in multicellular organisms is emphasised. You will also study the biodiversity of organisms; how they are classified and the ways in which biodiversity can be measured. Furthermore you will also gain an understanding of the variety of organisms that are pathogenic and the way in which plants and animals have evolved defences to deal with disease. The topics studied in the second year include the role of genes in regulating and controlling cell function and development. Heredity and the mechanisms of evolution and speciation are also covered. Some of the practical techniques used to manipulate DNA such as sequencing and amplification are considered and their therapeutic medical use. The use of microorganisms in biotechnology is also covered. The biochemical pathways of photosynthesis and respiration are considered, with an emphasis on the formation and use of ATP. It is important that organisms, both plants and animals, are able to respond to stimuli. This is achieved by communication within the body, which may be chemical and/or electrical. Both systems are covered in detail in this module. Communication is also fundamental to homeostasis with control of temperature, blood sugar and blood water potential.

"Instead of being the biological center of the Universe, I believe our planet is just an assembly station, but one with a major advantage over most other places. The constant presence of liquid water almost everywhere on the Earth is a huge advantage for life, especially for assembling life into complex forms by the process we call 'evolution.' Fred Hoyle.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Chemistry, Geography, Mathematics, Physics, Psychology, Physical Education.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary, Zoologist, Nature conservationist, Pharmacist, Research Scientist.

Assessment Method:

100% examination in June 2018. Additionally, you are expected to produce evidence of practical competency in order to earn practical endorsement. This is divided into 12 required practicals to be completed over the two years.

Additional Support:

If your ambition is to study for a degree in Dentistry, Medicine or Veterinary Science, special sessions are available to you through our Oxbridge/Early Entry Co-ordinator to help you prepare for these extremely competitive courses. Activities include preparation for the UKCAT and BMAT external examination, tailored enrichment opportunities and mock interviews to hone your crucial interview techniques. There will be careers talks and an opportunity to meet with admissions tutors from local universities. You will be given the opportunity to gain vital work experience and to practice for those crucial interview techniques. Furthermore, you will have the opportunity to apply for the Nuffield Placement Scheme. Weekly drop in clinics and additional revision sessions will be available close to the examination period.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Higher Education Destinations: Aston University - Biological Science; University of Chester - Biomedical Science; Keele University - Pharmacy; Manchester University - Dentistry; Queen Mary University of London - Medicine; The University of Nottingham - Zoology; University of Central Lancashire - Nursing; Staffordshire University - Animal Biology and Conservation; Coventry University - Paramedic Science.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grades B/6 or above in Core Science and Additional Science, or a B/6 grade in Biology at GCSE.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

You are advised to purchase the text book AQA, A Level Biology £38; a small charge for study packs of examination questions produced inhouse.

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Visit to Keele University and visiting lecturers in BL6.

Business Studies

This course will suit you if: you want to understand how businesses work, want to understand what makes businesses profitable and have an interest in starting your own Business or progressing in Business Management.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 7132

Are you a budding entrepreneur? Do you want to know how to make your first million? Do you have a desire to understand how to get the best out of your team? Do you want to understand the type of leader you could be and how you can inspire people? If so, you should consider Business Studies as an option.

We will teach you the theories behind every successful business and explore companies such as Sky, Vodafone and Tesco. This course will interest budding entrepreneurs as you develop your knowledge of how businesses are organised, structured, financed and operated. You will examine real business situations, making use of a range of information sources and personal research. You'll gain an in-depth understanding of marketing, finance, people in organisations and operations management. You will also have the chance to gain practical experience, helping to set up a real business and working to make a profit for charity.

In the first year you will study the various aspects of successful businesses. You will gain a critical understanding of the roles of managers and leaders and study how decisions are made to improve the performance of businesses in the areas of marketing, operation, finance and human resources.

In the second year you will gain a critical understanding of four more complex units: analysing the strategic position of a business, objectives and strategy; choosing strategic direction, factors influencing which markets to compete in and which products to offer; and strategic methods and managing change.

"The things we fear most in organizations – fluctuations, disturbances, imbalances – are the primary sources of creativity." Margaret Wheatley.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Economics, Law, Geography, ICT.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Business, Accountancy, Management, Marketing.

Assessment Method:

100% examination, June 2018.

Additional Support:

Weekly Business Studies subject clinics are held from September. Students will be provided with information on revision and subject clinics closer to the external examinations.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade C/5 or above in Business Studies, if studied at GCSE, plus Grade 5/C or above at GCSE Mathematics and GCSE English Language.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

There maybe up to three or four trip opportunities throughout the course duration. In both years, a specialist revision workshop is highly recommended. Each trip is estimated to cost £35. There is a core textbook for each year of the course with each book retailing at £25, that you may wish to purchase. Complementary revision guides are available for approximately £10 each.

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

BITE Business Competition at the end of Year 12.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

It is highly recommended that you start reading and immersing yourselves in business news and current affairs by watching the news.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Sheffield Hallam University – International Business; Nottingham University – Management; Nottingham Trent University – Business Management and Human Resources; Nottingham Trent University – Business Management and Marketing

Chemistry

This course will suit you if: You enjoy science and like to keep abreast of developments, are interested in how substances can change and enjoy carrying out experiments and analysing results.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 7405

Are you fascinated by how a substance can change into another? Are you interested in finding out how new wonder drugs are made, or more simply, how a new shampoo makes your hair more shiny? Do you want to learn why the things around us behave as they do? If so, you should consider Chemistry as an option.

Chemistry helps you to understand the world around you. It's in the food you eat, clothes you wear, water you drink, medicines you take – the list is endless. Learning Chemistry means learning how to be objective and how to reason and solve problems. Chemistry A level can help you understand current events surrounding the environment and technological advances; it can help you to read product labels with more insight, be a better cook and even show you how to synthesise paracetamol. Chemistry is a practical subject. Throughout the course you will carry out practical activities that will develop your skills and confidence needed to investigate chemical properties and reactions. There is no coursework at Chemistry A level; however, your practical skills will be assessed throughout the year by your subject tutor during a series of essential practicals linked to theory.

In the first year you will study physical chemistry, including atomic structure, amount of substance, bonding, energetics, kinetics, chemical equilibria and Le Chatelier's principle; inorganic chemistry including periodicity, Group 2 the alkaline earth metals and Group 7, the halogens. You will also be introduced to organic chemistry through studying alkanes, halogenoalkanes, alkenes, alcohols and organic analysis.

In the second year you will study thermodynamics, rate equations, the equilibrium constant K_p , electrode potentials and electrochemical cells as part of physical chemistry. For inorganic chemistry you will find out about the properties of Period 3 elements and their oxides, transition metals, reactions of ions in aqueous solution. You will study optical isomerism, aldehydes and ketones, carboxylic acids and derivatives, aromatic chemistry, amines, polymers, amino acids, proteins and DNA, organic synthesis, NMR spectroscopy, chromatography within organic chemistry.

"I am going to do something fantastic that no one else could have imagined".

Sir Harry Kroto 1939-2016 (Nobel Prize for Chemistry, 1996).

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Biology, Physics, Mathematics, Further Mathematics.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Chemical Engineer, Dentistry, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Forensic Science, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Research Scientist.

Assessment Method:

100% examination in June 2018. Additionally, you are expected to produce evidence of practical competency in order to earn practical endorsement. This is divided into 12 required practicals to be completed over the two years.

Additional Support:

If your ambition is to study for a degree in Dentistry, Medicine or Veterinary Science, special sessions are available to you through our Oxbridge/Early Entry Co-ordinator to help you prepare for these extremely competitive courses. Activities include preparation for the UKCAT and BMAT external examination, tailored enrichment opportunities and mock interviews to hone your crucial interview techniques. There will be careers talks and an opportunity to meet with admissions tutors from local universities. You will be given the opportunity to gain vital work experience and to practice for those crucial interview techniques. Furthermore, you will have the opportunity to apply for the Nuffield Placement Scheme. You will also be able to attend Chemistry clinics/drop in sessions every week.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Glasgow University – Biochemistry; University of York – Chemistry; Cardiff Metropolitan University – Biomedical Science; Bristol University – Chemistry with study in continental Europe; Bristol University – Civil Engineering; Keele University – Forensic Science; Manchester University – Dentistry; Cardiff University – Chemistry; University of Chester – Mechanical Engineering; Keele University – Pharmacy; The University of Aberdeen – Chemical Engineering; Imperial College – Medicine; Cardiff University – Medicine.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grades B/6 or above in Core Science and Additional Science, or a B/6 grade in Chemistry at GCSE.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

You are advised to purchase the text book AQA, A Level Chemistry £38; Lab coat approximately £10 (but some are available to borrow); scientific calculator approximately £6; study packs produced in house at approximately £15 per year; visit to a university £10-15.

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Cambridge Lower Sixth Challenge, Chemistry Olympiad; Keele University Analytical Techniques Workshop.

Computer Science

This course will suit you if: you are interested in the fast moving world of technology, are genuinely excited about prospects for the future in an ever expanding diverse sector, are interested in how computer systems work and the underlying principles behind software development, have an attention for detail, are motivated, disciplined and enjoy problem solving.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 7517

Do you want to know how the software you use is constructed? If so, you should consider Computer Science as an option.

In a digital world, having a grasp of the concepts that drive it can help you, no matter what else you plan to study. More and more people are beginning to realise that learning to think like a computer scientist is a good thing. Thinking logically, reasoning, breaking complicated things down and being able to express instructions so precisely that even a dumb computer can understand you are, we think, valuable attributes for a 21st century student. Of course, you may be just completing your Computing GCSE. If so, you already have a bit of an idea about what's involved, though there is plenty still to discover. There are significant differences between ICT courses and Computer Science. Imagine computers are like cars; if you just want to become a better car driver or user, you should study ICT, if you're more curious and want to lift your car's bonnet to probe how it all works, you should study Computer Science. In fact, the subject has totally changed in recent years, which is why we're looking to a new generation of students who realise that understanding how IT works, and how you can make it work, is an important skill for the modern world and many university courses. The students who study computing want to dig below the surface and find out, for example, how the Internet really works, or find out how to use Python, the particular language we use to learn how to program; or get to know how music can be compressed so it fits on their iPod. The good news is that we take a gradual approach; you don't develop such advanced skills overnight so we give you good resources and time to practise; the bad news is that this is no easy option. You need a bit of a 'maths brain' for this, so a Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics is required.

The lessons are split roughly in half. Practical lessons are focused on getting your programming skills up to speed so there are lots of short problems to solve. These are designed to make you familiar with the language and the techniques used to write ever more complicated programs. It's not easy, and we'll expect you to be doing a lot of programming in your own time. The more you do, the better you become. There is nothing that matches the excitement of getting your code to work, particularly if you've been grappling with it for ages! Lessons that introduce theoretical concepts are very varied. Again, there are lots of practical exercises, but these are often used to illustrate some of the key concepts you need to be familiar with. On the theory side we take things to a greater depth and ask some key questions about the way the digital world is heading, so we delve into the world of Big Data and gigantic systems, which drives much of the scientific research being carried out today. We also look in more detail at some of the key theoretical ideas that underpin computing; we ask what a computer is, what it can and can't do, look at different ways to approach program design, imaginative ways to search, sort and store data and the best ways to measure. This is real theory, the key ideas behind what is, and isn't computable. Finally a Computing Practical Project takes programming to greater depths. You will undertake a major practical programming project. You will find a client, find out what they want and then you code the solution. This is just how Bill Gates and Steve Jobs started out - writing their own applications. Beyond that, there are various Computer Science degrees available, but many other degree subjects now benefit from a knowledge of computing. If you already know you want to study this further, it's worth thinking about doing Mathematics A level as well, as some universities require this to study at a higher level.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics, Electronics.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Database Administrator; Games Developer, Information Systems Manager, IT Consultant, Multimedia Programmer, Systems Analyst, Systems Developer, Web Designer, Web Developer.

Assessment Method:

40% Examination; 40% on-screen Examination; 20% Coursework, June 2018.

Additional Support:

Students will be provided with information on revision and subject clinics closer to the external examinations.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Students who study this would typically go on to do Higher Education courses or careers where knowledge of Computing would be beneficial. Computer Science is listed by leading Russell Group Universities as a useful qualification for the following degree courses: Medicine; Engineering; Mathematics; Economics; and Psychology.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Studying the GCSE in Computer Science will put you at an advantage for A Level. However, applicants who have not taken the GCSE but have some programming experience may still apply. As the course has a high mathematical content, it is essential you have achieved a Grade B/6 in GCSE Mathematics..

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

It is advisable to purchase the core text book £32.99; revision guide £16.99. There is also an additional Mathematics guide for the course £9.99

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

Have an active interest in the changing world of technology and programming.

"It should be mandatory that you understand computer science". Will.i.am.

Drama & Theatre Studies

iCreate

This course will suit you if: you are creative, committed and hard working; Enjoy performing in front of an audience both as part of an ensemble and individually; Enjoy reading; Enjoy taking part in discussions and are not afraid to ask questions.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE Edexcel 8DR01

Do you want to push your confidence and creativity? Do you like anticipation and a sense of risk? Do you enjoy watching, talking about and making live theatre? Are you interested in designing or directing for the theatre? If so, you should consider studying Drama and Theatre Studies as an option.

This is a course that asks a lot of you. At times you will feel out of control and terrified; you'll experience frustration and intense fulfilment in equal doses, but we know that you'll look back and feel that you've really achieved something worthwhile and valuable. You will become more aware of who you are and what you're capable of and have the freedom to experiment whilst working as part of a team with like-minded people. As a Drama and Theatre Studies student you'll study a range of texts from various playwrights and in various styles. You'll work on these practically and theoretically and develop your skills as a performer, through both individual and ensemble work. It's not for the faint hearted either as you will develop the confidence and skills to perform in front of an audience.

In the first year you will study two components: Component 1: Devising - within this you will create an original performance piece and you will use one key extract from a performance text and a theatre practitioner as stimuli (Performer or designer routes available); Component 2: Text in Performance - within this you will take part in a group performance (or design realisation) of one key extract from a performance text and informed by the methodology of one influential practitioner. You will also perform a monologue or duologue performance (design realisation route available) from one key extract from a different performance text.

Within the second year you will work towards the final component: Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice . This is a written exam which asks you to write about a play that you have been to see along with two different play texts. For Components 1 and 2, your teachers will choose the texts they use for performance. In Component 3, both performance texts must be chosen from the following lists:

List A: Accidental Death Of An Anarchist, Dario Fo; Colder Than Here, Laura Wade; Equus, Peter Shaffer; Fences, August Wilson; Machinal, Sophie Treadwell; That Face, Polly Stenham.

List B: Antigone, Sophocles Doctor Faustus, Christopher Marlowe; Hedda Gabler, Henrik Ibsen; Lysistrata, Aristophanes; The Maids, Jean Genet; The School for Scandal, Richard Brinsley Sheridan; The Tempest, William Shakespeare; Waiting for Godot, Samuel Beckett; Woyzeck, Georg Bchner.

"What is drama but life with the dull bits cut out" Alfred Hitchcock.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Art; English Language: English Literature, Media Studies, PE, Psychology, Sociology, History, Law.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

There are lots of opportunities for employment, not just in the world of theatre, film and television but in many recreational areas, managerial posts, social services, teaching, and personnel; in fact in any employment when the skills of communication and the ability to work closely with other people are important.

Assessment Method:

60% Examination (20% practical exam, 40% written exam) 40%
Courswork (assessed through practical and portfolio) June 2018.

Additional Support:

Lunch and after-school revision sessions as well as rehearsals are provided for all students in the run up to exams. Revision sessions are run in the half-term and term breaks too. If your ambition is to become a performer, we encourage you to get involved in as many extra curricular activities with the arts as possible. Performance opportunities are available throughout the year and students can audition for the annual school show.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

St Mary's University – Drama and Applied Theatre; University of Salford – Media and Performance; Newcastle College – BTEC Performing Arts.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade C/5 or above in Drama, if studied at GCSE level. It is important that you are interested in Drama and how theatre and plays work, and are keen to be involved in performance work.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

You are not required to buy any resources. However, trips to the theatre are an essential part of the course. We encourage students to watch as much live theatre as possible to enhance their studies.

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Visiting theatre companies, external theatre visits, performance opportunities.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

You should familiarise yourselves with the set texts and read a range of play texts and see live theatre where possible.

Economics

This course will suit you if: you have an interest in current affairs and economic events and want to learn the skills to be able to make sense of them, want to know how government policies may affect your life, your town and the UK as a whole, want to be able to understand the UK's place in the world in terms of trade and economic development, you have a mature approach to your studies and are eager to learn.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE Edexcel 9ECO

Do you keep your finger on the pulse of current economic events? Are you keen to develop your understanding of how the government deals with issues such as unemployment, inflation and markets? Do you want to understand how firms make their production decisions - what to produce and for whom? Do you want to make sense of Global economic events? If so, you should consider studying Economics as an option.

Economics is classified as a social science which encompasses the study of scarcity and choice. In the face of unlimited human wants and needs, how do we as individuals decide what to consume? How do firms and companies decide what to produce?

The Economics A-Level considers both micro and macroeconomic concepts. For micro economics in the first year students will study Theme 1 (the introduction to markets and market failure). Students will become experts in being able to analyse consumer and producer patterns of behaviour within a market for a given good or service. Skills to be able to apply and interpret charts and data will be developed in order to make predictions and explain how the pricing mechanism can affect consumption and production. In Theme 2 (the UK economy – performance and policies), students become familiar with macroeconomic concepts. Familiar terms from everyday news and current affairs such as unemployment, GDP, inflation and interest rates are applied to economic theory to give students an understanding of the government's decision making process. How can taxation and interest rates be used to manipulate an economy and achieve the desired macroeconomic objectives?

During the second year, Themes 3 and 4 extend the foundations of each students' knowledge to consider in more detail business behaviour and the labour markets (micro) and the global perspective (macro). Economics has never been more critical to the news agenda than now, in the aftermath of the EU Referendum. Students who study economics will gain insight and skills in being able to understand the underlying mechanisms behind markets, international trade, business choices and government policies. Transferable skills are embedded in this course including being able to interpret data and produce charts and graphs in order to illustrate economic theories. Students will develop their critical analysis to be able to synthesise information from different units and evaluate the effects of economic decision making. Future employment opportunities for economics students are varied and plentiful.

"Economics is all about consumption. People either spend money now or they use financial instruments - like bonds, stocks and savings accounts - so they can spend more later". Adam Davidson.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Business Studies, Mathematics, Government and Politics, Geography, Law.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Financial risk analyst, Investment analyst, Statistician, Chartered Accountant, Economist, Portfolio Manager, Government, Banking, Management, Actuary, Policy Advisor.

Assessment Method:

100% examination, June 2018.

Additional Support:

There will be regular drop in sessions available at the conclusion of each topic area in order to support students. In addition, exam preparation will include regular out-of-lesson revision sessions in the final term of each year. One to one subject progress meetings will be held termly.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

University of Sheffield – Economics' University of Loughborough – Economics; Liverpool John Moores University – Accounting and Finance; Nottingham Trent University – Business Management and Economics.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade B/6 or above at GCSE level in Mathematics and English Language.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

There may be up to three or four trip opportunities throughout the course duration. In both years, a specialist revision workshop is highly recommended. Each trip is estimated to cost £35. There is a core textbook for each year of the course that you may wish to purchase; each book retails at £25. Complementary revision guides are available for approximately £10 each.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

Take an active involvement in the news. Read articles from multiple sources and perspectives and engage in current economic stories.

Electronics

This course will suit you if: you are a numerate student who is able to approach problem solving in a clear and logical manner, are a 'hands on' person who enjoys constructing and testing circuits, are interested in learning about electronic components and how they can be used in practical circuits, have a creative mind and enjoy designing your own projects.

Qualification, Examination Board and Specification:

Unfortunately we are not in a position to give any information as the specification content has not yet been published by the examination board Eduqas.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Mathematics, Chemistry, IT, Law and Media Studies.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Engineering, Avionics, Information Technology, Computing, Medical Physics, Robotics, Communications, Education, Research Scientist, Inventor.

Assessment Method:

Component 1: Principles of Electronics, written examination, 40%; Component 2: Application of Electronics, written examination, 40%; Component 3: Extended system design and realisation tasks, non-examination assessment, 20%. 80% written examination; 20% coursework.

Additional Support:

Catch up sessions at lunchtime and/or after school.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade 5/C or above if studied at GCSE. Grade B/6 or above in GCSE Mathematics

Course Duration: 2 years.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

The University of Manchester – Software Engineering; The University of Manchester – Anatomical Sciences with Industrial/Professional Experience (4 years); The University of Salford – Aeronautical Engineering with Foundation Year; The University of Liverpool – Engineering; Manchester Metropolitan University – Electrical and Electronic Engineering.

Engineering BTEC Extended Certificate

This course will suit you if: you want to work in engineering in the future and want to develop your practical skills while studying the theory behind engineering.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate Pearson (1 A Level equivalent)

Are you interested in designing, building and testing new technologies and products? Are you creative? Do you enjoy solving problems? If so, you should consider Engineering BTEC as an option.

BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Engineering provides a specialist, work-regulated programme of study that covers the knowledge and practical skills required in the vocational sector. There are a wide variety of units which will be delivered in other subjects, such as Fabrication, Electronics and CAD.

The qualification offers an engaging programme for those who are clear about the area of further education or employment they wish to pursue. You will be required to complete tasks and assignments in lessons throughout the course and will achieve a pass, merit or distinction for each unit, depending upon the quality of their learning and work produced. Students will experience a variety of learning experiences that will include both theoretical and practical assessment. The majority of lessons will be computer-suite based. Learners will develop many of the key skills required for employment or university.

"What we usually consider as impossible are quite simply engineering problems...there's no law of physics preventing them". Michio Kaku.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Mathematics, Physics and Business Studies.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering and Design, Manufacturing Engineering, Industrial Engineering.

Assessment Method:

4 units, of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external: Mandatory content (83%), External assessment (67%) , June 2018.

Additional Support:

Catch up sessions at lunchtime and/or after school.

Specific Entry Requirements:

BTEC Merit Award in Engineering if studied at Key Stage 4.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

Approximately £50 for materials and a visit to Liverpool John Moores University Engineering Department.

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Vex Robotics Competition and guest speakers.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

Wider reaching to know the engineering sectors and related occupations.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Liverpool John Moores University - Fashion

English Language

This course will suit you if: you are creative and interested in developing your writing skills, enjoy exploring texts closely and analysing significant features, are interested in discussing and debating issues and theories about language and are interested in the sociological elements of language.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 7702

Have you ever wondered why people from different regions speak with different accents or dialects? Are you passionate about words and wish to explore more about how texts achieve their purpose and how they work for their audience? Are you interested in how language has evolved and adapted? If so, you should consider English Language as an option.

The study of English Language requires the individual to have a strong interest in the way in which English is used in society, be it to empower, to represent, to exclude, or to oppress. Lessons will involve much debate and discussion of linguistic issues such as attitudes to regional accents, the representation of gender, the changing language and the influence of new technologies. In addition, you will gain knowledge and understanding of the core areas of linguistic study: semantics, lexis, grammar, pragmatics, syntax and phonology. You will acquire a new nuanced vocabulary with which to analyse texts and be expected to apply this terminology to texts that are both contemporary and archaic.

In the first year, you will be expected to acquire the skills and terminology to analyse relatively short texts (both written and spoken) whilst considering the impact of context and attitudes to language. These texts will cover a variety of genres such as blogs, newspaper articles, websites, speeches, letters, scripts, literary texts. You will become familiar with relevant linguistic theory, research and academics, developing your ability to debate and reason.

During the second year, you will continue to develop your knowledge of linguistic terminology and linguistic theory. You will extend your understanding of what is meant by diversity and how language can be affected, considering the contextual factors that influence it. Through evaluative essays, you will also analyse texts from 1600 to the present day. You will study how language is obtained by children and analyse what helps them learn and how they grasp language in the early years. Finally, you have the opportunity to submit coursework which accounts for 20% of your marks. This involves a piece of original writing and an accompanying commentary where you evaluate the effectiveness and impact of your piece. A language investigation is also expected where you will complete an independent linguistic research project. The subject and focus are your choice.

"Viewed freely the English language is the accretion and growth of every dialect, race, and range of time, and is both the free and compacted composition of all!" Walt Whitman.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: English Literature, Geography, History, Law, Sociology, Government and Politics, Biology, Drama and Theatre Studies, Media Studies.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

English is a flexible and adaptable subject that opens up a wide range of career choices including Speech and Language Therapy, Law, Marketing, Writing, Education, Journalism, Television and Media, Management, Research and Consultancy and Politics.

Assessment Method:

80% Examination and 20% Coursework, June 2018.

Additional Support:

Borrow key texts to read and explore around your topics from the lending library in BL6. Lecture days may be available. Lunch and after-school subject clinics are provided for all students in the run up to examinations. Revision sessions are run in half-term and term breaks.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Manchester University – Mathematics; The University of Birmingham – Accounting and Finance; University of Warwick – Engineering; Sheffield Hallam University – Mathematics; University of Salford – Mathematics; University of Warwick – Mathematics; Apprenticeship with Rolls Royce.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade B/6 or above at GCSE English Language.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

You may wish to purchase a variety of texts to support your reading - ask your teacher for a reading list - although some are available to loan via the department. Textbooks (costing £20) can also support your studies. Lecture days may cost up to £20 per visit.

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Previous enrichment has included visits to: museums in Manchester, local primary schools and The British Library in London.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

You may wish to read articles and works by Bill Bryson, David Crystal and Bridget Christie as an introduction to themes and ideas of the course.

English Language & Literature

This course will suit you if: you enjoy reading a wide range of texts including novels, plays and non-fiction such as journalism and travel writing, are interested in finding out more about the language of speech and how it might be represented in plays and novels and are comfortable with writing essays and enjoy writing creatively.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 7707

Do you enjoy writing stories and poems? Are you interested in following a career in writing? Does the thought of digging into a new novel, play or poem in a different way fill you with enthusiasm? If so, you should consider English Language and Literature as an option as this course combines elements of literary analysis and debate with creative writing.

If you enjoyed both English Language and English Literature at GCSE then you don't have to choose between them. In this combined literary and linguistic approach you will explore all aspects of English, from non-fiction and non-literary writings to renowned plays and classic novels. You'll enjoy exploring the interplay between linguistic and literary methods and deepening your understanding of both language and literature. You will explore a variety of text types, from genres of poetry, prose and drama, to non-literary forms like autobiography and travel writing. You will also have the opportunity to develop your skills as a writer through a variety of creative and analytical tasks.

In the first year, you will explore the 'imagined world' of 'The Handmaid's Tale' by Margret Atwood, focusing on its unusual narrative, characterisation and events. You will then study selected poems from Duffy's Mean Time anthology. This aspect of the course explores the nature of 'poetic voice' in the telling of events and the presentation of people. You will end the year by exploring speech and other genres, with a particular focus on linguistic features and viewpoints from a range of time periods. There will be two 1 hour 30 minute examinations; both are closed book.

For A-Level, you will be examined on five texts in total. Paper 1 focuses on narrative and the texts taught in Year 12; however, it is open book. You will also study two new texts exploring 'conflict' - Othello by Shakespeare and The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald. In Paper 2, you'll answer one question for each text (both are open book). The tasks are a mixture of recreative, original writing pieces and conventional essay questions. The final unit (20% of your A-Level) is a Non-Examined Assessment which requires you to make active and insightful connections between a literary text (one not already studied) and non-literary material.

"The purpose of a storyteller is not to tell you how to think, but to give you questions to think upon". Brandon Sanderson.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Sociology, Art, Textiles, Law, History, Government and Politics, Drama and Theatre Studies, Media Studies.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

English is a flexible and adaptable subject that opens up a plethora of career choices. This course develops both analytical and creative skills that would be suitable for careers in: Editing and Publishing, Journalism, Marketing, Education, Script and Novel Writing, PR and other media professions, Art and Illustration and Linguistics.

Assessment Method:

80% Examination; 20% Coursework, June 2018.

Additional Support:

Literature Library in BL6 - borrow key theory guides, textbooks and critical works to support your studies. Lectures and trips based on the set texts are also offered to provide additional opportunities for debate and interpretation. Lunchtime and after school subject clinics are provided for all students in the run up to the examinations.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Manchester University – Mathematics; The University of Birmingham – Accounting and Finance; University of Warwick – Engineering; Sheffield Hallam University – Mathematics; University of Salford – Mathematics; University of Warwick - Mathematics; Apprenticeship with Rolls Royce.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade B/6 or above at GCSE English Literature or Language (or both).

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

Each set text costs between £5 and £10 each. Students may also wish to purchase additional theory guides and textbooks but these can be borrowed from our Literature Library in BL6. Lectures and trips; theatre tickets cost approximately £20, lectures £10.

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Lecture Days in Manchester on 'The Handmaid's Tale' Poetry Alive sessions to develop understanding of 'Poetic Voice' Study Support Programme for lower school classes - become a Reading Buddy or a helper at the Creative Writing Club, organising competitions and sessions with budding writers.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

You should aim to read 'Handmaid's Tale' prior to beginning the course in September. Any other wider reading with interesting or experimental narratives is also recommended - ask the English department for a reading list.

English Literature

This course will suit you if: you enjoy reading novels, poetry and plays at home for pleasure, enjoy studying issues affecting our lives today: issues of love, war, religion, politics and anything else that shapes who we are and you enjoy discussion and debate.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 7717

Do you want to be a well-rounded, well-read student who possesses good writing, communication and analysis skills? Do you love reading and going to the theatre? Does the thought of digging into a new novel, play or poem fill you with enthusiasm and curiosity? If so, you should consider English Literature as an option.

The study of Literature is a personal and creative activity. It leads to greater insight into personality, motives, relationships, cultural issues and, indeed, every aspect of human experience. It develops flexible and adaptable skills and offers opportunities to debate issues in stimulating ways. Though the set texts serve as a staple of the course, a great deal of the background reading of original literary works, extracts and works of criticism are essential to success. Only if you enjoy reading extensively should you embark on this course! You will develop your ability to respond to literary material of all kinds and acquire a vocabulary and style appropriate to the mature discussion of ideas and fluent writing of essays.

In the first year, you will study texts through the lens of Tragedy. The texts are: Othello by Shakespeare and Death of A Salesman by Arthur Miller for the Drama unit, plus Thomas Hardy's Tess of the D'Urbervilles (prose) and selected poetry by John Keats for the second exam. During the second year, you will be examined on eight texts in total. Paper 1 focuses on Tragedy and the texts taught in Year 12; it is a closed book with questions on Othello and the genre of Tragedy (Death of A Salesman and a choice of Hardy or Keats). In Year 13, you'll also study three texts on Political and Social Protest writing – The Kite Runner, a collection of Tony Harrison's poetry and A Doll's House by Henrik Ibsen. In Paper 2, you'll be questioned on a combination of these texts, plus a related unseen passage. The final unit is a Non-Examined Assessment which consists of two coursework essays written on two texts (one poetry, one prose of your own choice) linked closely to critical theory.

"Literature is where I go to explore the highest and lowest places in human society and in the human spirit, where I hope to find not absolute truth but the truth of the tale, of the imagination and of the heart". Salman Rushdie.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: English Language, Law, History, Government and Politics, Drama and Theatre Studies, Sociology, Art.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

English literature is a flexible and adaptable subject that opens up a plethora of career choices including: Journalism, Law, Marketing, Education, Script and Novel Writing, PR and other media professions, TV Production, Politics, Management, Market Research and Consultancy.

Assessment Method:

80% Examination and 20% Coursework, June 2018.

Additional Support:

Literature Library in BL6 - borrow key theory guides, textbooks and critical works to support your studies. Lectures and visits based on the set texts are also offered to provide additional opportunities for debate and interpretation.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Birmingham University - Literature, Durham University - Literature, Birmingham University - English and Education (Joint Honours), Lancaster University - Illustration and Creative Writing, Bristol University - History, Goldsmiths College - Literature, Cardiff University - English, Leeds University - English.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade B/6 or above at GCSE English Literature.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

Each set text costs between £5 and £10 each. Students may also wish to purchase additional theory guides and textbooks but these can be borrowed from our Literature Library in BL6. Lectures and trips; theatre tickets cost approximately £20, lectures £10.

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Lecture Days in Manchester and at Cambridge University (December and February on Othello and Tess of the D'Urbervilles). Trips to see the drama texts in performance, including Othello, Death of a Salesman and A Doll's House. Additional trips to see other suitable plays where possible. Study Support Programme for lower school classes - become a Reading Buddy or Mentor for lower school readers.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

You should aim to read 'Tess of the D'Urbervilles' prior to beginning the course in September. Any other wider reading in the Tragedy genre is also recommended - ask the English department for a reading list!

Environmental Science

Science

This course will suit you if: you enjoy science and enjoy a multi disciplinary approach to learning and have a keen interest in the sustainability of our planet.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 7447

The natural world is complex and human activity can have unexpected consequences that are hard to reverse. Are you interested in finding out how physical and biological processes maintain life, and how humans affect nature, which requires a broad interdisciplinary perspective? Environmental problems and their associated solutions typically involve social, political and economic aspects which the scientist must be aware of; would you like to be part of this solution? If so, you should consider Environmental Science as an engaging and thought provoking option.

The subject is unique among awarding bodies, providing a highly relevant interdisciplinary fourth science option. It's ideal for anyone interested in contemporary environmental issues, systems thinking and sustainability. The world is becoming more crowded, more consuming, and more connected. Growing populations and higher standards of living put increasing pressure on our environment. Environmental problems are more real, more controversial, and more in need of intelligent solutions than they were over 50 years ago. This is why the dedicated study of Environmental Science is so important. It is only by understanding how the world works that we can begin to tackle some of our pressing problems.

Environmental Science is a broad discipline and we ensure that you acquire the necessary knowledge and skills to appreciate the socio-economic issues related to environmental issues as well as specialist scientific knowledge on geological, biological and chemical processes. You will study aspects of climate change, biodiversity and environmental management, pollution and control, population dynamics, ecosystems and urbanisation. You will also acquire laboratory and practical analytical skills and have frequent opportunities to practice and apply what you learn on field trips locally and nationally. The topics studied include: the living environment, physical environment, energy resources, pollution, biological resources, sustainability, research methods.

"Our population and our use of the finite resources of planet Earth are growing exponentially, along with our technical ability to change the environment for good or ill." Stephen Hawking.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Economics, Geography, Mathematics, Physics, Government and Politics.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

STEM industries of engineering, food, energy, conservation and health, as well as non-STEM opportunities in media, leisure or planning. Jobs directly related include: environmental consultant, environment education officer, environmental manager, nature conservation officer, recycling officer, waste management officer, water quality scientist, architect, environmental health practitioner, landscape architect, town planner, toxicologist, transport planner.

Assessment Method:

100% examination, June 2018.

Additional Support:

Weekly drop in sessions and revision sessions will be available closer to the examination period.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade C/5 or above in Core Science and Additional Science, or 2 or more C/5 Grades in Triple Science at GCSE.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

Approximately £40 for text books; cost of a field trip to be confirmed as this depends whether it is a day trip or a residential.

French

This course will suit you if: you enjoy communicating in French and you want to develop your existing skills to a higher degree of fluency, have a strong interest in French culture, history and politics and want to discover more about how past events have shaped contemporary society.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 7652

Do you want a distinct advantage in our multilingual, global society? Do you want to earn up to 20% extra in your salary? Do you want to be able to meet and converse with people from all over the world? Do you want to learn more about international politics, history and economics? If so, you should consider French as an option.

French is one of the most widely-spoken languages in the world—spoken in over 40 countries—and one of the official languages of international institutions such as the UN and the Olympics. As such it is a key language in international relations and trade. Our aim is to develop your French listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in a vocational context for particular use in future employment, and to enable you to achieve the necessary exam techniques and grammatical skills to succeed. In order to achieve high standards, all language students will have regular weekly contact with a native French speaker and learning incorporates a mixture of authentic materials including broadcasts, newspapers, books and magazines in French. We see grammar as an integral part of language learning and expect you to have a sound working knowledge of basic constructions such as the main tenses and the concept of word order in the foreign language, although some time will be devoted to revising the fundamentals before further extending your knowledge.

In the first year, you will study two key areas. The first theme focuses on social issues and trends as a young person in a French-speaking society. Within this topic you will communicate in greater depth on familiar topics such as family structures, traditional and modern values, friendships/relationships; youth trends, and technology. The second theme centres on political, intellectual and artistic culture. This is when you will study regional culture and heritage in French-speaking countries and communities; literature, art, film and music.

The same areas will be studied in your second year. However, you will begin to examine the themes in more detail, studying topics such as wealth and poverty, crime, justice and punishment and discrimination and diversity. You will also undertake an individual research project on a subject or a key question which is of interest to you and which relates to a country or countries where French is spoken. You are required to select relevant information in French from a range of sources, analyse and summarise your findings, and ultimately present and discuss these in the speaking exam.

"If you talk to a man in a language he understands, it goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart". Nelson Mandela.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: German, Spanish, English, History, Law, Business Studies, Government and Politics.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Translation and Interpreting, International Relations, Diplomatic Services, Foreign Office, Domestic and Foreign Intelligence Service, Leisure and Tourism, Import and Export, Automotive Industry, Engineering, Multilingual Administration.

Assessment Method:

100% examination, June 2018

Additional Support:

One hour conversation class per fortnight in small groups with a native speaker, extra speaking revision with teachers nearer the external speaking exam and grammar clinics as required.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Students have gone on to study languages in a variety of places, including Edinburgh, Paris and London. Students often combine foreign languages with other subjects such as Law, Linguistics or English.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade B/6 or above at GCSE level French.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

You are not required to buy any resources. Trips are optional and can range from approx. £30 for a university workshop to approx. £400 for a trip abroad.

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Opportunity to complete work experience abroad; University essay writing workshops; Possible trips abroad (e.g. Berlin); Helping in main school languages lessons.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

You should revise the three main tenses (past, present and future) before starting YEAR 12. You should also read and listen to a variety of material in French during the summer.

Further Mathematics

This course will suit you if: you really find Mathematics an interesting subject and you enjoy solving problems, have a desire to be challenged and stretched by studying more difficult topics, have a logical mind and want to develop your reasoning abilities and are an exceptional mathematician who is planning to study either Mathematics or a related degree at one of the top universities.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE Edexcel

Do you find Mathematics an interesting subject? Do you relish the challenge of solving problems and want to be challenged and stretched? Do you have a logical mind and want to develop your reasoning abilities? If so, you should consider joining our elite mathematicians by choosing Further Mathematics as an option.

Further Mathematics introduces mathematical topics beyond those covered at A level. It teaches you the four various branches of Mathematics: Pure, Statistics, Mechanics and Decision. Students taking Further Mathematics overwhelmingly find it to be an enjoyable, rewarding, stimulating and empowering experience. There is some overlap in the course content with our Applied Mathematics A level; however, the demands of this course are considerably greater and involve studying six extra units. You will, therefore, complete the course, gaining two A levels in Applied Mathematics and Further Mathematics. If you are considering a higher education route post-18, it is important to ascertain the universities stance towards Further Mathematics as some institutions will not accept the subject as two separate qualifications; however, some prestigious courses will only accept students with a Further Mathematics qualification. Experienced tutors will guide you through complex numbers, polar co-ordinates, co-ordinate systems, hyperbolic functions and matrices.

In the first year you will study six units across three areas. Within Core Mathematics you will study: algebra and functions; coordinate geometry in the (x, y) plane; sequences and series; trigonometry; exponentials and logarithms; differentiation; integration; and numerical methods. You will study mathematical models in probability; representation and summary of data; probability; correlation and regression; discrete random variables; discrete distributions; the Normal distribution within Statistics. Mechanics 1 focuses on the mathematical modelling of forces and motion. However, you will be stretched beyond Mathematics A level through a Further Pure unit that encompasses series; complex numbers, numerical solution of equations; co-ordinate systems; and matrix algebra proof.

In the second year you will study six units across all four areas. Within Core Mathematics you will study algebra and functions, coordinate geometry in the (x, y) plane, sequences and series, differentiation, integration, and vectors. In addition you will take your learning of statistics and mechanics to a higher level. Statistics 2 follows on from Statistics 1 and introduces the binomial and Poisson distributions.

"The essence of mathematics is not to make simple things complicated, but to make complicated things simple." S. Gudder.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Physics, Chemistry, Computer Science, Geography, Economics.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Academia, Actuary, Engineer, Statistician, Software Development.

Assessment Method:

100% examination, 50% in June 2017 and 50% in June 2018.

Additional Support:

If your ambition is to study for a degree in Dentistry, Medicine or Veterinary Science, special sessions are available to you through our Oxbridge/Early Entry Co-ordinator to help you prepare for these extremely competitive courses. Activities include preparation for the UKCAT and BMAT external examination, tailored enrichment opportunities and mock interviews to hone your crucial interview techniques. There will be careers talks and an opportunity to meet with admissions tutors from local universities. Subject clinics are provided for all students during the lunch break.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Huddersfield University – Energy Engineering; Durham University – Mathematics; University of Chester – Mechanical Engineering.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade A/8 at GCSE level.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

A number of textbooks are required for this course, which can be obtained from the Mathematics department at a discounted rate of £10 per book (number required depends on the branches of Mathematics you study).

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

You should complete the Bridging Course on MyMaths to give you a good set of algebra skills on which to learn the A Level content. The Bridging Course comprises the following topics: factorising quadratics, solving quadratics, the quadratic formula, completing the square, indices and surds. You may also choose to complete the tasks on Sine and Cosine as preparation for the course.

Geography

This course will suit you if: You enjoy learning about current and future issues affecting society, the economy and the natural world; You are interested in the interaction between people and the environment and its resources; you like to keep up to date with current affairs on a local, national and global scale by watching and reading the news.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 7037

Do you enjoy learning about the environment and other issues that affect our lives, now and in the future? Are you interested in finding out more about the world around you? What kind of geographer are you? Do you want to study sciences and/or the arts? If so, you should consider Geogaphy as an option.

It's a fairly safe bet that most of us have, at some time or another, gazed at a stunning view of jagged mountains, or sea cliffs pounded by an angry sea, or got caught in a torrential downpour, or gazed in awe at skyscrapers only to turn a corner to find a run-down area of crumbling houses. But have you ever considered why such landscapes are like this? Geography seeks to explain why, how, and where such features have formed. It's topical, and barely a day goes by without an aspect of the subject gaining media coverage, whether it is the development of fracking, or the varied consequences of storms. If you're curious by nature, and most of us are, and have a desire to find out more about the world and what makes it tick then Geography is the subject for you, and a qualification that you'll almost certainly enjoy studying. Studying Geography at A Level will enable you to capitalise upon your curiosity and make sense of the complex and dynamically changing world. This course has a distinct focus on the interactions of people with their physical environment and human environment; within these components you will be able to apply your experiences to current issues and real-life examples from a variety of scales. Fieldwork is an integral part of the course and you will take part in a residential trip to Snowdonia to embed your learning from the classroom in the real world.

Within the first year, you will investigate two physical geography units, 'Global systems and landscapes' and 'Hazards'. You will be informed and gain an appreciation of the beauty and diversity of glaciers, along with the geographical processes responsible for the spectacular scenery we see around our landscapes. Furthermore you will explore the origin and nature of hazards and the various ways in which people respond to them. On the other hand you will investigate one human geography unit, 'Global systems and how they are governed'. Here you will learn how an increase in interdependence has altered relationships between peoples, states and environments and, as a result, have prompted attempts to manage and govern human affairs on a global level.

Finally, you will develop a range of geographical skills, including ICT and statistical analysis, through your studies of physical and human geography and whilst undertaking a fieldwork investigation; this individual investigation will be based on a question or issue related to the specification content and will involve data collected in the field. During your second year you will broaden and deepen your geographical understanding through the investigation of three themes, divided between physical and human geography. The former will focus on 'Water and carbon cycles', whilst the latter enables the study of 'Changing places' and 'Population and the environment'. Furthermore, you will undertake an individual geographical investigation; again, this will be based on a question or issue related to the specification content and involve data collected in the field.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Biology, English Language, Environmental Science, History, Government and Politics, Physics, Economics.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Geography can be coupled with a wide range of subjects that makes it a versatile subject leading to a plethora of careers including Resource Exploration, Cartography, Seismology, Town and Transport Planning, Advertising, Law, Environmental Management, Business and Teaching.

Assessment Method:

80% examination, 20% coursework, June 2018.

Additional Support:

Students will be provided with information on revision and subject clinics closer to the external examinations.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade B/6 or above in GCSE Geography and preferably a grade B/6 in Mathematics.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

You are required to take part in a four day fieldwork expedition which is a compulsory part of the A-Level qualification. Prices will be confirmed when you are accepted onto the course. You are advised to purchase the textbook AQA A Level Geography, Fourth Edition, £36.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

Visit mountainous areas; watch the news and documentaries on the natural world; read the National Geographic magazines; visit urban areas where evidence of regeneration can be seen; read information on the internet on council websites that gives information on how they manage their urban spaces; book "Planet Geography" by Stephen Codrington; visit the Natural History Museum.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Bristol University – Civil Engineering; The University of Edinburgh – Geology and Physical Geography; Swansea University – Geography; Durham University - Geography.

"Geography is a subject which holds the key to our future" Michael Palin.

German

This course will suit you if: you enjoy communicating in German and you want to develop your existing skills to a higher degree of fluency, have a strong interest in German culture, history and politics and want to discover more about how past events have shaped contemporary society.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 7662

Do you want a distinct advantage in our multilingual, global society? Do you want to earn up to 20% extra in your salary? Do you want to be able to meet and converse with people from all over the world? Do you want to learn more about international politics, history and economics? If so, you should consider German as an option.

German is the most widely spoken language in Europe, and over 200 million people worldwide speak it. Germany itself is the fourth largest economy in the world as well as being the second largest exporter in the world. It is always at the forefront of innovation and will be a key player in the world economy of the 21st century. Our vision is to develop your German listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in a vocational context for particular use in future employment, and to enable you to achieve the necessary exam techniques and grammatical skills to succeed. In order to achieve high standards, all language students will have regular weekly contact with a native German speaker and learning incorporates a mixture of authentic materials including broadcasts, newspapers, books and magazines. We see grammar as an integral part of language learning and expect you to have a sound working knowledge of basic constructions such as the main tenses and the concept of word order in the foreign language, although some time will be devoted to revising the fundamentals before further extending your knowledge.

In the first year, you will study two key areas. The first theme focuses on social issues and trends as a young person in a German-speaking society. Within this topic you will communicate in greater depth on familiar topics such as family structures, traditional and modern values, friendships/relationships; youth trends, and technology. The second theme centres on political, intellectual and artistic culture. This is when you will study regional culture and heritage in German-speaking countries and communities; literature, art, film and music.

The same areas will be studied in your second year. However, you will begin to examine the themes in more detail, studying topics such as wealth and poverty, crime, immigration and racism and economics and politics. You will also undertake an individual research project on a subject or a key question which is of interest to you and which relates to a country or countries where German is spoken. You are required to select relevant information in German from a range of sources, analyse and summarise your findings, and ultimately present and discuss these in the speaking exam.

"One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way". Frank Smith.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: French; Spanish, English, History, Law, Business Studies, Government and Politics.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Translation and Interpreting, International Relations, Diplomatic Services, Foreign Office, Domestic and Foreign Intelligence Service, Leisure and Tourism, Import and Export, Automotive Industry, Engineering, Multilingual Administration.

Assessment Method:

100% examination, June 2018

Additional Support:

One hour conversation class per fortnight in small groups with a native speaker, extra speaking revision with teachers nearer the external speaking exam and grammar clinics as required.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Students have gone on to study languages in a variety of places, include Edinburgh, Paris and London. Students often combine foreign languages with other subjects such as Law, Linguistics or English.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade B/6 or above at GCSE level German.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

You are not required to buy any resources. Trips are optional and can range from approx. £30 for a university workshop to approx. £400 for a trip abroad.

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Opportunity to complete work experience abroad; University essay writing workshops; Possible trips abroad (e.g. Berlin); Helping in main school languages lessons.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

You should revise the three main tenses (past, present and future) before starting Year 12. You should also read and listen to a variety of material in German during the summer.

Government & Politics

Social Sciences

This course will suit you if: you enjoyed History, Geography and/or English at school, like to challenge other peoples' opinions, are interested in current affairs locally, nationally and internationally, want to know and understand more about the system in which we all live and you have good research skills.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 2150

Do you have a natural curiosity about the political system in which we all live? Do you enjoy learning about current affairs locally, nationally and internationally in the news? If so, you should consider Government and Politics as an option.

How do we all get what we want when resources are finite? This is a question fundamental to the study of politics and reveals the subject's continuing relevance. We don't always like politicians and the things that governments do, but the business of politics touches every aspect of our lives. And whilst we might criticise governments for some of their policies, it has to be better than having no government at all. Society just wouldn't function without an elected body to decide, say, what taxes will be levied, how those taxes will be spent on things like health and education or how the country will be defended. But no matter whether government makes you feel angry or reassured, it's worth having knowledge of how the whole process of an elected government works.

During the first year of Government and Politics you'll study two main themes. 'People, Politics and Participation' introduces issues like how is voting behaviour changing in elections? And how do politicians and their parties convince voters to vote for them? 'Governing Modern Britain' covers issues such as what is Parliament's role in the UK political system? And do we have a prime ministerial government in the UK which affords one individual too much power?

The second year of the course focuses on the fascinating subject of American politics. Two topics will once again be studied, 'The politics of the USA' and 'The Government of the USA'. Both provide an in depth insight into the operation of American government and society, seeking to broaden the horizons of students further and suitably complementing their study of UK politics by having an international dimension.

"Neither the life of an individual nor the history of a society can be understood without understanding both."
C. Wright Mills.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: History, Sociology, Geography, Law, English Literature.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Education; Journalist; Member of Parliament, Local Government, Think Tanks, Police, Law, Business and Finance Sector, Charity work, Researcher.

Assessment Method:

100% Examination, June 2018.

Additional Support:

Students will be provided with information on revision and subject clinics closer to the external examinations.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade B/6 or above at GCSE English Language or Grade A/7 in History if studied at GCSE Level. You must also be willing to read widely, have an interest in current affairs and be willing to engage in reasoned debate and argument.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

£50 for additional reading material.

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Visit to Parliament and use of key speakers.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

Prospective students should engage with current affairs, particularly through reputable national and local media sources.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies - International Relations; Sheffield Hallam; University of London - Politics; University of Leeds - International History and Politics.

Graphic Communications

Technology

This course will suit you if: you have an interest in illustration, typography, advertising, digital/traditional media, want to develop your understanding of communication skills and 2D design as well as the making processes, enjoy experimenting with artistic techniques and processes in a very practical way, are interested in gaining an appreciation of the work of existing artists and designers.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 7203

Are you passionate about design and layout? Do you enjoy creating artwork for illustrative purposes? Are you fascinated by advertising? Are you intrigued by the different techniques used by designers and how they are used for expression? If so, you should consider Graphic Communications as an option.

Our Graphic Communications course will introduce you to the exciting, stimulating, constantly changing world of visual communication. Studying the work and influence of both contemporary and past creators in the design world, you will be introduced to a wide range of techniques, media and genres to equip and enable you to effectively express your ideas within a particular area of interest under the guidance of experienced specialists. These will then be developed through experimentation and in the production of graphic outcomes, including poster design, packaging, advertising, branding, magazine layout and illustration. There are two components to your A level, a personal investigation and an externally set assignment. Sketch books are vital to each of the components as you will need to fully support the exciting and expressive work you produce.

Within this A level you will produce an in-depth project within which you will investigate a given theme by working through a design process. This involves researching designers, exploring ideas and graphic techniques and developing your ideas to producing a series of finished pieces. This personal study is also supported by a written outcome. In addition you will complete an externally set assignment in your first and second year, a range of questions are provided by the exam board from the 1st February. For the externally-set assignment you will create and develop ideas to a finished outcome in response to one of the eight exciting starting points you will be given. This project further develops the skills you will have acquired throughout the course with individuality and independence. The final pieces are produced in ten hours at AS and fifteen hours in year 2 of supervised time.

"I look at graphic design as communication, meaning that the work has to have a vibe to connect to the viewer or perceiver". John Van Hamersveld.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Fine Art, Photography, Media Studies, Textile Design.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Graphic Designer, Advertising Creative, Illustrator, Packaging Designer, Magazine Art Director, CAD designer, Architect.

Assessment Method:

60% coursework, 40% externally set task, , June 2018.

Additional Support:

Lesson based support, involving skills development of software and traditional graphics skills.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade B/6 in GCSE Graphics and/or Art and Design.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

You will be required to purchase sketchbooks and other materials, which will cost approximately £30-£40.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

You need to practise graphic techniques, photoshop and illustrator tutorials in preparation for the course. You should seek to extend your repertoire of creative skills comprehensively.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Leeds College of Art and Design, Loughborough University and Salford University.

History

This course will suit you if: you enjoy studying the past and how and why historical processes develop, would like to understand and explore how the past has influenced our modern world, like to question, discuss and debate ideas and situations and enjoy reading and researching.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 7042

Do you enjoy learning about the past? Do you enjoy working with historical sources? Do you thrive when discussing different historical ideas and debates? If so, you should consider History as an option.

History isn't a subject that's stuck in the past, far from it; it is about the events that have shaped society and the world in which we live today. This course looks at a very turbulent and exciting period of history in both Britain and the USA. You will be trained to look for bias and prejudice in all the evidence you study to sift out what is useful and reliable in order for you to make decisions. To be successful in this course you will need to be able to write extended pieces of work and find reading an enjoyable past time. You will study the development of the Tudors, including the challenges facing the consolidation and maintaining of the dynasty from both within and outside England. This requires the study of an extended period of time and will enable you to develop understanding of the process of change and continuity across the Tudor period, 1485-1603. This will involve the studying of the following: the consolidation of power by the usurper Henry VII, the changes introduced to England by Henry VIII in his desire for a son, the 'mid Tudor crisis' of Edward VI and Mary I, before finally studying the successes and failures of the Virgin Queen, Elizabeth I.

You will develop a detailed knowledge and understanding of the exciting developments and the roles of individuals within the USA in the years 1945 to 1980. This module provides for a study in depth of the challenges faced by the USA at home and abroad as it emerged from the Second World War as a Superpower. For many Americans, post-war prosperity realised the 'American dream' but the prosperity was not shared by all and significant problems at home and abroad challenged the extent to which the 'American dream' was a reality. It explores concepts and ideas such as American identity at home and abroad, anti-communism, social equality, civil rights and federal versus state rights. It also encourages you to reflect on the nature of democracy in a pluralist society, political protest and the power of the media.

Furthermore, you will complete a Historical Investigation. This final unit provides you with the opportunity to study an area of history in which you have a particular interest and you will research and produce a 3,000- 3,500 word essay on a topic of your choice.

"If you would understand anything, observe its beginning and its development." Aristotle.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: English Language, English Literature, Government and Politics, Law, Religious Studies, Geography.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Law, Teaching, Journalism, Voluntary Sector, Business, Civil Service, Local Government, Banking, Curator, Librarian, Archivist.

Assessment Method:

80% examination, 20% coursework, June 2018.

Additional Support:

Students will be provided with information on revision and subject clinics closer to the external examinations.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade B/6 or above at GCSE History.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

You are asked to purchase the following textbooks: V. Sanders, *The American Dream: 1945-1980*, cost £14.99 and R. Turvey, *The Early Tudors*, cost £14.99.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

Visits to: Hampton Court, Westminster Abbey, Tower of London, Hever Castle, Little Moreton Hall, Speke Hall, Hardwick Hall.
Reading: Books by John Guy, G.R Elton or David Starkey.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Durham University - Classics; Oxford University - History and Politics; Northumbria University - History; Manchester Metropolitan University - History and International Politics; Staffordshire University - Education; Swansea University - Egyptology and Ancient History.

This course will suit you if: you are interested in developing an understanding of how law is made, its operation and effect on our everyday lives in England and Wales, feel strongly about concepts like justice and equality. If you see yourself as a barrister, solicitor, legal executive, para-legal or legal secretary and you see the law as a fascinating subject that will help you develop transferable skills such as analysis, evaluation and problem-solving.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 2160

The coherent operation of a country's legal system is fundamental to its success. Where a society has ceased to function, this is often connected to a lack of respect for the rule of law and broken legal institutions. It therefore follows that by having a firm grasp of the law, not just in terms of what it is but also how it is made, one can begin to realise how a society can be strengthened and the important role an individual can play in this collective endeavor. By studying Law, you will develop a good grounding in the main principles of English and Welsh law and their continued development. This will enable you to acquire knowledge, understanding and critical awareness of the structure, personnel and functions of the English legal system. A heavy emphasis will be placed on current affairs in order to give a real sense of how the law works in everyday society.

During the first year of the Law course, you will gain an appreciation for the key features of 'Law Making and the Legal System', understanding the important role played by judges, magistrates, solicitors and barristers. In the 'Concept of Liability' the issue of criminal responsibility and how it is determined is explored, with you being able to comprehend the features of a case that determines innocence and guilt.

In the second year, the assessments encourage the development of skills and understanding by requiring you to apply legal methods and reasoning. The successful study of 'Criminal Law' will firmly imprint the view that legal cases are often more complex than they first appear to be. In addition you will develop the skills necessary to analyse and solve problems by applying legal rules and will develop the ability to communicate legal arguments and conclusions clearly and succinctly.

"Let us not seek the Republican answer or the Democratic answer, but the right answer. Let us not seek to fix the blame for the past. Let us accept our own responsibility for the future." John F. Kennedy.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Government and Politics, Philosophy, Sociology, English Language.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Barrister, Chartered Legal Executive, Solicitor, Chartered Accountant, Patent Attorney, The Police.

Assessment Method:

100% Examination, June 2018.

Additional Support:

Students will be provided with information on revision and subject clinics closer to the external examinations.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade B/6 or above at GCSE Level English Language or History. Students must also be willing to read widely, have an interest in current affairs and be willing to engage in reasoned debate and argument.

Course Duration:

2 years. 1 year for Advanced Subsidiary, 1 year for A Level.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

£50 for additional reading material.

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Court visits and use of key speakers.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

You should engage with current affairs, particularly through reputable national and local media sources.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Northumbria University - Law with Business; University of Leeds - Law.

Mathematics

This course will suit you if: you really find Mathematics an interesting subject and you enjoy solving problems, want to be challenged and stretched by studying more difficult topics and have a logical mind and want to develop your reasoning abilities.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE Edexcel

Do you find Mathematics is an interesting subject? Do you enjoy solving problems? Do you want to be challenged and stretched by investigating some of the topics that you met at GCSE at a higher level? Do you have a logical mind and want to develop your reasoning abilities? If so, you should consider Mathematics as an option.

The ability to think mathematically and to use mathematical techniques to solve problems is one of the key skills that underlie much of modern life. Very few people (if any), are literate in all the world's languages but the shared language of mathematics connects us with people across continents and through time. Mathematics introduces mathematical topics beyond those covered at GCSE. Experienced tutors will guide you through algebra, trigonometry and Calculus. Additionally you will choose between a Statistics option and a Mechanics option. The Statistics option continues to develop the probability and data analysis skills you'll have been introduced to in the Handling Data component at GCSE. The Mechanics option introduces you to the skills needed to accurately model forces and motion and is taken by students studying Physics.

In the first year the course content follows straight from the Higher tier GCSE and builds upon the concepts studied through Key Stage 4. These skills are combined with Mechanics or Statistics depending on the particular direction that each student would wish to pursue. This provides a diverse learning base for a student to refine later in their studies. At this stage all students are required to complete three modules, studying two CORE modules (C1 and C2) as well as choosing one Applied module from Statistics (S1) or Mechanics (M1) depending on the particular direction you would wish to pursue.

During the second year the Mathematics course continues to provide greater depth to Core skills as well as allowing the student to choose to study a second Applied module or study in further depth the module they chose during the first year. Within this final year, all students complete two more CORE modules (C3 and C4) and again choose an Applied module from (S1, S2, M1 and M2).

"Pure mathematics is, in its way, the poetry of logical ideas." Albert Einstein.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Economics, Geography, IT.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Actuary, Education, Research Technician, Engineer, Chartered Accountant.

Assessment Method:

50% examination in June 2017 and 50% examination in June 2018.

Additional Support:

If your ambition is to study for a degree in Dentistry, Medicine or Veterinary Science, special sessions are available to you through our Oxbridge/Early Entry Co-ordinator to help you prepare for these extremely competitive courses. Activities include preparation for the UKCAT and BMAT external examination, tailored enrichment opportunities and mock interviews to hone your crucial interview techniques. There will be careers talks and an opportunity to meet with admissions tutors from local universities. Subject clinics are run during the lunch break.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Manchester University – Mathematics; The University of Birmingham – Accounting and Finance; University of Warwick – Engineering; Sheffield Hallam University – Mathematics; University of Salford – Mathematics; University of Warwick – Mathematics; Apprenticeship with Rolls Royce.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade A/8 at GCSE level.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

A number of textbooks are required for this course, which can be obtained from the Mathematics department at a discounted rate of £10 per book (number required depends on the branches of Mathematics you study).

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

You should complete the Bridging Course on MyMaths to give you a good set of algebra skills on which to learn the A Level content. The Bridging Course comprises the following topics: factorising quadratics, solving quadratics, the quadratic formula, completing the square, indices and surds. You may also choose to complete the tasks on Sine and Cosine as preparation for the course.

Media Studies

This course will suit you if: you have a keen interest in all aspects of media, are organised and have the ability to investigate media theories and concepts via reading and research, are interested in analysis and debates around how media texts are constructed and attract audiences, are enthusiastic to learn and apply skills in a range of media technologies and you have strong practical and creative skills.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE WJEC

Are you interested in the media around you and how it shapes our lives? Are you imaginative, creative and keen to involve yourself in real media production? Would you like to acquire a broad range of analytical and technological skills that you can employ across many different subject areas? If so, you should consider studying Media Studies as an option.

Within the Media course, you will be encouraged to draw on your existing interests and enjoyment of the media, examine the development of media institutions and analyse and explore a wide variety of media including digital media technologies. This will be achieved by exploring the fundamental concepts of media: genre, narrative, industries, audiences and representations. In addition you will study a wide variety of media platforms including: TV, advertising; print based and audio visual, sport, journalism, music, news media, magazines, fashion and film. The film studies element of the course focuses on classic and contemporary British and American cinema and students will study a range of film genres including: horror, documentary film, crime, noir, comedy and drama.

Initially you will explore the media through the study of genre, narrative, representation, stereotypes and audiences and the construction of social/cultural groups and events e.g. Considering how women are represented in health magazines or how Nation is represented in film. This will include analysis of traditional media forms. The coursework element will entail the production of three pieces of linked work: a pre-production which reflects planning techniques; a production which is developed out of the pre-production; and a written report which highlights research findings and evaluates the production with existing Media products.

In the second year you will develop your understanding of the relationship between media texts, audiences and media industries. You will study contemporary texts with an investigation of production, distribution, marketing/production, regulation, global implications and historical contexts. In addition you will undertake coursework that will involve three linked pieces: a written research investigation; a Media production and a written evaluation which explores how the production has been informed by the research undertaken.

"Media study does not replace text. It broadens and deepens our understanding of texts". Philip M. Anderson.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Art and Design, Graphic Communications, Sociology, English Literature, English Language, History.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Public Relations, Advertising and Marketing, Broadcasting, Journalism.

Assessment Method:

100% examination, June 2018.

Additional Support:

Revision sessions will be available closer to the examination period.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade C/5 or above if studied at GCSE Level. An enthusiasm for all aspects of the media and an interest in the huge impact that the media has on society is a must.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

Approximately £60 for visits.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

University of Central Lancaster – Film Studies; University of Lincoln – Media Production; University for the Creative Arts – Film Production; University of Derby – Media Studies and English.

Music

This course will suit you if: you are a musician who enjoys performing, composition and developing your listening and analysing skills.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 7272

Do you enjoy exploring the intention of composers and delving into the reasons they chose to compose for a particular instrumental timbre? Exploring the development of music? Enjoy developing your performance skills? Interested in composition? If so, you should consider Music A Level as an option.

The Music A Level course is designed to develop your skills to a level appropriate for entry to a music-related course at university or specialist music colleges. More fundamentally, however, it provides an informed basis for a life-long appreciation and enjoyment of music. This is a challenging course that draws on and develops a very wide range of academic and practical musical skills. Yet it also offers opportunities to gain excellent general academic skills in historical research, writing and presentation.

This course explores music through a close combination of performing, composition, listening and analysing. Studies focus on Western Classical Music (The Operas of Mozart and the Piano music of Chopin, Brahms and Grieg) as well as exploring Music for Media and Music for Theatre.

Opportunities exist to develop creative skills using music technology, as well as through more traditional harmony, composition and instrumentation activities. You will develop the skills necessary to research, analyse and reflect critically upon music through a wide range of practical, written and listening-based tasks. You will prepare detailed written essays on the music you have studied and undertake a practical performance exam.

"Music expresses that which cannot be said and on which it is impossible to be silent". Victor Hugo.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Drama and Theatre Studies and English Language. However, the Music A level complements many subjects due to the variety of skills required.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Instrumental Tutor, Research, Composer, Session Musician, Professional Musician, Secondary School Music Teacher, Music Therapist.

Assessment Method:

40% listening examination, 35% solo performance examination - externally assessed, 25% composition - externally assessed, June 2018.

Additional Support:

Instrumental lessons.

Specific Entry Requirements:

GCSE Music Grade C/5 or an equivalent level of musical experience. You must also be able to read music notation and be around Grade 5 standard on your principle instrument. Basic music keyboard skills are also extremely useful.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

Instrumental lessons (cost dependent on instrument and teacher).

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

School show, presentation evenings and various extra-curricular groups.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

You are encouraged to listen to Mozart Operas and a variety of musical theatre. You are also advised to revise Grade 5 music theory.

Music BTEC

This course will suit you if: you are creative, committed and hard working and enjoy performing, composing and exploring music genres.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: BTEC Level 3 (Subsidiary Diploma in Performance) Pearson

Do you enjoy performing music? Would you like to explore the world of composition? Are you interested in different genres of music? Do you want to find out more about how the music industry works? If so, you should consider Music BTEC as an option.

This course is intended for students working in any musical discipline who wish to develop a professional approach to music performance. The focus is on modern popular music but students are required to work a very wide range of familiar and unfamiliar styles within this general area.

The course features units on music performance techniques, working and developing as a musical ensemble, music performance session styles and listening skills. The course is continually assessed through assignments that lead, for example, to solo and ensemble performances; written work based on listening and personal research; reflective journals, presentations, musical transcriptions; assessed discussions and individual assessments. Although some activities will require you to work as individuals, most learning takes place in group and workshop situations. You will often be taught specific practical techniques and theory during lessons and expected to work on these independently through personal practice and group rehearsals outside lesson time. You will be given regular individual and group feedback on their progress and will work to meet targets set by themselves or by other members of the course.

"Music gives us a language that occurs across the disciplines, helps us to see connections and brings a more coherent meaning to our world". Ernest Boyer, President, Carnegie Foundation.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: BTEC Performing Arts, Music A Level, Drama and Theatre Studies.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Music performance, commercial music, musical technology, music management, composition and music production.

Assessment Method:

100% Coursework.

Additional Support:

Instrumental lessons.

Specific Entry Requirements:

You should have achieved at least a BTEC Merit Award in Music if studied at Key Stage 4.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

Instrumental lessons (cost dependent on instrument and teacher).

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

School show, presentation evenings and various extra-curricular groups.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

You are encouraged to listen to a wide variety of music through the decades and set personal performance targets to assess your current level of ability.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

St Mary's University – Drama and Applied Theatre; University of Salford – Media and Performance; Newcastle College – BTEC Performing Arts.

Performing Arts BTEC Extended Certificate

This course will suit you if: you enjoy acting, singing, dancing or all three, enjoy performing in front of an audience both as part of an ensemble and individually, enjoy applying performance skills to real life settings and would like a career in the performing arts or entertainment business.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts Pearson (Full Time, 3 A Levels equivalent)

Do you love to perform? Are you creative? Do you like to express yourself? Do you like to be challenged and taken out of your comfort zone? Are you interested in drama and dance schools and university? If so, you should consider Performing Arts as an option. This full time demanding vocational course provides the opportunity to study Acting and Performing Arts at National Diploma level. Learners can choose a general route or a pathway which focusses on acting, dance and musical theatre.

This course will give you experience of different acting, dance and singing styles and techniques which will be covered using a range of teaching methods such as discussion, presentation, group work, demonstration and practical work.

Assessment is specifically designed to fit the purpose and objective of the qualification. It includes a range of assessment types and styles suited to vocational qualifications in the sector. There are three main forms of assessment that you need to be made aware of: external, internal and synoptic.

You will study a series of 13 units over the 2 years, of which 7 are mandatory and 6 are external. Mandatory content (83%), External assessment (58%).

Examples of Mandatory Units: Investigating Practitioners' Work; Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance; Group Performance.

Examples of Optional Units: Interpreting Classical Text for Performance; Acting Styles; Screen Acting; Musical Theatre Techniques; Contemporary Dance Technique; Singing Techniques for Performers.

"The world is a complicated place, and there's a lot of division between people. The performing arts tends to unify people in a way nothing else does." David Rubenstein.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. This is a full time vocational course, designed to prepare, improve and develop your performing arts skills across a range of disciplines, linking to work based placement.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

BTEC Level 3 National Performing Arts suite is designed to provide creative and innovative vocational opportunities for learners wanting to progress to higher education, an apprenticeship or employment.

Assessment Method:

42% coursework, 58% externally assessed, June 2018.

Additional Support:

Lunch and after-school revision sessions as well as rehearsals are provided for all students in the run up to assessments. Revision sessions are run in the half-term and term breaks too. If your ambition is to become a performer, we encourage you to get involved in as many extra curricular activities within the arts as possible. Performance opportunities are available throughout the year and you can audition for the annual school show.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

St Mary's University – Drama and Applied Theatre; University of Salford – Media and Performance; Newcastle College – BTEC Performing Arts.

Specific Entry Requirements:

You should have achieved at least a BTEC Merit Award in Performing Arts if studied at Key Stage 4 or a Grade C/5 in GCSE Drama, Music or Dance.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

You are not required to buy any resources. Trips to the theatre are an essential part of the course, however, we can subsidise some or part of these trips if needed. We encourage students to watch as much live theatre as possible to enhance their studies.

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Visiting theatre/performing arts companies, external theatre/dance visits, performance opportunities.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

You are encouraged to read a range of play texts and see live theatre, dance and music where possible.

Performing Arts BTEC Subsidiary Diploma

This course will suit you if: you enjoy acting, singing, dancing or all three, enjoy performing in front of an audience both as part of an ensemble and individually, enjoy applying performance skills to real life settings and would like a career in the performing arts or entertainment business.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: BTEC Level 3 National Subsidiary Diploma in Performing Arts
Pearsons (1 A Level equivalent)

Are you creative? Do you like to express yourself? Do you like to be challenged and taken out of your comfort zone? Are you interested in designing or directing for the theatre? If so, you should consider Performing Arts as an option.

This demanding vocational course provides the opportunity to study Acting and Performing Arts at National Diploma level. This course will give you experience of different acting styles and techniques which will be covered using a range of teaching methods such as discussion, presentation, group work, demonstration and practical work. There is an option to include dance and musical theatre skills within this course.

Assessment is specifically designed to fit the purpose and objective of the qualification. It includes a range of assessment types and styles suited to vocational qualifications in the sector.

There are three main forms of assessment that you need to be aware of: external, internal and synoptic. You will study a series of units including 4 units, of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external: Mandatory content (83%), External assessment (58%).

The mandatory units are: Investigating Practitioners' Work, Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance, Group Performance.

Examples of optional units are: Interpreting Classical Text for Performance, Acting Styles, Developing the Voice for Performance
Improvisation, Movement in Performance and Musical Theatre Techniques.

"The world is a complicated place, and there's a lot of division between people. The performing arts tends to unify people in a way nothing else does." David Rubenstein.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: A Levels e.g. Drama and Theatre, Music, Art, Media Studies, Psychology, History, Design Technology, English, History, RE as well as BTEC Music or Sport.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

BTEC Level 3 National Performing Arts is designed to provide creative and innovative vocational opportunities for learners wanting to progress to higher education, an apprenticeship or employment.

Assessment Method:

42% coursework, 58% externally assessed, June 2018.

Additional Support:

Lunch and after-school revision sessions as well as rehearsals are provided for all students in the run up to assessments. Revision sessions are run in the half-term and term breaks too. If your ambition is to become a performer, we encourage you to get involved in as many extra-curricular activities within the arts as possible. Performance opportunities are available throughout the year and students can audition for the annual school show.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

St Mary's University – Drama and Applied Theatre; University of Salford – Media and Performance; Newcastle College – BTEC Performing Arts.

Specific Entry Requirements:

You should have achieved at least a BTEC Merit Award in Performing Arts if studied at Key Stage 4 or a Grade C/5 in GCSE Drama.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

You are not required to buy any resources. Trips to the theatre are an essential part of the course, however, we can subsidise some or part of these trips if needed. We encourage students to watch as much live theatre as possible to enhance their studies.

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Visiting theatre/performing arts companies, external theatre/dance visits, performance opportunities.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

You are encouraged to read a range of play texts and see live theatre, dance and music where possible.

Photography BTEC Extended Certificate

This course will suit you if: you have a creative eye, are interested in experimenting and exploring new techniques in photography, are interested in learning a variety of photography techniques and using a Digital SLR to create innovative photographs.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Art and Design – Photography Pearsons (1 A Level equivalent)

Are you passionate about photography? Are you intrigued by the different techniques used by photographers and how they are used for expression? Do you want to further explore photography as a hobby or personal interest? If so, you should consider Photography BTEC as an option.

The Photography BTEC explores the creative, technical and theoretical elements of Photography. You will be supported on a range of traditional and digital routes, gaining an understanding of both traditional and contemporary practice and what makes a photograph successful in visual terms. You will be given the opportunity to appreciate the work of other artists, photographers and designers and get involved with photographic styling and learn to manipulate images using computers within project work. There are photo shoot opportunities, including visits to a foreign county, such as Iceland.

In addition to Visual Recording, Materials, Techniques and Processes, Ideas and Concepts, and Communication, there are two main areas of study:

Darkroom Practise: Traditional wet-based photographic darkroom practise continues to be used in some areas of professional photography. Although digital processing is now more common, traditional wet-based darkroom practise is particularly used for black and white exhibition printing and fine art photography.

Image Manipulation Using Computer Applications: The use of computers by artists and designers is widespread. Digital image manipulation is an extremely exciting and dynamic area with technologies continuing to advance enabling new ways of communicating and combining different forms. Image manipulation skills are highly sought after in the industry so it is an important that artists and designers embrace new technologies and develop the skills, knowledge and understanding needed to work in this area.

"I began to realise that the camera sees the world differently than the human eye and that sometimes those differences can make a photograph more powerful than what you actually observed". Glen Rowell.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Fine Art, Textile Design, Media Studies, Graphic Communications.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Photographer, Press Photographer, Television/Film/Video Producer, Digital Editing, Photographic Stylist, Photojournalism.

Assessment Method:

4 units of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external. Mandatory content (83%); External assessment (58%), June 2018.

Additional Support:

Personal Support plans; lunchtime and after school session.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade C/5 or above in GCSE Art if studied, or Grade C/5 in a GCSE Technology if studied.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

£50 for materials, external guest speakers, various residential and day trips.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

You should select a famous photographer and take photographs in the style of their work.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

University College Falmouth - Photography.

Physical Education

This course will suit you if: you have a passion for sport and are interested in the science, psychology, current and historical issues associated with sport.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 7582

Are you an active and competitive sportsperson? Do you have an interest in how the human body and mind works? If so, you should consider Physical Education as an option. This course can only be studied over a 2 year period.

As a talented sportsperson your skill, ability, motivation and, not to mention, brainpower can be rewarded. A Level Physical Education is a multidisciplinary course; as well as developing the academic skills of a scientist you will also become a psychologist, physiologist, sociologist and even a philosopher! PE is fascinating, varied and challenging with an interesting range of topics: the science of the human body, the psychology of the performers' mind, the analysis and improvement of performance and the current and historical issues associated with sport. Much of the knowledge and understanding gained on the course can be applied to you as a sportsperson and used to improve your personal performance.

In the first year you will develop knowledge and skills to help understand the opportunities for and effects of leading a healthy and active lifestyle. You will also develop knowledge in the following areas: sport psychology, exercise physiology, sport and society, showing application to sporting contexts.

In the second year, you further develop your understanding of physiological, psychological and biomechanical aspects that optimise performance. You will be given the opportunity to utilise your own knowledge and understanding developed during the course to analyse your own personal performance.

"You don't have to be great to start, but you have to start to be great"

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Biology, Psychology, Physics.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Exercise Physiologist, Coach/teacher, Sports Development Officer, Sports Therapist, Sport and Exercise, Psychologist.

Assessment Method:

70% examination, 30% practical coursework, June 2018.

Additional Support:

Students will be provided with information on revision and subject clinics closer to the external examinations.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade B/6 at GCSE PE and are competing in sport to a high standard outside of school.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

You are advised to purchase a copy of the AQA PE for A Level £24.99

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Parents' meeting in first half term.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

You should compete in at least one competitive sporting event.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Liverpool Metropolitan University – Sport and Exercise Science.

Physics

This course will suit you if: you enjoy carrying out experiments and looking for patterns in the results, are interested in questioning everything around you in order to find out how the physical world works and like to keep up to date with current developments in the world of science.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 7408

Do you want a challenge? Are you interested in knowing what makes everything happen? Do you enjoy practical work and desire to put your mathematical skills to use? If so, you should choose Physics as an option.

Physics is a challenging but rewarding subject covering everything from the birth of the Universe to the death of stars, from the tiniest sub-atomic particle to the entire Cosmos. Physics at this level is a subject for a thinking person. The course is structured so as to foster the knowledge and understanding of concepts rather than simply the ability to remember facts. This clearly should be to your liking if you enjoy developing basic ideas and applying them to new situations. Physics is about making predictions, testing them through observations and measurements, and devising theories and laws to make more predictions. It is a practical subject. Throughout the course you will carry out practical activities that will develop your skills and confidence needed to investigate how living things behave and work. There is no coursework at Physics A level; however, your practical skills will be assessed throughout the year by your subject tutor during a series of essential practical skills linked to theory.

In the first year you develop your practical skills that will be assessed within your written examination and in practical work; foundations of physics including physical quantities and units, making measurements and analysing data, nature of quantities; forces and motion including motion, forces in action, work, energy and power, materials, Newton's laws of motion and momentum. You will study electrons, waves and photons that includes charge and current, energy, power and resistance, electrical circuits, waves and quantum physics. In the second year you will study two modules. The first module is Newtonian World and Astrophysics that includes thermal physics, circular motion, oscillations, gravitational fields, astrophysics and cosmology. Within the second module you will develop your understanding of particles and medical physics by focussing on capacitors, electric fields, electromagnetism, nuclear and particle physics, and medical imaging.

"Physics is about questioning, studying, probing nature. You probe, and, if you're lucky, you get strange clues." Lene Hau.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Electronics, Economics.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Astrophysics, Forensics, Health Physics, Architecture, Computing, Engineering (Mechanical, Civil, Electrical, Automotive, Aeronautical), Mechanical Electrical, Automotive, Aeronautical.

Assessment Method:

100% examination, June 2018.

Additional Support:

If your ambition is to study for a degree in Dentistry, Medicine or Veterinary Science, special sessions are available to you through our Oxbridge/Early Entry Co-ordinator to help you prepare for these extremely competitive courses. Activities include preparation for the UKCAT and BMAT external examination, tailored enrichment opportunities and mock interviews to hone your crucial interview techniques. There will be careers talks and an opportunity to meet with admissions tutors from local universities. You will be given the opportunity to gain vital work experience and to practice for those crucial interview techniques. Furthermore, you will have the opportunity to apply for the Nuffield Placement Scheme. You will also be able to attend regular drop in sessions and revision sessions which are run at lunchtimes twice a week. There are also additional Mathematics lessons to support you and teaching staff are available via email at all times.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Apprenticeship with Rolls Royce; Warwick University - Engineering, University of Manchester - Dentistry, Lancaster University - Physics, Durham University - Mathematics, UCLAN - Photography.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grades B/6 or above in Core Science and Additional Science, or a B/6 grade in Physics at GCSE.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

You are advised to purchase the textbook AQA A Level Physics £36, Calculator £6, Revision Guides (optional) £10.

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Physics Olympiad; Senior Physics Challenge; Visits to Keele Observatory and Physics lectures at Keele University.

Product Design

This course will suit you if: you are a 'hands on' person who enjoys designing and making, have a creative mind and enjoy designing your own projects and you approach problem solving in a clear and logical manner.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 7552

Are you a hands-on person? Do you enjoy being creative and like the idea of experimenting with techniques using 3D media, materials and processes? Do you love innovation? If so, you should consider Product Design as an option.

Practically everything you use, see and touch in a day is designed by someone. Design is key to everything out there, be it architecture, furniture design, electrical products, toys, fashion, packaging, graphics, jewellery etc. Designers hold a pivotal position in society as they determine the success or failure of every product and how it impacts on the consumers who use them.

You'll develop your skills in 3D design by using a range of media, materials and processes including wire, paper, card, clay, modroc, recycled materials and mixed media. You'll complete projects that encourage you to work through the 3D design process in a thorough and experimental manner. This will develop your skills in research, designing on paper, exploring ideas through making 3D models and creating final outcomes. You will also investigate the work of artists and designers to further inform and inspire you in your work. As the course progresses, you will be able to work in a style very much suited to your own interests, skills and progression intentions.

"A designer dreams of things that never were, and says, 'why not?'" Dick Powell.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Fine Art, Textiles, Graphic Communications, Photography, Mathematics, Physics.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Architecture, Education, Theatre Design, Product Design, Automotive and Transport Design, Manufacturing, Advertising, Engineering, Sculpture, Interior Design.

Assessment Method:

50% Examination, 50% Coursework, June 2018.

Additional Support:

You are welcome to work on your pieces at any time. There are lunchtime and after school catch up sessions and additional sessions to develop technical expertise on software, machinery, tools and equipment.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Loughborough University - Product Design and Technology; University of Hertfordshire - Product Design; University of Lincoln - Product Design; Loughborough University - Industrial Design.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Product Design builds on, but does not depend on, the knowledge, understanding and skills of KS3 and KS4 Design Technology. You should have achieved a Grade C/5 or above at GCSE Level Product Design.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

Approx £100, students to buy materials and text book. Trip to London and Ikea.

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Vex Robotics Competition, in class support, guest speakers and a visit to IKEA design department.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

Not necessary, although DIY practical skills would be beneficial.

Psychology

This course will suit you if: you have an interest in human behaviour and the motives behind our behaviour, are literate and articulate and prepared to ask questions and contribute to discussions, have a critical and enquiring mind and accept that human behaviour can be studied scientifically, believe that an understanding of human psychology can be put into practice to help improve the lives of individuals and groups in society.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE Edexcel 9PS0

Are you interested in finding out the way we think and feel? Are you intrigued with why people behave the way they do? Do you want to know what makes humans 'tick'? If so, you should consider Psychology as an option.

The word Psychology has 3 Greek roots; 'Psyche' meaning 'mind or soul' and 'Logos' meaning the study of. Literally speaking Psychology is the study of the mind. There are a number of different fields within Psychology some of which will be covered in Y12 and others in Y13. Clinical Psychology is concerned with diagnosing and treating disorders of the brain, emotional disturbances and behaviour problems. Child Psychology is the study of the mental and emotional development of children including contemporary issues such as Autism. Cognitive Psychology deals with how the human mind receives and interprets impressions and ideas and can aid our understanding of issues within criminology. By studying a diverse array of perspectives students will begin to become more aware of what interests them within Psychology and areas they may wish to study at university or develop skills towards employment.

In the first year, you study four approaches (Social, Cognitive, Biological and Learning) to gain a foundation in psychology. During the second year, students are then able to develop their understanding through selection of a choice of applications including Child and Clinical Psychology.

Students need to develop a holistic understanding of Psychology, from considering conflicting and complementary explanations of clinical issues, major debates, scientific elements and genetics to research materials and statistics. This will form the foundations for Paper 3 (A Level) which focuses on issues and debates and skills in Psychology.

"Within psychology and neuroscience, some new and rigorous experimental paradigms for studying consciousness have helped it begin to overcome the stigma that has been attached to the topic for most of this century". David Chalmers.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Sociology, Biology, English Literature, English Language, Law, Mathematics.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Social Work, Education, Police, Medicine, Clinical Psychology, Journalism, Health, Law, Management, Social Work.

Assessment Method:

100% examination, June 2018.

Additional Support:

Students will be provided with information on revision and subject clinics closer to the external examinations.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade B/6 in GCSE English Language or English Literature, Grade B/6 in GCSE Mathematics and Grade B in at least one GCSE Science.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

You are advised to purchase the core textbook £50. Additional cost for student workbooks.

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Learning log assignments. These will involve a variety of tasks designed to extend your learning of psychology. Key speakers. Extended application activities to enhance learning of unseen stimulus.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

You need to read around the topic areas specified in the Edexcel Psychology specification for example, biological psychology. Read online articles concerning psychological issues and debates. Attend taster sessions. Attend open evenings and talk to subject specialists. Read prospectus and make sure the course is right for you.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Durham University - Psychology; Edinburgh University - Psychology and Philosophy; London South Bank University - Children's Nursing; Keele University - Criminology and Education; Keele University - Psychology with Social Science.

Religious Studies

This course will suit you if: you enjoy examining issues from a variety of perspectives, are willing to explore the views of others as well as examining your own opinions, enjoy expressing your opinions verbally and in essays.

Qualification, Examination Board and Specification Advanced Level GCE: AQA 7062 (A level)

What should I do? How should I act? What is valuable about life? What is right? What exists? Religious Studies will help you to explore these essential questions from various religious and non-religious perspectives.

Religious Studies will enable you to answer some of life's most fascinating questions, whilst delving into thought provoking topics and philosophical ideas that make up and shape the religious traditions in British society. Religious Studies is an inclusive subject, designed for people of any faith and people who have no faith. This course will encourage you to: develop your interest in a study of religion and its relation to the wider world; adopt an enquiring, critical and reflective approach to the study of ethics and reflect on and develop your own values, opinions and attitudes.

In the first year you will study three units. In the first unit you study a religious faith, developing understanding of their God/Gods and ultimate reality, attitudes to life after death, their sources of religion and authority, the religions key moral principles and religious identity. Then, within the Philosophy unit you will study arguments for and against the existence of God, life after death and religious experience. Through the final unit, Ethics, you will debate ethical theories, issues of human life and death and issues of animal life and death.

The second year of Religious Studies enables you to study in greater depth the religious faith studied in Year 12, including the challenge from science, the nature and role of religion, key moral principles, religious identity, religion and sexual identity and religious pluralism within the religious faith. Within the Philosophy unit you will add to the understanding gained in Year 12 by studying religious language, miracles, self and life after death plus the nature and function of religion. The topics studied within the Ethics unit will include an introduction to meta ethics, free will and moral responsibility, the conscience and the moral philosophies of both Utilitarianism and Kantian Deontology.

"In law a man is guilty when he violates the rights of others. In ethics he is guilty if he only thinks of doing so." Immanuel Kant.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Government and Politics, Law, History, Critical Thinking, Psychology, Sociology, English, Sciences.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Government, Teaching, Journalism, International Business, Nursing/
Midwifery, Human Rights/Social Care.

Assessment Method:

100% examination, June 2018.

Additional Support:

Students will be provided with information on revision and subject clinics closer to the external examinations.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade C/5 in English at GCSE. It is preferable, but not essential, for you to have studied Religious Studies at Key-Stage Four.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

You are advised to purchase the following textbooks:

AQA A-level Religious Studies – Year 1 – £24.99.

AQA A-level Religious Studies – Year 2 – £24.99.

Potential conferences at Chester Cathedral/Ashton Sixth Form – £20.00.

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Study days will be attended – these are run by Chester Cathedral and also Ashton 6th Form. You will also be afforded the opportunity to work with students in Year 7 RE lessons.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

You should spend time researching the concepts of Ethics and Philosophy, including the differences between them.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Sheffield Hallam University – Applied Nursing and Social Work; Keele University – Philosophy.

Sociology

This course will suit you if: you are open minded and willing to look at familiar things in different ways, have an interest in current affairs and the society around you, enjoy discussions, debates and have an enquiring mind and are a good communicator who enjoys essay writing.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 7192

Do you want to know how society works? Do you question why there are winners and losers in society? Are you interested in the solutions to the challenges faced by our communities today? If so, you should consider Sociology as an option.

Sociology is about the study of human social behaviour within society. It looks specifically at how components of society work and how its different parts influence each other on a global scale. It also looks at how people's ideas and social behaviour are influenced by the society in which they live and how, at the same time, people can influence and change society. Sociology is a subject that takes away the blinkers that many people have throughout life, it will provide you with explanations and justifications, often biased, as to why people act and behave within society in the way they do.

There are 3 integral parts to the study of each topic area: 'Sociological theories, perspectives and methods', 'The design of the research used to obtain the data under consideration, including its strengths and weaknesses' and 'Attention must be given to drawing out the links studied'.

Key areas of study include Education, Families and Households, Beliefs in Society, Crime and Deviance and theory and methods, including methods in context. There are two core themes you will study within the course: 'Socialisation, culture and identity' and 'Social differentiation, power and stratification'. The themes should be understood and applied to particular substantive areas of sociology. However, these themes are to be interpreted broadly as threads running through many areas of social life and should not therefore be regarded as discrete topics. In addition, you must understand the significance of conflict and consensus, social structure and social actions and the role of value.

"The greatest discovery of my generation is that human beings can alter their lives by altering their attitudes of mind".
William James (1842-1910).

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Law, Psychology, Government and Politics, Religious Studies, Biology, English Literature.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Occupational Health; Educational Psychologist, Counsellor, Teaching, Nursing, the Police, Personnel, Civil Service, Politics, Business.

Assessment Method:

100% examination, June 2018.

Additional Support:

Students will be provided with information on revision and subject clinics closer to the external examinations.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade A/7 or above in GCSE English Language or English Literature. Good reading, writing and comprehension skills are required, along with a genuine interest in the subject, a real motivation to work hard.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

You are advised to purchase the core textbooks £50

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Learning log assignments. These will involve a variety of tasks designed to extend your learning of sociology. Key speakers. Extended application activities to enhance learning of unseen stimulus.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

You need to read around the topic areas specified in the AQA Sociology specification for example, crime and deviance. Read online articles concerning Sociological issues and debates. Attend taster sessions. Attend open evenings and talk to subject specialists. Read prospectus and make sure the course is right for you.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Bangor University - Psychology with Clinical and Health Psychology; London South Bank University - Children's Nursing; Keele University - Criminology and Education; Keele University - Psychology with Social Science; Sheffield Hallam University - Marketing Communications and Advertising; Bangor University - Psychology with Clinical and Health Psychology; Birmingham City University - Criminology; University of Derby - Occupational Therapy.

Spanish

This course will suit you if: You enjoy communicating in Spanish and want to develop your existing skills to a higher degree of fluency, have a strong interest in Spanish culture, history and politics and want to discover more about how past events have shaped contemporary society.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 7692

Do you want a distinct advantage in our multilingual, global society? Do you want to earn up to 20% extra in your salary? Do you want to be able to meet and converse with people from all over the world? Do you want to learn more about international politics, history and economics? If so, you should consider Spanish as an option.

Spanish is the second most widely spoken language in the world, and more people speak Spanish as their first language than speak English. It is spoken in over 40 countries worldwide and in the USA nearly 15% of the population speak Spanish as their first language. Our aim is to develop your Spanish listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in a vocational context for particular use in future employment, and to enable you to achieve the necessary exam techniques and grammatical skills to succeed. In order to achieve high standards, all language students will have regular weekly contact with a native Spanish speaker and learning incorporates a mixture of authentic materials including broadcasts, newspapers, books and magazines in Spanish. We see grammar as an integral part of language learning and expect you to have a sound working knowledge of basic constructions such as the main tenses and the concept of word order in the foreign language, although some time will be devoted to revising the fundamentals before further extending your knowledge.

In the first year, you will study two key areas. The first theme focuses on social issues and trends as a young person in a Spanish-speaking society. Within this topic you will communicate in greater depth on familiar topics such as family structures, traditional and modern values, friendships/relationships; youth trends, and equality. The second theme centres on political, intellectual and artistic culture. This is when you will study regional culture and heritage in Spanish-speaking countries and communities; literature, art, film and music.

The same areas will be studied in your second year. However, you will begin to examine the themes in more detail, studying topics such as education, immigration and racism, and religious diversity. You will also undertake an individual research project on a subject or a key question which is of interest to you and which relates to a country or countries where Spanish is spoken. You are required to select relevant information in Spanish from a range of sources, analyse and summarise your findings, and ultimately present and discuss these in the speaking exam.

"No culture can live if it attempts to be exclusive." Ghandi.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: German, French, English, History, Law, Business Studies, Government and Politics.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Translation and Interpreting, International Relations, Diplomatic Services, Foreign Office, Domestic and Foreign Intelligence Service, Leisure and Tourism, Import and Export, Automotive Industry, Engineering, Multilingual Administration.

Assessment Method:

100% examination, June 2018

Additional Support:

One hour conversation class per fortnight in small groups with a native speaker, extra speaking revision with teachers nearer the external speaking exam and grammar clinics as required.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Students have gone on to study languages in a variety of places, including Edinburgh, Paris and London. Students often combine foreign languages with other subjects such as Law, Linguistics or English.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade B/6 or above at GCSE level Spanish.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

You are not required to buy any resources. Trips are optional and can range from approx. £30 for a university workshop to approx. £400 for a trip abroad.

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Opportunity to complete work experience abroad; University essay writing workshops; Possible trips abroad (e.g. Murcia); Helping in main school languages lessons.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

You should revise the three main tenses (past, present and future) before starting Year 12. You should also read and listen to a variety of material in Spanish during the summer.

Textiles

This course will suit you if: you have an interest in textiles and fashion and want to explore decorative and wearable design, want to develop your understanding of design skills and making processes, enjoy experimenting with artistic techniques and processes in a very practical way and are interested in gaining an appreciation of the work of existing artists and designers.

Qualification, Examination Board & Specification: Advanced Level GCE AQA 7204

Are you excited by fashion and textiles as a tangible art form? Do you love the various qualities which different fabrics and stitches possess and how they can be used for expression? Do you like experimenting with artistic techniques and processes in a very practical way? Are you interested in gaining an appreciation of the work of existing artists and designers? If so, you should consider Textiles as an option.

Textiles will nurture your creativity through focusing on the development of your design and craft skills. You'll work with a range of materials and you will have the opportunity to explore decorative and wearable items. The course is for those who want to learn how to work through a process of research, design and production which will result in individual and original pieces of work. Whilst you study, you'll examine a variety of artist and designer work to inspire your own pieces. Using these methods you will build up a portfolio of practical work that is exciting, inventive and individual. There are two components to your A level, a personal investigation and an externally set assignment. Sketch books are vital to each of the components as you will need to fully support the exciting and expressive work you produce.

Within this A level you will produce an in-depth project within which you will investigate an idea, concept or theme by working through a design process. This involves researching designers, exploring ideas and textile techniques and producing a series of finished pieces. This personal study is also supported by a written outcome in year 13.

In addition you will complete an externally set assignment. In your second year a range of questions are provided by the exam board and students choose one question to work through, further developing the skills acquired throughout the course in a more individual and independent manner. The final responses are produced in fifteen hours of supervised time.

"Fashion is a language that creates itself in clothes to interpret reality". Karl Lagerfeld.

At BL6 you can choose to study subjects from a wide range of courses across various curriculum areas. Choosing the right subjects is important. You should consider subjects you enjoy studying, their course content, and options that will support your future career plans. Popular combinations of subjects that work well with this subject area are: Fine Art, Graphic Communication, Photography, Drama and Theatre Studies.

Subject Related Career Destinations:

Fashion Print Designer, Interior Designer, Knitwear Designer, Home Furnishing Designer, Costume Designer, Fashion Designer, Merchandising.

Assessment Method:

60% coursework, 40% internal exam, June 2018.

Additional Support:

Students will be provided with information on revision and subject clinics closer to the external examinations.

Destinations of students who left in 2015:

Liverpool John Moores University – Fashion.

Specific Entry Requirements:

Grade C/5 or above in a creative subject if studied at GCSE level.

Course Duration: 2 years.

Provisional Cost of studying the subject, including trips and resources:

2 sketchbooks, fabrics £20. Visit to the Clothes Show Live £15.

Organised Enrichment during YEAR 12 and YEAR 13:

Working with key stage 4. Visit to the Clothes Show Live.

Enrichment Prior to beginning YEAR 12:

Attend lower school supporting lessons. Primary support. Work set from taster session.

Cambridge Pre-U

Qualification and Examination Board Cambridge Pre-U (Certificate, Diploma, Short course) Cambridge University

Do you want to develop and pursue your own interests? Do you wish to improve your ability to critically think? Do you want to stand out from other applicants to highly competitive courses?

Cambridge Pre-U will help you become a highly competent student, through a focus on independent thinking, study skills and in-depth subject knowledge. You will find this qualification inspirational, challenging and rewarding. The Cambridge Pre-U Certificate is offered in 26 individual subjects, and you can study any number of these, either alone or in combination with A levels. These subjects are within the fields of English, Humanities, Languages, Mathematics, Science, Social Sciences and The Arts. Students can gain a full Diploma by passing any three principal subjects and the core components, Global Perspectives and Research. Within the Global Perspectives component you will explore a range of key challenges facing every young person from multiple viewpoints whereas you will investigate a chosen topic in detail. Students could study for a certified Short Course Cambridge Pre-U within one year.

In the first year, you will study 4 or more global topics from within Global Perspectives and develop your skills in research, analysis, critical thinking and communication. Within this work you will be encouraged to follow and deconstruct arguments and assertions, to separate fact from opinion, and to assess and evaluate the truth of claims using real-world challenges and debates. You will be able to bring your own subject specialisms to bear on issues of wider concern. You will be assessed through an examination that will test your skills of critical analysis of arguments and issues, a piece of work covering the reconstruction of the context of an argument or issue and a presentation based on pre-released stimulus material. The key skills assessments focus on critical analysis of arguments, interpretation and evaluation, presentation and communication whilst you also need to demonstrate judgement, reason, reflection and empathy.

In the second year, you will choose a specialist area and prepare an extended project – the Research Report. This will enable you to use the skills introduced and developed during the previous year for a deeper investigation. This report focuses on the ability to design, plan and manage an extended research project, enabling you to develop skills collecting and analysing information, evaluating and making reasoned judgements, and communicating findings and conclusions. This report is between 4500 and 5000 words in the form of a dissertation or a report.

Extended Project Qualification

The EPQ is facilitated by BL6 as an enrichment qualification.

Examination Board: AQA

Do you want to challenge yourself beyond your A levels? Do you want to capitalise upon an interest to prepare yourself for University and the world of work? Do you want to earn extra UCAS points?

The EPQ is a unique programme of study. It is intended to give you the opportunity to gain a qualification based on an outside interest, club or hobby that can be related to something you study, but might also be something completely different. In this way, somebody studying Biology might want to do a project on stem cell research, but they also might want to do a project on Irish music; both would be equally valid. You formulate your project yourself, and you will be helped and guided by a Supervisor in school. You will then meet regularly with the Supervisor through the project management phase, eventually through to delivering a 'product' of A level standard. So if you want to make a cuddly toy that speaks Mandarin, write a report investigating the effects of volcanic activity, or create an audio book (plus of course a whole host of other things) the EPQ could be for you.

The EPQ enables you to embark on largely self-directed projects. By taking responsibility for the choice and design of an individual project (or an individual role in a group project), you will: become more critical, reflective and independent learners; develop and apply decision making and problem solving skills; hone your planning, research, analysis, synthesis, evaluation and presentation skills; learn to confidently apply new technologies; and demonstrate creativity, initiative and enterprise.

Undertaking an EPQ can also deliver other benefits. For instance, it can increase your motivation by studying a topic of personal interest; enable students to apply their new skills to other areas of study; transfer skills developed into other areas of study.

STEP Mathematics

Mathematics

This course will suit you if: you are applying to study Mathematics on the most prestigious courses and you love Mathematics!

Examination Board Cambridge University

Do you want to challenge yourself beyond A level Mathematics? Are you driven to apply to the most prestigious universities to study Mathematics? Are you keen to develop your confidence in tackling unfamiliar problems?

The STEP exam is based on the course content from A level Applied Mathematics with a few additional topics included from the Further Mathematics A Level (for instance solving inequalities involving rational functions and proof by induction).

The structure of lessons is flexible to allow us to cater to individual students – for instance if a student's Mathematics university offer requires them to sit the Mathematics Admissions Test we can also provide support with this during the lessons. Some students choose to attend the STEP preparation classes to improve their problem solving skills and deepen their mathematical understanding even if they do not require a STEP exam as part of their university offer. These students can choose, if they prefer, to sit the Advanced Extension Award, which still gives students an additional qualification to their A Levels but is structured more similarly to the A Level Mathematics exam papers.

Support can be provided for students who need to sit STEP II or STEP III for their university offers but the focus of these lessons is preparation for STEP I. Please note, STEP is only available for Year 13 students.

Director of Sixth Form: Mrs Sarah O'Neill
Headteacher: Mr Andrew Cliffe

Audlem Road, Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 7DY

Tel. 01270 621612
Fax. 01270 610373
Email. admin@bl6.org.uk

www.brineleas.co.uk/BL6



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