The Totteridge Academy
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

Sixth Form Prospectus
for 2027-2028



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Winner of TES Secondary School of the Year 2023



WELCOME

from the Principal



Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our Sixth Form. We are extremely proud to have recently won Secondary School of the Year at the TES 2023 awards ceremony. Our phenomenal Sixth Form is an integral part of this success. It offers students an exceptional two-year education and is part of what makes this school such a wonderful place where our young people thrive.

Our aim is that all pupils leave us at the end of KS5 able to make informed, ambitious choices about their future. We offer a wide range of A Level courses led by a brilliant team of teachers, as well as programmes and opportunities to enable students to progress both within the classroom and beyond.

Last summer, our Year 13s graduated with an excellent set of A Level results and university offers: **40% of all grades were A*-A and 70% were A*-B.** These have allowed our students to move on with fantastic results setting them up for their next steps in life, with **60% of students securing places at Russell Group universities, including 3 students going to Oxbridge.**

It is not just that, however, what makes me proud to be Principal here; it is the culture at The Totteridge Academy. This school community is one that promotes kindness and collaboration, celebrates success, consistently maintains high expectations, and believes in continuous improvement. As I always say, it is vital to aim high, work hard, and be kind. This is what TTA is all about.

This booklet will give you information on our Sixth Form, the A Levels we offer, including course content, entry criteria and career pathways.

We look forward to welcoming you to TTA and please do get in touch if you have any questions.

Best wishes,

Tom Knott – Principal

The Totteridge Academy – **Winner**

Best Secondary School in the UK
2023 TES Awards





INTRODUCTION

from the Director of Sixth Form

The final two years of secondary schooling in Sixth Form will be one of the most exciting but challenging periods of your life. Not only will you learn more complex concepts and ideas than ever before, but you will also hone your personal skills to ensure you leave us ready to thrive as a young adult in the modern world.



Patrick Eccles-Williams
Director of Sixth Form

The team of Sixth Form leaders, teachers, and tutors at TTA are committed to ensuring we do all we can to help our students blossom. We take huge pride in ensuring our students obtain a truly outstanding education and are unapologetic about the standards we set for our students- we know the time and effort they put in during this time is a worthwhile investment in their future. This is combined with a supportive and collaborative culture; students are expected to be active, engaged members of our school community who can work professionally with their peers and school staff and act as positive role models for younger students.

The result is that students achieve outstanding results, progress to some of the finest universities and apprenticeships in the country and develop into young adults who are kind, can communicate, and are motivated to make a positive difference in whatever they wish to pursue.

We look forward to you joining us!





INTRODUCTION

from the Head Students

Welcome to TTA sixth form,

Whether you're returning or joining us from another school, we are excited to introduce you to a place where you'll be supported, challenged, and encouraged to shape your own future.

Sixth form is the crucial next step in your academic career, and where you choose to study should reflect your needs and what's best for you. What set TTA apart for us was its incredible support system. At TTA, no student is "just a number" - every teacher genuinely cares about each member of our community and works to tailor their support to each student's specific needs, helping them flourish. Teachers go above and beyond in making these vital transitional years as smooth as possible, while treating students as young adults, providing them with the independence needed to succeed in the future.

By the time you leave TTA, you will be fully equipped to make the most of your next steps, whether you seek to further your education or to enter the world of work. Our sixth form supplies us with tools like our amazing supercurricular newsletter and one-to-one help with creating competitive applications. Moreover, our school also focuses on helping each student develop as a person to prepare them for life beyond academia. This is done through sessions on oracy and current affairs, as well as offering opportunities like mentoring younger students and founding student led clubs – all of which promote confidence and teamwork to prepare us for all aspects of life after sixth form.

Our journey at this school is coming to an end, and while we'll be sad to leave, we are incredibly grateful for how the teachers here have given us the confidence that we need to reach our potential and flourish both academically and beyond the classroom.



Ethan
Head Student



Amber
Head Student

OXBRIDGE STUDENTS

We are very proud that three of our Y13 students last year got into Oxbridge.
Here is what they are doing now and what they have to say about TTA's Sixth Form.



Hannah

A levels: History, Maths, and Religious Studies
University Course: History at Lincoln College, Oxford University

"I truly believe I would not be here if I didn't go to TTA, the drive and support system is honestly amazing. Since being here, I've met a lot of people from all kinds of schools and backgrounds, and I've realised TTA's community and the extra provisions we get to set us up for success are unparalleled. I miss it lots!"

Olivia

A levels: Biology, Chemistry, Maths
University Course: Natural Sciences at Pembroke College, Cambridge University

"TTA prepared me so well for managing the workload, as well as thinking critically in my supervisions and essays at university. I would not be here without the guidance I received from all of the incredible teachers at TTA. It is a special place, and I miss it so much."





Weronika

A levels: Economics, Psychology, Maths
University Course: Economics and Management at Hertford College, Oxford University

"I don't think I would've gotten here if it weren't for the huge support I received from everyone at TTA! The teaching style is also something I am very grateful for as there are still techniques (such as purple pen top tips!) that I use even now in university."

ACADEMIC STUDY

WORLD-CLASS TEACHING

We believe that all children should be given the finest academic education possible. One of the reasons our school won Secondary School of the Year was because our staff go the extra mile every day. Not a minute is wasted in our engaging and challenging lessons, and staff run a continuous programme of boosters and prep sessions to support students who may be struggling. Our SEN provision is outstanding, and our team of expert A level teachers ensure that all students' needs are met.





DEVELOPING INDEPENDENCE

We believe passionately that Sixth Form should be a bridge between school and the post-18 pathway our students choose. It is therefore crucial that students develop the intrinsic motivation and independence required to succeed once they leave school. In that vein, we allow our students a significant amount of autonomy. If a student's attitude to learning in and out of the classroom is excellent, that student can go home for their non-timetabled lessons

We also offer:

- **Study Room:** A quiet and focussed study space, always supervised by a member of staff, with access to computers
- **Silent Study Room:** An additional silent workspace for our Year 13 students to use during free periods
- **Laptop Lending Programme:** Students can borrow a school laptop for the entire academic year for free
- **Monthly Reviews:** feedback from subject teachers each month about your engagement in lessons and in your independent study
- **Academic Interventions:** including additional prep sessions, mentoring from your Head of Year and supervised study during free periods





PASTORAL SUPPORT

A CARING AND SUPPORTIVE SIXTH FORM TEAM

We believe passionately that every student deserves to be supported in their development. and our pastoral provision is designed to help all our students with their wellbeing. At the heart of this is our Tutor system where students attend tutor time every morning with their tutor. Tutor groups are small, so our tutors really get to know each student as an individual. Your Head of Year works alongside your form tutor to support in all pastoral matters and ensure you have a wonderful Sixth Form experience.





AN ENRICHING TUTOR TIME PROGRAMME

Mondays: Current affairs- students debate the latest topics from the news and beyond, encouraging public speaking and confidence

Tuesdays: Super-curriculum- students engage in reading and activities to deepen their knowledge of academic topics in the subject they are most likely to study at university or pursue as a career.

Wednesdays: PSHE- students complete a 2-year curriculum which covers a wide range of crucial topics, from Healthy Relationships to Mental Health

Thursday: Careers- students complete a series of core life modules covering oracy, writing a CV, interviews and university applications

Friday: Assembly- celebrating student achievement and enjoying external speakers delivering inspiring and informative talks

ON-SITE COUNSELLING WITH Place2Be

We also are fortunate to have a team of on-site professional counsellors which we can refer students to for free mental health and emotional support, plus students can go to the Place2Talk drop-in sessions whenever they need to.

Place 2Be

Improving children's mental health

POST-18 PATHWAYS



At the heart of our educational provision is our belief that every student deserves support finding the post-18 pathway that maximises their potential, while best suiting their interests, talents, and hopes for the future. For nearly all our students this involves going to university or starting a degree apprenticeship. We offer a comprehensive programme supporting students with this process, including:

- One-to-one interviews with Sixth Form leaders to advise students on university/courses
- University application workshops and one-to-one support writing personal statements
- Dedicated Oxbridge club that runs from Year 12
- Evening parent event on university and degree apprenticeships
- Weekly updates of free university lectures and Open Days
- Student support in applying for University Summer School programmes
- Trip to UCAS Careers Fair and UCL open day for all Year 12 students



Recent university destinations for TTA Sixth Formers:

- Oxford University
- Cambridge University
- UCL
- Kings College London
- London School of Economics
- Edinburgh University
- Leeds University
- Manchester University
- Loughborough University
- Nottingham University
- Birmingham University
- City University
- Queen Mary University
- Sussex University
- Various higher apprenticeships

CAREERS EDUCATION

At TTA Sixth Form we take careers education incredibly seriously. We have painstakingly built a careers and pathways education programme that inspires and informs our Sixth Formers, structured around the nationally recognised best practice Gatsby Benchmarks. Here are some of the key elements we offer:

Talks from leaders in industry

Civil Service

DELL

Work experience week opportunities for Year 12

NHS

CLIFFORD CHANCE

ROLLS ROYCE

Mentoring opportunities with current students at top universities

ZERO GRAVITY

Personal Development Projects and Expeditions

MARK EVISON FOUNDATION

REGISTERED CHARITY Nº 1158382

Cutting edge careers and university guidance portal

unifrog

- Barclays Workshops on interview technique

Life Skills BARCLAYS

- CV workshop by an HR expert
- Personal Finance workshops

Personal Finance Society

The Early Bird, our blog exclusively for TTA Sixth Formers with hundreds of work experience opportunities, university taster lect ures, scholarship programmes, summer schools etc are advertised across the year



The Early Bird

Progression News for Sixth Formers at The Totteridge Academy

ABOUT

Blick Rothenberg – Access Accountancy Work Experience Programme – October half term

Are you interested in starting a career in accountancy? Blick Rothenberg are a leading tax, accountancy and business advisory firm founded on personal integrity and technical

Morgan Stanley Summer Academy

Who: Year 12 Students going into Y13
Programme Dates: 26th July – 30th August
Location: Virtually via Zoom Webinar Deadline: Applications must be completed and submitted by 23:59pm on Sunday 9th July Apply here

Subscribe to The Early Bird

STUDENT SOCIETIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Our Sixth Form has a vibrant and exciting array of opportunities for students to explore their passions, interests and develop their leadership skills. These include:

Student leadership– Our Year 12 Senior Prefect team works alongside our Year 13 Head Prefects to represent the study body and lead various initiatives in the school. They regularly meet with school leaders and play an integral role in improving our school



Community Hour- all Sixth Form students volunteer to contribute to the school or wider community on a weekly basis through this programme. Examples include mentoring students, running societies, and working with the local community.



International Challenges – Biology and Physics Olympiads, Senior Maths Challenges

United Kingdom Mathematics Trust

UKBC

BPhO British Physics Olympiad

Student societies and clubs- each year we support Sixth Form students in setting up, running and contributing to societies they feel passionate about. Past examples include the Politics Society and Economics Society, plus football, debate-cross-sticking and more



Trips- Include visits to academic lectures, field courses, conferences, competitions and more enriching experiences outside of the school setting



GROW farm- We are lucky to have GROW, an agroecological farm on site at TTA. Sixth Form students can volunteer here, enjoy the farm for wellbeing breaks and use the space to study and relax during the summer



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How many lessons will I have per week?
We run a two-week timetable. You will have 6 x 100-minute lessons per subject across the two weeks.

How much homework is there?
All A level courses expect students to complete 6 hours independent study per week. Departments will set homework tasks to suit the needs of their subjects so this can take a variety of forms. We use a digital platform called Satchel One to ensure students always know what homework they have been assigned.

What do I do if I don't have a lesson?
If we have no concerns about your academic progress, you have the freedom to manage your own time during free periods. Many students use our facilities to do some of their homework and independent learning for their subjects. Other students choose to go off-site and visit a local library or, if they've finished for the day, go home. If we have any worries about your learning, you attend supervised study sessions, which act as an academic intervention to get you back on track and ensure you have all the help needed to do so.

When will I sit exams?
Students will sit summative mid-year and end-of-year exams in Year 12 plus November and March mock exams in Year 13. All A levels are two-year courses with final exams taken at the end of Year 13. Some subjects may include coursework tasks which contribute to a student's final grade.

Is there any additional funding available to support with buying resources or textbooks for Sixth Form?
Yes- students who are eligible can apply for the 16-19 bursary. If you qualify, you will receive a small sum of money to be used towards school-related purchases. More information on the bursaries available can be found on our website.

Do I have to wear a uniform?
No- our students adhere to a dress code which means you have flexibility in what you wear whilst also ensuring you look professional.

Do you offer Level 3 courses other than A-levels?
We currently only offer A level courses. If you have any questions about what course is right for you, contact Mr Eccles-Williams, the Director of Sixth Form patrick.eccles@tta.org.uk.

Can I study 4 A-levels?
Yes- if this works with your timetable and we are confident in your ability to complete 4 A levels, we will allow students to do this. Speak to Mr Eccles-Williams if you are interested in this option.



A LEVEL SUBJECT OPTIONS for 2027/28 Entry

- Art, Craft and Design
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Drama and Theatre
- Economics
- English Literature
- French
- Further Maths
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Music
- Photography
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Politics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Sociology
- Spanish

All A Level courses are subject to minimum student numbers. TTA Sixth Form reserves the right to not to run a course if there is insufficient demand but will ensure this is communicated clearly with all students in a timely way

ADMISSIONS and ADVICE

What's the entry criteria for a place in your Sixth Form?
The overall Sixth Form entry criteria is as follows:

- 5+ English / Maths AND the subject entry requirements

What does it mean if I have an "offer" from TTA Sixth Form?
If you have received an offer from TTA Sixth Form, congratulations! This means we are prepared to enrol you at our Sixth Form, if you meet the entry requirements for your chosen courses, there are no subsequent concerns regarding your attendance or behaviour, your chosen subject combination fits within the timetable, and each subject has available places. Please note that if more offer-holders wish to enrol on a course than places allow, offers will be prioritised based on achieved GCSE grades. This means that even if you meet the entry requirements, we cannot always guarantee a place on a specific course if it becomes oversubscribed.

How many subjects should I choose?

- Most students at TTA Sixth Form will take three A levels; taking 4 A levels will not normally give you an advantage in university applications
- A very small number of students with exceptionally high GCSE scores will elect to study 4 A levels
- Students may have the option to take an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) alongside their three subjects, subject to an application process

How do I know which subjects to choose?
In general, you should choose subjects that you are motivated to study and will give you the best options in terms of post-18 pathways. Cambridge University released information this year on recommended subject combinations for students interested in pursuing particular degree courses:

If you are interested in studying a humanities, social science or arts degree, it is recommended you choose at least 2 of the following subjects:

- English Literature
- A language, such as French or Spanish
- History
- Mathematics, which is useful for many courses, including Law

If you are interested in studying a science or maths degree, Cambridge University recommends you choose 3 of the following subjects:

- Biology
- Chemistry- essential for Medicine
- Physics- essential for Engineering
- Mathematics- essential for Engineering, Physics and often Economics
- Further Mathematics- essential if you want to study Mathematics, Computer Science and some Engineering degrees

What if I change my mind about my subjects?
There will be a short window at the start of autumn term whereby a student – in consultation with their form tutor and parents/ carer – can request a subject change.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

To be considered for a place at TTA Sixth Form, students must have a GCSE Grade 5 or above in English and Mathematics, plus the individual subject requirements below:

A-Level	Must have subject	Grade
Art, Craft & Design	GCSE Art, Craft & Design/ Fine Art English Language	6 6
Biology	GCSE Biology/ GCSE Combined Science	7 7-7
Chemistry	GCSE Chemistry/ GCSE Combined Science	7 7-7
Computer Science	GCSE Computer Science/ GCSE Mathematics (if Computer Science not taken)	6 7
Drama	GCSE Drama/ GCSE English (Lang/Lit)	6 6
Economics	GCSE English (Lang/Lit) GCSE Mathematics	6 6
English Literature	GCSE English Literature	7
French	GCSE French	7
Further Maths	GCSE Mathematics	9
Geography	GCSE Geography GCSE Mathematics	6 6
History	GCSE History	6
Mathematics	GCSE Mathematics	7
Music	Grade/equivalent standard playing on your instrument or voice/ GCSE Music	5 6
Photography	GCSE English Language GCSE Art & Design or Photography	6 6
Physical Education	GCSE PE + teacher review of practical performance	6
Physics	GCSE Physics/ GCSE Combined Science *You must also do Maths A-level	7 7-7
Politics	GCSE English Literature/ GCSE History	6
Psychology	GCSE (Humanities (History, Geography, RS, Citizenship) GCSE English (Lang/Lit) GCSE Combined Science	6 6 5-5
Religious Studies	GCSE Humanities (History, Geography, RS, Citizenship) GCSE English (Lang/Lit)	6 6
Sociology	GCSE Humanities (History, Geography, RS, Citizenship) GCSE English (Lang/Lit)	6 6
Spanish	GCSE Spanish	7



Art, Craft & Design- AQA



Student Quote: *"I love Art, Craft and Design because I have learnt so many new skills that I am able to apply and develop to such a high level. The freedom to explore different methods and materials has really enhanced my portfolio. I am grateful for the expertise and resources at The Totteridge Academy. I have been supported every step of the way,"*
Amber, Year 13 student

You will study:

Component 1 – you will be required to conduct a personal investigation into an idea, issue, concept or theme. This work should be a coherent, in-depth study demonstrating your ability to construct and develop a sustained line of reasoning from an initial starting point to a final realisation.

Component 2: External set assignment. From February until June of Year 13, one chosen topic from the given exam paper to create a full and meaningful portfolio of work concluding with a 15hour exam.

Choose Art, Craft and Design 'A' Level if you like:
- *Expressing yourself creatively through art*
- *Studying art, craft and design at an advanced level*
- *Exploring art galleries in your own time*

Subjects that go well with Art, Craft and Design include:
- Sociology & Psychology
- Product Design

An A-level in Art, Craft and Design can lead to:
•From advertising to TV production, a wide array of industries select candidates with an advanced Art qualification due to their creativity, mindset, and problem-solving skills. Students with skills in Art are sought after for their ability to adapt as well as produce aesthetically pleasing content.
• The creative arts are required in the following roles:
•Fine artist, Illustrator, Set design, Graphic designer, Advertising, Photographer, Floristry, Interior designer, Hairdresser, Furniture designer, Ceramicist, Art teacher/lecturer, Curator, Make-up artist

Example exam question: A student reads an article about the plastic waste polluting the world's oceans and the serious impact it is having on small fishing communities in the Pacific.

Research a wide variety of marine life and the impact plastic pollution has on the world above and below the water's surface.

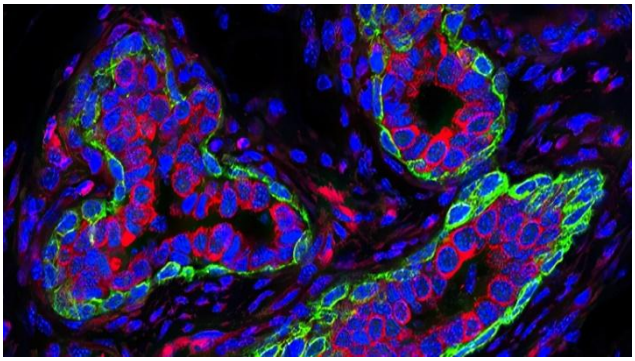
Create an artwork that reflects concerns and distress caused by plastic on the world's oceans and marine life.

Homework:
- Sketchbook work 3 hours a week
- Portfolio work 3 hours a week
- All homework is independent study from gallery trips also taken independently at weekends or holidays
- Written annotations and a 1,000 – 3,000 essay at the end of each component.

Entry Criteria –
Grade 6 in GCSE Art, Craft and Design or Fine Art &
Grade 6 in GCSE English Language

Biology - AQA

Student Quote: *"I love Biology because it enables me to explore further the complexity of living things, from the atomic level to ecosystems, and to investigate the underlying ideas that govern life itself. It provides a deep understanding of the natural events of life and the interconnected nature of all living things."*
Utsav, Year 12 student



You will study:

- Biological molecules, and their production in (and interaction with) cells
- Exchange of substances between organisms and their environment
- Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms
- Energy transfers in and between organisms
- How organisms respond to changes in internal and external environments
- Mechanisms involved in the control of gene expression
- Modern gene technology methods

Choose Biology if you like:

- Learning even more about how living organisms work and interact with each other
- Numerous opportunities to use practical experiences to link theory to reality, and develop essential practical skills
- Developing a deep understanding of fundamental biological processes, far beyond GCSE

Other subjects that go well with Biology include:

- Chemistry
- Maths
- Geography
- Psychology

An A-level in Biology can lead to:
The skills earned by students who study Biology are highly valued by employers. Students with a Biology degree go onto a wide range of careers including: medicine, dentistry, research science, pharmacology, ecology, forensic science, nature conservation, teaching, plus many aspects of healthcare.

Example exam questions:

1. *Contrast how an optical microscope and a transmission electron microscope work and contrast the limitations of their use when studying cells.*
   (6 marks)
2. *During the light-independent reaction of photosynthesis, carbon dioxide is converted into organic substances. Describe how.*
   (6 marks)
3. *Write an essay on the importance of diffusion in organisms.*
   (25 marks)

Homework:

Homework will be based on extensive amounts of practice, including worksheets, knowledge quizzes and past paper questions.

Entry Criteria –
Grade 7 in GCSE Biology or 7-7 in GCSE Combined Science. Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics is recommended

Chemistry - AQA



Student Quote: *"I love chemistry because it gives us an insight into how everything around us works at a microscopic level, where molecules cooperate and interact in our daily life. Inorganic and organic chemistry come together to give us the basic theory and knowledge to explore how chemistry is applied to improve the lives of humans the world over."*
Sophia F. Year 12 student

You will study:

1. *Physical chemistry (atomic structure energetics, kinetics)*
2. *Inorganic chemistry (groups in the periodic table)*
3. *Organic chemistry (alkanes, alkenes, alcohols, halogenoalkanes etc.)*
4. *Quantitative chemistry (moles and amount of substance, ideal gas law, etc)*

Choose Chemistry if you like:
Choose Chemistry if you like pushing your understanding of the basic processes that occur all around us everyday. Chemistry is an incredibly challenging course, but it is also a hugely rewarding one, covering a vast number of topics in its range of content. Substance will vary from the abstractions of Le Chatelier's principles to the concrete realities involved in industrial drug manufacture and atmospheric processes involving ozone and CFCs.

Other subjects that go well with Chemistry include:

- Biology
- Physics
- Maths
- Further Maths

An A-level in Chemistry can lead to:
In addition to being an important prerequisite for medicine, chemistry is a highly sought after A-Level and can lead to a great many options at university and further study. Within chemistry, students often go on to study straight chemistry, chemical engineering or biochemistry. From there, careers in research or industry are an easy step.

Example exam questions:

Some toothpastes contain sodium fluoride. The concentration of sodium fluoride can be expressed in parts per million (ppm). 1 ppm represents a concentration of 1 mg in every 1 kg of toothpaste.
A 1.00 g sample of toothpaste was found to contain 2.88 x 10–5 mol of sodium fluoride.
Calculate the concentration of sodium fluoride, in ppm, for the sample of toothpaste.

Homework:
Homework will be based on extensive amounts of practice, including worksheets, knowledge quizzes and past paper questions.

Entry Criteria –
Grade 7 in GCSE Chemistry
or 7-7 in GCSE Combined Science

Computer Science OCR

Student Quote: *"I love Computer Science because it allows you to use a wide range of techniques and tools to solve problems creatively. Learning to program elegant solutions and making them efficient is a unique challenge and provides great skills for a career in STEM."*
Hashir, Year 12 student



You will study:

1. Theory – Software and Hardware, Data Representation, Compression, Encryption, Boolean Logic, Classifications of Programming Languages, Compilers.

2. Programming – Procedural, Object-Oriented & Even- Driven Programming.

3. Software Engineering principles and introduction to your NEA project.

Choose Computer Science if you like:

- Learning about the technologies that underpin all modern computers and digital systems.
- Being challenged to constantly use computational thinking to solve problems.
- Apply theory and creativity to create robust programs.
- Analysing technology and how it can impact society.

Other subjects that go well with Computer Science include:

- Maths
- Further Maths
- Physics
- Product Design
- Economics
- Biology
- Chemistry

An A-level in Computer Science can lead to:
Any degree or further study associated with science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Computational thinking can apply to all STEM opportunities, and many are increasingly including programming as well. Graduates with computer science skills are highly sought after in many industries, such as finance, aerospace, sport, and the arts.

Example exam question:

1. *A company providing a social media service uses algorithms to select news stories for users written by other organisations and individuals.*

Discuss:

- *how algorithms might determine which current affairs news stories to display to an individual member*
- *the moral, ethical and legal considerations that the developers of the system and its operators should consider in relation to how the algorithms work and which news stories are displayed. (12 marks)*

Homework:
Weekly programming problems, exam question practice and knowledge based recall task and an essay. In year 13 there will be a project to complete independently.

Entry Criteria –
Grade 6 in GCSE Computer Science or Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics if Computer Science not taken at GCSE


SIXTH FORM

Drama and Theatre - AQA



Student Quote: *"Studying A-level Drama has helped me become more confident and resilient, both on and off stage. Through devising, making theatre and exploring different practitioners, I have grown as a performer. Studying Metamorphosis and Antigone as well as analysing live productions have broadened my understanding of theatre on a critical and analytical level. More than a subject, drama gives me the freedom to express myself and the courage to perform."* **Calli, Year 13 Student**

You will study:

1. Component 1: You will explore two set texts and learn how theatre makers use their disciplines to communicate meaning on stage. You will also have the opportunity to see a piece of live theatre.
2. Component 2: You will devise your own performance using a stimulus. You will have the autonomy to choose a theatre practitioner to be inspired by for your final performance.
3. Component 3: You will study 3 set texts that you will choose as a class, and you will explore and perform one of them to a visiting examiner. This performance will also be inspired by a practitioner.

Choose Drama and Theatre if you like:

- Discussing issues and ideas concerning the wider world.
- Using your creative instinct to communicate your views.
- Acting, writing or the visual and technical side of theatre.
- Going to the theatre to see plays.
- Developing your ability to analyse performance, develop well thought-out, compelling evaluations linked to the director's intention.
- Stepping out of your comfort zone to perform characters in different styles that are different from yourself.

Other subjects that go well with Drama and Theatre include:

- English literature
- Art
- History
- Politics
- Music

An A-level in Drama and Theatre can lead to:

Drama and Theatre A- level can lead to further study in drama, theatre studies and performing arts in higher education at degree level or drama school. It can be studied in conjunction with a humanities subject such as English or History at degree level and may lead on to a career in the performing arts industries, media, law, journalism, dramatherapy and beyond.

Example exam questions:

1. As a director, or as a costume designer, discuss your ideas for presenting Ismene and Eurydice in their first appearances, in order to achieve your intended dramatic effects. You must make specific reference to the social, cultural and/or historical context of Antigone in your answer. [25 marks]
2. Explain and justify how you would direct the actors from line 1 to 34 in order to achieve your preferred effects for the audience. [10 marks]

Homework:

- Rehearsals where required.
- Extended reading e.g. contextual information on a set text.
- Research based on a stimulus or practitioner's ideas.

Entry Criteria –
Grade 6 in GCSE Drama or Grade 6 in GCSE English

Economics – Edexcel

Student Quote: *"I love Economics because it trains me to think more logically about decision-making. I now better understand the complexity of the modern world and the trade-offs that exist in it. I might be learning about why prices are rising so rapidly in the UK, how Brexit has affected workers and businesses in the UK, or why nurses are paid so much more than footballers. I find that really interesting."* **Ellie, Year 13 student**



You will study:

1. Microeconomics: how markets work and fail, why governments provide healthcare for free, tax cigarettes, regulate electricity prices, and set a minimum wage. We study why governments sometimes make things worse, and how this can be avoided

2. Macroeconomics: how we measure a country's economic performance, the causes and consequences of economic growth, unemployment, and inflation, what drives international trade and how that affects different countries. We study how governments use macroeconomic policy to manage the economy, how the international financial system works and is regulated.

Choose Economics if you like:

- Asking questions to better understand how the modern world works.
- Developing your ability to analyse information, develop well thought-out, compelling arguments linked to current issues
- Investigating contemporary problems from an Economic perspective and discuss and debate solutions in class and developing your written and analytical skills

Other subjects that go well with Economics include:

- Maths (essential if you want to do Economics at university)
- Geography
- PRE
- Sociology
- Psychology
- Further Maths

An A-level in Economics can lead to:

Economics students are highly valued by employers. Students with an Economics degree go onto a wide range of careers including investment banking, financial management, business consultancy, economic analysis, economic research, journalism, working for the government, the list goes on. Economics graduates average earnings are the third highest on average, just below Dentistry and Medicine.

Example exam questions:

1. *In July 2022 Apple's share of the UK market for smartphones was 35%. Evaluate, with the use of diagrams, whether such a high market share for one company benefits consumers (25).*

2. *Evaluate the view that a degree of income and wealth inequality benefits an economy (25)*

Homework:

- Practice exam questions on topics studied in class
- Research tasks/ reading articles
- Consolidation work

Entry Criteria –
Grade 6 in GCSE English (Language or Literature) and Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics

English Literature - Edexcel



Student Quote: *"I love English Literature because you can understand how writers have been influenced by history. English is not just about creative words on a page, it's about understanding a particular writer's perspective on politics, society, and economics in different eras, from the 1600s to the modern day."*
Fernando, Year 12 student.

You will study:
- Drama: Tragedy – Shakespeare's **'Othello'** & Williams' **'A Streetcar Named Desire'.**
- Prose: 'Women in Society" - Hosseini's **A Thousand Splendid Suns** & Bronte's **Wuthering Heights.**
- Poetry: **The Romantics.**
- **'Poems of the Decade'** Modern Anthology.
- **Unseen** Poetry.
- Two texts of your choice to compare for an extended written **coursework** piece.

Choose English Literature if you like:

An A-level in English Literature will challenge you to read widely, think and write critically and to understand texts as products of their times and contexts. Choose this subject if you're keen to develop original, independent interpretations through research and to engage in lively intellectual critical debates.

Other subjects that go well with English Literature include:

- History
- Politics
- Art
- Sociology
- Psychology

An A-level in English Literature can lead to:
An A-level in English Literature will open doors to a range of industries including journalism, media, law, publishing, marketing, advertising, politics, consultancy, and the charity sector. However, the focus on independent thought and self-directed learning helps to prepare you for undergraduate study in any discipline.

Example exam questions:
Explore how Shakespeare treats the theme of identity in Othello. You must relate your discussion to relevant contextual factors and ideas from your critical reading. [35 marks].

2. Compare how both authors of Wuthering Heights and A Thousand Splendid Suns present ideas about death. You must relate your discussion to relevant contextual factors and ideas from your critical reading. [40 marks].

Homework:
- Weekly reading of set texts and completion of reading logs prior to lessons.
- Weekly planning, writing and redrafting of essays on set texts.
- Analysis of critical reading.

Entry Criteria –

Grade 7 in GCSE English Literature

French - AQA

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



You will study:

Paper 1 – Listening, Reading, and Writing

- Aspects of French-Speaking Society, Artistic Culture in the French-Speaking World, Multiculturalism in French-Speaking Society, Aspects of political life in French-Speaking Society

Paper 2 – Writing

- A Film: La Haine (TBC) – Mathieu Kassovitz & Book: TBC

Paper 3 – Speaking

- Individual Research Project (on a topic of your choice)
- Photo card and discussion on one of the topics from Paper 1

Choose French if you like:

- The idea of speaking another language! The opportunities that this can provide both in terms of job prospects and life opportunities are fantastic.
- Debating and discussing the key issues of the day: eg *Is the traditional family model outdated? What role should religion have in society? What should be done to ensure LGBTQ rights?*
- Film and literature. You will study a film and a book
- Francophone music and cinema

Other subjects that go well with Spanish include:

Anything! A language complements most subjects

An A-level in French can lead to:

All sorts of different careers! Languages are a great skill that are hugely valued by employers. There are a number of careers that are directly linked to language learning, eg becoming a translator, teacher, working in tourism. However, languages can also set you apart from other candidates when applying for a range of other jobs. Many companies now have offices and clients in France so speaking French can make you a very appealing candidate and also potentially provide you with some really exciting opportunities.

Example exam questions:

1. *Dans quelle mesure peut-on dire que L'étranger est un récit philosophique? {40 marks)*

2. *« Les trois jeunes protagonistes de La Haine ne sont que des stéréotypes généraux et le scénario est peu probable. » Dans quelle mesure êtes-vous d'accord avec ce jugement?* (40 marks)

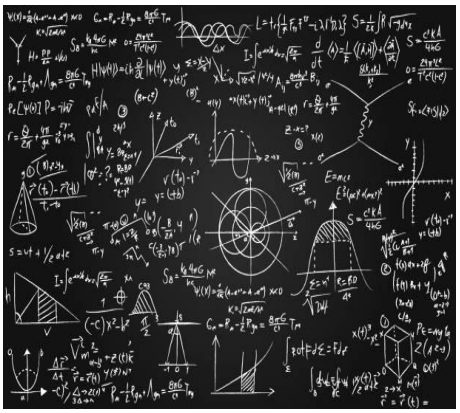
Homework:

- Vocabulary learning on Memrise
- Reading and listening tasks
- Research tasks
- Creating Mind Maps
- Essay planning and writing

Entry Criteria –
Grade 7 in GCSE French



Further Maths – Edexcel



Student Quote: *"My love for maths stems from being able to solve problems in the way that strives to be the most elegant, using as much creativity as possible. At TTA, the Further Mathematics class only has a few number of students, which allows us to share methods without worrying about other people's opinions – this challenges us and makes us better mathematicians whilst bringing us closer together and there is a real 'family' feel. We're not afraid of making mistakes and realise that this is essential for our learning. I also feel trusted and respected to be part of a class that has chosen democratically the last of our option modules, which I know is not something most other 6th forms do."*
Hung-Wen, Year 12

In Y12 you will study: Further Pure Mathematics, and further Mechanics/Statistics or Decision Mathematics

- *Complex numbers*
- *Proof*
- *Matrices*
- *Further Calculus*
- *Hyperbolic functions*
- *Differential Equations*
- *Binomial and Poisson Distributions*
- *Hypothesis Testing*
- *Elastic collisions in two dimensions*
- *Circular motion*
- *Algorithms, linear programming & more*

Choose Further Mathematics if you like:
An A level in Further Mathematics will push your mathematics ability further than ever before. There are many mathematics disciplines and this A-level will give you the opportunity to study further pure mathematics, mechanics and statistics, whilst also allowing you to be exposed to decision mathematics and logic, which is essential to understanding how decisions are made and how computers think.

Example exam question:

7.

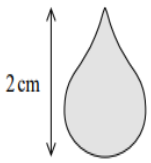


Figure 2

Figure 2 shows the image of a gold pendant which has height 2 cm. The pendant is modelled by a solid of revolution of a curve C about the y-axis. The curve C has parametric equations

$$x = \cos\theta + \frac{1}{2}\sin 2\theta, \quad y = -(1 + \sin\theta) \quad 0 \leqslant \theta \leqslant 2\pi$$

(a) Show that a Cartesian equation of the curve C is

$$x^2 = -(y^4 + 2y^3)$$

(b) Hence, using the model, find, in cm^3, the volume of the pendant.

An A-level in Further Mathematics can lead to:
An A-level in Further Mathematics is designed for pupils wishing to focus on further study at the leading universities for the following disciplines: Mathematics, Physics, Engineering, Computer Science and Economics. This can lead to countless careers such as medical engineering, banking, computer programming and actuary.

Homework will be:
- Practice questions on topics studied in class
- Weekly testing of material
- Exam question practice

Entry Criteria –

Grade 9 in GCSE Mathematics

Geography - AQA



Student Quote: *"I love Geography because it provides me with an understanding of the complexity of our world and the different factors that affect it from both a human and physical perspective. Personally, I love learning about the processes and systems that underpin the functioning of our planet."*
Timur, Ex-student

Throughout the entirety of the course, you will study:
•**Physical Geography:** Water & Carbon (Year 12), Coastal Systems and Landscapes (Year 12) and Hazards (Year 13)
•**Human Geography:** Changing Places (Year 12), Global Systems & Governance (Year 12 and Year 13), and Contemporary Urban Environments (Year 13)
•**Fieldwork Investigation (Non-Exam Assessment)** – You will complete a fieldwork investigation either examining an aspect of coastal systems and landscapes or urban regeneration; this is a 3–4000-word independent essay (Year 12 and 13).

Choose Geography if you like:
- Choose Geography if you're interested in the world around you. Geography is the bridge between the natural and social sciences, providing its own specialist knowledge and skills and the valuable interdisciplinary approaches needed to address pressing global issues from climate change and migration, to environmental change and social cohesion.

Other subjects that go well with Geography include:
- Maths (there are lots of statistical skills in geography, you will need to be numerically adept!)
- Biology
- History
- Economics
- Chemistry
- Politics, Sociology, Psychology

An A-level in Geography can lead to:
A Level Geography is a versatile qualification that is well respected by employers and universities alike. Employers highly value Geography qualifications because Geography students can think logically and analytically. They are accurate and objective in collecting, recording, processing, presenting, analysing and interpreting data. Students with a Geography degree go onto a wide range of careers including but not limited to accountancy, consultancy, law, journalism, teaching, and the civil service., According to 2025 HESA data, covering those who graduated in the 2022/23 academic year, 62% of geography, earth and environmental studies graduates (social science) graduates were employed 15 months after graduating. 7% were in further study, and 9% in employment and further study. 2025 HESA data also shows that geography, earth and environmental studies (social sciences) in full-time employment earned an average of £28,998 15 months after graduating. This is slightly higher than the average for all graduates (£28,598) (RGS, 2025).

Example exam questions:
1. Assess the potential causes and impacts of changes to the water balance within a box tropical rainforest that you have studied. [20 marks]

1. Using Figure 2 and your own knowledge, assess the challenges associated with reducing greenhouse gas emissions. [6 marks]

Homework:
- Consolidation: Reading to recap taught content/carousel learning questions.
- Application: Exam style questions.
- Wider Reading: Reading to push student knowledge beyond the curriculum.

Entry Criteria –
Grade 6 in GCSE Geography and Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics



History - Edexcel



Student Quote: *"We love History because we study, for example, the USSR and its influence on the modern period. History has developed our understanding of the world we live in today."*
Louie and Oliver, Year 12 students

You will study:

Paper 1: Russia 1917-91, from Lenin to Yeltsin

From revolution to the collapse of the Soviet Union, you will study Russia's twentieth century and investigate the political, economic and social features of communist rule.

Paper 2: The German Democratic Republic, 1949-90

From its creation to its demise, you will study what life was like 'behind the Berlin Wall', on the frontline of the Cold War, in a country where contrasts between East and West were at their starkest.

Paper 3, Option 36.1: Protest, agitation and parliamentary reform in Britain, c1780–1928

From the emergence of radical reformers to the suffrage movement, you will study how Britain became a modern democracy through the stories of those who campaigned for it.

Choose History if you like:

An A Level in History will equip you to challenge generalised narratives. It will provide you with endless opportunities to handle contemporary evidence critically, using this to corroborate or challenge historians' interpretations of the past and to ask questions about the way that different events have been interpreted. Choose History if you enjoy reading widely, thinking critically and creating your own original arguments.

Other subjects that go well with History include:

- Politics
- English Literature
- Economics

An A-level in History can lead to:

An A Level in History can lead to a range of different careers including law, politics, journalism, teaching, consultancy, accountancy and the media. However, the focus on independent research and extended writing helps History to be considered as a highly academic A Level which equips you with skills that are both useful for further study of any discipline at undergraduate level and which are desired by many employers.

Example exam questions:

How far did the role of the secret police change in the Soviet Union through the period 1953-85? ***[20]***

To what extent was Honecker successful in his attempts to improve the international prestige of the GDR? ***[20]***

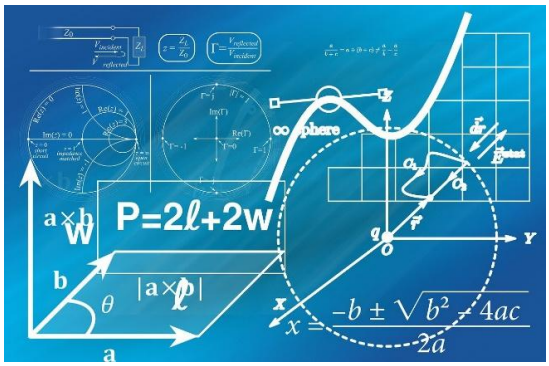
Homework:

•Weekly extended reading (often of historians' work) and questions
•Weekly essay

Entry Criteria –

Grade 6 in GCSE History

Mathematics - Edexcel



Student Quote: *"I love Maths because for every Mathematical fact we are told, we learn how to prove that it must necessarily be the case; from identities to formulae – we can always say **why** these are true. It's very satisfying."*
Rubin, Year 12 student

Student Quote: *"I love Maths at TTA because we, as students, have a team mentality – no one gets left behind!"*
Jaiden, Year 12 student

You will study: Pure Mathematics, Statistics and Mechanics

1. ***Pure Maths:*** Proof, Algebra and functions, Coordinate geometry, Trigonometry, Exponentials and logarithms, Differentiation, and Integration.
2. ***Statistics:*** Statistical sampling, Data presentation, Measures of location and spread, Correlation, Probability, Binomial distribution, and Hypothesis testing.
3. ***Mechanics:*** Kinematics, and Forces & Motion.

Choose Mathematics if you like:

- Tackling complex problems with logic, creativity and persistence.
- Analysing and interpreting real life data in order to make better informed decisions.
- Simplifying real life situations into clean Mathematical models in order to predict what will happen.
- Stretching your intellect and developing reasoning skills.

Other subjects that go well with Mathematics include:

- Economics
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Biology
- Further Mathematics

An A-level in Mathematics can lead to:

Mathematics is one of the most frequently requested A level subjects by universities and opens doors to a huge range of professions. Careers in finance, medicine, engineering, business and economics are all open to people with a background in Mathematics, not to mention it being at the core of all new technological developments.

Example exam questions:

a) Prove that

$$1 - \cos 2\theta \equiv \tan\theta \sin 2\theta, \quad \theta \neq \frac{(2n+1)\pi}{2}, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z} \qquad \textit{(3)}$$

b) Hence solve for $-\frac{\pi}{2} < x < \frac{\pi}{2}$ ***the equation***

$$(\sec^2 x - 5)(1 - \cos 2x) = 3\tan^2 x \sin 2x$$

Give any non-exact answer to 3 decimal places where appropriate. *(6)*

Homework:

- Practice questions on topics studied in class
- Weekly testing of material
- Exam question practice

Entry Criteria –

Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics

Music - Eduqas



Student Quote: "I love music because I enjoy how it allows me to develop and exploit ideas, reflect critically and actively engage in the process of music study. Whether learning about genres, styles and traditions, practising my instrument or composing using music technology, I feel creative and challenged." **Year 12 student**

You will study three components: Performing, Composing and Appraising (Listening)

Performing: 6 -12 minutes of at least 2 pieces. Either solo OR solo and ensemble. Grade 6+ standard

Composing: 4 -10 minutes of at least 2 pieces. Choice of 4 briefs from the exam board and a free brief.

Written Paper: Compulsory area of study

1. **The Western Classical Tradition (The Development of the Symphony 1750-1900)**
2. **Set Works:** Haydn, Symphony 104 in D major and Mendelssohn, Symphony 4 in A major.

Choose one area of study below:

1. Rock and Pop 1960-200 b. Musical Theatre c. Jazz 1920 - 1950

Choose one area of study below:

1. Into the Twentieth century 1895 -1935 b. Into the Twenty-first century 1980 – present

Choose Music if you like...

- Developing your critical listening and appraisal skills
- To think logically and solve problems through analysis
- To gain experience in music technology and recording skills
- To develop self-confidence, skills and technique in performance
- To communicate expressively and work as part of a team
- To compose creatively and exploit ideas

Other subjects that go well with Music include:

- Maths
- Physics
- English
- History

An A-level in Music can lead to: opportunities for rich, cultural experiences through performance, composing and exposure to a wide range of music across time and place. Music demands rigour, attention to detail and repetitive practise to build discipline, stamina and musicality. You could continue into a higher qualification following pathways such as a degree in Music, Music Performance, Composition, Conducting, Music Theatre, Performing Arts and Music Technology, or use it as strong subject for a high grade to get into a different course at university. Studying music A level is particularly important in the following career paths: performance or composing in a wide range of contexts such as orchestras, bands, choral, chamber music, production and management in the music industry, film, video, television and radio, software and computer games, music therapy, performing arts, education and community arts.

Example exam questions:

1. Discuss how elements of dance music influenced the symphonic composers of the Western Classical Tradition. You must refer to both set works and other relevant symphonies, from both the Classical and Romantic eras. [15]

Homework:

- Practise your instrument daily
- Listening and appraising tasks

Entry Criteria – Grade 6 in GCSE Music or Grade 5/equivalent standard on your instrument/voice

Photography - AQA



Student Quote: *"Photography provides a space for me to express myself in a calm and supportive environment. Photography nurtures my creativity, teaching me new ways of thinking and doing as I develop my own sense of self."*
Amber, Year 12 student

You will study:

- *Component 1 – over the course of the first five terms, you will be required to conduct a personal investigation into an idea, issue, concept, or theme, and produce a final personal response. You will build upon and refine your understanding of composition, lighting, and editing. You can cover two projects and link them together if you wish. Component 1 also includes a 1,000-3,000-word essay justifying your chosen themes and how you have developed your ideas to create a personal response.*
- *Component 2 – externally set assignment. From February until June of Year 13, you will develop a portfolio of work on a chosen topic from the given exam paper. This will conclude with a 15-hour practical exam during which you will produce a final response, similar to Component 1.*

Choose Photography if you like:

- *Capturing and editing images*
- *Studying the work of artists and photographers*
- *Experimenting with a variety of techniques*

Other subjects that go well with Photography include:

- Art, Craft & Design
- Sociology & Psychology

An A-level in Photography can lead to:

A variety of careers and/or further study in the creative industry. A-Level Photography equips students with the expertise and skills required to pursue a career in the following industries:

- Professional photography roles such as fashion, portrait, or commercial photography
- Creative fields like graphic design, advertising, and film production, where visual storytelling is essential
- Roles in education, galleries, or social media content creation and management

Example exam question:

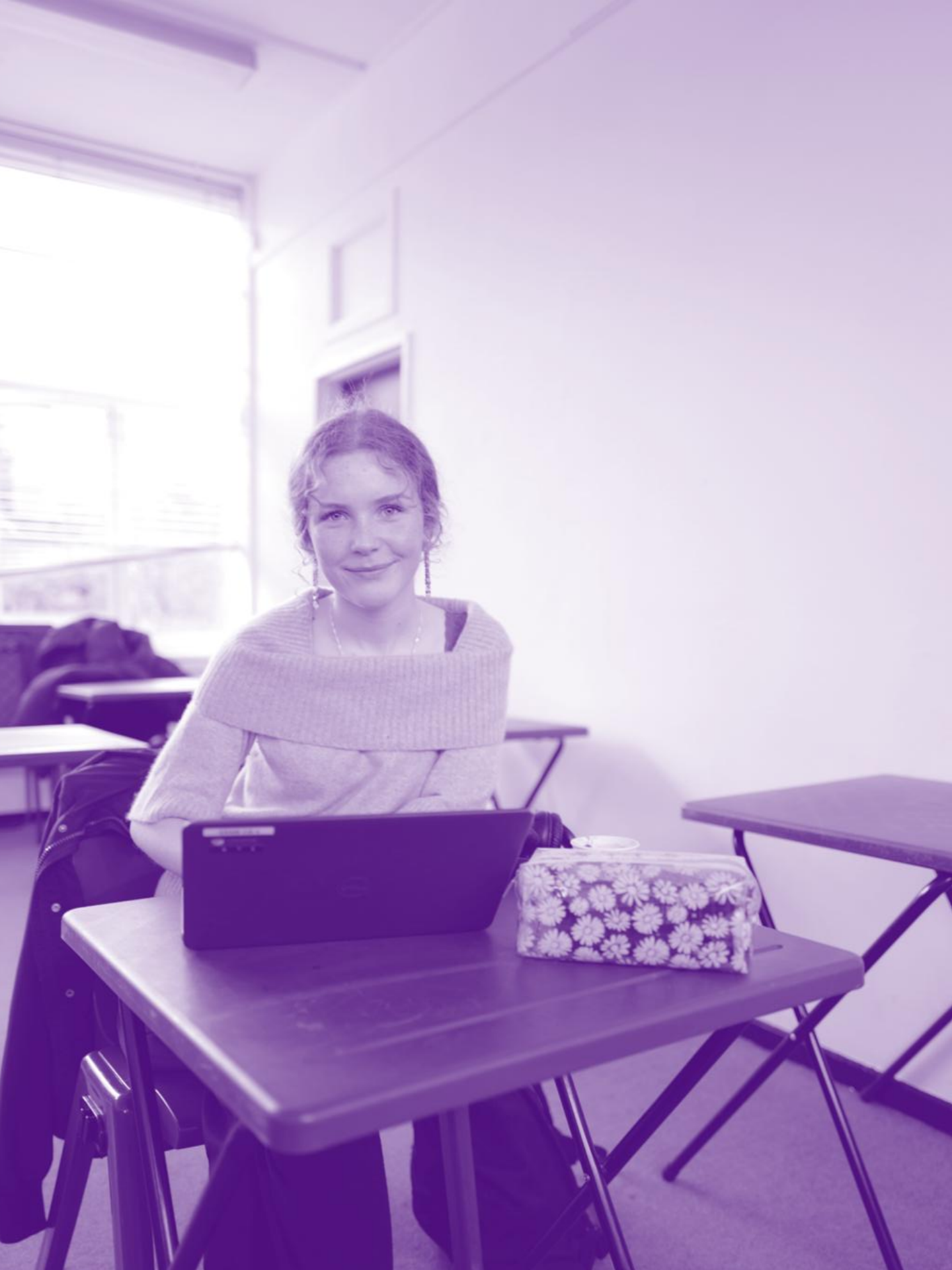
Issues of concern

Film and still photography can be used to convey personal concerns or to bring specific issues to the attention of a wider audience. Examples can be seen in the work of Fay Godwin and Barbara Kruger and in television programmes on wildlife and the environment. Consider appropriate examples and create a response to an issue that concerns you.

Homework:

- Sketchbook work including photoshoots, edits, and annotations
- Independent research into artists, photographers, and techniques
- Independent gallery visits

Entry Criteria –
Grade 6 in GCSE Photography/ Art and Grade 6 in GCSE English (Lang/Lit)



Physical Education - AQA



Student Quote: *"I love PE because it offers such a wide variety of topics to learn about. My specialism was anatomy and physiology, but there's also links to Psychology, History and Sociology. Having developed a strong foundation knowledge in GCSE PE, I'm was able to build on this and stretch my understanding to a higher level on the A-level PE course."*
Ellen, A-Level PE student

You will study:

- **Section A:** Applied anatomy and physiology / Exercise Physiology
- **Section B:** Skill acquisition / Biomechanical movement
- **Section C:** Sport and society / The role of technology in physical activity and sport

Choose PE if you like:

An A-level in Physical Education will enable you to engage with the most in-depth elements of sport. The practical aspect is suited to students who are driven towards an elite level of performance, while the theory challenges students who enjoy scientific level analysis, interpretation of data and producing detailed evaluations.

Other subjects that go well with PE include:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Psychology
- Sociology

An A-level in PE can lead to:

An A-level in Physical Education offers students the opportunity to make strides in a wide variety of employment areas as well as higher education. While this list is by no means definitive, career paths could include roles in sports science, health and fitness, physiotherapy and rehabilitation, nutrition or coaching.

Example exam questions:

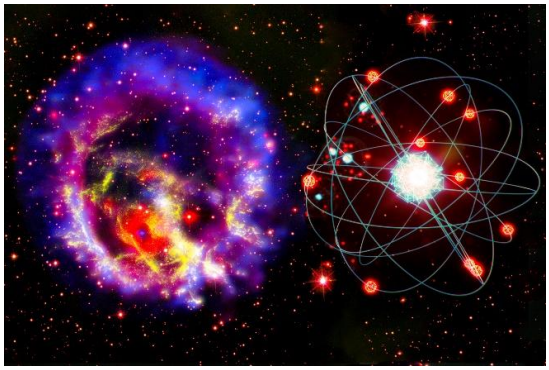
1. *Analyse how cryotherapy aids recovery from exercise by causing the body to redistribute blood flow. (8 marks))*
2. *Analyse how campaigns such as 'This Girl Can' might overcome barriers to female participation in sport and change attitudes. (15 marks)*

Homework:

- Prior reading of key material and planning for presentations
- Knowledge recall tasks
- Exam questions and self-review using mark schemes

Entry Criteria –
Grade 6 in GCSE PE, alongside teacher review of practical performance

Physics – AQA



Student Quote: *"I love Physics because it explains a wide range of phenomena from the quantum weirdness of tiny particles to the mechanics of the largest stars. It has opened my mind to the complexity and beauty in our world"*
Luiz ,Year 12 student

You will study:

1. What the universe is made up of through studying waves and particles in topics ranging from the minute world of particles, radiation, quantum mechanics and nuclear physics to the large-scale properties of materials and the interactions between planets and stars.
2. How everything interacts to give us the laws of nature as we know them through studying the mechanics of forces, moments, motion, momentum and thermal physics and then extending your knowledge to electric, gravitational and magnetic fields.
3. Key turning points in the history of physics culminating in Einstein's special relativity.

Choose physics if you like:

- Studying the fundamental mathematical laws that govern our universe and applying them to new situations.
- Thinking logically and solving problems related to everything from the smallest particle to the largest galaxy.
- Bringing together theoretical and mathematical concepts with experimental evidence to derive laws and discover the origins of our knowledge.
- Learning how the universe works so that you can push our knowledge and technology further in the future.

Other subjects that go well with Physics include:

- Maths (which you must study)
- Further maths
- Computing
- Design and Technology
- Chemistry

An A-level in physics can lead to:

Physics is a highly-regarded course by both employers and universities. Most students go on to study engineering (including mechanical, aerospace, civil and electrical engineering), physics (including astrophysics) or maths. Many pursue computing, finance or other science degrees. Some delve deeper into human understanding by studying philosophy alongside their main course. The maths and problem-solving skills which you acquire through studying physics make you highly employable.

Example exam questions:

1. Derive an expression to show that for satellites in a circular orbit, T^2 is proportional to r^3 where T is the period of the orbit and r is the radius of the orbit. (2)
2. Pluto is a dwarf planet. The orbital radius of Pluto around the Sun is 5.91×10^9 km compared to a mean orbital radius of 1.50×10^8 km for the Earth. Calculate in years the orbital period of Pluto. (2)

Homework:

- Weekly short questions on key concepts and maths skills covering every topic in detail.
- Weekly practise exam questions.
- Required practical write-ups.

Entry Criteria –
Grade 7 in GCSE Physics or 7-7 in GCSE Combined Science
You must also do Maths A-level

Politics - Edexcel

Student Quote:"We love Politics because we learn about how our political system functions, so we understand what goes on in society today and we are always up-to-date with current issues."
Korey and Faiza, Year 12 students

You will study:

1. UK Politics: From questions of a participation crisis to the relevancy of minor parties, you will learn about different aspects of current British Politics and become immersed in up-to-date debates.

2. UK Government: From the origins of the British constitution to the role of Parliament today, you will learn how the British political system operates and judge how far calls for change are warranted

3. Political Ideologies: From the emergence of liberalism to the development of socialism, you will learn about the ideologies that underpin modern political thought today

4. USA Politics and Government: From the politicisation of the Supreme Court to presidential campaigns, you will learn about different aspects of current USA Politics and compare them to the UK

Choose Politics if you like:

An A Level in Politics demands that you ask questions about the world around you: *Why did the UK vote to leave the EU? What are the limits on the powers of the US President? How has feminism changed, and influenced politics, over time?* By studying Politics, you will be equipped to tackle these questions directly. It is a subject which is driven by debate and which will develop you into an analytical thinker. Choose A Level Politics if you want to study current affairs as an expert and learn to express your ideas fluently in writing.

Other subjects that go well with Politics include:

- History
- English Literature
- Economics

An A-level in Politics can lead to:

A Level Politics equips you with the analytical skills sought by many academic disciplines and professions including journalism, local and national politics, law, business, consultancy, NGOs and the charity sector.

Example exam questions:

Evaluate the view that the image of the party leader is the most significant factor in determining the result of a general election. ***[30]***

To what extent do feminists agree over the role of the state? ***[24]***

Homework:

- Weekly extended reading on the latest political developments or to consolidate our learning in class
- Weekly essay

Entry Criteria –

Grade 6 in GCSE English Literature or GCSE History


SIXTH FORM

Psychology - AQA



Student Quotes:

"I love Psychology because I want to understand human behavior. Human nature is so complex especially the brain which is a vital part of who we are as a human. The brain is so small yet plays a crucial role in the actions we take as humans. The possibility of learning new things about human behaviour makes psychology interesting.

Jessie, Y12 student

You will study:

The following are the eleven different units across three A 'Level exam papers:

1. ***Paper 1: Memory, Social Influence, Attachment and Psychopathology***
2. ***Paper 2: Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology and Research Methods***
3. ***Paper 3: Issues and debates, Schizophrenia, Forensic and Gender***

Choose Psychology if you like:

- To develop essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of the subject and how they relate to each other
- To develop and demonstrate a deep appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of scientific methods
- To develop competence and confidence in a variety of practical, mathematical and problem-solving skills
- To develop interest in and enthusiasm for the subject, including further study and careers associated with the subject
- To understand how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society

Other subjects that go well with Psychology include:

- Biology
- English
- Maths
- Sociology
- Chemistry
- Economics

An A-level in Psychology can lead to:

Clinical/Forensic Psychologist, Psychiatrist, Educational Psychologist, High intensity therapist, Occupational Psychologist, Careers advisor, Counsellor, Detective, Mental Health Nurse, Teacher, Police

Example exam questions:

1. *What are the reliability and validity issues in diagnosis and classification of Schizophrenia (4 marks)*
2. *Outline and Evaluate research into the duration of memory (8 marks)*
3. *Discuss research into caregiver-infant interactions (16 marks)*

Homework:

Homework will be based on extensive amounts of written examinations including multiple choice, short answer questions, worksheets, application questions, essays and past paper questions.

Entry Criteria –

Grade 6 in GCSE Humanities or Grade 6 in English Language and 2 GCSE Science Grade 5+

Religious Studies - Eduqas

Student Quote: *"I love the topics we cover in religious studies as it forces me to question my own beliefs. Does God exist? How do we know that we actually exist? Learning the different arguments and debating these abstract ideas has made me realise how complex knowledge really is."*
Maya Hughes, Former student

You will study
The joint disciplines of Philosophy, Religion and Ethics in equal measure.

1. **Philosophy**: Topics include Evil and Suffering, The existence of God and the nature of humanity
2. **Religion:** contemporary issues in Christianity such as Gender and the Church
3. **Ethics:** You will learn different approaches to thinking ethically such as Utilitarianism and Natural Law in order to evaluate their strengths and weaknesses

Choose Religious Studies if you like:
If you like to learn about the belief systems of others and investigate you own ethical and moral perspectives. If you enjoy exploring the deeper questions such as 'why we exist' and the nature of God. If you have strong opinions and you enjoy forming logical, water-tight arguments that force the opposing side into submission, you will love religious studies.

Other subjects that go well with Religious Studies include:

- Sociology
- Psychology
- History
- English
- Politics
- Maths

An A-level in Religious Studies can lead to:
This course opens up pathways to several different avenues due to the logical and critical thinking skills that are developed. Students often go on to study Philosophy, Sociology, Law and similar humanities based subjects at university. These allow students to go on to professions such as teaching, law enforcement and local government.

Example exam questions:
1. Examine the challenges to Divine command theory [20]

2. 'Paley's teleological argument successfully defends the existence of God.' Discuss. [30]

3. Evaluate Plato's view on the hierarchy of the Forms, including the Form of the Good. [30]

Homework:

- Pre-reading from textbook, wider readings from key scholars, and note taking
- Podcasts (other media)
- Extended writing / essay practice
- Essay planning
- Any other H/W the teacher sees fit.

Entry Criteria –
Grade 6 and above in GCSE English (Lang/Lit) and a GCSE Humanities subject


STARPARTS

Sociology - AQA

Student Quote: *"I love sociology because it allows me to see the world from completely new perspective. I have learnt how different factors in society can impact a person's life chances, and how we, as a society, can work together to make our world a better and fairer place."*
***Diana Saridienne*, Former student**



You will study:

Education with Theories and Methods in context (Paper 1)
Topics in Sociology: Families and Households – Beliefs in Society (Paper 2)
Crime and Deviance with Theories and Methods (Paper3)

Each paper is 80marks and takes 2 hours to complete

Choose Sociology if you like:
A Level Sociology gives you the opportunity to question everything about society. As part of your studies, you'll develop your understanding of key issues relating to class, gender, ethnicity, inequality and power. Why are certain groups more likely to commit crime more than others? Why do girls outperform boys in education, yet men still earn more on average than females? These are the questions that sociologists aim to answer.

Other subjects that go well with Sociology include:

- History
- Politics
- English
- Economics
- Geography

An A-level in Sociology can lead to:
Sociology is a great choice of subject for people who want a career in social work, nursing or government. The subject is also useful in several other careers, like marketing, politics, advertising, PR, journalism, law or teaching.

Example exam questions:

1. *Outline three reasons for gender differences in educational achievement. [6 marks]*

2. *Applying material from Item B and your knowledge, evaluate sociological explanations of social class differences in educational achievement. [30 marks]*

Homework:
•Weekly reading of primary texts from key thinkers
•Completion of set tasks in homework booklets

Entry Criteria –
Grade 6 and above in GCSE English and a GCSE Humanities based subject

Spanish - AQA



Student Quote: I love Spanish as I feel like it is a way to not only learn a different language, but also gain an understanding about the historical context of the country and how it has developed culturally, socially as well as economically. **David, Year 12 student**

You will study:

Paper 1 – Listening, Reading, and Writing

- Aspects of Hispanic Society & Artistic Culture in the Hispanic World
- Multiculturalism in Hispanic Society & Aspects of political life in Hispanic Society

Paper 2 – Writing

- Film: El Laberinto del Fauno (Pan's Labyrinth by Guillermo del Toro) & Book: Como Agua Para Chocolate – Laura Esquivel

Paper 3 – Speaking

- Individual Research Project (on a topic of your choice)
- Photo card and discussion on one of the topics from Paper 1

Choose Spanish if you like:

- The idea of speaking another language! The opportunities that this can provide both in terms of job prospects and life opportunities are fantastic.
- Debating and discussing the key issues of the day: eg *Is the traditional family model outdated? What role should religion have in society? What should be done to ensure LGBTQ rights?*
- Film and literature. You will study a film and a book
- Learning about different cultures and traditions eg festivals

Other subjects that go well with Spanish include:

Anything! A foreign language complements most subjects

An A-level in Spanish can lead to:

All sorts of different careers! Languages are a great skill that are hugely valued by employers. There are a number of careers that are directly linked to language learning, e.g. becoming a translator, teacher, or working in tourism, however, languages can also set you apart from other candidates when applying for a range of other jobs. Many companies now have offices and clients in Spain and across Latin America so speaking Spanish can make you a very appealing candidate and also potentially provide you with some really exciting opportunities for travel and living abroad

Example exam questions:

1. *Analiza el tema de la guerra en la película. ¿Cuáles son las técnicas que utiliza el director para evocar la época en la que transcurre la historia? {40 marks)*

2. *Como Agua Para Chocolate trata fundamentalmente del conflicto entre la tradición y la revolución. ¿Estás de acuerdo? Justifica tu respuesta. (40 marks)*

Homework:

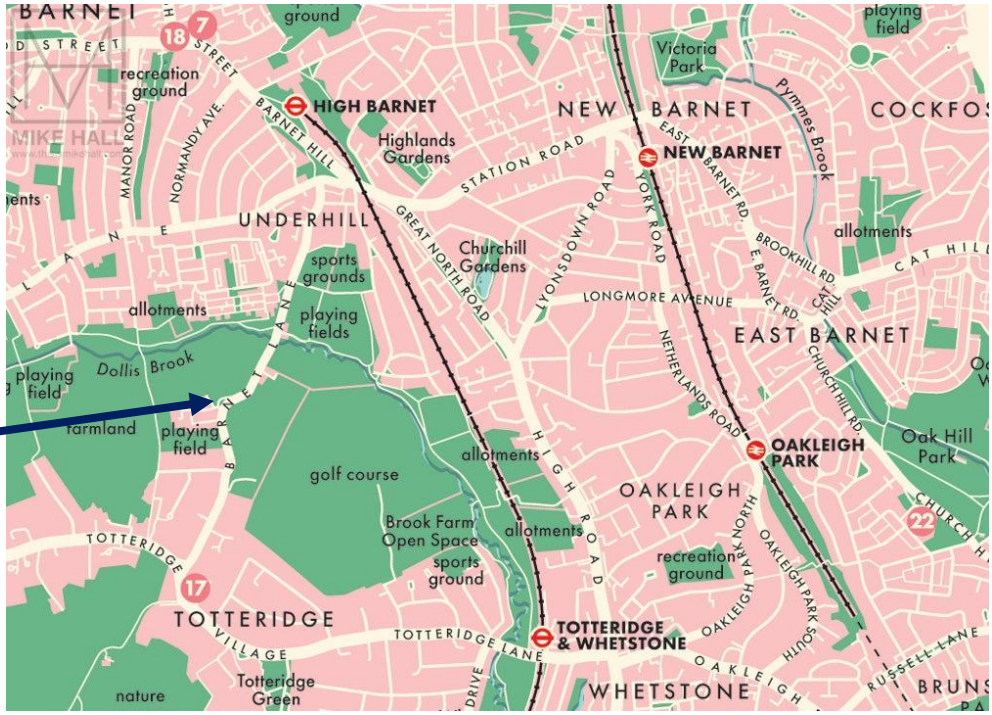
- Vocabulary learning on Memrise
- Reading and listening tasks
- Research tasks
- Creating Mind Maps
- Essay planning and writing

Entry Criteria –
Grade 7 in GCSE Spanish



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