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SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS



PROGRAMME

	External Students	11E and 11G	11H and 11J	11K and 11L
6.00pm	Presentation by Heads of 6 th Form	Presentation by Heads of 6 th Form	6 th Form Opportunities	Subject Information / Careers and University Advice
6.30pm	Subject Information / Careers and University Advice	Subject Information / Careers and University Advice	Presentation by Heads of 6 th Form	6 th Form Opportunities
7.00pm	6 th Form Opportunites	6 th Form Opportunities	Subject Information / Careers and University Advice	Presentation by Heads of 6 th Form

Presentation by Heads of 6th Form: A brief presentation by Mr Dutton and Miss Oldfield in the Main Hall

General questions & refreshments: 6th Form students and the Leadership Team in the Library

6th Form Opportunities: Presentations by Prefects and Peer Mentors in Humanities 2

Subject Information: Upstairs teaching rooms

Careers and University Advice: Open Bridon



WELCOME

Hello and welcome to The Hayfield School Sixth Form. The Hayfield School is a thriving community school situated in the South East of Doncaster with over 200 post 16 students in its Sixth Form. We have a history of providing our students with an outstanding post 16 educational experience which seeks to combine academic challenge and rigour with an emphasis on affording all students the opportunity to fulfil their academic social and personal potential. We are very much a community school and encourage all of our post 16 students to actively engage in all aspects of school life. We have high standards and encourage our sixth formers to act as positive and inspirational role models to students in the lower school. The examination results which our hardworking students achieve are amongst the very best in Doncaster and a reflection of the personalised care, guidance and support which teaching staff and tutors are able to provide in a Sixth Form of this size.

The Sixth Form community is happy, cohesive and close knit, with a strong sense of identity within the school. Big enough to provide students with a wealth of opportunities both academic and extra-curricular, but small enough to provide all individuals with a sense of belonging and an education which recognises the diverse range of needs, talent and skills which our students possess. We are proud of our Sixth Form and of our Sixth Form students. Increasingly we are attracting new students into our Sixth Form from a variety of other schools. We are delighted to do so and feel that this has a positive effect on the spirit, dynamic and ethos of Sixth Form life.

We hope to welcome you into our community and to work with you in helping you realise your hopes and future ambitions.

Sean Dutton [Y12] and Lucy Oldfield [Y13], Heads of Sixth Form



OUR VIEWS ON SIXTH FORM

We chose to continue our studies at Hayfield because we'd been very happy with the high standard of education which we'd received here in a great learning environment, where we knew that we would be supported by dedicated teachers who are always willing to go the extra mile.

In our own experience, the high teaching standard will allow us to progress to higher education smoothly, pointing us in the right direction whenever we need it. There is always great support at hand at Hayfield and the cliché is true - the more you put into it, the more you get out of it.

We must admit that starting in the Sixth Form was nerve racking for us - we honestly didn't know what to expect but with all the comments about changes and being more independent, we were looking forward to it. We soon settled in really well and are succeeding in our A levels.

We feel that the abundance of opportunities to develop leadership and interpersonal skills in Sixth Form will equip us well in our future careers. These include a chance to be involved in the Peer Mentoring Scheme where you can gain an ASDAN qualification, Paired Reading and Paired Sums, Sports Leader Award, Sixth Form Forum, Sixth Form Support and being a Prefect. In participating in these, it's an opportunity to offer our support to the younger members of school, being positive role models in the process. We are encouraged to participate in a wide range of extra-curricular activities to broaden our interests and to become well rounded individuals. With a huge variety of clubs to choose from, there really is something for everyone!

The Sixth Form Common Room's friendly atmosphere allows integration between Year 12's and 13's to widen friendship groups. Throughout the two years, we are all given comprehensive support and guidance for deciding the important next step after Sixth Form. There is a large focus on self-directed learning to consolidate knowledge from classes and maximise our chances of success.

The Heads of Sixth Form are characters in themselves and you begin to see subject teachers differently, which allows the respect on both sides to grow even further. You get more freedom in the Sixth Form, such as study periods to catch up on work, and have more opportunities to socialize than further down the school - so far we've had the best time of our school life.

Our prospects for University have increased, our grades are high to get us where we want to be and we have experienced new things that we couldn't have before. Hayfield in a nutshell for us is the best bridge to University you could ask for.

Ryan Winstanley (Headboy) and Rebecca Walters(Headgirl)

'I attended the Sixth Form Open Evening last November and I was impressed by the friendly atmosphere. Since beginning my course in September I have quickly been accepted into the school community'.

Matthew Wride, South Axholme

'I chose to come to Hayfield because of the courses they had on offer. I found the teachers and students pleasant and I knew I would be welcomed.'

Catherine Skates, Queen Elizabeth High School

'The biggest factor in my decision to come to Hayfield was the fantastic range of subjects on offer and I have full confidence that they will get me into a leading university. In addition, both staff and students have been warm and friendly. The support of these people will be invaluable in boosting my confidence and interest in academia. Finally, I saw the opportunity to take part in extra-curricular activities, such as Debating Society and Critical Thinking.'

Luke Sheerin, Hill House School

THE APPLICATION PROCESS



Introduction

An A level in Applied ICT will improve your skills in a variety of industrial software and broaden your knowledge and understanding of the way ICT is used in business.

How is the course organised?

Six modules are taught in total: in Year 12 we cover three modules and this leads to an AS grade; in Year 13, we study the other three modules to make up the full A2.

What can I do afterwards?

The course provides a basis for progression into further learning in ICT related fields, including progression from AS to A2. Students who have followed this course have gone on to do very specialist ICT degrees such as web design and ethical hacking; others have used their ICT skills in the 'real world'; many have used their ICT skills to support their chosen degree course.

What will I study?

In Year 12 you will study the way businesses use ICT systems; learn and apply software skills in a business setting; and in addition learn how to use ICT to research and present findings – a process that is useful in many other subjects.

By Year 13, you will have become more independent in your use of ICT and will be able to specialise in areas that will be relevant to your future career, or of particular interest to you.

What are the entry requirements?

We like you to have a Grade C or better at GCSE ICT, or a Merit or better at OCR Nationals Level 2.

What is the method of assessment?

With the exception of one module, you will be assessed through coursework portfolios. There is one module, completed at the end of Year 12 that is in the form of an external exam based around a case study.

Introduction

Studying in Biology teaches us to ask questions, make observations, evaluate evidence and solve problems. Biologists learn how living things work, how they interact with one another, and how they evolve. Biology increases our understanding about the natural world in which we live and helps us address issues of personal well-being and worldwide concern.

What can I do afterwards?

You could take a degree in Biological Sciences and by specialising into various aspects of Biology, you could have a wide-range of opportunities. For example in healthcare, opticians and orthopticians, pharmacy, dentistry, physical therapists and occupational therapists; in medical technology such as microbiology, haematology, virology, blood banking and forensics; or animal care such as a vet; in industry including pharmaceutical, biotechnology, food and agriculture industries.

The pharmaceutical industry hires drug representatives, sales such as scientific reagents and equipment for research and clinical laboratories. The agricultural industry offers positions in plants and crops, animals, and bio-fuels industries.

You could go into teaching, government scientific writing to name but a few.

What are the entry requirements?

We need you to have a grade B or higher in Double Award or Triple Science. Good Maths grades would be an advantage.

How is the course organised?

You will study three units for the AS and then another three units for A2, when all are complete you will have an A level. Two of the units in each section are exam-based and the third unit is an ISA. In an ISA you are given a practical to carry out and data is collected. Then you analyse the data and an exam paper is then sat about the experiment you have completed.

What will I study?

You will examine the structure, function, growth, origin, evolution, distribution and classification of all living things including cell theory, evolution, gene theory, energy and homeostasis.

What is the method of assessment?

AS Unit 1 – Biology and Disease: this includes disease and immunity, enzymes and digestion, cells, lungs and how the heart works.

AS Unit 2 – The Variety of Living Organisms: this includes variation, adaption and selection, DNA, the variety of life, exchange and transport, classification.

AS Unit 3 – ISA Investigation.

A2 Unit 4 – Populations and the Environment: this includes photosynthesis, respiration inheritance and selection.

A2 Unit 5 – Control in Cells and in Organisms.

A2 Unit 6 – ISA Investigation

Introduction

Business Studies is finding out how to set up and run a new business, how big businesses operate and how businesses are affected by external factors such as government and the state of the economy. This course is relevant to all students – whether you aspire to set up and run your own business at some point in the future or work, in a managerial capacity, within an organisation – this course will provide relevant knowledge and skills. Note also the outstanding (Ofsted) results achieved by students in Business Studies at The Hayfield School over many years

What can I do afterwards?

An A Level in Business Studies is a highly valuable, flexible and sought after qualification. Obviously it is extremely useful for students seeking employment end-on to A Level studies, but it is also a valuable qualification for those applying for higher education courses particularly in business, finance, marketing and human resource related courses. The skills developed during the A Level course provide a solid base for a very wide range of degree courses. Note also that business related degree courses provide amongst the highest earnings premiums (additional lifetime earnings compared to non-degree) of all degree subjects.

What are the entry requirements?

C grades or above in English and Maths, plus a C or above in Business Studies if it was taken at GCSE. A GCSE pass in Business Studies is not an entry requirement for students who did not study the subject at GCSE

How is the course organised?

The course is organised into 4 units (2 at AS and 2 at A2) taught over two years.

There is no coursework

What will I study?

At AS you will investigate how to set up a new business, including market research, marketing and raising and managing finance. You will then consider how a newly established business operates by focussing on the key areas of marketing, finance, production and human resources.

At A2 the focus switches to established, larger businesses, but the content again is based on the four key functions outlined above. There is more emphasis on how existing businesses are affected by external factors like government action and the state of the economy.

What is the method of assessment?

There are two examinations at AS – one in January and one in June. Both are questions based on case study material provided in the exam.

At A2 examinations are again in January and June. The questions however require longer answers and include essays, one of which is based on a pre-released research theme.

Introduction

Chemistry is the invisible influence on our lives. It gives us the drugs to increase life expectancy and quality of life. It gives us the materials for display technologies. It will help us solve the environmental concerns of the day.

What can I do afterwards?

The world is your oyster! Chemistry is a key subject for medicine and dentistry. It will help you get onto a wide range of science-based courses.

There is a combination of other courses where Chemistry shows the wide range of academic skills that are required.

What are the entry requirements?

At least 2 B grades in Core and Additional Science and a C grade in Mathematics.

How is the course organised?

The course is divided up into 6 sections, 3 for the AS and 3 for the A2. One section for AS is a practical skills assessment and there is also one for A2.

What will I study?

Unit 1 covers Foundation Chemistry and Unit 2 is Chemistry in Action. Both of these modules cover basic AS topics such as periodicity, chemical bonding and organic chemistry.

Units 4 and 5 are the A2 modules and cover the AS modules in more depth.

What is the method of assessment?

Unit 1 is assessed in January of Year 12 by a test of 1 hour and 15 minutes.

Unit 2 is taken in June of Year 12 and it is a test of 1 hour and 45 minutes.

Unit 3 is assessment by a practical skills test and a written test.

Unit 4 is tested in January of Year 13 by a test of 1 hour and 45 minutes.

Unit 5 is tested in June by a test of 1 hour and 45 minutes.

Unit 6 is assessment of practical skills with a similar format to Unit 3.

Introduction

Critical Thinking was introduced by the Oxford and Cambridge exam board following widespread concerns that even the brightest A Level students were unable to “think outside the box”, transfer skills between their academic subjects and “read between the lines”. For much more information please see the Critical Thinking pages in the subject information area of the school VLE.

What can I do afterwards?

AS Critical Thinking is worth exactly the same UCAS points as any other AS, however its real value lies on the signals it sends to Universities regarding your suitability for their courses and in some cases can lead to exemption from their entry exams.

What are the entry requirements?

Critical Thinking AS is aimed at the top 10% or so of Hayfield students in Year 12 and is offered by invitation only based on such factors as GCSE points score and aptitude for the course. Critical Thinking is a skills-based course, which requires a high degree of self-motivation by students as teaching contact time is restricted and most of the work is undertaken by students in their own time.

How is the course organised?

We are very pleased to be able to offer this course, to AS Level only, during the normal school day for those students whose option patterns leave them this freedom. Currently the course runs in Option Column F at three one-hour lessons per fortnight. You will need some background general knowledge but it is mostly about testing your ability to think. You will not be over-faced with data, but you will need to handle new information quickly and accurately.

What will I study?

The early lessons on the course are aimed at improving your ability to spot what it is the examiners want you to do and then showing you how to do it. Later there will be opportunities for you to demonstrate your understanding of a variety of topics, in the form of specially written Case Studies to “take apart”. Topics for these have deliberately been chosen to appeal to your curiosity and sense of outrage or fair play. Case Studies used in the past have covered such issues as whether or not Diana was murdered, whether we have a right to visit places like Stonehenge, and whether Neil Armstrong really did take that “small step for man” on the moon. Finally, you will of course get plenty of practice at past exam papers.

What is the method of assessment?

There are two papers, both taken in the June session. The first covers Language and Credibility of Evidence, the second Analysing, Evaluating and Developing Reasoned Arguments. Each paper is 1 hour 30 minutes, each worth 50% of the AS. Paper 1 is assessed through short and longer written answers, Paper 2 through multiple choice, short and longer written answers.

Introduction

A challenging but highly rewarding course that offers an opportunity for students to participate in both practical and theoretical studies. The course will appeal to students who have a passion for the arts and a genuine interest in the history and theory behind drama and theatre.

This highly practical and academic subject has been widely accepted for a long time by universities including Oxford and Cambridge and students often use it as a springboard into a wide variety of careers.

What can I do afterwards?

Many universities recognise and value transferable skills developed throughout the course e.g. team building, negotiation and problem solving.

Having studied GCSE Drama and Theatre Studies, students will also be able to access arts based degree courses or those geared towards working in arts administration. It can also provide a strong grounding for entry to drama colleges. Long term it can lead to working in many aspects of the entertainments industry.

What are the entry requirements?

Students should, preferably, have GCSE Drama or Expressive Arts (where Drama has been a chosen art form) at a C grade or above. Students will be also considered where evidence of involvement in school productions or amateur theatre groups can be provided and must be willing to visit theatre productions both with the school and by themselves. We would strongly advise that students get involved in school productions.

An interest in theatre and performance is essential as is the ability to work independently on research and analysis.

How is the course organised?

AS - Unit 1 - Study of two set plays e.g 'A Doll's House' – Ibsen. Students will also be required to attend a number of theatre productions during this part of the course.

AS - Unit 2 - Practical Presentation of an extract from a published play. A significant theatre practitioner will form the basis for further study during this unit.

A2 - Unit 3 - Study of two set plays:- pre 20th Century e.g. 'The Seagull' – Anton Chekov; 20th Century/contemporary (Extract based) e.g 'A View from the Bridge' - Miller

A2 - Unit 4 - Presentation of devised drama.

What will I study?

Students will develop an understanding of the theory and practical skills of drama and theatre. They will take part in a variety of practical and theoretical workshops designed to develop knowledge of play texts, theatre practitioners and theatre companies. Students will have the opportunity to watch and analyse live performances as well as perform both devised and scripted work.

What is the method of assessment?

Unit 1 - 60% AS Written Examination

Section A - Response to live theatre seen during the course.

Section B – Study of one set play

Unit 2 - 40% AS Practical Presentation of an extract from a published play.

Assessment also includes preparatory and development work and supporting notes which must include reference to the influence of a significant theatre practitioner.

Unit 3 - 60% A2 Written Examination

Section A – study of one set play – pre 20th Century. Section B – study of one set play – 20th Century/contemporary.

Unit 4 - 40% Presentation of devised drama. Assessment also includes preparatory and development work and supporting notes.

Introduction

Economics is a study of how the economy works. It looks at how the government tries to manage the economy to prevent inflation and unemployment and to raise living standards for the population as a whole.

Economics will help you understand the world you live in and help prepare you for life after the 6th Form.

Economics is a long-established and highly respected subject – ideal for a career in business and finance or as an entry qualification for university. Economics combines well with many other subjects – both Arts and Sciences, particularly Mathematics.

What can I do afterwards?

Economics provides an ideal platform for students to go on to further study in a wide-range of subjects – particularly related to business, finance and accountancy. It is a well-respected subject, highly valued by top universities.

It should be noted that a degree in Economics provides one of the highest additional earnings premiums of all degree subjects i.e. Economics graduates earn more than almost all other degree holders.

What are the entry requirements?

You will need C grades or above in both English and Mathematics plus a C or above in Business Studies / Economics, if you sat one of these subjects at GCSE.

How is the course organised?

The course is organised into 4 units – 2 at AS in Year 12 and 2 at A2 in Year 13.

There is no coursework.

What will I study?

The course both at AS and A2 is divided into units on Micro Economics and Macro Economics.

Micro Economics deals with the behaviour of firms and individuals and examines how they operate and how they influence the economy. Macro Economics looks at the economy as a whole – topics include unemployment, inflation, government management and international trade.

What is the method of assessment?

Assessment of each of the 2 modules at AS is via an exam sat in May/June and which includes multiple-choice questions and data response questions.

This pattern is repeated at A2 though the exams include more extended, essay type questions rather than multiple choice, as well as data response.

Introduction

English Language is the study of the language that surrounds us every day; in both spoken and written contexts. We study how language works, the way it has developed over time and the different attitudes people have about it. Students will have the chance to undertake their own writing and investigate an area of specialist interests.

What can I do afterwards?

Useful for any degree course. Can lead to specific degrees in English Language, Linguistics, Speech and Language Therapy, Journalism and Broadcasting. Also useful for careers in Law, Media, Advertising and Teaching.

What are the entry requirements?

Minimum Grade C in English at GCSE.

How is the course organised?

4 units taught over the two years.

What will I study?

AS Level: how language works and how to apply the language frameworks to both written and spoken language. We will study language in social contexts, focusing on two specific topic areas: Language and Power and Language and Gender.

A2 Level: Language development with a focus on two broad areas: Language Change and Language Acquisition. Language Investigation will allow students the opportunity to undertake a detailed investigation into a specific area of interest.

What is the method of assessment?

AS Level: 1 examination in May and Coursework to be submitted in May.

A2 Level: 1 examination in January and investigation to be submitted in May.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE COMBINED



Introduction

This course combines the study of literature and linguistics. You will explore a range of exciting texts and there will be an element of choice as to what texts you study. You will develop an understanding of how language works in society.

This course compliments a wide range of A level courses including; Psychology Sociology, History and many more.

How is the course organised?

This course is taught as four units over two years.

What can I do afterwards?

The combined English language and English literature A' level can lead to careers in; journalism publishing, teaching, forensic linguistics to name but a few.

This course is also good grounding for careers in law, management and personnel.

What will I study?

Across the four units you will study: how literature changes over time, an anthology of literary and non-literary texts and how talk works in life and literature and text transformation.

What are the entry requirements?

You will need to achieve at least a grade B in English Language and a grade B in English Literature at GCSE.

What is the method of assessment?

There are two examined units and two coursework units.

Introduction

English Literature encapsulates all aspects of literary study. It seeks to embed a confident understanding and passion for poetry, drama and prose fiction. The course offers an enjoyable opportunity to develop analytical and interpretive skills in response to a variety of great literature.

How is the course organised?

The course is organised into two AS and two A2 Modules.

What can I do afterwards?

Following study at A Level students are well equipped for University life. A recent survey conducted by Oxford and Cambridge named English as the only subject, which saw graduates enter every sector of employment.

What will I study?

At AS Level you will analyse the effectiveness of two plays within the same dramatic genre and explore narrative devices in a diverse blend of classic and modern literature. At A2 Level you will link texts according to common themes and concepts. You will also develop your critical awareness as a reader.

What are the entry requirements?

You will need to achieve a Grade B or above in GCSE English and Literature.

What is the method of assessment?

Each year comprises of a coursework module and an examined module.

Introduction

A level Art is a journey of personal development through the exploration of, and experimentation with, ideas through a range of media.

It covers the five specialist areas of painting and drawing, printmaking, sculpture, lens-based imagery, and alternative media.

Students can choose to produce work in one area of specialism or may opt to use a variety of different media.

What can I do afterwards?

There are over a hundred different types of degree courses in Art and Design; you may apply directly after A level or take a more traditional route of a foundation course at college that is classed as a Year 1.

Consider your environment, everything you walk in, through, on, everything you purchase, wear, ride in, everything you watch on television, at the cinema, see at the theatre, all the fabrics and papers, packaging, posters, accessories, all these have been through the hands of a person trained in one of the disciplines of Art and Design. Exhibiting, Teaching or being an artist are not the only options!

What are the entry requirements?

The entry requirement for A Level Art is a grade C at GCSE (or equivalent) however it is strongly recommended that students have a grade B or above. A-C grades at A level tend to be achieved by those students with an A or B at GCSE.

A Merit in Btec Art or above would also be considered for entry onto this course. Students would be advised that a portfolio of evidence may be required if qualifications are not an exact match to GCSE level.

How is the course organised?

AS level: Two units: Coursework portfolio (60%) and a controlled assignment (40%). The coursework portfolio is developed through a variety of stimuli, themes or topics. The focus is on including work that shows exploration, research, acquisition of technique and skill. The controlled Assignment is a question paper with a minimum of 3 weeks to prepare followed by a five-hour controlled exam.

A2 Level: Two units: Personal investigation (60%) and a controlled assignment (40%). The Personal investigation is a submission of a major project that has a personal significance, and a written personal study of 3000 words.

What will I study?

Students will investigate contemporary art and will gain an understanding of art from different genres in relation to the subject/topic. They will explore and develop skills in drawing, painting, printing, sculpture and ceramics.

What is the method of assessment?

Formal Individual reviews and completion of an action plan every half term; peer assessment, presentations, evaluation and target setting are integral to the process.

The work is marked against the marking bands provided by the OCR examination board. It is divided into four categories; Develop, experiment, record and present.

The work will be marked internally throughout the year by your teacher and then moderated by the OCR examiner.

The final grade at A2 comprises of: AS Marks (50%)
A2 mark (50%).

Introduction

Further Mathematics allows Mathematics to be studied at its purest level, to explore the links between Real and Imaginary, as well as widening your knowledge on the applications of Mathematics.

Opting for Further Maths in Year 12 also allows you to complete A Level Maths in one year, you can then either continue to a second A or AS Level in Further Maths or opt to focus on your other A Level subjects in Year 13.

What can I do afterwards?

AS or A2 Further Maths provide a strong support to those students wishing to pursue Mathematics or Engineering to degree level. As the only A Level that requires you to have shown success at A2 standard it marks you as a person of academic ability, logical, precise with good problem solving skills.

What are the entry requirements?

Grade A or better at GCSE Mathematics with high achievement in Year 12 Modules.

How is the course organised?

12 Modules are studied in total, 6 in Year 12 giving an A Level Maths Grade and the remaining 6 in Year 13.

What will I study?

Six modules cover Pure Maths topics - Algebra, Calculus, Functions and Graphs, Trigonometry, Matrices and Complex Numbers. There are 2 modules on each application of Mechanics, Statistics and Decision Maths.

What is the method of assessment?

Each module is assessed by an examination of 1hr 30mins. These take place in January and June of each year.

Introduction

General Studies is by several orders of magnitude the most popular A level exam taken in England. If we didn't offer it we would be doing you a serious disservice as you would be up against literally hundreds of thousands of students who had done it elsewhere. It makes you think, act quickly on information received and hopefully you learn a little more about the world you are going to live in.

What can I do afterwards?

The reason General Studies is compulsory is because despite all the myths and hype, the fact is that universities increasingly see the subject as the only means of assessing a candidate's academic potential which, after all, is what they are really interested in. Scary? You bet! In recent years some 12% of Hayfield students needed their General Studies grade to get into their choice of higher education course and that figure is growing every year.

Just as importantly, in a recent survey, local employers said the skills school leavers lack at 18 are the very ones General Studies develops!

What are the entry requirements?

General Studies is compulsory for all Year 13 students at Hayfield. However, those studying more than three A2's attend only one lesson per week.

How is the course organised?

General Studies is a full A level qualification, delivered in just one year (Year 13) at only two lessons per week. The AS course runs to Christmas, the A2 from January to the end of Year 13.

What will I study?

General Studies is an inter-disciplinary subject. That is, it looks at topics across subject boundaries e.g. the NHS could be looked at from the point of view of medical science, economics, moral issues, etc. The AS course covers such issues as culture, language, the arts, religion, morals and ethics, freedoms, rights and responsibilities, British and other political systems, origins of life and the universe, human behaviour, commerce and industry, scientific discoveries and inventions etc. The A2 is focused on propaganda, persuasion, responsibilities in a democracy, international relations, artist's roles in society, concepts of life and matter, solutions to global problems, hypothesis and theoretical science, data (uses and protection) and lifestyle choices. A bit of everything, and it is all about you, and developing your skills such as data handling, constructing arguments and seeing issues from others' points of view

What is the method of assessment?

The AS exam is taken in the January session, the A2 in June. There are two papers at AS, each worth 25% of the A level, and another two at A2, again each worth 25%. Each paper is 1 hour and 30 minutes long, the AS includes multiple choice and relatively short written answers, the A2 is mainly essays.

Introduction

Contemporary geography engages with the relationship of human populations, and their relationship with their physical environment at a variety of scales from the local to the global. In a rapidly changing and diverse planet Geography is increasingly important as a way to understanding our future.

Geography is a versatile subject that combines well with a variety of other subjects and it will help you develop excellent, transferable skills for a flexible career path. Those with geography qualifications are in great demand by employers because of the variety and depth of skills they can offer.

What can I do afterwards?

AS or A2 Geography provides a base of excellent transferable skills which can be carried into any workplace. Geography A-level ensures you stand out as a person who values current global issues and a person who has a wide-range of investigative and academic skills.

Your Geography teachers will be happy to discuss options with you that may interest you.

What are the entry requirements?

Preferably a Grade C or better at GCSE Geography, however if not you must have a C or above in English Language and a Science

How is the course organised?

2 units; Physical and Human Geography and Geographical skills, will be studied at AS level. Moving onto A2 you will study a further 2 units; Contemporary Geographical Issues and a further skills paper (this can be completed in the AS year).

What will I study?

Unit 1 AS – Physical and Human Geography: rivers floods and management, coastal environments, population change, health issues.

Unit 2 AS – Geographical Skills.

Unit 3 A2 – Contemporary Geographical Issues: plate tectonics and associated hazards, weather and climate and associated hazards, world cities, contemporary conflict and challenges.

Unit 4 A2 – Geography Fieldwork Investigation.

The content for Unit 2 and Unit 4 will be taught on a field studies residential with the Field Studies Council and Geography staff during April.

What is the method of assessment?

Each module is assessed by an examination. These take place in January and June of each year.

Introduction

'History is who we are and why we are the way we are' as the American historian David McCullough put it. It helps us to discover how our world evolved. What motivates people to behave in the way they do? Being an historian is like being a detective - using evidence to piece together a story.

If you enjoy discussion and argument, if you are able to work well with other people and you can express yourself clearly and effectively, then History is the subject for you.

What can I do afterwards?

Would you like to be a 'captain of industry', an accountant, a town planner, a lawyer, a journalist? These are but a few opportunities a qualification in history can offer! Studying history provides you with all the skills employers want, and activities in lessons will be designed to develop research, problem solving, communication and thinking skills, to name but a few.

What are the entry requirements?

You do not need to have studied History at GCSE but you must have a C or above in English Language.

How is the course organised?

The course is organised into 4 units taught over two years. It covers both British and European history.

What will I study?

The British history units will question: How did we become the country we are today? By exploring the impact of industrialisation and the subsequent challenges of a rapidly changing society.

The European history unit focuses on Stalin's brutal regime in the USSR, the transformation of soviet society and the preparations for war with Nazi Germany.

The A2 coursework will be chosen from a range of options related to the Cold War, including the lives of East German women and the Vietnam War.

What is the method of assessment?

The first year of the course is assessed by two examinations.

The second year is assessed by one examination and one coursework module.

LANGUAGES – FRENCH AND GERMAN



Introduction

'A' level languages build on and extend the vocabulary and grammar you already know and give you the opportunity to discuss cultural and up-to-date issues in the foreign language of your choice. If you decide to take a foreign language to 'A' level, you are giving yourself many opportunities for the future, as good foreign language skills are in short supply. French and German are on offer at 'A' level and you can just continue with one or choose to do both. There are trips to both Paris and Berlin, to give you the opportunity to practise the language and soak up the culture of these amazing cities.

What can I do afterwards?

The world is your oyster! Most degree courses allow you to study a language alongside them, so whatever you are interested in, you can also study a language. Wherever you want to live, whatever job you want to do, having a language to a good level will set you apart from the competition and boost your chances. Having a qualification in a language will mean you are versatile and therefore an asset to any employer. Translating, interpreting, teaching and the travel industry obviously require linguists, but so too do many other areas of employment – financial services, accountancy, marketing, engineering, IT, law and journalism for example.

What are the entry requirements?

You need at least a B grade at GCSE in the language you would like to study and a C in English and Maths.

How is the course organised?

There are 4 main topic areas at AS and A2, which are each divided into 3 sub topics.

There is a course book and each chapter is supported by on-line resources.

What will I study?

At AS level you will study Media, Popular Culture, Healthy Living/Lifestyle and Family/Relationships.

At A2 level you will study Environment, The Multi-Cultural Society, Contemporary Social Problems and Cultural Aspects in the form of films, plays, books etc.

What is the method of assessment?

There are four examinations over the two years. A speaking test and a Listening, Reading, Writing test each year.

Introduction

Mathematics at A Level provides an opportunity to explore to greater depths areas already met at GCSE as well as introducing new topics such as Calculus with its many applications. Apart from being a subject worth pursuing in its own right, Mathematics provides support to a range of other A Levels from the Sciences through to Geography and Psychology. Should you wish to complete A Level Maths in one year you can do so by also opting for Further Maths in Year 12 - being able to record an A Level result on your UCAS or job applications a year early can only be a good thing!

What can I do afterwards?

A Level Mathematics opens the door to a whole range of opportunities. As well as its obvious links to Science and Engineering, aspects of Maths are also found in Humanities and Economics and this course will support further studies in these areas. For those entering the job market it shows an ability to think logically, solve problems and is a respected academic qualification.

What are the entry requirements?

Grade B or better at GCSE Mathematics

How is the course organised?

Six modules are taught in total, 3 in Year 12 giving an AS grade and the remaining 3 in Year 13.

What will I study?

Within each year, 2 of the modules will be Pure Maths covering Algebra, Calculus and Trigonometry. The other two modules will be selected from Statistics and/or Mechanics

What is the method of assessment?

Each module is assessed by an examination of 1hr 30min. These take place in January and June of each year.

MUSIC COMPOSITION

BTEC NATIONAL LEVEL 3



Introduction

BTEC Nationals are designed to provide highly specialist work-related qualifications. On the course you'll combine practical music skills with some recording and composing techniques as well as looking at ways of creating your own original material. This course is for you if you are seriously interested in developing your skills as a composer and songwriter through the use of music technology and I.T.

What can I do afterwards?

This course will provide students with the ideal preparation to enter the music industry having developed a broad range of skills from composing and recording to commercially releasing their own music. The course could also be combined with others in order to enhance a comprehensive set of skills to help students to progress to university or further education.

What are the entry requirements?

A genuine interest in music composition and technology.

Functional I.T. skills.

Although having a GCSE or Level 2 equivalent in Music would be of benefit, it is not a necessity

How is the course organised?

You can take part in either a one or two year course. In the first year, you will achieve a BTEC Level 3 Certificate (30 credits - AS Level equivalent). Those who choose to continue into the second year will achieve a BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma (60 credits - A Level equivalent). Each year is made up of three different modules.

What will I study?

You will build on your existing skills and interests - this may include:

Recording compositions and song ideas.

Analysing the work of other composers and songwriters.

Using notation software to develop your composing ideas.

Creating new arrangements of existing compositions.

Using sequencing software to create compositions.

Workshops on lyric writing.

Planning and producing a music project.

What is the method of assessment?

The course is entirely coursework based. Each module is worth 10 credits.

Introduction

Studying religion helps you to understand the beliefs and traditions of different people, and be tolerant about the things they feel are important in life. It also helps you to think about your own beliefs. As a subject, it develops many skills, such as communication and analytical skills. Taking this subject will give you: knowledge about what other people believe and the sort of world we live in; an understanding of what people mean when they say certain things; and the opportunity to debate some of the big issues you will have to face during the course of your own life.

What can I do afterwards?

If you think that RS is only for someone wanting to be a vicar, minister, nun, monk, rabbi, imam or even an RS teacher, then think again! RS has a lot to offer – perhaps more than you might think – to help you prepare for many different types of career. You don't have to be religious to enjoy RS either. It will make you think about your life and the way you live it.

Employers like to know that applicants have thought a bit about themselves and their place in the world. They expect them to be able to work with a wide range of people – from all sorts of cultures – and to treat them all with courtesy and respect.

What are the entry requirements?

It is not essential to have any prior knowledge or qualification in Religious Studies, so anyone with an interest in this course and a willingness to develop academically will be considered. You should have a grade C or above in English Language

How is the course organised?

The two modules give the opportunity for independent learning, research into other views and evaluation of a range of beliefs

What will I study?

Module 1: Religion and Ethics – how we should approach ethical dilemmas is a key issue again in this module and a further two influential ethical theories will be studied – these are ideas about how we can make a decision on a moral issue. The theories will also be applied to issues that affect our daily lives such as the ethics of war, abortion, euthanasia and cloning. Particular attention will be given to Christian views on these matters.

Module 2: Religion and Human Experience – this is a module, which will give you an opportunity to make a holistic study on the theme of Life, Death and Life After Death. Different beliefs about the nature and purpose of life, death and life after death will be studied e.g. is there adequate evidence for belief in life after death?

What is the method of assessment?

Assessment is by examination, there is no coursework

Introduction

Whatever you dream of doing, Physics offers one of the best ways forward.

Physics is the fast track to the biggest choice of jobs and the widest range of opportunities. If you are interested in the answers to the really big questions about nature and the universe, interested in any form of engineering, want to work in medicine, in the leisure industry, in education or in the media, or want to work in the high-powered jobs in the city, then Physics is really going to help you get there.

What can I do afterwards?

With a qualification in Physics you will be able to open any door to whatever career you choose.

If you are thinking about working to improve technology, find solutions to the energy crisis or ways of controlling pollution then Physics will help. If you want to work in medicine, in the leisure industry, in education or the media, physics will help. Even if you want to work in law, finance or computing Physics will also help you prepare for these.

What are the entry requirements?

You will need at least 2 grade B's in Science and a grade C in Mathematics.

How is the course organised?

AS consists of three modules of which one is experimental and research based.

A2 is similarly organised with one module being experimental and research based

What will I study?

At AS you will study the science behind; communications; the structure and uses of materials; the physics of waves; the laws behind motion and the new topic of quantum physics.

At A2 you will study how we use models to explain topics like radioactivity and the behaviour of matter. We will also study the universe and its laws, from fundamental particles to the big bang, and much more.

What is the method of assessment?

There are two examined units each year. One examination will be in January and the other in June. There are also two internally assessed units of work based on short experimental investigations and research topics. You will be free to choose your topics.

Introduction

Psychology is the study of human behaviour and thoughts. Why do some people murder? Why do some develop personality disorders? What is autism?

How is the course organised?

You will sit two exams in Year 12 and two in Year 13. Lessons involve a number of different styles. You will take notes, undertake independent learning and will be asked to carry out research.

What can I do afterwards?

Anything that includes dealing with, and interacting with other people.

Especially useful in the NHS or police. Many students take psychology at university and become professional psychologists.

What will I study?

The psychology of rapists, serial killers, schizophrenia, autism, criminal psychology, drug use and abuse, multiple personality disorder, memory and psychoanalysis, amongst other things. You will also carry out your own research.

What are the entry requirements?

5 GCSEs A-C including Mathematics / English.

What is the method of assessment?

Written examinations (not essays).

Introduction

Sociology is an academic discipline which encourages students to consider the relationship between society and the individual and explore the impact of society on Human Behaviour. It invites students to understand their past, present and future social experiences helping you investigate and appreciate the changing nature of your social existence.

Sociology is concerned with asking challenging and awkward questions such as; "Why is the divorce rate increasing? Is the family Dead? Why do some social groups do much better than others in the education system?"

What can I do afterwards?

Sociology is non-vocational but typically our students go on to further study of Sociology, Law, Politics, Nursing, midwifery, Psychology and a host of other disciplines.

The study of sociology suggests an interest in the workings of society and can be an asset when applying for careers in Probation, Social Work and The Police Force.

What are the entry requirements?

There is absolutely no need to have studied Sociology at GCSE. It is not a requirement. We ask that students have a C grade or better in English and at least a C in another Humanities subject such as History, Geography or R.E

How is the course organised?

Seven Modules are studied in total. At AS students cover; Families and Households, Education, Research methods and Research methods in the context of educational research At A2, students cover Stratification, Crime and Deviance and Beliefs in society [Sociology of Religion]

What will I study?

You will study a variety of sociological issues from a range of different sociological perspectives. These include Crime and Deviance, Families and households, Social class and gender, the education system and the role of religion and belief in society. Sociology gives you the opportunity to study the changing shape and dynamics of society.

What is the method of assessment?

Students are entered for Units 1 and 2 in the May of Year 12. Unit 1=1 hour. Unit 2=2 Hours. Students sit Unit 3 (1 and a half hours) in January of Year 13 and Unit 4 (1 and a half hours) in June.

Introduction

AQA Physical Education builds on the student's experience from KS4 and GCSE to enhance their knowledge and increase their understanding of the factors that affect performance and participation in physical education. The qualification looks to equip students with skills and knowledge required for higher education or the world of work.

Students will have the opportunity to experience and develop an interest in a variety of roles in sport, such as performer, official and/or leader/coach at AS and then be able to specialise in one at A2.

What can I do afterwards?

Knowledge gained is useful for careers such as those involved in coaching / playing / officiating / teaching / administering sport. Work in leisure centres / sports development / health officials, sports psychology, sports journalism, medicine – nursing, doctor, physiotherapy, personal trainer, armed forces etc.

What are the entry requirements?

B at GCSE English Language, B in GCSE Science, regular involvement in at least one sport at a competitive or elite level (for practical aspect of the course).

How is the course organised?

4 units over 2 years.

60% theoretical understanding.

40% practical ability in one/two sports covering performance/coaching/officiating

What will I study?

Physiology – How the body works and how it responds to exercise.

Biomechanics – Sport Physics, the mechanics of movement.

Psychology – How the mind effects sports performance.

Sports History – How sport has evolved over the past century

Sports Organisation – The structure of sport in the UK and around the world.

Social Issues in Sport – Such as drugs in sport and barriers to participation.

Practical Performance – The role of a performer, official or coach.

What is the method of assessment?

1 theory exam and 1 practical (video evidence) in June of each year.

BTEC NATIONAL CERTIFICATE IN SPORT



Introduction

The qualification will enable you to develop the essential skills and knowledge for starting a career in the sports sector, with a specific focus on sports development, coaching and fitness. The qualification will give you insight into the various different occupational routes you can take within the sector, plus help you progress in existing employment, or move on to further study.

What can I do afterwards?

With the international recognition of BTEC courses such as this, you can progress straight into employment. If successful there are a wide variety of prospective careers that you can explore, for example: health and fitness instructor, sports therapist or sports development officer.

The BTEC National Certificate in Sport (Development, Coaching and Fitness) has the equivalence of two GCE A Levels, and it is possible for you to progress further into higher education, as successful BTEC National qualifications give UCAS points for university applications.

What are the entry requirements?

Grade 'C' in English Language

Grade C or equivalent in Science

To have a passion for sport

How is the course organised?

You will have to study 7 compulsory units and 5 optional units as listed in the What Will I Study section.

What will I study?

Compulsory Units

The Body in Action; Health and Safety in Sport; Training and Fitness for Sport; Sports Coaching; Sports Development; Fitness Testing for Sport and Exercise; Practical Team Sports *or Practical Individual Sports

Optional Units (5 must be taken)

Practical Team Sports *or Practical Individual Sports; Sports Nutrition; Sport and Society; Leadership in Sport Exercise, Health and Lifestyle; Instructing Physical Activity and Exercise; Psychology for Sports; Performance; Sports Injuries; Rules, Regulations and Officiating in Sport; Working with Children in Sport; Sport as a Business; Work-based Experience in Sport

What is the method of assessment?

The strength of the BTEC is that it does not have an end exam as it is modular based and the students complete assignment based coursework

Introduction

The course follows the AQA GCE syllabus, which is accepted as an A level entrance qualification by all higher education establishments.

Candidates are encouraged to take a broad view of technology and design in the industrial world, develop higher level skills and understanding when designing and making and appreciate the complex relationship between design, manufacture, materials and marketing.

What can I do afterwards?

Many students with A level Design go on to study for a Design degree at university. This can then lead to careers in Fashion Design, Packaging Design, Aeronautical Engineering, Agricultural Engineering.

What are the entry requirements?

GCSE Grade C passes in Technology or Art and Design, Mathematics, English, Science and ICT.

How is the course organised?

The course is organized into 4 units, taught over two years.

What will I study?

Year 12 is split into two units. Unit 1 is an exam-based unit where candidates are tested on their knowledge of materials and components. Unit 2 is coursework – three design and make projects in a range of materials. Graphic communication is a heavily weighted and integral part of the Year 12 course and will be enhanced and developed throughout the course.

Year 13 students have to work through two further units. Unit 3 is a final examination which is based on design and manufacture. Unit 4 is a single student initiated project. Again graphic communication is a heavily weighted and crucial part of this project.

The course aims to be interesting, hands-on, tailored to individual strengths and relevant.

What is the method of assessment?

The balance between coursework 50% and examination 50% is equally weighted.

NOTES

6TH FORM OPEN EVENING

14TH NOVEMBER 2011

SCHOOL MAP

