

SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS



GATEWAYS
SCHOOL



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Gateways School

Harewood

Leeds

LS17 9LE

Thank you for your interest in Gateways Sixth Form.

This pack is to provide you with information about the next stage in your education. It describes the programme of study in the Sixth Form and provides information and course details about the wide range of subjects we can offer at A Level.

You may already have a clear idea of the subjects she would like to study or you may be totally undecided. Please use this pack to help make informed choices. We can also help with subject choice through our careers system or we can arrange for you to meet with our Head of Sixth Form, Mr Martin Davison.

The decisions you take now can help shape your higher education choices and beyond. Therefore, think about your strengths and play to these. It is essential that you make the best choices for you.

Mr Davison, subject teachers, other members of staff and I are all here to help.

Yours sincerely

Dr T Johnson

Headmistress

Sixth Form Curriculum

Gateways Sixth Form offers the following: -

A choice of 3 subjects at A Level or Level 3

Option blocks for sixth form subjects are published in March. These are devised from application received in January. We aim to offer a wide range of subjects provided there is sufficient demand.

For the most able students, we do allow the opportunity to study 4 A Level subjects provided the candidate has achieved top GCSE grades in all subjects.

Level 3 Spoken English Award

- Candidates have to give a five-minute presentation on any subject which they find interesting or stimulating which shows evidence of broader research and uses illustrative material efficiently.
- They then have to select and summarise a newspaper article identifying the main issues raised by the writer and then lead a discussion with the group, the result of which they have to summarise for the examiner.
- Finally, they give a reading of something which they wish to recommend.
- They are assessed not only on the content of their presentations but on the style, clarity and accessibility of their pieces.

Extended Project Qualification

An overview of EPQ can be found on page 30

Level 3 Sports Leaders Award (Optional)

An overview of the Sports Leaders Award can be found on page 64

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A-Level Art & Design

Contact: Mrs D Harrison

Email: della.harrison@gatewaysschool.co.uk

Examination Board: AQA

Specification: 7201

Preferred Previous Studies

It would be advantageous to have studied Art at GCSE. If you do not have any formal qualifications in Art, then you will be expected to submit a portfolio to evidence skills and interest.



Why Study Art & Design?

'The purpose of Art is washing the dust of daily life off our souls.'

Pablo Picasso.

You can develop your artistic flair when studying one of our range of Art Craft and Design programmes which encompass the three disciplines of Fine art, textiles and Photography. You will have access to some fantastic facilities, giving you the chance to try out a variety of artistic techniques. Make your mark. Manipulate materials. Express yourself and create. If you love images and colour, have recognised your creative flair and want to explore your skills within an art context, this course could be for you. You will be introduced to a variety of experiences exploring a range of fine art media, techniques and processes. You will have the opportunity to explore 2D and 3D, traditional and new technologies. This course prepares you to become an independent, confident practitioner. Your personal work will be presented in a portfolio and can be used for progression to higher level study or training in Art and Design related occupations.

At Gateways you are following in the footsteps of students who have recently gained places on highly sought after places at the top Art institutions. Notably, students left to study on either foundation or degree level courses at The University of the Arts, Leeds college of Art, Chelsea College of Art, Edinburgh and the University of London. As part of your course there will be opportunities for gallery visits, entering prestigious competitions, staging exhibitions, and meeting visiting practitioners.

A Level Content

Areas of study

Within each component, you must demonstrate evidence that you have explored critical and contextual work through a range of two-dimensional and/or three-dimensional processes and media.

- ✍ Component 1 Portfolio: This must include a selection of thoughtfully presented work and at least one extended project based on an idea or theme, this should demonstrate student's ability to research and develop work in meaningful ways and show evidence of working in areas of study drawn from two or more of the endorsed titles listed below.
- ✍ Component 2: Externally set assignment. This will consist of a choice of five questions to be used as a starting point. You are required to select one where you will demonstrate your skills in some of the following areas, drawing, painting, mixed-media, sculpture, ceramics, installation, printmaking, moving image (video, film, animation) and photography.
- ✍ Graphic communication: for example, interactive media (including web, app and game design), advertising, packaging design, design for print, illustration, communication graphics, branding, multimedia, motion graphics, design for film and television.
- ✍ Textile design: for example, fashion design, fashion textiles, costume design, digital textiles, printed and/or dyed fabrics and materials, domestic textiles, wallpaper, interior design, constructed textiles, art textiles and installed textiles.
- ✍ Three-dimensional design: for example, ceramics, sculpture, exhibition design, design for theatre, television and film, interior design, product design, environmental design, architectural design, jewellery/body ornament and 3D digital design.
- ✍ Photography: for example, portraiture, landscape photography, still life photography, documentary photography, photojournalism, fashion photography, experimental imagery, multimedia, photographic installation and moving image (video, film, animation).

A Level Assessment

Component 1

Personal Investigation, no time limit.
A structured extended response of between 1000 and 3000 words of continuous prose.
60% of A Level

Component 2

Externally Set Assignment
Prep work +15 hour supervised
40% of A Level

A Level Graphic Communication

Contact: Mrs D Harrison

Email: della.harrison@gatewaysschool.co.uk

Examination Board: AQA

Specification: 7243

Preferred Previous Studies

It would be advantageous to have studied Art or Photography at GCSE. Students without formal qualifications in Art will be expected to submit a portfolio to evidence skills and interest.

Why Study Graphic Communication?

You can develop your artistic flair when studying Graphic Communication. You will have access to some fantastic facilities, giving you the chance to try out a variety of techniques. Make your mark and manipulate materials. Express yourself and create. If you love images and colour, text, design, Photoshop, multimedia, commercial design and enjoy taking photographs, then this course could be for you.



You will be introduced to a variety of experiences exploring a range of Photography, Photoshop, illustration techniques and processes. You will have the opportunity to explore design briefs through traditional and new technologies. This course prepares you to become an independent, confident designer. Your personal work will be presented in a portfolio and can be used for progression to higher level study or training in design related occupations.

At Gateways you are following in the footsteps of students who have recently gained places on highly sought after places at the top Art institutions. Notably, students left to study on either foundation or degree level courses at The University of the Arts, Leeds Art University, Chelsea College of Art, Edinburgh and the University of London. As part of your course there will be opportunities for gallery visits, entering prestigious competitions, staging exhibitions, and meeting visiting practitioners.

The training you will receive will prepare you for the industry you wish to enter, which could be advertising, graphic design, photography, product design or any art based career!

A Level Content

Skills and Techniques

- ✎ You will be expected to demonstrate skills in the following:
- ✎ Composition, style, scale, colour and content in relation to graphic design.
- ✎ Awareness of an intended audience when working to a project brief.
- ✎ Ability to respond to an issue or concept when answering the need in a chosen area of graphics.
- ✎ Appreciation of the relationship of form and function and, where applicable, the constraints of a project brief.
- ✎ Appreciation and knowledge of typography.
- ✎ Understanding of a variety of materials and genres appropriate to your chosen area of communication.

You will must be introduced to a variety of experiences that explore a range of graphic communication, from design for print, illustration, communication graphics, multimedia, photography and design software.

A Level Assessment

Within each component, you must demonstrate evidence of critical and contextual work through a range of responses in different media

- ✎ Component 1 Portfolio: This must include a selection of thoughtfully presented work and at least one extended project based on an idea or theme, this should demonstrate ability to research and develop work in meaningful ways and show evidence of working in areas of study drawn from different elements of graphic communication. Personal Investigation, no time limit, to include written material which is a coherent and logically structured extended response of between 1000 and 3000 words of continuous prose. 60% of A Level
- ✎ Component 2: Externally set assignment. This will consist of a choice of starting points on the theme of Graphic communication: for example, interactive media (including web, app and game design), advertising, packaging design, design for print, illustration, communication graphics, branding, multimedia, motion graphics, design for film and television. Prep work +15 hour supervised, 40% of A Level

A-Level Art & Photography

Contact: Mrs D Harrison

Email: della.harrison@gatewaysschool.co.uk

Examination Board: AQA

Specification: 7206

Preferred Previous Study

It would be advantageous to have studied Art at GCSE; A portfolio of photography will be required to demonstrate your skills and interest within the subject.



Why Study Photography?

“Despite the illusion of giving understanding, what seeing through photographs really invites is an acquisitive relation to the world that nourishes aesthetic awareness and promotes emotional detachment.”

Susan Sontag, *On Photography*

You will be introduced to a variety of experiences that explore a range of photographic media, techniques and processes. This will include both traditional and new technologies. You will explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to a range of art, craft and design, from the past and from recent times, including European and non-European examples. Your responses to these examples will be shown through practical and critical activities that demonstrate your understanding of different styles, genres and traditions. You may also wish to develop drawing skills in order to produce storyboards, thumbnail sketches and/or diagrams, where appropriate.

Taught alongside the Art, Craft and Design and Textiles courses, you will be taught by an Art specialist who will introduce you to different resources and techniques. Access to a DSLR Camera is vital in order to develop independent work outside of formal lesson time.

Photographic studio set up with lighting available to support photography skills. Up to date editing software is freely available across the school as well as iPads which are increasingly used for installations and production of photographic media. Graphics tablets and the use of Photoshop will be explored.

A Level Content

Areas of study

You are required to work in one or more area(s) of photography, such as those listed below. You may explore overlapping areas and combinations of areas:

- ✍ Portraiture. Expression, Chiaroscuro, gaze, identity.
- ✍ landscape photography (working from the urban, rural and/or coastal environment)
- ✍ still life photography (working from objects or from the natural world)
- ✍ documentary photography, photojournalism
- ✍ fashion photography
- ✍ experimental imagery, including raw image, Light room, Photoshop and fine art experimental effects.
- ✍ multimedia
- ✍ photographic installation
- ✍ moving image, time-lapse (video, film, animation).

Knowledge and Understanding

You must show knowledge and understanding of:

- ✍ relevant materials, processes, technologies and resources
- ✍ how ideas, feelings and meanings can be conveyed and interpreted in images and artefacts created in their chosen area(s) of photography
- ✍ historical and contemporary developments and different styles and genres
- ✍ how images and artefacts relate to social, environmental, cultural and/or ethical contexts, and to the time and place in which they were created
- ✍ continuity and change in different styles, genres and traditions relevant to photography
- ✍ a working vocabulary and specialist terminology that is relevant to chosen area(s) of photography.

A Level Assessment

Component 1

Personal Investigation, no time limit.
A structured extended response of between 1000 and 3000 words of continuous prose. 60% of A Level

Component 2

Externally Set Assignment
Prep work +15 hour supervised
40% of A Level

A-Level Art & Textiles

Contact: Mrs D Harrison

Email: della.harrison@gatewaysschool.co.uk

Examination Board: AQA

Specification: 7204

Preferred Previous Studies

It would be advantageous to have studied Textiles and Art at GCSE however no formal previous experience is necessary.

Why Study Textiles?

If you are interested in fashion or interior design, Textiles Design allows you to experiment with a wide range of patterns, finishes and construction techniques which will help you to develop an understanding of how fascinating Textiles Design is and the important role it plays in life. From creating your own textiles to mastering specialist machinery and new technologies to express ideas through fabrics and finishes you will have the opportunity to produce thought provoking work with impact. You will be introduced to a variety of experiences that explore a range of textile media, processes and techniques. You will be made aware of both traditional and new media. You will explore the potential for the use of colour, explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to a range of art, craft and design, from the past and from recent times, including European and non-European examples. This should be integral to the investigating and making processes. Your responses to these examples must be shown through practical and critical activities that demonstrate their understanding of different styles, genres and traditions.

Taught alongside the Art, Craft and Design and Photography courses, you will be taught by Art and Textiles specialists who will introduce you to different resources and techniques. The department has everything needed for you to create stunning pieces of work using everything from hand embroidery to computer-controlled embroidery; from fabric paints to screen printing.

You will be required to provide a range of fabrics and embellishments to complete your designs and visits will be planned to local haberdasheries and fabric shops. Visits to art galleries and costume departments will be arranged to expand your ideas. You will be given the opportunity to attend life drawing classes to help in understanding the human form when designing for fashion.



A Level Content

Areas of study

You are required to work in one or more area(s) of textile design, such as those listed below. You may explore overlapping areas and combinations of areas:

- ✍ fashion design
- ✍ fashion textiles
- ✍ costume design
- ✍ digital textiles
- ✍ printed and/or dyed fabric and materials
- ✍ domestic textiles and wallpaper
- ✍ interior design
- ✍ constructed textiles
- ✍ art textiles
- ✍ installed textiles.

Skills and techniques

You will be expected to demonstrate skills, in the context of textile design and will be required to demonstrate skills in all of the following:

- ✍ awareness of the elements of textile design, such as shape, line, scale, colour, texture, pattern, contrast and/or repetition in relation to the chosen area(s) of textile design
- ✍ awareness of intended audience or purpose for their chosen area(s) of textile design
- ✍ ability to respond to an issue, concept or idea, working to a brief or answering a need in the chosen area(s) of textile design
- ✍ appreciation of the relationship of form and function and, where applicable, the constraints of
- ✍ working to a brief
- ✍ understanding of a variety of textile methods, such as: fabric printing, mono-printing, relief printing,
- ✍ screen printing and laser printing; tie-dye and batik; spraying and transfer; fabric construction;
- ✍ stitching, appliqué, patchwork, padding, quilting and embroidery.

A Level Assessment

Component 1

Personal Investigation, no time limit.
A structured extended response of between 1000 and 3000 words of continuous prose. 60% of A Level

Component 2

Externally Set Assignment
Prep work +15 hour supervised
40% of A Level

A-Level Biology

Contact: Dr S Newton

Email: sara.newton@gatewaysschool.co.uk

Examination Board: Edexcel

Specification: A Level Biology B (9BIO)

Preferred Previous Studies

GCSE Biology grade 6 or above or Double Award Science grade 7 7 or above. GCSE Mathematics grade 6 or above.

Why Study Biology?

Biology at Gateways is taught by a highly qualified and very experienced biology specialist. Well established links with the Cancer Research laboratories allow those who wish to pursue a career in science to attend a summer internship placement working in cutting edge research and state of the art research laboratories. In addition, you will be offered the chance to enter the Prince Philip and Marsh Biology competition allowing independent research into a specific field of biology that is of interest to the you. Throughout



the course you will have the opportunity to carry out fieldwork and extensive practical opportunities. Class sizes are large enough to allow valuable discussion but small enough to provide individual support.

This course provides a broad range of topics to provide a stimulating and engaging curriculum; biochemistry and molecular biology, animal and plant physiology, genetics, and microbiology. The specification combines more traditional elements, such as the kidney, with more modern biological ideas such as epigenetics and stem cell technology. The combination of field work, visits, practical activities and discussion opportunities should allow you to find the study of Biology engaging.

Practical assessment will be carried out by the completion of 16 core practical activities over the two-year course.

Career Opportunities

Studying A level allows the development of many key skills that are actively sought after in many degree courses and careers. The organisational, analytical, processing and thinking skills are transferable to degree courses such as medicine, psychology, economics, nursing, mathematics, geography as well as the biological sciences.

A Level Content

- ✍ **Biological Molecules:** You will study the chemicals of life: the organic and inorganic molecules and ions that are fundamental to the structure and physiology of living organisms.
- ✍ **Cells Viruses and reproduction of living things:** You will have the chance to explore how the HIV virus propagates to cause disease along with the study of prokaryotes and eukaryotes.
- ✍ **Classification and Biodiversity:** You will explore natural selection and the formation of new species.
- ✍ **Exchange and Transport:** You will study the human circulatory system as well as plant transport systems.
- ✍ **Energy for Biological Processes:** In this topic you will learn about the precise biochemistry of key processes such as respiration and photosynthesis.
- ✍ **Microbiology and Pathogens:** You will study the body's response to infections along with developing the latest understanding of disease control and how diseases are spread. This topic will involve a high degree of practical work and visits to research laboratories to consolidate their understanding.
- ✍ **Modern Genetics:** This topic builds on GCSE knowledge; you will develop knowledge of the latest techniques to understand stem cell technology; forensic applications and isolation of important genes in disease identification.
- ✍ **Origins of genetic variation:** You will explore the frequency of alleles in populations and understand the inheritance of characteristics.
- ✍ **Control Systems:** This topic explores the homeostatic control of mammals; you will understand how drugs carry out their effects on the nervous system as well as studying the brain and its intricate functions.
- ✍ **Ecosystems:** This topic will be taught mainly as fieldwork in the local area to collect meaningful data. The aim is to allow you to develop strong ecological techniques, investigate distribution of organisms and identify patterns due to environmental influences.

A Level Assessment

Paper 1 and 2

Both 1 hour and 45 minutes

Papers 1 and 2 will assess all topics taught over the 2-year course.

Paper 3

2 hours 30 minutes

Questions will be of a synoptic nature and will demand a strong understanding of the core practicals.

A Level Business Studies

Contact: Mrs R Haynes
Email: rosemary.haynes@gatewaysschool.co.uk

Examination Board AQA
Specification: 7132

Preferred Previous Studies

A level Business is open to everyone, it covers a lot of current affairs and so an interest in what is going on in the world is helpful. It is not necessary to have completed GCSE Business Studies, however, confidence in tackling numerical questions and writing longer answers are required.

Why Study Business?

Most organisations have some business aspect to them. As well as the well-known high street businesses, hospitals, schools, Art galleries, TV production and touring theatre companies all attempt to cover their costs and generate either a profit or a surplus. Whatever field of work you would like to go into, your life will be touched either directly or indirectly by Business Studies – even if that’s just employment law when you’re getting a job or being targeted by adverts on social media.

In June 2021 35,285 students took Business Studies at A-level, an increase of 6% on June 2020. It is the 10th most popular A level subject. The study of business will help you to understand how firms operate and the impact the external environment has on business activity. Students focus on the dynamic nature of the contemporary business world developing subject knowledge, analytical and evaluative skills beneficial to many career paths.

A level Business looks at the more traditional areas of marketing and production, but also at Human resources (what motivates people at work) and finance where students learn to analyse company accounts to see how much money a firm is making and what they are doing with it. In year 2 we think about strategic direction and positioning - how businesses decide whether an investment is worth pursuing or how they choose which direction to follow including globalisation, innovation, e-commerce and competitive advantage.

Business Studies also encompasses elements of Economics when we look at the impact of the economy on business through inflation, GDP, exchange rates, unemployment and Government policies such as protectionism.

Overall, this is a varied and interesting subject which requires broad skills and covers a diverse range of current issues, it therefore complements many other areas of study whatever your interests and strengths are.

Career Opportunities

A Level Business Studies is widely accepted for entrance onto degree courses and an excellent basis for employment in many industries and occupations.

For example, if you want to study Law at a Russell Group university, the only requirement is that you take at least one essay-based subject*, there are no subject specific requirements. (*Information taken from the informed-choices website)

Gateways has a 100% pass rate, in A level Business and in June 2021 the attainment was 100% A*-B with pupils going on to study degrees in Fashion marketing, Business management and International Business as well as taking up apprenticeship opportunities.

A Level Content

In A Level Business Studies, you will explore the interrelated nature of Business using business models, theories and techniques to support analysis of current business issues and situations to provide a dynamic learning experience

In year 1 deals with day-to-day businesses operations and includes the following modules:

- ✍ What is Business?
- ✍ Managers, leadership and decision-making
- ✍ Marketing performance
- ✍ Operational performance
- ✍ Financial performance
- ✍ Human resource performance

Year 2 is concerned with how businesses make decisions to grow and develop their position in their industry and includes the following modules:

- ✍ Analysing strategic position
- ✍ Choosing strategic direction
- ✍ Strategic methods
- ✍ Managing strategic change

A Level Assessment

Assessment is through three 2-hour examinations comprising multiple choice, short answer, context-based response and essay questions.

A-Level Chemistry

Contact: Mrs L Wood
Email: lesley.wood@gatewaysschool.co.uk

Examination Board: AQA
Specification: 7405

Preferred Previous Studies

To be successful in A Level Chemistry, ideally you should achieve a grade 7 or above in GCSE Chemistry or 7-7 or above in the Double Award Science, in addition you should achieve grade 7 or above in GCSE Mathematics.



Why Study Chemistry?

This exciting subject builds upon the knowledge gained at GCSE but goes much further revealing the understanding behind the concepts. It asks questions about materials, how they react, how they are made and how energy change drives all processes. By taking chemistry you develop useful skills that can be applied outside of the subject; these include problem solving, numeracy, practical and analytical skills as well as developing a broad scientific background. As a result, it is a highly respected and useful qualification for higher education and employment in a wide range of areas. Chemistry is often seen as the 'central science' supporting physics and biology. However, it can also be taken as a standalone A-Level course. Studying at Gateways means you will be taught by highly qualified and experienced chemistry specialists. The laboratories are well equipped and the small class sizes allows you to have individual hands-on practical experience. Studying chemistry allows you to develop subject-specific and transferable skills which are valued by all employers, meaning your future career does not have to be in a laboratory. It is a very desirable and highly respected qualification.

Career Opportunities

A degree in chemistry is not only essential for many science-based courses such as Medicine, Veterinary Science, Dentistry, Biosciences, Genetics, Pharmacy, Biochemistry and Environmental Sciences but also is a valid entry qualification for courses such as Food Technologies, Law, Mathematics and Computing.

A Level Content

Year 1 Content	Year 2 Content
Physical chemistry <ul style="list-style-type: none">✍ Atomic structure✍ Amount of substance✍ Bonding✍ Energetics✍ Kinetics✍ Equilibria✍ Redox Inorganic chemistry <ul style="list-style-type: none">✍ Periodicity✍ Group 2 the alkaline earth metals✍ Group 7 the halogens Organic chemistry <ul style="list-style-type: none">✍ Introduction to organic chemistry✍ Alkanes✍ Halogenoalkanes✍ Alkenes✍ Alcohols✍ Organic analysis	Physical chemistry <ul style="list-style-type: none">✍ Thermodynamics✍ Rate equations✍ Equilibrium constant (K_p)✍ Electrode potentials✍ Electrochemical cells✍ Acids and bases Inorganic chemistry <ul style="list-style-type: none">✍ Properties of Period 3 elements and their oxides✍ Transition metals✍ Reactions of ions in aqueous solution Organic Chemistry <ul style="list-style-type: none">✍ Optical isomerism✍ Aldehydes and ketones✍ Carboxylic acids and derivatives✍ Aromatic chemistry✍ Amines✍ Polymers✍ Amino acids, proteins and DNA✍ Organic synthesis✍ NMR spectroscopy✍ Chromatography

A Level Assessment

Paper 1

- ✍ 2 hours, 35% of qualification
- ✍ Relevant physical chemistry and inorganic chemistry

Paper 2

- ✍ 2 hours, 35% of qualification
- ✍ Relevant physical chemistry and inorganic chemistry

Paper 3

- ✍ 2 hours, 30% of qualification
- ✍ All content and practical skills

A-Level Latin & Classical Civilisation

Contact: Mr J Crosby
Email: josh.crosby@gatewaysschool.co.uk

Examination Board: OCR
Specification: TBC

Preferred Previous Studies

You do not need to have studied a Classics option at GCSE to take this A level, unless they wish to take a Latin.

Why Study Classics?

Classics is the study of the ancient Greek and Roman civilisations. The subject allows you to understand and appreciate the modern world by exploring its antecedents. The department aims to encourage your interest in and enthusiasm for the ancient world. Combining, as it does, many aspects of different humanities fields, Classics includes elements of language, art, drama, literature, history and archaeology.



Consequently, the subject develops a wealth of skills, such as linguistics, textual criticism, historical method, communication, developing arguments and lateral thinking. In short, Classics has something for all. There are three distinct A-Levels to choose from: Latin, Classical Civilisation and Ancient History.

Units will be selected based on your interest and skill sets. The aims of these Classics specifications are to encourage an interest in, and enthusiasm for, the classical world; acquire, through studying a range of appropriate sources, knowledge and understanding of selected aspects of classical civilisation. The classical world had much influence on later times and we study the similarities and differences between the classical world and later times. In addition, the Latin unit aims to encourage an appropriate level of competence in the language studied and a sensitive and analytical approach to language generally.

Career Opportunities

Studying Classics demonstrates a love of history but also an interest in how society has developed and is organized. Popular career paths focus on law and communications, examples of which are Barrister, Chartered accountant, Civil Service fast streamer, Editorial assistant, Heritage manager, Museum/gallery curator, Newspaper journalist, Solicitor.

A Level Content

Latin

You must take the following options (although there is some choice in terms of set texts):

- ✍ Latin Language (translation and prose composition)
- ✍ Latin Verse Literature (options include the climax of Virgil's Aeneid; Catullus' love poems; Ovid's poems of mythical heroines)
- ✍ Latin Prose Literature (options include Cicero's version of a murder by poison; Tacitus' account of the scandals of Nero's reign; the rape of Lucretia and the founding of the Roman republic, recounted by Livy)

Classical Civilisation

You must study:

- ✍ Virgil's Aeneid

You must also study one of the following, or (Greek Theatre or Roman Imperial Image if not selected in the first year):

- ✍ The Invention of Barbarian
- ✍ Greek Art

Finally, you must study one of the following:

- ✍ Greek Religion
- ✍ Love and Relationships
- ✍ Politics of the Late Roman Republic
- ✍ Democracy and the Athenians

Ancient History

You study one of the following:

- ✍ Politics and Society of Sparta
- ✍ Politics and Culture of Athens
- ✍ The Rise of Macedon

One of the following:

- ✍ The breakdown of the Late Roman Republic
- ✍ The Flavian Roman Emperors
- ✍ Roman Britain

A Level Assessment

- ✍ Latin: two, 2 hour papers; one, 1 hour and 15 minutes paper; one, 1 hour and 45 minutes paper
- ✍ Classical Civilisation: two, 2 ½ hour papers
- ✍ Ancient History: one, 2 hours and 20 minutes paper; two, 1 hour and 45 minutes papers.
- ✍ All modules are assessed by terminal examination

A-Level Computer Science

Contact: Mrs K Titman
Email: karen.titman@gatewaysschool.co.uk

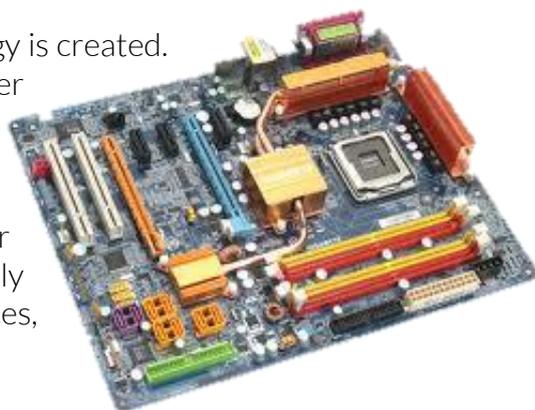
Examination Board: OCR
Specification: H446

Preferred Previous Study

GCSE maths Grade 5 or above and some knowledge of coding.

Why Study Computer Science?

Computer Science helps you think about how technology is created. It allows you to understand how people work together with computers to develop world changing programmes like Facebook, Spotify and eBay. You'll also develop the skills that colleges, universities and employers are looking for – and they'll prove valuable for the rest of your life. GCSE Computer Science goes really well with lots of other subjects, especially the sciences, fashion, textiles, music, maths and art and design.



Career Opportunities

Nowadays, everything we do seems to revolve around the use of IT and some form of digital device. Somewhere in the background are the designers, the programmers and the inventors. The ability to apply computational thinking and solve problems are sought after skills; so much so there has been a massive change in the school curriculum to try to address a severe skills shortage. An A Level in computer science will help you to move forward on to many different associated degree courses including Computer Science, Software Engineering, App Development, Cyber Security, Forensic Computing, IT and Business. It is also a very useful set of skills should you be applying for science or engineering based careers.

A Level Content

01 COMPUTER SYSTEMS

This component will be a traditionally marked and structured question paper with a mix of question types: short-answer, longer-answer, and levels of response type questions. It will cover the characteristics of contemporary systems architecture and other areas including the following:

- ✍ The characteristics of contemporary processors, input, output and storage devices
- ✍ Software and software development
- ✍ Exchanging data
- ✍ Data types, data structures and algorithms
- ✍ Legal, moral, cultural and ethical issues.

02 ALGORITHMS AND PROGRAMMING

This component will be a traditionally marked and structured question paper with two sections, both of which will include a mix of question types: short-answer, longer-answer, and levels of response mark-scheme-type questions.

SECTION A

Traditional questions concerning computational thinking:

- ✍ Elements of computational thinking
- ✍ Programming and problem solving
- ✍ Pattern recognition, abstraction and decomposition
- ✍ Algorithm design and efficiency
- ✍ Standard algorithms.

SECTION B

There'll be a scenario/task contained in the paper, which could be an algorithm or a text page-based task, which will involve problem solving.

03 PROGRAMMING PROJECT

External postal moderation or repository. You select your own user-driven problem of an appropriate size and complexity to solve. This will enable you to demonstrate the skills and knowledge necessary to meet the Assessment Objectives. You will need to analyse the problem, design a solution, implement the solution and give a thorough evaluation.

A Level Assessment

01 Computer systems Externally marked 2 hr 30 mins

02 Algorithms and programming Externally marked 140 marks / 2 hr 30 mins

03 Programming project Internally assessed, externally moderated 20% 70 marks

A-Level Drama & Theatre Studies

Contact: Mrs G Hamlyn
Email: gemma.hamlyn@gatewaysschool.co.uk

Examination Board: Edexcel
Specification: 9DR0

Preferred Previous Study

GCSE Drama at grade 5 or above. Participation in performance arts either at school or with external organisations.

Why Study Drama?

Drama and Theatre Studies is a well-established subject recognised for its academic rigour by all the major universities including Oxford and Cambridge. It combines theoretical and practical work and involves studying the history of theatre, key playwrights and practitioners, analysis of live theatre performances and the performance of your own practical work. The course provides you with the opportunity to pursue individual interests, such as acting, set or costume design, as well as encouraging critical thinking, communication skills, initiative and teamwork.



At Gateways, Sixth Form Drama students benefit from a high staff-to-student ratio; allowing more personal teacher direction. Gateways has a state-of-the-art performing arts centre that is versatile and conducive to high quality performance work. It provides an excellent venue for in-house productions as well as touring drama companies, such as the Reduced Shakespeare Company. Exposure to a whole range of performances is vital to your development as a Drama and Theatre Studies student, so regular tours are organised to Stratford, London and elsewhere.

Career Opportunities

Drama and Theatre Studies will encourage you to present yourself in a confident, articulate manner; an essential skill in any career. Teamwork and individual initiative are also key areas developed by the course. This course can lead to careers in the theatre, such as performance, stage management and arts administration. However, in combination with other subjects, it can also lead to a much broader range of careers, from law to teaching. A visitor to the school during enterprise week stressed the importance of creativity in the modern business world and the ability to communicate ideas – these skills are at the core of this course.

A Level Content

Component 1: Devising

Non-examination assessment 40% of the qualification

Devise an original performance piece.

- ✍ Use one key extract from a performance text and a theatre practitioner as stimuli.
- ✍ Centre choice of text and practitioner.
- ✍ Performer or designer routes available.

There are two parts to the assessment:

- 1) a portfolio
- 2) the devised performance/design realisation.

Component 2: Text in Performance

- ✍ A group performance/design realisation of one key extract from a performance text.
- ✍ A monologue or duologue performance/design realisation from one key extract from a different performance text.
- ✍ Centre choice of performance texts.

Externally assessed by a visiting examiner.

- ✍ Group performance/design realisation
- ✍ Monologue or duologue/design realisation

Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice

- ✍ Live theatre evaluation – choice of performance.
- ✍ Practical exploration and study of a complete performance text – focusing on how this can be realised for performance.
- ✍ Practical exploration and interpretation of another complete performance text, in light of a chosen theatre practitioner – focusing on how this text could be reimagined for a contemporary audience.
- ✍ Centre choice of 15 performance texts
- ✍ Choice of eight practitioners.

Assessment

- ✍ Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes
- ✍ 40% of the qualification

A-Level English Language

Contact: Mrs M Burns
Email: marae.burns@gatewaysschool.co.uk

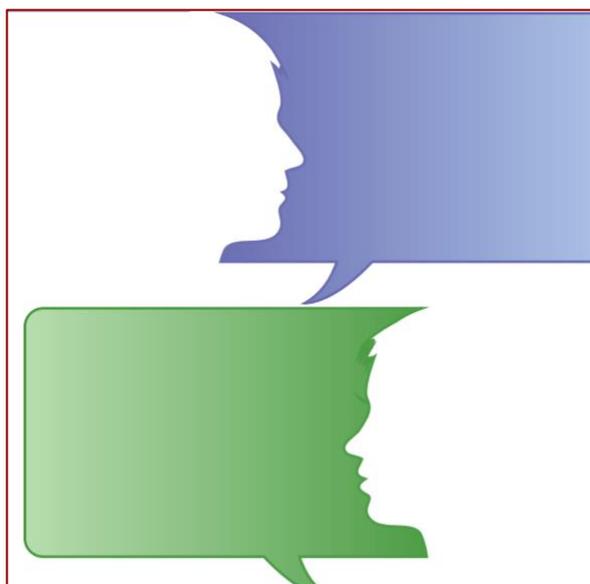
Examination Board: AQA
Specification: 7702

Preferred Previous Study

GCSE English Language and English Literature. Minimum Grade 5 in both subjects.

Why Study English Language?

Language is what distinguishes us from other animals and indeed, other human beings. An understanding of the nature of the English language, its functions and effects should be part of the general knowledge we have about ourselves and the world in which we live. This course in English Language provides a challenging approach to the study of English. The course can be both scientific and/or social in its approach and contexts. You will be provided with a wide range of texts to enable you to study what language is, how language works and what language reveals about us as human beings. This specification will encourage you to develop your interest in and appreciation of English, through



learning about its structures and its functions, its developments and its variations in use. It also encompasses new concepts such as the study of the spoken word. It will encourage you to develop your ability to express yourself in speech and writing, producing texts for different audiences, purposes and in different genres with greater competence and sophistication, whilst examining your choices as a writer.

Career Opportunities

English Language is highly valued by employers because it develops the following transferable skills, which are so crucial for advancement in the modern workplace:

- ✍ The ability to explore and understand spoken and written language in use.
- ✍ The ability to understand the roles of purposes, audiences and contexts and the impact of these.
- ✍ The ability to understand the pressures on language production and reception of your own writing as well as that produced by others.
- ✍ The ability to use linguistic methods to analyse and investigate texts from everyday sources.

A Level Content

- ✍ Textual Variations and Representations
- ✍ Children's Language Development
- ✍ Language Diversity and Change
- ✍ Language Discourses
- ✍ Writing skills
- ✍ Language Investigation
- ✍ Original Writing

English Language complements any other combination of subjects you might study at A level and although it is an Arts subject, many of its approaches are empirical and it can be scientific. In the outside world, the study of language and linguistics happily teams up with biology, psychology, philosophy, sociology and computer science, as well as foreign languages and English literature courses. A Level English Language will provide you with a good basis for all professions and careers, particularly those involving people and communications. Having a good command of English and a clear written style is essential for all careers and is particularly relevant for those of you wishing to study law, business, journalism courses and media/communications courses. The analytical content of the course is particularly useful for law students.

A Level Assessment

Paper 1: 2 hours 30 mins

Language, the Individual and Society Written Paper 40%

Paper 2: 2 hours 30 mins

Language Diversity and Change Written Paper 40%

Paper 3: Non-exam assessment 20%

Investigation - 50%

Original Writing and Commentary - 50%

A-Level English Literature

Contact: Mrs M Burns
Email: marae.burns@gatewaysschool.co.uk

Examination Board: AQA
Specification: 7717B

Preferred Previous Studies

GCSE English Language and English Literature. Minimum Grade 5 in both subjects.

Why Study English Literature?

English Literature prepares us for life. The wide range of texts allows you to reflect on the human condition and encourages an appreciation and awareness of the nuances of language. This subject is intellectually and emotionally stimulating, and is held in high esteem by all universities. This course will encourage you to take greater responsibility for your own learning and will give you a strong grounding in the academic principles relating to working with texts.



The detailed analysis work will give you an academic focus and develops your attention to detail whilst the discussion/seminar-style of teaching and learning will give you an arena for debate and substantiation so as to develop your academic confidence. The course encourages students to develop their interest in, appreciation of and interpretation of English literature, through learning about the ways in which literature can be seen as consisting of possible groups of texts which can be categorised, and whose meaning can be negotiated in many different ways.

Career Opportunities

English Literature is highly valued by employers because it develops the following transferable skills, which are so crucial for advancement in the modern workplace:

- ✍ The ability to communicate clearly, both in speech and writing.
- ✍ The ability to present and organise information, ideas and arguments in a coherent, incisive and logical way.

The ability to read texts with comprehension, enjoyment and discernment and to articulate informed and independent opinions and support them with apt evidence.

A Level Content

Core content:

Literary Genres

Texts and Genres

Theory and Independence

Options:

Aspects of Tragedy

Aspects of Comedy

Elements of Crime Writing

Elements of Political Writing

A Level English Literature will provide you with a good basis for all professions and careers, particularly those involving people and communications. Having a good command of English and a clear written style is essential for all careers and is particularly relevant for those of you wishing to study law, business, journalism courses and media/communications courses. The analytical content of the course is particularly useful for law students. The course is particularly suited for those of you who wish to study English Literature at a higher level as English departments at universities require their students to have a wide knowledge of English literature. Those wishing to study other subjects at university will find that English Literature will provide a useful choice if the subject you wish to study is not available at A2 level.

A Level Assessment

Paper 1: Literary Genres

Written Paper 40%

3 tasks

2 ½ hour

Closed book

Paper 2: Text and Genres

Written Paper 40%

- 3 tasks
- 3 hours
- Clean open book

Non-exam: Theory & Independence

Study of two texts: one poetry and one prose text, informed by study of the Critical Anthology.

Two essays of 1250 -1500 words, each responding to a different text and linking to a different aspect of the Critical Anthology.

One essay can be re-creative. The re-creative piece will be accompanied by a commentary

Extended Project Qualification

Contact: Mr M Davison
Email: martin.davison@gatewaysschool.co.uk

Examination Board: AQA
Specification: 7793

Preferred Previous Studies

GCSE entry qualifications to Gateways Sixth Form.

Why Study for an EPQ?

Projects are student driven qualifications, giving them the freedom and responsibility to select topics and projects they are interested in. When completing a project qualification, students follow a clearly structured process: they plan, research their topic and create a product. The product of their project can be in one of three formats:

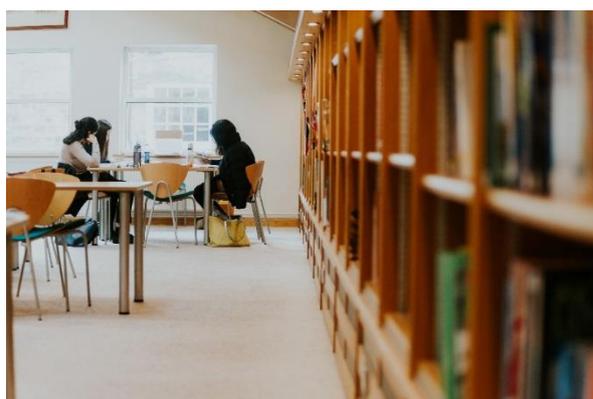
- ✍ a research-based written report
- ✍ a production* (eg charity event, fashion show, sports event etc)
- ✍ an artefact* (eg a piece of art, a computer game, a realized design).

*supported by a written report.

This work is all recorded in their Production Log and, finally, students deliver a presentation. During the process, they develop as **independent, reflective learners** and acquire knowledge and **transferable skills** that are invaluable for further study and the workplace.

University admissions look favourably on applicants who are studying the EPQ qualification as it mirrors work undertaken on degree courses and can be a differentiator between university candidates.

This course is offered as an additional qualification in Lower 6. It carries UCAS points equivalent to an AS qualification and is graded A* to E. The University of Leeds visit to deliver lectures on key areas such as applying research in an academic manner.



Content

The topic for the project is chosen by you and agreed by the your teacher, who then acts as your supervisor. You have to show that you can:

- ✍ Plan
- ✍ Deliver
- ✍ Present information
- ✍ Maintain an up-to-date and relevant log of how you have managed your work.

Types of product that you can create for assessment include an artefact, a theatrical production, an exhibition, a musical recital or, most commonly an extended essay based upon research (maximum 5,000 words)

You are not taught the subject content though you will be taught the following skills for assessment:

- ✍ Manage
- ✍ Use resources
- ✍ Develop and realize
- ✍ Reviewing work

You are assessed on the product of your project and on the process itself.

A Level Film Studies

Contact: Mr Davison
Email: martin.davison@gatewaysschool.co.uk

Examination Board: WJEC
Specification: : 603/1147/2

Preferred Previous Studies

None specifically, however to be able to benefit from the course fully you should have a little knowledge, a lot of love for, and appreciation of film over the years.



Why Study Film?

Film Studies is a broad and academically rigorous course. It encompasses a wide range of key skills which help support other subjects and job or university applications. The subject complements other A level subjects like Art, English, History, Psychology and RS particularly well.

Career Opportunities

Previous A2 Media students have gone on to read subjects as diverse as Ancient/Medieval History, Business Management, Fashion Design and Theatre Studies at university. A wide range of careers can suit those who study Film, Old Gatewegians who previously studied Media are currently working in such areas as: biochemistry, accountancy, the charity sector, the BBC and the law.

A Level Content

Component 1: Varieties of film and filmmaking

Section A: Hollywood 1930-1990, requiring reference to two Hollywood films, one each from the Classical and New Hollywood periods.

Section B: American film since 2005 (two-film study) requiring reference to two American films, one mainstream film and one contemporary independent film.

Section C: British film since 1995 (two-film study), requiring reference to two British films.

Component 2: Global filmmaking perspectives

Section A: Global film, requiring reference to two global films: one European and one produced outside Europe.

Section B: Documentary film, requiring reference to one documentary film.

Section C: Film movements – Silent cinema, requiring reference to one silent film or group of films.

Section D: Film movements – Experimental film (1960-2000), requiring reference to one film option.

Component 3: Production

Non-exam assessment

This component assesses one production and its evaluative analysis. Learners produce:

- ✎ either a short film (4-5 minutes) or a screenplay for a short film (1600-1800 words) plus a digitally photographed storyboard of a key section from the screenplay
- ✎ an evaluative analysis (1600 - 1800 words).

A Level Assessment

Component 1

Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes

120 marks 35% of the qualification

Component 2

Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes

120 marks 35% of the qualification

Component 3: Production

Non-exam assessment

30% of qualification

Level 3 Food Science and Nutrition

Contact: Mrs S Holmes

Email: sara.holmes@gatewaysschool.co.uk

Examination Board: WJEC

Specification: 601/4552/3

Preferred Previous Studies

Students should usually have achieved a 5 or above in a Food based GCSE such as Food Preparation and Nutrition. Grade 5 or above in science subjects would be an advantage. This is a Level 3 Certificate or Diploma course.



Why Study Food Science and Nutrition?

This is an Applied General qualification that has been designed to support pupils progressing to University. It is an academic, creative and innovative course that encourages pupils to take a broad view of food science and nutrition.

You will have the opportunity to learn about the relationship between the human body and food as well as practical cooking and preparation of food.

You will complete three units over the two year course, two will be compulsory and one will be optional. This will enable candidates to gain a Level 3 Diploma (equivalent to an A Level qualification).

Career Opportunities

Together with other relevant qualifications at Level 3, such as A Level Biology, Chemistry and Business Studies pupils will be able to use the qualification to support entry into employment or higher education courses such as Food and Nutrition,

Human Nutrition, Public Health Nutrition, Food Science and Technology to name just a few, through apprenticeship schemes or directly into company employment.

Level 3 Content

Unit 1: Meeting Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups*

- ✍ Demonstrate an understanding of the science of food, nutrition and nutritional needs in a wide range context.
- ✍ Gain practical skills to produce quality food items to meet the needs of individuals through on-going practical sessions.
- ✍ Address issues such as: What are nutrients? Why do we need them? Is any food 'bad' for us? Could fizzy drinks replace water? Should we eat more in winter? Can vitamin tablets replace fresh fruit?

Unit 2: Ensuring Food is Safe to Eat*

- ✍ Develop their understanding of the science of food safety and hygiene. Focus will be on the hazards and risks in relation to storage, preparation and cooking of food in different environments and the control measurements to minimise risks. Why should we follow storage recommendations on food products? Why do menus need to highlight products containing nuts? Why should vegetarian dishes be prepared away from those containing meat? How can you be sure the food you eat is safe?

Unit 3: Experimenting to Solve Food Production Problems

- ✍ Use their understanding of the properties of food in order to plan and carry out experiments. The results of the experiments would be used to propose options to solve food production problems. Why does ice cream freeze? How do I stop cream curdling? How do I make cakes rise? Why do salad dressings separate?

Unit 4: Current Issues in Food Science and Nutrition

- ✍ Develop skills needed to plan, carry out and present a research project on current issues linked to food science and nutrition. Are mass produced economy ready meals meeting the needs of individuals? Why is catering at events such as music festivals and sporting events usually so limited and unhealthy? Should cooking skills be compulsory at schools?

*Two Mandatory units plus 1 other unit to be studied

Level 3 Assessment

Unit 1:

Written paper 50%. 1½ hour written examination with three sections. Section A is short questions, section B extended answer questions and Section C relates to a case study.

Internal assessment 50%. Controlled assessment coursework piece.

Unit 2:

Externally assessed assignment completed over a period of 8 hours, timed and supervised to complete.

Optional Units 3 & 4:

Internally assessed controlled assessment unit.

A-Level French

Contact: Mrs F Wilson
Email: fiona.wilson@gatewaysschool.co.uk

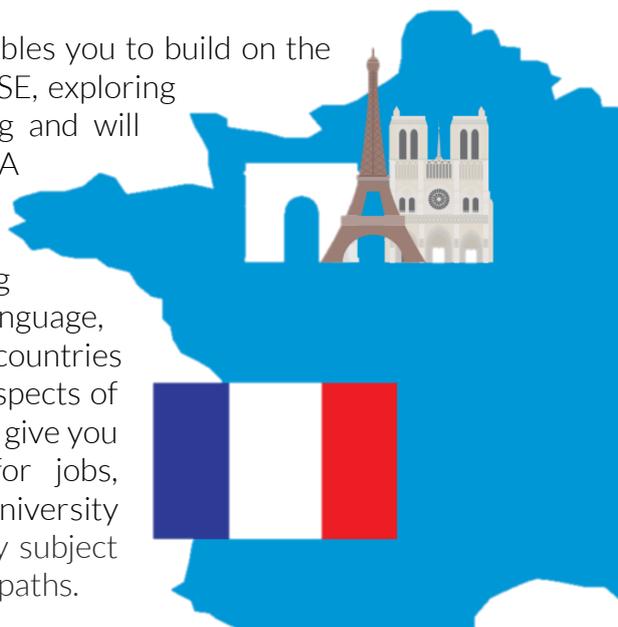
Examination Board: AQA
Specification: 7652

Preferred Previous Studies

Minimum of grade 6 French.

Why Study French?

Studying a foreign language at A level enables you to build on the language skills you have developed at GCSE, exploring topics which will be genuinely interesting and will inspire you to express your own opinions. A foreign language provides opportunities to spend time in the country with families or on work experience. As well as expanding your knowledge of the structure of the language, you will also gain a deeper insight into the countries where the language is spoken, exploring aspects of society and culture. Foreign language skills give you an advantage over other candidates for jobs, including law and business, as well as university places. A language combines well with any subject and opens doors to a wide choice of career paths.



If you choose to study a foreign language at Gateways, you will take part in a great variety of motivating and creative learning activities, including debates, the use of songs and films and ICT. The department has designated laptops and we use the Sanako Language Laboratory system which will allow you to record yourself and for your teacher to insert feedback into the recording as well as undertake independent listening, reading and grammar activities. There is a high staff-to-student ratio, which permits frequent opportunities for individual oral practice in preparation for speaking tests. The department enjoys the benefit of regular contact with AQA examiners to discuss with you what exactly is required for success in your examinations.

Career Opportunities

Knowledge of a foreign language at A Level can lead to further study of the language itself, or it can be the crucial extra string to your bow that gives you an advantage over other candidates for jobs and university places. Advanced knowledge of another language will also provide you with the opportunity to work abroad or join an international company.

A Level Content

The A-Level consists of three papers:

Paper 1: 'Listening, Reading, Writing'

Paper 2: 'Writing'

Paper 3: 'Speaking Test'.

These are the topics you will study

- ✍ The changing nature of the family
- ✍ The "cyber" society
- ✍ The place of voluntary work
- ✍ A culture proud of its heritage
- ✍ Contemporary francophone music
- ✍ Cinema: the 7th art form
- ✍ Positive features of a diverse society
- ✍ Life for the marginalised
- ✍ How criminals are treated
- ✍ Teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment
- ✍ Demonstrations, strikes – who holds the power?
- ✍ Politics and immigration

Also: one film and one literary text or two literary texts

A Level Assessment

Listening, Reading and Writing

- ✍ Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- ✍ 100 marks in total
- ✍ 50% of A-level

Writing

- ✍ Written exam: 2 hours
- ✍ 80 marks in total
- ✍ 20% of A-level

Speaking

- ✍ Oral exam: 21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes' preparation time)
- ✍ 60 marks in total
- ✍ 30% of A-level

A-Level Further Mathematics

Contact: Mr C Adegboro
Email: charles.adegboro@gatewaysschool.co.uk

Examination Board: Edexcel
Specification: 9FM0

Preferred Previous Studies

Higher GCSE Mathematics or equivalent at grade 7 or above.

$$\int_b^a f(x) dx = [F(x)]_b^a$$

Why Study Further Mathematics?

Further Mathematics at A-Level will put you in an excellent position if you wish to study Mathematics or a subject with a very high mathematical content at university, (e.g., Engineering, Physics, Mathematics, Computing, Statistics, Actuary Science etc.). Some Russell group universities insist that students wishing to apply for these courses study Further Mathematics at A-Level. The course is designed to broaden and deepen the mathematical knowledge and skills developed when studying A-level Mathematics. It provides the opportunity to study aspects of the pure and applied strands of mathematics to a greater depth. For example, the pure mathematics met at A Level is extended to cover topics such as complex numbers, matrices, further algebra and functions, further calculus, further vectors, polar coordinates, hyperbolic functions and differential equations.

Further Mathematics may be studied alongside or after taking A-level Mathematics and provides a stimulating experience for those who enjoy the subject. After successful completion of the course, student will achieve A-Level qualifications in both Mathematics and Further Mathematics (i.e., two separate A Level subjects). This implies that the time commitment to Mathematics during the course is doubled so it is essential that students wishing to study Further Mathematics really do enjoy and are good at Maths. At Gateways, the opportunity to study AS Further Mathematics is also provided for students. A-Level Further Mathematics is studied in Lower 6 and Upper 6 and students commit to both Mathematics and Further Mathematics at the beginning of the Lower 6.

Career Opportunities

An A-Level in Mathematics can lead to courses and careers in Engineering, Computing, Economics, Geography, Architecture, Electronics, Accounting, Finance, Business and all Sciences including Medicine. It can also be combined with any other A Level subjects for careers that require creative thinking and application of logic. Mathematics is a high prestige subject and underpins much of the knowledge base of our advanced society including areas as diverse as urban planning or telecommunications

AS Level Content

AS Further Mathematics is a stand-alone qualification. AS Further Mathematics contents contain a proportion of optional content defined by the exam board.

Pure Mathematics 1:

- ✍ Proof
- ✍ Complex numbers
- ✍ Matrices
- ✍ Further algebra and functions
- ✍ Further calculus
- ✍ Further vectors

Options:

Two units will be offered from the following:

- Further Pure Mathematics 1
- ✍ Further Statistics 1
- ✍ Further Mechanics 1
- ✍ Decision Mathematics 1
- ✍ Decision Mathematics 2

A Level Content

A-Level Further Mathematics contents contain a proportion of optional content defined by Edexcel.

Pure Mathematics 1:

- ✍ Proof,
- ✍ Complex numbers,
- ✍ Matrices, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus,
- ✍ Further vectors,
- ✍ polar coordinates,
- ✍ Hyperbolic functions,
- ✍ Differential equations

Mathematics 2:

- ✍ Complex numbers,
- ✍ Further algebra and functions,
- ✍ Further calculus,
- ✍ Polar coordinates,
- ✍ Hyperbolic functions,
- ✍ Differential equations.

Further Mathematics Option 1:

You take one of the following options:

- ✍ Further Pure Mathematics 1
- ✍ Further Statistics 1
- ✍ Further Mechanics 1
- ✍ Decision Mathematics 1

Further Mathematics Option 2:

You take one of the following options:

- ✍ Further Pure Mathematics 2
- ✍ Further Statistics 1
- ✍ Further Statistics 2
- ✍ Further Mechanics 1
- ✍ Further Mechanics 2
- ✍ Decision Mathematics 1
- ✍ Decision Mathematics 2

AS Level Assessment

Paper 1 – Pure Mathematics 1

1hour 40 minutes (calculator) 80 marks

Paper 2 – Options

1hour 40 minutes (calculator) 80 marks

A Level Assessment

Paper 1 – Core Pure Mathematics 1

Paper 2 – Core Pure Mathematics 2

Paper 3 – Option 1

Paper 4 – Option 2

All examination papers are 1hour 30 minutes and allow the use of a graphics calculator

Each written papers are worth 75 marks each and attribute 25% of the overall mark

A-Level Geography

Contact: Mrs E Hayward
Email: elizabeth.hayward@gatewaysschool.co.uk

Examination Board: AQA
Specification: 7037

Preferred Previous Studies

Whilst it is possible to study A Level geography without having a GCSE within the subject, it is advisable that students have already attained a GCSE in geography of grade 5 or above.

Why Study Geography?

Geography is an incredibly relevant subject with politicians increasingly concerned with a number of areas such as climate change, migration, environmental degradation, land use planning, ageing populations and health. The subject allows you to understand the interrelationships between people and their environments by engaging in a range of both physical and human topics whilst at the same time, encompassing a wide range of transferable skills. Such skills are highly admired by Russell Group universities who have defined geography as one of the key “facilitating” subjects, allowing students to access a range of university courses and careers.



Career Opportunities

In terms of careers, geography has one of the best graduate employment records in the country. Many graduates enter management with companies such as Unilever, Nissan and BP; some become accountants, bankers, computer programmers or research assistants whilst others specialise in particular areas of geography by completing an MSc or PhD. The excellent employment record which geography graduates have is a sign of the flexibility and professionalism which a geography degree develops.

A Level Content

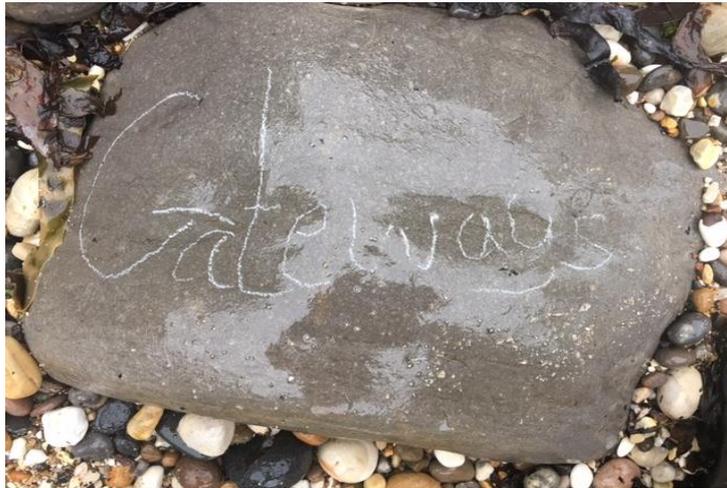
Unit 1: Physical geography

- ✍ Water and carbon cycles
- ✍ Coastal systems and landscapes
- ✍ Hazards

Unit 2: Human geography

- ✍ Global systems and global governance
- ✍ Changing places
- ✍ Urban environments

Unit 3: Geographical investigation (coursework)



A Level Assessment

- ✍ Three written papers
- ✍ At A Level, the course is assessed by two examinations (each worth 40% and lasting 2.5 hours) with the remaining 20% being coursework based upon a piece of fieldwork.
- ✍ Each examination paper comprises a mixture of short answer, levels of response and extended writing questions.

Fieldwork is an important aspect of the course and this will be completed in the local area with further opportunity for an overseas residential, currently to Iceland.

A-Level German

Contact: Mrs L Brown
Email: louise.brown@gatewayschool.co.uk

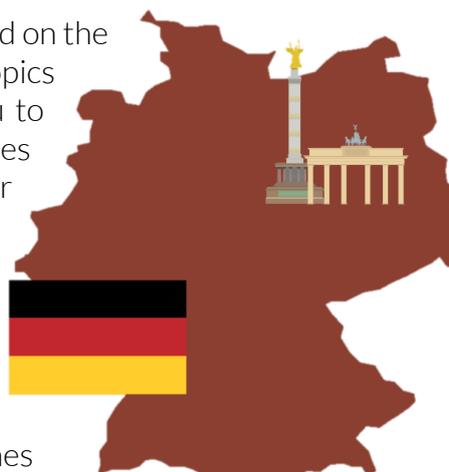
Examination Board: AQA
Specification:

Preferred Previous Studies

Minimum of grade 6 in your chosen language; French, German or Spanish.

Why Study German?

Studying a foreign language at A level enables you to build on the language skills you have developed at GCSE, exploring topics which will be genuinely interesting and will inspire you to express your own opinions. A foreign language provides opportunities to spend time in the country with families or on work experience. As well as expanding your knowledge of the structure of the language, you will also gain a deeper insight into the countries where the language is spoken, exploring aspects of society and culture. Foreign language skills give you an advantage over other candidates for jobs, including law and business, as well as university places. A language combines well with any subject and opens doors to a wide choice of career paths.



If you choose to study a foreign language at Gateways, you will take part in a great variety of motivating and creative learning activities, including debates, the use of songs and films and ICT. The department has designated laptops and we use the Sanako language laboratory system which will allow you to record yourself and for your teacher to insert feedback into the recording as well as undertake independent listening, reading and grammar activities. There is a high staff-to-student ratio, which permits frequent opportunities for individual oral practice in preparation for speaking tests. The department enjoys the benefit of regular contact with AQA examiners to discuss with you what exactly is required for success in your examinations.

Career Opportunities

Knowledge of a foreign language at A Level can lead to further study of the language itself, or it can be the crucial extra string to your bow that gives you an advantage over other candidates for jobs and university places.

Advanced knowledge of another language will also provide you with the opportunity to work abroad or join an international company.

A Level Content

The A-Level consists of three papers:

Paper 1: 'Listening, Reading, Writing'

Paper 2: 'Writing'

Paper 3: 'Speaking Test'

Topics covered in Year 1 include

- ✍ The changing state of the family
- ✍ The digital world
- ✍ Youth culture: fashion, trends, music, television
- ✍ Festivals and traditions
- ✍ Art and architecture
- ✍ Cultural life in Berlin, past and present

Also: one literary text or one film

Topics covered in Year 2 include

- ✍ Immigration
- ✍ Integration
- ✍ Racism
- ✍ Germany and the European Union
- ✍ Politics and youth
- ✍ German re-unification and its consequences

Also: one film and one literary text or two literary texts

A Level Assessment

Listening, Reading and Writing

- ✍ Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- ✍ 100 marks in total
- ✍ 50% of A-level

Writing

- ✍ Written exam: 2 hours
- ✍ 80 marks in total
- ✍ 20% of A-level

Speaking

- ✍ Oral exam: 21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes' preparation time)
- ✍ 60 marks in total
- ✍ 30% of A-level

A-Level History

Contact: Mr J Crosby
Email: josh.crosby@gatewaysschool.co.uk

Examination Board: AQA
Specification: 7042

Preferred Previous Studies

It is preferable for students to have studied History at GCSE and achieved a grade B or above.

Why Study History?

How else can you make sense of the present unless you have a good understanding of the past? How else are you going to change the world if you haven't looked at how it got in the state it's in already?

History is about people-real people whose lives were sometimes exciting and sometimes frightening. Whatever their lives were about, there are often fascinating and sometimes tragic stories behind them-you will discover some of these on the A level course. Apart from being interesting, History will give you knowledge and skills which will prepare you for higher education and which will be useful in any career. History is very highly regarded by universities as an entry subject.

Studying History helps you to understand the significance of historical events, the role of individuals in history and the nature of change over time. This qualification will help you to gain a deeper understanding of the past through political, social, economic and cultural perspectives. The engaging topics available throughout the course will provide you with the knowledge and skills required to succeed A-level historians.



Career Opportunities

Students who specialize in History can go on to become historical researchers, work in heritage organisations or become teachers. History also supports other career paths, like journalism, finance, politics, law, management, social work and public services.

A Level Content

Component 1: Radicalism, Republic and Restoration, 1642-1660

This looks at the different political and religious factions throughout the English Civil War and where they fitted in the new order after the conflict. We will explore the birth of religious diversity and the development of political theory in this country.

Component 2: The Revival of Islam and the Later Crusades, 1149-1204

This looks at the Muslim counter-crusade, the collapse of the crusader states and the unsuccessful later crusades. We will explore the political disunity of Christendom and the unifying influence of Saladin in the Muslim world.

Component 3: Historical Investigation (non-exam assessment)

The A level gives students the opportunity to complete a historical investigation (coursework) on a topic set within the context of 100 years. This is an exciting piece of research that is guided by the teacher.

A Level Assessment

Examination Papers

- ✍ Two written exams: 2½ hour
- ✍ three questions (one compulsory)
- ✍ 80% of A-level

Historical Investigation

- ✍ 3000-3500 words
- ✍ 20% of A-level
- ✍ Marked by teachers and moderated by AQA

A-Level Mathematics

Contact: Mr C Adegboro
Email: Charles.adegboro@gatewaysschool.co.uk

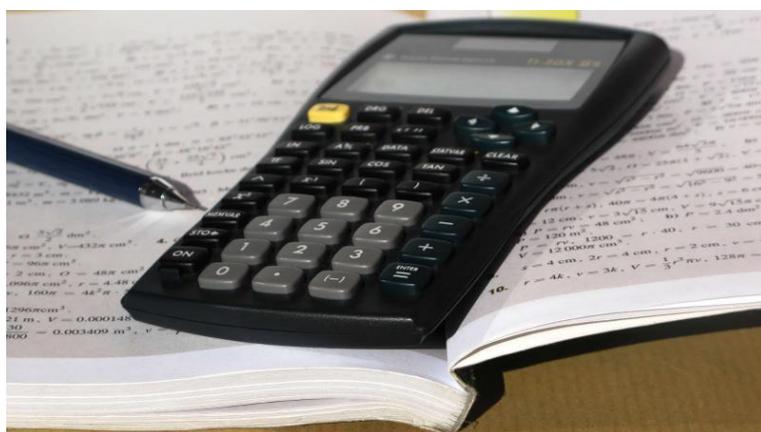
Examination Board: Edexcel
Specification: 9MA0

Preferred Previous Studies

Higher GCSE Mathematics or equivalent at grade 7 or above.

Why Study Mathematics?

The Mathematics studied at A Level will extend the range of mathematical skills and techniques you learned at GCSE. You will develop an understanding of mathematical processes, progression and coherence and how different areas of Mathematics can be connected. The logic and reasoning skills developed by studying A-Level Mathematics



makes it a widely respected qualification even in non-mathematical fields. A-Level Mathematics will help you understand how real-world problems can be studied using mathematical models. You will gain in confidence and be encouraged to develop an awareness of the use of Mathematics in other fields of study, the world of work and society in general.

Career Opportunities

An A-Level in Mathematics can lead to courses and careers in Engineering, Computing, Economics, Geography, Architecture, Electronics, Accounting, Finance, Business and all Sciences including Medicine. It can also be combined with any other A Level subjects for careers that require creative thinking and application of logic. Mathematics is a high prestige subject and underpins much of the knowledge base of our advanced society including areas as diverse as urban planning or telecommunications.

A Level Content

A-Level Maths content is 100% prescribed. Three branches of Mathematics are studied and assessed: Pure Mathematics, Mechanics and Statistics.

Pure Mathematics unit: Proof, algebra and functions, coordinate geometry, sequences and series, trigonometry, exponentials and logarithms, differentiation, integration, numerical methods.

Statistics: Statistical sampling, data presentation and interpretation, probability, statistical distributions, statistical hypothesis testing.

Mechanics: Vectors, quantities and units in mechanics, kinematics, forces, Newton's laws and moments.

A Level Assessment

A-Level Mathematics consists of three externally examined papers and students must complete all assessment in May/June in any single year.

Paper 1 – Pure Mathematics 1 (33.33% of the qualification)

Written examination: 2 hours (calculator) 100 marks

Paper 2 – Pure Mathematics 2 (33.33% of the qualification)

Written examination: 2 hours (calculator) 100 marks

Paper 3 – Applied Mathematics (33.33% of the qualification)

Written examination: 2 hours (calculator) 100 marks

The assessment comprises two sections:

Section A – Statistics (50 marks)

Section B – Mechanics (50 marks)

A-Level Music

Contact: Mr I Lenihan
Email: ian.lenihan@gatewayschool.co.uk

Examination Board: AQA
Specification: 9MU0

Preferred Previous Studies

Pupils taking the A level music course need not to have studied GCSE Music although it is considered desirable. Pupils should, however, be at a standard of Grade 5/6 in a practical instrumental study or in singing before commencing the course.



Why Study Music?

Music is as integral to everyday life as books, language, science and numbers. The study of music can take you to levels of greater understanding and enjoyment of 'Your kind of music', can complement other academic studies, or form a solid academic base if you wish to major in music of any sort. Music at A level combines with every subject and it will not prevent you from any career path since the skills required in performance and ensemble music making are widely recognized as indicators of good independent learning ability. During the course you will broaden your knowledge of music styles, develop compositional skills, acquire a wider understanding of harmony, practice critical listening, musical analysis and written techniques, acquire study and research skills, and prepare performances.

The A-level Music specification enables you to extend your knowledge and understanding of music, to create and develop your own musical ideas and to demonstrate technical, interpretative and communication skills through performing music. This 3-unit course will help you to develop aural, theoretical and analytical skills and enables you to explore set works within varied areas of study, providing a broad historical musical perspective.

You can choose to study compositional techniques, to create music which draws on your own experience and enthusiasm or to arrange a given piece of music. In performances, you have the opportunity to present solo and ensemble pieces.

Career Opportunities

A music qualification at A Level can lead to a wide choice of further education. Most universities have thriving music departments, with courses geared to both academic and performance-related work. In addition, there are now a large number of specialist music colleges in Britain catering for both academic students and those who wish to take up music as a professional performer.

A Level Content

Component 1 – Performance (35% of the A level)

- ✍ A performance of one or more pieces, performed as a recital.
- ✍ Performance can be playing or singing solo, in an ensemble, improvising, or realising music using music technology.
- ✍ The total performance time across all pieces must be a minimum of 10 minutes.
- ✍ Performances must be recorded after 1 March in the year of certification and all materials for assessment submitted to arrive by 15 May in the year of certification.



Component 2 – Composition (25% of the A level)

- ✍ Total of two compositions, one to a brief set by AQA and one either free composition.
- ✍ Total time across both submissions must be a minimum of 4 ½ minutes

Component 3 – Appraising music (40% of the A level)

One written paper of 2 hours and 30 minutes

The areas of study provide an appropriate focus for students to appraise, develop and demonstrate an in-depth knowledge and understanding of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language. The areas of study can also provide a rich source of material for your students to work with when developing performance and composition skills.

There are seven areas of study:

1. Western classical tradition 1650–1910 (compulsory)
2. Pop music
3. Music for media
4. Music for theatre
5. Jazz
6. Contemporary traditional music
7. Art music since 1910.

Students must study Area of study 1: Western classical tradition 1650–1910 and choose two from Areas of study 2–7.

Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Sport and Physical Activity

Contact: Laura Braithwaite

Examination Board: OCR

Email: laura.braithwaite@gatewaysschool.co.uk

Preferred Previous Studies

It is highly recommended that students achieve a grade 4 or above in GCSE English and Maths.



Why Study Sport and Physical Activity?

This course is OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical and is a vocationally-based course worth the equivalent of 1 A Level. It will allow Gateways students to specialise in sports coaching, leadership and organising events. This course will include extensive opportunities to coach, lead and organise events for younger students, opportunities to gain additional coaching qualifications and educational visits to participate and gain an insight into sport in the workplace.



This qualification will provide learners with the skills, knowledge and understanding to progress into employment in the sport, leisure or fitness industry. It can lead to Advanced Level apprenticeships in Coaching, Leisure Management and Exercise and Fitness progressing to job roles including Personal Trainer, Sports Coach and Leisure Centre Manager. It could also provide a route into Higher Education on a sport-related degree programme including Sport and Physical Education, Sport and Exercise Science or Sports Coaching and Development.

Career Opportunities

This qualification will provide learners with the skills, knowledge and understanding to progress into employment in the sport, leisure or fitness industry. It can lead to Advanced Level apprenticeships in Coaching, Leisure Management and Exercise and Fitness progressing to job roles including Personal Trainer, Sports Coach and Leisure Centre Manager. It could also provide a route into Higher Education on a sport-related degree programme including Sport and Physical Education, Sport and Exercise Science or Sports Coaching and Development.

Extended Certificate (360 GLH*)

Mandatory

- Unit 1 (90 GLH): Body Systems and the Effects of Physical Activity (*externally assessed unit) The skeletal, muscular, cardiovascular, respiratory and energy systems and how they respond to exercise.
- Unit 2 (90 GLH): Sports Coaching and Activity Leadership Roles and responsibilities of sports leaders, coaching techniques and planning, leading and reviewing sports sessions.
- Unit 3 (60 GLH): Sports Organisation and Development (*externally assessed unit) UK Sport and governing bodies, levels of participation, target groups and sports development initiatives.

Optional (need 120 GLH)

- Unit 5 (60 GLH): Performance Analysis in Sport and Exercise Performance profiling, analysing sports performance using a range of methods and giving feedback.
- Unit 8 (60 GLH): Organisation of Sports Events Different types of sports events, event promotion and planning, delivering and reviewing sports events.
- Unit 10 (60 GLH): Biomechanics and Movement Analysis.
- Unit 11 (30 GLH): Physical Activity for Specific Groups Provision for specific groups, barriers to participation, exercise referral and planning sessions for specific groups. This unit includes will include a visit to a special educational needs school.
- Unit 12 (30 GLH): Nutrition and diet for sport and exercise.
- Unit 17 (60 GLH): Sports Injuries and Rehabilitation Signs and symptoms of common sports injuries, minimising risk, treating sports injuries and rehabilitation programmes.
- Unit 19 (60 GLH): Sport and Exercise Psychology Motivation, stress, group dynamics in team sports and the effect of exercise on mental health and wellbeing.
- Unit 20 (60 GLH): Sport and exercise sociology (60 GLH).

The OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical **Extended Certificate** in Sport and Physical Activity is worth the equivalent of 1 A Level and specialises in Coaching, Leadership and Physical Education. Qualifications are graded from Pass to Distinction* level.

42% external assessment via written examinations for Units 1 and 3. These examinations are set and marked by OCR.

58 % internal assessment via assignments e.g. written reports, practical demonstrations, PowerPoint presentations. These are assessed by course tutors and externally moderated by OCR.

A Level Content

Over the two-year course you will study four different areas of philosophy in which you will be required to demonstrate understanding, and an ability to make reasoned critical evaluation, of a variety of responses to the questions that are posed below:

Epistemology

- ✍ What is knowledge?
- ✍ Is perception a reliable source of knowledge?
- ✍ Is reason a reliable source of knowledge?
- ✍ What are the limits of our knowledge?

Moral Philosophy

- ✍ What do we mean by 'good'?
- ✍ How can we decide what the 'good' thing to do is?
- ✍ Is it moral to eat meat?
- ✍ Is stealing ever morally acceptable?
- ✍ Is lying always wrong?
- ✍ Is it immoral to play video games that involve killing?

Metaphysics of God

- ✍ What do we mean by 'God'?
- ✍ Can we speak meaningfully about God?
- ✍ Are there good reasons to believe God exists?
- ✍ Why would a loving God allow suffering?

Metaphysics of Mind

- ✍ Is our mind distinct from our brain?
- ✍ What is the nature of consciousness?
- ✍ Can computers think?
- ✍ Can we have free will in a materialist world?

A Level Assessment

The A Level is examined in two written papers. Each paper is three hours in length and worth 50% of the overall grade. The first of these papers can be sat to obtain an AS qualification.

A-Level Physics

Contact: Mrs K Ashurst
Email: kim.ashurst@gatewaysschool.co.uk

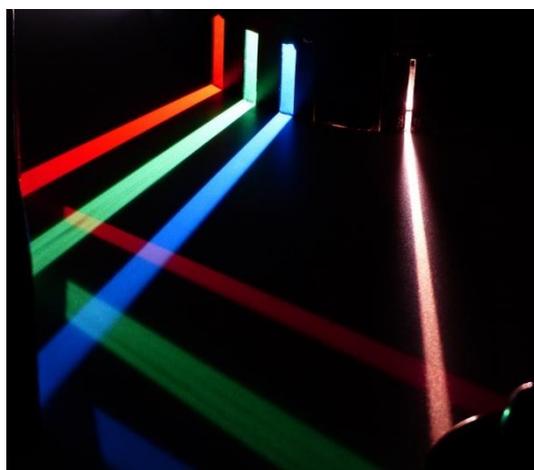
Examination Board: AQA
Specification: 7408

Preferred Previous Studies

GCSE Physics grade 6 or above or Double Award Science grade 7 or above. GCSE Mathematics grade 6 or above.

Why Study Physics?

Physics is an ever-developing subject that encourages you to develop your knowledge and understanding of the physical world and how it can be applied to novel situations. Not only is it the answer to life, the universe and everything in it, Physics qualifications will allow you to apply for a wide variety of university courses. The technology developed from its principles makes modern life what it is: from the seats you are sitting on, the music you hear, the television you watch, the clothes you wear and the energy that makes all of these things possible.



Physics is fundamentally an experimental subject. This specification provides numerous opportunities to use practical experiences to link theory to reality, and equip you with the essential practical skills you need. A wide range of resources from text books through DVDs and CD-ROMs to specialised equipment will sustain and develop your curiosity and provide you with the opportunity to achieve your best possible results.

Career Opportunities

An A Level in Physics is essential, highly desirable or very useful for many different careers. The analytical approach developed through the course will equip you with the skills necessary for a wide range of courses and careers from Engineering, Medicine, Radiography, Veterinary Science, Dentistry, Architecture, Management, Research through Geophysics and Geology.

A Level Content

Year 1

- ✍ Measurements and their errors
- ✍ Particles and radiation
- ✍ Waves
- ✍ Mechanics and materials
- ✍ Electricity

You are introduced both to the fundamental properties of matter, and to electromagnetic radiation and quantum phenomena. You will appreciate the importance of international collaboration in the development of new experiments and theories in this area of fundamental research.

GCSE studies of wave phenomena, elasticity, forces and electricity are further extended.

Year 2

- ✍ Further mechanics and thermal physics
- ✍ Fields and their consequences
- ✍ Nuclear physics
- ✍ An option from astrophysics, medical physics, engineering physics, turning points in physics or electronics

The earlier study of mechanics is further advanced through a consideration of circular motion and simple harmonic motion (the harmonic oscillator).

A further section allows the thermal properties of materials, the properties and nature of ideal gases, and the molecular kinetic theory to be studied in depth.

The concept of field is one of the great unifying ideas in physics. The ideas of gravitation, electrostatics and magnetic field theory are developed to emphasise this unification. Many ideas from mechanics and electricity from earlier in the course support this and are further developed.

Practical applications considered include: planetary and satellite orbits, capacitance and capacitors, their charge and discharge through resistors, and electromagnetic induction. These topics have considerable impact on modern society.

Earlier work of particles and radiation is built upon to link the properties of the nucleus to the production of nuclear power through the characteristics of the nucleus, the properties of unstable nuclei, and the link between energy and mass. You should become aware of the physics that underpins nuclear energy production and also of the impact that it can have on society.

A Level Assessment

Paper 1

2 hours, Year 1 content plus Periodic Motion

Papers 2

2 hours, Thermal Physics, Fields and their consequences, Nuclear physics

Paper 3

2 hour of a synoptic nature and will also test practical skills and data analysis.

A-Level Government & Politics

Contact: Mrs J Watson
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Examination Board: AQA
Specification: 7152

Preferred Previous Studies

A grade 5 or above in English Language.

Why Study Politics?

Lively, relevant, controversial... there are many ways to describe A-level Politics. There's no denying that it's one of the most interesting and engaging qualifications you can choose.

Covering news and current affairs from the UK and US, it helps you understand how the UK country is run and develops research, written communication and debate skills. It also helps grow your confidence.

Career Opportunities

It's ideal if you're considering studying politics, sociology, ethics, advertising or journalism at university and is highly regarded by employers in industries including politics, international organisations, the media, government and the civil service.



A Level Content

Component 1: Government and Politics of the UK

Government and Politics of the UK is divided into ten sections. Each has a particular focus but their interrelationships must be understood to appreciate the complexities of the system.

Component 2: Government and politics of the USA

Government and politics of the USA is divided into eight sections. Each has a particular focus but their interrelationships must be understood to appreciate the complexities of the system.

Component 3: Political ideas

This section covers the study of the core ideologies including liberalism, conservatism, socialism and other ideologies including nationalism, feminism and multiculturalism.

A Level Assessment

Examination Papers

Paper 1 : Government and politics in the UK

2 hours: 77 marks equivalent to 1/3 of the overall grade

Paper 2: The government and politics of the USA

Comparative government

2 hours: 77 marks equivalent to 1/3 of the overall grade

Paper 3: Political Ideas

2 hours: 77 marks equivalent to 1/3 of the overall grade

A-Level Psychology

Contact: Mrs E Hayward
Email: Elizabeth.hayward@gatewaysschool.co.uk

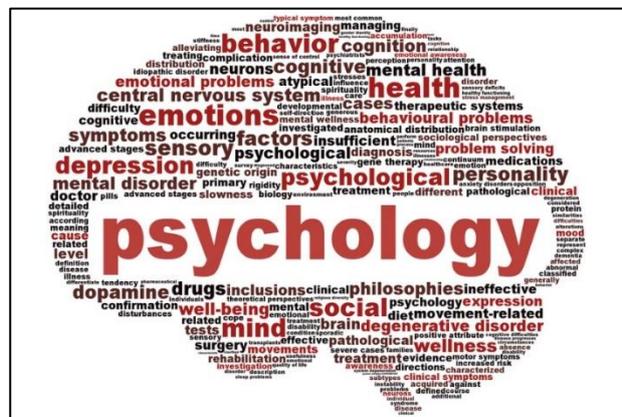
Examination Board: AQA
Specification: 7182

Preferred Previous Studies

A Level psychology can be studied without having previously obtained a GCSE within the subject. Given the level of statistics required, however, the course requires that you attain a minimum of a GCSE grade 5 in both mathematics and science.

Why Study Psychology?

Psychology is an interesting subject which complements a range of science and arts A Levels. The course will enable you to explore human behaviour and understand the psychological theories and methodologies underpinning the subject. In so doing, you will begin to question what it is to be human and understand the links between the mind and body. The five key areas of psychology (cognitive, social, developmental, physiological and individual differences) are discussed throughout the course, providing you with the opportunity to develop your critical and evaluative skills. In addition, there will be opportunities to both interpret and conduct research which will allow you to question the actions and decisions that relate to our own everyday lives.



The course is assessed purely by examination with no coursework or controlled assessments involved. The research techniques, communication, statistical and analytical skills developed throughout this course are valued by many universities and employers and therefore, this A Level provides access to a range of university courses and career opportunities.

Career Opportunities

Psychology is a subject that can be studied at university alongside a wide range of other disciplines, such as law, business, criminology, sociology, sport and many other science and arts courses.

A Level Content

Paper 1: Introductory topics in psychology

- ✍ Social influence
- ✍ Memory
- ✍ Attachment
- ✍ Psychopathology

Paper 2: Psychology in context

- ✍ Approaches in psychology
- ✍ Biopsychology
- ✍ Research methods

Paper 3: Issues and options in psychology

- ✍ Issues and debates in psychology
- ✍ Gender
- ✍ Eating behaviours
- ✍ Forensic psychology



A Level Assessment

- ✍ Three written papers
- ✍ 2 hours duration
- ✍ Equally weighted at 33.3% each
- ✍ A mixture of multiple choice, short answer and extended written responses.

A Level Sociology

Contact: Mrs H. Bromley

Email: helen.bromley@gatewaysschool.co.uk

Examination Board: AQA

Specification: 7291

Preferred Previous Studies

A grade 5 or above in English Language.

Why Study Sociology?

Sociology is a stimulating and relevant subject, offering the opportunity to develop a range of transferable skills and a 'sociological imagination' for the purposes of studying how human society develops and changes and people interact with one another. It provides students with an understanding of how society can shape people and how people can shape society.

The central aims of the A Level course in Sociology are to examine relationships and inequalities between individuals and the effects that social, economic and political influences may have on them and to develop within students a critical understanding of society. This is achieved by examining of two core themes: (1) Socialisation, Culture and Identity (2) Social Differentiation, Power and Stratification.



Career Opportunities

An understanding of Sociology is key for careers in Politics and the Media, such as Journalism. As Sociology focuses on understanding how society and the key institutions in society function, this subject can be perfect for roles in public services e.g. like the police, criminal justice social workers, probation officers. Sociology can also lead you onto civil servant and public sector roles such as Teaching, Law and Social Work.

A Level Content

Unit 1: Education with Theory and Methods

Section A: Education - Students will explore what is the role and purpose of education; the differing experiences of pupils, and how this shapes and affects their educational achievement and identity; how different minority groups experience education; how educational policies in the UK affect and shape education.

Section B: Methods in Context - Students will also cover the ways in which different research methods are used by sociologists and the strengths and weaknesses of these methods in investigating education.

Section C: Theory and Methods - Students will explore the different research methods, which sociologists use to investigate society; as well as explore key debates in sociology such as the influence of sociology on social policy, whether sociology is a science, and whether sociology should be value-free.

Unit 2: Topics in Sociology

Section A: one option from: Culture and Identity, Families and Households, Health and Work and Poverty and Welfare (this will be taught in Year 12). The chosen topic is: Families & Households
Section B: one option from the following topics: Beliefs in Society, The Media, Global Development, Stratification and Differentiation (this will be taught in Year 13). The chosen topic is: The Media.

Unit 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

Section A: Crime and Deviance - Students will look at Crime and Deviance and will consider key topics such as: What are the theories of crime and deviance in relation to social control? Who is more likely to commit crime and why? How does the media influence the rate of crime? What are the demographic trends in the crime statistics?

Section B: Theory and Methods - Student will build on the research methods they learnt in Year 12 and will consider the methodological strengths and weaknesses of using each method to research society. Students will also explore sociological perspectives and their view of society, including Marxism, Feminism, Functionalism, Interactionism and Postmodernism

A Level Assessment

Students will sit a total of 3 written examinations. Each paper will be 2 hours and worth 33.3% of the total A Level qualification.

A-Level Spanish

Contact: Mrs F Wilson
Email: fiona.wilson@gatewayschool.co.uk

Examination Board: AQA
Specification: 7652

Preferred Previous Studies

Minimum of grade 6 in your chosen language; French, German or Spanish.

Why Study Spanish?

Studying a foreign language at A level enables you to build on the language skills you have developed at GCSE, exploring topics which will be genuinely interesting and will inspire you to express your own opinions. A foreign language provides opportunities to spend time in the country with families or on work experience. As well as expanding your knowledge of the structure of the language, you will also gain a deeper insight into the countries where the language is spoken, exploring aspects of society and culture. Foreign language skills give you an advantage over other candidates for jobs, including law and business, as well as university places. A language combines well with any subject and opens doors to a wide choice of career paths.



If you choose to study a foreign language at Gateways, you will take part in a great variety of motivating and creative learning activities, including debates, the use of songs and films and ICT. The department has designated laptops and we use the Sanako Language Laboratory system which will allow you to record yourself and for your teacher to insert feedback into the recording as well as undertake independent listening, reading and grammar activities. There is a high staff-to-student ratio, which permits frequent opportunities for individual oral practice in preparation for speaking tests. The department enjoys the benefit of regular contact with AQA examiners to discuss with you what exactly is required for success in your examinations.

Career Opportunities

Knowledge of a foreign language at A Level can lead to further study of the language itself, or it can be the crucial extra string to your bow that gives you an advantage over other candidates for jobs and university places.

Advanced knowledge of another language will also provide you with the opportunity to work abroad or join an international company.

A Level Content

The A-Level consists of three papers:

Paper 1: 'Listening, Reading, Writing'

Paper 2: 'Writing'

Paper 3: 'Speaking Test'.

Topics covered include in Year 1

- ✍ Modern and traditional values
- ✍ Cyberspace
- ✍ Equal rights
- ✍ Modern day idols
- ✍ Spanish regional identity
- ✍ Cultural heritage or cultural landscape

Also: one literary text or one film

Topics covered include in Year 2

- ✍ Immigration
- ✍ Racism
- ✍ Integration
- ✍ Today's youth, tomorrow's citizens
- ✍ Monarchies, republics and dictatorships
- ✍ Popular movements

Also: one film and one literary text or two literary texts

A Level Assessment

Listening, Reading and Writing

- ✍ Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- ✍ 100 marks in total
- ✍ 50% of A-level

Writing

- ✍ Written exam: 2 hours
- ✍ 80 marks in total
- ✍ 20% of A-level

Speaking

- ✍ Oral exam: 21–23 minutes (including 5 minutes' preparation time)
- ✍ 60 marks in total
- ✍ 30% of A-level

Sports Leaders UK

Contact: Mr S Scholfield
Email: simon.scholfield@gatewaysschool.co.uk

Examination Board: Sports Leaders UK

The Sports Leaders Award is a Nationally recognised qualification that we offer at school. In addition to the obvious benefits of the course in terms of developing the you as an all-round individual, it also comes with 16 UCAS points for successful participants.

The course itself is split in to 7 modules.

The modules are as follows:

1. Developing leadership skills
2. Plan, lead and evaluate a sports/physical activity event
3. Lead safe sport/physical activity sessions
4. Plan, lead and evaluate sport/physical activity sessions for children

Optional units

You must then complete two units from Units 5, 6 and 7.

These can only be completed after the you have been assessed for Units 1, 3 and 4.

5. Plan, lead and evaluate sport/physical activity sessions in the community
6. Plan, lead and evaluate sport/physical activity sessions for disabled people
7. Plan, lead and evaluate sport/physical activity sessions for older people

Although the course is a 'Sports' leadership course, much of it focusses on leadership, communication and organisational skills and the experience of working with both the young children at school as well as groups in the wider community will stand all the participants in good stead for all of their future endeavours.

The course has no final examination and is assessed as they study.

Should you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact Mr Scholfield.

