



# The Willink

*Village School, Global Outlook*

— Sixth Form —



Sixth Form Prospectus

2025

# Contents

Welcome to The Willink Sixth Form.	2
Why Join Our Sixth Form?.....	3
Five Reasons to Study with Us.....	4
Enrichment .....	5
Subjects and Application.....	6
Entry Requirements.....	7
Sixth Form Staff .....	9
Student Leadership .....	10
Futures Support.....	11
Destinations .....	12
Art & Design/Textiles.....	13
Biology.....	15
Business Studies.....	17
Chemistry.....	19
Computer Science.....	21
Criminology Diploma.....	23
Drama & Theatre.....	24
Economics.....	26
English Language.....	28
English Literature.....	30
Film Studies.....	32
French.....	34
Geography.....	35
German.....	37
History.....	38
Mathematics.....	40
Further Maths.....	41
Core Maths (AS).....	42
Media Studies.....	43
Digital Media CTEC .....	45
Medical Science .....	47
Music.....	49
Physical Education.....	50
Physics.....	51
Politics.....	52
Product Design.....	54
Psychology.....	55
Religious Studies.....	57
Sociology.....	58
Spanish.....	59



# Welcome to The Willink Sixth Form

At The Willink Sixth Form, we are committed to ensuring that all students are supported to fulfil their academic and personal potential. In our vibrant, inclusive and ambitious “village school with a global outlook”, students embrace opportunities to become future global changemakers. Whatever their aspirations, our students develop knowledge, skills, qualifications and resilience to successfully progress to their next steps with confidence.

We are a highly successful and growing Sixth Form. Our success is driven by committed and inspirational staff who have genuine expertise and passion for providing excellent teaching and learning experiences. This is carefully balanced with a culture of care and underpinned by our core values of **Engage Respect Achieve** which permeate all that we do.

We proudly celebrate the achievements of our students and offer a broad range of Level 3 courses to cater for the diversity of student ambition: A Levels, AS Levels, BTECs and CTECs. We have expertise in providing specialist careers advice and guidance to young people – including for those students making early applications to university. This, complemented by exceptional teaching and curriculum leadership and supportive ethos, means that the majority of our students progress to prestigious universities or apprenticeships. We want our students to be successful today and in the future: we make your aspirations our aspirations.

I am immensely proud to be the Headteacher of such an exceptional learning community and I look forward to welcoming you and your family to The Willink Sixth Form.



**Ms Browning - Headteacher**

We pride ourself on being a welcoming and supportive environment for students to thrive and achieve their full potential. Achieving your best set of examination results is only part of our Sixth Form experience. Our Key Skills Programme will help you to prepare for life beyond school. This includes: an enrichment programme, leadership and mentoring opportunities and bespoke social activities. We know that university admissions tutors and employers are looking for more than academic success: they want young people who have a range of outside interests, who show initiative and enterprise, who are involved in voluntary and community activity and who have developed their creativity. I look forward to guiding you through this next exciting phase of your learning journey – the launchpad to your future.



**Mr Leach - Head of Sixth Form**



*Nicolle Browning, Headteacher*



*Marcus Leach, Head of Sixth Form*



# Why Join Our Sixth Form?

Students thrive in our Sixth Form irrespective of whether they were with us in Year 11 or join at the start of Year 12.

We help you to settle into new routines very quickly. Through our Key Skills Programme, we will support you as you develop new friendships and build upon your study skills to take on the exciting challenge of focusing on a small number of subjects in greater depth.

We offer a range of qualifications and different pathways to follow. Some students will study three A Levels (occasionally four) alongside an EPQ, whilst others will study two CTECs and an A Level with all sorts of combinations in between.

Many students are clear about their future ambitions when they join The Willink Sixth Form whilst others need time and support to develop their ideas.

The majority of our students aim for university (and our students apply to a very broad spectrum of universities and courses) whilst others apply for apprenticeships (including degree apprenticeships) and jobs. One size definitely does not fit all! Our aim is to help you decide upon the future that works best for you and then support you in realising your ambition.

Our teaching is exceptional, and our Sixth Form teachers are all experts in their subjects. Our cross-curricular teams collaborate to ensure our teaching remains up to date and we share ideas about how to help individual students. We aim to cater for the needs of all students and target our teaching to ensure that you will be both challenged and supported in equal measure.



*“The Willink Sixth Form is an innovative and vibrant environment with extraordinary support from teachers and peers.”*

**Ewan, Year 12**

*“Being new to The Willink, I have found that it is very nurturing and inspirational to my future.”*

**Jamie, Year 12**

*“As a ‘new to The Willink’ student I was surprised how quickly I managed to settle in. Everyone has been so friendly and welcoming!”*

**Marcie, Year 12**

## Did you know...?



We enrolled

**211**

students across  
Year 12 and Year 13  
in 2024



We offer

**25**

A Level or  
Level 3  
Courses



**9** students  
gained an EPQ  
qualification with  
us in 2024



You will have **1**  
Key Skills  
period per week  
in Year 12



You will have **2**  
Personal  
Development periods  
per fortnight

Engage

Respect

Achieve

# Five Reasons to Study with Us

# 1

## A supportive Working Environment

You'll be studying with like-minded students who want to work hard, do well and get on in life. The step up from GCSEs is demanding but our experienced teaching staff and pastoral team will ensure a smooth transition and provide you with the skills you need to succeed independently.



# 2

## Excellent Teaching That Leads to Success

Our teachers are experts in their subjects and enjoy excellent working relationships with students. We quickly learn students' strengths and how to get the best out of you. Nearly all students gain entry to their first choice of university including Oxford, Cambridge and the Russell Group of universities and many secure interviews at apprenticeship providers in their chosen field of future study. We are proud of the results which our students achieve and the destinations they reach.



# 3

## A Rich and Fulfilling Student Life

The Sixth Form has its own unique identity but remains a key part of the wider Willink community. We will offer you opportunities to act as leaders and role models to our younger students and take on responsibilities as senior students. Our Enrichment Programme and Personal Development provides opportunities to learn new skills and try new things. Throughout the year we offer a wide variety of talks, activities, clubs and sporting events.



# 4

## Dedicated Common Room and Study Area

Sixth Formers have their own Common Room to study, socialise and take a break from lessons. The whole Sixth Form area has Wi-Fi to allow you to connect anywhere. You will be able to use separate study rooms with computers and will have access to course materials, independent study activities, online storage and printing.



# 5

## Dedicated Guidance to the Next Step

We offer high quality advice, guidance and support from teachers and staff including a dedicated UCAS Coordinator, Careers Advisor and use of Unifrog (a comprehensive destinations planner). Whether your target is apprenticeships, university or the world of work, we have the resources and expertise to help you make the right choice.



*"Sixth Form is a great place to improve your independence and further the subjects you already enjoy!"*

**Lou, Year 13**

*"The freedom we are given as Willink Sixth Form students allowed us to thrive as independent thinkers in a supportive yet relaxed environment."*

**Isaac and Thomas, Former Students**

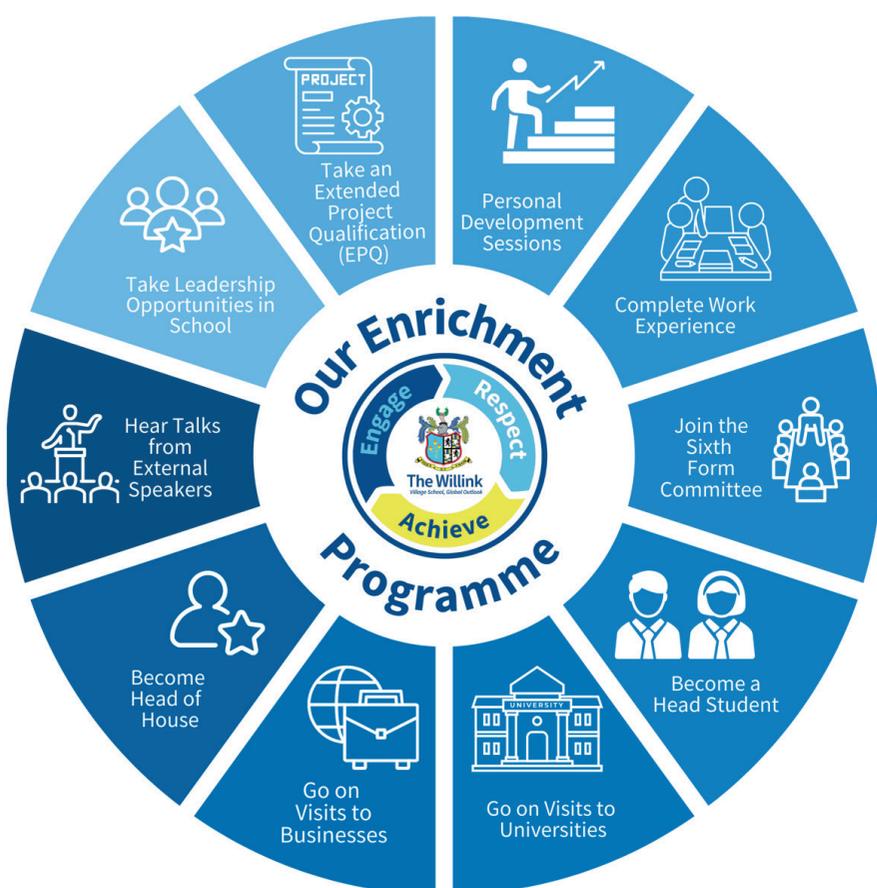
# Enrichment

You and your fellow Sixth Form peers have achieved great GCSE results and are now focusing on subjects you're passionate about. Sixth Form will help you stretch your academic potential, allowing for deeper exploration of topics and providing valuable qualifications that showcase your dedication and hard work.

However, life is about more than just qualifications. As you prepare for greater independence, developing a wider range of skills and stepping outside your comfort zone is essential. **Our Enrichment Programme** is designed to support this growth.

Many students, for example, may undertake the **Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)**, an independent research project that fosters essential research skills and showcases knowledge and passion for learning. EPQs are recognised by universities and employers, highlighting skills in independence, planning, organisation, and critical thinking. We challenge all our students to learn more about themselves as they navigate an ever-changing world. While we aspire for great academic results, our true passion lies in seeing happy, confident students ready to face the future with enthusiasm.

Here are some enrichment opportunities available when you join The Willink Sixth Form:



*"Only a few days into joining The Willink Sixth Form and I already feel more prepared for the future."*

**Rahul, Year 12**

*"The Sixth Form provides a nurturing yet challenging environment where we are encouraged to be independent and motivated to push ourselves further."*

**Will, Year 13**

*"The support for university applications is phenomenal; the school was so dedicated and efficient in helping me, and I am extremely grateful for it."*

**Georgia, Former Student**

All of our students are challenged to learn more about themselves as they move off into an ever-changing world. Whilst we hope for great academic results, our real passion is seeing happy, confident students who are able to face the future with enthusiasm.

Engage

Respect

Achieve

# Subjects and Applications

The Willink Sixth Form has a strong tradition of delivering excellent teaching in A Level and A Level equivalent (CTEC and BTEC courses) subjects. All subjects lead to Level 3 qualifications which are recognised by universities and employers. Some of our A Level subjects allow you to take an AS Level after one year of study if you have chosen four at the start of Year 12.

We believe in the capability of all our learners. We will help you to find the right combination of A Levels, BTEC and CTEC courses, and enrichment opportunities that will enable you to reach your full potential. Should you possess a genuine enthusiasm for learning, meet the entry requirement for your desired subjects, and attain a minimum of five GCSE grades at Grade 4 or above, you are eligible for enrolment in The Willink Sixth Form.

All courses are offered subject to suitable group numbers as course popularity varies from one year to the next.

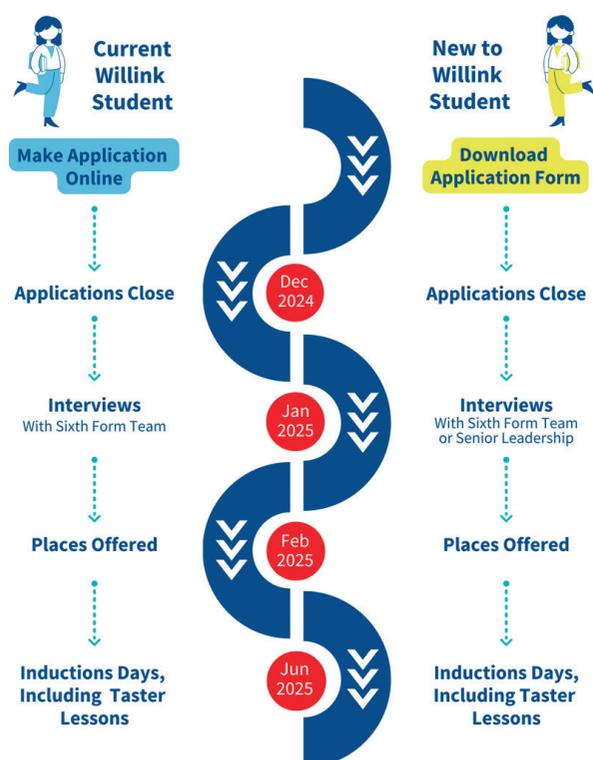
A Level Courses		Vocational Courses
Art & Design*	German	Criminology Diploma
Biology	History	Digital Media CTEC
Business Studies*	Mathematics	
Chemistry	Media Studies*	
Computer Science*	Music*	
Core Maths (AS-level)	Physical Education*	
Drama	Physics	
Economics*	Politics*	
English Language*	Product Design*	
English Literature*	Psychology	
Film Studies*	Religious Studies	
French	Sociology	
Further Maths	Spanish	
Geography*		

\*AS Levels are not available in these subjects



Scan the QR code to view our course guides.

## The Willink Sixth Form Application Process



We'd like the opportunity to discuss your options based on your current predicted grades. Once you have applied, we will invite you to interview, where we can have a discussion about your future.

### Current Willink Students:

Applications should be made electronically via SIMS Options online. Information will be shared via ClassCharts on how this can be done.

### New to Willink Students:

Please download an application form from the Sixth Form area on our website and submit to the email address below.

 [willinkschool.org.uk](http://willinkschool.org.uk)

 +44 (0)118 983 8428

 [sixthform@willink-w.berks.sch.uk](mailto:sixthform@willink-w.berks.sch.uk)

# Entry Requirements

Course	Subject Entry Requirements
Art & Design	Grade 5 in Art or Art Textiles.
Biology	Combined Science 6 6 , or a Grade 6 in Biology and at least one other Science if studying separate Sciences, plus grade 5 in Maths.
Business Studies	Grade 5 in Business Studies or Grade 5 in English and Maths if not studied at GCSE.
Chemistry	Combined Science 6 6 , or a Grade 6 in Chemistry and at least one other Science if studying separate Sciences, plus grade 5 in Maths.
Computer Science	Grade 5 in Computer Science.
Criminology Diploma	Grade 4 in English.
Drama & Theatre	Grade 5 in Drama.
Economics	Grade 5 in Maths and English Language.
English Language	Grade 5 in English Language.
English Literature	Grade 6 in English Literature.
Film Studies	Grade 5 in English.
French	Grade 6 in French.
Geography	Grade 5 in Geography or Grade 5 in English and Maths if not studied at GCSE.
German	Grade 6 in German.
History	Grade 5 in History or Grade 5 in English if not studied at GCSE.
Mathematics	Grade 6 in Maths.
Further Maths	Grade 7 in Maths.
Core Maths (AS)	Grade 5 in Maths.
Media Studies	Grade 5 in Media Studies or Grade 5 in English if not studied at GCSE.
Digital Media (CTEC)	Grade 4 in Media or Grade 4 in English if not studied at GCSE.
Music	Grade 6 in your own instrument (or Grade 6 standard), Grade 6 at Music GCSE or Grade 5 Theory in a Music external graded qualification.

Course (Continued)	Subject Entry Requirements (Continued)
Physical Education	Grade 5 in PE or Grade 5 in Biology or Combined Science if not studied at GCSE.
Physics	Combined Science 6 6 , or a Grade 6 in Physics and at least one other Science if studying separate Sciences, plus grade 5 in Maths.
Politics	Grade 5 in History or Grade 5 in English if not studied at GCSE.
Product Design	Grade 5 in D&T or in either Art, Food, Media, PE or Textiles if D&T not studied at GCSE and Grade 5 in Maths.
Psychology	Grade 6, 6 in Combined Science or a grade 6 in Biology and at least one other Science if taking separate Sciences and Grade 5 in Maths.
Religious Studies	Grade 5 in Religious Studies.
Sociology	Grade 5 in English Language.
Spanish	Grade 6 in Spanish.



*“Sixth Form is a great opportunity to expand your learning with new and dynamic subjects that open up a range of future careers.”*

**Isabelle, Year 13**



*“The Willink Sixth Form is supported by an outstanding team of staff who are dedicated to helping us reach our full potential”*

**Charlie and James,  
Year 12**



# Sixth Form Staff

The Sixth Form team underpins everything we do; it includes eight tutors and nine members of staff in central roles alongside the Head Students and the Sixth Form Committee.



**Ms Browning**  
Headteacher



**Mr Leach**  
Head of Sixth Form



**Mr Jubb**  
Assistant Head of Sixth Form



**Mr Collot**  
Assistant Head KS5



**Miss Eggleton**  
Administrator



**Mrs Lake**  
Student Support Officer  
& UCAS Co-ordinator



**Ms Desai**  
Careers Advisor



**Mrs Clark**  
Sixth Form  
Pastoral Assistant



**Mrs Downey**  
Sixth Form  
Pastoral Mentor

# Tutor Team

Upon entering The Willink Sixth Form, you will become part of a diverse and dynamic learning community, and your tutor group will play a pivotal role in this. In the Sixth Form, you will join a combined tutor group, comprising of both Year 12 and Year 13 students. This setting offers the opportunity to build new friendships and interact with peers studying entirely different subjects.

Your tutor will serve as your primary point of contact for acquiring new skills and accessing the broader support network available in the Sixth Form. You will attend morning registration and participate in weekly Key Skill sessions where you'll learn essential life skills, such as interpreting a pay-slip and promoting positive mental health.

*"It's a big leap between KS4 and KS5, but there is a lot of support to help you adapt to the new learning environment"*

**Beth, Year 13**

*"The Sixth Form provides a clam and relaxing environment with ample space for studying, while also offering opportunities to socialise with fellow students."*

**Toby, Year 12**

Engage

Respect

Achieve

# Student Leadership

The Sixth Form Committee leads the student voice for Sixth Form, working with staff to make decisions on areas such as fundraising, improving student well-being, enhancing the Sixth Form environment, promoting the integration of year 12 and 13, and organising events like the Sixth Form ball in the summer term.

Students are encouraged to apply for the prestigious Head Student role, where they oversee the committee, run meetings, attend Governor sessions, and present at school events. In addition to Head Students, individuals on the committee also take on important responsibilities for different areas of the committee's work. Involvement in the committee helps develop leadership, communication, and teamwork skills, preparing students for future careers, apprenticeships, and university.



## Message from our Head Students

*“At The Willink Sixth Form, we’ve discovered that our teachers are not only passionate but are also true experts in their subjects. They consistently inspire us to reach our full potential. The diverse curriculum prepares us well for the next phase of our lives beyond Sixth Form, and we really appreciate the variety of learning styles offered here—whether it’s quiet collaborative work or focused individual study.*

*The pastoral staff are always available when we need support, and there are numerous opportunities for growth, such as EPQs, MOOCs, and work experience. We also enjoy attending careers and UCAS fairs throughout the year. For those of us unsure about our next steps, there’s plenty of guidance to help navigate applications and explore future opportunities.*

*Our Sixth Form actively encourages student feedback, always striving to enhance our experience. Being part of the Sixth Form Committee has been incredibly rewarding, allowing us to make a meaningful impact while building leadership skills and connecting with fellow students and staff. We also love participating in social events like quiz nights, inter-school sports competitions, and attending the Summer Ball, which bring us together and let us celebrate our hard work.*

*Overall, our time at The Willink Sixth Form has been extremely enjoyable and is equipping us with the skills we need to pursue our future ambitions. The supportive environment, dedicated pastoral team, and expert teachers genuinely care about each student’s success, making a real difference for all of us.*

*We appreciate your interest in The Willink Sixth Form and sincerely hope you’ll choose to become part of our close-knit community.”*

*Mannu and Will*

**Mannu and Will, Head Students**

# Futures Support

We offer high quality advice, guidance and support from teachers and staff including our dedicated Futures Coordinator (Mrs Lake) and our Careers Advisor (Ms Desai).

All our students are encouraged to use Unifrog, a comprehensive destinations planner, and this is embedded in our Key Skills programme.

As a Year 12 student, you will have the opportunity to attend both a careers fair and a UCAS fair. Additionally, you will be able to participate in a talk led by a leading expert in university applications. These events, and others throughout the year, provide you with valuable exposure to a diverse array of future career options and offers the necessary support to help you reach your goals. Our support for university applications and apprenticeships is something we pride ourselves on and for those of you who aspire to attend the most competitive universities, we aim to support your application as best as we can. Working alongside you, we will strive for a stand-out application.

Whether your target is university, apprenticeships or work, we have the resources and expertise to help you make the right choice. Our Year 13 students repeatedly say they had helpful support across the various application processes.



# Destinations

## Our 2024 leavers went on to study:

Accounting  
 Accounting & Finance  
 Aeronautics & Astronautics  
 Animal Behaviour and Training  
 Animation  
 Architecture  
 Bioengineering  
 Biological Sciences  
 Biology  
 Biomedical Sciences  
 Business & Management  
 Chemical Engineering  
 Chemistry  
 Civil Engineering  
 Classical Studies  
 Computer Science  
 Consumer Behaviour and Marketing  
 Criminology  
 Criminology and Psychology  
 Criminology with Police Studies  
 Culture, Media and Creative Studies  
 Digital Media  
 Early Childhood Studies  
 Economics  
 Engineering and Technology  
 Events Management  
 Fashion Design  
 Fashion Marketing  
 Film Production  
 Forensic Anthropology  
 Forensic Psychology  
 Genetics  
 History  
 Interior Architecture  
 International Business  
 Journalism Studies  
 Law  
 Mathematics with Computer Science  
 Mechanical Engineering  
 Modern History  
 Music Performance  
 Musical Theatre  
 Philosophy and Politics  
 Physics, Astrophysics and Cosmology  
 Primary Education  
 Sports Management  
 Sport, Exercise and Health Science

## Our 2024 leavers went on to work:

Accounting Degree Apprenticeship  
 Accounting employment  
 Blacksmith  
 Degree Apprenticeship with CGI  
 The Willink as Teaching Assistants!

Our 2024 Willink Sixth Form leavers went on to study a variety of courses across a number of different universities:



Students from The Willink Sixth Form have also been very successful moving straight into the workplace at the end of Year 13. Students from the 2024 cohort are established in jobs and apprenticeships covering fields such as finance, accounting and blacksmithing.

Some of our students are working on highly sought after degree apprenticeships in areas including accounting and finance and banking.

Wherever your future lies, we will be with you as you take control of your destiny!

# Art and Design



If you enjoy being creative, want to increase your practical skills and improve your analytical, communication and research abilities, Art and Design is a great choice.

The skills you gain make it a great complement to other analytical subjects. Art is used as a way of seeing the world through alternative viewpoints and being able to share those views. It will help you with further study and prepare you for the world of work.

This is a broad-based course exploring practical, critical and contextual work through a range of 2D and/or 3D processes and media.

Art, craft and design gives you the skills and knowledge to create personal and imaginative work. You can choose to focus on a specialist area of study from a variety of exciting processes and media to suit your individual interests and abilities.

In our lessons there are opportunities to explore a range of techniques and processes within the various disciplines of Art and Design such as ceramics, textiles, painting, drawing, photography and 3D design.

Lessons will combine group discussion, individual work, computer-based exercises and challenges.



**“Art changes your perspective on the world, being able to express yourself in unique ways and inspire others to do the same.”** – Elspeth, Year 13



## THE COURSE

The A level is a practical course in which you learn by doing, so you will be able to create imaginative personal work.

You will find out about a whole range of media, techniques and processes. You will develop your creativity and independent thought, learn to express yourself visually and let your imagination flourish.

Art and design is a great companion to all other subjects as creativity, imagination and problem solving are skills needed in all forms of study.



## ASSESSMENTS

### Component 1:

60% of the total A Level marks. This is an investigation into an idea, issue, concept or theme supported by written material.

### Component 2:

40% Personal work in response to one of eight exciting starting points which will count for 40% of your total A-level marks

**“The community feel between the students helps us to gain inspiration.”** – Emily, Year 13



## RESOURCES

To support your independence, we will use student handbooks to guide you through modules and workshops, exercises to try and visits to galleries, museums and educational talks.

Students come along to our weekly drop-in sessions to receive personalised support from our teachers.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 in Art or Art Textiles.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

Art A Level to degree opportunities and careers ranging from painting portraits to producing exotic fashion costumes or designing futuristic architecture. If you have an adventurous, creative and enquiring mind and are excited by shaping and determining the visual world around us, there is a career opportunity waiting for you.



## CAREERS

Architecture, Animation, Art conservation, Art history, Art therapy, Fashion design, Film/video production, Fine art, Game designer, Graphic design, Illustration, Interior design, Jewellery design, Set designer, Photography, Product design, Textile design, Theatre design, Three-dimensional design, Web design to name but a few.....



## STUDENT CASE STUDY

**Who:** Isobel, Year 13

**Studying:** Art, History and Film studies

**Next Step:** Animation at Farnborough University

**Loves:** Creating work that sends a message to the viewer.

*“ The teachers and the space are what makes such a difference to being able to be creative. The experiences we are given during our Art A Level give us such a strong foundation for university ” – Isobel Year 13*



**A journey from molecule to ecosystem and everything in between! You will gain an appreciation of how organisms (including humans) work, how we evolved, the factors that can impact our health and how we can improve it.**

Whether you want to find out how to feed the planet or fight a global pandemic, Biology is the subject for you. You will gain many skills such as research, analysis and effective communication. Biology is a varied and interesting course.

You will be taught by experienced teachers who are subject experts. They will help you to cope with the step up from GCSE and encourage you to develop the skills you need to become successful independent learners.

We do group work, discussions, exam question practice and it wouldn't be Biology without some card sorts and video clips! We also do practical work which will contribute to your Practical Endorsement Qualification.



## THE COURSE

Biology is the study of life and living processes. We cover numerous varied topics across the 2 years, including:

- The molecular structure of key cellular components and how they interact within a cell.
- The structure of the cell and how cells are organised within an organism.
- How materials are transported and exchanged.
- The factors that affect human health and how the body responds to disease.

In Year 13 we study the genetic basis of inheritance and how the body responds to change (both internal and external). We look at biodiversity, populations and sustainability and energy transfers (at a cellular level and within an ecosystem). We also cover modern scientific principles such as manipulating genomes and cloning.



## RESOURCES

You will have plenty of structured, independent work using our online learning platform, Kerboodle, and textbooks. There is a wealth of current research available online plus access to MOOCS on various topics.

We will ensure that you cover all the theory required in the syllabus so that you can prepare for your exams with confidence.



## WHAT SKILLS DO I GAIN?

As well as these key biological principles, you will have the opportunity to develop your practical experimentation skills and learn how to interpret and evaluate data. The skills and knowledge taught in Biology will prepare you for university, the workplace and beyond.



## ASSESSMENTS

### AS Level:

2 papers covering:

- Development of Practical skills
- Foundations in Biology (the cell)
- Exchange & Transport
- Biodiversity, Evolution & Disease

### A Level:

3 papers covering the AS content plus:

- Communications, Homeostasis & Energy.
- Genetics, Evolution & Ecosystems.

Biology A Level also includes a Practical endorsement (Pass/Fail). There is no coursework for this subject. We follow the OCR A syllabus.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Combined Science 6 6 , or a Grade 6 in Biology and at least 1 other Science if taking separate Sciences, plus grade 5 in Maths.

***“Biology is a fascinating subject; it is very eye opening to the natural world around us and you find yourself captivated throughout the course with exciting practicals and thought-provoking engaging lessons.”***

– Maryam, Year 13



***“The lessons are always varied and the teachers explain things clearly. The structured independent study and regular feedback helps me to feel well prepared for all assessments.”*** – Quinn, Year 13



## WHERE TO NEXT?

Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Physiotherapy, Pharmacology, Physiology, Sport Science, Psychology, Biotechnology, Zoology, Marine Biology, Agriculture, Environmental Science and many more.



## CAREERS

The study of Biology opens up exciting career possibilities. From conservation to cancer research, biologists are tackling important 21st century challenges. Biology is also an excellent preparation for non-scientific careers, thanks to the skills it provides such as research, problem solving and analysis, alongside teamwork and communication. Universities and employers regard all of these very highly.



## STUDENT CASE STUDY

**Who:** Katie, Year 13

**Studying:** Biology, Chemistry and English Literature

**Next Stop:** University to study Biomedical Sciences / Human Biology

**Loves:** Playing the guitar.



# Business Studies



**Business will help you develop a variety of skills including problem solving, decision making, managing your own learning, using numerical techniques with confidence, working with others, judgment, and evaluation.**

The course introduces you to all you need to know about working in business, providing a solid foundation for further study. With a focus on helping you to become a good decision maker, you'll learn essential managerial skills, alongside techniques to help you become an analytical problem solver. These skills are all highly sought after and valued in a wide range of careers.

In this Business course, students will study four key themes, spread across two years:

- 1. Marketing and People:** Understanding customer needs, market analysis, and effective staff management.
- 2. Managing Business Activities:** Financial management, resource allocation, and external influences.
- 3. Business Decisions and Strategy:** Setting objectives, decision-making techniques, and stakeholder influence.
- 4. Global Business:** The impact of globalisation on business expansion and global market creation, with real-world examples of globalizing businesses like Netflix, Amazon, Jaguar Land Rover, and Apple.



## THE COURSE

Theme 1 and 2 will be studied in year one of the course, while 3 and 4 will be studied in year two. The assessment covers all four themes:

In our lessons subject experts deliver current and topical business issues. Lessons involve class discussions of real-world stimulus material and research exercises, role-play and presentations to the class, individual problem solving and the study of developing effective exam practice working on past papers.

The course follows the Edexcel Syllabus.



## ASSESSMENTS

**The Assessment Process A-Level Business is assessed at the end of the second year through three exams:**

**Paper 1:** Covers Themes 1 and 4 and accounts for 35% of the final grade

**Paper 2:** Covers Themes 2 and 3 and accounts for 35% of the final grade

**Paper 3:** Covers all four themes and is based around a pre-release case study on a particular business or market, and accounts for 30% of the final grade.



## RESOURCES

To support your independence, we use a range of online learning platforms such as Seneca, Taking the Biz, bizconsesh and Tutor 2 U online learning. Students also have access to the Business review magazine with up-to-date cases studies and helpful exam tips.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 in Business Studies or Grade 5 in English and Maths if not studied at GCSE.



## WHAT SKILLS DO I GAIN?

In the classroom Students will analyse real business situations and examples and identifying where problems have arisen and where success has been managed, as well as developing financial skills and an ability to analyse business financial statements. They will apply theories on management, motivation and operations to real business Case Studies (such as John Lewis, ASOS, Tesco, Jaguar and Land Rover among many others). They will be encouraged to do this through discussions and critical thinking is explored. In the future



## WHERE TO NEXT?

This course could lead to a degree, apprenticeship or job in: Management, Business Studies, Administration, Finance, Marketing, Events Management, Accountancy Marketing, Finance, Operations, Human Resources.



***“The Business A Level has given me the theoretical understanding of business and the processes needed to apply this in the real world. The course is challenging but rewarding as it prepares you for a wide range of jobs, apprenticeships and university courses.”*** – Ismael, Year 13





**Atoms, molecules and the manufacture of absolutely everything! You will gain an appreciation of how molecules are made up, work and interact with each other.**

You will:

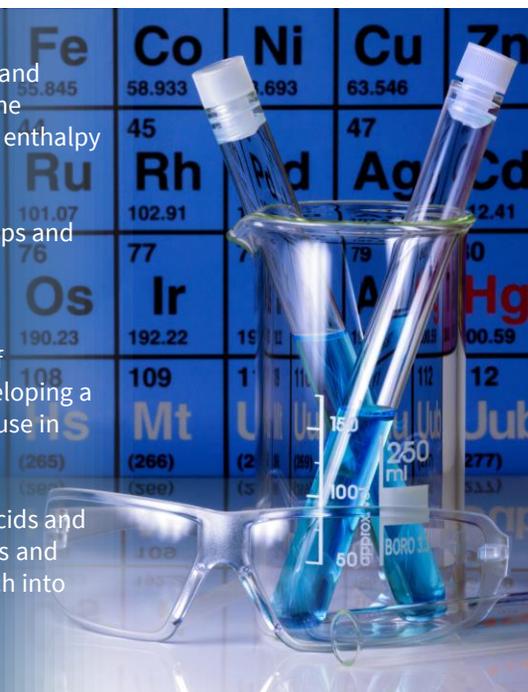
- Explore a huge variety of chemical reactions from coating glass with a silver mirror to separating amino acids by Chromatography.
- Identify unknown substances by chemical analysis and synthesise organic molecules such as esters and aspirin.
- Gain many skills such as research, analysis and effective communication.

Foundations in Chemistry provides a bridge into AS Chemistry and explores atomic structure, electron orbital theory, moles and the shapes of molecules. We look at patterns in the Periodic Table, enthalpy changes, entropy and rates of reaction.

The Organic module covers a range of different functional groups and spectroscopic analysis, which provides an insight into Forensic Science.

In Year 2 we introduce aromatic chemistry and a wider range of functional groups and analytical techniques. This leads to developing a variety of synthetic routes for designing organic molecules for use in medicine and industrial processes.

We also study Physical Chemistry, to include the reactions of acids and the importance of buffers in living systems. Transition elements and Redox reactions form the basis of colour chemistry and research into hydrogen fuel cells and fuel cell vehicles.



## THE COURSE

You will be taught by experienced teachers who are subject experts. They will help you to cope with the step up from GCSE and encourage you to develop the skills you need to become successful independent learners.

We do group work, discussions, exam question practice, treasure hunts, competitions and lots of practical work, which will contribute to your Practical Endorsement Qualification.

There is no coursework for this subject. We follow the OCR A syllabus for Chemistry.



## ASSESSMENTS

You can choose to take AS Level, A Level or both. The majority of our students choose A Level.

**AS Two papers** worth 50% each, covering:  
Foundation Chemistry  
Periodic Table and Energy  
Core Organic Chemistry

**A2 Three papers:**  
Paper 1: Periodic Table, Elements and Physical chemistry (worth 37%)  
Paper 2: Synthesis and Analytical Techniques (worth 37%)  
Paper 3: Unified Chemistry (worth 26%)

A level Practical endorsement (Pass/Fail).



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Combined Science 6 6 , or a Grade 6 in Chemistry and at least 1 other Science if taking separate Sciences, plus grade 5 in Maths.

**“My class enjoys Chemistry because it’s practical and interactive. Throughout the course we’ve all grown in our analytical skills and determination.”**

– Leo, Year 12

***“Chemistry is one of the subjects that never ceases to amaze you. The teachers explain concepts thoroughly and are very supportive, which makes Chemistry lessons my favourite part of the school day!”*** – Finn, Year 12



### WHERE TO NEXT?

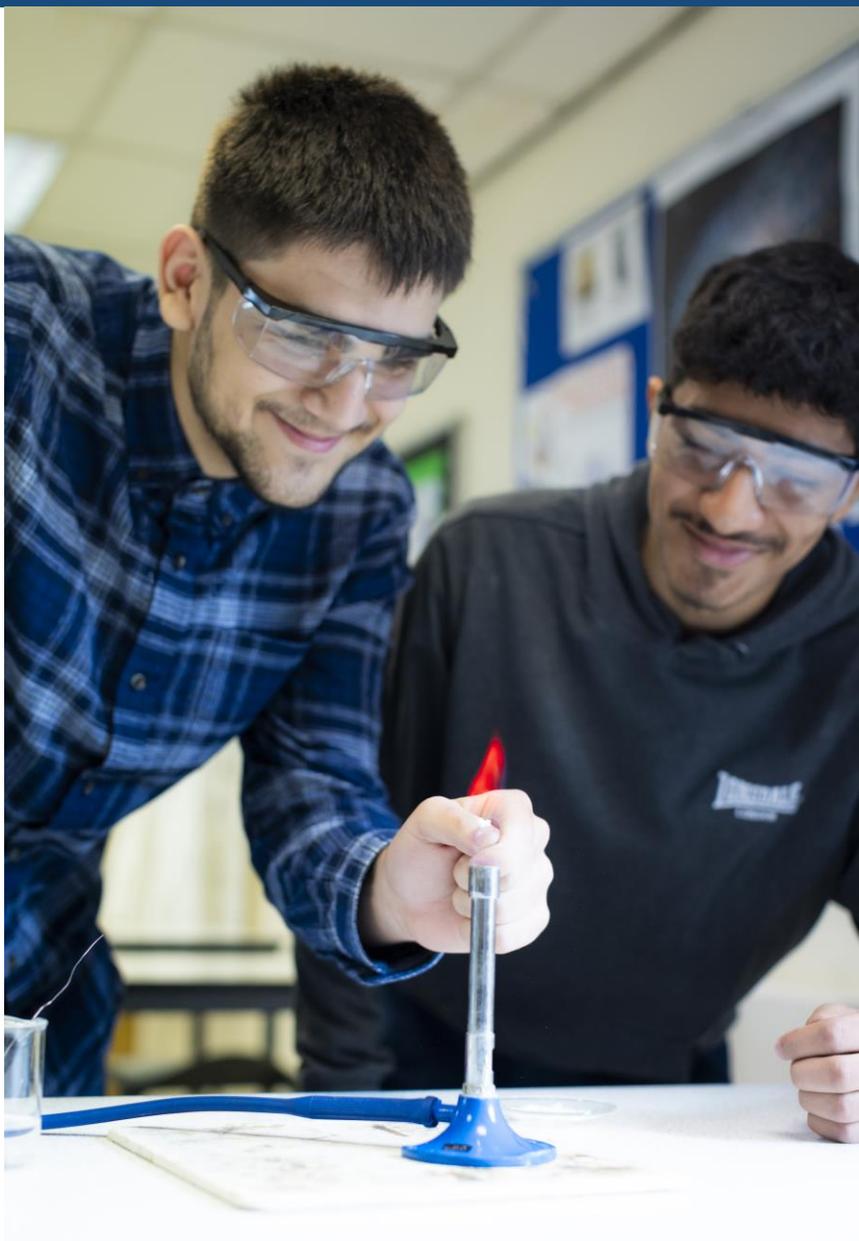
Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Chemical engineering, Material Science, Quality control, Fuels technician, Research Scientist, Agriculture, Environmental Science, Analytical Chemist, Forensic Science



### CAREERS

Studying Chemistry opens up exciting career possibilities. Chemists are always at the forefront of innovation!

***“It is a pleasure to be taught Chemistry at The Willink. We get combination of expertly taught lessons, which are adapted for students no matter their level, enabling us all to succeed. All whilst fostering a passion for understanding the world of Chemistry in a deeper and much fuller way.”*** – Sam, Year 12



# Computer Science



**Now more than ever, the central and key enabling role of technology is drawn into keen focus. A good grade in Computer Science at A Level is valued by universities and employers. You will have demonstrated strong analytical thinking and problem-solving skills.**

A good grade in Computer Science at A Level is valued by universities and employers. You will have demonstrated strong analytical thinking and problem-solving skills.

This course is also a stepping-stone to study Computer Science, Engineering, Physics or related subjects in higher education.

This is a practical and theoretical subject, looking at the natural world through a digital prism. Students develop computational thinking skills to solve problems, design systems and understand the power and limits of human and machine intelligence. They also enhance their knowledge of algorithms, data representation and logic, as well as considering the risks and opportunities posed by digital technology.



## THE COURSE

Subject specialists deliver a mixture of unplugged theory lessons, teacher-led discussions and hands-on coding and computational challenges.

You will develop the ability to:

- Think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically.
- Apply skills in and an understanding of computing (including programming) in a range of contexts to solve problems.
- Delve into producing graphical user interfaces and object-orientated programming solutions.



## ASSESSMENTS

A-Level Computer Science is assessed through two written exams, each consisting of 140 marks per paper and lasting 2 hours and 30 minutes. These written papers collectively account for 80% of the overall grade. The remaining 20% of the overall grade is attributed to a Programming Project.

The awarding body is OCR.

**Paper 1:** Component 1, Computer Systems.

**Paper 2:** Component 2, Algorithms and programming.

**Coursework:** Component 3, Programming project, no time restriction.



## RESOURCES

To support your independence, we use a blend of teacher-led discussion, theory lessons, independent research (guided through worksheets and challenge questions), online learning from Ada Computing Computer Science, and an open-source ethos allowing you to use any programming language that meets the needs of the course.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 GCSE Computer Science.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

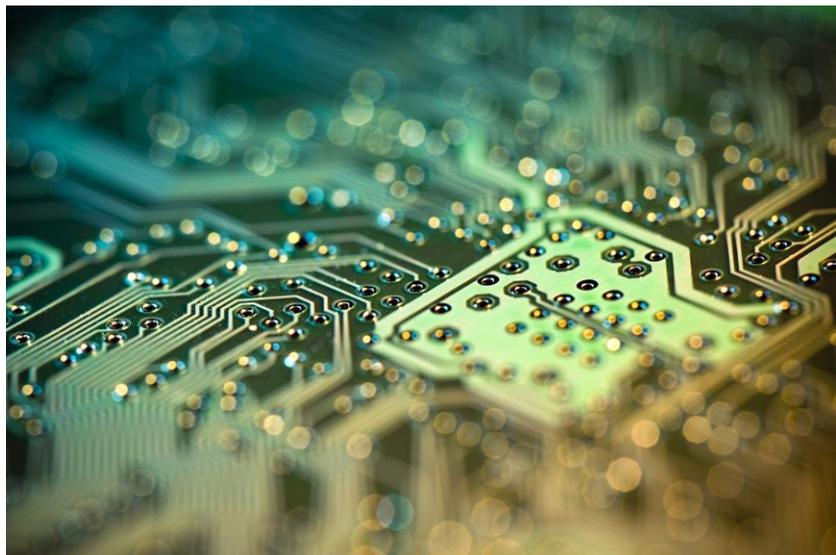
A lot of scientific problems, engineering challenges, health care & medical research, and business issues in general can be solved efficiently and effectively with computer based solutions.

***“Computer Science has empowered me to channel my creativity and innovation, transforming my visions into tangible reality through the mastery of computational techniques.”*** – Jake, Year 13

***“With technology advancing at its current rate, computer science is the best way to get your foot in the door of a great job and a good future.”***  
– Ann, Year 12

***“I enjoy computing as it encourages me to approach problems in new and creative ways.”*** – Isaac, Year 13

***“Computer Science is such an intriguing subject; the content never gets tedious and the skills you gain from the course are so valuable.”*** – Jago, Year 13



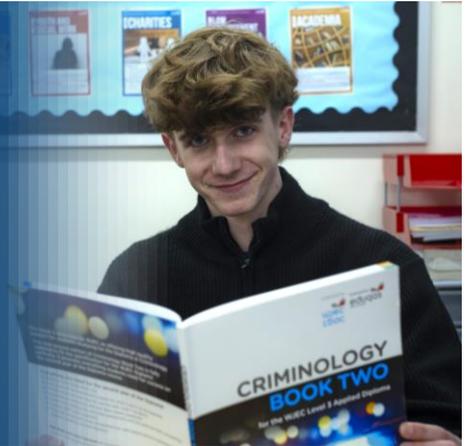
# Criminology Diploma

**Criminology is fascinating, rewarding and helps you to develop a range of skills. The Level 3 Diploma in Criminology not only develops your awareness of the function and workings of the Criminal Justice System, but it also provides insight in to the theoretical and practical nature and consequence of crime.**

If you are interested in studying a contemporary, topical and often controversial subject, then Criminology is for you!

This exciting and multidisciplinary course will encourage a deep, extensive understanding of how changes in technology and media contribute to the creation of new and stereotypical views of crime. We will explore the behavioural reasons for crime as well as the range of techniques and strategies used to deal with and punish criminal behaviour. As part of the course we will also consider the rationale and effectiveness of social policy.

Criminology lessons are taught in a variety of interactive ways. Ranging from teacher led presentations through to group activities, discussion, exam practice and independent study.



**“Criminology is an inciteful, interesting subject that offers countless opportunities to study aspects of crime that you would never think of: theories of crime, the court system and campaigns for change to just name a few. Overall, the subject is highly impactful and will open pathways to new carers and potentially an easier A-level experience.”** - Caitlin Year 13



## THE COURSE

The course is made up of four units which, combined, make up the Level 3 Diploma qualification in Criminology:

**Unit 1** – Changing Awareness of Crime, which includes material on different types and perception of crime.

**Unit 2** – Criminological Theories, which includes views on criminal and deviant behaviour and theoretical understanding of such behaviours.

**Unit 3** – Crime Scene to Courtroom, which helps students to gain a detailed understanding of how the criminal justice system operates.

**Unit 4** – Crime and Punishment, which includes work on the link between social control and policy.



## ASSESSMENTS

We will follow the Eduqas specification.

**50% controlled assessment** (units 1 & 3: 8 hours in total for each unit)

**50% exam** (units 2 and 4: 1½ hours for each unit).



## RESOURCES

To support your independence, we encourage wider reading around the subject. We also set a variety skills-based practice questions and/or booklets on all topics covered, as well as draw upon connections from the real world.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

Criminology, Psychology, Sociology, Law, Social Policy, Forensics, Politics.



## CAREERS

Many who have studied Criminology work for the Police, Prison Services, National Probation Service, Legal Services, Youth Work & Social Work.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 4 in English.

# Drama & Theatre



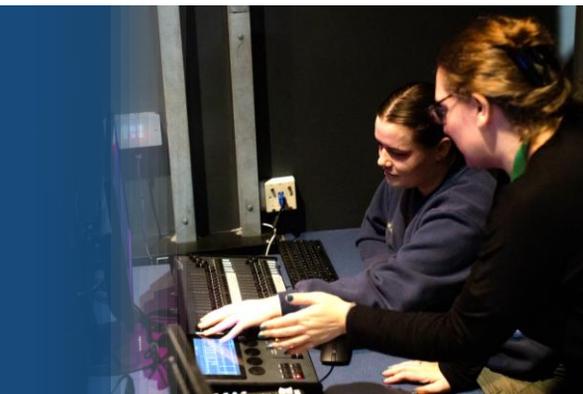
**A Level Drama & Theatre is an engaging and diverse course that develops your creative thinking, problem-solving and leadership skills.**

It challenges you to experience new things, build your confidence in public speaking and takes you out of your comfort zone; all of which builds resilience and makes you more able to face the world on your own terms.

Our drama experts will lead you through a range of practical workshops and seminar-style lessons.

Your teachers act as critical friends while you develop your ideas.

Group work and individual presentations complement the essay writing and analytical tasks.



**“Drama is an amazing subject for people willing to open up their creative mind to develop their self confidence in public speaking as well as all kinds of skills needed for your academic years and life beyond school.”** – Quinn, Year 13



## THE COURSE

In the course you focus on the work of:

- **The Actor:** Finding the truth in a performance and communicating character, emotion and plot .
- **The Theatre Designers:** How they contribute to atmosphere, audience understanding and experiences.
- **The Theatre Director:** How they create a production concept, developing the work throughout rehearsal and working closely with all creatives to bring their ideas to the stage.

Throughout all of these explorations, you will work in all of those roles and discover the style that works best for you, your group and the theatre you are creating.

Through the analysis of live theatre, both during trips and via streaming services, you will discover creative solutions for staging and performance. You can then use these ideas to create engaging and inspiring productions.



## ASSESSMENTS

**Component One 20% of A Level:**

The reinterpretation of a text extract in the style of a theatre practitioner accompanied by your own Creative Log.

**Component Two 40% of A Level:**

The creation of two performances and a Process Report in response to a stimulus set by Eduqas – one devised and one scripted piece.

**Component Three 40%:**

A written exam based on two set texts from different time periods and an extract from the play "A Monster Calls".



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 in GCSE Drama.



## RESOURCES

To support your independence, we set a range of tasks that deepen your understanding of theatre, researching practitioners, watching 'live theatre', writing scripts and rehearsal outside formal lesson time.



## CAREERS

Careers in the Performing Arts Industry, Drama in education or therapy; work in any fields where presentation skills or interaction with the public are highly valued (Law, Politics, PR... ..)

***“Drama is a safe space, where we can express ourselves, be creative and collaborative, whilst enriching our minds with plays, practitioners, styles and techniques.” – Tamsin, Year 13***



**Economics is a fast-growing and successful A level. In our Economics lessons we consider the economic problem which faces both households and government alike: how to use the scarce resources available to satisfy our unlimited wants and needs. You'll investigate topics such as employment, international trade and poverty and consider why some policies work to improve economic variables such as GDP and others may not.**

Economics is a subject that features lots of lively debate and allows you to draw your own conclusions and opinions about the decisions made. It is challenging but fascinating.

The course is 100% examined. Economics is split into two core concepts: - Microeconomics and Macroeconomics.

**Microeconomics** is the study of the individual or company – this involves considering the impact of individual economic decision making and how companies compete using price determination and the concerns around monopoly – where companies control an entire industry or commodity. There is also a consideration of how far governments should intervene in this process.

**Macroeconomics** is about the economy in the wider world – considering how different financial markets coexist and compete and looking at the wider international economy. You'll consider the role of government in taxing and distributing the revenue gained as well as looking at supply and demand.

In lessons you will be encouraged to think for yourselves about the decisions made in the wider world. You'll be provided with a variety of different question types, including data analysis and debating.



## ASSESSMENTS

Assessment is linear. You will sit three examinations at the end of the course. Each paper lasts for 2 hours and is equally weighted.

### A Level Exams:

**Paper 1:** Markets and market failure, including a 40 mark data response section and a 40 mark essay question.

**Paper 2:** National and international economy, including a 40 mark data response and a 40 mark essay question.

**Paper 3:** Economic principles and issues, including a 30 mark multiple choice section and a case study section worth 50 marks, drawing together your knowledge of micro and macroeconomics.



## RESOURCES

To support your independence, we subscribe to the Economics Review magazine.

Tutor2U also provides excellent supporting resources.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 in Maths and English Language.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

**University** – Economics, Maths, Politics, Business Studies.”

– Luca, Year 12 Student

**Apprenticeships** – Banking, Accountancy.



## CAREERS

Management Accountancy, Analysis, Credit analyst, Banking, Accounting, Finance, Marketing.

**“Economics is a challenging subject offered exclusively at A-level at The Willink. Its principles can be applied to many real-world situations, making it a universally relevant field. It also complements other A-level subjects by reinforcing key ideas and skills.”**

– Luca, Year 12 Student



**“Economics is a challenging yet rewarding subject that equips you with a range of skills, which can be applied to various A-level subjects, such as aspects of human geography, particularly in areas like regeneration.”**

– Joe, Year 13 Student

**“I enjoy Economics because it provides a framework for understanding how individual decisions and broader societal trends shape our world and impact real-life outcomes.”**

– Meecael, Year 12 Student



# English Language



## English Language is the fascinating study of Linguistics: how we write and speak.

You'll be an investigative learner with an inquisitive mind as you seek answers to questions like: Do men and women communicate differently? Is there a class divide in Britain? How do children learn to speak? Why is our English so different to Shakespeare's? Is there a right and wrong way to speak? How do the media use language to manipulate us? Your ability to ask probing questions and follow through with investigatory answers will make you attractive to universities and employers alike.

Our teachers are linguistic specialists and teach through the medium of class-centred discussion and debate, interactive tasks that focus on group work, presentations and fun quizzes.

Theory is taught through real-life contexts and knowledge is regularly assessed through class and homework essays.



**“The Child Language Development part of the course is particularly fascinating and helps me understand the way in which young people start to communicate. It will help me move into a career later, potentially working with young people.”** – Current Year 13 student



## THE COURSE

We follow the AQA Specification for A Level Language. The course is divided into three aspects: Language, The Individual and Society; Diversity and Change and Language in Action.

**The Individual and Society** introduces methods of language analysis to explore concepts of audience, purpose, genre, mode and representation. It also introduces the study of children's language development, exploring how children learn language and how they can understand and express themselves through language.

In **Diversity and Change** we study the key concepts of audience, purpose, genre and mode and explore language in its wider social, geographical and temporal contexts. This explores processes of language change but also social attitudes to, and debates about, language diversity and change.

**Language in Action** is a Non-Examined Assessment folder (NEA) of creative writing in a chosen style and an in-depth linguistic investigation in an area of your choice.



## ASSESSMENTS

Assessment is a mixture of examination at the end of the two-year course and the Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) folder.

**Paper 1:** Language, The Individual and Society (2 hours 30 mins)  
Section A: Representation and Meanings  
Section B: Child Language Acquisition

**Paper 2:** Language Diversity and Change (2 hours 30 mins)  
Section A: Diversity and Change  
Section B: Language Discourses

**NEA Folder:** Language in Action  
NEA 1: Original Writing  
NEA 2: Language Investigation



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 in English Language.

Our teachers are linguistic specialists and teach through the medium of class-centred discussion and debate, interactive tasks that focus on group work, presentations and fun quizzes.

Theory is taught through real-life contexts and knowledge is regularly assessed through class and homework essays.



## RESOURCES

We use Seneca Learning to reinforce work done in class as well as independent tasks to complement current study. Towards exam season, focussed revision clinics are provided to boost confidence and practice exam technique. During the composition of the NEAs, individual tutorials and feedback sessions are offered.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

What can I study at degree level? Linguistics/Language, Publishing, Law, Media, Speech and Language, Psychology, Education, Marketing and Advertising, Digital Commerce.

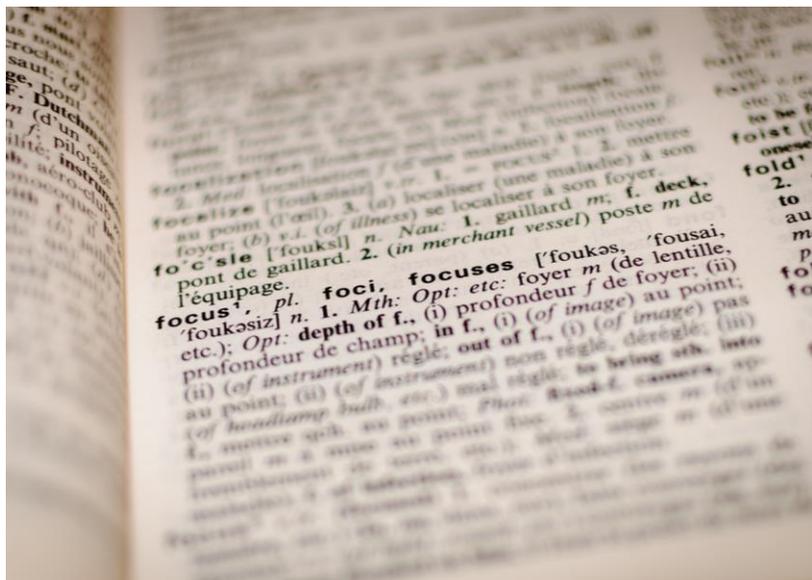
*“The English Language Course has enhanced my analytical writing skills, the course is versatile and has helped with my essay writing across subjects”*

– Travis, Y13



## CAREERS

Teaching, Editor, Journalism, Copywriting, TEFL, Brand Manager, Speech and Language Therapy, Legal work and much more...



# English Literature

English literature is one of the most diverse and fascinating subjects to study at A level as it fosters skills in literacy, communication, history and social sciences.

As a facilitating subject, an A level in English will make you more attractive to prospective employers as well as universities as you'll be able to communicate in writing and orally at the highest level. You will also be able to read and interpret complicated texts and disseminate information harvested from them to a range of audiences.

We follow the EDEXCEL Spec for A level Literature, divided into four separate components:

- **Drama**
- **Prose**
- **Poetry**
- **Non-Examined Assessment (course work)**

The content of the course is flexible and offers teachers the ability to mould the selected texts around the interests and strengths of their groups.



## THE COURSE

**Drama** consists of either comedy or tragedy, studying one Shakespeare text and one other play by a range of playwrights from various literary periods. Possible texts could include Wilde's 'The Importance of Being Earnest' or Williams' 'A Streetcar Named Desire.'

**Prose** focuses on comparing two novels from a multitude of texts under the banners of various headings including Women and Society, Childhood or The Supernatural.

**Poetry** offers the opportunity to study a particular poetic movement or a named author from that period as well as an anthology of contemporary poetry.

**The NEA** fosters a love of independent reading from outside the course in a comparison of two texts from any genre.

The course is taught through the medium of interactive discussions, group work, presentations, independent study tasks and class-based, as well as homework-based essays.

You are encouraged to develop your love and opinions of literature with detailed feedback on how to communicate these in writing, as well as evaluate existing theoretical approaches and ideas.

You are recommended to read around your set texts and will be given a range of independent learning tasks to complete in your focused-study time to complement your reading. Regular one-to-one guidance is given in the development of the NEA and regular revision clinics are held as exams approach.



## ASSESSMENTS

Assessments are by examination at the end of the two-year course and the NEA.

**Drama Paper:** 2 hours 15 minutes. 2 questions – 60 marks

**Prose Paper:** 1 hour 15 minutes. 1 question – 40 marks

**Poetry Paper:** 2 hours 15 minutes. 2 questions – 60 marks

**NEA:** 2500-3000 word essay on two texts of your choice.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 in English Literature.



**“English Literature enables you to engage with critical theory, which aids essay writing for all my subjects. The diversity of texts and poetry means that there is always something to enjoy.” – Faith, Year 13**



### WHERE TO NEXT?

English, Language/Linguistics, Law, Journalism, Creative Writing, Teaching, Education.



### CAREERS

Publishing, Communications Industry, Media, TEFL, Business Training and Consultancy, Hospitality, Management, Sales, Digital Copywriter and many more.



### STUDENT CASE STUDY

**Who:** Alina, Year 12  
**Studying:** History, Politics, English Literature  
**Next Step:** University to study Law  
**Loves:** Creative art, painting and drawing, swimming



**Cinema is about 125 years old and it is a medium that provides us with both intense feelings and a window on the world. Studying film enables you to see the world in a different light.**

You'll develop an excellent understanding of the history of cinema, from silent cinema to contemporary Hollywood. Film Studies students explore the processes behind film – the economic, technological, sociological and mental processes.

In this course, you will be reflecting on how films conform to generic conventions, how far they make use of star systems and how they reflect national identity and culture.

We offer either the A Level or the AS Level – you would need to be sure about which path you are taking by Christmas as the coursework is slightly different for each path.

**“Film allows a range of topics to be covered through different film analysis, I have already enjoyed the film course, as it has explained a range of topics and activities.”**

– Ioana, Former student



## THE COURSE

You'll explore the following topics:

- Hollywood 1930-1990
- American Film since 2005
- British Film since 1995
- Global film, Documentary Film, Silent Cinema and Experimental Film.

The course will challenge you to take a keen interest in the development of film over time and will enable you to create your own short film or screenplay.

You will also have an opportunity to evaluate your final piece of work.

There is due to be a change in set texts, but films currently studied are:

- **AS:** Do The Right Thing, Get Out, Shaun of the Dead, This is England, Some Like it Hot & Mustang.
- **A Level:** All the Above Plus Joker, Parasite, Stories We Tell, Sunrise and Memento.



## ASSESSMENTS

Assessments are linear and you will complete a coursework folder including either a short film or a screenplay plus a storyboard and an evaluative essay.

The two exams are 35% of the course each.

**A Level:** Two exams, each lasting for two and a half hours, plus a non-exam assessment.

**AS Level:** Two exams lasting one and a half hours each and a non-exam assessment.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 in English.

In our lessons you will be taught by teachers who are passionate about the subject and keen to discuss the film industry.

Students will be given opportunities to debate key ideas and respond to extracts from set texts.



## RESOURCES

To support your independence, we provide students with a contents page and a book to create their own revision guides. Students also have access to a range of extra tasks to stretch them as well as access to Media Magazine to further their understanding of key concepts. We would also recommend that students read publications such as Sight and Sound and Empire.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

University – Film Studies, Media, Marketing, Journalism, Scriptwriting.



## CAREERS

Editing, Producing, Directing, Film Critic, Journalist, Location Management, Production Design.

*“I enjoyed planning, shooting and especially editing films and videos for this course. The satisfaction of seeing the final product after the hours of hard work is unmatched. Deep diving into every aspect of film that people do not normally acknowledge is enjoyable. I hope build a career in the film industry.”* – Connor, Former student



**Learning French is more than just a boost to your CV or handy for travelling. It will make you smarter, more decisive and even better at English.**

The course builds on your knowledge, understanding and skills gained in your language. It constitutes an integrated study with a focus on language, culture and society. It fosters a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity. You will develop your understanding and knowledge of themes relating to the culture and society of countries where French is spoken and language skills. Authentic materials are regularly used and you will also be able to study a film and a book which will give you even greater insight into the culture of French-speaking countries.

In our lessons subject specialists, with so much enthusiasm for their language, will deliver well-paced lessons designed to meet the needs of all our pupils.

Teacher time is interleaved with group discussion, cultural study of the countries, focus on grammar to boost your accuracy and tailored speaking activities with your teachers, plus speaking sessions with our Foreign Language Assistants.



***“Learning a Language unlocks a world of exciting possibilities whether that be travelling, working, or exploring culture. A Level Language is different to GCSE because you don't just learn the language, you learn the culture of the country and how they use the language in real life settings”*** – Charlotte, Year 13 Student



## RESOURCES

You will have plenty of structured, independent work using our online learning platform, Kerboodle, and textbooks. There is a wealth of current research available online plus access to MOOCS on various topics. We will ensure that you cover all the theory required in the syllabus so that you can prepare for your exams with confidence.

Your one-to-one sessions with our Foreign Language Assistants will give you an opportunity to gain confidence with your speaking. We track your progress and give you the confidence to achieve your next goal in your language.



## ASSESSMENTS

Assessments are linear, there is no coursework. You take a set of exams at the end of the course. You can choose to take AS Level, A Level or both. The majority of our students choose A Level.

**Paper 1:** Listening Reading and Writing

**Paper 2:** Writing (essays on a French film and French novel)

**Paper 3:** Speaking



## WHERE TO NEXT?

International trade, business, tourism, travel industry, immigration, translation, education, multilingual job opportunities.



## CAREERS

International import/export manager, EMEA trade positions, translator, teacher, immigration officer and any relevant jobs abroad using your English and language skills!



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 in French.

***“I loved studying French at GCSE because I was fascinated by the language. I enjoy it even more at A level, as now I get to explore French culture - and, importantly to me, its politics as well.”*** – Charlie, Year 13 Student

**So many of the world's current issues – at a global scale and locally - boil down to geography and need the geographers of the future to help us understand them.**

Global warming's impact on countries and regions, food and energy security, the degradation of land and soils from over-use and misuse, the spread of disease, the causes and consequences of migration, and the impacts of economic change on places and communities are just some of the challenges facing the next generation, which geographers must help solve.

Your A Level geography course will cover both the physical and human environments and the complex interaction of processes that shape our world.

It will also, importantly, show the applied side of the subject - how human intervention affects the environment and how people adapt and mitigate the effects of processes on their environment. This is complex and dynamic and varies from place to place depending on people's resources, technology and culture.

There is plenty of room for discussion and extended research which will help you become an independent thinker and learner.



***“Once you start studying Geography, you begin to interpret the world differently - as a Geographer! I really enjoy how relatable Geography is and how you can see its influence everywhere you go. It has also proven useful in enhancing a wide range of skills, which is why it's such a brilliant subject!”*** – Will, Year 13



## ASSESSMENTS

- **Physical Systems** - 22% of the A Level, 1 hour 30 minutes written paper. The inter-relationships between the land, oceans and atmosphere, understanding the processes, characteristics and impacts of those landscapes.
- **Human interactions** - 22% of the A Level, 1 hour 30 minutes written paper. Investigate the actions, interactions and spatial patterns of people around the world, looking specifically at human rights and migration as well as the changing shape of the places around us.
- **Geographical debates** - 36% of the A Level, 2 hour 30 minutes written paper. Exploring the most challenging and fascinating issues facing the 21st century.
- **Investigative geography** - 20% of the A Level, coursework project on an area of geography of your choice.



## WHAT SKILLS DO I GAIN?

- Research skills
- Oral and written communication skills, producing convincing arguments to communicate ideas effectively.
- Visual communication skills: using maps, graphs, diagrams and images to problem solve.
- Data and geospatial skills, developing your qualitative and quantitative geographical skills.
- Data analysis
- Fieldwork experience



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 in Geography and Grade 5 in Maths and English.



## RESOURCES

You will learn in a wide variety of ways such as by using maps, GIS skills, data analysis, photos and videos. This will be undertaken in lessons, through fieldwork, and by yourself in independent study time both in the Sixth Form as well as at home. You will be encouraged to read around the subject in relevant news articles and academic journals.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

The skills and knowledge you gain from studying geography are relevant to almost all jobs and workplaces. What's more, Geography graduates are experiencing some of the lowest levels of graduate unemployment, so there has never been a better time to study geography!

Geography studies can lead you on to work in conservation, sustainability, environmental planning, town or transport planning, surveying, waste and water management, tourism, weather forecasting, research, law and business.

At university you could study a degree in subjects such as global development, geography, environmental sciences, politics, economics, business and the sciences.



## CAREERS

There are a wealth of jobs geographers do, spanning almost every sector including: Development and Global Issues, Society, The Business World, Travel, Tourism and Leisure, The Built Environment Geographical Information Systems, The Physical Environment, Policy and Government.

Examples roles: Conservation Officer, Senior Planner, Chartered Surveyor, Volcanologist, Hydrologist, Environmental Consultant, Meteorologist, Lawyer, GIS, Finance, and International Development.

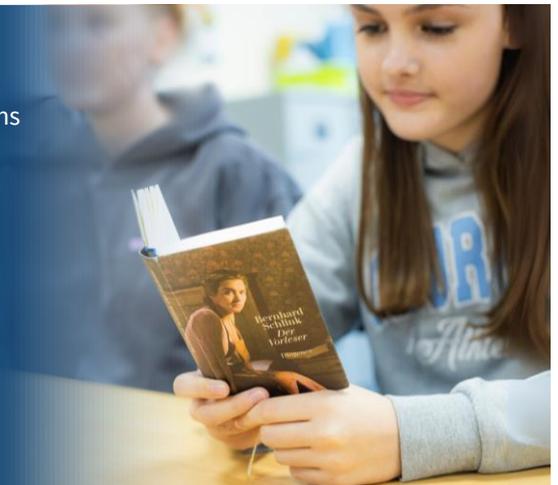


German A Level constitutes an integrated study with a focus on language, culture and society. It fosters a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity. You will develop your understanding and knowledge of themes relating to the culture and society of Germany.

Authentic materials are regularly used and you will also be able to study a film and a book which will give you even greater hindsight of German culture.

Physiological studies have found that speaking two or more languages is a great asset to the cognitive process. The brains of bilingual people operate differently than single language speakers, and these differences offer several mental benefits. Here's a few examples :

- You build multitasking skills
- Your memory improves
- You become more perceptive
- Your decision-making skills improve
- You improve your English



## THE COURSE

In our lessons subject specialists, with so much enthusiasm for their language, will deliver well-paced lessons designed to meet the needs of all our pupils.

Teacher time is interleaved with group discussion, cultural study of the countries, focus on grammar to boost your accuracy and tailored speaking activities with your teachers, plus speaking sessions with our Foreign Language Assistants.



## ASSESSMENTS

Assessments are linear; there is no coursework. You will take a set of exams at the end of the course.

You can choose to take AS Level, A Level or both. The majority of our students choose A Level.

**Paper 1:** Listening Reading and Writing

**Paper 2:** Writing (essays on a German film and German novel)

**Paper 3:** Speaking.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

International trade, business, tourism, travel industry, immigration, translation, education, multilingual job opportunities.



## CAREERS

International import/export manager, EMEA trade positions, translator, teacher, immigration officer and any relevant jobs abroad using your English and language skills!

***“The standard of teaching at The Willink is so good throughout the school. Our teacher’s love for German is unbeaten, they definitely know their stuff when it comes to everything German, from the vocab to grammar to culture!”*** – Beth, Year 13



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 in German



History is the most valuable subject you can study in the current world. With lines being blurred between facts and opinions, and with so many debates based on the consequences of history, it is more important now than ever to have a strong understanding of the past and how it shapes our today.

The skills learnt in History are highly sought after by employers and universities. Paramount are the skills of sorting through information and extracting the essential points which will reflect what you want to say. In addition, you will build skills in analysis and evaluation, which will become second nature. The modules we study for A-level reflect our purpose as a discipline.

In our lessons the teacher's passion for our subjects and topics shine through. There are lots of debates and discussions of the work we are undertaking.



**“I chose to study A Level History because it teaches adaptable skills that are valuable for both future jobs and university. For example, it helps develop skills such as forming an opinion, critical thinking, debating, and analysis.”** – Sophia, Year 13 Student



## THE COURSE

The course is divided into three sections:

1. **Paper 1:** We study **The Crusades** – this is a breadth study covering 133 years and explores the rise and fall of the Crusader Kingdoms of Jerusalem. Imagine ‘Game of Thrones’, but real and fewer dragons.
2. **Paper 2:** This is an in-depth study of the **Making of Modern Britain, 1951-2007** looking at the political, social and foreign policies and how Britain changed during this period. The issues our current government face are completely rooted and shaped by the actions of the politicians that we study. In addition, the History we teach is from your parents’ lifetime! Also – Margaret Thatcher – she is like marmite – love or hate her.
3. **Section 3 : Coursework.** You will become an expert on **African-American Civil Rights**. You will then produce a 4500 word essay on this topic. You will independently research and evaluate sources, a skill that students are so grateful for when they go to university.



## ASSESSMENTS

### AS level exams:

Paper 1: 50% - The Crusades, 1½ hour exam (An extract question and one essay)

Paper 2: 50% - Making of Modern Britain, 1½ hour exam (A source question and one essay)

### A level:

Paper 1: 40% - The Crusades, 2½ hours exam (One extract based essay and 2 essays)

Paper 2: 40% - The Making of Modern Britain, 2½ hours exam (One source based essay and 2 essays)

Coursework: 20% 4500 word essay.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 in History or Grade 5 in English if History not studied at GCSE.



## RESOURCES

We encourage students to create a revision guide of their own which reviews and builds on prior work. We provide extensive additional reading to stretch and deepen your understanding, from our extensive lending library. Furthermore, we run a 6th form History Help Hub to provide specific and targeted intervention where necessary.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

History, Law, Journalism, Media, Politics, English, Geography, Economics, Medicine, Science, Accountancy.



## CAREERS

Lawyer, Journalist, Business, Advertising, Marketing, Accountancy, Education, Publishing, Archaeologist, Archivist, Curator, Politics and Civil Service.

***“I enjoy A Level History because I'm genuinely interested in the topics we cover. The Crusades, for example, is such a unique subject! History also teaches skills that are valuable for a wide range of careers.”***

– Fred, Year 13 Student



# Mathematics

Maths is both fascinating and rewarding and will provide you with a varied set of skills (problem-solving, analytical, research, logic), which are indispensable to a very wide variety of careers. It will also enhance your enjoyment and performance in other maths-based subjects, as well as Engineering courses at university.

In our lessons teacher time is interleaved with group discussion, individual work, computer-based exercise, challenges and exam practice.

*“Mathematics is a boundless world of struggle, search for new things, challenges that inspire you to constantly improve yourself and conquer new heights.”* – Kirill, Year 12



## THE COURSE

The course is **two-thirds Pure** and **one-third Applied** (split evenly between Statistics and Mechanics). Each area is taught by experienced, and very enthusiastic, subject specialists.

Pure Mathematics takes familiar topics to a new level, such as **Coordinate Geometry, Quadratics and Trigonometry**, and introduces fascinating new concepts, such as:

- **Calculus:** The study of rates of change, important in all industrial optimisation processes.
- **Algebraic Methods:** Manipulating and solving higher order equations
- **Logarithms:** The maths we use to understand biological populations.
- **Binomial Expansions:** How to expand brackets to the power of 10 or  $\frac{1}{2}$  or  $-3$ .
- **Sequences and Series:** Ever wondered how mortgage payments and bank interest are really calculated?

In **Statistics**, you will study statistical sampling techniques and analyse large data sets and hypothesis testing using statistical distributions.



## ASSESSMENTS

Assessments are linear, you take a set of exams at the end of the course. You can choose to take AS Level, A Level or both. The majority of our students choose A-Level.

### AS Level Exams:

- Paper 1: Pure Mathematics, 2 hours, 100 marks.
- Paper 2: Statistics and Mechanics, 1 hour 15 minutes, 60 marks.

### A Level Exams:

- Papers 1 and 2: Pure Mathematics, 2 hours (each paper).
- Paper 3: Applied Mathematics (Statistics and Mechanics), 2 hours.



## RESOURCES

To support your independence we use an online learning platform equipped with walk-throughs, exercises to try, key points and section tests. Students come along to our weekly MathsAid drop-in sessions to receive focussed support from our Teachers.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

Mathematics, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Science, Engineering, Economics at University. Engineering, Accountancy apprenticeships.



## CAREERS

Accountancy, Banking, Analysis, Management Consultancy, Engineering, Architecture, Surveying, Teaching, Actuarial Work.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 in Maths.

# Further Maths



For someone who really enjoys Maths, Further Maths is a challenging subject, which extends and deepens their knowledge beyond A level Mathematics.

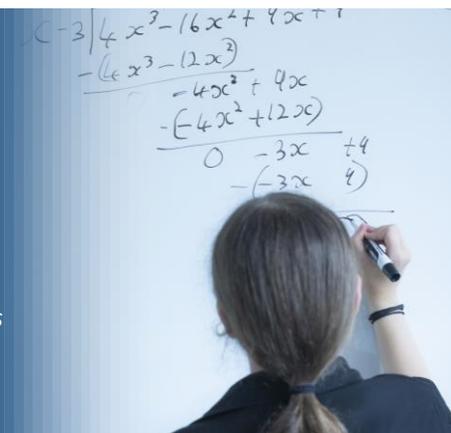
Students will often say it's their favourite subject, as most of the content could be described as beautiful! Further Maths is also highly desirable, if not required, by many top universities for Mathematics, Science and Engineering courses, as well as Computing and Economics.

*"From using probabilities to model a dice roll in a casino, to applying matrices to the translation of images on a web page, no subject has the variety of application as Mathematics or Further Mathematics. They are an intrinsic part of our world."*

– Calum, Year 13

*"Further mathematics is like a rare diamond that requires filigree cutting, which, in turn, requires unlimited imagination, patience, painstaking work, time, but the result surpasses all previous costs and reveals the cosmic truths of the universe!"*

– Kirill, Year 12



**"Further Mathematics is the ultimate step up. If you're not afraid of a challenge, and making normal Maths a walk in the park, it's a must-have choice!"** – Sam, Former Student



## THE COURSE

The Course is **50% Pure Maths** and **50% Applied** (split evenly between Decision Mathematics and Further Mechanics). It is taught by subject specialists, who are all passionate about their area of expertise.

- **The Pure** aspect introduces students to the exciting concepts of **imaginary numbers** and **matrices**, as well as **proof** by induction, **series** and **further calculus** involving **hyperbolic functions**. What is not to get passionate about!
- **Decision Mathematics** involves studying a variety of common algorithms; **Graph Theory**, involving networks; **Linear Programming**, to identify optimal points; **Critical Path Analysis**, which helps find the optimal route through a complex project..
- In **Further Mechanics**, we learn about **Momentum & Impulse** (what happens when objects collide) and **Work, Energy and Power**.



## ASSESSMENTS

### AS level

2 papers Core Pure and Applied, which comprises Decision Mathematics 1 and Further Mechanics 1.  
Both papers are 1 hour 40 mins each.

### A Level

Paper 1 and 2: Pure Mathematics  
Paper 3: Decision Mathematics  
Paper 4: Further Mechanics  
Each paper lasts for 1 hour and 30 minutes and is worth one quarter of the overall mark.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

University – Maths, Engineering, Science, Computer Science, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Business.

Further Maths A Level is a great way to prepare for any course that relies on a logical, analytical approach.



## CAREERS

The study of Applied Science opens up exciting career possibilities. From Research scientist to Forensic criminologists, Lab Technicians to Health Professionals. Applied Science is also an excellent preparation for non-scientific careers.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 7 in Maths.



**Core Maths (AS Level) is intended for students who have a keen interest in maths, but who do not wish to study it as a full A Level. It provides a valuable grounding in the quantitative skills that underpin many ungraduated courses, apprenticeships and jobs.**

The course is divided into units that require and develop your skills in statistics, number and decision-making. Topics that are covered include: Analysis of Data, Personal Finance, Estimation, Critical Analysis and Critical Path Analysis. Real life data and resources allow you to make the connection to how Maths is used in everyday life and prepare you with essential skills that will be used now and in the future.

Our lessons are based on collaboration and team work. You will use maths to solve real-life problems that are commonly encountered in other subjects, work and life. You will have discussions and analyse data; you will learn a variety of problem-solving techniques.

Core Maths encourages students to link Maths in the context of real-world examples. Reading a newspaper, picking up The Economist, comparing the interest rates on different banks - there are endless places you can find links and content that support Core Maths.



**“Core Maths is an intriguing subject which prepares you for the future, where the teachers are supportive and engaging throughout the year.” – Ann, Year 12**



## ASSESSMENTS

The qualification is an AS Level, there is no A Level equivalent.

You will be assessed at the end of Year 12, so you will have gained UCAS points before you start applying to Universities.

**Paper 1:** 50% - 1½ hour exam

- Analysis of Data
- Personal Finance
- Estimation

**Paper 2:** 50% - 1½ hour exam

- Critical Analysis,
- Critical Path Analysis
- Risk Analysis
- Probability.



## RESOURCES

Students are encouraged to revisit GCSE topics to help prepare them for Core Maths.



## CAREERS

The ability to analyse quantitatively helps you progress in a range of apprenticeships and jobs such as banking, accountancy and surveying.

People who run their own business will find Core Maths extremely useful.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

The skills you will acquire by completing Core Maths AS Level support courses in Psychology, Health and Social Care, Biomedical Sciences, Environmental Science, Geography and PE.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 in Maths.

**Study this subject because Media is all around us – it is in our phones, on our screens and providing us with content to talk about and with.**

Media Studies is a great subject to get your teeth into. You will be able to see a project through from research and planning to an impressive cross-media piece. Near the end of the course, there is an enjoyable showcase evening to celebrate your work.

A well-experienced and passionate team deliver engaging and interesting lessons designed to support all students.

Most lessons are taught in a computer suite and there will be opportunities to put your theoretical understanding into practice by creating your own products. There is a lot of collaboration, group discussion and lively debate.



## THE COURSE

**Component 1: Media Products, Industries and Audiences** is a whistle stop tour of a range of different media products through 1950s advertising, 1960s film marketing right up to the modern day with music videos by Janelle Monáe and Tom Grennan and you will take a close look at the newspaper industry. You'll investigate texts that you may not have heard of before, like *Woman's Hour*. You will explore the impact of ownership and how the Internet has changed the ways in which we respond to texts.

**Component 2: Media Forms and Products in Depth** allows for a greater exploration of three key industries – Television, Magazines and Online. In this, we compare two sci-fi television series *Peaky Blinders* and *The Bridge* and see how genre is global. We will see how the magazine industry has changed, from 1960s *Vogue* to contemporary *Big Issue* and finally, in the Online unit, you will critically engage with *KSI* and *Attitude* magazine online and consider gender as a performance.

**Component 3: Non-examined assessment – Cross Media Production** gives you a fantastic opportunity to create a cross-media campaign. In the past, students have created music videos and an online campaign or marketing materials and the opening to a true crime documentary.



## ASSESSMENTS

The course is **70% exam** and **30% non-examined assessment**. You will take two exams at the end of the course.

This is a two year A Level course but if you are interested in a one year course, we have the Cambridge Technical Certificate in Digital Media.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE Media grade 6 or Merit in iMedia.  
Grade 5 in English if Media not studied

***“Media A Level is a fun, interesting and creative subject. With the mix of coursework, theoretical and analytical skills, this valuable subject is very beneficial as it develops skills that will help in everyday life as well as other subjects. The texts we research are very engaging, as they're surrounding pop culture and trends that we all follow.”*** – Fred, Year 13



# Digital Media CTEC

Digital Media is a practical and highly independent course that allows you to see two projects through from client brief to completion, creating industry standard documents along the way.

You'll also consider a range of texts from either the film industry or the television industry and consider current concerns with the relationship between the audience and the text, do video games really make teens violent? In the second year, you will have an opportunity to pitch your advertising campaign ideas to a client. Past clients include Blue Collar and Fidget&Bob.

At the end of the two years, there is an enjoyable showcase evening to celebrate your work.



**“This is a fantastic course that has allowed me to utilise my creativity whilst also challenging me theoretically. It is enjoyable and is preparing me well to go onto study film making at university.”** – Maddy, Former Willink Student



## THE COURSE

The course is 50% coursework and 50% examination.

In Year 12, you will sit the **Unit 1: Media Products and Audiences** exam, which includes a close study of three films or television programmes and understanding how regulation works. Other questions consider areas like audience data and the effects debate. You will complete a project which will cover **Unit 3, Create a Media Product** and **Unit 22, Scripting for Media products**. For this, students currently script, film and then edit the opening for a BBC III documentary on crime.

In Year 13, you will sit **Unit 2, Pre-Production and Planning**, drawing on all your experience across the two years of creating pre-production materials and understanding different job roles in the industry. You will also complete a project which will cover Unit 20, Advertising Media and Unit 21, Plan and deliver a pitch for a media product which will involve creating an advertising campaign based on a brief for a company and pitching directly to managers from the company.



## ASSESSMENTS

Assessments are modular. You will complete one external exam and one project for coursework each year.

The coursework is moderated by an external assessor during the year, so you will know how you are doing and then make improvements if necessary.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 4 in Media 4 . Grade 4 in English if not studied.

This course can be taken as a one year course alongside three other courses or as a two year course.

All lessons will be in a computer suite as you will often be working independently on your coursework.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

**University** - Media, Marketing, Film Studies, Graphic Design, Journalism, Events Management, Web design.

**Apprenticeships** – Marketing, Events Management.



## CAREERS

Marketing, Producing, Social Media Manager, Journalist, Event Manager, Editor, Public Relations, Education.

***"Digital Media allows me to explore various aspects of digital media product, from graphic design to video editing. I find it enjoyable because it combines creativity with technical skills, making it a dynamic field. I aim to build a strong foundation in digital media that will open opportunities for me in fields like multimedia production, web design or even game development in the future."***

– Jake, Former student

***"I picked Digital Media because I wanted to work with professional equipment, such as cameras and software like Adobe Photoshop and Premiere Pro. The course has been very interesting with a lot of interesting projects and events that we get to be involved in."***

– David, Former student



# Medical Science Level 3



Medical science is dedicated to understanding the human body, diagnosing diseases, developing treatments, and promoting overall health. It integrates various scientific disciplines to study the structure and function of the body, the mechanisms of diseases, and the ways to prevent and cure health issues.

Medical scientists are at the forefront of healthcare services, as they are vital in the diagnosis of disease, determining the effectiveness of treatments and searching for new cures. They are involved in a broad range of activities, from basic research in laboratories to clinical trials and direct patient care, all aimed at understanding health and combating disease.

The course is based around applying scientific knowledge, ideas and techniques to real-life medical contexts in the fields of healthcare and sport.

The qualification covers the key topic areas of health, physiology and disease, as well as providing the opportunity to study the areas of pharmacology, physiological measurement, clinical testing and medical research.

Learning activities will include practical work, independent research, class discussions, presentations, self-guided online interactive tutorials and worksheets.



## THE COURSE

Is composed of 6 Units which will be taught over two years:

### First Year

- Unit 1 : Human Health and Disease
- Unit 2 : Physiological measurement techniques
- Unit 3 : Medical Science research methods

### Second Year

- Unit 4: Medicines and treatment of diseases
- Unit 5: Clinical laboratory Techniques
- Unit 6 : Medical Case studies ( Synoptic Unit )



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

You should have at least a grade 5-5 in GCSE double award science or a grade 5 in two of the separate sciences; GCSE biology, chemistry or physics. You should have at least a grade 5 in GCSE maths and GCSE English language.

It is preferable that you have taken the higher paper in Science.



## ASSESSMENTS

### Year 1

- Unit 1: Written exam, externally assessed (2 hours)
- 2 controlled assessments: Unit 2 (6 hours) and Unit 3 (5 hours)

### Year 2

- Unit 4: Controlled Assessment (8 hours)
- Unit 5: Externally assessed Controlled assessment (7 hours)
- Unit 6: Written exam (2 hours)

The qualification is awarded on a six-point scale A\*-E.  
**Exam board:** WJEC



## WHAT SKILLS DO I GAIN?

- Research
- Problem solving
- Analysis
- Teamwork
- Communication



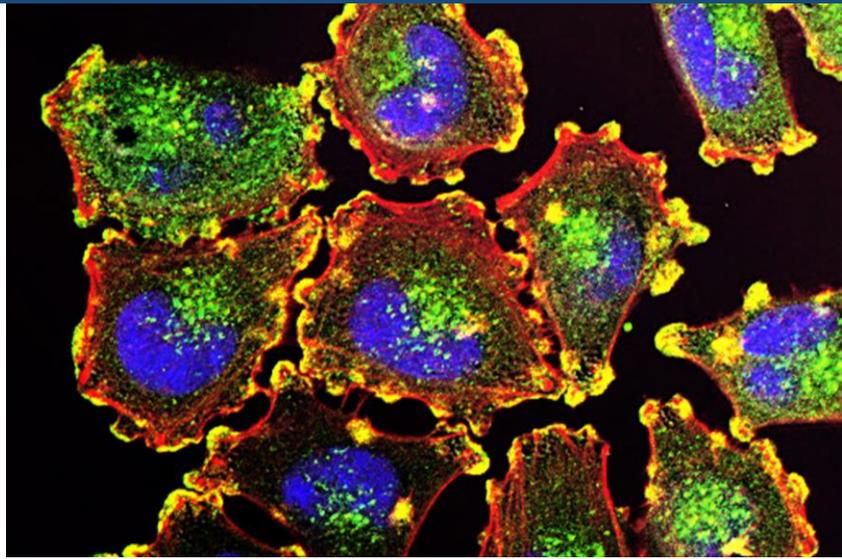
## WHERE TO NEXT?

The main purpose of this two year course is to provide learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills to support progress to higher education and pursue graduate careers related to healthcare and medical research or straight into employment.



## CAREERS

Health professions such as nursing and paramedic science, sports science, physiological sciences or clinical laboratory services.



**A Level Music lets you delve deeper into the how and why of Music. Developing a deeper understanding and applying that to your own creative and musical talents.**

This course puts the students and their skills front and centre with customisable unit structure. The varied nature of the course will develop your problem solving, creative thinking, analytical, independent learning and performance skills which together will help prepare for whatever steps you take on your next steps.



During this course you will study a broad range of different pieces and styles of Music, further develop your performance skills through programmes of performance and learn how to compose like a master.

**“This is a fantastic, customisable, flexible course that lets us really focus on the strengths of each individual student and their needs.”** – Mr Murray, Head of Department



## THE COURSE

**Component 1: Appraising Music (40%):**  
You will study a range of set works and styles of music culminating in a written exam.

- Compulsory areas of study (2 of the following): Baroque Concerto, Romantic Piano, Mozart Opera.
- Optional areas of study (2 of the following): Pop music, Music for Media, Music for Theatre, Jazz, Contemporary traditional music, Art music since 1910.

**Component 2: Performing (35%):**  
You will record a 10 minute recital on your instrument as coursework.

**Component 3: Composition (25%):**  
Over the two years you will produce two compositions (one free and one to a set brief) as coursework.



## RESOURCES

Classes are typically small, providing ample individual support in all aspects of the course.

Theory is taught through a combination of practical work, group discussions, listening activities, and independent study.

To support your learning, A-level music students enjoy priority access to practice rooms, the studio, and music software throughout the department.

Additionally, they have opportunities for trips to live performances.



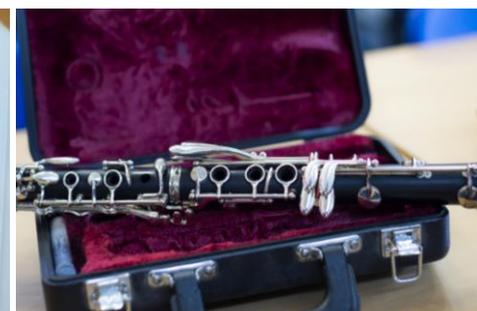
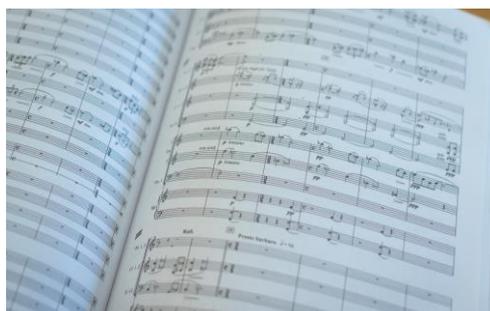
## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 in your own instrument (or grade 6 standard) and Grade 6 at Music GCSE or Grade 5 Theory in externally graded qualification



## CAREERS

Performing, Composing, Publishing, Music Producer, Music technician, Music therapist, Teacher, Audio engineering, broadcasting, the creative arts industry.



# Physical Education

PE provides a fascinating insight into how the body, mind and social factors affect performance in sport and physical activity. PE A Level provides multiple skills including teamwork, oral presentation, analysis, critical evaluation, and practical performance. It is highly respected by employers and universities alike.

*“I am studying A-level PE as I enjoyed the subject at GCSE level, especially learning about how exercise effects the body.”* – Reuben, Year 12

*“I chose A-level PE because at GCSE PE the subject was so different to any others I studied. The lessons are engaging, and I enjoy that what we study is relevant to athletes in sport.”*  
- Beth, Year 12



## THE COURSE

The course is split into 5 areas:

- **Physiology & Biomechanics** – 30%
- **Sport Psychology** – 20%
- **Contemporary Issues** – 20%
- **Practical Performance** – 15%
- **EAPI (Coursework in the form of an oral presentation)** – 15%

Subject specialists focus in on each area and expand on knowledge gained in the GCSE PE course as well as introducing interesting new concepts, such as:

- **Energy Systems:** How we create energy to enable our muscles to contract
- **Cardiac Control Centre:** How heart rate is controlled
- **Projectile Motion:** Factors that determine distances and flight paths
- **Attribution:** How success and failure are attributed
- **Modern Olympic Games:** The background and how they have been politically exploited.



## ASSESSMENTS

Assessments are linear, there is coursework which is both the practical and EAPI components, a set of exams are completed at the end of the course.

There are 3 exam papers:

- **Physiology and Biomechanics** – 2 hours, 90 marks
- **Sport Psychology** – 1 hour, 60 marks
- **Contemporary Issues** – 1 hour, 60 marks



## WHERE TO NEXT?

### Further Education:

Physical Education, Sports Science, Exercise Science, Sports Psychology, Sports Coaching, Sports Analysis, Sports Administration.

**Apprenticeships** in Gym instructor, Coach, Fitness Instructor, Lifeguard, Personal Trainer, Leisure Centre Assistant



## RESOURCES

To support your independence, we use The Everlearner package equipped with tutorials, tests and checkpoints.

Students come along to weekly PE boost sessions to receive individually focussed support and feedback to further enhance understanding.

Lessons are designed to meet the needs of all our pupils. Understanding is checked regularly through group discussion, individual work, exam practise and peer assessment.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 in PE subject or Grade 5 in Biology or Combined Science if PE not taken.



**From the smallest quark to the largest galaxy, Physics explains it all! It develops logical, practical, mathematical and technical thinking.**

It is one of the facilitating subjects looked on favourably by the top universities. If you have a Physics A Level “everybody thinks you are clever.”

We begin with a short section learning about the foundations of Physics which will underpin the rest of the A Level. This includes scalars and vectors, dealing with errors and uncertainties and using SI prefixes.

Pupils then cover longer topics on mechanics and electricity, before moving on to work on waves and quantum physics.

In Year 13, the depth of the content increases as we study thermal physics, simple harmonic and circular motion, astrophysics, nuclear and particle physics. We also explore gravitational fields, electromagnetism and medical physics.



*“Physics is by far the most interesting and inciteful course I do, with lessons adapted to be easily understandable while also being complex and in depth enough to gain a deeper understanding of the world around us.”* – Ben, Year 13



## ASSESSMENTS

You can choose to take this course as an AS or an A-level. The vast majority of students choose A-level.

### AS Level Physics:

Two papers worth 50% each, covering:

- Practical skills in physics
- Foundations of physics
- Forces and motion
- Electrons, waves and photons

### A Level Physics:

Three papers covering the AS content plus:

- The Newtonian World and Astrophysics
- Particles and medical physics
- A Level Practical endorsement (Pass/ Fail).

There is no coursework for this subject.



## RESOURCES

You will be given a week-by-week list of suggested independent study ideas. In your 11th lessons, you will have short self-assessment tests to help you identify weaker areas.

Physics students have access to the Kerboodle online resources and a range of textbooks are available for loan.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

Students have gone on to study Astronomy, Chemical Engineering, Aeronautical Engineering, Medicine, Maths, Computer Science, Robotics, Natural Sciences and Music Technology.



## CAREERS

Accountancy, Banking, Engineering, Architecture, Management consultancy, Project management, Automotive design, Astronomy and Radiography.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Combined Science 6 6 , or a Grade 6 in Physics and at least 1 other Science if taking separate Sciences, plus grade 5 in Maths on the higher paper.



**Politics is a fascinating, ever-changing, and eye-opening subject which encourages you to discuss, debate and decide your views on a variety of topics.**

You get to delve into questions such as: What do you think of the current Prime Minister? Should we lower the voting age? How effective do you think Parliament is? Does socialism work? Why did people vote for Tony Blair? How could we hold governments and countries to account across the world? To what extent are China, USA and Russia superpowers? These are just a handful of topics which you will study in politics.

Teachers are keen to support our students in their pursuit of excellence, putting them at the centre of our lessons. Debating, individual work, group work and project work are interwoven throughout the two-year course all whilst seamlessly helping you to develop your exam practise and skills.

We offer a weekly drop-in for students to ask further questions or help with understanding the work to ensure you make the most out of an engaging and exciting subject.



**“I chose to study Politics because I had a clear interest in global issues and what factors were at the root of them and how they influenced world views.”** – Faith, Year 13 Student



## THE COURSE

The course is split into three modules.

In Year 12 you will study UK Government & Politics and Ideologies; followed by Global Politics in Year 13.

**UK Politics encompasses:** Democracy and participation, political parties, the types of electoral systems we use, voting behaviour and the influence of the media.

**UK Government includes:** The UK’s Constitution, the role and effectiveness of Parliament, the role and effectiveness of the Prime Minister and their cabinet and the relations between different UK institutions.

**The Ideologies module** looks at the core doctrines of the UK – Socialism, Liberalism and Conservatism and in Global Politics we look at world theories such as Realism and Liberalism and how they affect the workings of the world.



## ASSESSMENTS

Assessments for A Level Politics are linear with exams at the end of Year 13. Students taking Politics will sit the full A Level, which consists of three written exams (components), each one lasts 2 hours and is worth 33% of the overall mark (84 marks each).

- **Component 1:** UK Politics and Core-Ideologies
- **Component 2:** UK Government and Non-Core Ideologies
- **Component 3:** Global Politics



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 History or Grade 5 in English if History not studied



## WHAT SKILLS DO I GAIN?

Studying Politics develops analytical, debating and evaluative skills as well as preparing you for the wider world. All of these skills are sought after at University for a variety of courses.



## RESOURCES

Students are given access to Politics Review magazine and an array of books written by Political Scholars and lecturers to encourage them to delve further into subjects discussed in class and develop revision guides.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

Students go on to study; Politics, Philosophy, Economics, History, International Relations, English & Journalism at degree level. Apprenticeships are also available in the civil service, government and local authorities.

***“Politics gives me a deeper understanding of the world around me and allows me to make the best choices possible for my future”*** – Charlie, Former Willink Student

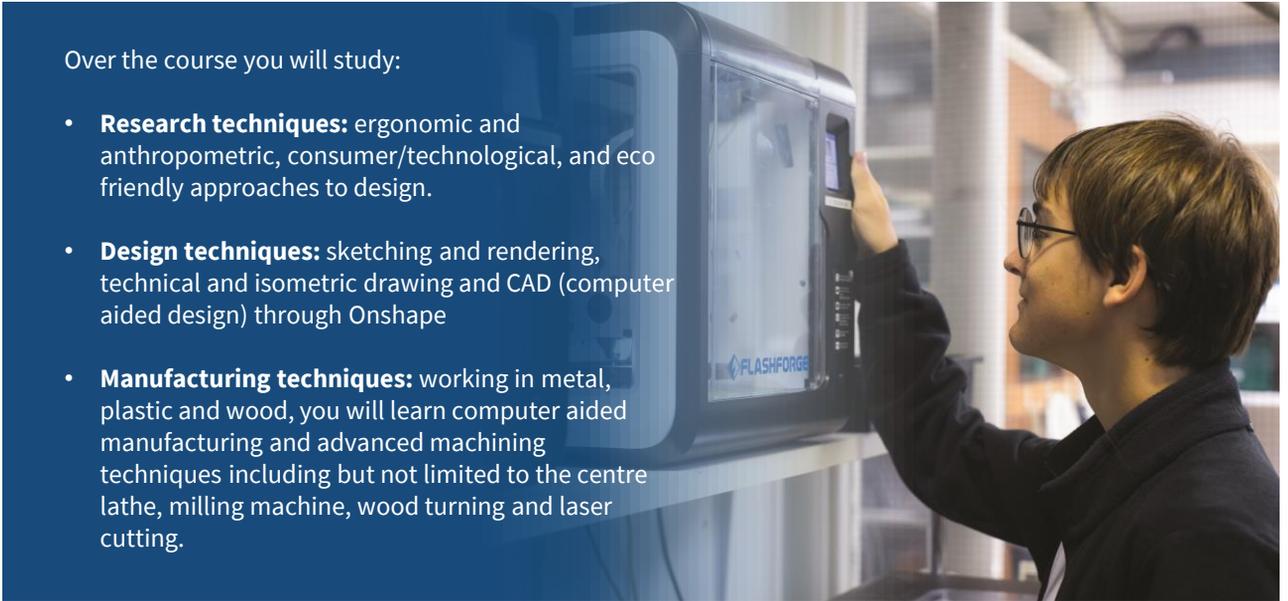


# Product Design

**Product Design gives you a creative and dynamic opportunity to develop a wide variety of skills; from designing, problem solving, project management and engineering to manufacturing.**

Over the course you will study:

- **Research techniques:** ergonomic and anthropometric, consumer/technological, and eco friendly approaches to design.
- **Design techniques:** sketching and rendering, technical and isometric drawing and CAD (computer aided design) through Onshape
- **Manufacturing techniques:** working in metal, plastic and wood, you will learn computer aided manufacturing and advanced machining techniques including but not limited to the centre lathe, milling machine, wood turning and laser cutting.



**“Design has helped me bring my ideas to life and given me a better understanding of how things are made.”** – Former Willink Student



## ASSESSMENTS

Design and Technology (Product Design) is an A Level only course. Grades are awarded based upon coursework (NEA) and examined content, with 50% of the final mark being drawn from each.

The NEA starts at Easter of year 12 and is completed by Christmas of year 13. You will develop an independent project covering a wide range of skills required to enter the world of commercial design and engineering and produce a report at the end.

There are two exams at the end of year 13 that cover the full range of materials, manufacturing processes, design processes and the history of design.



## RESOURCES

Product Design lessons offer you the opportunity to work independently in solving real life problems in the CAD suite, Design Studio and Machine workshops. To support your independence, we offer access to the workshops and design suites outside of lessons and afterschool, as well as a KS4/5 only workshop.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

Degrees and Apprenticeships in Engineering, Architecture, Project management, Industrial Design, Product Design Advertising and Business.



## CAREERS

People with D&T A Level find work in Mechanical, Industrial, Civil or Electronic Engineering, Architecture, Project Management and many other fields.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 in D&T or in either: Art, Food, Media, PE or Textiles if D&T not studied at GCSE and Grade 5 in Maths.

Psychology is an extremely interesting and highly relevant subject. It provides students with an opportunity to explore the intricacies of human behaviour at a deeper level, whilst gaining knowledge of theory, all the while making direct applications to the real world.

Psychology will challenge you to question the root cause of all behaviour. You will consider individual motive, action and associated consequence. You will explore the impact of a variety of therapies and treatments and will consider the theories applied and methods used which enable psychologists to conduct meaningful research.

Psychology is taught in a variety of interactive ways ranging from teacher led presentations, through to group activities, discussion, exam practice and independent study.

The course consists of a range of fascinating and complimentary topics.



***“Psychology is very interesting as you learn about concepts and theories that can be applied to your own life. All the topics we cover are engaging and are delivered by excellent teachers.”*** – James, Year 13

## THE COURSE

During Year 12 there are two components:

- The first component is based around **'Introductory Topics to Psychology'**, which includes content on social influence, memory and attachment.
- The second component is **'Psychology in Context'** which encourages students to explore material on the differing approaches, issues relating to psychopathology and associated treatments and therapies, alongside biopsychology and research methods.

In Year 13 a third component is introduced. During this component a range of topic-based options are studied. These topics range from the formation, maintenance and breakdown of in person and virtual relationships, forensic psychology, focusing on criminal profiling techniques, psychological and biological reasons for offending as well as different the ways of dealing with offenders. We will also consider the causes and treatments for different eating behaviours.

In addition to the listed topics, we will explore the range of methods used to facilitate effective research.

## ASSESSMENTS

We follow the AQA specification.

The A Level is examined in 3 papers, each lasting for 2 hours. During the course, students' progress will be tracked and monitored via internal assessment.

It is possible to sit an AS in Psychology. Further details can be obtained from Miss Flipping.

## WHERE TO NEXT?

Most universities offer a Psychology degree, as well as related or combination degrees. Criminology, Psychology, Sociology. Law, Social Policy, Forensics & Politics.

## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6, 6 in Combined Science or a grade 6 in Biology and at least one other Science if taking separate Sciences and grade 5 in Maths.



## RESOURCES

You will have plenty structured, independent work using our online learning platform (Kerboodle) and textbooks. There is a wealth of current research available online plus access to MOOCs on various topics. We will ensure that you cover all the theory required in the syllabus so that you can prepare for your exams with confidence.



## CAREERS

Psychology is a popular subject to study and psychologists may work in all areas ranging from Education and Health, to the Economy, Research and Forensics.

*“It was so interesting being able to understand the human psyche at a much deeper level, learning why we behave in the way we do and why we do the things we do.”* –

Former Willink Student



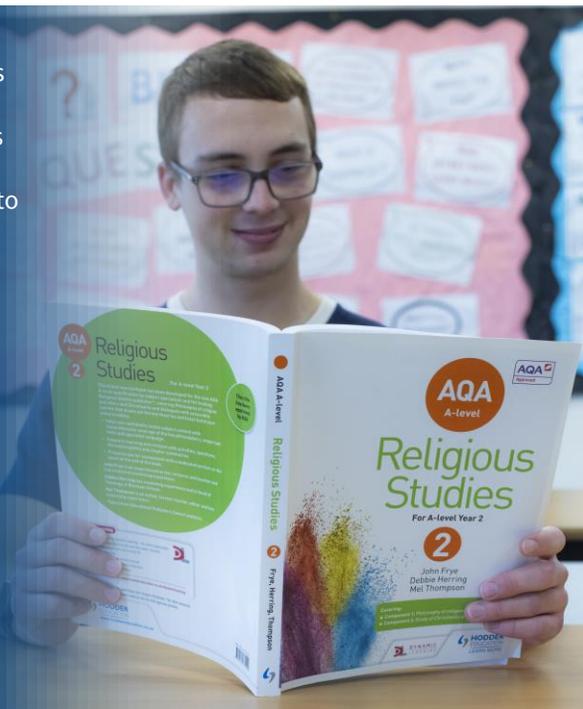
# Religious Studies

**Religious Studies is one of the most fascinating subjects to study. It forms the basis of knowledge for many humanities and social science subjects.**

Some of the key questions we will be considering are: Is capital punishment ever justified? When does life begin? Is embryo research ethical? Is evil inevitable? Do human beings have free will?

This course consists of the Philosophy of Religion and Ethics in which the approach of philosophy to the study of religion and belief will be explored. In addition, this course provides strong grounding in the application of natural moral law, situation ethics and virtue ethics as well as an introduction to meta-ethics. Key to the topics will be the arguments put forward by eminent philosophers in this area including Hume, Kant and Anslem.

In the second part of this course there will be a strong focus on the study of Islam, the 2nd largest religion in the world. This component will investigate the key beliefs of Islam, values and its religious expression across different communities and societies. There will be exploration into Islam and its relationship to science and Islam and the challenges of secularisation as well as Islam, migration, gender, and religious pluralism. The course further consists of the study of dialogues, which explores the dialogue between Islam and Philosophy and Islam and ethics.



**“Religious Studies is an enthralling subject, examining where we come from and what is the point of existence. It is extremely helpful in broadening our perspectives of different cultures and experiences.”** – Matthew, Year 12



## ASSESSMENTS

### AS Level Exams

**Component 1:** Philosophy of Religion and Ethics

Written exam 2 hours - 67% of AS

Section A - Philosophy of religion

Section B - Ethics

**Component 2:** Study of Religion

Written exam 1 hour exam 33% of AS

### A-Level Exams

**Component 1:** Philosophy of Religion and Ethics

Written exam 3 hours - 50% of A Level

Section A - Philosophy of religion

Section B - Ethics

**Component 2:** Study of Religion



## RESOURCES

Independent study is a key component of this course, we encourage and will support students with lesson and revision material. Further and wider reading is encouraged and access to a range of extra tasks and resources to stretch and challenge students will be available.



## CAREERS

Lawyer, Journalist, Charity Sector, International aid/development, Business, Social Work, Academia, Civil Service



## WHAT SKILLS DO I GAIN?

Religious Studies can provide you with strong transferable skills including, debating and critical thinking through an exploration of different viewpoints. These skills are excellent grounding for many University degrees involving critical thinking and discussion e.g., Philosophy, Economics, English, Sociology, Politics, Psychology, Theology and Law.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 in Religious Studies.

# Sociology



Sociology provides students with a broad knowledge and appreciation of social processes and social change. From the development of cultures and subsequent subcultures, to the changing nature of family and education systems, all the way through to the causes and consequences of crime and deviance, alongside theory and methods, Sociology considers how differing individual life chances impact more widely.

Throughout the course students will be encouraged to develop their own social awareness through active engagement with the contemporary social world and will gain a wider range and depth of knowledge and understanding as well as highly developed skills of application, analysis, interpretation and evaluation.

Lessons consist of teacher led presentations, group activities, discussion, exam practice and independent study.



***“I am really interested in the world I am living in, and Sociology has provided me with a whole new perspective on society and how it functions. We cover so many different topics, lessons are always interesting!”*** - Alex, Year 12 Student



## THE COURSE

The course consists of a variety of fascinating and diverse topics. In Year 12, students will explore the evolving nature and function of the education system, alongside the impact of issues relating to gender, class and ethnicity on educational achievement. We will then move on to consider the changing nature of contemporary family structures and the associated impact on individuals as well as to wider society in general.

In Year 13 we move on to study beliefs in society. As part of this topic we will explore the changing nature of religion, the reasons for the development of new religious movements all the while questioning if society has become secular. The course then moves on to look at issues relating to the causes of crime. As part of this topic we study patterns and consequences of crime for wider society.

Alongside all of the afore mentioned topics we will also consider sociological theory and methods.



## ASSESSMENTS

Sociology is a linear course meaning students sit final exams at the end of the course. We follow the AQA specification. The A Level is examined in 3 papers, each lasting for 2 hours.

All papers include short answers and extended writing.

As part of the course, students' progress will be tracked and monitored via internal assessment. It is possible to sit an AS in Sociology. Further details can be obtained from Miss Flipping.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

Criminology, Psychology, Sociology, Law, Politics, Education, Media



## CAREERS

The subject provides a good insight into the structure of society and the effects of this on the individual, therefore it is a strong basis for careers in social work, the public sector including education and the police force, as well as journalism and research.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

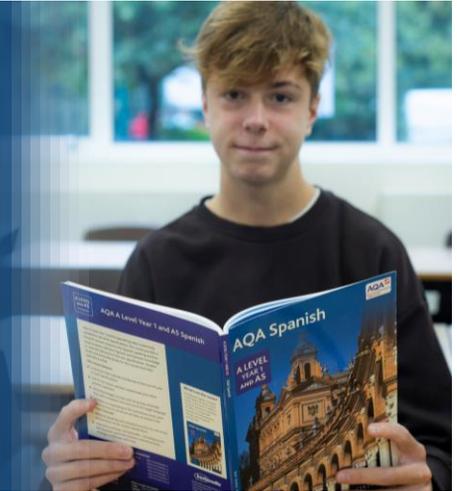
Grade 5 in English Language.



**Spanish A Level constitutes an integrated study with a focus on language, culture and society. It fosters a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity. You will develop your understanding and knowledge of themes relating to the culture and society of Spanish speaking countries across the world .**

Physiological studies have found that speaking two or more languages is a great asset to the cognitive process. The brains of bilingual people operate differently to those of single language speakers, and these differences offer several benefits. Here are a few examples :

- You become smarter
- You build multitasking skills
- You stave off Alzheimer’s and dementia
- Your memory improves
- You become more perceptive
- Your decision-making skills improve
- You improve your English



## THE COURSE

Lessons will include teacher input, group discussion and cultural studies, as well as a focus on grammar to boost your accuracy. Tailored speaking activities with your teachers and speaking sessions with our Foreign Language Assistants will prepare you for communicating in Spanish-speaking countries as well as for your exams.



## RESOURCES

We use a wide range of resources that will inspire you. They are linked to the topics in our AS/A Level courses as well as to our cultural topics. Your one to one sessions with our Foreign Language Assistants will also give you an opportunity to gain confidence with your speaking. We track your progress and give you the confidence to achieve your next goal in your language.



## WHAT SKILLS DO I GAIN?

Spanish A-level builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills gained in your Spanish GCSE. It constitutes an integrated study with a focus on language, culture and society.

It fosters a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity.

You will develop your understanding and knowledge of themes relating to the culture and society of Spanish-speaking countries as well as language skills.

Authentic materials are regularly used, and you will also be able to study a film and a book which will give you even greater insight into culture in Spanish-speaking countries.



## ASSESSMENTS

Assessments are linear and there is no coursework meaning that you take a set of exams at the end of the course. You can choose to take AS Level, A Level or both. The majority of our students choose A Level

Paper 1: Listening Reading and Writing

Paper 2: Writing (essays on a Spanish film and Spanish play)

Paper 3 Speaking



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 in Spanish.

**“A Level Spanish is a fantastic way to improve your intelligence and take your Spanish skills to the next level”**  
**The lessons are fun and engaging and very interesting.**  
**Me encanta el español!”** – Owen, Year 12 Student



Engage

Respect

Achieve

# 5 Reasons To Study With Us

1. A Supportive Working Environment
2. Excellent Teaching That Leads to Success
3. A Rich and Fulfilling Student Life
4. Dedicated Common Room and Study Area
5. Dedicated Guidance to the Next Steps



**Ms N Browning**  
Headteacher



**Mr M Leach**  
Head of Sixth Form



**Mr I Jubb**  
Assistant Head of  
Sixth Form



**Mr A Collot**  
Assistant Head  
Key Stage 5

0118 983 8428

sixthform@willink.w-berks.sch.uk

The Willink, School Lane, Burghfield Common, Reading RG7 3XJ

[willinkschool.org.uk](http://willinkschool.org.uk)

@thewillinkschool @willinksixth @WillinkSchoolUK