



St. Robert of Newminster
Catholic School & Sixth Form College

**Sixth Form
Prospectus
2022**

Headteacher's Welcome

Welcome to St Robert of Newminster Catholic School and Sixth Form College. We are a mixed Sixth Form of over 450 students, within an 11-18 school of nearly 1600 students in total. As well as providing post-16 study for our own Year 11 students, we also welcome a large number of students from a wide range of other schools, from a wide geographical area.

St Robert's enjoys an excellent local and regional reputation. Our positive Catholic ethos, integral to all that we do, provides the basis for the highest standards of care, relationships and academic achievement. We are proud of our Sixth Form's place within the community, and we provide a caring, inclusive, challenging and supportive environment for young adults to flourish and achieve excellence.

We offer an extremely varied curriculum, as well as a wide range of activities and personal development opportunities. We are committed in our drive to achieve the very best for our students, and our consistently high results, over many years, are testament to the quality of provision on offer. Our focus on high quality teaching throughout the Sixth Form provides a stimulating and challenging classroom experience, backed up by a strong pastoral and tutorial system.

We maintain high expectations and our calm, purposeful atmosphere allows students to develop the attitudes, skills and knowledge required to be successful independent learners. Furthermore, our recent build and refurbishment programme has ensured well-resourced specialist facilities for all our students.

Our goal is to help our students develop into well-rounded and well-educated young people with a strong set of values and morals. We aim to provide the highest quality of academic education, alongside the opportunity to grow spiritually, personally and socially. Our students go on to great things, and we look forward to welcoming you to be part of our learning community.

Mr D Juric
Headteacher



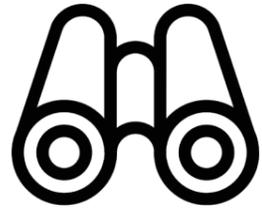
Welcome from the Head of Post 16

Welcome to St Robert of Newminster 6th Form. We are a Catholic and Christian community in which we aim to follow the example of Christ in our daily work and relationships. We are a learning community that recognises that each of us are unique, eternal and full of dignity. Staff and students alike strive to treat one another with tolerance and respect and to be aware of one another's needs, hopes and aspirations. We aim to be a vibrant community that is positive and outward facing, always looking towards what we may achieve.

Mr D Bayne
Head of Post 16



YOUR 2022 ENTRY GUIDE



Step 1: DO YOUR RESEARCH

TODAY

Read through this College prospectus and discover the wide range of courses available to you.

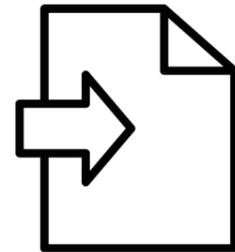
You can also find more details about all of the courses and entry criteria at www.strobertofnewminster.co.uk



Step 2: COME AND VISIT US

OCTOBER 2021

Our Open Evening is in October. It's a great way to find out what St Robert's has to offer you.



Step 3: APPLY ONLINE

OCTOBER 2021 - FEBRUARY 2022

Applications to St Robert's open in November. You can apply online at www.strobertofnewminster.co.uk/sixth-form/how-to-apply

Submit your application before the 18th February 2022 to be guaranteed an interview in Jan-April 2022.



Step 4: MAKE A GOOD IMPRESSION

JANUARY 2022 - MARCH 2022

Interviews will take place at College between January and March and are the first chance the College will have to meet you, so it is important to be prompt, enthusiastic and smart.



Step 5: ACCEPT YOUR PLACE

JANUARY 2022 - APRIL 2022

If you are successful, after your interview you will receive a conditional offer letter. You need to complete the slip and accept your place at St Robert's!

You must do this within **two weeks** of receiving your offer letter.



STEP 7: ENROL AT ST ROBERT'S

AUGUST 2022

If you have accepted your place at St Robert's, you will receive a letter during the summer term with your enrolment date and time. GCSE results day is on Thursday 25th August 2022 and enrolment will take place on that day.



Step 6: ATTEND TASTER DAY

JULY 2022

Once you have accepted your place at St Robert's, you will be invited to attend Taster Day in July 2022. It is a chance for you to test-drive the subjects that you have applied for and it will almost be like your first day at St Robert's. You will meet the teachers, some of your classmates and learn all about the exciting opportunities available to you once you have enrolled.



STEP 8: START AT ST ROBERT'S

SEPTEMBER 2022

September is here and the time has finally arrived for you to start at St Robert's! Don't be nervous - everyone is really friendly and we will try our best to make you feel at home.



In 2010, we completed a £13million build and refurbishment programme and it has ensured the whole school is fully integrated and is able to offer well-resourced specialist areas throughout all areas of the school.



AT ST ROBERT'S EVERY STUDENT MATTERS. WE STRIVE TO GIVE YOU OUTSTANDING SUPPORT BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM



WE ARE HERE FOR YOU WHENEVER YOU NEED US

YOUR ACHIEVEMENT TUTOR

When you come to St Robert's, you will have your own Achievement Tutor. Your Achievement Tutor will support you in all aspects of College life: from guidance in your studies; help with your study skills; advice regarding possible career progression and application to Higher Education; to arranging any extra help or support you may need during your learning. Through regular one-to-one reviews of your progress, individual target setting and action planning, your Achievement Tutor will work with you to ensure that you reach your full potential whilst at College.

ADDITIONAL LEARNING SUPPORT

To enable all students coming to St Robert's Sixth Form College to achieve their learning goals, the College has a dedicated and specialist Learning Support team. The team has wide experience in supporting students with specific learning needs. They also support students with the management of any special health needs or if students experience other difficulties at particular times. They also liaise with the Exams Office to ensure that there are individual arrangements in place for examination concessions. This can include assessment for additional time, provision of readers and scribes, and the use of word processors.

If you have a physical disability, the support that we provide is varied. You may be offered someone to support you to use all

of the facilities we offer, someone to support you out of lessons, or someone to support you with lifts, stairs and getting to classes. We will work within your Educational Health Care Plan and individual assessment to ensure that you receive the support you require.

COUNSELLING

If you feel the need to talk in confidence about issues that are worrying you, then we have college staff counsellor available for consultation. Don't forget that your Achievement Tutor, or any member of the College staff are also available to discuss any issues you may be having during your time at College. If you would like to access the College Counselling Service, please speak with your Head of Year who will make a referral for you.

CAREERS GUIDANCE

We have a specialist careers team who will support you in making decisions and choices for your future. There is a dedicated area in the library, with a range of careers information, university prospectuses and online resources. Whatever your future plans may be, qualified careers staff are available to discuss your individual career plans. You can arrange to have a confidential career guidance meeting to support you with your progression choices. Our annual Careers fair is held in January and this event aims to support students to make informed choices about their progression. A wide range of exhibitors visit College to promote their opportunities so that students can find out what is available to them after finishing at St Robert's. The



Careers Team also organise a range of guest speakers to visit College throughout the year to deliver a diverse range of talks which include university choices, Higher Education Student Finance, Apprenticeships, gap years, study abroad and more.

For those students choosing an employment route when they leave College, we offer employability workshops throughout the year to support with CV writing, application forms, personal statements and mock interviews. To speak to the careers staff or arrange an appointment please see your Head of Year.

6th FORM STUDENT SERVICES

The Student Services Office is located in the 6th Form block . We are open from 8:15 am to 4:30 pm every day.

We aim to provide comprehensive support to all our students, assisting everyone who may need help to overcome obstacles enabling them to complete their studies. Our friendly and professional staff can provide advice and guidance on a number of different issues including Attendance, Transport and Bursaries.

ATTENDANCE

If you are absent from College or are going to be late, you or your parent/guardian can contact the Attendance team on 0191 716 1700. If you're absent from college and we haven't heard from you, we will send your parent/ guardian a text message to let them know that you've not arrived. If you know you're going to be absent from school for a university visit or interview, please complete a Leave of Absence form to make us aware. If you have to leave during the College day and will miss lessons, you must visit Student Services Reception before you go to sign out. You are expected to attend ALL lessons on your timetable and any extra support sessions that have been arranged for you. You are also expected to be on time. Teachers and tutors will record all absence and lateness; unexplained absences or persistent lateness will be followed up by your Achievement Tutor and if necessary, by your Head of Year. Your attendance and punctuality will be included on your progress checks and may be used on references.

BURSARY

Support is available to eligible students from the 16 to 19 bursary fund. The fund is intended to support students aged 16 to 19 in overcoming specific barriers to participation so they can remain in education. It can be used to fund transport to and from college and educational visits, the cost of books, equipment, uniform and other course-related costs.

Young People in Defined Vulnerable Group

Students who met one of the following criteria below can apply for a bursary of up to £1,200 per year (depending on financial needs). Students will only receive the amount they actually need to participate and not automatically receive £1,200 if they do not need the full amount. You will be eligible for this bursary if you are:

- In care or a care leaver
- A young person receiving Income Support or Universal Credit because they are financially supporting themselves or financially supporting themselves and someone who is dependent on them and living with them such as a child or partner.
- A young person receiving Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments in their own right as well as Employment Support Allowance or Universal Credit in their own right.

Discretionary Bursaries

The Income-Assessed Bursary is designed to provide funds to help towards the cost of travel, meals, books, equipment and materials needed for courses and educational visits organised as part of a course. You may be eligible for a discretionary bursary if your parents receive any of the following:

- Income Support/Universal Credit
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit, if annual income is £25,000 or less
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Entitled to Free School Meals

TRANSPORT

Getting to St Robert's couldn't be easier, a number of buses, from all over Sunderland and South Tyneside, come into school every day. There is provision to store your bicycle within the College grounds. We also have parking available for students, but places are limited and will be allocated on a termly ballot basis.



**OUR AIM
IS TO DEVELOP
CONFIDENT
YOUNG PEOPLE
EQUIPPED FOR
THE CHALLENGES
OF THE
TWENTY FIRST
CENTURY**

MR.D.BAYNE



**CHAPLAINCY IS AT
THE HEART OF
ST ROBERT'S**

CHAPLAINCY

Chaplaincy provides care and support to all members of the College community. We will do our best to make you feel at home.

We offer:

- Moments of prayer
- Celebration of the Eucharist and liturgies
- Our Chapel is open every day
- A sympathetic listening ear
- Practical care in time of need
- Student groups promoting justice, peace and charity
- Space and opportunities for a deepening of faith to take place

You will be made welcome anytime!
Our Chaplaincy Team helps to

promote community and reminds us of the community's wider responsibilities to create a more just society. You can get involved in charity work, CAFOD, Fair Trade, retreats, trips, pilgrimages and much, much more!

There is always lots going on with students and staff regularly taking part in and arranging fundraising events for a variety of worthy causes and there are also lots of occasions where people come together and celebrate being part of such a diverse community.

CORE RE

We believe that the study of RE is central to each student's experience at St Robert's. As part of your programme of study at St Robert's, you will do one hour a week of RE, but it is not RE as you know it!

RE is all about challenging and encouraging you to question and evaluate who you are, what you believe, your role in society as well as what others believe and why. It does not just cover one religion, you will look at all faiths and no faith.

It does not aim to provide answers to the 'big questions', but simply encourages you to think and challenge your own perspectives.

CORE RE is not an assessed subject. There will be no homework, coursework or exams. The sole purpose is to broaden your horizons and it embodies the respect and aspirations we have for all our students as we strive to educate the whole person.



“I felt that St Robert’s was the best Sixth Form College for me. The teachers were very approachable, and everyone here is so welcoming and friendly. I have loved every day that has passed here and can’t wait for the next!”

“Lots of my friends had come to St Robert’s before me and they all really enjoyed the step up from school to Sixth Form and felt supported every step of the way. I feel like my time at St Robert’s has really helped me going forward into the real world.”



“I came to St Robert’s because it has a strong reputation for success. The teachers here are so dedicated and knowledgeable in their respective subjects, so you really benefit from their expertise. The support I receive from all of the staff is excellent.”



Let Your Light Shine

Sixth Form Subject Entry Requirements

General entry requirements

St Robert's welcomes applications from all students who are willing to respect and support its ethos and faith tradition. We also ask that you have a good attendance – a minimum of 90% throughout Year 11 and a positive reference from your Head of Year, school, academy or college.

Academic entry requirements

A Levels

The minimum entry requirement for entry to a full time two-year Advanced Level (3) course is:

- Students wishing to study **three** A Levels should achieve five passes in GCSE at grade 4 or above. One of the five passes will include English at grade 4 or higher.
- Students may wish to study **four** A Levels but must achieve at least eight passes in GCSE at grade 7 or above, including English and Maths at grade 7.

Some A Level subjects require particular entry qualifications in addition to the above. See the individual subject entries in this brochure.

NB All courses are available but the College reserves the right to withdraw a course if there is insufficient take up or curricular or staff changes occur.

BTEC Level 3 Diploma Qualifications

The minimum entry requirement for entry to a full time two year BTEC Level 3 course is:

- Five passes in GCSE at grade 4 or above. This would be expected to include English at grade 4 or above. A Merit or above if the subject has been studied at Key Stage 4.

These courses are equivalent to 2 A Levels, and are full time courses, though it is possible to study one or two more traditional A Levels along with a BTEC Level 3 Diploma. They are designed for those who have a clear view of their future career or want to progress to Higher Education. They are an alternative to A Levels, accepted as an entry requirement for universities and further education colleges and highly valued by employers.

Policy on admissions and applications

The sixth-form is available for all existing pupils subject to pupils fulfilling the individual requirements of suitable courses. Remaining places in the sixth-form of the school will be offered in accordance with the oversubscription criteria, subject to applicants fulfilling the individual requirements of suitable courses.

The governing body has set its admission number at 240 pupils to Year 12 for external applicants to the sixth-form in the school year which begins in September 2022.

Please see www.strobertofnewminster.co.uk for further details.

Entry into Sixth Form requires 5 passes at grade 4 or above: some subjects ask for additional

Vocational Level 3	Advantage to have studied at KS4 but not essential
Applied Science	
Sport (BTEC Double Award)	
Engineering (Double Award)	GCSE grade 5 or above in Maths usually required. GCSE grade 4/5 or above in Science
ICT	
Food	
Health and Social Care	
Advanced Level	Additional Entry requirements beyond grade 4 in subject
Art	
Biology	Grade 6 Triple Science. 6 in Additional Science 6 in Biology
Business Studies	GCSE grade 4 or above in Maths
Chemistry	Grade 6 Triple Science. 6 in Additional Science 6 in Chemistry
Core Maths or equivalent	GCSE grade 4 in Maths.
Computer Science	GCSE grade 6 in Maths, 6 in Computer Science
Drama and Theatre Studies	
Economics	GCSE grade 5 in Maths
Design and Technology - Product Design	
Design and Technology - Textiles	
English Language	GCSE grade 5/6 or above in English
English Literature	GCSE grade 5/6 or above in English
French	GCSE grade 6 in French
Geography	GCSE grade 5 in Geography
German	GCSE grade 6 in German
History	GCSE grade 5 in English or History
Law	
Mathematics	GCSE grade 6 or above but grade 7 or above preferable
Mathematics (Further)	GCSE Grade 7 or above
Media Studies	
Music	GCSE grade 5 in Music required other than in exceptional circumstances.
Physical Education	GCSE grade 5 in PE if studied, grade 4 in Science
Politics	
Philosophy	
Photography	
Physics	Grade 6 Triple Science. 6 in Additional Science, 6 Physics. GCSE grade 6 in Maths other than in exceptional circumstances.
Psychology	GCSE grade 5 in Science
Religious Education	
Sociology	
Spanish	GCSE grade 6 in Spanish

LEVEL 3 BTEC EXTENDED CERTIFICATE

APPLIED SCIENCE

EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: Standard Sixth Form Entry Requirements

WHAT IS APPLIED SCIENCE?

If you work best through practical investigation and enjoy learning about how things work, how Science affects the world around you and how it is used in the workplace and industry, then the BTEC in Applied Science may be the right choice for you. By developing your knowledge in the three main disciplines of Biology, Chemistry and Physics through the Applied Science course, you will gain a thorough understanding of scientific knowledge within a vocational context.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

You will be assessed through an external exam in year 12, externally set tasks in year 13 and through the production of a portfolio of evidence that meets the assessment criteria for assignment units in both year 12 and 13.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

Unit 1 will be taught traditionally with regular progress checks and assessments to ensure progress is being made in preparation for the external exam. Unit 2 will be taught with a focus on developing practical skills, reflecting on the skills developed and with a vocational, real-life focus and scenario. Specialist subject teachers will ensure lessons are delivered to the highest standards.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

The ability to sample and test substances and materials is important in many branches of industry, in research work and in forensic science.

WHAT NEXT?

The course will equip you with the knowledge and practical skills required to either enter employment as a Science Technician, or to enter university to study science related courses. The vast majority of Applied Science students gain careers in laboratory analysis, diagnostic radiography, chemistry, biomedical science, marine biology, physiotherapy, forensics, research, teaching or nursing.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Maths, Statistics, Sport and Health & Social Care.

A LEVEL

BIOLOGY

EXAM BOARD: AQA (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Biology

WHAT IS BIOLOGY?

Vast, exciting and concerning every living thing on the planet – subjects don't come much more fundamental than Biology. This course is all about the study of life and living organisms, including their structure, function, growth, evolution, distribution, identification and taxonomy. If you want to think big, make your mark and work at the cutting edge of Science, Biology could be for you. Biologists are making an increasing contribution to ensuring the world becomes a healthier and safer place.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

Topics include: - Biological molecules; Cells; Organisms exchange substances with their environment; Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms; Energy transfers in and between organisms; How organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments, Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems and control of gene expression.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

The Biology course will involve regular laboratory work to develop your practical skills and an understanding of how scientific investigations are planned and carried out.

At the start of the course, you will be set short, frequent homework tasks, similar to the kind of assignments you were set at GCSE. There will be regular end of topic tests to assess your progress. As time goes on, we expect you to take more responsibility for your own learning, and cope with less frequent, longer pieces of work. We will expect you to answer past examination questions; make structured notes on specific topics; research an area for yourself; produce leaflets or posters about a particular issue; or work through self-study material.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Laboratory techniques, analysis and interpretation of data, evaluation and communication; mathematical, technical and observational skills. Problem solving through use of data, theories and models. Making reasoned

judgements and drawing appropriate evidence-based conclusions.

WHAT NEXT?

Studying Biology will provide you with an excellent opportunity to develop skills that will transfer to a wide range of careers. At university, you can go on to study science related degree courses such as Biochemistry, Conservation, Dentistry, Ecology, Marine Biology, Medicine, Neuroscience, Nursing, Optometry, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Podiatry, Sports Science, Veterinary Science, and many more! The career opportunities are not limited to these as many of our students have left St Roberts and progressed to degrees in Accounting, Art, Business, Drama, English, Modern Foreign Languages, Law and Textiles.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Chemistry, Mathematics, Psychology and Physics.

A LEVEL

BUSINESS

EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: Standard Sixth Form Entry Requirements

WHAT IS BUSINESS?

Business Studies lifts the lid on business organisations and investigates what makes them tick. Functions such as marketing, human resources, product development and finance all have to work closely together in order to achieve the aims and objectives of the business. As well as what goes on inside the business, you will also look at influences outside of the business that affect it. Learning the theories is one thing, but it is relating these to the real world that really makes a difference to your studies and our wide range of trips and visits will certainly help to do that!

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

The qualification is built around four themes:
Theme 1 – Marketing and People
Theme 2 – Managing Business Activities
Theme 3 – Business Decisions and Strategy
Theme 4 – Global Business.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

Students are introduced to business in Themes 1 and 2 through building knowledge of core business concepts and applying them to business contexts to develop a broad understanding of how businesses work. Breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding, with applications to a wider range of contexts and more complex business information, are developed in Themes 3 and 4, requiring students to take a more strategic view of business opportunities and issues.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Students are encouraged to use an enquiring, critical and thoughtful approach to the study of business, to understand that business behaviour can be studied from a range of perspectives and to challenge assumptions.

WHAT NEXT?

Business students find that there are a huge range of opportunities for them, whether this is through a traditional university route, where you may want to specialise in a particular area of business, or through an apprenticeship route. You might consider employment, or even developing that fantastic idea you had in the first term of your studies!

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Economics, Accounting, Modern Foreign Language, Sport, Sociology, Psychology, English, Drama & Theatre Studies and Media Studies.

A LEVEL

CHEMISTRY

EXAM BOARD: OCR Chemistry A (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Chemistry

WHAT IS CHEMISTRY?

Chemistry is highly important for the manufacture of so many products and this course will give you an exciting insight into this contemporary world. At St Robert's, you'll develop a strong understanding of the key concepts of chemistry, whilst also utilising your practical skills. This combination of academic challenge and practical focus makes the prospect of studying A Level Chemistry highly appealing. Challenges facing society today can often be overcome with the work of chemists. Chemistry helps us to live more sustainably, contributing towards the development of renewable and low carbon energy sources. Synthesis of organic molecules can help us to develop pharmaceuticals and improve human health.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

An appreciation of the world is hardly possible without a working knowledge of the nature and behaviour of the many materials of which it is made, and of the useful products that can be made from them.

You will study the **OCR 'Chemistry A'** specification which is made up of six units of study:

Module 1 – Development of practical skills in chemistry

Module 2 – Foundations in chemistry

Module 3 – Periodic table and energy

Module 4 – Core organic chemistry

Module 5 – Physical chemistry and transition elements

Module 6 – Organic chemistry and analysis.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

There will be a mixture of instruction, discussion, and practical investigations intended to support your understanding of the key concepts studied.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

You will develop investigative and practical skills.

Chemistry complements most other A-level subjects including those which are Science and Maths based.

WHAT NEXT?

Student success in the Chemistry Department at St Robert's is excellent. This course can act as a route for some fantastic career opportunities in the areas of Science, Medicine and Engineering. In addition to studying a Chemistry degree, Chemistry A Level allows you to progress onto university to study courses such as Pharmacy, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Chemical Engineering, Forensic Science and Environmental Science to name a few.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Maths, Biology or Physics.

A LEVEL

COMPUTER SCIENCE

EXAM BOARD: OCR (2Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Computing and Maths

WHAT IS COMPUTER SCIENCE?

We interact with computers every single day, even if we don't realise it. Computers allow us to be more creative, try out new ideas and solve more problems. They've transformed our world and will continue to do so. So why not become part of the digital world and take the next leap into technology? This course is designed to provide you with an in depth understanding of the fundamentals of Computer Science. Our aim is to support you in thinking more creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

- 1 - Computer systems
- 2 - Algorithms and programming
- 3 - Programming project

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

The course allows many opportunities for practical work as well as development of advanced skills and knowledge about a wide range of Computer Science topics.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Students develop a wide range of advanced skills required in Computer Science and related disciplines. You will be able to apply these within practical and hands-on activities. These include building an understanding of the main principles of solving problems using Technology and developing project management skills and understanding the need to work with others. You will learn to apply your knowledge and understanding of Computer Science and use skills (e.g. planning, research, evaluation, problem solving) in vocational contexts.

WHAT NEXT?

Many of our students go on to Higher Education studying degrees in Computer Science, Software Engineering or Games Development. The skills you will develop on this course will also allow you to gain places on a number of other degree courses, apprenticeships and other employment opportunities.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Maths, Physics, Statistics, Accounting and Further Maths.

A LEVEL

DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES

EXAM BOARD: EDUQAS (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: Standard Sixth Form Entry Requirements

WHAT IS DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES?

Drama & Theatre is an exciting and challenging subject, which will introduce you to a wide range of plays, acting techniques and practitioners who have shaped the theatre practice of today. You will develop key skills in performance, in the creative and rehearsal process and over a range of theatrical texts. You will learn how to evaluate live performance material and develop your ability to critically analyse all aspects of Drama and Theatre in written work. This course gives you the ability to develop skills in leadership, creativity, communication and collaboration – all of which will contribute to your personal development and your attractiveness to future employers.

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

The course involves acting, devising and adapting extracts creatively. Theatre practitioners are explored practically and in workshops. The course provides diversity and progression for students who wish to develop skills in drama and allows students to deepen their understanding of theatre through the study of set plays and of live theatre.

WHAT NEXT?

Previous students have progressed to prestigious performing courses at GSA, Mountview, Arts Ed, LCM and Italia Conti and specialist help is available for those who wish to apply to these conservatoire institutions. Other students go on to study Drama academically at university, either on its own or in combination with another subject such as English. The confidence, creativity and self-discipline learned during the course allow Drama students go on to utilise their skills in a variety of areas and have highly successful careers as performers, journalists,

teachers and academics. We believe that choosing A Level Drama & Theatre Studies will contribute to your success in whichever career you wish to pursue.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

English, Media, History, Religious Studies and all creative subjects.

A LEVEL

ECONOMICS

EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: GCSE Grade 5 or above in Maths

WHAT IS ECONOMICS?

Economics is the study of scarcity and concerns the allocation of society's scarce resources amongst their many competing uses. It looks at the way the world works. You will study the forces that shape our lives, such as the behavioural factors that influence our decision-making, growing inequalities and employment prospects, the opportunities and challenges facing a post-Brexit UK, the importance of aid and international trade for economic development, and the impact of environmental factors.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

The qualification is built around four themes: -
Theme 1 – Markets and Market Failure
Theme 2 – The UK Economy
Theme 3 – Business Behaviour and The Labour Market
Theme 4 – Global Perspective.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

Students build knowledge and understanding of core economic models and concepts in Themes 1 and 2, and then build on this and apply their knowledge to more complex concepts and models in Themes 3 and 4.

Students will need to apply their knowledge and understanding to both familiar and unfamiliar contexts in the assessments and demonstrate an awareness of current events and policies.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Economics and an ability to think as an economist develop in students the life skills, qualities and attitudes which will equip them for the challenges, opportunities and responsibilities of working life.

WHAT NEXT?

Economics is a highly versatile subject that could provide many different career pathways. Many students decide to study the subject at university and from there go on to work as economists in various fields such as with the Bank of England, the CBI, accountancy firms and in economic 'think-tanks'. Economics also provides an excellent complement to degrees in Business, Maths, History, Politics, Modern Foreign Languages and Philosophy. If university is not your preferred route, Economics A Level students are also very well-prepared for the workplace, and a number of students go on to work on apprenticeship schemes, such as in accountancy or project management.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Maths, Business Studies, Geography, History, Politics, Accountancy, English and a range of science subjects.

LEVEL 3 BTEC

ENGINEERING - Double Award

EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: GCSE Grade 5 in Maths and Grade 4/5 Science

WHAT IS ENGINEERING?

BTEC Level 3 Diplomas are designed to provide specialist work-related qualifications in a range of sectors. The Engineering course prepares students for further study or a career in Engineering by you a good understanding of the main sectors including electrical, mechanical and CAD/CAM along with the underpinning knowledge of Engineering maths and science.

Students who successfully complete the two years of study will receive the nationally recognised BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Engineering, the equivalent of two A2 Levels. With a national shortage of skilled Engineers and the continual expansion of the engineering industry especially within the North East, this course is your first step into a specialised and rewarding career.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

The subject content is divided into ten units of study over the two year course: -

Unit 1: Engineering Principles.

Unit 2: Delivery of an Engineering Process Safely as a Team.

Unit 3: Engineering Product Design and Manufacture.

Unit 4: Applied Commercial and Quality Principles.

Unit 5: Specialist Engineering Project.

Unit 9: Work experience in the Engineering Sector.

Unit 10: Computer Aided Design in Engineering.

Unit 19: Electronic devices and Circuits.

Unit 22: Circuit Board Design and Manufacture.

Unit 39: Modern Manufacturing Systems

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

In all the above modules the aim is to give students an understanding of how the various principles influence products and services. Involving an extensive and experimental hands on approach to problem solving rather than the pure theoretical approach.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Throughout this two-year course, students develop their research, design and manufacturing skills as well as the knowledge required to manage their own projects in the Engineering sector.

WHAT NEXT?

This course can also lead on to further study at university in various engineering related degree courses.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Physics, Chemistry, Applied Science, and Maths.

A LEVEL

ENGLISH LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE

EXAM BOARD: AQA (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: GCSE Grade 5/6 or above in English

WHAT IS ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE?

If you're fascinated by language and what people can do with it, or you love reading and want to develop your writing skills, the English Language and Literature A Level is the right course for you. You will get the opportunity to study some of the most engaging texts ever written, including novels, poems, Shakespearean and post-1900 drama, and classic non-literary texts. You will also study creative writing and how to produce highly effective pieces in a broad range of genres, which will allow you to focus on developing your own writing techniques and skills.

Detailed understanding of the writer's craft is a core aspect of the course and you will develop superb analytical skills that will allow you to understand, in-depth, how writers use both

literary and linguistic techniques to produce intricately detailed works with multi-layered meanings.

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

Initially students will follow the AS Language and Literature course, as well as elements that are discreet to the A Level course. You will study a range of texts including non-fiction literary texts (provided in the AQA Paris Anthology), prose and poetry. The transferable skills and content will then be used at A Level, in addition to the study of further texts and the non-exam assessed portfolio.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

Development of personal writing expertise through individual coursework. Writing analytically and evaluating interpretations of data. Using and registering languages choices.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Further development of key skills of speaking, listening, analysis, interpretation and written communication. Group work and problem solving skills are essential.

WHAT NEXT?

A Level English Language and Literature is a core subject and so the skills developed will give students opportunities to move forward into a range of areas, such as journalism, teaching, publishing, public relations and marketing.

Many students go onto study the subject in its various forms at university, including English Literature, English Language, Combined English, Linguistics, Journalism and Creative Writing. English at degree level also combines well with many other subjects.

A LEVEL

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

EXAM BOARD: AQA (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: GCSE Grade 5/6 or above in English

WHAT IS ENGLISH LANGUAGE?

English Language is the study of the spoken and written word and explores how writers use language to fulfil purposes, target specific audiences, reveal attitudes and evoke emotions. The course is highly technical and we will equip you with the tools and vocabulary to deconstruct texts in detail, looking specifically at how words and grammatical structures can affect meaning. The course is also highly creative and allows you to develop your original writing skills, providing the opportunity for you to write both literary and non-literary pieces.

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

Transferable skills and content such as evaluative writing will be used at A Level, in addition to the study of further language development, diversity and change.

At A Level, students will also complete a non-exam assessed language investigation and original piece of writing.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

Development of personal writing expertise through individual coursework, writing analytically and evaluating interpretations of data. Using and registering language choices.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Further development of key skills of speaking, listening, analysis, interpretation and written communication. Group work and problem solving skills are essential.

WHAT NEXT?

English Language is extremely complementary to many subjects and can lead to a variety of degrees and careers. There are specialised English Language and Linguistic courses which can lead to a career in speech therapy, publishing and specialist roles like dictionary building. Many students who study English Language go on to do journalism, marketing, PR, human resources, advertising and teaching.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

English Literature, Politics, History, Sociology, Media Studies and Modern Foreign Languages to name but a few!

A LEVEL

ENGLISH LITERATURE

EXAM BOARD: AQA (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: GCSE Grade 5/6 or above in English

WHAT IS ENGLISH LITERATURE?

English Literature is the study of poetry, prose and drama from a variety of different historical periods. You will analyse texts aesthetically, stylistically and politically as we explore their impact and beauty, their mastery of the English language and the importance of their meanings in contributing to the experience of what it means to be human.

English Literature A Level is highly regarded by universities because it demonstrates that you can organise sound arguments, which are relevant and logically presented, and that you have highly developed critical and analytical skills. English Literature explores those texts that are generally thought of as 'art' in the form of poems, plays and novels. It is a course well suited to individuals who read for pleasure and who enjoy discussing what they read.

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

You will study a range of texts including drama (at least one of which is Shakespeare), prose and poetry. You will be expected to be able to respond with confidence and accuracy to unseen literary texts. In addition, independent study is taught through the non-exam assessed portfolio.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

Development of personal writing expertise through individual coursework. Writing analytically and evaluating interpretations of texts. Using and registering language choices.

What skills will I develop? Further development of key skills of speaking, listening, analysis, interpretation and written communication. Group work and problem solving skills.

HOW WILL BE ASSESSED?

2 External Exams 2 hours 30 minutes to 3 hours each. Non-exam assessment – portfolio of critical analysis of two texts.

WHAT NEXT?

Popular degree courses chosen by past students have included: English Literature, Linguistics, Creative Writing and Drama at top universities such as; Lancaster, Oxford, Durham, Edinburgh, Bristol and York. We regularly receive positive feedback from universities regarding the calibre of our students. Students who have studied English Literature at A Level have progressed to a broad range of careers including teaching, journalism and marketing to name just a few!

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

English Language, History, Politics, Philosophy, Law, Psychology, Sociology and Modern Foreign Languages.

A LEVEL

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

EXAM BOARD: OCR (1Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: GCSE Grade 5 in English and Maths

WHAT IS THE EPQ?

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is a free standing qualification which involves choosing a topic and carrying out some in depth research into that particular area, then producing a design or performance or report or an artefact or a dissertation. There is a written component, as a guide a dissertation should be approximately 5,000 words, for all other outcomes the recommendation is 1,500-2,500 words. After that, you must deliver a small presentation to a group about your topic, lasting from 10 - 15 mins.

WHY SHOULD I DO IT?

The EPQ allows students to extend their abilities beyond the A-level syllabus and prepare for university or their future career. The EPQ is about half the size of an A level, and gives you the same UCAS points as an AS level (20 for grade E, up to 70 for a grade A*). Many universities welcome the EPQ as evidence of your ability to undertake extensive independent work and so some universities may give you a reduced university offer if you complete the EPQ. "Nearly 1 in 5 successful applicants to Durham had completed the EPQ" - The Sunday Times 16 Feb 2014
It allows you to develop your personal interests on a topic you feel genuinely passionate about. Plus, it helps when applying for university as you are set apart from all the other candidates. It demonstrates your commitment to a subject and allows you to develop the independent research skills needed for undergraduate study.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

There are 3 assessed elements to the Extended Project Qualifications: -

* The completion of your production log which documents all the research you undertake.

* Either a 5000 word written dissertation or an artefact, design, performance or report with a supporting report of approximately 2000 words.

* A presentation given to your supervisor and class peers.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

This course develops your skills in research and analysing data. It therefore gives a good grounding to pursue any degree course at university.

A LEVEL

FINE ART

EXAM BOARD: AQA (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: Standard Sixth Form Entry Requirements

WHAT IS FINE ART?

Fine Art is the making and study of visual art such as painting, printmaking and sculpture. The course covers a variety of different processes and skills, which can be developed on a specialist art and design degree course. Analytical and observational skills can be utilised in a wide range of creative environments.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

The AQA A level courses are designed to encourage a broad approach to Art, which will allow you to develop a sound grounding in a number of areas while still exploring the subject in depth. The course builds on the skills, knowledge and understanding acquired at GCSE.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

Year 1 – Coursework portfolio which is teacher assessed. Assignments will be set during the course and will include an annotated study of some aspect of the visual arts.

Year 2 – Personal Investigation. Students produce practical work related to a topic or theme of their choice. Controlled Assignment. Students select one starting point from an early release question paper.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

A qualification in Art can lead to careers in all sectors of industry, besides publishing, advertising and the media, working as a fine artist, art historian or teacher.

WHAT NEXT?

Students who intend to go onto a degree course in Art often take a year-long Art Foundation course after A Levels. Students have secured places at Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU), The University of Leeds and Northumbria University.

Students who have a strong portfolio have applied directly onto the following courses, Fine Art & Architecture at Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU), Architecture at Newcastle University, Architecture at Liverpool Hope University and Automotive Design at Aston University.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Digital Photography, Graphic Design, English Literature, Maths, Physics and History.

LEVEL 3 BTEC

FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION

EXAM BOARD: WJEC (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: Standard Sixth Form Entry Requirements

WHAT IS FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION?

Food Science and Nutrition is relevant to many industries and job roles. Care providers and nutritionists in hospitals use this knowledge, as do sports coaches and fitness instructors. Hotels and restaurants, food manufacturers and government agencies also use this understanding to develop menus, food products and policies that support healthy eating initiatives. Many employment opportunities within the field of food science and nutrition are available to graduates.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

The WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition is an Applied Qualification. This means that each unit within the qualification has an applied purpose which acts as a focus for the learning in the unit. The applied purpose demands learning related to authentic case studies. It also requires

learners to consider how the use and application of their learning impacts on themselves, other individuals, employers, society and the environment.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

This course consists of theory based lessons, investigating materials and processes and practical workshop activities.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Throughout this two-year course, students develop their research, analytical and practical skills as well as the knowledge required to produce highly skilled dishes.

WHAT NEXT?

This course can also lead on to further study at university in various nutrition and health based course. Such as; BSc Food and Nutrition BSc Human Nutrition BSc (Hons) Public Health Nutrition BSc (Hons) Food Science and Technology.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Biology, Chemistry and Physical Education.

A LEVEL

FRENCH

EXAM BOARD: AQA (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: GCSE Grade 6 or above in French

WHAT IS FRENCH?

28 countries around the world have French as an official language, so by studying French at St Robert's you will not only benefit from the help of enthusiastic teachers, but you will also increase your employment prospects for the future. French is both a working language and an official language of the United Nations, UNESCO, as well as NATO and an ability to speak French and English is an advantage on the international job market. In addition, a deeper knowledge of French offers access to great works of literature, and the world of fashion, theatre and art as well as cuisine!

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

The course has been designed to give you a profound understanding of your chosen language. You will know more about the mechanics of the language, like grammar and vocabulary, but also about how people live and use language on a daily basis. You will also gain a lasting appreciation of language and learning.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

A good working knowledge of at least one Modern Foreign Language is a huge advantage in a wide range of careers, particularly at this time, when as a nation, we have fewer and fewer graduates with this skill.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

A Level feature two written exams and a speaking test. A Level includes an independent research topic for speaking. You will do translations in and out of the language. A Level students will study at least one book plus a film.

WHAT NEXT?

Any Modern Language is highly sought after by employers and is a great skill to possess in the current work market. Furthermore, top universities respect and recognise the demands of studying this subject and the wide array of transferable skills acquired by students who study a language at A Level. Languages can be combined with nearly any other subject at university.

Many of our students choose to continue to study languages either on their own or as a combined programme after College. In the past students have studied more than one language at university, or combined their language with other subjects such as Business, Zoology, Linguistics, Drama, Economics, Law, History and even Physics and Medicine.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Sciences, another Language, History, Law, Business Studies, Drama and Theatre Studies and English.

A LEVEL

FURTHER MATHS

EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: GCSE Grade 7 or above in Maths

WHAT IS FURTHER MATHS?

Because Maths is such a vast subject, it is impossible to cover it all in one A Level. Further Maths develops some of the concepts met in A Level Maths and brings them to a higher plane. It attracts students who thoroughly enjoy the subject and are keen to extend their understanding and knowledge. It will appeal to you if Maths is one of your favourite subjects at school as it gives you the chance to study a wide variety of fascinating topics, including some more demanding and abstract areas of Maths.

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

A development and understanding of mathematics and mathematical processes in much more depth. Develop abilities to reason logically and recognise incorrect reasoning, to generalise and to construct mathematical proofs. You will be able to extend your pure mathematical knowledge beyond standard mathematics but also Mechanics, Statistics and Decision Mathematics.

HOW WILL YOU BE TAUGHT?

You will be encouraged to work independently as well as participating in group work and traditional teaching.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Learning mathematical skills involves learning to solve increasingly complicated problems. The course allows you to develop problem solving skills, logical reasoning, numerical abilities, mathematical confidence and communication skills that will help you in a rapidly changing world.

WHAT NEXT?

Nearly all of our A Level Further Maths students go on to university to study Maths or to study a Maths-related degree subject, such as Physics, Engineering or Computer Science. Further Maths is often listed as a preferred or essential A Level subject by top universities for entry onto these degree courses.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Physics, Computer Science, Accounting, Maths and Statistics.

A LEVEL

GEOGRAPHY

EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: GCSE Grade 5 or above in Geography

WHAT IS GEOGRAPHY?

Geography is about the study of people and places. In A Level Geography you will look at how the human and physical worlds interact, how people affect their environment and how the environment affects them. Geography also develops your use of a range of transferable skills, including numeracy and statistics when manipulating data, and graphical and cartographic skills when displaying and interpreting data.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

Geography is the study of both physical and human environments and the complex interaction of processes that shape our world. You will study a range of physical and human topics including a 4 day fieldwork opportunity.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

You will be taught using a wide range of teaching techniques from independent research to structured group activities. There will be a large emphasis on developing exam techniques including extended essay writing.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

- Collaborative learning
- Fieldwork techniques
- Independent working
- Presentation skills

WHAT NEXT?

As a successful A Level Geographer, you will be able to follow any Geography or Earth, Environmental or Social Science degree course at university and Geography will support an application to almost any other degree area. Geography A Level is also a highly valued qualification by employers from all sectors, from the civil service and public sector, to the military and scientific research, to travel and tourism, and of course the growing Green economy and environmental sectors.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

History, Politics, English Language, English Literature, Sciences, Maths and Economics.

A LEVEL

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

EXAM BOARD: OCR Cambridge Technicals L3 Ext Cert or Diploma (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: Standard Sixth Form Entry Requirements

WHAT IS HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE?

Health and Social Care is a course for anyone interested in working with people of a variety of ages and in a range of settings. This could range from babies or children, people with special needs or learning difficulties, families and young people, to the elderly. If you have an approachable, trustworthy, enthusiastic and compassionate nature, this course may be for you! Throughout the course, teaching, learning and assessment is applied to health and social care practice and the range of client groups and situations where care and support take place.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Either a Single or Dual Award is available- equivalent to 1 or 2 A levels

Effective Care and Communication
Understanding Health Conditions and Patient Care
Human lifespan development
Pathways
Life as a Challenge
Educating Children and Young People.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

You will be assessed by a mixture of an internally assessed portfolio and external examinations.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

You will be encouraged to develop a greater awareness and understanding of current issues surrounding health and social care and can shape the qualification around your chosen career.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

The course is designed to equip students with skills needed for higher education and the world of work. Developing knowledge and understanding of issues affecting the health and social sector whilst developing skills that will enable them to make an effective contribution to the care sector.

Within Health and Social Care the emphasis is just as much about developing skills as it is about gaining knowledge. Understanding how to communicate with and care for patients, clients or children is vitally important to those working in a caring profession and this will be an important part of the course

WHAT NEXT?

Studying Health and Social Care will enable you to progress into Higher Education to pursue many different careers including – Adult, Children or Mental Health Nursing, Radiography, Social Work, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Public Health Degrees, Midwifery and many more! Alternatively, you may choose to progress into a related apprenticeship or training position, or study another subject at degree level.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

BTEC Applied Science, Psychology, Sociology and Biology.

A LEVEL

HISTORY

EXAM BOARD: AQA (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: GCSE Grade 5 or above in History or English

WHAT IS HISTORY?

A serious study of the past has been at the centre of human enquiry since the Ancient Greeks and it remains vital in helping the 21st Century world understand where it has come from and how to address the problems it faces. The study of History, not only involves the reconstruction and interpretation of the past, but the development of the critical skills necessary to unlocking its secrets and explaining them to others.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

The modules followed are based on key issues in British and Russian History. The modules all link conceptually through the idea of division within government and disunity in society. In Unit 1 students study the changing nature of royal authority in the sixteenth century- from Henry VII to Elizabeth I. In Unit 2, students examine the Historical theme of how the world was divided on the issue of Communism and Democracy through studying Russia from 1917- 1953. In Year 13, students will complete their coursework and can select their topics from themes

including the rise of National Socialism in Germany, the Stuart monarchs or the struggle for Civil Rights in the USA.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

The department has developed links with local universities and regularly has visiting lecturers speak on topics or lead web conferences linked to the course. Students also have had the chance to attend "Masterclass" days at local universities. The History Department is involved with the Lessons from Auschwitz Project.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

By the end of the course students will have learned how to evaluate and analyse information, providing access to a wide range of career opportunities. It complements most other A Level subjects. Last year the department sent 15 students to study History at Russell Group Universities around the country.

WHAT NEXT?

Many of our History students continue on to Higher Education to study History or other written degree courses. Our students have progressed into a range of careers including; heritage or archaeology, politics, public administration, teaching, the media, business administration, marketing, accountancy, law and with Non-Government Organisations (NGOs), to name a few.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Economics, English Literature, English Language, Modern Foreign Languages, Geography, Law, Philosophy, Psychology, Religious Studies and Sociology.

A LEVEL

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

EXAM BOARD: OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Introductory Diploma (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: Standard Sixth Form Entry Requirements

WHAT IS INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY?

If you're interested in having an interesting and rewarding job in the digital industry, ICT is the course for you. This course is designed to help you build up your skills by studying a wide range of technical units over two years. We aim to give you a strong understanding and knowledge of the principles which underpin modern technology, along with developing your analytical and problem solving skills.

WHAT I BE LEARNING?

- 1 - Fundamentals of IT (exam)
- 2 - Global Information (exam)
- 3 - Application Development (practical)
- 4 - Project Management (practical)
- 5 - Product Development (practical)

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

The course allows many opportunities for practical work and for individual investigations.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Students develop a wide range of skills required in ICT and apply these within work-related contexts. These include building an understanding of the main principles of solving problems using ICT and developing project management skills and understanding the need to work with others. You will learn to apply their knowledge and understanding of ICT and use skills (e.g. planning, research, evaluation, problem solving) in vocational contexts.

WHAT NEXT?

Many of our students go on to study at university and others go directly into employment. Several of our students have found employment as a direct result of the work experience they have completed.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Maths, Business Studies, Computer Science and Physics.

A LEVEL

LAW

EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: Standard Sixth Form Entry Requirements

WHAT IS LAW?

The study of Law involves understanding the systems in place and the personnel involved in making the rules and regulations which guide the conduct and behaviour of society.

You will learn about the different types of Law, from Criminal Law to Civil Law, the differences between them and the types of punishments that you can receive for breaking the law.

Studying Law at A Level provides you with the ability to develop and apply legal rules to problems and construct reasoned arguments which are supported by legal authority. This makes it an A Level that can benefit all students, whether they wish to pursue a career in Law or not. However, it is an excellent opportunity to get a taste of what it would be like to study Law at university and provide a foundation for future learning to be built on.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

Topics include: -
The English Legal System,
Criminal Law,
Law Making and
Tort, The Nature of
Law and Human
Rights.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

You will be taught using a mixture of lectures, discussions group work and independent learning.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

You will develop the skills of problem solving, analysis and interpretation of language as well as presentation and communication skills.

WHAT NEXT?

When combined with other written subjects, Law enables students to progress to university to read Law and with further qualifications, become a barrister or solicitor. Many of our students who have studied Law at St Robert's have progressed to prestigious institutions, including Oxford, Cambridge, Durham, Manchester, London School of Economics, Newcastle and Leeds.

Many students also go onto careers in the police, prison service, social services, civil service, journalism and teaching. It is also possible to complete A Level Law and go straight into work and apprenticeships, often in Law-related fields.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

English Language, English Literature, History, Maths, Business, Economics and Sciences.

A LEVEL

MATHS

EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Maths

WHAT IS MATHS?

A Level Maths is a fantastic subject which combines Pure Maths, such as algebra, geometry and functions with Applied Maths modules. It shows potential employers that you have a highly logical mind that can present organised arguments to solve numerical problems — a skill which is widely sought after.

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

Developing and understanding of mathematics and mathematical processes. Develop abilities to reason logically and recognise incorrect reasoning, to generalise and to construct mathematical proofs. Extend your range of mathematical skills and techniques and use them in more difficult unstructured problems. Develop an awareness of the relevance of mathematics to other fields of study.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

You will be encouraged to work independently as well as participating in group work and traditional teaching.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Learning mathematical skills involves learning to solve increasingly complicated problems. The course allows you to develop problem solving skills, logical reasoning, numerical abilities, mathematical confidence and communication skills that will help you in a rapidly changing world.

WHAT NEXT?

With an A Level in Maths you can do practically anything you wish! Our students have gone on to university studying subjects such as Maths, Physics, Medicine, Aeronautical Engineering, Finance, Business, Computing, Law and Psychology. However, there are many other diverse areas where mathematical skills are recognised as invaluable and essential. Employers highly value an A Level in Maths.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Chemistry, Physics,
Business Studies,
Economics, Psychology,
Computer Science and
Further Maths.

AS LEVEL

LEVEL 3 CERTIFICATE IN MATHEMATICAL STUDIES (CORE MATHS)

EXAM BOARD: AQA (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: GCSE Grade 4 in Maths

WHAT IS CORE MATHS?

This is a new Mathematics Post-16 course that is designed for those who wish to study mathematics beyond GCSE level, but not to A-level standard. This is a two-year Level 3 course that produces a qualification equivalent to an AS-level. It will support those students studying courses that require maths skills, as well as taking a practical look at how maths is used in the real world.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

Use of spreadsheets, collecting and processing data, financial maths, Fermi problems, analysing critically.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

You will consolidate and extend key skills from GCSE, as well as learning new ones. You will see real-world applications of these skills and discuss problems in groups/pairs.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

As well as further developing your mathematical knowledge and skills, you will improve your problem solving skills, communication of reasoning. You will also understand your payslip!

WHAT NEXT?

By the end of the course your confidence in the subject will have grown. It will also provide you with an AS Maths equivalent qualification that will enable you to access a variety of different career paths in the future, including nursing.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

This qualification can be studied alongside a range of other courses, subject to entry requirements.

A LEVEL

MEDIA STUDIES

EXAM BOARD: EDQUAS (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: Standard Sixth Form Entry Requirements

WHAT IS MEDIA STUDIES?

Media Studies is a fantastic subject, especially with the increasing array of different platforms within the Media that can be used. The course covers topics including; advertising, film, television, radio and many other platforms, providing you with the knowledge to work in any of these fields.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

Students will study media language, representation, media industries and audiences in music videos, video games, print and TV advertising, film marketing, newspapers, radio, television, magazines and blogs.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

A mixture of lectures, discussions group work and independent learning.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

You will develop skills in analysis and interpretation of media techniques, as well as creative, technical and communication skills.

WHAT NEXT?

An A Level in Media Studies can lead you to study on a variety of degree courses. Taken alongside subjects such as English or History, an A Level in Media Studies can help you gain a place at any university in the country.

You will also be well qualified through your experience of the practical coursework element to pursue more vocational courses linked to media production and digital technology.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

English Language, English Literature, History, Politics, Philosophy, Sociology, Fine Art, Graphics Communications and Digital Photography.

A LEVEL

MUSIC

EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: GCSE Grade 5 or above in Music plus Grade 4 Instrumental or Vocal Skills

WHAT IS MUSIC?

Music A Level is an exciting course with something for everyone. It offers the opportunity to analyse, perform and compose in a variety of different styles, from Western Classical symphonic music to Glam Rock, developing the skills, confidence and music theory needed to progress into the Music Industry.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

Within the general course there are options allowing flexibility according to the student's strengths and interests. The content is related to the following units of study: - Units 1 and 4 - Performing Units 2 and 5 - Composing Units 3 and 6 - Musical Understanding and Appraising.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

You will work independently or in groups under the direction of your tutor. There will be traditional lessons and instrumental tuition.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Listening, analysing, composing, performing, communicating and evaluative skills are the key to success as well as enhanced vocal or instrumental skills.

WHAT NEXT?

Many of our students have gained places at top Music institutions, including RNCM, Birmingham Conservatoire, Leeds College of Music and BIMM, as well as Huddersfield University, Salford University and Bangor University. Many students go onto Music related degrees such as Performance, Composition and even Acoustics. However, many Music students also go on to study degrees and apprenticeships in Primary Education, Business & Marketing, English, Modern Foreign Language subjects and many more.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Music Technology (Production) or (Performing), Modern Foreign Languages, Business Studies, English, Musical Theatre, Performing Arts, History, Media Studies, Maths and Physics.

A LEVEL

PHILOSOPHY

EXAM BOARD: AQA (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: Standard Sixth Form Entry Requirements

WHAT IS PHILOSOPHY?

Philosophy literally means 'the love of wisdom'. If you enjoy puzzling over the great issues of our lives and you are curious about encountering new ideas, then you should consider Philosophy. It is highly regarded as an academic A Level subject by the UK's top universities, as it develops your evaluative skills through debate of the great issues in Philosophy. We will encourage you to examine your own beliefs, values and ideas while exploring some of life's ultimate questions.

Philosophy asks the deepest questions – questions that have haunted humankind since its earliest times. It is the first subject amongst subjects and it is true to say that just about every academic discipline has its roots in Philosophy. Here's an example, science uses numbers and explores their relationships and their structures. But Philosophy is not content with this – it asks the fundamental question: What are numbers? Are they physical things? Are they mental things? Are they inventions of the human mind or discoveries of a deeper reality beyond and space and time? When I say that

$1+1=2$ is this true because 2 means 1 and 1, and that it's only a discovery about how we use words, or is it more than this?

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

You will learn about two discrete areas: Epistemology looks at the question of what knowledge is. In this section of the course, we investigate the question 'what are the fundamental objects of perception?' These and other bewildering questions are examined.

Philosophy of Religion. We look at the question of the existence of God, the status of religious language and other questions. It is fashionable to believe that science has somehow disproved God's existence, but it's hard to see how that could be so. The question of God's existence is not a scientific question; it's a matter for Theology and Philosophy.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Philosophy has elements of the sciences and the arts. You have to scientific precision, rigour and the ability to make very fine distinctions. But you, also,

have to be excellent at expressing yourself in the most precise English. It is a difficult subject, but it is the most exciting, breath-taking academic adventure possible. It will enrich your life. It will make you see the world anew.

WHAT NEXT?

You can use Philosophy to enter a broad range of degree courses in Higher Education. These have included Philosophy, History, Sociology, Religious Studies, Law, Politics and Mathematics. Combined degrees linking Philosophy with other subjects are very popular. Studies in Philosophy have led students into careers in teaching, publishing, welfare services, the church, politics, civil services and management.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Philosophy goes very well with Humanities and Social Science subjects where ideas are explored and analysed. It also goes well with any essay based subject due to the skills developed on the course.

A LEVEL

PHOTOGRAPHY

EXAM BOARD: WJEC (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: Standard Sixth Form Entry Requirements

WHAT IS PHOTOGRAPHY?

Digital Photography is a way of visually recording, documenting and presenting both the ordinary and extraordinary. It is explored as an art, but also as a practice in many different forms. It is often considered an art form, an aspect of self-expressionism, a journalistic process or even an aspect of visual culture. This is a practical subject, combined with in-depth photographic theory and art history.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

The use of photography to record in a personal way experiences, ideas information and insights appropriate to intentions. The analysis and critical evaluation of photographic images to demonstrate an understanding of purposes, meanings and contexts.

The use of photography to develop ideas through sustained investigations and selection of materials, processes and resources, identifying and interpreting relationships and analysing methods and outcomes.

The use of photography to present a personal, coherent and informed response, realising intentions, and articulating and explaining connections with the work of

others the different genres, styles and traditions of photography.

The use of equipment and techniques experimentation beyond the traditional flat print using a variety of techniques and settings including montage, printing onto/incorporating other materials/media, 3D constructions, installations and work presented as visual essays contextual references and the work of others.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

You will learn about the many elements which are essential to the success of photography: the use of camera controls, visual elements and creating a narrative within your work. You will also develop skills in visual communication, working through a creative process and critical analysis of work.

WHAT NEXT?

Many of our student's progress onto university to study degrees within a variety of fields, including Photography, Art & Design, Fine Art, Illustration, Animation, Film, Journalism, Advertising, Graphics, Cinematography, Fashion, Marketing and Visual Communication. You will be given advice regarding valuable work experience, which is often an attractive attribute to university admissions and employers.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Film Studies, Media Studies, English and Graphic Communication.

A LEVEL

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

EXAM BOARD: AQA (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: GCSE Grade 5 in PE if studied and Grade 4 in Science

WHAT IS PHYSICAL EDUCATION?

Physical Education brings together a fascinating range of topics, including Anatomy and Physiology, Exercise Physiology, Biomechanics, Sports Psychology, Sociology, History and Technology. If you have a real love for Sport and like to analyse the world's top players and teams, this could be the course for you. The diverse nature of this subject means that it complements many subjects and is highly attractive to potential employers and universities. It demonstrates knowledge in an array of sport-related disciplines and the nature of the work develops observation and analysis skills which are highly sought in future employment or study.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

The course takes a multi-disciplinary approach encouraging the development of different methods of enquiry, with a focal point being the performer and the performance. The course is based on the interaction between the theory and practice of Physical Education including the anatomical and Physiological factors affecting body and mind readiness, an understanding of Sports Psychology and Exercise and Sport Physiology as a scientific focus.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

There will be a mixture of practical and classroom based activities. Peer assessment and independent learning skills will be developed.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

This course develops your skills in research and analysing data. It therefore gives a good grounding to pursue any degree course at university.

WHAT NEXT?

A large number of our students go to university to study degrees in Teaching, Sports Science, Physiotherapy, Medicine and Dentistry. We have strong links with a range of universities and are able to seek admissions help and advice to support you. A number of former students come back into College and speak to groups about their careers and experiences. Some students with exceptional performance backgrounds opt for scholarships at universities in the UK or USA.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Physical Education is seen as a Science subject but compliments all disciplines and can be combined with any other subjects.

A LEVEL

PHYSICS

EXAM BOARD: AQA (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Physics and Maths

WHAT IS PHYSICS?

Perhaps you want to know what makes the universe tick, or you're considering a career in Mechanical Engineering, Cosmology or Medical Physics. An understanding of Physics underpins the technology that puts satellites into orbit, makes the internet possible, revolutionises medicine, and it's also behind the technology that will shape tomorrow's innovations.

Physics is unique. No other subject allows you to gain such a deep understanding of the way the world works. Physics is both the everyday and the extraordinary, from explaining why the sky is blue, to understanding quantum theory and Einstein's relativity. A Level Physics combines practical investigations and experiments with theoretical ideas, giving you the skills to logically analyse and solve problems; skills which can be applied to any scientific or mathematical challenge.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

In the first year you will build on your knowledge of topics covered at GCSE such as: Electricity; Waves; and Motion. There are some brand new topics as well, including Quantum Physics and Particle Physics.

In the second year you will, again, meet a mix of old and new studying modules in Nuclear Physics, Thermal Physics, Astrophysics, Simple Harmonic Motion and Fields.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

As with all subjects at A level, a strong work ethic is essential to success. The course is very hands-on and if you enjoy the practical aspect of Physics you will find it fulfilling. You will learn to solve complex problems from first principles and build up your understanding layer upon layer. Physics is very rewarding but also very academically challenging. It requires high levels of dedication and commitment.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

You will develop analytical and critical thinking skills so you can apply your knowledge to unfamiliar situations and solve problems. Employers and Universities rate physics as an A level because they recognise students who do well in the subject are intelligent, logical and practical.

WHAT NEXT?

An A Level in Physics is highly regarded by employers and universities. Our students go on to study a wide range of courses, from Physics based courses such as Astrophysics and Cosmology to Aeronautical, Motorsport or Acoustic Engineering, Medical Physics, Architecture, Geophysics and Computing.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Maths, Chemistry and Computing.

A LEVEL

POLITICS

EXAM BOARD: AQA (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: Standard Sixth Form Entry Requirements

WHAT IS POLITICS?

Past, present, future – Politics is everywhere we look. And it's changing. Decisions that are made in governments and other institutions can have a huge effect on our lives and the lives of others. Studying Politics will give you a good understanding in the factors that are driving change all around us and how to make a difference yourself.

Unless we understand how the government works, we will never be able to play a full and active part in society. We will always be on the receiving end of other people's wisdom, rather than being in a position to advance our own agenda. The study of politics takes in grand issues of government and of justice, but also takes you behind these formal facades and seeks to understand the crucial questions of where power lies and helps you to understand 'who gets what, how and why'.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

Some of the questions that will be raised are: Who makes decisions, What rights do we have, Can the existence of the monarchy be justified, Does the media influence or reflect public opinion, Why do some people not use their vote, Why do some groups resort to terrorism to achieve their aims.

WHAT TOPICS WILL I STUDY?

At A level you will study three topics:

- Government and Politics of the UK
- Government and Politics of USA and comparative politics
- Political Ideas.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

To develop a critical awareness of the nature of politics and the relationship between political ideas, institutions and processes. To acquire knowledge and understanding of the structures of authority and power within the political system. To acquire knowledge of the rights and responsibilities of individuals in order to encourage participation in society.

WHAT NEXT?

The Russell Group universities regard Politics A Level as one of the key challenging subjects that allow entry to the most prestigious courses at undergraduate level. It is seen as a traditional academic subject providing evidence of a student's ability to produce detailed written arguments, reaching valid judgements based on strong analysis of supporting evidence. As a result, it is a subject that will help with almost all degrees and it is considered particularly useful for any humanities subject, modern foreign languages & law.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Economics, English Literature, English Language, Modern Foreign Languages, Geography, History, Law, Philosophy, Psychology, Religious Studies and Sociology.

A LEVEL

PRODUCT DESIGN

EXAM BOARD: OCR (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: Standard Sixth Form Entry Requirements

WHAT IS PRODUCT DESIGN?

If you have a desire to become an innovative product and graphic designer, then this is the course for you. This course provides you with the skills, knowledge and experience required to be able to design and manufacture products to meet the needs of the 21st century user.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

The course focuses on the materials and processes used within the Graphics Industry, however opportunities are provided for students to learn about the design and manufacture of buildings, industrial products and vehicles.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

This course uses a mix of theory based lessons, practical workshop activities and design sessions to provide students with the skills and knowledge required to move into the world of design.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

In the first year, students are provided with the opportunity to develop their creative, technical and practical skills through the production of a Product Design portfolio, which consists of Investigations, Design Tasks and Manufacturing Projects. They also study design theory, looking at materials and processes used in the Graphics Industries.

WHAT NEXT?

This course provides you with the skills, knowledge and experience to follow a future pathway in Graphic, Interior, Automotive, Industrial or Product Design. Many of the learned skills are also transferable into the fields of Architecture and Engineering.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Physics, Chemistry, Applied Science, and Maths.

A LEVEL

PSYCHOLOGY

EXAM BOARD: AQA (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: GCSE Grade 5 or above in Science

WHAT IS PSYCHOLOGY?

Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour. If you have ever wondered why some people become aggressive and commit crimes, or questioned the extent to which individuals obey a person of authority, then Psychology may be for you. Psychology will help you to gain an insight into the motivations and reasons behind a range of behaviours.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

Topics taught over two years include –

Exam Paper 1
1. Social influence
2. Memory
3. Attachment
4. Psychopathology

Exam Paper 2
5. Approaches in psychology
6. Biopsychology
7. Research methods (double section)

Exam Paper 3
8. Issues and debates
9. Cognitive psychology
10. Schizophrenia
11. Aggression.

Students will be expected to:

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of psychological concepts, theories, research studies, research methods and ethical issues

Analyse, interpret and evaluate psychological concepts, theories, research studies and research methods

Evaluate therapies and treatments including in terms of their appropriateness and effectiveness.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

A range of teaching methods will be employed including discussion, presentations, research, group work and independent study.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Skills of analysis and evaluation of concepts, theories, studies and a range of research methods (including data analysis and presentation); application of knowledge to novel stimulus material.

WHAT NEXT?

Students wishing to pursue Psychology after College can study it at university and ultimately have the opportunity to specialise in one of the many applied areas of Psychology such as Clinical or Forensic. Further post graduate training would enable you to become an accredited Psychologist. Psychology A Level will also enable you to pursue many other degree courses, as it relates to many other subjects, giving an insight into factors that can influence people's behaviour. This insight will be relevant to many future careers, including, law, medicine and caring professions, human resources, teaching and marketing.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Science, Maths, Sociology, Law and Health and Social Care.

A LEVEL

SOCIOLOGY with Education

EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: Standard Sixth Form Entry Requirements

WHAT IS SOCIOLOGY?

Sociology is the study of human behaviour, social relationship and culture. **This course has a focus on education and the role education plays within society.** Students will better understand the world around them and will be able to tackle important questions about our society and our culture in the UK. Have you ever wondered what causes outbreaks of public violence? Have you ever asked yourself why children from wealthier backgrounds significantly outperform those from poorer backgrounds in the education system? Have you ever wondered why there are so few women in British prisons, and in general why women commit less crime than men? Have you ever wondered about why social class, ethnicity and gender have a significant impact on your chances of success? These issues are topics covered in the A Level Sociology course and as you might imagine, they are issues that provoke much debate and disagreement.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

The course offers a number of compulsory core topics, as well as optional topics:

- The Family
- The impact of globalization
- The nature of social relationships
- Different forms of social inequality
- The impact of new forms of social media
- Social research in a range of social contexts.

You will also study a unit on Education exploring the role of education in society and patterns of educational achievement. Learners can also reflect on global educational inequalities as well as inequalities within the UK

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Studying sociology will definitely help develop your essay skills, allowing you to discuss different views on social issues in a critical and evaluative way. Being able to draw on a range of perspectives, evidence and contemporary issues is excellent preparation for university and employment. Sociology provides a strong understanding of social and political issues, past and present.

WHAT NEXT?

Many of our students go on to study Sociology or Criminology at some of the UK's top universities including Durham, York, Lancaster and Leeds. Sociology is also seen as a subject that will boost student applications to a variety of other higher education courses. In terms of careers, Sociology will open a range of avenues in numerous employment areas. Many students go onto legal professions, the civil service, local government, teaching, the police, social work and social research, to name a few.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Psychology, Law, History, Politics, English and Geography.

A LEVEL

SOCIOLOGY with Crime and Deviance

EXAM BOARD: OCR (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: GCSE Grade 5 in English

WHAT IS SOCIOLOGY?

Sociology is the study of human behaviour, social relationship and culture. **This course has a focus on crime committed within society and the reasons behind this.** Students will better understand the world around them and will be able to tackle important questions about our society and our culture in the UK. Have you ever wondered what causes outbreaks of public violence? Have you ever asked yourself why children from wealthier backgrounds significantly outperform those from poorer backgrounds in the education system? Have you ever wondered why there are so few women in British prisons, and in general why women commit less crime than men? Have you ever wondered about why social class, ethnicity and gender have a significant impact on your chances of success? These issues are topics covered in the A Level Sociology course and as you might imagine, they are issues that provoke much debate and disagreement.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

The course offers a number of compulsory core topics, as well as optional topics:

- The Family
- The impact of globalization
- The nature of social relationships
- Different forms of social inequality
- The impact of new forms of social media
- Social research in a range of social contexts.

You will also study a unit Crime and Deviance which focuses on the social construction of crime and the ways in which crime is socially distributed, explained and reduced. This option introduces a global dimension, with the study of global to patterns and trends in crime

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

Studying sociology will definitely help develop your essay skills, allowing you to discuss different views on social issues in a critical and evaluative way. Being able to draw on a range of perspectives, evidence and contemporary issues is excellent preparation for university and employment. Sociology provides a strong understanding of social and political issues, past and present.

WHAT NEXT?

Many of our students go on to study Sociology or Criminology at some of the UK's top universities including Durham, York, Lancaster and Leeds. Many students opting for this course will progress into the police or into careers in law. Sociology is also seen as a subject that will boost student applications to a variety of other higher education courses. In terms of careers, Sociology will open a range of avenues in numerous employment areas. Many students go onto legal professions, the civil service, local government, teaching, the police, social work and social research, to name a few.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Psychology, Law, History, Politics, English and Geography.

A LEVEL

SPANISH

EXAM BOARD: AQA (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Spanish

WHAT IS SPANISH?

Spanish is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world, after English and Mandarin. There are more than 400 million Spanish speakers in the world, not just in Spain and South America, but also in the United States and even the Philippines. 25 different nations speak Spanish either as the official language or as a first language. In addition, it is one of the top five languages used in business, so speaking Spanish could also improve your job prospects in the future.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

The course has been designed to give you a profound understanding of your chosen language. You will know more about the mechanics of the language, like grammar and vocabulary, but also about how people live and use language on a daily basis. You will also gain a lasting appreciation of language and learning.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

A good working knowledge of at least one Modern Foreign Language is a huge advantage in a wide range of careers, particularly at this time, when as a nation, we have fewer and fewer graduates with this skill.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

A Level feature two written exams and a speaking test. A Level includes an independent research topic for speaking. You will do translations in and out of the language. A Level students will study at least one book plus a film.

WHAT NEXT?

Any Modern Language is highly sought after by employers and is a great skill to possess in the current work market. Furthermore, top universities respect and recognise the demands of studying this subject and the wide array of transferable skills acquired by students who study a language at A Level. Languages can be combined with nearly any other subject at university.

Many of our students choose to continue to study languages either on their own or as a combined programme after College. In the past students have studied more than one language at university, or combined their language with other subjects such as Business, Zoology, Linguistics, Drama, Economics, Law, History and even Physics and Medicine.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Sciences, another Language, History, Law, Business Studies, Drama and Theatre Studies and English.

LEVEL 3 VOCATIONAL

SPORT - Double Award

EXAM BOARD: OCR (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: Standard Sixth Form Entry Requirements

WHAT IS SPORT?

By its very nature, this course is 'hands on' in its approach and will provide you with a solid understanding in theory, before training you in the practical elements of working in the industry. If you love watching, playing and reading about sport, then this course will boost your confidence and help you develop your practical skills, as well as your theory and knowledge of the subject.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

Over the time of the course, there will be 8 units/areas of study ranging between Anatomy & Physiology, Sports Coaching & Sports Psychology. In both years, you will have 10 lessons per week, so you need to be highly committed to this subject area.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

The course is practically based and wherever possible learning takes place outside of the classroom in a practical sports based environment.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

You will develop many practical and coaching skills.

WHAT NEXT?

This course can also lead on to further study at university in various sports related degree courses.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Biology, Chemistry, Applied Science, Psychology and Food Science.

A LEVEL

TEXTILES

EXAM BOARD: AQA Art and Design: Textiles Route (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: Standard Sixth Form Entry Requirements

WHAT IS TEXTILES?

A Level Textiles opens up a lot of opportunities in the field of Art & Design. If you have a passion for art and textiles and you are interested in potential careers in industries such as fashion, arts & crafts, fine art, printed textiles, ceramics, fashion marketing or journalism, then A Level Textiles is a good starting point.

WHAT WILL I BE LEARNING?

The course will develop creative skills, develop practical skills alongside theoretical knowledge. It encourages students to investigate a wide range of influences on the design of fashion and textile products. It offers opportunities for students to design and make products of their own choosing. It allows students to develop the skills and knowledge required for entry to higher education and employment.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

It will be taught in a practical context with an emphasis on drawing and working in sketchbooks to generate and develop ideas and concepts.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

This course has been designed to encourage students to develop their creative and technical skill and ability. It enables students to design and make products and to appreciate the complex relations between design, materials, manufacture and marketing.

WHAT NEXT?

Many of our students choose to complete a Foundation Art and Design course at local university, whereas others go straight to degree level. We have very strong links with universities and recent destinations have included: Manchester Metropolitan University, London College of Fashion, Glasgow University and Edinburgh University.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Fine Art, Business Studies, Media Studies, Digital Photography and English.

A LEVEL

THEOLOGY, RELIGION AND ETHICS

EXAM BOARD: OCR (2 Year Course)

ENTRY CRITERIA: Standard Sixth Form Entry Requirements

WHAT IS THEOLOGY, RELIGION AND ETHICS?

Religion plays a key role in today's contemporary society. This course is for you if you are fascinated by world religions, curious about religious belief and practice, and want a deeper understanding of the reasons behind why people follow religious practices and hold religious beliefs. You will also explore the links between religion, education and other aspects of today's culture and society. As well as focusing on religion and culture, this course will also help you develop a set of transferable skills, including giving you the chance to take part in debates and challenge your critical thinking.

WHAT WILL YOU BE LEARNING?

The course is based on the following three areas of study:
Philosophy of Religion;
Religious Ethics;
Developments of Christian Thought.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

The specifications of the course build on the knowledge, understanding and core skills that candidates may have developed through the study of GCSE Religious Studies. You will be expected to work independently and part of a group as well as receiving traditional teaching.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I DEVELOP?

The course promotes an appreciation of many scholarly views. You will also acquire the skills to analyse key issues in theological and philosophical debate, identify the strengths and weaknesses of a variety of theological and philosophical theories, and construct your own arguments on a range of issues in theology, philosophy, and ethics.

WHAT NEXT?

Many of our students go on to university to study degrees in Theology, Religious Studies, Philosophy, Ethics, Law, Sociology, Psychology, History & Politics, Health and Social Care, Economics and Business Studies. Other students have also gained employment in social work, teaching, journalism, research, foreign relations, race relations, human resources, local & national government and the National Health Service.

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS GO WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Psychology, Health & Social Care, Sociology, History, English Literature, Modern Foreign Languages, Philosophy, Law, Economics & Business Studies.



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