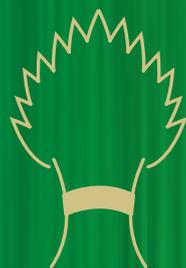


# SANDBACH SCHOOL SIXTH FORM





## Welcome from the Director of Sixth Form

Welcome to Sandbach School Sixth Form! We are a growing and dynamic sixth form enrolling boys and girls from 16-19. Our primary aim is to provide outstanding opportunities for our students both inside and outside of the classroom and to maximise their potential. As one of the leading post-16 providers in Cheshire East, we have a proven track record of students achieving the best possible outcomes to best prepare them for life beyond school. In recent years, our consistently excellent A Level results were recognised by ALPS (A Level Performance System) as being in the top 5% of post-16 providers nationally.

Achievement at Sandbach School goes beyond the academic excellence that we all strive for. As you will see in the following pages, students in our sixth form are developed as people through a broad range of extra-curricular opportunities and a student leadership programme. Whether you are successful in getting onto the Head Boy and Girl Team, or work as a learning mentor for younger students, you will be supported in your own personal leadership goals. Students' long term aims and ambitions are also supported and developed through a program of advice and guidance that ensures all students are well informed to make decisions about their future.

As a prospective student, or parent, I hope you will find this prospectus useful as you make your choices.

We look forward to welcoming you into our sixth form!

Andy Barker,  
Assistant Headteacher, Director of Sixth Form

## Sandbach School Sixth Form

Sandbach School Sixth Form is a dynamic and vibrant place where you will be given the freedom and opportunities to develop as an individual as you make the important steps towards Higher Education, apprenticeship or employment.

The Sixth Form has a tradition of balancing academic excellence with the best extra-curricular opportunities to help you to make the most of your time here.

You will be supported and guided along the way by dedicated and experienced staff who are there to provide you with the best possible experience.

## Sixth Form facilities

As a student at Sandbach School Sixth Form, you will have access to the purpose-built Sixth Form Centre which includes a cafeteria, private study area and mezzanine study zone.

There are dedicated sixth form seminar rooms where you will be well served by technology, with a PC suite and a bank of laptops for research and study purposes.

The Sixth Form Centre allows our students to enjoy their own dedicated facility whilst still being part of a thriving school environment.





## Student leadership opportunities

Central to our philosophy of developing outstanding young people is providing them with the opportunities to develop their leadership potential. You will be given the choice of a number of activities through which you can do this in order to maximise your potential. This leadership program enhances your chances of success in university and employer applications by enabling you to demonstrate successful behaviours. Below is a list of just some of the opportunities you could find yourself involved in:

- > **Head Boy and Girl Team**
- > **Prefect**
- > **Learning Mentor**
- > **Student Curriculum Leader**
- > **Senior House Captain / House Ambassador**
- > **Sports Captain**
- > **Lower School Functional Skills Tutor**
- > **Lower School Sports Mentor / Coach**
- > **Club / Society Leader**
- > **Student Ambassador**
- > **Student Senator / Representative**

## Leading the school forward

Each year around eleven students are successful in being appointed to the Head Boy and Girl Team, the apex of which involves being Head Boy/Girl or Deputy.

Positions on the Head Boy and Girl Team are highly sought after and represent a fantastic opportunity to take a lead role in the running of the school and the sixth form. The positive implications for this in terms of skills development and career preparation are far-reaching and hugely satisfying for those students who are successful in this programme. In addition to this, senior students form a significant part of the school's Senate, designed to put student leadership at the heart the school's development.

## Sixth form clubs and societies

We have a network of clubs and societies to provide students the opportunity to broaden their horizons. These range from the formal sporting clubs that have run successfully for many years, to more recent additions such as the Debating Society, Medical / Dentistry Society, and many others. These clubs and societies provide further opportunity for you to develop as an individual by taking a leadership role within them.





## Other activities & experiences

Employers and universities place a high value on your extra-curricular experiences, and at Sandbach School Sixth Form we are passionate about offering you a range of opportunities that compare well with the very best schools nationally.

In recent years students in our sixth form have been on trips to places such as New Zealand, Borneo and Barcelona. They have also played in major sporting finals at a regional and national level, put on nationally acclaimed theatre productions and won major awards for music. These opportunities are just some of those available to students in our sixth form.



## So much more than excellence in the classroom

One of the many challenges you will face over the next few months is deciding where you will be studying next year. Sandbach School Sixth Form is a successful and dynamic place where you will be given the freedom to learn and develop as you progress towards higher education or employment. At Sandbach School we believe that young people need more than just academic success to help them develop the skills required later on in life.

This prospectus outlines the curriculum opportunities available to students in our sixth form. At the Sixth Form Open Afternoon in September, you will have the opportunity to gain more of an insight into what the Sixth Form at Sandbach School is like and to discuss the courses that are on offer with subject staff.

# SANDBACH SCHOOL

*Opportunity • Achievement • Excellence*





## **AN ARTS ACADEMY**

- Music • Art • Drama & Dance Performance

Sandbach School Theatre

Links to national and international centres of excellence

Personalised timetable and tuition

Internationally acclaimed performances

International trips



## **A SPORTING ACADEMY**

- Rugby • Football • Hockey

Personalised timetable and coaching

Fitness conditioning

International tours

Elite level coaching

Opportunities for success at a national level

Local club links



## Support for your future

At Sandbach School Sixth Form, we believe that the support you receive is vital to your progression to the next stage of your life. This personalised support is a consistent feature which underpins our entire ethos.

You will be guided through the difficult parts of your studies by skilled academic tutors who understand your needs. When it comes to university applications, we have an outstanding application guidance process allowing you to make the right decisions and get the right place for you. You will be encouraged to develop independent study and learning skills that will enable you to make informed decisions about your academic journey.

Our UCAS tutors have detailed understanding of the system, enabling them to guide you through this challenging time.

## Study programmes

Sandbach School Sixth Form offers a broadly academic curriculum involving a wide range of academic subjects, in addition to some very successful vocational options. September 2017 sees the final stage of a major change to the way A Levels are taught and assessed. From September 2017, all A Level subjects will be 'linear', which means that the majority of students will commit to a two year programme of study which will be assessed at the end.

<b>A Levels</b>		
A-level Art Craft and Design	A-level French	A-level Physics
A-level Art and Design: Graphic Communication	A-level Further Maths	A-level Psychology
A-level Biology	A-level Geography	A-level Religious Studies
A-level Business Studies	A-level German	A-level Sociology
A-level Chemistry	A-level Government and Politics	
A-level Computer Science	A-level History	
A-level Design and Technology: Product Design	A-level Law	<b>Vocational Courses</b>
A-level Drama and Theatre	A-level Mathematics	L3 Diploma in Sport (BTEC) – Extended
A-level Economics	A-level Media Studies	L3 Subsidiary Diploma in Creative Media (Cambridge Technicals)
A-level English Language	A-level Music	L3 Subsidiary Diploma in Music Technology (BTEC)
A-level English Literature	A-level Physical Education	BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Information Technology

## What should you opt for?

We will ask the majority of students to opt for three subjects which they will commit to over the two year programme. Some students may feel as though they want to start with four subjects, and aim to sit an AS in their fourth subject at the end of Year 12. All students will have a personalised guidance meeting with a member of the sixth form team to ensure they fully understand all of the options that are available to them.

# COURSE DETAILS



# Course Details

## A LEVEL COURSES

Art Craft & Design .....	16
Art & Design: Graphic Communication .....	17
Biology .....	18
Business Studies .....	19
Chemistry.....	21
Computer Science .....	22
Design Technology: Product Design .....	23
Drama & Theatre Studies.....	24
Economics .....	25
English Language .....	26
English Literature.....	27
French .....	28
Further Maths .....	29
Geography.....	30
German.....	31
Government and Politics .....	32
History .....	33
Law .....	34
Mathematics .....	35
Media .....	37
Music.....	38
Physical Education .....	39
Physics .....	40
Psychology.....	41
Religious Studies.....	42
Sociology .....	44

## VOCATIONAL COURSES

Cambridge Technical Subsidiary Diploma in Media .....	46
Subsidiary Diploma in Music Technology (Production).....	47
BTEC National Sport and Exercise Science Extended Diploma.....	49
BTEC Information Technology Level 3 National Extended Certificate.....	50



## Entry details

For a level 3 course the basic entry requirement is five GCSE, grades C (grade 5) or above.

The table below indicates if a GCSE in the subject to be taken at A Level is desirable. The final column details the specific grade expected and further information.

Subject	Prior GCSE	Specific Subject GCSE Grades Expected and Additional Skills
Art Craft & Design / Graphics	✓	C in Art or Graphics
Biology	✓	B in Additional Science or B in Biology in Triple Science. Also 6 in Maths (higher tier)
Business Studies	✗	C in Business Studies if taken, but not necessary, 5 in English Language and Maths.
Chemistry	✓	B in Additional Science or B in Chemistry in Triple Science. Also 6 in Maths (higher tier)
Computer Science	✓	B in GCSE Computing. Other candidates may be considered, this should be discussed with the subject teacher.
Creative Media (Vocational)	✗	C in Art or Art Graphics, Drama or Music. An interest/competence in using digital media.
Drama & Theatre	✓	5 in English
Economics	✗	6 in English and Maths
English Language	✓	6 in English Language at higher level entry
English Literature	✓	6 in English Literature
French	✓	B in French
Further Maths	✓	7 preferably 8 in Maths
Geography	✓	B in Geography at higher level entry, also 6 in Maths
German	✓	B in German
History	✓	C in History if taken, otherwise evidence of a good reading, comprehension and writing skills
ICT (Vocational)	✓	Previous study in an information technology subject is an advantage but not essential.
Law	✗	6 in English
Maths	✓	7, 6 if completed bridging course to cover the grade 7-9 aspects of GCSE
Media Studies	✗	5 in English Language (higher tier)
Music	✗	Either Music grade C or significant extra curriculum/out of school music
Music Technology (Vocational)	✗	Either Music grade C or a merit in BTEC Music, or high tech skills/music interest
Physical Education	✓	C in GCSE written paper
Physics	✓	B in Additional Science or B in Physics in Triple Science. Also 6 Maths (higher tier)
Politics	✗	C in History if taken, otherwise evidence of good reading, comprehension and writing skills. Plus a keen interest in current affairs.
Product Design	✓	C in Design (not food), evidence of good work ethic/design skills
Psychology	✗	5 in Maths and English. C in Science. Must have a willingness to read and be inquisitive.
Religious Studies	✓	C in any humanities subject
Sociology	✗	5 in English



## A LEVEL COURSES

# Art Craft & Design - Eduqas (WJEC)

## Course Content

### AS Level

The AS represents a stand-alone qualification within a two year A Level qualification. It consists of one unit:

Unit 1 Personal Creative Enquiry (40% of A level), internally assessed, externally moderated.

In the initial stage of Unit 1, learners will have the opportunity to explore and cultivate fundamental skills, knowledge and understanding through a variety of experiences. These may include guided use of sources to gather visually rich research.

The learning programme will also provide opportunities for experimentation using a wide range of materials and processes, collaboration, creative decision-making and innovation, as well as activities to help learners develop curatorial skills, from which personally significant creative enquiries can be generated as the course progresses.

### A Level

The A level consists of the AS Unit 1 plus two additional units:

Unit 2 Personal Investigation (36% of A Level), internally assessed, externally moderated.

The development of a broad skills base through an exciting unit based on visits to urban environments where students use galleries, museums and other sites and experiences to inform their work. Emphasis is placed upon students working independently with a focus on showing an awareness of the work of others through critical analysis.

Unit 3 Externally Set Assignment (24% of A Level), internally assessed, externally moderated.

### Lesson structure

Lessons can be delivered in a variety of ways - students are encouraged to take responsibility for their progress and are supported through some whole class teaching and one-to-one tutorials and target setting exercises.

### Assessment pattern

Assessment takes place formatively throughout the course. Learning is supported through the use of detailed briefs and starting points which allow for differentiated learning outcomes. Tutorials are key to assessing student progress and identifying how to progress. The units are formally assessed at the end of the year and the marks submitted to the board. The work is then moderated by an exam board representative.

### Extra information

Students have opportunities to work with artists in residence as part of the development of their skills and understanding and developing their awareness of the work of others. They will also have a series of work-related learning presentations to develop their understanding of the creative industries.

# Art & Design: Graphic Communication - Eduqas (WJEC)

## Course Content

### AS Level

The AS represents a stand-alone qualification within a two year A Level qualification. It consists of one unit:

Unit 1 Personal Creative Enquiry (40% of A Level), internally assessed, externally moderated.

In the initial stage of Unit 1, learners will have the opportunity to explore and cultivate fundamental skills, knowledge and understanding through a variety of experiences. These may include guided use of sources to gather visually rich research. The learning programme will also provide opportunities for experimentation using a wide range of materials and processes, collaboration, creative decision-making and innovation, as well as activities to help learners develop curatorial skills, from which personally significant creative enquiries can be generated as the course progresses.

### A Level

The A level consists of the AS Unit 1 plus two additional units:

Unit 2 Personal Investigation (36% of A Level), internally assessed, externally moderated.

The development of a broad skills base through an exciting unit based on visits to urban environments where students use galleries, museums and other sites and experiences to inform their work. Emphasis is placed upon students working independently with a focus on showing an awareness of the work of others through critical analysis.

Unit 3 Externally Set Assignment (24% of A Level), internally assessed, externally moderated.

### Lesson structure

Lessons can be delivered in a variety of ways - students are encouraged to take responsibility for their progress and are supported through some whole class teaching and one-to-one tutorials and target setting exercises.

### Assessment pattern

Assessment takes place formatively throughout the course. Learning is supported through the use of detailed design briefs which allow for differentiated learning outcomes. Tutorials are key to assessing student progress and identifying how to progress. The units are formally assessed at the end of the year and the marks submitted to the board. The work is then moderated by an exam board representative.

### Extra information

Students have opportunities to work with a designer in residence as part of the development of their skills and understanding and developing their awareness of the digital media and graphic design industries. Visits are used to investigate and explore themes, ideas and the work of others. Students have access to good quality resources including computers with specialist software on a lesson-by-lesson basis. They will also have a series of work-related learning presentations to develop their understanding of the creative industries.

# Biology - AQA

## Course Content

- Year 1**      1) Biological molecules. 2) Cells. 3) Organisms exchange substances with their environment.  
4) Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms. Plus relevant Practical Skills.
- Year 2**      5) Energy transfers in and between organisms. 6) Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments.  
7) Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems. 8) The control of gene expression. Plus relevant Practical Skills.

## Assessment pattern

**A Level Examinations** - June of second academic year, three exams, each 2 hours in length.

Paper 1 - Section 1 - 4 plus practical skills, 91 marks, 35% of A Level.

Paper 2 - Section 5 - 8 plus practical skills, 91 marks, 35% of A Level.

Paper 3 - Section 1 - 8 plus practical skills, 78 marks, 30% of A Level.

**AS Examinations** - If students choose this pathway examinations are sat in June of the first academic year.

This include two 1hour 30 minute exams.

Paper 1 - Section 1 - 4 plus practical skills, 75 marks, 50% of AS Level 65 marks: short answer questions plus 10 marks: comprehension question.

Paper 2 - Section 1 - 4 plus practical skills, 75 marks, 50 % of AS Level 65 marks: short answer questions plus 10 marks: extended response questions.

## Lesson structure

Formal teaching, small group work, practical work, problem solving tasks, research.

## Extra information

Candidates should come from a Double Science background, preferably with a minimum grade "B" in Core Science and Additional Science, or in Biology. An inquisitive mind, a good understanding of Mathematics at GCSE and a keen interest in Biology are also useful prerequisites. The Biology Course is an excellent complement to Physics and/or Chemistry. It may also prove useful to those studying Geography with an interest in Ecology or PE and Physiology. It offers a gateway to many careers in Science and Medicine.

# Business Studies - Edexcel

## Course Content

### Theme 1: Marketing and People

Students will develop an understanding of:

Meeting customer needs, The market, Marketing mix and strategy, Managing people, Entrepreneurs and leaders.

### Theme 2: Managing Business Activities

Students will develop an understanding of:

Raising finance, Financial planning, Managing finance, Resource management, External influences.

### Theme 3: Business Decisions and Strategy

This theme develops the concepts introduced in Theme 2. Students will develop an understanding of:

Business objectives and strategy, Business growth, Decision-making techniques, Influences on business decisions.

Assessing competitiveness, Managing change.

### Theme 4: Global Business

This theme develops the concepts introduced in Theme 1. Students will develop an understanding of:

Globalisation, Global markets and business expansion, Global marketing, Global industries and companies (multinational companies).

## Lesson structure

The Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Business is structured into four themes and consists of three externally examined papers. 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.

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

## Extra information

GCE Business leads into many different pathways, from apprenticeships with multi-national corporations to degree courses in Business Management, Accountancy, Economics, etc.



**Will Bloor (Head Boy)**

**"I have really good professional relationships with staff which enabled me to get the most out of my subjects."**

# Chemistry - AQA

## Course Content

### Physical Chemistry

Atomic structure, Amount of substance, Bonding, Energetics, Kinetics, Chemical equilibria, Le Chatelier's principle and  $K_c$ , Oxidation, reduction and redox equations, Thermodynamics (A Level only), Rate equations (A Level only), Equilibrium constant  $K_p$  for homogeneous systems (A Level only), Electrode potentials and electrochemical cells (A Level only), Acids and bases (A Level only).

### Inorganic Chemistry

Periodicity, Group 2 - the alkaline earth metals, Group 7(17) - the halogens, Properties of Period 3, (A Level only), Transition metals (A Level only), Reactions of ions in aqueous solution (A Level only).

### Organic Chemistry

Introduction to organic chemistry, Alkanes, Halogenoalkanes, Alkenes, Alcohols, Organic analysis, Optical isomerism (A Level only), Aldehydes and ketones (A Level only), Carboxylic acids and derivatives (A Level only), Aromatic chemistry (A Level only), Amines (A Level only), Polymers (A Level only), Amino acids, proteins and DNA (A Level only), Organic synthesis (A Level only), Nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy (A Level only), Chromatography (A Level only).

### Assessment pattern

#### AS

Paper 1 (50% of the AS): Relevant physical chemistry and inorganic chemistry topics. Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes (65 marks of short and long answer questions/15 marks of multiple choice questions).

Paper 2 (50% of the AS): Relevant physical chemistry and organic chemistry topics. Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes (65 marks of short and long answer questions/15 marks of multiple choice questions).

#### A Level

Paper 1 (35% of A Level): Relevant physical chemistry and inorganic chemistry topics. Written exam: 2 hours (105 marks of short and long answer questions).

Paper 2 (35% of A Level): Relevant physical chemistry and organic chemistry topics. Written exam: 2 hours (105 marks of short and long answer questions).

Paper 3 (30% of A Level): Any content. Written exam: 2 hours (40 marks of questions on practical techniques and data analysis, 20 marks of questions testing across the specification and 30 marks of multiple choice questions).

### Lesson structure

Formal teaching, small group work, practical work, problem solving tasks, research.

### Extra information

Candidates should come from a Double or Triple Science background, preferably with a minimum grades of B in Core and Additional Science, or Chemistry. An inquisitive mind, a good understanding of Mathematics at GCSE and a keen interest in Chemistry are also useful prerequisites. The Chemistry Course is an excellent complement to Physics and/or Biology and is an essential component for those students intent on a medical career.

# Computer Science - OCR

## Course Content

### Component 1 - Computer Systems

The characteristics of contemporary computer systems, programming techniques, number representation and a range of other computer science theory topics. Written Paper: 2 hours 30 minutes. Weighting: 40% of total A Level marks.

### Component 2 - Algorithms and Programming

Elements of computational thinking, algorithms, problem solving and programming. Written Paper: 2 hours 30 minutes. Weighting: 40% of total A Level marks.

### Component 3 - Programming Project

An engaging, extended practical project where learners are expected to develop a programmed solution to solve a real world problem. Non Exam Assessment - internally Marked and externally moderated. Weighting 20% of total A Level marks.

### Lesson structure

Your time will be equally split between theory and practical.

Theory lessons will involve a variety of activities from independent research through to creating problem solving scripts. Practical activities will be mostly programming oriented in a range of languages.

### Extra information

This GCE specification encourages candidates to gain an understanding of systematic methods – such as the use of algorithms and test strategies, the maintenance of computer systems, and the skills associated with documenting solutions – and encourages candidates to further develop skills associated with applying this knowledge and understanding to producing computer-based solutions to real problems.

# Design Technology – Product Design - AQA

## Course Content

- Assessment 1** Core Principles and core designing and making principles - Written exam 2 hours. 25% of A Level.
- Assessment 2** Specialist knowledge, technical and designing and making principles - Written exam 2 hours. 25% of A Level.

Questions are a mixture of short answer, multiple choice and extended response questions.

- Section A** Product Analysis. Up to 6 short answers based on visual stimulus of product(s).
- Section B** Commercial manufacture. Mixture of short and extended style questions.

**Non-exam Element** Practical application of technical principles, design and making principles and specialist knowledge. Substantial design and make task. 45 hours. 100 marks. 50% of A Level.

**Evidence** Written or digital design portfolio and photographic evidence of final prototype.

## Extra information

Students will need to be creative, open-minded with good observational and analytical skills and show dexterity and an enjoyment of working with materials.

This is a very demanding course and with this qualification you can go on to Higher Education leading to a wide choice of careers e.g. Engineering, Design, Manufacturing, Teaching, Architecture, Construction, etc.

# Drama and Theatre - Eduqas (WJEC)

## Course Content

The new Drama and Theatre specification will be a combination of practical, practitioner influenced workshops and written analysis and reflection. Workshops will be challenging, fast paced and engaging and will require students to research performance genres, director influence on contemporary theatre and the history of theatre. The course will not only cover performance, technical and directing skills but will also require the study of politics, history and literature to support the development of a broad understanding of theatre.

Students will be required to study one complete and substantial performance text, focusing on two key extracts within the overall context of the text. They will be required to study political influences on the text and the historical influences on the writer. They will also be asked to consider approaches to staging and direction.

Students will study a variety of practitioners and their influence of modern theatre practice. They will focus on one practitioner at AS level and two in detail at A Level.

The course will be examined through a combination of 40% written exam and 60% practical reflection. The current assessment structure which will be adapted for the new specification is as follows:

### Lesson structure

#### Exploration of Drama and Theatre

This is the detailed study of two plays from the point of view of performers, designers and directors. Students will also be required to evaluate a professional performance. Throughout the practical lessons, students will create a written portfolio of research and study which is assessed.

#### Theatre Text in Performance

This is a practical exam in which students undertake a role within the production of a play and perform a monologue or duologue. Assessment is based on a practical performance or design skills along with a written record.

#### Exploration of Dramatic Performance

This unit involves devising an original piece of theatre for performance to an audience - as a performer, designer or director. A written record is assessed along with the practical exam.

#### Theatre Text in Context

This is the study of a play text, its context and original performance conditions. Students will be required to design and plan to direct a modern interpretation of the piece. They will study the detailed, technical side of theatre and direction in preparation for a written exam.

# Economics - AQA

## Course Content

You will investigate microeconomic topics such as how individual decisions impact economic outcomes, the importance of competition, how markets operate and why they fail and how the distribution of income and wealth is affected. At the same time you will learn about macroeconomics, looking at the 'big picture' of how our national economy fits into the global context, the global impact of financial markets and monetary policy and the operation of the international economy.

### AS/Year 1 of A Level

#### Component 1: Operation of markets and market failure (Microeconomics)

This area of study covers topics like the economic problem and economic methodology; price determination in a competitive market; production, costs and revenue; competitive and concentrated markets; and the market mechanism, market failure and government intervention in markets.

#### Component 2: The national economy in a global context (Macroeconomics)

This area of study covers topics like measurement of macroeconomic performance; how the macro economy works: the circular flow of income, aggregate demand/aggregate supply analysis and related concepts; and economic performance and macroeconomic policy.

### A Level (Year 2)

#### Component 1 (33.3%): Individuals, firms, markets and market failure (Micro)

This area of study covers topics like individual economic decision making; production, costs and revenue; perfect competition, imperfectly competitive markets and monopoly; the labour market; the distribution of income and wealth: poverty and inequality; and the market mechanism, market failure and government intervention in markets.

#### Component 2 (33.3%): The national and international economy (Macro)

This area of study covers topics like the measurement of macroeconomic performance; how the macroeconomy works: the circular flow of income, AD/AS analysis and related concepts; economic performance; financial markets and monetary policy; fiscal policy and supply-side policies; and the international economy.

#### Component 3 (33.3%): Economic principles and issues

An investigation into how micro and macroeconomics can be applied to contemporary national and global economic issues.

### Lesson structure

Lessons will follow a varied pattern of seminar style and group based sessions aimed at ensuring all students can take an active part in the learning experience.

### Assessment Pattern

At AS level, each of the two components are assessed equally with two 90 minute exams.

At A Level, each of the three components are assessed with three equally weighted 2 hour exams.

# English Language - AQA

## Course Content

AS / Year 1 of A Level	Paper 1	Language and the Individual - Analysis of two texts on a common theme, focusing on meanings, representations and contexts.
	Paper 2	Language Varieties - A discursive essay about language diversity (gender, occupation, dialect) A directed writing task about attitudes to language.
A Level (Year 2)	Paper 1	Language, the Individual and society (40%) - Analysis of 2 texts on a common theme (one is an older text using the concepts for language analysis. Discursive essay on children's language development.
	Paper 2	Language Diversity and Change (40%) - An evaluative essay on diversity or change. This explores debates about social attitudes to language and includes topics such as gender and dialect. An analysis of how two texts use language to present ideas, attitudes and opinions. A directed writing task.
	Coursework	Language in action (20%) - A language investigation exploring and analysing language data independently. A piece of original writing and commentary.

## Lesson structure

- Group work - discussion.
- Presentation.
- Research.
- Writing workshops.
- Formal teaching.
- University visits/lectures.

## Extra information

This course offers clear skills progression from GCSE with exciting text and data-based sources of language in its various forms and contexts. The variety of assessment styles used, such as data analysis, discursive essays, original writing and research-based investigative writing, allows students to develop a range of skills. These include critical reading, data analysis, evaluation, the ability to develop and sustain arguments and a number of different writing skills which are invaluable for both further study and future employment.

## Career Opportunities

Print journalism, public relations, teaching, the media (TV & radio), the civil service and publishing.

# English Literature - Edexcel

## Course Content

- Component 1 Drama - "Hamlet" by William Shakespeare and "A Street Car Named Desire" by Tennessee Williams.
- Component 2 Prose - Two texts studied on the theme of "Colonisation": "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain and "The Lonely Londoners" by Sam Selvon.
- Component 3 Poetry - Studies will be based around a collection of modern poetry (post 2000) and romantic poetry.
- Component 4 Coursework - Free study of texts. A unit of work on Gothic fiction will be studied to support this. Texts read will include "The Wasp Factory" by Iain Banks and "Frankenstein" by Mary Shelley.

## Lesson structure

- Group work - discussion.
- Presentation.
- Formal teaching.
- Student teaching.
- Theatre visits.

## Assessment pattern

All assessments will be completed in the summer of Year 13.

- Component 1 written 2 hour examination (open book).
- Component 2 written 1 hour examination (open book).
- Component 3 written 2 hour examination (open book).
- Component 4 coursework assignment of 2500 - 3000 words.

## Extra information

The course will stimulate your enthusiasm for the study and enjoyment of literature whilst developing your skills of critical reading, writing and communication.

Career opportunities include law, teaching, management, journalism and media.

# French - Eduqas (WJEC)

## Course Content

The WJEC Eduqas A Level in French provides an engaging and exciting opportunity for students to build on their previous study of French. This specification offers learners a rich and detailed insight into the social issues and trends, political, intellectual and artistic culture of the countries and communities where French is spoken.

An opportunity to study literature and film will allow students to undertake a deeper analysis of language structures and increase their cultural awareness as part of an integrated approach to language learning.

A strong focus is placed on building students' confidence and fluency in spoken French using relevant and topical themes. The requirement to research an area of personal interest related to the country/communities where French is spoken will enhance students' cultural appreciation and enable them to gain a greater awareness of intercultural differences.

## Lesson structure

Teaching in small groups, normally with two different teachers.

Regular contact with Foreign Language Assistant for extended speaking practice.

Opportunities to travel to France.

## Assessment pattern

Component 1	30% - Speaking - Non exam assessment. Task 1 (a) Presentation of independent research project. (b) Discussion on the content of the research project. Task 2 Discussion based on a stimulus card relating to one of the themes studied.
Component 2	50% - Listening, reading and translation examination. Section A: Listening. Section B: Reading. Section C: Translation - from French into English and English into French.
Component 3	20% - Critical response writing examination on a film or text. Two essays – one based on a literary text and the second on an additional literary work or film from the prescribed list.

## Extra information

Language learning is about communication and students will participate in group discussions, make presentations and will have opportunities to develop I.T. skills. The study of a major European language complements any other subject.

# Further Maths - AQA

## Course Content

If you choose Further Maths you will be studying for two A-levels in Maths. This could mean that you spend half your time at school doing Maths. You have to really enjoy the subject. It is highly recommended if you are considering studying a degree in Maths, Physics, Engineering or Economics at one of the best universities.

The A-level is made up of both Pure and Applied Maths. These extend the skills from A-level maths and introduce decision mathematics (which includes networks, algorithms and sorting).

### Lesson structure

As with A-Level maths, lessons will be delivered in a variety of ways, however more emphasis will be placed on learning independently and it is likely that the class size will be smaller. Students will have an additional two teachers for their Further Maths course.

### Assessment pattern

The assessment is 100% exam based.

Three 2 hour, equally-weighted, externally assessed written exams are taken in June at the end of the course.

### Extra information

Further Maths is a challenging qualification, which both extends and deepens students' knowledge and understanding beyond the standard A-level Mathematics.

Any student planning to take a mathematics-rich degree, (such as Engineering, Sciences, Computing, Finance/Economics, etc., as well as Mathematics itself) will benefit enormously from taking Further Mathematics, at least to AS level. You will study more maths that's relevant to your university course, which will help you to hit the ground running. Some prestigious university degree courses now require a Further Maths qualification, and many university courses prefer students who have studied Further Maths to at least AS level. This has resulted in more and more students studying Further Maths over the last few years.

# Geography - Edexcel

## Course Content

### Spotlight on some of the Geography A-level topics:

**Component 1 - Dynamic Landscapes and Physical Systems and Sustainability** - In Year 1 you will study Tectonic Processes and Hazards and Landscape Systems, Processes and Change. In Year 2 you will study The Water Cycle & Water Insecurity and The Carbon Cycle & Energy Security (worth 50% of AS or 30% of A Level).

**Component 2 - Dynamic Places and Human Systems and Geopolitics** - In Year 1 you will study Globalisation and Shaping Places. In Year 2 you will study Superpowers and Global Development & Connections. (worth 50% of AS or 30% of A Level).

**Component 3 - Synoptic Investigation of a Contemporary Geographical Issue** - Based on a geographical issue within a place based context that links to the three synoptic themes and is rooted in two or more of the compulsory content areas. (worth 20% of A Level).

**Component 4 - Independent Investigation (coursework)** - A student-defined question or issue, relating to the compulsory content. The investigation will incorporate fieldwork data and own research and/or secondary data. (worth 20% of A Level).

### Lesson structure

Geography is taught by a friendly, well-qualified and experienced teaching team. We offer regular 1:1 and small group support, with a focus on exam technique to help ensure that all students achieve to their full potential. Students will have the opportunity to take part in fieldtrips, both locally and globally. Students will also gain practical experience and develop key skills which enhance their employability such as numeracy, literacy, environmental awareness and problem solving.

### Extra information

Geography students tend to be good team workers, have the ability to think analytically and critically, and are highly computer literate. Ultimately, geography students will develop a global mind-set – they will understand different cultures and how industries work across borders. This global awareness will help students to succeed in an increasingly global world, and is a very desirable characteristic according to top employers.

Geography is highly valued by Universities as an A Level choice. The Russell Group report published names Geography as a key facilitating subject therefore will keep more options open to you at University. Geographers are employed in a wide range of sectors, including the public sector, education, commerce, industry, transport and tourism. It is a myth that geographers can only do certain types of jobs. Employers include: Meteorologist; geologist; mineral surveyor; oceanographer; Ordnance Survey; environmental consultant; ranger; forestry; National Trust; charity worker; urban development; local council; radio and television broadcaster; reporter; aviation & air traffic control; Police Service; Ministry of Defence; Royal Navy; RAF; airplane pilot; lawyer; politician; investment banker; estate agent.

# German - Eduqas (WJEC)

## Course Content

The WJEC Eduqas A Level in German provides an engaging and exciting opportunity for students to build on their previous study of German. This specification offers learners a rich and detailed insight into the social issues and trends, political, intellectual and artistic culture of the countries and communities where German is spoken.

An opportunity to study literature and film will allow students to undertake a deeper analysis of language structures and increase their cultural awareness as part of an integrated approach to language learning.

A strong focus is placed on building students' confidence and fluency in spoken German using relevant and topical themes. The requirement to research an area of personal interest related to the country/communities where German is spoken will enhance students' cultural appreciation and enable them to gain a greater awareness of intercultural differences.

## Lesson structure

Teaching in small groups, normally with two different teachers.

Regular contact with Foreign Language Assistant for extended speaking practice.

Opportunities to travel to Germany.

## Assessment pattern

Component 1	30% - Speaking - non exam assessment. Task 1 (a) Presentation of independent research project. (b) Discussion on the content of the research project. Task 2 Discussion based on a stimulus card relating to one of the themes studied.
Component 2	50% - Listening, reading and translation examination. Section A: Listening. Section B: Reading Section C: Translation – from German into English and English into German.
Component 3	20% - Critical response writing examination on a film or text. Two essays – one based on a literary text and the second on an additional literary work or film from the prescribed list.

## Extra information

Language learning is about communication and cultural awareness and students will participate in group discussions on a wide variety of topics. The study of a major European language will go well with almost any other subject.

# Government and Politics - Edexcel

## Course Content

### AS / Year 1 of A Level

#### Britain

- How is Britain governed today?
- How does Parliament function?
- What are the powers and responsibility of the Prime Minister?
- What are Conservatism, New Labour and Liberalism?
- How can we influence Government?
- Will the coalition government work?
- What is the role and key issues related to the EU now that the UK has voted to leave the EU?
- How important is the role of the media in checking the power of government and parliament?

### A Level (Year 2)

#### America

- How is America governed?
- How much power does the President really have?
- What is the Constitution?
- How are the executive, legislature and judiciary interrelated?
- How does this affect day to day politics on Capitol Hill?
- Do Presidential Elections make any difference?
- How similar or different are US political parties?

### Lesson structure

A variety of learning activities are used including teacher led discussions, visits to conferences, the use of video and Internet research. Much responsibility lies with students with a heavy emphasis on discussions, debates and individual presentations.

### Assessment pattern

Yet to be published by the exam board, although will be no coursework.

### Extra information

Do you want to develop a Big Inquisitive Mind? Government and Politics is a perfect complement to the other main humanities subjects. It is extremely stimulating and relevant and you will develop excellent Key Skills in research and communication. Are you are interested in a career in journalism, the law, government, civil service, industry, army? In short, this course will be a superb preparation for a wide range of career paths.

# History - OCR

## Course Content

History is an exciting and insightful discipline and taught at Sandbach School to inspire a student's curiosity of the past. We look for student's to engage with our independent learning ethos. Studying history will create a depth understanding of the value and significance of events in the past and gain a deeper understanding of social, religious, economic and cultural issues.

Examinations will follow the linear model and there will be a coursework element that will count to 20% of your final A Level. If you would like further clarification or input please speak to a history teacher.

**AS / Year 1 of A Level** The Early Stuarts, Origins of the Civil War and the execution of Charles I 1603–1660 (50% of AS; 25% of A Level). The American Revolution 1740-1796 (50% of AS; 15% of A Level).

**A Level (Year 2)** China and its Rulers 1839-1989 (40%). Topic Based Essay - The Crusades (20%).

### Lesson structure

- Formal teaching and teacher led discussion.
- Individual research.
- Group research.
- Presentations.
- Individual tutoring, developing students' own strengths.

Lessons will often be student based and geared to supplement and consolidate research tasks. Extensive use is also made of specialist conferences addressed by leading university lecturers.

### Assessment pattern

Unit 1 - Source analysis; Essay question.

Unit 2 - Comparing factors and making a judgement; essay question.

Unit 3 - Historical interpretations question; thematic essay.

Unit 4 - Topic based essay - an extended essay of 3000 – 4000 words, arising from independent study and research.

### Extra information

History combines admirably with almost any other subject, giving academic rigour and credibility to your course, and the opportunity to develop Key Skills, especially communication, working with others and independent research.

A History degree is always in demand from employers, in areas such as the law, journalism and management. History is classified as a 'facilitating subject' by the Russell Group and therefore leaves open a wide range of courses to you for study at university.

# Law - AQA

## Course Content

This course allows students to develop their knowledge and understanding of the law in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. It develops an understanding of legal methods, the ability to communicate legal arguments and conclusions as well as the ability to think logically and analyse and solve problems through the application of legal rules.

The course has been designed to cover topics such as procedures in the criminal courts, the magistrates and jury system, the offences of murder, manslaughter and GBH and concepts such as justice and morality.

### Lesson structure

Lessons are structured to develop your problem solving, logical analysis, essay writing and independent learning skills through the use of e-learning, group work on problem solving exercises, case studies, research activities, role-play activities, discussions and debate.

### Assessment pattern

Two year linear course with written exams that will assess your understanding of the following topics:

- Paper One The nature of law (such as the relationship between law and justice and law and morality) and the English legal system including criminal courts and the legal professions.
- Paper Two The law of tort including duty of care and breaches in the duty of care.
- Paper Three Criminal Law including murder and manslaughter (both voluntary and involuntary).
- Paper Four One further area of criminal law (such as the defences of intoxication and insanity) or tort (nuisance, vicarious liability).

### Extra information

The course is entirely exam based and includes visiting speakers such as University Law students and magistrates as well as visits to local Crown and Magistrates' Courts.

Whether you want a career in the law or in other areas like education, human resources, finance or business, A Level Law can open doors for you. Lots of GCE Law students also study Business Studies, Sociology, Psychology, Government & Politics, History, English, Critical Thinking and Philosophy. A Level Law can be a great asset if you wish to study Law at University. A minimum grade of a 5 at GCSE in English is essential whilst due to the analytical nature of the subject a 6 would be highly desirable.

# Mathematics

## Course Content

The A level is made up of both Pure and Applied Mathematics. The Pure Maths makes up two-thirds of the qualification and provide the techniques in Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry and Calculus that form the fundamental building blocks of the subject. Mathematical applications make up the remaining third of the qualification and students will study Mechanics (forces, energy and motion) and Statistics (probability, data handling and testing hypotheses) in both AS and A Level.

### Lesson structure

Lessons will be delivered in a variety of ways - students are encouraged to take responsibility for their progress and are taught through some whole class teaching, one-to-one explanations, small group work and investigative exercises.

The Mathematics Department is well resourced with knowledgeable, qualified and experienced staff. Students will have two teachers for their Mathematics course and this allows for both the Applied and Pure areas to be taught in parallel.

Outside of lessons the department provides extra support for students including access to MyMaths online to support their learning at home in addition to all students being invited to attend Maths Clinic each week after school; a drop-in session run by A-level teachers which is brilliant for helping with home learning.

### Assessment pattern

The assessment is 100% exam based. Three 2 hour, equally-weighted, externally assessed written exams.

### Extra information

The study of mathematics can satisfy a wide range of interests and abilities. The strongest reason for studying mathematics to an advanced level is that it is interesting and enjoyable. People like its challenge, its clarity, and the fact that you know when you are right. The solution of a problem has an excitement and a satisfaction. The course emphasises how Mathematics can be applied to find solutions to not only theoretical models but real life problems as well.

According to the Russell Group informed choices guide, Maths is a 'facilitating' subject, which means that it will help you to study many other subjects and pursue lots of different careers. Maths helps supports the study of subjects like Physics, Chemistry, Engineering, IT, Economics, Business and Biology which can also help with your Maths revision. But studying Maths alongside an essay subject like English or History can help keep your options open for more jobs and university courses.

Finally, maths A-level can lead to just about everything! People with Maths degrees and other qualifications can go into: accounting, medicine, engineering, forensic pathology, finance, business, consultancy, teaching, IT, games development, scientific research, programming, civil service, design, construction and astrophysics to name a few... It's not surprising that Maths is popular A-level choice at Sandbach School!



**“The support and guidance I received helped me to secure the university place that was right for me”**

# Media - OCR

## Course Content

- Module 1 Foundation Portfolio in Media (TV and Film) – Practical coursework
- Module 2 Key Media Concepts (TV Drama).
- Module 3 Advanced Portfolio in Media (Multi Media) – Practical coursework.
- Module 4 Critical Perspectives in Media.

50% of the A Level is devoted to practical production.

## Lesson structure

- Group work – key skills workshops, practical exercises, class discussion
- Teaching – Some formal (theory) some workshop (key skills instruction & facilitating)
- Practical work – photography, filming, sound-recording, creating graphics, editing and compositing, writing newspaper and magazine articles
- Software – Adobe Creative Cloud including Premiere Pro, After Effects and Photoshop
- Independent research, investigation, planning and production work
- Lectures/exam Preparation Days

## Assessment pattern

Yet to be published by the exam board

## Extra information

The course will provide a sound understanding of the Mass Media and its role in society, and will develop your skills of critical analysis, communication of ideas and concepts. In particular the course offers key practical media production skills by Industry experts.

This is a revised specification for September 2017 and has yet to be fully published. As a result details above may change.

## Career Opportunities

The creative industries, media, radio & television, journalism, film, public relations and advertising.

# Music - AQA

## Course Content

Component 1 Appraising Music - listening, analysis, contextual understanding.

Component 2 Performance - music performance.

Component 3 Composition.

## Assessment pattern

Component 1 Exam paper with listening and written questions using excerpts of music.  
Questions.

Section A: Listening (56 marks). Section B: Analysis (34 marks). Section C: Essay (30 marks).  
This component is 40% of A-level marks (120 marks in total).

Component 2 Solo and/or ensemble performing as an instrumentalist, or vocalist and/or music production  
(via technology).

A minimum of ten minutes of performance in total is required (no more than twelve minutes).  
This component is 35% of A-level marks, 50 marks in total, externally Assessed.

Component 3 Composition 1: Composition to a brief (25 marks).

Composition 2: Free composition (25 marks).

A minimum of four and a half minutes (no more than six minutes) of music is required.

This component is worth 25% of A Level marks, 50 marks in total), externally assessed.

## Extra information

This course encourages students to develop particular strengths and interests and extend the skills, knowledge and understanding needed to communicate through music, and provides access to music - related careers.



# Physical Education - OCR

## Course Content

### Component 1: Physiological factors affecting performance

- 1.1 Applied Anatomy and Physiology.
- 1.2 Exercise Physiology.
- 1.3 Biomechanics.

### Component 2: Psychological factors affecting performance

- 2.1 Skill Acquisition.
- 2.2 Sports Psychology.

### Component 3: Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport

- 3.1 Sport and Society.
- 3.2 Contemporary Issues in Physical Activity and Sport.

### Component 4: Performance in physical education (NEA)

- 4.1 Performance or Coaching of an Activity, taken from the approved lists\*.
- 4.2 The Evaluation and Analysis of Performance for Improvement (EAPI).

## Assessment pattern

**Component 1:** 90 marks 2 hour paper 30% of total A Level.

**Component 2:** 60 marks 1 hour paper 20% of total A Level.

**Component 3:** 60 marks 1 hour paper 20% of total A Level.

**Component 4:** 60 marks\*\* Non-exam assessment (NEA). Performance or Coaching. Evaluation and Analysis of Performance for Improvement (EAPI) 30% of total A Level.

\* Indicates inclusion of synoptic assessment.

\*\* Examination is weighted up to 90 marks to equal the total marks combined for the two tasks. Learners who are retaking the qualification may carry forward their result for the non-exam assessment component.

# Physics - AQA

## Course Content

1. Measurements and their Errors.
2. Particles and Radiation.
3. Waves.
4. Mechanics and Materials.
5. Electricity.
6. Further Mechanics and Thermal Physics.
7. Fields and their Consequences.
8. Nuclear Physics.
9. Engineering Physics.

## Assessment pattern

<b>AS Level</b>	Paper 1	(50% of the AS): Topics 1 to 5. Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes (70 marks of short and long answer questions).
	Paper 2	(50% of the AS): Topics 1 to 5. Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes (Section A: 20 marks of short and long answer questions on practical skills and data analysis Section B: 20 marks of short and long answer questions from across all areas of AS content Section C: 30 multiple choice questions).
<b>A Level</b>	Paper 1	(34% of A-level): Sections 1 to 5 and 6.1 (Periodic motion). Written exam: 2 hours, 85 marks: 60 marks of short and long answer questions and 25 multiple choice questions on content.
	Paper 2	(34% of A-level): Sections 6.2 (Thermal Physics), 7 and 8, Assumed knowledge from sections 1 to 6.1). Written exam: 2 hours, 85 marks: 60 marks of short and long answer questions and 25 multiple choice questions on content.
	Paper 3	(32% of A-level): Section A Compulsory section: Practical skills and data analysis. Section B: 9. Engineering Physics. Written exam: 2 hours, 80 marks: 45 marks of short and long answer questions on practical experiments and data analysis (Section A). 35 marks of short and long answer questions on Astrophysics (Section B).

# Psychology - AQA

## Course Content

This course introduces you to psychology well by studying the work of many famous psychologists in a variety of different subject areas. You will have the opportunity to carry out your own research experiments and you will learn many of the key principles that underpin Psychology. Students will learn the fundamentals of the subject and develop skills valued by Higher Education (HE) and employers, including critical analysis, independent thinking and research.

Two year linear course with written exams that will assess your understanding of the following topics:

**Paper one**    Introductory Topics in Psychology. Social Influence. Memory. Attachment. Psychopathology.

**Paper two**    Psychology in Context. Approaches in Psychology. Biopsychology. Research Methods.

**Paper three**    Issues and Options in Psychology. Issues and Debates in Psychology. Gender. Schizophrenia. Aggression.

This is a linear qualification. In order to achieve the award, students must complete all exams in May/June in a single year. All assessments must be taken in the same series.

## Course requirements

Due to the scientific nature of the subject, you will conduct experiments and then carefully analyse the data found. The course is assessed purely by written exams which are made up of several essays. For this reason a GCSE grade 6 is desirable in English / Maths and GCSE grade C in Science. GCSE grade C in English / Maths is essential.



# Religious Studies - Edexcel

## Course Content

### Compulsory units

- Component 1 Philosophy of Religion. - Philosophical issues and questions. The nature and influence of religious experience. Problems of evil and suffering.
- Component 2 Religion and Ethics - Ethical theories i.e. Utilitarianism/Natural Law/Situation Ethics. Environmental and equality issues War & peace and sexual ethics.
- Component 3 Study of Religion: Christianity - Religious beliefs, values and teachings. Sources of wisdom and authority Practices that shape and express religious identity.

### Lesson structure

A variety of learning activities are used including teacher led discussions, the use of video and Internet research and essay writing practice. Much responsibility lies with students with a heavy emphasis on discussions, debates and individual presentations.

### Assessment pattern

- Component 1 Written examination: 2 hours. 33.33% of the qualification. 80 marks.
- Component 2 Written examination: 2 hours. 33.33% of the qualification. 80 marks.
- Component 3 Written examination: 2 hours. 33.33% of the qualification. 80 marks.

### Extra information

This subject would suit those who would like to fine tune their reasoning skills and develop the ability to form judgements based on clear evaluation of information. Students would develop a range of transferable skills e.g. the ability to put your point of view across clearly. Courses involving the study of philosophy and ethics are highly regarded by universities and are a popular choice for study beyond sixth form, for example when combined with politics and economics (PPE). It is further seen as a useful stepping stone into career paths such as law, politics, journalism etc.



**“My form tutor  
closely monitored  
my progress and  
made sure that I was  
always on track to  
achieve my goals”**

# Sociology - AQA

## Course Content

Sociology is about the society in which we live, where that has come from and the factors that develop its progression and transformation. There are innumerable influences on how we as individuals develop over the course of our life time ranging from the influence of parents, education, peer group, class, gender, ethnicity etc. and they are unique to us. With each of us being unique it is no wonder that we have different attitudes and perspectives on how our society should be shaped and the direction it takes. The Sociology A level explores in depth the biggest influences on how we as individuals and as a society have developed.

Two year linear course with written exams that will assess your understanding of the following topics:

**Paper one** Education with Theory and Methods - Education. Methods in Context. Theory and Methods.

**Paper two** Topics in Sociology - Family and Households. Media.

**Paper three** Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods - Crime and Deviance. Theory and Methods.

This is a linear qualification. In order to achieve the award, students must complete all exams in May/June in a single year. All assessments must be taken in the same series.

## Course requirements

The course is assessed purely by written exams which are made up of several essays. For this reason, a GCSE grade 6 is desirable in English Language whilst a GCSE grade 5 is essential.





**VOCATIONAL COURSES**

# Cambridge Technical Subsidiary Diploma in Media

## Level 3 1.5 A Levels equivalent (90 credits)

### Course Content

This new course combines different areas of media to develop understanding of Media through engagement with media products, production processes and technologies. This leads to the application of practical and creative skills that transfer easily into the workplace. This course provides the option of specialist pathways in a range of areas within the creative and media industry. Recognition of your specialism is printed on final certificates and can be used to aid progression in to specialist vocational routes. There is just one mandatory unit, the rest of the units are optional, enabling you to design a personalised pathway and specialise in areas of creative media, graphic design, performance and music technology.

### Lesson structure

Lesson time will be spent developing knowledge and understanding within your chosen areas of study, learning techniques, process and theory associated with the 4 areas of creative media, graphic design, performance and music technology. You will work with subject specialists in each of the areas, depending on the units you select. You will have opportunities to develop links with industry and work with creative practitioners. Work related learning and relevant visits / trips will also inform your work.

### Example units

- Graphic design for media products.
- Photography for media products.
- Web authoring and design.
- Acting for the screen.
- Production and post-production for film.
- Talk and music radio production.
- Animation production.

### Extra information

The subsidiary Diploma can be studied alongside two other AS levels including the arts & design subjects. You will have access to resources and equipment that will enable you to explore new and exciting ways of working and which will enable you to move towards level 4 courses or employment / apprenticeships.

You do not have to study GCSE Business Studies to study this course. It is open to everyone. This is a good course to study with most subjects including: Politics, History and Geography.

# Subsidiary Diploma in Music Technology (Production) - Level 3

## Course Content

<b>Compulsory Unit</b>	Music Production Techniques	10 credits
<b>Specialist Units</b>	Sound Creation and Manipulation	10 credits
	Sequencing Systems and Techniques	10 credits
<b>Optional Units</b>	Delivering a Music Product	10 credits
	The Sound and Music Industry	10 credits
	Marketing and Promotion in the Music Industry	10 credits
	The Sound and Music Industry	10 credits
<b>Substitutable Units</b>	Music and Sound for the Moving Image	10 credits
	Music Performance Techniques	10 credits

To gain a qualification, candidates must earn 60 credits. 10 credits must come from the Compulsory Unit. At least one Specialist Unit must be undertaken, though it is anticipated that most candidates will complete both. The remaining 30 credits will normally come from the offered Optional Units; in some cases though, where there is a special interest or need, one unit may be substituted from outside the Music Tech syllabus. The substitutable units shown are those which have been undertaken by current candidates.

At present the course must be taken for two years, since no qualification can be awarded for just three units. The Subsidiary Diploma is equivalent to one A-Level, with a Distinction being the equivalent of an A-Level 'A' Grade, a Merit equivalent to a 'C' and a Pass being equivalent to an 'E.'

## Assessment pattern

The course is completed entirely through the production of coursework. Each unit specifies a number of skills which students must develop, and which can be demonstrated at Pass, Merit or Distinction level. All learning is driven by assignments, which allow these skills to be demonstrated. Where a skill is not initially evident at a minimum pass level, further assignments can be undertaken.

## Extra information

The music industry is a very wide field, encompassing an enormous number of different career paths, most of which are not that of the performing musician. Roles such as Producer, Studio Engineer, Studio Assistant, Arranger, Media Composer, etc., all directly require the skills developed in Music Technology. The BTEC is a very hands-on, practical course, which is intended to prepare students for work in this field.

It is not strictly essential to have taken our level 2 Music Technology course in order to opt for this level 3 BTEC, nor must you be a performing musician. The main requirements are a strong interest in music and an ability to be creative.'

# **BTEC National Sport and Exercise Science (NQF)**

## Extended Diploma (1080 GLH)

### **Course Content**

The course runs over 2 years and is the equivalent of 3 A-Levels. To pass the course students must complete 13 units, 7 of which are mandatory and 4 are externally assessed.

#### **Compulsory units**

- Sport and Exercise Physiology (120 units, externally assessed).
- Functional Anatomy (90 units, externally assessed).
- Applied Sport and Exercise Psychology (120 units, externally assessed).
- Field and Laboratory Based Fitness Testing (90 units, externally assessed).
- Applied Research Methods in Sport and Exercise Science (90 units, externally assessed).
- Coaching for Performance and Fitness (90 units, externally assessed).
- Nutrition for Sport and Exercise Performance (120 units, externally assessed).

#### **Optional units**

- Biomechanics in Sport and Exercise Science (60 units, internally assessed).
- Specialised Fitness Training (60 units, internally assessed).
- Technology in Sport and Exercise Science (60 units, internally assessed).
- Physical Activity for Individual and Group-based Exercise (60 units, internally assessed).
- Sociocultural Issues in Sport and Exercise Science (60 units, internally assessed).
- Sports Injury and Assessment (60 units, internally assessed).

#### **What is a BTEC Extended Diploma?**

BTEC Nationals Sport and Exercise Science is a vocational type of course. It is linked to the specific area of Sport and Exercise Science industry. The course will provide opportunities to learn various industry specific skills that will allow you to move towards further study at university level or into the Sport and Exercise Science industry. The course is nationally recognised and attracts points on the NQF Framework in the same way as A-Level qualifications.

All students will be expected to show a clear commitment to the extra-curricular sports programme at the school either in a playing, officiating or coaching role. There would also be requirements to assist in Key Stage 3 PE lessons and various after school primary school events throughout the two year course.



**“The Sixth Form gave me the opportunity to excel in and out of the classroom.”**

# BTEC Information Technology

## Level 3 National Extended Certificate

### Course Content

The course runs over 2 years and is the equivalent of 3 A-Levels. To pass the course students must complete 13 units, 7 of which are mandatory and 4 are externally assessed.

#### Unit 1 - Information Technology Systems

Information technology (IT) systems have a significant role in the world around us and play a part in almost everything we do. Having a sound understanding of how to effectively select and use appropriate IT systems will benefit you personally and professionally.

This unit is externally assessed through a written examination set by the exam board.

#### Unit 2 - Creating Systems to Manage

In order to produce information to support many business processes as well as our social lives, relational databases are widely used to manage and process data. From the smallest in-house systems to stock control systems for large online retailers, databases are repositories of information that are a significant part of organisational operating requirements.

This unit is externally assessed through a task set and marked by the exam board.

#### Unit 3 - Using Social Media in Business

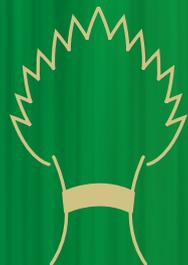
Social media websites are a popular way for people to communicate and share information with friends and family. People spend a lot of time on social media websites and they give businesses opportunities to interact with people, for example to promote their business, to encourage people to visit their e-commerce site and buy, to provide customer service.

This unit is internally assessed.

#### What is a BTEC Extended Diploma?

Students will need to complete one more optional unit (internally assessed) to complete the qualification. Grading for the qualification ranges from Distinction \* to Pass for successful candidates.





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