

QE
QUEEN ELIZABETH
Sixth Form College

20
27

PROSPECTUS



“Students value and speak enthusiastically about the extensive knowledge and skills they are developing and how these will help them to achieve their future ambitions. Leaders, managers and teachers are committed to developing students’ passion for learning.”

OFSTED

QE
QUEEN ELIZABETH
Sixth Form College

Thank you for your interest in being a student at Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College. Each year, we are pleased to welcome a large number of students from a very wide geographical area. This includes County Durham, North Yorkshire, Teesside and further afield.

We are delighted that our students really enjoy their time at QE. When surveyed, over 98.5% of them say that they would recommend QE to other students. This is largely due to the College's many years of success of being specialists in post-16 A Level/Level 3 education.

We provide the highest quality of teaching from subject specialists, the best possible learning environment, and excellent support and guidance. As a result, students achieve outstanding exam results and develop the skills and experiences they need to achieve their aspirations and to progress to their desired destinations after College.

At QE, members of staff and students work together in a purposeful, supportive and friendly way to produce a learning experience that is exciting, fun and ambitious. You will be treated as a young adult in a mature and respectful environment.

QE students know how to enjoy themselves! You will be able to participate in a great variety of extra-curricular activities. These include sport, music, drama, volunteering and many clubs and societies. We regularly organise exciting trips and visits, alongside interesting speakers and workshops at QE. All of these events will help you to make new friends, have fun, and enrich your time at QE. We also have comfortable areas for you to study, socialise and relax, including a new food court with a very popular Starbucks outlet!

When you apply for a place at QE, you will find that we devote a great deal of time and expertise to help you match your individual needs and aspirations to the wide range of courses and opportunities we offer. To find out how we can give you the best experience at QE, please come along to our open events and visits. If you require further information, please email Lisa Bates (Vice Principal) on qe@qeliz.ac.uk. We are always very happy to answer any questions you might have!

I hope that you will take an opportunity to visit us, and I look forward to meeting you in the future.

Laurence Job
Principal



STENZEN CON

- 1** Welcome
- 4** How To Find Us
- 5** About QE
- 7** 10 Great Reasons To Come To QE
- 9** Programme Of Study
- 11** Courses We Offer
- 13** Open Events
- 15** Applicant Information
- 17** Transport
- 19** Life At QE
- 21** Enrichment Programme
- 23** Next Steps
- 25** Where Will QE Take You?
- 27** Where Are They Now?
- 33** Courses
- 111** Outstanding Results



HOW TO FIND US



ABOUT QE

In 2026

98.5% of students
and

99.5% of parents

said they would
recommend QE
to others.

At Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College, we are dedicated to transforming lives and creating futures.

We offer a truly transformational learning experience, providing the right support and infrastructure to ensure students progress to exciting and rewarding destinations.

Our purposeful, lively and friendly College atmosphere ensures our students feel supported and gain the knowledge, skills and confidence to flourish.

Recognised as a model of excellence in sixth form education, QE was rated Outstanding in every category in its latest Ofsted inspection, and was praised for exceptional teaching, leadership and student support. QE has always been a popular choice for students and continues to grow.

We have over 2,000 students enrolled with us, with a strong cohort from Darlington, but also a significant proportion coming to us from outside the area, including County Durham, North Yorkshire and Teesside.

Our students achieve incredibly high standards in both their academic work and examinations across the curriculum – leaving the College with excellent results, as well as the confidence, resilience and ambition to succeed.

Students and their parents / carers consistently express high levels of satisfaction with QE.



10 GREAT REASONS TO COME TO Q





1 Outstanding Teaching
Learn from expert teachers who are specialists in their subjects and experienced in working with students your age.

2 Exceptional Support
Benefit from personalised guidance to help you achieve outcomes you'll be proud of.

3 Flexible Course Choices
Build a programme of study that suits you by combining a wide range of subject options.

4 Vibrant Student Community
Join a lively and inclusive environment where you'll be treated as a young adult.

5 Proven Results
Our students consistently achieve outstanding exam results, paving the way for future success.

6 Enrichment Opportunities
Take part in an extensive enrichment programme to develop academic, social, personal, and employability skills.

7 Expert Careers Guidance
Access high-quality careers advice with a strong track record of successful student progression.

8 Central Location
Enjoy our fantastic town centre location with easy access to local shops, travel, restaurants and leisure facilities.

9 Dedicated College Transport
Make the most of our college bus service covering a wide geographical area.

10 First-Class Facilities
Learn in modern, well-equipped facilities designed to support your success.

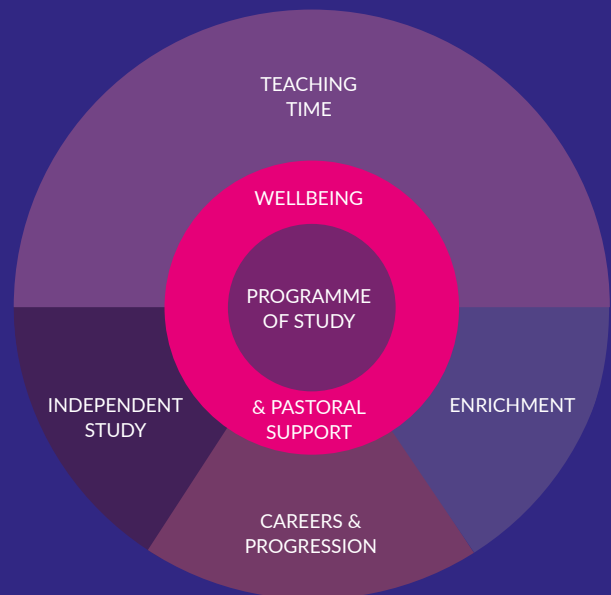
PROGRAMME OF STUDY





QE's Study Programmes enable you to:

- ▶ progress to a higher level of study than previously attained
- ▶ study for well-respected qualifications that have strong links to higher education, apprenticeships, employment or further training
- ▶ develop employability skills and prepare you for employment with appropriate opportunities to experience the world of work
- ▶ benefit from high quality and impartial careers advice and guidance from our specialist careers staff
- ▶ have access to stimulating enrichment activities, including sport and volunteering, that enhance personal and social development
- ▶ develop character, skills, attitudes and confidence to promote your progression and employment prospects



WE COULDS OFFER





We offer over 40 different subjects which you can combine to create a study programme of your choice – providing you with the knowledge and experience to achieve your aspirations.

See a full list of courses available on page 36

At QE, we will tailor your programme to suit you, and provide expert guidance about course choices during your application journey.

As well as the traditional subject areas you will have already studied at school, such as History, English and Geography, we also offer a wide variety of courses you may not have experienced yet, including Law, Criminology, Sociology, Geology and Politics.

Benefits of Advanced Programmes:

Our A Level and Level 3 Applied General Courses provide the qualifications required for a wide variety of professions and higher-level apprenticeships, as well as progression to universities and other institutions of higher education.

The flexible Advanced Level approach means it is easy for you to combine subjects and different learning styles.

The usual entry requirements to study at QE are 5x GCSE grades at 4 (or equivalent), or above, including Maths or English. Your programme of study will be personalised to reflect your individual needs and GCSE profile.

Please take a look at the details of all our courses on our website at www.qeliz.ac.uk/courses to find out more about what we offer, what subjects would suit you and course entry requirements.

OPEN EVENTS



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 1st October 2026

5.00pm - 7.30pm

Wednesday 7th October 2026

5.00pm - 7.30pm

Saturday 17th October 2026

10.00am - 12.00pm

Wednesday 10th February 2027

5.00pm - 7.30pm

Tuesday 20th April 2027

5.00pm - 7.30pm

We hold a number of Open Events throughout the year – dates and times are listed on this page. These events are a fantastic opportunity to visit our college, meet our inspirational staff, and explore the wide range of exciting courses on offer. You will also be able to tour our outstanding facilities and find out more about the vibrant college life – from our excellent enrichment programme, to the educational visits and unique opportunities available to students.

QE's Bridging Course

If you do apply to study here and are offered a place, you will be invited to attend our Bridging Course, currently scheduled for the Summer of 2027 after your GCSE exams have taken place. Bridging gives you an opportunity to sample a range of subjects and learn more about what college life is like.

As always, we will work closely with you and your parents / carers so you are able to choose a programme of study which will enable you to reach your potential.

Please continue to visit our website and follow us on social media to find out the latest information about all things QE.

Find out More

Please visit our website and follow us on social media



www.qeliz.ac.uk

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLY

GUIDANCE
DISCUSSIONS

PLACE
OFFERED

BRIDGING

GCSE
RESULTS





ENROLMENT

Every year, we welcome around 1,000 new students to Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College, from schools across Darlington and the surrounding areas.

We are usually able to offer places to all applicants, providing they meet the application deadlines, and achieve the required entry qualifications.

In many cases, staff from QE undertake regular visits to schools to deliver assemblies, workshops and events, and provide more information on the application process and where QE can take you.

We also aim to carry out Guidance Discussions with applicants, usually in schools, to find out more about study and career aspirations, as well as any learning and support needs.

Please submit your application by Friday 19 February 2027.

If you need any help with your application, please contact the College.

If you submit an application and do not receive an acknowledgment within 10 days, please contact the College via email qe@qeliz.ac.uk.

TRANSPORT



To make things more convenient for our QE students, we provide an extensive college bus service. Our college bus service is committed to offering direct routes to and from the college, along with convenient drop-off and pick-up points at the college. Our service covers a wide range of areas and nearby villages such as:

- ▶ Barnard Castle
- ▶ Bedale
- ▶ Billingham
- ▶ Bishop Auckland
- ▶ Catterick
- ▶ Crook
- ▶ Eaglescliffe
- ▶ Hartburn
- ▶ Hartlepool
- ▶ Ingleby Barwick
- ▶ Leyburn
- ▶ Middleton St George
- ▶ Newton Aycliffe
- ▶ Northallerton
- ▶ Norton
- ▶ Richmond
- ▶ Sedgfield
- ▶ Stockton
- ▶ Teesdale
- ▶ Thirsk
- ▶ Thornaby
- ▶ Trimdon
- ▶ Wolsingham
- ▶ Wynyard

Please note that bus routes and route numbers can sometimes change due to student demand and geographical requirements.



LIFE AT Q



QE is a place where you can develop academically, socially and personally through the vast range of opportunities available.

Student Support

We will ensure your experience at QE is positive, successful and enjoyable by getting to know you personally and providing opportunities for you to develop and to achieve your aspirations.

Each student has an Academic Coach, who you meet regularly. Your Academic Coach oversees your progress and study programme and is the first point of contact for parents/carers. Every student also has a named Guidance Director who provides additional support to maximise success and to ensure that you fulfil your potential.

The College actively promotes equality of opportunity regardless of characteristics, such as age, disability, gender identity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation and socio-economic background. It values diversity and encourages mutual respect in all relationships.

Colleagues who can assist whilst you are at QE include:

- ▶ Well-qualified, conscientious and experienced teachers who are experts in delivering Advanced Level subjects
- ▶ Higher Education and Careers Advisers who will help you to progress beyond College
- ▶ Work Experience Advisers and a Job Coach who will arrange high-quality placements and links with employers
- ▶ Learning Support and SEND advisers who can help if you have a learning difficulty, disability or medical condition
- ▶ Finance Officers who can arrange financial assistance and support for transport costs
- ▶ Exams Officers
- ▶ College Counsellors, Wellbeing Advisor and a Safeguarding Manager if you need them
- ▶ Library, learning resources and IT staff
- ▶ A range of technicians and assistants who are on hand to help overcome any technical issues

As a Sixth Form College, everything we do is designed to help students of your age to thrive and to achieve your goals. Members of staff are very experienced in delivering success and are experts in what they do.

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

At QE we really want you to enjoy your time here and offer you the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities outside the classroom.

You can choose from a huge range of opportunities that form our Enrichment Programme. These all run throughout the year at different times and are open to all students. By participating in our Enrichment Programme you'll get to try something new, gain additional experiences, make new friends and have fun.

ON AIR



QE Sport

- ▶ Football
- ▶ Rugby
- ▶ Basketball
- ▶ Netball
- ▶ Volleyball
- ▶ Badminton
- ▶ Golf
- ▶ Hockey
- ▶ Table Tennis
- ▶ Futsal
- ▶ Indoor Cricket
- ▶ Dance
- ▶ Bollywood Dancing

QE Future

- ▶ Future Engineers
- ▶ Medics, Vets & Dentists
- ▶ Cabin Crew
- ▶ Oxbridge Ready
- ▶ Job Ready
- ▶ Work Experience
- ▶ Volunteering
- ▶ Law (Aspiring Lawyers)
- ▶ Event Management
- ▶ Future Psychologists
- ▶ Teaching (Aspiring Teachers)
- ▶ QE Journalism
- ▶ Futures in Finance, Accounting and Business
- ▶ Aspire

QE Lead

- ▶ Student Association
- ▶ Combined Cadet Force (CCF)
- ▶ Duke of Edinburgh
- ▶ Volunteering Group
- ▶ Green Group / Environmental Leadership
- ▶ LGBTQ+ Group
- ▶ Wellbeing Group
- ▶ Higher Sports Leaders Awards
- ▶ Student Ambassadors
- ▶ QE Explore
- ▶ Culture Day Group
- ▶ QE Reign (Student magazine and podcast)
- ▶ QE DARES (Diversity, Anti-Racism and Equality Society)
- ▶ Debate Club

QE Create

- ▶ Drama Group
- ▶ Creative Writing
- ▶ Big Band
- ▶ Orchestra
- ▶ Pop Choir
- ▶ Battle of the Bands
- ▶ Music Theory
- ▶ Knit and Knatter
- ▶ Art Enterprise
- ▶ Lego Club
- ▶ Recycled Fashion Show
- ▶ Function Band
- ▶ DJ Club

QE Stretch

- ▶ Russian for Beginners
- ▶ Italian for Beginners
- ▶ Latin for Beginners
- ▶ Japanese for Beginners
- ▶ Spanish for Beginners
- ▶ French for Beginners
- ▶ German for Beginners
- ▶ Programming Club
- ▶ Robotics Club
- ▶ Psychology Book Club
- ▶ Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)
- ▶ Amnesty International Youth Club
- ▶ UAT Preparation
- ▶ History Club
- ▶ Dementia Awareness
- ▶ Games and Chess Club
- ▶ First Aid / Mental Health First Aid Champions
- ▶ Christian Union
- ▶ FIFA Club
- ▶ Deaf Awareness / BSL
- ▶ Lunch Club
- ▶ Grow and Share (QE gardening Group)
- ▶ Chatty Café
- ▶ Green Car Racing

SPES T S NEXT EN

At QE, we are committed to helping all students to progress to exciting and rewarding destinations - whether in higher education, training, higher level apprenticeships or employment. You will receive expert and personal guidance from a large and experienced careers team to help you make the right decisions about your next steps.

To support your ambitions, you will benefit from:

- ▶ In-depth specialist advice from highly qualified Careers Advisers
- ▶ Intensive support for UCAS applications provided by our HE Coaches
- ▶ An 'Aspire' programme to support students applying to highly competitive university courses
- ▶ A 'Job Ready' programme led by our Job Coach to help prepare you for the world of work and training
- ▶ Exciting work experience opportunities and other encounters with employers
- ▶ University visits and careers conventions
- ▶ Workshops and talks by visiting speakers
- ▶ Excellent links with universities and local employers

Because of our excellent guidance and superb results, we are able to ensure that you can fully realise your ambitions and secure exciting opportunities on completing your time at QE.





750+

University
applications
each year

87%

of our students
are accepted at
their first choice
university, compared
to 66% of students
nationally.

Students
progress to
Over 90
different
universities
across the UK
and beyond

750+

students have
gone on to
STEM degrees
over the last
three years

We work
with over

400

employers

Over 50

universities
attend our
annual HE Fair

WHERE WILL QE TAKE YOU?

Elle Suttill

Oxford Place Paves the Way for a Career in Diplomacy

Elle Suttill, who founded QE's Law Society, achieved an outstanding three A* grades in English Literature, Politics and Spanish and has now taken the next step towards her dream career in diplomacy and is studying Law with Spanish Law at the University of Oxford.

"The support that QE provides is excellent. Whether it is time spent with teachers who are experts in their subjects or advice from the friendly tutors, QE is dedicated to helping every student achieve their goals. The guidance I received from the Higher Education Team was invaluable throughout my university application and, thanks to their support, I am excited to be taking the next steps in my education by studying Law with Spanish Law at Oxford."

What stood out most to me about QE is its inclusivity and diversity. It is a place where every student is welcomed and encouraged to achieve their aspirations. In the future, I hope to pursue a career in diplomacy, and the encouragement I received from QE has given me the confidence to believe I can achieve that ambition."



Ethan Fletcher

From QE to the BBC

Ethan, host of QE's REIGN Podcast and an award-winning Shine Media and Future Journalism Star, has secured a prestigious apprenticeship with the BBC in Children's TV Production, turning his passion for media into an exciting career opportunity.

"I really enjoyed my time at QE as it gave me many opportunities both within my subjects and beyond them, including being part of REIGN. The experience I gained through REIGN, along with the support from my teachers and the Careers Team, helped me secure a very competitive apprenticeship with the BBC."

I am excited to begin this next chapter and develop my skills in Children's TV Production with one of the world's leading broadcasters."



Hannah Billingham

Future Doctor Achieves Dream of Studying Medicine

Hannah achieved an impressive two A* grades in Biology and Psychology and an A in Chemistry, and is now pursuing her dream of becoming a doctor after securing a place to study Medicine at Newcastle University, one of the country's most competitive degree programmes.

"I am delighted to be starting Medicine at Newcastle University. My time at QE has given me the knowledge, confidence and support needed to achieve my goals. The encouragement from my teachers and tutors has been invaluable, and I am excited to take the next step towards a career in healthcare and helping others."



Anishka Sangha

Kicks Off Her Journey Towards a Career in Football Marketing

Anishka has secured a place to study Football Business and Marketing at the University Campus of Football Business (UCFB) in Manchester, taking the next step towards her ambition of becoming a Marketing Director within professional football.

"There are so many opportunities at QE, and I feel I have really made the most of them and used my time effectively. I am excited to start my course at UCFB and build on everything I have learned during my time at college. My ultimate ambition is to work in marketing for the England men's and women's football teams, helping to promote major tournaments and create engaging social media content. I have fantastic memories of QE and would definitely recommend it to prospective students. The teachers are amazing, and the College offers a wide range of unique opportunities to help every individual succeed."



Calum Faulkner

Achieved Four A*'s and Secures Place at Imperial College London

Calum achieved an outstanding set of results, earning four A* grades in Physics, Mathematics, Further Mathematics and the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). He has now progressed to Imperial College London, where he will study Materials with Nuclear Engineering.

"Above everything else, my teachers were the highlight of my time at QE. They made every lesson engaging and memorable, while also providing the strongest support network I have ever had."

The staff are simply incredible. The support with university applications, particularly for the top universities, is outstanding. I genuinely couldn't name a better place to study A Levels."



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

27





KIERAN SPENCER

QE was a fantastic place to learn from experienced educators, meet new people and try new things! I was especially grateful for the opportunity to take on leadership roles within the Student Sport Management Team, and to represent the college as an English Colleges Football Association Activator, which allowed me to expand my network in the sports industry.

Event Consultant – Premier League

Kieran studied French, Physical Education and Psychology before completing a degree in Sport Science with Coaching and a Master's in Sport Management. He is currently pursuing a PhD at the Institute for Sport Business at Loughborough University London.

Alongside his academic achievements, Kieran plays a key role as an Event Consultant for the Premier League, contributing to the delivery of high-profile events within one of the world's most prestigious sporting organisations.



FELICITY CLARKE

I made lifelong friends in my short time at QE and fully credit my success in my A Levels to the environment QE created for us to learn in. I would go back in a heartbeat!

Veterinary Surgeon

Driven, ambitious and deeply committed to animal welfare, Felicity studied Biology, Chemistry and Maths at QE before progressing to the University of Nottingham, where she earned her degree in Veterinary Medicine and Surgery.

Now a Veterinary Surgeon at YourVets, Felicity is building an exciting career at the forefront of modern veterinary practice, combining clinical expertise with a genuine passion for delivering exceptional care to animals and their owners alike.



ALEX GRIEVES

QE allowed me to realise my own potential through excellent teaching and by consistently pushing me to be the best I could. Studying maths gave me strong foundational skills which have been indispensable as an engineer. I'm incredibly grateful for all the support that was offered during my time at QE.

Product Engineer

Product Engineer Alex studied Biology, Chemistry and Maths at QE before progressing to the University of Manchester, where he completed a Chemical Engineering degree with industrial experience, graduating with an MEng (Hons). Alex now works at Ingevity UK Ltd within the chemical sector, where he contributes to the production of biodegradable polymers.



EVE CONNOR

My time at QE played a huge role in shaping the person I am today. The support from my teachers, along with the encouragement of the wider college community, made a real difference. I grew in confidence throughout my time there, and that has been key in helping me get to where I am now

Journalist Apprenticeship with BBC

Eve secured a highly competitive Level 5 Journalism Apprenticeship with the BBC, a testament to her hard work and determination. During her time at QE, she studied English Literature, Modern History, Politics and completed an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ).

She is now developing her career within one of the world's leading broadcasters, gaining invaluable hands-on experience in journalism at the highest level.



ADAM HORSKY

Before joining Microsoft, my time at QE Sixth Form played a crucial role in preparing me for this path. The support, guidance, and opportunities I had there helped me develop the confidence, work ethic, and curiosity I needed to pursue a non-traditional route, apply for the apprenticeship, and thrive in a professional environment

E-Commerce Trading Manager at Currys

Adam studied English Literature, Business, and Sport & Leisure at QE before securing a prestigious Microsoft Chartered Manager Degree Apprenticeship through Microsoft in partnership with the University of Roehampton before building his career at Currys.

Through this opportunity, he has gained valuable experience working across both UK and multinational teams, taking on roles including Partner Marketing Manager, as well as positions in Buying and Category Management.

COURSES





Art & Design:

- ▶ Fine Art
- ▶ Graphic Communication
- ▶ Photography
- ▶ Textile Design

Applied Science

- Biology
- Business
- Business Technical
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Creative Media Practice
- Criminology
- Economics
- English Language
- English Literature
- Film Studies
- French
- Geography
- Geology
- Health & Social Care
- History Tudor or Modern
- IT
- Law
- Mathematics
- Mathematics Further
- Media Studies
- Philosophy, Religion & Ethics
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Politics
- Popular Music
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Sport & Leisure
- Travel & Tourism

In exceptional circumstances, subjects and course content might be reviewed including in light of government policy.

FINE ART

A Level Eduqas





Course Description

Fine Art may be defined as work which is produced as an outcome of your personal experience, rather than that which is created exclusively for a practical function or that which is the outcome of a tightly prescribed brief. Studying A Level Fine Art offers you the opportunity to develop your practical skills, knowledge and understanding of the subject as a creative, technical and intellectual activity. The course encourages creative making, experimentation and critical reflection and seeks to develop your awareness of cultural, social and political contexts to frame your understanding of your own creative practice. Within Fine Art, you will be encouraged to experiment with a broad range of creative processes including: painting; drawing; printmaking; sculpture; installation and lens based media.

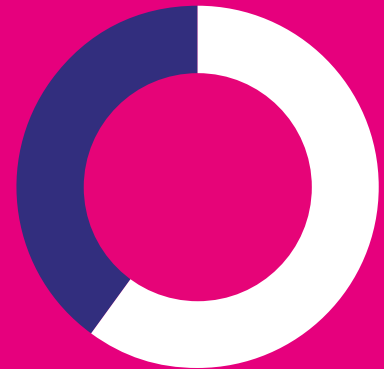
Future opportunities

Fine Art is suitable for a whole range of exciting progression routes. The skills gained in independence, communication, problem solving and building resilience ensure you are well equipped for university and the world of work. Students have gone on to study courses at degree level including Fine Art Practice, Curation, Art History. Students from the Fine Art course go on to a range of careers within the creative industries including becoming artists. They also work as curators, in Gallery & Museum exhibition teams, in community arts, as archivists, architects and art educators, and a host of other creative settings.

Topics

- ▶ Print processes
- ▶ Adobe software
- ▶ Drawing and mark making
- ▶ Creative making
- ▶ Photography
- ▶ Sculpture
- ▶ Critical and contextual analysis

Course breakdown



60%
Coursework

40%
Externally set assignment

GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION

A Level Eduqas





Course Description

Graphic Communication is a design course for all those interested in pursuing a career in the creative industries. Graphic Communication opens endless potential career avenues - from illustration, game and character design, architecture, product design, brand identity, animation and motion graphics, to stage set, vehicle and costume design. The course examines the basics of design, including design problem solving, allowing you to select, investigate and work in your own specific areas of interest. You will be exploring a range of traditional drawing and painting media, stencilling, collaging as well as learning to use industry standard software packages such as Photoshop and Illustrator and their equivalents. The department is well equipped with digital drawing tablets, scanners, digital cameras and access to a range of colour printing facilities. This allows you to develop and create professional quality work that will take you on to the next stage of your education, apprenticeship or career.

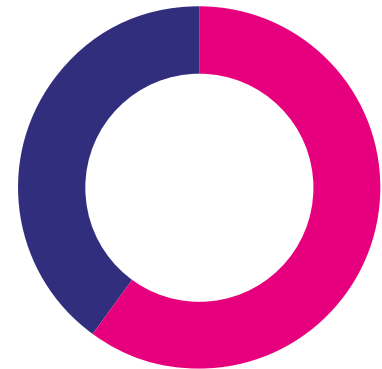
Future opportunities

Graphics is suitable for a whole range of exciting progression routes. The skills gained in independence, communication, problem solving and building resilience ensure you are well equipped for university and the world of work. Students have gone on to study courses at degree level including games design, animation, graphic design, architecture, web design, product design, digital marketing & communication.

Topics

- ▶ Print processes
- ▶ Typography
- ▶ Fine liner drawings
- ▶ Cell drawing
- ▶ Stencilling
- ▶ Collage
- ▶ 3D printing
- ▶ Digital image making
- ▶ Grids & Layouts
- ▶ Adobe software
- ▶ Photography
- ▶ Visual analysis & research

Course breakdown



60%
Coursework

40%
Externally set assignment

PHOTOGRAPHY

A Level Eduqas



Course Description

Photography is such a powerful visual language that can be used in a variety of ways to express and document the world we live in. It gives you the opportunity to capture moments in time, see people and places in a different light and even challenge reality. Photography is often seen as both an art form and a science. It's a great way to express your creativity and imagination through a variety of experiences exploring a range of photographic media, techniques and processes. The main emphasis of the course focuses on digital photography and the way in which you can control light and compose imagery, but also post production using Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop. Students can explore analogue processes and art-based approaches depending upon individual skills and personal preferences. The course is a practical subject allowing you to take control over your photographic practice, giving you the opportunity to build an online personal portfolio, develop practical skills and access professional studios.

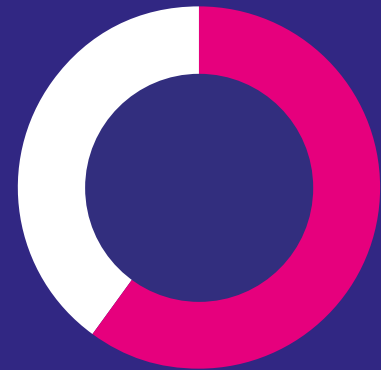
Future opportunities

Photography is suitable for a whole range of exciting progression routes. The skills gained in independence, communication, problem solving and building resilience ensure you are well equipped for university and the world of work. Students have gone on to study courses at degree level including Digital Imaging & Film Making, Fashion Photography, Creative Direction, Product Photography, Digital Marketing & Communication, Photojournalism, Commercial Photography, Documentary and Cinematography.

Topics

- ▶ Camera Workshops
- ▶ Composition
- ▶ Lighting Techniques
- ▶ Image Manipulation
- ▶ Studio Practice
- ▶ Visual Analysis & Research
- ▶ Collage
- ▶ Digital Image Making
- ▶ Cyanotypes
- ▶ Film Photography
- ▶ Book Binding
- ▶ Adobe Software

Course breakdown



60%
Coursework

40%
Externally set assignment

TEXTILE DESIGN

A Level Eduqas



Course Description

The Textile Design course offers a creative learning experience that develops both practical, contextual and critical thinking skills which you can apply to a variety of textile avenues. You will experience working in a professional studio environment with access to specialist design equipment and textile facilities. Aspirational and informative sessions with Higher Education institutions and extra-curricular opportunities support classroom practice and help to embed the importance and relevance of Textile Design today. We strive to provide live briefs with local businesses, including Miller Homes UK, House of Zana and UGD Apparel to name a few. As part of the course, you will explore drawing and mark making skills, print, embroidery and digital textiles, all of which will work towards outcomes in interiors, fashion, costume or textile art.

Future opportunities

Textiles is suitable for a whole range of exciting progression routes. The skills gained in independence, communication, problem solving and building resilience ensure you are well equipped for university and the world of work. Students have gone on to study courses at degree level including fashion design, fashion marketing, textiles and surface pattern design and costume design. Past students have gone into careers in theatre and film, created their own fashion brands, worked in design houses including Tommy Hilfiger, Ivy Park and Christopher Kane.

Topics

- ▶ Photographic screen print
- ▶ Mono print
- ▶ Hand embroidery
- ▶ Digital embroidery
- ▶ Fabric manipulation
- ▶ Fashion design
- ▶ Adobe software
- ▶ Drawing and mark making
- ▶ Design ideas
- ▶ Creative making

Course breakdown



60%

Coursework

40%

Externally set assignment

APPLIED SCIENCE

Pearson Level 3 AAQ BTEC National Applied Science - Extended Certificate



Course Description

The course provides an excellent opportunity for students with a general interest in science to extend their knowledge of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. It can be studied alongside A Levels in sciences or humanities subjects, as it aims to develop a broad scientific training and a good understanding of how different areas of science are applied at work in everyday life. You will also develop a solid understanding of theoretical Science which is needed for progression onto a variety of degree courses. Other key skills which are developed are; independent learning, problem-solving and project-based research as well as a range of generic and transferable skills.

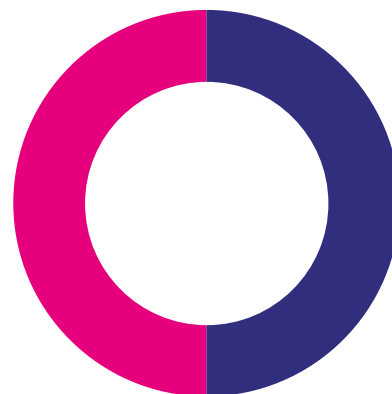
Future opportunities

This qualification is accepted in the entry requirements of a wide range of university courses, particularly in science-related areas e.g. biomedical, forensic and sports science and paramedic courses, as well as nursing and primary teaching. It can also prepare you to take up employment or apprenticeships in the applied science sector directly after achieving the qualification.

Topics

- ▶ Principles and Applications of Biology
- ▶ Principles and Applications of Chemistry
- ▶ Principles and Applications of Physics
- ▶ Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques
- ▶ Contemporary Issues in Science

Course breakdown



50%
Coursework

50%
Exam

BIOLOGY

A Level OCR



Course Description

Biology involves the study of living organisms, the way they work, their interactions with each other and the environment. You will study a huge range of material, from the biochemistry of molecules like DNA and proteins, to the physiology of organs like the heart and lungs, to interactions between whole populations, evolution and the formation of new species.

Future opportunities

Biology is an important subject for medicine, dentistry and veterinary science, as well as associated courses and careers such as biomedical science, pharmacy and pharmacology. It is also useful for careers in areas like zoology, botany, conservation and sustainability. It is seen as a facilitating subject, and is well respected by universities no matter what course you are applying for.

Topics

- ▶ Cells and cell division
- ▶ Biological molecules
- ▶ Exchange and transport
- ▶ Biodiversity, evolution and disease
- ▶ Communication, homeostasis and energy
- ▶ Genetics and ecosystems

Course breakdown



0%

Coursework

100%

Exam

BUSINESS

A Level Pearson Edexcel



Course Description

From starting a business to managing a large, multinational organisation in a world in which firms operate under greater scrutiny than ever before, this course looks at key aspects of business theory and applies them to the current national and global business climate.

Future opportunities

A Level Business gives you the skills needed to move onto study in a range of high-level careers such as accountancy, project management and social media management. Students are also well prepared to progress onto higher education courses such as finance, marketing and business management.

Topics

- ▶ Marketing and people
- ▶ Managing business activities
- ▶ Business decisions and strategy
- ▶ Global Business

Course breakdown



0%

Coursework

100%

Exam

BUSINESS TECHNICAL

OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Business



Course Description

Students will explore a range of businesses, from small start-ups to large international organisations. You will learn how different parts of a business work together, the external challenges they face—such as legal, financial, and ethical issues—and how they respond to changes in the economy, society, and technology. You will also explore the role and influence of different stakeholders, such as customers, employees, or shareholders.

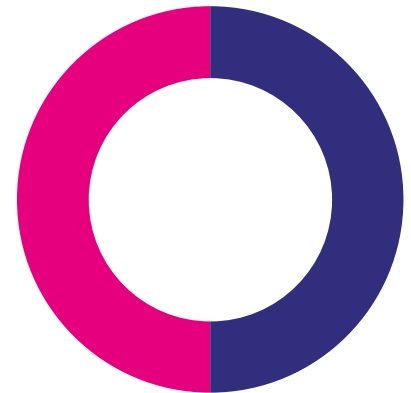
Future opportunities

The course provides a strong base for progression to higher education, apprenticeships and employment in a range of areas such as accounting and finance, business management and marketing.

Topics

- ▶ The business environment
- ▶ Working in Business
- ▶ Customers and communication
- ▶ Marketing and market research
- ▶ Introduction to human resources

Course breakdown



50%
Coursework

50%
Exam

CHEMISTRY

A Level OCR



Course Description

Somewhere along the line, a chemist has played a role in shaping the substances around you. From the aspirin that soothes your headache, to the steel that supports the buildings you work in, to the viscoelastic polymers of a memory foam mattress, they all owe their existence to the work of the Chemist. Closely linked with biological and medical science, chemistry also has important connections with careers in engineering, as well as environmental, forensic and earth sciences. In A-Level Chemistry we will help to develop your scientific ability and foster an enquiring mind through logical thought processes.

Future opportunities

Chemistry is an essential subject for many science and science related degree courses and is useful for entry into engineering and many non-science degrees. Students progress onto a wide variety of career options including medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, biomedical sciences, environmental science, pharmacy, chemical engineering, and food science. Many students also progress onto non-chemistry related university courses that value the chemistry A-level qualification. Some students also use their chemistry A-level as a route into a variety of apprenticeships and employment.

Topics

- ▶ Development of practical skills in chemistry
- ▶ Foundations in chemistry
- ▶ Periodic table and energy
- ▶ Core organic chemistry
- ▶ Physical chemistry and transition elements
- ▶ Organic chemistry and analysis

Course breakdown



0%

Coursework
(Practical skills assessed using the separate Practical Endorsement strand)

100%

Exam

COMPUTER SCIENCE

A Level OCR





Course Description

Computer Science is where logic meets creativity - exploring how systems, data, and code power the technology we use every day. Through real-world problem solving, this course builds future-ready skills in programming, theory, and digital innovation.

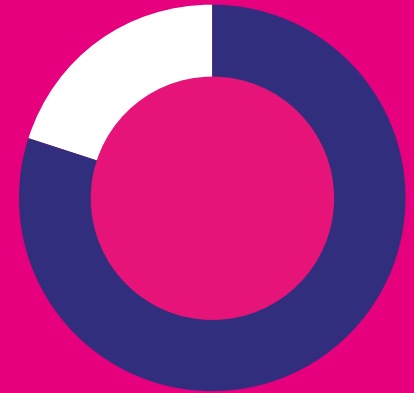
Topics

- ▶ Fundamentals of programming, including procedural and object-oriented approaches
- ▶ Algorithms and problem-solving using computational thinking
- ▶ Data structures, data representation, and logic
- ▶ Computer systems architecture, software, and hardware
- ▶ Communication, networking, and the internet
- ▶ Legal, ethical, and moral issues in computing
- ▶ Boolean algebra, logic gates, and binary arithmetic
- ▶ Exploration of web technologies, including HTML, CSS, JavaScript and MySQL
- ▶ A self-chosen programming project, applying concepts to solve a real-world problem

Future opportunities

This course prepares students for university or apprenticeships in computer science, software development, data science, AI, and emerging tech industries shaping the modern world.

Course breakdown



20%
Coursework

80%
Exam

CREATIVE MEDIA PRACTICE

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Creative Media Practice





Course Description

The Level 3 Creative Media Practice National Diploma will be studied over two years and is the equivalent to one and a half A Levels. It is aimed at those wanting to work in the Creative Media sector in industries such as Journalism, TV and Advertising to name a few. The course provides you with an underpinning knowledge of Creative Media Practice techniques and industrial frameworks. There is an emphasis on the development of research skills, teamwork and practical skills. We research, plan and produce media products, using Adobe software throughout the course.

Future opportunities

If you are passionate about the media industry, and enjoy working in a creative, exciting environment, then studying Creative Media Practice is the course for you. This is a practical and industry-focused course which will enable you to progress onto a career as a journalist, graphic designer, filmmaker, YouTuber or social media content producer.

Topics

- ▶ Skills Development
- ▶ Photography
- ▶ Filming and Camera Work
- ▶ Editing and Image Manipulation
- ▶ CD Digipak Production
- ▶ Advertising Campaign Production
- ▶ Magazine Production
- ▶ Film Opening Titles
- ▶ Creative Multi Media Major Project

Course breakdown



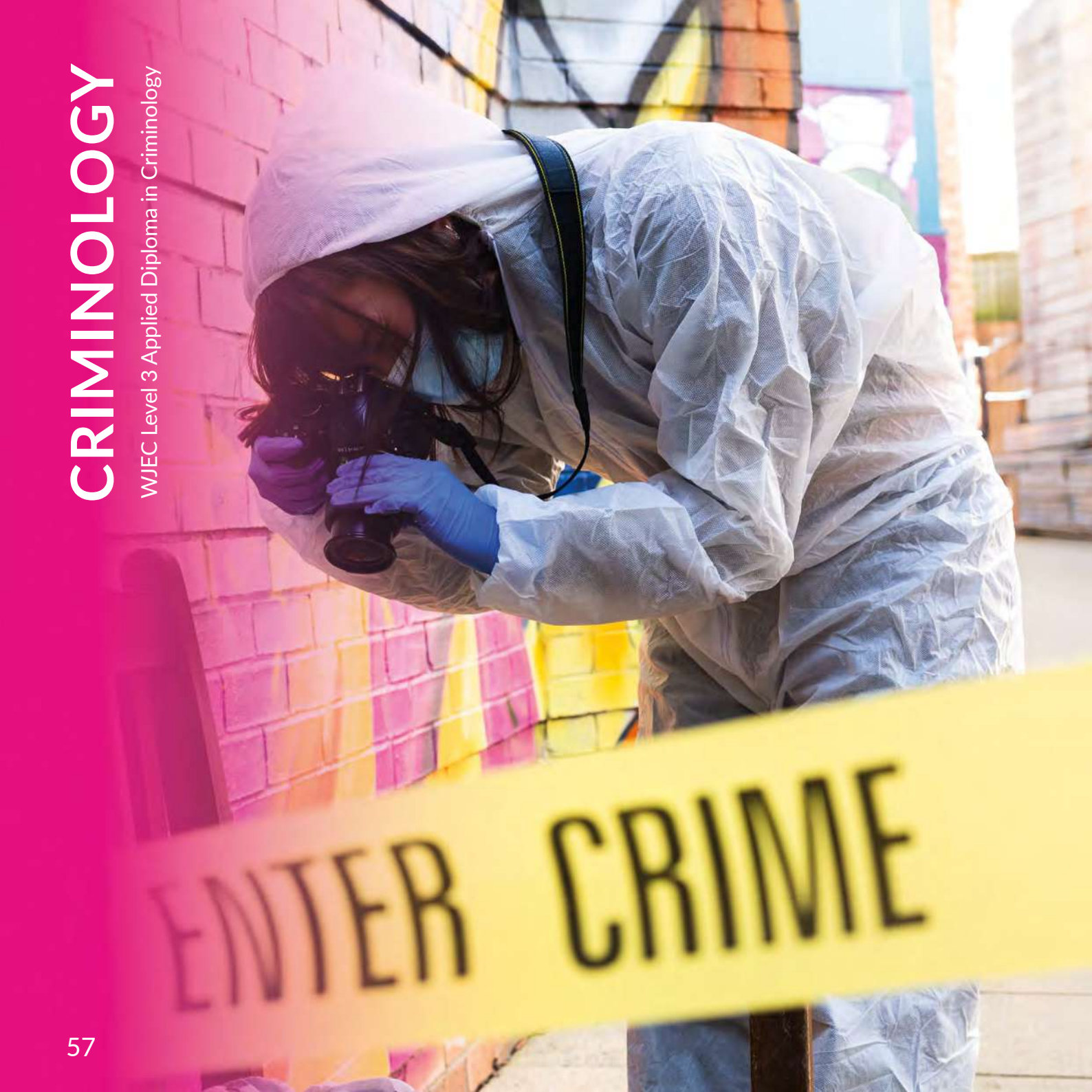
100%
Coursework

0%
Exam

CRIMINOLOGY

WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology

ENTER CRIME



Course Description

Criminology is the scientific study of crime and examines a range of important questions such as is there such a thing as a 'born' criminal? Does prison work? How common are miscarriages of justice? These are just a small number of thought-provoking questions that we will tackle on this course.

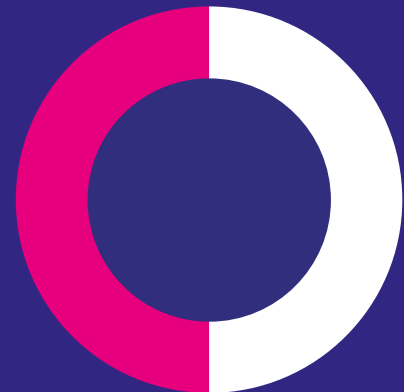
Future opportunities

Criminology is a fascinating subject for anyone who wishes to pursue a career in the criminal justice system. It is also an excellent stepping stone for anyone wishing to progress to studying social science subjects at undergraduate level.

Topics

- ▶ Biological, individualistic and sociological explanations of crime
- ▶ Why laws change over time, and from place to place, and culture to culture?
- ▶ The role of different agencies in the criminal justice system such as the police, probation and the prison service
- ▶ What are the different factors that may influence a jury?
- ▶ How accurate are the media in their representation of crime?
- ▶ Why do people abide by the law?

Course breakdown

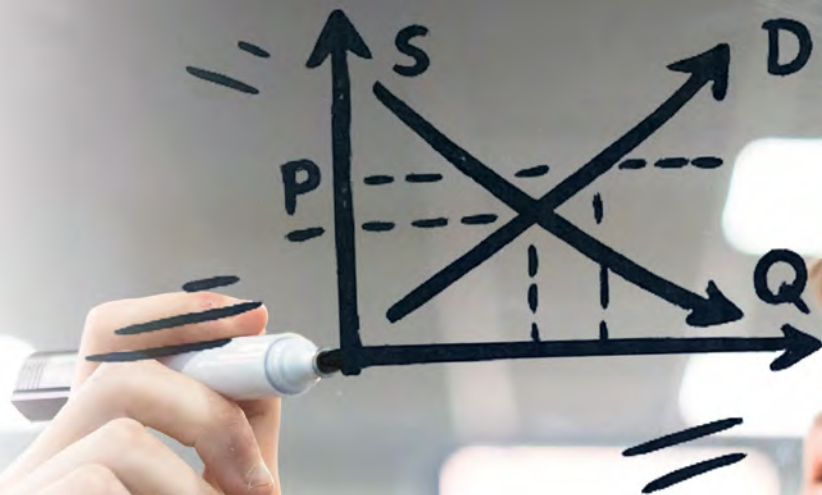


50%
Controlled assessment

50%
Exam

ECONOMICS

A Level Pearson Edexcel



Course Description

Economics is about studying the world around us from a social, financial and cultural perspective. You will study how economies allocate their scarce resources to meet the needs and wants of their citizens, and learn about the economic problems which face individuals, firms and governments on a local, national and global level and the alternative ways these problems can be resolved.

Future opportunities

A Level Economics gives you the skills needed to move onto study in a range of high-level careers such as financial consultancy, data analysis and government policy. Students are also well prepared to progress onto higher education courses such as economics, accountancy and international relations.

Topics

- ▶ Markets and market failure
- ▶ The UK Economy – performance and policies
- ▶ Business behaviour and the labour market
- ▶ A global perspective

Course breakdown



0%
Coursework

100%
Exam

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

A Level | AQA



Course Description

English Language is the study of how language operates in society, with focus on its rich and varied history, its social influences, its discussions and debates, and its creative opportunities.

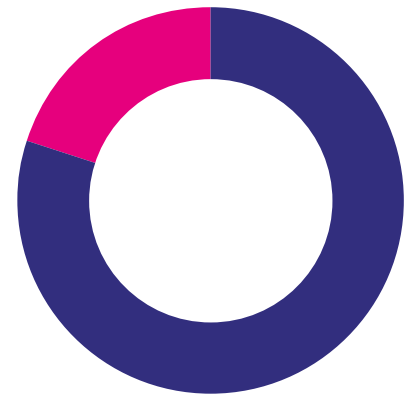
Future opportunities

Our students progress onto a vast range of higher education courses and careers including journalism, advertising, law, business and the civil services.

Topics

- ▶ Meanings and representations in current and older texts
- ▶ Children's language development
- ▶ Language Diversity
- ▶ Language Change
- ▶ Language Discourses
- ▶ Original Writing (NEA)
- ▶ Language Investigation (NEA)

Course breakdown



20%
Coursework

80%
Exam

ENGLISH LITERATURE

A Level OCR





Course Description

A Level English Literature moves you beyond GCSE in your study of novels, plays and poetry encouraging you to think more independently about the texts and how they have shaped the world around us. You will read all of the books in full and will be expected to do most of this as homework. In the lessons you will be fully supported to develop your ideas and be able to write essays that demonstrate that you are a confident and mature writer. As part of the course, we will also offer you trips to London, theatre visits and give you the opportunity to learn from outside academic experts.

Topics

Exam:

► Paper 1

Shakespeare's Othello

A comparison of Milton's Paradise Lost with Ibsen's A Doll's House

► Paper 2

Analysis of an unseen extract from dystopian fiction

A comparison of Atwood's The Handmaid's Tale with Orwell's 1984

NEA

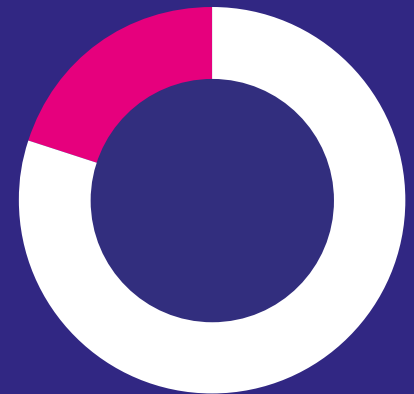
An analysis or recreative response to Duffy's The World's Wife

A comparison of Helen Edmundson's Small Island with Cecile Pin's 'Wandering Souls'

Future opportunities

The key skills taught on the course of analysis and communication are applicable to a wide range of careers including those in Law, Education, Civil Service, Media and Broadcasting, Politics and Academia.

Course breakdown



20%

Coursework

80%

Exam

FILM STUDIES

A Level Eduqas





Course Description

Film Studies is designed to deepen your understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of motion pictures. It offers a varied, exciting and accessible introduction to the theory, terminology and history of this influential medium. During the course you will explore a wide range of British, American and World cinema releases, past and present, learning to analyse film in terms of technical construction, the storytelling skills involved in screenwriting, narrative structure, genre, mainstream/independent industry production practices, funding and audience reception. You will write critically about film, produce coursework that enables you to appreciate the practical subtleties of camera, editing, sound and staging, and investigate the work of specific directors and stars.

Future opportunities

Film helps you become a skilled creative practitioner and a strong analytical thinker/writer, equipping you to work at a high level across the Creative Industries. Students can also progress to higher education courses in Film (analysis or practical production), Television, Marketing, Journalism and wider Creative Industries.

Topics

- ▶ Hollywood 1930-1990
- ▶ American Film Since 2012 - both Mainstream and Independent
- ▶ British Film
- ▶ Global Film
- ▶ Documentary
- ▶ Silent Film
- ▶ Experimental Film
- ▶ Screenwriting
- ▶ Filmmaking

Course breakdown



30%
Coursework

70%
Exam

FRENCH

A Level Eduqas





Course Description

The study of French A Level will not only allow you to develop your language to communicate with an extra 285 million people in 50 countries in this increasingly global world but will also increase your cultural knowledge and understanding of those countries. It will help you to further broaden your horizons while developing transferable skills such as confidence, communication, problem solving and creativity.

In class you will tackle a range of issues and debates about France and the French-speaking world, study in-depth a film and a literary text, as well as develop your linguistic skills and understanding.

► Year 1:

Being a young person in French-speaking society (Families and citizenship; Youth trends and personal identity; Education and Employment issues)

Understanding the French-speaking world (Regional culture and Heritage; Media, art, film & music)

► Year 2:

Diversity and difference (Migration and integration; Cultural identity and marginalisation; Cultural enrichment and celebrating difference; Discrimination and diversity)

France 1940-1950 (Life in occupied France; The cultural dimension in occupied France; Post-war rebuilding and restructuring society)

Film study: Intouchables

Literary text: Le Silence de la Mer

Independent Research Project: Carry out in-depth research into a francophone-related topic of your choice.

Future opportunities

After your A Level you could study a range of degree courses including Linguistics, a new language such as Mandarin, or combine French and pretty much any other subject. Many courses will offer a year abroad as part of the course.

Skills in a foreign language can open the door to an array of career paths such as journalism, translating and interpreting, international aid, marketing, sales, logistics and teaching. You could go on to work for an international company, for an NGO, or in diplomacy or politics either in this country or abroad!

Course breakdown



0%
Coursework

100%
Exam

GEOGRAPHY

A Level | AQA





Course Description

Geography is for you if you're interested in the world around you and the challenges facing it. From globalisation to climate change, the liveability of cities to wildfires, we study it all in a wide-ranging course that includes field trips and coursework to build your practical skills.

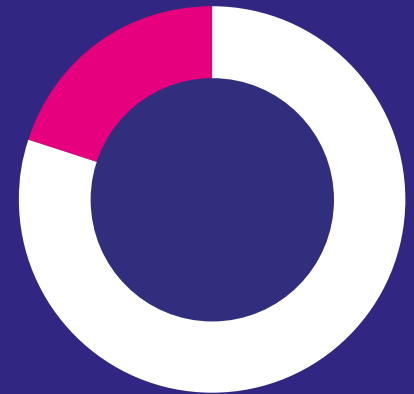
Future opportunities

The numerical and written skills that Geographers gain make them attractive to diverse employers. Town planning, logistics and distribution, cartography, environmental management, teaching and many more are careers associated with Geography.

Topics

- ▶ Coastal Systems and Landscapes
- ▶ Water and Carbon Cycles
- ▶ Changing Places
- ▶ Hazards
- ▶ Contemporary Urban Environments
- ▶ Global Systems and Global Governance

Course breakdown



20%
Coursework

80%
Examination

GEOLOGY

A Level Eduqas





Course Description

Geology is the science of the Earth's composition, structure, history and future. Students will learn how to identify minerals, rocks, fossils and structures and use this knowledge to gain an understanding of the Earth's past, its natural hazards and the benefits and dangers of exploiting the Earth's mineral and energy resources.

Future opportunities

Geology opens doors to careers in geoscience, environmental consultancy, engineering geology, and natural resource management. The skills developed are also valuable in fields like environmental science, conservation, and geographical information systems (GIS).

Topics

- ▶ Earth materials, minerals, and rocks
- ▶ Geological time and past life on Earth
- ▶ Earth structure and plate tectonics
- ▶ Geological hazards and their impacts
- ▶ Natural resources and sustainable use

Course breakdown



0%
Coursework

100%
Examination

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

OCR Level 3 AAQ Cambridge Advanced National in Health & Social Care - Extended Certificate





Course Description

Study an exciting, dynamic and rewarding qualification in Health and Social Care. This course offers an engaging introduction to the diverse world of health and care, where you'll explore how professionals support individuals across all stages of life. You'll gain a deeper understanding of physical, emotional, and social wellbeing, while examining real-life scenarios that bring theory to life.

Blending exams and coursework, the course develops essential skills and understanding in: human development, mental health and care planning whilst developing your: communication skills, empathy, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills. You'll investigate current issues in Health and Social Care, learn how to deliver person-centred support, and build the confidence needed to work safely and effectively in a variety of settings.

Whether you're aiming for university, an apprenticeship, or a career in: nursing, social work, or allied health professions, this qualification provides a strong foundation to help you take the next step towards making a meaningful difference in people's lives.

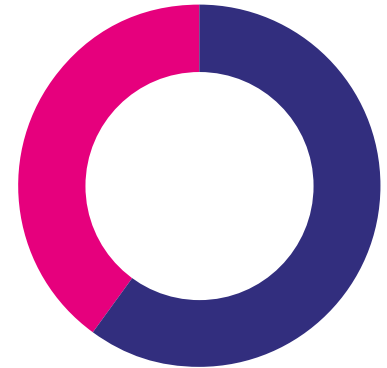
Topics

- ▶ Principles of Health & Social Care
- ▶ Anatomy and Physiology
- ▶ Person-centred approach to care
- ▶ Supporting people with long term mental health conditions
- ▶ Supporting people with long term physiological conditions
- ▶ Supporting healthy nutrition and lifestyles

Future opportunities

- ▶ Nursing
- ▶ Health and Social Care
- ▶ Health Sciences
- ▶ Social Work
- ▶ Paramedic Science
- ▶ Midwifery
- ▶ Occupational therapy
- ▶ Public Health and Wellbeing
- ▶ Health Promotion

Course breakdown



40%
Coursework

60%
Exam

HISTORY (TUDOR OR MODERN)

A Level Pearson



Course Description

History is the story of humanity and is central to an understanding of the world today. It is also a fascinating, diverse and well-regarded subject which allows you to explore and debate interpretations of the past.

History is ideal for students who:

- ▶ have an interest in the way the world has developed through the ages
- ▶ enjoy investigation, discovery and variety
- ▶ enjoy debate and like putting forward a well-argued case
- ▶ wish to improve their analytical, research and written skills
- ▶ want to study a subject which encourages them to consider evidence and make up their own minds
- ▶ want to keep their options open

It is not a requirement that you have studied History at GCSE in order to take an Advanced Level course in the subject.

Future opportunities

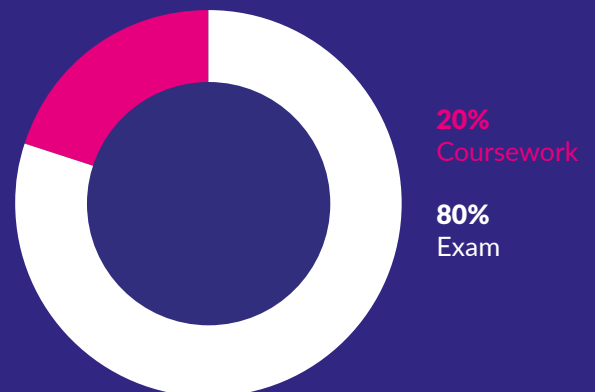
History students go on to a wide range of careers from areas of obvious relevance like heritage work, teaching or research, to fields like journalism, law, management or the Civil Service.

Topics

- ▶ We offer both Modern History and Tudor History courses, each covering a range of at least two hundred years and including a study of British history plus one or more other countries.
- ▶ In Modern History, we study Germany from 1918-89, Italian fascism from 1911-46 and the British Empire from 1763-1914.
- ▶ In Tudor History, we study Tudor England from 1509-1603, Luther and the German Reformation from 1515-55 and the Witch craze in Britain, Europe and North America from 1580-1750.
- ▶ You will also have an opportunity to carry out an independently researched historical enquiry (coursework) in the second year.

Studying History can improve job prospects. History students develop a sound array of skills and can appreciate both sides of an argument. They can also present their ideas clearly.

Course breakdown



IT: DATA ANALYTICS

OCR Level 3 AAQ Cambridge Advanced national in IT: Data Analytics - Extended Certificate



Course Description

Step into the fast-paced world of data and technology. Discover and learn practical skills for gathering, storing, analysing and accessing data, as well as visualisation and presentation. Whether you're aiming for university or a career in data analytics, IT or business, this course will give you a strong foundation for future success.

Future opportunities

This qualification prepares students for higher education in fields like data science, AI, cybersecurity, and IT management or careers as data analysts, business intelligence specialists, and database administrators. It also supports apprenticeships in data analysis and software development, providing essential problem-solving and data-handling skills for various industries.

Topics

- ▶ Fundamentals of Data Analytics
- ▶ Spreadsheet Data Modelling
- ▶ Big Data and Machine Learning
- ▶ Relational Database Design
- ▶ Data Visualisation

Course breakdown



40%
Exams

60%
Non-Exam Assessment

LAW

A Level OCR





Course Description

Directly or indirectly, law impacts on almost every aspect of life. Its development mirrors the development of our society and this is why it is so interesting. Students develop knowledge and understanding of key areas of criminal and civil law and explore how law is interpreted and applied to decide the outcome of cases. Law builds analytical and evaluative skills and helps develop reasoning and logic. Law lessons involve lots of discussion and debate.

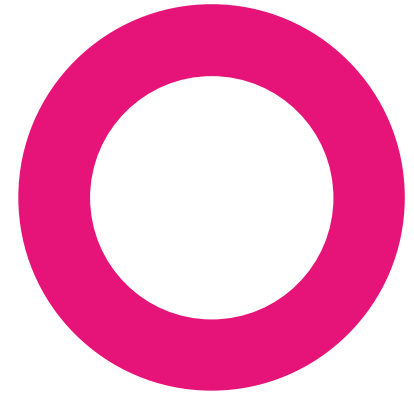
Future opportunities

Students can progress to studying law or a law related course at University, do an Apprenticeship or enter employment. Law is also useful to a wide range of career paths and degree courses including Accountancy, Business, Banking; Human Resources, the Civil Service, Policing, Journalism, Surveying and Planning, and Public relations.

Topics

- ▶ Criminal law,
- ▶ Tort law (an area of civil law)
- ▶ Human rights
- ▶ The legal system and law making
- ▶ Law, Morality and Justice

Course breakdown



100%
Exam

0%
Coursework

MATHEMATICS

A Level Pearson



Course Description

Mathematics provides the foundation for understanding the world and solving real-life problems. You will explore pure mathematical concepts alongside practical applications in statistics and mechanics and develop problem-solving skills, logical thinking, and analytical reasoning.

Future opportunities

Mathematics is very useful for a wide range of careers, including engineering, finance, data science, computing, architecture, and many more. It also provides a strong foundation for further study in mathematics, physics, and other STEM fields.

Topics

- ▶ Algebra – functions, graphs, proof
- ▶ Exponentials and logarithms
- ▶ Sequences and series
- ▶ Coordinate geometry
- ▶ Trigonometry
- ▶ Calculus - differentiation and integration
- ▶ Vectors
- ▶ Statistics and probability
- ▶ Mechanics

Course breakdown



0%
Coursework

100%
Exam

MATHEMATICS - FURTHER

A Level Pearson



Course Description

Further Mathematics introduces advanced topics and deepens students' understanding of mathematical concepts. It broadens the scope of mathematical study, including pure mathematics, mechanics, and decision mathematics, and challenges students to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Future opportunities

Further Mathematics is highly valued by universities and employers for courses and careers requiring high-level analytical skills, such as engineering, physical sciences, economics, computer science, and actuarial work. It also supports applications to prestigious universities and competitive degree programmes.

Topics

- ▶ Complex Numbers
- ▶ Matrices
- ▶ Further Algebra and Functions
- ▶ Further Calculus
- ▶ Further Vectors
- ▶ Polar Coordinates
- ▶ Hyperbolic Functions
- ▶ Differential Equations
- ▶ Further Mechanics
- ▶ Decision Mathematics

Course breakdown



0%

Coursework

100%

Exam

MEDIA STUDIES

A level OCR



Course Description

Media Studies is a contemporary academic course which reflects the ever-evolving nature of both traditional and new media. Throughout the course, you will develop critical skills by analysing texts from a range of media industries, as well as practical skills using professional industry software when constructing your print-based coursework. You will also learn about the social, political and economic contexts of media industries such as TV, film, gaming and radio, which will help you grasp the importance of media industries as thriving businesses.

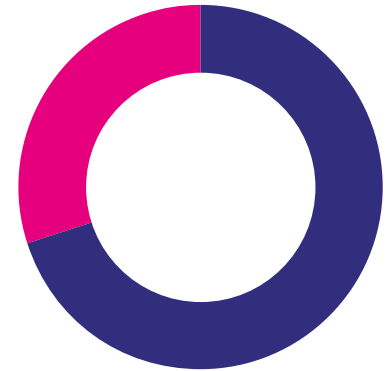
Topics

- ▶ Advertising & Marketing
- ▶ Magazines - The Big Issue
- ▶ Music videos - SUN GOES DOWN by Lil Nas X and Titanium by David Guetta ft. Sia
- ▶ Film Industry - Snow White (1937) and Shang Chi (2021)
- ▶ Radio Industry - BBC Radio 1 Breakfast Show with Greg James
- ▶ Gaming Industry - Animal Crossing: New Horizons
- ▶ Long Form TV Drama - Stranger Things & Deutschland 83
- ▶ Newspaper Industry - Daily Mail & The Guardian as key texts

Future opportunities

Students of Media Studies often go on to work in the relevant industries, including social media management, marketing, film & TV production, journalism and publishing. University courses in the subject often focus on either the theoretical underpinning of the subject or a more practical, hands-on approach to learning creative processes, filmmaking equipment and software.

Course breakdown



30%
Coursework

70%
Exam

PHILOSOPHY, RELIGION & ETHICS

A Level AQA



"Philosophy
begins in
wonder"

- Aristotle



Course Description

In Philosophy, Religion and Ethics we ask BIG questions such as: Is war ever justified? Are abortion and euthanasia right? Can we know whether God exists or not? Do we have free will? You will examine the nature and concept of God, comparing and contrasting it with similar philosophical concepts promoted in Ancient Greece. You will also study ethical theories and philosophical approaches to solving moral dilemmas. If you enjoy reading, debating and writing about important matters, you'll find Philosophy, Religion and Ethics fascinating.

Topics

► Study of a religion:

The Meaning of Death and the Afterlife, God, Wisdom and Authority, Good conduct and Key Moral Principles, Religious Identity

► Philosophy:

Arguments for the Existence of God, the Problem of Evil, Religious Experience

► Ethics:

Ethical theories, Applied ethics (Issues of Human and Animal Life and Death)

Future opportunities

In the friendly and stimulating environment of our Religious Studies classroom, you will develop a range of skills that are highly prized by employers and university courses alike, including critical thinking, the ability to construct arguments, problem solving, and debating skills. The qualification is recognised by all UK university courses.

Course breakdown



0%
Coursework

100%
Exam

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

A Level AQA





Course Description

The Physical Education course allows students to study the demands placed on sports performers from physiological, psychological, and sociological perspectives.

The theoretical components cover three core branches of human movement and sport science: Applied Anatomy and Physiology: Study of the skeletal, muscular, cardiovascular, and respiratory systems, alongside biomechanical movement and exercise physiology. Sport Psychology and Skill Acquisition: How motor skills are learned, processed, and retained, plus the impact of arousal, anxiety, motivation, and personality on performance. Sport and Society and Technology: The historical development of modern sport, the influence of ethics, violence, drugs, and the role of digital technology in physical activity

Assessment includes:

- Written analysis and evaluation of a performer in your chosen sport, based on the course specification.
- Video evidence of practical performance in one chosen sport, demonstrated in a fully competitive situation.

Through the course, students will gain valuable skills in analysis, evaluation, communication and performance, preparing them for further study and careers within sport, health and fitness industries.

Topics

Paper 1

- ▶ Anatomy
- ▶ Skill
- ▶ Sport and Society

Paper 2

- ▶ Physiology and Biomechanics
- ▶ Sports Psychology
- ▶ Sport society and technology

Future opportunities

- ▶ Teacher/Coach
- ▶ Physiotherapist
- ▶ Sports scientist
- ▶ Sports Psychologist
- ▶ Careers in health and nutrition
- ▶ And many more

Course breakdown



30%
Coursework and
practical evidence

70%
Exam

PHYSICS

A Level OCR



Course Description

Physicists study the world and universe in which we live, attempting to understand and interpret it. On this course you will look at both matter and energy in their different forms and the interchange between them, from the very smallest subatomic building blocks – quarks, leptons and photons - all the way up to the entire universe.

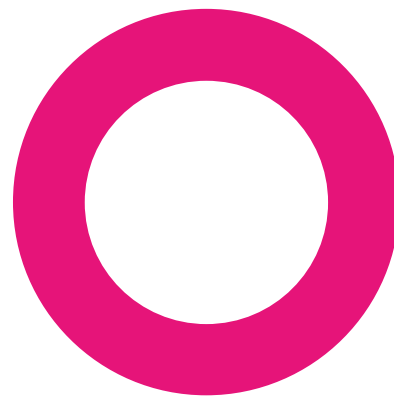
Future opportunities

- ▶ Essential for access to physics and some engineering courses
- ▶ Highly regarded for other subjects such as medicine, law and economics because of the thinking skills and problem solving involved
- ▶ Subject cross-over with Maths and Chemistry makes Physics, Maths and Chemistry a powerful combination to optimise your A Level grades
- ▶ STEM degrees
- ▶ Advanced apprenticeships in industry, e.g. aerospace, nuclear power generation, electrical power distribution

Topics

- ▶ Module 1 – Development of practical skills in physics
- ▶ Module 2 – Foundations of physics
- ▶ Module 3 – Forces and motion
- ▶ Module 4 – Electrons, waves and photons
- ▶ Module 5 - Newtonian world and astrophysics
- ▶ Module 6 - Particles and medical physics

Course breakdown



0%
Coursework

100%
Exam

POLITICS

A Level Pearson Edexcel





Course Description

Politics is about power. Who has it? How do they get it? How do they use it? And how can we get rid of them? We look at the UK and the USA to see how parties win elections; how pressure groups try to change things; and how we, the people, can hold them to account. Politics is also about ideas. We look at the ideas that explain why the world is like it is: Conservatism and Liberalism; and the ideas that seek to change it: Socialism and Feminism. Most of all, Politics is about change. What we study changes every week. Most importantly, we look at the news. The world is changing fast. We try to understand how, why, and where it is going.

Topics

- ▶ UK Politics
Voting behaviour; Democracy; Political parties; Elections and referendums
- ▶ UK Government
Constitution; Parliament; Prime Minister; Supreme Court and Devolution
- ▶ Political ideas:
Conservatism; Liberalism; Socialism; Feminism
- ▶ US Politics:
Constitution; Presidency; Congress; Supreme Court; Democracy

Future opportunities

Politics students go on to have careers in the government and civil service, journalism, law, think tanks, human rights, education. Universities really like Politics A level due to its rigorous academic demands and the convertible skills that students develop such as research, argument, and communication.

Course breakdown



0%
Coursework

100%
Exam

POPULAR MUSIC

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Foundation Diploma in Music



Course Description

Live music workshops and recordings, in all genres of popular music, build instrumental and vocal skills vital to success in the music industry.

We also explore how records are produced using Garageband technology to replicate professional recordings.

Topics

- ▶ Performing in an Ensemble
 - live recordings of songs from the 00's
- ▶ Musical Styles
 - re-arranging rock songs in jazz/country/RnB styles
- ▶ Creating Musical Material
 - composing and producing cinematic style music using Garageband
- ▶ History of the Music Industry
 - coursework exploring how artists like Elvis, The Beatles, Nirvana, Arctic Monkeys revolutionised the music industry.

Future opportunities

Many former students work professionally in the music industry or go on to study music at university.

We have connections with local music industry organisations like Tracks, Sonic Futures and many venues, producers and promoters.

Course breakdown



25%
Coursework

50%
Practical Performances

25%
Composition/Production

PSYCHOLOGY

A Level Eduqas





Course Description

Psychology is the scientific study of human behaviour and mental processes. It is an immensely popular subject choice as it appeals to those interested in the workings of the human mind and the manner in which individuals relate to each other in everyday situations, ultimately allowing us to answer the question “Why do we behave the way we do?”

Future opportunities

An A Level in Psychology is a well-respected qualification as you acquire both literacy and numeracy skills. These flexible skills are useful in a range of career choices.

A Psychology degree is the required foundation for further study leading to careers in Clinical Psychology, Educational Psychology and Occupational Psychology. However, Psychology graduates often pursue careers in personnel work, the Health Service, social work, advertising, counselling and the prison service.

Topics

First year

An in-depth look at five different psychological approaches that offer explanations of human behaviour, as well as classic research studies and the methods used by psychologists to carry out their research.

Second year

The study of three behaviours in detail - criminal behaviour, addictive behaviour and schizophrenia - studying the characteristics of the behaviours and analysing possible explanations plus controversies in psychology.

Course breakdown



0%

Coursework

100%

Exam

SOCIOLOGY

A Level AQA





Course Description

Sociology is a diverse and fascinating subject that challenges perceptions of everyday life. On this course, you will gain a deeper understanding of how society works and the social factors that affect our lives and choices as individuals. In the first year, you will explore hard hitting issues such as poverty and racism linking sociological theories including Feminism and Marxism to contemporary news events, films and documentaries. In the second year you will examine issues such as gender and crime and also ethnicity and crime. You will explore a range of crime control and crime prevention strategies, evaluating the benefits of punishment, surveillance and rehabilitation.

Future opportunities

An A Level in Sociology can lead to various careers, including social work, human resources, and market research, as well as roles in education and government.

Topics

- ▶ Education
- ▶ Culture and Identity
- ▶ Research Methods
- ▶ Mass Media
- ▶ Crime and Deviance
- ▶ Sociological Theory

Course breakdown



0%
Coursework

100%
Exam

SPANISH

A Level Eduqas





Course Description

In this course you will develop your speaking, listening, reading and writing skills through a series of topics that explore aspects of present-day life, culture, current events and important issues in Spanish speaking countries. You will also study a film in the Spanish language and a short novel. An additional small class with a native speaker ensures you become more fluent and confident in your spoken Spanish.

Topics

- ▶ **Being a young person in Spanish-speaking society**
Families and citizenship
Youth trends and personal identity
Education and employment opportunities
- ▶ **Understanding the Spanish-speaking world**
Regional culture and heritage in Spain,
Media, art, film and music in the Spanish-speaking world
- ▶ **Diversity and difference**
Migration and integration
Cultural identity and marginalisation
Cultural enrichment and celebrating difference
Discrimination and diversity
- ▶ **The two Spains: 1936 onwards**
El franquismo
Post-Civil War Spain
Spain – coming to terms with the past.

Future opportunities

Spanish is a major world language and those who have knowledge of this language are in great demand! Learning Spanish can open up a world of exciting travel opportunities, as well as opening the door to Higher Education and varied careers.

Course breakdown



0%
Coursework

100%
Exam

SPORT & LEISURE

OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Sport and Physical Activity





Course Description

This exciting course offers a hands-on, practical approach to sport and physical activity, combining theoretical study with practical skill development. Students explore a range of topics including nutrition, event management, media, and physical activity across different age groups, while developing valuable transferable skills for both sport and non-sport related careers. Through flexible, unit-based assessment structures, this qualification, equivalent to one A Level, provides a strong pathway into higher education, apprenticeships, and a wide range of career opportunities.

Future opportunities

Employment in teaching, coaching, fitness training, or sports development

- ▶ Degree courses at university (sporting and non-sporting)
- ▶ Level 3 apprenticeships

Coursework Breakdown

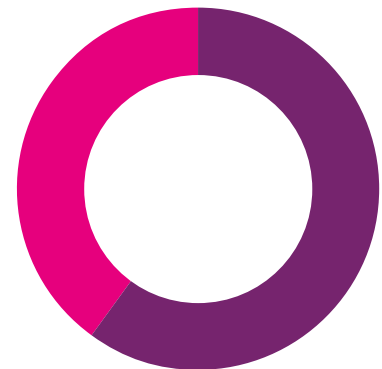
The course is assessed through a mix of:

- ▶ 2 external examinations (Units 1 and 3)
- ▶ 4 internally assessed coursework units (Units 2, 8, 11, and 12)

Assessment methods include:

- ▶ Written assignments
- ▶ Case studies and vocational scenarios
- ▶ Presentations and role play
- ▶ Practical demonstrations of coaching and performance

Course Assessment



60%
coursework

40%
exam

SPORT & LEISURE

OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Diploma in Sport





Course Description

This blended course is ideal for students who enjoy a combination of theoretical study and hands-on learning. Assessed entirely through coursework, it allows students to develop the knowledge, practical abilities, and transferable skills needed for success in the sports industry and a wide range of other career sectors. The course also offers the opportunity to complete the Higher Sports Leader Award (HSL), helping to enhance leadership and employability skills. Equivalent to two full A Levels, it provides excellent preparation for university, apprenticeships, or direct entry into employment.

Topics

You will study a wide variety of engaging units such as:

- ▶ Principles of Anatomy and Physiology in Sport
- ▶ Sports Coaching
- ▶ Current Issues in Sport
- ▶ Athletes' Lifestyle
- ▶ Organisation of Sports Events
- ▶ Physical Activity for Specific Groups
- ▶ Nutrition and Diet Exercise
- ▶ Sports Injuries and Rehabilitation

Future opportunities

This course provides a strong pathway to:

- ▶ Employment in coaching, fitness training, or sports development
- ▶ Degree courses at university (sporting and non-sporting)
- ▶ Level 3 apprenticeships in sport, fitness, and related fields

Course breakdown



100%
Coursework

0%
Exam

TRAVEL & TOURISM

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Travel & Tourism



Course Description

This course provides a detailed insight into the dynamic world of travel and tourism, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in travel and tourism-related subjects. Students explore the importance of the UK travel and tourism industry and its contribution to the economy, investigate the features and appeal of global destinations, as well as the principles of marketing within the industry. Alongside industry knowledge, the qualification develops valuable transferable skills such as communication, organisation, research, and presenting ideas. The course supports progression into the travel and tourism industry, higher education, apprenticeships, and a broad range of academic and vocational pathways.

Future opportunities

Upon successful completion, you could progress to:

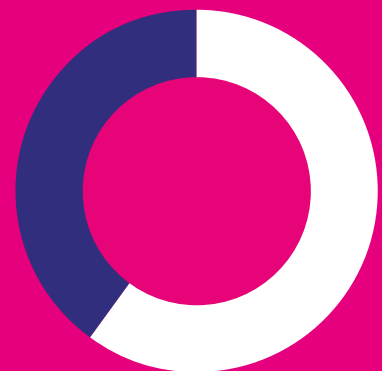
- ▶ University degree courses (in travel & tourism or non-related subjects)
- ▶ Employment in the travel industry including: event management, airlines, or tourism services
- ▶ Level 3 apprenticeships in business, marketing, hospitality, or customer service

Topics

You will study the following units:

- ▶ Unit 1: The World of Travel and Tourism (Mandatory – External Exam)
- ▶ Unit 2: Global Destinations (Mandatory – External Exam)
- ▶ Unit 3: Principles of Marketing in Travel and Tourism (Mandatory – Internal Coursework)
- ▶ Unit 9: Visitor Attractions (Optional – Internal Coursework)

Course breakdown



60%

Coursework

40%

Exam

(some of which are open book)

EPQ

AQA Extended Project Qualification



Course Description

EPQ stands for Extended Project Qualification. Completed in your second year, as an optional addition to your core level 3 programme, EPQ is your chance to gain a nationally recognised qualification for studying something you love.

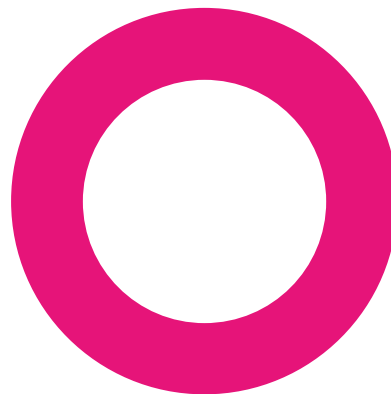
Future opportunities

For your efforts you will gain UCAS points equivalent to half of an A Level, and you can boost your applications to further study or other ambitious destinations by standing out from the crowd. Having an EPQ makes you more likely to be accepted to study at University and more likely to get a first class or 2:1 degree. It has also been linked to raising your grades in other subjects.

Topics

With EPQ, you set the agenda and decide on your own questions and learning outcomes, by negotiation with your supervisor, who will work with you to achieve your aims. You can either complete an artefact of your choice, along with a report on how you made it. Or you can answer a question of your choice, in the style of a university dissertation. We have seen students make guitars, cars, bridges and more, and we have seen students explore subjects close to their hearts - such as "Who was Jack the Ripper?" and "If Kennedy was so popular, why was he killed?"

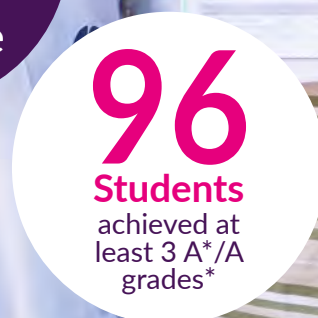
Course breakdown



100%
Coursework

0%
Exam

OUTSTANDING RESULTS





QE students have celebrated another year of exceptional academic achievement, enabling students to progress to a university, employment or apprenticeship of their choice. This year **953 A*/A** grades (or equivalent) were awarded, reflecting the hard work and dedication of QE students. Among them, **96** students achieved three or more A*/A grades (or equivalent). In total, **573** students secured at least one A*/A (or equivalent) in one or more subjects.

These results reflect the incredible effort, ambition, and talent of QE students and members of staff. Many truly exceptional individual performances highlight the extent of their achievements.

Laurence Job, Principal at QE, says:

“It has been an incredible year of academic success at QE and we are all immensely proud of our students and what they continue to achieve.

“We are committed to creating a culture of success where every student has the opportunity to thrive and these results are a testament to the ambition, resilience and hard work of our students, as well as the unwavering dedication of our staff, who consistently go above and beyond to support them.

“I am delighted that so many young people continue to choose QE to help shape their futures and am incredibly proud to work in such a dynamic and inspiring college.

“The stories of student achievement that we continue to see are an inspiration and we wish all of our leavers every success as they take their next steps and make their impact on the world.”



For a full table of results, please visit our website.



www.qeliz.ac.uk

 Vane Terrace, Darlington, DL3 7AU
 qe@qeliz.ac.uk  01325 461315

Find us on social media   