# SIXTH FORM OPTIONS BOOKLET 

## 2024/2026




## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome． ..... 4－5
Sixth Form Pathways． ..... 6－7
How to choose your subjects． ..... 8－10
A Level Options ..... 11－32
BTEC Options． ..... 33－35
Arabic and Islamic Studies． ..... 37
Extended Project Qualification（EPQ）． ..... 39
The English College Diploma． ..... 41－42


Dear Parents and Students,
Thank you for taking the time to consider The English College for your post-16 education. This booklet is designed to help give you a 'flavour' of the courses offered at the College and help guide you in your pathways.

The English College's mission statement is to develop all of our students as academic, characterful, happy young people equipped with the values and knowledge to succeed in life. With the help of the incredibly supportive staff and the wider community, we can firmly attest that the College guides students towards this objective. The English College is the perfect place to maximise potential and teach every student the skills required to succeed. We have had two graduating cohorts of the EC Diploma which is an in-house, multi-levelled, compulsory qualification designed to boost students beyond the curriculum and further strengthen university applications. More information about the Diploma can be found later in this booklet and I encourage you to look at the Sixth Form section of our website for more information on Sixth Form life.

The English College is proud of its diverse and bespoke curriculum which opens a large number of opportunities for higher education. In 2023. 95\% of our students went onto higher education with $33 \%$ achieving a place at Russell Group universities in the UK. Over the years we have seen our students gain places at some of the world's leading universities including Imperial College London, LSE, Oxford, Cambridge and John Hopkins, studying a host of courses from Medicine and Engineering, through to Zoology, Anthropology and Digital Animation.

Thank you for considering The English College and we hope to welcome you into Year 12 in September 2024.

Kind regards,
Lee Tynan
Assistant Head of Secondary School (KS5)


## SIXTH <br> 

## PATHWAYS

At The English College, we offer pathways that create a personalised, meaningful, and challenging timetable for our students. Keeping in line with the majority of UK schools, we offer three A Level subjects at Key Stage 5. Most universities offer their places based on three subjects at A level or equivalent. The English College will only offer a route equivalent to more than three A Levels to those students who have demonstrated outstanding GCSE results.

The 3 main academic pathways offered are:

## 1) GCE Advanced Level (A Levels) Only Pathway

Students can study three A levels over Year 12 and 13. Students will sit their A level exams at the end of year 13 .

Individual Subject Entrance Requirements We recommend that students attain a minimum of a grade 6 at (I)GCSE in the subject to gain entry onto an A level in the same subject. For example, if a student wishes to study History A level, they should have attained a minimum of a 6 (B) at (I) GCSE. All entry criteria are used as a guide to ensure that a student will be successful in a specific subject area. If the student has not taken that subject at (I)GCSE then English, Mathematics and/ or Science grades will be considered by the Secondary School leadership team to determine suitability for a course.

Certain subjects require higher (I)GCSE grades to ensure success at A level.

These are:
Mathematics - Students require a minimum of 7 at (I) GCSE.
Further mathematics - Students require a grade 9 at (I) GCSE

Science - Biology, Chemistry and Physics require the minimum of 7,7 in Combined Science or a 7 in the respective Separate Science (Biology, Physics, Chemistry) at (I) GCSE

Our knowledgeable and supportive Secondary School leadership team will meet with students and parents to ensure that all students are taking the most suitable courses for their ability and future plans.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS ROUTE:

- A student must have a total of six 9-5 (A*-C) (I)GCSE grades
- The College will review a student's application to study four $A$ levels on a case-by- case basis. As an indicator we would expect the student to have achieved a minimum of five or more grades 7 to $9\left(A-A^{*}\right)$ at (I) GCSE.


## 2) BTEC - Level 3 Qualifications Pathway

Students can choose to study three BTEC courses. The College offers BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Business (equivalent to two A Levels, 10 lessons a week), BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma (equivalent to one A Level, 5 lessons a week) and BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma Travel and Tourism (equivalent to one A Level, 5 lessons a week).

BTECs enable a learner-centred approach to education, with a flexible, unit-based structure and knowledge applied to project-based assessments. BTECs focus on the holistic development of the practical, interpersonal and thinking skills required to be successful in employment and higher education. There are no external assessments and the students complete assignments which are marked by the teacher and then externally verified.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS ROUTE:

- A student must have a total of four 9-4 (A*-C) (I)GCSE grades
- Entrance onto the BTEC courses are at the discretion of the Headteacher or Assistant Headteacher of the Secondary School


## 3) Blended A Level and BTEC Pathway

The English College has developed its option blocks to suit a combination of BTECs and A Levels. Students can select two A levels and BTEC Travel and Tourism or one A Level and BTEC Diploma in Business. Both routes will give the equivalent of three A Levels.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS ROUTE:

- A student must have a total of five 9-5 (A*-C) (I)GCSE grades and must satisfy the entrance requirements for the A Level course they want to enroll in.


## HOW TO CHOOSE

## YOUR SUBJECTS?



Where can I get further information about university degrees? Scan the QR code or visit:
https://targetcareers.co.uk/uni/degree-subject-guides

Choosing your A Level subjects is an exciting time but can also be quite a daunting process. You are narrowing down subjects from nine to three or four and for the first time have complete ownership over your curriculum. This is something you need to think very carefully about and there are several things to consider:

## What subjects are you successful in?

More and more people are going into Higher Education. This means the market is getting more competitive and if you want to be accepted to your top choice university, you need to have a strong set of A Level grades to stand out amongst the crowd.

Do you have a particular career path in mind?

> Certain degrees such as Medicine and Engineering do have essential subject requirements. If you think these are fields you want to go into then make sure you have done the research and choose the necessary subjects. The majority of courses don't have strict requirements, but do have preferred subjects. Again if you know you want to go down a certain route, do the research now so you pick the right courses and avoid disappointment later on.

## What is a BTEC?

BTECs are high quality, hands-on qualifications grounded in the real world of work. BTECs are all about learning by doing and that means BTEC students put what they learn into practice straight away. Throughout the course, they work on a series of assignments set in reallife scenarios, developing the practical knowledge and skills employers and universities are looking for. The majority of universities internationally recognise these as equivalent to an A Level, but if you have a specific university in mind, please check the requirements before selecting your options.

## Where is your passion at?

We all know that when we enjoy something we are more motivated to spend time on it. If you actively engage with a subject you are then more likely to be successful and as we have previously said, this is extremely important. So although you might think a certain collection of subjects will look better, the universities generally are more concerned about the grades you achieve.

## I don't have a clue what career I want to go into?

> If you are really unsure about what you want to do, again, choose the courses you enjoy and are good at. This will lead to you getting a stronger set of grades and keep more Higher Education options open to you.

## What transferable skills can a subject help me develop?

> With a rapidly evolving working landscape, by 2030 many of you will end up in jobs that do not even exist yet. So how do we choose subjects that help us to get somewhere, if we don't know where we are going? A report from Pearson on 'Employment in 2030 has found that there is a need for skills such as judgment, decision-making, analysis, evaluation, communication, story-telling and that they will need people who can give insight, not just observations. When choosing your subjects consider how they can help you develop these transferable skills.

Where can I get further information about university degrees?

## Visit www.ucas.com

This will allow you to further research courses, universities and colleges for areas that interest you most.


# COURSE GUIDE 

A Level Courses
Art and Design. ..... 12
Biology ..... 13
Business ..... 14
Chemistry ..... 15
Computer Science. ..... 16
Drama \& Theatre Studies ..... 17
Economics ..... 18
English Literature. ..... 19
French ..... 20
Geography ..... 21
History. ..... 22
Mathematics ..... 23
Further Mathematics ..... 24
Media Studies ..... 25
Music ..... 26
Physical Education ..... 27
Physics ..... 28
Psychology ..... 29
Sociology ..... 30
Spanish. ..... 31

## ART AND DESIGN

| Exam Board | Edexcel |
| :--- | :--- |
| Final Assessments | Year 13 |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Art and Design is a two year course where students will be led to feel that they can develop, explore, record and present work that encompasses individuality. It is a subject area which can offer a particularly rich and diverse range of learning experiences. This syllabus will provide the opportunity to undertake a course of study which is broad, purposeful and relevant to the student's needs. Individual abilities and interests will be developed through the use of a variety of materials, techniques and processes.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

## Component 1 - Personal Investigation (60\% of the course)

This unit incorporates three linked elements, each with separate final outcomes: Practical work and Personal study. The investigation and development for both these elements will be shown through supporting studies. Students will submit a 1000-3000 word illustrated essay and practical outcome(s) based on themes and starting matters developed from personal starting points.

## Component 2 - Externally Set Assignment ( $40 \%$ of the course)

This component allows students opportunities to generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas.

The paper consists of one broad-based thematic starting point. This Component has an external examination of a 15 hour practical exam.

## CAREERS

This course would form an excellent foundation for students preparing for entry into a college or university, and would be of particular benefit to students who may wish to pursue careers in areas such as Fashion, Visual Merchandising, Theatre Studies, Graphic Design, Fine Art, Photography, Film/Video Production, Architecture, Teaching and Design in all its forms.


| Exam Board | Pearson Edexcel IAL |
| :--- | :--- |
| Can this course be taken as an AS Level? | Yes |
| Does the AS level grade count to the final <br> A level grade? | Yes |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

A Level Biology is a two-year course. Students have the option to study for just one year and sit the AS level, or study for two years to achieve the full A Level. It is a course which will develop essential knowledge and understanding of biological principles, concepts and facts. Over the two years it will promote an appreciation of the importance of experimental and investigation work in the study of Biology. We also aim to help students recognise the value and responsible use of Biology in society and develop an appreciation for Biology in environmental, economic and technological contexts. Students have the option to study for just one year and sit the AS level, or study for two years to achieve the full A Level.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

The AS Level consists of two papers and can be awarded as a separate qualification. These two assessments contribute to the full A level grade at the end of Year 13 and can be re-sat in January and May/June of the second year. A further three papers are also sat during Year 13.

## AS Exams:

- Unit 1 - Molecules, Diet, Transport and Health - 1 hour 30 minutes examination $20 \%$ of A Level ( $40 \%$ of AS)
- Unit 2 - Cells, Development, Biodiversity and Conservation - 1 hour 30 minutes examination - 20\% of A Level ( $40 \%$ of AS)
- Unit 3 - Practical Skills in Biology I - 1 hour 20 minutes examination - 10\% of A Level (20\% of AS)


## A Level Exams:

Unit 4: Energy, Environment, Microbiology and Immunity - 1 hour 45 minutes examination - $20 \%$ of A Level Unit 5: Respiration, Internal Environment, Coordination and Gene Technology - 1 hour 45 minutes examination - 20\% of A Level Unit 6: Practical Skills in Biology II - 1 hour 20 minutes examination-10\% of A Level

## CAREERS

Biology can be useful in many careers, but particularly in Genetic Engineering, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Medical Research, Forensic Science, Nursing, Marine Biology and Environmental Biology.


## BUSINESS

| Exam Board | Edexcel |
| :--- | :--- |
| Final Assessments | Year 13 |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

A Level Business is a two-year course - all exams are taken at the end of the second year. In the first year of study students will look at 'Marketing and People' and 'Managing Business Activities'. In the second year of study students will build upon the Year 12 content and look at 'Business Decisions and Strategy' and 'Global Business'

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

At the end of Year 13 students will sit three exam papers:

- Paper 1: Marketing, people and global businesses 2 hours (worth $35 \%$ of the overall qualification)
- Paper 2: Business activities, decision and strategy 2 hours (worth $35 \%$ of the overall qualification)
- Paper 3: Investigating business in a competitive environment 2 hours (worth $30 \%$ of the overall qualification)


## CAREERS

Business can be useful in many careers, but particularly in accountancy, advertising, banking, investment and financial services, general management, HR/personnel, management consultancy, public relations, retail management, sales and marketing.


## CHEMISTRY

| Exam Board | Pearson Edexcel IAL |
| :--- | :--- |
| Can this course be taken as an AS Level? | Yes |
| Does the AS level grade count to the final <br> A level grade? | Yes |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

A Level Chemistry is a two-year course. Students have the option to study for just one year and sit the AS level, or study for two years to achieve the full A Level. The aim of the A level Chemistry course is to develop students' interest in and enthusiasm for Chemistry by developing essential knowledge and understanding of principles, concepts and facts. The department hopes to give students an appreciation of how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society. The course will give a deeper understanding of the skills, knowledge and understanding of how science works. It will also provide essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of Chemistry and how they relate to each other. Students have the option to study for just one year and sit the AS level, or study for two years to achieve the full A Level.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

The AS Level consists of three papers and can be awarded as a separate qualification. These three assessments contribute to the full A level grade at the end of Year 13 and can be re-sat in October, January and May/June of the second year. A further three papers are also sat during Year 13.

## AS Exams:

- Unit 1: Structure, Bonding and Introduction to Organic Chemistry - 1 hour 30 minutes examination - 40\% (20\% of A Level)
- Unit 2: Energetics, Group Chemistry, Halogenoalkanes and Alcohols - 1 hour 30 minutes examination - $40 \%$ of AS ( $20 \%$ of $A$ Level)
- Unit 3: Practical Skills in Chemistry I-1 hour 20 minutes examination - 20\% of AS ( $10 \%$ of A Level)


## A Level Exams:

- Paper 3 - Inorganic 2 and Physical 2-1 hour 30 minutes examination - $21 \%$ of $A$ Level
- Paper 4-Organic 2 and Physical 2 - 1 hour 30 minutes examination - $21 \%$ of A Level
- Paper 5 - Practical and Synoptic - 1 hour 25 minutes examination $-18 \%$ of A Level


## CAREERS

Qualifications in Chemistry can lead to careers as Chemists and Chemical Production Engineers in the Chemical industries, including the Pharmaceutical, Food, Petrochemical, Plastics and Process industries. With A Level Mathematics or another science, careers in Medicine, Pharmacy, Pharmacology, Dentistry, Biochemistry, Geology, Microbiology and Forensic Science become accessible. For students with an interest in health and the environment, there are opportunities to become involved in pollution control and monitoring its effects on the environment.

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

| Exam Board | AQA |
| :--- | :--- |
| Final Assessments | Year 13 |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

A level Computer Science is split into two sections, programming and theory. On the programming side of the course you will use Python unless you have a strong interest in Java. You will cover the fundamentals of programming, data structures, algorithms, and object-oriented program design.

The theory of Computer Science aims to teach about the internal workings of a computer, right down to the basics of how all data is stored using binary, whether that be numbers, text, pictures or even music. It goes on from there to cover aspects of computer architecture, showing the specifics of exactly how data is accessed from main memory using assembly language instructions and the fetch-execute cycle.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

Students will sit two exam papers and submit a non exam assessment:

- Paper 1: Programming and theoretical knowledge: 2 hours 30 minute (worth 40\% of A 2 )
- Paper 2: Theory based concepts: 2 hours 30 minutes (worth $40 \%$ of A2)
- Non Exam Assessment (worth 20\% of A2)


## CAREERS

A Level Computer Science is a strong subject to take if you wish to go on to do Computer Science at degree level. Equally, there are a number of software engineering courses which have Computer Science as a prerequisite. After university, there are numerous interesting fields of study and professions that you can go into.
Computer Science will lead on to robotics, artificial intelligence, machine learning, cloud computing, big data processing, networking, ethical hacking, computer game development, home automation or even teaching. So much of the world uses computers nowadays that having a good understanding of how computers work and how to program them will set you up for success in many strands of life.


## DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES

| Exam Board | Edexcel |
| :--- | :--- |
| Final Assessments | Year 13 |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Students follow an intensive practical and theoretical programme that will introduce them to the working practices of the 21st century theatre. The course gives students the opportunity to create their own original piece of theatre to a live audience through research, collaboration and performance. Year 12 students are equipped with a 'toolkit' of Practitioner theatrical style and genre. By gaining a thorough knowledge of historical and current methodologies such as Brook and Gecko our young people take authorship of original work. Year 13 will work as performers or designers to realise two contrasting extracts for a live audience and examiner as well as focus on the written examination. This consists of the study of set text Equus by Peter Shaffer, the reinterpretation of an Ancient Greek text, Antigone in light of a Practitioner, as well as a Live Review of a piece of theatre seen by the students.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

## Component 1:

Devising (40\% of the qualification) Content overview:

- As part of an ensemble, devise an original performance piece based on a stimulus and with the influence of a key theatre practitioner
- Perform the work in front of an invited audience
- Analyse and evaluate the creative process of working as a theatre company
- Students can work as actors or designers


## Component 2:

Text in Performance ( $20 \%$ of the qualification)
Content overview:

- A group performance of one key extract from a
- published play
- A monologue or dialogue performance from one key extract from a different performance text.
- Students can work as actors or designers

Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice (40\% of the qualification)
Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes
Content overview:

- Live theatre evaluation of a performance they have seen
- Practical exploration and study of a complete published play text- focusing on how this can be realised for performance
- Practical exploration and interpretation of another complete performance text, in light of a chosen theatre practitioner focusing on how this text could be reimagined for a contemporary audience.


## CAREERS

This course is particularly suitable for those who wish to go into a career in the Performing Arts. The rigorous 'toolkit' provides students with working practices of the industry, a thorough understanding of the performance and theatre tech, as well as the resilience and independence required to be successful. The 'Netflix Effect' has impacted the already thriving film, TV and theatre industry and this course provides the skill set to be a theatre maker in your own right. Our alumni are currently studying at Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts, The Royal Conservatoire, High Wycombe University and 3 students achieved scholarships at SPAA.


## ECONOMICS

| Exam Board | Edexcel |
| :--- | :--- |
| Final Assessments | Year 13 |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

A Level Economics is a two-year course - all exams are taken at the end of the second year. A Level Economics aims to develop an understanding of economic concepts and theories through a critical consideration of current economic issues, problems and institutions that affect everyday life. It will show students how to apply economic concepts and theories in a range of contexts, to appraise their value and limitations in explaining real world phenomena. The course will enable students to evaluate, analyse and explain the market economy and the idea of the government within it. Students will also learn the role of the individual, the firm and organisations in the production of goods and services.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

At the end of Year 13 students will sit three exam papers:

- Paper 1: Markets and business behaviour 2 hours (worth $35 \%$ of the overall qualification)
- Paper 2: The national and global economy - 2 hours (worth $35 \%$ of the overall qualification)
- Paper 3 Microeconomics and macroeconomics - 2 hours (worth 30\% of the overall qualification)


## CAREERS

Common career paths for studying economics include economist, financial risk analyst, data analyst, financial planner, accountant, economic researcher, financial consultant, investment analyst, actuary, and public sector roles.


| Exam Board | Edexcel |
| :--- | :--- |
| Final Assessments | Year 13 |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

A Level English Literature is a two-year course. Students have the option to study for just one year and sit the AS level, or study for two years to achieve the full A Level. For the full A Level, all exams are taken at the end of the second year and AS results are disregarded.

This course will encourage students to read widely and independently set texts and others that they have selected for themselves. Students will engage critically and creatively with a substantial body of texts and ways of responding to them. The course will also develop and effectively apply their knowledge of literary analysis and evaluation.

Furthermore students will explore the contexts of the texts they are reading and others' interpretations of them. Finally English Literature students will undertake independent and sustained studies to deepen their appreciation and understanding of English literature, including its changing traditions.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

The AS level course in English Literature consists of two externally examined papers. This qualification requires the study of four literary texts. Students must complete all assessments in May/June in any single year.

The A level course in English Literature consists of three externally examined papers and one coursework component. The qualification requires the study of eight literary texts plus unseen poetry. Students must complete all assessments in May/June in any single year.

## CAREERS

English Literature is a good foundation for any arts based university course, or for university admissions involving a science discipline where a breadth of knowledge and experience is favoured. English Literature is particularly suitable for careers where the ability to communicate ideas clearly and coherently is of prime importance, for example: Law, Journalism, Broadcasting, Teaching, Personnel Work, Theatre, Advertising and many other professions.


| Exam Board | AQA |
| :--- | :--- |
| Final Assessments | Year 13 |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

A Level French is a two-year course. All exams are taken at the end of the second year.
This course encourages a deeper understanding of French society and culture. Students will develop their fluency in speaking and writing through the study of various topics listed below, a book and a film in French. The course studies a wide range of topics including current trends, the changing nature of family, positive features of a diverse society, the 'cyber-society', and how criminals are treated.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

Students will be examined in the following areas:

- Paper 1- Listening, Reading \& Writing (50\% of A Level)
- Paper 2 - Writing (20\% of A Level)
- Paper 3 - Speaking (30\% of A Level)

In addition to the topics above and the revision of Year 12 topics, students will also study a film and a piece of literature (Un Sac De Billes by Joseph Joffo) which will both be examined in their Paper 2 examination. Year 13 students will also undertake an 'Individual Research Project' which will form part of their Paper 3 examination and they may choose to explore any aspect of the Frenchspeaking/Francophone world.

## CAREERS

Having an A Level in French means that you are a rare gem. You instantly stand out from others as you have taken the time and put in the effort to learn someone else's language at a higher level. Language graduates can follow careers in interpreting, translating, international relations, humanitarianism, education, foreign language intelligence etc. Language study provides you with a wide range of transferable skills that will be a benefit to any employer.


## GEOGRAPHY

| Exam Board | AQA |
| :--- | :--- |
| Final Assessments | Year 13 |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Geography is a two year course and is designed to address key ideas and debates in our world today. Students will explore a range of issues and examine potential solutions to them. Students will acquire and apply a wide range of geographical and transferable skills through the study of the units below.

This two year course comprises of a mix of the physical and human topics including Water and Carbon cycle, Coastal Systems and Landscapes, Changing Places, Global Systems and Global Governance, Hazards and Contemporary Urban Environments.

Students are also required to carry out enquiry based fieldwork on both Human and Physical topics. This fieldwork will be carried out in Year 12 on a trip either locally or internationally and will help students write an independent research paper.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

- Paper 1 - Physical Geography: 2 hour 30 Paper 1 - Physical Geography: 2 hour 30 minutes examination ( 120 marks) $=40 \%$
- Paper 2 - Human Geography: 2 hour 30 minutes examination ( 120 marks) $=40 \%$
- Geography fieldwork investigation based on a question or issue defined and developed by the student relating to any part of the specification content. 3000 to 4000 words 60 marks = 20\%


## CAREERS

Students with A level Geography have access to a wide range of possible career and Higher Education opportunities. Transferable skills learned and developed throughout the course include collecting, analysing, displaying and interpreting data, and identifying and developing links between the physical and human aspects of the course. Such skills are recognised and highly valued by employers, universities and colleges.

Careers for which a Geography qualification is desirable include Town Planning, Cartography, Leisure and Tourism, Landscape Architect, Conservation, Teaching, Geology and the Military.


## HISTORY

| Exam Board | Edexcel |
| :--- | :--- |
| Final Assessments | Year 13 |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

A Level History is a two-year course and all exams are taken at the end of the second year. Students will analyse and evaluate historical knowledge and define and assess achievement of the knowledge, skills and understanding that will be needed by students planning to progress to undergraduate study at higher education establishments. Students will be able to identify and assess similarities and differences between areas studied. Construct and develop coherent arguments that embed Historical vocabulary. It complements subjects such as English, Government and Politics, Economics and Business.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

A-Level:

- Paper 1 - The USA, c1920-55: boom, bust and recovery: 1 hour 30 minutes ( $20 \%$ of A Level)
- Paper 2 - Rebellion and disorder under the Tudors, 1485-1603. 2 hours 15 minutes (30\% of A Level)
- A 3,000-4,000-word coursework project using historical articles, books and sources will also be completed. ( $20 \%$ of A Level)
- Paper 3 - Britain Transformed, 1918-97 and The USA, c1920-55: boom, bust and recovery: 2hours 15 minutes (30\% A Level)

CAREERS

Studying History can open up a wide range of job opportunities both in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors. Students interested in careers in Law, Business, Education, Civil Service, Museums or Politics can obtain vital knowledge and skills to aid them in these industries.


| Exam Board | PEARSON IA LEVEL |
| :--- | :--- |
| Can this course be taken as an AS Level? | Yes |
| Does the AS level grade count to the final <br> A level grade? | Yes |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

A Level Mathematics is a two-year course. Students have the option to study for just one year by completing 3 units, or study for two years to achieve the full A Level by entering for a total of 6 units.

The units covered at AS and A2 are as follows;

- Unit P1 (AS): Algebra and functions; coordinate geometry in the ( $\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y}$ ); trigonometry; differentiation; integration.
- Unit P2 (AS): Proof; algebra and functions; binomial expansion; coordinate geometry in the ( $x, y$ ) plane; sequences and series; exponentials and logarithms; trigonometry; differentiation; integration.
- Unit P3 (A2): Algebra and functions; trigonometry; exponentials and logarithms; differentiation; integration; numerical methods.
- Unit P4 (A2): Proof; algebra and functions; coordinate geometry in the ( $x, y$ ) plane; binomial expansion; differentiation; integration; vectors.
- Unit S1 (AS): Mathematical models in probability and statistics; representation and summary of data; probability; correlation and regression; discrete random variables; discrete distributions; the Normal distribution.
- Unit S2 (A2): The Binomial and Poisson distributions; continuous random variables; continuous distributions; samples; hypothesis tests.
- Unit M1 (A2): Mathematical models in mechanics; constant acceleration; vectors in mechanics; kinematics of a particle moving in a straight line; dynamics of a particle moving in a straight line or plane; statics of a particle; moments.
- Units P1-P4 and S1 are compulsory. Students will sit one of S2 or M1 in Year 13.


## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

Each unit is externally assessed with a written examination of 1 hour and 30 minutes of 75 marks.

## CAREERS

Advanced Level Mathematics is a useful and, in some cases, essential qualification for advancing into higher education or pursuing a career in Science, Engineering, Accountancy or Computer Science.

## FURTHER MATHEMATICS

| Exam Board | PEARSON IA LEVEL |
| :--- | :--- |
| Can this course be taken as an AS Level? | Yes |
| Does the AS level grade count to the final <br> A level grade? | Yes |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

A Level Further Mathematics is a two-year course. Students have the option to study for just one year by completing 3 units, or study for two years to achieve the full A Level by entering for a total of 6 units. This is in addition to the six units covered in A-level Mathematics.

The units covered at AS and A2 are as follows;

- Unit FP1 (AS): Complex numbers; roots of quadratic equations; numerical solution of equations; coordinate, systems; matrix algebra; transformations using matrices; series; proof.
- Unit D1 (AS): Algorithms; algorithms on graphs; algorithms on graphs II; critical path analysis; linear programming.
- Unit M1 (AS): Mathematical models in mechanics; constant acceleration; vectors in mechanics; kinematics of a particle moving in a straight line; dynamics of a particle moving in a straight line or plane; statics of a particle; moments.
- Unit FP2 (A2): Inequalities; series; further complex numbers; first order differential equations; second order differential equations; Maclaurin and Taylor series; Polar coordinates.
- Unit FP3 (A2): Hyperbolic functions; further coordinate systems; differentiation; integration; vectors; further matrix algebra.
- Unit M2 (AS): Mathematical models in probability and statistics; representation and summary of data; probability; correlation and regression; discrete random variables; discrete distributions; the normal distribution.

It is compulsory to study A-level Mathematics and have achieved a grade 9 in GCSE Mathematics to study Further Maths at A-level.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

Each unit is externally assessed with a written examination of 1 hour and 30 minutes of 75 marks.


| Exam Board | AQA |
| :--- | :--- |
| Final Assessments | Year 13 |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Media Studies is a two year course. Through studying Media Studies students will view, evaluate and analyse a variety of media products, and develop practical skills spanning a range of media forms. You'll find contemporary, diverse topics and varied and engaging content, helping students to develop research, problem-solving skills as well as their creativity. You'll also refine your debating skills through the discussion of contemporary issues from a range of perspectives.

The A Level specifications offer a smooth progression from GCSE Media Studies and provide a scope to learn around contemporary thinking in Media Studies. Students will also extend their practical skills in their chosen medium, building their capacity for independent research, and gaining a deeper appreciation and understanding of the role media plays in day- to-day life.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

This is a linear course, so students will sit all their exams and submit all their non-exam assessments at the end of the course.

The course specification consists of two written exams and a coursework-style assessment.

- Paper 1 Media One - Focus on Media Language and Media Representations: 2 hours, 84 marks ( $35 \%$ of A-level)
- Paper 2 Media Two - Focus on the in-depth media forms of television, magazines and online, social and participatory media/ video games: 2 hours 84 marks ( $35 \%$ of Alevel)
- Non-exam assessment: Creating a crossmedia production: 60 marks ( $30 \%$ of Alevel)


## CAREERS

A qualification in Media will allow students to progress on to higher education courses in Broadcasting, Film, Media, Advertising and Marketing. Students will also develop a range of transferable critical analytical and research skills for application in employment.


| Exam Board | Edexcel |
| :--- | :--- |
| Final Assessments | Year 13 |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Music is a two year course. This qualification will support students in forming personal and meaningful relationships with music through the development of musical knowledge, understanding and skills, including performing, composing and appraising. Students will be encouraged to engage critically and creatively with a wide range of music and musical contexts, develop an understanding of the place of music in different cultures and contexts, and reflect on how music is used in the expression of personal and collective identities. This qualification will also allow students to develop particular strengths and interests, encourage lifelong learning and provide access to higher education and university degree courses in music and music-related subjects, as well as music-related and other careers. Music is considered to be an academic discipline and is often used in line with Science and Math options.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

- UNIT 1: Performing Music

This unit gives students the chance to perform as soloists and/or as part of an ensemble.

- UNIT 2: Composing

This unit encourages students to develop their compositional skills leading to the creation of pieces.

- UNIT 3: Appraising

The purpose of this unit is for students to develop their listening and appraising skills through the study of music across a variety of styles and genres. The content is grouped into six areas of study, each of which contains three set works.

## CAREERS

A Level Music is a useful and, in some cases, essential qualification for advancement in further education or the pursuit of a career in Performing, Teaching, Music Therapy, Arts and Entertainment, Music Publishing, Radio, Television, Marketing, Journalism and the Record Industry.


## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

| Exam Board | Edexcel |
| :--- | :--- |
| Final Assessments | Year 13 |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

PE is a two year course. The syllabus consists of four components detailed below:

Component 1: Scientific Principles of Physical Education includes two topics:

- Topic 1: Applied anatomy and physiology
- Topic 2: Exercise physiology and applied movement analysis

Component 2: Psychological and Social Principles of Physical Education includes 3 topics: Topic 3: Skill acquisition

- Topic 4: Sport psychology
- Topic 5: Sport and society

Component 3: Practical Performance - skills performed in one physical activity as a player/ performer or as a coach

Component 4: Performance Development Programme - in the role of player/performer or coach analyse two components of a physical activity. They will also analyse, implement and evaluate a Performance Development Programme

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

The written assessments consist of short, long and extended answer questions. Component 3 and 4 are both assessed internally and moderated externally.

## CAREERS

Possible career pathways for those with A Level PE include Match Analyst, Nutritionist, Journalist, Sports Development Officer, Physiotherapist, Sport Teaching/Lecturing and many more. For those with career aspirations elsewhere, A Level PE has many commonalities with a number of other courses and is complimented particularly well by Biology, Psychology, History and to a lesser extent Mathematics and Physics. Physical Education courses also provide future applicants with evidence of the development of their social and interpersonal skills which are often not accessible courses and always looked upon favourably by employers and admissions officers.


| Exam Board | Pearson Edexcel IAL |
| :--- | :--- |
| Can this course be taken as an AS Level? | Yes |
| Does the AS level grade count to the final <br> A level grade? | Yes |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

A Level Physics is a two-year course. Students have the option to study for just one year and sit the AS level, or study for two years to achieve the full $A$ Level.

The aim of the A Level Physics course is to develop a deeper knowledge of the subject for students. The course aims to develop an understanding of the link between the theory and experimental work. Students will develop the skills needed to use this knowledge and understanding in new and changing situations.

It will also give students an appreciation of how Physics has developed and is used in present day society. Students have the option to study for just one year and sit the AS level, or study for two years to achieve the full A Level.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

Assessments contribute to the full A Level grade at the end of Year 13 and can be re-sat in October, January and May/June of the second year. A further three papers are also sat at the end of the Year 13.

## AS Exams:

- Unit 1: Mechanics and Materials - 1 hour and 30 minutes examination - $40 \%$ ( $20 \%$ of A Level)
- Unit 2: Waves and Electricity - 1 hour and 30 minutes examination - 40\% (20\% of A Level)
- Unit 3: Practical Skills in Physics I-1 hour and 20 minutes examination - 20\% ( $10 \%$ of A Level)


## A Level Exams:

- Unit 4: Further Mechanics, Fields and Particles - 1 hour and 45 minutes examination-20\% of A Level
- Unit 5: Thermodynamics, Radiation, Oscillations and Cosmology - 1 hour and 45 minutes examination - 20\% of A Level
- Unit 6: Practical Skills in Physics II - 1 hour and 20 minutes examination - 10\% of A Level


## CAREERS

Physics can lead to a wide range of courses and degrees. It is usually essential for any engineering degree. Students could use Physics to support other qualifications or progress onto further studies or employment, ranging from the Higher National Diplomas to degree courses. Physics relates to courses in the Sciences, Medicine, Radiography, Physiotherapy, Engineering and Biotechnology.


| Exam Board | AQA |
| :--- | :--- |
| Final Assessments | Year 13 |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

A Level Psychology is a two-year course. Students will sit all 3 exams at the end of their second year of study.

Psychology is the scientific study of the human psyche (the physical brain and the cognitive mind) and behaviour. Students will study a broad range of topics allowing them to understand the impact of biology, cognitive processes and environment on an individual on a variety of topics. We will cover contemporary issues such as mental health at a range of levels. For example, by comparing biological explanations of clinical depression with the social perspective that believes depression is caused by the increased challenges of modern living and the way we perceive our environment.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

The A-Level will be assessed through three separate 2 -hour papers of equal weighting. Psychology will be assessed through a combination of extended essays, multiple choice, and application questions. There is no coursework in this subject

## Unit Description A Level:

- Paper 1: Social Influence, Memory, Attachment, Psychopathology
- Paper 2: Approaches, Biopsychology, Research Methods
- Paper 3: Issues and debates in Psychology, Relationships, Schizophrenia, Forensic Psychology


## CAREERS

Students of Psychology go on to study a hugely diverse range of higher education courses, including degrees in Psychology leading to a number of careers such as Clinical Psychology, Forensic Psychology, Educational Psychology, Sports Psychology etc. In addition to this it opens up opportunities to go down other routes such as Journalism, Business, Advertising, Law, Philosophy, Teaching qualifications and Social Work.

## SOCIOLOGY

| Exam Board | AQA |
| :--- | :--- |
| Final Assessments | Year 13 |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

A Level Sociology is a two-year course. Students will sit all three exams at the end of their second year of study.

Sociology is the study of societies and, unlike other disciplines, it looks at how people live, behave and work together in groups. It asks questions about the world that we live in and students are invited to consider and explain the way society is organised and why. Sociology students develop a sociological imagination that allows them to make sense of their own experiences and consider novel arguments about the structure of society and encourages new ways of seeing the world. Sociology is an evidence-based subject, which means it is not simply based on personal opinion, but methodically collected evidence. Research can be carried out in a number of different ways, for example interviews, questionnaires, observations and secondary sources. If you are interested in how society works, then Sociology is the subject for you.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

The A Level will be assessed through three separate 2 -hour papers of equal weighting. Students will be assessed through a combination of extended essays, short answer questions and application questions. There is no coursework in this subject

## Unit Description A Level:

- Paper 1: Education, Methods in Context, Theory and Methods
- Paper 2: Families and Households. Media.
- Paper 3: Crime and Deviance, Theory and Metho


## CAREERS

Students of Sociology go on to study a hugely diverse range of higher education courses, including degrees in Journalism, Business, Philosophy, Social Science, Teaching and Social Work.


## SPANISH

| Exam Board | AQA |
| :--- | :--- |
| Final Assessments | Year 13 |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

A Level Spanish is a two-year course. All exams are taken at the end of the second year. This course encourages a deeper understanding of Spanish society and culture. Students will develop their fluency in speaking and writing through the study of various topics, a book and a film in Spanish.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

## A Level:

- Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing (50\% of A Level)
- Paper 2: Writing (20\% of A Level)
- Paper 3: Speaking (30\% of A Level) Students will study 'El Laberinto del Fauno' (Pan's Labyrinth) by Guillermo del Toro and 'El Requiem por un campesino español' by Ramón J. Sender which will both be examined in their Paper 2 exam.
Year 13 students will also undertake an "Individual Research Project" which will form part of their Paper 2 exam and they may choose to explore any aspect of the Spanish speaking/Hispanic world.


## CAREERS

Having an A Level in Spanish means that you are a rare gem. You instantly stand out from others as you have taken the time and put in the effort to learn someone else's language at a higher level. Language graduates can follow careers in interpreting, translating, international relations, humanitarianism, education, foreign language intelligence etc. Language study provides you with a wide range of transferable skills that will be a benefit to any employer.



# COURSE GUIDE 

BTEC Courses
Business.................................... 33
Travel and Tourism............... 34
ARABIC AND
ISLAMIC STUDIES.
35

# BTEC International Level 3 Diploma BUSINESS - Diploma and Subsidiary Diploma 

| Exam Board | PEARSON BTEC |
| :--- | :--- |
| Courses | BTEC International Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in |
| Business. This is the equivalent of 1 A Level or |  |
| BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Business. |  |
| This is the equivalent of 2 A Levels. |  |
| These courses are 2 year programmes |  |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

The BTEC International Level 3 Diploma in Business enables students to focus on a range of business topics and gain a developed knowledge of Business across the globe. Students will be assessed in a variety of formats and gain educational as well as practical business skills.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

This qualification provides a broad understanding of the way businesses work. Students study a range of units each focusing on a different aspect of the Business world.

The Subsidiary Diploma involves studying 4 units, spread across 2 years.

The Diploma involves studying 9 units, spread across two years. There are mandatory units, optional units and Pearson Set Assignments. Pearson Set assignments will be completed under Controlled Conditions within school. Students will be awarded either Pass, Merit, Distinction for each unit. Students can achieve a Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction* at the end of the course.

## Compulsory Units (Subsidiary Diploma):

Unit 1 - Exploring Business
Unit 2 - Research and Plan a Marketing
Campaign
Unit 3 - Business Finance

## Compulsory Unis (Diploma):

Unit 1 - Exploring Business
Unit 2 - Research and Plan a Marketing Campaign
Unit 3 - Business Finance
Unit 4 Managing an Event
Unit 7 Business Decision Making
Optional units will be chosen based upon the cohort of students and their individual requirements and preferences.

## CAREERS

BTEC International Level 3 in Business provides a route into the many diverse areas of business. These could include specialist areas such as marketing, finance, customer service or human resources, in large organisations or a role in small, local business. It also provides the opportunity to access higher education.

# BTEC International Travel and Tourism <br> - Subsidiary Diploma 

| Exam Board | PEARSON EDEXCEL |
| :--- | :--- |
| Course | BTEC International Subsidiary Diploma in Travel <br> and Tourism. This is the equivalent of 1 A Level. <br> This course is a 2 year programme. |

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSES

The BTEC course aims to give students a vocational based qualification designed to provide a choice of routes into further education or employment. The course covers such topics as: Introducing the Travel and Tourism Sector, Customer Service and Work Experience placements within a Travel and Tourism setting.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

This qualification provides a broad understanding of the Travel \& Tourism industry. The Subsidiary Diploma involves studying 5 units, spread across two years. There are two mandatory units, three optional units and one of the core units is a Pearson Set Assignments. Pearson Set assignments will be completed under Controlled Conditions within school. Students will be awarded either Pass, Merit, Distinction for each unit.

The units are assessed internally by means of assignments, which are based on practical "hands on" tasks taught in the context of real jobs and careers in the Travel sector. This gives you the chance to explore the opportunities offered in that sector, and to acquire appropriate vocational skills. Students can achieve a Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction* at the end of the course.

## COURSE CONTENT:

Compulsory units:
Unit 1 - The Travel and Tourism Industry
Unit 4 - Customer Service in Travel and Tourism.

Optional units will be chosen based upon the cohort of students and their individual requirements and preferences.

## CAREERS

The Level 3 BTEC in Travel and Tourism allows access to a range of career and further education opportunities. A variety of higher education courses exist that are based around leisure, travel or tourism management and a number of our students have entered The Emirates Academy of Hospitality Management in Dubai and Hague Hotelschool in The Netherlands or university courses in the United Kingdom and beyond to study such related areas.

Alternatively, there are many careers that build on the Level 3 BTEC in Travel and Tourism, including working in a travel agency or theme park or the leisure industry and careers related to travel or hotel management particularly prevalent within the UAE. The Travel and Tourism market is a rapidly expanding area in the 21st century and this is especially true in Dubai.

# COURSE GUIDE <br> ARABIC AND <br> ISLAMIC STUDIES. 

## ARABIC \& ISLAMIC STUDIES

## ARABIC

Number of years of study: 2 years (year $12 \& 13$ )

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

All Arab passport holders will follow the Ministry of Education syllabus in Year 12 and be entered for the Ministry of Education examination at the end of the year. It is a requirement of the Ministry of Education in Dubai that all Arab passport holders must have an attested certificate from the Ministry of Education at the end of Year 12. This is required to progress to Higher Education in GCC countries or into employment now, or in the future. Students will have three lessons of Arabic per week.

There will also be an opportunity for gifted Arabic speakers to follow, AS or A level course subject to individual student needs and staffing resources.

## ISLAMIC STUDIES

Number of years of study: 2 years (year 12 \& year 13)

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

All Muslim students will follow the Ministry of Education syllabus in Islamic Studies in Year 12 and Year 13. There are two routes of study with the first being for Arab Muslims in their target language of Arabic. The second route is for non-Arab Muslims who will be taught in English. The students will receive two lessons per week and will sit the Ministry of Education examination in Islamic Studies, in either Arabic or English.

# COURSE GUIDE 

EXTENDED PROJECT
QUALIFICATION................... 39

## EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

## Exam Board <br> BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Edexcel

The EPQ award is offered as a free-standing project qualification which allows you to explore an area of personal interest, or an extension of something that is relevant to your degree focus. You can create either a dissertation, an investigation/field study, a performance or an artefact.

The award is equivalent to half an A Level and can be awarded up to 28 UCAS points. It gives students the opportunity to develop critical, reflective, problem-solving and independent learning skills through the planning, research and evaluation of a self-selected project.

## SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

The EPQ is entirely project based and is submitted in Year 13. You will work closely with your facilitator who will help you to improve your project and use marking grids to give you regular feedback. There are no exams but there are a series of deadlines to keep to in order to stay on the course.

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students require a (I) GCSE grade 6 (B) in English Literature or Language.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF COURSE SKILLS

One of the advantages of the EPQ is that it develops skills which universities are looking for and sets you apart from other candidates applying for the same course. In completing the EPQ, you will develop your planning, research, written and reflection skills as well as having ample experience in working independently - a very important skill for university. It also proves that you can find relevant sources of information and analyse them to a very high level.


# COURSE GUIDE 

THE ENGLISH COLLEGE DIPLOMA................41-42

## THE ENGLISH COLLEGE DIPLOMA

The World Economic Forum published a list of 21st Century skills that students will need in future jobs. These included critical thinking, cognitive flexibility and emotional intelligence. At EC we have incorporated these skills to build a 'futureproof' curriculum. To supplement our standard A level or BTEC diet, we have developed the EC Diploma which is a set of competencies called 'domains' that we want our students to aspire to. These domains, if achieved, demonstrate that a student has breadth, has a wide range of skills and abilities and is an ambitious and competitive candidate. The Diploma aims to emphasise the importance of achievements beyond the classroom to form a student who will make a positive contribution to the world after school.


By being part of the Sixth Form at the English College each student automatically completes some of the domains for the Diploma through our Pastoral Curriculum (the domains in turquoise below). Each student will also use their non-study time at the College to work towards the additional domains (in orange and red) and record evidence for them. The Diploma emphasises the importance of demonstrating skills beyond their academics, develops the students holistically and produces experiences that make our students more competitive for their university applications.


The Conservationist 8 es Effectivaly contribute to the communitys endeavours for sustainability


## THE ENGLISH COLLEGE DIPLOMA

There are 3 levels of recognition for the Diploma and they are awarded depending on the number of domains that each student has evidenced throughout year 12 and year 13 .

The levels are:

- The English College Certificate (students must complete the 4 certificate domains)
- The English College Diploma (students must complete the Certificate domains and 6 of the 8 Diploma domains)
- The English College Diploma with Honours (students must complete the Certificate domains and 6 of the 8 Diploma domains, and 2 of the 4 Honours domains.


Our Pastoral team will help guide students through how to evidence and achieve the domains of the Diploma throughout their time in the EC Sixth Form. We will then award the Diploma's as part of the students graduation at the end of year 13 .



