



# Sixth Form 2026-27 Prospectus

#LipsonLife 

# The Ted Wragg Trust Advantage



An **ambitious** and **inclusive** Trust of schools **strengthening** our **communities** through **excellent education**.



We are thrilled you are considering becoming part of our community and our mission to transform lives, strengthen communities and make the world a better place.

Within our sixth forms we are dedicated to fostering a culture of relentlessly positive collaboration, empowering our students to reach their aspirations and go on to live a life of opportunity.

As part of the Ted Wragg Trust, you will have access to a strong network and wide range of support and opportunities from across our family of schools.

## Offering unique opportunities



**The Sixth Form Conference** - bringing together sixth form students from across our schools for learning opportunities, wellbeing support and fun activities.



**The Ted Wragg Awards** - an opportunity to recognise and reward the remarkable contributions across our family of schools, shining a light on those who go above and beyond to make a lasting impact.



**University application support** - high quality support for students going through the university application process. We have strong links to the University of Exeter, University of Plymouth and Plymouth Marjon and regularly partner with these institutions for events and learning opportunities.

# Lipson

## Cooperative Academy



To experience all angles of Lipson Sixth Form life, please scan these codes

Take a virtual tour



Visit our website



See us on  
Plymouth Live



6<sup>th</sup> Form at  
Lipson



The Class of 2025



Students' Say



Years 12 & 13



Expanding Horizons



Alumni



Contact us at [sixthform@lipson.plymouth.sch.uk](mailto:sixthform@lipson.plymouth.sch.uk)



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LipsonCooperativeAcademy



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# Kevin Mee, Head of Sixth Form

## Welcome to Lipson Co-operative Academy Sixth Form



IT gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the Sixth Form at Lipson Co-operative Academy. The choices that students make now regarding their courses at post 16 will probably be some of the most important during their educational journey/pathway. This document provides you with advice and information on what we can offer you in the next phase of your education.

Lipson is a fantastic place to learn and study; it is a place our students enjoy being part of and thrive in. The opportunities, both academically and personally that a student receives at Lipson, not only mean that we retain our current students, but also attract students from other colleges and schools in the local area.

Our results in Sixth Form have continued to be positive year on year and I wanted to share this success in a few key points below. In 2025, we:

- 97% of students achieved a place at their first-choice university
- Doubled the number of students attending Russell Group universities
- Secured apprenticeships with highly regarded providers

We recognise that students' choice of courses in Sixth Form is an important one; the decision that is made now is not just for the next couple of years but is about the rest of their lives. In choosing Lipson, you will choose the things that are most important to your future and we endeavor to support every student through that individual journey whatever route that may be.

We look forward to welcoming you into the Sixth Form at Lipson.

Mr Kevin Mee  
Head of Sixth Form

### INTERNAL APPLICATION PROCESS TIMELINE

**Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

Lipson Sixth Form Open Evening



**Friday, November 28<sup>th</sup> 2025**

Application Form to be completed online



**Week Commencing January 12<sup>th</sup> 2026**

One to One interviews with the Sixth Form team



**Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup> 2026**

Conditional Offers made dependent on exam results



**Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup> 2026**

External Application deadline



**Monday-Wednesday, June 29<sup>th</sup> - July 1<sup>st</sup> 2026**

Sixth Form Induction Days



**Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup> 2026**

GCSE Results Day



**September**

Four-week assessment process, for all students, to ensure course suitability

# The Application Process

## How many subjects do I choose?

We recommend that all students study 3 subjects if they are following the academic pathway. In some cases, and based on GCSE results, students can take up to 4 subject choices.

## How do I apply?

Students need to apply by completing the online Sixth Form application using the QR codes on page 8, or, alternatively, email us at sixthform@lipson.plymouth.sch.uk.

## When is the deadline?

All internal applications should be received by Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2025. Applications received after the deadline date will be held on the waiting list.

## Can I change my courses after the deadline?

Yes, you can still make changes to your application form. All the courses you have selected and your suitability will be discussed at your interview.

## When are the interviews?

Interviews will take place during February. These will be arranged at a convenient time for internal students during the school day and an open afternoon will be held for any external students in March, if required.

On the day of the interview, both internal and external students will need to bring evidence of their predicted GCSE grades and current attendance percentage.

## Academic Qualifications

### What are Academic Qualifications?

Academic qualifications are offered by schools and colleges for students aged between 16 and 19. They follow GCSEs and generally focus on academic subjects. There are many different A-Level and BTEC subjects that you can take, some will be subjects that you might have studied at GCSEs and others might be new.

Academic qualifications are very highly valued by employers and universities so they can open up lots of doors to further study and careers.

### Which careers require A-Levels?

Some careers require you to have a degree, and you need to have specific A-Levels to get a place on that degree.

Some common ones are:

- Veterinary Science, which requires Biology and one or two subjects from Chemistry, Maths or Physics
- Medicine, which requires Chemistry, Biology and either Maths or Physics
- Dentistry, which requires Chemistry Biology and either Maths or Physics

If you have a certain degree or career in mind it's really important that you have a look at the entry requirements to those courses when choosing your A-Levels. Unifrog will support you here.

This will also be checked by the Sixth Form team as part of the interview process so do not panic!

### Unsure on which career?

If you have no idea what you want to do next then you're better off choosing a more general subject. There are some A-levels that help you to keep your options open; these are known as facilitating subjects.

The more of these subjects you choose, the more university courses you will find are open to you when you start applying. If you don't have a certain degree or career in mind it's definitely worth considering these.

### What are the entry requirements for Academic Qualifications?

Please see the subject specific entry requirements, but these are usually targeted at students achieving grade 6 and above at GCSE, although some subjects consider grade 5.

# Personal Development and Enrichment Opportunities

We understand that the success of a student does not always just come down to academic outcomes. Students' personal development and the experiences they gain are just as important as the hard work they put into their studies. This is key to being a Lipson student.

By the time students leave Lipson, we want them to be well-rounded individuals who are confident in applying the skills and experiences they have learnt into everyday life. We recognise that every student has their own individual pathway and we want to be able to offer something to every student that will support them on that journey, which is why our offer of personal development and enrichment opportunities is so vast.

On the current curriculum students will have access to:

**iStudy** - All sixth form students are expected to undertake independent study as part of their Level 3 courses. We have a dedicated supervised area set aside for completion of independent study and homework. We place a great deal of importance on Independent study, with current research showing that this has a great impact on students outcomes.

**Study Skills Tutor Programme** - All students access our specialist study skills program, which teaches students new skills on how to study.

**Extended Project** - Students can opt into taking Extended Project as an additional qualification. This is a well recognised Level 3 qualification and allows students to independently demonstrate the skills and knowledge that both universities and employees demand from young adults. The qualification carries UCAS points and can sometimes carry a reduced offer from university.

**Uplearn** - Students who study Maths, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Psychology all have access to this platform.

**Scholar Schemes** - University of Exeter, Reading University, Loughborough University and UNIQ.

To support personal development and wellbeing all students have the opportunity to take part in the following:

Devon Wednesday Football Team  
 Debate Club  
 Age UK Work Experience  
 Pelican of London  
 InterMed  
 Sport and Wellbeing  
 Art Mindfulness  
 Mensa Club  
 Design a Business  
 Volunteering  
 Board Games Club  
 Film Club



# Careers

Students receive up to date information, advice and guidance from the Sixth Form Careers Leader, Mrs Lincoln.

The Academy also offers independent careers meetings with a Career Development Consultant from Plymouth City Council. This means that students are able to make informed decisions as to which post 18 pathway is appropriate for them, leading to sustained career destinations.

Students are encouraged to consider all opportunities available to them, ranging from university degrees, higher and degree apprenticeships, gap years and full-time employment, particularly for those who have followed a vocational pathway.

This advice is done in such a way that those students who are not sure of their final destinations in life are helped to keep as many doors open as possible, thus allowing them to progress successfully once completing their studies in the Sixth Form.

The real strength of our Careers Education and Guidance model is its developmental nature, taking into consideration an individual student's ever-changing needs and career aspirations as they progress through Key 4 and on into post 16 education; we endeavour to make these transitions as seamless as possible and students are continually asked to reflect on their learning and progression, thereby preparing them for success in life outside school.

Parents are also invited to be a part of the guidance process, establishing an on-going and effective dialogue between the academy and parents/carers so as to meet the best interest of all students.

In addition, OFSTED's remote monitoring visit in February 2021 identified that we "have rightly prioritised careers guidance to support pupils in their transition to the next phase of education, training or employment."

Please see our Careers Education and Guidance Policy and our Core Careers Education and Guidance Programme on the Academy website for more information.



To see where our students go, check out the back page

# Apply to Our Sixth Form

## How to Apply

Please follow the simple steps to apply for your place at Lipson Sixth Form:

**Identify what subjects that you are interested in** – use this prospectus to find out about the subjects we offer that interest you. If you would like any further information about a specific subject please do not hesitate to get in contact with school using the contact information on page 2.

**Apply** – Applications to Sixth Form for all students can be made electronically by following the QR codes below. Internal candidates (Lipson students), please use your school email to access. External candidates, please following the QR code for External Students or email [sixthform@lipson.plymouth.sch.uk](mailto:sixthform@lipson.plymouth.sch.uk).

**Blocks** - Please choose three subjects in different blocks using the table below. Should there be two subjects in the same block that you wish to study, please make a note on the application form and solutions can be discussed at interview.

A	B	C	D	E
Chemistry Double Sport English French Photography	Applied Science IT Maths Media Politics Psychology	Art Biology Business Engineering History RE	Geography HSC Performing Arts Physics Single Sport Sociology	Core Maths Further Maths Music

**Attend an interview** – After we receive your application we will invite you to attend an interview with one of the team who will also be able to answer any questions you may have. We will also be able to check your suitability and check any further aspirations such as university, if needed.

**Receive your offer** - We will let you know if you've been successful and offer you a conditional place at Lipson Sixth Form subject to achieving the relevant entry requirements.

**Results Day** - A place in Lipson Sixth Form will be confirmed after GCSE grades. If your results are not what you were expecting, we can discuss your options.

## Start of Term

We looking forward to welcoming you to our the Sixth Form in September.



Application form  
for Internal Students

**Any questions?**  
 Thanks for taking the time to read through our Sixth Form Prospectus. If you have any further questions regarding the application process, please do not hesitate to get in touch.  
 Please email [sixthform@lipson.plymouth.sch.uk](mailto:sixthform@lipson.plymouth.sch.uk)



Application form  
for External Students

An abstract graphic featuring a central white circle from which several colorful rays (orange, yellow, green, blue, purple) extend outwards. Each ray terminates in a semi-transparent sphere of the same color. The rays and spheres are arranged in a starburst pattern, creating a sense of dynamic energy and interconnectedness.

# Academic Courses

# Biology A Level

If you are interested in the natural world, the environment, health and the human body and you would like to deepen your understanding of the key processes that enable life to exist, A Level Biology is the course for you.

The structure of the course is designed to instill key skills and promote a fuller understanding of the concepts linking the natural world; in short, to produce skilled scientists.

## What you will study in Year 12

Development of practical skills in biology  
Foundations in biology  
Exchange and transport  
Biodiversity, evolution and disease

## What you will study in Year 13

Development of practical skills in biology  
Communication, homeostasis and energy  
Genetics, evolution and ecosystems

## Where could this take you?

Biology is one of the most popular A Level subjects in the country, attracting students studying a wide range of other subjects. Many of the students enjoy the subject so much they eventually choose a biologically related degree course. Others go on to degrees in law, computing, accounting or teaching. So, whatever field you will eventually work in, you will find Biology a very rewarding and challenging course which will develop many of the skills essential for a successful career.

**Potential degree courses supported by Biology A Level:** Medicine, Physiotherapy, Biological Sciences, Bachelor of Education-Science, Veterinary courses, Dentistry, Biochemistry, Nursing, Midwifery, Ocean Science, plus many more!



## Examinations

**Paper 1:** Biological processes (2 hours 15 minutes)

**Paper 2:** Biological diversity (2 hours 15 minutes)

**Paper 3:** Unified biology (1 hour 30 minutes)

## Practical skills

Practical skills will be assessed throughout the two year programme as part core practical activities. Practical work is central to any study of biology. For this reason, the specification includes these activities which form a thread, linking theoretical knowledge and understanding to practical scenarios.

## Entry Requirements

- Grade 6 in GCSE Science
- Grade 6 or above in English and Mathematics
- 5 GCSE's at grade 5 and above

# Chemistry A Level

Have you ever wondered; “How do fireworks work?”, “Where does medicine come from?”, “Why is everyone going on about global warming and the ozone?”. Come and find out with this real world, application of knowledge based course.

The structure of the course is designed to promote a love for Chemistry through developing the essential key skills required by the scientists of the future.

## Key skills required and developed

Basic and applied maths, data interpretation, problem solving, note taking, research, communication, teamwork, measurement, analysis, evaluation, observation, time management.

## Support and guidance given throughout course

Books, folders, lab reports are monitored on a weekly basis with feedback and improvement questions given. All lesson materials are uploaded to Google Classroom and students are encouraged to review these regularly. All Chemistry teachers encourage students to make use of the 'open door' policy. As A Level students, your teachers expect you to come and ask for help whenever you need it!

### What will you study?

Content is in six modules:

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

### Examinations

(all at end of year 13)

**Paper 1:** Periodic table, elements and physical chemistry (2 hour 15 mins)

**Paper 2:** Synthesis and analytical techniques (2 hour 15 mins)

**Paper 3:** Unified chemistry (1 hour 30 mins)

Practical skills require a teacher-assessed component, Practical Endorsement in Chemistry, which will be assessed throughout the 2 year programme and reported separately.

## Where could this take you?

The successful completion of this course allows you to pursue many careers and higher education choices such as Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary, Forensic Science/Investigation, Pharmaceuticals, Biochemistry, Chemical Engineering, Environmental Health, Patent Lawyer, Nuclear Industry, Oceanography, Radiography and many more. It also gives you the skills to be a highly sought after recruit in almost all walks of life. High level Chemistry qualifications are well regarded by universities and employers as they demonstrate a good grasp of key transferable skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, logical processes and evidence evaluation.

## Entry Requirements

- Grade 6 in GCSE Science
- Grade 6 or above in Mathematics and English Language
- 5 GCSEs at grade 5 and above



# Physics A Level

If you are interested in learning about our universe, from the smallest entity within it to the universe itself, then A Level Physics is for you. This content led approach allows you to develop your knowledge and understanding of the laws of physics and apply them to solve problems on topics ranging from sub-atomic particles to the universe. This course will also develop your practical skillset, where relationships between quantities defined by laws are investigated and analysed.

## Module 1 – Development of practical skills in Physics

- 1.1 Practical skills assessed in a written examination
- 1.2 Practical skills assessed in the practical endorsement

## Module 2 – Foundations of Physics

- 2.1 Physical quantities and units
- 2.2 Making measurements and analysing data
- 2.3 Nature of quantities

## Module 3 – Forces and motion

- 3.1 Motion
- 3.2 Forces in action
- 3.3 Work, energy and power
- 3.4 Materials
- 3.5 Momentum

## Module 4 – Electrons, Waves and Photons

- 4.1 Charge and current
- 4.2 Energy, power and resistance
- 4.3 Electrical circuits
- 4.4 Waves
- 4.5 Quantum physics

## Module 5 – Newtonian world and Astrophysics

- 5.1 Thermal physics
- 5.2 Circular motion
- 5.3 Oscillations
- 5.4 Gravitational fields
- 5.5 Astrophysics and cosmology

## Module 6 – Particles and medical Physics

- 6.1 Capacitors
- 6.2 Electric fields
- 6.3 Electromagnetism
- 6.4 Nuclear and particle physics
- 6.5 Medical imaging

## Support

The course is challenging and requires individuals to work hard both inside and outside of the classroom. There will be five hours of direct teaching per week. We expect students to complete at least 1 hour of independent study for every hour taught in class. All teacher resources, homework tasks, tests, and mark schemes are uploaded to Google Classroom. Students should seek support when they need it outside of lessons; the Physics teachers have an open door policy, meaning you can go to them at any time for support, either in person or by email/Google Classroom.

## Assessment

As with any A Level course, the majority of assessment will be external (written exam), although performance in practical tasks will also be reported.

## There are three examinations

**Modelling physics** - 100 marks, 2 hours 15 minutes (written paper)

**Exploring physics** - 100 marks, 2 hours 15 minutes (written paper)

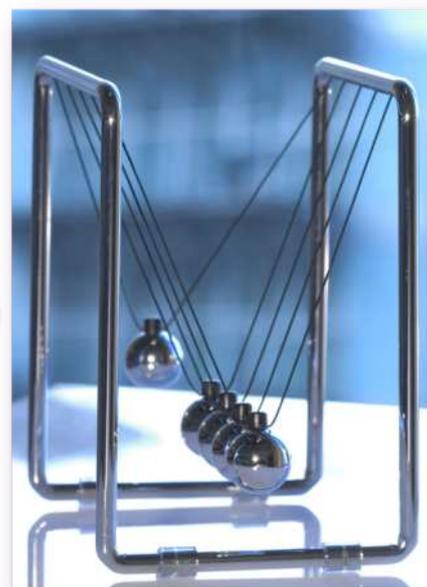
**Unified physics** - 70 marks, 1 hour 30 minutes (written paper)

## Progression

Traditionally A Level Physics students' progress to University. Being a facilitating A Level, it can provide entry not just to Science degree courses, but also a wide range of political, economic and engineering based qualifications.

## Entry Requirements

- Grade 6 or above in GCSE Science
- Grade 6 or above in Mathematics and English Language
- 5 GCSEs at grade 5 and above



# Applied Science L3 BTEC

BTECs embody a fundamentally learner-centered approach to the curriculum, with a flexible, unit-based structure and knowledge applied in project-based assessments. They focus on the holistic development of the practical, interpersonal and thinking skills required to be able to succeed in employment and higher education.

The Level 3 Applied Science Qualification is equivalent to one A Level and carries the equivalent number of UCAS points.

## Overview of course - what can students can expect?

High engagement practical work with minimal external assessment  
 Half the course internally assessed – less examination pressure  
 Practical Skills are assessed  
 Preparation toward Scientific industry or work related courses.  
 Strong links to medical science



## Unit Content

### 01 Principles and application of science

This unit covers some of the key science concepts in biology, chemistry and physics.  
 This is assessed by a traditional written exam (2 hours)

### 02 Practical scientific procedures and techniques

A coursework based unit, where students will be introduced to quantitative laboratory techniques, calibration, chromatography, calorimetry and laboratory safety, which are relevant to the chemical and life science industries.

### 03 Science and investigation skills

Learners will cover the stages involved and the skills needed in planning a scientific investigation: how to record, interpret, draw scientific conclusions and evaluate.

## Skills required to succeed on course

Independence  
 Organisation  
 Investigative  
 Analytical  
 Problem solving  
 Time management  
 Scenario based learning



## Support and guidance given throughout course? How do you monitor and provide intervention as and when?

Regular assessment deadlines – teacher monitoring of progress  
 Support available with coursework and exam preparation

## Where your course can lead to? Career choices?

BTEC applied science carries UCAS points. It can lead to higher education or employment.

## Entry requirements

Grades 4 in English, Maths and Science



# Psychology A Level

If you are interested in the science behind what people do and why they do it, then Psychology is the subject for you! Psychology is 'the science of human mind and behaviour', looking at people as individuals and in groups, and attempting to explain a whole range of thoughts, behaviours and actions.

A Level Psychology is an excellent preparation subject for a degree course in Psychology and for a wide range of careers, including; education, clinical psychology, occupational and forensic psychology, medicine, counselling, criminology, mental health nursing, social work, cognitive science, and advertising. A Level Psychology is a two year course, assessed through examination only. At the end of the second year of study you will sit three exams. You will follow the AQA examination board.

## Skills Required to Study Psychology

Science – Psychology is a science and therefore based on scientific principles and research.

Knowledge and retention – within Psychology you will learn about a range of theories. You must be able to recall how these theories work and explain those using key terms.

Application – you will need to apply your learning to unseen material. You will need to have good knowledge of the underpinning theories in order to explain real life behaviour.

Analytical skills – ability to evaluate theories and studies.

Maths – you will have to carry out practical experiments and be able to analyse data using a range of statistical tests.

### Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology

(50% of AS, 33.3% of A Level)

Social influence (conformity, compliance and obedience)

Memory and forgetting (short-term memory, long-term memory, types of memories)

Attachment (attachment types in infants, deprivation and privation studies)

Clinical psychology and mental health (definitions in the field of mental health)

### Paper 2: Psychology in Context

(50% of AS, 33.3% of A Level).

Approaches in psychology (biological, behaviourist, psychodynamic, cognitive, humanistic)

Biopsychology (how the brain influences behaviour)

Research methods (psychological studies and experiments and methods used to obtain results).

Issues and debates (ethics, free-will, nature vs. nurture)

### Paper 3: Issues and Debates in Psychology

(33.3% of A Level) Optional Subjects

Cognitive Development

Schizophrenia (symptoms, causes and treatments)

Forensic psychology (applying psychology to crime)

## Where could this take you?

Clinical, health, occupational, developmental (child) and sport psychology; medicine, nursing, midwifery, mental health nursing, social work, teaching, advertising, media, criminology, criminal justice, international relations, research scientist, animal management and behaviour.

## Entry Requirements

- Grade 6 or above in GCSE Science
- Grade 6 or above in Mathematics and English
- 5 GCSEs at grade 5 and above



## Health and Social Care BTEC (Extended Certificate)

### Who is this qualification for?

The Pearson Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification BTEC National in Health and Social Care (Extended Certificate) is for students who are interested in learning about the health and social care sector as part of a balanced study programme. It is equivalent in size to one A Level and supports access to a range of higher education courses. The qualification is designed to be taken alongside A Levels as part of a study programme and can link to learning in A Levels such as Psychology, Biology or English. It is intended for students that wish to progress into higher education as a pathway to employment.

### What does this qualification cover?

Four units, of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external.

#### Breakdown of assessment

#### The course consists of 4 units

#### Three mandatory units:

**Unit 1:** Human Lifespan Development (External exam)

**Unit 2:** Human Biology and Health (External exam)

**Unit 3:** Principles of Health and Social Care Practice  
(Internal assessment)

#### One optional unit:

**Unit 5:** Promoting Health Education (Internal assessment)

#### How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed both externally and internally, through externally marked exams or by assignments that are marked in school.

The qualification grade is an aggregation of a learner's unit level performance across the four units of study over the two years. At the end of the course you will

be awarded a

PASS

MERIT

DISTINCTION

or DISTINCTION\*

### What could this qualification lead to?

It should be taken alongside two other subjects such as an A Level in Biology and further Level 3 qualifications, which could lead to a BSc (Hons) in Nursing or a BTEC National Extended Diploma in Applied Science, which could lead to a BSc (Hons) in Biomedical Science, amongst other degree courses such as Primary Teaching and Educational Studies.

### What skills do you need to be successful in this course?

- The ability to learn independently and meet deadlines.
- The ability to research actively and methodically.
- To be able to give presentations and work cooperatively.
- The ability to write effectively.
- The ability to communicate effectively.

### Entry Requirements

- Grade 4 or above in GCSE Science
- Grade 4 or above in Mathematics and English
- 5 GCSEs at grade 4 and above (or BTEC equivalent)



*Studying Health and Social Care in Year 11 is not a requirement of the course but it will help.*



## English Language A Level

Studying English Language at Lipson provides you with a natural progression from your GCSE study of English and encourages you to develop your interest in and appreciation of English, through learning about its structures and its functions, its developments and its variations. The course allows you to develop your ability to express yourself in speech and writing, producing texts for different audiences, purposes and in different genres. In Year 12 the course focuses on written and spoken language and different contexts of language, looking in particular at gender and power. There is also an element of original writing based on a topical language issue, which is assessed by an internal exam in Year 12, with an external exam in Year 13. Topics in Year 13 are child language acquisition, language in the media and language variety and change over time. The A Level exam will test original writing; and there is a coursework element at A Level – independent language research – an investigation into an area of language and a linked production of an academic poster.

### What will you study?

This A Level is a two year option with all of your formal assessments taking place at the end of the second year. The assessments are detailed below.

#### Paper 1: Language, the individual and society

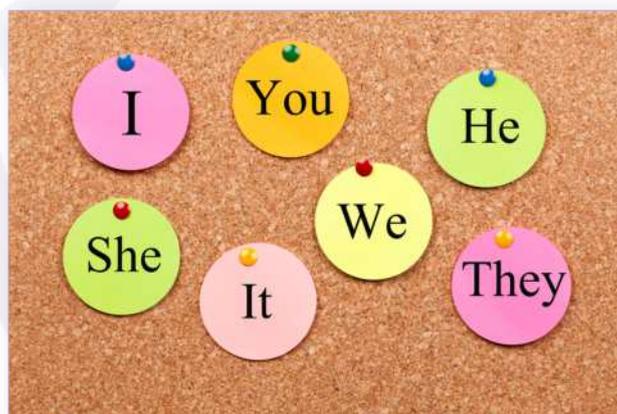
- Textual variations and representations
- Children's language development (0-11 years)
- Methods of language analysis are integrated into the activities

#### Paper 2: Language diversity and change

- Language diversity and change
- Language discourses
- Writing skills

#### Coursework Assessment

- Language Investigation
- Original Writing



### Where could this take you?

English Language is a flexible and adaptable subject so future career opportunities are extensive. The subject combines well with many others in both the Arts and Sciences, and is particularly suited to Modern Foreign Language combinations, Sociology and Psychology. University Admission Tutors and employers look favourably upon students who have studied A Level English Language, knowing they will have good oral and written communication ability and have developed useful skills of analysis and interpretation. Careers which can be entered with an English A Level or an English degree are many and varied and include Public Relations, management, research, consultancy, publishing, medicine, teaching, journalism, law, media and advertising.

### Entry Requirements

- GCSE grade 6 or above in English Language
- 5 GCSEs at grade 5 or above

# English Literature A Level

Studying literature at Lipson involves the development of sophisticated reading skills and of an ability to place literary texts in their wider intellectual and historical contexts. It also requires you to consider the critical processes by which you analyse and judge, to learn about literary form and technique, and to evaluate various approaches to literary criticism and theory. You will enhance your knowledge of society and how writers reflect this in their texts.

## What will you study?

This A Level is a two year option with all of your formal assessments taking place at the end of the second year.

### Exam 1: Love Through The Ages

One poetry collection, one prose text (one written pre 1900), one Shakespeare play and two unseen poems.  
3 hours

Open Book for Section C only

Section A: Shakespeare passage based question

Section B: Unseen Poetry (comparing two unseen poems)

Section C: Comparing Texts, one essay question

### Exam 2: Texts in Shared Contexts - Modern Times, 1945 to present day

One prose text, one poetry collection and one drama text (one of which is post-2000)  
2 hours and 30 minutes

Open book exam

Section A: One essay question on set text.

Section B: One compulsory question on an unseen extract

One essay question linking two texts

### Non-Exam Assessment: Independent Critical Study

Comparative critical study of two texts of your own choice; at least one written pre 1900.  
One extended essay (2500 words and a bibliography)

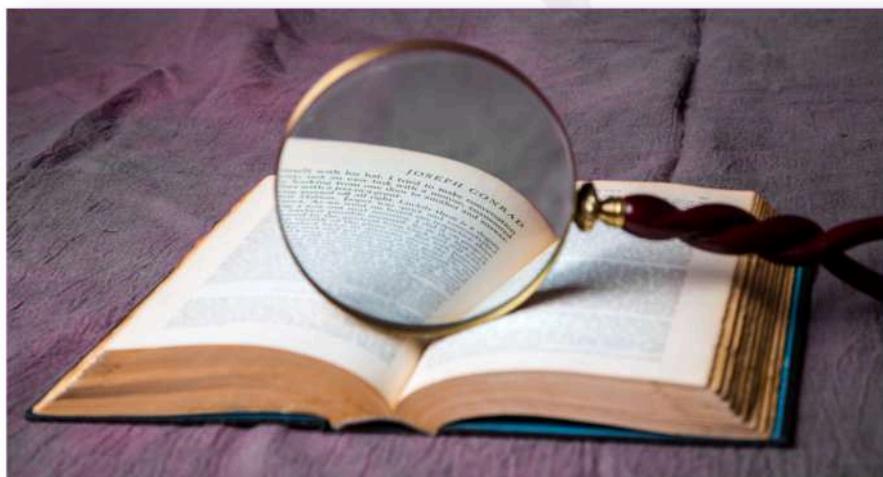
## Where could this take you?

Many career opportunities are open to you with A Level English Literature, such as Publishing, Media, Public relations, Marketing, Law, Business and Education and Journalism. This course will also enable you to progress onto a degree course in English Literature or related studies.

## Entry Requirements

- GCSE grade 6 or above in English Language
- GCSE grade 6 or above in English Literature
- 5 GCSEs at grade 5 or above

You will read a wide range of texts over the course of the two years, therefore it is important that you enjoy reading and are keen to broaden your literary horizons. Possessing good inference and analytical skills is also central to succeeding in your study of Literature. Finally, the skill of structuring a coherent essay is one that you will develop over the course of the two years.





# French A Level

The life long rewards to be gained from learning a modern foreign language are phenomenal and a skill which can be easily built on and honed in this age of communication. Whether in your professional life, in higher education or for practical purposes (holidays etc.), the skill will stand you in good stead.

## What will you study?

This A Level is a two year option with all of your formal assessments taking place at the end of the second year across 3 exams:

**Paper 1** - Listening, reading & writing. (50%)

**Paper 2** - Writing (20%)

**Paper 3** - Speaking (30%)

## CORE CONTENT

You will cover a variety of topics surrounding the social, political & artistic trends of the French-speaking world as well as more in-depth French language and grammar.

### 1 Social issues and trends

- **Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends**  
La famille en voie de changement, La « cyber-société » et Le rôle du bénévolat
- **Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues**  
Les aspects positifs d'une société diverse, Quelle vie pour les marginalisés?  
Comment on traite les criminels?

### 2 Political and artistic culture

- **Artistic culture in the French-speaking world**  
Une culture fière de son patrimoine culturel, La musique francophone contemporaine,  
Cinéma - le septième art
- **Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world**  
Les ados, le droit de vote et l'engagement politique, Manifestations, grèves - à qui le pouvoir?  
La politique et l'immigration

### 3 Grammar

**4 Works:** one French literary text and one French film.

**5 Individual Research Project:** Research & present, in French, a project on an area of personal interest relating to a country or countries where French is spoken.

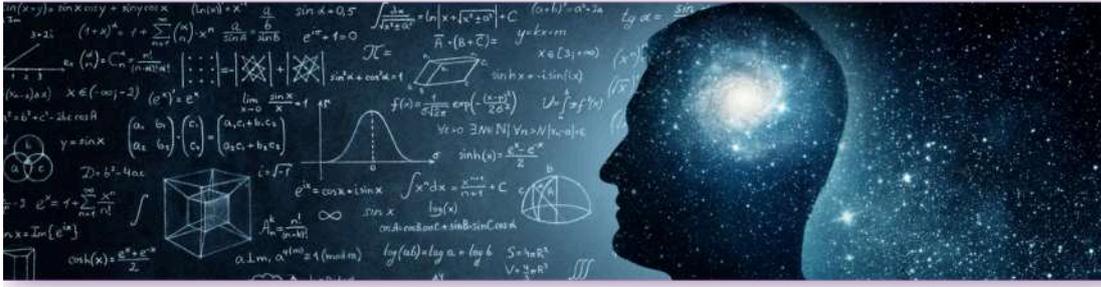
## Where could this take you?

Language skills can lead directly into a career in translating, interpreting or teaching, but are also hugely in demand in areas such as hospitality, law, publishing and business services. Many big employers are multinational organisations and are keen to recruit candidates who are willing to work overseas and can liaise effectively with international colleagues. Studying modern languages is likely to develop interpersonal and communication skills that graduate recruiters value, as well as other key strengths. This course will also enable you to progress onto a degree course in French or related studies.

## Entry Requirements

- GCSE grade 6 or above in French
- 5 GCSEs at grade 5 or above (including English Literature and Maths)





# Mathematics A Level

A Level Mathematics is a mixture of pure (core) mathematics and applied mathematics. The course consists of mathematical thinking, statistics and mechanics and subsequently has clear links with a number of additional A Level courses. Mathematics is a requirement for several university degrees and is a well regarded A Level choice across many Russell Group universities including Oxbridge. With mathematics A Level you will be benefitting from:

- a stimulating and challenging course that develops logical thinking;
- opportunities to develop key employability skills;
- excellent preparation for a wide range of university courses and a versatile qualification that is well-respected by employers and higher education.

## Skills Required

A resilient, inquiring mind that thrives on problem solving and is confident with playing with numbers.

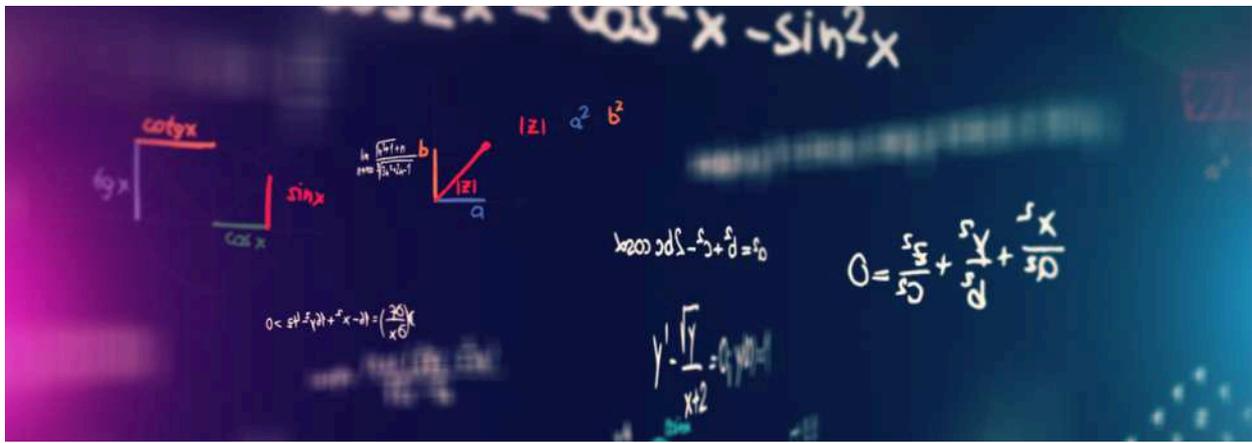
## Breakdown of assessment

Three, two hour examinations at the end of the second year including pure maths, statistics and mechanics. All exams are calculator papers.

## Entry Requirements

- Grade 7 or above in Mathematics GCSE
- 5 GCSEs at grade 5 or above

*For extremely capable students (with a Grade 8 or 9) there is the opportunity to take the Further Mathematics A Level course. This would involve a considerable amount of independent study and can only be undertaken after discussion with Ms Lodge and Mr Webb.*



## Further Mathematics

GCE Further Mathematics with Edexcel is an advanced A-Level qualification designed for students with a strong interest and ability in mathematics. It builds on the core content of A-Level Mathematics and introduces more complex and abstract mathematical concepts.

The course is divided into compulsory pure mathematics and two optional areas—Further Statistics and Further Mechanics in this case.

### Entry Requirement:

- Grade 8 at GCSE Maths

#### Further Statistics

Students explore topics such as probability distributions, hypothesis testing, and statistical inference, deepening their understanding of real-world data analysis.

#### Further Mechanics

Focuses on advanced principles of motion, forces, energy, and momentum, extending concepts from classical mechanics.

This combination equips students with a rigorous mathematical foundation suitable for mathematically intensive university courses, such as Engineering, Physics, Computer Science, and Economics.

## Core Maths.

Core Maths is intended for students who have passed GCSE Mathematics at grade 4 or better, but who have not chosen to study AS or A Level Mathematics. It is usually studied alongside A Levels or vocational courses.

Core Maths is equal in size to an AS level qualification and graded A-E.

Studying Core Maths helps students to develop their quantitative and problem-solving skills. It has been specifically designed with employers, universities and professional bodies to increase the employability of school leavers and apprentices.

Core Maths is studied for one year, with the exams taken at the end of Year 12.

# Geography A Level

Geography is all around us and its study allows us to gain an understanding of the global issues that face us at the present time and of our place as individuals within an increasingly complex world. If you have an enquiring mind and want to explore vital 21st Century issues that matter, such as globalisation, debt, environmental change, and management of the world's resources then this is the course for you.

A Level Geography consists of a 2 year course with all examinations at the end of Year 13.

## What will you study?

### Component 1 Physical Geography (40%)

Three Themes:  
Water and Carbon Cycles  
Coastal Landscapes  
Natural Hazards

### Component 2 Human Geography (40%)

Three Themes:  
Globalisation  
Changing Places  
Contemporary Urban Environments

### Component 3 (20%)

Students complete an investigation which includes data collection. It must be an individual investigation where a 4,000 word report is produced.

## Where could this take you?

Geographers acquire a wide range of skills, such as the ability to analyse data, write reports or to understand the attitudes and values of decision making. Geographers are good at networking and teamwork and this Sixth Form department is at the forefront of using ICT in learning and teaching. Geography is considered a facilitating A Level by all universities and is therefore an excellent subject for many degree courses.

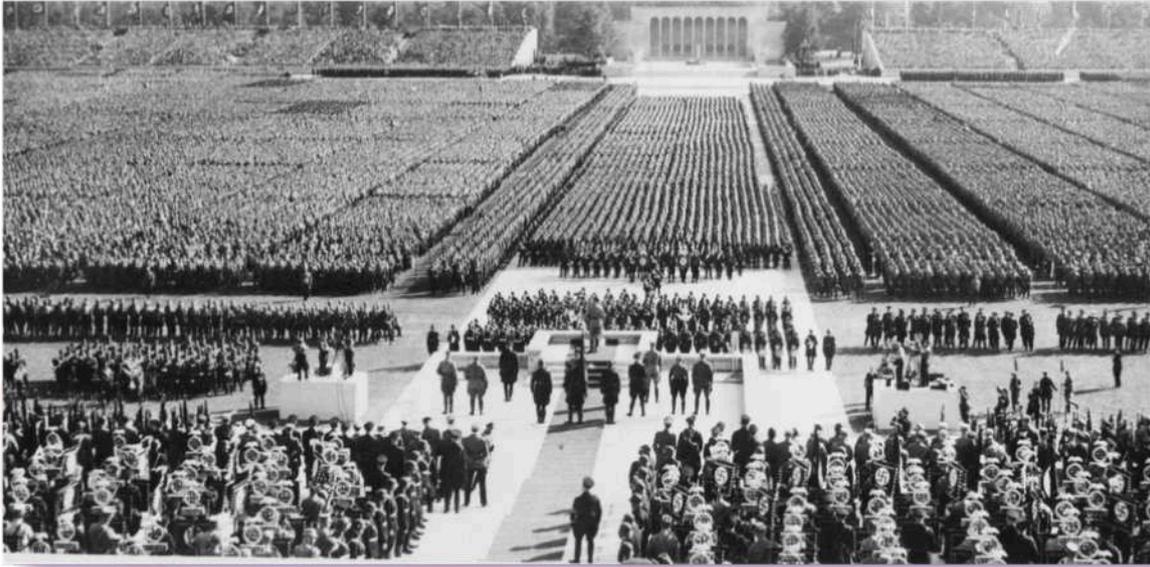
## Examples of possible student careers are:

Agriculture, Archaeology, Countryside Management, Development Studies, Earth Sciences, Ecology, Economics, Environmental Studies or Science, Land Economy, Landscape Architecture, Meteorology, Mining, Oceanography, Planning, Politics, Surveying Transport Studies, Tourism, Urban Studies, Law, Media Studies, Medicine, Biochemistry plus many others.

## Entry Requirements:

- Grade 6 or above in GCSE Geography
- Grade 5 in Science
- Grade 5 in Maths
- Grade 5 in English





## History A Level

A Level History is a two year course. We follow the OCR History A H505 specification and we study the following units:

**Unit 1:** England 1445-1509, Lancastrians, Yorkists and Henry VII including the War of the Roses. (25%)

This will involve the study of the dramatic events of the Wars of the Roses and the controversy surrounding the iconic Richard III. It will also deal with the rise of the Tudor family.

**Unit 2:** Democracy and Dictatorship in Germany 1919-1963 (15%)

This will involve the study of the Weimar Republic and the rise of the Nazis. We will examine the 1930s under Nazi rule and the impact of World War Two. Finally, we will investigate the division of Germany in the Cold War.

**Unit 3:** Civil rights in the USA 1865-1992 (40%)

This unit takes the form of a thematic paper which addresses cause and consequence and change and continuity through the period of nearly 150 years. We will investigate four separate aspects of civil rights - the struggle for equality by black Americans, Native Americans, women and the fight for working rights by the working class.

**Unit 4:** Topic based essay - an investigation. (20%)

Students can select their own topic for investigation and have to use a range of both sources and interpretations to reach supported judgments and involves the construction of a 3000-4000 word essay.

There are three final examinations which total 80% of the final marks. 20% of the marks are awarded for the coursework element which consists of an investigation into a topic chosen by the student and presented in the form of an essay.

The course is taught by four specialist teachers. It will involve looking at evidence and examining the different interpretations of the historical events we address. There will be seminars and debates as well as written reports and extended essays. This is an academic course and therefore students must be prepared to read widely and should enjoy writing. The coursework element will enable students to investigate a chosen question and will require the use and evaluation of both sources and interpretations - it offers the opportunity to be an historian!

Throughout the course students will be required to complete extended essays. Teachers will model these and students will learn how to write history in the formal, academic style which is so important for success at this level. Teachers will also provide personal feedback and the use of DIT (Dedicated Improvement Time) is an important feature of A Level lessons.

A Level History is a well-respected qualification and is regarded as a facilitating subject by universities. It is a valuable subject for students who want to go on to study Law and other Humanities degrees. However, the main reason to consider History A Level is because you have an interest in it and enjoy it.

### Entry Requirements

- GCSE grade 6 or above in History
- GCSE grade 6 in English
- 5 GCSEs at grade 5 or above



## Politics A Level

### What will you study?

Students will study UK politics and UK government, which will give them a core knowledge and understanding of the UK's political system through interesting lessons and engaging wider reading. This will include analysis of democratic participation, political parties and changes to voting behaviour. Students will then develop this knowledge and understanding at A Level, and study the core political ideas of conservatism, liberalism and socialism. Students will also complete a comparative section comparing UK politics to the USA's political system and study feminism as a non-core ideology

### Course Outline

**Component 1: UK Politics: Written examination** - 2 hours 33% of the qualification 84 marks.

Study includes assessing the UK's political parties and political systems whilst evaluating changes to themes such as voting behaviour and the development of media and its impact on UK politics. Students will also learn about the core political ideas of conservatism, liberalism and socialism.

**Component 2: UK Government: Written examination** - 2 hours 33% of the qualification 84 marks.

Study included assessing and evaluating the make up, methods and effectiveness of institutions such as the House of Commons, House of Lords, Prime Minister and the executive. Students will also learn about a non-core political ideas, such as feminism or anarchism.

**Component 3: Comparative Politics** - Written examination: 2 hours 33% of the qualification 84 marks.

Study will include the US Constitution and federalism, US Congress, US presidency, US Supreme Court and civil rights, democracy and participation, comparative theories to those used in the UK.

### Where could this take you?

All AS and A2 courses provide transferable knowledge and skills that prepare learners for progression to university. The transferable skills that universities value include:

- Evaluative skills
- Essay Writing Skills
- Source Analysis and Interpretation Skills
- Research/ Evaluation of Evidence

A Level Politics can also prepare participants with the knowledge and qualifications needed to find employment in fields such as; political journalism, political writer, civil servant, Government social research officer, Member of Parliament, politicians assistant and many more.

- Politics
- Journalism
- Political Advisor/Assistant
- Public/private Sector Work e.g. Local Councils or Charities

### Entry Requirements

- Grade 6 or more in an English subject (Language or literature);  
OR
- Grade 6 in a Humanities subject (History, RS or Geography)



# Religion, Philosophy & Ethics A Level

Religion, Philosophy and Ethics is all about questions. We attempt to tackle some of the hardest; most important and most interesting questions that a human being can face:- 'Can we prove that God does not exist?'; 'What makes a good person?', 'Why would a loving god allow the Holocaust and Tsunami to happen?', 'Can you accept the Big Bang theory and believe in God?', 'Does everyone have the right to life?' and 'Can the taking of an innocent life ever be justified?' We will examine these questions from a personal and academic perspective and the best thing is that your point of view will always count!

## Where your course can lead to

Students who succeed in this course will develop many significant and marketable skills including the ability to analyse and critically examine difficult concepts. They will also be able to express their own ideas clearly and effectively verbally and in written form. The course is recognised as a highly academic subject which is excellent preparation for a wide range of university courses and careers including law; education; medicine; social work; the media; management and both the emergency services and armed forces.

## Skills required to succeed on course:

Students will need to have an ability to read and think independently. You will be expected to read books and journals; get involved in debates; put forward your own opinion; take part in group and individual research tasks and at times, even lead the lessons yourself by giving presentations. You will be expected to write essays regularly as this is how you will be assessed in the examinations. These essays are based on two clear assessment objectives.

## Support and guidance given throughout course

After each unit of work students will complete at least one essay and as a result will be given detailed feedback on how to improve. You will be taught using a variety of methods and learning will not always be based in the classroom. The RS department has an open door policy for A Level students and will arrange a suitable time to support you with any homework or revision if you feel you need extra help.

## Overview of the course - what can students expect:

### Component 1

Philosophy; Religious experience; Problems of evil and suffering; Philosophical language; Arguments for the existence of God.

### Component 2

Ethics; evaluates a wide range of ethical systems that define good behaviour by applying a variety of issues including: Abortion, Euthanasia, Capital Punishment, Homosexuality and Immigration.

### Component 3

Christianity; an in-depth study into the beliefs and practices of Christianity.

## How you will be assessed

You will be assessed regularly by your teacher. These teacher assessments tend to take the form of timed essays, student led presentations and group work. You will be assessed formally by three, two hour exams at the end of the A Level course. No coursework.

## Entry Requirements

- Grade 6 or above in English
- Grade 5 in a Humanities subject is preferred
- 5 GCSEs at grade 5 or above





# Sociology A Level

Sociology is the systematic study of society and the groups within it. It is about looking at the world you live in through a different lens to try to understand some of the problems and issues that face society and how society has changed through the generations. It is about looking at the experiences of different social groups and trying to understand their views and the structural causes of their experiences.

In your study of sociology, you will develop skills of objective and analytical writing, critical thinking, discussion and debate, as well as how to look at a situation from multiple viewpoints. You will need to be able to question assumptions about society and the rules by which we live our lives as well as examine how our experiences maybe different to others and may shape the choices and decision that we make in our own lives.

A Level Sociology consists of a 2 year course with all examinations at the end of Year 13.

Paper 1- Education with Theory and Methods

Paper 2- Topics in Sociology (Families and Households/Beliefs in Society)

Paper 3- Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

## What will you study?

### Topic 1 Families and households

Everyone will have had an experience of family in one shape or another and this unit helps you to understand the different types of family that exist in the world and the UK today. You will understand the social and demographic changes that have occurred and led to these changes and the increase in family diversity and the impact this has had on wider society.

### Topic 2: Education

At this stage of your education you have much more choice over what you study. This unit helps you to understand the processes within the education system that may have influenced your decisions and the path that you have taken. It will also help you to understand the processes within schools and the impact that can have on educational achievement.

### Topic 3 Beliefs in society

It is suggested that the UK today is a secular society, however in this unit you will consider if that statement is really true, or if in fact religious belief and practice has become more private so it just appears that religion no longer plays a role in society. This unit will also help you to understand the role that religion plays in an individuals lives as well society in general. The study of different religious groups will also help you to understand why people join these groups as well as the similarities and difference between them.

### Topic 4 Crime and Deviance

The criminal justice system impacts almost all aspects of our lives, including controls on our behaviour, telling us what we can and cannot do, to punishing us when we violate norms of behaviour. This unit will help you to understand the impact of the criminal justice system and the role it plays in maintaining our society. You will also look at how the criminal justice system impacts different groups in society

### Topic 5 Theory and Methods

This unit provides the background and basis for all sociological study. It provides the bones on which you will be able to build up your sociological knowledge and understanding of the social world. This unit will take you through the main sociological perspectives and how they view the social world as well as the different ways that sociologists conduct research into social phenomena. This will be built upon as we go through each of the topics we study.

## Careers

Sociology is a good umbrella subject, meaning that it supports a number of careers and degree courses as one of the key skills of a sociologist is to look at the world in an objective and critical way.

**Entry Requirements** 5 GCSEs grade 5 and above, including English

# Art A Level

## Fine Art/Graphic Communication 3D

### This specification includes:

Art, craft and design, Fine art, Graphic communication, Textile design and Three-dimensional design. In this way students can decide which specification suits their skill set and interests. This allows students to create work which is best fitted to their university's entry requirements.

The creative AQA A Level leads into many creative industry disciplines, such as: Advertising, Animation, Archaeology, Architecture, Teaching, Art Therapy, Ceramic Design, Sculpture, Graphics, Computer Game Design, Conservation, Textile or Fashion Design, Art Technician, Display or Interior Design, Industrial Design, Film Production, Theatre Production. Such career choices will sometimes require students to complete a Diploma in Foundation Studies (Art and Design).

- Painting, drawing and working in a range of 2D mediums
- Textiles
- Print making
- Sculpture
- Installation
- Conceptual art
- ability to respond to an issue, concept or ideas
- historical and contemporary developments in the production of art as well as different styles and genres
- how images and artefacts relate to social, environmental, cultural and/or ethical contexts, and to the time and place in which they were created
- a working vocabulary and specialist terminology that is relevant to their chosen area of study.

### Component 1 - Portfolio worth 60% of the total mark

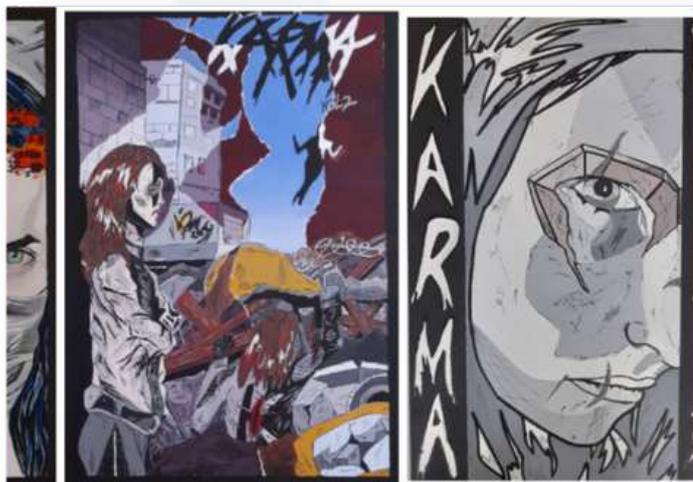
Each student must include in their portfolio:

- a selection of thoughtfully presented work that demonstrates the breadth and depth of the course of study
- at least one extended collection of work or project, based on an idea, concept, theme or issue. This should demonstrate the student's ability to sustain work from an initial starting point to a realisation. It should include evidence of their ability to research and develop ideas and link their work in a meaningful way to relevant critical/contextual materials. Portfolios may also include:
- critical/contextual work, which could include written material such as journals, reviews, reflections and evaluations, annotations and historical background material. Evidence may be included from books, journals, moving images, photographs, digital presentations and the internet, as well as studies made during a residency, site, gallery or museum visit.
- sketchbooks, workbooks, journals. Alternatively, students may wish to present a series of related images mounted on sheets.
- where appropriate to the student's area of study, test pieces, samples, storyboards, models or maquettes.

### Component 2 - Externally set assignment worth 40% of the total mark

These will consist of a choice of five questions to be used as starting points. Students are required to select one and will be provided with examination papers on 1 February. Following the preparatory period, students must complete 15 hours of unaided, supervised time. The first 3 hours of the supervised time must be consecutive. In the 15 hours students must produce a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes, informed by their preparatory work.

The student will develop skills and techniques depending on their chosen field of study.



In order to be successful you need to have a genuine passion for the subject. Although this course demands your time and commitment, we believe you will find the challenges rewarding and fulfilling. This subject provides the ideal platform for any student wishing to pursue the extensive career opportunities in the art and design or creative and visual arts field. It will also appeal to those students who have been successful at GCSE and wish to maintain a creative balance within their studies at A Level.

### Entry Requirements

- Grade 5 in GCSE Art preferred
- OR
- a portfolio, 5 GCSEs at grade 5 or above including grade 5 in English

# Photography A Level

## Edexcel Photography A Level

This creative Photography course has an emphasis on Photography as an art form, focusing on lens-based and digital-media.

You will use the camera as a tool to develop your visual thought processes as well as your creative and critical abilities. The aim of this course is to develop your skills and understanding as a photographer by producing technically sound and visually enhancing photographs.

### Where could this take you?

- Portrait/ wedding and events Photographer
- Commercial Photographer
- Scientific Photographer
- Photojournalist/News Photographer
- Freelance Photographer
- Fine art Photographer

You will be trained to professional standards which could lead on to employment in art, craft and design industries, media and allied sectors, or preparation for entry to higher national or undergraduate degree programmes within the arts and media disciplines. Photography would be a useful A Level to have if you are considering a career in journalism, graphic design, illustration, architecture, forensic science or television as well as photography and other creative subjects.

### Component 1 - Portfolio worth 60% of the total mark

Each student must include in their portfolio:

- Students will explore digital media such as Photoshop and become adept at modern photo editing using both PCs and MACs. Students will explore landscape, portrait, light painting, external flash, film photography and darkroom skills, fashion and many other styles of photography. Students will learn to discuss and analyse the work of others and respond to a variety of starting points and produce high quality projects and final images. Students will have the chance to visit photographic exhibitions, work with professional photographers and exhibit their own work.
- A selection of thoughtfully presented work that demonstrates the breadth and depth of the course of study
- Experimentation working with digital, film based and other ways of exploring a lensed based practice.
- Development of students own narrative within their chosen area of study.
- An in-depth essay that explores an area within the Photography which is directly linked to students portfolio work.



### Component 2 - Externally set assignment worth 40% of the total mark

These will consist of a starting points provided by Edexcel which will be realised on the 1st of February. Students are then required to create a preparatory project. Following the preparatory period, students must complete 15 hours of unaided, supervised time. The first 3 hours of the supervised time must be consecutive. In the 15 hours students must produce a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes, informed by their preparatory work.

### Entry Requirements

Grade 5 or above in an art based subject  
Grade 5 or above in English  
5 GCSEs at grade 5 or above





# Creative Media Production BTEC

Students studying Media advance their knowledge of the media market and gain the skills required for a career in the industry. The specialist units support students who want to pursue specific areas of interest in writing, publishing, broadcast media and gaming. Overall, candidates develop an excellent all-round understanding of the challenges and rewards of a career in Media.

## What will you study?

### BTEC Creative Digital Media Production - Foundation Diploma (equivalent to 1.5 A-Levels)

Total of 6 Units, 4 of which are mandatory

The course is 60% Mandatory content (Coursework), 40% External assessment (2 exams)

You will complete Units of work that have assessment objectives for which you will be awarded a Pass, Merit or Distinction. The examined element takes the form of one on screen exam and one written exam. Production tasks are at the centre of all learning with the assessment primarily being based on creativity and technical quality.

This course covers an extensive range of media skills including pre-production skills, single camera filming, video editing. You will also cover optional units in research skills, animation, the TV and film industries and communication skills. The course supports further progression in creative media education such as a university degree, an apprenticeship or entry level employment in the creative industries sector.

## You will learn:

- A range of media production skills: print, audio & audio visual
- How to effectively present your work, gather audience feedback and evaluate your own progress.
- You will also learn about media industries, how they are structured and regulated.

## Where could this take you?

This course structure provides you with the skills required to continue your studies at university or immediately pursue a career in the media industry. Journalism, broadcasting, advertising, marketing, illustration, animation, public relations, television and video production are just a few examples of the kinds of courses or careers that studying Media could lead to. This is a dynamic and exciting industry that has much to offer potential new employees. We have had students progress from this course going onto to study at University and work on films such as James Bond 'Skyfall' and most recently the new Star Wars film 'The Force Awakens'.

There are plenty of vocational opportunities on the course allowing you to work alongside industry professionals and make those important contacts and connections, in an industry that thrives on 'who you know' as well as 'what you know'.

## Entry Requirements

- GCSE Media/grade 2 Qualification in Media is preferred OR another Creative Subject – Art/Drama
- 5 GCSEs at grade 4/5 or above including English

# Engineering BTEC (Extended Certificate)

## Why should I study this subject?

The Pearson Level 3 BTEC National in Engineering (Extended Certificate) is an Alternative Academic Qualification (AAQ) and is equivalent to one A Level. This subject is ideal if you would like to study an applied subject in addition to other BTECs and A Level qualifications such as a Science, Maths or IT and have an interest in either employment or further study in the engineering sector; perhaps in a higher apprenticeship at age 18 or progressing onto a degree in a technical or scientific subject.

## What will the student study as part of this qualification?

The qualification has been developed in consultation with higher education representatives and professional bodies to ensure students have the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to progress to, and thrive in, higher education.

The qualification has four mandatory units covering the following topics:

**Unit 1 - Engineering Principles:** Engineering data and applying mathematical procedures in mechanical and electrical contexts.

**Unit 2 - Engineering Applications:** Advances in modern technology and how they are reshaping the engineering sector's function; materials and processes to devise sustainable solutions to engineering problems.

**Unit 3 - Engineering Design:** Three-dimensional (3D) models and two-dimensional (2D) detailed drawings using a computer-aided design (CAD) system.

**Unit 4 - Engineering Project:** Project management processes in Engineering products from concept to solution.

## What will this subject lead to?

BTEC Engineering offers a great foundation for entry into mechanical, electrical or marine engineering careers from technician level and a good starting point for higher education qualifications in this field. If you know you would like to enter a technical career but are unsure which field to go into, this subject would also give a good foundation to help inform your choices for post 18.

## How will I be assessed?

Assessment will be through a combination of externally assessed examinations (Units 1 & 2) and internally assessed 'coursework' assignments (Units 3 & 4).

## Entry Requirements

It is a level 3 technical qualification so there is a high degree of technical, written, science and maths content mixed with some practical assignments and tasks. Mathematics GCSE grade 5 (higher tier) is a minimum requirement.



# OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Certificate in Business

## Why study this course?

Think of this course as your backstage pass to the world of business. Whether you dream of running your own company, managing a brand like Nike, or just want to know how the business world really works, this qualification gives you the skills to get started.

Here's why it's a smart choice:

- It's hands-on, not just textbooks. You'll learn by doing – exploring real businesses, solving problems, and putting ideas into action.
- It's useful. Everywhere. Business is part of everything – sport, fashion, gaming, tech, entertainment. Whatever you're into, this course makes it easier to understand how it all works.
- It's future-proof. Even if you're not 100% sure what career you want, business skills will help you – from managing money to working in teams and presenting ideas.

Basically, if you're curious about how companies succeed (or fail!), if you want to be more confident with money and decision-making, or if you like the idea of building something from scratch – this course is for you.

## What will I learn?

### Unit 1 (Exploring Business) and Unit 2 (Working in Business)

These two units are the foundation for the whole course and will set you up to be able to succeed across the whole qualification. We keep things pacey, fun and engaging throughout. You are examined through an exam for each unit (with resits available to help you maximise your grade) - these exams aren't scary as they feature lots of really carefully stepped questions to help you show off your knowledge

### Unit 4 (Customers and Communication)

This module will tell you everything you need to know about how to get the most out of customers through your interactions with them. This will involve a real-life scenario where we get to visit a local Golf and Country Club to frame everything we learn. This unit is assessed through a coursework portfolio submission

### Unit 5 (Marketing and Market Research)

Unit 5 will help you along the way to your ultimate dream of becoming a marketing guru! Again, framed through real world scenarios involving local businesses (fancy a few cafe trips?), we keep the learning practical and hands on to link to the theory you acquire. Another coursework portfolio submission awaits you...

### Unit 16 (Principles of Project Management)

See yourself in charge of a large team working towards exciting and challenging goals? This module will set you well on your way. Through a theoretical scenario involving setting up an exciting new retail unit for a sportswear brand, this final module involves one last coursework portfolio.

### What could this qualification lead to?

University, higher level apprenticeships and employment! Employers and universities value it because it shows you can think, plan, and make things happen. Who knows, maybe you are the next multi-billionaire business magnate and will be back at Lipson in a few years being chauffeured down Bernice Terrace in your Rolls Royce?

### Entry Requirements

5 GCSEs at grade 4/5 or above, including English



# IT Data Analytics AAQ (Extended Certificate)

This course is equivalent to one A-Level.

For this qualification, students must complete five units:

- Two external exam units
- Three coursework units set in controlled conditions

This qualification is suitable for students who:

- are age 16-19 and on a full-time study programme
- want to develop applied knowledge and skills in data analytics
- want to progress onto other related study, such as higher education courses in Business Analytics, Information Technology or Digital Marketing

## Who this qualification is for:

It will develop knowledge, understanding and skills that will help prepare you for progression to undergraduate study when taken alongside other qualifications and are relevant to the information technology sector.

You might be interested in this qualification if you want a qualification to take alongside and enhance your A Level studies, that builds applied or practical skills.

## Units:

**F200:** Fundamentals of data analytics. This unit is assessed by an exam.

In this unit you will learn about the fundamental knowledge required for a career working in data-related occupations.

**F201:** Big data and machine learning. This unit is assessed by an exam.

In this unit you will learn about the challenges of managing big data and the role of artificial intelligence and machine learning in data science.

**F202:** Spreadsheet data modelling. This unit is assessed by an assignment.

In this unit you will learn the principles of data modelling with spreadsheets and the knowledge and skills required to plan, design, create, test and review a spreadsheet modelling solution that meets the needs of a specific client.

**F205:** Data visualisation. This unit is assessed by an assignment.

In this unit you will learn the principles of data visualisation, and the knowledge and skills required to plan, design, create and review a data visualisation solution that meets the needs of a specific client.

**F206:** Data and digital marketing. This unit is assessed by an assignment.

In this unit you will learn the principles of digital marketing, and the knowledge and skills required to plan, design, create and review digital marketing material that meets the needs of a specific client.

## Entry Requirements:

- GCSE English at grade 4 or above.
- GCSE Maths at grade 4 or above.
- BTEC Digital Information Technologies at Level 2 Pass grade or above.



# Sport & Physical Activity CTEC

## Single, Double and Triple Award

The Level 3 Cambridge Technical in Sport and Physical Activity course is a qualification that combines both vocational based experience with academic studies which you will study for two years. Studying this stimulating and challenging course will not only lead you to an equivalent of 1, 2 or 3 A Levels in Cambridge Technical Sport, but it will allow learners to choose a pathway that reflects their career or academic aspirations. Studying Sport provides a sound basis for any work related employment, entry into the services or sports related degree courses including; fitness and coaching, sports science, teaching, and outdoor education.

As part of studying this course you would become a valued member of our sixth form sports academy which will allow you to leave with not just a Cambridge Technical in Sport and Physical Activity Award but also additional qualifications to develop your CV and help you develop lifelong employability skills.

### Why do this course and why is different to other Sport courses?

- The course allows learners to choose a pathway that reflect their career or academic aspirations with the maximum qualification equating to three A Levels.
- Become part of our 6th Form Sports Academy, with these additional benefits:

Subsidised personalised PE Kit.

Enhanced enrichment opportunities to a variety of offsite leisure activities.

Gain additional sports based level 1 and young leader qualifications.

Gain additional basic first aid award including CPR.

### How will I be assessed on the course?

Students are assessed through a mixture of internally set assignments in the form of coursework, externally set exams and practical assessments in both performing and leading in sport.

All assessment criteria is based on the achievement of specified learning outcomes. Students' work is graded as Pass, Merit and Distinction for each unit. Students' grades are then equated to an overall grade of Pass, Merit, Distinction and Distinction\* for the course. Students MUST pass the mandatory units to pass the course overall.

### Where could this take you?

The Sports industry as a whole is a growing industry and forms a large part of our everyday lives from health and wellbeing to coaching and instruction. There are a vast range of career opportunities open to those with a background in Sports Studies. Sport is a beneficial subject when considering further study in any of the following career opportunities: Personal Fitness Instruction, Exercise Instructor to Music, Teaching and Coaching, Outdoor Adventure Instructor, Leisure industry and Sports Development, Armed and Emergency Services, Sports Therapy, and Physiotherapy.

### Entry Requirements and Expectations

- Grade 6 or above in GCSE PE or a Merit and above in Cambridge National or BTEC grade 2 Sport
- grade 5 and above in Science and Biology
- 5 GCSEs at grade 4 or above including English and Mathematics

### DOUBLE AWARD - Extended Certificate in Sport

10hrs Per Week equivalent to 2 A Levels

Unit 13 - Health and Fitness Testing for Sport

Unit 4 - Working Safely in Sport, Exercise, Health and Leisure\*

Unit 5 - Performance Analysis in Sport and Exercise

Unit 11 - Physical Activity for Specific Groups

Unit 19 - Sports and Exercise Psychology

Unit 17 - Sports Injuries and Rehabilitation

PLUS ALL UNITS IN THE SINGLE AWARD

\*Externally set exam

### SINGLE AWARD - Extended Certificate in Sport

5hrs Per Week equivalent to 1 A Level

Unit 1 - Body systems and the effects of physical activity\*

Unit 2 - Sports Coaching and Activity Leadership

Unit 3 - Sports Organisation and Development\*

Unit 18 - Practical Skills in Sport and Physical Activity

Unit 8 - Organisation of Sports Events

\*Externally set exams

### TRIPLE AWARD - Extended Certificate in Sport

15hrs Per Week equivalent to 3 A Levels

Unit 21 - The Business of Sport\*

Unit 12 - Nutrition, Diet for Sport and Exercise

Unit 14 - Working in Active Leisure Facilities

Unit 20 - Sports and Exercise Sociology

Unit 7 - Improving Fitness for Sport and Physical Activity

Unit 6 - Group Exercise to Music

PLUS ALL UNITS IN THE SINGLE AND DOUBLE AWARDS

\*Externally set exam



## Music Practitioner Level 3 RSL

This course is industry related, helping you to gain practical skills which will be essential for pursuing a career in the music industry. The course is a two-year programme that develops your skills in both the business and performance aspects of the music industry.

### Subject: Rock School Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma (*Music Practitioner*)

- You will rehearse in our specialised practice rooms which are fully equipped with PA and backline equipment, or our professional recording suite which is linked to a practice room.
- You will be taught by teachers who still work within the professional music arena from performance artists to musical director to events manager
- As an aspiring musician you will be expected to spend a minimum of one hour per evening practising your chosen instrument. Competition for careers within the music industry is highly competitive and you will need to show enthusiasm, drive, determination and professionalism.
- You will have many opportunities to perform at external events throughout the academic year in order to gain confidence and develop your skills as a performer in front of real audiences.

### What will you learn? Possible units of study could include:

Units are subject to change based on specific cohorts

- Planning for a Career in Music
- Improving Instrumental Performance
- Lead Performer—live music performance
- Auditioning for Music
- Rehearsal Skills and Live Music Performance (Externally Assessed)



### How will you be assessed?

Your achievement in this subject is dependent upon excellent attendance, punctuality and effort. You will be assessed regularly on live performances either within the Academy or at external venues and given feedback on your progress. Discussions and presentations are a vital part of our assessment process and you will be expected to contribute to those and reading and listening exercises. You will also be expected to evidence your understanding of career pathways and role within the industry

### Where will it take you?

Many students use the course to progress on to university programmes such as BA (Hons) in Commercial Music, Popular Music, Performance. All students who recently completed the course went on to study music at university.

### Entry Requirements

- **Grade 2** BTEC in Music (Merit or above) or GCSE Music (grade 5 or above) or Grade 5 on Voice/Instrument.
- 5 GCSEs at grade 4/5 or above including English

# Performing Arts Musical Theatre BTEC

## BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Performing Arts

### Overview

Taught across the Drama and Music faculty, this two year course acts as an excellent stepping stone for those wishing to pursue a career in the Performing Arts industry, with a particular focus on musical theatre. The Extended Certificate is equivalent to one A Level.

The BTEC provides students the opportunity to develop a range of performance skills, as well as preparing them for progression into higher education by developing skills in research, critical analysis and extended writing.

Throughout the two years students will explore a range of musical theatre practitioners, performance styles and theatre making techniques. They will be presented with a number of opportunities to showcase their work to a public audience as they refine their craft. The course is made up of the following units:

### Unit 1: Investigating Practitioners' Work

Learners investigate the work of performing arts practitioners and develop critical analysis skills and contextual understanding of how practitioners communicate themes in their work.

### Unit 2: Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance

Learners explore technical performance skills with a focus on developing skills and techniques in at least two performance styles.

### Unit 3: Group Performance Workshop

Learners explore and integrate creative, physical and vocal skills and techniques, working collaboratively to create a performance in response to a given stimulus.

### Unit 27: Musical Theatre Techniques

Learners explore key features of musical theatre, developing specialist skills and techniques as a musical theatre performer combining acting, singing and dance skills for a performance.

### Potential Progression Routes

- Higher Education
- Drama School
- Teacher/Workshop Facilitator
- Actor/Performer
- Director
- Arts Administrator
- Stage Manager
- Talent Agent
- Theatre Technician
- Composer



### Entry Requirements

- Grade 5 or above in Drama and/or Dance and/or BTEC Music L2 pass or above . In the absence of Drama GCSE we would expect students to have some performance experience and extra-curricular engagement within the Performing Arts
- Grade 5 or above in English Language
- 5 GCSEs at grade 5 or above



# NOTES



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# NOTES



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# Alternative Provision

Scan the QR codes to find out more



**Next Steps  
South West**





# Apprenticeship Roll of Honour



Paige Toney-Griffin

Alfie Blight

Brandon Murdoch

Katy Howlett

Ella-Mae Wreford-Cawse

Brandon Harrison

Leighton Bennett

Joseph Chambers

Ellie-Mae Thornton

Ella Dodd

Emily St John

Ali Bartlett

Macey McGarry

Vincent Grant

Kamil Stec

Catherine Shepherd

Ebony Hill

Seamus Ferguson

Bailey Chubb

Sophia Sharpe

Lily O'Brien

Alfie Jones

Steven Cowling

Angel Littlejohns

Paisley Josey

Engineering - Babcock

PTG Plympton -EngineeringLevel3

Engineering and Manufacturing with ToolTech

Fox and Sons Estate Agents

Nursery Nurse with Achievers Day Nursery

ICT with Vospers

Engineering with Babcock

Pharmacy Technician with Derriford Hospital

Degree Apprenticeship in Finance and Procurement with Babcock

Defence, Equipment and Support with Ministry of Defence

Management Information Systems with City College

Mechanical Engineering with Babcock

Ward Administration with Derriford Hospital

Automotive Technician with MG Cannon Motors

Fabricator with Babcock

Optical Assistant with Specsavers

Nursery Nurse with Bambinos Nursery

Electrical Engineering with Babcock

Business and Admin with Princess Yachts

Engineering Technician with Great Western Railway

Healthcare Assistant with Derriford Hospital

Customer Service with Derriford Hospital

Fabricator with Babcock

Teaching Assistant with Mayflower Academy

Nursery Nurse with Bambinos Nursery





# Where Are They Now? 2025

Paola Adelantar	Cardiff University	Chemistry
Scarlett Allen-Middleton	University of Gloucestershire	History
Kallie Asad	University of Plymouth	Architecture
Taylor Austin	University of Exeter	History
Lilly Bance	Cardiff, Metropolitan University	Psychology
Gui Barbosa	University of Plymouth	Economics with Foundation Year
Jake Butcher	Plymouth Marjon University	Football Science with Professional Placement Year
Charlie Caley	University of Plymouth	Politics
Xander Cave	Plymouth Marjon University	Football Science
Sorina Chelu	University of Manchester	Philosophy and Criminology
Kelly Chen	University of Plymouth	Illustration
Lennon Cole	University of Plymouth	Psychology
Geronimo Connatty	Swansea University	Aerospace Engineering
Dominic Cowley	University of Reading	Law
Sienna Dann	Bath Spa University	Law and Politics
Oceana Dawdry	Plymouth Marjon University	Physiotherapy
Lily Demuth	University of Nottingham	Engineering and Physical Sciences
Tyler Ewings	Falmouth University	Professional Music - Songwriting
Shantaya Fairclough	University of Warwick	Philosophy and Literature
Maya Felgate	Cardiff University	Sociology and Social Policy
Gabriela Ferreira	UWE, Bristol	Optometry
Dylan Foster	University of Exeter	Computer Science
Becky Goodhind	Aberystwyth University	Veterinary Nursing
Tahmina Hannan	University of Plymouth	Psychology with Early Childhood Studies
Tia Harbin	University of Warwick	English and History
Charlie Harris	Cardiff University	Psychology with Professional Placement Year
Jake Hopper	Cardiff University	International Relations and Politics
Jordan Hossein	University of Plymouth	Economics
Ruby-Mae Jessep	UWE, Bristol	Paramedic Science
Jagoda Ksiazek	University of Plymouth	Marketing
Carla Martin	University of Plymouth	Primary Education
Lola Mumford	Plymouth Marjon University	Physical Education in Secondary Education
Joshua Newbery	University of Gloucestershire	Popular Music
Kelly Peto	Plymouth Marjon University	Sport and Exercise Science
Kai Powell	University of Plymouth	Computer Science - Game Development
Ruby Richards	University of Plymouth	Business Management
Max Roberts	University of Plymouth	Politics and International Relations
Mackenzie Sargeant	University of Plymouth	Geography with International Relations
Gracie-Marie Shillingford	Cardiff University	Sociology and Education
Maisie-Ella Spettigue	University of Winchester	Law
Cody Williams	University of Plymouth	Creative Media