

ST RICHARD REYNOLDS

SIXTH FORM

VIDETE BONA DOMINI


Course Information

Entry in September 2022




Ofsted
Outstanding
Provider

St Richard Reynolds is a place where our young people come first, are loved, listened to, challenged and inspired.

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All courses require sufficient minimum numbers to run.



Dear Prospective Sixth Former,

The Sixth Form here at St Richard Reynolds Catholic College is a place for you to receive, and actively participate in, a first class education; it is the pinnacle of life at the College. It is a place where you will develop positive relationships with your teachers and peers and build happy memories you will take with you into the next phase of your lives. We have high expectations of our students as we do of ourselves and know that this is vital to our joint endeavour of preparing you for future education or work.

We have a wide range of A level courses on offer with students following three courses in Years 12 and 13. In addition to outstanding learning and teaching in each of your subjects you will receive support and guidance from our pastoral team through weekly tutorials, assemblies and enrichment activities. All of these activities will encourage you to learn about your own strengths and areas for development so that you can understand how to improve and achieve your potential.

St Richard Reynolds is a Catholic College which is reflected in everything that we say and do. You do not need to be a Catholic to apply to the College but we need you to respect our beliefs and traditions. We know that our Catholic ethos enhances every aspect of what we offer and we welcome you to experience that for yourselves.

As a Sixth Former, you will have your own dedicated spaces for study, teaching and socialising. As well as spearheading student leadership within the College, you will also have the opportunity to take part in an array of enrichment activities, including Duke of Edinburgh Awards, educational trips abroad and in the UK, Core RE, the Extended Project Qualification, sports teams, our unique SHaPE programme and musical and theatrical performances. We celebrate student achievements in our annual awards presentation and Year 13 Leavers Ball.

We recognise that a key aspect of our responsibility to you is to prepare you for the next stage of your lives whether that be in the world of work or education. We want to be measured by your educational success which will pave the way for positive futures. As such, we will provide you with numerous opportunities to research, discuss and plan your futures. This will include attending university open days and master classes as well as personalised careers advice.

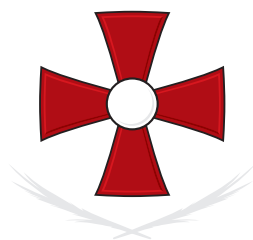
With very strong A Level results, our students have a range of post-18 options available to them. Nearly 80% of our first two cohorts took up places at higher education institutions including Russell Group and top 20 universities. Our students have gone onto study a range of courses including law, medicine, architecture, social sciences, mathematics and engineering. A smaller proportion of our students go onto complete apprenticeships and enter the world of work. We are proud of all that they have achieved and excited to stay in touch with them through our alumni network as their careers and lives progress.

We look forward to receiving your application to our Sixth Form and are confident that you will enjoy your time with us as well as achieving academic success. Until then, we wish you all the best for your upcoming exams.

Anna Lord
Head of Sixth Form



ABOUT OUR SIXTH FORM



VIDETE BONA DOMINI

“ Leaders have already established a clear vision for the sixth form as the “pinnacle of experience”. ”

OFSTED 2019

Why choose SRR6th

If you are already at St Richard Reynolds, you will know that your teachers know you incredibly well and are pushing you to get the best out of you in your GCSE exams. This is a great advantage to A Level study as you already have well-established relationships with your teachers. Similarly, if you are joining us for the Sixth Form, you will find us a welcoming and positive place. Unlike a Sixth Form College, SRR6th is relatively small and therefore staff can get to know you quickly, helping you to settle into our community and your A Level subjects.

The Sixth Form Curriculum

We have created a broad and balanced curriculum to provide you with opportunities to continue to study subjects that are familiar to you and new subjects that will give you more varied experiences to lead into future work or study. In recent years, the government has made changes to the structure and assessment of the A Level system and as a result, there are a number of pathways available at A Level. At SRR6th, you will choose three A Level courses, all of which will be externally examined at the end of Year 13. We believe that this enables students to focus their efforts and achieve the best possible results.

Entry Requirements

You must have at least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or above, including English Language and Mathematics to enter SRR6th. All subjects have additional requirements. A summary of these can be found on page 11 of this booklet.

How to apply: External candidates

Applications from students attending schools other than St Richard Reynolds Catholic College are very welcome. You do not have to be a Catholic to apply. Your application should be made via our website (Sixth Form /Admissions). All applications should be submitted between 1st November 2021 and 14th January 2022 and you will be notified of the outcome by 1st March 2022, following attendance at an applicant meeting to discuss your A level subject choices. Please visit our website for further details about admissions.

St Richard Reynolds Students

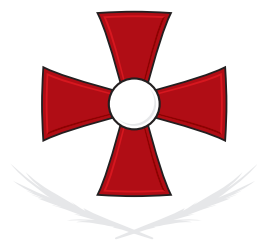
If you are currently attending St Richard Reynolds Catholic College you do not need to formally apply. We will discuss your initial subject choices with you during the autumn term. You will be invited to a meeting during the Lent term to discuss your A level subject choices and all who meet or exceed the Sixth Form entry requirements will be admitted to the Sixth Form.

Contact

sixthformadmissions@srrcc.org.uk



ABOUT OUR SIXTH FORM



VIDETE BONA DOMINI

“**Students benefit from a curriculum that is well matched to their aspirations. Teaching is of the highest standard. The high-quality personal and social education programme complements the academic programmes that students are following. It helps them to understand the challenges of adulthood and prepares them for life after school.**”

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SHaPE – Self-help and Positive Engagement

We pride ourselves on the strength of the working relationships we have with our students. At SRR6th, we develop and celebrate you as a person, as well as a student. We know that you are not the finished article when you arrive with us in Year 12 and we will give you numerous opportunities to practise, reflect on and develop the skills which are important to university admissions teams and employers.

Part of this is our SHaPE programme which dedicates two periods a fortnight to activities as wide ranging as:

- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Sports clubs
- Effective study skills
- Student-led societies
- Trips and visits including “Safe Drive, Stay Alive”,
- External speakers – charities, university finance departments, local youth services and police
- UCAS application preparation
- Apprenticeship advice
- Support with non-university pathways

This programme evolves all the time so that we are able to respond to your needs. We know that each year group is different.

Service

As part of the College’s Catholic mission and identity, we see Service as a valuable and important responsibility. We provide opportunities for you to volunteer your time within the College by taking on a number of roles including supporting subject teachers with KS3 classes, reading with Primary students, working alongside the site team, leading worship with small groups. We also encourage you to explore and take on volunteering opportunities outside of College.

Core RE

Core RE is a mandatory and highly valued part of the wider curriculum at St Richard Reynolds. We cover a range of topics and discuss many pertinent issues relating to adult life, ethics and the world in the 21st century. The skills and knowledge acquired empower students to make bold decisions, to challenge injustice and to make a positive contribution to society.

The Pope John Paul II Award is a faith achievement available for students. The Award is committed to helping young people enhance their spiritual, physical, emotional and social development through participation in school, parish and community activities.

The John Stuart Mill Cup is led by St Andrews and King’s College Universities, and is an opportunity to discuss ethical issues of public concern. Throughout the year, the SRRCC team will develop their philosopher toolkit for civil debate, culminating in a tournament with other schools at the end of the year.





ABOUT OUR SIXTH FORM

Other things we know are important to you

- ✦ You will be able to buy food, either from the main canteen or in our Sixth Form café at break and lunch. Our menu is reviewed according to student preferences on a regular basis.
- ✦ Our dress code is smart business wear – we know that this contributes to a positive working atmosphere and prepares you for life as a professional.
- ✦ Mobile phones are allowed for Sixth Formers. We simply ask you to use them discreetly and courteously. Obviously, they should only be used in lessons with your teacher's express permission.
- ✦ After a period of time at SRR6th, you will be allowed to leave the College site during the day if you are meeting the required standards in your A Level subjects and in the way you conduct yourself around the College. It is an earned privilege.

Sixth Form Facilities

Our Sixth Form Study Room has been designed with your needs in mind. It is a flexible study space with a number of PCs and workstations, moveable desks and chairs, wi-fi to enable you to bring your own device and a social area for relaxation when time permits. There is also a balcony with a living wall and outside seating for your exclusive use.

Our Sixth Form Café space provides a more informal study area.

We also have a fully equipped Mac Suite for you to practise and develop creative digital skills, whether that's web design, music production or film editing. This is of particular interest to our Media Studies and Music students but it is available for all.

Furthermore, the College has a recently opened Sports Hall. It is a stunning resource and we use it as much as possible.



Tutor Time

All Sixth Form students will be part of a tutor group and will receive individual support from their tutor for their academic and pastoral needs. These sessions will be used for a combination of whole group tutor time, year group assemblies and one-to-one tutorials with a form tutor.

Independent Learning

Independent study is a very important part of success at A level. As such, early in Year 12, we hold a series of independent study skills sessions for the whole year group. It is expected that, for every lesson our students have, they will do an hour's worth of independent study either during study periods in College, or as part of their homework in the evening or at weekends. This is the equivalent of five hours per subject per week. Independent study will be made up from a combination of directed tasks set by the class teacher and additional reading, research and revision instigated by the student themselves.



SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE



“ Thoughtful and closely tailored careers guidance, including university visits, is a strong feature of sixth form provision. Students also have access to a work experience programme. A consequence of this is that students are very aware of the range of opportunities open to them. ”

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Pastoral support

Upon enrolment to the Sixth Form, you will be assigned a Form Tutor. Your Form Tutor will support you on a day to day basis, helping you with organisation, developing skills to use in lessons, monitoring your progress in your A Levels, writing your UCAS reference and helping you with your next steps beyond Sixth Form.

Progress

Academic success is as important to us as we know it is for you. As such, there are a number of ways we will monitor your progress and support you to achieve your potential in all of your subjects. This begins with the Flying Start Evening in September at which we provide you and your parents with our tips for success and an outline of your studies at SRR6th. Early on in Year 12, you will receive your Target Grade for each subject. This is what we will have in mind when we give you and your parents feedback on your attitude to learning and your current working at grades at various points throughout the year. In addition, you will have the opportunity to have regular discussions with your Form Tutor and individual conversations with your subject teachers at Parents' Consultation Evening.

Futures

We will spend a lot of time with you thinking about what happens after life at SRR6th, whether that be university, apprenticeships or work. As such, you will participate in a range of activities designed to enable you to learn more about the opportunities available to you, to reflect on your strengths and ambitions, and more specifically, how to get yourself onto your chosen post-18 path. This will include discussions with your tutor, a 121 interview with a Careers Adviser, work experience, visits to universities and a number of speakers from different professions and universities.

Applications to Oxford and Cambridge Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science

We know that some students will be interested in making applications to study at Oxford or Cambridge or for Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science courses at university. These courses are incredibly competitive and we know that you may need extra help to give you the best chance of getting you into your dream university or course. As such, we will identify students with interest and potential in these universities and courses in Year 12, and provide bespoke support which might include interview preparation, a visit to the relevant university, specialist guidance on applying to these universities and courses to put you on a level footing with your independent school competitors.





“ Teachers use their expert subject knowledge to inspire interest and enthuse students, who are motivated to do their best. ”

OFSTED 2019



WHICH A LEVELS?

We recognise that choosing the right A Levels is not always an easy task as they play a role in determining what comes next for you after Sixth Form and this is not always clear at 15 or 16 years of age. Therefore, we recommend you do some research about what you want to do after Sixth Form whether that be university, an apprenticeship or work. This will enable you to identify which subjects could be useful for you to study at A Level. For example, if you are clear that you want to study Physics at university, you should also study Maths. If you want to study Medicine or Dentistry, you'll need to study sciences. We also recommend you consider including a “facilitating subject” or two as they are highly valued by top universities. Facilitating subjects are: Mathematics, Further Mathematics, English Literature, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Geography, History, Languages (Classical and Modern). Two recommended reads to help you to make the right decisions over A Level subjects are “Informed Choices”, published by the Russell Group <https://www.informedchoices.ac.uk/> and The Uni Guide website <https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/advice/a-level-choices>.

Needless to say, you should be making choices based on what you enjoy and what you are good at. Take this as your starting point and then explore what your options are for work or study beyond Sixth Form.

Things to consider when choosing a course

- ✦ You are likely to meet the subject entry requirements.
- ✦ You enjoy the subject.
- ✦ You need to have a certain subject in order to pursue our chosen career (e.g. being a doctor).
- ✦ You have read through the course content, visited the exam board website and you like the topics being covered.
- ✦ The subject opens doors for you in the future so you can keep your options open.
- ✦ Your choice of subjects complement each other.
- ✦ Your teachers have advised you that you will enjoy/do well in a specific subject.
- ✦ The style of assessment suits you e.g. written examinations, practical work.



BURSARY FUND GUIDANCE FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

The College has been allocated funding for the purpose of supporting financially disadvantaged young people to take up or continue their education post-16.

The 16-19 Bursary is a limited fund made available for supporting eligible young people with the costs of transport, food, books, educational visits or other course materials or equipment essential to successfully complete their post-16 programme of study.

It is targeted towards those young people considered most in need of financial support. The government has identified a priority group of young people – those in or leaving care – and have asked schools to give priority to this group first and offer them a Vulnerable Student Bursary.

After this group has been considered, it is expected that a small amount of funding will be available for other students in need of financial support. St Richard Reynolds Catholic College has set eligibility criteria to ensure the remaining funds go to those who are seen to need it most. Any young person who meets these eligibility criteria can apply for a Discretionary Bursary.

Students can apply for one of our bursaries if they are aged 16, 17 or 18 on 31st August 2022, meet the national residency requirements and at least one of the criteria listed below:

- Currently in Local Authority care
- Local Authority Care leaver
- Disabled young person receiving both Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and Disability Allowance (DSA) or Personal Independence Payment (PIP) in your own name
- In receipt of Employment and Support Allowance or Universal Credit and Disability Living or Personal Independence payment in your own name
- If you are, or have been in the last five years, in receipt of Free School Meals (FSM)
- Other identifiable financial need

Please refer to the Bursary Policy on our website for further information.

Additional information can be found on the Department for Education website: www.education.gov.uk



LEAVERS' PROFILES



Jamie Parr

A Levels in PE, Philosophy & Ethics, and Sociology - studying Physical Education, Sport and Youth Development at St Mary's University.

St Richard Reynolds Sixth Form provides you with the perfect environment to achieve in your chosen academic studies. The balance between study, social and Catholic community life is split evenly, giving you every chance to succeed. Teaching at St Richard Reynolds is one of the school's top qualities because of how knowledgeable, interactive and passionate the subject teachers are; this really does come across in their teaching.



Amelie Bodnar-Tunnell

A Levels in Philosophy & Ethics, English Literature and Geography - studying Philosophy and English at the University of Sussex.

I recommend the Sixth Form because I have found that the teachers are always there and are happy to help and give you support when you need it. I have also always felt extremely supported pastorally, as my teachers have always been there to look out for me and I was always able to talk to teachers if I ever needed to. I found that learning at St Richard Reynolds is excellent because throughout my time at the school, but especially throughout Sixth Form, discussion was always encouraged in lessons which meant that I was able to not only learn well from my teachers, but also from my peers. I also had endless support when it came to looking into universities and their courses and eventually writing my personal statement.



Kate Lally

A Levels in Geography, History and Psychology - studying Geography at the University of Durham

The teaching at St Richard Reynolds is excellent. The facilities are also very good, especially the Sixth Form Study Room, balcony and sports hall. There is a feeling of freedom associated with being allowed out for lunch and having free periods which you do not usually have in secondary school. The Sixth Form staff are very friendly and helpful. Lessons are always very engaging. The work is set at suitable levels for each individual. Teachers are always willing to help outside of lesson hours as well as within them. We have also had trips to universities, conferences and other subject-related events to help broaden our interests. SHaPE offers a variety of extra-curricular learning opportunities which may not be offered by other Sixth Forms.



Isabel Alves-Short

A Levels in English Literature, Geography and Psychology - studying Comparative Literature and English Literature at the University of Kent.

Having been at St Richard Reynolds since Year 7 and all through Sixth Form, I realised just how enthusiastic our teachers are. The abundance of opportunities that have been provided to me allowed me to develop not just academically but also as a person. In all my lessons I found that I was being challenged, allowing me to achieve my academic potential. Despite being a quiet person, the welcoming atmosphere at SRR6th allowed me to build confidence and inspired me to take a more active role within the Sixth Form.

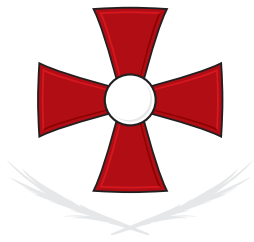


ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR 2022

Standard Entry Requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at grade 4 or higher including English Language and Mathematics **plus** the subject minimum specific requirements listed below.

Art & Design:	GCSE Art & Design Grade 6 OR interview with portfolio of work
Biology:	GCSE Biology Grade 6 or GCSE Combined Science Higher Grade 7-7 GCSE Mathematics Grade 6 advised
Business Studies:	GCSE English Language Grade 5, Mathematics Grade 5
Chemistry:	GCSE Chemistry Grade 6 or GCSE Combined Science Higher Grade 7-7 plus GCSE Mathematics Grade 6
Classical Civilisation	GCSE History, GCSE English Literature, GCSE English Language or Religious Studies Grade 6
Computer Science:	GCSE Computer Science Grade 6
DT Product Design:	GCSE Product Design Grade 5 and GCSE Mathematics Grade 5. Or GCSE Art Grade 6 and GCSE Mathematics Grade 5
Drama & Theatre Studies	GCSE Drama or English Literature Grade 6
Economics:	GCSE English Language Grade 5 and GCSE Mathematics Grade 6
English Literature:	GCSE Grade 6 in English Language & Literature
French:	GCSE French Grade 6
Further Mathematics:	GCSE Mathematics Grade 8
Geography:	GCSE Geography Grade 6
History:	GCSE History Grade 6
Mathematics:	GCSE Mathematics Grade 7
Media Studies:	GCSE English Language Grade 5 plus GCSE English Literature Grade 5
Music:	Grade 5 voice or an instrument and either GCSE Music Grade 6 or Music Theory Grade 5
Philosophy & Ethics:	GCSE Religious Studies Grade 6 and GCSE English Literature Grade 6
Physical Education:	GCSE PE Grade 5 and GCSE Biology or Combined Science Grade 4-4
Physics:	GCSE Physics Grade 6 or GCSE Combined Science Higher Grade 7-7, plus GCSE Mathematics Grade 6. A level Physics students are required to take A level Mathematics as one of their three subjects
Psychology:	GCSE English Language Grade 5 and GCSE Mathematics Grade 5
Sociology:	GCSE English Language Grade 5
Spanish:	GCSE Spanish Grade 6



VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment: per module

60% coursework
40% exam project

The A level is structured in the same way as the GCSE in Art and Design. 60% of the course is student and teacher liaising to create the work needed, 40% has input from the exam board, which will inform students of their starting point for their exam project.

ART & DESIGN

A level linear, no AS qualification

What is it about?

A level Art & Design builds on the skills developed at GCSE level. Students use a range of media to undergo personalised projects. Students will be expected to undergo investigations into Art history.

Who does it suit?

Students who have enjoyed Art and Design at GCSE level, or who wish to work in creative industries would benefit from this course. You would be the type of student that enjoys long independent study.

In the first year you will study:

Personal investigation: Students will personalise their own curriculum, through guidance from their art teacher, to create artworks of outstanding beauty. Experimenting with materials and being able to articulate feelings about these experiments is vital to success. Students will need to be self-disciplined and prepared to work many hours to achieve well at A level. This routine is built upon in year 13, with a bigger emphasis on more involved investigations.

In the second year you will study:

Students will refine their portfolio, which leads them into their externally set assignment. Students will dedicate three months of their time to creating personalised, sophisticated artworks. The course culminates in exhibiting their work at the SRRCC Art Exhibition.

Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher including English Language and Mathematics. Art & Design GCSE Grade 6 OR Interview with portfolio of work.

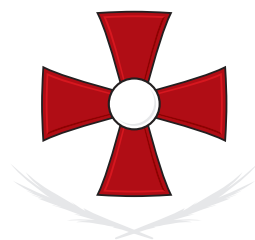
Future Opportunities

Art and Design will assist you in any of the art, design and craft industries that thrive in all corners of the UK.

Further information

Students will undertake visits to London galleries, make links with businesses for work experience. Students will have the opportunity to join trips to Europe.





VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

Module 1:

What's assessed?

Any content from the first year including relevant practical skills

Duration: 2 hours

Percentage of A level: 35%

Module 2:

What's assessed?

Any content from second year including relevant practical skills

Duration: 2 hours

Percentage of A level: 35%

Module 3:

What's assessed?

Any content including relevant practical skills

Duration: 2 hours

Percentage of A level: 30%

What is it about?

Biology is the study of living things and their interactions with each other and their environment. The world as we know it faces tremendous challenges from feeding an ever increasing population, to coping with the effects of climate change on species to the emergence of so-called super bugs and how we can respond to them. Understanding Biology will be at the heart of our survival as a species. In this subject you will study a range of interesting and challenging topics that will equip you with knowledge, understanding and skills to either study biological topics like medicine, sports studies etc at university or challenge, stimulate and interest you if you choose another path of study.

Who does it suit?

As well as having a passion for Biology, you need to be creative and imaginative with good literacy skills.

In the first year you will study:

Biological molecules including nutrients, nucleic acids and the role of water; cellular biology including the fluid mosaic model of cell membranes and methods of passage of molecules across them; how large multicellular organisms exchange substances with the environment and how this adapted for most effective diffusion and mass transport systems like blood; genetics, diversity and variation.

In the second year you will study:

Photosynthesis, respiration and transfer of energy within ecosystems; nervous and endocrine systems and how they work to control and coordinate organisms' response to the environment; evolution and population biology and genetics; the control and expression of genes.

Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher including English Language and Mathematics, GCSE Biology Grade 6 minimum, or GCSE Combined Science Higher Grade 7-7. GCSE Mathematics Grade 6 strongly advised.

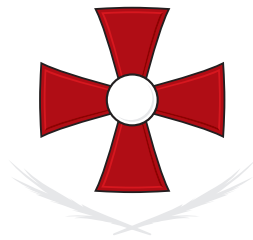
Future opportunities

You will need Biology for courses in medicine, biology, biomedical sciences, dentistry, dietetics, physiotherapy, orthotics and veterinary science. Biology is usually required or recommended for degrees in: biochemistry, chemical engineering, chemistry, geology, environmental science, materials science, nursing and midwifery, occupational therapy, optometry, pharmacy, sports science, psychology and speech therapy. It is also useful for: anthropology, psychology, civil engineering, geography, and teaching.

Further information

University student visits, Wetland Centre field trip.





VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

Module 1:

What's assessed?

Marketing, People and Global Businesses

Duration: 2 hours

Percentage of A level: 35%

Module 2:

What's assessed?

Business Activities, Decisions and Strategy

Duration: 2 hours

Percentage of A level: 35%

Module 3:

What's assessed?

Investigating Business in a Competitive Environment

Duration: 2 hours

Percentage of A level: 30%

BUSINESS STUDIES

A level linear, no AS qualification

What is it about?

Students are introduced to Business through building knowledge of core business concepts and applying them to business contexts to develop a broad understanding of how businesses work. Students are then required to take a more strategic view of business opportunities and issues.

Who does it suit?

This course is ideal for those who have an enquiring, critical and thoughtful mind and would like to study a subject that affects their own everyday life in all manner of areas. If you are keen to explore a career in business, banking, finance, marketing, or even setting up and running your own business, you will enjoy this course.

In the first year you will study:

Theme 1 - Marketing & people: introduces students to supply and demand within markets, marketing mix and strategy with a focus on managing people, entrepreneurs and business leadership.

Theme 2 - Managing business activities: an introduction to managing business activities such as financial and resource management and how external factors may affect businesses.

In the second year you will study:

Theme 3 – Business decisions and strategy: this theme moves from functions to strategy, exploring business decisions and strategy focusing on managing change, business objectives and how businesses grow.

Theme 4 – Global business: explores global issues, such as globalisation, international trade, and global marketing and the ethical and moral dimensions of such activities.

Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher including GCSE English Language Grade 5, GCSE Mathematics Grade 5. GCSE Business Studies is not required. We do not recommend that students study both Business Studies and Economics due to some similarity in content.

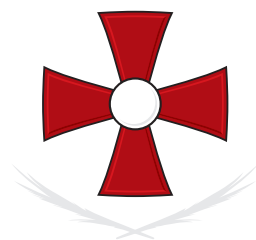
Future Opportunities

This subject links well with a wide range of other A-Level subjects such as science, social science, languages and humanities subjects, so is a good subject to choose if you want to keep your Post-18 options broad. Students who study this subject often go into business related careers from finance and accountancy to marketing and customer services or retail.

Further information

There will be opportunities to visit the Bank of England, to visit local companies to see first hand how businesses run and to hear from entrepreneurs who have set up their own businesses.





VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

Module 1:

What's assessed?

Relevant Physical chemistry topics, inorganic chemistry, relevant practical skills

Duration: 2 hours

Percentage of A level: 35%

Module 2:

What's assessed?

Relevant physical chemistry topics, organic chemistry, relevant practical skills

Duration: 2 hours

Percentage of A level: 35%

Module 3:

What's assessed?

Any content, any practical skills

Duration: 2 hours

Percentage of A level: 30%

CHEMISTRY

A level linear, no AS qualification

What is it about?

A level Chemistry is a rigorous, rewarding course that builds on the concepts and skills developed at GCSE. It is a stepping stone to future study which will allow you to develop skills that universities want to see. Chemistry is fundamentally an experimental subject and there will be numerous opportunities for you to use practical experiences in order to link theory to reality.

Who does it suit?

If you are thinking about studying medicine or pharmacy the chemistry course will provide you with the groundwork for further study in those fields.

In the first year you will study:

Physical chemistry: atomic structure, amounts of substance, bonding, energetics, kinetics, equilibria, oxidation and reduction, thermodynamics. Inorganic chemistry: periodicity, group 2, group 7. Organic chemistry: alkanes, halogenoalkanes, alkenes, alcohols, organic analysis.

In the second year you will study:

Physical chemistry: further thermodynamics, rate equations, equilibrium constant, electrode potentials and electrochemical cells, acids and bases. Inorganic chemistry: period 3 elements and their oxides, transition metals, reactions of ions in aqueous solution.

Organic chemistry: optical isomerism, aldehydes and ketones, aromatic chemistry, amines, polymers, amino acids, proteins and DNA, nuclear magnetic resonance, chromatography.

Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher including English Language, GCSE Mathematics Grade 6 minimum. GCSE Chemistry Grade 6 minimum or GCSE Combined Science Higher Grade 7-7.

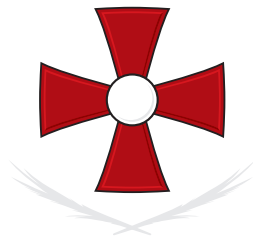
Future Opportunities

Health and clinical professions, including medicine, veterinary science, nursing, dentistry and forensic science. Studying chemistry will also prepare students for industry careers, such as those within the pharmaceutical or petrochemical sectors.

Further information

Visiting universities and opportunities to attend A level conferences.





VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

Paper 1:

The World of the Hero

Duration: 2 hours, 20 minutes

Percentage of A level: 40%

Paper 2:

What's assessed?

Greek Art

Duration: 1 hour, 45 minutes

Percentage of A level: 30%

Module 3:

Politics of the Late Republic

Duration: 1 hour, 45 minutes

Percentage of A level: 30%

CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

A level linear, no AS qualification

What is it about?

Classical Civilisation is a vibrant and interesting subject; the history of the classical world is so relevant today and the stories and people have inspired and continue to inspire amazing works of art and literature. These are the cultures that have influenced our modern Western world and this makes their differences only more fascinating. You will study a wide range of literature spanning many hundreds of years and examine the material culture - the art and architecture - giving you the opportunity to build an informed picture of the classical world from the earliest Greeks to the formation of the powerhouse that was the Roman Empire.

Who does it suit?

Classical Civilisation suits students who will enjoy studying the ancient world through a wide variety of sources, from literature to history, from politics to architecture. Although the subject is of particular interest to students of literature, history and Latin, it is a subject taken and enjoyed by students of all disciplines.

In the first year you will study:

The World of the Hero – The Odyssey (Compulsory Component)

Greek Art – explore a range of the visual arts produced by the Greeks in 6th–4th centuries BC, including free-standing sculpture, architectural sculpture and vase-painting.

In the second year you will study:

The World of the Hero – The Aeneid (Compulsory Component)

Politics of the Late Republic – studying the tumultuous period of the 1st century BC via the works of three contemporary political figures: Cicero, Cato the Younger and Caesar.

While the World of the Hero component is compulsory and will be studied over two years, there are several options available for the other two components, covering a range of different aspects of Greek and Roman history, culture and literature. If students have any particularly strong existing interests, we may be able to choose a different component to those listed here.

Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher including GCSE Mathematics, GCSE History, GCSE English Literature, GCSE English Language or Religious Studies Grade 6.

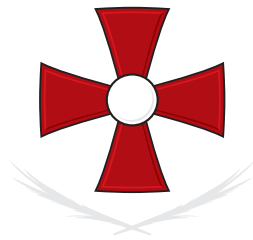
Future Opportunities

Advertising, business, chartered accounting, Civil Service, heritage work, journalism, law, marketing, teaching.

Further information

Visits to museums and Roman sites, lectures by university speakers, theatre trips, visit abroad to Rome or Athens.





VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

Paper 1: Computer Systems

Duration: 2 hours, 30 minutes
Percentage of A level: 40%

Paper 2: Algorithms and Programming

Duration: 1 hour & 30 minutes
Percentage of A level: 40%

Non Exam Assessment: Programming Project

Percentage of A level: 20%

COMPUTER SCIENCE

A level linear, no AS qualification

What is it about?

The Computer Science qualification enables students to develop their understanding of and ability to apply fundamental principles of computer science to real-life contexts. Students will also develop skills, and their ability in analysing problems and in finding creative solutions by using computational thinking. The A Level Computer Science qualification helps students understand the core academic principles of computer science. Classroom learning is transferred into creating real-world systems through the creation of an independent programming project.

Who does it suit?

Computer Science will suit students with a good knowledge of computers and programming who wish to begin applying all the basics they've learnt into real world scenarios. It will particularly be of interest to those students who wish to have more freedom in their choice of projects, and those who are keen to enter development or network based careers.

In the first year you will study:

- The characteristics of contemporary processors, input, output and storage devices
- Software and software development
- Programming
- Exchanging data
- Data types, data structures and algorithms
- Legal, moral, ethical and cultural issues

In the second year you will study:

Algorithms to solve problems and standard algorithms.

A large programming project of your own design in a programming language of your choice.

Entry requirement

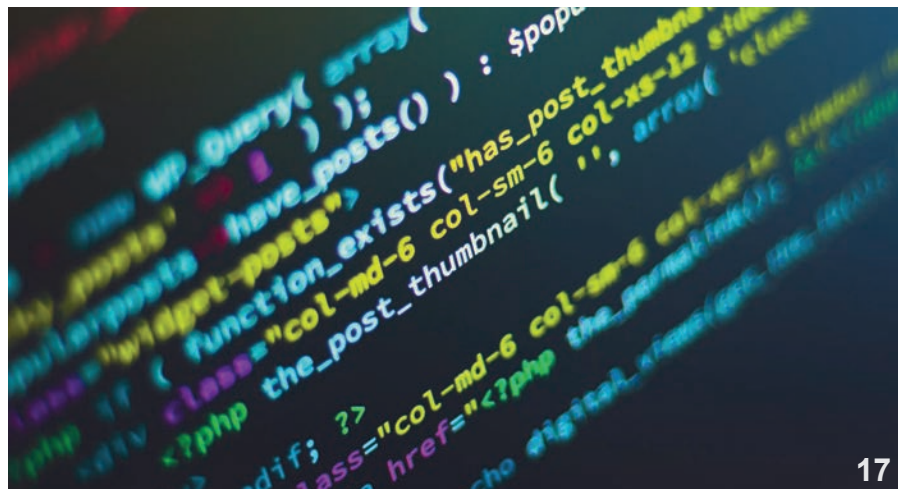
At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher including English Language and Mathematics. Grade 6 or above in GCSE Computer Science.

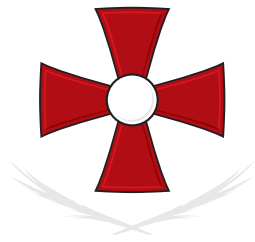
Future Opportunities

Games Development, software developer, hardware developer, IT, Film, Music, Mobile development, Data analyst, Cyber Security, UX Designer, Web Designer, Forensic computer analyst, teaching.

Further information

Visits to Tech Cons, Games Cons, computer science universities, games development companies, software development companies, lectures from industry professionals. Students must have access to a computer/laptop on which Python is installed.





VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

Module 1: Exam Paper 1

What's assessed?

Technical principles • Designing and making principles • Specialist knowledge

Duration: 2 Hours

Percentage of A level: 25%

Module 2: Exam Paper 2

What's assessed?

Technical principles • Designing and making principles • Specialist knowledge

Duration: 2 Hours

Percentage of A level: 25%

Module 3: Non-exam assessment:

What's assessed?

Technical principles • Designing and making principles • Specialist knowledge

Duration: 40 Hours

Percentage of A level: 50%

DT: PRODUCT DESIGN

A level linear, no AS qualification

What is it about?

This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers. It is a subject that is in demand within the workplace and places a greater emphasis on understanding and applying iterative design. Students will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers.

Who does it suit?

If you have a passion for design and being creative and get satisfaction in making your designs real, then this is a subject for you. You should be very imaginative and be good at problem solving.

In the first year you will study:

Technical Principles: materials and their applications; performance characteristics of materials; enhancement of materials; forming; redistribution and addition processes; the use of adhesives and fixings; the use of finishes; modern industrial and commercial practice; efficient use of materials; digital design and manufacture.

Designing & Making Principles: design methods and processes; design theory; how technology and cultural changes can impact on the work of designers; product life cycle; design processes; critical analysis and evaluation.

In the second year you will study:

The requirements for product design and development: Health and safety; Protecting designs and intellectual property; Design for manufacturing, maintenance, repair and disposal; Feasibility studies; Enterprise and marketing in the development of products; Design communication; Modern manufacturing systems.

Designing & Making Principles: Selecting appropriate tools, equipment and processes, accuracy in design and manufacture; responsible design; design for manufacture and project management; national and international standards in product design.

Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher including English Language and Mathematics. GCSE Product Design Grade 5 and GCSE Mathematics Grade 5 minimum. Or Art GCSE Grade 6 and GCSE Mathematics Grade 5.

Future Opportunities

Product Design A level provides an excellent foundation for a wide range of different career paths, including engineering, architecture, product design, interior/exterior design, web design or gaming design. Students will need access to a PC at home in order to meet the requirements of this course.

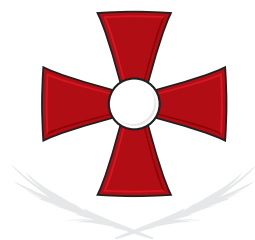
Further information

There will be opportunities to visit leading Design University faculties, to attend Product Design lectures, and to learn from some leading design businesses based in the UK.



DRAMA & THEATRE STUDIES

A level linear, no AS qualification



VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

Component 1: Drama & Theatre Written Examination

What's assessed?

Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre
Study of two set plays
Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers

Duration: 3 hours, Open Book

Percentage of A level: 40%

Component 2: Creating Original Drama (practical)

What's assessed?

Process of creating devised drama. Performance of devised drama.

Percentage of A level: 30%

Component 3: Making Theatre (Practical)

What's assessed?

Practical Exploration and interpretation of three extracts.

Percentage of A level: 30%

What is it about?

AQA A Level Drama and Theatre inspires students to become independent theatre makers with the skills they need to go on to higher education, whether that is to study a course in drama and theatre or another subject. This qualification emphasises practical creativity alongside research and theoretical understanding. Students learn through experience, seeing theatre and making theatre for themselves.

Students are introduced to a wide range of theatrical styles and contexts as they explore plays practically, devise and work on performances. Students choose to develop as a: performer, designer, director, or a combination of these. Whichever option they choose, students will gain many invaluable skills, both theatrical and transferable, to expand their horizons.

Who does it suit?

Are you someone with a flair for the creative? Or perhaps someone who can think outside the box and work in a variety of situations, with a variety of people? This course is suitable for students who are interested in performing, directing, writing or working behind the scenes looking at design elements of theatre such as costuming, lighting, sound, puppetry or set design. This course is fantastic for students who have a passion for live theatre and immersing themselves in a new exciting reality. This course will suit students with an invested interest in performance - whether that is backstage or centre stage!

In the first year you will study:

Students will gain a theoretical and practical insight into the two prescribed set texts through a number of workshops. Students will also create and develop a self-devised performance influenced by the techniques and methodologies of one prescribed practitioner.

In the second year you will study:

Students will explore three contrasting extracts from three different plays with a focus on a final performance. Students can choose to explore these texts from a performer, director or designer's perspective. Students will study the creative process from a theoretical perspective whilst producing a reflective report.

Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher including English Language and Mathematics. GCSE Drama or English Literature Grade 6. It is important that you are interested in gaining a greater understanding of how theatre and play work, and are keen to be involved in performances.

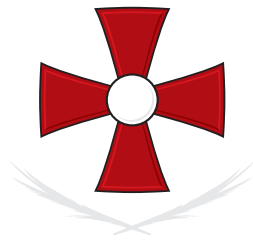
Future Opportunities

A level Drama and Theatre Studies is useful for students considering Higher Education in any arts or humanities subject, including English Language and Literature, Journalism, Dance, Music, Art & Design, and Media Studies. Career opportunities include arts/theatre administration, arts journalism, director, actor, agent, technician, broadcasting, media presenting, education, drama therapy and scriptwriting.

Further information

Students will be required to attend a number of live theatre performances, please be aware that an additional cost will be involved.





VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

Paper 1:

What's assessed?

Individuals, firms, markets and market failure

Duration: 2 hours

Percentage of A level: 33.3%

Paper 2:

What's assessed?

National and international economy

Duration: 2 hours

Percentage of A level: 33.3%

Paper 3:

What's assessed?

Individuals, firms, markets and market failure plus national and international economy

Duration: 2 hours

Percentage of A level: 33.3%

ECONOMICS

A level linear, no AS qualification

What is it about?

Economics is about studying the world around us from a social, financial and cultural perspective. The subject looks at all the different factors that affect wealth and well-being. Economics is the good combination of numbers and words, problems and essays, calculations and interpretations. Students have the opportunity to consider models which give insights into the real world, and then to critique these models on the basis of their assumptions. There is seldom one right answer in economics but students learn to back up their opinions with quantitative evidence. Students ultimately enjoy economics because it allows them to employ and develop analytical and evaluative skills.

Who does it suit?

The course is ideal for those who have a critical analysis approach to problem solving and are interested in the world around them and the impact of events and policies on the individual, national and global level.

In the first year you will study:

Microeconomics: economic methodology and the economic problem; price determination in a competitive market; production, costs and revenue; competitive and concentrated markets; the market mechanism, market failure and government interventions.

Macroeconomics: the measurement of macroeconomic performance; how the macro economy works; economic performance; macroeconomic policy.

In the second year you will study:

Individuals, firms, markets and market failure

The national and international economy

Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher plus GCSE English Language Grade 5 and GCSE Mathematics Grade 6. We do not recommend that students study both Economics and Business Studies due to some similarity in content.

Future Opportunities

Studying A level economics prepares students for careers in: banking (high street and city); insurance and accountancy firms; consultancies; charitable and not-for-profit organisations. The subject is also useful in a number of related fields such as journalism, law, education, social research and market research.

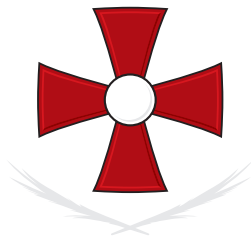
Further information

We will visit the Bank of England, and also attend public lectures at the London Stock Exchange.



ENGLISH LITERATURE

A level linear, no AS qualification



VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

Module 1: Shakespeare & Poetry

What's assessed?

- A Shakespeare play
- Poetry

Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes

Percentage of A level: 25%

Module 2: Prose Study

What's assessed?

Two set texts

Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes

Percentage of A level: 25%

Module 3: Love Through the Ages

What's assessed?

Study of three texts: one poetry and one prose text. Exam will include two unseen poems.

Duration: 3 hours

Percentage of A level: 20%

Module 4: Texts in shared contexts

What's assessed?

Choice of two set options

Duration: 2.5 hours (open book)

Percentage of A level: 20%

Non-exam assessment:

Texts Across Time

What's assessed?

Comparative critical study of 2 texts
One extended essay
Bibliography

Percentage of A level: 10%

What is it about?

English Literature is a highly respected A Level that can be instrumental in helping students gain university places in a variety of subjects. Students will gain a great deal of academic expertise through a subject that promotes the development of transferable skills.

English students are taught to think analytically, consider different interpretations and listen and respond to one another sensitively in preparation for the seminar style environment they are likely to find at university. One of the most important skills they learn is how to write coherently and critically. This is an essential skill that will aid them in their other subjects and is invaluable in higher education and the world of employment.

Who does it suit?

This A Level is an ideal choice for anyone who loves reading and books and is interested in the big questions affecting human existence.

In the first year you will study:

You will study a range of literature based around the thematic title of Love Through the Ages. This will include the study of two texts: one Shakespeare play and one AQA anthology of love poetry through the ages (pre-1900 or post-1900). You will also study two additional novels linked to this theme.

In the second year you will study:

You will study texts in shared contexts – focusing on either WW1 and its aftermath or modern times: literature from 1945 to the present day. You will also complete an independent critical study of two texts which will feature in a non-exam unit - Texts Across Time.

Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher including Mathematics plus Grade 6 in English Literature and English Language.

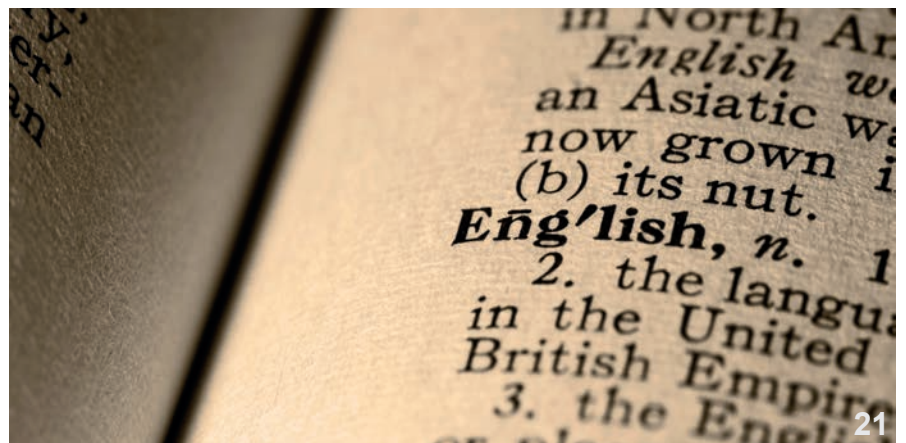
Future Opportunities

A Level English Literature combines well with any subject. You will learn how to read and write closely, intelligently and sensitively - skills that are very widely needed. This is a prestigious A Level to support entry to university study. It provides a secure basis for direct employment in many industries including the following:

Media and journalism, publishing, teaching and academic careers, creative arts, advertising, marketing and PR careers, event planning, careers in the public sector and law.

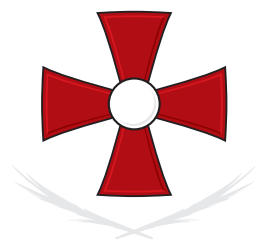
Further information

Pupils will be encouraged to regularly attend theatre trips. There will also be extra-curricular visits to various museums and theatre productions.



FRENCH

A level linear, no AS qualification



VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

Listening, reading, writing

Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes

Percentage of A level: 50%

Writing

Duration: 2 hours

Percentage of A level: 20%

Speaking

Duration: 21-23 minutes

(including 5 minutes prep. time)

Percentage of A level: 30%

What is it about?

A level French builds on linguistic skills learned at GCSE, enabling students to develop an advanced level knowledge and understanding of the French language, topics that cover fundamental and interesting aspects of the culture of France and other Francophone countries, as well as practical and valuable language and transferable study skills.

Who does it suit?

A level French should attract any students who enjoy speaking another language, who have an interest in other cultures, who wish to travel or work abroad, or simply those who want to get into a good university – languages are seen as an ‘enabling’ subject which can lead to a broad range of courses.

During the two year course you will study:

Throughout the two-year course, students will read and analyse a contemporary and classic film and novel, together with authentic source materials from France and the wider french-speaking world. Topics include the modern family, cyber society and francophone music; as well as studying aspects of the political landscape in a French-speaking country, looking at immigration from the political perspective and the way in which political power is expressed through action such as strikes and demonstrations. Teenagers and the extent of their political engagement looks towards the future of the political life in a French-speaking society.

Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher including English Language and Mathematics. GCSE French Grade 6.

Future Opportunities

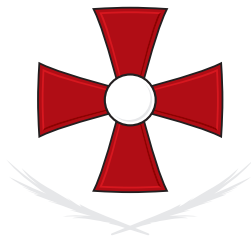
A-level French, as well as leading to specialised language courses at College or University, can also be most useful for those studying Economics, Science or Technology, and post-Brexit, there will be a real demand for language speakers in many areas of industry and commerce. Many university courses now combine a foreign language with a range of other disciplines and offer the possibility of doing a year studying your main subject in a French university. Remember, a job candidate with at least two languages can expect to earn 20% more than the average job candidate.

Further information

Students should expect to take part in a trip to France. This trip supports Geography / History / Art / Photography students.

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

A level linear, no AS qualification



VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

Paper 1: Core Pure Mathematics 1

Paper 2: Core Pure Mathematics 2

Paper 3: Further Pure Mathematics 1

Paper 4: Further Pure Mathematics 2

Duration: 1.5 hours per paper

Percentage of A level:

25% per paper

What is it about?

Further Mathematics introduces some of the most powerful ideas in the history of human thought, including calculus, proof and differential equations. The course equips students with a much richer mathematical language and body of techniques than is possible in a single A-level and develops their skills in constructing a logical argument to draw well-founded conclusions in a wide range of contexts.

Who does it suit?

Further Mathematics is a demanding course, and requires a high level of commitment, but is hugely rewarding for maths students who enjoy making connections between concepts, solving problems and looking for patterns behind complex real-world phenomena. It is a great asset for students who wish to study mathematics, science, engineering, economics or related subjects at university.

Course content:

Over the course of two years you will study:

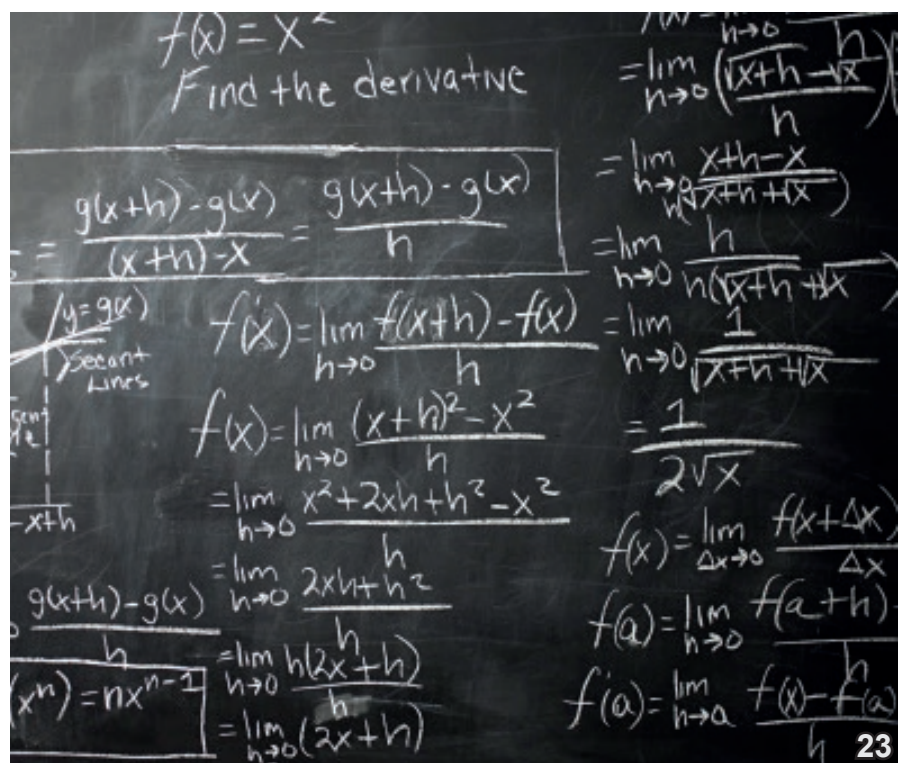
Complex Numbers • Matrix Algebra • Infinite series • Vectors • Transformations
• Conics • Differential equations • Hyperbolic Functions • Number theory • Group theory • Proof

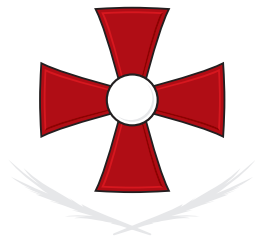
Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher including English Language. GCSE Mathematics Grade 8 minimum. Since Further Mathematics A level is studied in conjunction with Mathematics A level, students will follow a pathway of four A level subjects.

Future Opportunities

After A Levels, there is a vast range of higher education courses and other careers in which Mathematics plays an important part. These include engineering, design and architecture, accountancy and actuarial work, astrophysics and aerospace, banking, economics, IT, market research, meteorology and many other scientific careers. If you plan to study Law, take up a career in computing or join the RAF then your A Level in Further Mathematics could be an advantage.





VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

Unit 1 Physical Geography

Duration: 2.5 hours

Percentage of A level: 40%

Unit 2 Human Geography

Duration: 2.5 hours

Percentage of A level: 40%

Unit 3 Geography Fieldwork Investigation (c4,000 words)

Percentage of A level: 20%

GEOGRAPHY

A level linear, no AS qualification

What is it about?

Are you interested in the world around you? Interested in why natural disasters occur? Interested in what the consequences might be for the planet of our rising population? Are you a keen investigator who likes to work as part of a team? If so, A Level Geography is for you.

Who does it suit?

Successful A Level Geography students are always asking questions in a quest to find out more. So a keen interest in the world around them is essential. Pupils should have a solid level of literacy to help support writing their coursework and exam answers. In addition, a good level of numeracy will be needed to understand the statistical, data and graphical elements of the course.

In the first year you will study:

Unit 1: Physical Geography topics:

Water and Carbon Cycles • Coastal Environments • Hazards

Unit 2: Human Geography topics:

Population & the Environment • Changing Places • Global Systems & Governance

Unit 3: Fieldwork residential.

In the second year you will study:

Continuation of coursework project and Human Geography topics.

Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher including English Language and Mathematics. GCSE Geography Grade 6.

Future Opportunities

Geography is a facilitating subject that gives you many skills required for university study. It is a favoured A level choice of the top Russell Group of universities. It combines well with Biology and History and gives a valuable understanding of contemporary issues. Other links to academic subjects include Maths, Physics, Politics and Citizenship.

Outside further education, Geography offers a wide range of career paths due to the broad variety of skills gained through its study. Problem solving and analysis transfer well to many careers in administration as well as the academic jobs that are directly associated with the subject. Other links are with geology, meteorology and urban planning. International opportunities and vocations are also an option.

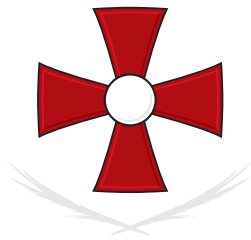
Further information

There will be a UK fieldwork residential as part of the course to meet the requirements for Unit 3. Students will also have the option of attending Geography conferences and lectures at universities to enhance their knowledge and understanding.



HISTORY

A level linear, no AS qualification



VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

Module 1:

Breadth Study- Stuart Britain

What's assessed?

All content covered in the module

Duration: 2.5 hours

Percentage of A level: 40%

Module 2:

Depth Study- Russia 1917-1953

What's assessed?

All content covered in the module

Duration: 2.5 hours

Percentage of A level: 40%

Non-exam assessment:

What's assessed?

Historical Investigation

Duration:

c4500 words essay

Percentage of A level: 20%

What is it about?

This A Level explores some of the most momentous events in human history. Students will study the key events, peoples and concepts of the time and will ponder the impact that these had on future events. Why study history? Because as Mark Twain once said 'History doesn't repeat itself, but it does rhyme.'

Who does it suit?

People who study History are fearless explorers of the past. They investigate past politics, societies, cultures, languages, health, art, education, money, conflicts and more, look at how things have developed over time and connect the dots to understand how we got where we are today. It might be about the past, but there are plenty of careers in history that you can pursue today.

Course content

Breadth Study- Stuart Britain and the Crisis Monarchy

The study of the changes to Britain during the Stuart Era. It explores topics such as Charles I, Divine Right of Kings, the English Civil Wars, changes to British society, religious changes and the increased role of Parliament. It also considers issues of political authority, the power of individuals and the inter-relationship of governmental and economic and social change.

Depth Study- Revolution and dictatorship: Russia 1917-1953

Study in depth of the coming and practice of Communism in Russia. It explores concepts such as Marxism, Communism, Leninism, and Stalinism, ideological control and dictatorship. Students will consider issues of political authority, the power of individuals and the inter-relationship of governmental and economic and social change.

Historical Investigation- America and Civil Rights, 1863-1968

Students must investigate a 100 year segment of history, in this case America and Civil Rights, 1863-1968 and this will be presented in the form of a piece of extended writing of between 3000 and 3500 words in length.

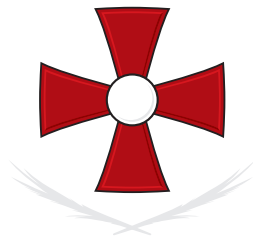
Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher including English Language and Mathematics. GCSE History Grade 6.

Future Opportunities

Potential careers; Armed Forces, Police, Law, Solicitor, Barrister, Politics, Researcher, Charity work, Human Resources, Marketing, Management, Media, Social Media, Advertising, Radio, Presenting, Civil Service, Museums, Lecturer, Teacher, Archaeology, Journalism, Publishing, Retail, Travel and Tourism, Graduate Training Schemes, Archivist and Public Relations.





VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

Paper 1: Pure Mathematics 1
Paper 2: Pure Mathematics 2
Paper 3: Statistics & Mechanics

Duration: 2 hours per paper

Percentage of A level: 33.33%
per paper

MATHEMATICS

A level linear, no AS qualification

What is it about?

Mathematics is a course that is challenging and interesting. It builds on the work covered at GCSE but also involves new ideas. It serves as a useful support to many other qualifications as well as being a sought after qualification for the workplace and courses in Higher Education. Employers value numeracy, clarity of thought and the capacity for logical argument that the study of mathematics develops.

Who does it suit?

You need to enjoy mathematics, solving problems and be prepared to develop your algebraic skills to a high level. A substantial commitment is required to the mathematics course. This will include spending 4-6 hours in private study each week.

Course content:

Overview for Pure Mathematics: Proof, algebra and functions, coordinate geometry in the (x, y) plane, sequences and series, trigonometry, exponentials and logarithms, differentiation, integration, numerical methods, and vectors.

Overview for Applied Mathematics

Statistical sampling, data presentation and interpretation, probability, statistical distributions, statistical hypothesis testing, mechanics, quantities and units in mechanics, kinematics, forces and Newton's laws, and moments.

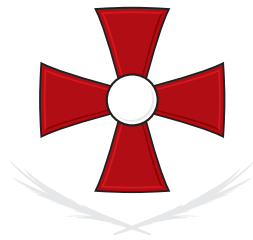
Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher including English Language and GCSE Mathematics Grade 7.

Future Opportunities

After A Levels, university is an obvious choice but not necessarily studying Mathematics itself. There is a vast range of higher education courses and other careers in which Mathematics plays an important part. These can include engineering, accountancy, market research, meteorology and scientific careers to name but a few. If you plan to study Law, take up a career in computing or join the RAF then your A Level in Mathematics could be an advantage. It can also be of benefit to many other courses, for example, Physics, Geography and Business Studies.





VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

Component 1:

Duration: 2 hours 15 minutes

Percentage of A level: 35%

Component 2:

Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes

Percentage of A level: 35%

Component 3:

Non-exam assessment

Percentage of A level: 30%

MEDIA STUDIES

A level linear, no AS qualification

What is it about?

Media Studies is a highly relevant subject for the 21st century, giving an invaluable insight into the world today. It is a highly creative subject, teaching skills such as film-making and editing, web and image design. After the finance industry, media is the second largest employer in London.

Who does it suit?

This course will particularly suit those students who want to combine an academic interest in all aspects of the Media, from Gaming to TV to film plus much more, with a more practical desire to create their own film posters using their own photography, filming and editing music videos and TV shows, and building an interactive website. If you enjoy being creative with technology, then this is the course for you.

In the first year you will study:

Component 1:

Media products, industries and audiences; Media language and representation; understanding media industries and audiences.

Component 3:

Cross-media production. Creating a media product across two platforms in response to a chosen brief.

In the second year you will study:

Component 2:

Media forms and products in depth; Television in the global age; Magazine - mainstream and alternative media
Media in the online age

Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher including GCSE Mathematics, GCSE English Language Grade 5 and English Literature Grade 5. Enthusiasm for all aspects of the media.

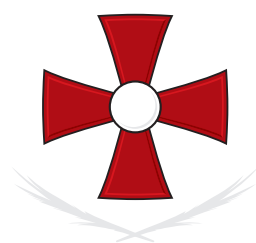
Future Opportunities

Computer gaming, newspaper and magazine journalism, advertising and marketing, creative IT, graphic design, website design and development, event management, social media, writing and publishing, plus there is a wide range of exciting careers in the film, television, radio, music and online industries.

Further information

We aim to visit key centres such as the British Film Institute, Sky and local media facilities, such as the Curzon and Odeon cinema chains.





VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

Appraisal:

What's assessed?

Listening, analysis and an essay, using set works and unprepared works.

Duration: Taught throughout the course

Percentage of A level: 40%

Performance:

What's assessed?

One recording of solo and/or ensemble pieces, to take place after 1st March in the year of examination. The recital must include over eight minutes' music.

Percentage of A level: 30%

Composition:

What's assessed?

Two compositions, one to be written to a set brief. Total composition time must exceed six minutes.

Percentage of A level: 30%

What is it about?

The St Richard Reynolds Music department is committed to creativity and academic excellence. A Level Music is a practical and analytical course that has plenty of opportunity for self-expression and for the exploration of meaningful musical works from throughout history.

Who does it suit?

If you are someone who is determined to excel as a musician, and develop compositional and analytical skills to a high level, this is the course for you. You need to be someone with the stamina to work hard on your chosen instrument and composition, while exploring a number of musical works in detail.

In the first year you will study:

Performance: Developing and building on individual technique on your chosen instrument.

Appraisal: The study of a breadth of musical styles and genres. Year 12 has a focus on instrumental music, vocal music, film music, popular music and jazz.

Composition: Development of free composition.

In the second year you will study:

Performance: Developing and building on individual technique on your chosen instrument. Expected standard by Year 13 is Grade 7-8. Final recital will take place after 1st March.

Appraisal: Continuation of set works analysis, alongside in-depth revision. Year 13 has a focus on 20th Century music, fusions and in-depth revision.

Composition: Finalising free composition and completion of brief composition.

Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher including English Language and Mathematics. Grade 5 on voice or an instrument, and either GCSE Music Grade 6 or Music Theory Grade 5.

Future Opportunities

A level Music is like none other! It brings together many different skills rarely found in just one qualification:

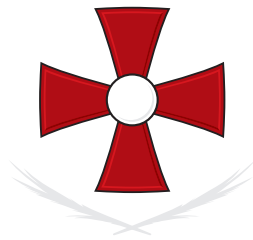
- in-depth analytical skills and the ability to formulate detailed arguments in essay form
- development of one's own musical identity and expressive voice through musical composition
- technical skills and expressive interpretation on chosen instrument/voice

Music A level lends itself to an infinite number of subjects at University and Higher Education institutions. Skills that come to the fore in A level Music include in-depth analysis, presentation skills, creative problem solving, resilience, and hard graft, to name a few.

Further information

St Richard Reynolds has a specialism in Music; music permeates the life of the College. Alongside your teaching from Music teachers at the College, you will receive regular additional support and teaching from Mr Booth, our Musician in Residence, and Ms Davies, our Music Specialism Support Assistant - who each bring their own musical areas of expertise. The department runs several trips, recitals and masterclasses throughout the year. It is expected that A Level Music students take part fully in the life of the Music Department and involve themselves in choirs, ensembles and stage productions as appropriate.





VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

Paper 1:

What's assessed?

All topics taught in the first year

Duration: 3 hours

Percentage of A level: 50%

Paper 2:

What's assessed?

All topics taught in the second year

Duration: 3 hours

Percentage of A level: 50%

PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS

A level linear, no AS qualification

What is it about?

Is it better to be a pig satisfied or Socrates dissatisfied? Can God create a stone too heavy for him to lift? Is it OK to design a "saviour sibling" to benefit an existing child? Is there an afterlife? How much freedom should people have? Is happiness the most important purpose in life? These are just some of the philosophical and ethical questions that you will be exploring on this course.

Who does it suit?

If you are interested in topics such as God, the universe and questions surrounding human life, this course is for you. If you are passionate about your opinion, like to ask lots of questions and are interested in exploring a range of possible answers, this course is for you. You must be someone who enjoys reading widely and writing essays in response to these open-ended topics.

In the first year you will study:

Philosophy of Religion

Arguments for the existence of God; evil and suffering; religious experience; religious language; miracles; self and life after death.

Ethics and Religion

Ethical theories; Issues of human life and death; issues of animal life and death; introduction to meta ethics; free will and moral responsibility; conscience; Bentham and Kant.

In the second year you will study:

Study of Religion

Sources of wisdom and authority; God's ultimate reality; self, death and the afterlife; good conduct and moral principles; religious identity; religion, gender and sexuality; religion and science; religion and secularisation; religion and religious pluralism.

Dialogue between Philosophy of Religion and Religion

Dialogue between Ethical Studies and Religion

Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher including English Language and Mathematics. GCSE English Literature Grade 6 and GCSE Religious Studies Grade 6.

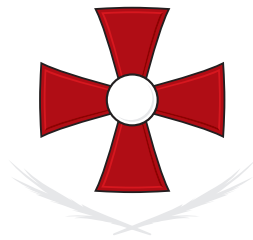
Future Opportunities

Religious Studies A level provides an excellent foundation for a wide range of different career paths, including medicine, journalism, law and many things in between. As such it works well in combination with other essay based subjects, as well as being a good contrast to the sciences. The Russell Group has made it clear that Philosophy & Ethics A level provides 'suitable preparation for university'. Both Oxford and Cambridge include Philosophy & Ethics in the top list of 'generally suitable Arts A levels' that they would look for applicants to hold.

Further information

There will be opportunities to visit leading Theology and Philosophy University faculties, to attend Religious Studies Sixth Form conferences, and to participate in debates with students from other Sixth Forms.





VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

Module 1:

What's assessed?

Applied physiology
Skill acquisition and sports psychology
Sport and society and technology in sport

Duration: 2 x 2 hour written exams

Percentage of A level: 35% per exam

Non-exam assessment:

What's assessed?

Students assessed as a performer or coach in the full sided version of one activity. Plus: written/verbal analysis of performance.

Duration: Practical assessment

Percentage of A level: 30%

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

A level linear, no AS qualification

What is it about?

Areas studied are applied anatomy and physiology, exercise physiology, bio-mechanics, skill acquisition, sports psychology, sport and society and contemporary issues in physical activity and sport. This course will be assessed via one exam assessment at the end of the second year to cover all of the modules taught. Practically, you will also be assessed in one sporting activity, alongside an oral analysis of sporting activity performance.

Who does it suit?

To study this subject you need to be a keen sports person who has an interest in the theoretical content of sport as the subject covers a wide range of these concepts. This course will suit pupils who have studied GCSE PE and are interested in furthering their knowledge in physical exercise, diet, bio-mechanical movement and sports psychology.

What you will study:

Applied physiology
Skill acquisition and sports psychology
Sport and society and technology in sport

Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher including English Language and Mathematics. GCSE PE Grade 5. GCSE Biology or Combined Science Grade 4-4.

Future Opportunities

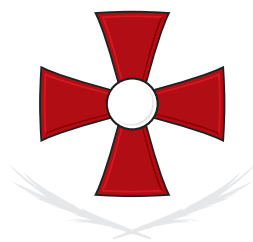
Physical Education is a well established A level and fully recognised by all universities. It combines very successfully with many other subjects. It provides excellent progression for those wishing to continue studying sport or sports science at either university or college.

PE A level provides an excellent foundation for a wide range of different career paths, including physiotherapy, sports science, sports management and teaching.

Further information

There will be opportunities to visit St Mary's University to use their sports science facilities and speak to lead lecturers. Pupils may attend PE Sixth Form conferences, and to participate in practical moderation with students from other Sixth Forms.





VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

Module 1:

What's assessed?

Core content

Duration: 2 hours

Percentage of A level: 34%

Module 2:

What's assessed?

Thermal Physics plus two further topics

Duration: 2 hours

Percentage of A level: 34%

Module 3:

What's assessed?

Practical skills and data analysis, option choice

Duration: 2 hours

Percentage of A level: 32%

PHYSICS

A level linear, no AS qualification

What is it about?

It is a stepping stone that develops your core knowledge for further study of Physics at higher level. Physics is a highly relevant subject in the 21st century which will develop your investigational and problem solving skills. It is particularly useful for those who are interested in pursuing a career in Engineering, Computing, Mathematics, Science or Technology. The skills developed from studying Physics can be easily transferred to other areas of interest for further careers.

Who does it suit?

It will suit students who are problem solvers and willing to develop their investigational skills and students who would like to apply their mathematical skills to real life applications.

In the first year you will study:

Measurements and their errors, particles and radiation, waves, mechanics and materials, electricity.

In the second year you will study:

Further mechanics and thermal physics, fields and their consequences, nuclear physics and, one of the following: astrophysics, medical physics, engineering physics, turning points in physics, electronics.

Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher including English Language and GCSE Mathematics Grade 6, GCSE Physics Grade 6 or Combined Science Higher Grade 7-7. A level Physics students are required to take A level Mathematics as one of their three subjects.

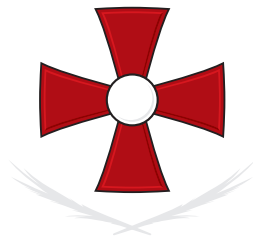
Future Opportunities

Studying Physics can lead to vast number of careers as the skills gained are transferable and are widely sought after by employers. Some of these potential careers include areas of medicine, transport, education, building and structures, environment, music and television, law and finance, sports and games, energy and space.

Further information

Trip to The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) is the world's largest and most powerful particle accelerator in Switzerland. Trip to Thorpe Park for the physics of roller coasters. Trip to the National Physics Laboratory. Trip to the Greenwich Observatory.





VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

Paper 1:

What's assessed?

Introductory topics in Psychology

Duration: 2 hours

Percentage of A level: 33.3%

Paper 2:

What's assessed?

Psychology in context

Duration: 2 hours

Percentage of A level: 33.3%

Paper 3:

What's assessed?

Issues and options in Psychology

Duration: 2 hours

Percentage of A level: 33.3%

PSYCHOLOGY

A level linear, no AS qualification

What is it about?

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and how it dictates and influences our behaviour, from communication and memory to thought and emotion. It's about understanding what makes people tick and how this understanding can help us address many of the problems and issues in society today. It is with research and studying psychological theories, that enables us to apply this to tackle problems associated with mental health issues, crime, health, and even educational outcomes. It can also enable us to understand human behaviour and predict behaviours for the future.

Who does it suit?

Psychology would suit students who have inquisitive minds, who will ask questions about why certain events happen. It would suit students who are scientifically minded, and who enjoy trying to understand behaviour and what makes people tick. The subject looks into studies and theories and examines the link between the two, so an interest in research would also be desirable. Students who enjoy contributing their opinions and interpreting scenarios would find Psychology an ideal choice.

In the first year you will study:

Social influence, memory, attachment, psychopathology, approaches in psychology, research methods.

In the second year you will study:

Issues and debates in psychology, cognition and development, schizophrenia forensic pathology.

Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher, GCSE English Language Grade 5 and GCSE Mathematics Grade 5.

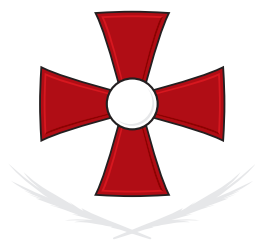
Future Opportunities

Psychology is an excellent option to take as it provides you with a solid grounding within a social science. Potential career paths include all strands of Psychology, such as Clinical, Counselling, Forensic, Educational, Sports and Organisational. It can also lead to exciting careers within teaching, the police, human resources, the arts, marketing and advertising, just to name a few. You would also have successful careers within charitable organisations, business, and social work. Overall, Psychology can open many doors for you in terms of your future career, due to its scientific nature and understanding of human behaviour.

Further information

We plan to visit Psychology departments across universities within the Russell Group. We also aim to visit conferences, aimed at widening knowledge and awareness of exam technique. We plan to attend Psychology in Action enrichment programmes, which are held in London, and deliver first-hand accounts of working in Clinical Psychology, as well as reappraisals of studies such as Milgram and Zimbardo. Pictured are students at Kingston Crown Court. This visit supported their studies into eyewitness testimony.





VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

Component 1:

Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes

Percentage of A level: 40%

Component 2:

Duration: 1 hour 45 minutes

Percentage of A level: 20%

Component 3:

Duration: 2 hours 30 minutes

Percentage of A level: 40%

SOCIOLOGY

A level linear, no AS qualification

What is it about?

Sociology looks at the world today and as such is a hugely relevant subject. It offers a fascinating insight into how humans interact with one another and with their wider world. It encourages students to be creative and imaginative in their approach to learning.

Who does it suit?

Sociology is ideal for the student who wants to understand the modern world and how people interact with it, using secondary sources from famous theorists such as Karl Marx and many others, but also, for those students who want to find out and collect data on the world in a more independent and practical way. If you enjoy applying your imagination in a socially scientific manner, then this is the course for you.

In the first year you will study:

Component 1: Socialisation and culture

Cultural transmission; families and households; education.

Component 2: Methods of Sociological Research

Students will be required to design, justify and evaluate a piece of sociological research.

In the second year you will study:

Component 3: Component 3: Power and Stratification

Social Differentiation; Crime and Deviance

Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher, GCSE English Language Grade 5.

Future Opportunities

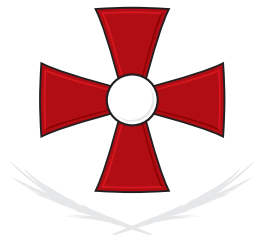
As Sociology is concerned with human interaction, it is suited to most careers yet it can particularly provide grounding for a wide range of careers in law, politics, local government and the media; plus some more specific careers as listed below:

social worker • social researcher • youth worker, • charity fundraiser • human resources • probation officer • public relations officer • marriage counsellor and many more.

Further information

A large part of the course will be spent outside the classroom and out of school in order to observe, interview and collect information and data on a wide variety of sociological areas.





VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment per module

What's assessed?

Listening, reading, writing

Duration: 2 hour 30 minutes

Percentage of A level: 50%

Speaking

Duration: 21-23 minutes

Percentage of A level: 30%

Writing from external source

Duration: 2 hours

Percentage of A level: 20%

SPANISH

A level linear, no AS qualification

What is it about?

A Level Spanish builds on the linguistic tools acquired at GCSE level. Students explore reading, writing, speaking and listening in Spanish in equal measure, with an emphasis on developing independent communication skills. Students will discuss social and political topics, building confidence in expressing personal views, whilst using nuance to translate contemporary and traditional Spanish literature.

Who does it suit?

A Level Spanish should attract any students who wish to travel the world widely, work abroad, or have a passion for languages.

During the two years you will study:

Throughout the two years of A Level Spanish, students will analyse Spanish contemporary literature and journalism, and develop skills needed to converse fluently in Spanish. Aspects of Spanish culture and history are embedded in the A Level curriculum, as well as developing an understanding of Spanish speaking cultures from around the world.

To extend learning outside of the classroom, students will be expected to take part in discussions with fluent Spanish speakers, including taking part in a proposed Spanish student exchange. Travelling abroad to Spain with the College will prepare students for the eventual goal; becoming a fluent Spanish speaker.

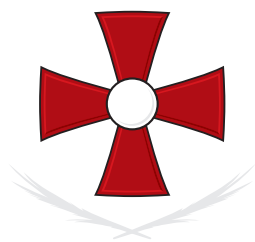
Entry requirement

At least 5 GCSE passes at Grade 4 or higher including English Language and Mathematics. GCSE Spanish Grade 6.

Future Opportunities

A Level Spanish prepares students for study and/ or careers overseas. It is an essential experience to further pursue Spanish at a degree level. Remember, a job candidate with at least two languages can expect to earn 20% more than the average candidate: foreign civil service; airline services; advertising; editing and publishing; subtitles and voice-overs, event management; nursing; sommelier; import/export specialist; hotel management; teacher; interpreter; translator.





VIDETE BONA DOMINI

Assessment 100% coursework:

AO1 (20%) Manage:

Identify, design, plan, and carry out a project, applying a range of skills, strategies and methods to achieve objectives.

AO2 (20%) Use Resources:

Research, critically select, organise and use information, and select and use a range of resources. Analyse data apply relevantly and demonstrate understanding of any links, connections and complexities of the topic.

AO3 (40%) Develop and Realise:

Select and use a range of skills, including, where appropriate, new technologies and problem-solving, to take decisions critically and achieve planned outcomes.

AO4 (20%) Review:

Evaluate all aspects of the extended project, including outcomes in relation to stated objectives and own learning and performance. Select and use a range of communication skills and media to present evidenced project outcomes and conclusions in an appropriate format.

Method of study:

Taught element – covered in SHaPE sessions every Wednesday, period 5 and 6 and one additional period per week during Year 12.

Independent element:

Regular meetings held with your mentor to monitor progress, discuss ideas and provide feedback.



THE EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)

The EPQ is an additional qualification (worth half an A Level) that you can take to demonstrate and further enhance all of the skills you will be developing through study and participation within SRR6th. During Year 12, you will be given a briefing on the EPQ so that you can make an informed decision about whether or not you would like to take it.

It is a great way of researching something you are passionate about in great detail, which can be as wide ranging as bee pollination, the leadership of the Arab Spring or medieval cuisine – something more conventional is equally valid. At the start of the course, you will participate in various study skills workshops that will prepare you for every element of leading your own research and putting your project together. After this time, you will be assigned a mentor to support you through every stage of your project. Finally, you will present the findings of your research and your reflections on the process to a panel of assessors.

The EPQ is a really valuable tool for you as it is often used by universities to differentiate between their candidates. You would really stand out if you have put in the effort and demonstrated all the skills necessary to complete an EPQ. This means that universities sometimes give lower offers to students with the EPQ and you will have something really impressive to mention in your personal statement or interview.

University of Manchester: *“The skills that students develop through the Extended Project are excellent preparation for university-level study”.*

University of York: *“The EPQ is a definite strength in an application. It can create the heartland of a personal statement and give it depth and substance.”*

The course runs from spring of Year 12 to spring of Year 13.

Entry requirement

N/A



