Sixth Form Course Options 2027

Foreword

This booklet provides an outline of all courses that are initially being offered for students to consider studying at A-Level.

Our aim is to provide a broad range of courses, both through our academic and vocational pathway, for students to select from. However, courses can only run if they have viable student numbers enrolled for them. This means that it is not guaranteed that all of these courses will be available in our final offer, which will be determined by the intentions of our students. The final offering in terms of subjects will be confirmed as we progress throughout the Sixth Form application and interview process.

Pathways

At Eaton Bank Academy, our Sixth Form comprises of two pathways. Students can opt for subjects from either our academic or vocational pathway. Students study three subjects in total, which could all come from one pathway or comprise of options from each pathway. Both pathways are excellent routes for students and we want students to select courses which provide them with the best opportunity to be successful.

Academic Pathway

The Academic Pathway comprises of our A-Level subjects. This is best suited to academic learners who want to prioritise a traditional, knowledge-based route through Sixth Form and are looking to progress to University. These are typically assessed by exams at the end of Year 13. To study a subject from this pathway, students must have attained at least a 6 in this subject at GCSE (unless specified otherwise).

Vocational Pathway

The Vocational Pathway comprises of our BTEC, AAQ or V-Level qualifications. These are more practical based qualifications, which are more closely tied to a future career. These comprise of more coursework or project-based learning and can lead either to further study in this area, university or a pathway into work in this sector. Students need to have passed a minimum of five GCSEs to be considered for entry to these courses.

SIXTH FORM OPTIONS 2027

Academic Pathway

A-Level Courses

Art, Art Textiles, 3D Design
Biology
Business Studies
Chemistry
Dance
Drama and Theatre Studies
Economics
English Language
English Literature
Further Mathematics
Geography
History
Mathematics
Media Studies
Music
Physics
Philosophy, Religion and Ethics (PRE)
Psychology
Sociology
Spanish

Vocational Pathway

Accounting and Finance (V-Level)

Education (V-Level)

Criminology (BTEC Level 3 Diploma)

Sport (BTEC Extended Certificate and BTEC Diploma)

Applied Science (AAQ)

Health & Social Care (AAQ)

Enrichment Opportunities

Extended Project Qualification

it's your choice...

A-Level Art, Art Textiles and 3D Design

Why Choose one of the A-Level Art & Design courses?

Art is a small word for such a big subject and big experience. By the time you have done GCSE you know quite a lot about the subject, but in reality, it is only just beginning.

The basic processes developed during the GCSE courses remain the core to producing a successful body of coursework. Students will be expected to fully research given themes, exploring possibilities in terms of media application, technique and scale. However, the emphasis on the personal response to any set task is greatly increased and all students are encouraged to establish their own individual style and artistic approach.

The challenge of teaching the A-Level courses stems from an acknowledgement of our changing role over the two years. I would like to think that at the start of Year 12 the students will rely heavily on our expertise and advice. However, if we have been successful in our guidance, by the end of Year 13 the students should have developed their skill base and level of confidence to a point where they feel certain they could do just as well without us!

At Sixth-Form level the understanding and knowledge aspect of Art is very important, seeing Art first hand by visiting galleries and museums is central to the course. In the past we have visited the Northern Tate and Walker Galleries in Liverpool, the Manchester Galleries and also run gallery visits to London. We also run a foreign tour every two years in the February half term. Our last trip was to New York. In the development of practical work, critical and contextual studies are an integral aspect that informs each student's development of any given theme. Throughout the course there are also opportunities to work in a variety of locations out of school that are chosen to support the projects undertaken.

These experiences, combined with a department ethos of endeavour, passion and dedication encourages a spirit of experiment and adventure, which, at the end of the day, is what it is all about!

Course Details

The Department follows the AQA Examination Board's syllabus. Students can opt for 'Art', 'Textiles' or Three-Dimensional (3D) Design.

Students who followed a course of study in the visual or design-based arts either through GCSE Art, Textiles or 3D Design can continue their studies at this higher level with any of these subjects.

The course is split into two components:

Component 1: Personal investigation (60% of Course)

In Component 1, students will build a portfolio of evidence responding to a personal investigation where they will be expected to guide their own project from research through to final outcome. This portfolio of evidence will be accompanied by a 3000-word essay to further discuss design decisions and processes.

Component 2: Externally set assignment (40% of Course)

In Component 2, students will be given a selection of exam brief titles for which they will have time to respond to this brief. This portfolio will conclude with a 15-hour supervised period.

What Careers Can Art & Design Lead To?

Art and Design is an exciting and vital subject that has helped past students to undertake degrees in:

Fine Art, Sculpture, Graphic Design, Illustration, Industrial Design, Architecture, Textiles, Fashion Design, Interior Design, Product Design, Web Design, Computer-aided Design and Manufacture, Photography, Film and Television, Theatrical Design and Art History.

Other Information

We would expect you to have gained **at least Grade 6** in your GCSE Art & Design, Three-Dimensional Studies or Textiles courses. With that level of attainment, you will be able to deal with the demands of sixth-form study. If you have not taken these options, you would need to discuss your application with the Head of Faculty. Any external candidates should apply with a portfolio of their work before the Summer.

A-Level Biology

Why Choose A-Level Biology?

- Do you enjoy Biology?
- Does your future career pathway need Biology as a subject?
- Does it combine well with other areas you wish to study?
- Do you want to find out about issues that will affect our future?

If your answer to any of these questions is yes, then do consider Biology as one of your choices at A level. In order to understand the world around us better it helps if we have some knowledge of the way living things work. We function in a similar manner to all other living things and a better understanding of this will be of value throughout our lives. To make sense of the mass of information pouring out of the media about conservation or medical issues or healthy living, it helps if we can have some measure of how to evaluate it, then we can decide if it is of value to us or not. For those interested in a career in science, health, food production or the environment then Biology may help you to make appropriate choices.

Course Details

The outline of the content of the course followed is overleaf but it will also give you skills that you will find useful whatever you do when you leave school. You will be doing practical activities, on your own and in groups. You will be making presentations and solving problems, reading around a topic and researching things online. You will be learning to be responsible for your own learning and working with the whole class, as well as the expected notes, questions and exams.

Assessment: We will be assessing your progress during the course in a number of ways

- End of module tests
- End of unit tests
- External exams
- Homework and classwork marking
- Presentations
- Self and peer assessment
- Practicals and coursework
- Class discussions and question and answer sessions
- Discussion with your teacher

A-Level Biology

OCR Biology A H420

Biology A is split into six modules. These, combined with the Practical Endorsement, constitute the full A Level. The modules can be summarised as:

Module 1: Development of practical skills – this module underpins the whole of the specification, and covers the practical skills that students should develop throughout the course. The practical skills are assessed through the written exam and by a Practical Endorsement.

Module 2: Foundations in Biology – covering cell structure; biological molecules; nucleotides and nucleic acids; enzymes; biological membranes; cell division, diversity and organisation.

Module 3: Exchange and transport includes exchange surfaces and transport in plants and in animals.

Module 4: Biodiversity, evolution and disease includes: Communicable disease; disease prevention and immunity; biodiversity; classification and evolution.

Module 5: Communications, homeostasis and energy – includes: Communication and homeostasis; excretion as an example of homeostatic control; neuronal communication; hormonal communication; plant and animal responses; photosynthesis and respiration.

Module 6: Genetics, evolution and ecosystems includes: Cellular control; patterns of inheritance; manipulating genomes; cloning and biotechnology; ecosystems; populations and sustainability.

We expect you to learn to work things out for yourself using the skills you develop so you are equipped to become a lifelong learner. We want you to enjoy your Biology lessons too so the task of learning becomes something that you find motivating and leads to success.

Other Information

Biology is a rapidly expanding field of study and has an impact on every aspect of your life, from the decisions to have new immunisations or not, to issues about how to feed an expanding population, from genetic manipulation to environmental conservation. By studying this subject, you will be more able to make your own informed decisions about what you think about many current issues.

Please talk to students who are already studying Biology and ask what the demands of the course are. Ask Year 13 what courses they are going on to when they leave. If you want to study Medicine, Veterinary Science, Dentistry **you must also take Chemistry at A-level**, as it is required by many Universities and would assist your application at others.

We would expect you to have gained **at least Grade 6 in your Science GCSEs** You also need to have gained **at least a Grade 6 in GCSE Maths**.

If you wish to look in more detail at exactly what is involved please do not hesitate to ask a member of the Biology Department for more information on the syllabus and textbooks used. You can find out more from http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications.

Biology Staff: Mrs Stone, Mr Pearson, Mrs McLaughlin and Mrs Carter

A-Level Business

Why Choose A-Level Business?

All of us must earn a living. Some of you will be self-employed, some of you will work for private companies, and others will work in the public sector. Regardless of the type of employment or your position, an understanding of how businesses and organisations operate can be crucial to your success. Studying Business at 'A' level will give you a clear perspective on how successful organisations operate and assist you in your future career development.

A qualification in Business provides evidence for employers of your ability to think analytically, communicate well, solve problems and successfully complete numerous and varied tasks. Business Studies is a subject that provides pupils with an excellent academic grounding in the business world, and in particular how companies, large and small, operate. It gives pupils a window into the world of business in that they learn about the internal workings of a firm, as well as the many things that can influence companies from the outside such as taxation, government regulations, pressure groups, exchange rates and interest rates.

At A Level, the study of general business concepts, specific functional theories and practice (e.g. how does a business motivate its employees or draw up a cash flow forecast), and the development of skills needed to apply these can enormously enhance your career prospects in today's fast-paced changing business world.

Course Details

Exam Board – AQA, Specification Code: 7132 (A-Level)

It is not necessary to have a GCSE in this subject to be able to take this course at A Level. Teachers will use a range of teaching methods to deliver the specification, which may include case studies, video, visits, outside speakers, group work, individual or group presentations, and note taking.

Year 12 consists of six elements:

What is business?

This introduces students to the different types of legal status a business can adopt, what aims it can set for itself and the external influences that it has to deal with.

Managers, Leadership and Decision-Making

This element forms an introduction to students on how to effectively lead and manage a company, so that a company can achieve its aims and balance the interests of its stakeholders.

Improving Marketing Performance

Pupils become familiar with how a company ensures that it meets the needs of its customers whilst making a profit. Market research, interpreting marketing data, the marketing mix and how technology is affecting marketing are all examples of topics in this area.

A-Level Business

Improving Operational Performance

This section of the course introduces pupils to how a business best manages its resources to bring about the most efficient method of providing its products. Topics like stock control, quality control, and production methods to maximise efficiency and productivity are contained in this section.

Improving Financial Performance

Essential to the success of all competitive companies is a sound understanding and control of finance. Students will learn all about, for example, sources of finance, break-even analysis, different costs, and why revenue and profit are important.

Improving Human Resource Performance

In this part of the course students will learn all about how a firm can adopt different approaches to ensure a business effectively recruits, trains, motivates and rewards its most important asset – its people, or *personnel* - to maintain high levels of labour productivity.

In Year 13, Students take a business leader's perspective and crucial executive overview. The remainder of the A Level consists of a further four fascinating elements:

Analysing the Strategic Position, a business finds itself in, **choosing a New Strategic Direction**, **Methods of Pursuing a New Strategic Direction** and **How to Manage a Change of Strategy**. These elements are synoptic and draw upon all the other preceding Y12 units of the course. **The Business Environment** and **Managing Change** also considers how companies use strategies to manage the effects of external factors (such as exchange rates, interest rates change in the economic cycle) and is studied through a variety of actual real business contexts.

What Careers Can Business Studies Lead To?

A qualification in Business can be the first step in obtaining your degree in a range of Business disciplines. People with qualifications in Business can look forward to a career in a wide range of areas such as Production Management, Market Research, Human Resources, Public Relations, Banking or other financial institutions, Recruitment or Retail Management. It can also be invaluable if you intend to become self-employed.

Other Information

You do not need to have a GCSE in Business to take an A Level. You will be expected to read around the subject – Business Studies material is everywhere. The internet affords access to an increasing number of useful websites. There are excellent television programmes such as Dragons' Den, The Apprentice, and Panorama. You should also get in the habit of reading a quality newspaper such as The Guardian, The Financial Times, The Telegraph and The Independent, which are all useful sources of up-to-date business information.

Grade requirement: **GCSE grade 6** in Business Studies. Were you not able to take the subject at GCSE, a grade 6 in Maths and English would be required.

Any questions? If you would like more information about Business at A-Level, please see Mr Shaw.

it's your choice...

A-Level Chemistry

Why Choose A-Level Chemistry?

- You enjoy Chemistry.
- You are curious and want to know more about the topics you have studied in Chemistry so far.
- You want to develop the skills you have further – using more sophisticated apparatus & practical techniques.
- You enjoy problem-solving & applying your knowledge to new situations.
- For the career you wish to follow.

The course extends your knowledge of some familiar topics such as Atomic Structure, Bonding, Energy Changes, Rates of Reaction and The Periodic Table. A number of new topics and concepts will also be introduced during the course. These include:

- Organic Chemistry: Nomenclature, Alkenes, Haloalkanes, Aldehydes, Ketones, Carboxylic Acids and Esters. This includes reaction mechanisms.
- Physical Chemistry: Redox Reactions, Equilibria, Thermodynamics, Electrode Potentials and Acids, Bases & Buffers.
- Inorganic Chemistry: Studying the trends and properties of Group 2, Group 7, Period 3 and the Transition Elements.
- Spectroscopic Techniques including Mass Spectrometry, IR Spectroscopy and NMR Spectroscopy.

Course Details

AQA Chemistry

The course focuses on a range of topics as outlined above. A key feature of A-Level Chemistry is in developing students into proficient practical Chemists. Students will complete a range of practical investigations such as Organic Synthesis, pH Titrations, building Electrochemical Cells and Purification by Recrystallisation. These will provide opportunities to not only experience first-hand scientific phenomena, but also reinforce theoretical understanding of new concepts.

Assessments

There are 3 exams at the end of Year 13 which contribute to the overall A-Level qualification.

Paper 1	**Paper 2**	**Paper 3**
Physical and Inorganic Chemistry	Physical and Organic Chemistry	Practical Skills and Synoptic Questions
2 hours	2 hours	2 hours
105 marks	105 marks	90 marks
35% of qualification	35% of qualification	30% of qualification

Previous students have gone on to study courses such as Medicine at Russell Group universities.

it's your choice...

A-Level Chemistry

What will you actually be doing during the course?

 investigating practically	 researching	 calculating
 making molecular models	 solving problems	 explaining & presenting
 carrying out practicals	 writing notes, doing exercises, taking tests	 working in groups and individually 

There will also be opportunities for some visits, e.g. to the Chemistry Department at the University of Manchester.

What Careers Can Chemistry Lead To?

- To study Chemistry, Medicine, Veterinary Science or Dentistry at university you must have A-level Chemistry.
- To study any of the Biological Sciences at degree level you are strongly advised to take Chemistry at A level, as well as Biology, as it is required by many Universities and is vital to understanding biological processes.
- Many other careers and degrees require or prefer Chemistry including: Chemical Engineering, Geology, Environmental Science, Forensic Science, Pharmacy, Biochemistry, Food Science, Materials Science, Metallurgy, Plastic and Polymer Science.
- Believe it or not, many professionals in the finance industry have chemistry qualifications! These include accountants, management consultants, bankers and business managers.

We live in an age of chemistry-based technology and future demands will require chemical expertise in many fields including: pollution control and recycling waste materials, materials science, nanochemistry, new foodstuffs, biofuels, drugs and tests to help diagnose disease.

As well as choosing 'Pure Chemistry' at University you can study "Chemistry with…" courses, in which Chemistry is the major component of the course but alongside it you can choose from a range of other options e.g. a Foreign Language, Medicinal Chemistry, Biochemistry, Biology, Law and Management. Some may involve a year in industry or a year studying abroad.

We would expect you to have gained **at least Grade 6 in your Science GCSEs**. You also need to have gained **at least a Grade 6 in GCSE Maths**.

If you would like more information about this course, please see Mr Conheeney.

it's your choice...

A-Level Dance

Why Choose A-Level Dance?

For some people, dance is simply the way in which they express themselves. Joy, sadness, loneliness, love... if you can imagine how dance would portray human emotions and stories, this course is for you. Step inside the world of dance and gain knowledge and understanding of the dancer in action and the skills involved in performance. Through the analysis, interpretation and evaluation of dances you will gain an appreciation and understanding of their historical and cultural context. Develop your own creativity as a dancer and choreographer. Not to mention keeping fit and trim!

Course Details

Exam Board - AQA, Specification Code: 7237

Dance involves the study of choreography and performance and engaging in critical thinking about dance. Students work to develop and extend their knowledge, understanding and skills needed to participate in, and communicate through dance, in a variety of contexts. Students will examine the form, function and context of dance, constituent features of dance, the significance of dance and the dancer in action. Students should have, although it is not compulsory, **a grade 5 at GCSE Dance** to study Dance at A Level.

The A Level course

Component 1: Performance and choreography

- ***Practical examination***
- 50% of total A Level marks
- 80 marks

1. Solo performance linked to specific practitioner within an area of study
2. Performance in a quartet (in any style, relevant to the defined genre – contemporary or American Jazz)
3. Group choreography

Component 2: Critical engagement

- ***Written examination*** lasting 2 hour 30 minutes
- 50% of total A Level marks
- 100 marks

Section A: short answer questions (25 marks) and one essay question (25 marks) on the compulsory set work / area of study.
Section B: two essay questions on the second set work / area of study (25 marks each).

Our chosen areas of study are:

Compulsory set work: ***Rootser*** choreographed (Christopher Bruce) and corresponding area of study ***Rambert Dance Company***

A-Level Dance

Area of study: ***American Jazz*** focusing on the work of Jerome Robbins (West Side Story, Fancy Free & The King and I), Bob Fosse (Chicago & Cabaret) and Gene Kelly (including the corresponding set work ***Singin' in the Rain*** *and* On the Town & Anchors Aweigh)

What Careers Can Dance Lead To?

A Level Dance is suitable for anyone wanting to pursue dance or the arts in Higher Education, or as support for any course requiring good communication and group work skills. In addition to performing, choreographing, teaching, lecturing, free-lancing or community work, this course might lead to such diverse careers as dance therapy or journalism. Universities and employers think favourably of the social skills, dedication and imagination required to succeed in an A Level dance course.

Other Information

There are many enrichment opportunities available to Dance students at Eaton Bank. These include:

- Theatre visits / dance performance visits
- Performing at different venues
- Visiting teachers / lecturers / companies
- Residential dance courses

A-Level Drama and Theatre

Why Choose A-Level Drama and Theatre?

Drama and Theatre aims to promote an enjoyment of and an interest in drama and theatre both as a participant and as an informed member of an audience. This worthwhile and satisfying course of study offers a range of opportunities to develop drama and theatre skills creatively and imaginatively. The course also develops knowledge and understanding of major influences in theatre and promotes personal and social development. You will also be required to write about drama and develop the powers of analysis to become an informed critic. The course will involve taking part in drama productions, as well as studying plays and playwrights.

You need to be curious about issues and ideas and have a creative instinct for communicating your views through drama. You may be keen on acting, writing or on the visual and technical side of theatre and wish to develop your skills in some or all of these areas. Equally you will be interested in going to the theatre to see plays performed by different theatre companies.

You will gain knowledge and understanding of theatrical forms and genre, how plays relate to the context in which they are created or performed, and the different ways in which plays are interpreted by directors, designers, performers and audiences.

Course Details

Component 1: Devising Component Code: 9DR0/01 – 40%

- Devise an original performance piece.
- Use one key extract from a performance text and a theatre practitioner as stimuli.

Component 2: Text in Performance: 9DR0/02 – 20%

- A group performance of one key extract from a performance text.
- A monologue or duologue performance from one key extract from a different performance text.

Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice: 9DR0/03 – 40%

Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes

- Practical exploration and study of a complete text – focusing on how this can be realised for performance.
- Practical exploration and interpretation of another complete performance text and practitioner.
- Live Theatre Evaluation

A-Level Drama and Theatre

What Careers Can Drama & Theatre Studies Lead To?

This A Level can lead to further study in Drama, Theatre Studies and Performing Arts in Higher Education or Performing Arts Schools. It can be used as part of your course to broaden your studies and may lead on to a career in the performing arts industries. Drama and Theatre A Level complements a range of subjects and is useful in building confidence and improving presentation skills in a range of careers.

Other Information

Grade requirement**: grade 5 minimum** in GCSE Drama and English.

It is useful to have taken Drama at GCSE, but not essential. It is important that you are interested in gaining a greater understanding of how theatre and plays work and that you are keen to be involved with performances. If you have any further questions, please speak to Mr Beauchamp.

A-Level Economics

Why Choose A-Level Economics?

“Economic ideas are more powerful than is commonly understood... Indeed the world is ruled by little else” - *John Maynard Keynes*

The above quote was written over eighty years ago. Yet, often these days you see programmes on television or get involved in or overhear conversations on economic ideas. Prices, wages, interest rates, profits, recession, inflation, exchange rates, to name but a few are at the forefront of many conversations, particularly in light of current and recent global economic events, such as the economic impact of covid-19, the growth in the numbers of the ‘super rich’, Brexit, and the rise of China. Studying economics will enable you to better understand these ‘ideas’ and issues and how they all interact to form what we call ‘the economy’. Furthermore, as an economist, you will be aiming to develop a critical understanding of the UK government’s economic policies.

Course Details

Exam Board AQA – Specification Code: 7136

It is not necessary to have a GCSE in this subject to be able to take this course at A Level. During the course you will have an opportunity to discuss issues such as should the government continue to be the main provider of healthcare? Would the UK benefit or suffer from leaving the European Union? Should there be a new tax on foods high in fat or sugar? What are the economic costs and benefits of migration into and out of the UK? Why is there an uneven distribution of income in the UK and should anything be done about it?

In Year 12, students study two parts that investigate micro and macroeconomics. Microeconomics addresses issues such as “Why are house prices so high?”, “Can pollution effectively be controlled?” and “Should governments intervene in markets?” The macroeconomic issues covered include “Why does the government have an inflation rate target and how does it affect us?”, “What happens to the economy if consumers decide to spend more or spend less?” and “How are we affected by the growth of other economies around the world such as China and India?” “How do governments deal with the economic ‘shocks’ such as the impact of Covid-19?”

In Year 13, students develop their understanding of the micro and macroeconomics already learned in Year 12, considering economic concepts and theories in greater depth and recognising the values and limitations of economic models. Both sections of the A Level explore two contemporary and relevant contexts: the international context, which includes the impact of globalisation on UK economic performance and national context, focusing on economic events and economic policy here in the UK.

What Careers Can Economics Lead To?

Economics graduates are employed in a range of posts which may, or may not be directly related to the subject. They work in manufacturing, transport, communications, banking, insurance, investment, medicine, engineering, media and retailing industries, as well as in government agencies, consulting and charitable organisations. A wide variety of professional bodies in all sectors of employment will consider Economics an excellent preparation for their professional examinations e.g. Banking or Accountancy. In short, it opens many doors!

it’s your choice...

A-Level Economics

Other Information

Economics goes well with most other subjects. It is not necessary to have a GCSE in this subject or in Business to be able to take this course at A Level. It is a suitable subject to complement Science, Social Science and / or Arts subjects. Combined with subjects such as Mathematics and Physics it can lead into engineering. Languages and Economics provides an excellent blend for those looking to work abroad or in a company that has overseas links.

Grade requirement: **a Grade 6 in Maths and English at GCSE** is required for A-Level Economics.

Any questions? If you would like more information about Economics at A-Level, please see Mr Shaw.

A-Level English Language

Why Choose A-Level English Language?

A-Level English Language is a wide-ranging course that touches upon Psychology, Sociology, Linguistics and Creative Writing. In the first year the focus is on the variety of styles of English. Here are some of the themes and activities you'll encounter:

- *We'll read a range of texts (and by "text" we mean anything from a crisp packet to a Shakespeare sonnet) looking at how writers use different words, meanings, grammatical structures, sound patterns, and formats to achieve their effects.*
- *By doing this, you'll become a much better reader through being able to identify precisely, with the appropriate linguistic terminology, how a text is working and whether it is suited to its intended audience, purpose, subject and genre.*
- *You'll also become a better writer, too, because we read texts as style models whose features can be imitated and developed in your own writing:*
  - *You'll be writing analytically, exploring the texts studied and applying linguistic terminology.*
  - *You'll have the opportunity to adopt the role of a journalist by writing articles about language use.*
  - *As part of A Level Language, you'll also write creatively. Recent students have enjoyed writing short stories, magazine articles, reviews (music, film, theatre), radio documentaries, advice/information leaflets, travel features, dramatic monologues and comedy sketches.*
- *We'll identify the factors that contribute to the variety and diversity of language, such as accent and dialect, social status, gender, occupation and technology.*
- *We'll read research studies and examine data to see what they can tell us about the variety and diversity of language. Do different groups in society have different conversational styles or strategies? Are different groups in society represented differently in language?*

English Language is, in short, a practical, investigative course with a variety of approaches in the classroom to suit all learning styles. We're lucky in that all our data is so accessible to investigation and discussion – we're surrounded by language.

What Careers Can English Language Lead To?

A facility with language is important in most jobs, where the ability to speak and write clearly and accurately is highly valued. In fact, it is hard to think of a single occupation in which communication is not a key skill. If you are considering a career in journalism, A-Level English Language is a requirement of most courses. Other careers with a direct link to the subject include speech therapy, teaching and publishing.

Other Information

If you'd like more information about the course, please see Miss Wilkinson or Miss Parker either in school or on the Open Evening.

A **Grade 6 in English at GCSE** is required for A-Level study.

A-Level English Literature

Why Choose A-Level English Literature?

A-Level English Literature is engaging, extensive and enriching and focuses on students enjoying a range of fantastic texts of literary value. Students will experience a variety of poetry, plays and novels across time periods and genres. Students will also embed the texts they study in the contexts in which they were written. Not only will readers enjoy the courses, but so too will those interested in people and places and those with an analytical mind. Those with aspirations to go on to higher education should most certainly consider the prestige attached to an English Literature qualification at A Level. Below are some of the activities and themes you will encounter:

You will study texts from different literary periods, genres and traditions.

You will read a range of texts looking at how writers use language, structure and form to achieve their effects.

You will explore the importance of a range of significant literary features such as: narrative, character, settings, themes and genre.

Through the work, you will become a much better reader and be able to identify precisely, with appropriate linguistic terminology, how a text affects its audience.

You will have the opportunity to complete coursework (A Level only) as well as sit external examinations.

You will learn about the important contexts in which texts are constructed and how the contexts influence what writers feel compelled to write about and how readers might respond.

Sixth form Literature students are introduced to the challenging, exciting and enriching field of literary criticism to enable them to consider new ways of interpreting texts; a field of study previously regarded as suitable for undergraduates.

If you choose to study English Literature at Eaton Bank Academy, you choose to elect for a creative and engaging course which is taught by a team of experienced and specialist teachers who use a diversity of learning activities to suit all learning styles.

What Careers Can English Literature Lead To?

Young people with creative, well-read and analytical backgrounds are appreciated by many undergraduate courses and occupations. An ability to engage with texts and language, and the facility to articulate and communicate ideas clearly and accurately is essential in most jobs. In reality, it is hard to think of a single occupation in which communication is not a key skill! However, careers with a direct link to the subject include law, publishing, marketing, journalism and teaching.

Other Information

If you would like more information about the course, please see: Ms Lewis, Mrs Cooper, Mrs Knott, Mr Jenkins or Miss Davies.

A **Grade 6 in English Literature at GCSE** is required for A-Level study.

it's your choice...

A-Level Further Mathematics

Why Choose A-Level Further Mathematics?

Further Mathematics is an extremely prestigious Sixth Form subject and its impact on University admission tutors and employers cannot be underestimated.

Course Details

Paper 1: Core Pure Mathematics 1 25% 1 hour 30 mins 75 marks	Compulsory content – any content can be assessed on either paper
Paper 2: Core Pure Mathematics 2 25% 1 hour 30 mins 75 marks	
Paper 3: Further Mathematics Option 1 25% 1 hour 30 mins 75 marks	Students take two optional papers with options available in • Further Pure Mathematics • Further Statistics • Further Mechanics • Decision Mathematics
Paper 4: Further Mathematics Option 2 25% 1 hour 30 mins 75 marks	

At Eaton Bank, as a smaller centre, we enable Further Mathematics students to have input into the choice of modules. Core Pure 1 and 2 are compulsory at any 6th form, but for the other two modules, students decide with the teacher which they would prefer to study. This is a unique opportunity for students to choose optional modules that complement their other A-level courses, and to facilitate their future study. Over the past few years, the choices have been:

2022-23 Further Statistics + Decision Mathematics

2023-24 Further Statistics + Further Mechanics

2024-25 Further Mechanics + Decision Mathematics

2025-26 Further Pure 1 + Further Mechanics

What Careers can Further Mathematics Lead To?

Further Mathematics is highly prized in many areas, particularly economics, engineering, information technology and science.

it's your choice...

Other Information

A love for problem solving and Mathematics is taken for granted!
Students can only take this course alongside the A-Level Mathematics option and in order to cope with the demands of the course, we do ask for **at least a GCSE grade 7** to have been achieved.

Since September 2017, we study the Edexcel 9FA0 A Level courses. More information is available at https://qualifications.pearson.com

If you would like more information about this course, please see Dr Hazel.

A-Level Geography

Why Choose A-Level Geography?

Geography is highly valued by universities as an A-Level choice and one of the eight facilitating subjects. This is a subject most likely to be required or preferred for entry to degree courses and choosing facilitating subjects will keep more options open to you at university.

If you:

- want to learn in a wide variety of ways such as by using maps, GIS skills, data analysis, photos, videos, podcasts.
- want to frame your own questions using higher level thinking skills.
- are interested in current affairs.
- want to study a subject that is relevant to your own life and experiences.
- are concerned about the pressures on the planet.
- want to broaden your A Level studies to cover both arts and sciences.
- enjoy travel and finding out about people, places, landscapes, and events.

.... then Advanced Geography is for you!

What will I study? – AQA A level Geography 7037

Physical Geography

Water and carbon cycles

Coastal systems and landscapes

Hazards

Human Geography

Global Systems and global governance

Changing Places

Contemporary Urban Environments

Geographical Investigation - NEA

Fieldwork leading to Geographical Investigation

How will I be assessed?

Physical Geography	–	Written exam – 2 hours 30 minutes.	40%
Human Geography	–	Written exam – 2 hours 30 minutes.	40%
Geographical Investigation	–	3000- 4000 words	20%

Grade requirement: **Grade 6 GCSE Geography**.

it's your choice...

A-Level Geography

What jobs could I get using Geography at A Level?



it's your choice...

A-Level History

Why Choose A-Level History?

A-Level History provides the opportunity to study History in greater depth than you have ever done before; to really explore the people, ideas and events that have shaped our world. During your studies you will develop your historical knowledge, skills and understanding through exploring a range of significant events, individuals and issues, and a range of historical perspectives.

You will develop and apply your understanding of historical concepts including causation, change and continuity, interpretation and significance. Through your studies you will also develop the techniques of critical thinking in a historical context and the skills necessary to analyse and solve historical problems. You will also develop the ability to communicate historical arguments and conclusions clearly and succinctly with reference to appropriate historical terminology.

Course Details

Exam Board OCR – Specification Code: H505

Unit	Content	Assessment
1	British period study and enquiry. *Unit Y136: England 1485–1558: the Early Tudors*	25%, 1hr 30 min exam.
2	Non-British period study. *Unit Y216: The USA in the 19th Century: Westward expansion and the Civil War*	15%, 1 hour exam.
3	Thematic study over a period of 100 years, and a study of interpretations that arise from this. *Y318 Russia and its Rulers 1855-1964*	40%, 2hr 30 min exam.
4	Coursework – an independent research essay on the subject of the Black Death.	20%, 3000 – 4000 word essay.

What Careers Can History Lead to?

This is one of the most respected academic A Levels available and is highly rated by Russell Group Universities. History graduates work in a variety of professional fields, including law, accountancy, the civil service, the Foreign Office, the BBC, teaching and politics. History gives you vital research and interpretation skills that are recognised by employers and universities.

Other Information

You will need to have achieved a **grade 6 in GCSE History** to be able to study A-Level History. You will also need to be self-disciplined enough to read around subject areas, making notes as you go, and be willing to work hard. If you have any further questions, then please talk to the History Team.

it's your choice...

A-Level Mathematics

Why Choose A-Level Mathematics?

Mathematics is a popular Sixth Form subject that is highly regarded by University Admission Tutors and Employers.

Studying Maths gives us the power to discover and identify essential practical information in our day-to-day lives. For example, it allows us to measure things such as distance and speed, and to build anything from a website to a skyscraper. Studying Maths at A Level will give you a varied skillset that will be indispensable for a variety of tasks.

Course Details

Since September 2017, we study the Edexcel 8FA0 A Level courses. More information is available at https://qualifications.pearson.com

By studying Maths at A-Level, you'll develop a number of skills, such as:

- Problem-solving
- Analytical Skills
- Research Skills
- Logic

Maths allows you to hone your ability to solve mathematical problems as well as abstract and scientific ones too.

The course itself is split into the components shown below:

Qualification	Component	Overview	Assessment
A level Mathematics	**Paper 1:** Pure Mathematics 1	AS content assessed at A level standard	2 hours 100 marks
	Paper 2: Pure Mathematics 2	Remaining pure content which builds on and incorporates AS content.	2 hours 100 marks
	Paper 3: Statistics and Mechanics	Section A: Statistics (50 marks) Section B: Mechanics (50 marks)	2 hours 100 marks

it's your choice...

A-Level Mathematics

What Careers Can Mathematics Lead to?

Mathematics is highly prized in many areas, particularly financial services and information technology. Mathematics A level is also a requirement for many degree courses such as Computing or Engineering.

Other Information

An interest and liking for Mathematics is taken for granted!

Due to its nature though, it is not an option open to all. The core modules build upon concepts started at GCSE level and a sound knowledge of algebra is required to access these modules. We therefore ask for **at least a GCSE grade 7 to be achieved usually from set 1 or set 2.**

There will also be online assignments set in the summer to help ensure that students taking Mathematics A Level have the required knowledge of algebra.

If you would like more information about this course, please see Mr Moult or Dr Hazel.

A-Level Media Studies

Why Choose A-Level Media Studies?

A-Level Media Studies is a practical, creative and forward-looking course that engages pupils in 21st Century media. Ultimately, pupils create their own media coursework portfolios and products using print, video and the web through focused market research, investigations into existing products and by planning and constructing their own. Pupils will also study how media companies create their work and how audiences respond. Here are some of the themes and activities you'll take part in:

- *We'll study a range of the techniques media companies use to produce their films, TV programmes and magazines.*
- *By doing this, you'll become a more literate media consumer and will be aware of how media companies target and influence their audiences.*
- *You will learn how to research thoroughly and effectively, and the importance of organisation and the necessity to meet deadlines.*
- *Creative thinking will be required when you design and plan the construction of your media portfolios.*
- *Experimentation with a range of digital technology will quickly bring you up to speed with appropriate design and media IT packages with which you will be able to create impressive media products.*
- *Group work and independent dedication will definitely play a major role in your success in A-Level Media lessons.*
- *You will also put together and practise your presentation skills as these formulate part of the assessment procedure.*
- *Hard work, dedication and creativity will pay off as 50% of your marks come from your media coursework portfolios; a bonus for those of you who find exams particularly stressful.*

What Careers Can Media Studies Lead To?

The creative, organisational, independent and technological skills you will develop on this course will stand you in great stead when applying for many occupations and undergraduate courses. You will also be able to produce impressive, research and planning folders along with professional looking media texts to make an impact when progressing to the next stage of your life. Many media students move into careers in magazines, PR, TV production and film amongst others.

Other Information

If you'd like more information about the course, please see Miss Rushton.

A **Grade 6 in English at GCSE** is required for A-Level study.

A-Level Music

Why Choose A-Level Music?

Music is a versatile and well-respected academic course that combines well with both science and arts subjects. It provides a comprehensive introduction to music study, covering performance, composition and analysis to an advanced level. Students develop an understanding of music through the exploration of practical musicianship.

Music is taught in a purpose-built department where you will receive excellent teaching in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. There are ample practice rooms and a recording studio, with priority given to 6th Form students. The very best music technology is available to you throughout the school week including a dedicated 6th Form computer suite.

Course Details

Exam Board: Eduqas, Specification Code: A660

Performing

Option A - 35% of qualification.

- A performance consisting of a minimum of 3 pieces. **At least 1 of the pieces must be as a soloist.** The other pieces may be either as a soloist **or** as part of an ensemble or a combination of both.

Option B - 25% of qualification.

- A performance consisting of a **minimum of two pieces** either as a **soloist or as part of an ensemble** or a **combination of both**.

Composing

- Option A: 25% of qualification – 2 compositions (1 free 1 brief)
- Option B: 35% of qualification – 3 compositions (1 free 1 brief 1 from Area of Study)

Appraising

- 40% of qualification consisting of three areas of study: -
- The Western Classical Tradition
- Rock and Pop or Musical Theatre
- 20th Century Music

What Careers Can Music Lead To?

Careers in music are many and varied, from a professional musician or composer to a sound technician, music therapist or even an acoustic engineer. Come and have a look at the display board in music or talk to the music team if you would like more information about careers. There are many courses available at universities and conservatoires, from which music graduates enter a diverse range of professions, both in and out of the world of music and the creative arts.

it's your choice...

A-Level Music

Although A Level Music involves a lot of creative work, the theoretical study of music history and theory is sufficiently rigorous that it is accepted as a serious academic subject for entry at university courses. Recent music students have gone on to study medicine, veterinary science, engineering, languages, humanities, technology (and of course music) at the prestigious Russell Group universities.

We also send a number of students to top conservatoires such as the RNCM, Birmingham Conservatoire and for popular music courses and musical theatre courses at Bird College, BIMM and LIPA.

Other Information

The standard performing level at A level is **grade 6** but candidates may perform at grade 4 standard. A certain level of musicianship is required to study music. Therefore, if you did not study music at GCSE or would like any further information, please speak to Miss Newcombe or Mrs Travis.

A Level Philosophy, Religion and Ethics (PRE)

Why Choose A-Level Philosophy, Religion and Ethics?

Studying A-level Philosophy, Religion and Ethics is an excellent choice for ambitious students who want to better understand the world around them. Delving into an exploration of some of life's greatest unanswered questions enables students to consider their place in the universe and develop skills that are highly marketable, both for further education and the world of work. If you enjoy considering questions that are fundamental to our existence, like do humans have a soul or is morality just a social invention designed to control us, then PRE is definitely for you. Over the course of two years, you will construct and deconstruct powerful arguments around some of life's big questions, in an attempt to answer the unanswerable. This is your opportunity to broaden your intellectual horizons, fine-tune your powers of analysis and grapple with questions that have challenged humankind since the dawn of time. Philosophy is one of the most intellectually stimulating and conceptually challenging subjects to take on but holds an enormous amount of value for you as academics and people of an increasingly diverse world.

Course Details

We follow the OCR specification, which contains three papers.

Paper 1: The study of Philosophy. In this unit, you will explore the development of thought within the western world, starting with influential Greek philosophers such as Plato and Aristotle. From there, you will go on to explore their influence on big questions such as "Does God exist?", "What happens to us when we die?" and "Is there such a thing as a soul?". You will explore how language has been developed to help us make sense of the world around us and the flaws and challenges this brings. We finish this unit with an in-depth study of the concept of evil and its impact on society throughout history.

Paper 2: A study of ethics. In this unit, you will begin by looking at how we make moral decisions, the strengths and weaknesses of different methods of doing so and how these may be applied to real-life situations. We explore the concept of the conscience and the role it plays in our everyday lives. We apply this knowledge to three key areas: sexual ethics, business ethics and euthanasia. We explore the corruption that poor morality can create and how we, as people and a society, can work to create a more harmonious and ethical society.

Paper 3: The Development of Christian thought. No longer are we considering the basics of Christian beliefs and practices, that you may have explored at GCSE. This unit looks at religion through historical, sociological, philosophical, theological and psychological lenses, examining the impact that religious beliefs have on individuals, societies, politics and relationships. We explore the person of Jesus, debating the validity of his existence and his teachings in a 21st century, increasingly secular society. We debate the relevance of Christianity in a modern world and where the faith may need to adapt to maintain its position in society. We consider the impact that Christian morality has on all of us, specifically looking at the life, works and teachings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer - the man who attempted to assassinate Hitler.

A Level Philosophy, Religion and Ethics (PRE)

What Careers Can PRE Lead To?

It is a huge misconception that you have to go on to become a priest just because you have studied PRE! Any job that involves working with people can be benefited by having an A level in PRE. Many students who study this subject go on to study subjects such as: law, history, sociology, politics, social work, education, philosophy, theology, business and even medicine.

Other Information

Do I have to be religious to study PRE?

No! You just have to be interested in tackling some of these incredible and challenging questions about the world around you. Prior knowledge of religion is beneficial but not essential and you certainly don't have to be religious to engage with the subject as a whole!

Do I have to have studied GCSE Religious Studies?

No. Again, it is useful to have some prior knowledge of the subject but many of the concepts we will be looking at do not feature in the GCSE specifications. This is a brand new subject for many people so don't be put off if you have no formal qualification in it at GCSE.

Grade requirement: **five grades 5 and above** including Maths, English and Science across your subjects.

For any further information or questions about the course, please contact Miss Callister.

A-Level Physics

Why Choose Physics?

The best part about Physics is that the further you delve into the subject, the more interesting and surprising it becomes; did you know that particles can be in two places at once, and travel at speeds near the speed of light? That time slows down as your mass increases? About 90% of the universe is missing? Physics is the ultimate search for truth and reality. Will you take up the challenge?

Course Details

We offer the 'OCR Physics A (Advancing Physics)' course (Specification Code, A Level – H556). This is a new curriculum and we have chosen the 'Physics A' course as it builds on the students' knowledge of the laws of Physics and allow them to solve problems over a wide range of topics. With the new curriculum, there is a greater emphasis on practical work, with a minimum of 10 undertaken over the course (though we do far more.) These will be competency assessed, and at least 15% of exam questions are now based on knowledge and understanding of practical work. There is also a greater significance placed on the mathematics with 40% covering mathematical skills.

The subjects studied in the first year will be: Forces, Mechanics, Motion, Electricity, Waves, Quantum Physics and Materials.
In the second year: Thermal Physics, Further mechanics, Capacitance, Fields and Particles, Nuclear Physics and Astrophysics.

What Careers Can Physics Lead To?

In short… pretty much anything! These can include - Aerospace, Alternative Energy, Architecture, Astrophysics, Banking, Business Consultancy, Cartography, CGI Animation, Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Computing, Conservation, Defence, Dentistry, Education, Electrical Engineering, Electronics, Energy Resources, Environmental Physics, Fibre Optics, Finance, Health Physics, Instrumentation, Mechanical Engineering, Medical Physics, Metallurgy, Mineralogy, Music Technology, Nuclear Physics, Oceanography, Optometry, Pollution Control, Research Labs, Robotics, Rocketry and Rocket Science, Satellites, Telecommunications, Thin Films, Weather Forecasting… the list is almost endless!!!

Other Information

All students have access to the OCR textbook which is written specifically for this course. The textbooks explain every aspect of the A-Level courses. Students also have access to past exam papers which they are encouraged to use to practise what they have learnt in the classroom. We also recommend students purchase a revision guide, details of which will be given to those who enrol on the course.

We are happy to take students with a **Grade 6 or better in Science and Maths**. Success at A level is far more likely with a good set of results in ALL subjects at GCSE, and is highly unlikely with Grade 5 or below in Science. Though it is not essential, taking Maths at A-level is preferred, especially with the new emphasis on mathematical skills in the new curriculum. The results achieved by students studying Physics are consistently amongst the highest in the school each year. The result that you get depends upon work-ethic, perseverance and self-confidence – in fairly equal measure. Come and join us!
If you would like more information about this course, please see Mr Quinn, Mr Corscadden or Miss Simons.

A-Level Psychology

Why Choose A-Level Psychology?

Psychology is an all-absorbing science concerned with the study of the mind and behaviour. It has links with a variety of disciplines such as medicine, neuroscience and education, along with subjects such as business and sociology. A commonality among those interested in the study of psychology is a curiosity to understand more about the mind, and the factors that influence the way individual's think, feel and behave.

Psychology is exciting
Is there a relationship between psychological conditions and brain biochemistry? Are we born obedient? What is memory? What are the physiological responses to stress?

Psychology is challenging
Does psychotherapy help people overcome psychological conditions such as depression and anxiety? Can we change people's attitudes? How do our genes and environment shape who we are?

Psychology is useful
Psychology has a broad range of real-world applications in everyday life, ranging from mental health, criminality, caregiver and infant attachments, and relationships to name but a few. The skills you learn will also readily transfer to many other careers. These skills include the ability to critically analyse information, write highly detailed essays and evaluate patterns in data.

Course Details

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

Specification Code: A-Level Psychology 7182 (Updated)

The A Level is structured into **eleven topic** areas covering a wide variety of psychological theories and ideas. In Year 12, students will study Research Methods, Approaches in Psychology, Memory, Social Influence, Clinical Psychology and Mental Health, Biopsychology and Issues and Debates. Continuing into Year 13, students will study Schizophrenia, Attachment, Relationships and Forensic Psychology. The subject is assessed over **three exams** at the end of the two-year course, with each paper lasting for **two hours**. Students will be required to demonstrate each of the Assessment Objectives covered (Knowledge, Application and Evaluation) across a variety of questions styles in the exam.

Students must complete all assessments in May/June of the second year of this qualification.

A-Level Psychology

Year 12 Topics:

- Research Methods
- Approaches in Psychology
- Memory
- Social Influence
- Clinical Psychology and Mental Health
- Biopsychology
- Issues and Debates

Year 13 Topics:

- Attachment
- Schizophrenia
- Relationships
- Forensic Psychology

ASSESSMENT:

Level	Unit Title	Duration
A Level 2 years	**Paper 1:** *Introductory Topics in Psychology* Social Influences, Memory, Attachment, Clinical Psychology and Mental Health. 96 marks 33.3% of qualification	2 hours
	Paper 2: *Psychology in Context* Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology, Research Methods. 96 marks 33.3% of qualification	2 hours
	Paper 3: *Issues and Options in Psychology* Issues and Debates, Relationships, Schizophrenia, Forensic Psychology. 96 marks 33.3% of qualification	2 hours

A-Level Psychology

What Careers Can Psychology Lead To?

Studying Psychology at A-Level can be the first step into a wide variety of exciting and rewarding careers.

Law: Police Forensic Psychology Criminal Psychology	**Education:** Teaching Educational Psychologist
Health: Nursing Psychiatry Clinical Psychology Sports Psychology Counselling	**Academic Research**
Social Services: Probation Prison Officer Social Worker	**Business:** Human Resource Management Advertising/Marketing Recruitment/Psychometric Test Design

Other Information

For further information about any aspect of A-Level Psychology, please contact Miss Demetriou.
Grade requirement: **five grades 5 and above** including Maths, English and Science across your subjects.

A-Level Sociology

Why Choose A-Level Sociology?

Ever wondered why girls achieve more highly than boys in at GCSE? Or why men are 5 times more likely to commit crime than women? Sociology can give you some answers. Sociology is the study of society, of people and their behaviour. Sociologists study a wide range of topics such as childhood, crime, human rights, marriage, and education. It aims to develop *theories*, using *evidence* based on research, to explain human behaviour and the workings of society.

Sociological research is used to inform a wide range of decisions in all areas of public life often through government policy. Sociologists will help formulate policies and actions on teenage pregnancies, crime rates and domestic violence, for example.

Sociology, above all, is a subject that asks questions about our society and the people that live in it. If you are interested in people's behaviour it *will* fascinate you, challenge you and may even *surprise* you.

Course Details

AQA Sociology comprises of 3 modules:

- Paper 1: Education and Methods in Context (of education)
- Paper 2: Methods of Sociological Research, Families and Households, Beliefs in Society
- Paper 3: Crime and Deviance and Sociological Theory

Each exam is comprised of stimulus material which is responded to by completing short answers and longer essays. This reflects the fact that Sociology is a *literary* subject with a *heavy* emphasis on reading, independent research, note taking and essay writing. Much of this will be outside of the class, complementing and developing key themes and investigations. In class you will also be expected to be willing and able to contribute to discussions. You will also need to be informed about, and interested in, current affairs.

What Careers Can Sociology Lead To?

Sociology is so clearly a subject that helps you understand people and the features of British society today, that it would help you in any job that involves this requirement - and that is quite a lot! The skills it teaches you mean it is particularly applicable to careers where you need to make considered decisions, be critical, evaluative and see different points of view. It would therefore be valuable for the following career paths: policing and the law; the media, advertising and marketing, education, health, social work, the armed forces.

Other Information

For further information about any aspect of A-Level Sociology, please contact Mrs Gurbuz.
Grade requirement: **five grades 5 and above** including Maths, English and Science across your subjects.

it's your choice...

A-Level Spanish

Why choose A-Level Spanish?

"With languages, you are at home anywhere" – Edmund de Waal

It is an exciting time to be studying a modern foreign language at A-Level. Amidst the ever-changing way of life in modern Britain, you will never know when having language skills will come in useful. Whether you plan to embark on travel to another country and work abroad or simply stay in the UK, the skills you learn at A-Level will equip you with the essential knowledge of both language and culture that will allow you to flourish in your linguistic endeavours.

Studying A-Level Spanish enables you to develop the linguistic skills you acquired at GCSE, whilst further developing your communication skills through engaging lessons covering a variety of topics and global issues. It will develop your knowledge and understanding of Spanish culture.

Spanish is the second-most spoken native language worldwide and is the official language of over 20 countries. Spain itself is perceived globally as a hugely popular destination for quality of life, outperforming other countries in relation to work-life balance, health and social connections.

What will you do during the course?

The A-Level Spanish course develops all four skills of language learning – listening, speaking, reading and writing. Grammar is essential whilst you will also develop your knowledge of society and culture, past and present, of the countries and communities where Spanish is spoken. Topics include family structures, modern values, friendships/relationships, youth trends, technology, wealth and poverty, crime, immigration, racism, economics and politics. You will also explore a Spanish film and a Spanish novel. You will undertake an individual research project on a subject or a key question which is of interest to you and which relates to a country or countries where Spanish is spoken. You will be able to communicate confidently on topics mentioned above giving your own ideas and opinions.

How is the course assessed?

All four key skills are assessed.
Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing – 50% of A-Level
Paper 2: Writing – based on the study of a film and a novel – 20% of A-Level
Paper 3: Speaking – 30% of A-Level

What careers or further studies could Spanish lead to?

Spanish is a popular subject to study at university in combination with other disciplines, such as a second language (including new languages from scratch such as Japanese, Italian and Arabic) as well as English, History, Geography, Economics and Law. Speaking Spanish will not only give you access to the highest-paid jobs but will also allow you to speak to native speakers in their own language all over the world – something which many employers deem invaluable. There is a high demand in industry in a wide variety of roles for those who have language skills.

Entry requirements:

You will need at least a **grade 5 in the GCSE Spanish Higher paper**.

Further information

If you would like any further information about the course, please see Mr Bretag.

Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification (AAQ) BTEC National Extended Certificate in Applied Science

Why choose BTEC Applied Science?

BTEC Applied Science has a more vocational approach to learning science, combined with traditional academic exams. You will develop a wide range of transferrable skills such as, problem solving, analytical skills, teamwork and independent working. A large proportion of the course involves developing practical skills that will be useful in a workplace setting. You will complete specific units throughout the course that will be marked either externally or internally. You will be awarded a grade overall of either; Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction*. Each of these grades carries UCAS points equivalent to A levels. Therefore, they can be used to gain entry into a number of universities.

Course Details

BTEC National Extended Certificate in Applied Science consists of 5 units taught over 2 years. **50%** of the course is externally assessed, the remaining 50% is through internal assessment.

Unit 1 – **Principles and applications of Biology** - this is an externally examined unit. You will cover: cells and tissues, biological molecules and enzymes.

Unit 2 – **Principles and applications of Chemistry** - this is an externally examined unit. You will cover: the periodic table, physical and chemical properties of substances and bonding.

Unit 3 – Principles and applications of Physics - this is externally examined unit. You will cover: waves, forces and electric circuits.

Unit 4 – Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques – this is an **internally** examined unit. You will study practical applications across the sciences, including chromatography, colorimetry and electrical circuits.

Unit 5 – Scientific Investigation Skills – this is an **internally** examined unit. You will study Investigative research, including planning, data collection, analysis and evaluation.

What careers can BTEC Applied Science lead to?

Any science qualification gives you a firm foundation for most careers, not just science-based ones! Many successful students who have a passion for science often pursue careers in a variety of laboratories, in the healthcare sector or in education.

Other Information

You must achieve **at least a grade 5 in Science, Maths and English at GCSE** to study the Level 3 BTEC in Applied Science. You must be hard-working, self-motivated and well organised to be successful in this course.

Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification (AAQ) BTEC National Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care

Why choose BTEC Health and Social Care?

The Pearson Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification BTEC National in Health and Social Care (Extended Certificate) is an Alternative Academic Qualification (AAQ) designed for post-16 students with an interest in health and social care and aiming to progress to higher education as a route to graduate level employment. Equivalent to one A Level in size, it is suitable for students looking to develop their applied knowledge and skills in health and social care alongside two A Levels.

Course Details

The qualification has three mandatory units covering the following topics:

• Human Lifespan and Development – PIES and factors affecting growth and development, interventions and the different professionals providing care and treatment

• Human Biology and Health – Human body structure and systems, normal physiological functioning and the impact of common disorders

• Health and Social Care Practice – Core principles, values and legislation that underpin and influence health and social care, and the effect of social determinants on an individual health status Students have a choice from four optional units covering the following topics:

• Health, Social Policy and Wellbeing – Public health policy and its influences, including health-related organisations/groups and a range of strategic factors

• Promoting Health Education – Health education, its purpose and use of different approaches and models to achieve positive health outcomes

• Safe Environments in Health and Social Care – Appropriate provisions in services relevant to different needs; governance relating to safe environments

• Health Science – Types of infections and their potential impact on a local, national and international scale.

Mandatory units – students complete all units

Unit number	Unit title	GLH	Type	How assessed
1	Human Lifespan and Development	90	**Mandatory**	External
2	Human Biology and Health	90	**Mandatory**	External
3	Principles of Health and Social Care Practice	90	**Mandatory**	Internal

Optional units – students complete one unit

Unit number	Unit title	GLH	Type	How assessed
4	Health, Policy and Wellbeing	90	**Optional**	Internal
5	Promoting Health Education	90	**Optional**	Internal
6	Safe Environments in Health and Social Care	90	**Optional**	Internal
7	Health Science	90	**Optional**	Internal

90 guided learning hours (GLH) comprise each of the units.

50% of the total qualification is made up of external assessment.

What careers can BTEC Health and Social Care lead to?

Various careers in health and social care are open to you, such as healthcare support worker, healthcare assistant, care assistant, nursery assistant or support worker.

A BTEC Level 3 also acts as a direct stepping stone for university applications into regulated professions:

- **Nurse or Midwife:** Widely accepted by universities for entry into registered nursing and midwifery degree programs.
- **Social Worker:** Involves protecting and supporting children or adults through local authorities or charities after completing a social work degree.
- **Occupational Therapist or Physiotherapist:** Helps patients recover and regain movement after illness, accidents, or disabilities.
- **Paramedic:** Trains via university courses or specialized ambulance service student programmes.

Other Information

For more information, please see Mrs Carter and Mrs Stone.

BTEC Level 3 (NCF) National Extended Certificate in Sport

Why Choose BTEC National Extended Certificate in Sport?

The BTEC option develops your skills and understanding of work within a vocational context completing classroom based learning and practical work-experience. You will learn to develop your analytical, communication and problem-solving skills based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands. You will also be able to demonstrate carrying out fitness tests, gathering data and explaining the results. The anatomy and physiology unit focuses on 5 systems of the body developing knowledge of how they work, how the body responds and adapts and additional factors that affect the way they function. The PE Department actively encourages students to become involved in gaining coaching experience in order to develop their officiating and coaching skills. A qualification in Sport will provide evidence to the University and/or employers that you are well organised and have an ability to meet deadlines.

The BTEC National Extended Certificate Sport earns the same UCAS points for university entrance as one A level. You receive marks for each unit and gain a final mark of Pass (equivalent to E), Merit (equivalent to C), Distinction (equivalent A) and Distinction* (equivalent A*).

Course Details

BTEC National Extended Certificate consists of 4 units over two years. There are now three methods of assessment. Unit 1 is assessed through an external exam. Unit 2 is assessed using a pre-released task which will be marked by the exam board. The two remaining units will be assessed through internally marked assignments. The optional unit we cover is Unit 5 – Application of Fitness Testing.

Mandatory Units (All three covered)

1 – Applied Anatomy and Physiology

2 – Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being

3 – Professional development in the sports industry

Optional Units (One covered)

4 – Sports Leadership

5 – Application of Fitness Testing

6 – Sports Psychology

7 – Practical Sports Performance

What Careers Can BTEC Sport lead to?

Depending on which particular option units you choose you can progress into freelance coaching, setting up your own coaching business, managing sports teams, Sports Development Officer, Sport Scientist, PE Teacher, University Lecturer, Research Scientist, Physiotherapist and many more.

it's your choice...

BTEC Level 3 (NCF) National Extended Certificate in Sport

Other Information

This course demands constant hard work in school and at home. Students will need to build on knowledge gained at GCSE level and construct developed, well balanced conclusions. Students are expected to have achieved **Grade 5 at GCSE**, have a keen interest in sport and the sports industry, have a positive attitude to learning, and have evidence of IT skills.

BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Sport

Please note that we may also offer a **BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Sport**, equivalent to two A Levels, depending on student interest.

Core Content & Topics

- **Anatomy and Physiology:** Learning how the body systems respond to exercise.
- **Fitness Training and Programming:** Designing programs for health, sport, and wellbeing.
- **Sports Coaching & Leadership:** Developing practical instruction and leadership skills.
- **Sports Psychology:** Studying motivation, anxiety, and mental preparation in athletes.

Assessment Methods

- **Coursework-based:** A mix of internal assignments like written reports, presentations, and practical observations.
- **External Assessment:** includes externally set exams or tasks for specific core units.

Progression & Careers

- **Higher Education:** Entry into university degrees in Sports Science, Physical Education, Sports Development, or Physiotherapy.
- **Employment:** Direct entry into roles within the leisure, fitness, and recreation industries, or coaching apprenticeships.

Other Information

Any questions? If you need guidance at any time, please talk to Miss Williams or Mr McDonald.

WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology

Why Choose WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology?

An understanding of criminology is relevant to many job roles within the criminal justice sector, social and probation work and sociology and psychology. WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology is a qualification with elements of psychology, law and sociology that complements studies in humanities.

It is designed primarily to support learners progressing to university. It has been designed to offer exciting and interesting experiences that focus learning through the acquisition of knowledge and understanding in purposeful contexts linked to the criminal justice system.

Course Details

WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology				
Unit Number	**Unit Title**		**Assessment**	**GLH**
1	Changing Awareness of Crime	Mandatory	Internal	90
2	Criminological Theories	Mandatory	External	90
3	Crime Scene to Courtroom	Mandatory	Internal	90
4	Crime and Punishment	Mandatory	External	90

Learners must complete ALL units.

The first mandatory unit will enable the learner to demonstrate understanding of different types of crime, influences on perceptions of crime and why some crimes are unreported. The second mandatory unit will allow learners to gain an understanding of why people commit crime, drawing on what they have learned in Unit 1. The third mandatory unit will provide an understanding of the criminal justice system from the moment a crime has been identified to the verdict. Learners will develop the understanding and skills needed to examine information in order to review the justice of verdicts in criminal cases. In the final mandatory unit, learners will apply their understanding of the awareness of criminality, criminological theories and the process of bringing an accused to court in order to evaluate the effectiveness of social control to deliver criminal justice policy.

Each unit within the qualification has an applied purpose which acts as a focus for the learning in the unit. The applied purpose demands learning related to authentic case studies. It also requires learners to consider how the use and application of their learning impacts on themselves, other individuals, employers, society and the environment. The applied purpose will also allow learners to learn in such a way that they develop:

• skills required for independent learning and development

• a range of generic and transferable skills

• the ability to solve problems

• the skills of project-based research, development and presentation

• the fundamental ability to work alongside other professionals, in a professional environment

• the ability to apply learning in vocational contexts

What Careers Can BTEC WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology lead to?

The WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma in Criminology supports access to higher education degree Criminology or Psychology and Sociology courses

The qualification allows learners to gain the required understanding and skills to be able to consider employment within some aspects of the criminal justice system, e.g. the National Probation Service, the Courts and Tribunals Service or the National Offender Management Service.

Other Information

For more information, please see Miss Demetriou and Mrs Gurbuz.

V Levels:
Education
Accounting and Finance

Why Choose V Levels?

V Levels are new qualifications coming up for 2027/2028 providing learners with flexible, future-focused options. They combine classroom-based vocational learning with practical assessment and support progression to higher education, apprenticeships and higher-level study.

- **Broaden opportunities**: They will help students explore sectors by putting work-relevant skills into practice.
- **Applied and rigorous:** Proposed to be the same size as A levels, covering essential sector knowledge and skills.
- **Flexible combinations:** Students can take V Levels alongside other V Levels or A levels.
- **Clear progression routes:** Content linked to occupational standards to support higher education, apprenticeships, and employment.

Other Information

Detailed specifications for the new courses have not been published yet. If you would like to register your interest and find out more, please talk to the following members of staff:

- V Level in Education: Miss Davies and Miss Parker
- V Level in Accounting and Finance: Ms Berry and Mr Shaw

it's your choice...

Level 3 Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Why Choose to Study for an EPQ?

There are a number of reasons you may wish to consider the EPQ:

- It carries as many UCAS points as half an A Level. (Up to 70 points).
- It will allow you to develop an area of academic interest outside the constraints of you're A Level subjects.
- It will allow you to develop research and writing skills, which are very close to those used in universities. This will put you at a significant advantage both when it comes to applying for university, and when it comes to writing your own dissertation as an undergraduate at university.
- It gives you the chance to experience one-to-one teaching/ supervision and seminar teaching.

What is an EPQ?

The Extended Project Qualification is a freestanding qualification that is intended to stretch very able and independent learners. It is offered as an additional qualification as part of EBX enrichment block. (This is therefore not a course that students indicate on their sixth form application form.) The EPQ involves choosing a topic and carrying out some in-depth research into a particular area, then creating EITHER a 5,000-word report OR a 'product' + a 1,000-3,000-word report. After that, you must deliver a small presentation to a group of non-specialists about your topic, lasting from 10 - 15 minutes.

Course Details

Initially, you need to identify a topic you are interested in researching in some depth. You will be allocated a Mentor from amongst the staff at school, who will then help you to refine your topic, plan your research and write it up into a dissertation. You will meet your Mentor one-on-one, on a regular basis. You will also be required to attend classes in the EBX block, where you will have the chance to learn about and discuss various aspects of academic research and writing.

What will I be assessed on?

You will be given a mark for your final written dissertation, which will be a document of 5000 words, OR your 'product' plus a 1,000-word report. You will also be assessed on a presentation that you give, explaining the findings of your dissertation. The EPQ is marked on a scale of A*-E. If you would like to look at the specification in more detail, the board we use is AQA and the specification code is 9990.

How does it fit into my other A Levels?

You could choose a topic that fits in with the A Levels you are studying, as long as it does not duplicate anything in your A Levels, but are not required to. You should expect to spend a minimum of 2 hours per week in addition to classes on your EPQ.

Level 3 Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

What sort of topic could I choose for my EPQ?

The possibilities are very broad, and topics do not have to be confined to the subjects you are studying at A Level. You can look ahead and do a project on an aspect of your chosen degree course. You may be interested in topics areas such as:

Politics, economics, science, philosophy, sociology, ethics, law, music, art, literature, psychology, film, media, history, history/ politics of sport, war, empire, anthropology, history of medicine…

This may lead to questions such as:

- What are the chances for peace in the Middle East?
- What problems does stem cell research pose for medical ethics?
- Is there a difference in processing between Male and Female Brains?
- Does nuclear energy or Bio fuel offer a better solution to global climate change?
- How did the Vietnam War change American society?
- What is post-modernism in popular culture?
- How has the Human Rights Act of 1998 changed British law?
- How did spying and espionage under Stalin compare to that carried out by Churchill?
- Was Victorian Britain really a repressive society?
- Was the British Empire a mistake?
- How did Siegfried Sassoon's private life affect his writing?
- How much of Thatcher's economic legacy remains?

What Careers Can An EPQ Lead To?

The EPQ alone does not lead you to a career! It's the process involved and the skills that are learnt whilst studying for this that help.

There are several reasons why the EPQ is looked on so highly:

- It shows that students are able to pursue their own academic interests beyond the confines of the school curriculum.
- It demonstrates that students are capable of undertaking exactly the kind of independent research and writing that will be part of higher education study.
- It shows that students can benefit from one-to-one tutoring and seminar teaching, both of which are central to university teaching.
- It makes students stand out from other candidates: important when increasing numbers of students are reaching the top grades in their A-Level exams.

Other Information

If you would like more information about the course, please contact Mr Pearson (t.pearson@eatonbank.org)

it's your choice...

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