2026 - 2028

Sixth Form Options Booklet

Year 12 and 13

A Levels • IB Diploma Programme • BTEC

Extended Project Qualification • Community Outreach • Duke of Edinburgh International Award



SUNMARKE SCHOOL

Where Amazing Happens™

Sixth Form Options Booklet

Year 12 and 13

Dear Parents & Class of 2028

Welcome to the Sunmarke Sixth Form. As you begin exploring the exciting range of pathways available to you, this booklet is designed to guide you in making informed decisions about your next steps. At Sunmarke, we are proud to offer A Levels, BTECs, and the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme; three distinct yet equally rewarding routes that cater to different strengths, aspirations, and learning styles.

Our Sixth Form is a place where growth extends far beyond academic results. We believe that success is shaped by curiosity, resilience, and the ability to apply knowledge with confidence and purpose. Through our dedicated form programme, enrichment activities, and leadership opportunities, students develop the skills, independence, and character needed to thrive at university and beyond.

Each pathway offers a different experience: A Levels allow deep subject specialisation, the IB Diploma fosters global-mindedness and balance across disciplines, and BTECs provide practical, career-focused learning. Whichever route you choose, our aim is to help you find a pathway that inspires and challenges you, while preparing you for the future you envision.

As you read through this booklet, take the time to reflect on your interests, goals, and the type of learner you are. Your journey through Sixth Form is about discovering not just what you want to study, but who you want to become.

Warm regards,



Ms. Jehan Toubia
Assistant Head Teacher
Head of Sixth Form
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Sixth Form Pathways

A Levels • IB Diploma Progamme • BTEC

**Mission Statement from the IB The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To this end the organisation works with schools, governments and international organisations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment. These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

What are A Levels?

Why study A Levels?

Advanced Level qualifications (A Levels) are subject-based courses designed for students aiming to progress to university. They provide flexibility to choose subjects that align with your academic strengths and future goals. A-Levels allow full specialisation in your chosen field, and there are no restrictions on combinations apart from what fits within the school timetable. A Levels are assessed on a scale from A* to E.

What does this Pathway look like?

A full A Level pathway requires students to take a minimum of three A Level subjects, which is the standard expectation for university entry. Some students may choose to begin with four subjects in Year 12 to keep their options open and then continue with three into Year 13 once they have refined their interests.

Each subject receives six lessons per week, allowing for in-depth study and preparation. Assessment structures vary depending on the subject: some A Levels are modular, with exams taken across both years (Year 12 and Year 13), while others are linear, with all final exams completed at the end of Year 13. This combination of flexibility and academic depth ensures students can focus on their strengths while developing the knowledge and skills required for university-level study.

How does this Pathway lead to University?

A-Levels are globally recognised and respected qualifications, accepted by top universities in the UK and around the world. They equip students with the subject-specific knowledge and academic rigour needed for higher education. For competitive university courses, particularly in areas like Medicine, Engineering, Physics and Mathematics, students are advised to consider taking four A Levels to strengthen their applications.

What skills will I develop?

Studying A Levels helps develop critical thinking, analytical, and problem-solving skills as you explore your chosen disciplines in depth. With most A Level subjects assessed through final examinations, students develop discipline, focus, and effective study habits that prepare them for university-level assessments.

Many students also complete the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), which enhances their ability to manage a long-term research project—something valued by universities for its direct link to degree-level study skills.

A Levels Testimonials

Jana ElKattan, Class of 2025

The process of selecting my A levels allowed me to delve further into my favourite GCSE subjects, interests and passions. The A-Level courses will also prepare me for university or work, as I've been encouraged and pushed to learn independently, manage my time and use it efficiently, conduct research and analyse. I'm also constantly given the chance to develop my teamwork, communication and problem-solving skills.

I chose to do A level Mathematics as it opens up many opportunities for me whether I want to pursue a career in sciences, engineering or finance. It's also a very desirable subject by employers, it enhances my CV and will help me get into esteemed universities all around the globe. It's also a great opportunity to learn new topics and techniques which will stimulate my mind and challenge me. Moreover, it helps enhance my analytical skills through learning how to interpret data, graphs, tables and diagrams. Lastly, I chose A level maths because I can apply my knowledge to real-world situations and explore topics that interest me, and it will aid me in pursuing any career I choose to do after sixth form.

Kynan Chona, Class of 2024

A-Levels wasn't originally the course I thought I'd choose, but the more I looked into it, the better it seemed for my situation. While IB and BTECs were enticing, A-Levels truly allowed me to narrow down and study the subjects that interested me and narrow down my studies to be more relevant to the degree I wished to pursue. It also provided me a much more flexible schedule and timetable due to the fewer subjects A-Levels carry, while simultaneously maintaining a high standard of education by delving into all the intricacies of each subject you study.
Retrospectively, I can confidently say that A-Levels were the best choice for me and are perfectly suited to those who want the freedom to specialize into a particular field of study.



What are BTECs?

What are BTECs?

Short for Business and Technology Education Council, BTECs are a practical-based, vocational qualification which offers the same equivalence to A Levels when converted into UCAS points. Many industry sectors have a set of National Occupational Standards that professionals must follow. The learning content of BTECs is built around these National Occupational Standards, which is why BTECs are recognised as valuable qualifications. They provide the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in a field or subject and are an excellent alternative to the more theory focused A Levels or subjects on the IB Diploma Programme.

What does this Pathway look like?

BTECs are taught through application with students often going on educational visits and meeting industry specialists as well as them doing one week of work experience in Year 12. Assessments are via regular coursework and projects throughout the 2 year course. If you know you don't excel in exam conditions, BTECs can relieve this pressure, spreading out the work that dictates your final grade as 100% of your final grade will come from these coursework components. Students are able to take a combination of BTECs and A Levels in order to have a balance between hands on learning whilst also taking more traditional subjects.

How does this Pathway lead to University?

BTECs are equivalent to A Levels in terms of applications to universities. However, there are some universities which don't accept these qualifications so you would need to research the different countries you would like to apply for in order to ensure you meet the admissions criteria for your desired destination.

What skills will I develop?

BTECs truly prepare students for the real world, offering them practical skills to be successful in the industry of their choosing. If you enjoy practical learning and want to study a specialised range of subjects, BTECs are the perfect option for you.



BTECs Testimonials

Joshua Labuschagne - BTEC Hospitality, Class of 2024

My current studies of the BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Hospitality course have helped me make pivotal decisions in my academic journey as it aligns seamlessly with my ambition to pursue a career as a chef.
One of the reasons I chose BTEC Hospitality is its emphasis on coursework. This learning approach has been invaluable in providing a practical understanding of the complexities within the hospitality industry. The course offers me comprehensive insight into the diverse realms of culinary arts, customer service, and management. Moreover, the course structure is designed to give us knowledge in all aspects, whether it be practical or theoretical. Aspiring to be a chef, I find the culinary modules particularly captivating. The practical kitchen sessions not only enhance my cooking skills but also provide a platform to experiment and innovate with different cuisines, this hands-on experience is invaluable, offering me the chance to apply concepts in a real-world setting.

The course also provides useful industry exposure. Industry visits and collaborations with local businesses have been instrumental in connecting me with professionals in the field. This exposure has allowed me to gain insight from experts, enabling me to make informed decisions about my future in the hospitality industry. It's a course that has changed my life for the better and one that will stick with me for years to come!

Lavanya Takiar - BTEC Creative Media, Class of 2024

I currently study BTEC Subsidiary Creative Media. I chose this subject because it offers more practical opportunities in this particular field. Gaining this BTEC certificate gives me the chance to develop my technical and practical skills in photography, filming, editing, and image processing skills in addition to my transferable teamwork, organisation, and decision-making abilities.

BTECs do provide the opportunity to work more practically and career-focused, frequently in a team environment, as opposed to only concentrating on academic study. The course material helps develop the skills necessary to advance in your chosen field and provides you with an introduction of the working world. I also think it links well with my CP programme. Embrace your passion!



What is the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme?

Sunmarke in 2025 was rated 2nd highest in the UAE and 64th in the world for our IB results. The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) is a holistic programme which gives you a broad post 16 education whilst also allowing you to specialise in three subjects. You will take three standard level subjects and three higher level subjects as well as the Extended Essay, Theory of Knowledge and the Creativity, Activity and Service Programme (CAS). Each subject is graded from 1-7 with the diploma core (Theory of Knowledge and Extended Essay) giving 3 more points depending on the combination of grades in these components. Students must achieve a minimum total of 24 points to pass the Diploma Programme.

What does this Pathway look like?

Each week you will receive lessons in your 6 subjects (typically 4 lessons for higher level and 3 for standard level) as well as lessons in Theory of Knowledge (TOK). You will also receive sessions to develop skills needed for the Extended Essay during tutor time. This is a piece of academic writing where you choose the subject, topic and research question to produce an answer in a 4,000 word research report. The CAS programme is a non-graded component which encourages students to set objectives in creative, active and service experiences outside of the classroom. Each subject has a coursework component worth at least 20% meaning the whole grade does not rest on the final exams.

How does this Pathway lead to University?

An internationally recognised qualification, the IBDP will give you access to the most competitive universities worldwide. With the DP developing more than just subject knowledge, universities see it as a perfect higher education preparation programme. As all students study English Language and Literature, you will meet the language requirement of most universities that deliver courses in English.

The IBDP programme also continues a student's study in Mathematics. Students completing the IBDP programme continue to study Mathematics and English throughout their Secondary education and are then able to demonstrate 4 years of study in Mathematics and English during the application process. The IB Diploma, due to its holistic nature and its requirements, is highly valued by universities worldwide.

What skills will I develop?

Through coursework components, the Extended Essay and Theory of Knowledge, you will learn to think critically and write using an academic structure. The CAS programme develops skills to ensure you are a well-rounded student who has lots of experiences beyond the classroom to make you really stand out in university applications and interviews.

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme Testimonials

Matteo Volani, Class of 2024

I chose the IBDP as I was looking for a more holistic and well-rounded curriculum. A huge advantage to the IBDP is the fact that each subject has an internal assessment, which allows you to complete research and produce a paper on a topic of your choice. This is usually worth between 20-30% of your final grade, depending on whether the subject is higher or standard level. This allows you to sit the final exam knowing that at least 25% of your final grade has already been covered by a strong internal assessment, which can ease pressure when final exam season comes around.

The introduction of CAS in the IBDP also allows you to become a more well-rounded student, and takes the pressure off the rigorous studies, and enables you to discover new skills and activities, as well as building a strong portfolio for university applications.

A vital skill that every IBDP student must have in order to be successful in the diploma is strong time-management, and this will be a skill that will be later transferred onto university. This allows you to arrive at university feeling confident that you will be able to tackle any challenging studies/projects. Overall, the IBDP allows you to be more hands-on with your learning, as you are able to explore areas of personal interest, as well as applying the knowledge learnt in class to real-life experiences.

Sofia Gloncakova, Class of 2025

I chose the IBDP because of its inter-disciplinary teaching style. Instead of focusing on just a few subjects, it allows students to experience knowledge from many different perspectives, giving us an insight into some of the most pressing global issues. This really appealed to me, because it meant I could achieve a really good international accreditation without giving up the subjects I love.

I enjoy the courses currently, because it doesn't solely focus on academics and memorising facts, but rather helps students gain a deeper understanding of topics, as well as developing critical thinking skills, enabling us to deduce solutions ourselves. I also really enjoy the fact that the IBDP curriculum is consistently updated, so we know that the issues and case studies we're discussing in class have very current and real-life applications. Finally, I enjoy the wide variety of assignments we are given.

From posters debating the difference between belief and knowledge, to presentations about renewable energy in Peru, there is always something interesting to learn in the IBDP. a variety of things; presentations, fact sheets, essays, posters, videos, mind maps, and so many more. So not only do you get a more holistic education because of the subjects, but also the different tasks done within each subject.

Progressing to Year 13

To ensure students are fully prepared for the demands of Year 13, all students must meet specific academic standards by the end of Year 12. These standards ensure readiness for the increased rigour and depth of content in the second year of post-16 study. This is particularly the case for A-Level subjects where there is a clear progression in the difficulty of content.

Minimum Academic Requirements

- A-Level: Grade C in the internal End of Year Examination for linear A Level or an overall Grade C in external AS Level examinations.
- IB students: Grade 4 in the internal End of Year Examination.
- BTEC students: Merit grade in the subject.

If students fall below these standards, we will review both their attitude to learning and their attendance. While academic achievement provides a clear indication of whether Year 13 content will be accessible, a student's approach to learning also reflects their readiness for the study skills required to succeed.

Attendance is also strongly linked to achievement and preparedness for learning. Students with irregular attendance often miss key content, leading to knowledge gaps and lower confidence. Therefore, if a student fails to meet the academic requirements and also demonstrates poor attendance or disengagement, they may not be permitted to continue the subject into Year 13.

Attendance Requirement

- Students must maintain a minimum of 92% attendance throughout Year 12. Attendance below this figure is considered unacceptable by the KHDA and reflects significant gaps in learning.

Attitude to Learning

- Students' attitude to learning should reflect commitment, resilience and personal growth. Engaged and ambitious learners are a mark of success in Sixth Form.



Making Choices

Choosing Your Post-16 Pathway

When selecting your subjects, focus on what motivates you and what you enjoy. Since future job trends are uncertain, it's best to choose a balanced mix of courses unless you already have a specific career goal. Reflect on:

- What are my strengths and interests?
- What do I want to be known for in the future?
- Which subjects do I enjoy and perform well in?

Once you've identified your goals, consider which pathway—IB, A Level, or BTEC—best supports them. Some universities or careers require specific subjects or grades, so check entry requirements early. You can research options and entry criteria using Unifrog, which provides updated university and career information.

Where Will I Study?

The country where you intend to study after school can influence your choice of subjects and qualifications. Entry requirements differ by destination and university, so it's essential to research these carefully through Unifrog and seek further guidance where necessary.

The Role of Parents

Parents play a vital role in supporting students to make informed and realistic choices. Their understanding of their child's strengths, interests, and long-term goals can help balance ambition with practicality. Families should also consider financial aspects—such as university tuition fees, living costs, and scholarships—especially for students planning to study abroad. Open discussions about academic pathways and financial readiness will help students make decisions that are both aspirational and sustainable.

Who can you ask for advice?

- IBDP Coordinator
- Head of Sixth Form
- Careers or University Guidance Staff
- Subject teachers
- Industry Professionals
- UniFrog

Tips:

- Ask teachers for honest feedback on your strengths and subject suitability.
- Use Unifrog to research courses, university requirements, and job prospects.
- Avoid choosing subjects that are too similar, e.g., Business and Economics.
- Don't take on too many new subjects at once.
- Choose English or Maths only if you enjoy and excel in them.
- Avoid picking subjects solely for career reasons if you lack genuine interest—motivation drives success.

Ministry Requirements and Equivalency

As a resident of the UAE, there are certain educational necessities that all students must adhere to in order to meet the compulsory requirements requested by the Ministry of Education. Therefore, these essentials will be included in their weekly timetabled lessons.

These compulsory requirements include:
All Arab students must study Arabic A until the end of Year 13
All Muslim students must study and pass Islamic Education in Year 13

Emirati students and all those wishing to study in the UAE, must receive certificate equivalency. To get this, students must ensure they fulfil the following requirements:

- They must complete 13 years of school
- They must have 5 GCSEs A*-D including the following subjects
  - Mathematics
  - Physics
  - Chemistry or Biology
  - History or Geography
  - English Language or English Literature
- They must complete and pass Islamic education and ministry tests in Year 13
- They must complete and pass Arabic education and ministry test
- They must register and complete the EMSAT externally

General Pathway

Students wishing to follow the general path of education in the UAE must adhere to the following further conditions:

A Levels

- They must achieve A*-D in at least 2 A Levels (not including A Level Arabic)

IBDP

- Student must achieve 24 points or more
- Students must pass the following subjects:
  - English (HL or SL)
  - Maths (HL or SL)
  - One of the Sciences - Biology, Chemistry or Physics (HL or SL)
- If Physics is not chosen in the IB the student must show proof of passing it in Year 11

BTECs

- Achieve PP grade or higher in one Level 3 Diploma

Advanced Pathway

Students wishing to follow the advanced path of education in the UAE must adhere to the following further conditions:

A Levels

They must achieve grades A*-D in 3 A-Levels, one of which must be in Mathematics.
The other 2 subjects must be chosen from the following sciences.

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics

IBDP

- They must achieve the IB Diploma
- Students must achieve a minimum grade 3 in the following subjects:
  - English (HL or SL)
  - Maths HL
  - One of the Sciences - Biology, Chemistry or Physics HL
- If Physics is not among the chosen HL subjects, students should do it at SL

Elite Pathway

Students wishing to follow the elite path of education in the UAE must adhere to the following further conditions:

A Level

They must achieve grades A*-D in 4 A-Levels, two of which must be from the following list of subjects;

- Mathematics
- Physics.
- The third can be either Biology or Chemistry
- The fourth is of your choosing

IBDP

- They must achieve the IB Diploma
- Students must pass the following subjects:
  - English (HL or SL)
  - Maths HL
  - Two of the Sciences - Biology, Chemistry or Physics HL
- If Physics is not among the chosen HL subjects, students should do it at SL

*Please note Arabic is not recognised as an A Level subject.
*Please note Arabic A students will be required to choose IB Arabic as their language option.

University & Careers Guidance

As your child enters the crucial years of Sixth Form here at Sunmarke School, we are excited to support them in preparing for their future — whether that means applying to top universities around the world or exploring entrepreneurial and professional opportunities.

At Sunmarke, we understand that each student's journey is unique. Our University and Careers Guidance Programme is designed to help every student make informed, confident decisions about their next steps beyond school.

Throughout Years 12 and 13, students benefit from a comprehensive careers and university preparation framework that includes:

- One-to-one guidance and counselling sessions to support personalised goal setting and decision-making.
- Expert support with UCAS (UK), Common App (US), Canadian, European, and UAE university applications.
- Assistance with personal statements, CVs, reference letters, and interview preparation.
- Pathways and information evenings for parents and students to explore global university systems and post-18 options.
- Access to Sunmarke Synergy Connect internships, work experience, and volunteering opportunities to build real-world insight and skills.
- Visits from university representatives and guest speakers across a range of industries and regions.

We also make use of dedicated platforms and tools, such as Unifrog, to help students research courses, track deadlines, and build tailored application profiles.

At Sunmarke, we are proud of our track record of supporting students into leading universities in the UK, US, Canada, Europe, and beyond. Whether your child is aspiring to study Medicine, Engineering, Business, the Arts, or embark on a more practical career route, we are here to guide them every step of the way.

We value the partnership between home and school, and we encourage you to engage with us during this exciting period in your child's academic journey. Should you have any questions about university or career guidance at Sunmarke, please don't hesitate to contact our Sixth Form or Careers & University Guidance Team.



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Subject guide for A Level and BTEC

Grade Requirements

Grade Requirements for Courses			
Subjects	Minimum GCSE Grade	MYP Minimum Grade	Criteria if not studied at GCSE (in addition to Latest School Report)
Art & Design	5 (C)	5	Examples of work and interview with Head of Faculty
Biology	7 (A)	7	7-7 (A-A) in Double Award Science
Business Studies	6 (B)	6	6 (B) in Mathematics & B (6) English
Chemistry	7 (A)	7	7-7 (A-A) in Additional/ Double Award Science
Computer Science	6 (B)	6	7 (A) in Mathematics and 7(A) English Must be able to code
Economics	6 (B)	6	7 (A) in Mathematics and 7(A) English
Drama	5(C)	5	6 (B) in English Language
English Literature	7-7 (A-A)	7	7 (A) in English Language & Literature
Geography	6 (B)	6	6 (B) in English
Politics	NA	NA	7(A) in English
Mathematics	8 (A)	7	
Further Mathematics	7 (A)	NA	8 (A) in GCSE Mathematics
Media	6	6	6 (B) in English and a Humanities subject
Physical Education	6 (B)	6	6 (B) in Biology and 6 (B) in English Language
Physics	7 (A) in Physics 7 (A) in Mathematics	7	7-7 (A-A) in Additional/ Double Award Science & 7(A) in Mathematics
Sociology	6 (B)	NA	6(B) in English and a Humanities subject
Psychology	6 (B)	NA	6(B) in English and a Humanities subject
3D Design	6 (B)	6	6 (B) in a Maths and English
BTEC Creative Media	5	5	5 Grades 5 - 9
BTEC Hospitality	5 in Food	5	5 Grades 5 - 9
BTEC IT	5 in IT	5	5 Grades 5 - 9
BTEC Music	6 in Music	6	5 Grades 5 - 9 and can play a musical instrument

For students studying English as a second language at GCSE, we will review options on a case by case basis if English GCSE is an entry requirement.

*** Arab or Muslim students are required to attend Ministry of Education lessons in Arabic or Islamic in addition to their A Level + BTEC Options**

*** If students achieve a C in AS Mathematics at the end of Year 12, they will be able to progress to A Level Mathematics in Year 13**

A Level Art

Why study A Level Art?

If you enjoy being creative, want to increase your practical skills and improve your analytical, communication and research abilities, Art and Design is a great choice. The skills you gain make it a great complement to other subjects. Art and design is a way of seeing things and making sense of the world around you. It can help you with further study and prepare you for the world of work.

What does it involve?

Alongside improving your practical expertise, you'll learn how to:

- Develop, refine and record your ideas
- Present a personal response that realises your intentions
- Improve your creative skills through the effective and safe use of media, materials, techniques, processes and technologies
- Successfully use visual language and the formal elements eg colour, line, form, shape, tone, texture
- Use drawing skills for different needs and purposes.

How will i be assessed?

During the course you will produce a portfolio (60% of final mark). You will also write an extended essay (1000 - 3000 words) related to a personally selected area of study.
In Y13 at the start of term 2 you will begin an externally set assignment (40% of final mark). As part of the externally set assignment you will sit a 15 hour (across 3 days) supervised unaided practical exam.

Where will the course take me?

Studying Art A level can lead to further Art courses and careers in areas like:
Interior Design, Product Design, Graphic Design, Architecture, Fashion, Photography, Illustration, Concept Art, Digital Art, Game Design ,Film & Media Production, Fine Art, Theatre & Stage Design and Make Up Artistry.



Department

Creative Arts

Accreditation

AQA

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE

A Level Biology

Why study A Level Biology?

Biology is the study of life. It gives you a better understanding of the world around you and the interdependent nature of living organisms. People who study Biology may go on to study a related subject, such as Medicine or Zoology, while others go into different fields. Whatever path you take it is a rewarding and challenging course. Biology is an academic A level and complements a wide combination of other subjects, especially Chemistry, Physics, Maths and Psychology.

What does it involve?

The following units are studied for A level biology:
Unit 1 - The diversity of living organisms
Unit 2 - Biological systems and disease
Unit 3 - Populations and genes
Unit 4 - Control
Unit 5 - Synoptic Paper

How will I be assessed?

In Year 12:
Paper 1 – 1 hour 30 mins
Paper 2 – 1 hour 30 mins
In Year 13:
Paper 3 – 1 hour 30 mins
Paper 4 – 1 hour 30 mins
Paper 5 – 1 hour 30 mins

Where will this course take me?

Biology is a good choice if you intend on a career path in a Health or Clinical profession such as Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Physiotherapy or Pharmacy; or other related areas such as Zoology, Biological Sciences and Marine Sciences.



Department

Science

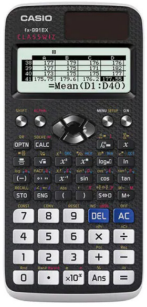
Accreditation

Oxford AQA

Entry Requirements

Grade 7 in GCSE or MYP Biology or Grade 7-7 in GCSE Double Award Science

Calculator Required



A Level Business

Why study A Level Business?

The Business course engages students with topics and issues shaping today's world. You'll explore contemporary themes like digital technology, business ethics, and globalisation, building relevant knowledge and skills. Real-life case studies bring these concepts to life, making it easy for students to connect with and apply what they learn.

What does it involve?

The course explores the journey of starting and growing businesses, covering essential areas like operations, marketing, finance, and human resources. It also delves into business strategy and planning, providing a comprehensive understanding of what it takes to succeed in today's dynamic environment.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: Marketing and People (2 hours, 80 marks)
Paper 2: Managing Business Activities (2 hours, 80 marks)
Paper 3: Business Decisions and Strategy (2 hours, 80 marks)
Paper 4: Global Business (2 hours, 80 marks)

At the end of Year 12, students will sit Papers 1 and 2, allowing them the chance to achieve an AS grade after the first year. Students can then progress to Year 13 to complete Papers 3 and 4 and earn the full A Level qualification.

Where will this course take me?

After A Level Business, many students continue their studies at university, where a Business degree opens doors to diverse, dynamic career paths. Graduates pursue roles in fields like accountancy, advertising, banking, investment and financial services, general management, HR, consultancy, public relations, retail management, sales, and marketing. Modern career options also include digital marketing, e-commerce, data analytics, entrepreneurship, sustainability consulting, and supply chain management.



*Due to the similarities in content covered we do not recommend that students take both A Level Business and BTEC Enterprise & Entrepreneurship

Department

Business and Economics

Accreditation

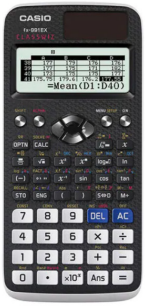
Edexcel IAL

Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE or Grade 6 in MYP or Distinction in BTEC Business

If you have not studied Business before;
Grade 6 in Mathematics & 6 in English

Calculator Required



A Level Chemistry

Why study A Level Chemistry?

Chemistry is the study of matter and energy and the interaction between them. Chemistry is everywhere in the world around you! It's in the food you eat, clothes you wear, water you drink, medicines, air – everything in life is linked to Chemistry. This means that studying chemistry gives you a deeper understanding of the world and the matter it is made from. People who study Chemistry often go on to a wide variety of careers including engineering, forensics, pharmacy, biotechnology and even education. Chemistry is an academic A level and complements a wide combination of other subjects, especially Biology, Physics, Maths and Psychology.

What does it involve?

Chemistry natural splits into 3 main sections:
Physical Chemistry – the study of atoms, chemical reactions and energy
Inorganic Chemistry – the study of metals and groups within the periodic table
Organic Chemistry – the study of Carbon based chemicals and the chemistry of life

How will I be assessed?

In Y12: CHO1 - 1 hour 30 mins
CHO2 - 1 hour 30 mins

In Y13: CHO3 - 1 hour 30 mins
CHO4 - 1 hour 30 mins
CHO5 - 1 hour 25 mins

Where will this course take me?

People who study Chemistry can go on to a wide variety of scientific and non scientific careers including engineering, forensics, pharmacy, environmental work biotechnology and even education. Chemists can find opportunities with employers in many different sectors, including the food and drink industry, utilities and research, health and medical organisations, the government and scientific research organisations and agencies.



Department

Science

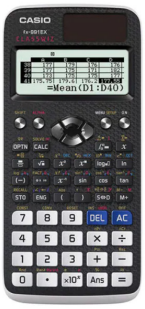
Accreditation

Oxford AQA

Entry Requirements

Grade 7 in GCSE or MYP Chemistry or Grade 7-7 in GCSE Double Award Science

Calculator Required



A Level Computer Science

Why Study A Level Computer Science?

Studying A Level Computer Science equips you with essential skills for a digital world, fostering expertise in programming, algorithms, data management, and system development. You'll learn to solve complex problems using various tools, building a versatile skill set valued in technology-driven industries. This qualification prepares you for higher education and aligns with skills demanded by today's digital workforce.

What does it involve?

Year 1 (AS Level): You will explore the foundations of computer science, including data representation, computer systems, networks, algorithms, and programming.

Year 2 (A Level): Building on the AS foundation, you'll delve deeper into topics like advanced algorithms, data structures, databases, and artificial intelligence. A practical component reinforces your programming and problem-solving skills, preparing you for real-world applications.

How will I be assessed?

Year 1 (AS Level)	
Paper 1 Theory Fundamentals Externally Assessed	Paper 1 will assess section 1-8 50% of the AS Level & 25% of the A Level
Paper 2 Problem-Solving & Programming Skills Externally Assessed	Paper 2 will assess sections 9-12 50% of the AS Level & 25% of the A Level

Year 2 (A Level)	
Paper 3 Advanced Theory Externally Assessed	Paper 3 will assess sections 13-20 25% of the A Level
Paper 4 Practical Externally Assessed	Paper 4 will assess sections 19-20 25% of the A Level

Where will this course take me?

A Level Computer Science opens the door to numerous career paths and fields, including:

Business and Data Analysis: For those interested in the intersection of technology & business strategy.

Web and Software Development: A foundation for creating and maintaining digital platforms and applications.

Network Systems & Cybersecurity: Ideal for roles managing and securing information systems.

Advanced Computing Careers: Systems engineering, artificial intelligence, and software quality assurance, supporting the growing demand for tech professionals in diverse sectors.

Department

ICT & Computing

Accreditation

Cambridge International

Entry Requirements

GCSE or MYP Grade 6 in Computer Science

If you have not studied Computer Science; Grade 7 in Mathematics & 7 in English.

Students must be able to code

A Level Drama

Why study A Level Drama?

Drama is life reflected. There is nothing more powerful in the human experience than the ability to connect and empathize. If you enjoy performing, collaborating with others, leading a creative process, analysing live performance and play text, then this course is the perfect choice for you.

What is involved?

The course will engage you through encouraging creativity with a focus on practical work that reflects twenty first century Theatre practice. You will develop your practical and analytical skills through the perspectives of a performer, director and designer of Theatre.

How is it assessed?

You will be assessed in three components:
Component 1: Devising (40%)
Devised performance in response to a stimulus and in the style of a theatre practitioner of your choice.

Component 2: Text in Performance (20%)
Performance of two scripted pieces. One piece will be a monologue or duologue, the other a group play extract directed by the teacher.

Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice
Four essay questions in a written examination. Section A is a response to a statement using a production seen as evidence. Section B requires a response as an actor then designer to the first set text. Section C is written in the role of director, re-imagining a play, using the work of a selected practitioner.

Where will the course take me?

Studying A Level Drama can lead to further Drama and Theatre courses and careers in:

- Acting
- Directing
- TV Presenting
- Film and TV Direction
- Film and TV Production
- Creative writing
- Screen writing
- Speech writing
- Set design
- Lighting design
- Sound design
- Stage management
- Motivational speaking
- Teaching



Department

Performing Arts

Accreditation

Edexcel

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE or MYP

A Level Economics

Why study A level Economics?

This course encourages students to demonstrate and apply knowledge of issues arising from familiar and unfamiliar economic situations. Students will analyse and evaluate economic issues, present structured arguments backed up by evidence and make informed decisions. Successful Economics students will understand a range of concepts that they can use in an inquiring, critical and thoughtful approach when tackling economic situations.

What does it involve?

Students study microeconomics by examining how individual decisions affect economic outcomes, the role of competition, the functioning of markets, reasons for market failures, and the distribution of wealth. They then move to macroeconomics, exploring the broader view of how national economies integrate within the global context, the worldwide impact of financial markets and monetary policy, and the operation of the international economy.

How will I be assessed?

- Unit 1 : Markets in action
  Exam: 1 hr 45mins, 80 marks.
- Unit 2 : Macroeconomic performance and policy
  Exam: 1 hour 45 minutes, 80 marks.
- Unit 3 : Business behaviour
  Exam: 2 hours, 80 marks.
- Unit 4 : Developments in the global economy
  Exam: 2hrs, 90 marks.

Where will this course take me?

Students who study A level Economics go on to study and work in a variety of different fields from:

- Banking and finance
- Civil service
- Law
- Politics
- Economic Analyst
- Actuary
- Business Consultant

Department

Business and Economics

Accreditation

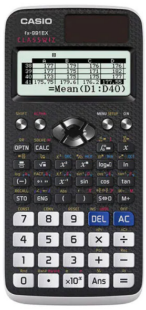
Oxford AQA

Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE or MYP

If you have not studied Economics; Grade 7 in Mathematics & English

Calculator Required



A Level English Literature

Why study A Level English Literature?

English Literature A level encapsulates the analytical study of prose, poetry and plays. The course allows students to engage with and develop the ability to read, understand and respond to a wide range of literary texts from around the world. They learn to develop an appreciation of the ways in which authorial methods are used to explore language and structure of texts. Furthermore it allows students to explore, through literature, the cultures of their own and other societies. Our aim is to encourage students to find enjoyment in reading literature and understand its influence on individuals and societies.

What does it involve?

The topics that you will study are:

Unit 1 – Post Poetry and Prose	Unit 2 - Drama	Unit 3 - Poetry and Prose	Unit 4 – Shakespeare and Pre 1900 Poetry
The Kite Runner	Othello	Never Let Me Go	King Lear
Poems of the Decade	Death of a Salesman	The Handmaid's Tale	Victorian Verse

How will I be assessed?

- Unit 1 examination is 25% of A level (50% of AS qualification)
- Unit 2 examination is 25% of A level (50% of AS qualification)
- Unit 3 examination is 25% of A level
- Unit 4 examination is 25% of A level

Each examination is two hours long. This is a modular qualification and examinations will be taken at the end of each unit of work. Students are given the opportunity to retake modules if they are not satisfied with their grade.

Where will this course take me?

Literature is a vast and engaging field that many international students choose to study in University. There is so much you can do with a degree in literature. Some of the more popular options for graduating literary students are:

- Media and journalism
- Law: Barrister or Solicitor
- Teaching
- Advertising and marketing
- Editor, writer or Publisher

Department

English

Accreditation

International Edexcel

Entry Requirements

Grade 7 in GCSE or MYP

A Level Further Mathematics

Why Study International A Level Further Mathematics?

International A Level Further Mathematics is designed to broaden and deepen the mathematical knowledge and skills developed when studying IA Level Mathematics. It also provides a stimulating experience for those who enjoy the subject. Students taking Further Mathematics overwhelmingly find it to be an enjoyable, rewarding, stimulating and empowering experience. It is a challenging qualification, which both extends and deepens your knowledge and understanding beyond the standard IA Level Mathematics.

What does it involve?

A Level Further Mathematics is made up of six units. The three Further Pure units build upon the techniques in Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry and Calculus developed from the Pure Core units as well as introducing topics such as Complex Numbers, Matrices, Proof, Hyperbolic Functions, Polar Coordinates and differential equations.

How will I be assessed?

- 3 examinations in Year 1 = IAS (these exams are done in Year 12)
- 3 examinations in Year 2 = IAL (these exams are done in Year 13)
- Each exam is 1 hour and 30 minutes

Where will this course take me?

Studying both IA Level Mathematics and IA Level Further Mathematics provides a foundation for further studies in any Science or Maths-based course, ranging from:

- Computer Science
- Medical Sciences
- Psychology
- Statistics
- Management
- Actuarial Science
- Business
- Finance
- Accounting

Department

Mathematics

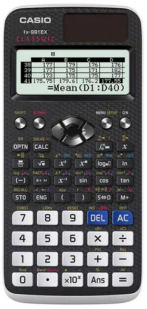
Accreditation

International Edexcel

Entry Requirements

Grade 8 in GCSE or Grade 7 in MYP

Calculator Required



A Level Geography

Why study A Level Geography?

A Level Geography builds on your GCSE knowledge and deepens your understanding of how people and the planet interact. It explores complex global challenges such as climate change, urbanisation, inequality, and sustainability. You'll develop advanced analytical, research, and communication skills while learning to evaluate real world issues from multiple perspectives.

This course is ideal for students who are curious about how the world works and who enjoy discussion, investigation, and independent fieldwork. Geography bridges the sciences and humanities, making it a versatile subject that complements a wide range of other A Level choices.

What does it involve?

Paper 1 - Physical Geography	Water and Carbon Cycle, Coasts and Hazards
Paper 2 - Human Geography	Global Governance , Changing Places and Contemporary Urban Environments
NEA	3,000-4,000 word essay, 60 marks, 20% of A level.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1 - Physical Geography	Written paper - 2 hours 30 mins, 120 marks, 40% of A level
Paper 2 - Human Geography	Written paper – 2 hours 30 minutes, 120 marks, 40% of A level.
NEA	3,000-4,000 word essay, 60 marks, 20% of A level.

Where will this course take me?

A Level Geography is highly regarded by universities and employers because of the critical thinking, data handling, and problem-solving skills it develops. Many students go on to study Geography, Environmental Science, International Relations, or Urban Planning at university, while others enter careers in sustainability, law, economics, journalism, teaching, politics, and business.

It's a subject that prepares you for both further study and a world where understanding people, places, and the environment has never been more important.

Department

Humanities

Accreditation

AQA

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE or MYP

If you have not studied Geography; Grade 6 in English

A Level Mathematics

Why Study A Level Mathematics?

Studying Mathematics at A Level offers a challenging and stimulating course which provides a sound basis for those intending to follow a mathematical subject at University. It also complements other subjects particularly the Sciences, including Geography and Economics. Some pupils successfully combine Mathematics with Arts subjects. Many students take this subject as part of an A Level programme required for entry to Science and Engineering higher education courses.

What does it involve?

The topics covered at A Level build on those already familiar to the GCSE student. Algebra, geometry, trigonometry, statistics and probability are all developed further and there are new areas for study in differential and integral calculus, logarithms and exponentials, methods of proof, and mathematical modelling, particularly in the contexts of mechanics and probability.

How will I be assessed?

- 3 examinations in Year 1 = IAS (these exams are done in Year 12)
- 3 examinations in Year 2 = IAL (these exams are done in Year 13)
- Each exam is 1 hour and 30 minutes

Where will this course take me?

Studying IA Level Mathematics provides a foundation for further studies in any Science or Maths-based course, ranging from:

- Computer Science
- Medical Sciences
- Psychology
- Statistics
- Management
- Actuarial Science
- Finance
- Accounting
- Business

Department

Mathematics

Accreditation

International Edexcel

Entry Requirements

Grade 8 in GCSE or Grade 7 in MYP

Calculator Required



A Level Media Studies

Why Study A Level Media?

As one of the fast growing industries in the world there are plenty of reasons why you should study A Level Media. This subject will give you the opportunity to understand the industries who create much of the content we see around us as well as the practical skills to create your own. You will learn how and why filmmakers make the creative choices they do and experiment to develop your own cinematic style.

What does it involve?

Over this two-year programme, you will explore the media industry through a range of practical and analytical activities, including:

- **Textual analysis:** Learn to interpret different forms of media texts with a critical and informed approach.
- **Industry insight:** Study how mainstream and independent film and music industries operate.
- **Creative production:** Plan and produce your own film opening sequence, developing technical and storytelling skills.
- **Media debates and contexts:** Explore key issues such as regulation and postmodernism to understand media's influence on society.
- **Cross-media project:** Create a music marketing campaign, combining creative ideas with strategic planning.
- **Career-ready skills:** Strengthen research, communication, collaboration, and project management.

This course blends theory and hands-on creativity, preparing you for further study or future careers in the media and creative industries.

How will I be assessed?

Coursework	50%
Exam	50%

Where will this course take me?

Media is a versatile subject that links well with English, Business, and Psychology, leading to a wide range of future pathways. Studying Media helps you develop creative, technical, analytical, and communication skills that are valued across many industries. Students often progress into fields such as broadcasting, VFX and makeup for film and TV, communications, marketing and social media and journalism.



Department

Media & Film

Accreditation

Cambridge International

Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE or MYP Media

If you have not studied Media before; Grade 6 in English Language & a Humanities subject.

Students will need to use The Adobe Creative Cloud throughout this course. This is a professional software.

To ensure a student can successfully complete production work using this software they will need to own a suitable laptop and their own SD card.



A Level Physical Education

Why study A Level PE?

If you have a passion for sport and enjoy exploring the history of sport, how your body moves and responds to exercise and why you do not always perform at your best for an important game/ competition, then this subject is for you. Students wishing to study A Level PE should combine the subject with at least one science and for a sporting or leisure industry career, Psychology or Business Studies also work well.

What does it involve?

The course is 100% theory based with all curriculum lessons taking part in the classroom. The topics you will study are:

- Applied Anatomy and Physiology
- Skill Acquisition
- Sport and Society
- Exercise Physiology
- Biomechanics
- Sports Psychology
- Technology in Sport

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1	35%	Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport
Paper 2	35%	Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport
NEA	30%	Practical performance in one sport as a coach or performer (15%) Analysis of performance and evaluation written coursework (15%)

Where will the course take me?

Students who successfully complete the course could move onto Higher Education courses in:

- Sports Science
- Sports Coaching
- Sports Therapy
- Exercise
- Health and Fitness

Future careers include:

- Teaching,
- Coaching
- Physiotherapy
- Sports retail
- Sports therapy

Department

Physical Education

Accreditation

AQA

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE or MYP

If you have not studied PE before; Grade 6in English and Science

A Level Physics

Why study A Level Physics?

Physicists look for all the hidden laws that explain why all matter (that's every physical thing) and energy in the known universe exists, where it comes from and how it behaves the way it does. Physics will help you to build up your problem solving, research, and analytical skills. With these skills you'll be able to test out new ideas plus question and investigate other people's theories, which is useful for any kind of job that involves research or debate.

What does it involve?

Mechanics + Further Mechanics
Electric circuits
Waves
Quantum physics
Thermodynamics
Fields
Nuclear and Particle Physics

How will I be assessed?

There are five papers over the course of the two years. Paper 1 to 3 at the end of Year 12 and Papers 4 and 5 at the end of Year 13
Paper 1 – Multiple Choice AS Syllabus
Paper 2 – Structure Questions AS Syllabus
Paper 3 – Advanced Practical Skills
Paper 4 – Structured Questions A Level
Paper 5 – Planning, Analysis and Evaluation

Where will this course take me?

Physics A-level is usually required for degree courses in: Engineering (general, aeronautical, civil, electrical, mechanical, sometimes chemical), and, you guessed it, Physics...

It is often recommended or useful for:
Biochemistry, Biology, Chemistry, Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing and other practice-based medicine courses, Architecture, Computer Science, Geography, Earth & Environmental Sciences, Mathematics, Materials Science, Pharmacy, Sports Science, Surveying, Psychology, Teaching.

Department

Science

Accreditation

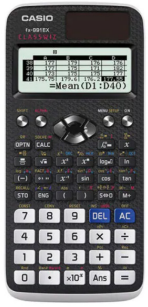
Cambridge International

Entry Requirements

Grade 7 in GCSE or MYP Physics & Mathematics
or
Grade 7-7 in GCSE Double Award Science & Mathematics

Studying Mathematics at A-Level is a requirement

Calculator Required



A Level Politics

Why study A Level Politics?

Studying A Level Politics will give you the opportunity to gain knowledge of one of the most powerful forces operating on people, communities and corporations today, namely government and politics in the UK and the USA. Not only will you benefit from learning the rights of citizenship in these countries but you will also get to compare different political stances and to clarify what you believe in so that you are prepared for a politically active adult life.

What does it involve?

You will study the following three topics:
1.UK Politics - Democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media and Core Political Ideas (conservatism, liberalism, socialism)
2.UK Government - The constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches and Non-core political ideas (feminism)
3.USA - The US Constitution and federalism, US Congress, US presidency, US Supreme Court and civil rights, democracy and participation and comparative theories or Global Politics.

How will I be assessed?

Paper	Time	Weighing	Questions
1	2 hours	33.33%	2 x 30 mark essays on UK Politics 1 x 24 mark essay on Core Political Ideas
2	2 hours	33.33%	2 x 30 mark essays on UK Government 1 x 24 mark essay on Non-core Political Ideas
3	2 hours	33.33%	2 x 30 mark essays on USA or Global Politics 2 x 12 mark essays on Comparative Theories

Where will this course take me?

A Level Politics will encourage you to develop your skills of analysis and evaluation as well as writing structured essays with sustained arguments so it can lead you to university degree courses in Politics, Sociology, Ethics, Philosophy, Advertising, Media Studies, and Journalism amongst others.

Jobs directly related to your degree include:	Jobs where your degree would be useful include:
Civil Service fast streamer Government social research officer Politician's assistant Public affairs consultant Public relations account executive Social researcher	Business development manager Charity officer Detective Human resources officer Local government officer Marketing executive

Department

Humanities

Accreditation

Edexcel

Entry Requirements

Grade 7 in GCSE or MYP English

A Level 3D Design

Why study A Level 3D Design?

Edexcel 3D Design offers a hands-on, creative course that explores materials, design, and problem-solving. Students learn practical skills in product design, architecture, product and more, gaining experience with innovation using various tools and techniques. This course fosters innovation and critical thinking, helping students create unique, functional designs and build a portfolio for further education or careers in design, engineering, and architecture.

What does it involve?

Edexcel 3D Design covers a range of design disciplines, including product design, sculpture, architecture, and model-making. Students explore different materials (like wood, metal, plastic, and vinyl and learn techniques such as CAD, CAM, carving, molding, and digital modeling. Projects encourage creativity and practical problem-solving, helping students understand how to bring a concept from idea to reality.

How will I be assessed?

• **Personal Portfolio (60%)** – Component 1 personal investigation(major project) will showcase your design process, from initial sketches to final pieces, including experimentation and development of your concepts.
• **Externally Set Assignment (40%)** – You will receive a design brief set by the exam board. You'll have preparation time to develop your ideas, followed by a 15-hour practical exam to complete your final piece. There is NO written exam with this course.

Where will it take me?

This qualification also provides a strong foundation for further studies in design-related university courses, such as industrial design, engineering, and 3D design, equipping students with the practical skills and creative problem-solving abilities that are in demand in today's industries.



Department

Design and Technology

Accreditation

Edexcel

Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in a Design Technology

If you have not studied Design Technology before; Grade 6 in Mathematics & English.

A Level Psychology

What is A Level Psychology?

Psychology is a subject which explores a wide range of questions that are directly related to our behaviours, our emotions and our actions. This subject asks questions that many of our students may have considered, but have not explored before. Why do large groups of people discriminate against other ethnic, religious or cultural groups? Can I learn to conquer my fear of spiders? Why do people carry out orders that require them to harm another person? Using a scientific methodology, psychologists aim to uncover answers to such questions, many of which challenge what we think we know about ourselves.

What will I learn?

Year 1	Year 2
Social Influence Memory Attachment Psychopathology Approaches in psychology Research methods	Relationships Schizophrenia Aggression Issues and Debates Research Methods

How will I be assessed?

Each paper is worth 33.3% of the A level and is a two hour written examination (worth 96 marks)
Paper 1: Introductory topics in psychology
Paper 2: Psychology in context
Paper 3 – Issues and options in psychology – Gender, Eating Behaviour, Aggression.

What careers will Psychology A level lead me to?

Psychology is a popular subject at undergraduate level for further studies in clinical, forensic and developmental psychology but can also be a good foundation for other areas of study such as marketing, business, law, consumer psychology, sports science, criminology, social work, education and medicine and health careers.



Department

Social Sciences

Accreditation

AQA

Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in Psychology

If you have not studied Psychology before; Grade 6 in Mathematics & Science

A Level Sociology

What is A Level Sociology?

Sociology is the study of society and human social interaction. Sociology encourages critical thinking and urges you to challenge ideas and views. Sociology offers explanations for a variety of questions from 'Why do girls do better at school than boys?' to 'Why is marriage decreasing in popularity'? Pupils who have gone on to study sociology at a higher level enter careers from teaching to social work, from therapists to criminologists.

This is an essay based subject which will assess four skills: Knowledge and Understanding, Interpretation and Application, Analysis and Evaluation.

What will I learn?

Year 1	Year 2
Topic 1: Families and Households Topic 2: Education and methods in context	Topic 3: Crime and Deviance Topic 4: Beliefs in Society Topic 5: Sociological Theory and Methods

How will I be assessed?

This is over the papers at the end of the two year course. Each paper is worth 33.3% of the A level and involves a two hour written examination (80 marks)

Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods

Paper 2: Topics in Sociology – Families and Households and Media

Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and methods

What careers will studying Sociology lead me to?

As sociology is a broad subject, it develops skills such as debate, understanding data and methodology, critical thinking and independent thinking. It also prepare students for a range of careers. Typically students go on to areas of study such as law, journalism, politics, international relations, education, social work or criminology.



Department

Social Sciences

Accreditation

AQA

Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in Sociology

If you have not studied Sociology before:
Grade 6 in English & a Humanities

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

What is an EPQ?

An EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) is an opportunity for a student to work on an individual project and create a dissertation, artefact, investigation or performance around that topic. The qualification is worth an AS Level; but what the students gain most from this qualification are the skills that can be applied to any course. The students will learn how to research effectively, reference their research accurately and write an extended piece of writing of up to 5000 words. They will have the opportunity to present their findings to others and will have a unique and developed area of study in which they can talk confidently about, especially during university interviews. The course will run from November of year 12 through to November of year 13. You can choose to create an essay, artefact (art object, film, album etc) or record a performance on the subject of your choosing.

What will I learn?

- Research skills
- APA citation
- How to structure essay writing
- Independent learning skill
- Self management skills
- Ethical issues
- Philosophical issues

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed in four different assessment objectives that will focus on organisation of the project, evaluation of source material used, analysis of your question/product/investigation/performance and the presentation.

What careers will EPQ A level lead me to?

EPQ can aid you with any career or interest you have. It is an opportunity to delve into a specific subject area and become an expert in that field. It will be a great opportunity to discuss a subject not necessarily offered at school. The writing and research skills will explicitly help with all university courses.

Accreditation

Edexcel

SUNMARKE SCHOOL
Where Amazing Happens™

BTEC Options

BTEC Level 3 Creative Media

Why study BTEC Creative Media Level 3?

Media shapes how we think, communicate, and experience the world. This course blends theory with practical projects, allowing you to engage with media as both a creator and a professional. From film production and social media campaigns to music videos and advertising, you'll develop creativity, technical skills, and industry insight.

What makes this course unique is its focus on employability. Through industry links, guest speakers, live briefs, competitions, and visits to media companies, you'll gain valuable experience and build a professional portfolio that showcases your talent.

What does it involve?

You'll work across diverse media areas including film, TV, advertising, and social media. Throughout the course, you will:

- Develop research and planning skills to support your ideas
- Understand how meaning is created and communicated in media texts
- Build technical ability to produce high-quality content
- Review and refine your work to maximise impact
- Use professional equipment and software to industry standards

How will I be assessed?

Across two years, you'll complete a series of practical and written projects, assessed individually. Each project includes feedback to help you refine your skills and strengthen your portfolio—just like in the real industry.

Where will the course take me?

BTEC Creative Media prepares you for careers in film, television, journalism, animation, marketing, and digital media. Graduates progress to roles such as Producer, Director, Editor, Social Media Manager, or Writer, or continue to university study.

This course builds creativity, collaboration, problem-solving, and digital expertise—skills that open doors to countless career paths. With real-world experience and professional guidance, you'll gain the confidence to shape your future in the creative industries.



Department

Media & Film

Accreditation

Pearson Edexcel

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE or MYP Media

If you have not studied Creative Media before; 5 GCSEs or MYP grades 5 & above

Students will need to use The Adobe Creative Cloud throughout this course. This is a professional software.

To ensure a student can successfully complete production work using this software they will need to own a suitable laptop and their own SD card.



BTEC Level 3 Enterprise and Entrepreneurship

Why study BTEC Enterprise & Entrepreneurship Level 3?

This is an extremely popular course which is an ideal stepping stone to those who want to achieve a higher qualification in Business or have an interest of starting and running their own business in the future. The course encourages creative thinking, decision making, the ability to learn independently and the ability to research actively and methodically. The course aims to provide students with the skills and thinking in order to successfully start, run and maintain a business.

What does it involve?

Students of the BTEC level 3 Enterprise and Entrepreneurship will enjoy an exciting syllabus that will allow students to learn about the world of enterprise through research and investigation as well as practical tasks. In addition, they will need to be able to work independently, have the ability to give presentations and be active group members. Students need to be independent and self-sufficient, with the expectation that they will complete tasks simultaneously and have the ability to meet deadlines.

How will I be assessed?

Students will be assessed continually though practical project work, and written assignments which is 100% coursework based. The assessments will lead to the grading of either Pass, Merit or Distinction. There will be a total of 8 units for the Diploma course and 4 units for the Subsidiary Diploma course which are listed below. The BTEC Level 3 Diploma is equivalent to 2 A levels.

- Unit 2: Research and Plan a Marketing Campaign
- Unit 3: Business Finance
- Unit 7: Business Decision Making (Diploma Only)
- Unit 28: Sales Techniques and Processes (Diploma Only)
- Unit 33: Enterprise and Entrepreneurs
- Unit 34: Launch and Run an Enterprise
- Unit 35: Survival and Growth (Diploma Only)
- Unit 37: Intrapreneurship and Innovation in an Enterprise (Diploma Only)

Where will this course take me?

The BTEC Level 3 in Enterprise & Entrepreneurship can lead students on the path to progress onto an Enterprise or Business related degree. They are perfect for those looking to take their first steps in their chosen profession, start an apprenticeship, gain a full degree, or progress further in their careers. Higher education institutions across the world are recognising BTEC Level 3 in Business as a valuable course for students to join their courses and bring with them the valuable selected skills. Modules have been selected so that they can acquire knowledge of key areas, as well as gaining techniques, personal skills and attributes that are essential for professional success in the industry.

*Due to the similarities in content covered we do not recommend that students take both A Level Business and BTEC Enterprise & Entrepreneurship

Department

Business and Economics

Accreditation

Pearson Edexcel

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE or MYP Business.

If you have not studied Enterprise and Entrepreneurship before; 5 GCSEs or MYP grades 5 & above

BTEC Level 3 Hospitality

Why study BTEC Hospitality Level 3?

This qualification is equivalent in UCAS points to 1 A Level.
If you have an interest in the Hospitality industry, from catering or managing a restaurant to supervising a hotel or planning and managing events, Hospitality is an important subject for you to study. It is an exciting course as it is a mixture of practical cooking sessions and trips to various hospitality businesses around Dubai to support theory work.

What does it involve?

You will complete a selection of six units over the two year course. These will include the three mandatory units:

- Unit 1 - The Hospitality Industry (Mandatory)
- Unit 2 - Environment & Sustainability in the Hospitality Industry (Mandatory)
- Unit 3 - Customer Service Provision in Hospitality (Mandatory)

How will I be assessed?

All units are internally assessed in BTEC Level 3 Hospitality. All assessment for the Pearson BTEC qualifications in this specification are criterion referenced, based on the achievement of specified learning outcomes. Each unit within the qualification has specified assessment and grading criteria which are to be used for grading purposes. A summative unit grade can be awarded at pass, merit or distinction star.

Where will this course take me?

Any catering / hospitality career choice will benefit from having a Level 3 BTEC in Hospitality, particularly those which require an understanding of foods, managing a team, financial control and providing good customer service within a business.



Department

Design and Technology

Accreditation

Pearson Edexcel

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE or MYP Food Technology or Business

If you have not studied Hospitality before; 5 GCSEs or MYP grades 5 & above

Subject skills and competency check

BTEC Level 3 IT

Why study BTEC IT?

This qualification focuses on learning about a variety of aspects to do with computer systems, hardware and software and working in the IT industry. It is 100% coursework based where you will be given a range of practical and written tasks to complete to prepare you to work with technology. The number of different units give you an overview of technology around us today and how it is used. This qualification looks at a range of different unit which will prepare you for further study and going into the work place as well as giving you an insight into technology in businesses.

What does it involve?

The qualification is split into a range of units. Some of these units are:

- Unit 1: Communication and employability skills for IT
- Unit 2: Computer Systems
- Unit 3: Information Systems
- Unit 7: Organisational Systems Security
- Unit 8: Ecommerce
- Unit 17: Project Planning with IT
- Unit 18: Database Design
- Unit 22: Developing Computer Games
- Unit 28: Website Production
- Unit 30: Digital Graphics
- Unit 43: Multimedia

How will I be assessed?

For all units you will produce coursework to meet the criteria, there is no examination. You are assessed in a variety of ways, such as: reports, presentation, blogs, animation using appropriate software, graphic products using vector and bitmap software, a website using web editing software, practical tasks including spreadsheets, databases, project planning etc. Some units have a variety of ways in which you are assessed and others may have only one way.

The BTEC is graded at Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction*. For each unit you complete you will get a grade. The overall number of points you achieve determines your overall grade.

Where will this course take me?

This course will help you in either going onto further education or straight into the work place. It is equivalent to one A level and so combine with other subjects will take you to university. It is a versatile subject opening up doors into many careers such as: Software engineer, Computer Animator, Graphic Designer, Help Desk Support Manager, IT Consultant, Network Engineer, Web developer etc.

Department

IT & Computing

Accreditation

Pearson Edexcel

Entry Requirements

Grades 5 in GCSE or MYP or PASS BTEC IT

If you have not studied IT before; 5 GCSEs or MYP grades 5 & above

BTEC Level 3 Music

Why study BTEC Music Level 3?

Studying BTEC Music Level 3 provides an exciting chance to delve into the music industry, enhancing skills in performance, composition, and production. This hands-on, practical course combines creative and technical learning, ideal for anyone passionate about music as a career. With guidance from industry professionals and access to advanced equipment, students build a unique portfolio that showcases their talent, solidifying their foundation in music theory and business.

What does it involve?

The course covers various areas of music, including performance, where students refine their abilities as soloists and ensemble members, and production, exploring recording techniques and digital audio workstations. It also includes music composition, allowing students to create and arrange original pieces. Alongside practical skills, the course offers insight into music business concepts, such as marketing and event management, developing well-rounded expertise in the industry.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is through coursework, practical projects, and performances. Students receive ongoing feedback, allowing them to continuously improve their skills in performance, composition, and production. This practical approach builds a solid portfolio and prepares students for future opportunities.

Where will this course take me?

The BTEC Music course prepares students for a wide range of options, including higher education, apprenticeships, or careers in performance, production, and management. The skills developed—teamwork, communication, and project management—are essential for success in creative industries.



Department

Performing Arts

Accreditation

Pearson Edexcel

Entry Requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE or MYP Music

If you have not studied Music before; 5 GCSEs or MYP grades 5 & above, and can play a musical instrument (Vocal Included)

SUNMARKE SCHOOL
Where Amazing Happens™

Subject guide for the IBDP

IB Diploma Programme Core

Made up of three required components, the DP core aims to broaden students' educational experience and challenge them to apply their knowledge and skills.

Theory of Knowledge (TOK)

Critical thinking is key to excel across all areas of the IBDP and TOK really allows students to nurture this skill. TOK asks students to question and reflect on knowledge and how we claim to know what we know. Assessed by an oral presentation and 1600 word essay in Year 2, TOK challenges students to think from different perspectives and gain greater awareness of their personal and ideological assumptions.

Socratic dialogues are often used in the classroom to delve into questions such as: What counts as knowledge? Who owns knowledge? What are the implications of having, or not having knowledge? Students entering the programme come with 16 years of experiences, opinions and knowledge and this course gives them the opportunity to reflect on their knowledge and the potential issues surrounding it.

Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)

This is an excellent opportunity for students to think about their local community in and out of school and really make a difference. Students are required to participate in a number of extra-curricular activities that fulfil the CAS objectives.

Sunmarke already leads on a number of initiatives that students can get involved in such as TEDx, Model United Nations, World Scholar's Cup and Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions (this programme also encourages students to plan experiences of their own). There are many ways a student can excel in CAS such as: peer mentoring, raising funds and awareness for charities, expeditions, volunteering in the Dubai community, life guard training or running an after school club. The opportunities are endless.

This area of the IB gives students the time to develop personal interests and even try new things. Students are assessed through 8 defined outcomes which they must provide evidence and reflection for, over the 2 year programme.

Extended Essay (EE)

A good Extended Essay starts with a well-focused research question followed by an introduction with four separate paragraphs on context, outline of argument, scope and worthiness of investigation. This is followed by the main body of the essay which presents a well-balanced argument in order to answer the research question.

Each section of the main body analyses a variety of sources using subject specific concepts and terminology with each one followed by an evaluation which refers back to the research question.
Evaluations develop an unbiased answer to the research question which is summarised in the conclusion.

IB Subject Groups

Group 1: Studies in Language & Literature	English Language & Literature HL/SL	
Group 2: Language Acquisition	French HL/SL and Ab Initio	Notes: Ab Initio language is an entry level focusing on conversational language. Students choosing Ab Initio will not have had experience in studying this language previously.
	Spanish HL/SL and Ab Initio	
Group 3: Individuals and Society	Business Management HL/SL	Notes: Environmental Systems and Society is a interdisciplinary subject and can count towards both group 3 and 4. Therefore if a student does not wish to take a subject offered in group 4 they can opt for this.
	Economics HL/SL	
	Environmental Systems and Societies SL only	
	Geography HL/SL	
	History HL/SL	
	Psychology HL/SL	
Group 4: Experimental Sciences	Biology HL/SL	Notes: Environmental Systems and Society is a interdisciplinary subject and can count towards both group 3 and 4. Therefore if a student does not wish to take a subject offered in group 3 they can opt for this.
	Chemistry HL/SL	
	Environmental Systems and Societies SL only	
	Physics HL/SL	
Group 5: Mathematics	Mathematics - Analysis & Approaches HL/SL	
	Mathematics - Application & Interpretation SL	
Group 6: The Arts (and Elective Subjects)	Film HL/SL	
	Elect an extra subject from Group 3 or 4	

Higher & Standard Level Explained

Students taking the IBDP select 3 Standard level subjects and 3 Higher Level subjects, IBCP students have the flexibility to choose. Standard Level subjects receive 150 hours of teaching over the two year programme, whilst Higher Level subjects receive 240 hours. Higher Level is differentiated by the depth and breadth of work studied, not the difficulty. Higher Level and Standard Level students will often be part of the same class with HL students receiving extra lessons for the extra content.

IB Subject Requirements

	Grade Requirements for Students considering IB Courses		
Group	Subjects	Level	Entry Requirement (GCSE/MYP)
1	English Language & Literature	HL	7 (A) in GCSE Eng Lang or Lit
	English Language & Literature	SL	5 (C) in GCSE Eng Lang or Lit
2	French	HL	7 (A) in GCSE French
	Spanish	HL	7 (A) in GCSE Spanish
	French	SL	6 (B) in GCSE French
	Spanish	SL	6 (B) in GCSE Spanish
	French or Spanish	Ab Initio	No requirement
Note: To enrol on an Ab Initio language the student must not have studied the language in KS4, or for the last 2 years. They may have studied a different language. Students choosing SL or HL languages cannot choose the language of their mother tongue - the course is for second language speakers. Speak to the IBDP Coordinator if you have any questions regarding suitability.			
3	Business Management	HL	6 (B) in GCSE Business If the student has not studied this before: 6 (B) in Maths/English
	Business Management	SL	5 (C) in GCSE Business If the student has not studied this before: 5 (C) in Maths/English
	Economics	HL	6 (B) in GCSE Economics If the student has not studied this before: 7 (A) in Maths and English
	Economics	SL	5 (C) in GCSE Economics If the student has not studied this before: 6 (B) in Maths and English
	Geography	HL	6 (B) in GCSE in Geography If the student has not studied this before: 7 (A) in English
	Geography	SL	5 (C) in GCSE in Geography If the student has not studied this before: 6 (B) in English
	History	HL	6 (B) in GCSE in History If the student has not studied this before: 7 (A) in English
	History	SL	5 (C) in GCSE in History If the student has not studied this before: 6 (B) in English
	Psychology	HL	6 (B) in GCSE Psychology If the student has not studied this before: 6 (B) in Maths and a Science
	Psychology	SL	5 (C) in GCSE Psychology If the student has not studied this before: 5 (C) in Maths and a Science

IB Subject Requirements

	Grade Requirements for Students considering IB Courses		
Group	Subjects	Level	Entry Requirement (GCSE/MYP)
4	Biology	HL	Separate Science: 7 (A) in GCSE Biology Combined Science: 8-7(A*/A) in GCSE
	Biology	SL	Separate Science: 6 (B) in GCSE Biology Combined Science: 7-6 (A/B) in GCSE
	Chemistry	HL	Separate Science: 7 (A) in GCSE Chemistry Combined Science: 8-7(A*/A) in GCSE
	Chemistry	SL	Separate Science: 6 (B) in GCSE Chemistry Combined Science: 7-6 (A/B) in GCSE
	Environmental Systems and Society	SL	Separate Science: 5 (C) in GCSE Biology Combined Science: 6-5 (C/B) in GCSE
	Physics	HL	Separate Science: 7 (A) in GCSE Physics & Mathematics Combined Science: 8-7 (A*/A) in GCSE & Mathematics
	Physics	SL	Separate Science: 6 (B) in GCSE Physics & Mathematics Combined Science: 7-6 (A/B) in GCSE & Mathematics
5	Mathematics - Analysis & Approaches	HL	8 (A*) in GCSE Mathematics
	Mathematics - Analysis & Approaches	SL	7 (A) in GCSE Mathematics
	Mathematics - Application & Interpretation	SL	5 (C) in GCSE Mathematics
6	Film	HL	6 (B) in GCSE Media If the student has not studied this before: 6 (B) in English and a Humanities
	Film	SL	5 (C) in GCSE Media If the student has not studied this before: 5 (C) in English and a Humanities

* Arab or Muslim students are required to attend Ministry of Education lessons in Arabic or Islamic in addition to their IB Options
* Please note Arabic A students will be required to choose IB Arabic as their language option.

IB Biology SL/HL

Why study IB Biology?

Biology is the study of life. Choosing biology as your science option gives you a better understanding of the world around you and the interdependent nature of living organisms. It is a popular subject which attracts many students. People who study biology may go on to study a related subject, such as medicine or zoology, while others go into different fields. Whatever path you take it is a rewarding and challenging course.

What does it involve?

A. Unity and diversity
B. Form and Function
C. Interaction and interdependence
D. Continuity and change

Experimental programme:
Practical work, collaborative sciences project and scientific investigation

How will I be assessed?

Two exams in the summer of Y13

Paper 1	Multiple-choice and data-based questions
Paper 2	Short answer and extended response questions
Internal Assessment (20%)	a 3000 word report on a scientific investigation

*The weighting and length of these assessments differ between SL & HL

Where will this course take me?

Biology is a good choice if you intend on a career path in a health or clinical profession such as:

- Medicine
- Dentistry
- Veterinary science
- Physiotherapy
- Optometry

Department

Science

Accreditation

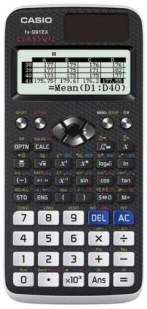
IB

Entry Requirements

SL - Grade 6 in GCSE or MYP Biology
Double Award Science: 7-6 in GCSE

HL - Grade 7 in GCSE or MYP Biology
Double Award Science: Grade 8-7 in GCSE

Calculator Required



IB Business Management SL/HL

Why study IB Business Management?

The Business Management course is designed to offer intensive study of business and management concepts, theories, case-studies, and experiments. Among the topics of inquiry, you will study business organisations, human resources, accounts and finance, marketing, operations management and business strategy.

What does it involve?

The course will be divided into five analytical sections that cover the of business organisation and environment, human resources planning, accounts and finance, marketing and operations management.

How will I be assessed?

External Assessment will consist written examination papers, which are externally set and externally marked and are designed to allow students to demonstrate what they know and can do. This contributes with 70% of the mark at SL and 80% at HL.

The Internal Assessment is compulsory for both SL & HL and has been designed to demonstrate the students' ability to apply their skills and knowledge in Business Management, and to pursue personal interests.

Where will the course take me?

Studying the IB allows students to go into a high level of detail and can lead to a focus on any of the main areas of business studied at university level. In addition it can lead to pathways working in accounting and finance, marketing, human resources, production or even starting up your own business.



Department

Business & Economics

Accreditation

IB

Entry Requirements

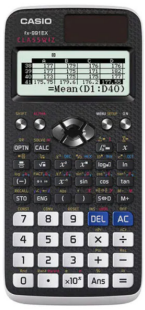
SL - Grade 5 in GCSE or MYP Business

If you have not studied Business before; Grade 5 in Mathematics or English

HL - Grade 6 in GCSE or MYP Business

If you have not studied Business before; Grade 6 in Mathematics or English

Calculator Required



IB Chemistry SL/HL

Why study Chemistry?

Chemistry is the study of matter and energy and the interaction between them. Chemistry is everywhere in the world around you! It's in the food you eat, clothes you wear, water you drink, medicines, air – everything in life is linked to Chemistry. This means that studying chemistry gives you a deeper understanding of the world and the matter it is made from. People who study Chemistry often go on to a wide variety of careers including engineering, forensics, pharmacy, biotechnology and even education. Chemistry is an academic A level and complements a wide combination of other subjects, especially Biology, Physics, Maths and Psychology.

What does it involve?

Structure 1. Models of the particulate nature of matter.
Structure 2. Models of bonding and structure.
Structure 3. Classification of matter.
Reactivity 1. What drives chemical reactions?
Reactivity 2. How much, how fast and how far?
Reactivity 3. What are the mechanisms of chemical change?

Experimental programme:
Practical work, collaborative sciences project and scientific investigation

How will I be assessed?

Three exams in the summer of Y13

Paper 1	Multiple-choice and data-based questions
Paper 2	Short answer and extended response questions
Internal Assessment (20%)	a 3000 word report on a scientific investigation

*The weighting and length of these assessments differ between SL & HL

Where will this course take me?

People who study Chemistry can go on to a wide variety of scientific and non scientific careers including engineering, forensics, pharmacy, environmental work biotechnology and even education.

Chemists can find opportunities with employer in many different sectors, including the food and drink industry, utilities and research, health and medical organisation, the government and scientific research organisations and agencies.

Department

Science

Accreditation

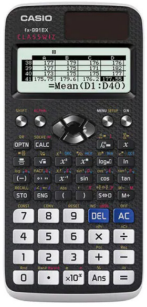
IB

Entry Requirements

SL - Grade 6 in GCSE or MYP Chemistry. Double Science Award: 7-6 in GCSE

HL - Grade 7 in GCSE or MYP Chemistry. Double Science Award: Grade 8-7 in GCSE

Calculator Required



IB Economics SL/HL

Why study IB Economics?

Economics is a dynamic social science, forming part of the study of individuals and societies. The study of economics is essentially about how to improve the welfare of individuals from a local, national, and international perspective. It studies the respective roles of markets and governments and considers the advantages and disadvantages of living in a global economy, particularly from the perspective of developing countries.

What does it involve?

There are four sections of study for both the HL and SL courses; they are:
Section 1: Introduction to Economics
Section 2: Microeconomics
Section 3: Macroeconomics
Section 4: The Global Economy

How will I be assessed?

There are two different methods used for assessing the economics course. The external assessment at HL consists of three papers and accounts for 80% of the total. At SL, the two papers account for 70%. HL and SL students must also produce a portfolio comprising of their economic analysis of three newspaper articles from around the world.

Where will the course take me?

Economics is at the heart of all major decisions facing societies around the world and studying the subject at IB level helps hugely with deep application and analytical skills with any subject studied at higher level. It can also lead to careers in banking, investment, politics, law and business.



Department

Business and Economics

Accreditation

IB

Entry Requirements

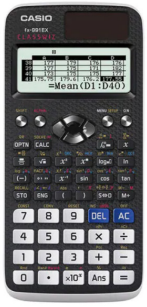
SL - Grade 5 in GCSE or MYP Economics

If you have not studied Economics before; Grade 6 in Mathematics & English

HL - Grade 6 in GCSE or MYP Economics

If you have not studied Economics before; Grade 7 in Mathematics & English

Calculator Required



IB Environmental Systems & Societies SL

Why study ESS?

Environmental systems and societies (ESS) is an interdisciplinary course offered at standard level (SL). This course can fulfil either the individuals and societies or the sciences requirement. Alternatively, this course enables students to satisfy the requirements of both subjects groups simultaneously while studying one course.
ESS is firmly grounded in both a scientific exploration of environmental systems in their structure and function, and in the exploration of cultural, economic, ethical, political and social interactions of societies with the environment. As a result of studying this course, students will become equipped with the ability to recognize and evaluate the impact of our complex system of societies on the natural world.
*This subject is also considered both a Science and Individuals & Society and so it allows students choosing this to take an extra science, arts or individual and societies subject if they wish.

What does it involve?

Component
Topic 1 Foundation
Topic 2 Ecology
Topic 3 Biodiversity and conservation
Topic 4 Water
Topic 5 Land
Topic 6 Atmosphere and climate change
Topic 7 Natural resources
Topic 8 Human populations and urban systems
Practical scheme of work
Practical activities
Individual investigation

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1- Case Study	1 hour	25% of overall grade
Paper 2- Core Content	2 hours	50% of overall grade
Individual Investigation	Written report	25% of overall grade

Where will this course take me?

The main topics are studied on both a local and global scale and prepare students for further study in a wide range of possible career paths, for example: Environmental Sciences/Management, Biogeography, International relations, Environmental Law, Environmental Engineering and Agriculture.

Department

Humanities

Accreditation

IB

Entry Requirements

SL - Grade 5 in GCSE or MYP Biology

Double Award Science: Grade 6-5 in GCSE

IB English Language and Literature SL/HL

Why study English Language and Literature?

In this course, students study a wide range of literary and non-literary texts in a variety of media. By examining communicative acts across literary form and textual type alongside appropriate secondary readings, students will investigate the nature of language itself and the ways in which it shapes and is influenced by identity and culture. Approaches to study in the course are meant to be wide ranging and can include literary theory, sociolinguistics, media studies and critical discourse analysis among others.

What does it involve?

HL Literature texts (6 texts)	SL Literature texts (4 texts)
Othello – William Shakespeare	Othello – William Shakespeare
Feminine Gospels - Carol Anne Duffy	Carol Ann Duffy Poetry
Poetry Anthology - Byron	The Handmaid's Tale – Atwood
We – Yevgeny Zamyatin	We – Yevgeny Zamyatin
The Outsider – Albert Camus	
The Handmaid's Tale – Atwood	

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: Guided textual analysis (External) SL and HL 35%
Paper 2: Comparison of two literary texts (External) SL 35% HL 25%
Individual Oral Assessment (Internal) SL 30% HL 20%
HL essay (External) HL only 20%

Where will this course take me?

Language and Literature is a vast and engaging field that many international students choose to study in University. There is so much you can do with a degree in language or literature. Some of the more popular options for graduating literary students are:

- Media and journalism
- Law: Barrister or Solicitor
- Teaching
- Advertising and marketing
- Editor, Writer or Publisher

Department

English

Accreditation

IB

Entry Requirements

SL - Grade 5 in GCSE or MYP English Language or Literature

HL - Grade 7 in GCSE English Language or Literature

IB Film SL/HL

Why Study Film?

Film is an exciting subject that will allow you to develop your creative and inquiry skills. Whether you choose to study at standard or higher level, you will lead your own learning by researching film movements, theorys and elements that interest you before using your research to experiment and create productions and evaluations of your own. This subject will give you the opportunity to understand significance film movements across different countries and cultures and how context can influence artistic choices. You will also develop practical skills as you try a range of production roles and make your own creative decisions.

What does it involve?

Over the course of the 2 year programme you will cover many different topics including:

- Film movements such as German Expression and French New Wave
- Genre such as Horror and Film Noir
- Textual analysis
- Production Roles – Cinematography / Director / Sound / Script Writer / Editor
- Short Film Production

How will I be assessed?

	Assessed internally or externally	Standard Level	Higher Level
Textual Analysis	External	30%	20%
Comparative Study	External	30%	20%
Film Portfolio	Internal	40%	25%
Collaborative Film Project (HL only)	Internal		35%

Where will this course take me?

Many film students go on to study in the creative sector such as Film Production, TV and Radio Broadcasting, Games Design and Digital Media with Journalism. However, there are a lot of commonalities with subjects such a Business, History and English which means our students have the skills to work in the Telecommunications, Design and Business industries.



Department

Media & Film

Accreditation

IB

Entry Requirements

SL - Grade 5 in GCSE or MYP Media or Film

If you have not studied Film before; Grade 5 in GCSE or MYP Mathematics & English

HL - Grade 6 in GCSE or MYP Media or Film

If you have not studied Film before; Grade 6 in GCSE or MYP English & a Humanities



IB French Ab initio SL

Why study ab initio French?

The IB DP language ab initio course is designed to provide students with the necessary skills and intercultural understanding to enable them to communicate successfully in an environment where the language studied is spoken. This process encourages the learner to go beyond the confines of the classroom, expanding an awareness of the world and fostering respect for cultural diversity. The language ab initio course develops students' linguistic abilities through the development of receptive, productive and interactive skills by providing them opportunities to respond and interact appropriately in a defined range of everyday situations. Language ab initio is available at standard level only.

What does it involve?

The course is organised into three themes: Individual and society, leisure and work, and urban and rural environment. Each theme comprises a list of topics that provide students with opportunities to practice and explore the language and to develop intercultural understanding.

Through the development of receptive, productive and interactive skills, students develop the ability to respond and interact appropriately in a defined range of everyday situations.

How will I be assessed?

Type of assessment	Format	Time (Hours)	% of final grade
External			75%
Paper 1: Writing skills	Two written tasks, 75-150 words each	60mn	25%
Paper 2: Listening skills	Comprehension exercises on 3 audio tracks	45mn	25%
Reading skills	Comprehension exercises on 3 texts	60mn	25%
Internal			25%
Paper 3 : Speaking skills	Photocard description, conversation	10mn	25%

Where will this course take me?

The ability to speak a second language, has huge advantages in the job market. You will find that you can use your language skills in many unrelated fields. However, if you are looking to actively use the language in your career, then here are some professions that may be of interest:

- Travel and Tourism
- Translating and Interpreting
- Sales and Marketing
- Journalism
- Finance
- Information Technology

Department

Modern Foreign Languages

Accreditation

IB

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in an alternative language GCSE or MYP

IB French B SL/HL

Why study French B?

The IBDP Language B course is designed to provide students with the necessary skills and intercultural understanding to enable them to communicate successfully in an environment where the language studied is spoken. The process encourages the learner to go beyond the confines of the classroom, expanding an awareness of the world and fostering respect for cultural diversity. The Language B course develops students' linguistic abilities by providing them opportunities to interact in a defined range of everyday situations.

Language B is available both at standard and higher levels.

What does it involve?

The course is organized into five themes: identities, experiences, human ingenuity, social organisation, and sharing the planet. Each theme comprises a list of topics that provide students with opportunities to practice and explore the language and develop intercultural understanding.

How will I be assessed?

Type of assessment	Format	Time (Hours)	% of final grade
External			75%
Paper 1: Writing skills	One written task, 250-400 words for SL and 450-600 words for HL	SL – 75mn HL – 90 mn	25%
Paper 2: Listening skills	Comprehension exercises on 3 audio tracks	SL – 45mn HL – 60mn	25%
Paper 2 : Reading skills	Comprehension exercises on 3 texts	60mn	25%
Internal			25%
Paper 3 : Speaking skills	SL - Photocard description, conversation HL – Literary commentary, conversation	15mn	25%

Where will this course take me?

The ability to speak a second language has huge advantages on the job market. You will find that you can use your language skills in many fields, such as armed forces, pharmaceutical, engineering, and sales and marketing.

Department

Modern Foreign Languages

Accreditation

IB

Entry Requirements

SL – Grade 6 in GCSE or MYP

HL Grade 7 in GCSE or MYP

IB Geography SL/HL

Why study Geography?

Students will dive into changing populations, global climate resilience, resource consumption, and more. They will also, discover human development, global risks, and societal responses. With optional subjects like food and health or extreme environments, they will become well-rounded global thinkers.
Geography will equip themselves to tackle the world's most pressing issues, cultivate critical thinking, and be an empowered global citizen.

What does it involve?

Paper 1 (HL Choose 3) (SL Choose 2)	**Paper 2**
1. Freshwater - Drainage Basins	1. Changing Population
2. Extreme Environments	2. Global Climate - Vulnerability and Resilience
3. Geophysical Hazards	3. Global resource consumption and security
4. Leisure, Sport, and Tourism	**Paper 3 (HL Only)**
5. The Geography of Food and Health	1. Power, Place, and Networks
6. Urban Environments	2. Human Development and Diversity
7. Oceans and Coastal Margins	3. Global Risks and Resilience

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: 2 hours 15 minutes, HL 60 Marks, 1 hour 30 minutes, SL 40 Marks
Paper 2: 1 hour 15 minutes, 50 Marks
Paper 3: (HL Only) 1 Hour, 28 Marks

Where will this course take me?

Geography is a highly-valued subject and studying Geography at university can unlock a wide variety of careers which is virtually unparalleled in its breadth. Geographers are always in demand as a consequence of the skills they have acquired and The Guardian billed it as the "must-have" exam subject for the following reasons: "Geography is a subject for our times.

It is inherently multidisciplinary in a world that increasingly values people who have the skills needed to work across the physical and social sciences... all these are not just intrinsically interesting and valuable. So, beyond explicitly academic career, be it management consultancy or investment banking; law or urban planning; geologist or politician; meteorologist or journalist; the world is your oyster if you are a Geographer!

Department

Individuals and Societies (Humanities)

Accreditation

IB

Entry Requirements

SL - Grade 5 in Geography

If you have not studied Geography before; Grade 6 in English

HL - Grade 6 in Geography

If you have not studied Geography before;
Grade 7 in English

IB History

Why study A Level History?

Studying history develops an understanding of the past, which leads to a deeper understanding of the nature of humans and of the world today. History is a dynamic, contested, evidence-based discipline that involves an exciting engagement with the past. It is a rigorous intellectual discipline, focused on key historical concepts such as change, causation and significance. History is an exploratory subject that fosters a sense of inquiry.

What does it involve?

Paper 1 **Prescribed Content - Conflict and Intervention:**	**Paper 3** **Regional Options for Higher Level students only:**
Rwanda or Kosovo	Option 12 - Imperial Russian, revolution and the establishment of the Soviet Union (1855-1924)
Paper 2 **World History Topics:**	Option 16 - The Soviet Union and post-Soviet Russian (1924-2000)
Option 10 - Authoritarian States (20th century)	Option 18 - Post-war central and eastern Europe (1945-2000)
Option 12 - The Cold War - Superpower Tensions and Rivalries	

Internal Assessment: An historical investigation

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1 (SL and HL students)	A source-based paper set on Rwanda or Kosovo
Paper 2 (SL and HL students)	An essay paper based on the two world history topics. Students answer one question on each topic
Paper 3 (HL students only)	An essay paper on one of the four HL regional options. Students answer three questions.

Internal Assessment: Internally marked, externally moderated

Where will this course take me?

History graduates go on to become highly qualified individuals that take on a myriad of roles and responsibilities in various industries such as banking, finance, journalism, teaching, hospitality and management, archaeology, project management, publishing, international relations and many more. Many of the world leaders are graduates of History as well.

Department

Individuals and Societies

Accreditation

IB

Entry Requirements

SL - Grade 5 in History

If you have not studied History before; Grade 6 in English

HL - Grade 6 in History

If you have not studied History before; Grade 7 in English

IB Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches SL/HL

Why IB Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches?

This course is intended for students who wish to pursue studies in mathematics at university or subjects that have a large mathematical content; it is for students who enjoy developing mathematical arguments, problem solving and exploring real and abstract applications, with and without technology.

What does it involve?

	% of the course Content	
Topics	HL	SL
Number and Algebra	19	16
Function	15	18
Geometry & Trigonometry	24	21
Statistic & Probability	16	22
Calculus	26	23

In addition to the course content above. The exploration is a piece of written work that involves investigating an area of mathematics.

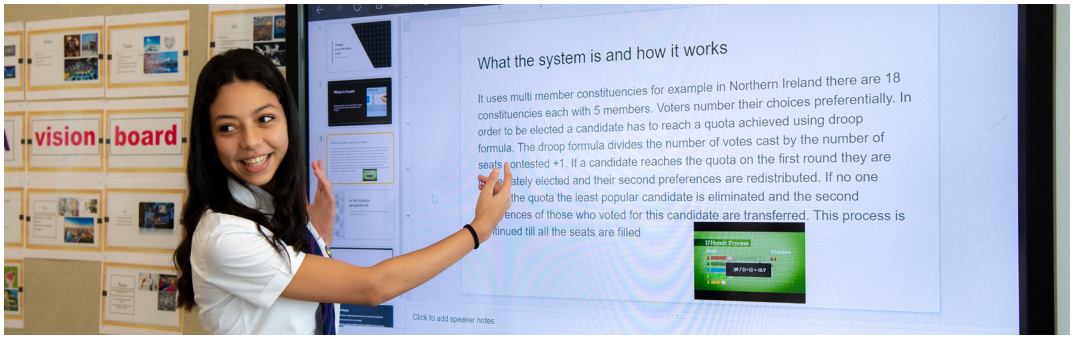
How will I be assessed?

Standard Level	Higher Level
Paper 1 – 90 minutes: worth 40%	Paper 1 – 120 minutes: worth 30%
Paper 2 – 90 minutes: worth 40%	Paper 2 – 120 minutes: worth 30%
	Paper 3 – 60 minutes: 20%
Mathematics exploration – internally assessed: worth 20% (Guided amount of time 15hrs)	Mathematics exploration – internally assessed: worth 20% (Guided amount of time 15hrs)

Where will this course take me?

Studying IBDP Mathematics provides a foundation for further studies in any Science or Maths-based course, ranging from:

- Computer Science
- Engineering
- Mathematics
- Statistics
- Physics
- Actuarial Science



Department

Mathematics

Accreditation

IB

Entry Requirements

SL - Grade 7 in Mathematics

HL - Grade 8 in GCSE

Calculator Required



IB Mathematics: Applications and Interpretation SL

Why Study IB Mathematics: Applications and Interpretation?

This course is designed for students who enjoy describing the real world and solving practical problems using mathematics, those who are interested in harnessing the power of technology alongside exploring mathematical models and enjoy the more practical side of mathematics.

What does it involve?

Topics	% of the Course Content
Number and Algebra	13
Function	26
Geometry & Trigonometry	15
Statistic & Probability	30
Calculus	16

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1 – 90 minutes: worth 40%
Paper 2 – 90 minutes: worth 40%
Mathematics exploration – internally assessed: worth 20% (IA's usually take up 15 hours)

Where will this course take me?

Studying IBDP Mathematics provides a foundation for further studies in any Science or Maths-based course, ranging from:

- Business
- Finance
- Medical Sciences
- Psychology
- Statistics
- Management
- Economics



Department

Mathematics

Accreditation

IB

Entry Requirements

SL - Grade 5 in Mathematics

Calculator Required



IB Physics SL/HL

Why study IB Physics?

Physicists look for all the hidden laws that explain why all matter (that's every physical thing) and energy in the known universe exists, where it comes from and how it behaves the way it does.

Physics will help you to build up your problem solving, research, and analytical skills. With these skills you'll be able to test out new ideas plus question and investigate other people's theories, which is useful for any kind of job that involves research or debate.

What does it involve?

1. Space, time and motion
2. The particulate nature of matter
3. Wave behaviour
4. Fields
5. Nuclear and quantum physics

Experimental programme:
Practical work, collaborative sciences project and scientific investigation

How will I be assessed?

Two exams in the summer of Y13:

Paper 1	Multiple-choice and data-based questions
Paper 2	Short answer and extended response questions
Internal Assessment (20%)	a 3000 word report on a scientific investigation

*The weighting and length of these assessments differ between SL & HL

Where will this course take me?

IB Physics is usually required for degree courses in engineering.

It is often recommended as useful for Biochemistry, Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing and other practice based medicine courses, Architecture, Computer Science, Pharmacy, Mathematics, Sports Science, and Psychology,

Department

Science

Accreditation

IB

Entry Requirements

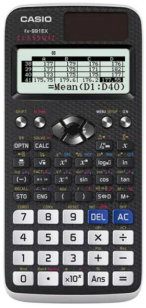
SL - Grade 6 in Physics & Mathematics

Double Award Science: 7-6 in GCSE & Mathematics

HL - Grade 7 in Physics & Mathematics

Double Award Science: 8-7 in GCSE & Mathematics

Calculator Required



IB Psychology SL/HL

Why study IB Psychology?

The IB Diploma Programme Psychology course is the systematic study of behaviour and mental processes. IB Psychology helps you understand human behaviour through scientific study and real-world application. It builds critical thinking, research, and writing skills which are useful for many university courses and careers.

What does it involve and what will I study?

Since the psychology course examines the interaction of biological, cognitive and sociocultural influences on human behaviour, it is well placed in group 3, Individuals and Societies. The holistic approach reflected in the curriculum, which sees biological, cognitive and sociocultural analysis being taught in an integrated way ensures that students are able to develop an understanding of what all humans share, as well as the immense diversity of influences on human behaviour and mental processes. The ethical concerns raised by the methodology and application of psychological research are also key considerations of the IB psychology course.

How will I be assessed?

SL	HL
Standard Level (SL) 1. Paper 1 (35%) • Short answers + essay • Test your understanding of key ideas, studies, and how to apply them to real-life situations. 2. Paper 2 (35%) • Questions about class practicals • Evaluate a study you haven't seen before. 3. Internal Assessment (IA) (30%) • Write a research proposal (what you would do if you ran a study)	Higher Level (HL) (Same as SL + extra paper) 1. Paper 1 (25%) • Same as SL but a bit more in-depth 2. Paper 2 (25%) • Same as SL 3. Paper 3 (30%) • HL-only • Analyse data and unseen research • Focus on research methods and deeper concepts. 4. Internal Assessment (IA) (20%) • Same as SL, but with more depth expected.

Where will Psychology take me?

Psychology gives you the opportunity to develop many cross-curricular skills that can be linked to a broad range of careers including, medicine, psychiatry, counselling, therapy, clinical psychology and mental health, criminology, business, marketing, social work, education, sports psychology and other health related careers.

Department

Individuals and Societies

Accreditation

IB

Entry Requirements

SL - Grade 5 in Psychology

If you have not studied Psychology before; Grade 5 in Mathematics & Science

HL - Grade 6 in Psychology

If you have not studied Psychology before; Grade 6 in Mathematics & Science

IB Spanish Ab Initio SL

Why study ab initio Spanish?

The IBDP Language Ab Initio course is designed to provide students with the necessary skills and intercultural understanding to enable them to communicate successfully in an environment where the language studied is spoken. The process encourages the learner to go beyond the confines of the classroom, expanding an awareness of the world and fostering respect for cultural diversity. The Language Ab Initio course develops students' linguistic abilities by providing them opportunities to interact in a defined range of everyday situations. Language Ab Initio is available at standard level only.

What does it involve?

The course is organized into five themes: identities, experiences, human ingenuity, social organisation, and sharing the planet. Each theme comprises a list of topics that provide students with opportunities to practice and explore the language and develop intercultural understanding.

How will I be assessed?

Type of assessment	Format	Time (Hours)	% of final grade
External			75%
Paper 1: Writing skills	Two written tasks, 75-150 words each	60mn	25%
Paper 2: Listening skills	Comprehension exercises on 3 audio tracks	45mn	25%
Reading skills	Comprehension exercises on 3 texts	60mn	25%
Internal			25%
Paper 3 : Speaking skills	Photocard description, conversation	10mn	25%

Where will this course take me?

The ability to speak a second language has huge advantages on the job market. You will find that you can use your language skills in many fields, such as armed forces, pharmaceutical, engineering, and sales and marketing.

Department

Modern Foreign Languages

Accreditation

IB

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in an alternative language GCSE or MYP

IB Spanish SL/HL

Why study IB Spanish?

If you enjoy speaking other languages, then you might want to think about studying Spanish at IB. Spanish is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world with over 400 million speakers. It is also widely used across Europe as well as South America. Being able to speak Spanish can provide you with many career opportunities. As part of the IB programme, it is required to study a foreign language. Spanish goes well with many subjects such as Art, History, Geography and English Literature, especially as the Spanish language and the Spanish speaking world have histories in these areas.

What does it involve?

The topics that you will study are:
Identities
Experiences
Human Ingenuity
Social organisation
Sharing the planet

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1 – Writing
Paper 2 – Listening and Reading
Paper 3 – Speaking

Where will this course take me?

The ability to speak a second language, even if only to IB level, has huge advantages in the job market. You will find that you can use your Spanish skills in many unrelated fields. However, if you are looking to actively use the language in your career, then here are some professions that may be of interest:
Travel and Tourism
Translating and Interpreting
Sales and Marketing
Finance
Information Technology

Department

Modern Foreign Languages

Accreditation

IB

Entry Requirements

SL - Grade 6 in Spanish

HL - Grade 7 in Spanish

Duke of Edinburgh International Award



What is a Duke of Edinburgh's International Award?

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is a worldwide programme for non-formal education and learning, which challenges young people to dream big, celebrate their achievements and make a difference in their world. Through developing transferable skills, increasing their fitness levels, cultivating a sense of adventure and volunteering in their community, the Award helps young people to find their purpose, passion and place in the world. The Award operates in more than 130 countries and territories, helping to inspire millions of young people to gain new skills and enhance their CVs and university applications.

The Adventurous Journey at Sunmarke:

Students are taken to the mountains of Ras al Khaimah to complete their Adventurous Journey. They will camp and hike in the wilderness and as part of the journey will learn how to navigate and be self-sufficient for the required amount of time dedicated by the level of the award they are completing. These trips usually take place in November and January as the students must complete a practice and qualifying journey for the Award. The Gold award could contain an adventurous journey in another country, this will be confirmed in the first term.

Why complete your award in Sixth Form?

Completing the Duke of Edinburgh award will allow you to put it on your university applications. It is a world-renowned award and due to the 4 sections; Volunteering, Skills, Physical Recreation and Adventurous journeys, Universities will look at it favourably as you have put yourself forward for the award and shown resilience and commitment.

When to sign up?

Students can sign up to complete the Award in the first 4 weeks of term in the new academic year. They must come and see Miss Eloise Seddon to receive information prior to signing up.

Who to contact:

For any questions about the Duke of Edinburgh International Award please email our DofE Coordinator: Miss Eloise Seddon
Email: e.seddon@forteseducation.com



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To Register
04 423 8900

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admissions.sms@forteseducation.com