



KING'S
ELY

Sixth Form

Sixth Form Curriculum Handbook

2021-23

Introduction



We are justly proud of our Sixth Form provision. We believe we offer a distinctly different experience in which every pupil is known and nurtured. King's Ely has a reputation for excellence in terms of pastoral care but we are equally proud of some outstanding academic results in recent years. We are a school where pupils of all abilities excel, both at GCSE and A Level. It is in the Sixth Form where pupils particularly develop the qualities to flourish, thrive and lead.

This booklet will provide you with an outline of the courses on offer at A Level but, as Mrs Bennell and Mrs Thomas highlight, the Sixth Form experience is significantly more than what solely happens in the classroom.

Jonathan Shaw
Head of King's Ely Senior

Welcome to the Sixth Form

We believe these years should be the best of your school career. The Sixth Form is fortunate to be housed in the Old Palace, a beautiful and inspiring location. There is plenty of space for independent work, enjoying your free time and taking part in Sixth Form 'socials'. You will enjoy a new freedom, whether eating lunch outside in the courtyard on a sunny day, catching up with friends in the Long Gallery or exercising in the gym.

Of course, choosing the right subjects is incredibly important and you should aim for a combination that strikes the right balance between challenge and enjoyment. You also need to be mindful of possible university courses and professional aspirations. The dedicated Sixth Form team are here to guide you along the way, whether it is supporting your academic goals, developing your leadership skills or applying for university.

On a practical note, most students study three subjects for A Level. Each subject usually consists of six lessons a week, with an additional expectation of four to six hours of independent study. There is also the opportunity to take the EPQ (Extended Project Qualification), an independent research project which is viewed favourably by universities. We are delighted to be introducing a Business OCR Cambridge Technical qualification which offers a more vocational pathway for students.

In addition to your studies there is an array of games and enrichment options available. The Extended Learning module provides the opportunity to develop important life skills ranging from research techniques to some basic cooking skills.

We really look forward to welcoming you to our Sixth Form community. Our PSHE programme in the Sixth Form helps prepare students for the challenges they may encounter whilst at school or in the future as young adults.



Jane Thomas
Vice Principal Academic



Elizabeth Bennell
Head of Sixth Form

The following A Level courses are available:

Art and Design: Textile Design Fine Art Photography	Geography German History Latin	Some pupils might opt to take an additional standalone AS option to be studied in Year 12. The following subjects are available as AS options:
Biology Business Studies Chemistry Classical Civilisation Classical Greek Computer Science Design and Technology Drama and Theatre Economics English Literature Film Studies French	Mathematics Further Mathematics Music RS (Philosophy of Religion, Ethics and Study of Religion) Physical Education Physics Psychology Spanish ----- Business (Marketing) (Level 3 Qualification) see P12 for details Food Science and Nutrition (Level 3 Qualification) see P28/29 for details	
		Classical Civilisation Mathematics Further Mathematics Latin Greek French German Spanish

We also offer the Extended Project Qualification which can be taken alongside the A Level programme. The Extended Project Qualification offers a unique opportunity for students to extend themselves and to significantly boost their university applications. Running from January to December across Years 12 and 13, it allows the students to work on an interesting topic of their own choosing. A course-relevant and exciting project has the potential to be the passport to a university interview, as well as teaching the students crucial skills that will enable them to succeed at university and indeed beyond.

Examination boards referred to in the following pages are:
AQA: Assessment and Qualifications Alliance;
OCR: Oxford, Cambridge and RSA Examinations;
Edexcel: Edexcel Foundation;
WJEC: Welsh Joint Education Committee.
Eduqas: Part of WJEC

Please note: We reserve the right not to run a course in case of insufficient demand.

King’s Ely Learning Habits Framework



- Resilient Learners:**
- seek effective alternative strategies when the solution to any aspect of work is not immediately obvious
 - are prepared to risk experimenting with new approaches and try new things in order to improve
 - will try again if not successful the first time, showing patience and perseverance.



- Collaborative Learners:**
- know that it is advantageous to work with others and consider other viewpoints
 - respect and value the input of other cultures, nationalities and religious perspectives
 - seek out the resources needed for a task, whether they are electronic or more traditional sources of knowledge.



- Creative and Curious Learners:**
- are able to ask relevant questions to extend their understanding and satisfy their curiosity
 - want to find out the answers beyond the work set or expected
 - generate ideas, explore possibilities and consider alternative ways of presenting information.



- Reflective Learners:**
- take time to think about how their own work can be improved and act upon it
 - seek out advice from teachers when necessary
 - listen to, consider and act upon feedback from teachers and peers.

Art and Design (AQA)

Candidates will be introduced to a variety of experiences employing a range of media, processes and techniques appropriate to the chosen option.

Knowledge of Art, Craft and Design will be developed through research, working from first-hand experience and secondary, resource material. Practical and analytical skills will also be developed.

Candidates are required to participate actively in the course of study, recognising and developing their own strengths in the subject and identifying and sustaining their own lines of enquiry.

Candidates can choose to study one or more A Level options in the following specialist areas:

1. Art and Design - (Fine Art)
Practical and contextual/critical work associated with drawing, painting, sculpture, installation, printmaking, moving image and photography.

2. Art and Design - (Textiles)
Practical and contextual/critical work associated with fashion design, costume design, digital textiles, printed, constructed and installed textiles.

3. Art and Design - (Photography)
Practical and contextual/critical work associated with digital techniques alongside traditional methods of work including portraiture, landscape and still life photography, fashion and experimental imagery.

Prerequisite: Minimum Grade 6 in GCSE Art and Design.

Course: A Level

Title of Module	Method of Assessment	% of Marks
Unit 1	Coursework (Personal investigation 1000 – 3000 words)	60
Unit 2	Externally set assignment.	40

This course gives the appropriate foundation for further study of Art and Design or related subjects in higher education.



Biology A (OCR)

Biology A Level gives access to the large range of Biology and Biology-related university courses as well as providing an essential qualification for most Medicine and Veterinary Science courses. Biology also provides a worthwhile academic qualification for students who have an interest in the subject but who do not intend to take the subject beyond A Level. The new Biology A (OCR) course is content led. It provides a flexible approach for us to provide the most relevant, exciting and up-to-date contexts in which you can learn Biology.

Biology A (OCR) is divided into 6 Modules:

Module	Title
1	Development of Practical Skills - Planning, Implementation, Analysis and Evaluation
2	Foundations in Biology - Cell structure; Biological molecules; Nucleotides, DNA and RNA; Biological membranes; Cell division
3	Exchange and Transport - Exchange surfaces; Transport in Animals; Transport in Plants
4	Biodiversity, Evolution and Disease
5	Communications, Homeostasis and Energy - Excretion; Neuronal and Hormonal Communication; Photosynthesis and Respiration
6	Genetics, Evolution and Ecosystems - Cellular Control; Inheritance; Manipulating Genomes; Biotechnology; Ecosystems; Populations and Sustainability

The A Level course is made up of Modules 1-6, combined with the Practical Endorsement.

Structure of the course

Linear assessment, with all exams at the end of the course.



Exams and practical work

10% of the total A Level marks require the use of Level 2 (Higher tier GCSE) mathematical skills.

There will be no internal assessment that leads to marks that contribute towards the A Level grades. Practical work will be assessed in the written papers.

We have excellent equipment at King’s Ely in the department for carrying out the required practical work and at the end of Year 12 we have a field trip to the North Norfolk Coast in order to develop key sampling for Module 6.

The course at King’s Ely

A Level Biology				
	Component 01	Component 02	Component 03	Component 04
CONTENT	Assesses content of Modules 1,2,3 and 5	Assesses content of Modules 1,2,4 and 6	Assesses content of all modules	Practical Endorsement in Biology
ASSESSMENT	Written exam: 2 hours 15 mins 100 marks 37% of A Level	Written exam: 2 hours 15 mins 100 marks 37% of A Level	Written exam: 1 hour 30 mins 70 marks 26% of A Level	Non-exam assessment
QUESTIONS	Split into 2 sections: Section A – 15 marks: multiple choice questions Section B – 85 marks a mixture of short and extended response questions	Split into 2 sections: Section A – 15 marks: multiple choice questions Section B – 85 marks a mixture of short and extended response questions	70 marks: Question styles include short AND extended response questions	Learners complete a minimum of 12 assessed practicals Pass/Fail awarded by teacher

Prerequisite: Minimum GCSE Grade 6 for Double Award Science/Biology. As 10% of the course has mathematical content, Grade 7 at GCSE Maths is recommended to study this subject.

Business Studies (AQA)

First year content includes the following topics:

- 1. What is business?
- 2. Managers, leadership and decision making.
- 3. Decision making to improve market performance.
- 4. Decision making to improve operational performance.
- 5. Decision making to improve financial performance.
- 6. Decision making to improve human resource performance.

Second year content

The A Level incorporates the same six topics as the first year, plus the following additional topics:

- 1. Analysing the strategic position of a business.
- 2. Choosing strategic direction.
- 3. Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies.
- 4. Managing strategic change.

A Level assessment

The A Level is assessed by three two hour written exams at the end of the course.

Paper 1: Business 1	Paper 2: Business 2	Paper 3: Business 3
What’s assessed All content above	What’s assessed All content above	What’s assessed All content above
Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Written exam: 2 hours• 100 marks in total• 33.3% of A-level	Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Written exam: 2 hours• 100 marks in total• 33.3% of A-level	Assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Written exam: 2 hours• 100 marks in total• 33.3% of A-level
Questions Three compulsory sections: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section A has 15 multiple choice questions (MCQs) worth 15 marks.• Section B has short answer questions worth 35 marks.• Sections C and D have two essay questions (choice of one from two and one from two) worth 25 marks each.	Questions Three data response compulsory questions worth approximately 33 marks each and made up of three or four part questions.	Questions One compulsory case study followed by approximately six questions.

Testing quantitative skills

A Level assesses quantitative skills, making up a minimum of 10% of the overall marks. The skills tested include ratios, averages, fractions, percentages and calculation of profit and loss.

Prerequisite: It is important to note that Business Studies requires a combination of Maths and English skills and significant weakness in either of these subjects will make it difficult for the student to succeed at A Level. A minimum Grade 6 in both Maths and English is required or a Grade 6 in GCSE Business Studies.



Business (OCR Cambridge Technical Level 3)

- **Diploma 05837** (2 A Level Equivalents) 720 Guided Learning Hours (GLH)
- **Extended Certificate 05834** (1 A Level Equivalent) 360 Guided Learning Hours (GLH)

About OCR Technicals

“Tech levels are rigorous advanced (level 3) technical qualifications on a par with A Levels and recognised by employers and universities. They are for students aged 16 plus who want to specialise in a specific industry or prepare for a particular job.” (Department for Education – DfE)

Both Qualifications are taught over 2 years and will have either 7 (Extended Certificate) or 14 (Diploma) lessons a week, with additional work to be completed outside the classroom.

The Diploma

The Diploma is equivalent to 2 A Levels and is assessed through all 10 modules listed below. Students will attend classes as normal and receive teaching before completing assignments and preparing for, and sitting, exams. The Diploma covers core Business modules and will have a Marketing focus.

The Extended Certificate

The Extended Certificate is similar to the Diploma and is equivalent to 1 A Level, and will cover the first 5 of the modules that are covered by the Diploma and will also have a Marketing focus.

Prerequisite

Grade 5 in GCSE English and Maths

Assessments

- Externally marked exams
- Written assignments
- Projects

Outcomes

The OCR Technicals are a widely accredited qualification that can lead to university, apprenticeships and the workplace. In some cases, they count as credit towards further qualifications and are a growing pathway for students post-GCSEs.



	Marketing Pathway	Time (Hours)	Content to complete
1	The Business Environment	120	External influences impacting the business operations, such as the economy, social and technological factors
2	Working in Business	60	Communicating with stakeholders, conducting meetings and other business activities
3	Business Decisions	60	Collation, processing and analysis of information to make business decisions
4	Customers and Communication	60	Purpose, methods and importance of communication with customers. Legal, ethical and security issues.
5	Marketing and Market Research	60	Obtaining, analysing and presenting market research
6	Marketing Strategy	60	Segmenting the market, digital marketing and other tools to develop a marketing strategy
7	Marketing Campaigns	60	Using the Marketing Mix to create a marketing campaign for a new or existing product
8	Change Management	60	Using quantitative and qualitative information to manage change and minimise the risks of change
9	Principles of Project Management	60	Plan and prepare a project, and mitigate the impact of internal and external factors
10	Delivering a Business Project	120	Plan, implement, monitor and control a project from inception to delivery, such as a launch or charity event

Diploma and Extended Certificate modules

Further **Diploma** modules only

Chemistry (AQA)

Chemistry will be at the forefront of scientific developments in the coming years, quietly predicting and shaping the future. Chemistry allows millions of people to live through the development of drugs, disinfectants, fertilisers, herbicides and pesticides. It will be spearheading the search for the solutions to the environmental problems that appear to be the most likely global threat. Chemistry gives us not only survival but also a quality of life through the materials it provides; imagine a world without detergents, dyes, polymers and touch-screens.

An A level Chemist will be furnished with the knowledge and skills to:

- comprehend the implications of environmental policies.
- cut through the red-herrings for the rest of their life as they will have a secure comprehension of the underlying building blocks that define this world.
- transfer their superior analytical and problem skills to the work environment.

Chemistry is a very highly regarded A level by employers and Universities and enjoys the status of a “facilitating” subject. This means that study at this level is a requirement for many courses such as Biological Sciences, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Pharmacy, Biochemistry and of course Chemistry.

If you ask how a piece of technology works rather than how to make it work for you, then Chemistry is a good fit.

Exams and practical work

20% of the total A Level marks require the use of Level 2 (Higher tier GCSE) mathematical skills.

Practical work will be assessed in the written papers.

15% of the total A Level marks will be for practical knowledge and understanding of the scientific method.

We have excellent equipment at King’s Ely in the department for carrying out all the required practical and investigative work so that students will be confident in this area.



A Level Chemistry			
	Paper 01	Paper 02	Paper 03
CONTENT	Inorganic Chemistry, with relevant Physical Chemistry and relevant practical skills	Organic Chemistry, with relevant Physical Chemistry and relevant practical skills	All practical skills All content
ASSESSMENT	Written exam: 2 hours 105 marks 35% of A Level	Written exam: 2 hours 105 marks 35% of A Level	Written exam: 2 hours 90 marks 30% of A Level
QUESTIONS	105 marks: a mixture of short and long answer questions	105 marks: a mixture of short and long answer questions	40 marks: questions on practical techniques and data analysis 20 marks: testing across the specification 30 marks: multiple choice questions

The course is divided up into the traditional areas of Physical, Inorganic and Organic Chemistry. The topics in these areas in the course are:

Physical	Inorganic	Organic
Atomic structure, Amount of substance, Bonding, Energetics, Kinetics, Chemistry equilibria Le Chatelier’s principle, Thermodynamics (ΔH , ΔS and ΔG), Rate equations, Equilibrium constants (K_c and K_p) for homogeneous systems, Electrode potentials and electrochemical cells.	Periodicity, Group 2 the alkaline earth metals, Group 7(17) the halogens, Period 3 elements and their oxides, Transition metals, Reactions of ions in aqueous solution.	Alkanes, Halogenoalkanes, Alkenes, Alcohols, Organic analysis. Optical isomerism, Aldehydes and ketones, Carboxylic acids and derivatives, Aromatic chemistry, Amines, Polymers, Amino acids, Proteins and DNA, Organic synthesis, NMR spectroscopy, Chromatography.

Prerequisites: Minimum GCSE Grade 7 for Double Award Science/Chemistry. As 20% of the course has mathematical content, Grade 7 or equivalent at GCSE Maths.

Classical Civilisation (OCR)

You can choose to study a one year AS or a two year A Level exam, but those considering the AS option are required to discuss this with the Head of Department during the course of the GCSE year.

European culture has its fountainhead in the drama, literature and history of the Greek and Roman world. These texts written over two thousand years ago have so shaped the world around us that we cannot say we understand our own culture fully until we have engaged with that of the Classical World. AS and A Level Classical Civilisation will enable you to explore

key Classical texts in depth and, through studying their ancient context and themes, draw insights which you can apply to the world today. The course will equip you with the skills to analyse texts and understand people; above all, it will teach you how to think deeply. Classroom teaching is complemented by talks from internal and external speakers, visits to museums and theatres, and trips at home and abroad. There is an annual theatre trip hosted by UCL (London) and a visit to the British Museum. Plans are currently underway for an overseas trip, either to Greece or Italy.

Course: AS

Title of Module	Method of Assessment	% of Marks
The World of the Hero (H008/11) This is a compulsory component comprising of an in-depth study of <i>either</i> : <i>Homer’s Iliad</i> or <i>Odyssey</i> The text is studied in English translation.	Written examination 1 hour 30 minutes.	50
Culture and the Arts (H008/21 or 22) Students study one component of <i>either</i> : <i>Greek Theatre</i> or <i>Imperial Image</i>	Written examination 1 hour 30 minutes.	50

Prerequisites: Evidence of an enjoyment of reading; an ability to write essays. You do not need to have studied Classical Civilisation at GCSE; the A Level course is different and stands alone. No knowledge

of Latin or Greek is required as the texts are studied in English. Classical Civilisation complements and illumines a wide variety of other subjects.

Course: A Level

Title of Module	Method of Assessment	% of Marks
The World of the Hero (H408/11) This is a compulsory component comprising of an in-depth study of <i>either</i> : <i>Homer’s Iliad</i> or <i>Odyssey</i> The text is studied in English translation.	Written examination: 2 hours 20 minutes.	40
Culture and the Arts (H408/21,22,23 or 24) Students study one component of <i>either</i> : <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Greek Theatre• Imperial Image• Invention of the barbarian• Greek art	Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes.	30
Beliefs and ideas (H408/31,32,33 or 34) Students study one component of <i>either</i> : <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Greek religion• Love and relationships• Politics of the Late Republic• Democracy and the Athenians	Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes.	30



Classical Greek (OCR)

Course: AS

The study of Greek will hone your analytical thinking skills, deepen your understanding of how languages work and enhance your ability to communicate effectively and clearly in your own language - a set of skills much in demand from employers in the modern world. This course gives you the opportunity to study in depth aspects of Greek language and literature, exploring the cultural, political and social life of Classical Athens at significant periods in its history. You will develop your understanding of language structures in Classical Greek; you will begin to appreciate the beauty of this ancient language, and you will read and respond to a selection of Greek literature in the original, considering both its ancient context and its relevance to today’s world.

Title of Module	Method of Assessment	% of Marks
Greek Language	Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes	50
Greek Verse and Prose Literature	Written examination: 2 hours	50



Course: A Level (fully compatible with the AS course)

The A Level course offers the chance to read in more depth the literature of the Greek world, increasing your ability to understand and respond to the different styles and agenda of a greater range of authors. Your grasp of structures, vocabulary and idiom will be extended, and you will have the option, if you have the talent for it, to write compositions in Greek. Your exploration of cultural, social and spiritual issues connected with your reading will become more sophisticated, and you will gain a developing awareness of the impact of Greek and Athens on later literature, language and culture, and on the modern world in general. Classroom teaching is complemented by talks from internal and external speakers, visits to museums and theatres, and trips at home and abroad. There is an annual theatre trip hosted by UCL (London) and a visit to the British Museum. Plans are currently underway for an overseas trip, either to Greece or Italy.

Title of Module	Method of Assessment	% of Marks
Unseen Translation	Written examination 1 hour 45 minutes	33
Comprehension or Prose Composition	Written examination 1 hour 15 minutes	17
Prose Literature	Written examination 2 hours	25
Verse Literature	Written examination 2 hours	25

Prerequisite: A minimum Grade 6 in Greek at GCSE.



Computer Science (AQA)

Computer Science is about what goes on inside the single most powerful tool of the world we live in. Science, technology, manufacturing, research, medicine - you name it, computer science influences and affects everything we do. There is a world out there just bursting with invention and opportunities and 90% of it is driven by computers.

Studying Computer Science will help you develop a new range of skills from problem solving to information analysis and computational thinking.

The new A Level course explores things like ‘What is a computer?’, ‘What is programming all about?’. How can a computer solve every day problems?’ and how to bridge the gap between the problem we are trying to

solve and what the computer ‘understands’. You will learn how to program in a high level programming language as well as gain an understanding of low level languages including machine code.

Assessment

The two year A Level Computer Science course is assessed by three papers: two externally assessed and one internally assessed project.

Paper 1 – this paper tests a student’s ability to program, as well as their theoretical knowledge of Computer Science. Students answer a series of short questions and write/adapt/extend programs in an electronic answer document.

Title of Module: Paper 1	Description	Assessment method and % weighting
Fundamentals of programming	Fundamentals of programming Features of imperative High Level Language programming practice which explores data types, procedures and functions, file handling, data structures and validation.	40% of A Level 2.5 hour on-screen examination
Fundamentals of data structures	Fundamentals of Data Structures Arrays, fields, records, trees, graphs, queues, stacks, lists, hashing, vectors.	
Fundamentals of algorithms	Fundamentals of Algorithms Searching, sorting, graph and tree traversal, optimization.	
Theory of computation	Theory of Computation Abstraction and automation, regular languages, context free languages, models of computation, Turing machines.	

Paper 2 – this paper tests a student’s ability to answer from the subject content and consists of compulsory short - answer and extended - answer questions.

Title of Module: Paper 2	Description	Assessment method and % weighting
Fundamentals of data Representation	Fundamentals of data representation Number systems, number bases, binary, coding systems, representation of image and sound.	40% of A Level 2.5 hour on-screen examination
Fundamentals of computer Systems	Fundamentals of computing systems Hardware and software, classification of languages, translators, logic gates and Boolean algebra.	
Fundamentals of computer organization and architecture	Fundamentals of computer organization and architecture Internal components of a computer, the stored program concept, external hardware devices.	
Consequences of uses of Computing	Consequences of uses of computing The moral, ethical and cultural consequences.	
Fundamentals of communication and networking	Fundamentals of communication and networking Network topologies, transmission protocols	
Fundamentals of databases	Fundamentals of databases Conceptual data models, normalization, SQL, client server databases.	
Big Data Fundamentals of functional programming	Big Data Fundamentals of functional programming Paradigms, list processing, problem solving.	

Paper 3 – Computing practical project.

Title of Module: Paper 3	Description	Assessment method and % weighting
Computing practical project	Students will be expected to follow a systematic approach to problem solving, demonstrating their skill to analyse, design, implement, test and evaluate a substantial computer based task undertaken over an extended period.	20% of A Level Internally assessed and externally moderated by AQA

Prerequisite: Minimum requirement Grade 7 in GCSE Maths.

Design and Technology (Product Design) (Edexcel)

Design and Technology is an inspiring, rigorous and practical subject. The subject combines creativity, imagination, curiosity, giving an insight into the way that creative, engineering and manufacturing industries function.

During the two year course students will study a wide range of topics and will enable students to

- apply iterative design processes to develop and modify designs, and to design and make prototypes that solve real world problems, considering their own and others’ needs, wants, aspirations and values
- acquire subject knowledge in Design and Technology, including how a product can be developed through the stages of prototyping, realisation and commercial manufacture
- develop intellectual curiosity about the design and manufacture of products and systems, and their impact on daily life and the wider world
- work collaboratively to develop and refine their ideas, responding to feedback from users, peers and expert practitioners
- develop the capacity to think creatively, innovatively and critically through focused research and exploration of design opportunities arising from the needs, wants and values of clients/end users

- develop an in-depth knowledge and understanding of materials, components and processes associated with the creation of products that can be tested and evaluated in use
- be able to make informed design decisions through an in-depth understanding of the management and development of taking a design through to a prototype
- be able to work safely and skilfully to produce high-quality prototypes
- have a critical understanding of the wider influences on design and technology, including cultural, economic, environmental, historical and social factors
- apply knowledge from mathematics and science for analysis and informing decisions in design.

The development of a critical mind through enquiry and problem solving, exploration, creation and evaluation of iterative designs are key skills developed in the course. The design element makes use of the principles of iterative design to explore, create and evaluate design ideas. This content reflects the importance of Design and Technology as a pivotal STEM subject. 15% of the exam assessment will include the application of mathematical and scientific knowledge.

Title of Module	Method of Assessment	% of Marks
Principles of Design and Technology	2 hour 30 minutes written exam	50%
Independent Design and Make Project	Non-Examined assessment consisting of a substantial design, make and evaluate project consisting of a portfolio and working product	50%

Homework and Independent Study

The recommended time you should spend on your homework is around 6 hours per week. Much of this time will be taken up with the production of your design portfolio, but there will be written assignments as well. The facilities of the Department can be used outside normal timetabled lessons and you will be encouraged to spend some of your study time in the Department.

Prerequisite: Minimum Grade 6 in GCSE Design Technology, a minimum Grade 6 in GCSE Maths as 40% of the course has mathematical content and a minimum Grade 5 in GCSE English as 50% of the A Level are written answers and coursework is a major part of the course.



Drama and Theatre Studies (AQA)

Drama and Theatre is a thoroughly challenging, enjoyable and rewarding A Level where candidates learn through experience, seeing theatre and making theatre for themselves. They are introduced to a wide range of theatrical styles and contexts as they explore plays practically, devise and work on performances.

Students choose to develop as a:

- Performer
- Designer (lighting, sound, set, costume, puppets)
- Director
- Combination of these.

Course: A Level

Title of Module	Method of Assessment	% of Marks
Component 1: Drama & Theatre	Section A: Choose one question on a set play studied. (25 marks) Section B: One three part question on a given extract on another set play studied. (30 marks) Section C: One question (from a choice) of the work of theatre makers in a single live production seen. (25 marks) Written examination: 3 hours	40
Component 2: Creating Original Drama (practical)	You will create your own devised piece of drama, which must be influenced by the work and methodologies on one prescribed practitioner. You will create a working notebook during the process of creating the devised drama. (40 marks) Performance of devised drama (students may contribute as performer, designer or director). (20 marks)	30
Component 3: Making Theatre	Practical exploration and interpretation of three extracts (Extract 1, 2 and 3) each taken from a different play. The methodologies of a prescribed practitioner will be applied to Extract 3. Extract 3 is to be performed as a final assessed piece (students may contribute as performer, designer or director). (40 marks) Reflective report analysing and evaluating theatrical interpretation of all three extracts. (20 marks)	30

Prerequisites: It is not necessary to have taken GCSE Drama, but a passion for theatre and some experience in performance/design would be an advantage.

Economics (OCR)

Take Economics at A Level if you are interested in the world around you and you want to investigate how our Economic system works. Economics contains elements of the arts and sciences, so combines well with a wide range of other subjects. It can lead to professional qualifications in business and finance as well as to degree courses in Economics.

The Economics specification gives a strong grounding in both microeconomics and macroeconomics, through a multi-component externally assessed qualification. The key purpose of this qualification is to provide an introduction to the study of Economics, with the content focusing on providing the basic knowledge and understanding of the essential aspects of economic theory and concepts.

The aim is for you to learn how to ‘think as economists’, and be able to develop the necessary analytical, questioning and quantitative skills in order to progress in the subject, within relevant associated subjects or for use in their professional lives. You will develop various skillsets - from data analysis, problem solving and high tariff writing to independent learning, critical thinking and decision making - which can make them stand out as they progress to higher education and/or the workplace. Because it is topical - and because economists often disagree it can also be controversial. You are encouraged to keep up with current issues in the newspapers and on television.

Course: Overview of A Level in Economics (H460)

Learners must complete all components (01, 02 and 03)

Content overview	Assessment overview	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Microeconomic theory• How competitive markets work• Market failures and government intervention• Thoeoretical working of the free market• Imperfections and market failures	Microeconomics (01)* 80 marks 2 hour written paper	33.33% of total A Level
	Macroeconomics (02)* 80 marks 2 hour written paper	33.33% of total A Level
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Macroeconomy functions on a domestic and global level• Policy approaches• Macroeconomic equilibrium• Changes in macroeconomics over time	Themes in economics (03)* 80 marks 2 hour written paper	33.33% of total A Level

*Indicates synoptic assessment

Prerequisites: Minimum Grade 6 in GCSE English and GCSE Mathematics.

See also: Business Studies, if you are more interested in how businesses work. It is possible to take both subjects.

English Literature (OCR)

Literature A Level is the study of more than just good books: it will provide you with a variety of critical thinking skills, essay writing and the ability to sharply question and analyse the written and spoken word.

It is an highly respected course which is valued by universities and within the workplace. Universities describe English as a ‘facilitating subject’, meaning that it is extremely desirable and useful in a wide variety of university courses. You will develop your ability to hone an argument, to listen actively, to work in collaboration and to think independently.

The OCR course is a two year A Level which explores a wide range of texts across the whole canon of English literature. The course includes the study of at least one Shakespeare play (currently *Hamlet*), poetry and drama pre-1900 with choices including the poetry of Christina Rossetti and Henrik Ibsen’s *A Doll’s House*. Modern texts are also explored, including at least one from post 2000. These texts are used to develop coursework writing, providing students with many of the skills they will require at university level. Texts which have been taught recently have included: *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Sense of an Ending*, and Auden’s poetry. There is a final unit which explores texts linked by a common theme, for example, Dystopian fiction or American literature. For this unit students read two or more novels within the genre (currently *The Great Gatsby* and *The Grapes of Wrath*).

Title of Module	Method of Assessment	% of Marks
Component 01: Shakespeare Drama and poetry pre-1900	Drama and poetry pre-1900 Written paper 60 marks Closed text 2 hours 30 minutes	40% of total A Level
Component 02: Close reading in chosen topic area Comparative and contextual study from chosen topic area	Comparative and contextual study Written paper 60 marks Closed text 2 hours 30 minutes	40% of total A Level
Component 03: Close reading OR re-creative writing piece with commentary. Comparative essay	Literature post-1900 40 marks Coursework	20% of total A Level

Students of English Literature have the opportunity to attend plays and poetry readings. They are encouraged to take part in debating and to foster their own writing through internal competitions and awareness of national competitions.

Prerequisite: It is expected that students taking A Level English Literature have a minimum Grade 6 or equivalent in both GCSE English and GCSE English Literature.

Film Studies (WJEC)

The Film Studies course is designed to deepen students’ understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of film, the major art form of the twentieth century, and a cultural form still of great significance at the beginning of the new millennium. The course builds on the knowledge you have developed informally since childhood. You will study cinema as a medium, as an art form and as a social and economic institution. You will also engage with a wide range of different kinds of films, developing skills of observation, critical analysis and personal reflection. There are opportunities for students to use their creativity to make a short film production.

Title of Module	Method of Assessment	% of Marks
American and British Film	Written examination 2 hours 30 minutes. Classical Hollywood, Hollywood since the 1960s, Contemporary American Independent film, British film.	35
Varieties of Film	Written examination 2 hours 30 minutes. Film movements, Documentary film, Global film, Short film.	35
Production	Internally assessed, externally moderated. A short film or screenplay with photo storyboard.	30



Food Science and Nutrition (WJEC CBAC Level 3)

The WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition has been designed to provide learners with underpinning nutrition knowledge, understanding and practical skills to progress to further study and training in either a food based course, a science course or sports and nutrition studies. This course offers a unique opportunity for students to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding through work related tasks linked to the food production industry in a practical environment.

The qualification is split into two sections; namely a Certificate for a one year course and the Diploma for the two year course. This will run alongside linear A Levels and would allow students to gain a qualification if they choose not to continue into a second year.

The courses are split into 4 units; to gain the full Diploma students need to complete two Mandatory and one Optional unit. For the Certificate the candidates will complete Unit 1.

Unit	Title	Assessment	Mandatory / optional
Unit 1	Meeting the Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups; to include planning and cooking complex dishes to meet these needs	One external examination in June and 6 short Controlled assessments internally set including a 3 and a half hour practical assessment.	Mandatory
Unit 2	Ensuring Food is Safe to Eat; to develop an understanding of hazards in relation to the storage, preparation and cooking of foods in different environments	One externally set timed assessment set on the 1st of May which must be completed within three weeks of opening the assessment and over a period of 8hrs normally in Year 13	Mandatory
Unit 3	Experimenting to Solve Food Production problems; To use your understanding of the properties of food in order to carry out experiments to solve food production problems	A model assignment set externally by the board and is a scientific experiment to be produced over a 12hr period in Year 13	Optional
Unit 4	Current Issues in Food Science and Nutrition; Plan and carry out a research project on current issues related to food science and nutrition issues	A research project based on a science and food manufacturing scenario provided by the exam board. To be produced over a 12hr period	Optional

All learners doing the full diploma must take Units One and Two and then select either Unit Three or Unit Four.

Prerequisite: although there are no formal entry requirements, the qualification supports progression from Level 2 particularly GCSEs in Hospitality and Catering, Home Economics: Food and Nutrition, Design and Technology: Food Technology, Biology and Physical Education.

Note: This is not an A Level qualification and pupils should check UCAS requirements if they are considering a HE option outside of food/nutrition/sport.



French (AQA)

Sixth Form French is an exciting challenge and combines language work with more cultural elements of the course such as French film, music and literature. All lessons are conducted in the target language. All students receive a weekly one-to-one speaking lesson with a French native speaker and regular access to the state of the art digital language laboratory.

The French Department organises a number of cultural events such as debating and drama competitions, as well as theatre and cinema visits. From 2020 we introduced a full immersion visit to Toulouse. There is the opportunity to study an AS stand-alone course or the two-year A Level course.

Course: AS

Title of Module	Method of Assessment	% of Marks
Paper 1	Listening, Reading and Writing 1 hour 45 minutes	45% of AS
Paper 2	Writing 1 hour 30 minutes	25% of AS
Paper 3	Speaking 12-14 minutes (plus 15 minutes' preparation)	30% of AS

Course: A Level

You will develop a wider knowledge of vocabulary and linguistic structures and a deeper understanding of cultural aspects of Francophone countries. Practical communication in contemporary French is at the core of the syllabus. With a focus on in-depth study of a novel or a film, the course prepares you for a variety of French degree level courses based on language/literature, cinema and society. As well as weekly lessons with a native speaker, there are French magazines and newspapers together with an extensive media library to help you polish your everyday French, and to demonstrate how language usage varies in different contexts.

Title of Module	Method of Assessment	% of Marks
Paper 1	Listening, Reading and Writing 2 hours 30 minutes	50% of A Level
Paper 2	Writing 2 hours	20% of A Level
Paper 3	Speaking 21-23 minutes (including 5 minutes' preparation)	30% of A Level

Prerequisite: Minimum Grade 6 in GCSE French.



Geography (Edexcel)

Geography is the science and the humanity of the curriculum, explaining how places and landscapes are formed, how people and their environments interact, and how a diverse range of economies, societies and environments are interconnected in the ‘global village’ of today.

The Geography specification enables students to explore contemporary geographical issues in the context of physical geography, human geography and a synoptic investigation. Our students learn to demonstrate geographical knowledge of places, environments and processes, and ‘think as geographers’ as they explore the inter-relationships between people and environments.

Furthermore, in discussing issues ranging from tectonic disaster responses to actions taken to tackle global warming, our students develop essential analytical and decision-making skills. In designing and carrying out their own geographical investigation, our students develop key skills in project management, qualitative and quantitative research, fieldwork, data analysis and report writing. Thus, you will develop a set of skills that will be tremendously valuable and make them stand out as they progress to higher education and/or the workplace.



Course: Overview of A Level in Geography

Content Overview	Method of Assessment	% of total A Level
PHYSICAL – Dynamic Landscapes, Physical Systems and Sustainability Tectonic Processes and Hazards; Coastal Landscapes and Change; The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity; The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security.	105 marks 2 hour 15 minutes written paper	30
HUMAN – Dynamic Places, Human Systems and Geopolitics Globalisation; Diverse Places; Superpowers; Global Development and Connections - Migration, Identity and Sovereignty.	105 marks 2 hour 15 minutes written paper	30
SYNOPTIC INVESTIGATION Investigation of a geographical issue affecting a place, linked to 3 synoptic themes: players; attitudes and actions; futures and uncertainties.	70 marks 2 hour 15 minutes written paper	20
INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION Investigation, including fieldwork and research, of a question or issue, relating to any aspect of Geography studied at A Level.	70 marks 4,000 word written report (coursework)	20

Fieldwork: In order to develop practical fieldwork skills and enrich your understanding of Geographical landscapes, all students complete at least four days of fieldwork in both physical and human landscapes near and far. This includes trips to Mill Road and East London to explore diverse urban places and a residential trip to a coastal landscape.

Prerequisite: Minimum Grade 6 in Geography or a related subject at GCSE.

German (AQA)

Course: AS

With the biggest economy in Europe, Germany is leading the way in the European Union and in the fields of engineering, economics and design. Coupled with a magnificent cultural heritage, learning German in the Sixth Form is exciting and more relevant than ever. The course incorporates language work with more

cultural elements of the course such as German film and literature. A wide range of digital resources and our department iPads are just some of the modern teaching methods we employ. All lessons are conducted in the target language and students have regular access to the state of the art digital language laboratory.

Title of Module	Method of Assessment	% of Marks
Paper 1	Listening, Reading and Writing 1 hour 45 minutes	45 of AS
Paper 2	Writing 1 hour 30 minutes	25 of AS
Paper 3	Speaking 12-14 minutes (plus 15 minutes preparation)	30 of AS

Course: A Level

German at A Level continues to tackle aspects of German-speaking society, Multiculturalism and aspects of political life in German-speaking society. You will develop a deeper understanding of vocabulary and linguistic structures. Practical communication in contemporary German is at the core of the syllabus. The course prepares you for a variety of German degree

level courses based on language/ literature, film and society. As well as lessons with a native speaker, there are German magazines and newspapers, computer software, and an extensive DVD and media library to help you polish your everyday German, and enable you to use it outside the classroom context.

Title of Module	Method of Assessment	% of Marks
Paper 1	Listening, Reading and Writing 2 hours 30 minutes	50% of A Level
Paper 2	Writing 2 hours	20% of A Level
Paper 3	Speaking 21-23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation)	30% of A Level

Prerequisite: Minimum Grade 6 in GCSE German

History (Edexcel)

Medieval and Modern History:

The study of History will provide the individual with a better understanding of today’s society by examining the past. Not only that, it will develop a range of skills that are vital in both higher education and the workplace.

At this level students will engage in evidence based debates, the analysis and evaluation of a variety of sources and seminar style presentations. The specification offers us the opportunity to engage with some fascinating topics and should be enough to whet the appetite of anyone interested in History.

Our linear A Level course focuses on both Medieval (Year 12) and Modern Russian History (Year 13). In Year 12 we will look at the Crusades c.1095-1204 and Anglo-Saxon and Norman England c.1053-1106. This is a chance for pupils to explore an exciting and (most likely) new period of History in breadth and depth. In Year 13 our focus moves to Modern 1855-91 where pupils will learn about Russia from the reign of Alexander II to the end of the Cold War. Pupils will also submit a coursework essay of c. 4,000 words on one of the historical controversies from this period.

Title of Module	Method of Assessment	% of Marks
Unit 1: The crusades c.1095-1204	Written examination 2 hours 15 minutes.	A Level: 30
Unit 2: Anglo-Saxon England and the Anglo-Norman Kingdom c. 1053-1106	Written examination 1 hour 15 minutes.	A Level: 20
Unit 3: Modern Russia 1855-1991	Written examination 2 hours 15 minutes.	A Level: 30
Unit 4: Coursework	Internally assessed assignment of 3,500 words	A Level: 20

Prerequisite: Although students do not need to have studied History at GCSE level it would be expected that potential candidates would have a minimum Grade 6 in Humanities related subjects e.g. Geography, RS, History.

Latin (OCR)

Course: AS

A study of Latin will hone your analytical thinking skills, deepen your understanding of how languages work and enhance your ability to communicate effectively and clearly in your own language - a set of skills much in demand from employers in the modern world. This course gives you the opportunity to study in depth aspects of the language and literature of the Classical world, exploring the cultural, political and social life of Rome at significant periods in its history. You will develop your understanding of language structures in Classical Latin; you will begin to appreciate the beauty of this ancient language, and you will read and respond to a selection of Latin literature in the original, considering both its ancient context and its relevance to today’s world.

Title of Module	Method of Assessment	% of Marks
Latin Language	Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes	50
Latin Verse and Prose Literature	Written examination: 2 hours	50

Course: A Level (fully compatible with the AS course)

The A Level course offers the chance to read in more depth the literature of the Roman world, increasing your ability to understand and respond to the different styles and agenda of a greater range of authors. Your grasp of structures, vocabulary and idiom will be extended, and you will have the option, if you have the talent for it, to write compositions in Latin. Your exploration of cultural, social and spiritual issues connected with your reading will become more sophisticated, and you will gain a developing awareness of the impact of Latin and Rome on later literature, language and culture, and on the modern world in general. There is an annual theatre trip hosted by UCL (London) and a visit to the British Museum. Plans are currently underway for an overseas trip, either to Greece or Italy.

Title of Module	Method of Assessment	% of Marks
Unseen Translation	Written examination 1 hour 45 minutes	33
Comprehension or Prose Composition	Written examination 1 hour 15 minutes	17
Prose Literature	Written examination 2 hours	25
Verse Literature	Written examination 2 hours	25

Prerequisite: A minimum of Grade 6 in Latin at GCSE.

Mathematics

The benefits of an A Level in Mathematics are well known. Universities and employers appreciate the logical thinking and presentation skills that you learn with evidence suggesting that people with Mathematics A Level earn more than those with other A Levels. It also has a place as a ‘service subject’ in that people who go on to study Sciences, Economics, Geography and Psychology often find some topics in A Level Mathematics to support their degree.

Pure Mathematics

At AS Level, the pure mathematics includes proof, algebra, graphs, sequences, trigonometry, logarithms, calculus and vectors.

At A Level learners study these topics in more depth and also study functions, numerical methods and differential equations.

Further Mathematics

Students are also able to opt for Further Mathematics in addition to A Level Mathematics.

The course is very flexible and usually consists of more pure and applied mathematics units. The pure course will extend and deepen their knowledge of proof, algebra, functions, calculus and vectors studied in Mathematics. They will also broaden their knowledge into other areas of pure mathematics that underpin the further study of mathematics and other numerate

Statistics

At AS Level, statistics includes working with data from a sample to make inferences about a population, probability calculations, using binomial distribution as a model and statistical hypothesis testing.

At A Level learners study these topics in more depth and also study the Normal distribution.

Mechanics

At AS Level, mechanics includes kinematics, working with forces and Newton’s laws.

At A Level learners study these topics in more depth, and also study motion under gravity, friction and simple moments.

Prerequisite: Minimum GCSE Maths Grade 7 or equivalent.

subjects with complex numbers and matrices. The learners will also study differential equations, polar coordinates and hyperbolic functions.

Students wanting to do a degree in Mathematics, Engineering, Natural Sciences or Economics can gain from A Level in Further Mathematics.

Prerequisite: Minimum GCSE Maths Grade 8 or 9 is required, and a discussion with Head of Department.

Music (AQA)

Studying Music in the Sixth Form gives you the opportunity to engage with a wide variety of music, including classical, popular, jazz, film, and music for the theatre. Specific set works from these musical genres are studied across the year, both from an analytical perspective and also in terms of wider musical and historical context. You might learn about the building blocks of a successful musical, or why the shower scene in Hitchcock’s Psycho was made so effective by Bernard Herrmann’s score. You will gain

a greater understanding of core Western Classical Music and the influence it has had over the centuries, with focus on genres such as Baroque concerto, comic opera, and Romantic piano repertoire. A significant percentage of the course is dedicated to solo or ensemble performance, with a further unit focusing on composition or compositional techniques, and this broad range demonstrates a skill set that is always in great demand by employers and educational institutions.

Title of Module	Method of Assessment	% of Marks
Appraising	A written examination paper sat in the Summer, containing questions that assess listening, analysing and essay-writing skills.	40%
Performance	A portfolio of performances, including solo and/or ensemble, instrumental and/or vocal, lasting at least 10 minutes in total, is performed and recorded in school during the Spring and sent away to the exam board for external assessment.	35%
Composition	Completion of a Composition Portfolio, which includes one free composition and one responding to a chosen Brief, which is set by the Board each year. This is created and recorded in school and sent away to the exam board for external assessment.	25%

Prerequisite: GCSE Music, Grade 5 Theory, and an instrument/voice to at least Grade 6.



RS (Philosophy of Religion, Ethics and Study of Religion) (Eduqas)

‘The unexamined life is not worth living’ – Socrates

The course comprises three parts: Philosophy of Religion, Ethics and Study of Religion. Philosophy involves a critical examination of our most fundamental beliefs about truth and reality, right and wrong. It challenges many of our assumptions about what we know and how we should live. It is a discipline concerned with how different views of the world clash or fit together, and with how far different perspectives (moral, scientific, religious, metaphysical, personal) may be reconciled.

Philosophy is concerned with epistemology (theories of knowledge); it is therefore an inter-disciplinary subject and will complement both Art and Science A Levels.

Many students go on to read Philosophy, Politics, Economics, languages or indeed any other Arts degree courses such as Law. The Ethics component makes it an excellent choice for those wishing to pursue a career in Medicine or the Bio-Sciences.

Course: A Level

Title of Module	Method of Assessment	% of Marks
Study of Religion (Buddhism)	Examination 2hrs	33.33
Philosophy of Religion	Examination 2hrs	33.33
Religion and Ethics	Examination 2hrs	33.33

Prerequisite: A minimum Grade 6 in English at GCSE, as well as a love of ideas and an ability to write essays.

Physical Education (AQA)

The A Level Physical Education qualifications allow students to play to their strengths and gain dynamic theoretical and practical skills for further education or work. The qualification is a linear course with the students sitting their exams and submitting all their non-examination assessment at the end of the course.

There are two papers both 2 hours in length which account for 70% of the overall mark, together with a practical assessment in one activity which includes written analysis, this accounts for the remaining 30% of the mark.

Paper 1 Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport

What’s assessed	How it’s assessed
Section A: Applied anatomy and physiology	• Written exam: 2 hours
Section B: Skill acquisition	• 105 marks
Section C: Sport and society	• 35% of A Level

Paper 2 Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport

What’s assessed	How it’s assessed
Section A: Exercise physiology and biomechanics	• Written exam: 2 hours
Section B: Sports psychology	• 105 marks
Section C: Sport and society and technology in sport	• 35% of A Level

Non-examination assessment - as a performer or coach in the full sided version of *one* activity plus written analysis of performance

How it’s assessed
• Internal assessment, external moderation
• 90 marks
• 30% of A Level

Prerequisite: Minimum Grade 6,6 in Double Science or equivalent in Triple Science. A Grade 6 in both the written and practical papers of GCSE PE taken. Students should be playing sport at first team level or equivalent.

Physics (OCR)

Course: A Level

This course reflects Physics as it is practised and used today. The course will provide a satisfying experience for the student who chooses to take Physics as part of a broad post 16 curriculum as well as providing a sound foundation for the student who wishes to go on to take Physics or a related subject at university. Each student is taught by two teachers over the course of each year

The A- level Physics course consists of six modules in total, the first two of which are applied throughout the two year course. Module 1 is entitled ‘The Development of Practical Skills in Physics’ and Module 2 ‘The Foundations of Physics’ and consists of the study of units and the concepts of scalars and vectors.

The Year 12 course consists of two modules: Module 3 ‘Forces and Motion’ and Module 4 ‘Electrons, Waves and Photons’. The former involves the study of simple Newtonian mechanics and the latter involves the study of electricity, waves and quantum physics. At the end of Year 12 we give every student a chance to pursue an investigative project that is entirely of their own creation. We see some wonderful work as a result, and many projects are taken to university interviews where they are very well received.

The Year 13 course consists of the remaining two modules: Module 5 ‘Newtonian world and astrophysics’ and Module 6 ‘Particles and medical physics’. Module 5 consists of more complex newtonian mechanics, gravitational fields, thermal physics and gases; and Module 6 consists of electric fields, particle physics, nuclear physics and medical imaging.

An A Level in Physics enables a student to go on to degree level studies at University in an enormous range of subjects, but particularly Physics and Engineering. However, at the same time A Level Physics will provide an interesting and stimulating experience for the student who does not pursue the subject any further than King’s Ely Senior. In any case, the skills required of a physicist are key to a wide range of lucrative professions such as law, IT, Engineering and many more.

Prerequisite: Minimum GCSE grade 7 for Double Award Science/Physics. As 40% of the Physics course has mathematical content, grade 7 or equivalent at GCSE Maths. It is strongly recommended that students study A Level Maths alongside the Physics A Level course.

A Level Physics				
	Component 01	Component 02	Component 03	Component 03
CONTENT	Assesses content of Modules 1,2,3 and 5	Assesses content of Modules 1,2,4 and 6	All practical skills All content	Practical Endorsement in Physics
ASSESSMENT	Written exam: 2 hours 15 mins 100 marks 37% of A Level	Written exam: 2 hours 15 mins 100 marks 37% of A Level	Written exam: 1 hour 30 mins 70 marks 26% of A Level	Non-exam assessment
QUESTIONS	Split into 2 sections: Section A - 15 marks: multiple choice questions Section B - 85 marks a mixture of short and extended response questions	Split into 2 sections: Section A - 15 marks: multiple choice questions Section B - 85 marks a mixture of short and extended response questions	70 marks: Question styles include short and extended response questions	Learners complete a minimum of 12 assessed practicals Pass/Fail awarded by teacher



Politics (Edexcel)

Whether we like it or not politics is unavoidable: no matter our age, the government of the day is making policies that will affect us both in the short-term and long-term. Politics is how we can manage the conflicts and disagreements that arise through differing group interests and views often centred on these decisions. At King’s Ely we hope to develop students’ knowledge of current political affairs whilst exploring the dynamic nature of political parties and their ideologies. The course aims to develop the research and communication skills needed to make coherent arguments and reach balanced conclusions.

This is a two year course and units of study are set out below:

Component	Assessment method	Value
UK Politics: 1. Democracy and Participation Political Parties Electoral Systems Voting behaviour 2. Conservatism, Liberalism and Socialism	2 hour written examination	84 marks 33 1/3 %
UK Government: 1. The Constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, interlinking relationships. 2. Either Feminism, Ecologism, Nationalism, Anarchism or Multiculturalism	2 hour written examination	84 marks 33 1/3 %
Comparative Politics-Global Issues Sovereignty, globalisation and governance Global power and global development The EU and regionalism Global comparative theories	2 hour written examination	84 marks 33 1/3 %

Prerequisite: Obviously, you will not enjoy the course unless you have a genuine interest in politics, current affairs and the world around you. Students are expected to have a minimum Grade 6 from one or more of the following GCSE subjects: History, Geography, RS, English Language, English Literature or other humanities based subjects.

Psychology (AQA)

Psychology is a science, the science of the mind. The human mind is the most complex machine on Earth. It is the source of all thought and behaviour. Psychologists use human behaviour as a clue to the workings of the mind. Although we cannot observe the mind directly, everything we do, think, feel and say is determined by the functioning of the mind. So psychologists take human behaviour as the raw data for testing their theories about how the mind works. For example, neuropsychology is allied with biology, since the aim is to map different areas of the brain and explain how each underpins different brain functions like memory or language. Other branches of psychology are more closely connected with medicine. Health psychologists help people manage disease and pain. Similarly, clinical psychologists help alleviate the suffering caused by mental disorders.

The study of Psychology at university is now one of the most oversubscribed courses: career opportunities for those with good degrees are numerous. Many students use Psychology A Level for other subjects ranging from Art to Veterinary Science.

Cross-curricular in nature, Psychology combines both Humanities and Science in an exciting way.

A Level Psychology

Component	Assessment method	Value
Paper 1: Introduction Topics in Psychology <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social Influence• Memory• Attachment• Psychopathology	2 hour written examination	96 marks 33.3% of A Level
Paper 2: Psychology in context <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approaches in Psychology• Biopsychology• Research Methods	2 hour written examination	96 marks 33.3% of A Level
Paper 3: Issues and option <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Issues and Debates• Gender• Schizophrenia• Aggression	2 hour written examination	96 marks 33.3% of A Level

Prerequisite: Minimum Grade 6 in at least two of the following subjects - English, Maths or Biology.

Spanish (AQA)

Course: AS

Spoken by over 400 million people, Spanish is probably one of the most useful foreign languages that anyone can learn. The study of Spanish combines well with the humanities, business studies, computing, mathematics, as well as with the sciences and, of course, other languages. A good knowledge of Spanish will be of enormous benefit in any walk of life or career. Students will have the opportunity not only to study the language but also the culture and the diverse political landscape of the Hispanic World. For this purpose, students will study a text or a film and will have the opportunity to carry our independent research on an area of their choice. All lessons are conducted in Spanish, with pupils receiving one to one speaking practice with a native speaker of Spanish. All students benefit from the new state of the art Language Laboratory where some of the lessons will be conducted using a wide range of ICT tools, such as blogs, audio and video resources.

Title of Module	Method of Assessment	% of Marks
Paper 1	Listening/ Reading/ Translation 1 hour 45 minutes	40 of AS
Paper 2	Writing 1 hour 15 minutes	30 of AS
Paper 3	Speaking 15 minutes + 15 minutes preparation	30 of AS

Course: A Level

You will develop a wider knowledge of vocabulary and linguistic structures and a deeper understanding of cultural aspects of Spanish speaking countries. Practical communication in contemporary Spanish is at the core of the syllabus. With a focus on in-depth study of a novel or a film, the course prepares you for a variety of Spanish degree level courses based on language/literature, cinema and society. As well as lessons with a native speaker, there are Spanish magazines, newspapers and a media library to help you polish your everyday Spanish, and to demonstrate how language usage varies in different contexts.

Title of Module	Method of Assessment	% of Marks
Paper 1	Listening, Reading and Translation	40 of A Level
Paper 2	Writing 2 hours	30 of A Level
Paper 3	Speaking 24 minutes	30 of A Level

Prerequisite: Minimum Grade 6 in GCSE Spanish.

Extended Project (Edexcel)

The Extended Project Qualification offers a unique opportunity to students to extend themselves and to significantly boost their university applications. Running from January to December across the years 12 and 13, it allows the students to work on an interesting topic of their own choosing. A course relevant and exciting project has the potential to be the passport to a university interview, as well as teaching the students crucial skills that will enable them to succeed at university and indeed beyond.

The Extended Project is not an A Level but a standalone qualification that is equivalent to half an A Level and allows students to investigate, research and write independently on any topic of interest to them. It is an option for Sixth Formers to begin in the Lent term of Year 12; they will submit their final portfolio of evidence towards the end of Michaelmas term of Year 13.

The most important part of the Extended Project is an extensive dossier of evidence of research and evaluation. Other forms of assessment include a student presentation on the methodology of the Extended Project and the final Project itself. Students will receive training in research methodologies and individual supervisions. However, they will be expected to select, resource and research their Extended Project independently. The Extended Project is an opportunity to develop research skills useful for demanding undergraduate and graduate courses and pursue an interest that is not covered by a student’s subject choices. The Project is graded from A* - E and an A* grade is worth 70 UCAS points. Some universities (but not all) may make conditional offers that include an Extended Project grade.

Title of Module	Method of Assessment	% of Marks
Management of a research project	Evidence dossier	17
Use of resources	Evidence dossier/final Project	21
Development and realisation	Final Project	45
Evaluation of own progress and development	Evidence dossier/ Assessed Presentation	17

Prerequisite: A genuine interest in the chosen topic and the ability to work independently.

IELTS (International English Language Testing System)

The ESOL (English as a second language) department’s goal in Year 12 and Year 13 is to provide students with the tools in English to succeed and flourish in their A Levels and to ensure they have the high enough IELTS score to enter the university of their choice. Students receive between 3 and 6 lessons a week in IELTS.

IELTS Content

The course offers intensive support on writing academic English. It includes: structuring and supporting an academic argument; analysing data and graphs; techniques to approach long academic texts and building up academic vocabulary. The focus is very much placed on improving writing and reading skills.

Exam

The IELTS exam has four equally weighted components: speaking, listening, reading and writing. The IELTS exam is taken either at the end of Year 12 or at the end of the first term in Year 13.

We will focus on the reading and writing sections of the exam which most students struggle with. There is the opportunity to sit the exam at the end of each term. We encourage students to take it by the end of year 12 so they can focus on their A levels in year 13. Most students need to score a level of 7 to access the top universities with a 7 in each component.

Please note, students who join the school who have been living outside the UK and not an EEA or Swiss national are strongly recommended to take an English language test.



Higher Education

King’s Ely students are successful each year in gaining places at a wide range of institutions, including G5 Universities (Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial College London, University College London and London School of Economics), Russell Group Universities (<https://russellgroup.ac.uk>), universities in other countries including America and to creative arts and vocational institutions.

Students are supported by the Director of Higher Education and their Tutor throughout the Higher Education Process and there is a structured programme to assist parents, guardians and students make informed choices and maximise chances of success. King’s Ely provides detailed guidance and support to British and international students so that they fully understand the process of applying to higher education institutions and choose courses and institutions that are suitable for them. International students are encouraged to go on Open Days at UK universities.

Year 10 & 11: targeted emails and Year 11 *A level Subject Choices Conference* in the Lent Term (for students, parents, guardians) with visiting speakers from leading universities

Year 12: Higher Education lessons with the Director of Higher Education on the *Year 12 Extended Learning Programme* in the Michaelmas Term

Year 12: Lent Term *Higher Education Conference* (for students, parents and guardians) with visiting speakers from leading universities including Cambridge and Harvard

Year 12: Visiting Speaker programme in the Lent Term covering a range of courses, universities and graduate careers

Year 12: University Application Workshops in the Summer Term with visiting academics including Cambridge university

Year 13: Applications are submitted in the beginning of The Michaelmas Term and students’ offers are tracked throughout the year and support and advice are given.

We also support Old Eleans who make applications to universities in their gap year and beyond.

Alternative pathways

Students who wish to undertake Degree apprenticeships, which combine full-time employment with academic study, are helped to identify likely employers and apply directly to them. Similarly, those who wish to apply for a higher apprenticeship, which involves working full-time while carrying out part-time study, are signposted to likely employers and supported as they apply directly to them. Meanwhile, those who wish to pursue a foundation degree are supported as they apply through UCAS, along with those wanting to study a standard degree.

Students who are looking for a complete alternative to higher education are supported with applying for entry-level jobs, traineeships, internships and work experience or even starting their own business. They are given help with personal presentation skills, including interview skills. In addition, those who wish to take a gap year, whether they intend to go on to university afterwards or are not sure what they want to do in the future, are advised on the plethora of opportunities available to them.

We also support those Old Eleans who might decide to apply to university after a few years of working.



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