



be

outstanding

Sixth Form Course Guide 2023

Welcome

Thank you for expressing an interest in joining the Sixth Form of Hugh Baird College.

At the heart of our vibrant, state-of-the-art campus is the College's dedicated Sixth Form Centre, offering an extensive choice of A-level subjects, as well as a small number of BTEC and GCSE courses. We are located in Litherland, where everything you will need is under one roof.

During your time with us, we will treat you like an adult, but you will not be left to fend for yourself.

You will be given tailored academic and pastoral support to ensure that you can achieve the best possible results which enable you to progress to on to university, an apprenticeship or employment.

As a Sixth Form student, you will have the opportunity to take additional qualifications such as Core Maths or the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). You will also take part in weekly Personal Development Sessions which will develop your core skills to ready you for university or employment. In addition to this, you will experience a variety of trips, visits and guest speakers in each of your subjects, as well as opportunities to get involved in cross college enrichment activities.

I look forward to meeting you soon.

Joe Poole

Assistant Principal - Sixth Form



Contents

General Information

Welcome	2
Studying with us	4
Supporting you	6
Parents, Carers and Guardians	8
How is Sixth Form different	9
Past successes	10
Entry requirements	12
How to apply	14

Courses

Access to A-levels	16
Art and Design (Fine Art)	17
Applied Science (BTEC)	18
Biology	19
Business	20
Chemistry	21
Computer Science	22
Criminology Applied Diploma	23
Drama and Theatre	24
Economics	25
English Language and Literature	26
English Language	27
English Literature	28
Film Studies	29
Geography	30
Health and Social Care (BTEC)	31
History	32
Information Technology (BTEC)	33
Law	34
Mathematics	35
Further Mathematics	36
Media Studies	37
Physical Education (PE)	38
Philosophy and Ethics	39
Photography	40
Physics	41
Politics	42
Psychology	43
Sociology	44
Spanish	45
Statistics	46
What next?	47
How to find us	48
Important information for you	50

Studying with us

We have a dedicated Sixth Form Centre, based at our South Sefton Campus, where you can choose from a range of A-level and BTEC qualifications. Lessons are delivered by subject specialists in a modern and vibrant campus with state-of-the-art facilities. You can expect a personalised learning programme designed specifically for your abilities, talents and aspirations. Your individual programme of study will be carefully designed with you by our expert team.

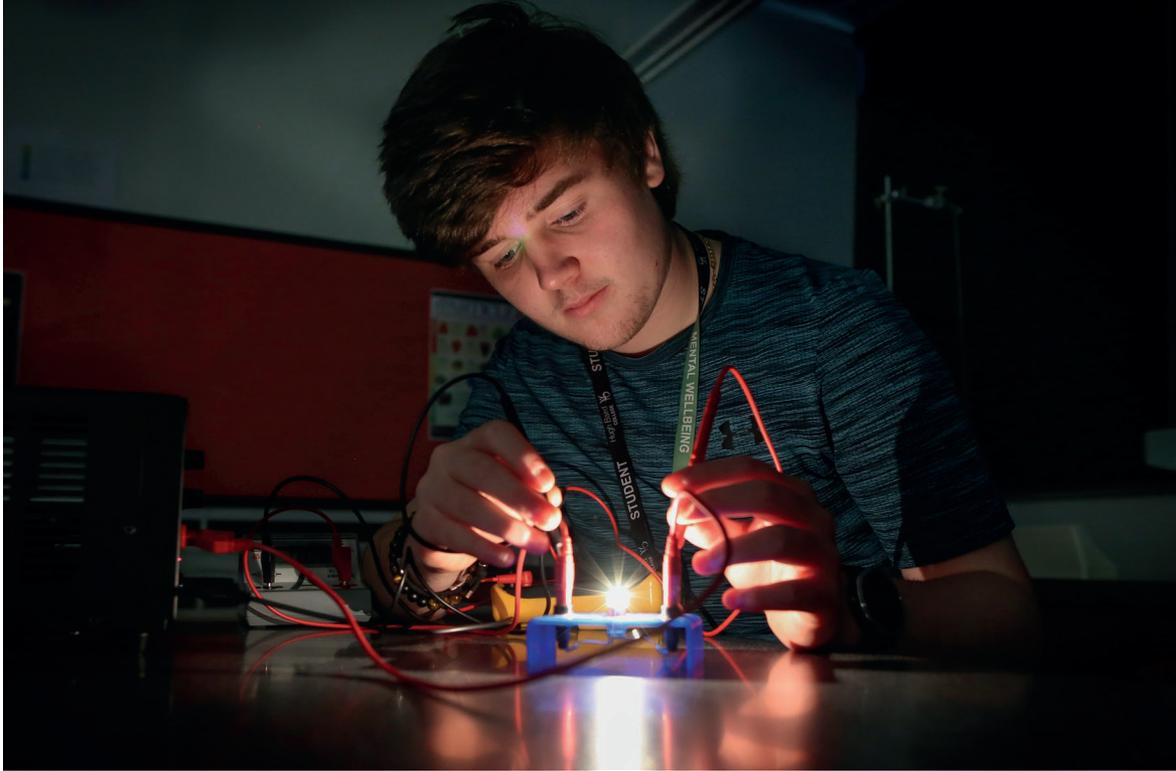
Why choose Sixth Form at Hugh Baird College

- ▶ Modern Sixth Form Campus
- ▶ Wide range of A-levels offered
- ▶ Routes to top Universities
- ▶ Wide range of enhancement activities
- ▶ Dedicated Personal Development Coaches to support you

For more information, visit:

www.hughbaird.ac.uk/a-levels





Supporting you



Studying at our Sixth Form Centre is different to high school and we appreciate that some students will be anxious about moving to a new place of study. We understand this and we fully support you to make this transition. We have a fantastic Student Services Team who ensure that you settle in quickly and get used to a more independent way of studying and learning. Our past students have told us that they valued being treated as an adult and many have said that this really helped them when they progressed to study at university.

Personal Development Coaches

Each student is assigned a dedicated Personal Development Coach who will work closely with you to support and guide you during your time with us. We find that this system works exceptionally well and our students tell us that their Personal Development Coach plays an important role in their success, development, welfare and academic achievement.

Wellbeing support

We are extremely proud of the wellbeing support we provide our A-level students during their time at Hugh Baird College. This is provided by our Student Services Team and includes a range of services to help ensure you feel supported. It is important that you are happy and enjoying studying at the Sixth Form Centre.

Online Counselling Service

We offer an online counselling service to all students. Counselling gives you the opportunity to talk over any matters that may be causing you concern. Concerns may include: personal problems, stress, panic attacks, loneliness, relationships or family difficulties, trauma and crisis, bereavement.

Financial Support

We understand that coming to college can be a big financial commitment, but worries over money and finance should not stop you from studying at college. We have a number of packages that can help you as well as dedicated financial support from our Student Services Team. You can read more online: www.hughbaird.ac.uk/studentfinance





Parents, Carers and Guardians

At Hugh Baird College we take pride in our efforts to work closely with the parents, guardians and carers of our students. Their active involvement helps to promote a learning environment in which young people engage positively with their tutors and peers, and makes a difference in the students' achievement and behaviour.

At Hugh Baird College we promote parent, carer and guardian engagement via College events, allowing them to meet the tutors and see the work the student has produced. We also provide charity events, guest speakers, award ceremonies and much more. We look forward to meeting you and you becoming part of our College community.

“Support at the College is second to none! The College staff listen to the needs of students and tailors support based on this. My daughter has been able to progress beyond her expectations and she has been supported to cope with all aspects of college life. The communication from the College is also very good; I cannot fault them at all.”

June Ardrey, parent of a current student



How is Sixth Form different?

At Hugh Baird College we aim to treat you like an adult, helping you to develop your independence and become more responsible. This will help you feel prepared to start your career, or go on to university.

More choice

Colleges are bigger than schools, so can offer you more courses within each subject area. For the first time in your life you can choose the subjects you want to study, so make the most of it!

Specialist teaching staff

Most of our tutors have real experience in the sector in which they teach. So, they have lots of invaluable knowledge to pass onto you.

More opportunities

You'll have the opportunity to take part in lots of different activities to help boost your confidence, and develop skills and personal qualities outside of the classroom.

No more 'Sir' or 'Miss'

You call your tutors by their first name at college. Your tutors will take time to get to know you and treat you as an individual.

Study Periods

Your lessons will not run from 9am until 3pm, like at school, and you do not have to come in on days when there are no timetabled lessons. When you are not in lesson you should be taking the opportunity to carry out independent study.

Past successes

At our South Sefton Campus, we have a 99.7% pass rate at A-level, and have been ranked in the top 10% of colleges in the country for A-level progress, in league tables published by the Government in 2019. Here are some of our recent success stories...

“Hugh Baird College has given confidence and belief in myself and I look forward to what the next chapter holds.”

Blake Jones

Results: A* A* A English Literature, Psychology, Art

Currently: Studying English at the University of Liverpool



“When I opened my results I couldn’t quite believe it. I will miss everyone but I am ready for the challenge of university.”

Emily Watts

Results: A* A Mathematics, Biology, and Computer Science

Currently: Studying Computer Science at the University of Liverpool

“The last few years have been hard at times but I am lucky to have been supported by amazing tutors.”

Sophie Schofield

Results: A* A B Psychology, Sociology and Criminology Applied Diploma

Currently: Studying Psychology at Manchester Metropolitan University



“You are allowed and encouraged to be independent, which really helped my transition university.”

Jessica Lam

Results: A* A* A Biology, Chemistry, Psychology

Currently: Studying for a degree in Medicine at Hull York Medical School

Entry requirements

You will need a minimum of five GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including English Language and Maths. If you haven't achieved a grade 4 in GCSE Maths, there may be an opportunity to re-sit this alongside your other subjects.*

Important information

- ▶ Some subjects have specific entry requirements (see course pages for details).
- ▶ Subject entry requirements and course availability can change. For the latest information, please visit: www.hughbaird.ac.uk
- ▶ If a subject has too many applicants, places will be given to those who applied earliest and have achieved the entry criteria.
- ▶ Should an A-level subject not reach the minimum number of students needed to make it viable, then every effort will be made to enrol students on a similar, appropriate A-level subject.
- ▶ Hugh Baird College reserves the right to cancel A-level subjects or make changes to its provision.

* Please note that we do not accept BTEC qualifications in place of GCSEs.

Frequently asked questions:

Q: Which subjects should I study?

Your choice of subjects depends on your GCSE results, interests and career aspirations. You will be treated as an individual and guided by our expert team to choose the programme of courses which will ensure you achieve your potential.

Q: How many subjects will I study?

You will take three subjects over two years.

Q: Can I study a mixture of A-levels and BTEC courses at the Sixth Form Centre?

We offer a small number of BTEC courses. Students are recommended to only study one BTEC course alongside two A-levels.

Q: Can I study some A-levels at the Sixth Form Centre and a BTEC course at Hugh Baird College's Balliol Road Campus?

If you decide to study a programme of A-levels, you are only able to combine this programme with the carefully selected BTEC subjects based at the Sixth Form Centre. You are unable to study at both campuses.

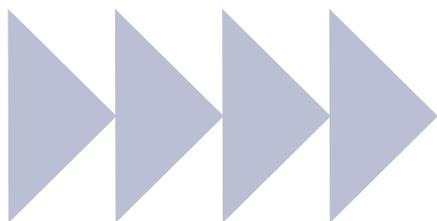
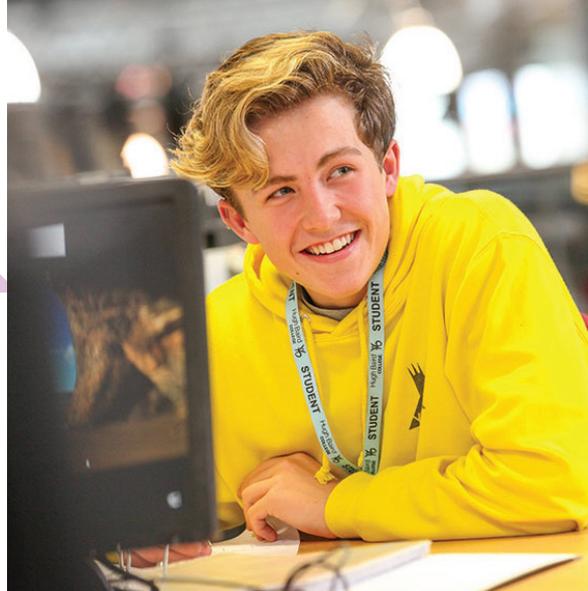
Q: Can I re-sit GCSE English and Maths?

There is the opportunity to re-sit Maths to achieve a grade 4.



How to apply

Applying to us is easy and all done online. We recommend that you apply to us as soon as possible, as some of our courses are really popular and fill up quickly. You can find the application form at: www.hughbaird.ac.uk/application-alevel and we have included some guidance below to help you.



1. Choose your three courses

Use this guide to help you decide what interests you and then do some further research on our website (www.hughbaird.ac.uk), or attend an Open Evening, to make your decisions about which courses you want to apply for.



2. Apply

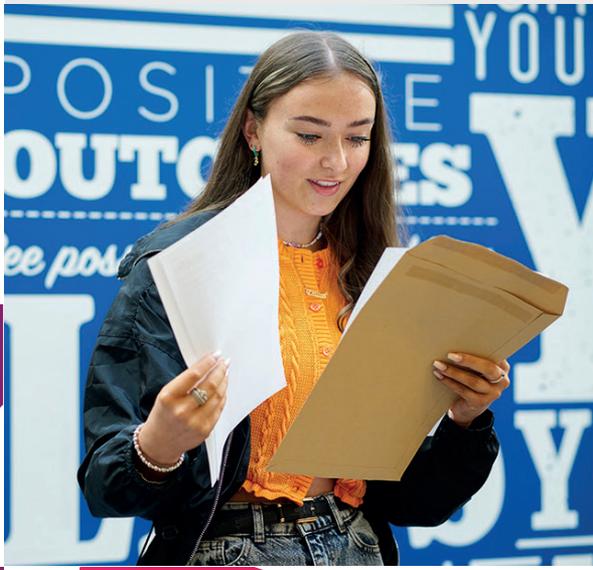
Visit our website at www.hughbaird.ac.uk/application-alevel and complete an application form*. This should only take about five minutes to complete, but please double check that you have included the correct contact details before submitting.



3. Interview

Once we've received your application, we'll send you an email inviting to take part in an interview with a tutor and find out more about the subjects. This will take place by telephone or in person and is a very informal chat to help decide which is the right course for you and a chance for you to get to know your future tutors. As long as they have all of the information they need, the tutor will confirm which course you will be offered during your interview.

4



4. Your offer

We make two different types of offer, depending on what qualifications you hold:

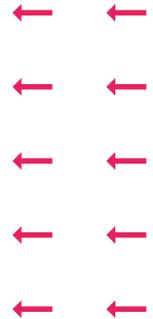
Conditional

If you are still studying, you will receive an offer for the course that is conditional on you achieving certain results; this will normally be based on your GCSE results. This means you will need to enrol when you get your results in August 2023. Nearer the time, we will write to you to invite you in to do this.

Unconditional

If you already have the qualifications needed for entry on to the course, your offer will be unconditional and your place on the course is secure, as long as you enrol with us. Enrolment will normally take place via an online form and we will contact you about this around June time.

5



5. Start with us

To help you prepare to start your course you'll be invited to attend a Discover Day and a New Starter Day, both of which will help you learn more about the A-levels available and studying at Sixth Form.

In August you will receive information about how to book your place at and enrolment event. If you do not enrol we cannot guarantee your place with us. You will then start your course in early September.

*If you would prefer a paper application form, you can request one by emailing admissions@hughbaird.ac.uk

Access to A-levels

This programme is designed for those who want to study A-levels but have narrowly missed out on the entry requirements. This programme will allow you to re-sit 4 GCSE's with a view to progressing onto an A-level programme after 1 year.

Subject choices you can study are:

- ▶ Maths
- ▶ English
- ▶ Biology
- ▶ Business Studies

Entry requirements:

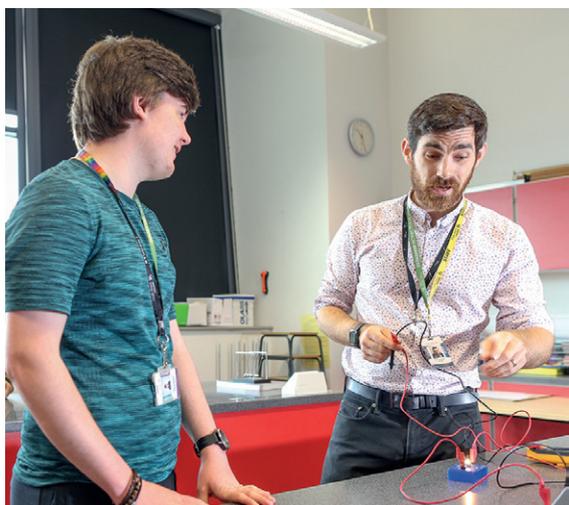
A minimum of 4 GCSEs at grade 3 or above, including English Language and Maths.

Please note: students who have not achieved a grade 4 in English Language and/or Maths must re-sit these subjects.

You must be 16 years old.

Progression:

It is anticipated that those who successfully complete this programme will progress onto a 2-year A-level study programme.



Art and Design (Fine Art)

WJEC H600



You will study historical and contemporary artists and crafts people to inform your own understanding and artistic practice. You will be introduced to a wide variety of possibilities and ways of working which will help you develop your own practice as a fine artist. You will be introduced to a broad range of skills, techniques and materials which will be an essential tool when progressing with your coursework projects and future work in the creative industries. You will be able to explore and experiment with a range of disciplines, photography, painting, ceramics, and printing to name a few. You will produce two coursework projects over the two years that develop and explore both your skills and ideas.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1 (60%):

Coursework unit made up of a Personal Investigation requiring a sketchbook to document project developments and a written essay relating to it.

Component 2 (40%):

Coursework unit based off an examination paper requiring a sketchbook to document project developments and final conclusions completed under examination conditions (15 hours).

Additional entry requirements

You must have achieved at least a 4 in GCSE Art, GCSE Photography or GCSE Graphics. Applicants without any of these qualifications will be subject to an additional interview to decide suitability.

Where to next?

Degrees and careers in Photography, Advertising, Marketing, Visual Merchandising, Fine Art, Graphic Design, Illustration, Film, Art History, Art Therapy, Art Conservation and Teaching.

Applied Science

BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate



Applied Science will provide you with a practical based learning programme covering the three areas of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

In Year 1, you will study several topics including: animal and plant cells; tissues; atomic structure and bonding; chemical and physical properties of substances related to their uses; waves and their application in communications.

In Year 2, you will explore the complex physiology of the human body systems looking at the lymphatic, musculoskeletal and digestive systems in detail.

Please note:

This course is only available to students studying two A-levels at the Sixth Form Centre at the South Sefton Campus.

How will I be assessed?

Examination 3 x 40mins (25%)

Internally marked assignment (25%)

Externally marked assignment (33.5%)

Internally marked assignment (16.5%)

Entry requirements

If you intend to study a programme of three A-level subjects or two A-level subjects and one BTEC Extended Certificate subject:

You will need a minimum of five GCSEs at grades 4 or above including English Language and Maths.

Additional entry requirements

You must have achieved at least a grade 5 in GCSE separate sciences or grades 5/5 in GCSE Dual Science.

You must also have achieved at least a grade 4 in GCSE Maths.

Where to next?

The course is especially suitable if you are considering careers in Nursing, Midwifery, Sports Science, Physiotherapy, Paramedics, Teaching and Environmental Science.



Biology

OCR H420

Biology is a fascinating subject to study at Advanced level. You will learn all about yourself and how your body works. You will find out about your place in ecosystems and how you can co-exist with the other organisms on planet Earth. At the cellular level, you will discover about the reactions that keep you alive and what happens when things go wrong in your DNA. You will learn about the immune response and the importance of vaccinations in controlling the spread of epidemics.

Students study OCR Biology A, in 6 Modules: Development of Practical Skills; Foundations in Biology; Exchange and Transport; Biodiversity, Evolution and Disease; Communication, Homeostasis and Energy; Genetics, Evolution and Ecosystems. In addition, students have the opportunity to carry out numerous experiments to complement their Scientific knowledge and develop their analysis, interpretation and evaluation skills.

How will I be assessed?

There are three exams at the end of the two years for A-level:

Paper 1:

Biological Processes - 2h 15m (100 marks)

Paper 2:

Biological Diversity - 2h 15m (100 marks)

Paper 3:

Unified Biology - 1h 30m (70 marks)

The fourth assessment component a Practical Endorsement.

Additional entry requirements

You must have achieved at least a grade 6 in GCSE Biology or 6/6 in GCSE Dual Science and you must also have achieved at least a grade 5 in GCSE Maths.

Where to next?

Students of Biology often go on to study Biological Sciences at university, in areas such as Biochemistry, Environmental Studies, Microbiology, Physiology and Zoology. They can also go into careers in Medicine, Health Care, Dentistry, Physiotherapy and Scientific Research.

Business

EDEXCEL 9BSO



How did the founders of YouTube manage to create a business worth over £800m in less than 2 years? Should Burberry have moved production to China? What should tobacco companies do to maintain sales if smoking is banned in the UK? Are zero-hour contracts acceptable? These are some of the issues you will consider when studying A-level Business.

You will investigate a wide range of real-life organisations that are facing problems to analyse the key factors involved and recommend the best course of action. You will develop your evaluative writing skills to make judgements on issues such as whether to launch a new product, whether to increase staff pay or give more to shareholders, and how to raise the finance needed to start up a business.

How will I be assessed?

All by external written examination
2 hours each.

Paper 1

Marketing, people and
global businesses (35%)

Paper 2

Business activities, decisions
and strategy (35%)

Paper 3

Investigating business
in a competitive environment (30%)

Additional entry requirements

Although there is no requirement to have studied this subject at GCSE, if you have done so then you must have achieved at least a grade 4. You must also have achieved at least a grade 4 in GCSE Maths.

Where to next?

Employment, higher degree/apprenticeship, and degrees in business, finance, marketing, law, languages and European business and any requiring high level analytical and communication skills.

Chemistry

AQA 7405



A-level Chemistry attempts to answer the big question 'what is the world made of' and it's the search for this answer that makes this subject so fascinating.

The course is split into 3 main areas of Chemistry; organic, inorganic and physical. You will study all three areas in the first year, which includes topics such as: atomic structure, amount of substance, bonding, periodicity, energetics, kinetics, equilibria, group 2 and 7, alcohols and organic chemistry.

In Year 2, you will cover the topics in more depth along with transition metals, acids and bases, spectroscopy, polymers and redox equilibria. There is a big emphasis on practical work throughout both years, with the practical element being assessed throughout the written examinations.

How will I be assessed?

There are three exams at the end of the two years for A-level. At least 15% of the marks for A-level Chemistry are based on what you learned in your practicals.

Examination – Paper 1

Physical and Inorganic Chemistry (35%) 2 hours

Examination – Paper 2

Physical and Organic Chemistry (35%) 2 hours

Examination – Paper 3

All content, with a focus on practical techniques and data analysis (30%) 2 hours

Additional entry requirements

You must have achieved at least a grade 6 in GCSE Chemistry or 6/6 in GCSE Dual Science.

You must also have achieved at least a grade 6 in GCSE Maths.

Where to next?

Careers include medicine, dentistry, pharmacology, molecular biologist, environmental chemist and forensic chemist.

Computer Science

OCR H446



You will study a range of topics within Computer Systems including characteristics of contemporary processors, software and software development, exchanging data, data types, data structures and their algorithms. You will investigate the legal, moral and ethical issues around computing and apply these to a range of contexts. You will also explore computational thinking, problem solving, programming and standard algorithms.

You will have the opportunity to undertake an independent programming project covering analysis of a problem, design of a solution, developing a solution and full evaluation. You will choose the problem to solve for the project and will implement the solution in your choice of programming language.

How will I be assessed?

Written exam:

Computer Systems – 2.5 hours (40%)

Written exam:

Algorithms and Programming
– 2.5 hours (40%)

Non-exam assessment

Programming Project (20%)

Assessments are via non-exam assessment, which will be externally moderated and external examination following the OCR specification.

Additional entry requirements

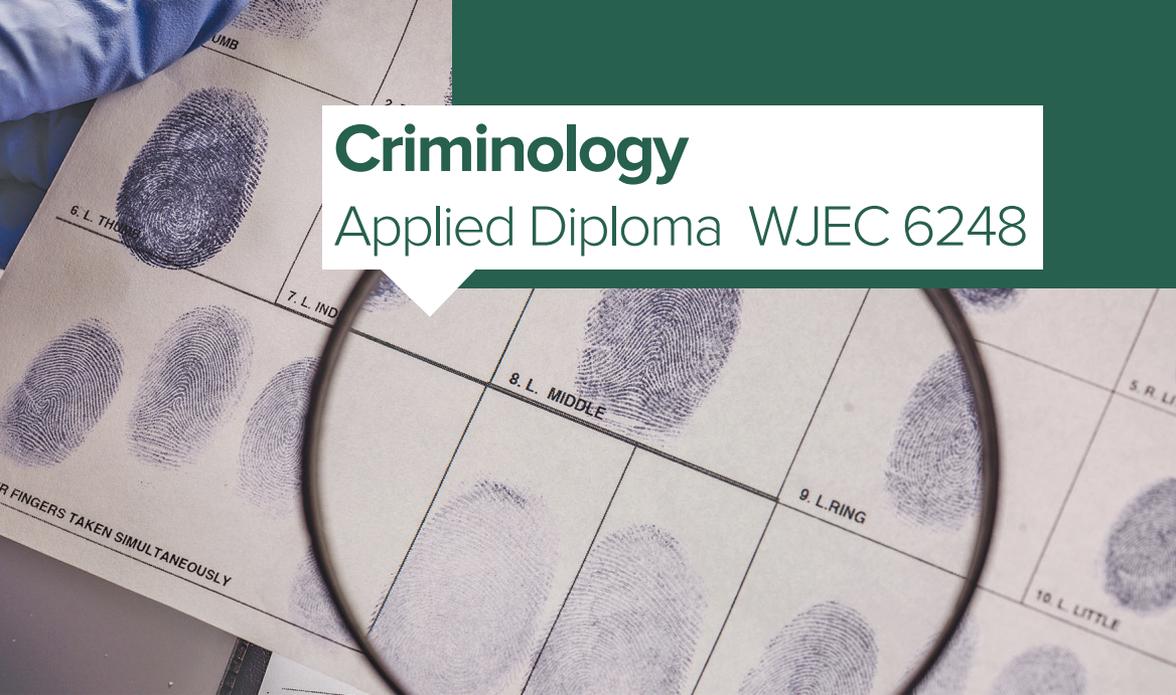
You must have achieved at least a grade 6 in GCSE Maths.

Where to next?

Computer Science offers a wide range of employment and higher education possibilities in careers, such as, Software Design and Software Engineering or you could become a Computer Analyst, Computer Programmer, IT Technician, Web-developer, IT Consultant or Games Designer.

Criminology

Applied Diploma WJEC 6248



You will study crime incorporating subjects such as sociology, psychology, law and philosophy. You will consider types of crime that are largely unreported and the serious impact of this. You will learn how to design a campaign to promote awareness for an unreported crime to encourage victims to come forward.

You will also learn a range of theories that explain criminality and apply these to real life cases. You will learn about the whole process of a crime from the crime scene to the courtroom and how a verdict is reached. You will also study how the criminal justice system works and assess how effective it is at dealing with offenders and how it could improve.

How will I be assessed?

In Year 1

Unit 1 – Controlled assessment (internally assessed)

Unit 2 – External examination

In Year 2

Unit 3 – Controlled assessment (internally assessed)

Unit 4 – External examination

Additional entry requirements

No additional entry requirements

Where to next?

Students can go on to study related undergraduate degrees at university and training courses in areas such as policing, forensics, criminal investigation, criminology, law, criminal psychology and politics.

Drama and Theatre

AQA 7262 H600



Drama and Theatre Studies gives you the opportunity to explore the translation of plays from 'page to stage', to discover the success of live theatre productions and apply a range of theatrical styles and approaches to performance. You will investigate theatre practice as a performer and as a member of the audience and study two plays from different periods, styles and genres responding to them from the perspective of a performer, director and designer. Practically, you will perform a scripted extract applying the techniques of an influential practitioner. You will also have the opportunity to work as part of a group devising an entirely original piece of theatre. You will immerse yourself in the world of performance through numerous theatre visits and will have the opportunity to visit the theatre capital of the world – Broadway, New York. This course inspires you to become independent theatre makers with the skills you need to go on to higher education, whether that is to study a course in drama and theatre or another subject.

How will I be assessed?

Written Exam

Drama and Theatre - 3hrs (40%)

Practical Exam

Making Theatre (30%)

Non-exam Assessment

Creating Original Drama (30%)

Additional entry requirements

Although there is no requirement to have studied this subject at GCSE, if you have studied GCSE Drama you must have achieved at least a grade 4. A willingness to participate in practical activities and performances is also essential.

Where to next?

You can progress to university courses in Drama, Performance and related subjects or vocational courses at drama and theatre schools. Drama and Theatre studies is an excellent foundation for careers in drama, theatre, performance media or any career requiring high level communication skills.

Economics

EDEXCEL 9ECO

Economics is about the world around us. It is concerned with how firms and the government set about meeting people's demands for things they want to consume. Some of the real-life questions that we consider are: Is it right that Harry Kane earns more than the Prime Minister? Should there be a tax on fast food? Should patients be charged to see their doctor?

Economists enjoy healthy debate over these issues. It is this controversy which makes Economics A-level a dynamic and lively subject. It will allow you the opportunity to make your own judgements and form your own opinions on these issues and many more.

How will I be assessed?

All by external written examination 2 hours each.

Paper 1

Markets and business behaviour (35%)

Paper 2

The national and global economy (35%)

Paper 3

Microeconomics and Macroeconomics (30%)

Additional entry requirements

Although there is no requirement to have studied this subject at GCSE, if you have done so then you must have achieved at least a grade 5. You must also have achieved at least a grade 5 in GCSE Maths.

Where to next?

Employment, higher degree/apprenticeship, or a degree. Economics is an ideal foundation for a variety of degree courses such as Economics, History, Business Geography, History, Law, or Maths. These degrees open the door to a wide range of professions.

English Language and Literature AQA 7707



English Language and Literature A Level is exciting because it enables you to study literary works ranging from the dystopian feminist fantasy *The Handmaid's Tale* to the famous, heartbreaking American classic *The Great Gatsby*. However, you will also explore non-literary texts and grammar, and have the opportunity to develop your skills in creative writing, so the A Level really does offer the best of both the literary and the linguistic worlds.

You will study 4 literary texts (a selection of Seamus Heaney's poetry, *The Handmaid's Tale*, *The Great Gatsby* and *A Streetcar Named Desire*) and an anthology of non-literary writing based on the theme of Paris. When studying *The Great Gatsby*, you will have the opportunity to write creatively, imagining yourself as one of the characters in the novel, and you will also be taught how to analyse your own work. Furthermore, you will produce a 2,500-3000 word investigation on a specific theme, comparing a literary and non-literary text of your choice.

How will I be assessed?

2 written external examinations:

Written exam:

Telling Stories – 3 hours (40%)

Written exam:

Exploring Conflict – 2.5 hours (40%)

Non exam assessment (coursework):

Personal Investigation (20%)

Additional entry requirements

You must achieve a minimum of a grade 4 in GCSE English Language and English Literature.

Where to next?

You can progress to university courses in English, Drama, Law, Journalism, Media and Cultural Studies, as well as any career requiring a high level of communication skills, such as publishing, public relations, teaching, marketing, journalism, film and television, and the legal profession.

A photograph of four students sitting at a table in a classroom. One student on the left is wearing glasses and a black jacket. A student in the center has long purple hair. Another student is looking at a book. The background shows a bulletin board and a window.

English Language

AQA 7702

You will study topics including language and society, textual variations and representations, child language development, and language diversity and change. You will explore how different groups in society use language according to societal influences such as ethnicity, occupation, class, gender, and sexuality. You will also learn all about the significance of dialects including global and regional varieties of English.

You will investigate and evaluate data and write analytical essays that challenge theoretical viewpoints. You will also produce your own creative writing pieces and critically evaluate your own work. On this course you will develop your research skills through producing a language investigation into a topic of your choice.

How will I be assessed?

Written exam:

- Language and the Individual – 2.5 hours (40%)
- Language Diversity and Change – 2.5 hours (40%)

Non-exam assessment:

Creative Writing and Commentary (10%)
Independent Language Investigation (10%)

Both of these will be externally moderated and external examination following the AQA specification.

Additional entry requirements

You must achieve a minimum of a grade 4 in both English Language and English Literature – a love of reading and writing is expected.

Where to next?

Degrees in English, Law, Journalism, Media and Cultural Studies, as well as any career requiring a high level of communication skills such as; Publishing, Public Relations, Marketing, Journalism, Media, Management, the legal professions and Teaching.

English Literature

AQA 7707



If you love reading, A Level Literature is the course for you. Across the two years, you will have the chance to read a wide range of literature, from Shakespearean drama through to modern poetry, and the coursework element allows you the opportunity to write about your own choice of texts. The course is genre based, focusing on tragedy in Year 12 and crime in Year 13, and you will also study exciting critical theories such as feminism, Marxism and eco criticism, learning how to apply them to a text.

In the first year you will study three texts from the genre of tragedy: King Lear, Tess of the D'Urbervilles and Death of a Salesman. In the second year, you will study the genre of crime writing by reading Atonement, Brighton Rock and The Rime of the Ancient Mariner. You will also learn to analyse unseen texts and produce a folder of coursework based on your own choice of novels and poetry.

How will I be assessed?

2 written external examinations:

Paper 1

Tragedy (2.5 hours) 40%

Paper 2

Crime (3 hours) 40%

Non-exam assessment (coursework):
(20%)

Additional entry requirements

You must achieve a minimum of a grade 4 in GCSE English Language and English Literature.

Where to next?

You can progress to university courses in English, Law, Journalism, Media and Cultural Studies, as well as any career requiring a high level of communication skills, such as publishing, public relations, teaching, marketing, journalism, film and television, and the legal profession.



Film Studies

EDUQAS A670QS

You will study a wide range of cinematic concepts and all aspects of the film industry, including the role of both audiences and producers, how films generate meaning, the key elements of film form, narrative, genre, and ideology. You will also gain an understanding of how we can view films as social documents that reflect the times in which they were made, and be given the opportunity to produce your own short films. The films studied include *Some Like It Hot* (Wilder, 1959), *Blade Runner: The Director's Cut* (Scott, 1982), *Under the Skin* (Glazer, 2013), *Moon* (Jones, 2009), *La La Land* (Chazelle, 2016) and *Beasts of the Southern Wild* (Zeitlin, 2012).

How will I be assessed?

Written exam:

Varieties of film and filmmaking
– 2hr 30 mins (35%)

Written exam:

Global Filmmaking Perspectives
– 2hr 30 mins (35%)

Coursework:

Film Production – (30%)

Where to next?

Film and TV production degrees, employment in the film/TV industries and specialist training in all technical disciplines.

Geography

EDUQAS A110QS

You will study physical Geography topics such as tectonic, coastal landscapes and the water and carbon cycles. You will also study human Geography topics such as globalisation, regeneration, global superpowers and health and human rights development.

You will produce your own independent investigation into a Geographical issue of your choosing related to one or more of the topics that are covered over the two years of study.

You will also be given the opportunity to attend multiple field trips over the duration of the course including investigations into sand dune succession in Formby and regeneration in South Liverpool.

How will I be assessed?

Written exam:

Physical Geography – 2 hours 15 minutes (30%)

Written exam:

Human Geography – 2 hours and 15 minutes (30%)

Written exam:

Synoptic Investigation – 2 hours and 15 minutes (20%)

Non-exam assessment:

4000 word investigation into a Geographic issue of your choosing (20%)

Additional entry requirements

You must have achieved at least a grade 4 in GCSE Geography.

Where to next?

Degrees and careers in Geography, Geology, Ecology, Oceanography, Urban Development, Cartography, Climatology, Meteorology, Environmental Policy, Conservation and Global Development.



Health and Social Care

BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate

This course is only available to students studying two A-levels at the Sixth Form Centre. Students are recommended to only study one BTEC course alongside two A-levels.

In your first year, you will study Human Lifespan Development, developing your knowledge and understanding of patterns of human growth and development. You will learn about factors that can influence human growth, development and human health, across all life stages. You will also study Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs which looks at the principles behind providing quality care and support. In the second year you will study Working in Health and Social Care that will help you to understand what it is like to work in the Health and Social Care sector.

Finally, you will study physiological disorders so that you understand how to provide appropriate treatment and care.

How will I be assessed?

Year 1:

Written exam: Human Lifespan Development
Internally marked assignment: Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs.

Year 2:

Written exam: Working in Health and Social Care.
Internally marked assignment: Physiological Disorders and their Care.
The course is assessed via internally assessed coursework and external examinations.

Additional entry requirements

You must have achieved at least a grade 4 in GCSE separate sciences or grades 4/4 in GCSE Dual Science.

Where to next?

Most students progress onto a range of Health, Social Care or Early Years related degree courses at university. However, some students seek employment in Health, Residential Care or Early Years' settings. Did you know, the NHS is the largest employer in Europe?

History

AQA 7042



In A-level History you will study two main topics for the examinations. The first topic involves learning about Russian history from the revolution of 1917 and its aftermath through to Russian involvement in World War II and the death of Josef Stalin in 1953.

The second module covers Tudor England and how the reigns of the monarchs from Henry VII through to Elizabeth I transformed the religious, political and social landscape of England. You will develop many key skills such as writing analytical and balanced essays, primary source evaluation and analysis of historical interpretations.

For the third non-examined topic, you will get the opportunity to carry out your own independent historical research to produce an investigation into civil rights in the USA from 1865 – 1968.

How will I be assessed?

Written exam:

The Tudors: England 1485-1603
- 2.5 hours (40%)

Written exam:

Revolution and Dictatorship:
Russia 1917-1953 - 2.5 hours (40%)

Non-examined assessment:

Civil Rights in the USA 1865 - 1968 (20%)

Assessments are via one non-examined assessment, which will be externally moderated and two external examinations following the AQA specification.

Additional entry requirements

You must have achieved at least a grade 4 in GCSE History.

Where to next?

A Level History is highly valued by universities and employers. History students have strong analytical and communication skills which can be put to good use in careers such as business, finance, HR, law, journalism and teaching.

Information Technology

BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate

This course is only available to students studying two A-levels at the Sixth Form Centre. Students are recommended to only study one BTEC course alongside two A-levels.

In year 1, you will explore the impact of social media on the ways in which businesses promote their products and services. You will learn how to develop a plan to use social media within a business context and then implement its use by creating profiles to build your own online community for the business. You will then move on to study the design, creation, testing and evaluation of a relational database system to manage information. Within a given scenario, you will examine the structure of data and its origins and how an efficient data design follows through to an effective and useful database.

In year 2, you will study the role of computer systems and the implications of their use in personal and professional situations and you will examine issues related to the use of IT systems and the impact they have on organisations and individuals.

How will I be assessed?

Year 1:

Coursework:

Using Social Media in Business Controlled assessment: Creating systems to Manage Information

Timed assessment

(over a five day period) – 10 hours

Year 2:

Coursework:

Data Modeling

Written exam:

Information Technology Systems – 2 hours

Assessments are via internally assessed coursework and external examination following the EDEXCEL specification.

Where to next?

IT offers a wide range of employment and higher education possibilities in areas such as; social media marketing, multimedia, systems analysis, information system management, virtual reality, computer animation, interactive computer entertainment and computing.



Law

AQA 7162

You will study both substantive (concrete areas) law and non-substantive law on this course.

The substantive content in the area of criminal law ranges from non-fatal offences like common assault through to murder and theft offences. Things like attempts and defences will also be covered. For the tort law area, you will study topics such as negligence, economic loss, occupiers' liability and private nuisance. For the contract law element, you will study how contract are formed, the rules for what can be included in a contract and the rules for ending a contract, in addition to remedies when the rule are not followed. For these topics, you will learn how to apply and analyse the law to situations designed to test your knowledge of the law, which mirror real-life situations.

This is underpinned by the study of the English Legal System, which is mostly covered in year one and the study of the theories of the law, such as links with morality, justice and conflicts, which is covered in year two.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through three, two-hour exams and they are broadly split into three content areas:

Paper 1: – Criminal Law

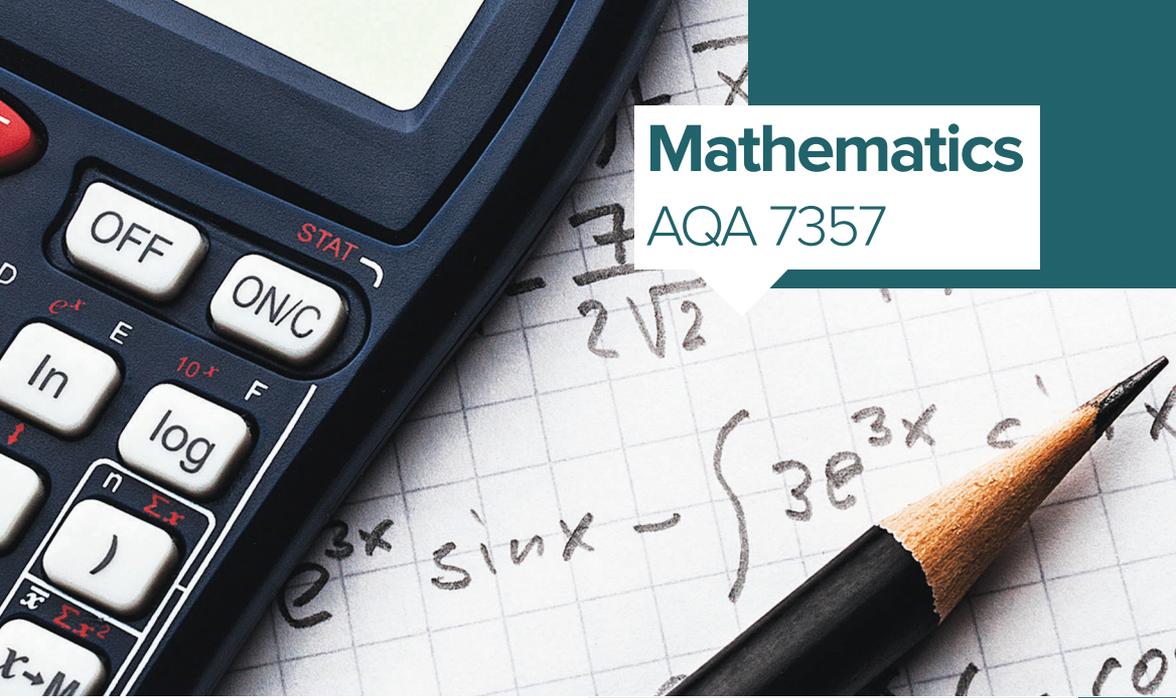
Paper 2: – Tort Law

Paper 2: – Contract Law

However, the English Legal System, Law Making and Theories of the law are interspersed throughout the papers.

Where to next?

Degrees in Law, Criminology, Psychology, Business, and European Studies are only some of the options available to you. Some students go on to be Solicitors, Barristers or Legal Executives but equally Law has many transferable skills that can be useful for working in other sectors. You could progress directly to a law-based apprenticeship or employment.



Mathematics

AQA 7357

You will study a range of topics from Pure Mathematics, including proof, algebra, functions, coordinate geometry, sequences and series, trigonometry, exponentials and logarithms, differentiation, integration, and vectors.

In addition, one third of the course consists of a combination of mechanics and statistics.

Mathematics is all about problem solving. Success in A-level Mathematics requires good algebra skills, determination when solving a problem, and commitment. Above all, you must enjoy doing mathematics!

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1:

(Pure Mathematics) 2 hours (33.3%)

Paper 2:

(Pure Mathematics and Mechanics)
2 hours (33.3%)

Paper 3:

(Pure Mathematics and Statistics)
2 hours (33.3%)

Additional entry requirements

GCSE Mathematics grade 6 or above.

It would benefit you greatly to take a Science with Mathematics such as Biology or Chemistry, or especially Physics or Computer Science.

Where to next?

A-level Mathematics is a facilitating subject which means it is one of the most useful for entry to a wide range of university degree courses. It is essential for students wishing to study Physics, Engineering, Chemistry and, of course, Mathematics at degree level.

Further Mathematics

AQA 7367

Mathematics is the only subject at A-level with an additional – but not compulsory – second A-level course, that is, Further Mathematics, which does what it says: it goes further into the areas of Mathematics studied at A-level and covers additional topics too. The latter include Complex Numbers, Matrices, Further Calculus, Further Algebra and Functions, Polar Coordinates, Hyperbolic Functions, Further Vectors, as well as additional applied topics, for example, Hypothesis Testing for association, Poisson Distribution, Moments and Centres of Mass, Work, Energy, Power and Circular Motion.

Further Mathematics must be taken alongside A-level Mathematics. To study A-level Further Mathematics, it is essential to enjoy Mathematics and be fully committed when challenged by problem-solving tasks.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1:

(Pure Mathematics) 2 hours (33.3%)

Paper 2:

(Pure Mathematics) 2 hours (33.3%)

Paper 3:

(Mechanics and Statistics) 2 hours (33.3%)

Additional entry requirements

GCSE Mathematics grade 8 or above.

Further Mathematics must be taken alongside A-level Mathematics.

Where to next?

A-level Further Mathematics is highly prized by universities and employers in whatever area you study. However, it is essential to take Further Mathematics to at least A-level if you wish to study Mathematics, Physics or Engineering at some top universities.



Media Studies

EDUQAS A680QS

How do we find out information about what is going on in the world? For some it might be through TV news or news websites, for others it's through social media. How can we rely on the fact that these representations are a true and fair version of the world?

We can't!

In Media Studies you will explore how we use the media and how it constructs our understanding of the world. Through analysis you will learn about how the media appeals to us and how multi-billion pound industries manage to encourage us to spend our money.

How will I be assessed?

Written exam:
Media Products, Audiences & Industries
2hr 15mins 35% of course

Written exam:
Media Forms & Products in Depth
2hrs 30mins 35% of course

Non-Examined Assessment:
Cross Media Project – Independent project where students will create two linked media products of their own.

Additional entry requirements

You must have achieved a Grade 4 in English Language.

If Media has been studied previously then a Grade 4 is required.

Where to next?

Degrees and careers in Media and Film Theory, Media and Film production, Broadcasting, Journalism, Screen Writing, Public Relations, Event Planning and Marketing.

Physical Education (PE) EDUQAS A550QS

A-level Physical Education is split into 5 topic areas; exercise physiology, anatomy and physiology, sports psychology, skill acquisition, and sports and society. You will study three areas in the first year, which includes topics such as: skeletal and muscular system, short term effects of training, methods of training and theories of learning. You will also complete practical assessments in your chosen sports activity, as well as create a Personal Performance Profile.

In Year 2, you will cover topics such as motivation, personality, commercialisation and globalisation of sports, ethics and deviance. You will continue to be assessed in your practical activity, and complete your Personal Performance Profile.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Exploring concepts in physical education

Written examination: 2 hours (35%)

Component 2: Evaluating physical education

Written examination: 2 hours (35%)

Component 3: Improving Personal Performance in physical education

Non-exam assessment (30%)

Additional entry requirements

You must have studied GCSE PE or Level 2 BTEC Sport and have achieved at least a grade 5 (GCSE) or Distinction (BTEC).

You must also have achieved at least a grade 4 in GCSE Science.

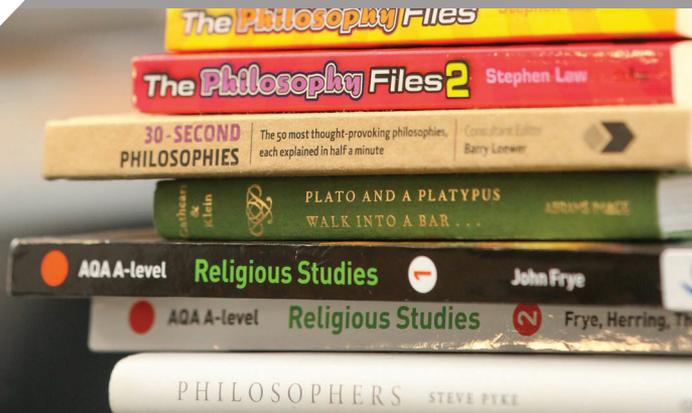
Given the practical content of this course, you must play a competitive sport for a recognised team outside of School / College.

Where to next?

Degrees and careers include Sports Psychology, Teaching, Nutrition, Sports Development and Sports Coaching.

Philosophy and Ethics

AQA 7062



Studying Philosophy and Ethics will help you to expand your mind by discussing possible answers to deep and challenging questions.

In Philosophy you will judge arguments for and against the existence of God and of immortal souls, as well as the possibility and believability of miracles, and the meaningfulness of religious language.

In Ethics you will discuss free will, meta-ethics, conscience, Virtue Ethics, Utilitarianism, Situation Ethics, Natural Law, and Kantian Ethics. You will also study issues of human and animal life and death.

The final part of the subject is 'dialogues with religion' in which you will examine the meaning of life, conflicts between science and faith, war, eco-theology, life after death, and sexual ethics.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed entirely in examinations, which will be divided between Philosophy and Ethics, and the Dialogues between Philosophy, Ethics, and Religion:

Written exam:

Philosophy and Ethics – 3 hours (50%)

Written exam:

Dialogues between Philosophy, Ethics, and Religion – 3 hours (50%)

Additional Entry Requirements

It is advantageous for students to have taken GCSE RS/RE and achieved a grade 4 or above.

Where to next?

Degrees in Medicine, Law, Journalism, Theology, Publishing, Philosophy or Politics. Philosophy and Ethics is invaluable if you wish to work for charity organisations, and any career requiring high level communication and analytical skills, such as, Publishing, Journalism, Management, the legal professions and Teaching.

Photography

EDUQAS A656QS

You will study historical and contemporary photographers to inform your own understanding and photographic practice. You will be introduced to a wide variety of possibilities and ways of working which will help you develop your own practice as a creative photographer. You will be introduced to a broad range of skills which will be an essential tool when progressing with your photography in the future.

You will be encouraged to work in both film and digital formats, you will be shooting in different locations, both in the studio and out. You will be able to explore and experiment with other media including scanography, cyanotype, digital manipulation, and appropriate combinations of media.

How will I be assessed?

Component One (60%)

Coursework unit made up of a Personal Investigation requiring a sketchbook to document project developments and a written essay relating to it.

Component Two (40%)

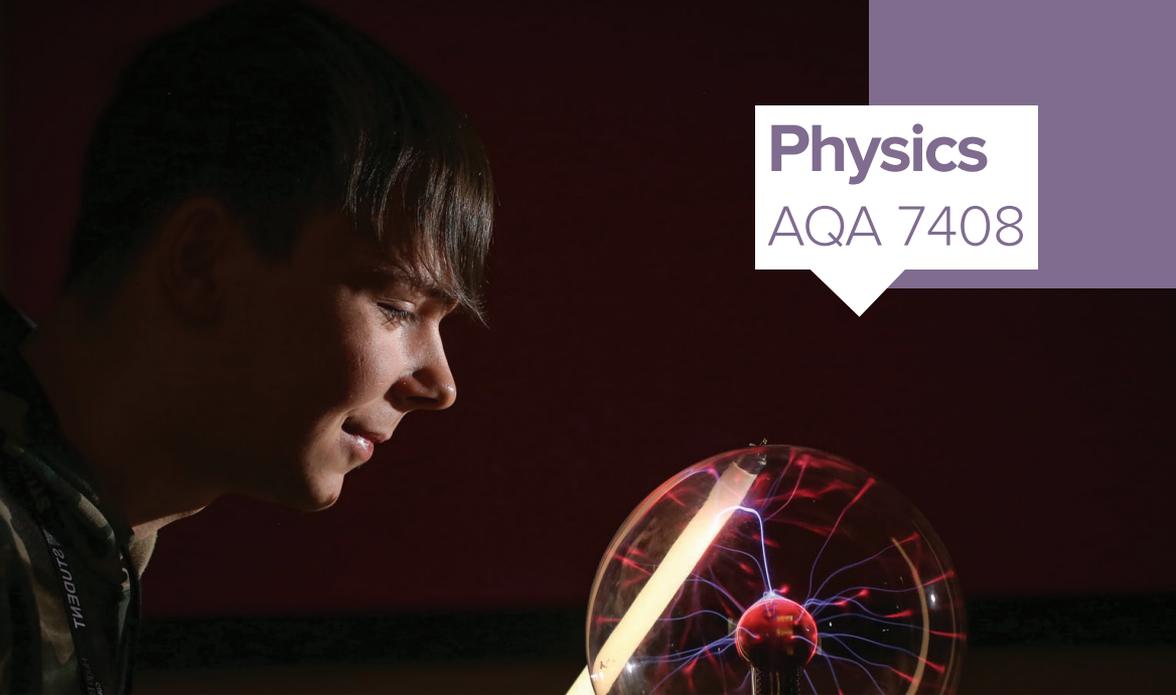
Coursework unit based off an examination paper requiring a sketchbook to document project developments and final conclusions completed under examination conditions (15 hours).

Additional entry requirements:

You must have achieved at least a 4 in GCSE Art, GCSE Photography or GCSE Graphics. Applicants without any of these qualifications will be subject to an additional interview to decide suitability.

Where to next?

Degrees and careers in Photography, Advertising, Marketing, Visual Merchandising, Fine Art, Graphic Design, Media Studies, Film, Digital Marketing, Exhibition Curation and Teaching.

A young man with dark hair is shown in profile, looking intently at a glowing plasma ball. The plasma ball is a spherical glass globe containing a central metal electrode and several thin metal rods. It is filled with a gas that glows with vibrant red and blue light, creating a complex, branching pattern of filaments. The background is dark, making the glowing ball stand out. The man's face is partially illuminated, showing his concentration.

Physics

AQA 7408

A-level Physics will introduce the laws that define the universe around you.

In your first year you will begin with an introduction into the strange world of quantum phenomena where you will learn about the fundamental particles responsible for all the interactions in the known universe. From here you will begin to move into the macroscopic world developing an understanding of classical mechanics, waves and electricity.

The second year will cover topics such as circular motion, gravitational fields, thermal physics and nuclear physics. For your final module you will sit an optional unit which will be physics for engineers, physics for medicine, astrophysics or turning points in the development of physics.

How will I be assessed?

- Examination – Paper 1
- A-level (34%) 2 hours
- Examination – Paper 2
- A-level (34%) 2 hours
- Examination – Paper 3
- A-level (32%) 2 hours

Additional entry requirements

You must have achieved at least a grade 6 in GCSE Physics or 6/6 in GCSE Dual Science.

You must also have achieved at least a grade 6 in GCSE Maths.

Where to next?

A successful Physics university graduate can expect to be employed within the engineering, medical, computing or finance sectors. Physics graduates are highly sought after in a wide range of fields as you will have gained a high level of problem-solving. Physics opens doors to a wide selection of career paths making it an excellent choice to study at university.

Politics

AQA 7152



You will study the government and politics of the UK including the roles and powers of the prime minister and parliament, political parties, elections and factors influencing voting. You will also study the corresponding parts of the USA political system including their Constitution, Congress and presidency and compare the political systems of the two countries.

You will also learn about the key political ideas of liberalism, socialism, conservatism and nationalism including the origins of those ideas and some of the key thinkers that have developed them.

How will I be assessed?

Written exam:

Government and Politics of the UK
2 hours (33%)

Written exam:

US and Comparative Politics
2 hours (33%)

Written exam:

Political Ideas
2 hours (33%)

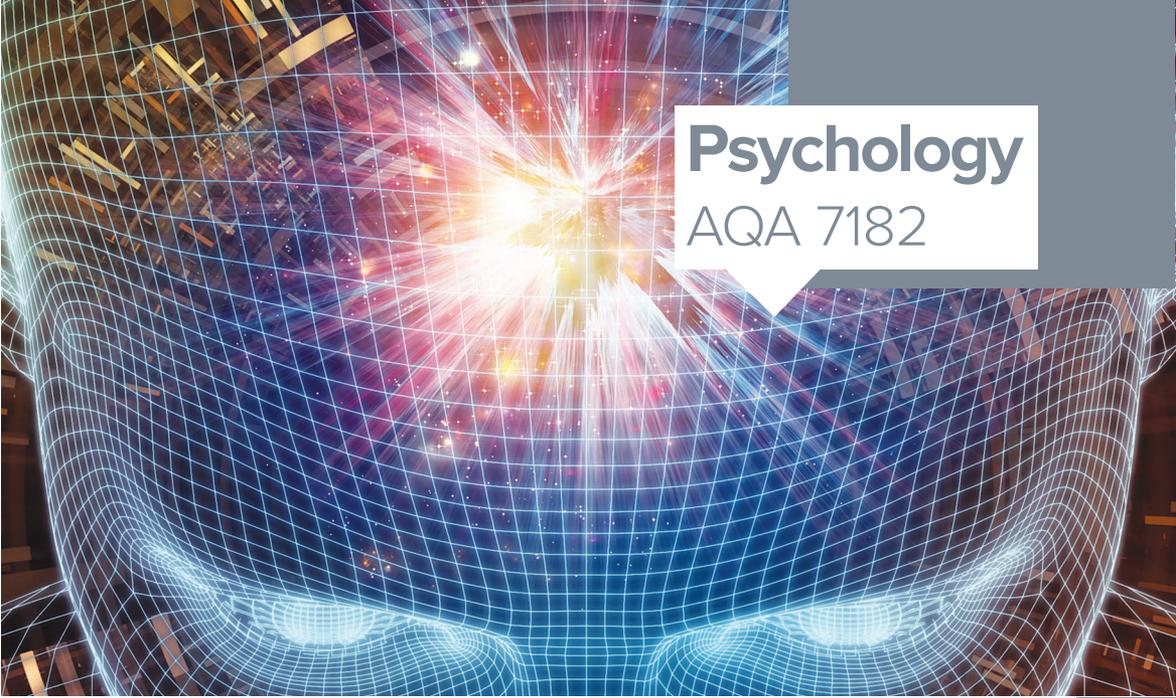
Additional entry requirements

No additional requirements although an active interest in politics and current affairs would be a distinct advantage.

Where to next?

Degrees in Politics, History, English, Law, Economics, Philosophy, Journalism, Media and International Relations.

A-level Politics is highly valued by universities and employers. Politics students have strong analytical and communication skills which can be used in careers such as business, finance, HR, law, the civil service, journalism, teaching and politics.



Psychology

AQA 7182

A-level Psychology gives students the opportunity to study the science of the mind. Psychology allows us to understand the origins of a range of behaviours, from examples of group aggression to schizophrenia. The course attempts to explain behaviours from a variety of perspectives, such as sequences of learning, childhood experiences and biological causes, like neuroanatomy. Psychology students are required to combine their knowledge and skills from GCSE English, Maths and Science into their study.

In Year 1, you will focus on how research is conducted and the key decisions that underpin data collection. You will also study a wide range of topics from theories of memory to the functioning of the nervous system.

Year 2 allows you to develop strong skills of analysis and critical evaluation while studying fewer topics. In addition to this, you will study the wider impact of issues raised by Psychological research.

How will I be assessed?

There are three exams at the end of the two years for A-level, all of which are two hours long. There is no coursework on this course.

Examination:

Paper 1 - Introductory topics in Psychology (33.3%) 2 hours

Paper 2 - Psychology in context (33.3%) 2 hours

Paper 3 - Issues and options in Psychology (33.3%) 2 hours

Additional entry requirements

You must achieve at least a grade 4 in GCSE Maths, and at least grade 4/4 in Double Science, or Single Science Biology grade 4.

There is no requirement to have studied this subject at GCSE, but if you have done so then you must achieve at least a grade 5.

Where to next?

You can study Psychology or other related degree courses, e.g. Child Development, Educational Psychology, at university. You can also combine Psychology with a wide range of other subjects.

Sociology

AQA 7192

Sociology offers a fascinating insight into social and cultural issues. It combines theoretical perspectives and research evidence to explain how societies work and the reasons for inequalities in society. Sociology provides an understanding of the power of society in shaping who we are.

Topics studied include families and households, education, research methods and sociological theories, belief systems and crime and deviance.

How will I be assessed?

Written exam:

Education with Theory and Methods (33.3%)

Written exam:

Families, Households and Beliefs in Society (33.3%)

Written exam:

Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods (33.3%)

All assessments are via external examination following the AQA specification.

Where to next?

You can go to university to study degrees in Sociology, Criminology, Youth Justice, Law, Nursing or Social Work. A sociological understanding is useful for any career working with people and is specifically part of the training for many. Sociologists take up careers in Teaching, Law, the medical and caring professions, Counselling, the Police, Social/ Probation Work, Journalism, Sales and Management.



Spanish

EDUQAS A810QS

Spanish tests all four language skills; listening, reading, speaking and writing, whilst building upon already familiar topics from GCSE such as, education, Spanish tradition and culture, entertainment, trends and travelling.

In year 2, you will further develop your language skills through the study of more advanced topics including Spanish history and Spanish literature from 1936. You will also study a Spanish film.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1:
Speaking (30%)

Component 2:
Listening, Reading and Translation (50%)

Component 3:
Critical and Analytical Response in Writing (20%)

Additional entry requirements

You must have achieved at least a grade 6 in GCSE Spanish.

Where to next?

You can go to university to study degrees in Spanish as a single degree or combined with a vast choice of other subjects; Spanish and another language, Spanish and business or European studies. Even degrees in English can have foreign language components. Did you know that language graduates are sought after by employers in all industries? Fluency in a language can lead to a career in Teaching, Interpreting, Translating, Journalism, Tourism, Business and Education.

Statistics

EDEXCEL 9ST0

You will study a range of topics including Numerical Measures, Graphs, Diagrams, Sampling Methods, Probability Distributions of Random Variables, Correlation, Linear Regression, Hypothesis Testing, Experimental Design, Goodness of Fit, and Analysis of Variance.

You will develop a critical eye towards the multiple factors that may interact in real life situations while analysing data, such as population characteristics, environmental considerations, and control variables.

You will also appreciate how technology has enabled us to collect, visualise, and analyse, large data sets in decision-making processes.

How will I be assessed?

This qualification follows the Edexcel specification and consists of three papers that you will be attempting at the end of the 2-year course:

Paper 1 (Data and Probability)

2 hours (33.3%)

Paper 2 (Statistical Inference)

2 hours (33.3%)

Paper 3 (Statistics in Practice)

2 hours (33.3%)

Additional entry requirements

In addition to the college's general entry requirements, it is necessary that you have a minimum achievement of Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics.

Where to next?

A-level Statistics will facilitate entry to a wide range of university degree courses and in jobs, such as Data analyst, Data scientist, Financial risk analyst, Investment analyst, Market researcher, Operational researcher and Statistician.

What next?

Thank you for reading our course guide, we hope you found it a useful insight into our College and what we can offer you.

Firstly, we recommend that you attend an Open Event (details below) to get a feel for the College, meet our staff and take a look around our outstanding facilities. We would also recommend that you apply to us as soon as possible, as some of our courses are really popular and fill up quickly. See below for how to apply.

How to apply

Applying to us is quick and easy, and you can do so via our website. You can find the application form at: www.hughbaird.ac.uk/application-a-level

You can read about what happens once you have submitted an application on pages 14 and 15 of this guide.

Open Events 2022/23

At our open events, you can take a look around our facilities, chat with tutors about the courses that interest you and seek advice and guidance on your career plans, finance and support with our specialist teams.

South Sefton Campus

- ▶ Sixth Form Open Evenings
Thursday 26 January 2023,
5pm-7pm
- ▶ A-level Discover Day
Thursday 23 March 2023
- ▶ Sixth Form Enrolment Days
We will write to you in August with instructions as to how to book your place on one of the following days:
Thursday 24 August 2023, 10am-4pm
Friday 25 August 2023, 9am-5pm



How to find us

To help your journey to us go smoothly, you can find directions online:
www.hughbaird.ac.uk/how-to-find-us to help you plan your travel in advance.





Our South Sefton Campus is easy to get to from all parts of Merseyside by bus, train and car.

We would love to hear your comments about this guide

Please email marketing@hughbaird.ac.uk.

Please note: every effort has been taken to ensure that the details contained within this guide were accurate at the time of going to print. However, courses and information can change over time.

For the most up-to-date information, please visit www.hughbaird.ac.uk

There are minimum numbers of students required for each course to run. Should there be insufficient numbers to run a particular course, then every effort will be made to enrol students on a similar, appropriate course. Hugh Baird College reserves the right to make changes and improvements to the provision of courses and other details contained within this publication.

Important information for you

Disclosure and Barring Service

Please note, to gain access to some courses you will need to go through a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. If you have criminal convictions or cautions, please do not be put off from applying for the course. Your acceptance on to the course will depend on the nature of any convictions and will be at the discretion of Hugh Baird College and your placement provider.

If you would like to discuss this issue in confidence, please contact Student Services on 0151 353 4444, or call in to speak to them in person.

Disabilities, Assistance and Facilities

Hugh Baird College is committed to the fair and equal treatment of disabled people. We are working hard with staff and students to promote equal opportunities for people who have disabilities and we want everyone who studies and works within Hugh Baird College to feel included in all of our services.

We can help if you have a physical disability and/or a visual or hearing impairment and our trained staff offer friendly support and advice and the loan of specialist equipment.

For a copy of our Disability Statement, please visit www.hughbaird.ac.uk or call 0151 353 4444.

Committed to Equality and Diversity

We have a long standing commitment to promoting equality of opportunity and valuing diversity amongst our students and the communities within which we operate. We want you to feel supported while you're with us at Hugh Baird College.

To view our Equality and Diversity Statement and Policy, please visit www.hughbaird.ac.uk







Hugh Baird College
South Sefton Campus,
Sterrix Lane,
Litherland,
L30 2DB

Call: **0151 353 4444**
Email: enquiries@hughbaird.ac.uk



www.hughbaird.ac.uk/a-levels