



# Post-16 Prospectus





# Welcome to Watling Sixth Form



It is with great pride and anticipation that I welcome you to Watling Sixth Form, which is built on the strong foundations of Watling Academy's core values: Respect, Responsibility and Kindness. These values are not just words on a page, they are the principles that shape our culture, guide our decisions, and define who we are as a community.

Whether you are continuing your journey with us from Year 11 or joining us from another school, you are stepping into a vibrant, inclusive and ambitious environment where you will be supported to thrive.

At Watling Sixth Form, we believe in empowering young people to become confident, independent learners who are ready to take on the challenges of the modern world. Our curriculum is designed to help you become an expert in your chosen subjects, while our dedicated staff are here to guide and inspire you every step of the way. You will benefit from high-quality teaching, personalised support, and a wide range of enrichment opportunities that will help you grow both academically and personally.

We are committed to preparing you for life beyond school, whether that's university, an apprenticeship, or the world of work. Through leadership opportunities, careers guidance, and a strong sense of community, we aim to equip you with the skills, knowledge and confidence to succeed in whatever path you choose.

Joining Watling Sixth Form means becoming part of something dynamic and forward-thinking. It means being part of a community that values ambition, celebrates individuality, and believes in the power of education to transform lives.

I look forward to welcoming you and working together to shape the future of our Sixth Form.

**Mrs Harris**

Deputy Headteacher – Post-16

# Sixth Form at Watling

## What makes Watling Academy the best choice for your child's Post-16 education?

### Modern, Bespoke Facilities:

Our modern school facilities provide an excellent space for Post-16 study, our school building and facilities are the newest in Milton Keynes which will accommodate Sixth Form students. Our Sixth Form centre has been designed specifically to provide an inspiring and professional learning environment, with a space for students to study, socialise and grab refreshments. This centre is separate to the main school building and is exclusively for use by Sixth Form students; many other schools do not have this facility.

### A Curriculum Designed for our Students:

Our curriculum has been carefully crafted to address local and modern learning needs while preparing students for the demands of the contemporary workplace. We will equip them with the knowledge, skills, and experience required for success in higher education, apprenticeships, or employment.

### Focus on the Future:

We are committed to preparing students for the challenges of the modern world, fostering skills such as critical thinking, collaboration, and resilience. With a blend of academic rigor and enrichment opportunities, our Sixth Form will empower students to achieve their ambitions. With a blended approach to learning, we will include the opportunity for students to work from home and access elements of remote learning to reflect the modern workplace.

### Building on an Excellent Foundation:

At Watling Academy, every Sixth Form student becomes part of a community where they are known, valued, and supported. Whether joining us from Year 11 at Watling or from another school, students benefit from a welcoming environment that prioritises continuity in pastoral care and high expectations, while offering fresh opportunities to thrive. Our aim is to ensure all students can focus on achieving their potential and take full advantage of the exciting academic and enrichment experiences available.



# Curriculum

At Watling Academy, we believe that all students should have access to a balanced and ambitious curriculum across a broad range of subjects. Our curriculum is designed to provide students with breadth and depth of knowledge, drawing on the best that has been thought, said and done, and to challenge students to think critically about the world around them. Our curriculum supports students in developing key skills, habits and dispositions to be successful independent learners, to enable them to access a full curriculum and to make continued progress in their learning.

## Student programme of study (Year 12):

Activity	Hours per week (2 week timetable)
Subject 1	4.5
Subject 2	4.5
Subject 3	4.5
Tutorial/Assembly	1
Supervised Study	1.5
Student Leadership	1
Enrichment Option	1
<b>Total per Week</b>	<b>18</b>

Most students will study 3 subjects. Discussions regarding a 4th A Level subject will be welcomed. Studying an additional A Level will be subject to individual discussions regarding prior attainment, aptitude and requirements for further education.

As Sixth Formers, we know that it is important that students become experts in their chosen subjects and are given the opportunities to go beyond learning that takes place in the classroom. We provide time with teachers and for independent study throughout the week to learn, revise and apply key content from their curriculum. Time each week is also allocated to preparing students for their next steps, including a bespoke personal development programme, a strong focus on student leadership and enrichment opportunities.

Alongside subject specific content, our curriculum capitalises on opportunities to develop our students' understanding of three specific areas:

**Milton Keynes:** Students will gain a deep understanding of the past, present and future development of Milton Keynes. This will support students in their understanding of issues affecting our city and their ability to play an informed role in working to solve them.

**STEM:** A focus on developing STEM related skills across the curriculum will enable students to take full advantage of opportunities within this growing employment sector in Milton Keynes.

**Environmental Sustainability:** Students will develop a deep understanding of the environmental challenges facing our local and global community. This will equip students with the knowledge and skills to make informed and confident contributions to tackling these environmental issues.

Our curriculum encourages all students to develop the Watling values of Respect, Responsibility and Kindness.

# Pastoral

## The Role of the Sixth Form Mentor

The Sixth Form Mentor at Watling Academy is a teacher with the skills and experience to guide Year 12 and 13 students through their Sixth Form journey. This role builds upon the foundational support provided by tutors in Years 7-11, focusing on academic achievement, personal development, and preparation for future destinations. The Sixth Form Mentor will provide support for individual students, helping them navigate their Sixth Form journey and prepare them for a successful transition to their next destination, whether it be higher education, apprenticeships, or the workforce.

- Mentors will be allocated to groups of students who have skills and interests in a similar area.
- A student's programme of study will be considered.
- Students will see their mentor in tutorial sessions, assemblies and in individual mentoring sessions.

The mentor will create sessions which are designed to support the development of the mentor group. This may include opportunities for trips, visits and guest speakers.

The Sixth Form Mentor will communicate regularly with parents or guardians, updating them on their child's progress and addressing any concerns.

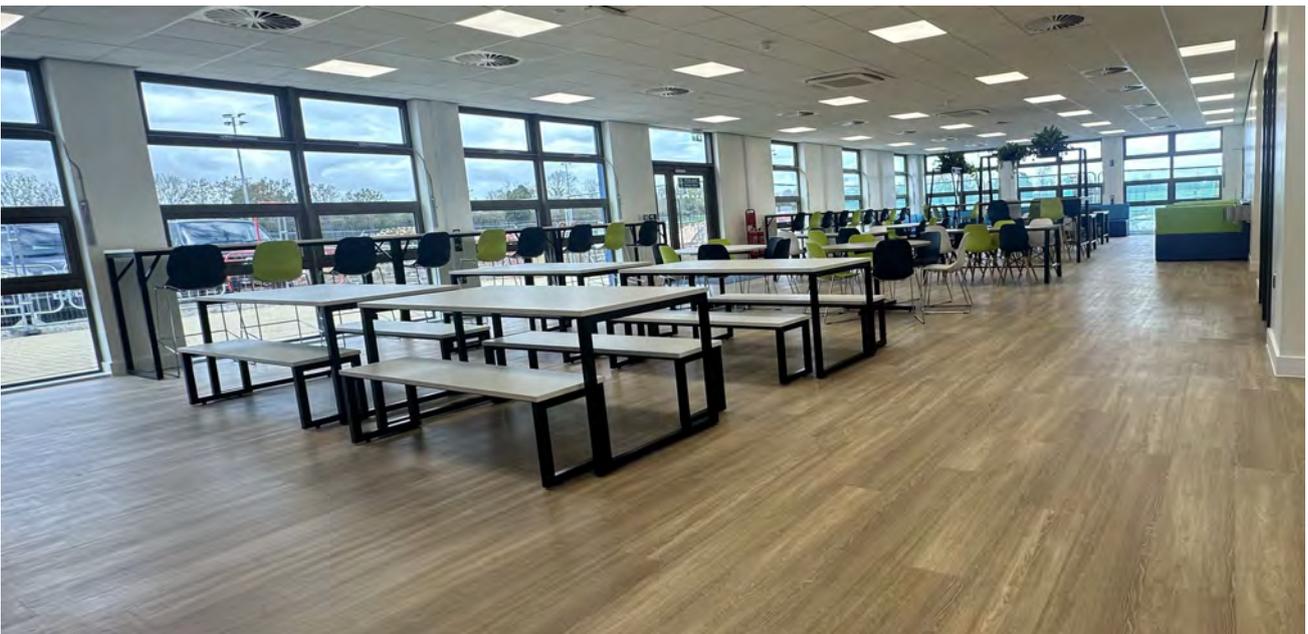


# Personal Development

The Watling Academy Sixth Form Tutorial Programme is designed to support the personal and professional development of Year 12 and 13 students, equipping them with essential life skills, career guidance, and workplace preparation. The programme also focuses on local opportunities and examples from Milton Keynes to make learning relevant and actionable. The sessions, delivered twice a week for 30 minutes by Sixth Form Mentors and through assemblies, ensure that students are well-prepared for adult life.

## The Sixth Form Tutorial Programme will include:

- Making Sixth Form a success.
- Vision and Goal Setting.
- Effort and Time Management.
- Consider careers and next steps.
- Financial literacy.
- Attitudes and Wellbeing.
- Healthy Relationships.



# Enrichment

Enrichment activities are a vital part of the Sixth Form experience at Watling Academy. They provide students with opportunities to broaden their horizons, develop new skills, and enhance their personal and academic growth.

All students will select from a menu of enrichment activities to complete during their time in the Sixth Form. These sessions take place during a dedicated enrichment hour each week. Below is a sample of the wide range of options available (this is not an exhaustive list):

- Virtual and / or in person Work Experience
- Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE)
- Online courses (MOOC or Openlearn)
- First Aid Workshops
- Learning to Cook
- Road Safety for Young Drivers
- Coursework for University Access Schemes
- Youth Mental Health First Aid
- The Extended Project Qualification

## The Extended Project Qualification:

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is a unique and valuable opportunity for Year 12 students at Watling Academy to conduct independent research on a topic of their choice. This qualification allows students to delve into an area that interests them, culminating in a final project that can take various forms, such as a dissertation, an investigation, a performance, or an artefact.

**For the first term, the focus will be on employer encounters.** We offer a programme of talks from professionals who align with the career aspirations of our current Year 12 students. These sessions provide insight into a "day in the life" of different roles and industries.

Here are some examples of employers and organisations who have already shared their expertise with our students:

- Dentons Law
- VW Finance
- Rochelle White Communications
- Neurolinguistic Coach
- NHS
- DASTEC Consulting
- Newcastle University - Medicine & Dentistry
- Dale Willis - My First Great Job
- Destination MK
- MK Dons FC
- Wisestart Accountancy Training

# Courses

## Minimum Entry Criteria for Sixth Form Students

Our Sixth Form will be inclusive, and we recognise that students may have talents and skills in particular areas of the curriculum and as such, our entry criteria is based on total points achieved at GCSE in their best 5 subjects.

**Minimum of Grade 4 in English (Literature or Language) and Maths GCSE**

**AND**

**Minimum of 20 points\* from best 5 GCSE courses (or equivalent)**

*\*Total points are calculated by adding the grade achieved in each subject together.*

Entry to the Sixth Form is subject to a student meeting the entry requirements, demonstrating an aptitude for their chosen subjects, and having an agreed programme of study based on advice and consideration.

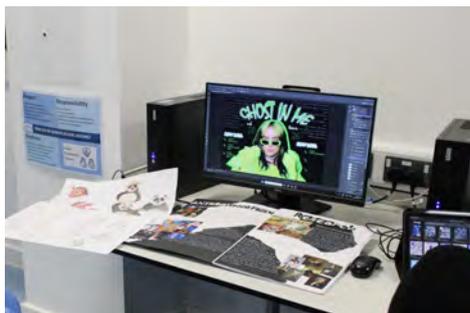
The range of courses we offer are detailed in the following pages. If you wish to find out more about the courses we offer at Watling, then please speak to subject staff or scan the QR code below.

Applications are made via the Watling Academy website.



# Art

Subject: Fine Art - Qualification: A Level  
Exam Board: AQA - Specification Code: 7202



## What will I learn?

The AQA A Level Fine Art course is designed to foster creativity and develop technical skills in a wide range of artistic disciplines, encouraging students to explore personal and contemporary themes in their work. It includes an in-depth personal study based on a theme or concept of their choice, and an exam paper from AQA with a choice of 8 prompts, allowing students to select and explore a new theme.

## Where could this take me?

Studying AQA A Level Fine Art opens up a wide range of career opportunities in both traditional art-related fields and other sectors that value creativity, design, and analytical skills. These include: fine artist, illustrator, graphic designer, art therapist, fashion designer, animator or concept artist, architect or interior designer, curator or art gallery manager, art teacher or lecturer, digital artist, set designer or production designer, art director, or photographer.

**Recommended Entry Requirements:**  
GCSE Art grade 5.

# Applied Science

Subject: Applied Science  
Qualification: BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate (AAQ)  
Exam Board: EdExcel - Specification Code: 610/3965/2

## What will I learn?

BTEC Applied Science gives students a solid grounding in the principles and applications of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. It also develops practical scientific procedures and techniques and allows students to focus on investigation skills or contemporary issues in science.



## Where could this take me?

A BTEC Applied Science qualification is a versatile and practical qualification that can lead to various career paths, especially in healthcare, laboratory work, environmental science, and technical roles. A Level 3 Applied Science qualification can also serve as a stepping stone to further education, including apprenticeships, foundation degrees or other higher-level programs.

**Recommended Entry Requirements:**  
GCSE in any Science subject grade 4.

# Biology

Subject: Biology - Qualification: A Level  
Exam Board: OCR A - Specification Code: H420

## What will I learn?

Students build on their knowledge from GCSE, establishing a strong understanding of the foundations in biology. They also study exchange and transport in organisms, biodiversity and ecosystems, evolution and genetics, disease, communication and homeostasis. Students also develop their practical skills in biology.



## Where could this take me?

An A Level in Biology opens doors to a variety of careers, particularly in the fields of healthcare, research, and environmental science. It is an essential qualification for students wishing to pursue a career in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy or veterinary surgery. Biology also provides a stepping stone to studying undergraduate biological and biomedical sciences, and pathways into careers in biotechnology, agricultural sciences, food science, neuroscience and many more related fields.

**Recommended Entry Requirements:**  
GCSE Combined Science grade 66 or  
GCSE Biology grade 6.

# Business Studies

Subject: Business - Qualification: A Level  
Exam Board: Edexcel - Specification Code: 9BS0

## What will I learn?

In Edexcel A Level Business, you'll learn about how businesses operate, grow, and respond to changes in the economic environment. You'll explore key topics like marketing, finance, operations, and human resource management, gaining insights into decision-making and strategic planning.



## Where could this take me?

After studying Edexcel A Level Business, you'll have a strong foundation for pursuing higher education in business-related fields such as management, marketing, finance, or economics. The skills and knowledge gained can also open doors to apprenticeships or entry-level roles in industries like banking, retail, entrepreneurship, and consultancy.

**Recommended Entry Requirements:**  
GCSE Mathematics grade 5.

# Chemistry

Subject: Chemistry - Qualification: A Level  
Exam Board: OCR A - Specification Code: H432

## What will I learn?

Students build on their knowledge from GCSE, establishing a strong understanding of the foundations in chemistry. They also study the periodic table, energy and enthalpy, organic chemistry, transition elements and chemical analysis. Students also develop their practical skills in chemistry.



## Where could this take me?

An A Level in Chemistry can open doors to a variety of careers, especially in scientific, healthcare, and technical fields. It is an essential qualification for students wishing to pursue a career in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy or veterinary surgery. Chemistry also provides a stepping stone to studying undergraduate chemical sciences, chemical engineering and environmental science, and pathways into careers in research, laboratory work, forensics and toxicology.

### Recommended Entry Requirements:

GCSE Combined Science grade 66 or  
GCSE Chemistry grade 6.

## What will I learn?

Students will develop a strong grasp of the fundamentals of programming, data structures, algorithms, data representation, computer systems, computer organisation and architecture, communications and networking, databases and functional programming.



# Computer Science

Subject: Computer Science - Qualification: A Level  
Exam Board: AQA - Specification Code: 7517

## Where could this take me?

A Level Computer Science develops students' capacity for thinking creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically. It opens up opportunities for further study or careers in a number of fields, including: software development, systems analysis, network engineering, cybersecurity, data science, artificial intelligence and machine learning.

### Recommended Entry Requirements:

GCSE Computer Science grade 5

# Construction and the Built Environment

Subject: Construction and the Built Environment  
 Qualification: BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate (AAQ)  
 Exam Board: Edexcel - Specification Code: 610/3959/7

## What will I learn?

The course consists of three mandatory units which explore construction principles, construction technology and the design aspect of the built environment. Students will also look at another area, chosen from commercial management, retrofitting or modelling.



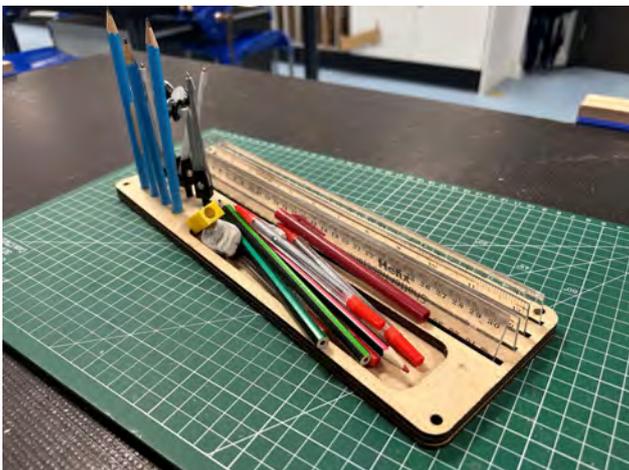
## Where could this take me?

Students will develop their knowledge of construction technology and sustainability within construction. They will gain skills such as problem solving, project management and modelling through CAD/CAM. This qualification could provide pathways to studying architecture, construction management or civil engineering. Milton Keynes has a wealth of opportunities in the construction industry, and this course will open up many opportunities in the local area.

**Recommended Entry Requirements:**  
 GCSE Design Technology grade 4 or CNat Engineering Level 2 Pass.

## What will I learn?

The course consists of three mandatory components, looking at visual recording and communication, critical and contextual studies in art and design and the creative process. The additional unit is focused on graphics, with graphic materials, techniques and processes.



# Design - Graphics

Subject: Art and Design Graphics Communications  
 Qualification: - A Level  
 Exam Board: AQA - Specification Code: 7203

## Where could this take me?

Students develop their skills in design, using both hand-drawing and computer aided design tools. The course prepares students for further study in the subject, and opens pathways to careers in the graphics industry, such as marketing, advertising, interior design, architecture, fashion design and print design for websites.

**Recommended Entry Requirements:**  
 GCSE Design Technology grade 4.

# Drama and Theatre

Subject: Drama and Theatre - Qualification: A Level  
Exam Board: AQA - Specification Code: 7262

## What will I learn?

Students build on their knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre. They study two set plays, analyse and evaluate the work of live theatre makers, create and perform devised drama pieces, explore and interpret extracts from different plays and produce a reflective report analysing and evaluating the theatrical interpretation of these extracts.



## Where could this take me?

The skills developed through the study of Drama are integral to roles across the creative industry. Students could enter a range of industries: teaching (primary and secondary), scriptwriting, drama school, TV/film/theatre production, psychology & drama therapy, music, sales/marketing, entertainment representative, journalism, law, gaming and advertising.

**Recommended Entry Requirements:**  
GCSE Drama grade 5.

## What will I learn?

A Level Economics explores how markets work and why they sometimes fail, the role of government in the economy, and the impact of globalisation. You will study microeconomics (individual markets, supply and demand, market structures) and macroeconomics (national and international economies, economic performance, and policy). The course develops analytical and evaluative skills through real-world case studies, data interpretation, and problem-solving.



# Economics

Subject: Economics - Qualification: A Level  
Exam Board: Edexcel - Specification Code: 60141050

## Where could this take me?

Economics is highly regarded by universities and employers. It provides an excellent foundation for careers in finance, banking, accountancy, business management, consultancy, government, and international organisations. Many students progress to degrees in Economics, Business, Politics, or related fields, and the skills gained are transferable to roles requiring critical thinking and data analysis.

**Recommended Entry Requirements:**  
GCSE Mathematics grade 6.

# English Literature

Subject: English Literature - Qualification: A Level  
Exam Board: Edexcel - Specification Code: 9ET0

## What will I learn?

Students study a wide range of classical and contemporary texts and develop their critical analysis of literature. They look at a Shakespeare play and another drama, prose texts on a chosen theme, poetry from different periods and complete a non-examined assessment piece on two texts of their own choice, based around a theme.



## Where could this take me?

The skills developed through studying English Literature open up opportunities for further study or careers in fields such as law, journalism, publishing, policy analysis, marketing, public relations, advertising, teaching, content creation, corporate communication, creative writing, film and media, theatre and publishing.

**Recommended Entry Requirements:**  
GCSE English Literature or Language grade 6.



# English Literature and Language

Subject: English Literature and Language

Qualification: A Level

Exam Board: AQA - Specification Code: 7707

## What will I learn?

Students develop their methods of language analysis through studying the representation of place, the forms and functions of poetic voice and point of view and genre in prose. They also look at the role of the individual in society, critical commentary and conflict in drama. Students also carry out a non-examined assessment investigation on a chosen theme and texts.

## Where could this take me?

The skills developed through studying English Literature and Language open up opportunities for further study or careers in fields such as law, journalism, publishing, policy analysis, marketing, public relations, advertising, teaching, content creation, corporate communication, creative writing, film and media, theatre and publishing.

### Recommended Entry Requirements:

GCSE English Literature or Language grade 5.



## What will I learn?

A Level Film Studies explores the art and industry of film, combining creative and analytical skills. Students study a range of films from different periods and cultures, including Hollywood classics, contemporary British cinema, global cinema, and documentary. The course covers how films communicate meaning through cinematography, editing, sound, and performance. Students produce their own short film or screenplay with a reflective analysis, applying technical and narrative skills.

# Film Studies

Subject: Film Studies

Qualification: A Level

Exam Board: Eduqas - Specification Code: 603/1147/2

## Where could this take me?

Film Studies develops transferable skills in research, analysis, and creative production. It provides a strong foundation for careers in film and media industries, journalism, marketing, advertising, and education. It is also highly valued for degrees in Film, Media, English, and related creative arts disciplines.

### Recommended Entry Requirements:

GCSE English Literature or Language grade 5.

# Financial Studies

Subject: Financial Studies

Qualification: LIBF Level 3 Certificate in Financial Studies

Exam Board: LIBF - Specification Code: 600/8537/X

## What will I learn?

The LIBF Level 3 Certificate in Financial Studies introduces students to personal finance and financial capability. It covers money management, budgeting, borrowing, saving, and financial planning for short, medium, and long-term needs. Students explore financial products, risk and reward, and external influences on financial decisions, developing critical thinking and numeracy skills.

## Where could this take me?

CeFS provides a strong foundation for careers in banking, insurance, financial advice, and business. It is highly valued for progression to higher education in finance, accounting, economics, and related fields. The qualification also equips students with essential life skills for managing personal finances confidently.

### Recommended Entry Requirements:

GCSE Mathematics grade 4.



## What will I learn?

Students look at a variety of issues relating to food and nutrition, with some choice over which area to focus on. This includes meeting the nutritional needs of specific groups, ensuring food is safe to eat, experimenting to solve food production problems and looking more closely at current issues in food science and nutrition.

# Food Science and Nutrition

Subject: Food Science and Nutrition

Qualification: Level 3 Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition

Exam Board: WJEC - Specification Code: 601/4552/3

## Where could this take me?

Food Science and Nutrition can take students towards careers in the food and drinks sectors of hospitality, catering and food production. The skills and knowledge developed are used by nutritionists in hospitals, sports coaches and fitness instructors. Food manufacturers and government agencies also use this understanding to develop menus, food products and policies that support healthy eating initiatives.

### Recommended Entry Requirements:

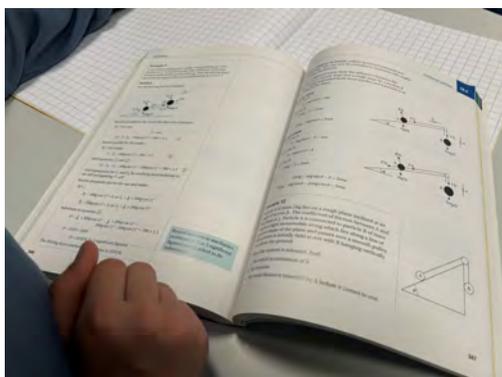
GCSE Design Technology or GCSE Food and Nutrition grade 4.

# Further Mathematics

Subject: Further Mathematics - Qualification: A Level  
Exam Board: Edexcel - Specification Code: 9FM0

## What will I learn?

The Further Mathematics course covers more advanced mathematical concepts, stretching beyond the scope of A level Mathematics. Topics include proof, complex numbers, matrices, further algebra and functions, further calculus, further vectors, polar coordinates, hyperbolic functions and differential equations.



## Where could this take me?

Maths opens the doors to so many opportunities beyond A Level. A strong foundation in maths is essential when studying most scientific, mathematical and statistical based degrees. Maths can support students pursuing careers in statistics, data analysis, accountancy, computer science, cyber security, engineering and many more.

### Recommended Entry Requirements:

GCSE Mathematics or GCSE Further Mathematics grade 8.

## What will I learn?

The course is broken into two components: physical geography and human geography. Physical geography looks at water and carbon cycles, coastal systems and landscapes, hazards, glacial or hot desert systems. Human geography looks at global systems and governance, contemporary urban environments, population and resource security.



# Geography

Subject: Geography - Qualification: A Level  
Exam Board: AQA - Specification Code: 7037

## Where could this take me?

Studying A Level Geography can lead to a wide range of careers in the UK across various sectors. Careers utilise the diverse skills developed through geography, including analytical thinking, data interpretation, problem-solving, and an understanding of global and environmental processes. Examples of career areas utilising these skills include meteorology, transport planning, conservation, climate and sustainability, and archaeology.

### Recommended Entry Requirements:

GCSE Geography or GCSE Sociology grade 6.

# Health and Social Care

Subject: Health and Social Care

Qualification: Level 3 Cambridge Advanced National (AAQ)

Exam Board: OCR - Specification Code: H125

## What will I learn?

The course establishes the principles of health and social care, looks at anatomy and physiology for health and social care, and focuses on ways in which to support people with long-term physiological conditions, with mental health conditions and with maintaining healthy nutrition and lifestyles.



## Where could this take me?

The Health and Social Care qualification gives students the skills and knowledge to move into careers in the associated sector. Milton Keynes has a wealth of opportunities in this area, with careers in nursing, social work, occupational therapy, in care homes and in early years settings. These are key roles in the local job market. It also sets students up for further study or apprenticeships in related sectors.

### Recommended Entry Requirements:

GCSE English Literature or English Language grade 4.

# History

Subject: History - Qualification: A Level  
Exam Board: AQA - Specification Code: 7402

## What will I learn?

The A Level History course focuses on two areas, the first being The Making of a Superpower: USA 1865-1975, looking at Civil War to World War, 1865-1920 and Crises and the rise to World Power, 1920-1975. The second is The Making of Modern Britain, 1951-2007, exploring Building a new Britain, 1951-1979 and Modern Britain, 1979-2007.



## Where could this take me?

History is a subject which is important for further study of humanities subjects and a whole host of other arts degrees. Careers most closely linked to the subject are business, law, politics, work in heritage organisations, the media and in archives or museums.

### Recommended Entry Requirements:

GCSE History or GCSE Sociology grade 6

# Information Technology

Subject: Information Technology

Qualification: BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate (AAQ)

Exam Board: Edexcel - Specification Code: 603/7270/7

## What will I learn?

Information Technology provides a practical and applied approach to understanding IT systems and their role in modern business and society. Students will study IT Systems, Data Management, Social Media in Business and Cybersecurity and IT Security. Students will also develop problem-solving, project management, and technical skills through real-world scenarios and assignments.

## Where could this take me?

This qualification opens pathways to careers in IT support, systems analysis, cybersecurity, web development, and digital marketing. It is also an excellent foundation for higher education courses in Computing, Information Systems, Business IT, and related fields. Employers value the practical skills and knowledge gained through this course.

**Recommended Entry Requirements:**  
GCSE Computer Science or ICT grade 4.



# Mandarin

Subject: Mandarin Chinese - Qualification: A Level  
Exam Board: Edexcel - Specification Code: 9CN0



## What will I learn?

The course builds on students' prior knowledge of the language and explores the history and culture of China in more detail. The main areas are social issues and trends, political and artistic culture, grammar and study of written works. Students also complete an individual research project.

## Where could this take me?

As the most spoken language on the planet, an A Level qualification in Mandarin equips students with a valuable skill. As well as the possibility of studying the language further at university, it opens up the opportunity to study any other subject in China and for travelling and working there. Careers in technology and other industries where China is a key player will be more accessible to students with the ability to communicate in Mandarin.

**Recommended Entry Requirements:**  
GCSE Mandarin grade 7.

# Mathematics

Subject: Mathematics - Qualification: A Level  
Exam Board: Edexcel - Specification Code: 9MA0

## What will I learn?

The course is made up of three components, pure mathematics, statistics and mechanics. This includes algebra and functions, coordinate geometry, sequences and series, trigonometry, exponentials and logarithms, calculus, numerical methods, statistical sampling, probability, distributions, kinematics, forces and Newtonian mechanics and moments.

## Where could this take me?

Maths opens the doors to so many opportunities beyond A Level. A strong foundation in maths is essential when studying most scientific, mathematical and statistical based degrees. Maths can support students pursuing careers in statistics, data analysis, accountancy, computer science, cyber security, engineering and many more.

**Recommended Entry Requirements:**  
GCSE Mathematics grade 7.



## What will I learn?

AQA Level 3 Mathematical Studies develops practical maths skills for real-world problem solving. Topics include statistics, probability, financial maths, modelling, estimation, and critical analysis of data. The course focuses on applying mathematics to everyday contexts, supporting subjects like Psychology, Business, and Sciences, and preparing students for higher education and employment.

# Mathematical Studies

Subject: Mathematical Studies (Core Maths)  
Qualification: Level 3 Certificate  
Exam Board: AQA - Specification Code: 1350

## Where could this take me?

Core Maths is highly valued by universities and employers for its emphasis on problem-solving and quantitative reasoning. It supports progression into careers in business, finance, social sciences, healthcare, and any field requiring data analysis and logical thinking.

**Recommended Entry Requirements:**  
GCSE Mathematics grade 5.



# Music

Subject: Music - Qualification: A Level  
Exam Board: WJEC Eduqas - Specification Code: A660QS

## What will I learn?

A Level Music develops students' skills and knowledge in three main areas. Firstly, performing, including solo and ensemble performances. Secondly, composing, following a set brief in the Western Classical Tradition, as well as a free composition. The final area is appraising, across three areas of study.



## Where could this take me?

The skills developed through the study of music are relevant to a wide range of future careers. Music analysis, composition, sound engineering, and even non-music-related fields like data analysis or consultancy, benefit from these skills. Additionally, high-stress professions like project management, law, or healthcare often benefit from disciplined work ethic developed through studying music.

**Recommended Entry Requirements:**  
GCSE Music grade 5.

## What will I learn?

The course consists of three main components: Philosophy of Religion, Religion and Ethics and the Development of Religious Thoughts. Students will study ancient philosophical influences, consider arguments for and against the existence of God and the application of ethical theory.



# Philosophy and Ethics

Subject: Philosophy and Ethics  
Qualification: A Level Religious Studies  
Exam Board: OCR - Specification Code: H573

## Where could this take me?

Studying this course opens doors to teaching, charity, and equality, diversity and inclusion jobs. It can lead to opportunities in a variety of other careers from law to business. The subject enables you to better understand people from diverse backgrounds and handle respectful disagreements. The analysis and critical thinking skills developed will also help students in further study of humanities and arts degree subjects.

**Recommended Entry Requirements :**  
GCSE in any suitable humanities subject grade 5.

# Politics

Subject: Politics - Qualification: A Level  
Exam Board: AQA - Specification Code: 7152

## What will I learn?

The A Level Politics course explores the systems, ideas, and institutions that shape political life in the UK and globally. Students will study three main areas: UK Politics and Government, UK Core Political Ideas and the US Constitution, Congress, Presidency, Supreme Court, federalism, and civil rights, alongside comparative analysis of UK and US systems. Students will develop skills in critical analysis, debate, and evaluation of political issues, applying theory to real-world contexts.

## Where could this take me?

Studying A Level Politics provides a strong foundation for careers in law, journalism, public relations, civil service, policy-making, international relations, and business. It is highly valued for degrees in Politics, International Relations, History, Law, and Economics, and equips students with transferable skills in research, argumentation, and problem-solving.

### Recommended Entry Requirements:

GCSE in any suitable Humanities subject grade 5.



## What will I learn?

A Level Physical Education covers physiological and psychological factors affecting performance, and socio-cultural issues in physical activity. There are also non-examined assessment units, with a focus on practical performance and the analysis and evaluation of the performance of a peer.



# Physical Education

Subject: Physical Education - Qualification: A Level  
Exam Board: OCR - Specification Code: H555

## Where could this take me?

The communication and leadership skills developed through the study of this course are highly valued by employers. The knowledge gained from studying this course can open up career opportunities in areas such as sports coaching, physiotherapy, sports science, psychology, personal training and sports therapy.

### Recommended Entry Requirements:

Individual discussions regarding practical skill and experience in a sport.

# Physics

Subject: Physics - Qualification: A Level  
Exam Board: OCR - Specification Code: H566

## What will I learn?

Students build on their knowledge from GCSE, establishing a strong understanding of the foundations in physics. They also study forces and motion, electrons, waves and photons, the Newtonian world and astrophysics, particles and medical physics.



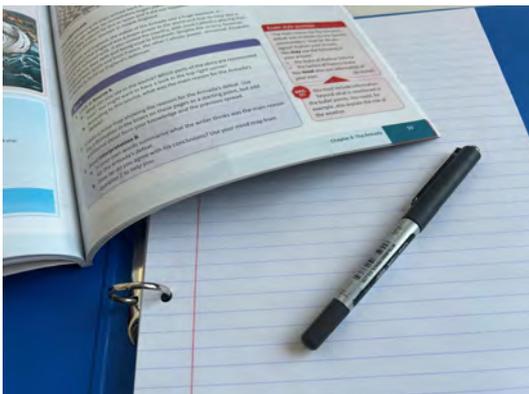
## Where could this take me?

Physics is an essential subject for those students wishing to study the physical sciences at university. It also equips students with the knowledge and skills to pursue careers in a wide range of scientific and technical fields, including mechanical, electrical, civil and chemical engineering, technology and computing, aerospace and aviation, energy and environmental sciences.

**Recommended Minimum Entry Requirements:** GCSE Combined Science grade 66 or GCSE Physics grade 6.

## What will I learn?

A Level Psychology offers students a solid grounding in the key areas of the subject. This includes social influence, memory, attachment, psychopathology and biopsychology. The course also looks at research methods and key issues and debates in the field of psychology.



# Psychology

Subject: Psychology - Qualification: A Level  
Exam Board: AQA - Specification Code: 7182

## Where could this take me?

Students will have a strong foundation for degree level study in a range of areas, including psychology, forensic science, criminology, social work and law. Successful students will have developed excellent essay writing skills, which is essential for further study in any area. Psychology students are successful in a range of career sectors including Clinical Psychology, Counselling and Psychotherapy, Child Development, Healthcare, Criminal Justice and Human Resources.

**Recommended Entry Requirements:**  
Entry Requirements: GCSE in any science subject grade 5.



# Sociology

Subject: Sociology - Qualification: A Level  
Exam Board: AQA - Specification Code: 7192



## What will I learn?

The A Level Sociology course covers a range of interesting topics from different areas of the subject. This includes education theory and methods, culture and identity, beliefs in society and crime and deviance. Students also learn to apply sociological research to the study of education.

## Where could this take me?

Students will have a strong foundation for degree level study in a range of areas, including Sociology, Psychology, Social Work and Law. Successful students will have developed excellent essay writing skills which is essential for further study in any area. Sociology students are successful in a range of career sectors including; law, politics, policy making, social care, education, criminal justice, healthcare, media and journalism

**Recommended Entry Requirements:**  
GCSE in any suitable Humanities subject grade 5.





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