



NONSUCH
HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

**A LEVEL
SUBJECT COURSES
2025 – 2027**

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*Please note that if there is insufficient demand then an A Level subject may not run or may be run across more than one school in the Trust.



NONSUCH
HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Mrs Williamson-Jones – Headteacher
Ewell Road, Cheam, Surrey SM3 8AB

T: 020 8394 3400
E: office@nonsuchschool.org
www.nonsuchschool.org

ART & DESIGN (FINE ART)

EXAM BOARD AQA

WHY STUDY FINE ART?

Art is everywhere. We live in a predominantly and ever-increasing visual society where visual communication and understanding is vital. Employers increasingly seek those who can exercise initiative, adaptability, independent judgement and creative problem solving which are the attributes that art and design students have in abundance. The UK produces extremely talented artists and designers who work in world-leading industries. The study of Art & Design will develop your creativity, visual learning, motor skills, decision making, perseverance, focus, collaboration, accountability, improve confidence and has been scientifically proven to improve academic performance. It's not just drawing and painting!

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the AQA Fine Art endorsement (full linear course). Two components of work are created over the two year course; the Personal Investigation and Portfolio (September in Year 12 to January in Year 13) and the Externally Set Assignment in Year 13 (February to May) culminating in a 15 hour practical exam. We work in a self-directed route, engaging in personal lines of visual enquiry and developing individual technical skills to expand your creativity and imagination and develop a personal style. You will explore the use of drawing for different purposes, using a variety of methods and media on a variety of scales. You will use sketchbooks/journals to underpin your work where appropriate to accompany each component and you will be aware of the importance of process as well as product.

You will develop an understanding and appreciation of aspects of the history of Art and Design and this should lead, inspire and enhance your own work. You will explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to a range of art, craft and design, from the past and from recent times.

With the removal of exams at the end of Year 12, this will give us more time for practical studio work and critical and contextual research, gallery visits and workshops to explore a range of materials and processes.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

Students usually progress to degree courses in Art & Design through application to a Foundation course. This in turn gives students a broader understanding of the wide variety of specialisms available at degree level. The choice of further study is extraordinary with new courses emerging year-on-year with the advance of creative technologies. Career paths include:

creative technologies, fashion, interior design, web and digital design, textile design and manufacture, graphic communication, animation, conservation and restoration, history of art, curation and education, film and television, product design, photography, 3D design, advertising, marketing, journalism, set design, stylist, special effects, industrial design...the list goes on!



CASE STUDY – BERNI

Why I chose Fine Art...

"I have always loved how art encourages creative problem-solving and allows me to develop my creativity, as opposed to the very structured thinking in my other subjects. As well as improving my techniques and learning different media, I can also explore topics that have a personal significance to me as forms of storytelling or transformations in nature. Even at GCSE, art has helped me appreciate the world around me more, whether because I drew an object I would have otherwise overlooked or because of the enriching contextual and artist studies."

What I like best about the course...

"I love the freedom to experiment and to develop a brand-new form of self-expression. With broad topics, anyone can explore an area they are passionate about, research it and present their interpretation in a completely unique way. Art never gets repetitive as we are constantly experimenting, encouraged to go outside and take photographs, visit places relevant to our theme, do life drawing and observe the world around us. The opportunities with this subject really are endless."

Where I hope it will take me...

"Art has been my greatest passion and I want to pursue my studies in animation and visual effects at university. I hope to become a character designer, and to create storyboards for animate movies. Solid drawing, composition, colour and capturing life around us are core elements which make up the amazing animated films we grew up with, and taking art is helping me improve in these areas every day".

BIOLOGY

EXAM BOARD OCR

WHY STUDY BIOLOGY?

Biology is a vast and varied subject which includes the study of living things from minuscule micro-organisms right the way up to human beings and beyond. The course aims to develop your interest and enthusiasm for Biology and hopefully inspire you to further study or careers in Biology. In addition we want to develop your understanding of how different areas of Biology relate to each other and help you to apply this understanding to unfamiliar situations. It encourages students to appreciate how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how Biology contributes to the success of society and the economy. In the course you will develop and demonstrate a deeper appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of How Science Works.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the OCR Biology fully linear course, with assessment being on a terminal exam at the end of two years. We study the following topics:

- Development of practical skills
- Foundations in Biology
- Exchange and Transport
- Biodiversity, evolution and disease
- Communication, homeostasis and energy
- Genetics, evolution and ecosystems

We run a field trip to Camber Sands during Year 12, which provides an excellent opportunity to develop fieldwork skills and ensures students are able to meet the required practical skills which are difficult to gain in a laboratory environment.

All A level students are encouraged to participate in the Biology Olympiad and we run a support club to help all students with any questions they have or clarifications that are needed. There is also an opportunity for students to enter the Homerton College Cambridge Biology Challenge.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

There are many options available for further study at university. These include medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, biochemistry, biological sciences, microbiology, psychology, nursing, pharmacology, physiotherapy, environmental science amongst many more options.



CASE STUDY – LARA, YEAR 13

Why I chose Biology...

“I chose Biology because it was one of my favourite subjects at GCSE. I really enjoy the practical nature of Biology - the processes that you study are happening inside and around us all of the time and I wanted to develop my understanding of this/Biology also covers a wide range of topics, with applications in many careers. The support and resources provided by the biology department drew me to the subject as well.”

What I like best about the course...

“I really enjoy human biology and learning about organs and tissues. We had the opportunity to look at a dissected heart and lungs which was one of my favourite lessons. I also enjoy the way biology focuses on the practical application of GCSE chemistry and physics too which has improved my lateral thinking skills. The experiments involved in the Biology course makes lessons fun and interesting.”

Where I hope it will take me...

“As a prospective medical student, Biology A level has provided a firm foundation for my future. The topics studied at A level will provide a solid basis for studying many STEM degrees, and as an A level, Biology is highly regarded. However Biology is not just an A level for future medics. Many students in my class plan on studying a variety of different courses, including humanities degrees. The research skills taught as part of the course are essential for any degree or job, whilst the ability to understand and use specific terminology has use in many types of degree.”

CHEMISTRY

EXAM BOARD OCR

WHY STUDY CHEMISTRY?

Completing an A Level in Chemistry can open so many doors for you in the future. It is a challenging, academic and rigorous A Level that will impress a lot of universities and future employers. Studying A Level Chemistry can lead to many careers in healthcare such as medicine, pharmacy and dentistry but is also extremely useful in careers in the biological sciences, veterinary science, physics, mathematics, pharmacology and analytical chemistry. Did you know that chemists are also involved in many other areas, such as Law, Art Restoration, Forensic Science, Sport & Fitness Training, Conservation, Photography and the formulation of cosmetics and perfumes?

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the OCR Chemistry A fully linear course, with assessment being on terminal exams at the end of two years. We study the following topics:

- Development of practical skills
- Foundations in Chemistry
- Periodic Table and energy
- Core Organic Chemistry
- Physical chemistry and transition elements
- Organic chemistry and analysis

With the removal of exams at the end of Year 12, this will give us time to consolidate material on to University level and provide opportunities to make exceptional progress. All A Level students are encouraged to participate in both the Chemistry Olympiad and the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge. We run a 'Stretch and Challenge' Club for students to pursue their studies to the highest level.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

The choice of further study is vast, e.g. medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, biochemistry, pharmacology, biological sciences, microbiology, psychology, nursing, physiotherapy, speech therapy, forensic science and many more. Chemistry degrees are well respected for general graduate careers and PhD studies.



CASE STUDY – AKALYA, YEAR 13

Why I chose Chemistry...

"I chose chemistry because I think that it is a rewarding yet challenging subject, which deepens my understanding of the underlying principles behind everything. I hoped to develop my analytical skills, as well as my attention to detail, which chemistry has successfully done."

What I like best about the course...

"I enjoy relating the topics I have learnt to real life situations. For example, forensic scientists can use different types of analysis, like NMR and IR spectroscopy, to gather evidence about substances, which is a key topic in Year 13, or even how cisplatin is used as an anticancer drug. The interactive way the teachers introduce each topic builds my engagement and curiosity of the subject, and encourages me to explore further."

Where I hope it will take me...

"I hope to study Pharmacy at university, where I can delve deeper into organic chemistry, with a focus on structures and characteristics of different molecules, which can help with research and innovation of new and upcoming drugs for treatments."

COMPUTER SCIENCE

EXAM BOARD OCR

WHY STUDY COMPUTER SCIENCE?

Advances in computing are continually transforming the way we learn, work and live. A Level Computer Science is relevant, valuable and interesting. The course focuses on the knowledge, skills and understanding that students need to progress to higher education or to thrive in an IT environment. One can study Computing and go on to a career in medicine, law, business, politics or any type of engineering or science. A Level Computer Science features as a useful A Level subject in the Russell Group's 'Informed Choices', for many scientific and engineering degrees.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the OCR Computer Science (H446) fully linear course, with assessment being at the end of two years made up of two exams and a project.

The main areas covered are:

Computer systems – looking at characteristics of contemporary processors, input, output and storage devices; software and software development; exchanging data between systems; data types, data structures and algorithms and consider legal, moral, cultural and ethical issues.

Programming – looking at elements of computational thinking, problem solving, programming constructs, standard algorithms and how to use algorithms to solve problems. While we will learn using C#, the exams do not require the use of any particular programming language, focussing on the understanding of principles instead. The emphasis is on computational thinking. This requires abstraction and decomposition. The study of computation is about what can be computed and how to compute it. Computer Science involves questions that have the potential to change how we view the world.

The final project will enable you to develop your interests in the world of Computer Science in any direction you like, while having the opportunity to apply the skills learnt in class and go beyond the curriculum to enhance your skills and understanding. This can be completed using any programming language allowing you to develop and hone skills in most mainstream languages.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

Computer Science can open most doors. The skills you learn demonstrate your ability to think analytically, critically and logically. Careers reach from research and development into new technologies, to data efficiency and environmental improvements. At management level, having the ability to mediate between clients and technical teams is highly desirable.

DO I HAVE TO HAVE GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE?

No, but you should have a grade 7 or above in Maths and be willing to work hard at the start to learn the basics of programming and theory that were already covered.



CASE STUDY – JANELLE, YEAR 13

Why I chose Computer Science...

"I chose Computer Science A-Level because of its duality: it's highly technical yet inherently creative. Such duality encouraged me to want to explore its vast applications both theoretically and practically. This field is constantly evolving and presenting intellectual challenges which becomes extremely motivating. The feeling of engaging in problem-solving and innovative research drives you to work diligently and motivates you to want to become a key part of this dynamic industry."

What I like best about the course...

"Learning about how both hardware and software work is fascinating, especially since I use computers daily to help with my studies. I also enjoy programming and the satisfaction of seeing a computer follow my code exactly as I intended. Even when things don't go as planned, I like figuring out the errors and solving them, which gives me a sense of achievement. I really enjoy exploring more complex algorithms including shortest path and search algorithms."

Where I hope it will take me...

"Computer Science gives way to many interesting career opportunities in fields such as software development, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and Big Data analysis. The demand and lack of female computer science professionals continues to grow, meaning that studying this subject can increase my employability and can open doors to exciting and future-proof opportunities."

DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES

EXAM BOARD AQA

WHY STUDY DRAMA?

As Shakespeare so eloquently writes, 'All the world is a stage, and all the men and women merely players.' Drama and Theatre Studies is an exciting, practical and academic course that allows you to get the key communication skills needed to succeed in life. Through exploration of playwrights, practitioners and genres pupils will work as a production company to produce interesting and innovative interpretations of key plays.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the AQA Drama fully linear course, with assessment being broken into 3 components:

Component 1: Interpreting Drama: Written Exam:

- Two set texts which will be practically explored. One text will be pre 20th century and the second text will be post 20th century. The set text questions are open book.
- A production explored practically and seen live.

Component 2: Creating Original Drama:

- This a devised unit of work in which a completely original piece of theatre is created. This is influenced by one theatre practitioner.
- A working notebook will be kept and assessed.

Component 3: Making Theatre:

- A practical exploration of three chosen plays. The third extract will be performed to an external examiner.

You will develop:

- The practical skills of voice and body language
- Understanding of key theory
- Analytical and evaluation skills
- Performance and rehearsal techniques
- Production elements

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

The choice of further study is vast, e.g. medicine, law, teaching, stage craft, production, acting, costume design, sound production – the list is endless.



CASE STUDY – NIAMH, YEAR 13

Why I chose Drama...

"I chose Drama A-level because of my passion for theatre and Drama which has allowed me to explore the art form in depth. I find exploring plays and media and how they impact people interesting. Drama has provided a safe space to develop and it is more practical learning. Being able to use practical skills and explore everything drew me to the subject."

What I like best about the course...

"Drama A-level is a step up from GCSE, encouraging greater independence. I enjoy studying a variety of different types of theatre and performance styles in greater depth and in many different ways. I also enjoy that you develop a range of skills, particularly written and verbal communication which, has been vital for me in sixth form life. The teachers are incredibly supportive and helpful and are truly there to help you achieve your best. Overall we genuinely have a great time in lessons."

Where I hope it will take me...

"I am hoping to study Politics at university; the confidence that I have gained through Drama will help me in all aspects of my career. Alongside building my confidence I am now a stronger public speaker and am better able to explore issues in a systematic and practical fashion."

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY: PRODUCT DESIGN

EXAM BOARD AQA

WHY STUDY PRODUCT DESIGN?

This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers. Especially those in the engineering and creative industries. They will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put their learning into practice by producing prototypes of their choice. Students will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the AQA Design and Technology: Product Design full linear course. Areas that will be studied include:

- Technical principles
- Designing and making principles
- Practical application of technical principles, designing and making principles.

Students are encouraged to be open to taking risks, showing innovation and enterprise whilst considering their role as responsible designers and citizens.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

The choice of further study is vast. You could study a BA, BEng or BSc in areas like engineering, architecture, designing and manufacturing, STEM, as well as careers in the creative industries.

Design and Technology compliments other A Level subjects including Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Computer Science and Art.

Design and Technology is a great subject to study for jobs that require problem solving and practical skills and demand for people in these work areas is growing.

Any career in the creative or scientific industries including;

- Design
- Engineering
- Architecture
- Business



CASE STUDY – NSHIRA

Why I chose Product Design...

“I chose Product Design as I enjoy the creative freedom in these lessons compared to other subjects.”

“DT gives you space to put your creative mind into practice. It has helped me to use modelling effectively and design iteratively.”

“I enjoyed Product Design at GCSE and wanted to develop my knowledge further. I like the creative aspects that the subject brings.”

What I like best about the course...

“I like the theory best as I enjoyed learning about materials and how products are manufactured.”

“I like the NEA side to product design best, as it lets me create my own products.”

Where I hope it will take me...

“I am hoping to pursue a career in architectural engineering.”

“DT allows me to explore and improve my creative and problem-solving skills which will help me in the future when studying Architecture at university.”

ECONOMICS

EXAM BOARD EDEXCEL (PEARSON)

WHY STUDY ECONOMICS?

Economics is about choice and the impact of our choices on each other. It relates to every aspect of our lives, from the decisions we make as individuals or families to the structures created by governments and firms. The economic way of thinking can help us make better choices.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the Edexcel Economics linear course, with assessment being on a terminal exam at the end of two years. We study the following topics:

Markets and market behaviour

- Economic methodology and the economic problem
- Individual economic decision making
- Price determination in a competitive market
- Production, costs and revenue
- Perfect competition, imperfectly competitive markets and monopoly
- The labour market
- The distribution of income and wealth: poverty and inequality
- The market mechanism, market failure and government intervention in markets

The national and international economy

- The measurement of macroeconomic performance
- How the macro-economy works: the circular flow of income, AD/AS analysis, and related concepts
- Economic performance
- Financial markets and monetary policy
- Fiscal policy and supply-side policies
- The international economy

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

The majority of students gain access to university normally taking an Economics or Business related degree. A number have gone into careers in commerce, banking and financial service industries and working for the Government.



CASE STUDY

– AVISHA, YEAR 13

Why I chose Economics...

“Read any newspaper and you will have no shortage of economic issues and questions, that’s why I wanted to study Economics.”

What I like best about the course...

“Economics is the only social science awarded the Nobel Prize. Economics is a rich intellectual tradition, and the economic way of thinking gives you a distinct voice in the choices faced by society.”

Where I hope it will take me...

“As well as Economics I study Government and Politics and Mathematics. At university I want to read Economics and Management.”

ENGLISH LITERATURE

EXAM BOARD AQA

WHY STUDY ENGLISH LITERATURE?

English Literature is a gift for the rest of your life. The texts you study and characters you meet stay with you, even change you. Like GCSE, it invites you into the mind of the writer by discussing and interpreting why words or phrases are used and developed and how texts are shaped by their contexts. Unlike GCSE, the focus is more on argument and interpretation and so almost all exams are open book. An A Level in English Literature sharpens your skills to construct and develop precise and persuasive arguments within a well-built and cogent essay and within your life.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the AQA English Literature Specification A fully linear course, with there being a terminal exam at the end of two years. The following units will be completed:

Paper One – Love Through the Ages

- Section A – Shakespeare: one passage-based question with linked essay
- Section B – Unseen poetry: compulsory essay comparing two unseen poems
- Section C – Comparing texts: one question linking two set texts (one of which must be pre-1900) – clean copies of texts can be taken into the examination

Paper Two – Texts in Shared Times Option 2B Modern Times: Literature from 1945 to Present Day

- Section A – Set text: one essay question on set text
- Section B – Contextual linking: one question on unseen extract, one question linking the remaining set texts

Non-Exam Assessment – Independent Critical Study: Texts Across Time

- Coursework essay of 2500 words comparing two texts of your choice (one must be pre-1900)

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

The study of English Literature at A Level will equip you with a wide range of skills that can be applied to all disciplines and occupations later on. It is very highly regarded by universities and employers because of the rigour and complexity of the skills and knowledge that the subject demands.

It is an excellent foundation subject for a variety of degrees including Law, History, History of Art, Philosophy and Theatre Studies. English is a particularly popular degree for those intending to work in publishing, journalism, television, advertising or teaching, or those who intend to take a Law conversion course after their first degree. Effectively, it is an excellent preparation for the high level communication skills that all school leavers need to succeed in the 21st century.



CASE STUDY – KATHLEEN AND KIANA

Why we chose English Literature...

Kathleen: "I chose the course because it has enabled me to improve my ability to interpret a wide range of sources, from academic journals to literary classics. My understanding of different perspectives has also improved as a result."

Kiana: "I chose to study English Literature because I am incredibly passionate about language and its ability to delve into the complexities of the mind. Additionally, I was largely drawn to the focus on feminism in the A-level course, enabling me to expand my understanding of women in society in various time periods."

What we like best about the course...

Kathleen: "I have enjoyed seminar-like class discussions aided by the smaller class sizes. A fan of Shakespeare, I've also loved studying 'The Winter's Tale' as we have had animated class readings and been able to closely focus on multiple readings."

Kiana: "I have loved the opportunity to further investigate my own literary passions through completing the NEA for A-level English. This has enabled me to closely analyse the texts and themes that most fascinate me, introducing me to a new, more independent style of study."

Where we hope it will take me...

Kathleen: "I am hoping to study medicine at university. The inference and referencing skills English has equipped me with will serve me well when reviewing and writing scientific articles. It has also already helped me hugely in my Verbal Reasoning/Decision Making UCAT sections and has significantly improved my ability to articulate my thoughts – something integral to multidisciplinary teamwork."

Kiana: "I am planning on studying English Literature at university, which I hope to combine with my love of languages and theatre. Studying English has hence equipped me with the skills applicable to a great range of subjects and professions, whilst simultaneously broadening my perspectives of society itself."

FRENCH

EXAM BOARD PEARSON

WHY STUDY FRENCH?

By studying A Level French you will develop a lasting appreciation of the French language, the ability to comprehend the language in a wide range of contexts, the ability to communicate readily in French for a variety of purposes, useful knowledge of and insights into the culture of France and the French-speaking world and valuable skills for foreign travel, further education and employment.

Over 220 million people around the world speak French. French is the official language in 29 countries which puts it in second place behind English.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the Pearson French course, with assessment being on a terminal exam at the end of two years. We study the following topics:

- The evolution of French society
- Culture in the French-speaking world
- Immigration and the French multicultural society
- The National Front
- The Second World War
- Film: Les Choristes
- Text: Un Sac De Billes

All A Level students, In addition to normal lessons, will also have the chance to have individual lessons with our French assistant.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

The course will give you a good foundation for further study in higher education. French is in demand in a wide variety of professions including banking, international trade and commerce, import and export, tourism, foreign office, diplomatic corps, teaching, translating, interpreting and many more.



CASE STUDY – PRUBDHEEN

Why I chose French...

“Having done French and Spanish at GCSE, I felt the need to continue one language at A Level and I cannot wait to speak French fluently.”

What I like best about the course...

“I enjoy being immersed in the French culture. I can already see lots of progress in my listening by simply listening to French news 10 minutes a day.”

Where I hope it will take me...

“Having done a language at A Level will make me stand out when applying for university. More importantly I look forward to being able to converse with native speakers and also to study other languages.”

GEOGRAPHY

EXAM BOARD AQA

WHY STUDY GEOGRAPHY?

Geography is a dynamic and highly relevant subject. Geography is appearing daily on our news screens, with links to the impacts of climate change, how we should reduce our carbon emissions, how to best tackle plastic pollution, managing migration, dealing with global pandemics, how to manage and respond to natural disasters, seemingly increasing extreme weather events, sustainability, trade and the economy, geopolitics and geopolitical relationships – learning about Geography has never been more important!

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

AQA Geography is a fully linear course, with two exam papers sat at the end of Year 13. We study the following topics:

Paper 1: Physical: (40%)

- Water and Carbon Cycle
- Coastal Systems and Landscapes
- Hazards

Paper 2: Human: (40%)

- Contemporary Urban Environments
- Changing Places
- Global Systems and Global Governance

NEA - Non-Examined Assessment (20%)

- Students complete an individual independent fieldwork investigation based on a question or issue relating to any part of the specification content that they are interested in.
- They must collect primary data as part of this investigation, so students have to complete 4 days of fieldwork as part of the course.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

Students have gone to study Geography at a range of universities – Oxford, Cambridge, Durham and Southampton to name a few, with courses focusing just on human Geography (BA) or physical Geography (BSc) as well environmental science, oceanography, international development and geopolitics.

Geography graduates can progress on to a wide range of careers, including finance, commerce and business, local and national government, international relations and development, urban planning, teaching, meteorology, conservation, flooding, renewable energy and journalism!



CASE STUDY – AZERA, YEAR 12

Why I chose Geography...

“I chose A Level Geography because I found it interesting and really enjoyed studying it at GCSE and lower down the school. I liked how varied the units that we study at A Level are and felt that they would give me a more comprehensive understanding of the world and the many political, scientific and historical factors that shape it. Furthermore, I felt that studying Geography would benefit me in the future as the critical thinking and investigative skills that you develop alongside the content are very applicable and these skills definitely help me get the most out of my other A Level subjects.”

CASE STUDY – SAM, YEAR 12

Why I chose Geography...

“I chose A-level geography because I greatly enjoyed it at GCSE, and wanted to expand my knowledge of the subject and broaden my understanding of how it relates to the world around me. It has allowed me to better understand the stories I see in the news, and given me skills I can apply in all aspects of my life. Geography is intertwined with everything we do, and studying it at A-level is a brilliant opportunity to deepen knowledge and explore the factors which makes the world the way it is.”

GERMAN

EXAM BOARD PEARSON

WHY STUDY GERMAN?

By studying A Level German you will develop a lasting appreciation of the German language, the ability to understand and communicate in German and useful knowledge of and insights into the culture of Germany and the German-speaking world.

Germany today is the political, economic, artistic and intellectual powerhouse of Europe and the European Union. Knowledge of the mother tongue of over 100 million people, (German has the largest number of native speakers in the European Union, more than English, Spanish or French) has never been more important for governments, businesses and private citizens, and students of German are therefore consistently amongst the most sought-after graduates for major employers.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the Pearson German course, with assessment being on a terminal exam at the end of two years. We study the following topics:

- The evolution of German society
- Culture in the German-speaking world
- Immigration and the German multi-cultural society
- East-German society pre-unification
- The Reunification of Germany
- Text: Das Leben der Anderen
- Film: Andorra by Max Frisch

All A Level students are encouraged to take part in a trip to Cologne. In addition to normal lessons, you will also have individual lessons with our German assistant.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

The course will give you a good foundation for further study in higher education. German is recognised by universities as a facilitating subject and is in demand in a wide variety of professions including banking, import and export, foreign office, diplomatic corps, international trade and commerce, law, tourism, teaching, translating, interpreting and many more.



CASE STUDY – MAX, YEAR 12

Why I chose German...

"I chose to study German as I really enjoyed the subject at GCSE and wished to further immerse myself in German. Languages are great for personal and professional development, so I wanted to take German to broaden my horizons and boost my skillset."

What I like best about the course...

"One of the best parts of German A-Level is the breadth and depth of knowledge you learn about Germany and the language. You gain a very detailed understanding of current affairs, as well as the history and culture, which I find really valuable. Studying history alongside German means that there is some overlap in the courses, and it's been fascinating to study events from different angles. The department are also extremely supportive, understanding and helpful, making the transition from the GCSE to A-level course much smoother."

Where I hope it will take me...

"I am hoping to study History and International Relations, using what I have learned about Germany to gain a well-rounded and in-depth understanding of its role in the past, as well as in current affairs. As I possibly want to work for the Foreign Office, having learnt a language will be particularly useful."

GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

EXAM BOARD EDEXCEL

WHY STUDY GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS?

The world is in a state of turmoil. Megalomaniacs and egotistic have seized power and are set about dismantling everything we have always thought sacred. Young women of Nonsuch, it's time to take back control, it's time to make politics great again!

Study politics, find out about the systems and the people that govern us, evaluate the ideologies available and then determine to set the future course of British political history yourself.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

In Year 12 you will study British Politics, examining the systems of government, the people in power, and the nature of democracy that exists here.

In Year 13 you will focus on American Politics and examine the controversies and debates that surround their political system.

Over both years you will study the major political ideologies that exist, conservatism, liberalism and socialism as well as a specific focus on feminism.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

Politics doesn't close doors, nor does it mean you are destined for a career as a politician. Employers respect the academic nature of politics as an A Level or degree level subject as it identifies strong minded, culturally aware and analytically minded individuals. Russell Group universities want more than just grades. They want to find students who are aware of the world, who have opinions and can discuss the matters of the day and nothing will better prepare you for an interview at a Russell Group university than a good understanding of politics.

In the longer term politics can open up many employment opportunities. However, a large number of politics students have gone to work as journalists, bankers, public relations officers, civil servants and in a wide range of roles for multi-national organisation and charities.



CASE STUDY – PRAJ, YEAR 13

Why I chose Politics...

"I have always been fascinated by the turbulence of our political landscape. In politics, no two days are the same and through politics A - level, I have been able to understand, analyse and question the ever-changing world around me. For example, guided by my knowledge from the course, I was able to observe and recognise the true impact of the recent general election. That is the beauty of politics; it has a real-world application."

What I like best about the course...

"I really enjoy the fact that politics is brimming with blunders, scandals, and international disputes. Learning about these events makes for lessons filled with stimulating and thought-provoking debates. These are enhanced by our teachers' wide range of knowledge and enthusiasm for the subject. This course has allowed me to learn about the systems that shape our lives and their tangible effects on each of us."

Where I hope it will take me...

"Taking politics has opened my eyes to the vast range of beliefs people hold and I have learnt the importance of examining the full scope of a topic before forming my judgement. This focus on understanding and empathy is at the core of medicine, where I will encounter people from different backgrounds with diverse views on a daily basis."

HISTORY

EXAM BOARD OCR

WHY STUDY HISTORY?

History is about people. It is the study of the past through compelling stories that tell us about the ideas and events that have been and are destined to be repeated. It will sharpen your ability to think critically, to consider options and make judgements that are based on facts and not opinion. Moreover, history opens doors to future employment. It doesn't shoehorn you down one career path at the end of A Level but instead opens up a multitude of possibilities to be explored.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the OCR History course, with assessment being based on three exams at the end of year 13. We study the following topics:

- **Britain 1930-1997:** In this unit we look at the political, social and economic history of Britain in the twentieth century. Students will study the life of Winston Churchill in detail, particularly focusing on his actions as Prime Minister during WW2.
- **Democracy and Dictatorship in Germany, 1918-1963:** In this unit students will learn about the creation and subsequent collapse of democracy in Germany in the years immediately following WW1. The course will then chart the rise of the Nazi Party until their demise at the end of WW2. Finally, the course will examine the reintroduction of democracy following the war.
- **The Tudors 1485-1603:** In this unit students will examine the reign of England's most famous royal dynasty. Our course will consider how they seize the throne in battle and plot the seismic religious, economic and cultural changes that occurred during their reign, whilst examining the continuous threats to their throne from both home and abroad.
- **Coursework:** – Students will be allowed to pursue a coursework option of their choosing.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

History doesn't close doors. Employers respect the academic and critical nature of a history degree and historians can enter virtually any employment that they choose, from lawyers, bankers and civil servants to accountants, investors and politicians. Studying History at A Level and beyond provides you the opportunity to enter virtually any career and gives you the option and time to make an informed choice as to what that career will be.



CASE STUDY – SOPHIA, YEAR 13

Why I chose History...

"I chose history because I am fascinated by what happened in the past and especially how it affects the present. History is a stimulating and challenging subject, and I have been pushed outside my comfort zone to consider situations from every point of view, asking myself why I have taken a particular stance, and whether the evidence really supports this."

What I like best about the course...

"My favourite part of this course has been studying topics that have broadened my understanding of the world we live in today. My teachers have always been quick to draw parallels between what we study and what is happening in the news, which has enabled me to look at current affairs from a fresh perspective, recognising the interplay of political, social and economic factors. My coursework has also enabled me to delve deeper into the origins of the First World War, a topic that I have always been fascinated by."

Where I hope it will take me...

"History has shown me the ways in which the decisions made by those in power affect ordinary people, often changing lives permanently. This has helped me to see the importance of stories in shaping an individual; to know them, you must understand their experiences. This is an invaluable life skill for anyone wanting to work in a people-centred career, and I hope it will serve me well as I go into youth work in the future."

LATIN

EXAM BOARD OCR

WHY STUDY LATIN?

Latin gives you direct access to the founding texts of European – ‘Western’ – culture. From the Roman Empire through the European Middle Ages to the Renaissance and Enlightenment, Latin was language of high literature, international diplomacy and scholarship. Most sophisticated and technical English vocabulary is Latin-based, so your linguistic knowledge and analytical skills will help you to explore and express ideas precisely and forcefully in any discipline.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

Students pursue a course of parallel language and literature study. In Language, we progress through graduated grammar, translation of verse and prose passages, and translation into Latin (“prose composition”). We use the official language textbook supported by a range of board-endorsed complementary textbooks.

By Year 13 the language course proceeds to regular translation of sophisticated, unadapted Latin prose and verse authors, and composition into sophisticated stylish Latin prose. All of this is underpinned by rigorous vocabulary building.

At the same time, with their other teacher, students study Literary Texts. Students combine close critical reading with wider academic research based on undergraduate commentaries and articles. For examination in 2026:

- Cicero, *Pro Caelio*, - Defence against charges of political violence and murder.
- Tacitus, *Annals of Rome*, 12-14 – The rise of Nero and his murder of his own mother!
- Virgil *Aeneid II* – Trojan Hero Aeneas recounts Troy’s fall (Wooden Horse!).
- Juvenal, *Satires* (selected) – Biting critique of life in Imperial Rome.

There will be many opportunities beyond and around study: essay and translation competitions; local lecture visits; museum / play trips.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

Latin supports University study across the Humanities: Modern Languages, History, Archaeology, Philosophy, English, Law and Politics. Indeed, any degree subject requiring rigorous research and essay-writing will benefit from Latin A Level skills. It nurtures precise and logical textual analysis and sophisticated expression. Such transferable skills are highly sought-after job sectors from business consultancy to media production.



CASE STUDY – ISSY, YEAR 12

Why I chose Latin...

“I chose Latin at A-level because, having studied it at GCSE, I found that it bridges my interests in language and history. On top of this, reading ancient Roman texts is really interesting and gives me a deeper insight into where a lot of our modern ideas come from. Furthermore, learning Latin has helped me understand English and other languages better since so many words come from it.”

What I like best about the course...

“My favourite part of the course is the texts that we translate and write about as I loved English Literature at GCSE and the stories we have studied so far are really interesting. Due to the smaller class size, it is very different to my other subjects as I have been able to gain a deeper understanding of what we are studying and work at my own pace.”

How I think it will benefit me...

“It is a unique subject to be able to speak about and has made me a more well-rounded person, providing me with analytical and critical thinking skills, which will be useful in whatever I decide to do next. This has supported me in interviews and applications for things such as work experience and positions within school.”

MATHEMATICS

EXAM BOARD EDEXCEL (PEARSON)

WHY STUDY MATHEMATICS?

Mathematics is a rigorous and challenging subject to choose at A Level and is a strong addition to any university or job application. Over the duration of the two-year course, you will encounter familiar topics from GCSE that are extended naturally as well as brand new topics such as calculus and logarithms that are crucial to the study of advanced mathematics. The qualities of a successful A Level Maths student are an inquisitiveness to learn in more depth about the subject as well as the drive to challenge themselves to develop a higher level of problem-solving ability that is required at this level.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the Edexcel specification. There are three terminal examinations at the end of Year 13. Two of them are based around Pure Mathematics with the third examination being a combined Mechanics and Statistics course. Some of the topics over the course of the two years will include:

- Calculus – Differentiation and Integration
- Logarithms
- Vectors
- Trigonometry
- The Laws of Motion
- The Normal Distribution

Students will require a new calculator for this course. The recommended model is the Casio Classwiz FX-991 EX which is available at many online retailers.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

A Level Mathematics forms a pivotal part of an application for many different university courses. Whilst an obvious requirement for admission to Mathematics degree programmes, a Mathematics A Level also forms a critical part for admissions to degree courses such as Engineering, Physics and Economics.



CASE STUDY

– HARGUN AND KIANA,
YEAR 13

Why I chose Mathematics...

Hargun: “I chose Maths because I felt like I wanted to further pursue some of the enjoyable topics that I studied at GCSE to a higher level. I enjoyed the challenges that some of the more advanced problems presented me with and felt like I wished to develop this skill set further.”

Kiana: “Of all the subjects that I have studied, the ‘buzz’ of getting the correct answer was something that Mathematics could provide like no other subject.”

What I like best about the course...

Hargun: “I enjoy the extension of the topics at GCSE that I have studied. It has been satisfying seeing how these topics branch into more advanced mathematics.”

Kiana: “The study of calculus I have found fascinating as a new concept and how it applies to optimisation problems.”

Where I hope it will take me...

Hargun: “I am considering a science based degree course and I know it will compliment my study.”

Kiana: “I am pleased to study A Level Mathematics as I know it will be helpful on any future application for a job.”

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

EXAM BOARD EDEXCEL (PEARSON)

WHY STUDY

FURTHER MATHEMATICS?

Further Mathematics is a separate qualification to Mathematics A Level and involves studying other areas of mathematics that are more challenging than the normal Maths A Level. This qualification is designed for students for whom mathematics is unquestionably one of their favourite subjects and a subject for which students have a high level of natural ability at and a consistent track record of high performance throughout their school life.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the Edexcel specification. There are four terminal examinations at the end of Year 13. Two of the papers will be in Further Pure Mathematics, one will be in Further Statistics and one will be in Further Mechanics. Some of the topics covered include:

- Complex Numbers
- Matrices
- Hyperbolic Functions
- Trigonometry
- Central Limit Theorem
- The Normal Distribution
- Momentum and Impulse

Further Mathematics requires a substantial amount of independent study that should not be underestimated by potential students.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

A Level Further Mathematics forms a pivotal part of an application for many different university courses. Further Maths is a requirement for Mathematics degree courses at some leading universities. It is also a highly prized qualification for degree courses such as Engineering, Physics and Mathematics.



CASE STUDY

– MANASI, YEAR 13

Why I chose Further Mathematics...

“I chose Further Maths as maths has always been my favourite subject at school. I knew that I would relish an additional challenge that Further Maths would give me.”

What I like best about the course...

“I enjoy learning the new topics that Further Maths presents such as Complex Numbers and Matrices. The pace of the learning is quick, but I am finding that the class collaboratively works together really well in a highly academic atmosphere.”

Where I hope it will take me...

“Further Maths is providing a boost to my university application as some courses specify it as a requirement. I am beginning to think about approaching higher level problems from a variety of different approaches and I feel that this will serve me well at university level study.”

MUSIC

EXAM BOARD EDEXCEL (PEARSON)

WHY STUDY MUSIC?

Music is a challenging subject to study, the value of which is recognised by all highly academic universities, particularly Oxbridge and the Russell Group. It develops a range of cross-curricular skills, including in-depth critical analysis, creativity, dedication and collaboration. Music works well in combination with many different subjects – it is often favoured as a creative option amongst Sciences/Maths, but also compliments other artistic and humanities subjects such as English, History, Languages etc.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the Edexcel Music A Level course, with final assessment occurring at the end of the two-year period. The course consists of:

- Performing – solo skills (Assessment Objective 1)
- Composing – composing music and learning about harmony (Assessment Objective 2)
- Appraising – developing aural and analytical skills through the study of 13 set works (Assessment Objective 3 & 4)

All components are externally assessed.

It is a requirement that all A Level students participate in the school's extensive extra-curricular music schedule and undertake peripatetic instrumental lessons outside of the school classroom in their first-study instrument.

Students must also have grade 7 or above in GCSE/IGCSE Music and at least Grade 6 in their first-study instrument. It is preferential for students to have also achieved their Grade 5 Theory exam.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

Of students graduating with a Music degree, 50% go on to careers in completely unrelated fields: science, IT, welfare, business, administration or public service; 25% become teaching or education professionals, and 25% find employment in artistic, literary and media occupations.



CASE STUDY – ALYZA, YEAR 12

Why I chose Music...

"I really love performing multiple genres of music, and so appreciated the chance to deepen my musical understanding and knowledge while having opportunities to perform and take a leading role in the nonsuch music department."

What I liked best about the course...

"I like the fact that the course is not just pure theory, but weights performance and composition heavily as well. However, I also like that the theory I learn and set works I analyse link back to my practical performance, and so help improve my overall musicianship."

Where I hope it will take me...

"No matter what career path I choose, I hope to be involved in music in my day-to-day life, as it ultimately brings joy and purpose to me. I hope to be able to perform in solo and in ensembles regularly, using the skills I have gained from music a level. Music has improved my resilience and determination, and has given me skills that are applicable to all parts of my life."

PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS

(RELIGIOUS STUDIES)

EXAM BOARD OCR

WHY STUDY PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS?

It is fascinating and enlightening! Not only will you develop a deeper knowledge and understanding of a key world faith, philosophy and ethics but you will also gain many valuable transferable skills along the way. It gives the opportunity to explore some of the biggest issues that have ever challenged humanity in the search for truth, justice and meaning. The course is excellent for developing clear, concise, thinking skills with incisive analysis and evaluation. In the world of work, employers look for someone with an enquiring mind, an appreciation of different viewpoints and an ability to come to clear, balanced decisions. These skills are emphasised and developed throughout the course.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the OCR fully linear course, with assessment being on a terminal exam at the end of two years. We study three broad areas:

Philosophy – a variety of fascinating topics, including the nature of the mind, body and soul, the thinking of ancient Greek philosophers, arguments for and against the existence of God, and whether we can truly claim to know anything.

Ethics – Ethical arguments about different ways to know if actions are right or wrong, such as Natural Moral Law, Situation Ethics and the ideas of Kant. You will also apply ethical theories to real world issues such as euthanasia.

Developments in Christian Thought – topics including the self, human nature, death and the afterlife, gender and sexuality and expressions of religious identity. It is a very thought-provoking subject with excellent opportunities for debate.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

Philosophy & Ethics is a valuable entry qualification to higher education opportunities. All universities regard Philosophy & Ethics as an academic subject and accept and welcome students with this qualification onto a variety of courses. A qualification in Philosophy & Ethics is considered an asset in many careers particularly those involving working with people e.g. journalism, politics, law, teaching, medicine and publishing.



CASE STUDY

– AMBER, YEAR 13

Why I chose Philosophy & Ethics...

“I love the fact that the course is not merely centred around Christianity, but takes you on a journey to discover where beliefs like the soul originate from and delve into different ethical theories. Philosophy and Ethics is related to both science and humanities and has allowed me to develop essay writing skills whilst teaching me about famous philosophers, ancient and modern alike.”

What I like best about the course...

“I enjoy our debates the most. I like to discuss topics and really go into detail and understand why certain ideas are superior. (It is fun to prove people wrong.) I also enjoy learning about where religion comes from. I have always found it fascinating that people have such strong beliefs and how this influences their lives. And I love how applicable the course is. Philosophy and Ethics links to any subject you will study and provides valuable insight into how society works and how we can change it. It is also enjoyable to refute philosophers you disagree with, especially some of the ancient philosophers who do not think highly of women.”

Where I hope it will take me...

“I am hoping to become a medical student and there is a big emphasis on morality and rights in this field, which links to some of the topics we study in Ethics, such as abortion and euthanasia. Furthermore, the ability to clearly communicate and organise points will be a bonus for university and the field of medicine. The course is a nice balance to biology and chemistry and really aims to hone your essay writing skills in preparation for the future. The ethical theories are applicable in everyday life and contributing in debates has enabled me to form strong and clear opinions and critically assess how plausible ideas are.”

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

EXAM BOARD AQA

WHY STUDY PE?

The A Level PE course is very broad; it covers topics such as anatomy and physiology, as well as sports psychology and sports technology. Students who study A Level PE find it to be an interesting and engaging course providing insight and information about both past and modern-day sporting issues/ideas around elite sport performance as well as many physiological and psychological concepts. The course lends itself well to careers in medical related fields due to the large physiological component, as well as many other diverse careers including sports media, sports coaching and Physical Education teaching.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

Theory

This is a linear A Level with two exams undertaken at the end of Year 13. The theoretical content is worth 70% of your final A Level grade and is comprised of the following topics:

Paper 1:

Section A: Applied anatomy and physiology

Section B: Skill acquisition

Section C: Sport and society

Paper 2:

Section A: Exercise physiology and biomechanics

Section B: Sport psychology

Section C: Sport and society and technology in sport

Non-Examined Assessment (Practical)

The practical aspect of the course is assessed internally and then moderated externally. The practical assessment is worth 30% of the total A Level. Students are assessed in one activity in the role of player/performer or coach.

In addition, you will be required to undertake a written or verbal analysis of performance.

Learning involves a variety of methods such as practical work, group work and independent study.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

An advanced level qualification will be useful for students intending to study a sport related course at university. It is also an excellent foundation for students of physiotherapy, medicine, sports science, teaching, coaching, sports development, recreational management and professional sport.



CASE STUDY – CHARLOTTE, YEAR 13

Why I chose PE...

“I chose PE because I have always had an interest in sport and really enjoyed studying it at GCSE.”

What I like best about the course...

“The best thing about the course is that it covers so many different aspects of sport. I find learning about how society affects sport the most interesting.”

Where I hope it will take me...

“It has helped me decide on a sports science course at university and its content will hopefully help me to achieve the degree!”

PHYSICS

EXAM BOARD OCR (SPECIFICATION A)

WHY STUDY PHYSICS?

A Level Physics gives you the opportunity to explore the phenomena of the universe and to look at theories that explain what is observed. Being in a highly respected A Level, in physics you will study every part of the universe, from the largest galaxies (and indeed the universe itself), to the very smallest sub-atomic particle. Studying physics also allows you to examine, and understand more clearly, the concepts that underpin many of the other sciences including chemistry, astronomy and engineering.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the OCR Physics A specification as a linear course which comprises of the following units.

- Development of practical skills
- Foundations of physics
- Forces and Motion
- Electrons, waves and photons
- Newtonian world and astrophysics
- Particles and medical physics

With the removal of exams at the end of Year 12, we have taken the opportunity to adapt our teaching orders to make the course of study more dynamic and more appropriate to the level of our students. We have recently renewed and added to our practical facilities and complete practical work as often as possible.

Support is offered in lessons and with a weekly physics club.

You will also have the opportunity to challenge yourself through our Advanced Maths and Physics Club in which we take both subjects well beyond A Level and explore their intrinsic link. All A Level students are encouraged to participate in the Physics Olympiad. Another main highlight is Cern trip to Geneva, Switzerland – very interesting and informative.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

Physicists are always in demand, one of the most sought-after subject at Universities. The choice of further study is vast, not least the study of theoretical Physics, Medical Physics, Astrophysics, engineering, radiography, technical theatre, architecture, Finance, Maths, economics, PhDs, information technologies and many more.



CASE STUDY

– AREE AND ANGELINE,
YEAR 13

Why I chose Physics...

Aree: "I chose physics because it is an incredibly diverse subject, and I find it intriguing how physics can be applied to everything."

Angeline: "I chose physics because it provides a satisfactory explanation for how our world works, and its breadth is quite literally as great as the infinite universe. It challenges the widest range of skills: from mathematical understanding to your ability to conceptualise abstract ideas, which aids in my studies of my other subjects."

What I like best about the course...

Aree: "I love learning, and I like that in A level physics we get to further explore topics we touched on briefly at GCSE such as electricity and waves, as well as introducing new topics like quantum physics."

Angeline: "My favourite part of the course are the more abstract parts, such as dealing with quantum and kinetic theories, especially when looking around the classroom and seeing a similar expression of confusion mirrored in everyone's faces! The teachers are incredibly supportive and are always prepared to guide us through difficult problems."

Where I hope it will take me...

Aree: "I am applying for physics at university, which not only fuels my passion for learning, but also gives me a broad range of paths to pursue. Even at A-level, it's already equipped me with so many valuable skills such as problem solving and numeracy, which are also crucial in other subject areas."

Angeline: "I hope to study physics further in university because it opens a lot of employment opportunities as it provides the mathematical insight necessary in many STEM related fields."

PSYCHOLOGY

EXAM BOARD AQA

WHY STUDY PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology is the science of mind, brain and behaviour. It is a subject at the frontier of scientific discovery and, as researchers gradually reveal the secrets of the human brain and how it relates to behaviour, an understanding of psychology has become important across many areas of employment.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the AQA Psychology fully linear course, with assessment being on 3 terminal exams at the end of two years. We study the following topics:

Year 12

- Social Influence
- Attachment
- Memory
- Psychopathology
- Biopsychology
- Approaches

Year 13

- Eating Behaviour
- Relationships
- Aggression
- Research methods
- Issues and Debates

The exams involve a mixture of multiple-choice questions, short and longer answer questions and questions that require students to apply their knowledge to real life scenarios.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

Universities accept A Level Psychology as an excellent foundation for a wide range of degree courses. It is an asset in the health professions, law, teaching, advertising and marketing, human resources, general management, the police and the media. In recent years around a quarter of students have gone on to Psychology degrees at universities such as Oxford, Kings College London, Nottingham, and Southampton. Others have been accepted onto a range of courses including Law, Medicine, Dentistry, Midwifery, Nursing, Architecture, Mathematics, Criminology, Sociology, English Literature, History and Art Foundation.



CASE STUDY

– ZAHRAH, RATHY,
AND CHLOE, YEAR 13

Why I chose Psychology...

“I chose Psychology because it seemed like one of the most interesting sciences. It also has a broad range of topics – something for everyone! The way it connects everyday experiences with deeper psychological principles has given me a new perspective on the world around me.”

What I like best about the course...

“The content is genuinely interesting as you are exposed to various topics that sometimes interlink with another A-level subject you are doing which is really helpful.”

“Psychology has enabled me to understand and reflect on different behaviours and mental processes which are often overlooked. The links which can be seen from lesson to everyday life have only strengthened my passion for it and I look forward to continuing my psychology studies in the future.”

Where I hope it will take me...

“I hope psychology will continue to help me improve my life and the lives of others by deepening my understanding of why people think and behave as they do. By applying insights from areas like memory research, I also aim to enhance my study techniques which will hopefully make my degree more manageable.”

SPANISH

EXAM BOARD PEARSON

WHY STUDY SPANISH?

By studying A Level Spanish you will develop a lasting appreciation of the Spanish language, the ability to comprehend the language in a wide range of contexts, the ability to communicate readily in Spanish for a variety of purposes, useful knowledge of and insights into the culture of Spain and the Spanish-speaking world and valuable skills for foreign travel, further education and employment.

There are an estimated 437 million native speakers of Spanish in the world, placing it as the second most important language in the world in terms of native speakers.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the Pearson Spanish course, with assessment being on a terminal exam at the end of two years. We study the following topics:

- The evolution of Spanish society
- Culture in the Spanish-speaking world
- Immigration and the multi-cultural society
- The Spanish Civil War
- Franco's dictatorship and the transition to democracy
- Text: La Casa de Bernarda Alba
- Film: Volver

All A Level students are encouraged to take part in our Year 12 trip, which will be to Malaga for the academic year 2023/24. In addition to normal lessons, you will also have the chance to have individual or small group lessons with our Spanish assistant.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

The course will give you a good foundation for further study in higher education. Spanish is in demand in a wide variety of professions including banking, international trade and commerce, import and export, tourism, foreign office, diplomatic corps, teaching, translating, interpreting and many more.



CASE STUDY

– HARGUN, YEAR 13

Why I chose Spanish...

"I chose Spanish A-level because I have always enjoyed learning languages, especially at GCSE, taking both German and Spanish. The culture of Spain in particular intrigues me and having gone there a few times, I thought having a useful skill would be applicable in the real world."

What I like best about the course...

"Studying Spanish A-level is really enjoyable because we cover a range of topics, and it is my favourite subject. My fluency level has really improved from speaking/being exposed to Spanish every day at school, and I realised this on the Year 12 Spanish trip to Malaga, where we passed off for native Spanish speakers!"

Where I hope it will take me...

"I hope to study an integrated degree with a year abroad in Spain, and then hopefully move to Spain for a few years after. Having a language as an A-level subject has been really useful to diversify my subject combination from STEM and offers me a range of opportunities within school and outside."



NONSUCH

HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Mrs Williamson-Jones – Headteacher
 Ewell Road, Cheam, Surrey SM3 8AB
 T: 020 8394 3400
 E: office@nonsuchschool.org
www.nonsuchschool.org

