

THE HOLY CROSS SIXTH FORM

INFORMATION BOOKLET

SEPTEMBER 2018 ENTRY



In partnership with Richard Challoner Sixth Form

ADMISSION CRITERIA

Admission is open primarily to students in Year 11 from Holy Cross School then, if places are available, to students who have attended other institutions. A minimum of 10 places will be offered to external applicants.

External students will be considered according to the criteria laid out in the School's Admission Policy which can be found on the school website.

To study Level 3 courses, students must have obtained at least five GCSEs of Grade 4 or above including English and Mathematics. They must also have met the course requirements as detailed in this Sixth Form Information Booklet. All students applying to our Sixth Form, whether internal or external, will be interviewed and will be required to provide the following:

1. A commitment on the part of the student to contribute to the ethos of a Catholic school.
2. Predicted or actual GCSE grades or equivalent.
3. Evidence of the appropriate motivation and enthusiasm to follow their chosen courses and the ability to work independently. A student's record of attendance and punctuality will be taken into consideration.
4. A commitment on the part of the student to contribute to the life of the school and to act as a "role model" for the younger students.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT COURSE FOR YOU

There are a wide range of courses available across both sites, allowing students to select programmes of study suited to their individual needs and aspirations. Students enrolled at Holy Cross will have access to courses at Richard Challoner Sixth Form.

GCE A Level Courses

These are two year linear courses so all of the subject matter is examined at the end of Year 13. At the end of the first year of study, there are internal exams which students have to pass in order to proceed to the second year of study.

Applied courses offering students the opportunity to study within a work based context.

Vocational courses including BTEC and OCR Nationals are studied over two years with no one year option.

Level 2 Courses: These courses are appropriate for students who have yet to achieve 5 GCSEs or equivalent at Grade 4 or above. They are one year courses and may lead on to Level 3 courses. There is the opportunity for students to resit their GCSE English and Mathematics to improve their grade.

University Entrance: If you wish to move on from the Sixth Form to University and you know the subject that you wish to study, you will need to consider the UCAS point tariff and the requirements that may be needed for your chosen degree.

WHAT SHOULD YOU CHOOSE?

You must think about your strengths and aspirations in selecting your programme of study. Look carefully at the content of the courses in this booklet. Are you good at coursework and is there a coursework component? Do you prefer formal examinations? Is practical work one of your strengths? Think about what you want to achieve by the end of your time in the Sixth Form. Discuss your hopes and ambitions with your family, your teachers and your mentors who will give you invaluable advice.

All students will study three A Level/BTEC courses. Where there is evidence of exceptional ability, a student may choose four courses.

PART TIME JOBS

Many students will have part-time jobs in the Sixth Form and can gain valuable experiences through these. However, it is vital that students do not work too many hours or their academic success will be adversely affected. We recommend that no more than eight hours are allocated each week to part-time work.

A FRAMEWORK FOR SIXTH FORM STUDENTS

- We encourage independent learning within the Sixth Form and expect students to take an increasing responsibility for their own progress.
- Students must use the Biometric Fingerprinting System to register in and out of school.
- All students will be issued with an academic diary which includes tracking pages to be completed regularly as an aid to independent learning.
- Attendance at school is FULL TIME and this includes attendance at Assemblies, PSHE and General RE lessons. Students must be punctual.
- There is a dress code for all Sixth Form students. Students must dress sensibly and appropriately reflecting the standards expected by the School.
- There is a Sixth Form Contract which all students and their parents must read and sign. Rules and regulations are kept to a minimum in the Sixth Form as is appropriate for a young adult community. Every effort is made to treat students as mature young people and the Sixth Form exists on a friendly basis of trust and goodwill.
- During study periods, the supervised Sixth Form study rooms should be used for work
- Sixth Form students have a shared responsibility for keeping all study and social areas clean and tidy.
- There is a No Smoking policy in the school and in the streets surrounding the school.

COURSES AT HOLY CROSS

- Art, Craft and Design
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Creative Digital Media Production
- English Language & Literature
- English Literature
- Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)
- French
- Geography
- Health and Social Care
- History
- Mathematics
- Mathematics - Further
- Media Studies
- Music
- Photography
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Science – Applied Science
- Sociology

ART, CRAFT & DESIGN: A Level

AQA

Subject Leader: Mr R Taylor

Course Content: If you choose to study Art, Craft and Design you will have the freedom to work with a wide range of 2D and 3D materials and techniques. This gives you the opportunity to work to your strengths and to develop your creative and visual skills in areas such as surface design, painting, textiles and photography. You may want to use mixed media and develop your work using materials most suited to your ideas.

Unit 1 Skills based workshops in Year 12 (Sept - Dec)

Unit 1 Coursework 60% of A Level (Sept Year 12 - Jan Year 13)

Within the first term of the course students will be taught a variety of contemporary and traditional art techniques in 2d and 3d skill based workshops, helping to build their confidence within the subject. Students will select a personal portfolio theme for their personal coursework unit. This will allow students to have the opportunity to generate ideas and research from primary and contextual sources, record their findings, experiment with media and processes and develop and refine their ideas towards producing a series of outcomes.

This unit incorporates two linked elements, practical work and a personal study. The practical work allows the student to pursue their creative potential. The personal study is a clearly identified area of study linked to the practical work. It provides the focus for contextual analysis and connections and must be between 1000 and 3000 words.

Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment (40%) Feb - May in Year 13

Students will be set a question or theme by AQA. They have an extended preparatory period in which to develop their ideas before a 15 hour examination.

Examination/Assessment: All work is internally assessed and externally moderated.

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Art or Art Textiles. Alternatively Merit or above in BTEC Art.

Also, Grade 4 in English Language

Any student who does not meet these requirements would need to meet with the Head of Art

BIOLOGY: A Level

Edexcel Specification B

Subject Leaders: Mrs V Gowan, Miss Guest and Mr Sohanpal

Course Content: Biology is a challenging and fascinating subject and it has many applications to everyday life. Whilst Biology is the most approachable Science, it is rigorous and engaging and aims to equip students with a contemporary grasp of key biological principles.

Year 12 Topics

1. Biological molecules
2. Cells, viruses and reproduction of living things
3. Classification and biodiversity
4. Exchange and transport

Year 13 Topics

1. Energy for biological processes
2. Microbiology and pathogens
3. Modern genetics
4. Origins of genetic variation
5. Control systems
6. Ecosystems

Examination/Assessment:

At the end of Year 13, students will sit three exam papers. Papers 1 & 2 are both 1 hour 45 minutes long. Each paper provides 30% of the overall mark. Paper 3 is 2 hours 30 minutes long and provides 40% of the overall mark.

An additional Certificate in Practical Skills is awarded to students who have demonstrated competency in a range of practical skills. This is separate to the A Level grade and, if awarded is recorded as a 'Pass' on the A level certificate.

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Biology and one other science (GCSE Chemistry or GCSE Physics) or Grade 6:6 or above in GCSE Combined Science.

Grade 5 or above in Mathematics and English language

BUSINESS STUDIES: BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate

Edexcel

Subject Leader: Miss H Bosson and Miss L Peirce

The Extended Certificate is for learners who are interested in learning about the business sector alongside other fields of study, and is perfect for students with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in business-related subjects.

Units include studying business, developing marketing campaigns, personal and business finance as well as optional units such as Digital Marketing, pitching for new business and investigating corporate and social responsibility.

The Business BTEC course provides rigour and balance, and promotes the ability to apply learning immediately in new contexts. Alongside a program that provides a thorough understanding of business concepts it also provides an opportunity for all students to practice cognitive, interpersonal and intrapersonal skills, with a view to developing them to improve future opportunities.

Examination/Assessment: There are three main forms of assessment that you need to be aware of: external, internal and synoptic - 2 external exams and 2 portfolio based pieces of work.

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 4 or above in Mathematics and English Language

CHEMISTRY: A Level

Pearson Edexcel Chemistry

Subject Leaders: Mrs Maher and Mrs Wheeler

Course Content: The course is divided into short topics which include –

- Atomic structure and the periodic table
- Bonding and structure
- Redox
- Inorganic chemistry and the periodic table
- Formulae, equations and amounts of substance
- Organic chemistry
- Modern analytical techniques
- Energetics
- Kinetics
- Equilibrium
- Acid-base equilibria
- Transition metals
- Practical endorsement

Organisation of the course:

All students will study 10 topics in Year 12 and complete the required practical assignments. Students continuing with chemistry into Year 13 will study topics 11 to 17 and complete the required practical assignments.

Examination/Assessment: The course is assessed by linear examinations. Students are examined on all topics at the end of Year 13, two papers of 30% each on specified content and a synoptic paper of 40% total marks. A practical certificate is awarded to

students who demonstrate the required level of competence over the two years of practical work.

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Chemistry and one other science (GCSE Biology or GCSE Physics) or Grade 6:6 or above in GCSE Combined Science. Grade 5 or above in Mathematics and English language

CREATIVE DIGITAL MEDIA PRODUCTION: BTEC National Level 3 Extended Certificate

Pearson

Subject Leader: Mr D Terracciani

The course provides an introduction to the study of creative digital media production. Students develop an understanding of the media industry through analysing media representations and pitching and producing media projects, such as film trailers, adverts,

TV programmes, newspapers, magazine front pages, etc.

BTEC Media is more hands-on than the A-Level and it would suit students who enjoy practical work more than studying theories. The course is designed for students who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment, possibly in the media industries.

Equivalent in size to one A Level; students complete 4 units of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are externally assessed (58%)

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 4 or above in English Language and English Literature

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE: A Level OCR

Subject Leaders: Miss E Amer and Mr M Oliver

Course content: English Language and Literature allows students to continue to explore both the critical and theoretical aspects of the English language at advanced level. This course offers students the opportunity to study a wealth of literature, in addition to developing their own creative writing skills. They will study drama, poetry and prose and produce critically analytical reflections upon their own work.

Authors may include: Mary Shelley, Bram Stoker, Margaret Atwood, Alice Sebold, Seamus Heaney, John Donne, Carol Ann Duffy, Robert Browning, Jon Krakauer, Kate Summerscale, F Scott Fitzgerald, Khaled Hosseini, Shakespeare, Arthur Miller, Tennessee Williams, Rory Kinnear.

Students will explore the influential significance of aspects of: phonetics, phonology and prosodics; lexis and semantics; grammar; pragmatics and discourse.

Component 1- Exploring non-fiction and spoken texts

Component 2- The Language of poetry and plays

Component 3- Reading as a writer, writing as a reader

Component 4- Independent study: analysing and producing texts

Examination/ Assessment: Three examinations: 80%. One personal, investigative task linking texts by themes: 20%. This will be internally assessed and externally moderated.

Specific Entry Requirements: GCSE Grade 6 or above in English Language and 5 or above in English Literature

ENGLISH LITERATURE – A Level

OCR

Subject Leaders: Mr M Oliver, Miss E Amer, Mrs D Middlecoat and Miss C Hope

Course Content: English Literature is a highly rewarding subject which encourages students to become independent, critical thinkers. In particular, this course aims to foster a love of literature across genres and time periods, which provides an excellent foundation for the knowledge and skills required at degree level.

Some of the core texts studied include: *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck and *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen. Students will also study a Shakespeare text and a collection of poetry from Christina Rossetti or Geoffrey Chaucer.

Examination/ Assessment: Two examinations 80%, one Creative/ Critical Study 20% internally assessed and externally moderated assessment.

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in English Language and Literature

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ): Level 3

Edexcel

Subject Leader: Mrs V Gowan

Course Content: The Extended Project is a standalone qualification that can be taken alongside A Levels. It creates the opportunity to develop

transferable skills for progression to higher education or employment through the exploration of either an area of personal interest or a topic of interest. This qualification:

- is recognised by universities for the skills it develops
- is worth half of an Advanced GCE qualification at grades A* to E
- carries UCAS points for university entry

The Extended Project encourages students to develop skills in the following areas: research, critical thinking, extended writing and project management. Students identify and agree a topic area of their choice. Students can choose from one of the following approaches:

- a dissertation (for example an investigation based on predominantly secondary research)
- an investigation/field study (for example a practical experiment)
- an artefact (for example creating a website based on a client brief or solving an engineering problem)

Examination/Assessment: The qualification is coursework based and students are assessed on the skills of managing, planning and evaluating their project. Students will research their topic, develop skills to evaluate the information, and then present the final outcome of their project.

The Extended Project cannot be used against a grade offer (such as AAA), but some universities may offer an alternative for students studying the Extended Project (such as ABB instead of AAB, provided that you get an A in your Extended Project).

Specific Entry Requirements: GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language preferred

FRENCH: A Level

AQA

Subject Leader: Ms Bouchy

Course Content:

- 1) Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends
 - The changing nature of family
 - The "cyber-society"
 - The place of voluntary work

- 2) Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues
- Positive features of a diverse society
 - Life for the marginalised
 - How criminals are treated
- 3) Artistic culture in the French-speaking world
- A culture proud of its heritage
 - Contemporary francophone music
 - Cinema: the 7th art form
- 4) Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world
- Teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment
 - Demonstrations, strikes - who holds the power?
 - Politics and immigration

Examination/Assessment: This includes listening, speaking, reading and writing examinations.

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above (on the higher papers) in the chosen language

GEOGRAPHY: A Level

AQA

Subject Leaders: Mrs F Smith and Mr S Wigman

Course Content: A course aiming to excite students' minds, challenge perceptions and stimulate their investigative and analytical skills.

Component 1: Physical geography - 40% of

A Level

Section A: Water and carbon cycles

Section B: Hot Desert Systems and

Landscapes **or** Coastal Systems and

Landscapes **or** Glacial Systems and Landscapes

Section C: Hazards **or** Ecosystems under Stress

- Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes (120 marks)

Component 2: Human geography - 40% of

A Level

Section A: Global Systems and Global Governance

Section B: Changing Places

Section C: Contemporary Urban

Environments **or** Population and the Environment **or** Resource Security

- Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes (120 marks)

All students are required to undertake fieldwork in relation to processes in both physical and human geography. Students must undertake a minimum of four days of compulsory fieldwork during their A-level course. A fieldwork statement must be provided to the exam board to confirm that each student has fulfilled this requirement.

Component 3: Geographical investigation - 20% of A Level (60 marks)

3,000–4,000 word individual investigation

Students complete an individual investigation which must include data collected in the field. The individual investigation must be based on a question or issue defined and developed by the student relating to any part of the specification content.

The students must work on their own on contextualising, analysing and reporting their work to produce an independent investigation with an individual title that demonstrates required fieldwork knowledge, skills and understanding.

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Geography, and GCSE Grade 5 or above in Mathematics and English Language.

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE: BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate

EDEXEL

Subject Leaders: Mrs N Murphy & Ms T Sullivan

Course Content:

Year 12

Unit 1: Human Lifespan Development (written exam)

This covers the physical, intellectual, emotional and social development across the human lifespan and the factors affecting development and the effects of ageing. You will learn about a number of theories and models to explain and interpret behaviour through the human lifespan. In this unit, you will explore the impact of both predictable and unpredictable life events, and recognise how they impact on individuals. You will study the interaction between the physical and psychological factors of the ageing process, and how this affects confidence and self-esteem, which in turn may determine how individuals will view their remaining years.

Unit 5: Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs (Assignment) Learners focus on the principles and practicalities that underpin meeting individuals' care and support needs, which are the foundation of all the care disciplines. This unit will be useful if you are intending to pursue a career in social care or healthcare, for instance as a social worker or health visitors, practice nurse or occupational therapist.

Year 13

Unit 2: Working in Health and Social Care (written exam)

Learners explore what it is like to work in the health and social care sector, including the roles and responsibilities of workers and organisations. When

working for an organisation in this sector, you will have important responsibilities that you need to understand and carry out. These include maintaining the safety of and safeguarding of individuals. You will need to understand how you will be accountable both to these individuals and the regulatory bodies that represent people who work in the health and social care sector. It is necessary for you to understand how your work will be monitored when you carry out a specific role such as nurse or social worker.

Unit 12: Supporting Individuals with Additional Needs (Assignment)

While working in health and social care, you may care for a full range of individuals who have additional needs. Individuals with these additional needs have a right to receive the best quality care and support. This unit aims to give you specialist knowledge that can be crucial to ensuring that those with additional needs meet their full potential.

Specific Entry Requirement:

Essential - GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language and 4 in Maths, and GCSE Grade 4:4 or above in Combined Science or GCSE Grade 4 in Triple Science

Recommended - GCSE Grade 6 in Health & Social Care

HISTORY: A Level

AQA

Subject Leaders: Miss H Kay and Ms L Gordon

"Study the past if you would divine the future."
Confucius

Course Content: History is a fascinating subject which gives us a greater understanding of the world in which we live. Studying history broadens the mind and gives you valuable skills. History is a firm foundation for many academic courses and career choices. It is widely respected by universities and employers as a discipline which promotes independent thinking, research skills and the ability to present a logical argument. History offers progression to a diverse range of careers including Teaching, Journalism, Law, Accountancy, Diplomatic Service, Media, Police, Local Government, Retail, Marketing, Social Work and Management.

Component 1: Breadth Study – The Tudors: England 1485-1603

Component 2: Depth Study – Democracy & Nazism: Germany 1918-1945

Component 3: Historical Investigation - Witchcraft, 1560-1660: England & Europe

Examination/Assessment:

Two written examinations both 2 hrs 30 mins (80%) and an Historical Investigation 3000-3500 words (20%).

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in History and GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language or Literature. GCSE History recommended, not essential

MATHEMATICS: A Level

Edexcel

Subject Leaders: Miss A Rout and Mrs M Haias

Course Content: A Level Mathematics builds on and extends GCSE knowledge and skills and introduces new ideas, such as calculus and its applications. It emphasises how mathematical ideas are interconnected and how these ideas can be applied to model situations mathematically.

There is a strong emphasis on logical reasoning and problem-solving and you will learn to use your mathematical skills and techniques to solve challenging problems. Most of the course involves using algebra and it covers topics such as trigonometry, co-ordinate geometry, differentiation and integration (calculus), and algebraic techniques and functions.

All students study statistics and mechanics. Statistics develops the skills required to interpret real data presented in summary or graphical form and helps us to draw conclusions about what the data shows. Mechanics allows us to describe and make predictions about how physical objects move and interact with each other involving ideas such as velocity, acceleration, force and mass which are central to understanding how the world works. The course assessment is entirely through examination.

A Level Mathematics prepares students for further study and employment in a wide range of disciplines involving the use of mathematics such as sciences, social sciences, engineering and business.

All students will be assessed on their knowledge of Pure Mathematics, Mechanics and Statistics. The assessment objectives include a greater emphasis on modelling, problem-solving and reasoning, so some questions are likely to be longer with less scaffolding. This builds on the increase in problem-solving in GCSE so students will be better prepared. The examinations will be taken at the end of the course rather than in modules and it is expected that questions will link different aspects of the course.

Examination/Assessment for A-Level:

Three externally examined papers.

Paper 1: Pure Mathematics 1.

Written examination of 100 marks (2hrs).

Students will study the following topics:

Proof

Algebra and functions

Coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane

Sequences and series

Trigonometry

Exponentials and logarithms

Differentiation

Integration

Vectors

Paper 2: Pure Mathematics 2.

Written examination of 100 marks (2hrs).

Students will study the following topics:

Proof

Algebra and functions

Coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane

Sequences and series

Trigonometry

Differentiation

Integration

Numerical methods

Paper 3: Statistics and Mechanics.

Written examination of 100 marks (2hrs).

Students will study the following topics:

Section A: Statistics

Statistical sampling

Data presentation and interpretation

Probability

Statistical distributions

Statistical hypothesis testing

Section B: Mechanics

Quantities and units in mechanics

Kinematics

Forces and Newton's laws

Moments

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Mathematics. There will also be an entry test.

MATHEMATICS – FURTHER: A Level

Edexcel

Subject Leaders: Mrs M Haias

Further Mathematics is designed for students with an enthusiasm for mathematics, many of whom will go on to degrees in mathematics, engineering, the sciences and economics.

The qualification is deeper and broader than A Level Mathematics. As well as building on algebra and

calculus introduced in A Level Mathematics, the Further Mathematics core content introduces complex numbers and matrices, fundamental mathematical ideas with wide applications in mathematics, engineering, physical sciences and computing. The non-core content will cover pure mathematics, statistics and mechanics to a deeper level. This will require students to use their mathematical knowledge to make logical and reasoning decisions, in solving problems both within pure mathematics and in a variety of contexts and communicate the mathematical rationale for these decisions clearly.

The additional work in Pure Maths makes it a good choice for students with strong mathematical skills who are planning to study mathematics, physics or engineering at university, and for some courses in Maths (or subjects based on Maths) at Oxford or Cambridge and some of the other Russell Group universities, it is a requirement.

Examination/Assessment for A-Level Further Mathematics: Four externally examined papers.

Paper 1: Further Pure Mathematics 1.

Written examination of 75 marks (1 hr 30 min)

Students will study the following topics:

Proof, Complex numbers, Matrices, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus, Further vectors

Paper 2: Further Pure Mathematics 2.

Written examination of 75 marks (1 hr 30 min).

Students will study the following topics: Complex numbers, Further algebra and functions, Further calculus, Polar coordinates, Hyperbolic functions, Differential equations

Paper 3: Further Mathematics Option 1.

Written examination of 75 marks (1 hr 30 min)

Students will take one of the following options:

Further Pure Mathematics 3 - Further calculus, Further differential equations, Coordinate systems, Further vectors, Further numerical methods, Inequalities

Further Mechanics 1 - Momentum and impulse, Collisions, Centres of mass, Work and energy, Elastic strings and springs

Paper 4: Further Mathematics Option 2.

Written examination of 75 marks (1 hr 30 min)

Students will take one of the following options:

Further Pure Mathematics 4 - Groups, Further calculus, Further matrix algebra, Further complex numbers, Number theory, Further sequences and series

Further Mechanics 1 - Momentum and impulse, Collisions, Centres of mass, Work and energy, Elastic strings and springs

Further Mechanics 2 - Further kinematics, Further dynamics, Motion in a circle, Statics of rigid bodies, Elastic collisions in two dimensions
Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 8 in Mathematics

MEDIA STUDIES: A Level

WJEC

Subject Leader: Mr D Terracciani

A Level Media Studies will enhance your enjoyment and appreciation of the media and its role in our daily lives. You will study how media texts are constructed and how audiences and users respond to and interpret them. You will also develop your knowledge and understanding of the relationship between media texts, their audiences and the industries which produce and distribute them.

A range of media texts will be covered on the course, including advertisements, DVD covers, CD covers, newspaper front pages, magazines, film extracts, television sequences, music videos, websites and computer game extracts. As part of your coursework you will also have an opportunity to create media products such as film extracts and magazine pages.

Examination/Assessment: Written exam (70%) and Production Coursework (30%)

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language and English Literature

MUSIC: A Level

Edexcel

Subject Leaders: Ms K Jo and Mr J Bridges

A Level Music builds on the three essential components which are studied throughout the Secondary curriculum: Performing, Composing and Listening and Appraising. The course is designed to build on what students have learnt at GCSE and it is an excellent opportunity for students to put their musical skills to use in an academic and practical way. Throughout the course, students study music from different eras including the vocal music of Bach and Mozart, instrumental music from Berlioz and Vivaldi, music for Film, popular music, including jazz, and music of the avant-garde 20th century. Students also study compositional techniques in set styles and will be expected to perform a range of repertoire in front of a live audience.

Course Content

Unit 1: Performing 30% Students perform one or more pieces in a concert lasting a minimum of 8 minutes.

Unit 2: Composing 30%

This is organized in two parts:

1. A composition either to a brief or a free composition (40 marks)
2. A technical study based on an arrangement of a melody or a chorale in the style of J S Bach (20 marks)

Both parts must last in total at least 6 minutes.

Unit 3: Appraising 40%

A two hour examination in two parts. This exam covers a wide range of music genres and styles, each with three set works.

Section A: Areas of study and dictation (50 marks)

- Three questions related to the set works (audio and skeleton score provided)
- One short melody/rhythm completion exercise

Section B: Extended response

Two essay questions – essay one (20 marks) and essay two (30 marks)

- Essay one asks students to draw links from their study of the set works to the music heard as an unfamiliar extract.
- Essay two gives a choice of three questions that ask students to evaluate the musical elements, context and language of one set work. Each option will be from a different area of study.

Examination/Assessment:

Performance (30%) – completed during the course and externally examined.

Composition (30%) – completed during the course and externally examined.

Appraising exam (40%) – externally examined

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Music (if taken). Playing an instrument/singing to Grade 5 standard is essential. Students who believe they are at this standard but have not yet passed the exam must enquire instead. Students need to be able to read stave notation (treble and/or bass/clef) fluently. An interest in, and an open minded approach to, all styles of music, as well as an ability to compose and write about music (to GCSE standard) is useful

PHOTOGRAPHY: A Level

AQA

Subject Leader: Mr R Taylor

Course Content: The course is delivered as digital lens based photography. The focus of the course is creative photography using manipulations techniques. It requires the student to be able to do more than just take a good photograph. The student will develop a creative art based project; one of the main course requirements is creative development. Students must go beyond mere observation and recording; they must analyse and critically evaluate the photographic images of their own and other artists' work.

Unit 1 Skills based workshops in Year 12

(Sept - Dec)

Unit 1 Coursework (Sept - Jan in Year 13)

60% of A Level

Within the first term students will be taught digital and traditional techniques in skill based workshops, helping to build their confidence within the subject. Students will select a personal portfolio theme for their personal coursework unit, giving them the opportunity to generate ideas and research from primary and contextual sources, record their findings, experiment with media and processes and develop and refine their ideas towards producing a series of outcomes.

This personal portfolio coursework unit incorporates two linked elements, practical work and a personal study. The practical work allows the student to pursue their creative potential. The personal study is a clearly identified area of study linked to the practical work. It provides the focus for contextual analysis and connections and must be between 1000 and 3000 words

Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment (40% A Level) Feb - May in Year 13

Students will be set a question or theme by AQA.

They have an extended preparatory period in which to develop their ideas before a 15 hour examination.

Examination/Assessment: All work is internally assessed and externally moderated.

Specific Entry Requirement:

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Art & Design, Art Textiles or Photography or Merit in GCSE Applied Art & Design. Also, GCSE Grade 4 or above in English Language.

A photography portfolio will have to be completed to a satisfactory standard. You will be given a topic

and guidelines for the project before enrolling on to the course.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION: A Level

AQA

Cross site Richard Challoner/Holy Cross Schools

Subject Leaders: Mr P Manley, Ms Sullivan and Mrs N Murphy

This subject offers students the opportunity to experience and develop an interest in a variety of roles within sport such as performer or coach. This qualification looks to equip students with the skills and knowledge required for higher education and/or the world of work.

The Advanced Level course builds on the work studied at GCSE to enhance knowledge and increase understanding of the factors that affect participation in physical education.

The course will address current contemporary topics such as the use of ergogenic aids, technology and the increasing commercialism of sport. The course also includes applied physiology, skill acquisition and opportunities for participation.

Component 1:

Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport

Written Paper

Section A – Applied anatomy and physiology (35 marks)

Section B – Skill acquisition (35 marks)

Section C – Sport and society (35 marks)

Component 2:

Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport

Written Paper

Section A – Exercise physiology and biomechanics (35 marks)

Section B – Sport psychology (35 marks)

Section C – Sport and society and technology in sport (35 marks)

Component 3:

Practical performance in physical activity and sport

Examination/Assessment:

Component 1 – Two hour written exam

Component 2 - Two hour written exam

Component 3 - Internal assessment with external moderation

Specific Entry Requirement:

Regular commitment to at least one extra-curricular competitive sport.

GCSE Grade 6 or above in PE and Grade 5 or above in Biology

Or GCSE Grade 5:5 in GCSE Combined Science. GCSE PE recommended but not essential - students would need approval of Subject Leader.

PHYSICS: A Level

OCR Specification A

Subject Leaders: Dr O Zacharopoulou

Course Content: A Level Physics equips students with a wide range of academic and practical skills through the study of 6 modules.

1. Development of practical skills
2. Foundations of physics
3. Forces and motion
4. Electrons, waves and photons
5. Newtonian world and astrophysics
6. Particles and medical physics

Examination/Assessment: The A level course is assessed by linear examinations. A Level students are examined on all six modules at the end of Year 13, two papers of 37% each and a synoptic paper of 26% of the total marks. 40% of the question paper assessment covers mathematical skills. In addition, A Level students will be awarded the practical endorsement certificate after successfully completing practical work set during the two year course.

Science Entry Requirements:

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Physics and one other science (GCSE Biology or GCSE Chemistry) or Grade 6:6 or above in GCSE Combined Science.

GCSE Grade 5 or above in Mathematics (higher paper) is essential.

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Mathematics highly recommended.

PSYCHOLOGY: A Level

AQA

Subject Leader: Ms S White

Course Content: Psychology is the scientific study of mind and behaviour - so if you are passionate about understanding how people think and behave then Psychology is for you!

Year 12

The course covers memory, social influence (e.g. why did German soldiers obey the Nazi regime), attachment, psychopathology (e.g. how we define mental illness), the different approaches used to

explain behaviour in psychology, biopsychology (e.g. structure and function of neurons and how they affect behaviour), and research methods (e.g. how to create reliable and valid experiments).

Year 13

You will also study research methods, issues and debates, relationships, stress, and aggression.

Examination/Assessment:

Three 2 hour examinations which will cover all material over the two years.

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language or English Literature and Mathematics AND GCSE Grade 5 or above in two or more Sciences in Triple Science *OR* GCSE Grade 5:5 or above in Combined Science

RELIGIOUS STUDIES: A Level

Edexcel

Subject Leaders: Mrs A Lucas, Ms L Mackin and Mrs K Kelly

Course content:

This fascinating subject includes a study of Philosophy of Religion, Religious Ethics and New Testament Studies.

Philosophy is the study of wisdom and it gives you the opportunity to study some ultimate questions such as philosophical arguments about the existence of God, the problem of evil and suffering, and philosophical debates about miracles.

Ethics is thought provoking and relevant to many careers today such as law and medicine as it deals with current issues in society. You will study the relationship between religion and morality; ethical theories such as Utilitarianism and Situation ethics and ethical issues including War and Peace and Sexual Ethics.

New Testament Studies will give you the opportunity to study the Gospel texts, the scholarly and critical methods used today to study the text of the New Testament. We will also explore aspects of Christian Theology, for example the nature of Jesus as both human and divine.

Examination/Assessment:

Three written examinations of 2 hours each.

Specific Entry requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Religious Studies and Grade 5 in English Language or Literature

SCIENCE – APPLIED SCIENCE: BTEC Level 3

Extended Certificate

Subject Leader: Ms C Capaldi

Course Content: This BTEC Level 3 course is equivalent in size to one A Level and carries the equivalent UCAS points. The BTEC extended certificate covers 4 units over two years:

- Principles and Applications of Science
- Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques
- Science Investigation Skill
- One optional unit

The course covers the key knowledge and practical skills required in the vocational sector.

Examination/Assessment: The course consists of one exam (25% of the qualification), one externally assessed practical task (33% of the qualification), and 2 internally assessed coursework units (42% of the qualification).

Specific Entry requirement:

GCSE Grade 4:4 or above in Combined Science and GCSE Grade 4 or GCSE 4 Grade or above in at least two GCSE Sciences (GCSE Biology, Chemistry or Physics)

GCSE Grade 4 or above in Mathematics

SOCIOLOGY: A Level

AQA

Subject Leader: Ms F Kinirons

Course content: Sociology is the study of human social relationships, social change and the social causes and consequences of human behaviour. For sociologists, the lives of individuals can only be understood through studying the wider social context in which we live. Sociology's subject matter is diverse; we will look at topics ranging from crime to religion, the family to education, from divisions of race, social class and gender to the shared beliefs of a common culture. Sociology is an exciting, relevant and interesting subject that will enable you to have a better understanding of the world you live in. While many sociology graduates enter work in the public sector in a social or welfare role, others go into a variety of jobs throughout the private and public sector. Some employers include local and central government, industry, commerce, the NHS, education authorities, further and higher education and charitable, counselling and voluntary organisations. Opportunities also exist in the civil service and

graduate management training schemes. Sociologists work with a varied and diverse client group.

Year 12: Students will cover the key concepts and theories associated with the study of sociology:

Families and Households – topics include childhood, family diversity and demography.

Education, methods in Context and Research Methods - topics include social policy, subcultures and patterns of achievement in relation to class, gender and ethnicity.

Year 13: Students will be expected to show more depth of knowledge and understanding than in year 12, together with more highly developed skills in analysis, interpretation and evaluation.

The following topics will be covered:

Beliefs in Society/Religion – topics include the relationship between religious beliefs and social change and stability, religious organisations.

Crime and Deviance with theories and methods - topics include theories to explain the social distribution of crime by age, gender, class and locality

Examination/Assessment:

Three written examinations

1. Education with Theory and Methods (2 hours)
2. Topics in Sociology (2 hours)
3. Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods (2 hours)

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language and Literature.

COURSES AT RICHARD CHALLONER

- Art and Design - Fine Art
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Design Technology: Product Design
- Drama and Theatre Studies
- Economics
- English Language
- English Literature
- EPQ Level 3
- Geography
- Government and Political Studies
- History
- ILM Award in Leadership and Management (Level 3)
- Law
- Mathematics
- Further Mathematics
- Modern Foreign Languages: Spanish
- Music
- Music Technology
- Performing Arts - Musical Theatre (BTEC)
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Sociology
- Sports Leader Award (Levels 2 and 3)
- Young Enterprise

ART & DESIGN: A Level

Edexcel

Subject Leader: Mr T Bailey

Why study Art and Design?

Art and Design helps to develop creativity, imagination, knowledge and practical skills. The skill set developed within the subject is extremely desirable in a wide range of careers and many employers look for those who can solve problems in a creative and original way. Students are encouraged to be reflective, work independently, be organised and self-motivated throughout the course. Studying Art and Design is also extremely important if pupils desire to work in the creative sector in jobs such as advertising, architecture, illustration, film, photography and all aspects of design.

What is Fine Art?

Fine Art is work produced as an outcome of the students' personal experience, rather than being created exclusively for a practical function or a tightly prescribed brief. Students learn to use a wide range of materials and techniques including painting and drawing, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics, textiles and alternative media (non-traditional methods such as mixed media, installation, site specific work, assemblage and digital media). Students also develop their cultural and critical understanding of art while studying a wide range of artists and designers.

Many extra-curricular activities happen throughout the course including exhibition and gallery visits, life drawing, portfolio workshops, visiting artists, studio sessions and the end of year summer exhibition.

A Level Course Structure

Component 1: Personal Investigation 60%

Students produce a body of work and final realisation developed from a starting point. Within the component, students will explore a wide range of media and artists, developing skill and understanding as work progresses. There is also a personal study that needs to be completed in which students explain their interest in other artists and their developing work (1000-3000 word essay)

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment (40%)

Students receive an externally set theme and have a period of 8 -12 weeks to go through the creative process, researching artists and exploring media before they produce a final realisation under 147controlled conditions. This takes the form of a 15 hour timed realisation where the work that has been planned is completed under supervised conditions.

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Art and Design or a Merit in BTEC Art, and a Grade 4 in English Language. An Art L2 qualification is

recommended but is not strictly necessary. A student would need to gain approval from the Subject Leader.

BIOLOGY: A Level

OCR

Subject Leader: Mr M McAlonan

Teachers: Mr M McAlonan, Mr M Webber and Miss P Lee

Course Content: Studying A level Biology will give learners the opportunity to use microscopy to study the cell structure of a variety of organisms. Biologically important molecules such as carbohydrates, proteins, water and nucleic acids are studied with respect to their structure and function. The structure and mode of action of enzymes in catalyzing biochemical reactions is studied. The division and subsequent specialization of cells is studied, together with the potential for the therapeutic use of stem cells. Also learners study some human and plant physiology to include the structure and function of gas exchange and transport systems. Students also study the biodiversity of organisms; how they are classified and the ways in which biodiversity can be measured. The relationships between organisms are studied, considering variation, evolution and phylogeny. Learners will be required to develop a range of practical skills throughout their course in preparation for the written examinations. Students build on this knowledge and understanding by studying topics such as communication, homeostasis and energy and also genetics, evolution and ecosystems. Learners will be required to develop a range of practical skills throughout the course. Practical work in Biology is significant and routine. It is assessed in the final examinations and there is also a practical skills endorsement which is awarded separate to the final A level grade.

Mathematical skills are also embedded throughout the course and are assessed in the final exams. The Maths component of the specification is taught alongside the Biology and gives learners the opportunity to develop skills in algebra, geometry, statistics etc.

Examination/Assessment: The final assessments are made up of “breadth” papers and “depth” papers and contain a mix of multiple choice, short response and long response questions, including questions where the quality of the written communication is assessed.

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Biology and one other science (Triple Science) or GCSE Grade 6:6 or above in both Core & Additional

Science (Double Science). GCSE Grade 5 or above in Mathematics and English Language.

BUSINESS STUDIES: A Level

AQA

Subject Leader: Mr K Norris

This subject is about the business world, how it works and how it affects society. It is centrally concerned with how businesses analyse their options to achieve the best outcome. This course provides a broad understanding of business knowledge and skills to support progression to higher education. Students will gain a critical understanding of organisations and their ability to meet society’s needs and wants and they will generate enterprising and creative approaches to business opportunities, problems and issues. Students will acquire a range of relevant business and generic skills, including decision making, problem solving, the challenging of assumptions and critical analysis and they will apply numerical skills in a range of business contexts.

Course Content:

1. What is business?
2. Managers, leadership and decision making to ...
 - a) ...improve market performance
 - b) ...improve operational performance
 - c) ...improve financial performance
 - d) ...improve human resource performance
3. Analysing the strategic position of a business
4. Choosing strategic direction
5. Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies
6. Managing strategic change

Examination/Assessment: 3 written exams of 2 hours each

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 5 or above in Business Studies (if the GCSE has been taken). GCSE Grade 5 or above in Mathematics and English Language.

CHEMISTRY: A Level

OCR

Subject Leader: Ms J Pearce

Teachers: Mrs C Maher, Ms J Pearce and Mr S Pritchard

Course Content: The Chemistry A level is made up of six modules: Development of practical skills in Chemistry; Foundations in Chemistry; Periodic table and energy; Core organic Chemistry; Physical Chemistry and transition elements; Organic

Chemistry and analysis. Through the study of these modules, students will develop knowledge, understanding and application of a range of ideas in Chemistry, including ideas of atoms and molecules, environmental aspects, manufacturing processes and the importance of Chemistry to the economy and society.

Examination/Assessment: Students study six modules, then sit three written papers assessing all six modules. Students will work towards a teacher-assessed Practical Endorsement.

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Chemistry and one other science (GCSE Biology or GCSE Physics) or Grade 6:6 or above in GCSE Combined Science. Grade 5 or above in Mathematics and English Language

COMPUTER SCIENCE: A Level

WJEC/Eduqas

Subject Leader: Mr R Zapata

Course Content: This course will enable learners to develop a broad range of skills in the areas of programming, system development, computer architecture, data, communication and applications. The knowledge, understanding and skills are set by different projects, activities and research. There is no hierarchy implied by the order in which content and amplification are presented.

Component 1: Programming and System Development:

Written Examination 2 hours 45 minutes- 40% of qualification

This component investigates programs, data structures, algorithms, logic, programming methodologies and the impact of computer science on society.

Component 2: Computer Architecture, Data, Communication and Applications

Written Examination 2 hours 45 minutes - 40% of qualification

This component investigates computer architecture, communication, data representation, organisation and structure of data, programs, algorithms and software applications.

Component 3: Programmed solution to a problem
Non-exam assessment – 20% of qualification

This unit requires the learners to investigate, design, prototype, implement, test and evaluate a computer solution to a substantial problem of their choice.

The learner's chosen problem must provide sufficient scope for them to access the marks available for each section of the work.

Learners need to investigate their chosen problems in sufficient detail to identify how data is collected, processed and output currently. The current system may be either paper-based or electronic. Candidates must solve the problem using original code (programming).

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Computer Science and GCSE Grade 5 or above in Mathematics and English Language. Students who do not have a GCSE in Computer Science would need a meeting with the Subject Leader.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY PRODUCT DESIGN:

A Level

AQA

Subject Leader: Mrs C Owen

Course Content: This qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers, especially those in the creative industries. Students will investigate historical, social, environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put their learning into practice by producing products. 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. Please be aware that there is significant GCSE Maths content on this course which will be tested in the final exam/s.

Subject Content

1: Core Technical principles – Topics include: Requirements for product design, development and manufacture, digital design and manufacture, protecting design and intellectual property, enterprise and marketing in the development of products.

2: Core designing and making principles – Topics include: Design methods and processes, how technology and cultural changes can impact the work of designers, design processes, approaches to project management, responsible design, national and international standards in product design.

3: Additional specialist knowledge – Topics include: Performance characteristics of materials, forming, redistribution and addition processes, industrial and commercial practice.

Career Opportunities:

Engineering - various, product design, architecture, automotive design, interior design, advertising, graphic design, marketing, set/theatre design, furniture design, etc.

Examination/Assessment:

- Paper 1: Core technical principles and core designing and making principles (25% of A Level) 2 hour written examination
- Paper 2: Specialist Knowledge, technical design and making principles (25% of A Level) 2 hour written examination
- Non-Exam Assessment (NEA): Portfolio of work. 45 hours. Practical application of technical principles, design and making principles and specialist knowledge. (50% of A Level)

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade B or above in Design Technology or equivalent subject. Students who do not have a L2 DT qualification would need a meeting with the Subject Leader. GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language and Mathematics.

DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES: A Level

WJEC

Subject Leader: Mr L Norton

The WJEC A level in Drama and Theatre Studies is a two year linear course. It offers a practical and challenging course of study which encourages learners to develop and apply an informed, analytical framework for making, performing, interpreting and understanding drama and theatre. The course would suit students who wish to progress from GCSE Drama or who have an active interest in performance outside school. The A level is split into four separate units that examine both your ability to perform and create theatre as well as your ability to analyse performance and answer essay questions on a range of set texts.

Examination/Assessment:**Component 1:** Theatre Workshop

Non-exam assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated: 20% of qualification

Learners will be assessed on either acting or design. Learners participate in the creation, development and performance of a piece of theatre based on a reinterpretation of an extract from a text chosen from a list supplied by WJEC. The piece must be developed using the techniques and working methods of either an influential theatre practitioner or a recognised theatre company.

Component 2: Text in Action

Non-exam assessment: externally assessed by a visiting examiner: 40% of qualification

Learners will be assessed on either acting or design. Learners participate in the creation, development and performance of two pieces of theatre based on a stimulus supplied by WJEC:

1. Devised piece using the techniques and working methods of either an influential theatre practitioner or a recognised theatre company (a different practitioner or company to that chosen for Component 1)

2. Extract from a text in a different style chosen by the learner.

Component 3: Text in Performance

Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes: 40% of qualification

Sections A and B

Open book: Clean copies (no annotation) of the two complete texts chosen must be taken into the examination.

Two questions, based on two different texts, one written pre-1956 and one written post-1956.

Section C

Closed book: The extract of text required for answering the questions will be printed on the examination paper.

A question based on a specified extract from:

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time, Mark Haddon, adapted by Simon Stephens

Details of the 10-15 minute extract will be released during the first week of March, in the year in which the examination is to be taken.

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Drama and GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language and/or Literature. This is essential as students will analyse plays in depth and will write answers in long essays. (If a student does not have Drama at GCSE, they would need to consult with the Subject Leader.)

ECONOMICS: A Level

AQA

Subject Leader: Mr K Norris

Course Content: Economics has become high profile. The credit crunch, bankers' bonuses, fears of a Euro melt down and Brexit are topics rarely out of the news in recent years, throwing a light on the importance of and divisions within the discipline. Economics is intellectually robust and of contemporary relevance. It can prepare you for jobs that are rewarding both financially and intellectually: Actuarial Studies, Accountancy, Investment and Corporate Banking, Finance and Politics, amongst many others.

Paper 1: Markets and market failure

The economic problem, price determination, production, costs and revenue, competitive and

concentrated markets and the market mechanism, market failure and government intervention in markets.

Paper 2: The National and International Economy. The measurement of macroeconomic performance, the circular flow of income, AD/AS analysis and macroeconomic policy.

Paper 3: Economic Principles and Issues. Individual economic decision making, perfect competition, imperfectly competitive markets and monopoly, the labour market, poverty and inequality.

Examination/Assessment: Three 2 hour written examinations consisting of multiple choice questions, data response questions and several extended writing questions per paper (essays).

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 5 or above in Maths, English Language and English Literature

ENGLISH LANGUAGE: A Level

AQA

Subject Leader: Mrs T Cheema

Subject Teachers: Mr H Cuthbertson, Miss E Johnson and Mrs T Cheema

Course Content: A level English Language is a two year linear course, offering the opportunity for students to develop their expertise by engaging creatively and critically with a wide range of texts and discourses. The course will appeal to students who enjoy thinking about how language can be used creatively throughout society. Students will be expected to develop a comprehensive critical vocabulary for deconstructing language and its usage, and they will be given the opportunity to analyse, evaluate and debate a range of texts (both spoken and written). More specifically, students will be able to explore some of the following aspects of language: "Language and the Individual", (focussing on individual and social contexts for language, including Child Language Development); "Language Diversity and Change", (a consideration of larger-scale public discourses about change and variety, drawing on regional, ethnic, national and global versions of English); "Independent Language Investigation and Original Writing", (an independent investigation into an area of particular interest and a piece of original writing).

The English Language course is ideally suited to students who understand the importance of communication in a global world; students who can ask intelligent questions about texts; students who are eager to develop a critical linguistic vocabulary way beyond the demands of GCSE English.

Examination/Assessment: 80% of assessment is through examination (2 x 2 hour written papers), taken at the end of the 2 year course, and 20% through coursework.

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in English Language and English Literature.

ENGLISH LITERATURE: A Level

AQA (Specification B)

Subject Leader: Mrs T Cheema

Yr 12 Teachers: Mrs C Verdin and Mrs T Cheema

Yr 13 Teachers: Mrs C Verdin and Mrs E Keen

Course Content: This is a linear course covering the study of a range of literary texts of different periods (including pre-1900 and post-2000 writing) grouped by genre (for example, comedy or tragedy; crime or political and social protest writing). Over the course of the two year A level course, students will study at least eight texts, two of which will be drama, two prose and two poetry. Students will have the opportunity to explore connections between texts and how texts might be interpreted in a multiplicity of ways, enriched by a reading of a range of critical theory. In the second year of the course, they will have the opportunity to choose their own texts for study in the "Theory and Independence" unit of the course. Students need to be prepared to engage in detailed textual analysis, creative and independent interpretive thinking, and regular and rigorous essay writing.

Examination/Assessment: 80% of the assessment is through examinations (Paper 1 - 2½ hours; Paper 2 - 3 hours) taken at the end of the two year course, and 20% through coursework.

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in English Language and English Literature.

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION: Level 3

AQA

Subject Leaders: Ms Blackburn

Course content: The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) allows a student to embark on a largely self-directed and self-motivated project. Students must choose a topic, plan, research and develop their idea and decide on their finished product.

The EPQ is highly valued by universities. It encourages creativity and curiosity. A project topic may be directly related to a student's main study programme, but should look beyond the specification. It can, alternatively, explore a

completely different area of knowledge. A finished project may take the form of:

- a research based written report of c.5000 words
- a production* (e.g. a charity event, a fashion show or sports event etc.)
- an artefact* (e.g. a piece of art, a computer game or realised design)

(*A written report of c.1000 words must accompany these options)

Supported by guided learning of research methods and the acquisition of skills of project management and critical thinking, students record their project process in a Production Log. The process of recording and completing a project is as important as the finished product. Together with a presentation of their project findings to a non-specialist audience, the Production Log and Product are all assessed.

This course will have 30 hours of taught element, including workshops from Universities, and the rest of the time will be spent in preparation and research of the project. As well as presenting a research report (or report and product), students will also be required to develop a presentation to explain their project.

Examination/Assessment: Production Log, Product and Presentation are internally marked and externally moderated. The EPQ is graded A* - E. UCAS points value are 50% of a full A level.

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE English Language Grade 5 or above preferred.

GEOGRAPHY: A Level

Edexcel

Subject Leaders: Mr S Bromley, Mr T Woodcock and Miss L McDonald

Course Content: A contemporary geographical course with a strong focus on the interaction between global, national and local, physical and human geographies. Globalisation, international development, environmental change and population pressure are just some of the forces creating global challenges today and in the future. To understand, contribute and sustainably change the world we live in, requires a geographical understanding and skill set as developed by the new A level qualification. It is for this reason that Geography is such a valued qualification for all jobs today and tomorrow.

Paper 1: 2 hour 15 minutes (30% of the qualification)

- Tectonic Processes and Climate Hazards
- Glaciated Landscapes and Change
- The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity

- The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security

Paper 2: 2 hour 15 minutes (30% of the qualification)

- Globalisation
- Superpowers
- Regenerating Places
- Global Development: Health, Human Rights and Interventions

Paper 3: 2 hour 15 minutes (20% of the qualification)

This exam paper is an Issues Analysis using an unseen resource booklet. It tests pupil's understanding of different, linked parts of the whole two year course.

Paper 4: Coursework: Independent Investigation (20% of the qualification)

Teacher assessed coursework (no exam). The student identifies a geographical question or issue for investigation. The write up will assess the pupil's ability to introduce, collect data (quantitative and qualitative), present and analyse data, conclude and evaluate their findings.

Fieldwork: Over the course of the two years we will undertake 4 days of fieldwork to collect data for Paper 4 and to enrich our understanding of geography in the world around us. This will include a residential fieldtrip to the Lake District (Blencathra Field Studies Centre)

Specific Entry requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Geography, and GCSE Grade 5 or above in Maths, English Language.

GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL STUDIES: A Level

Edexcel

Subject Leader: Mr B O'Neill

"In politics, nothing happens by accident. If it happens, you can bet it was planned that way."

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Course content: This course will introduce you to the major political institutions of the United Kingdom and the United States. You will find out what power political institutions actually hold and the power we have over them. We will also ask whether these institutions function efficiently and look at the case for making changes to our current system of government. Our studies also focus on the power of ideology and the system of government in the United States and how it compares to our own

system of government here in Britain. The study of politics will help you gain an understanding of the key political philosophies that have influenced British, American and International politics. You will be equipped with the skills and concepts needed to make mature judgements about a wide range of current affairs. The study of Politics is a traditional step towards a career in journalism or broadcasting, law, school or university teaching, and local or national politics. It will give you the opportunity to practise and acquire a wealth of valuable skills which are held in high demand and esteem in many fields of employment.

There are three components to the course:

Component 1: UK Politics. Topics include democracy, participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour, the media, and core political ideas such as conservatism, liberalism and socialism.

Component 2: UK Government. Topics include the UK constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive as well as relationships between the different branches of government. We also choose to focus on one political ideology in this section from a choice of anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism or nationalism.

Component 3: Comparative Politics. Students will study the politics of the USA, including the US Constitution and federalism, US congress, US presidency, US Supreme Court, democracy, participation and civil rights.

Examination/Assessment: Written examination at the end of the second year: one exam for each component.

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 5 or above in two or more of the following: History, English Language and English Literature

HISTORY: A Level

AQA

Subject Leaders: Mr M Coll and Ms L Blackburn

The best reason for taking History is that you are really interested in the subject. You enjoy exploring and discovering the past. You like reading, writing and discussion, and feel a sense of achievement after successfully confronting and making sense of complex and challenging problems.

The past has given us all our political and religious ideas and institutions, our social customs, and

indeed our own personal and family identities. The study of History gives us a unique perspective on the present. Studying aspects of British, European and World History from the 17th to the 20th century will equip you with the skills needed to make mature judgements about a wide range of current affairs.

A Level History is a traditional step towards a career in journalism, broadcasting, law, politics, advertising, teaching, publishing and marketing.

Modules:

A Level Component 1: The British Empire c.1857 - 1914

A Level Component 2: Democracy and Nazism: Germany 1918-1945

A Level Component 3: A Personal Study on the Rise and Fall of Absolute Monarchy in France (1661-1792) (3000-3500 words)

Examination/Assessment:

A Level: Two written examinations of 2 hours 30 minutes each plus One Personal Study

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in History and GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language or Literature. GCSE History recommended, not essential.

ILM AWARD IN LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT: Level 3

Course Leader: Mrs Verdin

This course has been run for the first time at Richard Challoner School in 2016, for those Prefects who wish to develop their understanding of leadership and management skills further, and to reflect on their own practice in the light of leadership and management theories.

It has been developed in conjunction with the Institute of Leadership and Management (ILM) and CVQO, and provides students with a tangible leadership qualification – probably the most highly regarded of the nationally recognised leadership and management qualifications, providing students with life skills beneficial for future employment. As a Level 3 qualification, it is comparable with A levels in terms of cognitive demand, although, because it does not require as many learning hours as other Level 3 courses (approximately 10 hours of classroom time), it does not currently carry any UCAS points. However, the nature of the qualification means that it could make a significant difference to any application for a place at university, a job, an apprenticeship, or for any other school leavers' programme.

The course consists of two compulsory units:

1. "Leading and Motivating a team effectively" (4 short written assignments totalling c.1200 words)
2. "Understanding Leadership" (6 short written assignments totalling c.1200 words)

This course is additional to our core curriculum offer, and carries a cost to the school of £85 per student. However, we have, this year, been successful in securing sponsorship for the course, bringing the cost to each student down to £20.

Specific Entry Requirement: The course is open to any student successful in an application for the role of prefect.

LAW: A Level

OCR

Subject Leader: Mr B O'Neill

The study of A Level Law provides grounding in the main principles of English and Welsh law. It enables you to develop knowledge, understanding, and critical awareness of the structure, personnel and functions of the legal system.

A Level Law provides an introduction to law. It allows students to learn about a fascinating subject, one which covers many aspects of life. Students of A Level Law will:

- Develop an understanding of law and how it works.
- Learn more about society from a legal perspective – both contemporary and historical.
- Learn about the interaction between law and morals, justice and society.
- Learn about different areas of law – e.g. criminal law, human rights, contract and tort.
- Make connections with business, economics, history, politics and technology.
- Develop academic skills, including analysis and evaluation.
- Be able to make an informed decision about future careers.

Assessment: Three 2 hour papers at 100 marks each. Learners take components 1, 2 and 3 to be awarded the OCR A Level in Law.

Component 1: The legal system and Criminal law.

Component 2: Law making and the law of tort.

Component 3: The nature of law and human rights law.

Each component is weighted equally.

Other benefits to the study of A Level Law and opportunities for further progression

Some students take A Level Law because they already know that they want a career in law. The A Level gives an excellent introduction for students who want to read law at university or start a legal apprenticeship. It demystifies the law. Universities recognise the advantages of A Level Law and the old view that it should not be studied has long since faded away. The course has been developed following the advice of teachers, students and universities.

A Level Law is not just for students who want to enter the legal professions. It is a well-respected subject and is a welcome addition to many A Level programmes of study. A Level Law links well with science subjects and humanities and social science subjects including, history, sociology, philosophy, economics and business, to name just a few! The real question is not 'Why should you study A Level Law?' but instead, 'Why would you not?'

Specific Entry requirement:

No prior knowledge of the subject is required. It is expected that students should have achieved at least a Level 5 in English Language and English Literature.

MATHEMATICS: A Level

Exam Board: Edexcel

Teaching staff: Mrs N Cloudsdale and others in the maths department

Course Content: Mathematics A-Level teaches highly respected and widely used skills. The skills are essential for further study in areas such as engineering, economics, business, electronics, computing and design. The course consists of Pure and Applied papers, in the ratio 2:1. The Applications are Mechanics and Statistics, each equally weighted.

Pure Maths is the manipulation of algebra and solving harder equations. Students will begin to use differentiation for rates of change and integration for area under curves, and extend their knowledge of trigonometry and series. Mechanics is the study of motion and equilibrium of bodies, including forces and moments. Statistics is the study of data and probability, to make predictions of the likelihood of events.

Maths is a very popular and successful subject at Richard Challoner, and successful completion of the course provides very good career prospects. Enjoyment and ability in algebra is essential to the course. An algebra test forms part of the enrolment process to A-Level Maths.

Assessment: At the end of year 13 there are 3 exams, each approximately 2 hours in length. Calculators are allowed for all exams. Purchase of the Classwizz from Casio is required.

Specific Entry Information: Grade 6 GCSE maths is a minimum requirement, although grade 7, 8 or 9 is advised and a suitable mark in the Algebra test.

If Mathematics or Medicine is to be studied at University, please read the individual university prospectuses to discover the need, or not, of Further Mathematics at A Level. Information can be found at www.ucas.co.uk

FURTHER MATHEMATICS: A Level

Exam board: Edexcel

Teaching Staff: Mrs N Cloudsdale and others in the maths department

Course Content: Further Mathematics broadens the student's understanding of Mathematics by introducing new topics of Pure Mathematics and a larger selection of mathematical applications. Pure Mathematics topics include matrices, complex numbers, differential equations and Maclaurin and Taylor series.

Students study Further Pure and optional papers comprising of Mechanics, Statistics or Decision Maths. Further Pure and the optional units are in the ratio 1:1

Students must also study the standard Maths A level in years 12 and 13.

There may be the opportunity to sit AS Further Maths in year 12 as a fourth subject option.

Assessment: Four papers, two Further Pure and two optional papers, plus the standard Maths A level course. Each exam is 1.5 hours.

Specific Entry Requirement: Grade 8 GCSE maths

If Mathematics or Medicine is to be studied at University, please read the individual university prospectuses to discover the need, or not, of Further Mathematics at AS or A Level, and whether it is an advantage or disadvantage. Visit www.ucas.co.uk for information about university requirements.

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES - SPANISH:

A Level

AQA

Course Leader: Mrs E Rosario

Course Content: The ability to speak another language is more important than ever in today's society. As a modern foreign language, Spanish now represents one of the most influential and widely spoken languages in the world and also offers a rich and diverse culture. This course will help you to become proficient and confident in the Spanish language whilst at the same time gaining an insight into the society, history and culture of the Hispanic world.

At A Level, you will also improve your fluency and accuracy in grammar and syntax through further study and understanding of contemporary world problems such as immigration, environment and poverty as well as gaining practical techniques in the area of translation studies. The vast range of skills that you will develop during this A Level course will equip you not only for careers in fields as diverse as business, government, journalism, the creative arts, travel and tourism, teaching and law, but also for future holidays and travel abroad.

Examination/Assessment:

Paper 1: listening, reading & translation (both ways)

Paper 2: writing (2 essays: 1 on a film & 1 on a play we have studied)

Paper 3: speaking (stimulus card & prepared presentation + follow-up discussion)

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above (on the higher papers) in Spanish.

MUSIC: A Level

Edexcel

Subject Leaders: Mr J Bridges and Miss K Jo

A level Music builds on the three essential components which are studied throughout the Secondary curriculum: Performing, Composing and Listening and Appraising. The course is designed to build on what students have learnt at GCSE and it is an excellent opportunity for students to put their musical skills to use in an academic and practical way. Throughout the course, students study music from different eras including the vocal music of Bach and Mozart, instrumental music from Berlioz and Vivaldi, music for film, popular music, including jazz, and music of the avant-garde 20th century. Students also study compositional techniques in set styles and will be expected to perform a range of repertoire in front of a live audience.

Course Outline:

Unit 1: Performing 30% - Students perform one or more pieces in a concert lasting a minimum of 8 minutes.

Unit 2: Composing 30% - This is organized in two parts:

1. A composition either to a brief or a free composition (40 marks)
2. A technical study based on an arrangement of a melody or a chorale in the style of J S Bach (20 marks)

Both parts must last in total at least 6 minutes.

Unit 3: Appraising 40% - A two hour examination in two parts. This exam covers a wide range of music genres and styles, each with three set works.

Section A: Areas of study and dictation (50 marks)

- Three questions related to the set works (audio and skeleton score provided)
- One short melody/rhythm completion exercise

Section B: Extended response

Two essay questions – essay one (20 marks) and essay two (30 marks)

- Essay one asks students to draw links from their study of the set works to the music heard as an unfamiliar extract.
- Essay two gives a choice of three questions that ask students to evaluate the musical elements, context and language of one set work. Each option will be from a different area of study.

Examination/Assessment:

Performance (30%) – completed during the course and externally examined.

Composition (30%) – completed during the course and externally examined.

Appraising exam (40%) – externally examined

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Music (if taken). Playing an instrument/singing to Grade 5 standard is essential. Students who believe they are at this standard but have not yet passed the exam must enquire instead. Students need to be able to read stave notation (treble and/or bass clef) fluently. An interest in, and an open minded approach to, all styles of music, as well as an ability to compose and write about music (to GCSE standard) is useful.

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY: A Level

Edexcel

Course Leaders: Mr J Bridges and Mr N Cannon

Course Content: In this course you will learn about the technical side of producing music. In the age we live in, very rarely will you hear a recording that has not been manipulated in one way or another. We look at production techniques, effects, digital and analogue recording, sequencing, scoring, arranging and the use of computers.

A great deal of the year will be spent working on the large coursework requirements for which you will be required to give up time after school and at weekends in order to make use of the facilities undisturbed.

We will study set pieces from a wide variety of popular music since the era of recording began.

Course Outline:

Component 1 (20%): Recording – One recording, chosen from a list of 10 songs provided by Pearson, consisting of a minimum of five compulsory instruments and two additional instruments.

Component 2 (20%): Technology-based Composition – One technology-based composition chosen from three briefs set by Pearson. This relies on synthesis and audio manipulation and must be supported by a log book.

Component 3 (25%): Listening and Analysing – Section A: Listening and analysing (40 marks) – four questions, each based on unfamiliar commercial recordings supplied by Pearson (10 marks each). Section B: Extended written responses (35 marks) – two essay questions. One comparison question, which uses two unfamiliar commercial recordings from the CD (15 marks). The second essay uses the final unfamiliar commercial recording from the CD (20 marks).

Component 4 (35%): Producing and Analysing – Section A: Producing and Analysing (85 marks) – five questions related to the audio and MIDI materials provided, that include both the written responses and practical tasks.

Section B: Extended written response (20 marks) – one essay focusing on a specific mixing scenario, signal path, effect or music technology hardware unit.

Examination/Assessment: Assessment will include 40% of the course in coursework which is all externally assessed. The final 60% is achieved through two examinations: a Listening exam where students control their own CD and a Producing exam where students work on a Digital Audio Workstation (such as Logic Pro) on set tasks.

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Music. Minimum Grade 5 Standard on Instrument or Voice. Keyboard skills are a big advantage.

PERFORMING ARTS - MUSICAL THEATRE

BTEC Level 3 – Extended Certificate 2 years (equivalent to one A level)

Edexcel/Pearson

Subject Leaders: Miss S. Willson and Mr N. Shrimpton

Course Content: The course has been updated and now comprises of both vocational and academic studies allowing students to explore and focus on building technique and performance skills in singing, dancing and acting. The lessons will take the form of rehearsals or workshops with material suited to the ability and stage of development of the students. Students will additionally learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands. There is also an added element of theatre practise and the pedagogy behind Musical Theatre training, cumulating in an external examination.

Rehearsal logs and follow up research will run alongside workshops and performances. You will be taught by professionally trained staff with experience of working in the performing arts industry. Professional Musical Theatre actors will give Master Classes. We have links with professional drama schools and West End Theatre visits take place regularly.

Examination/Assessment:

Assessment is through both internal and external assignments and can vary from written tasks to practical demonstration of skills in the three areas. On completion students will be awarded an overall grade, which can be used towards entry to university. Both Edexcel and Challoner Staff over-see assessment.

Units covered:

There are 4 units to be completed:

- Investigating Practitioners' work
- Developing skills for live performance
- Group Performance workshop
- Musical Theatre Techniques

Specific Entry Requirements:

A typical Performing Arts student is lively, ambitious, self-motivated and has a love of Musical Theatre. Additionally, it is vital that they should be willing to perform in public, work with others, solve problems, plan their own learning and communicate effectively.

Students will need to have at least 5 GCSEs at grade 4 and above, including English and Maths. We strongly suggest that one of the GCSEs is in Dance/Drama and/or Music. Those students who have had previous experience of classes in dance, singing or acting will also be welcomed onto the course. All potential students will need to take part in a musical theatre workshop in mid-December to assess suitability.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION: A Level

AQA

Richard Challoner School/Holy Cross School

Subject Leaders: Mr P Manley, Ms P Sullivan and Mrs N Murphy

This subject offers students the opportunity to experience and develop an interest in a variety of roles within sport such as performer, official and coach, and then be able to specialise in one. This qualification looks to equip students with the skills and knowledge required for higher education and/or the world of work.

The Advanced Level course builds on the work studied at GCSE to enhance knowledge and increase understanding of the factors that affect participation in physical education.

The course will address current contemporary topics such as the use of ergogenic aids, technology and the increasing commercialism of sport. The course also includes applied physiology, skill acquisition and opportunities for participation.

Component 1: Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport

Section A: Applied anatomy and physiology

Section B: Skill acquisition

Section C: Sport and Society

Component 2: Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport

Section A: Exercise physiology and biomechanics

Section B: Sport psychology

Section C: Sport and Society and technology in Sport.

Component 3: Practical performance in physical activity and sport.

Examination/Assessment:

Component 1: Two hour written exam Component

2: Two hour written exam Component 3: Internal assessment with external moderation.

Specific Entry Requirement: Regular commitment to at least one extra-curricular competitive sport.

GCSE Grade 6 or above in PE and Grade 5 in Biology (Triple Science) or in both sciences in Combined Science. If a student does not have GCSE PE, they would need to seek approval from the Subject Leader.

PHYSICS: A Level

OCR A

Subject Leader: Mr D Toomey

Teachers: Mr D Toomey and Mr I O'Brien

Course Content: Physics allows students to study Newton's three laws of motion and applications to everyday situations, the motion of projectiles through the air and certain properties of materials such as Young's modulus. Students will also study basic circuit electronics and the laws governing them, for example, Kirchoff's laws and I-V characteristics of certain components. The physics of waves is also examined, with focus on progressive and stationary waves and their everyday occurrences, before applying this knowledge to the study of quantum physics including Einstein's photoelectric equation as well as the phenomenon of wave-particle duality. In the second year, a further two modules are studied, entitled "Newtonian World and Astrophysics" and "Particles and Medical Physics". Throughout the course, students will also be required to develop practical skills in preparation for the written examinations.

Examination/Assessment: Students sit three written papers assessing all six modules. Students will also work towards a teacher-assessed Practical Endorsement.

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Physics and one other science (GCSE Biology or GCSE Chemistry) or Grade 6:6 or above in GCSE Combined Science.

GCSE Grade 5 or above in Mathematics (higher paper) is essential. Grade 6 or above in Mathematics highly recommended.

PSYCHOLOGY: A Level

AQA Specification A

Subject Leader: Mr A Scarisbrick

Course Content: Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour. The mind is the most complex machine on Earth; it is the source of all our thoughts and behaviours, so if you are

passionate about understanding how people think and behave then Psychology is for you!

The course covers a variety of topics and disciplines in psychology. In one examination paper you will cover social influence (e.g. why did the Germanic people obey the Nazis and why do people conform?), memory (e.g. how we create and store memories and are these reliable), attachment (e.g. how do we form attachments and what impact do these attachments have on our later development?), and psychopathology (e.g. how do we define abnormality and treat people who suffer from mental illness?).

For your second examination paper, you will cover approaches in psychology (e.g. how do the different disciplines in psychology explain why humans behave the way they do?), biopsychology (e.g. the structure and function of the brain), and scientific processes (e.g. how to create ethically reliable and valid experiments).

Your third examination paper will cover issues and debates (e.g. is human behaviour the product of genetic inheritance or the environment?), gender (e.g. how do we explain gender identity disorder?), eating (e.g. why do people develop eating disorders?) and aggression (e.g. why do people become aggressive?)

Examination/Assessment:

Three 2 hour examinations

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language and/or English Literature and Mathematics AND GCSE Grade 5 or above in two or more Sciences in Triple Science OR

GCSE Grade 5:5 or above in GCSE Combined Science.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES: A Level

OCR

Subject Leaders: Mrs L Bailey and Mr N D'Aguiar

Course Content: This course offers a combination of Philosophy, Ethics and Christian Theology.

Philosophy of Religion: The study of wisdom. We explore the BIG questions, challenging you to think about and question everything you take for granted. God – Can I prove God exists? If God created everything, who created God? If God can do everything, can God swim? Will I be able to eat in heaven? Is my mind the only thing that exists and the rest a figment of my imagination? How do I know that the words I am writing mean the same for you as they do for me?

Religion and Ethics: We study different ethical theories and learn about different perspectives on

what constitutes 'good', 'bad', 'right' and 'wrong'. We then apply the theories to a range of topics, including legal issues, current affairs and medical/technological advancements and their consequences. We explore issues such as: Why should people do good and not evil? What is my conscience and is it reliable? Is it acceptable to help someone die? Is a human being more valuable than an animal? What responsibilities do Businesses have towards their customers and their employees?

Development in Christian Thought: We explore how Christian Theology relates to the Philosophy and Ethics topics covered in the course. We look at areas such as Death and the Afterlife, The Person of Jesus Christ and Christian Moral principles.

Examination/Assessment: Candidates sit three written examinations of 2 hours each.

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 6 or above in Religious Studies and GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language or English Literature.

SOCIOLOGY: A Level

AQA

Subject Leader: Mrs M Enright

Course content: Sociology is the systematic study of human groups and social life in modern society. It is a social science based on logical arguments and evidence. Sociology attempts as far as possible to minimise bias and to maintain objectivity when looking at the social world. If you have an interest in people, then sociology may be a good subject for you, because the focus is on the influences from society which shape the behaviour of people, their experiences and their interpretations of the world around them. Studying sociology will give you an understanding of the social structure of institutions such as the family, education and the political system. It will foster the development of critical and reflexive thinking with a respect for social diversity. Sociology is an exciting, relevant and interesting subject that will enable you to develop an excellent understanding of contemporary society and social life as well as a lifelong interest in social issues. Studying Sociology can give you a whole host of career options, including Human Resources, Advertising, Social Work, Policing, Marketing, Law and Teaching.

Examination/Assessment:

Paper One: Education with Theory and Methods in context - Written Examination (2 hours).

Paper Two: Families and Households and Beliefs in Society - Written Examination (2 hours).

Paper Three: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods - Written Examination (2 hours).

Specific Entry Requirement: GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language and English Literature.

SPORTS LEADER AWARD

Subject Leader: Mr P Manley

The Level 2 Award in Community Sports Leadership (Year 12) and the Level 3 Award in Higher Sports Leadership (Year 13) are nationally recognised leadership awards and qualifications that help people develop essential skills such as organisation, motivation, communication and working with others. Assessment is made upon a candidate's ability to lead and demonstrate their leadership skills for a certain period of time, within a specific setting. Candidates will also be required to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding through a number of written coursework tasks. These qualifications can assist candidates to pursue a career in the sports industry.

Level 2 Award in Community/Sports Leadership (Year 12)

The Level 2 Award in Community/Sports Leadership (S/CSL) qualification enables successful candidates to independently lead groups of people in sport and recreational activities. The qualification teaches generic leadership skills such as organisation, planning, communication and teamwork through the medium of sport. There are seven units of work to complete.

Essential: A student must have a real enthusiasm for Sport and demonstrate both practically and theoretically a very good understanding of the skills and techniques of at least one sport. Links to an external sports club are essential to facilitate their external leadership placement (10 hours)

Preferred: Real enthusiasm for sport. Basic Literacy and Numeracy. Grade 4 at English Language and Mathematics preferred.

Level 3 Award in Higher Sports Leadership (Year 13)

The Level 3 Certificate in Higher Sports Leadership is a nationally recognised qualification that enables successful candidates to lead groups of people in sport and recreational activities. This qualification builds upon the skills and experience gained through the Level 2 Award in Community Sports Leadership. The Level 3 certificate consists of 7 units of which 6 must be successfully completed:

- 1) Developing Leadership Skills
- 2) Plan, lead and evaluate a sports event
- 3) Lead safe sports and physical activity events
- 4) Plan, lead and evaluate sport/activity events for children (age 4-11) 10 hours
- 5) *Plan, lead and evaluate sport/activity sessions in the community (10 hours)
- 6) *Plan, lead and evaluate sport/activity sessions for people with disabilities (10 Hours)
- 7) *Plan, lead and evaluate sport/activity sessions for older people (50+) 10 hours

*Two of three to be completed

Learners must undertake a minimum of 30 hours of leadership within the community. They must undertake a minimum of 10 hours leadership within units 4, 5, 6, and 7.

Specific Entry requirement: Candidates will be expected to have achieved a pass at Level 2 Community/Sports Leadership award, plus GCSE English Language and Mathematics at Grade 4. Students must have a specific knowledge of at least one sport so they are able to independently organise their own external club placement.

Benefits to you:

- ✓ A course that enables learners to develop the fundamental skills of coaching and leading
- ✓ Potential stepping stone into employment, further education or training
- ✓ A good foundation to progress onto other Sports Leaders UK awards or qualifications, and/or a National Governing Body award.
- ✓ Develops generic leadership skills that will be vital in other areas of life
- ✓ Provides opportunities to take a full and active role in sport and physical activity
- ✓ Increased self-confidence that comes through taking responsibility for own and others' learning and enjoyment.

YOUNG ENTERPRISE – Companies Programme

Lead Teacher: Mr Norris

Young Enterprise Business Advisor: Phil Worsley
(C Eng M.I.Mech E)

Running throughout one academic year, students find out what it's really like to set up and run a business. Students make all the decisions about their company, from deciding on the company name and product to creating a business plan, managing the company finances, selling to the public at trade fairs to ultimately winding up the company and paying

their taxes. All this takes place with the support of a volunteer Business Adviser who brings a wealth of business knowledge and expertise

The Company Programme culminates in the UK Final which this year featured 14 teams battling it out to be crowned UK Company of the Year and to go on to the JA-YE European Final.

Why choose this programme?

- Develop key employability skills: 95% of young people felt they have improved at least one key employability competency
- Supports a range of qualifications and University entrance
- Greater self-awareness to recognise personality types, strengths and weaknesses and what this means for personal development and for working as part of a team
- First-hand experience of work and insight into a range of roles required to run a business
- In-depth understanding of how companies are organised and structured, the different roles and career opportunities that exist and the skills needed to fulfil specific roles
- Knowledge to explain how they have personally demonstrated specific employability skills using real experiences for inclusion in CVs and personal statements or when preparing for interviews
- Helps develop vital employability skills including: communication, confidence, financial capability, organisation, initiative, problem solving, resilience and teamwork

Placed are limited to 15. Young Enterprise board meetings will take place on Monday afternoons. Students will have the opportunity to attend two trade fairs, train and compete with other YE students from across Kingston/Richmond and potentially have the opportunity to represent Challoner in the national finals.

Programme Duration: 2 terms

The Holy Cross

&

Richard Challoner Sixth Forms

What we can offer you:

- ✓ Excellent teaching which caters for the individual learning needs of all our students
- ✓ An extensive and innovative range of A Level and Applied courses.
- ✓ Pastoral Care from staff who are committed to creating a secure and friendly environment.
- ✓ Close academic mentoring to facilitate individual progress.
- ✓ The opportunity to develop real leadership skills through service to the school and the wider community.
- ✓ A programme of extra-curricular activities which enhances personal growth, both spiritually and socially.



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