Aldenham
Sixth Form

Aldenham School
Welcome to the Sixth Form

The Sixth Form at Aldenham is a place where students are encouraged to achieve academically and develop personally. Our Sixth Form benefits from the School's boarding-ethos with small class sizes, a wide choice of subjects and a full programme of extra-curricular activities. All Sixth Formers belong to the House system and pastoral care remains a top priority – each student has a single-sex house where they can study or socialise in a comfortable environment, as well as a tutor and a Houseparent who support their pastoral and academic development. We believe our Sixth Form is the embodiment of all that is best about co-education - girls and boys derive a wealth of social and academic benefits from working alongside one another in lessons and activities, safe in the knowledge that they can you return to their single-sex house to relax if they wish.

Sixth Formers are afforded a far greater degree of independence than younger students. They have access to a modern, light and airy Sixth Form Centre with a café, a common room and classrooms which are used exclusively for Sixth Form lessons. There is a Sixth Form Bar open every Tuesday and Thursday evening where boarders are able to relax, eat pizza and socialise with their friends. There is also tailored university and careers advice available from our specialist Sixth Form team which includes a Head of Sixth Form, two UCAS advisors and a careers coordinator all of whom have an office within the Sixth Form Centre.

We are exceptionally proud of our Sixth Formers who act as role models for our younger students and ambassadors for our wonderful School. Many of them go on to top-class universities, and all of them leave with qualifications and accomplishments of which they can be proud.

I hope this booklet provides you with a wealth of information. However if you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on the email address below.

Mrs EE Murray
Assistant Head (Co-Curricular, Sixth Form & External Affairs)
eemurray@aldenham.com

The Co-Curricular Programme

Aldenham is renowned for its outstanding co-curricular provision. All students partake in sporting activities at least twice a week. Some students will play the major sports (football, hockey, netball, cricket and rounders) and will take part in competitive weekly fixtures, whilst others may choose to partake in other sporting activities including sailing, dance, squash, tennis, badminton and yoga. Sixth Formers also have access to Aldenham's well-equipped fitness suite which boasts a range of weights and cardiovascular machines.

There are numerous opportunities to get involved with the School theatre, either acting in a range of School productions or learning the ropes as a member of the stage crew. Students also benefit from our outstanding Music School, in which a traditional Recital Hall operates alongside state-of-the-art music technology equipment.

In addition, students benefit from a twice-weekly activities programme. During this time they have the opportunity to take part in a wealth of extra-curricular activities including (but not limited to):

- Young Enterprise;
- Photography;
- Model United Nations;
- Golf;
- Politics Society;
- Running Club;
- Film Club;
- Magic Tricks;
- Bell Ringing;
- Chess Club;
- Computer Programming; and
- Eco Garden.

Aldenham also boasts a thriving CCF and Duke of Edinburgh programme, both of which welcome new and existing Sixth Formers who are open to having new experiences, gaining new skills and enhancing their CVs.

There are also numerous opportunities to get involved in community service including:

- The annual Year 12 trip to Malawi to work alongside the charity Ripple Africa;
- Helping to host a PHAB (Physically Handicapped and Able Bodied) weekend at School, in which students and staff look after severely disabled children for 48 hours to give their carers some respite; and
- Helping to host a weekly lunch for a local Care Home.

This is merely a snapshot of co-curricular life at Aldenham School. We are rightfully proud of our reputation for co-curricular excellence; the personal development opportunities Aldenham affords its Sixth Formers are unrivalled.

Careers Programme

We are committed to providing all our students with valuable, impartial and robust careers education and guidance to enable them to make informed and independent choices that will enhance their life chances and guide them in choosing pathways that suit their ambition and potential. Our careers education and guidance is underpinned by our the Aldenham Attributes; aspiration, cooperation, courage, curiosity, independence and respect.

Our programme, which bens in Year 7, provides students with opportunities to learn about the skills they will need when they go onto higher education or the world of work. Activities and lessons are designed to make students independent and reflective, and to see the impact education can have on careers. Furthermore, the programme is designed to encourage students to be reflective learners; to learn about themselves and develop a sense of initiative, resource and enterprise. Each student from Year 7 to Year 13 is exposed to a relevant programme of careers education, information, advice and guidance.

In Year 12, the focus of the careers programme includes:

- A programme of weekly career talks from specialists within their field including publishing, law, finance, the military, media, government and the Civil Service;
- Information on a range of education training (including apprenticeships);
- A 1:1 meeting and regular contact with the careers coordinator to establish and monitor career development through Year 12 into Year 13;

- Preparation of their CV to send to prospective work experience placements;
- Mentoring by our developed network of Old Aldenhamians; and
- Attendance at the Higher Education Fair in London.

In Year 13, the focus of the careers programme includes:

- Completion of Personal Statements and UCAS applications during Christmas term;
- Mock Interviews by external interviewers; and
- A Careers Fair in the Lent term, providing students with information on the range of careers within the world of work and enterprise.

If you have any questions about the careers programme, please contact the School Careers Coordinator, Mrs A Tekin: atekin@aldenham.com

The Academic Programme

A Levels are now linear courses which means that all the exams are taken at the end of Year 13. All students start with four subjects with the intention that, in the week before October half term of Year 12, they will make a reasoned and appropriate choice between the following three pathways:

1. Choose three subjects and an additional subsidiary subject. In the current academic year we have offered the EPQ and Maths (Level 3) and we anticipate that these subjects will be available next year;
2. Continue with four subjects (if it is likely that four A or A* grades will be achieved) following appropriate discussions with the House team and the Assistant Head (Academic); or
3. Carry on with three A Level subjects only. We anticipate that this is likely to be the pattern followed by around two thirds of the year group.

Student performance is monitored throughout the course with clear targets set to enable them to reach their potential. We would aim to intervene actively if students fall short of their expected performance, especially after the exams in April of Year 12. External examinations take place in the summer term for Year 13. Results for public examinations are published in August. All qualifications receive a points allocation ('tariff') that universities use to award places for higher education.

Subject Choices

One of our aims at Aldenham is to offer as much breadth of choice as possible to our students, avoiding many of the restrictions placed on subject combinations by other schools. As you consider entering the Sixth Form you will be asked to indicate your likely choice of courses in rank order after the parents' evening following the mock exams in January of Year 11. Students should discuss their choices with their parents, their houseparent, their tutor, their subject teachers and the heads of subjects. At Aldenham the Head of UCAS and the Assistant Head (Academic) are also available if further guidance is necessary. The guiding principles should be 'what do you enjoy?', 'what are you good at?' and 'what do you need?'.

Entry Requirements

It is important that pupils have Mathematics and English Language GCSE passes (grade 4 or above), as subsequent university or career applications may depend upon passes in these subjects - those who continue into the Sixth Form without these qualifications will be encouraged to resit their exams with the support of the School. Students should also have a minimum of grade 6 (B), but preferably grade 7 (A) or above, in those subjects they intend to study at A Level.

Those seeking to do four subjects at A Level will be expected to gain at least 5 grade 7s or above at GCSE.

Subject Information

The following information is provided to help you make decisions about the choices that face you. You may already have an idea of what subjects interest you. However, you should read the outlines of each course, as some are quite different from the experience that you may have had at GCSE. Also, you will discover that there are new courses offered here that might suit your interests. However, it is imperative that you speak to those who have guided you in the past, such as your Housemaster/mistress and tutors, as well as the Heads of Department if you have a particular career or university course in mind. Finally, there is a huge number and variety of university courses on offer and many will require particular subject combinations for entry.

Please note that some subjects may not be offered if the student demand is low. Please check with the School for further information.

If you have any questions about our academic programme, please feel free to contact me on the email address below.

Dr PJ Reid
Assistant Head (Academic)
pjr@aldenham.com

Art (Fine Art)

Director of Art: Mrs E Lang
Examination Board: Edexcel
Specification No: 9 FAO

Aldenham School's Art department enjoys quality facilities and a history of academic success. A Level pupils have dedicated use of the Sixth Form studio and the spacious 'Art cabin', which they can use throughout the school day in order to continue their independent studies. A Level Art students will be given the opportunity to practically, critically and contextually develop personal work. They will use their own ideas, observations, experiences, environments and cultures to create work to build their portfolio, undertake written critical analyses and innovatively approach the final exam piece. Students are supported through specialist workshops, contextual visits and individual tutorials. The course is broken down into two components: component one, focusing on 'Personal Investigation and Personal Study' is worth 60% of the course, and component 2, worth 40% of the course, contains the externally set assignment.

Biology

Head of Department: Dr A Camenzuli
Examination Board: AQA
Specification No: 7402

Students will be introduced to a number of exciting and current topics that include biological molecules, cells, genetics, immunity, evolution and ecology. Students will sit three exams at the end of Year 13. There is also a practical endorsement examination which is assessed internally and is reported on separately as a pass/fail. Students will have the opportunity to participate in a Biology field trip, to enable them to develop fieldwork techniques linked to the theoretical component of the specification whilst also gaining a wider appreciation of outdoor Biology.

Many students with A Level Biology go on to study a wide range of courses at university, including Biology, Biomedical Sciences, Dentistry, Medicine, Physiotherapy and Veterinary Science. Biology is often required for degrees in Biochemistry, Chemical Engineering, Environmental Science, Nursing and Midwifery, Pharmacy, Sports Science and Psychology.

Business Studies

Head of Department: Mr L Flindall
Examination Board: Edexcel
Specification No: 9BS0

Students will understand the interrelated nature of business using business models, theories and techniques to support analysis of contemporary business issues and situations. The content is designed to engage students through topics and issues that are relevant in today's society – they will study key contemporary developments such as digital technology, business ethics and globalisation. Students will develop the knowledge and skills needed to analyse data, think critically about issues and make informed decisions – all skills that are needed for further study and employment

Due to the importance of numerical and evaluative skills required for Economics, it is expected that students will have strong Mathematics and English grades before embarking on the course. An interest in contemporary events is also a prerequisite, as much of the course involves discussion of the current economic situation.

Chemistry

Head of Department: Mr AT Shead
Examination Board: OCR
Specification No: H432

Chemistry is a fascinating field of study, since it is so fundamental to our world. Chemistry plays a role in everyone's lives and touches almost every aspect of our existence in some way. Chemistry is essential for meeting our basic needs of food, clothing, shelter, health, energy, as well as clean air, water, and soil. Chemical technologies enrich our quality of life in numerous ways by providing new solutions to problems in health, materials, and energy usage. Thus, studying chemistry is useful in preparing us for the real world. It is recommended that students have strong mathematical skills in order to study Chemistry A Level.

HOPE

Classical Civilisation

Head of Department: Mr ADB Smith
Examination Board: OCR
Specification No: H408

Classical Civilisation involves the study of the literature and culture of the ancient world through modern translations and the art, architecture and archaeology of the period. It focuses on the study of Classical literature and thought, in the context of ancient society, exploring a range of interesting themes, ideas and issues, many of which are still relevant and influential today.

There is no need for Classical Civilisation or Latin GCSE to be successful at the course. it consists of three components: the world of the hero; Greek theatre; and love and relationships. These each lead to an exam taken at the end of the course. There is no coursework. The emphasis is on understanding the ancient world through investigating primary sources, texts and materials and the exciting discussion of ideas. The course helps develop the skills of evaluation, complex analysis and communication which are very valuable for university and a wide variety of professional careers.

Computer Science

Head of Department: Mr C J Chandler
Examination Board: Eduqas
Specification No: 601/5031/2

Computer Science provides students with a unique skill set that is both academically and vocationally desirable. Learning to program is a life-changing experience as it changes the way that you think about the world around you. It makes you a more accomplished problem solver which is why graduate recruiters in banks and management consultancies recruit heavily from university Computing departments.

There is no need to have any formal background in computing to study this course but students should have have a strong interest in computing and programming and should be numerate with strong problem solving skills. Coursework is worth 20% of the final mark and the examination comprises of two other modules of equal weight (40% each).

Design and Technology: Product Design

Head of Department: Miss C Macdonald
Examination Board: Pearson Edexcel
Course code: 9DT0

The course consists of two components: one 2hr 30min examination paper and one coursework project. Each component is worth 50% of the overall qualification. The course has been developed to encourage candidates to take a broad view of Design and Technology and incorporates a wide range of materials to study within its content. Students will be able to recognise design needs and develop an understanding of how current global issues, including integrating technology, impacts on today's world. A Level Design and Technology is relevant to a career in Design, Engineering, Manufacturing and many other businesses that involve these disciplines.

Drama and Theatre

Head of Department: Miss C Martin
Examination Board: Edexcel
Specification No:9DR0

Any university course or career which requires public speaking, confidence, communication and cooperation will be pleased to receive applications from students with a Drama qualification. This rigorous and dynamic A Level will develop practical skills of acting, directing and devising Drama over the two year course. Alongside the practical work there is a substantial written element in the form of both coursework and a written examination. Students will study a range of plays (which they will approach as both a performer and director) for performance and written analysis. A high level of commitment is expected from students; previous production experience is a necessary starting point. A strong command of spoken and written English is essential for the performance and written elements. Pupils will need to attend theatre trips and any other essential activities such as watching the work of visiting theatre companies and participating in workshops. In addition they should expect to spend additional time rehearsing outside of lessons.

Economics

Head of Department: Mr L Flindall
Examination Board: AQA
Specification No: 7136

Students of Economics must apply economic theory to support analysis of current economic problems. They must also appreciate the interrelationships between microeconomics and macroeconomics. Students will develop the knowledge and skills needed to understand and analyse data and to be able to think critically about issues and make informed decisions. They will also build upon their quantitative skills and appreciate that, when evaluating arguments, both qualitative and quantitative evidence are important. During their course of study, students will be encouraged to develop a critical approach to economic models and methods of enquiry.

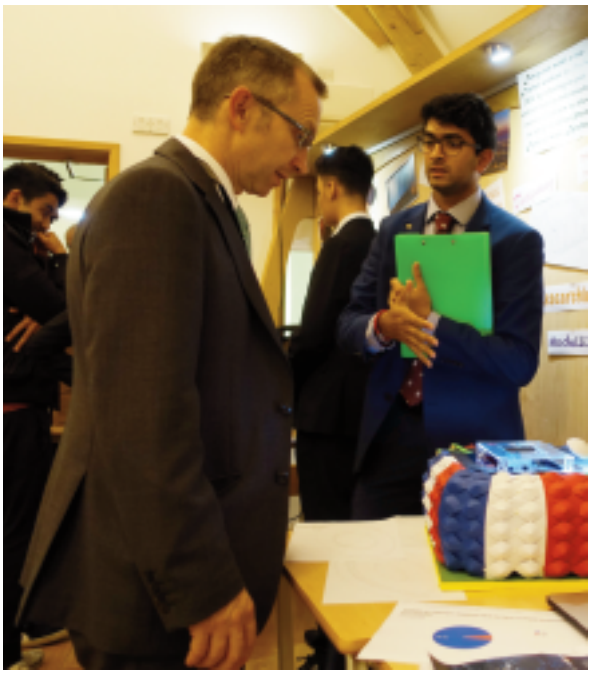
Due to the importance of numerical and evaluative skills required for Economics, it is expected that students will have strong Mathematics and English grades before embarking on the course. An interest in contemporary events is also a prerequisite, as much of the course involves discussion of the current economic situation.

English Literature

Head of Department: Mr CR Jenkins
Examination Board: WJEC/Eduqas
Specification No: 601/4870/6

A Level English Literature is a popular subject in the Sixth Form and gives students the chance to expand on the study of Literature undertaken at GCSE level by the detailed examination of more demanding and interesting texts than is possible at that level. The course is broken into four separate areas: Poetry (including both modern and classic texts) Drama (including Shakespeare, modern drama and other classic texts), Unseen Texts (including both unseen poetry and unseen prose) and Prose Study which is coursework-based.

Success at English Literature A Level is dependent on the ability to read thoughtfully, to discuss with a breadth of mind, and to write with fluency and insight. There will be opportunities to study literature from the 16th Century to the present day and these studies can often be enhanced by trips to readings, study days and drama performances.



Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Head of Department: Mrs V Evagora
Examination Board: AQA
Specification No: 7993

The EPQ is a stand-alone qualification equivalent to half an A Level. It gives A Level students an opportunity to demonstrate independent research skills by completing a 5,000 word dissertation, staging a performance, creating an artefact or undertaking an investigation. The project is supported by a production log, recording how the project is researched, managed and evaluated. Students are assigned a supervisor who will support and guide them through the process. There are 30 hours of taught lessons and students are expected to spend a further 90 hours working on the project independently. Projects are submitted in November each year. The EPQ is highly recommended for students applying to Russell Group universities, as it demonstrates the ability to write and reference academically and provides evidence that they have a real interest in a specific subject matter. It mirrors the independent style of learning required for success at degree level. The EPQ is worth up to 28 UCAS points for an A*. 63% of students achieved an A* or A grade in 2017.

French

Head of Department: Srta. M Bustamante
Examination Board: AQA
Specification No: 7652

This course offers students the opportunity to talk and write about an interesting variety of topics such as social issues and trends, political science and artistic culture. Both teaching and examinations are conducted mainly in the target language and we do expect candidates to subscribe wholeheartedly to this ideal, as well as being keen to undertake self-motivated study and essential development of skills such as wider reading and listening practice outside the confines of timetabled lessons, using a wide range of materials and resources. The course is naturally suitable for students with a linguistic ability who wish to increase their employment opportunities in an increasingly international world. The final examination assesses the full range of language skills. Students will sit listening, speaking, reading and writing papers on a variety of themes.

Geography

Head of Department: Mrs J Burger
Examination Board: Cambridge International A Level
Specification No: 9696

Geography at A Level is a broad and diverse subject that offers students real scope for independent learning and enquiry. The curriculum aims to develop a wide range of geographical skills. As a department we are seeking students who are eager to engage with the world around them and whose inquisitive minds create a thirst to understand how geographical systems interact within both natural and human environments. In Year 12 the students study Hydrology and Rivers, Atmosphere and Weather, Weathering and Geological Landscapes, Population and Demographics, Migration Processes and Settlement dynamics. In Year 13 more detailed courses are undertaken in Managing Coastlines, Life in Hazardous Areas, Environmental management and Global interdependence. All students will be expected to attend the four day residential field trip held early in the summer term during Year 12. A good proportion of our recent students have gone on to read Geography at university. Geographers have access to a wide range of possible future careers.

Government & Politics

Head of Department: Mr JR Kerslake
Examination Board: Edexcel
Specification No: 9PL0

The A Level Government & Politics specification is designed to encourage students to develop their critical thinking skills and enhance their ability to interpret, evaluate and comment on the nature of politics. This is a very current A Level and what is in a newspaper today may well be in an essay tomorrow. This is a rigorous subject that is respected by universities, especially given the demands of the new specification. The subject is comprised of three modules with each one having their own exam. Students will study UK politics and government as well as the politics and government of the USA. There is also the opportunity to study core political ideas, such as conservatism, socialism, liberalism and nationalism. Many students who have taken the A Level in Government & Politics go on to study Politics or International Relations at university.

History

Head of Department: Mr JR Kerslake
Examination Board: Edexcel
Specification No: 9HI0

This Modern History course follows the Edexcel specification. It is designed to cover at least 200 years through the three topics chosen for study. The course is also designed to give a variety of different types of historical study. There will be three linear courses with the exams at the end of A2 and one piece of coursework. The topics chosen are:

- In search of the American Dream: the USA, c1917–96
- South Africa, 1948–94: from apartheid state to 'rainbow nation'
- Britain: losing and gaining an empire, 1763–1914
- Coursework, based on Chamberlain's policy of appeasement and the extent to which it was misguided

Students will be required to write at length and there will be an expectation that students research in depth. They will also need to show an understanding of the importance of primary and secondary sources. Many students who take History A Level go on to study History or International Relations at university.

Latin

Head of Department: Mr ADB Smith
Examination Board: OCR
Specification No: H443

Latin literature and history has greatly influenced our culture. Latin A Level involves the study of ancient Literature and History through the reading of original Latin poets and historians such as Ovid, Virgil, Pliny and Tacitus. It is a challenging and academic A Level and widely recognised as such by universities and professional employers. The course involves two language exams on the unseen translation of prose, verse and either Latin composition or comprehension, and two literature exams, answering on selected texts of Latin verse and prose literature which is studied in advance of the exam.

Latin appeals not only to literature students but also many scientists and mathematicians, who enjoy the logical, deductive and analytical thinking which underpins the Latin language. Latin can therefore complement a choice of either scientific or humanities A Levels. The skills developed in analysis, deductive reasoning and communication are valued by universities and employers.

Mathematics

Head of Department: Miss C Fulford
Examination Board: Edexcel
Specification No: 9MA0

An A Level qualification in Mathematics is extremely well regarded by universities and employers as it demonstrates a student's ability to work in a logical and methodical way towards finding solutions to problems. People with well-developed mathematical skills are sought after in all sectors of industry.

The course is assessed by three equally weighted exam papers which are two hours each. The first two papers consist entirely of Pure Mathematics, whilst the third paper consists of Applied Mathematics (Statistics and Mechanics). The applied part of the course provides an excellent complement to other subjects, for example the statistical components of Psychology and Business Studies and the mechanical component of Physics.

Further Mathematics

Head of Department: Miss C Fulford
Examination Board: Edexcel
Specification No: 9FM0

Further Mathematics is taken in conjunction with A Level Mathematics. They are two separate A Level awards and, consequently, are given twice the teaching time of a single Mathematics award. It is a course for the Mathematics specialist and is often studied alongside Physics with a view to a career in Mathematics, Physics or Engineering. In the first year students will complete A Level Mathematics (see above) and they will sit the three A Level exams in May 2018. In the second year, a further four units are studied, of which units 1 and 2 are pure and units 3 and 4 are applied. These four exams taken at the end of Year 13. A facility in algebra and a feel for numerical work are essential. Students taking this course must select it in both option blocks.

Media Studies

Head of Department: Mr CR Jenkins
Examination Board: CIE
Specification No: 9607

Media Studies is a popular subject at A Level. It requires the ability to grapple with complex theoretical concepts and intricate, multifaceted issues and debates. The subject offers the opportunity to combine a theoretical understanding of the mass media in society and methods of analysing media texts – television programmes, films, advertising, the press and websites. The development of practical skills for media productions is vitally important. There is a balance of theory and practical work, which means that students will learn about how media industries operate, students will research and investigate issues and debates in contemporary media texts. The course content is split into four components: Foundation Portfolio, Key Media Concepts, Advanced Portfolio and Critical Perspectives.

Music

Head of Department: Mr JE Rayfield
Examination Board: Edexcel
Specification No: 9MU0

The three elements of performing, composing and developing musical understanding (appraising) are carried forward from GCSE. The student will give a short public recital in the late spring of Year 13, either as a soloist or as a member of an ensemble, of at least 8 minutes in length, which is recorded and submitted to the board. Students will also compose two pieces, one to a brief set by the board in the year of the examination, and another, which can be either a free composition or also to a brief set by the board. Both pieces will be submitted at the end of Year 13. The musical understanding section consists of six areas of study: Vocal Music, Instrumental Music, Music for Film, Popular Music and Jazz, Fusions and New Directions. There is a written exam of two hours and each student is provided with a CD to accompany the questions. The question paper is a mixture of short response questions, completion of a short melody and two more extended essay questions. The paper includes unfamiliar music not studied in the course.

Music Technology

Head of Department: Mr JE Rayfield
Examination Board: Edexcel
Specification No: 9MT0

The course covers recording and production techniques and the principles and development of sound and audio technology. It is assessed through a mixture of coursework and an exam which has both practical and written elements. The four components are: Recording, Technology-based Composition, Listening & Analysing and Producing & Analysing. Students will submit one recording chosen from a list of ten songs and produce a technology-based composition chosen from three briefs that must use sound synthesis and sampling/audio manipulation, along with creative effects. There is a written exam, whereby students will be provided with a CD of unfamiliar works and will comment on the use of recording and production techniques, the principles and development of sound and audio technology within the pieces. The exam includes a practical task where students will be provided with a set of audio and MIDI files and asked to correct and then combine these materials to form a completed mix, which may include creating new tracks or parts from the material provided.

Philosophy

Head of Department: Mrs A Perry
Examination Board: AQA
Specification No: 2176

Do we really know all that we claim to know? Is the human mind separate from the human body? What is the best human life? Is there a proof for the existence of God? People have always raised profound questions like these, and the job of philosophers is to address them in a disciplined fashion. Philosophy students develop the ability to apply reason with rigour, to recognise important concepts, to break down arguments into their significant steps, to question debatable assumptions, to know about the history of ideas and their wider implications, to judge fairly and honestly and to communicate with clarity and precision.

The AQA Philosophy course consists of four units: Epistemology, Philosophy of Religion, Ethics and Philosophy of Mind. A student's final grade is based on two, 3-hour written examination papers at the end of the course. This subject develops such general intellectual skills that it will aid a student's learning in any other academic subject and it is good preparation for a university degree course in either the humanities or the sciences.

Physical Education

Head of Department: Mr D Breeze
Examination Board: WJEC Eduqas
Specification No: 601/8838/8

Components 1 and 2 of the course are theoretical. They are worth 35% each and cover the following topics: exercise physiology, training and performance; movement analysis, technology and biomechanics; sport psychology; skill acquisition; and sport and society

Component 3 is based on practical aptitude and coursework. It is worth 30% of the A Level. 15% is assessed internally, based on the candidate's ability as a performer or coach in one approved activity. The remaining 15% is also assessed internally and is based on the candidate's ability to produce a research-based piece of coursework which will analyse and evaluate personal performance to provide recommendations for refining performance.

Physics

Head of Department: Mrs LC Paine
Examination Board: OCR
Specification No: H556

A level Physics is the starting point for many high flyers - both for those entering careers involving Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths, who may go on to develop supersonic flight, space travel and satellite technology of the future and equally for those who want to pursue a career in finance, medicine or law . An understanding of the core principles of Physics has been at the heart of many of the technological developments of the last century and in future will underpin our search for sustainable energy, quantum computing, environmental transport systems and many modern medical techniques. Ideal candidates have strong maths and science skills, an enquiring mind, enjoy problem solving, exploring new concepts and applying them in both the macroscopic Newtonian world in the quantum realm. Students will study such diverse areas as forces, fields, cosmology, waves, electrical circuits, motion, stars, nuclear, medical, thermal and quantum physics. The final exam involves three written papers and students must also undertake a compulsory series of non-examined practical investigations as part of their overall assessment during the course of the 2 years.

Psychology

Head of Department: Mrs V Evagora
Examination Board: OCR
Specification No: H567

Psychology is the scientific study of mental processes and behaviour in humans. This requires scientific knowledge and 10% of the course focuses on mathematical requirements. Paper 1 is about research methods: the process of conducting and analysing psychological research across a range of experimental and non-experimental techniques. Students are required to conduct their own practical work. The exam questions include multiple choice and extensive data interpretation and analysis questions. Paper 2 is 'Core Studies'. Students study ten pairs of psychological studies - one classic and one contemporary. This paper is assessed with questions including essays. Paper 3 is 'Applied Psychology', focusing on issues in mental health. Within paper 3 there are four optional topics, of which the students chose two. The options are Child Psychology, Criminal Psychology, Environmental Psychology and Sport and Exercise Psychology.

Spanish

Head of Department: Srta. M Bustamante
Examination Board: AQA
Specification No: 7692

Spanish is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world and it is an asset to have in this competitive world market. During this course the topics of social issues/trends and political and artistic culture will be studied. In addition, one movie and one novel are studied alongside a great deal of grammar. The final examination assesses the full range of language skills. Students will sit listening, speaking, reading and writing papers (including translation) on a variety of themes. The course is naturally suitable for students with a linguistic ability who wish to increase their employment opportunities in an increasingly international world. Our main aim is to provide students with a wide range of practical communicative skills in both the written and the spoken language for a variety of purposes in the world of work and leisure and for further study.

POETIC TERMS
STUDYING POET

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