YOUR BRIGHT FUTURE STARTS HERE

Sixth Form Prospectus

"Sixth form life is a time of intellectual growth, personal development and an opportunity to forge lifelong friendships.

Although academically demanding, it has certainly given me a chance to explore my academic potential and discover my passions."

LAURYL MAVUNGA
HEAD GIRL

MRS DYMPNA LENNON
HEADTEACHER

MR OZAN AKIF
ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER
HEAD OF SIXTH FORM

SCAN THE QR CODE TO APPLY FOR SIXTH FORM TODAY

Welcome to St. John Fisher Sixth Form

Dear Students,

A warm welcome to our Sixth Form; thank you for taking the time to read our prospectus and consider studying with us. At St John Fisher, we help our students to do and be better for themselves, their families, and their communities. We are a Catholic school that includes, involves and inspires everyone.

As a high achieving sixth form, we have the expertise required to ensure that you reach your potential. Many of our students go on to take up university places at a wide variety of destinations, including Russell Group institutions. Our Oxbridge and Medics programmes provide personalised support for students seeking to go on to top universities.

As a proudly comprehensive school, we offer a plethora of academic and vocational qualifications, ensuring that there are challenging and appropriate pathways for students of all abilities. We moved into brand new school buildings in Spring 2023, meaning that you have world-class educational facilities in which to pursue your studies.

As a SJF student, you will be encouraged to take an active role in school life, developing your skills for learning beyond the classroom. You'll be offered opportunities to volunteer, both in school and outside in the wider community. Year 12 students undertake a work experience placement; Year 12 and 13 students form our student leadership team, acting as peer mediators and mentors to younger pupils.

Above all, we are a Catholic sixth form, which means that we have a uniquely warm and supportive ethos. The word 'Catholic' originally meant 'universal', and we are proud to be a comprehensive school with students from a wide variety of backgrounds, of all faiths and none. Everyone is welcomed here and we will put in place whatever academic or pastoral support is required to help you reach your goals.

Whether you want your next steps after Sixth Form to be work, an apprenticeship, or an Oxbridge application, we will support you to be both the brightest and the best person that you can possibly be.

We look forward to meeting you and inspiring you to take the next important steps to achieving your aspirations.

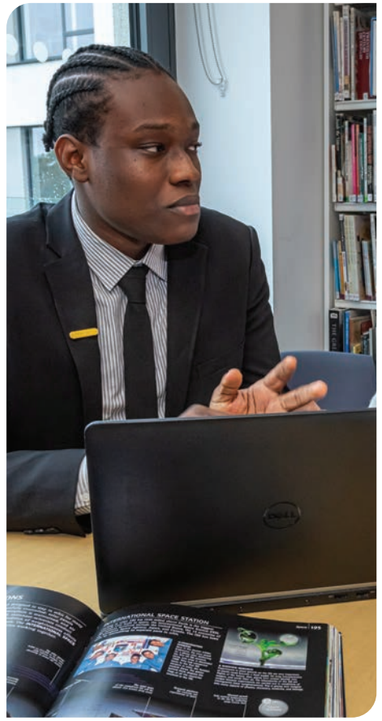
DYMPNA LENNON **OZAN AKIF**

Why Choose to Study at St. John Fisher?

1

A FIRST-CLASS EXPERIENCE

At St John Fisher, our unwavering commitment is to ensure that all students not only reach but exceed their full potential, regardless of their starting point. We firmly believe in their ability to thrive and succeed, and we create an environment that embraces the Gospel values, fostering a sense of reassurance and confidence in their academic journey.



2

A PASSION FOR LEARNING GUIDED BY CHRISTIAN VALUES

As a Catholic School, we are deeply committed to providing our students with opportunities for faith development. We ensure that they have the space to reflect on their faith and participate in community acts of worship. Beyond this, our sixth-form students are integral to the school's life, contributing to its ethos and community spirit by helping the Chaplaincy team plan and lead liturgical events, assemblies, and services.

3

PASTORAL CARE

Transitioning to KS5 is a time of great opportunity and challenge. At St John Fisher, we are deeply committed to the overall development of the student into a mature and responsible young person. This commitment is evident in our comprehensive pastoral programme, where each student is assigned a form tutor to provide support and guidance.

4

HIGHER EDUCATION PREPARATION

During enrichment time, our students engage in programmes designed to prepare them for higher education. These programs offer valuable guidance on student finance and UCAS applications and opportunities for students to seek advice from current university students. Medway Youth Trust and our dedicated school staff provide this additional guidance, ensuring our students are well-equipped for their academic journeys.

5

A UNIQUE CURRICULUM

Our Sixth-Form curriculum is not just unique; it's exciting. It offers students a blend of academic challenges, such as advanced coursework and research projects, and personal challenges, like leadership roles and community service. This unique combination is designed to prepare students for the competitive world of work or university whilst also fostering personal growth and development.

6

HIGH-QUALITY FACILITIES

We encourage independent learning through our superb Independent Study Learning Resource Room and adjoining Library IT suite. These facilities allow students to access additional resources, study for further qualifications, and access extensive experiences from partners such as the University of Kent and Cambridge Queens College.

7

ENRICHMENT

Our diverse extracurricular programme is designed to provide a well-rounded combination of academic and extra curricular. In addition to our extra courses, students can participate in various enriching experiences, including a range of sports clubs, subject-specific after-school support, exciting day trips, and visits to theme parks.

8

OXBRIDGE PROGRAMME

Students who consistently achieve a grade 6 or higher across all of GCSE subjects will be allowed to apply for a specialised program tailored to prepare them for applying to prestigious universities such as Oxbridge and other elite Russell Group universities. Our specialised senior teachers will provide personalised assistance, which includes a detailed review of their personal statements, specialised coaching for entrance examinations, and comprehensive practice for mock interviews.

9

MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS PROGRAMME

Are you dreaming of a medical career as a doctor, midwife, physiotherapist, or other medical professional? Our exclusive programme, in partnership with universities and local hospitals, offers unparalleled career support through hands on experience in the medical and educational fields. Join us and take the first step towards your dream profession!

10

CAREERS & WORK EXPERIENCE

SJF students benefit from individual sessions with a career adviser. Our unwavering commitment to you is evident in our recognition of the crucial role that skilled advice and guidance play in shaping the life chances of students. We are dedicated to ensuring you feel reassured and confident about your future.

11

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SJF's dynamic leadership programme empowers students to engage in diverse areas across the school. From providing support in specific subjects to contributing to chaplaincy programmes, charitable fundraising, and shaping the school environment, there are abundant opportunities for students to make a meaningful impact.

12

CORE RE

The Religious Studies course is a unique programme that offers a distinctive approach to supporting the spiritual and ethical development of students in a changing world. This programme shapes each student's comprehensive development through collective worship and various extracurricular activities, broadening their perspective to understand how their studies contribute to addressing life's profound questions.

What Can I Study at St. John Fisher?

APPLIED SCIENCE
BTEC - LEVEL 2 & 3

The Applied Science course equips you with a comprehensive understanding of the principles and applications of biology, chemistry, and physics, as well as practical scientific procedures and techniques.

SEE PAGE 6-7

ART & DESIGN
A LEVEL

This course offers students the opportunity to explore a variety of materials processes and techniques in both traditional and new media.

SEE PAGE 9

BIOLOGY
A LEVEL

Biology involves the study of a wide range of exciting topics ranging from molecular biology to the study of ecosystems.

SEE PAGE 10

BUSINESS STUDIES
BTEC - LEVEL 3

More than just a qualification, the business course equips you with the knowledge and skills to start your own business, opening up a world of exciting career possibilities.

SEE PAGE 12-13

CHEMISTRY
A LEVEL

Students will experience the excitement and intellectual challenge of contemporary Chemistry by exploring the frontiers of research in the environmental and technological applications of the subject.

SEE PAGE 14

PRODUCT DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY
A LEVEL

This course offers students the opportunity to develop the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence necessary to succeed in many careers.

SEE PAGE 15

ENGLISH LITERATURE
A LEVEL

English Literature, A Level's historicist approach to studying literature, is a journey of independent exploration. It rests upon reading texts within a shared context, believing that no text exists in isolation.

SEE PAGE 16-17

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE
BTEC LEVEL 3

The health and social care department is not only active and fun but also supportive, creating an environment where you can feel secure and confident in your learning journey.

SEE PAGE 18-19

HOSPITALITY
BTEC LEVEL 2

You will learn about the size and scale of the hospitality industry, the importance of good customer service, and will develop your communication skills.

SEE PAGE 20-21

HISTORY
A LEVEL

Through studying history, you will develop the ability to use sources, construct valid and justified arguments and examine change over time. You will also learn to explore and debate the reasons for these changes.

SEE PAGE 22-23

CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL IN ICT
CTEC - LEVEL 3

Students will gain an insight into the IT sector as they investigate the pace of technological change, IT infrastructure, the flow of information on a global scale, and the importance of legal and security considerations.

SEE PAGE 24

MATHEMATICS
A LEVEL

Core mathematics is the study of: algebraic techniques, functions, sequences and series, exponential and logarithms, trigonometry, co-ordinate geometry, differentiation, integration, numerical methods, vectors and proof.

SEE PAGE 25

MEDIA STUDIES
A LEVEL

Studying the mass media (from traditional forms such as film, or more recently social media) allows you to explore issues in our modern, increasingly digitised society.

SEE PAGE 26-27

RE & PHILOSOPHY
A LEVEL

You will delve into the disciplines of ethics and philosophy of religion, honing your critical analysis skills to construct balanced, informed arguments and responses to religious, philosophical, and ethical ideas.

SEE PAGE 28

PHYSICS
A LEVEL

Physicists explore and probe the furthest reaches of the earth to study the smallest pieces of matter. Join them to enter a world deep beneath the surface of normal human experience.

SEE PAGE 29

POLITICS
A LEVEL

Are you interested in how the world works, someone who believes they could and should make a difference in society? If so, Politics A Level might be your course.

SEE PAGE 30

PSYCHOLOGY
A LEVEL

Throughout this linear course, we focus on explaining cognitive processes like memory, psychopathology, which includes phobias and schizophrenia, and the biological basis for aggression and gender identity.

SEE PAGE 31

SOCIOLOGY
A LEVEL

Studying sociology equips you with critical thinking skills and a sociological perspective on the world, providing valuable insights into social issues and inequalities.

SEE PAGE 32-33

PUBLIC SERVICES
BTEC - LEVEL 2

You will learn about the critical public service providers, including emergency services, armed forces and local authorities and how they support local and national communities.

SEE PAGE 34

SPORT STUDIES
BTEC - LEVEL 3

You will engage deeply with topics such as anatomy and physiology, fitness testing, practical sports performance and the business side of sports, ensuring you are well-prepared for the industry's challenges.

SEE PAGE 36-37

BTEC APPLIED SCIENCE

Pearson BTEC Level 3

610/3965/2

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Applied Science (AAQ) equips you with a comprehensive understanding of the principles and applications of biology, chemistry, and physics, as well as practical scientific procedures and techniques. This knowledge is valuable for further studies in science and for a wide range of careers in the scientific and technical fields.

COURSE CONTENT

Unit 1 – Externally examined
This unit explores the critical components of biological science. It will examine cells and tissues, their varied structures and functions and the biological components that interact with their existence.

Unit 2 – Externally examined
You will explore some of the fundamental concepts which underpin the chemistry and chemical reactions of the world around you.

Unit 3 – Externally examined
You will explore using practical and mathematical skills to study waves, motion and electricity.

Unit 4 – Internally assessed
You will be introduced to quantitative laboratory techniques, including chromatography, colorimetry and laboratory safety, which are relevant to the scientific laboratory environments.

Unit 5 – Internally assessed
This unit enables you to understand the skills required to undertake an investigative project.

GRADES I NEED

- Minimum 5 GCSEs at grade 9-4 with a grade 4 in Science
- Minimum of five GCSEs at grade 9-4
- Grade 4 in Science or above

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

The qualification is designed to be taken alongside A levels as part of a study programme. It can link to learning in a range of A-level subjects, such as Biology, chemistry, physics, psychology, and Sociology.

You can pursue further education in various scientific disciplines or enter the workforce directly as laboratory technicians, research assistants, or environmental consultants. The analytical, research, and technical skills gained are also valuable in fields such as healthcare, forensic science, pharmaceuticals, and biotechnology.

99%
of parents said that the school has high expectations of their child

PARENT VOICE

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

Unit 1, 2 and 3
A summary is given below.

UNIT	TYPE	AVAILABILITY
Unit 1: Principles and Applications of Biology	• An external examination set and marked by Pearson • 50 marks	January and May/June First Assessment May/June 2026
Unit 2: Principles and Applications of Chemistry	• An external examination set and marked by Pearson • 50 marks	January and May/June First Assessment May/June 2026
Unit 3: Principles and Applications of Physics	• An external examination set and marked by Pearson • 50 marks	January and May/June First Assessment May/June 2026

Unit 4 and Unit 5
These two units will be assessed through internal assessments as outlined above.

97%
of students rated the support that they get from teachers as excellent/good

STUDENT VOICE

A LEVEL ART & DESIGN

AQA Syllabus

2200

The AQA A level Fine Art course offers students the opportunity to explore a variety of materials processes and techniques in both traditional and new media. Throughout the course students will be expected to explore a variety of techniques and are required to present findings in more than one of the following areas:

• drawing and painting • mixed media, including collage and assemblage • sculpture • ceramics • installation • printmaking (relief, intaglio, screen processes and lithography) • moving image and photography

Students will be expected to demonstrate these skills in the context of their chosen project.

COURSE CONTENT

Component 1 – Personal Investigation
Non-examination assessment set and marked by the centre. During the first year, students will investigate various project themes which will enable them to explore a range of disciplines before selecting a chosen specialist area. At the end of this year students will feel confident in selecting a personal area of investigation that brings together their previous learning. Students will produce a sustained and in-depth body of work which will be submitted for final assessment.

- No time limit
- 96 marks
- 60% of A-level

Component 2 – Externally Set Assignment

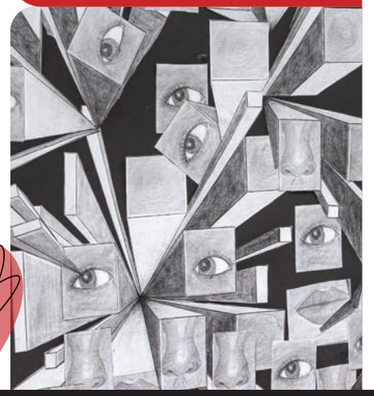
- Students will receive an examination style paper issued by the examining board, AQA, in February of their second year containing themes and suggested starting points in which they will use to form a new final body of work.
- Preparatory period + 15 hours supervised time
- 96 marks
- 40% of A Level

GRADES I NEED

- 4 In Art/DT
- Entry Requirement & Portfolio of work

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

- Graphic Design
- Illustrator
- Interior Designer
- Game Design
- Web Design
- Design for Performance
- Product Designer
- Advertising
- Teacher



A LEVEL BIOLOGY

AQA Syllabus

7401

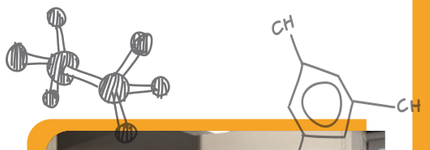
Biology involves the study of a wide range of exciting topics ranging from molecular biology to the study of ecosystems. The human genome has been sequenced, work on Alzheimer's disease and cancer continue to make breakthroughs. In Kenya, 350 people die every day from AIDS and in South East Asia the skies are dark with smoke as the Bornean rainforests are burned to grow oil palms. Biologists are concerned with all these issues.

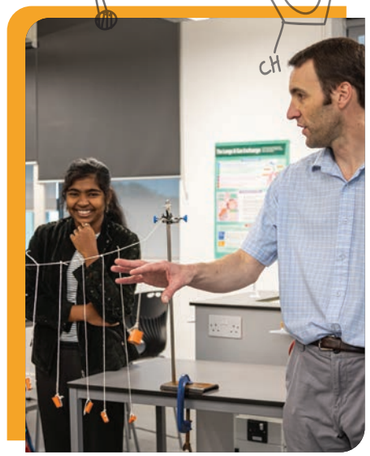
COURSE CONTENT

In the first year, students will complete four topics: "Biological Molecules", "Cells", "Organisms exchange substances with their environment" and "Genetic information, variation and relationship between organisms". These four topics give a solid grounding in biology. Over the year, students will carry out at least six practical investigations.

Year two helps students to build on the knowledge and skills learnt in year one. They will study four further topics: "Energy transfers in and between organisms", "Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments", "Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems" and "The control of gene expression". Within these topics students will complete a further six practical investigations.

To gain an A-level qualification, students will have three examinations at the end of year 13: paper 1 will cover any content from topics 1-4, paper 2 will cover any content in topics 5-8 and paper 3 will cover any content from topics 1-8. All papers are 2 hours long and 15% of the marks for each paper will assess practical skills.





GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of 5 9-4 grades at GCSE 6 in Science & 6 in Maths

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

Biology is a great choice of subject for people who want a career in health and clinical professions such as medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, physiotherapy, pharmacy, optometry, nursing, midwifery, zoology, marine biology or forensic science.

There is a biological revolution taking place at the moment. Many jobs are being created in industries using biology which did not exist 10 years ago. The need for employees with qualifications in biology has never been greater.

Lessons are challenging as it's a big jump from GCSE's

I can talk to the teachers if I have a problem

Thank you to the school for making me feel safe

They are very supportive and onboard to help, to uplift my grade

Student's Voice

This School is great at supporting students

I think that all the teachers are absolutely wonderful, and I really value the opportunity to learn from them

I love my school and my teachers

BTEC BUSINESS STUDIES

Pearson BTEC National Level 3 Extended Certificate in Business

601/7159/5

The BTEC Business qualification at Level 3 is designed to provide highly specialist work-related qualifications. It gives students the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to prepare for further study or employment. The qualification offers career development opportunities for those wishing to progress onto employment or further training such as further or higher education. More than just a qualification, this course equips students with the knowledge and skills to start their own business, opening up a world of exciting career possibilities.

COURSE CONTENT

Units include:

Year 12

1. Exploring Business (Unit 1) - this is a coursework unit studied throughout Year 12. You explore the features of different businesses and analyse what makes them successful. This includes ownership and liability, purpose, sectors, scope and size. You learn about stakeholders, their influence, and effective business communications. You investigate how businesses are organised, including hierarchical and flat structures. You examine the environment of businesses and look at business markets and investigate the role and contribution of innovation and enterprise to business success.

2. Personal and Business Finance (Unit 3) is an externally examined unit. You will be given an understanding of the importance of managing personal finance. You will explore the finance sector, looking at types of organisations and their advantages and disadvantages. Students will be introduced to the purpose of accounting and be able to select and evaluate different sources of business finance. You will learn how to make break-even and cash-flow forecasts and complete statements of comprehensive income and financial position to evaluate business performance.

Year 13

1. You need to prepare a rationale and then create a plan for a marketing campaign for a given product or service. The unit includes the role of marketing, types of markets, branding, and influences on marketing activities. You will be taught how to use information to develop the rationale for a marketing campaign with work examples to include market research. You will spend time practising how to plan and develop marketing campaigns using SWOT analysis and research data to determine target markets.

2. Recruitment and Selection Process (Unit 8). You will learn how effective recruitment and selection contribute to business success as well as job advertising.

GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five GCSEs at grade 9-4
- Grade 4 in English or above

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

The study of Business has many other subject links, such as

- Economics
- Media
- Psychology
- ICT

The Business course provides transferable knowledge and skills that prepare learners for progression to university. These include the ability to learn independently, the ability to research actively and methodically, the ability to give presentations and the ability to be active group members.

Throughout the Business course, you acquire theoretical knowledge and develop practical skills highly valued in the job market. These include cognitive and problem-solving skills, critical thinking, approaching non-routine problems, applying expert and creative solutions, and using systems and technology–

Related Careers Include:

- Marketing
- Web Design
- Accountancy

You undertake a recruitment activity to demonstrate the process leading to successful job offers.

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

You will study for a BTEC Level 3, equivalent to one A Level. The course is assessed through a balanced combination of 40% coursework and 60% external examination, ensuring a comprehensive evaluation of your knowledge and skills.

Year 12

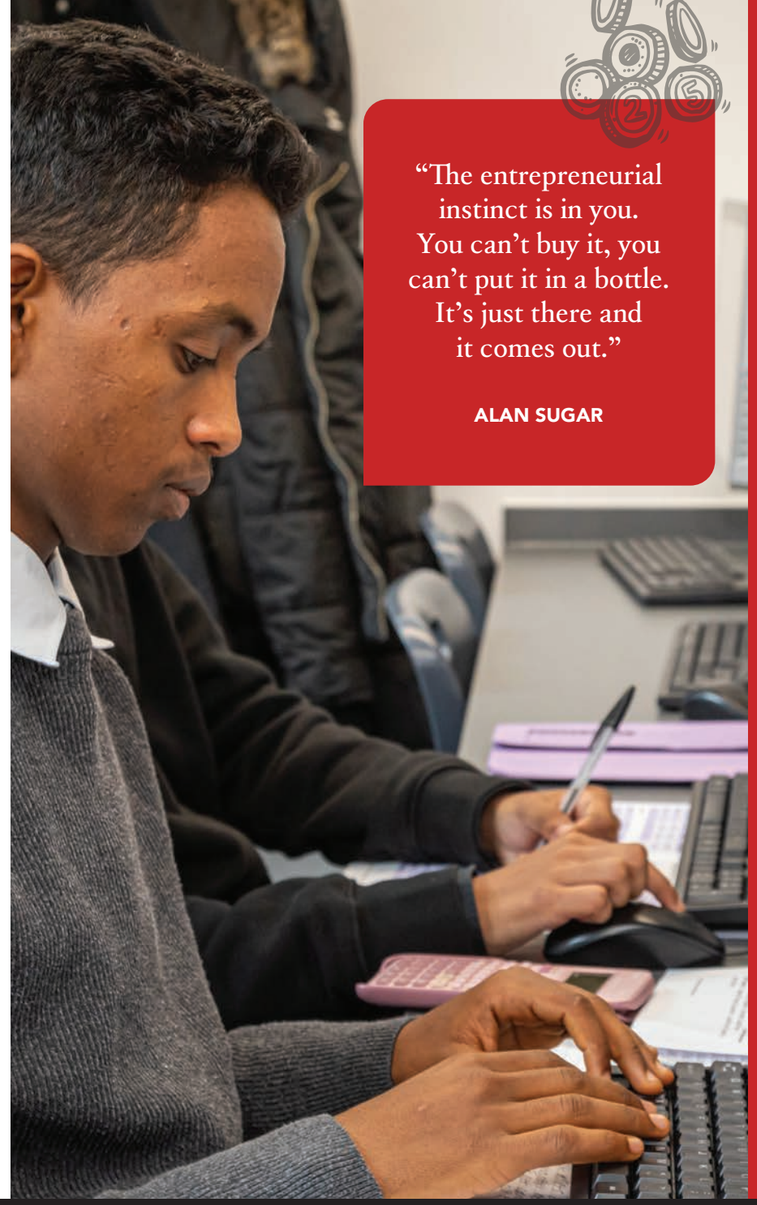
Unit 3, Personal and Business Finance. This is an examined unit. It is taken in January, with an opportunity to resit in May.

Unit 1, Exploring Business, is a coursework unit in which you complete assignments that are assessed by our teachers and then externally verified by the examination board.

Year 13

Unit 2, Developing a marketing campaign. This task is externally assessed as an examination. It is taken in January, with a possible resit opportunity in May.

Unit 8, Recruitment and selection process. This is a coursework unit in which you complete assignments assessed by your teachers and then externally verified by the examination board.



"The entrepreneurial instinct is in you. You can't buy it, you can't put it in a bottle. It's just there and it comes out."

ALAN SUGAR

A LEVEL CHEMISTRY

AQA Syllabus

7405

Students will experience the excitement and intellectual challenge of contemporary Chemistry by exploring the frontiers of research in the environmental and technological applications of the subject.

Students will be challenged by the rigorous theoretical content of the course but will have the opportunity to consolidate and extend knowledge as every topic is revisited several times.

COURSE CONTENT

In the first year, students will cover: atomic structure, energetics, periodicity, bonding, kinetics and organic chemistry. Over this year, students will carry out six of the required practical investigations.

Year two helps students to build on their knowledge and skills learned in year one. During this second year, they will study thermodynamics, electrolysis, equilibrium and further organic chemistry.

To gain an A level qualification, students will have three examinations at the end of Year 13:

- Paper 1 will cover any content from topics 1,2,3 and 5
- Paper 2 will cover any content in topics 1,2 4 and 6
- Paper 3 will cover any content from topics 1-6.
- All papers will be between 75-95 minutes long.

PRACTICALS

Chemistry, like all sciences, is a practical subject. Throughout the course you will carry out practical activities including:

- measuring energy changes in chemical reactions
- tests for identifying different types of compound
- different methods for measuring rates of reaction
- studying electrochemical cells
- preparation of organic solids and liquids
- an advanced form of chromatography for more accurate results.

EXAMS

There is no coursework on this course. However, your performance during practicals will be assessed. At least 15% of the marks for A-level Chemistry are based on what you learned in your practicals.

GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of 5 9-4 grades at GCSE including 6 in Science & 6 in Maths

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

A Level Chemistry is usually essential for degree courses in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy and chemical sciences. Skills acquired in Chemistry such as numeracy, analytical thinking and literary precision are valued in careers including research, marketing, finance and computing.

Chemistry has obvious links with Biology, Physics and Geography, but it can also be linked with most other subjects. It opens doors to many careers and is highly regarded by the academic world and industrialists.

A LEVEL PRODUCT DESIGN (DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY)

AQA Syllabus

7552

The AQA A-Level Design and Technology: Product Design course offers students the opportunity to develop the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence necessary to succeed in many careers. They will be able to develop an understanding of what it means to become a designer and build upon skills which are sought by both higher education providers and employers.

COURSE CONTENT

Throughout the course, students will be expected to explore a variety of techniques and are required to develop a sustained understanding of the following areas:

- Materials and their applications
- Classification of materials
- Performance characteristics of materials
- The use of adhesives and fixings
- Digital design and manufacture
- The requirements for product design and development
- Health and safety
- Design for manufacturing, maintenance, repair and disposal
- Feasibility studies

EXTERNALLY ASSESSED EXAMINATIONS: 50% OF A LEVEL

PAPER 1 KEY CONTENT: TECHNICAL PRINCIPLES	PAPER 2 KEY CONTENT: DESIGNING AND MAKING PRINCIPLES
Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes	Written exam: 1 hours 30 minutes
120 marks	80 marks
Mixture of short answer and extended response questions	20% of A Level marks
30% of A Level marks	NEA (Non Exam Assessment) 50% of A-Level Substantial design and make project

GRADES I NEED

- Entry Requirement & Portfolio of work

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

Product Design has been shown to improve product quality, increase customer satisfaction, and generate revenue. Another important benefit to this subject is that it supports cost reduction.

The qualification is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to meeting admission requirements for many relevant courses in a variety of areas of the technology sector, for example:

- BSc Hons Product Design Technology
- BSc Hons Architectural Design Technology
- BA Hons Communication Design
- BA Service Design
- BSc Hons Digital Design
- architectural technology practices
- Architecture firms
- Local authorities
- Government agencies
- Housing associations
- Construction organisations
- Manufacturers

A LEVEL ENGLISH LITERATURE

AQA Syllabus

7712

English Literature, A Level's historicist approach to studying literature, is a journey of independent exploration. It rests upon reading texts within a shared context, believing that no text exists in isolation. Each text is considered the product of the time in which it was produced. This approach encourages you to explore the relationships between texts and the contexts within which they are written, received and understood. Studying texts within a shared context enables you to investigate and connect them, drawing out patterns of similarity and difference using various reading strategies and perspectives. English Literature A Level prioritises making autonomous meaning, empowering you to debate and challenge the interpretations of other readers as you develop your own informed personal responses.

GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- 5 in English Language
- 5 in English Literature

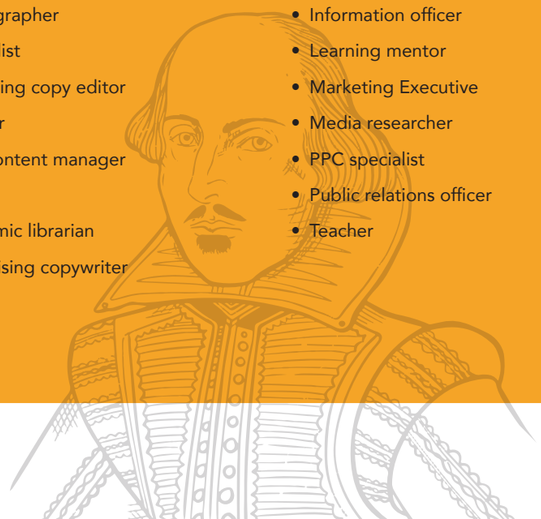
LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

- History, Politics and Sociology.

These combinations of essay-based subjects cover the core requirements for most English Literature courses and provide you with a strong foundation in the relevant areas of study. A-level history can help you understand literary works' historical and cultural contexts, and A-level politics and Sociology can help you understand literary works' social and political contexts.

An A Level in English Literature can give you access to many career opportunities and a lifelong passion for studying the written form.

- Digital copywriter
- Editorial Assistant
- Lexicographer
- Journalist
- Publishing copy editor
- Teacher
- Web content manager
- Writer
- Academic librarian
- Advertising copywriter
- Arts administrator
- Education consultant
- Information officer
- Learning mentor
- Marketing Executive
- Media researcher
- PPC specialist
- Public relations officer
- Teacher



COURSE CONTENT

Paper 1: Love Through the Ages
Study of three texts: one poetry and one prose text, of which one must be written pre-1900, and one Shakespeare play. The examination will also include two unseen poems.

Paper 2: Texts in shared contexts - **Option 2A:** WW1 and its aftermath
Study of three texts: one prose, one poetry, and one drama, of which one must be written post-2000.

Non-examined assessment:
Independent critical study: Texts across time. The following text is being studied: Frankenstein' Mary Shelley'

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

Paper 1: Assessed through a 3 hours written exam:

Paper 2: Texts in shared contexts - Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes

Non-examined assessment:
Independent critical study: Texts across time - Comparative critical study of two texts, at least one of which must have been written pre -1900

As well as a novel of your choice to compare with the above.

"Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body."

JOSEPH ADDISON

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE (LEVEL 3)

Pearson Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification BTEC National in Health and Social Care

610/3964/0

The Extended Certificate is for students interested in learning about the health and social care sector alongside other fields of study. It is designed to be part of a programme of study that includes A Levels to progress to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in health and social care-related subjects.

Health and social care is Europe's biggest growth industry, and this course gives you an opportunity to work in this area. The health and social care department is not only active and fun but also supportive, creating an environment where you can feel secure and confident in your learning journey.

Lessons are taught using various media, from PowerPoints and Nearpods to paper-based workbooks and practical tasks. You will have an E-revision account and are encouraged to use this resource to reinforce your learning at home. You have access to all class materials and lessons via Teams. Independent homework tasks are set regularly every week to consolidate learning.

Coursework is broken down into discrete tasks with tight deadlines, helping to promote organisational skills. Students learn to work independently to prepare them for university and future careers.

COURSE CONTENT

The qualification has three mandatory units covering the following topics:

Year 12

- Human Lifespan and Development – PIES and factors affecting growth and development, interventions and the different professionals providing care and treatment

Visits from various health and social care professionals discussing their roles and responsibilities enrich the curriculum. Students have the opportunity to experience wearing a pregnancy bump and parenthood with cyber babies.

- Health and Social Care Practice – Core principles, values and legislation that underpin and influence health and social care and the effect of social determinants on an individual health status

Year 13

- Human Biology and Health – Human body structure and systems, normal physiological functioning and the impact of common disorders. In term two, you can attend a grade booster workshop at Westfield Vue Cinema before taking the external examination for Human Biology and Health in January.

Optional unit

- Health Science – Types of infections and their potential impact on a local, national and international scale.

GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five GCSEs at grade 9-4
- Grade 4 in English

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

The following subjects would be suitable to combine with this qualification: Psychology, Biology, English.

In Health and Social Care, we study body systems, which overlap with the content of biology A level. We also examine psychological theories of attachment and cognitive development, which are covered in Psychology A level.

You will develop a tremendous amount of knowledge and skills from the mandatory units. These include the professional values and skills expected of professionals, including communication and listening skills and organisational and critical thinking skills. Cultural and social intelligence when working with individuals across the lifespan with different needs, alongside methods of managing challenging situations. You will also develop interpersonal skills required when working with others, including compassion and empathy, time management, learning and academic skills such as research. You develop skills and knowledge crucial to health and social care-related degrees. This qualification can lead to progression to a wide range of degrees and careers, e.g., Nursing, midwifery, social work, and professions allied to health, such as occupational therapy.

"To enjoy good health, to bring true happiness to one's family, to bring peace to all, one must first discipline and control one's own mind. If a man can control his mind he can find the way to Enlightenment, and all the wisdom and virtue will naturally come to him."

BUDDAH

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

You complete four units of work. Two units are externally assessed by written examination, and the other two are internally assessed through coursework assignments.

Year 12 Exam content

- Human Lifespan and Development. The unit will be assessed through one written examination, which will be 80 marks long and last 1 hour and 30 minutes.
  - The first assessment availability is May/June 2026, with a resit opportunity in Jan 2027
  - Coursework (internally assessed and then externally verified)
- Health and Social Care Practice – Core principles, values and legislation that underpin and influence health and social care and the effect of social determinants on an individual health status

Year 13 Exam content

- Human Biology and Health - The unit will be assessed through one written examination of 80 marks lasting 1 hour and 30 minutes
  - This will be assessed in Jan 2027 with a resit opportunity in May/June 2027
  - Coursework (internally assessed and then externally verified)
- Health Science – Types of infections and their potential impact on a local, national and international scale

BTEC HOSPITALITY

Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 First Award in Hospitality

600/7044/4

The hospitality industry is diverse and offers various exciting career opportunities in the UK and internationally. Whether you want to become a sous chef at a Michelin-starred restaurant, an events coordinator running big-name corporate events or a front office manager for a large internal hotel chain, a BTEC First Hospitality qualification can help you achieve your dream job.

This course is designed to be hands-on and engaging. You will learn about the size and scale of the hospitality industry, the variety of job opportunities on offer, the importance of good customer service, and will develop your communication skills. You will also understand and use effective working skills in hospitality situations, learn about food safety legislation and regulations, and plan, prepare, and cook a two-course meal in a safe and hygienic manner.

These activities will enable you to develop the transferable skills needed to enter employment within a wide range of job roles in the hospitality sector. You will plan and hold an afternoon tea event, visit food and drink establishments and help with the catering for school functions.

COURSE CONTENT

Unit 1 is split into three sections:

- Learning aim A – understand the structure and service provision in the hospitality industry
- Learning aim B – understand hospitality operations
- Learning aim C – understand how current issues and trends impact businesses within the hospitality industry.

Unit 6 – A series of assignments assess this coursework unit.
You are expected to understand the skills needed for proficiency in planning, preparing, cooking and finishing various food types

Unit 2 – Working in the hospitality industry.
This unit strongly emphasises teamwork, a critical skill in the hospitality industry.

Unit 3 – Food safety and health and safety in hospitality.
This unit is taught alongside unit 2 as there is some cross-over with information from the school canteen talk and visit to a food establishment. You will study food safety requirements and regulations, including safely storing, preparing, and serving food.

GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-1 grades at GCSE.

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

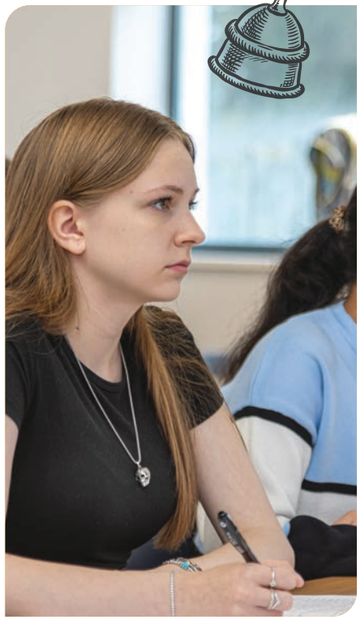
Hospitality links to many other subjects, including: -

- Business – Focusing on customer service skills is essential to all businesses.
- Food technology – You will gain practical cooking skills
- Citizenship/Public services - You will be taking part in teamwork activities
- Science – You will learn about food hygiene, including the viruses and bacteria that may spoil food products and infection control measures.
- Health and Social Care: You learn about the Eatwell plate, which includes sources of essential vitamins and minerals, all important for our health and well-being.

Completing this course at a minimum of a distinction grade will allow you to move to level 3 qualifications in your next year of study. It provides a gateway to college courses in chef and catering qualifications, professional cooking and business links, and applied science level 3 courses.

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

- The course is split into four units of work, 75% course work and 25% exam.
- **Unit 1,** Introducing the Hospitality Industry, is an examined unit comprising 25% of the overall grade. You will take this exam in January 2025, with a possible resit in May 2025 if required.
- **Units 2 and 3** are assessed via coursework tasks that must be completed in school.
- Each unit is broken down into several assignments and tasks to be completed over a set period.



6th form students rated learning resources at St John Fisher as 93% as excellent/good

STUDENT VOICE

A LEVEL HISTORY

AQA Syllabus

7042

Through studying the past, we can understand how our world works. In the present, our world faces many challenges and the skills which history teaches have never been more critical. Through studying history, you will develop the ability to use sources, construct valid and justified arguments and examine change over time. You will also learn to explore and debate the reasons for these changes. A good historian will use the skills they develop in the subject to sort fact from fiction, opinion from fact and evidence to piece the jigsaw together. We will never truly know what happened in the past or why. However, the excellent historian will argue that by looking at the evidence and coming to decisions, we can form considered judgements and make considered arguments - skills highly valued by employers.

COURSE CONTENT

The Tudors: England, 1485-1603

Part 1: The Tudors – Consolidation of a Dynasty, 1485-1547

- The Winter King: The Reign of Henry VII, 1485-1509
- A New England? The Reign of Henry VIII, 1509-1547

Part 2: England – Turmoil and Triumph, 1547-1603

- A Mid-Tudor Crisis? The Reigns of Edward VI and Mary I, 1547-1558
- England Triumphant? The Reign of Elizabeth I, 1558-1603

Democracy and Nazism: Germany, 1918-1945

Part 1: The Weimar Republic, 1918-1933

- Crisis and Revolution: Weimar's Early Years, 1918-1924
- A Golden Age? Weimar Germany, 1924-1929
- The Collapse of Democracy: Weimar Germany, 1929-1933

Part 2: Nazi Germany, 1933-1945

- Terror and Transformation: The Nazi Dictatorship, 1933-1939
- The Racial State: Nazi Persecution of Jews and minorities, 1933-1941
- The Impact of War: Nazi Germany during World War Two, 1939-1945

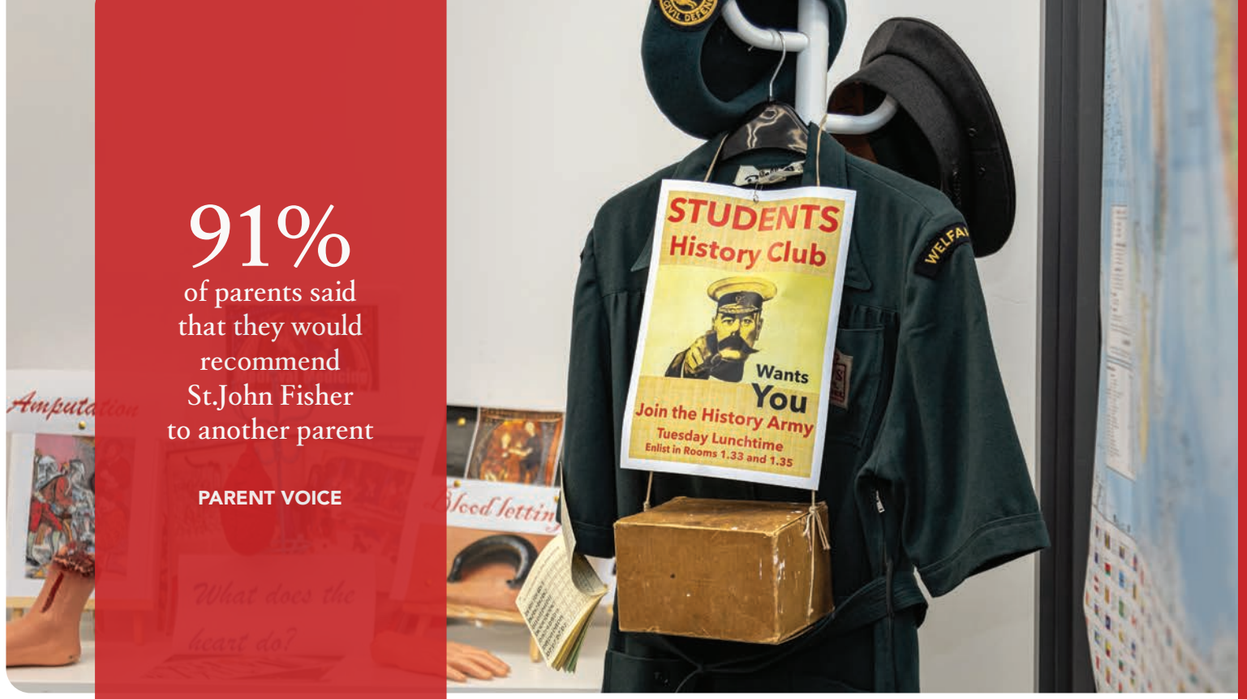
GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five GCSEs at grade 9-4
- Grade 5 in English Literature or above

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

History has close links with various subjects at A Level and beyond. Studying the past enriches and reinforces economics, English Literature, Philosophy and Ethics, Politics, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sociology, and the study of languages. The analytical skills that history teaches at university mean there is a strong link between history and law. Many History graduates go on to practice law in their professional careers.

History opens the door to a wide variety of potential careers. Some of these are directly linked to the study of the past, such as archaeologists, museum curators, or teachers. However, others, like marketing officers or editorial assistants, are connected to the business world. This diversity of career paths should inspire you to keep an open mind about your future, as history can be an ideal preparation for politics, law, and journalism. From Prime Ministers to barristers to broadcast journalists, History qualifications at Sixth Form and beyond are well represented at the highest levels of achievement.



91%

of parents said that they would recommend St.John Fisher to another parent

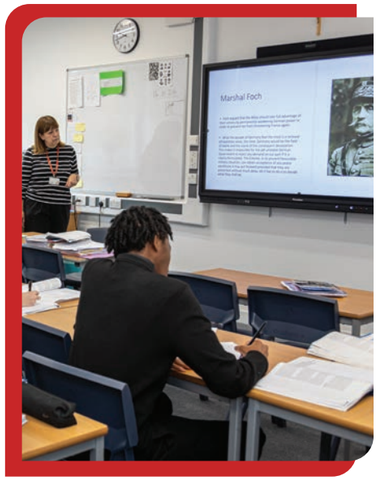
PARENT VOICE

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

Unit 1. Breadth study: The Tudors 1485-1603 (the consolidation of the Tudor dynasty 1485-1547 and the reigns of Henry VII and Henry VIII) plus the reigns of Edward VI, Mary I and Elizabeth I. – Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes. – 40% of A Level

Unit 2. Depth study: Democracy and Germany 1918-1945 (the Weimar Republic 1918-1933, the new Democratic Republic in Germany and the rise of the Nazis) plus the Nazi dictatorship 1933-45 – Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes. – 40% of A level

Unit 3. Historical investigation: A personal study based on a topic covering 100 years, e.g., The Russian Revolution. – 3,500 - 4,500 words



CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL IN ICT

OCR Syllabus

601/7098/0-05839

The qualification aims to develop students' knowledge, understanding and skills of the principles of IT and Global Information Systems. Level 3 Cambridge Technicals in IT focus on the requirements that today's universities and employers demand. Students will focus on the design, implementation and management of an organisation's IT Infrastructure. Additionally, they will learn about the activities and roles that are carried out in the workplace such as selecting hardware and software for clients, and learning how to build, upgrade or develop computer systems and networks that are safe and secure.

COURSE CONTENT

The course is assessed using a variety of methods. Elements are assessed externally by examinations and set tasks and internally set tasks. The course consists of two mandatory units and three optional units studied across two years. The mandatory units provide learners with an insight into the IT sector as they investigate the pace of technological change, IT infrastructure, the flow of information on a global scale and important legal and security considerations. They also reflect on important developments in the sector around information security, requiring learners to consider how data should be protected and the response of the IT sector to emerging threats such as cyber terrorism.

The optional units include Project Management, Product Development, Systems Analysis and Design and the Internet of Everything. All units assist in the development of transferable skills such as communication and problem solving. The optional units encourage the development of time management, research and analytical skills, as well as emphasising the need for good written and verbal communication skills.

Students will study the mandatory units 1 (Fundamentals of IT), 2 (Global Information) and 4 (Computer Networks) in the first year, with all units being externally assessed. In the second year, students will study optional units as described above.

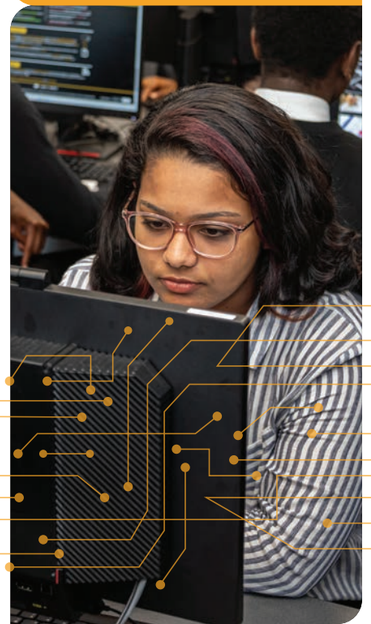
GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five GCSEs at grade 9-4
- 5 in English & 5 in Maths.

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

This qualification opens the door to a range of careers including roles within:

- The game design industry
- Web and animation development
- Network management
- Network security
- Digital forensics
- Mobile app development



A LEVEL MATHEMATICS

Edexcel Syllabus

9MA0

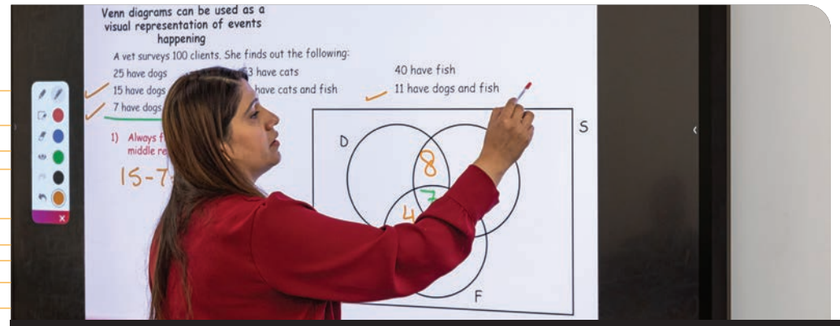
Core mathematics is the study of: algebraic techniques, functions, sequences and series, exponential and logarithms, trigonometry, co-ordinate geometry, differentiation, integration, numerical methods, vectors and proof. Students will use these skills and techniques to solve problems in core mathematics and statistics and mechanics. Statistics is the analysis of data graphically and calculating statistical measures. The theory of probability is used to set up mathematical models of random experiments. Students will then compare sets of observations, draw conclusions and make predictions about future events. An important aspect of statistics is measuring the significance of such conclusions and predictions. In mechanics, students will set up simple models of practical situations in order to study the action of forces on bodies and networks that are safe and secure.

COURSE CONTENT

This qualification is linear, meaning that students will sit all their exams at the end of the course. The A Level qualification builds on the skills, knowledge and understanding set out in the GCSE subject content for Mathematics. A Level Mathematics has 100% prescribed content, with pure and applied in a 2:1 ratio. Mechanics and Statistics are part of the compulsory content. The A Level Mathematics qualification follows a three-paper model, with calculator usage allowed in all papers.

Paper 1 - Pure Mathematics 1 (2 hours)
Paper 2 - Pure Mathematics 2 (2 hours)
Paper 3 - Statistics and Mechanics (2 hours)

In the second year, students study a further two core mathematics units and one application unit of statistics and mechanics. Each unit is assessed by examination at the end of two year course.



GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of 5 9-4 grades at GCSE including a 6 grade in mathematics.

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

The study of mathematics links well with other subjects such as the sciences and IT. Career options include roles within:

- Finance
- Economics
- Communication
- Transportation
- Engineering
- Architecture
- Biomedical science
- Physics
- Education
- Medicine
- Dentistry

A LEVEL MEDIA STUDIES

Eduqas Syllabus

603/1149/2

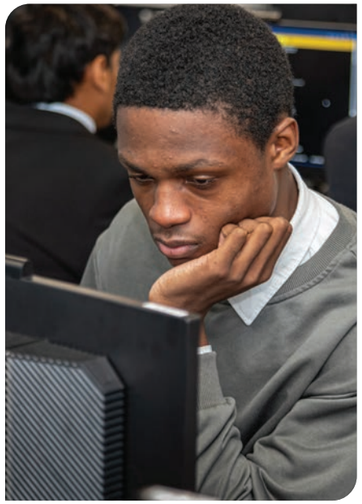
Studying the mass media (from traditional forms such as film, television, advertising or news to more recent ones such as online and social media) allows you to explore issues of the utmost importance in our modern, increasingly digitised society. Our course offers you the opportunity to delve into the theoretical processes underpinning media industries and texts and develop your practical skills, empowering you to navigate the media landscape confidently.

COURSE CONTENT

Component 1: Media Products, Industries and Audiences
You investigate media industries and texts, focusing on the codes and conventions of various genres.

Component 2: Media Forms and Products in Depth
This component allows you to study three media forms in more detail: television, magazines and online media.

Component 3: Cross-media Production
To create their own media production in response to a specific brief set by the exam board, you will be given the opportunity to improve your research and practical skills.



GRADES I NEED

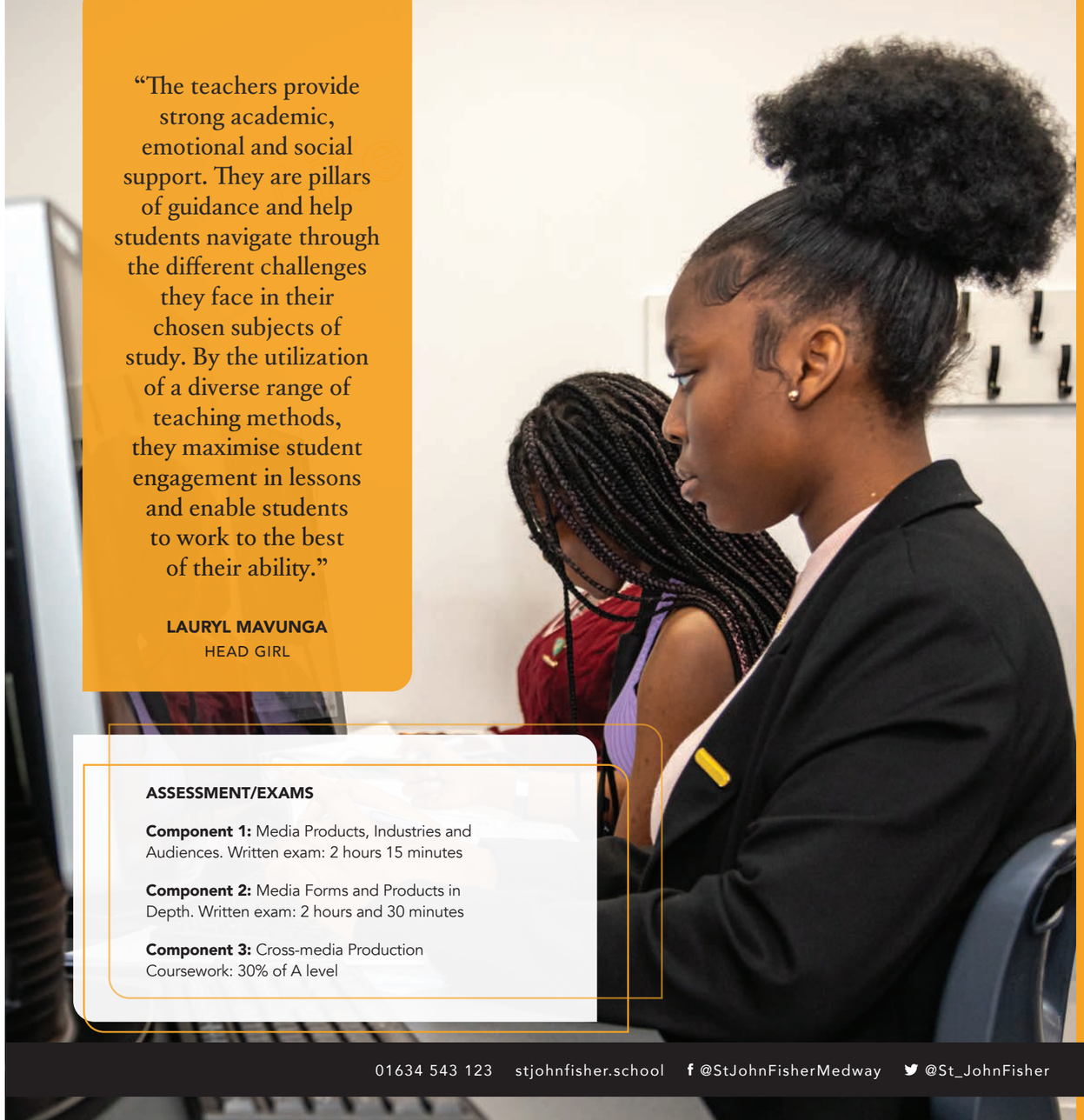
- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- 5 in English Language

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

Media Studies complements most other A Levels. Whether you are interested in sociology, psychology, business, politics, economics, or creative arts, subjects like Art and Media Studies can seamlessly integrate into your academic journey, enhancing your understanding of various disciplines.

An A Level in Media can lead to some exciting and rewarding careers:

- Media Content Creator
- TV News Reporter / Video Journalist
- Journalism
- Brand / Social Media Affiliate
- Media Buyer
- Laboratory Media Technician
- Social Media Specialist
- Media Teacher
- Web Design
- Advertising
- Script Writing
- Radio and audio work
- Digital Media Content Creator
- Media Production
- Editing and Directing



"The teachers provide strong academic, emotional and social support. They are pillars of guidance and help students navigate through the different challenges they face in their chosen subjects of study. By the utilization of a diverse range of teaching methods, they maximise student engagement in lessons and enable students to work to the best of their ability."

LAURYL MAVUNGA
HEAD GIRL

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

Component 1: Media Products, Industries and Audiences. Written exam: 2 hours 15 minutes

Component 2: Media Forms and Products in Depth. Written exam: 2 hours and 30 minutes

Component 3: Cross-media Production Coursework: 30% of A level

A LEVEL RE & PHILOSOPHY

OCR Syllabus

H573A

This qualification is about understanding and appreciating religious beliefs and teachings and applying this knowledge in real-world situations. You will delve into the disciplines of ethics and philosophy of religion, honing your critical analysis skills to construct balanced, informed arguments and responses to religious, philosophical, and ethical ideas.

COURSE CONTENT

The course has three components:

Philosophy of Religion

- Ancient philosophical influences
- The nature of the soul, mind and body
- Arguments about the existence or non-existence of God
- The nature and impact of religious experience
- The challenge for religious belief of the problem of evil
- Ideas about the nature of God
- Issues in religious language

Religion and Ethics

- Normative ethical theories
- The application of ethical theory to two contemporary issues of importance
- Ethical language and thought
- Debates surrounding the significant idea of conscience
- Sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious belief

Development of Christian Thought

- Religious beliefs, values and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world
- Sources of religious wisdom and authority
- Practices which shape and express religious identity and how these vary within a tradition
- Significant social and historical developments in theology and religious thought
- Key themes related to the relationship between religion and society

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

- The exam for each component will be worth 120 marks and represents 33.3% of the total marks for A Level.
- These exams will be externally assessed written papers lasting 2 hours each and testing both AO1 and AO2.
- Each paper will contain four essay questions, with you choosing three out of the four to answer.
- Questions can target material from any area of the specification.
- Two questions might be set from one specification section, or all questions might be from different sections.
- Each essay will be worth 40 marks and test AO1 and AO2.

GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five GCSEs at grade 9-4
- Grade 5 in English Literature or above
- Grade 5 in English Language or above

Please note that you do not need to have studied RE or Philosophy & Ethics previously

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

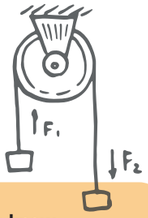
A level Religious Studies has deep connections to Mathematics, Politics, History, Sociology, Psychology, Biology, Physics and Law. This interdisciplinary approach will broaden your horizons and deepen your understanding of the world.

Related careers in A-level Religious Studies include education, journalism, law, criminology, social work, medical research, and politics.

A LEVEL PHYSICS

AQA Syllabus

7408



Physicists explore the fundamental nature of almost everything we know. They probe the furthest reaches of the earth to study the smallest pieces of matter. Join them to enter a world deep beneath the surface of normal human experience.

COURSE CONTENT

A-level Physics lasts two years, with exams at the end of the second year.

The table below shows the topics covered in each year.

EXAMS

There is no coursework on this course. However, your performance during practicals will be assessed. There are three exams at the end of the two years for A-level, all of which are two hours long. At least 15% of the marks for A-level Physics are based on what you learned in your practicals.

PRACTICALS

Physics, like all sciences, is a practical subject. Throughout the course you will carry out practical activities including:

- investigating interference and diffraction of laser light
- measuring acceleration due to gravity
- investigating systems that oscillate
- investigation of the links between temperature, volume and pressure
- safe use of ionising radiation
- investigating magnetic fields.

These practicals will give you the skills and confidence needed to investigate the way things behave and work. It will also ensure that if you choose to study a Physics-based subject at university, you'll have the practical skills needed to carry out successful experiments in your degree.

FIRST YEAR OF A-LEVEL	SECOND YEAR OF A-LEVEL
Measurements and their errors	Further mechanics and thermal physics
Particles and radiation	Fields
Waves Mechanics and energy	Nuclear physics
Electricity	And one more optional topic

GRADES I NEED

Minimum of 5 9-4 grades at GCSE including a 6 grade in Combined Science. Students will also need a 5 grade in Maths.

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

Studying A-level Physics offers an infinite number of amazing career opportunities including:

- Geophysicist/field seismologist
- Healthcare scientist, medical physics
- Higher education lecturer
- Radiation protection practitioner
- Research scientist (physical sciences)
- Scientific laboratory technician
- Secondary school teacher
- Meteorologist
- Structural engineer
- Acoustic engineer
- Product/process development scientist
- Systems developer
- Technical author.

You can also move into engineering, astrophysics, chemical physics, nanotechnology, renewable energy and more, the opportunities are endless.

A LEVEL POLITICS

Pearson Edexel Syllabus

9PLO(3a)

Are you interested in how the world works, someone who believes they could and should make a difference in society? Have you ever questioned why things are how they are and felt you could do it better? Do you enjoy debating and considering different points of view? If so, Politics A Level might be your course.

Politics is not just a subject but a tool for understanding and shaping the world around us. It's a highly respected and versatile A Level, attractive to universities and employers. Over the 2-year course, you will study the workings of the British political system, including how the right to vote was fought and won and the many contemporary issues affecting the UK and its citizens today. Your knowledge and understanding will be further enhanced and broadened when you study Political ideologies, the foundations of our political ideas and debates, and American Politics, with its clear comparisons to the British political system.

A Level Politics is about learning facts and figures and developing your analytical and communicative skills. It is a journey of personal growth, where you are encouraged to challenge each other and explore different ideas to formulate coherent arguments verbally and in writing. It is, therefore, not surprising that the Russell Group universities, including Oxford and Cambridge, offer Politics at the degree level, demonstrating the academic and prestigious value attached to the A Level.

COURSE CONTENT

Political Participation:

- Democracy and participation
- Political parties
- Electoral systems
- Voting behaviour and the media.

UK Government:

- The constitution
- Parliament
- Prime Minister and executive
- Relationships between the branches.

Political Ideologies:

- Liberalism
- Conservativism
- Socialism
- Feminism

US Politics:

- The Constitution
- Congress
- The Presidency
- The Supreme Court
- Elections
- Parties and Pressure Groups

GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five 9-4 grades at GCSE
- 5 in English Language or above

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

- Politics A Level goes well with the following subjects:
- Sociology
- Psychology
- History
- Philosophy and Ethics
- English

Politics A Level is beneficial to a wide variety of careers, including:

- Law
- Teaching
- Business
- Journalism
- Archaeology
- Accountancy
- Media
- Advertising
- Diplomatic Service
- Government/Public Servant

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

- Papers 1 and 2 consist of two 30-mark essays, one based on a source and one 24-mark essay.
- Paper 3 consists of two 12-mark questions comparing the USA and UK systems and two 30-mark essays.
- All papers are equally weighted and last 2 hours.

A LEVEL PSYCHOLOGY

AQA Syllabus

7182

Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour. It is both a thriving academic discipline and a vital professional practice. Throughout this linear course, we focus on explaining cognitive processes like memory, psychopathology, which includes phobias and schizophrenia, and the biological basis for aggression and gender identity. We also examine the role of authority in obedience and other social influence processes that govern our world today.

Research methods are included in all topic areas, and you will embed skills in the scientific method together with critical and analytical thinking. This subject also requires an adeptness in mathematical reasoning and extended writing.

By taking A-level Psychology, you can gain a profound understanding of human thought and behaviour, which is highly applicable in various career sectors. This subject also complements other A-level subjects, making it a versatile choice for you.

COURSE CONTENT

The course covers a range of topic areas.

In Year 12, you will study:

- Social influence: Why do people conform? What makes some people obey? How can a minority influence a majority?
- Memory: How are memories stored? What are the different models of memory? How accurate is eyewitness testimony?
- Attachment: How do we form attachments in early childhood? What can animal studies tell us about human attachments?
- Psychopathology: What counts as abnormality? How can you treat phobias, depression and OCD?
- Approaches in Psychology: What are the different psychological approaches? How does their explanation of behaviour differ?

In Year 13, you will study:

- Biopsychology: What are the different ways of studying the brain? How are sleep cycles affected by internal and external pacemakers?
- Research Methods: Which research methods do psychologists from different approaches use? How do ethics influence research?
- Issues and Debates in Psychology: What is the nature/nurture debate, and what do psychologists think? How have gender bias and cultural bias affected Psychology?
- You will also study three option topics: Gender, Schizophrenia and Aggression.

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

- You will sit three 2-hour exam papers at the end of the course, each worth 33.3% of the final grade.

GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five GCSEs at grade 9-4
- Grade 6 in English or above
- Grade 6 in Science or above
- Grade 4 in Mathematics or above

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

Psychology is a subject that bridges various disciplines. It shares skills with English, History, Sociology, Philosophy, and Politics. It is closely linked to other sciences like biology, as it examines the role of hormones, genetics, and brain structures in behaviour.

Psychology is a popular choice at university as it is an incredibly useful subject for many career paths and courses in higher education. Whilst it is relevant for careers/courses in clinical psychology, law, or social work, it is also appropriate for many others, including journalism, business, teaching, scientific and social research, marketing, and criminology.

- Paper 1, Introductory Topics in Psychology include: Social Influence, Memory, Attachment, & Psychopathology.
- Paper 2, Psychology in Context includes: Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology, & Research Methods.
- Paper 3, Issues and Options in Psychology includes: Issues and Debates, Gender, Aggression, & Schizophrenia.

A LEVEL SOCIOLOGY

AQA Syllabus

7192

Studying Sociology at our school is an enriching decision that will open doors to a deeper understanding of society and human behaviour. Our Sociology department prides itself on achieving excellent results, with students excelling in their exams and pursuing diverse career paths in social work, research, law, criminology and more. Studying sociology equips you with critical thinking skills and a sociological perspective on the world, providing valuable insights into social issues and inequalities. Our dedicated team of teachers are passionate about sociology and committed to helping you explore and analyse the complexities of society.

Join us in unravelling the intricacies of society, challenging assumptions, and making a difference in the world through the study of Sociology. We believe that Sociology is not just a subject but a lens through which to view and understand the world. We look forward to welcoming you and supporting you on your journey of exploration and discovery. If you have an open and inquiring mind and an interest in current affairs and the social issues of today, then sociology is definitely for you.

GRADES I NEED

- English Language Level 5

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

Sociology is a social science subject, so it is closely linked with other subjects such as Psychology, History, Government, and Politics. It also works well alongside English due to the need for excellent writing ability.

Sociology provides an excellent starting point for any Social Science Degree, from Economics, Psychology, and Politics to Criminology and Philosophy which all the best universities offer.

Sociology can lead to many career options, including teaching, nursing, the police, advertising, journalism, research, marketing, business, social work, and youth work. Sociology is an academic subject that teaches transferable skills such as critical analysis, independent thinking, and research, so it is up to you which area of work you choose to pursue afterwards.

COURSE CONTENT

During Year 12, you will focus on two topic areas. You will look at Families and Households, covering issues such as why family structure is changing and why governments seek to intervene in family life. You will also study education, which covers the reasons why some people fail in education.

Year 13 builds on the knowledge from Year 12. You will study a unit on Crime and Deviance, which includes looking at social reasons why people commit crimes. You will then study Beliefs in Society, covering issues such as the different functions of Religion in modern societies. During both Years 12 and 13, you will also focus on the different sociological methods used by sociologists. There will be opportunities throughout the two years to attend exam workshops.

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

A level Sociology is a linear qualification, which means exams take place at the end of the two years. This means your learning and understanding of the subject will be continuously assessed and built upon throughout the course, culminating in the final exams.

A Level Sociology is an academic, written-based subject; therefore, you will be required to write extensively in detail, focusing on higher-order thinking skills, which includes the application, analysis and evaluation of knowledge in the form of extended writing essays, plus structured questions.

The three A-level exams each count for a third (33.3%) of the final mark:

- **Paper 1:** a two-hour exam on education and Research Methods in Context, with associated sociological theory and methods
- **Paper 2:** a two-hour exam on the topics of Family and Beliefs in Society
- **Paper 3:** a two-hour exam on Crime and Deviance, with associated sociological theory and methods

"I love sociology with a passion, I'm starting to understand and enjoy philosophy"

STUDENT VOICE

PUBLIC SERVICES

Pearson BTEC Level 1 /2 First Award

601/0926/9

This course is designed to improve your knowledge and understanding of the public service sector. You will learn about the critical public service providers, including emergency services, armed forces and local authorities and how they support local and national communities. You will also have the opportunity to participate in practical activities such as role plays, teamwork exercises, and fitness tests designed to simulate real-world scenarios in the public service sector. These activities will enable you to develop transferable skills to enter employment within a wide range of junior job roles across the public sector.

COURSE CONTENT

Throughout the course, you study the following four units:

Unit 1: The Role and Work of the Public Services
This involves learning about the grouping and purpose of public services, their work and responsibilities, their need to work together, and how public services are delivered and funded

Unit 2 Working Skills in the Public Service Sector
You will participate in various role plays and teamwork activities in this unit. You will learn about meeting the needs of public service customers and working skills within public service sector groups

Unit 3 Employment in the Public Services
This unit involves exploring the range of job roles in public services and learning about the requirements for these roles. You will investigate job opportunities, assess your suitability for different roles, and complete an application form for a public service role.

Unit 5 Health, Fitness, and Lifestyle for the Public Services
This unit examines the effect of nutrition and diet on health and fitness. You will examine your diet and food choices and the impact on your health. We also look at lifestyle choices, including smoking and alcohol consumption, and the impact on health and well-being.

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

- The course is designed to meet your needs, offering a flexible structure that accommodates different learning styles and paces.
- It consists of four separate units of work: three coursework units, which make up 75% of the overall grade, and one examined unit, which makes up the final 25%.
- This flexibility ensures that you find your path to success.
- **Unit 1** is assessed via an external exam in January and a resit is available in May.

GRADES I NEED

- A minimum of 5 GCSE's grade 9-1

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

Public services links to many other subjects, including:

- Sport – Taking part in teambuilding activities and fitness testing.
- Health and Social care – learning about the impact of diet and lifestyle choices on health and wellbeing.
- Business – Employability skills, applying for jobs, writing CVs.

You can continue your education by moving to Level 3 Public Services studies at sixth form or college. Alternatively, this course prepares you to obtain employment in public sector roles. Completing this course successfully at a minimum of distinction will allow you to move to level 3 qualifications in your next year of study.

- **Units 2, 3, and 5** are all coursework units that will be completed in school.
- Each unit will consist of assignments and tasks to be completed over a set period.
- You must be able to plan and organise your time to meet the deadlines.

"The sixth form private study area provides a conductive study environment that encourages students to read and revise, complete assigned tasks and conduct external research on their subjects. The school library serves as an excellent resource centre packed with a wide range of books and reference materials for different subjects. Useful textbooks and fascinating books are available and significantly assist students with their learning and instil a love for reading"

LAURYL MAVUNGA
HEAD GIRL

BTEC (LEVEL 3) SPORT STUDIES

Pearson National Extended Certificate In Sport

603/0458/3

Sports Studies offers students a unique opportunity to understand the dynamics of the sports, leisure, and physical activity industry. This course equips you with the knowledge and skills crucial for anyone considering a career in this field. You will engage deeply with topics such as anatomy and physiology, fitness testing, practical sports performance and the business side of sports, ensuring you are well-prepared for the industry's challenges.

Additionally, the course delves into the business aspects of sports. You will explore topics such as marketing, management, and event organisation.

COURSE CONTENT

Unit 1: Anatomy and Physiology In unit 1, we examine some of the Musculoskeletal topics we covered in GCSE PE and analyse how these systems operate during sports and physical activity.

Unit 7: Practical Sports Performance In unit 7, we apply some of the theory concepts to performances in several sports and analyse how we can further develop these skills.

Unit 3: Professional development in the sports industry
This unit explores what makes someone more employable in the sports industry.

In years 1 and 2, you will have the opportunity to choose two additional optional units. These units are designed to provide a deeper understanding of specific areas within the sports industry, allowing students to tailor their learning to their career aspirations. One optional unit will be internally assessed and externally assessed, providing a balanced assessment experience.

ASSESSMENT/EXAMS

- **Unit 1** – Externally assessed, written exam (mandatory unit) worth 120 GLH.
- **Unit 7** – Internally assessed (mandatory unit) worth 60 GLH.
- **Unit 3** – Internally assessed (mandatory unit) worth 60 GLH.
- Two additional (optional units) to be assessed following the mandatory units.

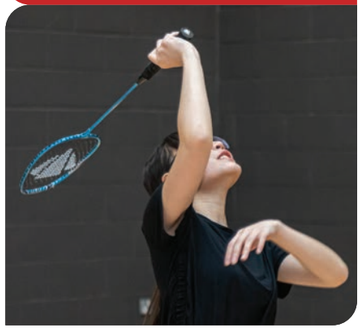
GRADES I NEED

- Minimum of five GCSEs at grade 9-4
- Grade 4 or above in GCSE PE or an equivalent sports qualification

LINKS TO OTHER SUBJECTS & CAREERS

Science, specifically biology, is used heavily within this sports qualification, so it has a natural link to it.

- Physiotherapist
- Sports Coach
- PE Teacher
- Leisure centre employee /manager
- Sports analyst
- Sports commentator
- Sports business owner
- Team manager (sport)
- Nutritionist
- Personal trainer



OUR FACILITIES

St. John Fisher Catholic Comprehensive School moved to a purpose-built, single-site school on City Way during the 2022-23 academic year. We now have the world-class facilities that our students, staff and community deserve.

Situated at the top of the hill between Chatham and Rochester, with amazing views looking out across the River Medway, our school offers a wide range of outstanding teaching and learning facilities designed to support the delivery of our challenging curriculum. These include a multi use games area (MUGA), a football pitch, a large sports hall, a dance studio, a gym, and kiln room. State-of-the-art IT facilities are available throughout the building, including an interactive TV in every classroom, while a dedicated library space looks out over our beautiful courtyard, providing an inspiring place for independent study.

On the next three pages, you will see more images of the learning spaces at our wonderful school.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO APPLY FOR SIXTH FORM TODAY

OUR FACILITIES

The teachers are committed to student success and foster an optimistic and inclusive learning environment. They empower students to be critical thinkers and impart a love for learning. Efficient support is provided through constructive feedback and intervention classes thus ensuring that all students grasp the material effectively."

LAURYL MAVUNGA
HEAD GIRL

98%

of parents agreed that their child does well at St.John Fisher

PARENT VOICE

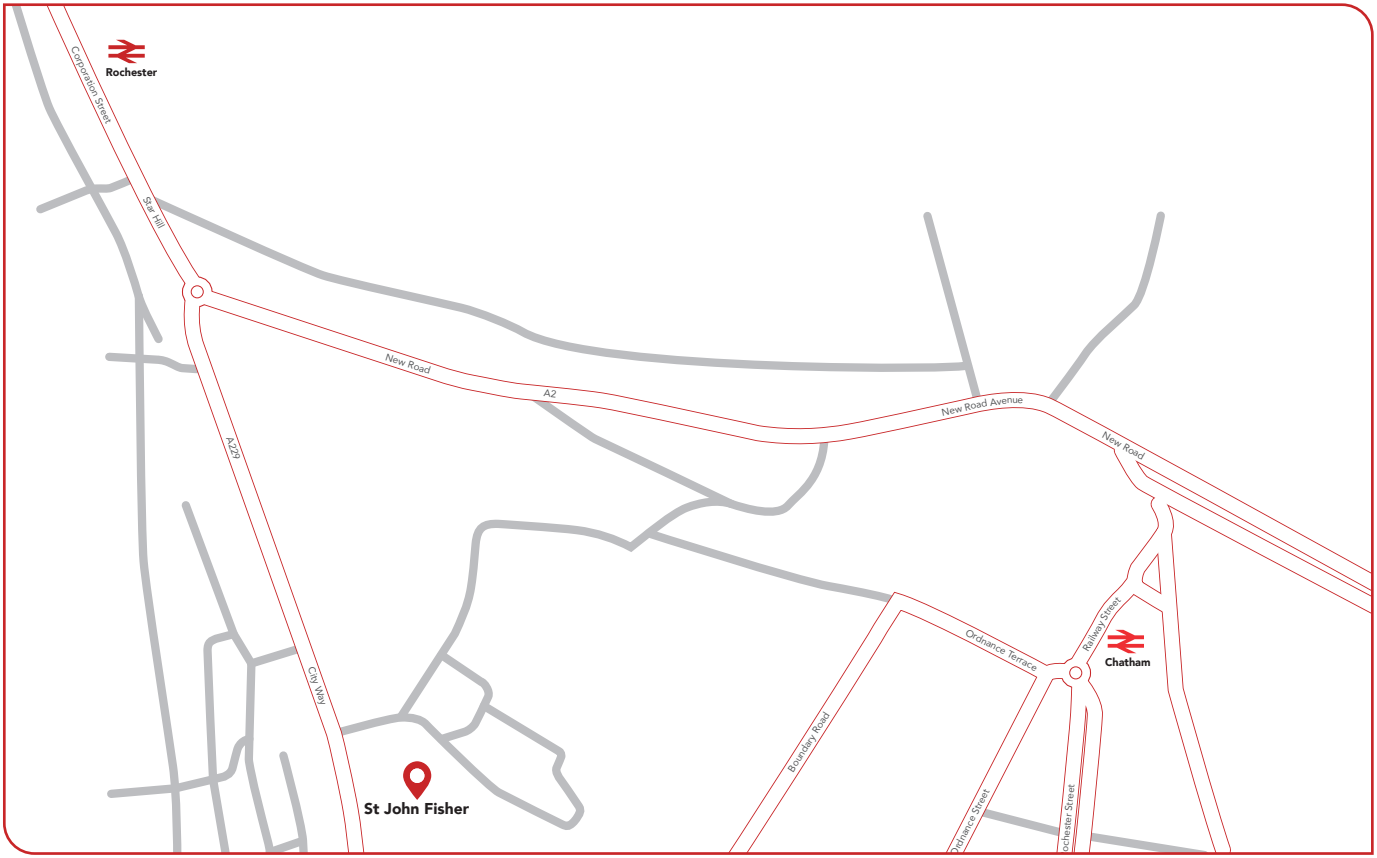
GALLERY & QUOTES

ST. JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL
CITY WAY, ROCHESTER

Please use the intercom as you drive or walk in.

Visitor car parking is clearly signposted close to the front of the school.

For information about booking a tour, please visit
https://stjohnfisher.school/home/admissions/



St. John Fisher
CATHOLIC COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

St John Fisher Catholic
Comprehensive School
City Way, Rochester
ME1 2FA

t 01634 543123
e office@stjohnfisher.school
w www.stjohnfisher.school