



Clifton High School  
co-educational nursery pre-school to sixth form

# The Sixth Form 2021



The Diamond Edge Model  Realising Individual Brilliance

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## Welcome

Our co-educational Sixth Form provides a diverse curriculum, numerous leadership opportunities, and excellent teachers, preparing our students for lifelong learning in the world beyond. Clifton High welcomes new and continuing students to an environment where, with support and guidance, each student's individual brilliance is recognised, enabling them to thrive during this important period of growth and transition. This transitional period is a special time for students as they mature and take on more responsibilities for their independent learning and leadership roles, whilst nurturing our values and ethos through a myriad of opportunities. We foster high expectations and high standards, with students becoming ambassadors representing the whole school community. It is an inspiring and exhilarating time for change which leads our students to fulfil their potential and ambitions.

At Clifton High we expect high academic results from our students, who are offered a diverse and broad curriculum, which allows them the opportunity to develop skills and talents to reach their full potential. Students are able to choose from a number of academic subjects, which will be broadened further in 2021 with the addition of Psychology. All subjects are taught by enthusiastic, well qualified and experienced teachers who are always willing and able to go the 'extra mile' to ensure our students' success.

**Miss Jen England, Acting Head of Sixth Form**

**“Schools like ours produce individuals with the energy to protest”**

**Former Headmistress**

## Academic

We offer a broad choice of A level courses. Our small Sixth Form allows us a high degree of flexibility and we do our best to accommodate each student's subject choices. We expect excellent academic results from our students and we support, stretch and challenge them so that they are independent learners fully prepared for further education. Recent changes to A levels have not daunted our students who have risen to the task. Typically, over 80% go on to their first choice of university, all of which are highly acclaimed institutions offering first-class courses in their chosen discipline.



## Facilities

- We are excited to announce the opening of a new Sixth Form Centre to be built in 2021 at 2 Clifton Park
- Year 12 and 13 students benefit from a dedicated Sixth Form area, not only as a place to study with its library, quiet working rooms and 'Futures and Skills' Centre but also as a place to relax and socialise with its own Wi-Fi cafe and Common Room with games area
- Lessons take place predominantly in the handsome Victorian buildings and, together with specialist laboratories, technology, music, art and food rooms, students also benefit from the recent addition of a STEM room
- Extensive sporting facilities include an onsite indoor heated swimming pool, a gymnasium, Health and Fitness suite and an all-weather floodlit multi-use games area, enjoyed by all sixth form students. At nearby Coombe Dingle, in partnership with the University of Bristol, students also benefit from international standard pitches, tracks and courts



## Pastoral Care

Each student at Clifton High School is an individual and this individuality is encouraged and nurtured within the pastoral support available at Clifton High School which is outstanding. We have a dedicated team of highly experienced staff, who are available to provide advice, strength and guidance. Each student has regular meetings with their tutor and we offer a tutor-led programme to support students as they consider their higher education options. Included within pastoral support, is the Futures and Skills Programme (a careers and enrichment programme), which is run on a yearly basis. This programme is specifically designed for Students to develop their financial, social, political, cultural and spiritual awareness of the World around them. This programme also assists them in their choices of career, whether it is through a university degree or, alternative routes, through degree apprenticeships which they may wish to follow. Additionally there is work experience, special Oxbridge classes, assistance in preparing personal statements and mock interviews. Further preparation includes speakers from universities, major employer and former Clifton High students.



In 2019:

"Over 40% of awarded grades were A or A\*, far surpassing the national average. "

## Enrichment

Academic application is important in Sixth Form life, but is not the only aspect of it. In the Sixth Form, students are encouraged to engage in a number of co-curricular activities which will provide them with experiences that will stay with them for a lifetime. Schemes such as Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award and World Challenge expedition and the Young Enterprise Club are just some of the exciting opportunities on offer. There are a wide range of clubs to choose from at Clifton High and students are encouraged to take the lead in these, or indeed set up a club in an area which is of special interest to them, with the support of an adult. There is also a full calendar of lectures, workshops, visits, trips and tours.



"Pupils throughout the school, including in the Sixth Form, are highly enthusiastic about and have responsible attitudes towards their studies and their participation in extra-curricular activities."  
ISI Inspection 2016

## Futures and Skills

The Head of the Futures and Skills Department at Clifton High coordinates a comprehensive programme of lessons, guest speakers and events throughout the year designed to increase student awareness of the opportunities available to them beyond Clifton High, to enhance skills and to support them in their UCAS application. Our annual 'Futures and Skills Evening' welcomes a wide range of specialists, including some of our own parents, to share experience on a wide range of future professions and to talk individually with the students.

Outstanding levels of support for UCAS applications are provided by personal tutors, Head of Sixth Form and our Head of Futures and Skills. Uniquely, each Sixth Form student also has one-to-one meetings with the Head of School, who helps and guides them in their personal statement and prepares their

reference. The School nurtures links with leading universities to provide the very latest guidance for applications. The School also supports any travelling and year out opportunities.

There is a wide range of links with local firms, employers and Friends of Clifton High to support work shadowing and apprenticeship schemes, and also for volunteering opportunities. We have also developed new partnerships with Pathways CTM and Careers Near Here, through which students receive career training and help in applying for higher and degree-level apprenticeships.

Enterprise challenges also start in Year 12, which culminate in a new 'Leadership development Project' designed with local business leaders, to develop employment skills in an area of interest to each individual student.

96% of students felt that the support they received toward their UCAS application was 'Exceptional' or 'Very Good'.



## Sports

Sport forms an important part of life in the Sixth Form and timetabled sport ensures all of our students take part in physical activity to take a break from their studies and to maintain fitness. Team sports offered include hockey, football, netball, rugby and more, with a regular programme of fixtures. There are also weekly sessions available for Sixth Form in the Fitness and Wellbeing Suite. A range of extra-curricular sports clubs is also on offer with many specialist coaches visiting Clifton High to deliver coaching of an exceptionally high quality. Year 12 and 13 students are invited to attend the numerous sports tours; previous tours have included skiing in Les Deux Alpes and a Sports tour to Barcelona.



## Scholarships, Awards and Entrance Requirements

Scholarships are available to young people of exceptional academic ability and also to those who may have a talent in a particular area, for example, sports or the performing arts. Scholarships and Awards are based upon interview and evidence of commitment, including a presentation on a topic of the student's choice, relevant to subject choice at A level or an area of particular talent. Typically, scholarships awarded are to the value of between £250 and £1500 per year.

Assisted places, full scholarships and bursaries up to 100% of school fees are available for students who demonstrate real academic ability but whose families are not able to meet full fees.

"A group of well-rounded, intelligent and principled individuals with a wealth of competencies and personal character traits of perseverance, kindness, respect, honesty, who will make a difference to the lives of others."

A parent in a letter to the School regarding Year 13 students

## Scholars' Forum

With a scholarship comes responsibility. Sixth Form Scholars are encouraged to research and organise events which may be of interest to pupils throughout the School. The aim of the Scholars' Forum programme is to provide pupils with an insight into the wider world. Guest speakers or companies across a range of disciplines are invited to share with pupils their knowledge and experience, helping them to broaden their thinking and realise the possibilities for the future. Presentations are many and varied and have included such titles as 'Camouflage in Nature', 'Art and War', 'Formula One Engineering' and 'Action on Hearing Loss'.



## Sports Podium

Pupils from across the School who have been identified as gifted and talented in sport, or are our Sports Scholars, are invited to participate in the Sports Podium. The Podium is managed and organised by the Sixth Form Sports Scholars who produce an annual programme of sports-related talks and discussions, inviting speakers into School. Sixth Form Sports Scholars have a responsibility to be sporting role models within the Clifton High School community and high levels of effort, commitment and an outstanding attitude are expected.



## How to Choose Courses

At Clifton High School, most students will study three A levels, and a standalone AS level qualification in either Music Technology, a Modern Foreign Language, Politics or Physical Education, studied over two years. The timetable is structured around our students' choices and we do all that we can to ensure students are able to study their chosen subjects.

We expect excellent academic results from our sixth form students and, at the same time, want them to be fully prepared for a university education. The teaching style in the Sixth Form encourages students to become more independent learners and is often conducted in a seminar style to stimulate in-depth discussions. This helps to develop a student's analytical skills and confidence as well as replicating the self-directed study that they will encounter at university.

Many courses at university build upon the knowledge that has been gained at A level. For this reason, some university courses may require applicants to have studied a specific subject prior to entry. If students have a clear idea of a degree they would like to study, it is therefore good practice to research any entry requirements before selecting A level courses.

There are some A level subjects that are required more often than others for university-level study and these are sometimes referred to as 'facilitating' subjects, namely:

Biology, Chemistry, English (Literature), Mathematics, Geography, History, Physics, Languages (Latin, French, Spanish, German), Further Mathematics.

Students are also encouraged to complete an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), alongside A level study, which is designed to stretch their research and investigative skills in an area of interest to them. The EPQ can be a dissertation, a musical composition, a report or an artefact, backed up with paperwork. The course is a stand-alone qualification valued by universities because it develops and improves a student's own critical, reflective and independent study skills. Students often choose an area of study that compliments the subject they wish to study at degree level which extends their A level learning.

**The subjects presented in this booklet will be taught from September 2021 provided that there are sufficient number of students who choose them.**

A level Politics is being considered as a subject option for next year. AS Classical Civilisation and AS Mathematics and Further Mathematics are also being considered as potential additions to the programme. The School produces option blocks designed to enable as many students as possible to study their chosen subjects. However, we cannot guarantee that this will be possible for every student. Therefore, we also ask for a 'reserve', or fall back subject option in case this occurs.



## Practicalities

Once pupils have read through this booklet, there will be time in the term ahead to discuss their plans with subject teachers, tutors, the Head of Futures and Skills and parents. Taster sessions for all subjects will be made available online via our website: <https://cliftonhighbristolschuk.finalsite.com/sixth-form/taster-sessions>

Completed options forms are to be submitted to Dr Caddy, Deputy Head: Second Master, by Monday 21st January. After this date, it is possible for students to change their mind about their choices - as long as these then fit in with the option blocks that will have since been created.



# Clifton High School

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## Art and Design: Fine Art

*Head of Department: Mr Paul Ayers*

A level Fine Art is ideal for individuals who want to develop their intellectual and imaginative skills and who wish to express themselves in a variety of ways. The course will help students to extend their thinking by studying the work of artists and designers, both contemporary and traditional.

### Course Content and Topics Covered

This course will enable students to develop these skills by using a wide range of media such as drawing, painting, photography, sculpture, ceramics, textiles, print-making, animation, digital media and art history.

Opportunities include visiting artist workshops led by experts in their field and study trips to the London galleries and Paris. Students will have an opportunity to attend life drawing classes and there is a designated Sixth Form Art Studio and exhibition area.

Year 12 artists organise an Art Club for Years 7 to 9 and there is an open studio policy for all Sixth Form art and design students.

### A Level Fine Art Assessment

This will be composed of:

#### **Personal Investigation - non examination assessment (internally assessed and externally moderated)**

This counts for 60% of the total A level and involves a personally devised practical project with a related written study of at least 1,000 words about artists that relate to the chosen practical theme.

#### **Externally Set Task – non examination assessment (internally assessed and externally moderated)**

This counts for 40% of the total A level. An early release paper will be issued on 1st February, providing students with a number of themes, each with a range of written and visual starting points. A response must be based on one of these options. There will be several weeks of preparation time for a fifteen hour final practical piece completed under examination conditions in Year 13.

### Using Fine Art in the Future

The department has close links with local institutions that offer post- A level art and design courses, such as Weston College and Bristol School of Art. Students who take this course may then go on to a one year foundation diploma in Art and Design and/or may choose to take a BA (Hons) degree in subjects such as fine art, graphic design, fashion design, illustration, animation, stage design and product design to name but a few. Students who have taken this course may go on to pursue careers in art education, museums, galleries or arts administration, among other options.

### What Other A level Subjects Compliment Fine Art?

This subject can be studied with any combination of academic subjects, ranging from other creative courses such as music and drama through to sciences and humanities.

### Specification

A level: OCR Art and Design:  
Fine Art (A601)

[https://www.ocr.org.uk/  
Images/170210-specification-  
accredited-a-level-gce-art-  
and-design-h600-h606.pdf](https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/170210-specification-accredited-a-level-gce-art-and-design-h600-h606.pdf)





# Clifton High School

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## Art and Design: Photography

*Head of Department: Mr Paul Ayers*

Photography can be provocative, heart-warming, challenging and eye-opening. This course is for students who want to understand how to use a camera to capture a shot or a scene perfectly in different conditions. You will be a creative person, who enjoys experimenting with new techniques and styles.

### Course Content and Topics Covered

The course is experimental and practical in approach and will introduce students to a variety of experiences, exploring a range of photographic media, techniques and processes. Researching the work of other photographers and artists is an integral part of the investigating and making process. Students will produce a sketchbook /workbook / journal, documenting their research and recording the development of their own work. They will be working with DSLR cameras and the most up-to-date software packages such as Photoshop CC and Lightroom to enhance and develop their photographs.

Topics include:

- General photographic theory (exposure, aperture, lighting)
- History of Photography
- Darkroom skills for black and white photography
- Alternative photographic processes (e.g. cyanotype)
- Digital Photography
- Using Photoshop/Lightroom
- Photographic Contextual Studies

### Using Photography in the Future

The department has close links with local institutions that offer post- A level Photography courses, such as Weston College and Bristol School of Art. Students may also go on to study a BA (Hons) Photography related courses. This course can lead to career opportunities in the following areas: photographer, gallery curatorial work, arts management, teacher, animator, and photojournalist.

### What Other A level Subjects Compliment Photography?

This subject can be studied with any combination of academic subjects, ranging from other creative courses such as music and drama through to sciences and humanities.

### Specification

A level: OCR Art and Design: Photography (H603)

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-a-level-gce-art-and-design-h200-h600-from-2015/>







# Clifton High School

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## Biology

**Head of Department: Miss Jen England**

The fascinating and intriguing world of Biology is the right course for students who want to be continually amazed.

Choose Biology and students will find themselves advancing in knowledge, pioneering new discoveries and tackling some of the challenges facing the World we live in today.

Biologists are at the forefront of resolving issues like environmental depletion and threats to human health, which are crucial to us all. Choosing to study Biology increases student's understanding of the natural world in which we all live, as well as assisting people to address matters of personal wellbeing and the problems worldwide, which affect us all.

### Course Content and Topics Covered

A level Biology is divided into eight core topics. The course also involves the completion of twelve required practicals. The skills gained through these will be internally assessed and will also form part of the written examinations.

Topics include:

- Biological molecules
- Cells
- How organisms exchange substances with their environment
- Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms
- Energy transfers in and between organisms
- Responding to changes in the internal and external environment
- Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
- The control of gene expression

### Using Biology in the Future

It is a good grounding at University to study biology; the course is held in high regard and covers both a breadth and depth of information. Students who have taken this course may go on to pursue careers in Veterinary Science, Dentistry, Pharmacy and Medicine.

Universities and prospective employers highly value the transferable skills provided by the study of Biology, including students' ability to ask questions, make observations, evaluate evidence, solve problems and communicate effectively.

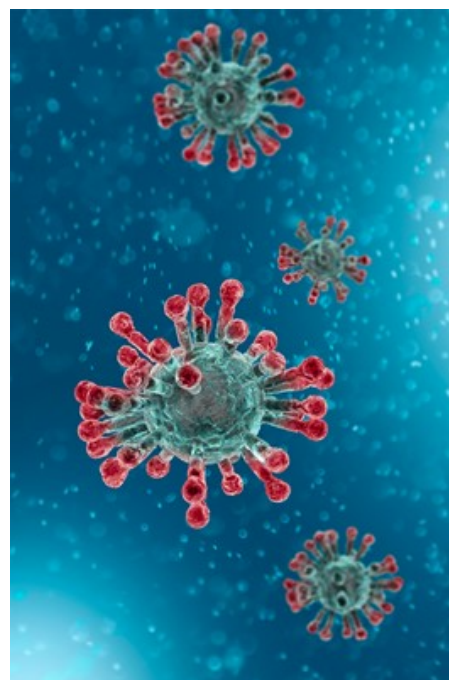
### What Other A level Subjects Compliment Biology?

Studying any of the other Sciences and/or Mathematics alongside Biology is often popular in choice. However, this depends on your personal interests and future aspirations. The Arts alongside Biology can complement each other well if you were interested in History of Arts, academia professions, factual filmmaking or anything that shows a diversity in your interests in skills

### Specification

A level: AQA Biology (7401-7402)

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/biology/specifications/AQA-7401-7402-SP-2015.PDF>





# Clifton High School

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## Business

**Head of Department: Mr Peter Jackson**

### Course Content and Topics Covered

#### Module 1: Activities Involved in Starting a Business

This module will look at entrepreneurs, thinking of a business idea, market research, raising finance, locating the business, employing workers and looking at revenues and costs to hopefully make a profit.

#### Module 2: Managing a Business

This module will cover marketing (advertising, packaging, branding, pricing correctly), finance (paying bills, ways of increasing profit), operations (quality, customer service, technology, suppliers) and people (recruitment, training, motivating workers).

Theory is backed up with reality; the course looks at numerous firms, for example McDonald's, Coca-Cola, Cadbury, Dyson and Apple, to name a few. The course analyses how these firms adapt to the changing business world. To help classroom knowledge there are visits to businesses such as Cadbury and Jaguar Land Rover.

It is important that students taking this course have an interest in business issues. For instance, in the news we are constantly hearing about the latest product Apple is bringing out, that companies are closing down and making workers redundant, about the latest marketing idea of Richard Branson to publicise Virgin.

Students who choose this course should enjoy discussion. A lot of the issues and points of discussion raised in the course are happening every day.

#### Module 3: Strategies for Success

In this module, students will develop their knowledge around topics studied in Module 2, namely marketing, finance, operations and people.

#### Module 4: The Business Environment - External Factors and Managing Change

Topics in this module include technology, competition, globalisation, multinationals (such as Coca-Cola and McDonald's), leadership and environmental issues. This module will also cover technological change, the UK and world economy and its influence on businesses, and the changing social environment that businesses work in. In addition, the module will cover the new emerging markets, such as China, India and Russia.

Basic mathematical skills are required to enrol on this course. English reading skills are important as the questions in the course are always based on text (source data) that needs to be read carefully.

### Specification

A level: AQA Business (7132)

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/business/specifications/AQA-7131-7132-SP-2015.PDF>



### Using Business in the Future

With the exception of medicine, Business provides a sound basis for those students wishing to enter higher education – whatever the subject. It is of great advantage for a career in management, business and related areas.

### What Other A level Subjects Compliment Business?

Geography, Politics, Sociology, History, Product Design and Languages (especially French and Spanish) where students in Higher Education often undertake a combined / dual degree linking Business / Management with languages to be able to work abroad.





# Clifton High School

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## Chemistry

**Head of Department: Mr Harry de Cothi**

Chemistry is the study of the nature, composition and properties of matter. Chemists are responsible for the development and production of so many of the materials we take for granted in our everyday lives. Society is facing many challenges: energy consumption, food and water supply, global warming and antibiotic resistance; chemists will play an essential role in solving these through research and collaboration.

### Course Content and Topics Covered

The course provides students with the opportunity to build upon what they have learnt previously with the aim of developing a pathway to further study in the sciences or simply to develop the portfolio of skills that chemistry students possess and that are highly coveted by employers in a range of fields.

These include an ability to use both numerical and theoretical approaches to solve a single problem, as in the equilibrium topic and the ability to solve multi-step problems, which is important in the acidity topic.

Organic chemistry remains important and cross-science links become increasingly important, for instance in the study of protein structure. The structure determination unit is particularly interesting and involves learning about the analytical techniques used by forensic scientists, astronomers and doping agencies in sport. The major new area in Year 13 is the study of the transition metals, a diverse group that are the basis of crucial catalysts in chemical engineering, the colour of blood and ground-breaking anti-cancer treatments.

### Practical Work

There is a lot of practical work throughout the two years that is designed to maximise students' planning and investigative skills. Students will be awarded a practical 'pass' for the course if they demonstrate a set of required techniques and skills during the two years. There is no practical examination but the examinations will include questions relating to practical skills.

### Using Chemistry in the Future

Studying Chemistry at A level and beyond can lead to a variety of different careers. Chemistry is the clear choice for anyone thinking of a medical related career, be it Medicine, Dentistry or Biomedical Studies. On top of that a large number of chemists go onto successful careers in finance, law, science and technology.

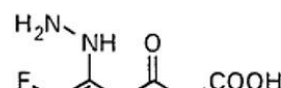
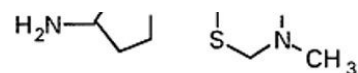
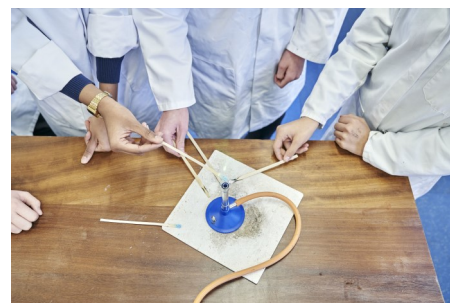
### What Other A level Subjects Compliment Chemistry?

Courses such as the Sciences and Mathematics naturally compliment and overlap with Chemistry. However, taking these subjects is not essential. Many outstanding candidates study humanities and arts based subjects, alongside an A level in Chemistry.

### Specification

A level: AQA Chemistry (7405)

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/chemistry/specifications/AQA-7404-7405-SP-2015.PDF>





# Clifton High School

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## AS and A Level: Classical Civilisation

**Head of Department: Mrs Elizabeth Marriott**

The Classical Civilisation course offers an exciting exploration into many areas of the Classical world, including literature, history, archaeology, art, architecture, politics and philosophy. The influence of the classical world is all around us; the AS level Classical Civilisation will give you the chance to explore some of these influences in their original, classical contexts.

### Course Content and Topics Covered

Today's A level Classical Civilisation course is exciting, challenging and varied. Universities and employers respect the skills which Classical Civilisation AS level develops: analysis and evaluation, interpretation of sources, effective communication, essay-writing, an appreciation of different cultures and societies and an understanding of the origins and foundations of the Western world.

Clifton High School offers the OCR AS level Classical Civilisation course which is studied over two years. There are currently a number of units on offer, from which the department chooses two in total, according to the interests of students opting for the course. Assessment is by written examination combining structured, source-based questions and essays.

Each unit is worth 50% of the AS level. The options are listed below:

#### Group 1 - The World of the Hero

This involves an in-depth study of either Homer's Iliad or Odyssey. This component is solely focused on the study of literature in translation, although we will also look at the historical background to these stories and the culture of oral poetry.

#### Group 2 - Culture and the Arts - Options in this group

**Greek Theatre:** The drama produced in the ancient Greek theatre forms some of the most powerful literature of the ancient world, and has had a profound influence on modern culture. In addition, 2 tragedies (Sophocles' Oedipus Tyrannus and Euripides' Bacchae) and 1 comedy (Aristophanes' Frogs) are studied in translation.

**Imperial Image:** The idea of a politician 'spinning' their public images is a very familiar one in our contemporary media, and so this exploration of a Roman politician: The Emperor Augustus and his successful propaganda campaign is both highly relevant and engaging.

### Using Classical Civilisation in the Future

This A level choice can lead onto a career in: the civil service, journalism, teaching, archaeology, law, advertising and the arts.

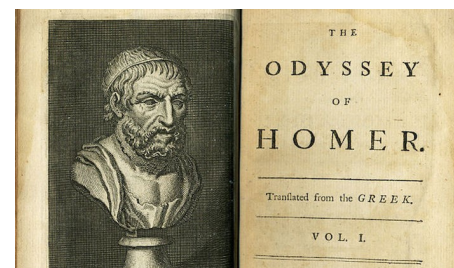
### What Other A level Subjects Compliment Classical Civilisation Studies

Classical Civilisation is an excellent complement to subjects such as History, Fine Art and English Literature. It unites history with literature, views literature in the context of the culture, and brings in art and architecture to complete this picture. It also provides a valuable humanities contrast to other A level subjects.

### Specification

A level: OCR Classical  
Civilisation (H008)

[https://www.ocr.org.uk/  
Images/315110-specification-  
accredited-as-level-classical-  
civilisation-h008.pdf](https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/315110-specification-accredited-as-level-classical-civilisation-h008.pdf)





# Clifton High School

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## Computer Science

**Head of Department: Mr James Webber**

We live and work in a digital world, with technology ever more prevalent from augmented and virtual reality apps to the use of mobile devices to communicate, collaborate and share important information.

Understanding how technology is working 'under the hood' is vital in a world where Software Developer, IT Administrator and Data Analyst appear in the list of most in-demand roles globally. (Source: LinkedIn)

### Course Content and Topics Covered

Computer Systems - two and a half hours written paper (40%)

Algorithms and Programming - two and a half hours written paper (40%)

Programming Project (20%)

The course has a focus on programming and emphasises the importance of computational thinking as a discipline. Students will learn to program in HTML, CSS, JavaScript, PHP and MySQL in a live online hosting environment. By the end of the course, students will be able to build and deploy large scale websites and develop mobile applications for the Android operating system. Students programming work will support both Paper 2 and their final Programming Project undertaken in the second year of the course.

As part of Paper 1, students will look at the development of virtual reality apps and the Internet of Things. In lessons, they will have the opportunity to use Google Cardboard, the Samsung Gear VR, Raspberry Pi 3 computers and Linux PCs to extend your knowledge of Computer Science.

There will be opportunities for study in many of these areas, to name a few:

- 3D modelling and animation and 3D game creation
- Web animation for interactive media
- Web server scripting
- Augmented Reality
- All students will also receive access to industry standard cPanel web hosting during their study to build their portfolio.

### Using Computer Science in the Future

A level Computer Science is a strong qualification for entry to many degree courses including Computer Science or apprenticeships in areas such as Robotics and Cyber Security.

### What Other A level Subjects Compliment Computer Science?

This course is suitable for learners intending to pursue any career in which an understanding of technology is needed. It will provide learners with a range of transferable skills which will facilitate personal growth and foster cross curriculum links in areas such as Mathematics, Science and Technology.

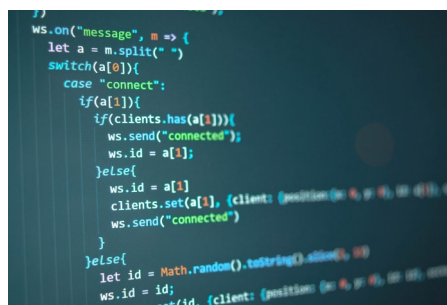
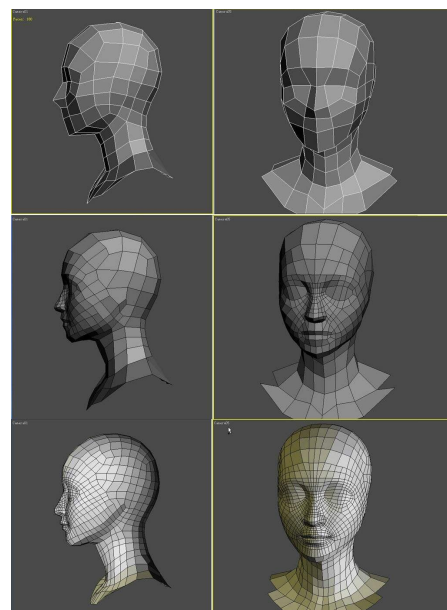
Computer Science is a creative subject and skills such as problem solving and analytical thinking will be refined as students progress.

### Specification

A level: OCR Computer

Science (H446)

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/170844-specification-accredited-a-level-gce-computer-science-h446.pdf>





# Clifton High School

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## Drama and Theatre Studies

*Head of Department: Mr Craig Pullen*

A level Drama and Theatre Studies is for students who enjoy reading and watching plays and taking part in them, whether performing or directing. The group work at the heart of this course gives students the opportunity to work in depth on different texts and interpret them from the perspective of an actor or director.

During the course all students will develop the skills to analyse and appreciate any drama or theatre, as well as skills to assist them in many different careers. Students will also devise their own original work and have the opportunity to consider work by influential playwrights, directors and theatre companies.

### Course Content and Topics Covered

#### Component 1

Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre

Study of two set plays from a given list

Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers

Assessment will be through a three hour, open book written examination which will make up 40% of the A level.

#### Component 2

Process of creating devised drama

Performance of devised drama (students contribute as performer, designer or director)

Piece must be influenced by work and methodologies of one practitioner

This is through a working notebook (20%) and devised performance (10%), to make up 30% of the A level.

#### Component 3

Practical exploration and interpretation of three extracts (extract 1, 2 and 3) each taken from a different play

Methodology of a prescribed practitioner must be applied to extract 3

Extract 3 is to be performed as a final assessed piece (students contribute as performer, designer or director)

Reflective report analysing and evaluating theatrical interpretation of all three extracts

Assessment will be through a performance of extract 3 (20%), and a reflective report (10%), to constitute 30% of the A level.

### Using Drama and Theatre Studies in the Future

This course allows students to progress to Higher Education qualifications in drama and theatre studies. Careers include acting, theatre production and management and journalism. Many past students have gained places at elite drama schools and universities, including Bristol Old Vic and Arts Ed, London.

### What Other A level Subjects Compliment Drama and Theatre Studies?

In the past many pupils have studied A Levels such as English, History, Psychology, Sociology, Art and Music alongside taking Drama at A Level. These subjects compliment Drama perfectly, requiring similar skillsets, such as essay writing skills and artistic expression and opinion.

### Specification

A level: AQA Drama and Theatre (7262)

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/drama/specifications/AQA-7262-SP-2016.PDF>





# Clifton High School

co-educational nursery pre-school to sixth form

## Economics

**Head of Department: To Be Appointed**

### What You Will Study and Topics Covered

The subject of Economics is divided into two main topic areas, (microeconomics and macroeconomics) both of which are studied in depth at A level. These two topic areas form the basis for all three examinations (two hours each) that are sat by candidates at the end of Year 13.

#### Individuals, firms, markets and market failure

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

#### The national and international economy

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

### Using Economics in the Future

Economics A level is an excellent basis from which to study many subjects at university such as Financial Mathematics, Economics, Business, Social Science and Engineering. It can also prepare students superbly well for well-regarded combined courses such as Economics and Management, or PPE (Philosophy, Politics and Economics).

Economics A level can lead to careers in any of the above, including Accountancy, Stockbroking, Banking and online financial and business-related careers. It is also an excellent contributing subject for careers in Business.

### What Other A level Subjects Complement Economics?

It is an excellent subject to combine with Mathematics, Geography, Psychology, Politics and History. Graphical and analytical thinking skills in Economics would be well supported by any Science-based A level.

### Specification

A level: AQA Economics (7136)

[AS and A-level Economics Specifications for first teaching in 2015 \(aqa.org.uk\)](https://www.aqa.org.uk/qualifications/a-level/economics)





# Clifton High School

co-educational nursery pre-school to sixth form

## English Literature

**Head of Department: Mrs Pippa Lyons-White**

Studying novels, plays and poems from different eras enables students to investigate and connect them - drawing out patterns of similarity and difference using a variety of reading strategies and perspectives. Students are encouraged to debate and challenge the interpretations of other readers as they develop their own informed personal responses.

### Course Content and Topics Covered

A typical A level English Literature lesson in the Sixth Form will involve some reading, gathering of information, researching, discussion and interpretation. Essay writing skills are then finely tuned to ensure cogency, maturity and sophistication in students' responses. A passion for reading widely is an essential requirement for success in this subject.

- 'Love Through the Ages': a Shakespeare play (Othello), an anthology of pre-1900 love poetry and a modern novel such as Atonement or The Great Gatsby. Paper 2 is entitled
  - 'The First World War and Its Aftermath', for which students will read the play Journey's End, the poetry of Wilfred Owen and a modern novel such as The First Casualty by Ben Elton.
  - The final unit of the course is the NEA component: a 2500 word independent critical study on two additional texts of their choice.
- In both years, students are trained to compare and analyse texts in depth. There is a wide range of texts available and staff will consult with students to help them make a challenging and appropriate selection.

### Using English Literature in the Future

English Literature helps to prepare students for a range of possible future careers: journalism, teaching, the media and publishing, for example. If students go on to study an English-based subject at university they will refine their communication skills, empathy and cultural awareness. English-based degrees are viewed with esteem in many walks of life not directly connected to literature, such as business, politics and public service. English is also an excellent subject to consider as part of a joint-honours course due to its relevance in such a vast range of different skill areas.

### What Other A level Subjects Compliment English Literature?

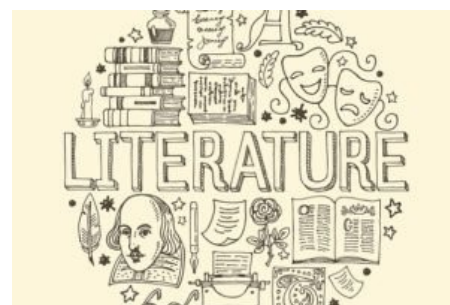
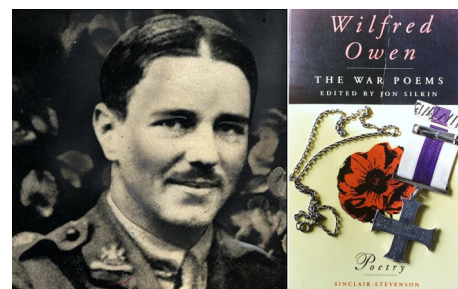
Any subject! Due to the skills of analysis and close exploration of human behaviours, subjects such as History or Sociology would be obvious choices. Students also may choose English Literature if they have a particular interest in the Arts (such as Music, Drama or Art). However, A level English Literature also requires examining methods and techniques, and presenting those findings in a logical format – any Science student would find English Literature has common ground here as well.

### Specification

A level: AQA English

Literature (7712)

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/english/specifications/AQA-7711-7712-SP-2015.PDF>







# Clifton High School

co-educational nursery pre-school to sixth form

## Extended Project Qualification

**Centre Co-Ordinator: Ms Rebecca Bartlett**

### What is an EPQ?

An EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) is a standalone Sixth Form qualification that involves students choosing a topic, carrying out research, creating a report (or 'product' and report) and delivering a presentation.

### EPQs - what do they involve?

There are two types of EPQ – students can write a research-based report, or create an artefact. Although the choices are wide and varied, students must show that it is academically useful, either relating to their current course of study or future career.

A research-based project involves writing a 5,000-word report or the artefact involves a report of between 1,000 and 5,000 words. The final stage is a 10-15-minute presentation to a group of non-specialists about their chosen topic. Students are expected to spend around 120 hours on their EPQ. This time includes 30 hours of Taught Skills, which is a timetabled weekly lesson and delivered by the Centre Coordinator. Students can also expect support and guidance from a supervisor.

### Why undertake an EPQ?

EPQs are currently graded A\* to E and they are worth 50% of an A level (in UCAS points). An A\* in the EPQ is worth 70 UCAS points, an A 60, B 50, C 40, D 30 and an E 20. Clifton High School follows the AQA specification, which is graded on the student's development of the following assessment objectives:

- Project planning and time management: how students use the time and resources available
- Using resources and research skills: how students collect and use information.
- Developing an idea and producing an outcome: how students plan and create the project outcome
- Evaluation and presentation: student's reflection on the project process and communication of the project to others

### EPQs – what are the benefits?

The EPQ will help students to demonstrate, to both universities and future employers that they are able to work independently. It will also help them to develop essential skills required for study at a higher level:

- Working with others
- Working to deadlines
- Planning and management of a project
- Decision making and problem solving
- Presentation skills
- Communication skills
- The skills that you develop through the EPQ are excellent preparation for university-level study. Students can refer to the EPQ in their UCAS personal statements and at interview to demonstrate some of the qualities universities are looking for.

### Specification

A level: AQA Level 3 Extended Project Qualification (7993)

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/subjects/AQA-W-7993-SP-19.PDF>

# EPQ





# Clifton High School

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## AS and A Level: French

**Head of Department: Madame  
Eulalia Ribot-Bruno**

“Proficiency in French remains a highly-sought after skill among UK employees”, according to a recent CBI Education and Skills Survey. The Economist also reported that French speakers have the opportunity to obtain the second highest income among other foreign language speakers.

French is a desirable skill among employers and opens the door to a wide range of careers. It is also an ideal language to learn if students plan to learn other romance languages. A level French is a step up from GCSE, with the level of language and content altogether much more sophisticated.

Students will cover the following topics which take them on a step out into the world, enabling a focus on the culture and societies of countries where French is spoken.

### Course Content and Topics Covered

- Aspects of French-speaking society: Family, Cyberspace, Voluntary work
- Artistic culture in the French-speaking world: Cultural Heritage, Contemporary Francophone Music, French Cinema
- Current issues: ethnic diversity, tolerance and respect, marginalisation of different groups, crime, punishment and the prison system
- Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world: voting and young peoples' political engagement, strikes and protests and the politics surrounding immigration

The grammatical system and structure of the language

- The literary text “No et Moi” by Delphine de Vigan and the film “La Haine” by Matthieu Kassovitz.

Students will learn to understand French articles, magazines, websites, radio, films and books. Students will learn to write with authority, style and accuracy. They will learn to weigh up the issues, argue their case and reach a conclusion - and all in French.

### Assessment

The examination papers will enable students to demonstrate their skills and knowledge in a listening, reading and writing paper (two hours thirty minutes), a writing paper (two hours) and an oral examination at the end of the course (roughly 20 minutes). The speaking test will be based on a research topic of their choice.

### Using French in the Future

Students may wish to study languages at university or combine French with anything from Medicine or Law, to Geography or Engineering. Students may have the option of studying abroad with the Erasmus scheme or working abroad at some stage. A level French could be the first step on the road to a very exciting future.

### What Other A level Subjects Compliment French?

Business, Politics, English Literature, Sociology, Psychology.

### Specification

A level: AQA French (7652)

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/french/specifications/AQA-7652-SP-2016.PDF>





# Clifton High School

co-educational nursery pre-school to sixth form

## Further Mathematics

**Head of Department: Mr Andrew Hillman**

This subject is designed for students with an enthusiasm for Mathematics, many of whom will go on to degrees in Mathematics, Engineering, the Sciences and Economics. Students who study this course go off to university and find the content covered and skills acquired of great benefit. If you are considering a Mathematics or Engineering based degree you may find that some universities will actually require that you have studied A Level Further Mathematics. It is also good for those students who are considering applying for a competitive degree course, for example, at Oxford or Cambridge

### Course Content and Topics Covered

Core Content (50%) - all learners will study as part of the course. The core content consists of:

Complex numbers, Matrices, Vectors and Proof;

Further Calculus, Polar coordinates, Hyperbolic Functions and Differential Equations;

Optional Content (50%) – learners will select at least two of the following modules. This ensures mathematicians get a breadth of study in this A Level:

Further Mechanics – Work, Energy and Power, Momentum, Circular Motion and Centre of Mass;

Discrete Mathematics – Algorithms, Networks and Graphs, Linear Programming, Game Theory

Additional Pure – Sequences and Series, Number Theory, Group Theory, Further Calculus and Partial Differentiation

To achieve the best results at A level, the course requirement is at least a Grade 8 in GCSE Mathematics. There is no coursework in Further Mathematics. The A level is assessed by four written papers, each of 90 minutes duration.

### Using Further Mathematics in the Future

Further Mathematics provides a great opportunity for enthusiastic mathematicians to broaden and deepen their subject knowledge. If students plan to apply for a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) degree they should consider taking Further Mathematics to at least AS level. Further Mathematics is also a fantastic qualification for those students who love Mathematics and want to devote more time to the studying wider aspects of the subject.

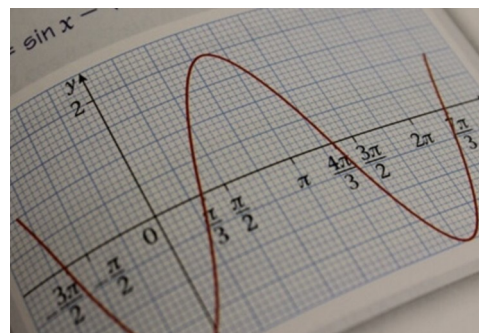
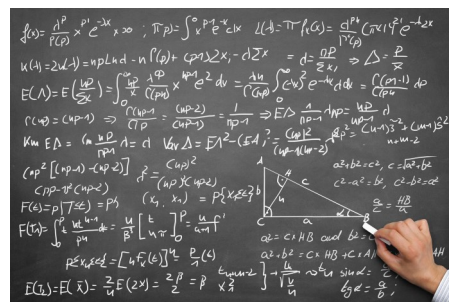
### What Other Subjects Complement Further Mathematics?

A Level Sciences, Economics, Business Studies, Geography and Computer Science all complement A Level Mathematics and Further Mathematics.

### Specification

A level: OCR Further Mathematics (H245)

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/308752-specification-accredited-a-level-gce-further-mathematics-a-h245.pdf>





# Clifton High School

co-educational nursery pre-school to sixth form

## Geography

*Head of Department: Mrs Laura Giles*

A level students study environmental debates in addition to equal amounts of human and physical geography, allowing them to acquire a broad subject knowledge that is relevant to any citizen of the world in the 21st century. Geography develops a wide range of skills that are essential for higher education and transferable skills such as: observation, mapping, data manipulation, analysis and geospatial awareness. Through the study of dynamic and contemporary content, learners can understand and interact with issues which affect people and places at a range of scales from local to global – and all that is in-between.

### Course Content and Topics Covered

#### Landscape Systems (22%)

Students will explore landscapes as systems; how landforms developed and the influences of both climate and human activity on them.

“Life is like a landscape. You live in the midst of it but can describe it only from the vantage point of distance.” – Charles Lindbergh

#### Changing Spaces: Making Places and Human Interactions (22%)

Students will explore the relationships and connections between people, the economy and society and how these contribute to creating places. Placemaking projects are also explored, considering the meanings and representations created and attached to places.

“Our lack of thinking about place and space risks turning challenges into crises.” – Royal Town Planning Institute, UK.

#### Geographical Debates (36%)

Optionality - Students will study two of the five geographical debates below. Geographical skills will be taught and examined through each topic.

Climate Change - Future of Food

Disease Dilemmas - Hazardous Earth

Exploring Oceans

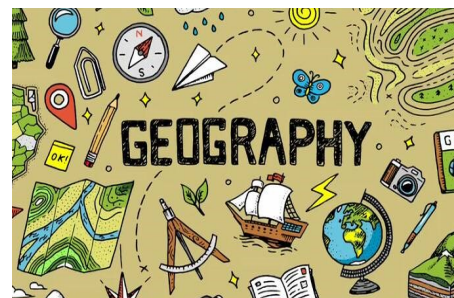
#### Non-examined assessment (20%)

Students will take part in two field trips during Year 12, which will aid learning in both human and physical geography whilst also developing fieldwork skills. In Year 13, students will complete a study into a geographical area of their choice. This may focus on a topic that the learner finds particularly interesting or a topic with geographical links that they would like to pursue at degree level.

### Specification

A level: AQA Geography (H481)

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/223012-specification-accredited-a-level-gce-geography-h481.pdf>



### Using Geography in the Future

There is an excellent 'Careers with Geography' PDF on the Royal Geographical Society website with further information on why geography is an excellent A level subject to take that can 'bridge' the Arts and Sciences.

### What Other A level Subjects Compliment Geography?

Courses such as Business, History and Politics work well, or the sciences, such as Biology.



# Clifton High School

co-educational nursery pre-school to sixth form

## AS and A Level: German

*Head of Department: Mrs Tara Harris*

The importance of German is indisputable. Nobel Prize awards are an indication of how well German is connected to the sciences. Scientists from three major German-speaking countries have won 37 Nobel Prizes in Physics, 38 in Chemistry and 30 in Medicine; they are equally prominent in the arts.

Germany has the fourth largest economy in the world and is Britain's biggest trading partner. Whether students choose a career in translating, linguistics, science, the arts or business, German will improve their employability by giving them an edge, which is necessary in today's working environment.

### Course Content and Topics Covered

The course builds on GCSE skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing, developing them to a high level of competence. Grammar is an integral part of the course and language is learnt and practised in the context of the topics below. All students will have a one-to-one session with our German assistant every week, in addition to their normal lessons.

- Aspects of German-speaking society: the changing state of the family, the digital world, youth culture
- Artistic culture in the German-speaking world: festivals and traditions, art and architecture, cultural life in Berlin, past and present
- Multiculturalism in German-speaking society: immigration, integration, racism
- Aspects of political life in German-speaking society: Germany and the EU, politics and youth, German reunification and its consequences
- Grammar

Students will also study a film by Hans Weingartner: 'Die fetten Jahre sind vorbei' and a novel by Bernhard Schlink: 'Der Vorleser'. These are taught in a fun and motivating way and include many opportunities for students to voice their opinions.

Students will sit a listening, reading and writing paper (two hours and thirty minutes), a writing paper (two hours) and an oral examination.

### What Extra-curricular Activities are on Offer?

Students will have the opportunity to visit Germany or Austria as part of an organised trip. There will also be the opportunity to participate in German film evenings, debates with other schools and university lectures.

### Using German in the Future

Recent students have gone on to study French and German at Durham University, Entrepreneurship at the University of Buckingham, Classics at Cambridge and Computer Games Design at UWE.

### What Other A level Subjects Compliment German?

The literary and communication skills developed fit in with subjects like English, Drama and History and the analytical skills complement Mathematics and Science very well.

### Specification

A level: AQA German (7662)

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/german/specifications/AQA-7662-SP-2016.PDF>





# Clifton High School

co-educational nursery pre-school to sixth form

## History

**Head of Department: Mr Oliver Mullins**

### Specification

A level: AQA History (7042)

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/history/specifications/AQA-7041-7042-SP-2015.PDF>

“Historians are dangerous people. They are capable of upsetting everything”  
Nikita Khrushchev once warned.

A level History at Clifton High School offers a fascinating insight into diverse aspects of British and world history where students acquire detailed knowledge of the past as well as essential ‘life skills’, such as the ability to read between the lines and detect bias; assess the validity of competing interpretations of history and make substantiated judgements.

### Course Content and Topics Covered

#### Paper 1 (Breadth Study): The British Empire, c.1857–1967 (40%)

Students study all aspects of this fascinating period in British and world history and assess issues of change, continuity, cause and consequence. Students will study areas of the British Empire including: the Suez crisis, the Indian Mutiny, relations with Boers and Bantu peoples in southern Africa, relations with the Mau Mau and the influence of Gandhi. A key requirement of the new specification is for students to assess how aspects of the past have been interpreted in different ways.

#### Paper 2 (Depth Study): Revolution to Dictatorship Russia 1917-1953 (40%)

In this contrasting study, which is taught concurrently, students will learn about the reasons for the abdication of the last Russian Tsar, Nicholas II, and the Bolshevik Revolution in October 1917. Students then learn about the creation of a communist regime under Lenin and Stalin and the emergence of the USSR as a superpower after World War II. The emphasis of the depth study is for students to critically assess sources when learning about these momentous world events.

#### Non-Examined Unit (20%)

Students design their own question which must span 100 years of US history, then complete an extended piece of academic writing with tutorial support and lessons from their teacher in Year 13. The format of this unit will be very similar to that of a first-year undergraduate course.

In Year 12, students will frame their question, develop their research through wider reading and examine and evaluate a variety of sources, including primary sources. Students are encouraged to base their studies on topics ranging from US Black Civil Rights, US Women’s Rights, and the US Economy, to the changing nature of US Foreign Policy across the twentieth century and the treatment of Native Americans, to name just a few.



### Using History in the Future

History students often go on to jobs in areas such as: Business, Architecture, Finance and Banking, Teaching, Law, Politics, PR, Marketing, Consultancy, Civil Service, Accountancy, Academia, Research, Policing, Television, Armed forces, Research, Journalism and Medicine.

### What Other A level Subjects Compliment History?

It combines well with a humanities grouping of A levels, such as English Literature, Sociology, Geography and all the languages.



# Clifton High School

co-educational nursery pre-school to sixth form

## AS and A Level: Latin

**Head of Department: Mrs Elizabeth Marriott**

Modern society owes a huge cultural debt to the civilisations of Greece and Rome. A knowledge of the intellectual achievements of these societies can help us make sense of the world today. In fact, there is hardly any area of study on which Latin and the ancient world have not left their mark.

The course gives students the opportunity to study Latin language and literature in greater depth. It enables students to acquire an understanding of linguistics, to read and make a personal response to great literature and to consider the social, moral and cultural values emerging from this reading.

### Course Content and Topics Covered

There are four examinations at the end of the two-year course, each testing a different skill: unseen translation, comprehension or prose composition, prose literature and verse literature.

Candidates could study the following pieces of literature:

- A selection of poems by Catullus, which span the themes of love, myth and political satire
- Book XII of Virgil's Aeneid, in which our hero Aeneas gives in to his anger and slays his enemy, Turnus
- Extracts from Cicero's pro Cluentio, the defence speech of one of the most intriguing and lurid ancient murder trials
- A section of Tacitus' Annals, which give a fascinating insight into the workings of Roman politics and the paranoid of the Emperor Tiberius

### Specification

A level: OCR Latin (H443)

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-and-a-level/latin-h043-h443-from-2016/>

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### Using Latin in the Future

Universities and employers appreciate that Latin A level provides mental training in a whole range of different disciplines and promotes exceptional intellectual flexibility. Students of Latin develop rigorous logic, a keen eye for detail and the skills of profound analysis and evaluation. In addition to traditional Classics degrees, Latin can be combined with a variety of subjects at university level. A level Latin can open doors into disciplines such as Classics and English, Latin with a Modern Foreign Language, Ancient and Modern History, Philosophy, Archaeology, Anthropology and Classical Studies.

You will find former Latin students in all walks of life including banking, computing, industry, the civil service, journalism, teaching, administration, law, advertising, the arts. The truth is that a Classics student gets the best of both worlds - studying for a fascinating degree, and coming out exceptionally well-qualified at the end of it.

### What Other A level Subjects Compliment Latin?

Since it spans Language as well as Literature, it combines well with Modern Foreign Languages, English Literature, Humanities, but also Science, Maths and Computing due to the logic and reasoning skills developed in the linguistic element.





# Clifton High School

co-educational nursery pre-school to sixth form

## Mathematics

**Head of Department: Mr Andrew Hillman**

Students who enjoy Mathematics and feel confident with the work they have met so far at GCSE should seriously consider taking it at A level. It is a demanding and challenging subject but can be an extremely rewarding when students apply the time and effort.

Mathematics has wide applications in Industry, Business, Finance, Social Sciences, Science, Technology and many other areas. Mathematics qualifications can help towards a large range of future careers and is also a useful support for many university courses that increasingly can involve Statistics modules.

### Course Content and Topics Covered

The content is fixed and includes Pure, Statistics and Mechanics. To achieve the best results at A level, the course requirement is at least a Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics.

#### Pure Mathematics:

Proof, Indices, Surds, Simultaneous Equations, Quadratic Functions and Inequalities;

Curve Sketching, Graph Transformations, Straight Lines and Circles; Binomial Expansion, Trigonometry, Exponentials and Logarithms; Differentiation, Integration, Applications of Calculus and Vectors;

#### Statistics:

Emphasis on interpretation of statistical diagrams and measures, not on drawing and calculation. This includes:

Statistical Sampling, Data Presentation and Interpretation;

Probability;

Statistical Distributions and Hypothesis Testing;

#### Mechanics:

Kinematics, Newton's Laws of Motion and application of vectors;

Projectiles, Resolving Forces, Friction and Static Moments;

This qualification is assessed by three written papers, each lasting 2 hours.

"Taking A level Mathematics has helped me to understand the logic behind core scientific principles that I need for University"

Annika – Year 13 student

### Using Mathematics in the Future

A level Mathematics is one of the most widely accepted and respected subject choices by universities and is likely to enhance your options rather than narrow them. Studying Mathematics is essential if you want to study Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Engineering, Accountancy, Economics, or any Science-based course in higher education.

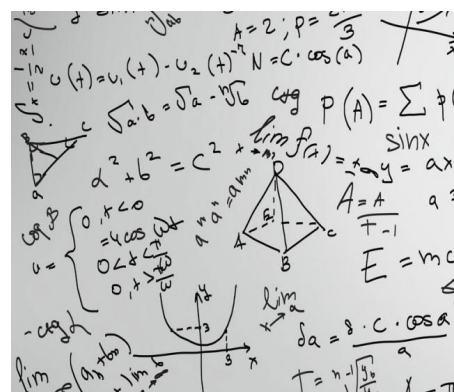
### What Other Subjects Complement Mathematics?

A Level Sciences, Economics, Business Studies, Geography and Computer Science all complement A Level Mathematics and Further Mathematics.

### Specification

A Level: OCR Mathematics (H240)

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/308723-specification-accredited-a-level-gce-mathematics-a-h240.pdf>







# Clifton High School

co-educational nursery pre-school to sixth form

## Music

**Head of Department: Mrs Donia Pieters**

### Course Content and Topics Covered

- Performance
- Composition
- Listening and appraising

Students complete performances either as a soloist and/or in an ensemble on an instrument of their choice, including singing. The performances must last between twelve and fifteen minutes – a mini recital. Both performance and composition are coursework elements which are completed in School by the end of the Spring Term.

Students also work on two composition tasks during the course. The first task is either a free composition or chosen from four different briefs which are set by the board, using the music technology programmes Logic or Sibelius as an aid to the creative process. In addition to this, students are expected to complete a technical study, usually in the form of a Bach Chorale, in the second year of the course. Harmonic skills are continually extended and students utilise these both in their compositions and analysis of further works. Sophisticated outcomes are expected at this level and pupils should have a good understanding of instrumental and vocal techniques in order to excel.

Students study a selection of set works from the A level music anthology which are examined in a written paper in the summer. In addition to this, students widen their knowledge of a broad range of musical styles and answer questions about unfamiliar pieces which they listen to in the examination. Students will also continue to develop their essay writing skills throughout the course to gain maximum marks in the final examination paper.

It is strongly recommended that students are receiving instrumental or vocal tuition for the duration of this course in order to be able to tackle the performance element.

### Using Music in the Future

After completing the course students may wish to study for a degree in music, go into performing arts, to teach music or to go into orchestral management, among other options.

### Course requirements

To achieve the best results at A level, the course requirement is a Grade 7 in GCSE Music.

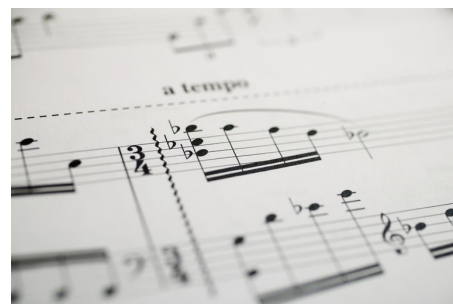
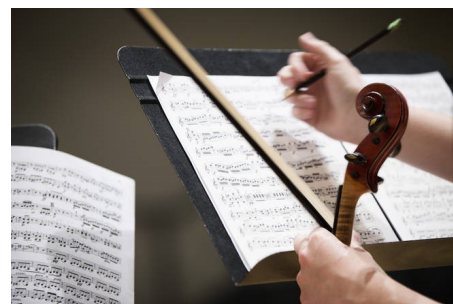
### What Other A Level Subjects Compliment Music?

Subjects that have a natural affinity to Music are English, History, Drama and Art. There is also definitive scientific research into the link between Mathematics, Physics and Music. All of these subjects utilise and combine skills that are prevalent in Music such as essay writing, contextual analysis and creative thinking. They also facilitate seamless cross-curricular projects, allowing pupils to broaden their interests.

### Specification

A level: Edexcel Music 9MU01

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/subjects/music.updates.html?article=%2Fcontent%2Fdemo%2Fen%2Fnews-policy%2Fsubject-updates%2Fmusic%2Fedexcel-a-level-music-and-music-technology--september-2020-updat&pageTypes=>





# Clifton High School

co-educational nursery pre-school to sixth form

## Physics

**Head of Department: Mr Paul Griffin**

How did the Universe start and how will it end? How do televisions, mobile phones, car engines and fusion reactors work? How can we prove that light travels in waves? What is a proton actually made of? These are some of the questions that fascinate Physicists. By choosing to study Physics at A level students will be making a giant leap forward in their journey of discovery. Perhaps eventually they will discover the Theory of Everything!

### Course Content and Topics Covered

The course includes the following core content:

- Particles and radiation: The standard model of fundamental particles, Feynman diagrams and photoelectricity
- Waves: Using advanced practical techniques to measure the wavelength of light
- Mechanics and materials: Newton's laws and beyond!
- Electricity: Students will measure resistivity and study potential dividers used in control circuits
- Further mechanics and thermal physics: Internal energy and kinetic theory of gases
- Fields: Satellites in gravitational fields and electrons in magnetic fields
- Nuclear physics: Radioactivity, fission and fusion, including nuclear power stations

In addition, students will choose one of the following topics within the full A level:

- Engineering physics: Useful for future engineers as it includes heat engines
- Astrophysics: Includes astronomy and cosmology; how the universe evolves
- Medical physics: A must for potential medics but fascinating for everyone
- Turning points in physics: The unusual parts of physics, including special relativity where space and time are not the same everywhere
- Electronics: This is a new option topic for this specification

### Using Physics in the Future

Students with A level Physics can go on to take a huge variety of further education courses including anything to do with finance, any medical field, communications, as well as all forms of engineering. A good understanding of Physics will improve a person's problem-solving capability in any field of work and, therefore, is regarded as a highly valuable qualification.

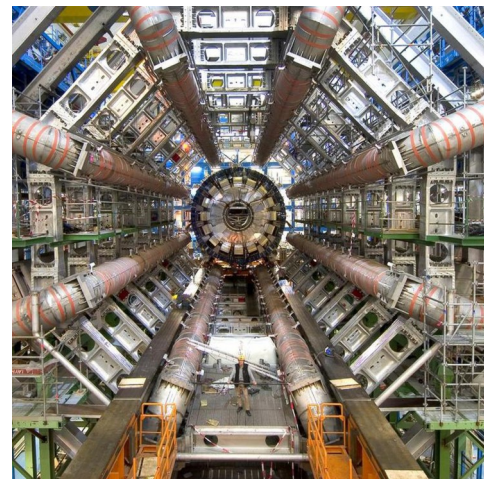
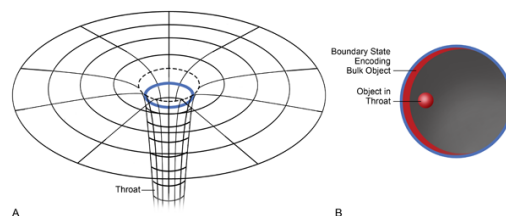
### What Other A level Subjects Compliment Physics?

Due to a significant amount of mathematical content in the course, Mathematics A level will certainly help those studying A level Physics, although it is not essential. For access to a wide range of engineering degrees, Chemistry and Mathematics are a good choice to go with Physics. Medicine degrees will sometimes require Chemistry and Biology A levels.

### Specification

A level: AQA Physics (7408)

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/physics/specifications/AQA-7407-7408-SP-2015.PDF>





# Clifton High School

co-educational nursery pre-school to sixth form

## AS and A Level: Politics

**Head of Department: Mr Oliver Mullins**

The Politics Department aims to equip students with an understanding of, and generate an interest in, the political values, ideas and institutions that have shaped and continue to shape the world in which they live.

A level Politics is delivered through a range of debates, research projects and investigations, underpinned by a clear set of course notes and exemplars. Students who aim to do well in this subject are encouraged to inform themselves about current affairs and political issues, both in the UK and on a global stage. The department aims to take every cohort to visit the Houses of Parliament and the Supreme Court during their studies, and students are encouraged to attend a range of voluntary lectures and workshops.

### Course Content and Topics Covered

In Year 12:

UK Politics – democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media

UK Government – the constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive and relationships between the branches

Core political ideas – liberalism, conservatism, socialism

Non-core political ideas – feminism or nationalism

In Year 13:

Comparative American politics – US Constitution, Congress, presidency, Supreme Court, civil rights, democracy and participation and comparative theories, using UK and USA as case studies.

In gaining an understanding of the topics above, students will also acquire skills of analysis, evaluation and effective communication.

Assessment:

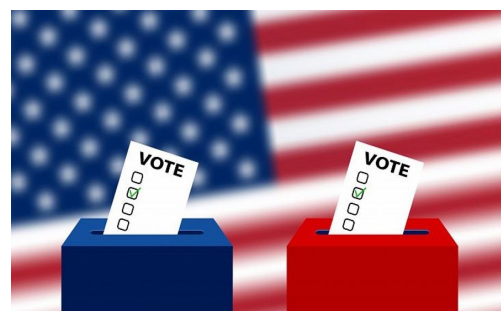
The A level is examined in three equal papers (components). Component 1 (33%) covers UK Politics and core political ideas. Component 2 (33%) covers UK Government and non-core political ideas.

Component 3 (33%) covers Comparative American politics.

### Specification

A level: Edexcel Politics (9PLO)

[https://  
qualifications.pearson.com/  
content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/  
Politics/2017/Specification%  
20and%20sample%  
20assessments/A-level-Politics-  
Specification.pdf](https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/Politics/2017/Specification%20and%20sample%20assessments/A-level-Politics-Specification.pdf)



### Using Politics in the Future

A level Politics is a good choice for students considering a career in the profession, or those who simply want to understand how the world works.

### What Other A level Subjects Compliment Politics?

Politics goes well with a variety of subjects and is a good addition for any A level compliment. Politics does not just appeal to History or English students. Increasingly students who have interest in other disciplines such as Science, Art and Drama, have started to study Politics, giving them a broader perspective on the world.





# Clifton High School

co-educational nursery pre-school to sixth form

## Product Design

**Head of Department: Mr Simon Francis**

This is a creative and thought-provoking qualification giving pupils the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers; including those in the creative industries.

They will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design, whilst enjoying opportunities to put their learning in to practice by producing prototypes of their choice in our well-equipped workshop. Pupils will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers.

### Course Content and Topics Covered

Opportunities include workshops led by experts in their field and study trips to London. The projects undertaken will be very wide ranging and include architecture, engineering, model making, furniture and graphic design giving pupils an introduction to all these areas and opening their eyes to future possibilities.

There will be an open studio for all Sixth Form product design students to ensure they have plenty of time and access to equipment to help them achieve their best.

One non-examination assessment (coursework), 50% of the A level and two written examinations, 50% of the A level.

Non-examination assessment (internally assessed and externally moderated)

The practical application of technical principles, both designing and making, presented in the form of a substantial design and make project.

Pupils will be required to undertake a small-scale design and make task and produce a final prototype based on a context and design brief developed by the student.

This can be in any area of product design and can be a modelled or fully working prototype. This constitutes 50% of the A level.

#### **Paper 1 (externally assessed)**

Technical principles: 2.5 hour examination - 30% of the A level

#### **Paper 2 (externally assessed)**

Designing and making: 1.5 hour examination - 20% of the A level

### Specification

A level: AQA Design and

Technology: Product Design (7552)

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/design-and-technology/specifications/AQA-7552-SP-2017.PDF>



### Using Product Design in the Future

Students who take this course may then go on to a foundation diploma in Art and Design and/or may choose to take a BA (Hons) degree in subjects such as Architecture, Engineering, Graphic Design, Product Design, to name but a few. A level Product Design is the first step into any career where problem solving and original thinking are valued from Engineering and Architecture to Games design and Industrial design

### What Other A level Subjects Compliment Product Design?

Fine Art, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science and Geography



# Clifton High School

co-educational nursery pre-school to sixth form

## Psychology

**Head of Department: To be appointed**

Psychology is the study of the Human Mind.

In particular, it is about learning how the mind operates, especially how it affects human behaviour such as:

- Communication
- Memory
- Thought
- Emotion

The main areas of the field of Psychology are Cognitive, Social, Biological, Developmental and Social Differences. Psychologists also have to consider extensively their research methods, engaging in Psychological Issues and Debates.

### Course Content and Topics Covered

The topics covered are grouped into the three two-hour examination papers that they are tested by, all of which are at the end of Year 13.

#### - Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology (96 marks, 1/3 of A Level)

4 sections: Memory, Attachment, Psychopathology, Social Influence

#### - Paper 2: Psychology in Context (96 marks, 1/3 of A Level)

3 sections: Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology, Research Methods

#### - Paper 3: Issues and Options in Psychology (96 marks, 1/3 of A Level)

First section: Issues and Debates in Psychology, then three from the following nine

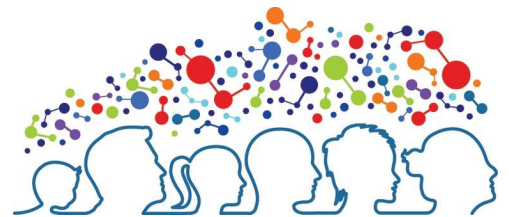
optional topics:

- Relationships
- Gender
- Cognition & Development
- Schizophrenia
- Eating Behaviour
- Stress
- Aggression
- Forensic Psychology
- Addiction

### Specification

A level: AQA Psychology (7182)

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/psychology/specifications/AQA-7181-7182-SP-2015.PDF>



### Using Psychology in the Future

The following careers are just some of the many areas of work that people can go into after studying A level Psychology: Psychologist, Psychotherapist, Social worker, Counsellor, Educational psychologist, Sports Psychologist, Human resource manager, Business and Management Careers, Teacher, research roles, Media roles.

### What Other A level Subjects Complement Psychology?

Biology, Chemistry, English Literature, Mathematics, Physical Education, Physics, Politics, Sociology.

There is no need to have studied any Psychology before beginning the A level course. It is however important to be proficient in English, Mathematics and Science in order to perform well on the various aspects of the course.





# Clifton High School

co-educational nursery pre-school to sixth form

## Sociology

**Head of Department: Mrs Catherine Quirk-Marku**

Sociology is a fascinating subject which will enable students to gain a deeper understanding of contemporary society by studying a range of topics such as Crime and Deviance, Education, Families and Households and Mass Media. These areas are explored through the key sociological theories of Functionalism, Marxism, Feminisms, Interactionism and Postmodernism. The Sociology Department aims to teach the above topics in an interesting and stimulating way so that our students are fully prepared for their A level examination – as well as having their eyes opened to trends, structures and meanings in contemporary society.

### Course Content and Topics Covered

- Sociology A level follows the AQA syllabus. There are three examination papers with equal weighting:
- Education with Theory and Methods
- Families and Households; Mass Media
- Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

The students will acquire a wealth of new vocabulary as well as analytical skills and the ability to think conceptually. They will also have the opportunity to conduct some research of their own which enables them to learn, first hand, about various methods and theoretical stances. Lessons will include debates, discussions, presentations, developing essay-writing skills and analysis.

### Year 12 Course:

- Families and Households
- Education
- Research Methods

### Year 13 Course:

- Crime and Deviance
- Mass Media
- Theory and Methods

### Specification

A level: AQA Sociology (7192)

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/sociology/specifications/AQA-7191-7192-SP-2015.PDF>



### Using Sociology in the Future

Sociology is an excellent basis from which to study many subjects at university such as Social Science, Criminology, Psychology, Anthropology, Politics and other Humanities and Social Sciences.

It can lead to careers in any of the above, including working with the Police, Civil service, Social Services and Policy research, as well as being a good contributing subject for careers in Law, Business, Management and social work.

### What Other A level Subjects Compliment Sociology?

It is an excellent subject to combine with other Social Sciences or Humanities at A level such as Business, Politics, Geography, History or English, and also adds a human breadth to scientific studies in Biology and Chemistry.





# Clifton High School

co-educational nursery pre-school to sixth form

## AS and A Level: Spanish

**Head of Department: Ms Rebecca Bartlett**

This is an exciting opportunity for students to take their knowledge of Spanish to the next level. Throughout the course they will learn to become competent linguists and develop a real passion for languages.

The course consolidates students' learning and develops their language skills so that they become competent to discuss current issues in depth and with increasing fluency and grammatical awareness.

### Course Content and Topics Covered

The topics covered include areas within:

- Aspects of Hispanic society: Modern and Traditional Values, Cyberspace, Equal Rights
- Artistic culture in the Hispanic society: Modern day idols, Spanish regional identity, cultural heritage
- Multiculturalism: Immigration, Racism, Integration
- Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world: today's youth, tomorrow's citizens, monarchies and dictatorships, popular movements
- Students will also have the opportunity to study the classic Pedro Almodóvar film - Volver and the famed Laura Esquivel literary text Como Agua Para Chocolate.

The speaking element requires knowledge of the topics along with an opportunity to study an Independent Research Project (IRP), which is similar to the EPQ.

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing

Paper 2: Writing

Paper 3: Speaking (including the Independent Research Project)

### Using Spanish in the Future

Spanish is a facilitating subject and compliments a wide array of other A level options. This course will give students an excellent knowledge of social issues and the confidence to discuss them. There will be many opportunities to participate in an exchange, trips abroad, university lectures and debates with other schools. Furthermore, students also receive a weekly one-to-one lesson with a native Spanish speaker. If students wish to continue with Spanish into further education then this course will fully prepare them to access the highest levels they need in order to reach a top university.

### What Other A level Subjects Compliment Spanish?

English literature, History and Politics. Mathematics is also an excellent option for those wishing to do international business.

### Specification

A level: AQA Spanish

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/spanish/specifications/AQA-7692-SP-2016.PDF>





# Clifton High School

co-educational nursery pre-school to sixth form

## AS Level: Physical Education

**Head of Department: Mr James Taylor**

Studying AS level Physical Education will give students a fantastic insight into the amazing world of sports performance. It is an excellent base for a university degree in Sports Science, Sports Management, Healthcare, or Exercise and Health. It can also complement further study in Biology, Human Biology, Physics, Psychology, Nutrition, Sociology and much more. AS level Physical Education can open up a range of career opportunities including: sports development, sports coaching, physiotherapy, personal training or becoming one of the next generation of physical education teachers.

### Course Content and Topics Covered

Not only will students have the chance to perform or coach a sport through the non-examined assessment component, they will also develop a wide ranging knowledge into the how and why of physical activity and sport including: the reasons why we do things, why some people out-perform others, mentally and physically. Students will also delve into the ethical considerations behind the use of drugs and also the influence that modern technology is having in and on physical activity and sport, alongside much more.

The combination of physical performance and academic challenge provides an exciting opportunity for students. They can perform, and then through academic study, improve their performance or coaching through application of the theory. Another benefit of studying this course includes the development of transferable skills ranging from decision making, psychological understanding of people, independent thinking, problem solving and analytical skills as well as thinking and acting under pressure.

### Using Physical Education in the Future

Studying AS level Physical Education opens up many pathways. There are a number of Physical Education degrees that lead into teaching careers. Sport and Exercise Science, Sports Management and Sports Coaching degrees are offered at many top universities leading to work in areas such as professional sport, the leisure industry, and research and development.

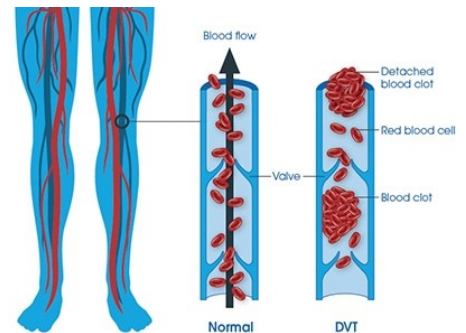
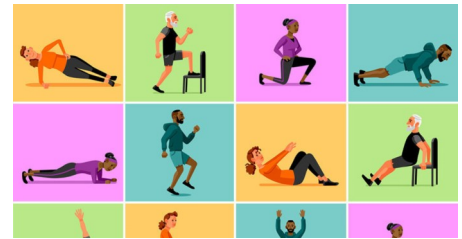
### What Other A level Subjects Compliment Physical Education?

Many areas of the AS level Physical Education course are complimented by studying A level Biology and Chemistry. The course also has close links to History, Sociology and Psychology content.

### Specification

AS level: AQA Physical Education  
(7581)

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/pe/specifications/AQA-7581-SP-2016.PDF>







# Clifton High School

co-educational nursery pre-school to sixth form

## AS Level: Music Technology

*Head of Department: Mrs Donia Pieters*

### What You Will Study and Topics Covered

- Component 1: Recording
- Component 2: Technology-based composition
- Component 3: Listening and analysing
- Component 4: Producing and analysing

The course has two elements of coursework and two examination papers. The coursework consists of a) creating a technology-based composition, written to a brief set by the examination board b) recording a song chosen from a list, also produced by the examination board.

For the composition task students will demonstrate skills in creating, editing and structuring sounds to develop a technology-based composition. Students should develop in-depth knowledge and understanding of musical elements and musical language, and apply these where appropriate to their own technology-based compositions.

For the recording element students will demonstrate skills in capturing, editing and mixing sounds to produce an audio recording. Students will develop the skills to capture and manipulate sounds in corrective and creative ways in order to communicate effectively with listeners.

Component 3 gives students the opportunity to identify, analyse and evaluate a range of creative music production techniques, as applied to an unfamiliar commercial recording supplied in the examination. As well as identifying effects and their basic settings, students will explain the principles behind the choice of the effects heard on each recording.

For Component 4 students will work with unedited audio and MIDI materials that have been captured using microphone, DI and sequencing techniques. The examination will assess the ability to process and correct these materials using a range of production skills.

### Course requirements

To achieve the best results at AS level, the course requirement is a Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics and Physics along with a firm understanding of the basic elements of Music.

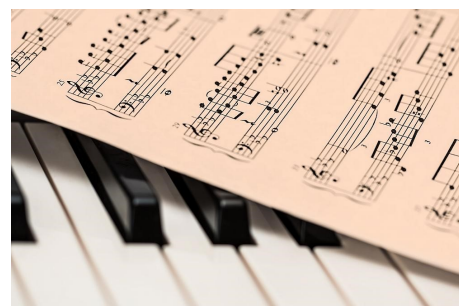
### Using Music Technology in the Future

After completing the course students may wish to pursue a career as a Sound Technician, Broadcast engineer, Radio producer, Record Producer or Composer.

### Specification

AS level Music Technology:  
Edexcel

[https://  
qualifications.pearson.com/  
en/qualifications/edexcel-a-  
levels/music-technology-  
2017.html](https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/music-technology-2017.html)



To find out more about our Sixth Form, please visit our website:  
[www.cliftonhigh.eo.uk/discover-more](http://www.cliftonhigh.eo.uk/discover-more) or take a look at our Facebook page.

To arrange a visit, attend an open event or taster day please contact  
our Admissions Department on **0117 933 9087** or email [admissions@cliftonhigh.co.uk](mailto:admissions@cliftonhigh.co.uk)

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email: [enquiries@cliftonhigh.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cliftonhigh.co.uk) | web: [www.cliftonhigh.co.uk](http://www.cliftonhigh.co.uk)

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