

Future

A LEVELS AND BEYOND



SIR WILLIAM
PERKINS'S
SCHOOL

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SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS

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SIXTH FORM BITESIZE

'The mind is not a vessel to be filled,
but a fire to be ignited.' **PLUTARCH**

JOURNEY OF SELF-DISCOVERY

Greater personal freedom

We support our students to find their voices and be themselves as they set out to make their mark on the world.

LEADERSHIP FOR LIFE

Standing out from the crowd

Each SWPS Sixth Form student is equipped to lead from the front, with many opportunities to assume responsibility.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Excellent annual results

Our Sixth Formers leave with superb results, ready to take on their next challenge, be that at university or in a work-place setting.

EXPLORATION & CHALLENGE

High expectations

We encourage our students to take risks, challenge assumptions and explore new ways of thinking.

PURSUING AMBITIONS

Enrichment and support

Through one-to-one support and bespoke enrichment opportunities our students are able to pursue their goals.

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

21st September 2022

This is a tailored evening for prospective Sixth Form students and their parents.

You will meet our Sixth Form subject leads, find out about UCAS preparation, and hear more about our extensive co-curricular activities. You will also have the opportunity to talk to our Head, Mr Muller, as well as Head of Sixth Form Mrs Synge.

BOOK YOUR PLACE:
sixthform@swps.org.uk



WELCOME

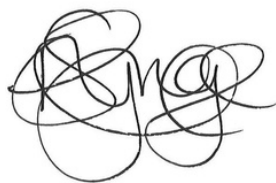
Welcome to Sir William Perkins's School Sixth Form; where small class sizes and excellent academic results are combined with increased personal freedom, life skills training and leadership development to give our students a distinct advantage as they prepare for life beyond school.

We take pride in providing our Sixth Formers with inspirational teaching, extensive extra-curricular opportunities and sector leading pastoral care. Our Sixth Form students understand that hard work, tenacity and academic curiosity are vital to success; and they accept this challenge with determination and good humour.

At SWPS we cultivate ambition, fostering a desire to broaden horizons, push boundaries, ask questions and take calculated risks. Our alumnae enter a huge variety of professions, becoming CEOs, pilots, surgeons, journalists, actors and singers, barristers, scientists, entrepreneurs, engineers and athletes, amongst others.

Underpinning our student successes are our core philosophies of Confidence, Integrity and Excellence. Each and every SWPS student leaves us imbued with these attributes, ready to challenge the status quo, affect change and contribute to the world.

Our alumnae often refer to the 'magic of SWPS', their experiences staying with them, pulling them back to the school to support, motivate and inspire our current students. We trust that future Sixth Formers will enjoy their time here and return to do the same.



MRS F SYNGE
DIRECTOR OF SIXTH FORM



'We welcome our students into an environment where they are valued and respected; and where they are encouraged to instigate, negotiate, challenge, question and lead.'

MRS F SYNGE

Our experienced Sixth Form Team prepare our students thoroughly for whichever path they choose to follow beyond SWPS. In a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere they offer the support, advice and guidance required for SWPS students to explore their options, make informed choices and move forward with confidence.

EMPOWERMENT

Our students are empowered to suggest ideas and given the tools and support they need to make them happen. From building projects to charity fundraisers - students are encouraged to form working groups, lead committees and get things done. These entrepreneurial activities are invaluable for leadership development.

INTELLECTUAL CURIOSITY

SWPS students are encouraged to be inquisitive and hungry for knowledge, which promotes extra-curricular enquiry and academic ambition. Students challenge ideas and question the status quo, forming independent opinions and developing confidence in themselves.

ROOM TO GROW

Our students take pride in their Sixth Form, there is a strong sense of camaraderie with students enjoying collaborative working and learning from and with each other. The Sixth Form Team foster a sense of spontaneity and fun, where happiness is important and individuals are given room to grow, take on challenges and be pushed out of their comfort zones in a positive and supportive atmosphere.

AMBITION

SWPS is a place where students hold high aspirations, talent is nurtured and ambition is encouraged. Our students show tenacity in reaching their potential and are supported in attaining the best academic results in the right subjects for them.

We subscribe to the **VESPA** mindset which draws together current thinking from psychology, business and sport to inspire, motivate and support students ensuring they achieve their full potential:

VISION - know what they want to achieve.

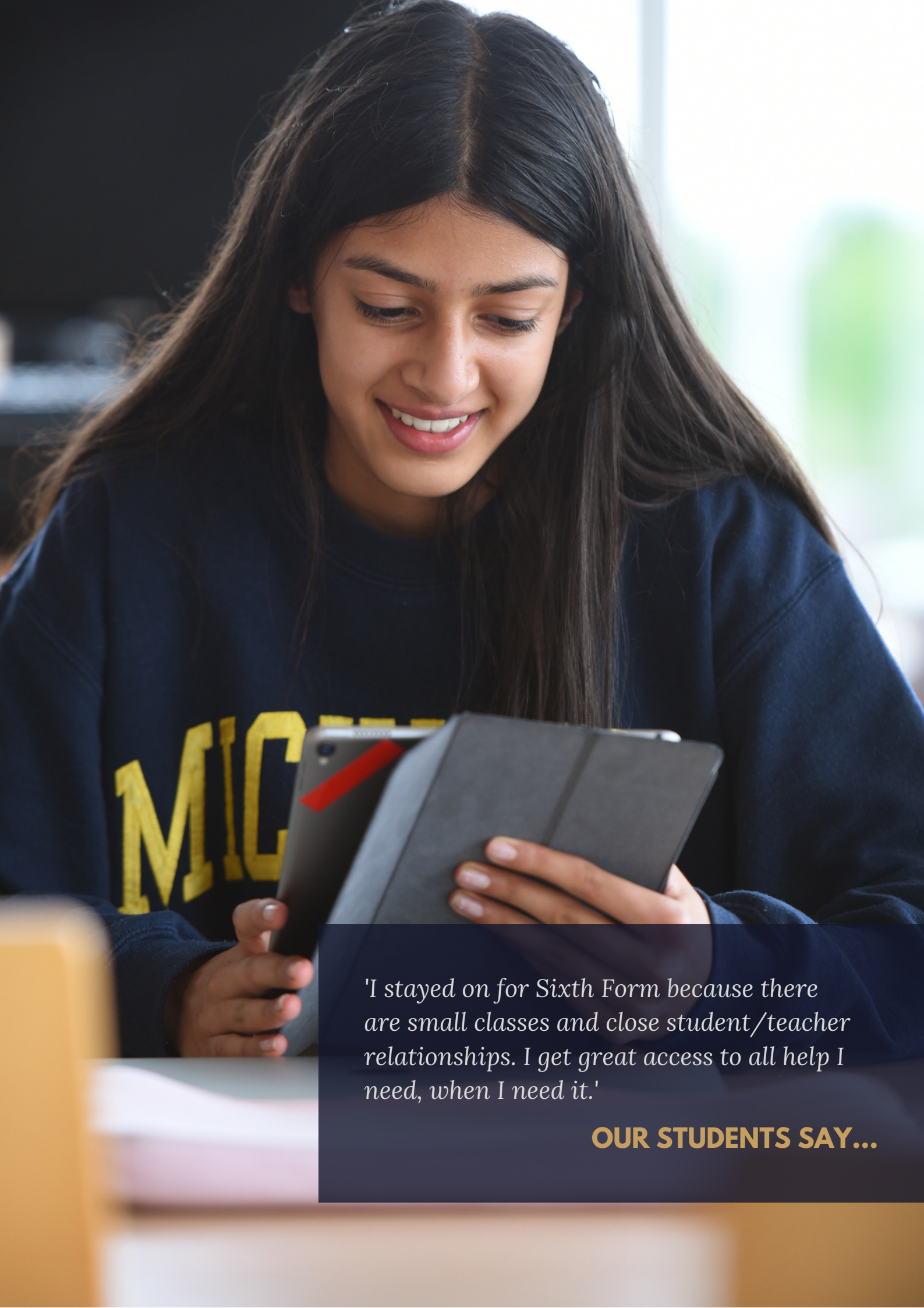
EFFORT - understand the level of effort required to succeed.

SYSTEMS - organise learning resources and time.

PRACTICE - practice and develop skills continuously.

ATTITUDE - respond constructively to setbacks.

JOURNEY OF SELF-DISCOVERY



'I stayed on for Sixth Form because there are small classes and close student/teacher relationships. I get great access to all help I need, when I need it.'

OUR STUDENTS SAY...

SWPS Sixth Form students are encouraged to challenge themselves wherever possible. We offer an impressive range of co-curricular and super-curricular opportunities giving our students an edge with prospective Universities and employers.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH GOLD AWARD

Sixth Formers are able to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award at Gold Level. The Gold Award is a significant commitment, however participants have the opportunity to see the world through new eyes, learning to tackle challenges head-on and enjoy truly unforgettable experiences. Universities see the award as an asset and it can prove beneficial when they are deciding between applicants.

ENGINEERING EDUCATION SCHEME

Maths and Science students have the opportunity to work on live business projects set by sponsors such as BP and Balfour Beatty.

MODEL UNITED NATIONS (MUN)

MUN provides students with an opportunity to research contemporary issues in world affairs, practise arguing and public speaking and develop teamwork skills. In recent years we have visited Paris and Manchester.

SOCIETIES/CLUBS

Our students are encouraged to set up and run any societies or clubs that they feel would benefit them during their time at SWPS. Our Stonewall Society and Debating Club were both instigated in this way and launched to considerable success. We are very keen to support students in this venture.

SCHOOL MAGAZINE

Sixth Formers can volunteer on the Editorial Team of the SWPS Magazine - valuable experience for careers in journalism and the media.

EXPLORATION & CHALLENGE





'Lessons are always engaging - we're encouraged to explore beyond the curriculum, question everything and challenge ourselves to be the best we can.'

OUR STUDENTS SAY...

Enabling our Sixth Form students to develop their leadership potential is central to our philosophy at SWPS. Effective leaders communicate well, motivate others, delegate responsibilities, listen to feedback, and have the flexibility to solve problems. Universities and employers seek candidates with these skills, so we resolutely encourage development in this area for all students.

HEAD GIRLS' TEAM

This elected body of Head Girl and deputies represent the student body, attending regular meetings with the Head chairing and managing Junior and Senior School Councils.

HOUSE LEADERSHIP

House Captains work closely with our Head Girls' Team, leading House meetings, managing communications and delegating responsibilities. All Sixth Formers are encouraged to actively contribute to their House.

WIDER SIXTH FORM OPPORTUNITIES

- Tutor Group Representatives chair and run Sixth Form Committee.
- Prefects appointed to take on key roles throughout the school, acting as conduit between staff and students.
- Charity Prefects coordinate all aspects of fundraising activity.
- Ghana Prefects manage all aspects of this much-loved trip.
- Drama and Music Prefects are valued conduits between departments and students.
- Form and House Assistants help run tutor presentations and manage groups of younger students.
- Games Captains apply for this prestigious role and are full and active members of PE life within the school.
- The Christmas Pantomime, Summer Ball and Yearbook are all undertaken by Sixth Form teams who plan, manage and implement large projects to deadline and on-budget.
- Mentorship provision for Year 7s and 'Study Buddies' for other years.
- DofE Gold Trainers, support Year 9s embarking on Bronze Awards.

A MYRIAD OF OPPORTUNITIES



'I have taken advantage of so many opportunities to develop my leadership skills - it's a big thing at SWPS as it's so important for getting university places and good jobs.'

OUR STUDENTS SAY...

We aim to provide our students with every possible opportunity to pursue their ambitions and achieve their aspirations.

ENRICHMENT

Enrichment opportunities are offered within all departments, with further activities available to those who wish to study non A level subjects at university, such as PPE and Law. Over 60 enrichment opportunities are on offer and students are encouraged to plan their commitments accordingly to ensure they give themselves every chance of being an outstanding candidate.

SUPPORT

- Students benefit from access to experienced Higher Education and Careers staff.
- Students are given one-to-one support in choosing suitable courses and writing tricky UCAS personal statements.
- Subject specific academic enrichment is ongoing and a number of universities run sessions for our students on-site at SWPS.
- Expert staff support university applications (including American Applications) and undertake mock-interviews.
- An on-site Higher Education Fair attended by 40+ universities takes place annually, with a high turn-out from Russell Group.
- Our Careers Library is well-stocked and replenished annually.

CAREERS ADVICE

Our Careers Department is on hand to advise students on making the right choices to benefit their future aspirations. As well as one-to-one careers support and guidance, our dedicated Careers Suite gives access to careers guidance software, a comprehensive catalogue of university prospectuses and detailed information on the responsibilities, working conditions and payscales of different jobs. Students are also invited to attend careers seminars, interactive workshops and Q&A sessions.

ALUMNAE NETWORKING

Students are given opportunities to interact with our alumnae, known as 'Perkonians'. They form an extensive network of former students and staff, many of whom have university and career experience that they are very willing to share with our current students.

In recent years we have matched SWPS students with alumnae who can provide valuable insight into starting university.

PURSUING AMBITIONS

'With the amazing opportunities available at SWPS all of your goals are within reach if you put the work in.'

OUR STUDENTS SAY...



Each Sixth Form student benefits from their own bespoke programme of study; designed to enable them to achieve success. Small tutor groups and highly experienced tutors lead to excellent academic results - in 2020, 86% of our students' A level grades were A*-B, and 77% of students accepted a place at their first-choice institution.

OXBRIDGE PROGRAMME

Our Elite & Overseas Universities Co-ordinator supports Oxbridge candidates in making successful Oxbridge Applications built on four core pillars: exam success; super-curricular commitment; strong performance in Admissions Tests; and an excellent interview.

Our small Sixth Form, excellent academic standards, bespoke subject enrichment and provision of extra tuition for the most able, provides SWPS students with the skills and confidence needed to shine and achieve success.

MEDICINE, DENTISTRY & VETERINARY SCIENCE (MDV)

Entry to any medical degree is challenging, and students must demonstrate an outstanding academic profile as well as first-rate communication and problem-solving skills. At SWPS we have an exceptional programme of support to enable our MDV students to secure their places. This includes membership of our MDV Society; dedicated application tutoring; admissions test and interview prep.

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)

This qualification provides students with an exciting opportunity to develop their project management skills. Students will build transferable skills including time-management, problem-solving, decision-making, planning and record-keeping; presentation skills, research and more. Universities may make students with a good EPQ grade a lower offer.

SWPS DIPLOMA



The SWPS Diploma is a competency based, internal qualification designed in collaboration with major recruiters and the University of Birmingham to help SWPS students develop the skills that universities and employers are looking for.

SWPS ENTERPRISE

The SWPS Enterprise requires students to complete three enterprise tasks over a year (including entry to the Peter Jones Enterprise competition). Our certified programme is an invaluable experience for all those who participate.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS



A LEVEL SUBJECTS

ART & DESIGN

Exam Board: Edexcel

- Residential trips; previous destinations include Florence, Rome, Paris and New York.
- One day art workshop led by professional artist.



This course aims to enable students to develop their creative and expressive abilities, while also investing in transferable skills such as problem solving, communication, research, and the ability to think holistically. A level Art & Design students will build new skills and techniques, and develop new approaches in areas such as painting, printmaking, photography, 3D, and textiles, in many cases preparing for further study in Art & Design in Higher Education settings.

This is a challenging and fulfilling course that allows you to further develop your creative ability and the kinds of transferable skills to which universities and employers attach particular importance. Doing something practical and creative enables some students to strike a balance in their overall course programme. At SWPS we have excellent art facilities and studios, and two practising artists on our team.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Component 1: Personal Investigation. A series of practical projects, which each include sketchbook work and a final piece, completed over two years and, in Year 2, a 2000-word essay.

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment. A practical project based around a theme provided by the examination board. Students have 10 school weeks to produce the preparatory work and three full days for the final piece.

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

This subject prepares students to pursue a range of careers in which an art & design background is beneficial, such as advertising, publishing, architecture, design, animation, photography, TV and film production, marketing - anything where creative thinking is important. SWPS Art & Design students go on to study a wide range of courses at university, and many have taken prestigious Art & Design Foundation places.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 in Art & Design GCSE. However, we would take a student who hadn't studied Art GCSE if they could show us examples of recent artwork that demonstrated sufficient ability in the subject.

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Component 1	60	Three projects completed between September in Year 12 and January in Year 13, plus a 2000-word essay.
Component 2	40	One project consisting of: Sketchbook/prep work (10 weeks). Exam (15 hours over 3 days).



'You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have.'

MAYA ANGELOU

BIOLOGY

Exam Board: OCR

- Ecology practical field trip Juniper Hall, Dorking.
- British Biology Olympiad (competition).

Biology is the science of life. Biologists study the structure, function, growth, origin, evolution and distribution of living organisms. This course aims to develop essential knowledge and understanding of these areas, coupled with competence in scientific method, practical, mathematical and problem solving skills.

Biology is for students with an enquiring mind who wish to broaden and deepen their knowledge and who have a fascination about living systems and the environment in which they live.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Year 1: Foundations in Biology: Cell structure, Biological molecules, Cell division. Exchange and Transport: Exchange surfaces and breathing, transport in animals and plants. Biodiversity, Evolution and Disease: Including the application of statistics.

Year 2: Communication, Homeostasis and Energy: Includes excretion, the hormonal and nervous system. Genetics and Ecosystems: Includes patterns of inheritance, manipulating genomes and biotechnology. Practical Endorsement: A series of core practicals which aim to develop competence in practical and investigative skills. These are carried out at appropriate points throughout the course.

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

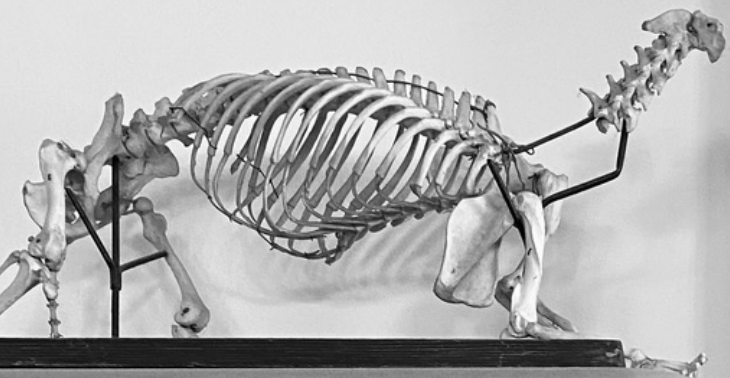
Biology offers a pathway to many interesting careers, including medicine, microbiology, marine biology, veterinary sciences, conservation, pharmacology, research, teaching and dentistry. As a strongly academic subject it also commands respect from any university admissions tutor.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Grade 7 in GCSE Biology and Maths

Grade 7 7 in GCSE Double Award Science and 7 in Maths

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Paper 1 / Paper 2	37/37	Biological Processes / Biological Diversity.
Paper 3	26	Unified Biology.
Practical Endorsement	-	Non-exam assessment of practical skills and awarded as a separate certificate.



Four-Month
Fetus



“Don’t be afraid of hard work. Nothing worthwhile comes easily. Don’t let others discourage you or tell you that you can’t do it.”

GERTRUDE ELION



BUSINESS

Exam Board: AQA

- London 'Industries in Action' trip.
- Brooklands Museum (Engineering projects / Concorde study).



Business A level covers a wide range of topics giving students a broad understanding of business management. It explores and analyses different strategic options available to businesses. Students are given specific case studies to investigate, making assumptions and critical decisions as they would in business. Throughout the course students will also explore the impact of changes in the external environment on businesses.

The course is suitable for anyone who is interested in business, entrepreneurship, current affairs, or the impact of global change in the market-place. It is also suitable for those who want to learn more about the techniques that businesses use to maximise their profitability.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Year 1: What is a business? Managers, leadership and decision making. Decision making to improve marketing, operational, financial and human resource performance.

Year 2: Analysing the strategic position of a business. Choosing strategic direction. Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies and managing strategic change.

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

An A level Business qualification provides a platform for access to a huge range of opportunities both at university and directly into industry. Any business-related career is in play. Combine the course with a language for truly global opportunities or with IT or DT to give options to work in a more creative field. Some of the areas employing business graduates are accountancy, advertising, banking, investment and financial services, general management, human resources, management consultancy, public relations or retail management.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 in GCSE English and Maths.

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Paper 1	33.3	Multiple-choice questions, short answer and two essays.
Paper 2	33.3	Three compulsory data response questions.
Paper 3	33.3	One compulsory case study consisting of six questions.

CHEMISTRY

Exam Board: Edexcel

- C3L6 Cambridge Chemistry Challenge
- Royal Society of Chemistry Olympiad
- Other enrichment opportunities



A level Chemistry allows students to acquire essential knowledge and understanding of the three domains of Chemistry (organic, inorganic and physical) and an enhanced appreciation of their relationships. The course is designed to develop confidence in a variety of practical, mathematical and problem-solving skills, while simultaneously illustrating how knowledge of scientific issues can directly contribute to important decisions in today's society.

Atoms, molecules and compounds make up who we are and everything around us. If you're intrigued about how these building-blocks underpin life, enjoy problem-solving, like working as part of a practical team and aren't afraid of a challenge, then Chemistry is the subject for you.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Paper 1: Inorganic and physical chemistry. Covering: atomic structure, bonding and structure, redox, groups of the Periodic Table, energetics, equilibria, acid-base reactions and transition metal chemistry.

Paper 2: Organic and physical chemistry. Covering: fundamental organic principles, alkanes, alkenes, alcohols, halogenoalkanes, carbonyl chemistry, esters, amines and amides, aromatic chemistry, modern analytical techniques and kinetics.

Paper 3: General and practical principles in Chemistry. Covering: all of the topics mentioned previously and incorporating assessment of the 16 core practical activities covered through the practical endorsement.

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

Chemistry is a pre-requisite for students considering degree courses in Chemistry related subjects (Chemistry, Chemical Engineering, Biochemistry) and also for careers in medicine, veterinary science, dentistry, pharmacy and pharmacology. In addition, Chemistry helps to develop problem-solving, logical thought, numerical and practical skills; skills that are highly desirable in a wide range of careers, including law, finance, politics and any more.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Grade 7 in GCSE Chemistry and Maths

Grade 77 in GCSE Double Award Science and 7 in Maths

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Paper 1 Paper 2	30 30	Physical and inorganic Chemistry (1 Hour 45 min) Physical and organic Chemistry (1 Hour 45 min)
Paper 3	40	Practical and organic principles (2 Hours 30 min)
Practical Endorsment	-	A certified endorsement for the practical work you undertake during the course.

CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

Exam Board: OCR

- Bi-annual Greece or Italy trip.
- British Museum Trips.
- Classical Theatre Trips.
- University Lecture Trips.
- Classics Competitions.
- Annual Classics Dinner (Guest Speaker).



This course is for those with an interest in the classical world, or in the foundations of western literature, drama and philosophy. It pairs well with English, Religious Studies, History and Drama A levels. Classical Civilisation also complements Science A levels as it gives the students a different kind of A level experience, and develops skills (and evidence of) textual analysis and essay-writing.

Through study you will develop your knowledge, understanding and enjoyment of all aspects of the classical world, including literature, society, beliefs and thought.

You will develop your empathy, imagining yourself across millennia in another person's situation and in a very different place. You will also learn to show a classical perspective on timeless human questions, such as "what is heroic?", "Why do we make bad decisions?" and "what is love?"

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

World of the Hero: Homer's Iliad and Vergil's Aeneid . Consider Heroism, the glory and pity of war and the human cost of war.

Greek Theatre: Looking at the invention of western theatre, reading two tragedies and one comedy, and considering dramatic staging elements and themes in the plays.

Love and Relationships: Reading from Sappho to Ovid and Plato to Seneca - looking at classical views on the perfect partner and the meaning of love.

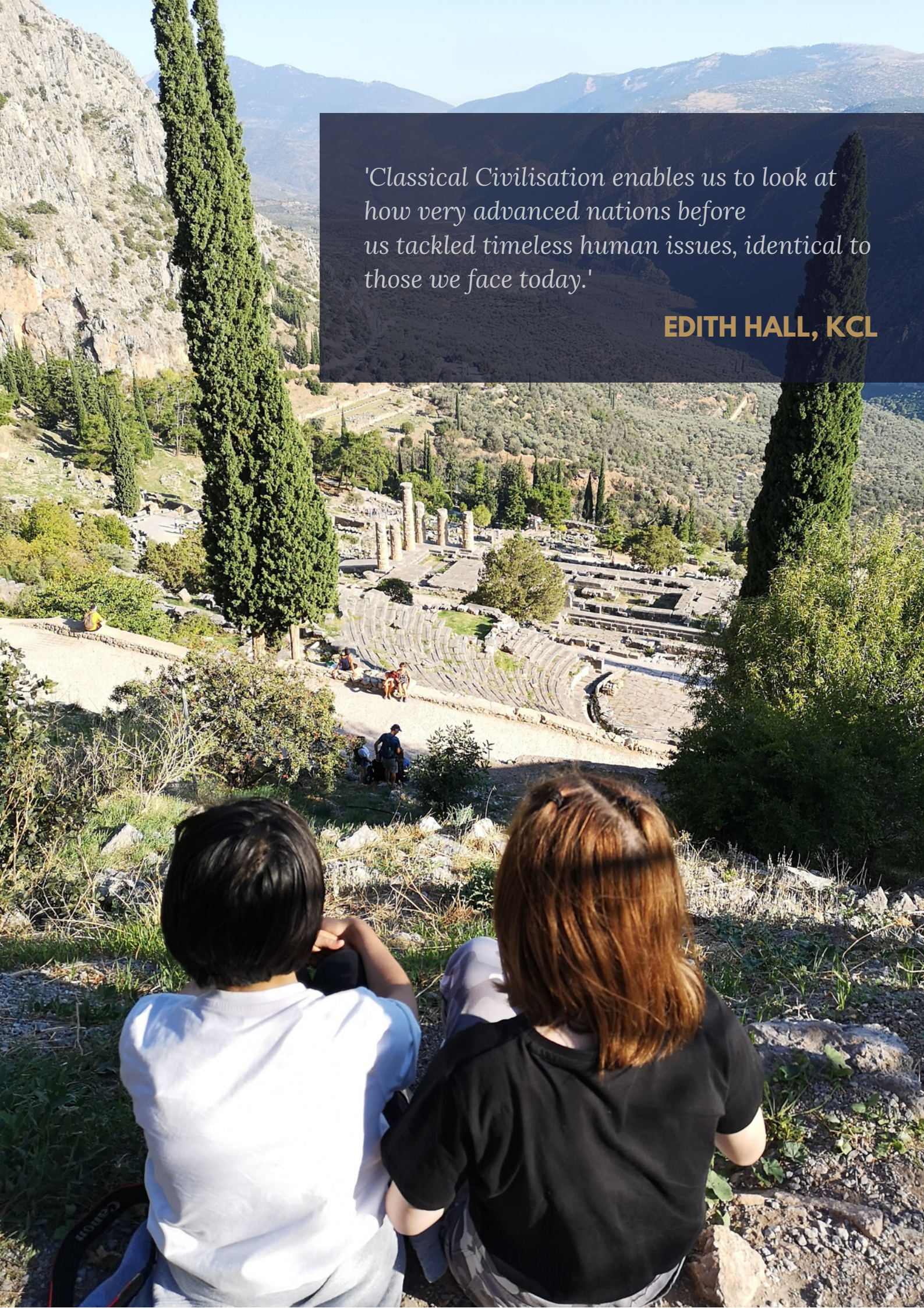
UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

Classicists are in demand across the spectrum of degree subjects and careers, for their intellectual flexibility and analytical thinking. Former students have enjoyed careers in the civil service, IT, accountancy and medicine, amongst many others.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 in a GCSE humanities subject

EXAM	%	DETAILS
World of the Hero	40	3 x 10m Passage analysis, 2 x 20m essays (characters/themes) 1 x 30m essay (characters / themes) . 140 mins, 100 marks.
Greek Theatre	30	Short knowledge questions. Source evaluations (10 marks). 20 mark essays. 30 mark essay. 105 mins, 75 marks.
Love and Relationships	30	As Greek Theatre above.



'Classical Civilisation enables us to look at how very advanced nations before us tackled timeless human issues, identical to those we face today.'

EDITH HALL, KCL

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Exam Board: Cambridge

- External Speakers.
- CS in action.

This course is for anyone who enjoys Computer Science and programming, and who loves to problem solve and use different computation techniques to arrive at solutions, along with understanding how computers work.

The aims of this course are to enable students to develop an understanding of the main principles of solving problems using computers; an understanding of the component parts of computer systems and how they interrelate, including software, data, hardware, communication and people; an understanding of the different methods of communication, and how to apply this understanding to develop computer-based solutions to problems.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Theory of Computation: Covering all aspects of computations including communication, hardware, data, AI, databases and the processor.

Programming & Problem Solving: Programming fundamentals in VB.net, including iteration, sequencing, selection, functions and OOP, including system lifecycles and algorithms.

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

Computer Science A level provides a solid platform for entry to a wide range of university degrees and careers, including: AI, algorithms, biocomputing, chip design, communications, cloud computing, cognitive science, forensics, cybercrime, database engineering, e-commerce, encryption, genetic algorithms, graphics, hardware design, informatics information systems, networking, neural networks, operating systems optimisation, real-time processing, web engineering and many more.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Grade 7 in GCSE Maths
& Computer Science

'Humans are allergic to change. They love to say, 'We've always done it this way.' I try to fight that. That's why I have a clock on my wall that runs counterclockwise.'

GRACE HOPPER

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Paper 1	25	Theory Fundamentals. 1 hr 30 mins, 75 marks.
Paper 2	25	Fundamentals of problem-solving and programming skills. 2hrs, 75 marks.
Paper 3	25	Advanced Theory. 1 hr 30 mins. 75 marks.
Paper 4	25	Practical, 2hrs 30 mins, 75 marks.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Exam Board: AQA

The role of a product designer is to create ideas to improve the life of the intended user. This course is for creative, reflective and inquisitive individuals who have an interest in solving problems which lead to generating original ideas and solutions to improve the future.

We nurture and refine practical and creative skills, enabling students to be innovative, independent, problem solvers able to work to deadlines as required in the design industry. Students will foster an interest in the built environment leading to the design of thoughtful, useful products, using the best and most appropriate materials and processes.

Students will gain a clear understanding of the world of design, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and future employment. There are clear cross curricular links between Physics, Maths, Computer Science, Business Studies, Art & Design and History.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Project work: In Year 12 students will develop their designing, making and testing skills in a series of short projects using different materials and processes, learning their working properties and pushing their limits.

Theory: Taught alongside the project work is the theory which where possible is explored in a practical way, learning in depth knowledge of materials, manufacture design through time and new and emerging technology.

Non exam assessment: Students research a problem that needs solving in a creative way, they then research, design, model, test, manufacture and evaluate a product in the form of design portfolio and practical outcome.

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

As a population hungry for new technology with £33.5bn spent in the UK alone each year on design, the Product Design A level equips students to move into a variety of careers including the following areas; product, furniture, graphic, industrial, craft, set and prop design, as well as web/app design. The skills taught compliment students with ambitions to study architecture and all areas of engineering, and students have gone on to study Design Craft, Product Design, and Art Foundation courses as well as sponsored degrees specialising in Engineering with Jaguar Land Rover.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Grade 7 in GCSE Design Technology

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Component 1 NEA	50	Design portfolio and practical outcome, individual brief selected by students.
Paper 1	30	Technical Principles.
Paper 2	20	Design and Making Principles.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY: FASHION AND TEXTILES

Exam Board: AQA



This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers. Especially those in the creative industries.

They will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put their learning in to practice by producing a final product of their choice.

Students will gain a clear understanding of the world of design, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and future employment. There are clear cross curricular links between Physics, Maths, Computer Science, Business Studies, Art & Design and History.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Project work: In Year 12 students will develop their designing, making and testing skills in a series of short projects using a range of construction and decorative textiles techniques.

Theory: Taught alongside the project work, the theory is taught in a practical way to contextualise technical and design principles. Students will learn in-depth knowledge of materials, manufacture through design alongside new and emerging technologies.

Non exam assessment: Students will develop their own brief that meets the needs of a user, client or market. They then research, design, model, test, manufacture and evaluate their context in the form of a design portfolio and final practical outcome.

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

The UK is the world leader in fashion education, with six of the world's leading fashion universities. A Level Fashion and Textiles equips students to move into a variety of creative careers including fashion design, sportswear design, interior design, architecture, textile/print design as well as plentiful opportunities within production, merchandising, marketing, and buying.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Grade 7 in GCSE Design Technology: Product Design / Textiles

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Component 1 NEA	50	Design portfolio and practical outcome, individual brief selected by students.
Paper 1	30	Technical Principles.
Paper 2	20	Design and Making Principles.



DRAMA & THEATRE

Exam Board: AQA

- Regular theatre trips.
- Workshop participation (Frantic, Assembly, Paper Birds, RSC).

Our Drama & Theatre A level is designed to encourage students to develop and apply an informed, analytical framework for making, performing, interpreting and understanding drama and theatre. Students will develop an understanding and appreciation of how social, cultural and historical contexts of performance texts have influenced the development of drama and theatre; as well as the creativity and independence required to become effective theatre makers. They will learn to analyse and evaluate their own work and that of others.

Drama & Theatre is for students who have an enthusiasm for Drama, from the Greeks to contemporary theatre; the ability and willingness to work independently, experimentally and co-operatively with others.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Component 1: Drama and Theatre written exam. The study of two set plays and the analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers.

Component 2: Creating Original Drama practical. This is a practical component in which students create and develop ideas to make a piece of live theatre. They can contribute as performer, director or designer.

Component 3. Making Theatre (Practical) Students explore three extracts, taken from different plays. The third extract is to have the methodology of a prescribed practitioner applied and performed as an assessed piece.

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

This course enables students to pursue a career in the creative industries, and is hugely beneficial to any student who wishes to study set texts and live theatre to develop their powers of analysis and written expression. The practical component of the course develops confidence, the willingness to experiment and independence of thought.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Grade 7 in GCSE Drama/English

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Component 1	40	Set texts and live theatre review. Written examination.
Component 2 NEA	30	Creation and performance of student's own piece of theatre, plus working portfolio. (Students can work as performer, director or designer.)
Component 3 NEA	30	Performance of a scripted piece of work plus reflective report. (Students can work as performer, director or designer.)



*'Without wonder and insight,
acting is just a business. With
it, it becomes creation.'*

BETTE DAVIS

ECONOMICS

Exam Board: Edexcel

- City of London trip to Investment Bank and Bank of England.
- Brooklands Museum Concorde trip.
- Eton College Trip to hear speakers at The Keynes Society.
- SWPS MBA.



Economics is for students who want to understand how the world around them works. It makes them think laterally about a range of interesting and topical problems. Economics study facilitates the development of logic and critical thinking skills, applying economic theories to various contexts in order to analyse their strengths and limitations. Economics is a relevant, useful and interesting subject that engages students in debate, grounds them in theory and enables them to become more aware of the economic issues affecting the world.

The Edexcel Economics course aims to equip students with a solid foundation in both microeconomics and macroeconomics which will enable them to understand how economics is applicable to so many areas of everyday life. Students will learn about how economics affects the world and the ways we live and how we can improve the economy to benefit the whole world.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Theme 1: Introduction to Markets and Market Failure.

Theme 2: The UK Economy: Performance and Policies.

Theme 3: Business Behaviour and the Labour Market.

Theme 4: A Global Perspective.

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

Economics is very useful for students who want to study degrees in History, Politics, Law or Sociology. Careers in business, banking and accountancy, politics, journalism and the charity sector all benefit from an Economics background.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Grade 7 in GCSE Maths and English

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Markets and Business Behaviour	35	Microeconomics exam paper. Covers Themes 1 & 3.
The National and Global Economy	35	Macroeconomics exam paper. Covers Themes 2 & 4.
Microeconomics and Macroeconomics	30	Covers all 4 themes.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Exam Board: Cambridge

- Theatre Trips.
- Annual literary walk and theatre trip to the Globe.

This course is for students who love reading and enjoy deconstructing the technical aspects of literary texts; relish debating ideas and arguments, both verbally and in writing and enjoy constructing informed arguments in cohesive essays; and who want to develop their understanding of the human experience.

Students will read widely from independently set texts and those that students have selected for themselves; engage critically and creatively with a substantial body of texts; develop and effectively apply knowledge of literary analysis and evaluation; explore the contexts of chosen texts and others' interpretations of them; undertake independent and sustained studies to deepen an appreciation and understanding of English literature, including its changing traditions.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Paper 1 Drama and Poetry: one drama text and one poetry text.

Paper 2 Prose and Unseen: one prose text and a collection of unseen texts (prose, drama and poetry).

Paper 3 Shakespeare and Drama: one Shakespeare play and one drama text.

Paper 4 Pre- and Post-1900 Poetry and Prose: one poetry text and one prose text. One text must be pre-1900 and one text must be post-1900.

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

English Literature is an excellent subject for entry to any arts degree, career choices may include social media manager, writer/journalist, public relations, marketing, lawyer, teacher/academic, librarian, human resources, entrepreneur, actor, theatre manager/director, arts/heritage industry.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Grade 7 in GCSE English Language and English Literature

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Paper 1	25	Written examination. Closed book. 2 hours. Section A Drama; one essay question from a choice of two. Section B Poetry; one essay question from a choice of two.
Paper 2	25	Written examination. Closed book. 2 hours. Section A Prose; one essay question from a choice of two. Section B Unseen; one essay question from a choice of two.
Paper 3	25	Written examination. Closed book. 2 hours. Section A Shakespeare; one essay question from a choice of two. Section B Drama; one essay question from a choice of two.
Paper 4	25	Written examination. Closed book. 2 hours. Section A Pre-1900 Poetry and Prose; one essay question from a choice of two. Section B Post-1900 Poetry and Prose; one essay question from a choice of two.

FRENCH

Exam Board: Edexcel

- Conversations with native french speaker.



An A level in French offers a varied and wide-ranging programme enabling students to make decisions about the areas that they particularly want to pursue, as well as an insight into French culture. It also teaches many skills, such as the ability to communicate clearly, be confident about speaking in public, use problem solving strategies and write coherently.

The course is designed for students who wish to take their language skills to the next level; they must be prepared to participate, have ideas, be ready to work independently and be willing to be challenged. The course will also suit those students who are interested in other cultures and ways of life.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Year 1: Topics of study include: family, education and the world of work, music, media, festivals and traditions, as well as study the film 'Au Revoir les Enfants'.

Year 2: Topics of study include: immigration, integration and multiculturalism, the rise of the National Front, the German occupation and Resistance, as well as study the book 'Un Sac de Billes'.

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

Students with language skills and knowledge usually have an advantage over those without them; as a language adds an extra international dimension to their personal skills profile. They stand out as talented and successful people, with broad and exciting horizons. Languages support careers in a range of areas including literature, journalism, the media, management, business, science and travel and tourism.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Grade 8 in GCSE French

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Paper 1	40	Listening, reading and translation.
Paper 2	30	Writing based on works and translation.
Paper 3	30	Oral.

GEOGRAPHY

EXAM BOARD: OCR

- Beach profiles / coastal management reviews.
- Three day residential to Bristol to hone NEA fieldwork skills.
- Access to RGS Lecture Programme.
- Fieldwork Queen Mary's University.
- Optional visit to Iceland.



Geography A level aims to develop students' understanding of physical and human geography from a local through to a global scale. Students develop practical fieldwork skills as they explore and think critically about the interactions between people and the environment and the issues arising.

Students should show a keen interest in how places are shaped and changed by human activity and have a passion to deepen their understanding about the processes and landforms found in the natural world. Students should show a love of learning and independence in furthering their own knowledge.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Physical Systems: Coastal landscapes; Earth's life support systems- importance of the water and carbon cycles and the influence of human activity on the TRF and the Arctic tundra.

Human Interaction: Students develop a picture of how the world around them is shaped by humans. Changing spaces; making places; Global connections including global migration and human rights.

Geographical Debates: Students gain an understanding of the issues and reflecting critically on them: Disease dilemmas and hazardous earth.

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

Geography is an academically robust subject. It is regarded as a preferred facilitating subject by the Russell Group of universities. The knowledge and transferrable skills that geographers gain from a degree are highly relevant to the workplace. Geography is highly respected by employers. You will find geographers in every sector of the economy including finance, insurance, NGOs, local businesses, key decision makers in local or national government, analysts, geo spatial advisor.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Grade 7 in GCSE Geography

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Physical Systems	22	1hr 30 mins exam composing of Coastal Landscapes and ELSS.
Human Interaction	22	1hr 30 mins exam composing of CSMP and Global connections.
Geographical Debates	36	2hrs 30 mins Disease Dilemmas and Hazardous Earth.
NEA	20	Undertake one day of independent fieldwork to write up a project on any aspect of the OCR specification.

GERMAN

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel

- Possible exchange visit to Bocholt to explore ideas for Independent Research project.
- Visits to study days and plays are encouraged.
- Weekly one-to-one with Language Assistant.

Studying German at A level provides students with an excellent awareness of German language and culture and the opportunity to improve on fluency gained at GCSE. The thought-provoking films and literature studied on this course will help students to engage critically with intellectually challenging and stimulating material in its original language whilst the translation element helps with mastery of grammar.

The course is suitable for students who are willing to embrace a different culture, who are willing to work very hard, enjoy a challenge, have an open mind, are prepared to think and are passionate about all things German.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Year 1: Theme 1: Nature and the Environment, Education, the World of Work. Theme 2: Music, media, the role of festivals and traditions PLUS study of a film, such as 'Goodbye Lenin!', 'The Wave', and 'Lives of Others'.

Year 2: Theme 3: Immigration and multiculturalism in Germany, Theme 4: Life in East Germany, reunification and Germany after Reunification. PLUS study of a literary text - a play and/or novel. We are currently studying The Visit (Der Besuch der alten Dame)

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

A level German can be the basis for study at university and for work, such as graduate or apprentice schemes in the City. Germany is our largest trading partner in Europe, so you will improve employability. Study for a degree in German, or combine with another subject, e.g. Russian, Law, Economics, Management, Politics. Few students nationally take German A level, so there is a real opportunity to stand out.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Grade 8 in GCSE German

EXAM	%	DETAILS
9GN0/1	40	Listening (30 marks), reading (30 marks), translation (20 marks) to English 2hrs.
9GN0/2	30	Written response to works (2 essays x 50 marks) and translation into German (20 marks) 2hrs 40.
9GN0/3	30	Speaking (21-23 mins/5 mins preparation) Stimulus card and Independent Research Project.

HISTORY

EXAM BOARD: AQA

- Entry to historical competitions.
- Lectures and London Trips.
- Overseas trips, in recent years
Russia and USA.



The course provides students with critical analysis skills that will benefit them in any walk of life. You will learn about some of the most famous leaders in History, their brilliance and their flaws. It is a study of human nature and will provide students with an insight into modern times.

This course is suitable for anyone interested in 'people!' You will see both great heroic struggles such as the Civil Rights movement and also moments of great destruction including during Stalin's rule over Russia.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

The Tudors: The greatest soap opera in British History! From the meticulous Henry VII to the megalomaniacs and egos of Henry VIII and Elizabeth I.

The American Dream: A study of the US from 1945-1980 covering a period that started with hope and ended with despair. It includes events from the Civil Rights Movement, the Vietnam War and from the Watergate scandal.

NEA – Russia and its rulers 1855-1964: One single essay covering the whole period, of the transition from Tsars and serfdom to Communist leaders and 'equality'.

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

History is consistently one of the most popular A levels nationally because it develops skills that are applicable in a wide range of careers. The most common professions for History students are law, journalism, teaching, marketing, recruitment and the civil service. It remains the most common degree choice of CEOs of FTSE 100 companies which shows its adaptability and relevance!

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 in preferably History GCSE but would look at students achieving that in another Humanity GCSE or either English. Students do not need to have taken History GCSE but suggest a discussion with Head of Department.

EXAM	%	DETAILS
1C	40	The Tudors - 2.5 hr exam (one interpretation question, two essays).
2N	40	American Dream - 2.5 hr exam (one source question, two essays).
NEA	20	Russia - one essay completed during the course.

LATIN

EXAM BOARD: OCR

- Bi-annual Greece or Italy trip.
- British Museum trips.
- Classical theatre trips.
- University lectures.
- Classics competitions.
- Annual Classics Dinner (guest speaker).



Latin A level is very similar to the GCSE with additional time to spend consolidating and improving Latin vocabulary and language skills; improving English to Latin translation capability; and increased exposure to Latin literature, and the society, history and values driving it.

The course is suitable for anyone who enjoys Latin or is good at it, loves foreign languages, loves literature, enjoys logical patterns and puzzle-solving, loves nuances of language and words.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Prose Set Texts: Read Cicero's brilliant legal rhetoric, marvel at his ingenuity, and see him 'live' on the stage of Roman Republican History. Read Tacitus' biting and perceptive history of different Roman emperors.

Verse Set Texts: Read the irreverent, funny, saucy love poetry of Catullus or Ovid. Read Vergil's intense epic poem showing the glory and human pity of war, and the tragedy of beautiful people crushed by Fate.

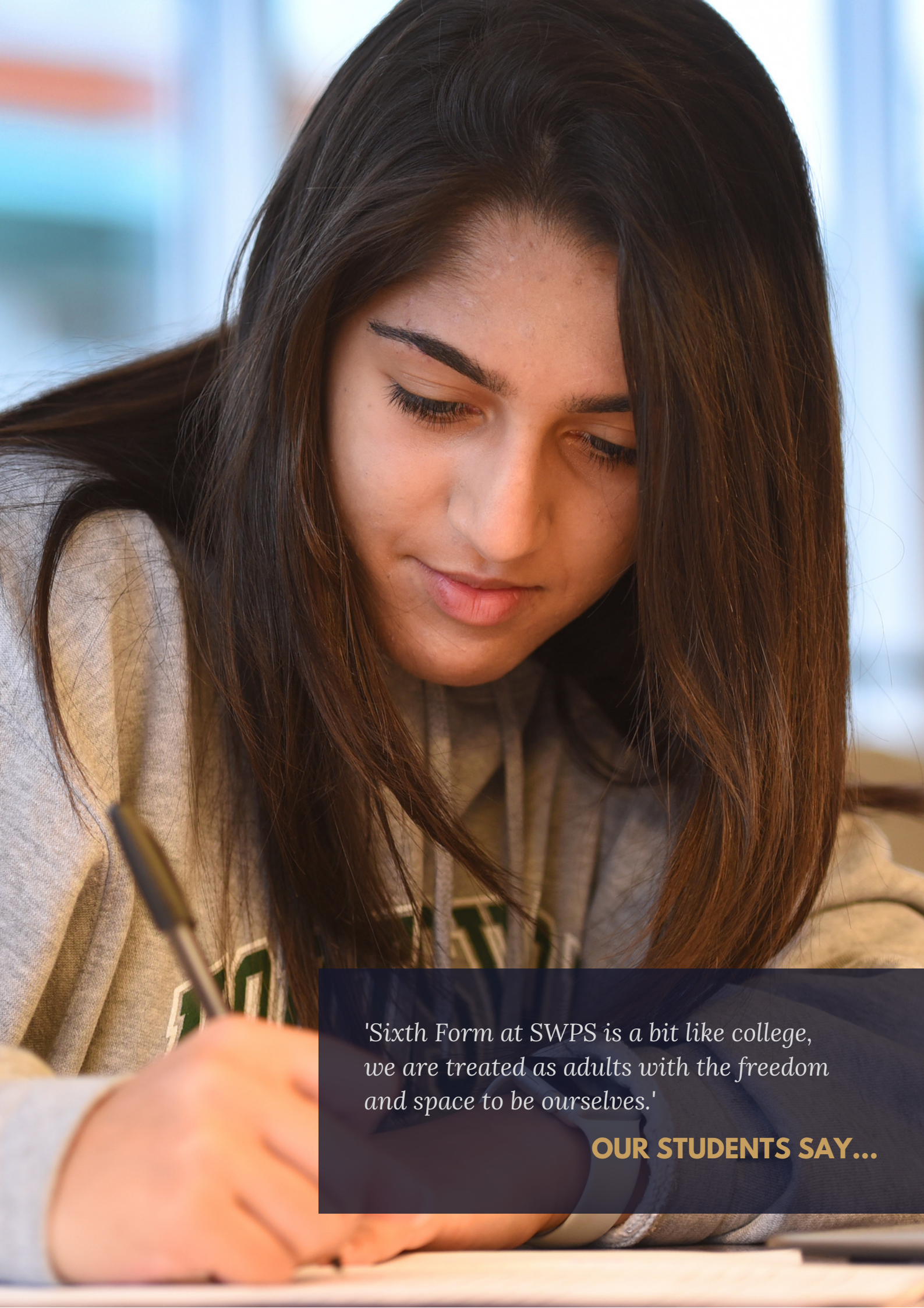
UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

Latin A level opens up many possibilities at university and in the world of work. Classicists go on to be Prime Ministers, top civil servants, CEOs, bankers, editors and actors. Former SWPS Latin students have gone on to careers in civil service fast-track, medicine, biochemistry, management consulting, accountancy, finance and IT.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

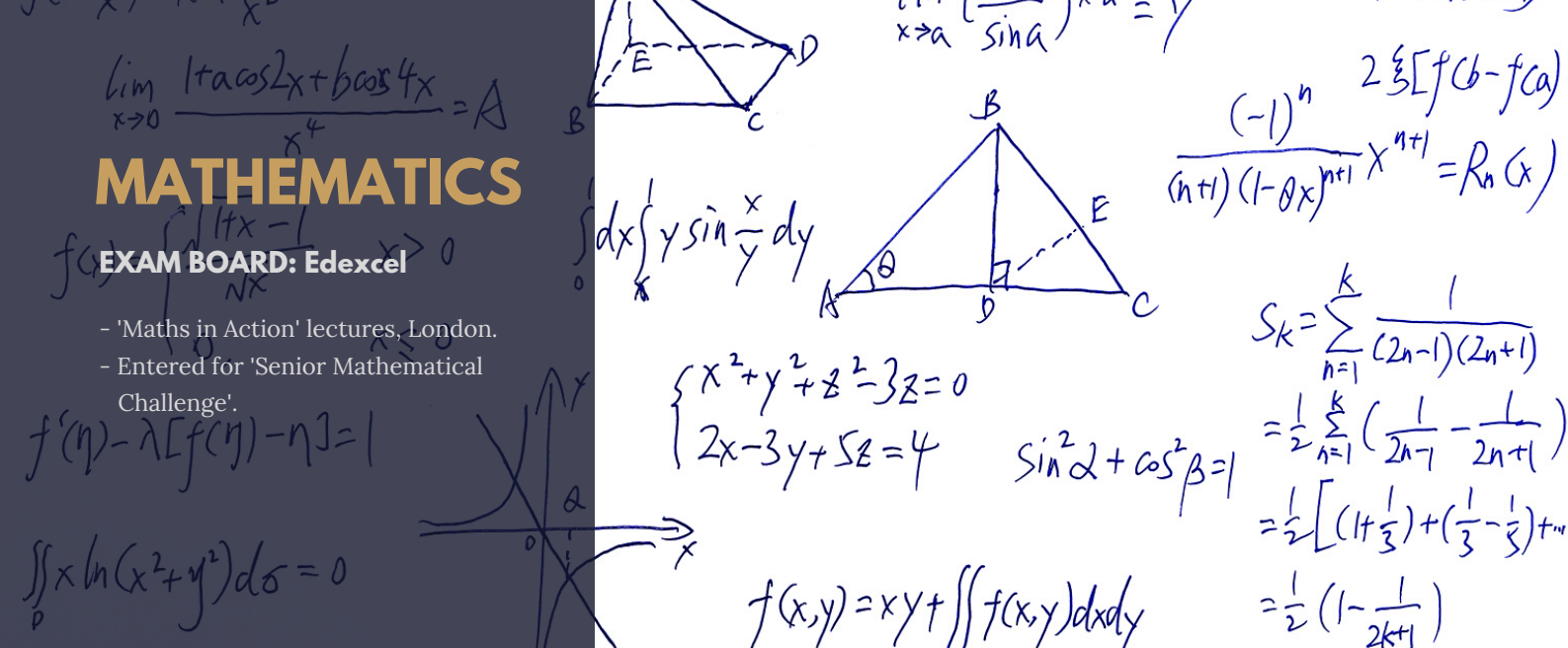
Grade 7 in GCSE Latin

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Language - unseen translation	33	One prose translation (Livy); one verse (Ovid) (105 mins).
Language - prose composition	17	Translate one paragraph of English into Latin (75 mins).
Prose set texts Verse set texts	25 25	Translation, comprehension and passage analysis (2 hrs each).



*'Sixth Form at SWPS is a bit like college,
we are treated as adults with the freedom
and space to be ourselves.'*

OUR STUDENTS SAY...



Mathematics students will learn methods and applications across the subject; will develop the ability to think and argue logically and reasonably, and will put these skills into practice through problem solving and applying knowledge in unfamiliar situations.

Mathematics is for students who enjoy learning and applying techniques and methods, but who also enjoy problem solving and applying knowledge in unfamiliar situations.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Pure: Algebra, graphs, circles, proof, binomial, expansions, trigonometry, sequences and series, vectors, calculus, numerical methods, parametric equations, exponentials and logarithms.

Mechanics: Modelling, constant acceleration, variable acceleration, forces and motion, moments, projectiles and vectors.

Statistics: Sampling, measures of location and spread, representation of data, correlation and regression, probability, binomial distribution, normal distribution and hypothesis testing.

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

Mathematics is a course valued by employers across a range of careers. It leads naturally to careers in accounting, actuarial work, teaching, mathematical modelling (such as applications to meteorology) and data analysis. It is also useful in supporting work in degree level subjects such as Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Economics, Engineering and Medicine.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

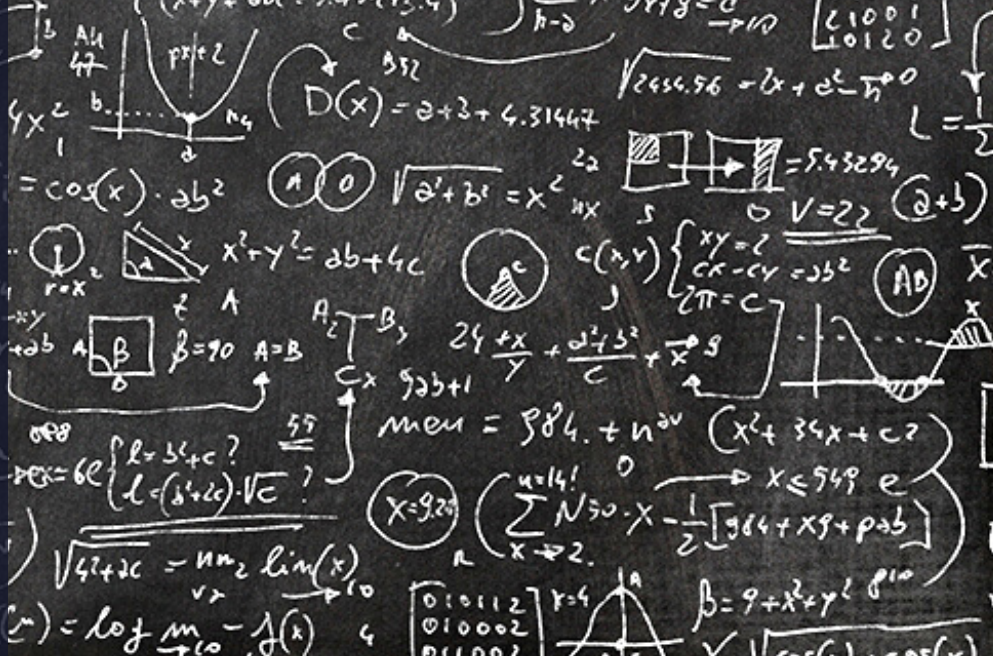
Grade 8 in IGCSE Maths

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Pure 1 Pure 2	33.3 33.3	Two calculator papers covering the whole of the Pure Maths Course. 2 x 2hr exams.
Statistics & Mechanics	33.3	A 2 hr paper split into two parts, the first covering Statistics and the second Mechanics. Calculators are required.

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel

- 'Maths in Action' lectures, London.
- Entered for 'Senior Mathematical Challenge'.



Further Mathematics students will learn further methods and applications across the subject; will develop the ability to think and argue logically and reasonably, and will put these skills into practice through problem solving and applying knowledge in unfamiliar situations.

Further Mathematics is for students who get a real buzz out of investigating and solving mathematical problems. The content is deep and involved and very exciting! This is for students who really love Maths!

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Pure: Algebra, proof, sequences and series, vectors, calculus, polar coordinates, hyperbolic functions, differential equations, matrices, linear transformations and complex numbers.

Mechanics: modelling, projectiles, vectors, collisions, elastic strings and springs.

Statistics: Poisson distribution, negative binomial distribution, normal distribution, hypothesis testing, central limit theorem, goodness of fit tests and probability generating functions.

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

Further Mathematics is a course valued by employers across a range of careers. It is particularly valuable for those going on to study Mathematics, Physics, Engineering or Economics at degree level, and demonstrates a pronounced aptitude for logic and understanding which is much valued by employers across a myriad of careers.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Grade 9 in IGCSE Maths

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Pure 1 Pure 2	25 25	Two calculator papers covering the whole of the Further Pure Maths Course. 2 x 1.5hr exams.
Statistics 1	25	1.5 hr calculator paper.
Mechanics 1	25	1.5 hr calculator paper.

MUSIC

EXAM BOARD: AQA

- Lunchtime and evening concerts inside and out of school.
- Music trips.
- Independent concert attendance.



The course aims to provide many opportunities for students to develop performing and composing skills and broaden their musical experience and interests. Those students will develop their time management, communication, problem solving, research, analytical and critical thinking skills, as well as their creativity and imagination. They will also learn technology skills through using computers to create and record music.

Music is for students who love performing, composing and listening to music. Those who spend many hours pursuing musical activities will find this an effective way of using their talents and time to gain a formal qualification. Membership of an instrumental or vocal group is recommended to develop ensemble skills and broaden experience.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Component 1: Appraising music. Students will study the Baroque Solo Concerto, Mozart Opera, Romantic Piano Music, Music for Theatre and Art Music since 1910 whilst developing their aural and music analysis skills.

Component 2: Performance. Students will aim to advance their performance skills throughout the course. It is advised that students continue to have formal lessons with their instrumental or singing teacher.

Component 3: Composition. During Year 12 students will learn techniques which they will practise in short exercises to develop composing skills in preparation for starting their free composition in the summer term.

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

Music is considered an academic subject and combines well with other subjects for entry into many degree courses and careers e.g. Sound Engineering with a combination of Music, Physics and Maths. A level Music is essential for studying Music at university or in a conservatoire. Career options include performing, working in radio, TV, the film industry, publishing, teaching, music therapy, journalism.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

A high Grade 7 in GCSE Music and at least Grade 6 in performance on the main instrument by the start of the course (voice included as an 'instrument')

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Appraising Music	40	2.5 hours paper, three sections: Listening, Analysis of set works, and one Essay, using excerpts of music on a CD controlled by the candidate.
Performance	35	Externally assessed. Students will submit at least ten minutes of solo and/or ensemble performances as an instrumentalist and/or singer.
Composition	25	Externally assessed. Students compose two pieces, one in response to an externally set brief, the other a free composition. Minimum total 4.5 minutes.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

EXAM BOARD: OCR

- Variety of enrichment opportunities.
- Trips e.g. 'Dissection Lab' with Medics, Dentists and Vets Society.
- Visits to fitness testing facilities and other elite performance centres.

Studying A level Physical Education will provide opportunities to gain a deeper understanding of the physiological, psychological and cultural study of sporting performance. You will learn why some people outperform others - mentally and physically. You will also delve into the ethical considerations behind the use of performance enhancing drugs and the influence of modern technology on physical activity. Students will excel in A level Physical Education if they are intrigued by the factors that underpin sporting success. They will be committed to their practical performance element for the full two years in order to achieve their potential.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Examined Assessment: Students considering A level Physical Education should understand that the subject is an applied science and is a varied and challenging course which, covers seven theoretical units: Applied anatomy and physiology; Exercise physiology; Biomechanics; Skill acquisition; Sports psychology; Sport and society; and Contemporary issues in physical activity & sport.

Non-Examined Assessment: This is made up of two parts: Performance/coaching of one specified sport at a competitive level and Evaluating and Analysis of Performance for Improvement (EAPI - oral response).

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

Students with an A level in Physical Education have access to an ever-increasing range of career and higher education opportunities. A level PE would be suitable for those wishing to pursue medicine or looking into careers such as journalism, sports science, physiotherapy, sports psychology, sports management and the armed forces.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Due to the combination of theory (70%) and practical (30%), each student will be assessed on their individual suitability for the course. Grade 6 in GCSE PE Taking GCSE PE is not essential to study A Level PE If you have not undertaken GCSE PE then a 6 in Biology or 6 6 in Double Award Science Essential that you are training and competing in a sport stated on the OCR specification throughout the two years of study

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Paper 1	30	Physiological factors affecting performance.
Paper 2	20	Psychological factors affecting performance.
Paper 3	20	Socio-cultural issues in physical activity in sport.
NEA	30	Learners are assessed in the selection, application and performance of skills in an open environment (effective performance) in one activity, together with the Evaluation and Analysis of Performance for Improvement (EAPI), through observation and synopsis of knowledge (oral response). The activity must be on the exam board's approved list.

PHYSICS

EXAM BOARD: AQA

- National Science Competitions (Physics Olympiad, EDT, Engineering Education Scheme)
- University trips.
- Diamond Light Source trip
- CERN trip.

The A level Physics qualification involves finding out how things work by observation, measurement, analysis, research, communication and discussion, all applied to relevant real world experiences. There is also a strong focus on problem solving, combined with the use of laboratory experimental work and ICT in the learning process.

This course will suit those who wish to understand the mathematical beauty of the universe, at scales ranging from subatomic to cosmological. Studying physics strengthens the skills of reasoning and problem solving.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Year 1 topics: Particles and radiation, waves, mechanics and materials, electricity, further mechanics.

Year 2 topics: Thermal physics, magnetic, electric and gravitational fields.

Year 2 options - select one from: Astrophysics, medical physics, engineering physics, turning points in physics.

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

Physics is a gateway to many careers including: Engineering, Medicine, Architecture, Computing & Gaming, Astrophysics, Economics, Robotics, Renewable Energies and Law & Finance. It is a highly regarded subject to have on your CV or university application as it shows you have an analytical mindset and can grapple with complex problems.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Grade 7 in GCSE Physics and Maths

Grade 77 in GCSE Double Award Science and 7 in Maths

Strongly recommend taking A Level Maths

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Paper 1 Paper 2	34 34	Year 1. Year 2.
Paper 3	32	Practical and options topic.
Practical endorsement	-	A certified endorsement pass/fail for the practical work you undertake during the course.

POLITICS

EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL

- Visit to Houses of Parliament
- Visiting lecturers and lecture trips



Politics A level gives the students valuable insight into the operation of the political systems of both UK and the USA. It also introduces many key issues associated with these political systems, from the influence of pressure groups to the need for the protection of civil rights. The A level also introduces students to the prevailing political ideologies of world history and how they continue to influence the modern world.

The course is suitable for anyone with an interest in contemporary politics in the UK and USA, the way in which political systems operate and the human pressures that influence them. It encourages students to understand the systems and to appreciate their problems and how they might be addressed.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Year 1 topics: Research Methods, Approaches, Social Influence, Attachment, Memory and Psychopathology.

Year 2 topics: Research Methods, Approaches, Issues & Debates, Stress, Relationships, and Forensic Psychology.

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

A Psychology degree, followed by postgraduate study can lead to qualifications to practise psychology professionally in areas such as educational psychology and clinical psychology. Psychology is also a well-respected degree subject which enables access to any graduate training programme, for example, marketing, accountancy, retail management and advertising.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

There are no minimum requirements, however candidates are advised to have a Grade 6 in English and one Humanities subject.

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Paper 1	33	UK Politics (participation) with core political ideas.
Paper 2	33	UK Government (key features) with non-core political ideas
Paper 3	33	Comparative Politics - The USA

PSYCHOLOGY

EXAM BOARD: AQA

- Conference trips.
- Online enrichment opportunities.



The A level Psychology course aims to provide students with knowledge in several different topics of interest, grounded in an understanding of scientific process and theoretical frameworks underpinning such explanations. Research design and data analysis are central to the study of Psychology and are a major of study of the subject. Students will find the topic material interesting, engaging and thought-provoking, often lending itself to personal reflection and self-development. The development of important transferrable skills, including a deep understanding of the importance of validity and reliability of knowledge, use of statistics to analyse data and critical, scientific writing skills also provide compelling reasons to consider choosing Psychology as a subject of study.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Year 1 topics: Research Methods, Approaches, Social Influence, Attachment, Memory and Psychopathology.

Year 2 topics: Research Methods, Approaches, Issues & Debates, Stress, Relationships, and Forensic Psychology.

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

A Psychology degree, followed by postgraduate study can lead to qualifications to practise psychology professionally in areas such as educational psychology and clinical psychology. Psychology is also a well-respected degree subject which enables access to any graduate training programme, for example, marketing, accountancy, retail management and advertising.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Grade 7 in GCSE Biology and Maths

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Paper 1	33	Introductory topics in Psychology.
Paper 2	33	Psychology in Context.
Paper 3	33	Issues and Options in Psychology.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel

- Theatre trip Book Of Mormon
- Philosophy Club
- Lecture by Peter Vardy.



The RS A level aims to develop students' ability to analyse, argue and appraise different arguments. Students will explore a range of topics within the following areas: Philosophy of Religion (students will engage with the many, varied Arguments For and Against God's existence), Religious Ethics (what is morally right/wrong?) and Theology (analysis of key biblical texts to discover more about the person of Jesus).

This course is designed for inquisitive students who enjoy searching for potential answers to Big questions. It is designed for students who enjoy either engaging in, or listening to, vigorous debates about the unanswerable.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Philosophy of Religion: Arguments for and against the Existence of God, the Problem of Evil, Life After Death, Religious Language.

Religious Ethics: Ethical theories, Sexual Ethics, War & Peace, Environmental Ethics, Equality, Medical Ethics.

Theology: Social and historical context of the New Testament, the Person of Jesus, Interpreting the Texts, Kingdom of God, Conflict & Death, and the Resurrection of Jesus.

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

Students gain many transferable skills from Religious Studies A level such as; the ability to appraise; debate; argue; reason; think independently, analyse; evaluate and produce structured, extended essays. These are all fantastic skills which would help students wishing to take a variety of subjects at University. Previously we have had students go on to study Law, Journalism, PPE and Medicine.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 in either GCSE RS or English

Students do not need to have taken RS GCSE

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Paper 1	33.3	Philosophy of Religion, 1hr 45 mins.
Paper 2	33.3	Religious Ethics, 1 hr 45 mins.
Paper 3	33.3	New Testament Studies, 1 hr 45 mins.

SPANISH

EXAM BOARD: Edexcel

- Theatre and cinema trips.
- KS3 Spanish Club.
- Study-work trips to Spain.



A level Spanish allows students to further develop the language skills and knowledge they learnt at GCSE by taking part in debates and cultural discussions, carrying out independent research projects and studying Hispanic culture, history, society, literature and film. Students perfect their spoken and written command of Spanish and learn to communicate at a more abstract and detailed level.

This qualification is suited to students passionate about Spanish language and culture and who enjoy exploring challenging and mature topics and expressing their opinions on topical issues within the Spanish-speaking world.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Themes 1 & 2: explore the evolution of Spanish society and the political and artistic cultures of Hispanic countries. The film 'El Laberinto del Fauno' is also analysed in depth.

Themes 3 & 4: focus on immigration in Spain and the Civil War and Franco. Students also study the Mexican magical realist novel, 'Como Agua Para Chocolate'.

Independent Research Project: students carry out an in-depth study of a topic of their choosing related to Spain or Latin America and present it as part of their speaking examination.

UNIVERSITY / CAREERS

Spanish will open up an exciting variety of professional opportunities, as business across the globe continues to take place at an increasingly international level. Examples of employment where language skills are particularly valued include journalism and the media, law, medicine, engineering, business and marketing, ICT, sport and leisure, travel and tourism, the civil service, teaching, immigration and customs and the diplomatic service.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Grade 8 in GCSE Spanish

EXAM	%	DETAILS
Paper 1	40	Listening, reading and translation into English.
Paper 2	30	Written response to works (1 literature essay, 1 film essay) and translation into Spanish.
Paper 3	30	Speaking (stimulus card and Independent Research Project).

DESTINATIONS AND LEAVERS

WHERE CAN SWPS SIXTH FORM TAKE YOU?

in 2022 69% of SWPS A level grades were A*-A and 89% of our students left us to move on to their first-choice university!

So many dreams and ambitions are fulfilled through our tried and tested combination of challenging our students intellectually, whilst nurturing talents and providing the individual care and attention they need.

Our students work hard and play hard, earning truly extraordinary results that set them apart, and set them up - for life!





SIR WILLIAM
PERKINS'S
SCHOOL

LEAVER DESTINATIONS

CLASS OF 2022

ANGLIA RUSKIN UNIVERSITY Nursing (Adult)
BOURNEMOUTH UNIVERSITY Accounting & Finance
CARDIFF UNIVERSITY Medical Engineering | International Relations |
Economics
CITY, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON Finance
DURHAM UNIVERSITY Modern European Languages and History | Liberal Arts
IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON MEDICINE Medicine
KING'S COLLEGE LONDON, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON Philosophy
KINGSTON COLLEGE Art Foundation
KINGSTON UNIVERSITY Product and Furniture Design
LOUGHBOROUGH UNIVERSITY Marketing and Management | Fine Art
NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY Sport and Exercise Science
QUEEN MARY UNIVERSITY OF LONDON Mathematics
ROYAL HOLLOWAY, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON Computer Science
UCL (UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON) Anthropology | English
UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN History
UNIVERSITY OF BATH Mechanical Engineering | Sociology
UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM Computer Science | Biomedical Science |
Philosophy
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE History
UNIVERSITY OF EXETER English | Neuroscience | Computer Science and
Mathematics
UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS Geography | International Development
UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER Psychology
UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL Psychology | Veterinary Science | Geography
UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER Biomedical Sciences | Criminology |
Theological Studies
UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM Biochemistry and Genetics | Chemical
Engineering
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD Chemistry | Physics | History
UNIVERSITY OF PORTSMOUTH Computer Games Technology
UNIVERSITY OF READING Business and Management (Entrepreneurship)
UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD Biomedical Science
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON Podiatry
UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK Philosophy
UNIVERSITY OF WINCHESTER Computer Aided Design

**GREAT THINGS
EXPECTED**

SIR WILLIAM PERKINS'S SCHOOL

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