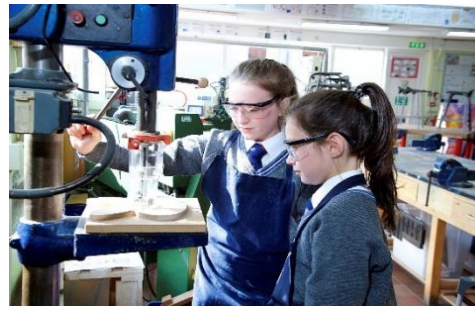




King's

1502



SENIOR



SUBJECT INFORMATION 2023



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King's Curriculum

Curriculum Overview

King's offers a modern, stimulating curriculum designed to develop the skills that our young people will need long after they leave school, in higher education and in the work place.

Ours is a vibrant, dynamic learning community offering a broad curriculum. In Years 7-9, pupils study 18 subjects including Mathematics, English, Science, History, Geography, Religion & Philosophy, PE, Computing and Games. In addition, pupils study French, Latin, German, Spanish, Design & Technology, Art, Music, Drama and Critical Thinking. We also have 'King's Compass' which is our programme of personal development with a focus on wellbeing and, in Year 7, this involves a double lesson of outdoor learning.

After a half-term of each language, in the Spring Term of Year 7 pupils choose two languages from French, German, Spanish and Latin which they continue until the end of Year 9. For Year 9 they also choose two creative subjects from the four studied in Years 7 and 8 (Design & Technology, Art, Music and Drama). This means that the curriculum has a good degree of breadth but it also allows choice and specialism as pupils move towards their GCSE choices.

In Years 10 and 11, pupils study either 9 or 10 GCSE subjects. All pupils study Mathematics, English and English Literature, the three Sciences (or as Dual Award), a foreign language and a humanities subject (History, Geography or Religion & Philosophy). They also choose two further subjects which may be a second foreign language, a second humanity, a creative subject, PE, Computer Science or Creative I-media. All pupils also pursue an activities programme involving some competitive sports or non-competitive physical exercise.

In the Sixth Form, the majority of students select three A Level subjects from a generous range of around 27 subjects, including 'new' subjects such as Economics, Business, Psychology and Politics. Some students will select four A Levels, typically when both Further Mathematics and Mathematics are studied. During both Year 12 and 13, students study an Extended Studies programme to give them a breadth of academic experience. All students also pursue a course of sporting and/or recreational activities throughout the Sixth Form.

Challenge and Enrichment: Our Ethos

The first two fundamental aims of the King's School are to 'challenge our pupils to work hard, aspire and achieve' and 'to develop lively and enquiring minds.'

Our philosophy is an inclusive one: we strive to provide challenge for all of our students at the same time as encouraging our exceptionally able students to push themselves and become reflective learners.

At King's, we believe that challenge and enrichment should be delivered through all lessons on a day-to-day basis. We aim to create an environment where all learners are presented with challenge. As teachers, we strive to present pupils with tasks that develop the skills of evaluation and analysis; questions and tasks are open-ended. Our students are encouraged to take risks in their learning - to be unafraid to 'get stuck' - and to think about process in the way they learn, not simply the outcome.

King's Learning Habits

We believe that a focus on learning *skills* is crucial. By helping our students to develop underlying habits of learning we can ensure that pupils work with increased motivation, enhanced creativity, greater confidence and will develop habits of lifelong learning.

The school is committed to fostering five ‘King’s Learning Habits’ amongst our students:

- **Resilience**
- **Collaboration**
- **Reasoning**
- **Questioning**
- **Reflectiveness**

In lessons, students are encouraged to develop teamwork skills and to listen to the views of others. Whether studying a poem in English or a formula in Mathematics, we want our students to generate the probing and pertinent questions themselves and to think carefully and precisely. We aim to allow our students time to reflect on their learning and to consider their own strengths and areas for development.

Provision for challenge beyond the classroom

King’s students are presented with a myriad of opportunities to challenge themselves beyond the classroom environment, whether this be attending regular lunchtime workshops or entering national level competitions. Examples of current opportunities include:

- School based extra-curricular activities including debating, Model United Nations, competitions in Design & Technology, languages, creative writing competitions, national literary competitions, etc.
- Visiting speakers, authors, poets and professors who provide a range of interesting lectures and workshops to support a range of curriculum areas.
- Participation in national level competitions such as the Royal Society Chemistry Olympiad and Senior Mathematics Challenge (UKMT).
- Speakers’ Club - inspirational talks from former pupils and local figures about their careers and professions, and their paths into them.
- Modern Foreign Language trips and exchange programmes, as well as debating competitions, the global ‘Juvenes Translatores’ competition and participation in the prestigious UK Linguistics Olympiad.
- The King’s Aspire programme - a series of talks and workshops to help prepare those students interested in applying for highly competitive universities and courses.
- The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) in the Sixth Form.

Art & Design

About the Department

Art at King's offers pupils the opportunity to develop their creativity in a wide variety of contexts. Through exploring and sharing ideas, pupils develop confidence and independence in learning. By engaging in imaginative and creative activities they learn to take managed risks, trying out new ways of working without fear of failure. Art helps pupils to appreciate the diversity of ideas within their own and other cultures and traditions. Art promotes an enterprising culture and develops pupils' ability to work collaboratively. A pupil's understanding and appreciation of fine art, design and craft will enrich their lives now and in the future. Art at King's offers every pupil the opportunity to think, organise and plan ideas, build up confidence and become independent learners. The King's five Learning Habits underpin all that is done in the Art Department.

The Art Department consists of three full-time specialist Art teachers and an Art & Design Technician, all of whom are also practitioners within their own specialist areas. We pride ourselves on the preparation that we provide for our students to enter a world of education and employment within the creative industries.

Examination Results 2022

We have an outstanding academic record at GCSE and A Level. In 2022 the following results were achieved:

GCSE 9-7 (A*/A) = 64% (with 21% at Grade 9)

9-4 (A*-C) = 100%

A Level A*/A = 100% with 75% at A*

We are very proud that two of our former students have won the Turner Art Prize, most recently Helen Marten in 2016.

Subject Content & Syllabus

The Art Curriculum is as follows:

1. The KS3 Visual Studies Course for everybody in Years 7 & 8 and for those who opt in Year 9.
2. The two year GCSE Course in Art & Design (EDUQAS): 60% of marks are for coursework and 40% for exam. Class sizes are typically 10-18 in Years 10 and 11, ensuring a great deal of individual attention. Pupils follow a broad 'Art, Craft and Design' course allowing them to experience breadth of technique before selecting specific areas of focus.
3. The two year A Level in Art & Design (EDUQAS): Coursework (60%) and exam (40%) are examined in the form of an exhibition at the end of Year 13.
4. The Arts Award qualification, as part of the Extended Studies Programme in Year 13.
5. The Recreational Art course, available to any Year 12 and 13 students.

Monitoring & Assessment

At Key Stage 3, all pupils are marked and assessed on their classwork and homework with many opportunities for extended project work and assessment. At Key Stage 4 and 5, pupils' work is continually assessed as their portfolios progress and there are several exam opportunities for students to practise their exam technique. End of year examinations are taken in the summer of Years 7 to 10. Public examinations are taken in Years 11 and 13.

Enrichment Opportunities

Pupils are encouraged to participate in competitions and exhibitions. We have had winners in the HMC Schools Art Exhibition, Junior Cartoonist of the Year, Portico Schools Art Prize, Bullseye International Glass Competition, Living Edge Schools Art Prize, Merchant Taylors' Photography Competition, Specialist Crafts School Art Prize and the National 'Design a Book Cover' Competition.

Pupils have recently had work exhibited at The Birley Gallery in Manchester, Jobling Gowler Gallery in Macclesfield, Manchester City Art Gallery, Merchant Taylors' Hall in London, The Lowry and the Portico Gallery in Manchester.

Art Clubs are available most lunchtimes each week. After-school Art Club takes place several times a week, often more frequently during busy times of the year. These can either target specific groups or be open access. Life Drawing is offered after school for Sixth Form students.

Recent trips include: Year 12 London trip, North Wales annual drawing weekend, Cheshire in Italy residential course, Michael Brennand Wood at Ruthin Craft Centre, Chatsworth House, Styal Mill, Peter Randall Page at Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Cheshire Gifted and Talented Residential Weekend - Anglesey, Design your Future at MCCC. We also host visiting Artists in Residence, most recently Aimee Dymond and Rebecca Moore.

Careers

Students combine Art with an extremely wide variety of subjects, from traditional Arts and Humanities subjects to Maths and Sciences. Art students at King's have progressed on to an impressive range of top courses at University, both within and outside of creative fields. This includes the best Art, Design and Architecture courses and also a wide range of non-art related degree courses at many of the top universities including Oxford, Cambridge and Russell Group Universities, studying subjects including Pharmacy, Psychology, Law, Biochemistry, English Literature & Language, Advertising, Engineering, MFL and Business. Many careers in Art and Design are now within skills shortage areas, which can lead to excellent job prospects. Employment demand within the creative industries has huge growth potential and employers will need creative minds to fulfill future employment requirements.



Classics

About the Department

The Classics Department consists of one full time and one part-time teacher, and we offer Latin to Years 7 - 13. We aim to deliver this fascinating and rare subject in a modern and lively manner, using a variety of media, and we organise several educational visits and conferences each year at home and abroad.

Examination Results from 2019-2022

Latin GCSE:

62% of grades were 9-7 (A*/A)

95% of grades were 9-4 (A*-C)

Latin A Level

100% of grades were A*-A

Subject Content & Syllabus

Year 7 Latin

- Year 7 pupils are offered a taster course for Latin alongside German, Spanish, and French in Autumn term and are taught 4 periods of Latin per fortnight. Towards the end of the Autumn term, pupils decide which two languages they wish to continue studying in Year 8 from a choice of French, Spanish, German, and Latin.
- Course set in Pompeii, exploring history and culture of the Romans.

Years 8 & 9 Latin

- Optional subject, as one of the two languages required for Years 8 and 9.
- 5 lessons per fortnight.
- Course set in Pompeii, Roman Britain and Alexandria.

Years 10 & 11: GCSE Latin

- Optional subject, which is one of the choices for the required Language option.
- 6 lessons per fortnight, teaching the OCR GCSE course.
- Course involves translating Latin into English and studying two Ancient texts: one prose author, such as Cicero or Caesar, and one verse author, usually Virgil.

Years 12 & 13: A Level Latin

- 12 lessons per fortnight, teaching the OCR A Level course.
- Course involves translating Latin into English and vice versa, and studying up to four Ancient texts in detail. This includes authors such as Virgil, Ovid, Livy, Cicero, Tacitus, and more.

Monitoring & Assessment

The Classics Department embeds the school's five Learning Habits in its lessons:

In Years 7 - 9, all pupils are set regular homework tasks, vocabulary tests at the end of each stage and end of unit assessments, as well as the summative summer examination paper.

In Years 10 - 11, all pupils are thoroughly prepared for GCSE papers in Language and Literature. This includes regular testing of vocabulary and practice of past papers. Year 11 pupils sit a mock examination paper in January of Year 11.



In Years 12 - 13, all pupils work towards sitting their examination papers at the end of Year 13. During the 2 year course, pupils are set homework tasks regularly, undertake internal tests and take their public examination papers at the end of Year 13.

Enrichment Opportunities

- Trips home and abroad, including Italy and Greece.
- Opportunity to learn Greek.
- Competitions, including Latin reading and Latin scrabble.
- Workshops, such on the Trojan War which led by the academic and author Emily Hauser.
- Special provision made for Oxbridge candidates.

Careers

Classics is an academic subject, highly regarded by universities and employers alike. It supports the study of English and Modern Languages, while complementing both Arts and Science subjects. As Classics promotes a logical and diligent work ethic, it is particularly valued in fields such as commerce, education and the law. In recent years, Classics students have read a variety of subjects at prestigious Universities, including subjects such as Classics, Veterinary Science, and Anglo-Saxon and Norse.

Follow us at  @KMClassics and  King's Macc Classics.



Computing

About the Department

The Computing Department consists of 3 full-time specialist teachers. Each member of the department is an experienced teacher with a proven track-record of outstanding academic results. Students are taught both Computer Science (logical thinking and computational thinking skills) and ICT (application-based projects).

Examination Results 2022

GCSE	9-7 (A*/A) = 75%	9-4 (A*-C) = 100%
A Level	A*-B = 88%	A*-C = 100%

Subject Content & Syllabus

Key Stage 3

Year 7: In year 7, students are given the opportunity to develop their communication, research and presentation skills through a six week e-safety project culminating in a short presentation using the online presentation tool, Prezi. Students continue their Computing journey by investigating game design through Kodu game lab, creating algorithms and developing programming skills. In the second term, Year 7 students design and develop their own mobile app, allowing students to become creative in their approach to computing. The term continues with Scratch, exploring blocks of code to develop a working feature rich game. During the summer term, Year 7 will get hands-on with the BBC Micro:Bit, taking computing away from the traditional desktop PC. Finally, students in Year 7 will learn the basics of the Python programming language to create their very own chat-bot - a computer program that talks back to them!



Year 8: Year 8 sees students build upon their knowledge of computers and applications, with the first scheme of work being graphic design. The students then have the opportunity to expend their knowledge of Python with a 6 week Python Basics course, looking at simple programming constructs and debugging. Year 8 then progress to website development with the introduction of HTML, CSS and JavaScript. The fourth topic for our Year 8 students is sound manipulation. With this project, students are asked to script and record their own radio advertisement with music and sound effects. The summer term allows students in Year 8 to look at professional game development using GameMaker. This process involves character development, movement and scoring. The final unit of work for Year 8 looks at binary numbers and data storage in computers. We look at how computers can only communicate using 1's and 0's, and how all data is stored and retrieved on our computers.

When students enter Year 9, we strengthen our knowledge of Python with a more advanced scheme of work, looking at functions and procedures and how we use procedures every day. Year 9 students then

look at advanced app development. This is done though asking questions such as; what makes a good GUI? What is our user journey? Do optimized graphics make a difference? Our Year 9 students then embark on a term long project on the 'Music Festival'. For this project, the students are asked to develop a series of products for a fictional music festival. The products include; a logo, a teaser advertisement video, merchandise, an app, a radio advert, a database and a costing model. This project aims to cement fundamental IT application skills that can be beneficial beyond the classroom. Finally, the students undertake a computing project to solve a problem using code. This allows the students to decompose a given problem and create a working solution.

Key Stage 4 (GCSE)

We follow the Edexcel Computer Science specification with students being taught for 6 periods per fortnight. The GCSE has a strong focus on programming and logical problem solving. The course covers six key areas of computer science, these are; problem solving and creating algorithms, the fundamentals of programming and creating working programs, how computers store data with the use of binary numbers, the inner workings of a computer with a focus on components, networking protocols and how computers communicate with each other and the wider world of computing, looking at ethics and legal frameworks.



The course is 100% examination, with students sitting two examination papers of equal weighting. Paper 1 focusses on the principles of Computer Science and is 1 hour 40 minutes. Paper 2 is 2 hours long and covers the application of computational thinking via an on screen practical programming examination. The GCSE aims to allow the students to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the key concepts of and principles of Computer Science, apply knowledge and understanding of key concepts and principles of Computer Science and analyse problems in computational terms to be able to make reasoned judgements, as well as designing, programming, evaluating and refining solutions.

Sixth Form (A Level)

Computer Science is becoming an increasingly popular choice at A Level at King's. Our students study the OCR examination board specification. There is no pre-requisite for students to have studied Computer Science at GCSE to take the A Level course, although obtaining the GCSE would be a clear advantage. The course explores twelve units of theory work and an additional practical programming project. There are two, 2 and ½ hour examination papers, worth 40% of the overall A Level each and the practical programming project making up the remaining 20%. The course covers topics such as; characteristics of contemporary processors, software development, exchanging data, data types and structures, legal, moral, cultural and ethical issues as well as computational thinking.

The A Level is taught for 12 periods over the two-week timetable and is typically taught by two teachers. Students are issue with textbooks and are directed to a number of online help portals to aide their study. The primary taught language at A Level is Python, however students are encouraged to explore other languages such as C# or Java to broaden their project options.

Enrichment Opportunities

- British Informatics Olympiad (Cambridge University)
- National Cipher Challenge (University of Southampton)
- Alan Turing Cryptography Competition (Manchester University)
- Cyber Start Discovery
- GCHQ Cyberfirst for Girls
- Barclays Technology Innovation Award
- Duke of York iDEA Award
- BIMA Digital Day
- Raspberry Pi Shop
- Apps for Good
 - BAFTA Young Game Designers Competition
 - Computing Club for Girls

Careers

Many of our A Level students go onto higher education courses to study degrees in Computer Science or apprenticeship schemes. More than half of the Computing students have received First Class Honours Degrees and go on to study for their Masters Degree. A number of students have programs or software products that are commercially available.

Design & Technology

About the Department

The department is staffed by two full-time members of staff who are supported by a full-time Technician shared with the Art department. The department is committed to the teaching of product design as a philosophy and all pupils are encouraged to see design as an important everyday factor in their lives. The department is keen on developing design approaches which include iterative design and user centre design.

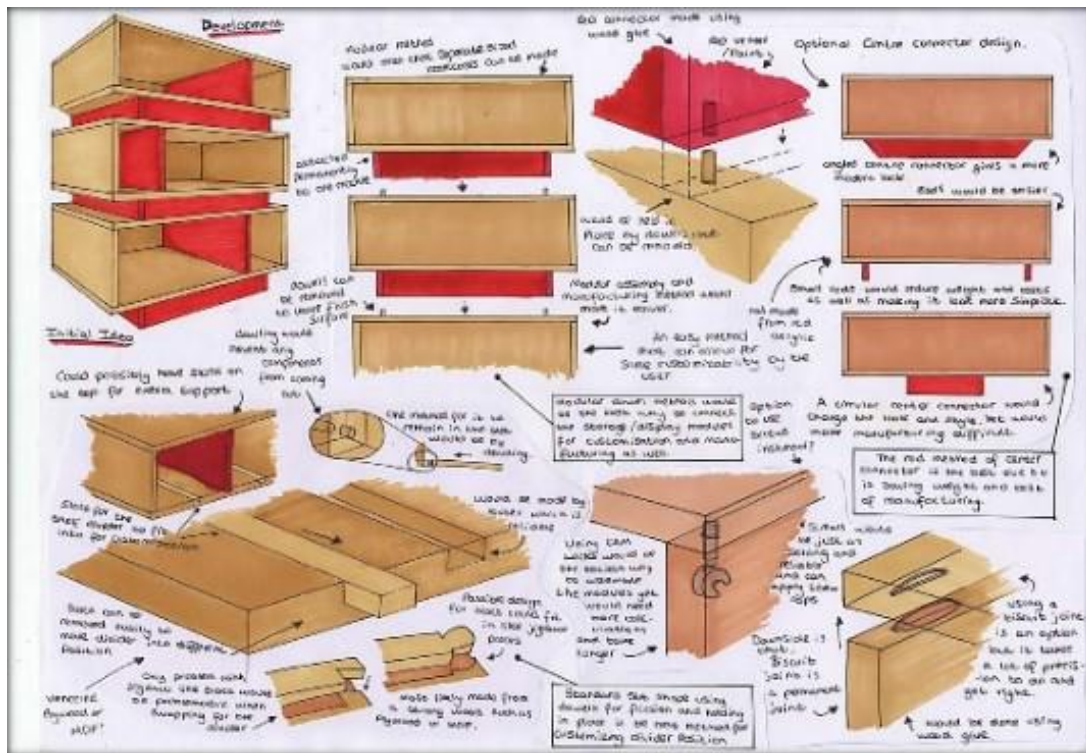
Examination Results

GCSE	9-8 - 28%	9-7 - 44%	9-4 - 97%
A Level	A*-A - 25%	A*-B = 88%	A* - C - 100%

Subject Content & Syllabus

Design & Technology is taught to all pupils in Years 7 and 8. Each group has two lessons per fortnight during which pupils are introduced to a range of projects and materials, aimed at building students' ability to solve problems, work in teams and develop manufacturing skills including the use of our CAD/ CAM facilities. Developing independence in students is a key philosophy which underpins the work of the department.

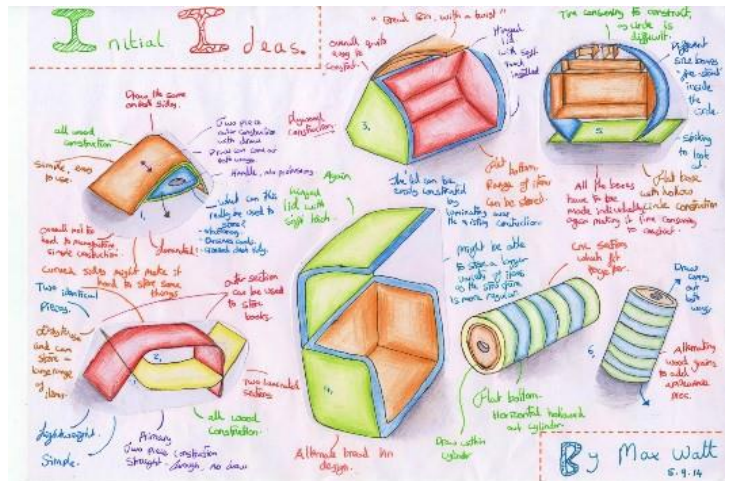
From Year 9, the subject is optional. Pupils are allocated an extra lesson per fortnight to allow them to become more specialised and develop a higher standard of practical outcome whilst always learning new skills. The importance of a broader view of design in society is also taught during this year.



GCSE courses follow the AQA Design & Technology Course. This involves an iterative design approach alongside a more detailed and focused curriculum content. All pupils taking this course will develop skills across a full range of materials including electronics and textiles. The pupils will have to submit a Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) in addition to a 2 hour examination paper. Pupils are allocated 6 periods per fortnight to follow this course.

The current A Level provision for students follows the AQA Design & Technology: Product Design course. This new A level course is delivered as a linear programme with examinations and NEA being submitted at the end of Year 13. Year 12 work is focused on developing extensive subject knowledge and developing higher level manufacturing skills to ensure students can respond to the NEA challenge in Year 13.

Current lesson provision is for students to have 12 lessons per fortnight at A Level, which allows students to develop their skills to an exceptionally high level.



Monitoring & Assessment

Students are carefully monitored over the course of each half term and regular feedback is given to parents over progress. D&T National Curriculum criteria are used to ensure pupils are progressing. At Key Stages 4 & 5, a greater focus on specific project criteria ensures that pupils are achieving the required national standards and more. Assessments of progress are made every half-term.

Enrichment Opportunities

- Arkwright Scholarships - aimed at A Level students wishing to follow a career in engineering. By a three-stage application starting around Christmas of Year 11.
- IET Faraday Challenge - by invitation for Year 8 pupils to take on a challenge set on the day. Requires creative and imaginative thinking.
- Siemens Manufacturing Challenge - a day-long competition in a 'Dragons' Den' style competition.
- STEM Challenges - for all years: various challenges during the year involving Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.
- D&T Projects Club - for pupils to come along and tackle their own independent projects or to catch up on curriculum work.

Careers

A huge range of careers can be followed through the study of D&T. Engineering careers from traditional engineering through to the modern application of new technology in the design and manufacture of products and Apps can all be followed at university.



@kingsmacgirlsDT

@kingsmacboysDT

Drama

About the Department

Drama at King's is a practically taught subject delivered to all students in Years 7 and 8 for two periods per fortnight. Both teachers of Drama are trained performance specialists and have a range of professional experience in the world of theatre.

The emphasis is always on developing key communication skills that will be essential through life. Drama is an option in Year 9 where, whilst still focusing on the development of communication skills, there is also an emphasis on learning about the history of drama and a practical exploration of different styles of theatre.

Students can then opt to take GCSE Drama where they will further their knowledge of improvisation and script work through the practical creation of controlled assessment performance pieces. They will also have the opportunity to choose technical options such as lighting, sound or costume design.

In the Sixth Form, there is the opportunity to study AS Theatre Studies, which involves working practically on a group performance of a scripted play as well as preparing for a written exam based on practical work seen and completed.

The department is an extra-curricular 'hotspot', offering many opportunities in the shape of lunchtime drama clubs, Lower School pantomime productions, as well as main School Productions.

We are also an examining centre for LAMDA and have many students successfully completing a range of awards. In the Lower School tuition is available during lunchtime and after school sessions, whilst Year 13 students have the opportunity to choose LAMDA as a Wednesday afternoon activity in which time they prepare for Bronze, Silver or Gold Awards. These can then be translated into valuable UCAS points.

We organise trips to a variety of theatres throughout the year. These include: The Royal Exchange, The Lowry and The New Victoria Theatre in Stoke-on-Trent.

Examination Results

GCSE 9-7 = 20% 9-4 = 100%

AS A-C = 100%

Subject Content & Syllabus

Key Stage 3: Physical Theatre, Commedia dell'arte, Naturalism, Pantomime - all used to develop the key personal learning skills of teamwork, creative and reflective thinking, effective participation and independent learning. All of these are fundamental elements of King's Learning Habits.

Key Stage 4: 60% practical exam in which students present both improvised and scripted pieces, choosing an individual skill on which to be assessed.

Monitoring & Assessment

KS3: Students are monitored and assessed every half-term in accordance with the Arts Council of England 'levels of attainment' structure. These incorporate three broad areas 'Making', 'Performing', 'Responding' within which all the 'Personal, Learning and Thinking Skills' are covered. There is also a clear overlap and integration of King's Learning Habits: collaborating, being resilient, reasoning, questioning and reflecting.

Enrichment Opportunities

There are many enrichment opportunities within Drama: lunchtime drama clubs are available and there are Lower School performances for those in Years 8 and 9. Large scale productions are open to all pupils Years 7-13. Last year our joint Music and Drama Department production was the memorable and hugely successful *Oliver!* and the previous whole school production was '*Les Misérables*'. The 2019 production will be *Blood Brothers*.

Careers

For those wishing to pursue a career in Drama or any other creative medium, it is recommended to study the subject at least up to GCSE. However, the innate creative, communication and thinking skills inherent in any Drama course are being increasingly seen by universities and employers as desirable and indeed vital.



Economics, Business & Applied Business

About the Department

The Economics & Business Department is a specialist Sixth Form department comprising of four experienced full-time members of staff.

The Department offers three subjects; A-level Economics, A-level Business and Applied General Business. In any given year more than 60% of Sixth Form students elect to take either Business or Economics or in some cases both. The department has an excellent record regarding UCAS entry with many of our students going on to study Business and Economics degrees at university, and also has a successful record in terms of Oxbridge applications.

The department consistently posts strong results: often it is the case that a student secures their best or equal best result in Economics or Business.

Examination Results

A Level Economics	A*-A = 65%	A*-B = 100%
A Level Business	A*-A = 87%	A*-B = 100%
Applied General Business	Distinction* = 43%	Distinction*/Distinction = 100%

What is the difference between Economics & Business?

Economics is a social science that attempts to explain how the actions and decisions of firms, consumers, workers and governments affect the operation of the economy. It plays a huge role in our daily lives, has links to international affairs and politics and is a subject that is often debated and discussed. It requires a fair deal of analysis and includes topics such as supply and demand, growth, inflation, globalisation and exchange rates.

Business is more concerned with the actions and decisions taken by firms and focuses on topics such as marketing, human resources, accounting and finance, management, strategy and production methods. Business Studies students will also have to cover some Economics, as it affects how businesses operate in their external environments.

Although Business is not free from theory, it is less theoretical than Economics. Out of the two subjects Economics is considered to be the more academic by employers and universities. Business, however, is by no means an easy subject; instead it involves more learning and therefore has more work to cover, and a great deal of new terminology to grapple with. Therefore, you might say that the Economics course has more depth, with Business having more breadth.

Subject Content & Syllabus

In Economics, students will study the Edexcel specification; examined via three exam papers taken at the end of Year 13.

- Paper 1: Markets & business behaviour
- Paper 2: The national & global economy
- Paper 3: Microeconomics & macroeconomics

Edexcel is again the specification of choice in Business, with students studying:

- Paper 1: Marketing, people & global business
- Paper 2: Business activities, decisions & strategies
- Paper 3: Investigating business in a competitive environment

What is the Difference between A Level Business & Applied General Business?

In terms of subject content, A Level Business and the Applied course share very similar content. The difference is in how the subjects are examined. The Applied course is more modular with a combination of exams and coursework elements. The applied course has examinations in both January and June in Year 12 and Year 13 whilst the A-level has terminal examinations. In Year 12 Applied Business students will complete one piece of coursework and two written examinations, while in Year 13 there is two pieces of coursework and one examination. The grading system is also different with students graded from Distinction * - Pass. In terms of UCAS points a Distinction* is equivalent to an A* at A Level, Distinction is equivalent to an A and a Merit to a C.

AQA is the specification that we follow in Applied General Business, with students studying:

Year 12	Year 13
Unit 1: Financial planning and analysis. (examination)	Unit 4: Managing and leading people. (examination)
Unit 2: Business dynamics. (coursework)	Unit 5: Developing a business proposal. (coursework)
Unit 3: Entrepreneurial opportunities. (examination)	Unit 8: Marketing communications. (coursework)

Monitoring & Assessment

Every piece of homework is designed to build a picture of each individual student's progress through the courses. This, coupled with regular half termly assessments, provide the department with robust data through which students are assessed. Students sit internal 'mocks' in both Years 12 & 13.

Enrichment Opportunities

- Trips to UK manufacturers
- Bi-annual international trips to places such as China and New York
- Young Enterprise
- Student Investor
- Visiting speakers from the worlds of business, finance and manufacturing
- King's of Commerce student magazine
- Bank of England Target 2.0
- ICEW Base
- Manchester Airport Enterprise Competition
- Student mentoring

Careers

Career opportunities relating to Business and Economics are vast. Many of our students who study Business or Economics go on to work in the following fields: accountancy, banking, business consultancy, actuarial work, insurance, marketing and business management.



@kingsbusecon

English

About the Department

There are eight specialist teachers in the English department, all of whom are experienced and passionate about their subject. Several members of the department are GCSE and A Level Examiners, giving our teachers and students valuable insights into the assessment process. Students benefit considerably from their expertise in this area.

Many students go onto study English or English-related degree courses at Russell Group Universities including Oxford and Cambridge, and we have a strong record of success in helping them achieve excellent places. Many prospective Law students find English a complementary A Level subject choice.

Examination Results

Our GCSE and A Level results are outstanding: students perform consistently above the national average.

2022 IGCSE English Literature:

46% of all grades were awarded at 9 - 8 (A*); 69% were awarded at 9 - 7 (A*/A)

2022 IGCSE English Language:

63% of all grades were awarded at 9 - 8 (A*); 86% were awarded at 9 - 7 (A*/A)

2022 A Levels:

English Literature: 58% achieved A*/A, with 100% A - B

English Language: 40% achieved A*/A, with 100% A - C

Subject Content & Syllabus

Key Stage 3

Students build skills in reading, comprehension, writing, analysis, speaking and listening through the study of challenging texts via a curriculum designed to provide variety and flexibility, whilst preparing pupils for the demanding GCSE years. Teachers combine the study of established works from the literary canon with high quality modern literature, thus providing students with the breadth and depth they need to gain an appreciation of language and literature. Wide and regular reading is actively encouraged and King's uses its well-stocked Resource Centre to administer our popular reading programme.

Key Stage 4 (GCSE)

Students study for two separate qualifications in English Language and English Literature. We follow the Edexcel IGCSE specification for both of these. The courses are linear and both contain coursework components that comprise 40% of the final grade. The Language qualification demands close study of an anthology of poetry and prose so there is a prepared element to the final examinations. In line with the school's ethos of providing appropriate challenge to our students, and in keeping with the educational philosophy of the members of its English Department, compulsory study of a Shakespeare play is required for the Literature course.

A Level English Language

AQA English Language explores the language that surrounds us. From a conversation between friends, to a politician's election speech, students explore how form, structure and vocabulary shape meaning. The course studies the variation of language according to context and changes in language over time, as well as exploring contemporary linguistic variation and change in the British Isles. Students will also explore how children learn language and how they are able to understand and express themselves through language.

The coursework element introduces students to independent, investigative language study. It enables them to pursue areas of individual interest and to explore methodological issues concerning data collection and analysis. It allows students to develop a creative and critical approach to their studies and places language in its wider geographical, social and temporal contexts.

A Level English Literature

The English Literature course (AQA 'B' specification) involves the study of significant texts from different genres. We examine how texts connect and inter-relate, and how they can illuminate each other. Students may study one of two literary genres: Tragedy or Comedy. In addition, students read and explore texts which contain elements of more modern cultural genres. There are two study options here: Elements of Crime Writing or Elements of Political and Social Protest Writing.

The coursework element introduces students to aspects of Critical Theory, including Narrative Theory, Feminist criticism, Marxist criticism, Post-colonial criticism and Eco-criticism. One response will be a conventional essay, the other could be a re-creative task or a further conventional essay.

Monitoring & Assessment

At Key Stages 3 and 4, an assessed task will be completed every fortnight, designed to provide staff and students with regular feedback and progress indicators. On top of this, students are formally assessed every half-term, the scores being added to end-of-year examinations to build up a full picture of attainment. They are then awarded grades for effort and attainment. Staff monitor these grades stringently and prompt intervention is taken if necessary. Students may also be awarded a 'Student of the Week' award or a 'Departmental Commendation' to recognise exceptional effort or performance.

End of year examinations are taken at the end of Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. Public examinations (GCSE and A Level) are taken in Years 11 and 13.

Enrichment Opportunities

The English Department runs a variety of extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities for students to extend their learning and interests beyond the classroom.

- A wide programme of lunchtime and after-school clubs including Debating Society, BBC School Report, English Society and Book Clubs. Students in Poetry by Heart Club have the opportunity to enter the national competition and students are offered many opportunities to enter national creative writing competitions
- Enrichment reading initiatives such as the Carnegie Shadowing and Cheshire Schools' Book Quiz
- *The Tapestry* magazine, a wonderful publication born of a joint initiative from students and staff who make up the contributors and editorial team
- Talks and workshops from visiting authors, poets and academics
- Trips to the theatre. In recent years, students have attended performances of 'The Tempest', 'An Inspector Calls' and 'Macbeth' in preparation for the GCSE examinations, amongst others
- Enrichment trips to writing workshops at the John Rylands Library at the University of Manchester
- Extra support and tuition for those making competitive applications to universities, whether abroad or at Oxbridge

Careers

Many of our students go on to study English or English-related degrees at prestigious universities, including Oxbridge. Students wanting to pursue careers in journalism, law, teaching and the civil service often find the subject complements their other studies.

Extended Studies

About the Department

The Extended Studies department includes a wide variety of subjects, all of which can be taken in Year 13. The subjects are regularly updated, but typically include:

- Introductory Japanese
- Community Sports Leadership Award
- Art Award
- Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)
- Theatre Studies
- Basic Expedition Leadership Award
- Spanish and French for Business

Due to the wide-ranging subjects offered, the department includes numerous members of staff, all of whom are very experienced in their subject area. There is also the option for a bespoke MOOCs programme, for students looking to add experience for a specific degree course, career path or outside interest.

Examination Results

All subjects are recognised qualifications and so all students will sit an exam or complete coursework in their chosen subject.

The results in EPQ are typically excellent:

2021 Results: 81% of all grades at A*-A

2022 Results: 60% of all grades A*-B; 92% A*-C

Subject Content & Syllabus

The teaching and content of the subjects very much depends on the subject in question. There are a number of more practical-based options e.g. The Art Award, Sports Leadership, Theatre Studies and Expedition Leadership as well as there being more written-based subjects such as the Extended Project Qualification. The Japanese course comprises all four aspects of learning a language and is taught by Ms. Tamai who in her second year of delivering Japanese at King's.

Every subject includes a written element, but students are asked to consider which of the options they are best suited to and most likely to enjoy.



Enrichment Opportunities

Opportunities vary depending on the course in question. For example, with the Extended Project Qualification, students take part in in-house training where they learn about research skills, how to reference and also time management.

Other courses include the opportunity to volunteer with younger students and to gain skills and experience that way, whilst there are theatre trips involved as part of the Theatre Studies course.

Careers

The Extended Studies programme is designed to facilitate other subjects, whilst also helping students gain knowledge and skills in a new subject area. Consequently, the knowledge and skills gained can help students pursue a wide variety of careers.

For example, those taking Japanese, particularly language students, find it is a very helpful addition to a UCAS application when applying to university. We have, in the past, had a student who opted for the Japanese course because they had an interest in Japanese cars and felt the language skills would be beneficial to them in the future.

The other options do of course lend themselves well to specific areas, sport or art related, and can help students clarify if the subject in question is one they wish to pursue further in the future. Universities and employers alike value the wider range of subjects that the Extended Studies programme has to offer.



French

About the Department

The French Department forms part of the Modern Languages Department at King's. French is a very popular subject at both GCSE and A Level and students achieve excellent academic results. Some students go on to study French at University either as a stand-alone subject or as part of a Joint Honours Degree.

Examination Results

IGCSE: In 2022, 73% of candidates achieved 9-7 (A*/A); 100% - achieved 9-4 (A*/B)

A Level: In 2022, 100 % gained A*- C

Subject Content & Syllabus

In Years 7 we have introduced the *Dynamo* course. Teaching is dynamic and lively and staff use a variety of activities and approaches to best teach the four skills required in a language classroom: listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Year 7 pupils are offered a taster course for French alongside German, Spanish and Latin in term 1 and are taught 4 periods of French per fortnight. The Year 7 taster course covers the basics and also aims to stretch and challenge those who have already studied some French. Towards the end of Term 1, pupils decide which two languages they wish to continue studying in Year 8 from a choice of French, Spanish, German and Latin.

Class sizes are typically 12-24 in Years 7-9. During Year 8 pupils receive 5 periods of French teaching per fortnight plus approximately 1 hour of homework. In Year 9 pupils continue working with the course *Dynamo*, which is in line with the requirements of IGCSE, and are taught French for 5 periods per fortnight; they receive 1½ hours of homework per fortnight.

Key Stage 4: At IGCSE, the Edexcel Examination Board specification and the IGCSE 'Studio' course is followed. The skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing are assessed in four papers at the end of Year 11. The topics covered are based around four themes: Theme 1: Everyday life at home and at school; Theme 2: Self, family and friends - at home and abroad; Theme 3: The world around us and Theme 4: Life from infancy to adulthood. The oral examination includes a photo-based short conversation and a general conversation, while the written examination includes different types of writing tasks of different lengths. In Years 10 and 11, pupils receive 6 periods of French teaching per cycle and approximately 2 hours of homework.

All pupils in Years 10 and 11 benefit from the help of a native French Assistant who is familiar with the examination content. Support sessions are available where needed from the subject teacher. Fortnightly lessons are timetabled in the language laboratory.

At A Level, we follow the Hodder French for AQA course. In Years 12 and 13, pupils receive 12 periods of teaching per fortnight. The class sizes in Years 12 and 13 usually do not exceed single figures to ensure that pupils receive the right level of individual attention. All A-Level pupils benefit from at least one hour per fortnight of timetabled conversation practice with the French Assistant. Fortnightly lessons are timetabled in the language laboratory.

At A Level, the topics covered include aspects of French-speaking society: current trends; current issues; artistic culture in the French-speaking world; and aspects of political life in the French-speaking world. All examinations are taken at the end of Year 13. The examination consists of a speaking exam and two written papers; Paper 1 covers listening, reading and writing and Paper 2 is an essay paper based on the study of a French book and a film. The oral examination lasts about 20 minutes in total and includes a presentation and discussion based on an individual research project. For the Sixth Form, we recommend a minimum of Grade 7 at GCSE level to embark on French at this level.

Monitoring & Assessment

At Key Stage 3, all pupils are assessed each term. Pupil progress is closely monitored, appropriate targets for improvement are set with guidance given and regular feedback to parents.

At Key Stage 4, pupils are regularly monitored and assessed. Targets are set regularly and support is offered and put in place. End of year examinations are taken at the end of Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. Public exams (GCSE and A Level examinations) are taken in Years 11 and 13.

Enrichment Opportunities

At KS3, pupils are invited to attend various French and MFL clubs. Additional enrichment activities run throughout the year to celebrate such events as 'European Day of Languages'. There is also an annual prestigious Modern Languages Reading Competition. In Year 7 we take a large group to France for an activities holiday which is run by French staff. In Years 9, 10 and 11 we take a group to Paris, and at Sixth Form level we offer a study trip to Paris where students can extend their knowledge of the French society and strengthen their oral fluency, which will prove very valuable in their speaking examination. At KS4, pupils are encouraged to attend French support clinics as well as be part of the MFL Linguavox editorial team which gives students a chance to write in French for a school magazine. At KS5, we offer extra-curricular activities such as study days at nearby universities, French Cinema Club, trip opportunities and prestigious competitions such as the annual regional Modern Languages debating competition.

Careers

The range of combined degrees and further education courses involving a language is limitless. The study of French would also be an asset when applying for apprenticeships. Many universities even offer funding for students to continue or extend their language knowledge by travelling or working abroad during the holidays.



Geography

About the Department

The Geography department consists of five very experienced full-time subject specialist teachers. The department is well resourced, and a wide range of the latest textbooks, mapping software programmes, online journal subscriptions, recorded video material and fieldwork equipment are used.

Examination Results

GCSE: In 2022, 32% of pupils achieved 9-8 and 51% 9-7.

A Level: In 2022, 41% of pupils achieved A*-A; 88% A*-B and 100% A*-C.

Up to 50% of A Level students select to read the subject (or a derivative of) each year at university, including Oxbridge applications.

Subject Content & Syllabus

In Years 7, 8 and 9 Geography is a compulsory subject. Pupils here receive 4 periods per fortnight of Geography teaching plus approximately 1 hour of homework. Field trips focus on mapping the local environment, coastal management in North Wales and overfishing at the Blue Planet Aquarium.

Many pupils opt to continue with the subject into Key Stage 4/GCSE, following the AQA GCSE Examination Board, which is a linear course. Class sizes are approximately 20 in Years 10 and 11 and pupils receive 6 periods per fortnight of Geography teaching with around 2½ hours of homework. Themes such as Natural Hazards, Ecosystems and Urbanisation are studied along with visits to Snowdonia to study glaciation and the local River Dane for river processes.

At A Level, the teaching of each set is divided between two members of the department (one for Physical Geography and one for Human Geography) who usually take the group for both years. On average, approximately 15-20 pupils select Geography at A Level, receiving 12 periods of teaching per fortnight. A range of extended homework assignments, amounting to 4/5 hours per week, are assigned. Class sizes range from 5-10 and the AQA Examination Board is followed at present with the course being linear. A week long residential trip to North Wales embellishes learning in the classroom and forms the basis of a coursework assignment.

The department fosters a strong commitment to fieldwork, with every year group enjoying at least one fieldwork trip, thus enriching subject understanding. In addition, 'wow and awe' Geography tours to locations such as the European Alps, West Coast of the USA, Iceland, New York and Naples/Sicily are arranged on a regular basis.

Geography workshops, sectioned into key stages, are open to all pupils at lunchtime one day per week, giving pupils one-to-one assistance with any Geography-related problems. A weekly Geography Club is also held for part of the year, with activities such viewing the Royal Geographical Societies' Monday Night lecture series for upper years, to the national inter-school Worldwide Quiz and designing exploding volcanoes for lower year groups!

Monitoring & Assessment

At Key Stage 3, during each half-term, all pupils undertake end of unit assessments, ranging from traditional exams to group presentations, individual projects and extended written work.

At Key Stage 4, to replicate what pupils will face at the end of the course, all are monitored and assessed at the end of each half-term in the form of an end of unit mock exam paper based on past external exam questions.

At Key Stage 5, progress tests are taken at the end of each half term. Moreover, whole school mocks are also sat in February for Year 12 and November for Year 13. Weekly exam and essay tasks also ensure regular assessment.

Finally, internal summer end of year examinations are taken at the end of Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12, while whole school mocks for Year 11 also transpire in January. The public exams (GCSE, A Level examinations) are taken in the summer of Years 11 and 13.

Enrichment Opportunities

- ‘Geographer of the Year’ Competition, Royal Geographical Society.
- Geographical Association’s Worldwide Quiz - internal rounds and inter-school final.
- Geographical Associations’ World Geography Olympiad Competition.
- Institute of Royal Town Planning Competition.
- Geographical Association Manchester Branch - evening termly lectures at Manchester Metropolitan University.
- Geographical Association’s UN Debating Competition, Manchester Branch.
- Regular ‘Wow and Awe’ overseas trips.
- Pupils can access a wide array of academic journals through the department’s subscriptions (KS4&5), many of these are also accessed online and include; Worldwide, Geographical Review, Geographical, Geography Factsheets, National Geographic, Topic Eye. Moreover, there are reading lists for each and every year group.

Careers

Geography is a traditional and well-respected academic subject and as such there are numerous career avenues. For example; mineral exploration, town planning/regeneration, meteorology, tourism, surveying, GIS (Geographical Information Systems - computer mapping/model forecasting), architecture & property development, environmental & conservation roles (Environment Agency etc.), teaching/education, alternative/renewable energy, transportation & logistics, government & political roles as well as journalism & foreign correspondents to name but a few!



@kingsmaccgeog

German

About the Department

The German Department forms part of the Modern Languages Department and has four members of staff: Mrs Slack (Head of German), Miss Lally, Mr Dalglish (Head of Modern Languages) and our native German Assistant, Andrea Schütz.

Examination Results (June 2022)

IGCSE: 49% Grade 9-8 66% Grade 9-7 100%; Grade 9 -4

A Level: 100% A* - A.

Subject Content & Syllabus

Learning German in Years 7 and 9 , we follow the new *Stimmt* course and in Year 8 we are using Echo Express for the final time. Year 7 enjoy a 6-7 week introductory German course. They then choose the two languages they would like to learn from January. Years 8 and 9 pupils receive 5 periods of teaching per fortnight. Class sizes vary from 12 - 25.

IGCSE German in Years 10 and 11: pupils follow the Pearson Edexcel Examination Board. The topics covered are: 'Home and Abroad', 'Education and Employment' and 'Personal Life and Relationships', 'The World Around Us' and 'Social Activities, Fitness and Health'. Assessment takes place at the end of Year 11 in each of the four skills: listening, reading, writing and speaking. At KS4 pupils receive 6 periods of teaching per cycle and all pupils benefit from the help of a native Language Assistant.



A Level German in Years 12 and 13: A minimum of Grade 7 at GCSE is recommended to embark on German A Level. The AQA course is followed. Class sizes in Years 12 and 13 are often small; hence students receive an excellent level of individual tuition. All students benefit from additional weekly lessons with the Language Assistant, which are devoted to development of speaking skills. At A Level the topics covered include current issues, politics, multiculturalism and artistic culture. At the end of Year 13 students undertake a speaking exam and two written papers; Paper 1 covers listening, reading and writing and Paper 2 is an essay paper based on the study of a cultural topic. The oral examination lasts about 20 minutes in total and includes a presentation based on an individual research project.

Enrichment Opportunities

We run a highly successful programme of extra-curricular activities. In November 2016 our Y13 Germanists won the North West Schools Debating Competition. We are hoping to return to our programme of trips to Germany, including a German experience for younger pupils and a traditional exchange with our partner school Gymnasium Salvatorkolleg, in Bad Wurzach.

We regularly host guest speakers, who give a diverse range of lectures and workshops, ranging from German Film, to Grammar, Linguistics and preparation for Oxbridge. We actively promote student-led learning by organising events that allow older pupils to engage with younger pupils in the Foundation, such as story-telling sessions and plays.

In KS4 *Stammtisch* is a regular lunchtime German Workshop for pupils to meet up with KS5 Germanists. Previous workshops have included sessions on *Idiomatic Phrases*, *Pronunciation*, and *Cracking Compounds*. For Sixth Formers we run a weekly break-time speaking club over coffee and cake, *Kaffeekränzchen*, and a fortnightly *A04 Klub* in which our German Assistant gives a mini-lecture on an A Level topic.

Careers

German combines well with all subjects at GCSE and A Level. At university level there are a vast array of degree courses combining German with other disciplines, such as Science and Medicine, Engineering, Law, Business, History and, of course, other languages. German is highly regarded by universities; it is a facilitating subject and having German skills makes you a very employable graduate, particularly in areas such as scientific research, electronics, aerospace, computing, law, export/import and tourism. The British Council noted in their 'Languages for the Future' report that 45% of UK businesses rate German as the most sought-after language in employees, yet only 6% of the UK adult population possesses a working level of the language. This will surely give our pupils with German a distinct advantage in the future.



@kingsmacGerman

Global Perspectives

About the Department

The Global Perspectives Department is made up of eight teachers from a wide range of academic disciplines, from English to Economics, and Art to Geography. The department utilises this wide array of experiences in order to deliver a Global Perspectives course to students in Year 12.

Global Perspectives is a ground-breaking and stimulating course that stretches across traditional subject boundaries and develops transferable skills. It is both cross-curricular and skills-based and taps into the way learners of today enjoy learning, including team work, presentations, projects, and working with other learners across the world.

Examination Results

2022

IGCSE: 77% of all grades at A*-A; 92% of all grades at A*-C

Subject Content & Syllabus

Students study the Cambridge IGCSE in Global Perspectives for one-year, leading to an IGCSE qualification at the end of Year 12. Last year, 85% of all grades were A*/A.

The emphasis is on developing the ability to think critically about a range of global issues where there is always more than one point of view. Students will explore stimulating topics that have global significance. They will assess information critically and explore lines of reasoning. They will learn to collaborate with individuals from another culture, community or country, directing much of their own learning and developing an independence of thought.

Students choose to study from a range of 20 very different topics, including:

- Belief Systems
- Law and Criminality
- Climate Change
- Sport and Recreation
- Biodiversity and Ecosystem Loss

Over the course of the year, students will complete three projects in their chosen topics. The focus of the course is to allow students to explore an area of interest, and create a project using research that considers different perspectives from around the world.

Monitoring & Assessment

Students are assessed in three ways for Global Perspectives: individual research reports, a group presentation project and a comprehension style exam.

The vast majority of preparation and work for these assessments will be conducted in Global Perspectives lessons and study periods, adding up to six periods a fortnight. This means students will complete the course whilst allowing for more time to complete work for their three A Level choices.

Careers

The Global Perspectives course offered to King's Year 12 students is designed to prepare them for the

second year of A Level and degree level study.

With a strong emphasis on individual research skills, extended essay construction and presentational skills, Global Perspectives seeks to enhance students' core learning skills that are needed in further study.

Due to the nature of the course, students can also use Global Perspectives as a way of exploring their university topic in depth.



History

About the Department

There are five full-time specialist teachers in the History department. There is a great deal of expertise and experience within the department, as well as a freshness that allows us to teach the subject in an engaging and interesting manner. Our teachers are extremely committed and regularly devote a great deal of additional time to ensure that each pupil achieves their potential in the subject.

Many students go on to study History or History-related subjects at degree level, often viewing the subject as a useful choice should they wish to pursue a career in the media, law, journalism, politics or academia.

Examination Results

Our GCSE and A Level results are outstanding; students perform consistently above the national average.

GCSE Results: 2022 76% of all grades were 9-7 (A*-A), 89% of grades were 9-6 (A*-B)

A Level: 2022 44% A*-A and 81% were A*-B

Subject Content & Syllabus

Key Stage 3

Our Key Stage 3 curriculum very much follows a chronological approach which has been designed to give develop students understanding of how the world around them has developed and changed over time. In Year 7 students wrangle with the fight for the throne in 1066, the Black Death and Peasants' Revolt to name a few. In Year 8 students begin the year with a comparative study of Mali, England and India before questioning what happens when the people challenge those who rule them and ending the year with a study of Transatlantic slave trade.

The Year 9 course considers how political ideologies affected people's lives in the twentieth century. This includes studies on the suffragettes, the World Wars, 1930s dictatorships and the Holocaust. Links with Government and Politics are purposefully included within the Year 9 syllabus in order to give the pupils a taste of a subject which might be new to them at A Level.

Key Stage 4

Students who opt to study History at Key Stage 4 follow the new Edexcel IGCSE syllabus, which primarily deals with twentieth century themes. They will start their Year 10 course by studying Weimar and Nazi Germany, before dealing with Superpower Relations. In Year 11 they will start by studying with the Vietnam Conflict and finally investigating the development of medicine over a one hundred year period, 1848 to 1948.

A Level

Students who decide to follow the subject at A Level cover a broad range of subjects which help to give them a good understanding of different periods and also allow them to utilise their skills in varied environments. In Unit One students focus upon the Tsarist and Communist Russia 1855- 1964, through which they come to understand the changing political systems. In Unit Two they deal with the Wars of the Roses which allows students to analyse the political and military conflict which foreshadows the Tudor dynasty. In Unit Three they learn about African-American Civil Rights, meaning that they will have covered topics from the medieval, early-modern and modern realms.

Monitoring & Assessment

At Key Stage 3, students are assessed every half-term either through a standardised test or a specified task which all pupils in the year group will complete. The results from these tests allow us to identify any concerns or notable achievements. Pupils in Years 10 and 11 regularly complete exam responses, which are dealt with in the same manner to ensure that all students are supported to achieve their potential. GCSE examinations take place at the end of Year 11.

Students in Years 7 - 10 all sit end of year examinations.

Enrichment Opportunities

The History Department runs a variety of extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities for students to extend their love of the subject beyond the classroom.

- An annual Year 7 trip to Tatton Park runs in June. During the visit they take part in a medieval experience day, further developing their understanding of the time period.
- An annual Year 11 trip to Berlin runs every October. This is designed to directly benefit their Cold War and Germany studies.
- Years 12 and 13 take part in a History Forum day, during which several university lecturers visit the school to deliver a series of lectures and seminars to the students on topics relating to their A Level studies.
- History Podcast Club was established during lockdown and is set to remain as a key feature of the extra-curricular offering. This runs in a similar format to a book club and allows students to explore topics beyond those taught in the classroom.
- The department runs an Anniversary Poster Competition, in which pupils can design a commemorative poster for a significant historical anniversary.
- Pupils in Year 12 are required to take part in the History Essay Competition, in which they produce a piece on a historical topic of their choosing. These essays are then published in the King's Standard Sixth Form History Magazine which is edited by students in Years 12 and 13.



@kingsmachistory

Maths

About the Department

The Mathematics Department consists of 8 full-time specialist Mathematics teachers. Each member of the department is an experienced teacher with a proven track-record of outstanding academic results.

The department produces a steady stream of pupils going on to study Mathematics or Mathematics related degree courses at university, including many who go on to study Engineering, Medicine and Physical Sciences.

Examination Results

We have an outstanding academic record at GCSE and A Level:

2022 A Level	Maths	73% A* - A	93% A* - B
	Further Maths	100% A* - A	100% A* - B
2022 GCSE	Maths	68% 9-7 (A* - A)	100% 9-4 (A* - C)
	Further Maths	69% 9-7 (A [^] - A)	100% 9-4 (A [^] - C)

Subject Content & Syllabus

At Key Stage 3, the MEP (Mathematics Enhancement Programme) course is followed. We adopt traditional whole class teaching using the interactive whiteboards in each classroom. We also encourage non-calculator methods to help develop pupils' understanding and develop enquiring minds.

Typically, Year 7 is taught in mixed-ability groups and then, from Year 8 onward, pupils are put in sets. Class sizes are 12 - 24 in Years 7- 9. During Year 7 and 8: pupils receive 7 periods per fortnight of Maths teaching, plus approximately 1 hour homework. In Year 9 pupils are taught Maths for 6 periods per fortnight and receive around 1 hour homework.

Key Stage 4: At GCSE, the Edexcel iGCSE course is followed, which is a linear course. The strongest students also take the AQA Level 2 Further Mathematics Certificate qualification. Class sizes are typically 12 - 24 in Years 10 and 11, and we keep the lower sets as small as possible. Pupils receive 8 periods per fortnight of Maths teaching, and around 2 hours homework.

At A Level, both Mathematics and Further Mathematics are available. The class sizes in Years 12 and 13 are typically between 5 and 15. Additional support classes are run at the teacher's discretion, more frequently for public examination classes (years 11 and 13).

In Year 12 the course consists of 2/3 Pure Mathematics (algebra, geometry, calculus), 1/6 Mechanics and 1/6 Statistics. In Year 13, the course again incorporates 2/3 Pure Mathematics (algebra, geometry, calculus) 1/6 Mechanics and 1/6 Statistics. Year 13 extends on the work covered in Year 12.

Mathematics Clinics are open to all pupils at lunchtimes, each key stage has 2 clinics per week. These offer one-to-one help to clear up any Mathematics-related problems.

Monitoring & Assessment

At Key Stage 3, all pupils are assessed each half-term and movement between sets is possible. Pupils are tracked against National Criteria, and regular feedback is given to parents.

At Key Stage 4, pupils in Year 10 are monitored and assessed towards the end of each term. In Year 11 there is an assessment before the October half term and a mock examination in January.

Summer end of year examinations are taken in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. Public exams (GCSE and A Level examinations) are taken in Years 11 and 13.

Enrichment Opportunities

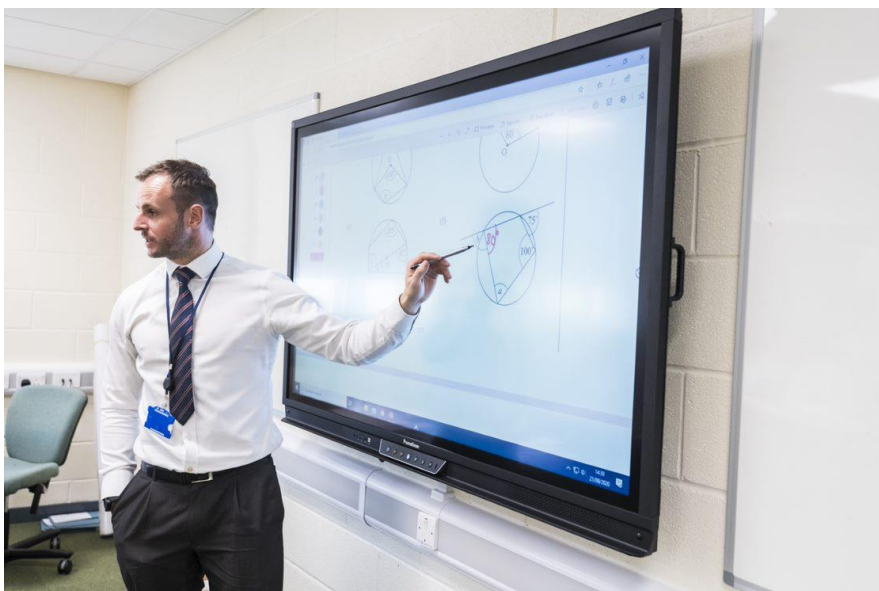
- Extra tuition in Mathematics for university entrance papers (Oxford, Cambridge, Warwick)
- Pupils are selected to participate in Mathematical Challenge competitions (UKMT individual and team challenges)
- Cipher Challenge (University of Southampton)
- Cryptography Challenge (Manchester University)
- Maths Challenge Support in Years 7-9 (JMC and IMC)
- Sixth Form lectures (in and around Manchester), UK Mathematics Challenges, 'Maths puzzles', Challenge and Enrichment tasks

Successes

- Excellent results in Schools Mathematics Challenge contests
- Distinctions and medal winners in Olympiad level National events
- Dmitri Whitmore was awarded the Leathen Prize and a Horne Scholarship, awarded to the top 1st year Mathematics student in St John's College, Cambridge (2017)
- Winners of the Regional Senior Maths Team Challenge 2016
- Dmitri Whitmore, Pythagoras Prize from St John's College, Cambridge, for academic excellence in Mathematics (2016)
- Laura Embrey (Year 11 2013) gained 100% in her Mathematics papers including Further Maths certificate - one of only 11 in the country to do so (letter from Chief Examiner)
- National Cipher Challenge 2012 (University of Southampton) joint 1st place out of 1300 UK school teams (6 other King's teams entered)
- Elliot Malkin, distinction and scholarship winner - Oxford University

Careers

Mathematics is a vital area of study that underpins many higher education courses. Applications for Maths/Physics/Engineering all benefit from having taken Mathematics/Further Mathematics to A Level.



Music

About the Department

The Music Department consists of two specialist classroom music teachers, 20 peripatetic instrumental teachers, a postgraduate musician, and the Examinations & Music Administrator.

Our fantastic new facilities include dedicated classroom spaces, a computer/technology lab, our own Recital Hall and a suite of practice rooms.

Music is an essential part of life for students at King's. Academic music is thriving and each year over 400 students take part in extra-curricular music-making, a majority of whom also have instrumental/singing lessons at King's.

Examination Results

A Level: 100% A*-A

GCSE: 70% 9-7, 100% 9-4

Subject Content & Syllabus

At King's, we follow our own bespoke curriculum at Key Stage 3. We compose, perform and listen to music in a wide range of styles including Rock/Pop, Music for the Screen (Film/TV), Classical Music in Context, Medieval Music, World Music, C20th Art Music and Jazz/Blues. At all times, the emphasis is on practical music-making whether as soloists or as members of an instrumental ensemble or choral group.

Music is compulsory for students in Years 7 and 8 and a popular choice in Year 9 where topics range from Handel to House Music!

From KS4 upwards we follow the EdExcel specification at GCSE level and the AQA specification at A Level. Students are examined in performance, composition and listening and appraising skills informed by set works ranging from Baroque concerti to the latest Jazz fusions. Smaller class sizes (usually 8-12 at GCSE, 2-4 at A Level) allow us to pay close attention to individuals' needs and interests.

Monitoring & Assessment

During their time at King's, all pupils are assessed each half-term and regular feedback is given to parents.

End of year examinations are taken in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. Public exams (GCSE and A Level examinations) are taken in Years 11 and 13.

Enrichment Opportunities

Instrumental lessons are available in strings, woodwind and brass instruments, percussion, guitar (acoustic and electric) and voice. We also offer tuition in Music Theory and aural skills. Students are encouraged to work towards ABRSM, Trinity or Rockschool examinations.

In addition, we offer a full and diverse range of extra-curricular activities for musicians of all standards and interests. Many of our students rehearse and perform with leading regional and national ensembles (e.g. National Youth Choir, National Youth Jazz Collective, National Children's Orchestra, Hallé) in addition to their work in-school. Our instrumental ensembles include the Big Band, Chamber Orchestra, String Orchestra, Concert Band, Wind Band and smaller groups created to meet the changing needs and

interests of specific students (e.g. Year 7/8 Rock Band, Brass Groups, Barbershop).

Singing and Choral work is particularly strong at King's. This year, the Foundation (Senior) Choir will be singing Evensong at Chester Cathedral in addition to numerous concerts and services in Macclesfield. Singing is also popular at KS3 with large numbers of students taking part in our Changing Voices Choirs (Y7 - Y10 +). Our choral programme is supported by a regular series of trips and tours including annual tours to Blackpool Pleasure Beach and the Lake District (Changing Voices Choirs) and bi-annual international tours (Foundation Choir) e.g. Prague 2016, Rome 2018.

Each year, we collaborate with colleagues in the Drama department on school productions both large and smaller scale. Recent productions include *Les Miserables* (2016), *Oliver!* (2018), *Bugsy Malone* (2020) and, in Spring 2022, *Little Shop of Horrors*. The Music department also organises regular trips to concerts and performances in Macclesfield, Manchester and further afield.

Careers

Each year, several students leave to study Music at university/conservatoire level (including Oxbridge organ and choral scholars), and from there go on to enjoy successful careers in different areas of the music industry (e.g. composers, performers, music management).

At the same time, studying Music to GCSE and A Level enables students to develop a wide range of critical thinking, analysis and creative skills which are highly valued by university admissions tutors and, later on, potential employers. In every way, King's musicians stand out from the crowd.



PE & Games

About the Department

The PE and Games Department consists of around 15 PE teachers and experienced specialist sports coaches plus other staff who supplement the extensive Games and Extra-Curricular programme. Within the department we have a host of specialists who have played sport to a particularly high level (including national standard) to inspire the next generation in a wide range of sports.

The department offers a wealth of opportunities within the curricular and extra-curricular programme. PE can be selected as an academic option at GCSE and BTEC where pupils take a more analytical look at the world of sport with the expert guidance of experienced teachers and sports performers.

Many pupils select PE to help them to study Physiotherapy, Sports Psychology, Sports Science, Sports Management and Nutrition at University.

Examination Results

Pupils consistently achieve results above their predicted GCSE grades; 73% of pupils in 2022 achieved a grade 7, 8 or 9-7. BTEC Sport results were excellent, with 83% pupils achieving a Distinction or Distinction * which is equivalent to an A/A*.

Subject Content & Syllabus

At Key Stage 3 we teach a wide range of activities within PE to develop the core skills learnt in junior school. A number of these are individual activities such as athletic development, trampolining, badminton, volleyball, swimming, fitness, dance (girls only) and athletics. These are supplemented by Games lessons to focus on application of skills within team games such as rugby, hockey, netball, cricket and rounders. PE is taught in form groups and pupils will receive two lessons of PE per fortnight.

Key Stage 4: At GCSE, the AQA Examination board is followed, which is a linear course. Typically, pupils who are capable sportsmen and women do extremely well in GCSE PE, where they learn about the theoretical side of sport and also have the opportunity to develop their leadership and organisational skills.

At KS5, pupils are entered in the BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Sport which is equivalent to 1 A-level. Material covered is similar to that taught in the Physical Education A-level so will prepare students who wish to study sports related course in higher education. Pupils who have a passion for sport and want to take a more applied route to learning are well suited to this course. There is an opportunity for pupils to extend their study if they are very capable and should seek more information from the Head of Academic PE (Mrs Dunn).

Games is taught as a whole year group and then divided into activity groups to allow variety, differentiation and rotation. Each year group will receive two Games afternoons per fortnight.

Monitoring & Assessment

GCSE is assessed in practical activities (40% of course) and two theory exams (60%). The practical assessment is made up of three sports, two of which need to be an individual and a team sport with the third being a choice of either. In addition, a controlled assessment is carried out in February of Year 11 in a sport of the pupil's choice.

BTEC units are assessed by two external exams and two assignments which are internally verified. Students receive 12 periods of teaching per fortnight, which will include theoretical lessons, practical lessons and some with feature trips in lesson time or guest speakers.

Enrichment Opportunities

- Extra tuition in PE in preparation for examinations.
- A range of sporting extra-curricular clubs and activities are offered with regular practices.
- All pupils are expected to contribute to school teams to enhance their practical scores.
- International Sports Tours are available to represent school teams.
- Pupils are encouraged to get involved with coaching younger students to help enhance their leadership and coaching skills.
- Pupils are able to demonstrate their leadership skills when assisting with Infant & Junior School events.
- The Community Sports Leadership Award (CSLA) is run in Year 13 to provide pupils with a formal qualification which can supplement their UCAS form.
- County representation in a range of sports: Netball, Hockey, Golf, Cross-country, Athletics, Rugby and Cricket.
- Cheerleading and Trampolining Hub with international and national success.
- Each weekend sees over 50% of the school's pupils compete in a sports team.
- Independent schools cup entrants.

Careers

Physical Education is a vital area of study that underpins many higher education courses. Applications for Physiotherapy, Psychology, Biomechanics, Nutrition, Armed Forces, Teaching, Coaching Education all benefit from having taken Physical Education.



 @kingsgirlssport

 @kingscheer  @kingsmacsport

 @kingstrampoline

 @kingsmaccricket

 @kingsmacrugby

 @kingsmachockey

Politics

About the Department

The Government and Politics Department consists of three specialist teachers who deliver the Government & Politics course. Each member of the department is an experienced teacher with a proven track-record of outstanding academic results. The department produces a consistent number of pupils going on to study Politics or Politics-related degree courses at university.

Examination Results

We have a strong academic record at A Level:

2022 results - A Level Politics - 68% of all grades at A* - B

Subject Content & Syllabus

Students who study Government and Politics at A Level will follow the AQA syllabus, through which they will develop an understanding of both the UK political system and also that of the USA. In addition, they will be taught about the differing ideologies which have often formed the bedrock of political thought; liberalism, socialism and conservatism.

Component 1: UK Politics

This unit explores the nature of politics and how people engage in the political process in the UK. In this unit students deal with the nature of the British constitution, the structure and role of Parliament, the power of the Prime Minister, as well as the core themes relating to democracy, elections, political parties and pressure groups.



Component 2: The Government and Politics of the USA and Comparative Politics

This unit introduces students to the major governmental processes within the USA and encourages them to compare it with that of the UK. This unit deals with the constitutional framework of the US government, the electoral process, political parties and pressure groups. In the second half of the unit they will develop comparisons between the systems of the UK and the USA.

Component 3: Political Ideas

In this unit students will learn about the subject of political ideologies and will examine the major ideas of liberalism, conservatism, socialism and nationalism. They will be required to study the core elements of each ideology, as well as the different varieties which exist within each belief system.

Monitoring & Assessment

At A Level, pupils are monitored and assessed at the end of each term. The department as a whole are always available should individual pupils need additional support or advice. Public examinations are taken at the end of Year 13.

Enrichment Opportunities

All pupils will have the opportunity to visit the Houses of Parliament in either Year 12 or 13, during which they will receive a tour of the Commons and also have the chance to participate in a mock Select Committee debate. Our local MP regularly visits the school to support Politics learning.

All students will explore the factors that impact the successes of pressure groups by establishing their own pressure group aiming to achieve change - students can focus on issues in the immediate school environment or choose to support wider political ideas. Students in 2021 campaigned successfully for school support for the Salvation Army and for more political education lower down the school.

All pupils will go on a political walking tour of Manchester concentrating on Marx and Engels to supplement their understanding of socialism.

Should the opportunity arise, pupils will be expected to take part in any mock elections that the department decides to arrange. In recent years we have held very successful mock general elections and a mock EU referendum.

Careers

Students who study Government and Politics have access to a wide range of career and degree opportunities. Students acquire a good working knowledge of both the UK and US systems of government and develop analytical skills valuable to universities and employers. Students studying this subject have gone into a number of careers, from law, journalism and business to speech writing for politicians in the UK, EU and the USA. As a full Politics degree or combined honours degree with History, Economics, Philosophy or a language, politics will provide undergraduates with an attractive foundation for their future.

PSHE

About the Subject

Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education is concerned with the physical, mental, spiritual and economic well-being of the pupils in our school. It should enable our pupils to acquire and develop the thinking and interpersonal skills they need to make sense of, and then manage, the world around them. PSHE education helps pupils to become effective learners and supports them as they become independent young people and active contributors to British society.

King's is committed to developing pupils' responsibilities towards themselves, others in school, and the local and global community. PSHE education plays an important role within King's pastoral care and in fostering a friendly, polite and caring community, made up of well-rounded individuals who work well with others and who become increasingly responsible for their own learning and development.

Subject Content & Syllabus

The curriculum is divided into three strands of learning: Wider World, Healthy Living, and Relationships. Students study a variety of topics within these strands and build their knowledge and skills as they progress through school.

Key Stage 3

In Year 7, PSHE lessons are once a fortnight. Students explore areas such as the transition from primary school to senior school, healthy relationships, puberty and e-safety.





In Year 8, the PSHE programme is delivered through fortnightly lessons. In many of the lessons, students are encouraged to use role play to explore key issues in their lives such as bullying and peer pressure. Students will also cover topics such as loss and change, the menstrual cycle and how to disagree respectfully.

In Year 9, PSHE is also delivered through fortnightly lessons but also through specific PSHE days where a mixture of visiting speakers and teachers present to the pupils on topics such as e-safety, drug awareness, sex, and relationships, study skills, and diversity.

Key Stage 4

In Years 10 and 11, PSHE Education is delivered by a team of specialist teachers. Students continue to develop their learning from Key Stage 3 and revisit topics such as sex and relationships, personal finance and preparation for Sixth Form life.

Key Stage 5

The PSHE programme in the Sixth Form is delivered during dedicated tutor periods, and very often involves outside speakers. Students explore issues surrounding physical and mental well-being, as well as topical issues and preparation for life beyond the Sixth Form.

Psychology

About the department

The Psychology Department is a specialist Sixth Form department comprising of 3 experienced full- time and 1 part-time members of staff.

Psychology is one of the most popular A Levels in the Sixth Form; in any given year around 40% of Sixth Form students elect to take Psychology. The department has an excellent record regarding UCAS entry with many of our students going on to study Psychology degrees at university.

Examination Results

The Psychology department consistently posts outstanding results:

2022 A Level Results: 37% A*-A, 78% A*-B, 91% A*-C

What is Psychology?

According to the British Psychological Society, Psychology is the “scientific study of human mind and behaviour: how we think, feel, act and interact individually and in groups”.

Its status as a science was rightly recognised in 2008 when the QCA (Qualifications and Curriculum Development Agency) brought Psychology in with the other three sciences. Since then, the dramatic increase in the popularity of Psychology at both A-Level and degree level has continued. In 2017, it was the third most popular examination subject at A-Level, and it remains in the top five subjects studied at degree level.

Subject content and syllabus

In Psychology, students will study the AQA specification. The A-Level examination comprises of three papers of two hours each covering all topics from the two-year course. The papers comprise of a variety of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions. Two papers will consist of compulsory questions but the third will be optional questions. A brief summary of the specification content is given below.

- Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology (Social Psychology, Memory, Psychopathology and Attachment)
- Paper 2: Psychology in context (Biopsychology, Approaches to Psychology and Research Methods)
- Paper 3: Topics in Psychology (Schizophrenia, Relationships, Forensic Psychology and Issues and Debates)

Monitoring and Assessment

At A-Level, students are assessed regularly through homework and take end of unit tests at the end of each half term. In Years 12 and 13 students sit internal ‘mocks’. Public examinations are at the end of Year 13.

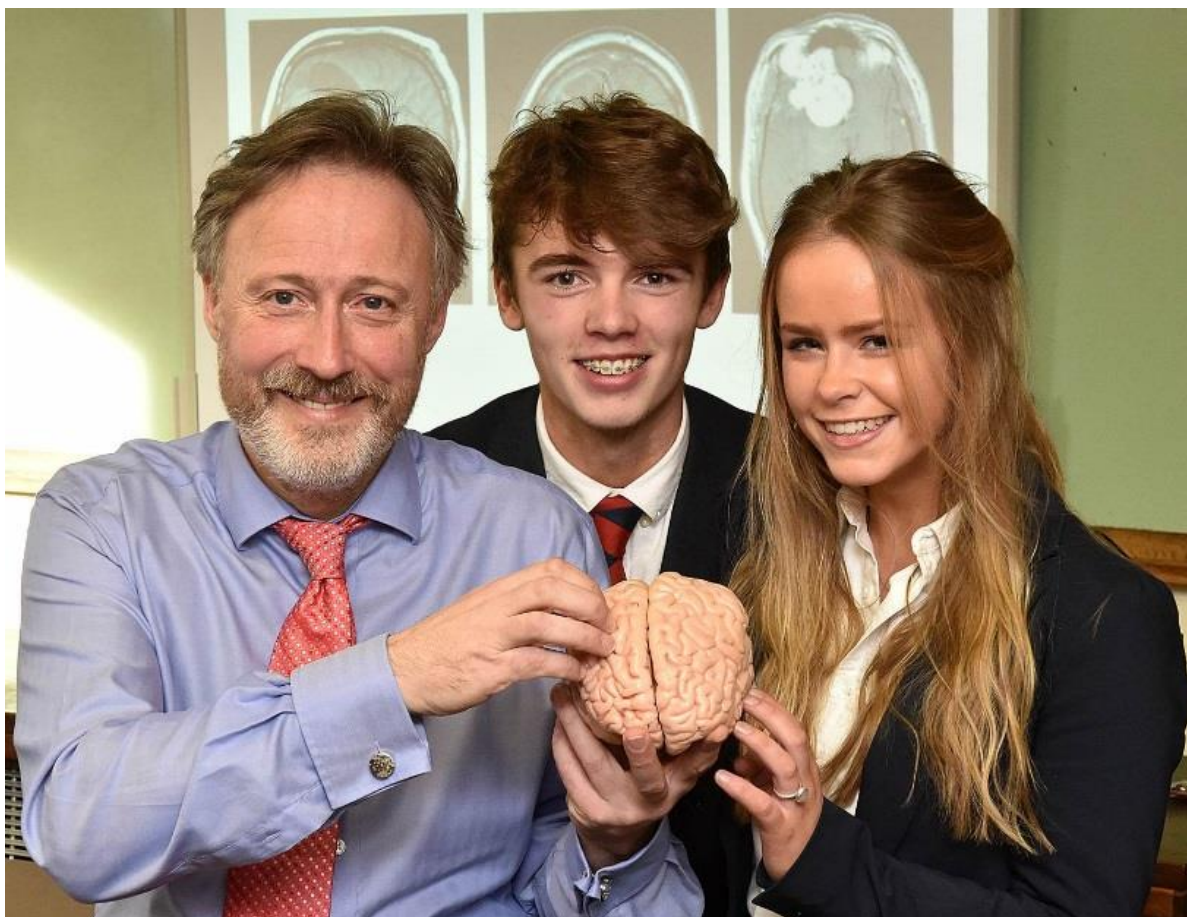
Enrichment opportunity

Alongside lessons, we organise several activities to enhance and complement understanding of the specification content:

- The True-Life Conference, where reformed time served criminals come into school to discuss their experiences of the Criminal Justice system
- Brain Day with Dr Guy Sutton, an international neuroscience expert and director and founder of Medical Biology Interactive, comes into school to show the true impact of the brain on behaviour and the students get the opportunity to dissection the brain of a sheep.
- During the final term of Year 12, students design their own research projects in any area of Psychology that interests them. This mini dissertation gives the students an insight into what university life will be like as they get the chance to test real participants and consider the implications of their findings.

Careers

Psychology is an academically demanding subject. It is an A-level that can be used as a steppingstone towards a psychologically related career, such as a psychiatrist or counselor who's focus is to diagnose and treat those with mental health disorders; forensic psychologists or analysts typically work alongside the police to help profile and prevent crimes; educational psychologists are found within a school setting and try to help those with special educational needs access the curriculum; sports psychologists work alongside athletes to improve their performance; and there are many more. However, even if you do not wish to peruse a career in a Psychology related field, the skills that students develop over the course fit nicely with range of other degree subjects. Many of our students have gone on to study Law, Medicine, Mathematics, Dentistry, History, Architecture, Computer Science, Neuroscience, Fine Art, Sports Science, Biology and English Literature to name but a few.



Religion & Philosophy

About the Department

The R&P department at King's consists of two full-time specialist Religion and Philosophy teachers, as well as very dedicated Psychology teachers who add a new dimension to the teaching of the subject.

We have embraced the school's philosophy of helping to develop key Learning Habits by promoting a challenging and inspiring curriculum with plenty of opportunities for students to hone their reasoning skills throughout all the Key Stages.

Examination Results

2022 A Level	Religious Studies	20% A*-A	80% A*-B
2022 GCSE	Religious Studies	62% 9-7 (A*- A)	83% 9-6 (A*-B)

Subject Content & Syllabus

Students are taught in tutor groups during Years 7 - 9. In Year 7 they receive 2 periods per fortnight and in Year 8 and 9, 3 periods per fortnight. We offer a broad curriculum that essentially has three main strands:

Firstly - Religious Studies: During Years 7 - 9, we look at 5 of the world faiths in some detail, offering the students the opportunity to understand different and global perspectives and encouraging tolerance and an open-minded appreciation of the views of others.

Secondly - we allow students to flex their philosophical muscles through enquiry-based lessons: all R&P staff are trained in a technique known as Philosophy For Children (P4C) which is a means by which students make enquiries regarding all sorts of profound topics (of their own choosing). The students love the opportunity to muse about big questions, whilst staff are trained in the art of helping them to structure their thinking about any particular topic.

Thirdly - we also teach citizenship: this includes helping students understand their place in their local as well as global community, including themes such as criminal justice, voluntary work and equality. In year 8 we tackle BAME issues.

GCSE:

At GCSE level, we study the AQA Religious Studies Philosophy and Ethics course. This is examined in three separate papers at the end of Year 11.

Topics covered in Beliefs, Teachings and Practices units are: Christianity and Islam.

Topics covered in the Philosophy and Ethics unit are: Relationships, The existence of God and ultimate reality, Peace and conflict, the dialogue between religious and non-religious beliefs.

A Level:

We study the OCR Philosophy and Ethics course. This is divided into three components:

Philosophy, Ethics and Buddhism

This is examined in three separate exams at the end of Year 13.

Topics covered in Philosophy are: Greek Philosophy of Plato and Aristotle; The nature of the soul; The nature of God; Arguments for God's existence; Challenges to religious belief.

Topics covered in Ethics are: Ethical theories such as Utilitarianism, Natural Law, Kantianism, Situation ethics as applied to medical ethics, War and Peace and Business.

Topics covered in ‘Developments in Religious Thought’ are: The religious beliefs and values of Christianity, sources of wisdom, practices and the relationship between religion and society.

Monitoring & Assessment

At Key Stage 3, all pupils are marked on their classwork as well as their oral contributions. There is one major assessed piece per half term that will help inform the half-termly assessments and one major piece of independent project work.

Projects for years 7-9:

Year 7: Design a multi-denominational place of worship

Year 8: Local community project

Year 9: Moral Issues project

At Key Stage 4, pupils’ work is continually monitored and there are several examination style questions that inform our assessment every half-term.

End of year assessment:

Years 7-9

Unlike many other subjects students in years 7-9 do not take a final summer exam. Instead their ‘final mark’ is taken from two unit assessments throughout the year plus a the mark awarded for their independent project work.

Years 10 and 12

Summer end of year examinations are taken at the end of Years 10 and 12.

Years 11 and 13

Public exams (GCSE and A Level examinations)

Enrichment Opportunities



The R&P department runs several trips. In Year 7 we run a ‘places of worship’ trip that provides an opportunity for students to get an insight into different religious traditions. In the Upper School we aim to take exciting trips to places of religious and cultural significance. In recent years we have visited Japan and will be visiting Rome and Nepal in the near future

The R&P department runs two philosophy groups at lunchtimes:

For Years 7-9, Filmosophy provides an opportunity for students to engage with philosophical themes that can be found in modern cinematic masterpieces.

For Years 10-13, Philosophy Club aims to tackle fundamental philosophical issues through

presentation, argument and debate. There are also a number of national essay competitions, for which support is provided by the department.

Science

About the Department

The Science Department consists of 15 full-time and 1 part-time specialist science teachers. Each member of the department is an experienced teacher with a proven track-record of outstanding academic results.

A large number of students elect to study science at A Level and the department produces a steady stream of pupils who choose to study a Science-related degree courses at university; including many who study Medicine, Veterinary Science and Dentistry as well as the Physical Sciences. Over the last 2 years the faculty has produced around 25 medics, 5 vets and 8 Oxford and Cambridge entrants.

Examination Results

We have an outstanding academic record at GCSE and A Level:

2022	A Level	Biology	33% A*/A and 71% A*- B
		Chemistry	38% A*/A and 75% A*- B
		Physics	63% A*/A and 78% A*- B
GCSE	Biology	68% 9-7 and 100% 9-4	
	Chemistry	65% 9-7 and 100% 9-4	
	Physics	60% 9-7 and 100% 9-4	

Subject Content & Syllabus

In Years 7 and 8 students follow a general science course developed by the school. This focuses on developing King's Learning Habits alongside a broad-based science education. Practical content is high and there is a firm emphasis on student-based learning. The students also follow the Beyond Fair Testing course created by King's College London to improve students' thinking and analysing skills and involves practical work, problem-solving and teaching students different types of scientific enquiry. Students have either 7 lessons per fortnight with one member of staff. Classes are taught in form groups, with class sizes typically around 18 - 24.

In Year 9 the students follow courses in the individual Sciences with specialist subject teachers. After an introductory course, students will start their GCSE studies in all three Sciences. Again, there is a high emphasis on practical work and developing essential learning skills. Students receive 4 lessons per fortnight in each of the Sciences.

At GCSE we offer Separate Science and Dual Award Science. Over half of students follow the Separate Science programme and students are placed in sets across the whole year group. This course leads to three Science GCSEs (Biology, Chemistry, Physics). The rest of the students follow the Dual Award Science programme (Trilogy) and receive the same teaching time allocation as the Separate Scientists. This leads to two Science GCSEs and allows students more time to gain confidence in each of the Science subjects. We follow the AQA for the triple award and the trilogy course. The three departments work closely together in developing novel and innovative teaching methods. Students are assessed and monitored regularly and each department provides weekly support clinics and revision classes to help students achieve their potential.

At A Level all three Sciences follow the AQA course. Class sizes in Years 12 and 13 are typically between 5 and 15. Practical work makes excellent use of the school's wide variety of university level equipment and students are entered for a range of national competitions. There are systematic programmes in place to help prepare students for Veterinary/Medicine/Dentistry courses as well as for Oxbridge entry. For the Sixth Form, we recommended a minimum of grade 7 at GCSE level to embark on any of the Science courses, ideally alongside an A grade in Mathematics. Dual award students will need to achieve at least a 7-7 grade to move onto A Level sciences.

Monitoring & Assessment

At Key Stage 3, all pupils are assessed each half-term. Pupils are tracked against National Criteria for KS3 and regular feedback is given to parents. At Key Stage 4, pupils are monitored and assessed at the end of each half-term.

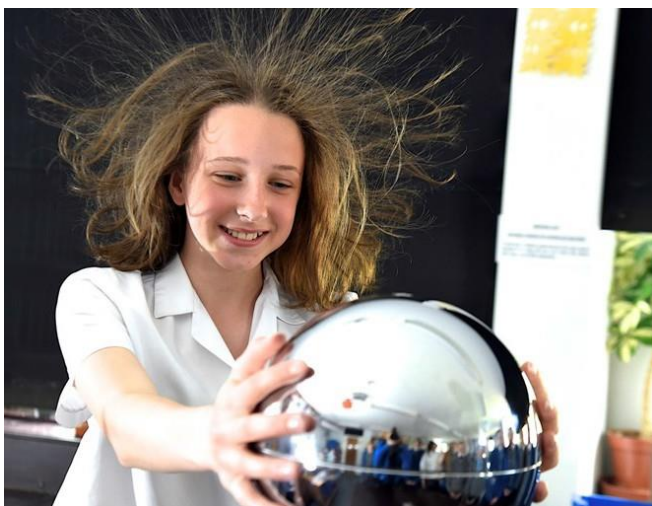
End of year examinations are taken in the summer term of Years 7 -10. Public exams (GCSE and A Level examinations) are taken in Years 11 and 13.

Enrichment Opportunities

- Extra tuition for UCAT, BMAT and Oxbridge entry
- Royal Society Lectures
- Science Olympiad entry opportunities in all three Sciences
- Royal Society Lectures
- Year 13 field course for Biology
- Top of the Bench and Salters Chemistry competitions
- STEM events and competitions
- Museum trips and courses
- Science clubs for Years 7-12
- Visiting speakers from universities and industry
- A Level Physics CERN visit
- Nowgen visit for A Level Biologists
- Year 11 Jodrell Bank trip
- Cambridge University Science Challenges for Year 12 students
- Crest science research award opportunities

Careers

Studying Sciences can open the door to a wide range of professions, including medicine, forensic science, pharmaceutical research, engineering, architecture, finance and many more. Science A Levels are among the most highly regarded academic A Levels and form the basis of more degree courses than any other subjects.



Spanish

About the Department

The Spanish Department forms part of the Modern Languages Department at King's and consists of six Spanish specialists, all of whom teach at least one other language, and a Spanish native Language Assistant.

Spanish is a very popular subject at both GCSE and A Level and students achieve excellent academic results. Many students go on to study Spanish at university either as a stand-alone subject or as part of a Joint Honours Degree.

Examination Results

In Spanish, 55% of our most recent GCSE students achieved a top grade of 9-7 (A*-A), and 95% achieved a grade 4 or higher. Many of our high scoring pupils are now continuing their language studies at A Level. Our A Level Spanish results are consistently ambitious with a consistent 100% pass rate, and 50% of our students achieving a grade A*-A in 2022, and 100% scoring A*-A in 2021.

Subject Content & Syllabus

At Key Stage 3, the 'Mira' course is currently followed in Year 8, which we are beginning to replace with a new course, *Viva* in Year 9. Teaching is dynamic and lively, and staff use a variety of activities and approaches to best teach the four skills required in a language classroom: listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Year 7 enjoy a 6-7 week introductory Spanish course. They then choose the two languages they would like to learn from January, with 4 periods of each language per fortnight. Years 8 and 9 pupils receive 5 periods of teaching in each language per fortnight. Class sizes vary from 12 - 25.

At Key Stage 4, the Pearson Edexcel iGCSE specification is followed. The skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing are assessed in a Reading and Writing exam, a Listening exam and a Speaking exam towards the end of Year 11. The topics covered are lively and interesting and include aspects of the Hispanic world which pupils find exciting. In Years 10 and 11, pupils receive 6 periods of Spanish teaching per cycle and approximately 2 hours of homework.

All pupils in Years 10 and 11 benefit from the help of a native speaking Spanish Assistant who is familiar with the examination content. Support sessions and extra clinics where needed are available from the dedicated subject teachers.

At A Level, the AQA course is followed. In Years 12 and 13, pupils receive 12 periods of teaching per fortnight. The class sizes do not exceed single figures to ensure that pupils receive the right level of individual attention. All A Level pupils benefit from at least one hour per fortnight of timetabled conversation practice with the Spanish Assistant.

At A Level, the topics covered include Aspects of Spanish-speaking society: current trends; current issues; artistic culture in the Spanish-speaking world; and aspects of political life in the Spanish-speaking world. All examinations are taken at the end of Year 13. The examination consists of a speaking exam and two written papers; Paper 1 covers listening, reading and writing and Paper 2 is an essay paper based on the study of a Spanish book and a film. The speaking examination lasts about 20 minutes in total and includes a presentation based on an individual research project. For the Sixth Form, we recommended a minimum of Grade 7 at GCSE level to embark on Spanish at this level, although pupils achieving a Grade 6 at GCSE Spanish may be considered on an individual basis.

Monitoring & Assessment

At Key Stage 3, all pupils are assessed each half-term. Pupil progress is closely monitored, appropriate targets for improvement are set with guidance given and regular feedback is given to parents.

At Key Stage 4, pupils are monitored and assessed at the end of each term. Targets are set regularly and support is offered and put in place. Summer end of year examinations are taken at the end of Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. Public exams (iGCSE and A Level examinations) are taken in Years 11 and 13.

Enrichment Opportunities and Trips

There are many enrichment opportunities available to Spanish pupils at King's. At KS3, pupils are invited to attend the Spanish club, which is run fortnightly and led by each of our Spanish-speaking staff members. Additional enrichment activities run throughout the year to celebrate such events as European Day of Languages and El Día de Los Muertos, as well as the national competitions. For example, in 2019, we were proud to have many entries to the Oxford MFL Short Story Competition. At KS4, pupils are encouraged to attend Spanish Clinic to boost and enhance their knowledge in preparation for iGCSE. We run an annual trip to Cadiz and Seville, which is very popular for pupils in Key Stages 3 and 4. Pupils take part in activities ranging from flamenco dancing to market trips, all led in Spanish by the native Spanish assistants who work there. The centre is located close to the beach and offers many exciting opportunities for our pupils.

At KS5, there are various opportunities to contribute to the Spanish department and benefit from extra-curricular activities such as study days at nearby universities, trip opportunities, most recently to Málaga in 2019, and prestigious competitions such as the annual North Schools MFL Debating Competition. Our Spanish Assistant also runs an A Level lunchtime club "Sobremesa", where Spanish culture and recent news are discussed in a friendly environment.

Across all Key Stages, there are opportunities to compete in national level competitions which may involve creative writing in Spanish, translation of texts and students may even try their hand at linguistics in the annual UK Linguistics Olympiad.

Careers

The range of combined degrees, further education courses and careers involving a language is limitless. The skills acquired through language study are transferable and highly sought after by employers. In terms of Spanish, opportunities extend throughout Central and South America, as well as Europe. Many universities even offer funding for students to continue or extend their language knowledge by travelling or working abroad during the holidays.



[@kingsmaccSpan](https://www.instagram.com/kingsmaccSpan)

Extra-Curricular Clubs & Activities

The school uses a programme called SOCS as a way for pupils to access our Sports and Extracurricular programme.

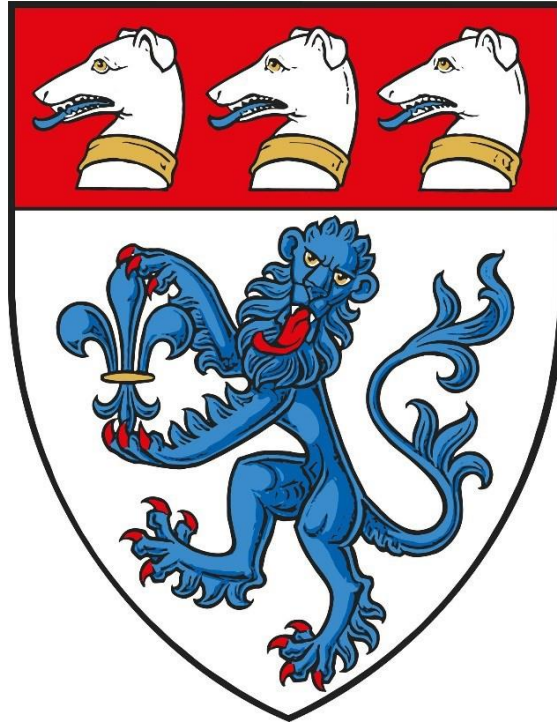
The system is available for pupils, staff and parents to access the clubs and activities within the Senior and Sixth Form Divisions. Pupils can sign themselves up for clubs and activities that take place throughout the school week(s). Parents will be given a login to be able to view and see the clubs that their child has attended, they cannot sign up the children for clubs through the system.

The school runs an 'Activities Fair' early in the term so that all pupils can see what is on offer, and new clubs are added throughout the year with notifications in assemblies and form time.

Below is a sample of the clubs and activities available before school, during lunchtime and after school. These are in addition to multiple year group sports practices/training.

3D Animation Club	Indoor Bowling Club
3D Printing Club	Italian Club
Arabic Language & Cultural	Jamboree Band
Art Club	LAMDA rehearsals
Bake or Break	Language Leaders
Basketball	Lego League
Big Band	LGBT+ Group
Boardgames Club	Linguvox
Brass Group	Main School Show Rehearsals
Changing Voices (Boys)	Merit First
Changing Voices (Girls)	MFL Film Club
Chemistry Club	Music Theory Clinic
Chess Club	Oboe Group
Classics Club	Physics Club
Concert Band	Poetry by Heart
Craft Club	Printing Club (3D)
Crossfire	Reading Café
Dance Club	Rock Bank (Y7 & Y8)
Debating Club	Running Club
Detection Club (Y7)	School Council
Drama Club	STEM Club
Electronics Club	Spanish Club
Engineering Club	Squash Club
English Department Magazine Club	String Orchestra
Equestrian Club	Swimming Club
Fantasy Gaming Club	Table Tennis
Feminism Club	Taekwondo Club
Foundation Choir	Tapestry Club
French Speaking Clinic	Warhammer Club
Gardening Club	Wildlife Club
GCSE Subject Clinics	Wind Band
General Science Clinic	Yoga
German Speaking Club	

Please note the above clubs listed above are for example only and are subject to change.



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