



SIXTH FORM ON THE HILL

WHOLEHEARTEDLY



Academic Studies and Related Information

2023 - 2025

Excerpt from a document, likely a school policy or curriculum overview, mentioning 'The Sixth Form' and 'Academic Studies'.

INTRODUCTION

The prospect of Sixth Form life should be anticipated with excitement. It offers a quite different experience from previous years in school, and our sixth formers always say how much they enjoy and value their time here; they are 'the best two years'! Just talk to any of the current students and see what they have to say about Sixth Form life; we are confident that they will recommend it to you as a unique experience with greater freedom and independence. There is much scope for taking on extra responsibility and becoming an important leader of the School community.

Studying your favourite subjects, supported by excellent teachers in a tutorial-style learning environment, is something to look forward to. It is in the Sixth Form that you get the chance to study academic subjects in depth and with a degree of focus that prepares you for university. You will be encouraged, stretched and buoyed by our Sixth Form team including the Head of Sixth Form, Assistant Head of Sixth Form, the Alumnae and Careers Officer and a dedicated team of Form Tutors who will work with you for the duration of the Sixth Form.

Your studies will be complemented and enhanced by our Enrichment Programme, details of which are in this booklet. You will see that this includes a wide range of activities that will enable you to develop a variety of new skills. These will not only stand you in good stead for the future, but are also useful for impressing university admissions tutors. There are talks and workshops organised for the Sixth Form that will broaden your thinking about global, political and religious issues. There is also the opportunity to achieve the Gold DofE Award as well as take part in a world expedition. The next expedition is due to take place during the summer of 2023, to Borneo.

We offer the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) which will enable you to study an academic topic of your choice in greater depth, supported by one of your teachers who will become your 'academic mentor'. This is certain to strengthen any university application.

During your Sixth Form years, you will be helped and supported by your personal tutor who will encourage you to take on new challenges whilst offering you the security of excellent pastoral care. The Head of Sixth Form, Assistant Head of Sixth Form and the Alumnae and Careers Officer will help you plan for university and other destinations, including apprenticeships, using our successful careers programme Unifrog. The destinations of some of last year's leavers who enjoyed great success in their A levels and went to the universities of their choice are listed inside. Your well-being and happiness remain an important focus in the Sixth Form and everyone works hard to support your enjoyment and success. However, you will also be expected to become a more independent learner, and develop a growth mindset so that you are fully prepared for the challenges of studying at university.

The following information on individual subjects has been standardised so that you can compare the courses and methods of assessment more easily. This should help you to choose subjects that you will really enjoy and to which you are best suited.

As a member of the Sixth Form, you will be in a privileged position. You will be at the 'top of the School' both academically and personally. As such, you will be invited to play a key role in the general life of the School by supporting both the staff and the younger pupils. Life in the Sixth Form presents you with wonderful opportunities to develop deep interests and skills; academic, artistic, sporting, as well as increased responsibilities and a voice in shaping the community. Your skills of management and organisation will be developed alongside your own academic and personal strengths; a perfect preparation for university life and beyond.

We hope you will take up the challenge of Sixth Form life at Farnborough Hill and we look forward to supporting you through it.

Alexandra Neil
Head

A LEVEL STUDIES 2023 - 2025

All A level qualifications are linear qualifications assessed at the end of the course only. You will be examined at the end of the two-year course for all A levels with no external examinations taking place at the end of the Lower Sixth. This system allows for increased teaching time which is expected to have a real benefit on your learning.

At Farnborough Hill, we ask you to select three A level subjects. This will allow us to produce a broad and balanced curriculum which will include an EPQ (Extended Project Qualification), in the guise of research skills, a rich and diverse PSHEE programme, as well as personalised and responsive careers and destinations guidance.

Entry Requirements

The requirements for entry to the Sixth Form are six good grades (9 - 6) at GCSE, unless there are extenuating circumstances. Given the demands of A level study, you should have attained at least a grade 7 in the subjects you wish to study at A level (or ideally a grade 9 in Mathematics if you wish to study Further Mathematics). Throughout Year 11 you are given a great deal of guidance to select the course of study that best suits your academic needs and career aspirations.

SIXTH FORM SCHOLARSHIPS

The Governors of Farnborough Hill offer scholarships for entry to the Sixth Form in September 2023. These are available to Farnborough Hill pupils and to external applicants for our Sixth Form. Each scholarship is worth up to £2,000 annually for each of the two years of Sixth Form study, apart from the Sixth Form Deplanck Scholarship which is worth £3,000. The Sixth Form Deplanck Scholarship is awarded in exceptional circumstances to candidates who show outstanding ability in multiple fields (Academic, plus one from the DART Faculty (Design, and / or Art and / or Technology), or Drama and Dance, or Music or Sport). Sister Suzanne Deplanck was one of the Sisters who came over from France in April 1889 to set up Hillside school in Farnborough; the school that eventually became Farnborough Hill. Her dedication, resolution and energy are qualities we look to encourage in our pupils, as is excellence and it is this that links her name to this esteemed award.

We wish to recognise and reward the contribution that so many of our sixth formers make to the School, in a variety of contexts, and we look forward to receiving your application to join the Sixth Form. Further information can be found in our separate Sixth Form Scholarship Information booklet which outlines the standard and commitment we expect as well as what we feel we can offer the successful applicants.

Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of ability and commitment in the following categories.

- Academic
- DART – Design, and / or Art and / or Technology
- Drama and / or Performing Arts
- Music
- Sport
- Lafosse Scholarship (Only existing Farnborough Hill pupils continuing into the Sixth Form are eligible to apply)

If you are interested in applying for one or more of the above scholarships you must first read the separate Scholarship booklet before completing a pro-forma which can be sought from the Head's PA (hmsec@farnborough-hill.org). The deadline for completion is Friday 4 November 2022.

All applicants will be interviewed in early December 2022 with further details of this process provided to pupils around mid-November. In addition, pupils applying for the Academic Scholarship will complete assessments which will take place on Tuesday 8 November 2022. The assessments on the day will take place as follows:

Pupils will complete 3 x 45-minute online tests which will assess their reasoning abilities.

Acceptance of any scholarship indicates a commitment to join Farnborough Hill's Sixth Form. The standard entry requirement of six good GCSE passes must, of course, also be met.

The value of all scholarships will be deducted from school fees. A pupil may only be awarded one Sixth Form Scholarship. Sixth Form Scholarships status may be awarded in addition to earlier Academic, Music or Sports Scholarships held since Year 7. However, the total scholarship award will be up to a maximum of 25% of fees. If a pupil is awarded a scholarship and is in receipt of a Bursary, then the value of the Bursary will be reviewed.

CAREERS

Careers advice is an integral part of our engagement and accompaniment that exists to guide you. The School is well aware that decisions taken at this stage can have a pivotal effect on your career opportunities. Every effort is made to ensure that you follow a programme that fits your particular needs and abilities, and is in keeping with your career aspirations.

Personal tutors, subject teachers, Head of Sixth Form, Assistant Head of Sixth Form and the Alumnae and Careers Officer work closely together in advising you about your choices post A level. You are made aware of the wide range of opportunities available. The dedicated Careers Room houses up-to-date reference books, careers literature and current prospectuses of universities, colleges of higher education, colleges of further education and specialist colleges. This information is also available online. The Alumnae and Careers Officer meets individually with each Lower Sixth student during the first term and again later in that year. Extra appointments can be made to meet with the Alumnae and Careers Officer at any time. Information and guidance is also given to those seeking apprenticeships or employment at 18 and those who decide to take a 'gap year'.

The School subscribes to Unifrog, which is used regularly throughout the Lower and Upper Sixth. Unifrog includes a wealth of information about university, higher education courses and degree apprenticeships. It also has a vast library of careers information, well referenced and easily accessed. The School uses EC Careers to complete Career profiling using the Morrisby on-line profiling with Year 11. In the Christmas Term, new members of the Sixth Form are given the option to complete this profiling - an assessment of aptitude and potential. The resulting profile indicates a student's strengths and suggests possible career areas to investigate.

Sixth Form Careers Education Programme

Term	Lower Sixth	Upper Sixth
Christmas Term	Introduction to Higher Education Individual and personalised careers meeting	Apply to UCAS Oxbridge Applications Admissions Tests (BMAT, LNAT, UKCAT etc) Interview Technique Evening
Easter Term	Choosing Courses Higher Education Evening Careers Fair	Transition: Finance Accommodation and Student Life Firm/Insurance Offers Final Decisions
Summer Term	Open Days UCAS Apply Registration Personal Statement Gap Year	Clearing After University Support with results

OXBRIDGE ENTRANTS

The School has a tradition of successfully preparing candidates for places at Oxford and Cambridge and every year we provide a programme of additional support for students wishing to apply to these universities. This is partly in recognition of the earlier application date - mid-October rather than January - and the significant level of competition. More fundamentally, it reflects the fact that a successful application will almost certainly include at least one face-to-face interview.

In the Summer Term of the Lower Sixth, students have the opportunity to attend a programme of subject-led 'taster' lessons before participating in a series of preparatory workshops. In the latter, we consider the unique nature of teaching and learning at both Oxford and Cambridge and the benefits and challenges of an Oxbridge education. We look at the collegiate system and the idiosyncrasies of the application process before focusing on how to become 'Oxbridge ready'. The seminars mix practical guidance and information with academic challenge, encouraging candidates to develop intellectual curiosity and the tenacity and desire to challenge everything, and sit alongside a visit to our link college, St Hilda's College, Oxford.

By the end of the Summer Term of the Lower Sixth, candidates are connected with a subject specialist in school, who will help with the preparations for Entrance Tests and with the production of any necessary written work. More significantly, these Mentors - who may be a Head of Department or another well-placed teacher - assist in the development of a tailored programme of reading and study, moving students well beyond the A level specification and developing areas of specialism that can be discussed in Personal Statements and at interview. Regular meetings are also an opportunity to discuss and debate this reading, providing students with the chance to become comfortable with the type of academic discussion central to the tutorial / supervision system.

For students successful in securing an interview, we are able to draw on experience within the School, at other schools, and through broader professional connections, in order to provide a series of mock interviews in preparation for the interviews themselves which take place in December.

In recent years, candidates have been successful at both Oxford and Cambridge in subjects ranging from English to Natural Sciences.

A LEVEL SUBJECTS 2023 - 2025

By Friday 25 November 2022, you will be asked to complete a Progression Form. You will be required to list up to four subjects in order of preference. After you have chosen your subjects, you will be invited to an interview with the Head of Sixth Form and Head of Year 11 to discuss your aspirations. In order to facilitate a positive outcome for each student, we ask you to put forward your top three subjects, via the TOOLS online options package. Option blocks will then be produced to ensure each student can take their selected subjects.

In 2023 - 2025 the following 26 subjects will be offered:

A level Subjects

Art and Design

Biology

Business

Chemistry

Classical Civilisation

Computer Science

Design and Technology: Product Design

Drama and Theatre

Economics

English Literature

Geography

History

Latin

Mathematics

Further Mathematics

Modern Foreign Languages: French, German, Spanish

Music

Photography

Physical Education

Physics

Politics

Psychology

Religious Studies

Other Qualifications

Food Science and Nutrition (Level 3 Diploma)

DESTINATIONS AND COURSES OF RECENT LEAVERS

A levels	University	Degree
Business, History, Politics	Cardiff University	Law
English Literature, Latin, Religious Studies	Durham University	Liberal Arts
English Literature, Politics, Religious Studies	SOAS University of London	Politics and International Relations
English Literature, Geography, Music	The University of Sheffield	Music
Art, English Literature, Photography	University of the Arts London	Fashion Journalism
Chemistry, Mathematics, Further Mathematics	University of Bath	Mathematics
Economics, French, Spanish	University of Birmingham	International Business with Languages
Biology, Physical Education, Psychology	University of Birmingham	Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences
English Literature, History, Spanish	University of Bristol	Politics and Spanish (4 years)
Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics	University of Bristol	Medicine
Chemistry, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics	University of Cambridge	Natural Sciences
Biology, Chemistry, Psychology	University of East Anglia (UEA)	Pharmacy
English Literature, History, Latin	University of Exeter	Classics
Business, Physical Education, Psychology	University of Exeter	Marketing and Management
Economics, English Literature, Psychology	University of Leeds	Economics
Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics	University of Nottingham	Mechanical Engineering
French, History, Latin	University of Oxford	French and Italian
English Literature, History, Politics	University of Oxford	History
Art, Geography, Psychology	University of Reading	Architecture
Biology, Geography, Physical Education	University of Southampton	Physiotherapy
Computer Science, Mathematics, Physics	University of Southampton	Aerospace Electronic Engineering
Business, Mathematics, Psychology	University of Surrey	Film and Video Production Technology
Design and Technology: Product Design, Mathematics, Physics	University of York	Physics with Astrophysics (with a year in industry)
Drama and Theatre, Photography, Religious Studies	University of Winchester	Primary Education with QTS

Art and Design
Fine Art
Textiles

Why study Art and Design?

Art in the Sixth Form is a great opportunity to continue with a creative and expressive examination option. You are seen as an individual with your own talents and are encouraged to follow your own path to becoming an artist or designer, whether in painting, ceramics, textiles, or a combination of these. You can be entered for General Art and Design, Fine Art or Textiles. You will have your own working space allocated to you in our exclusive Sixth Form Studio and can use this space whenever you wish (as long as a teacher is in the building). Art and Design encourages independent learning and critical thinking. It involves learning through practical work and includes the study of artists and designers, with regular visits to galleries and exhibitions.

What skills or background information will be needed?

It is useful to have taken Art and Design at GCSE, but it is not essential.

What is involved in A level study?

The A level coursework units enable you to develop ideas through more sustained research of your own personal themes. It is envisaged that you will complete two practical units of work. The first unit from September to Easter of the Lower Sixth; the second unit from Easter of the Lower Sixth to the end of January in the Upper Sixth. You will be required to produce a written study as well as practical work. You will receive the externally set question, and a new sketchbook at the end of January of the Upper Sixth. The externally set examination will take the same format as the GCSE, except that you will have 15 hours of unaided time.

Unit	Level	Unit title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting
1	A level	Art and Design Coursework including personal study	Internally marked Externally moderated	60%
2	A level	Externally set assignment	Internally marked Externally moderated	40%

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

If you wish to continue your studies in Art and Design you can follow a Foundation course before applying to university / art college to obtain a degree. However, direct entry into Architecture degrees is possible. A level Art and Design is a valuable qualification for careers such as: animation, auction / valuation, conservation / restoration, architecture, fashion design, graphic design, gallery or museum curator, illustrator and product designer.

Why study Biology?

Biology is one of the fastest moving fields of science and plays an important role in our everyday lives. You will enjoy the course if you like finding out about how processes work in living organisms, and if you have an interest in environmental issues. The A level course builds on topics covered at GCSE, enabling you to develop analytical and experimental skills, as well as considering the responsible use of Biology within society.

What skills or background information will be needed?

In order to study A level Biology, you will need to have at least a Grade 6 in GCSE Combined Science or Biology and a grade 6 in Mathematics.

What is involved in A level study?

We follow the OCR specification.

The OCR specification consists of six modules: Modules 1 to 6, combined with Practical Endorsement, which makes up the full A level. The modules can be summarised as:

Module 1: Development of Practical Skills in Biology	Module 4: Biodiversity, Evolution and Disease
Module 2: Foundation in Biology	Module 5: Communication, Homeostasis and Energy
Module 3: Exchange and Transport	Module 6: Genetics, Evolution and Ecosystems

Year 1 - Internal examinations

Paper	Content	Modules Covered	Duration	Weighting
1	Multiple choice and structured questions covering theory and practical skills	Modules 1 - 4	1 hour 30 minutes	50%
2	Structured questions and extended response questions, covering theory and practical skills	Modules 1 - 4	1 hour 30 minutes	50%

Assessment: Year 2 - A level

Paper	Content	Modules Covered	Duration	Weighting
1	Biological Processes. Multiple choice and structured questions covering theory and practical skills	Modules 1, 2, 3 and 5	2 hours 15 minutes	37%
2	Biological Diversity. Multiple choice and structured questions covering theory and practical skills	Modules 1, 2, 4 and 6	2 hours 15 minutes	37%
3	Unified Biology. Structured questions and extended response questions, covering theory and practical skills	Modules 1 - 6	1 hour 30 minutes	26%

A level also includes a Practical Skills Endorsement which will be reported separately as pass / fail.

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

At university, you may choose to take Biology as a subject or specialise in a particular area of Biology, such as ecology, bio-technology, neuroscience or genetics. Biology is also a very useful starting point for a number of courses, such as forensic science, medicine, veterinary medicine, dentistry, nursing, pharmacology, and psychology.

Why study Business?

A level Business covers all aspects of the business world and will provide you with an understanding of how businesses work. Everybody is involved in some kind of business. Whether you become a teacher, lawyer, doctor, accountant, interior designer, forensic scientist or hotel manager, you will be part of a business. Business is relevant to everyone and combines well with all other A level subjects. In the jungle of the jobs market, you will have the advantage with inside knowledge of how your workplace actually runs.

The course is very broad and contains areas of interest to everyone. Particular emphasis is placed on the challenges of running a business, making strategic decisions and analysing business situations so that judgments can be made about recent performance and the business’ future. You will be involved in practical problem solving and will develop the skills of communication, interpreting data and working with other people to make business related decisions. There will never be a dull moment.

What skills or background information will be needed?

You do not need to have studied a specific combination of subjects at GCSE to start an A level Business course. However, you will be expected to contribute to discussion groups, independently research workplaces, read about individual firms and make presentations - both oral and written.

What is involved in A level study?

Subject Content	Mode of Assessment	Duration	Weighting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is a business? • Managers, leadership and decision making • Decision making to improve marketing performance • Decision making to improve operational performance • Decision making to improve financial performance • Decision making to improve human resource performance • Analysing the strategic position of a business • Choosing strategic direction • Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies • Managing strategic change 	<p>Paper 1: Written Examination Section A: 15 multiple choice questions Section B: short answer questions Section C: two essay questions from a choice of four</p>	2 hours	100 marks total 33.3% of A level weighting
	<p>Paper 2: Written Examination comprised of three data response questions.</p>	2 hours	100 marks total 33.3% of A level weighting
	<p>Paper 3: Written Examination comprised of one case study and six questions</p>	2 hours	100 marks total 33.3% of A level weighting

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

In Higher Education, Business is a very popular and widely available degree and diploma course offering excellent employment prospects. A level study also provides useful background for degree courses such as management studies, human resources, accountancy, public relations and marketing.

Why study Chemistry?

Chemistry is everywhere. From the materials that make your mobile phone to the shampoo you use. It is an excellent accompaniment to any of the other Sciences. We regularly have Farnborough Hill students who go on to read Chemistry at university.

What skills or background information will be needed?

To be successful in A level Chemistry, you will ideally have a minimum of Grade 7 in GCSE Chemistry or 7 - 7 in Combined Science. You should also have at least a Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics.

What is involved in A level study?

Chemistry (OCR A) is split into six modules: Modules 1 to 6, combined with the Practical Endorsement, make up the A level.

The modules can be summarised as:

Module 1: Development of Practical Skills	Module 4: Core Organic Chemistry
Module 2: Foundations in Chemistry	Module 5: Physical Chemistry and Transition Elements
Module 3: Periodic Table and Energy	Module 6: Organic Chemistry and Analysis

Assessment: A level

Paper	Content	Modules Covered	Duration	Weighting
1	Multiple choice and structured questions covering theory and practical skills	Modules 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5	2 hours 15 minutes	37%
2	Multiple choice and structured questions covering theory and practical skills	Modules 1, 2, 4 and 6	2 hours 15 minutes	37%
3	Structured questions and extended response questions covering theory and practical skills	Modules 1 – 6	1 hour 30 minutes	26%

A level also includes a Practical Skills Endorsement, which is reported separately as pass / fail.

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

Chemistry is a fascinating subject to study at degree level and there is an almost endless variety of chemistry-based careers, eg Flavour and Fragrance chemistry.

Chemistry is a required subject for studying medicine, veterinary science and dentistry at university. Chemistry is a very useful subject for future study of any biological or physical sciences. It complements Engineering or Mathematics. As well as scientific careers, many Chemistry graduates enter professions such as accountancy, banking, or law after university.

Why study Classical Civilisation?

Classical Civilisation offers the opportunity to study some of the greatest literature of the Classical World, such as the epic poetry of Virgil and Homer, as well as the civilisations of Ancient Greece and Rome. Through the study of art, history, literature and archaeology you are able to enhance your critical and analytical skills. Classical Civilisation offers the opportunity to travel the world (including to Greece and Italy with us), see theatre productions and visit museums.

If you want a subject that offers all these skills and is an enjoyable A level that complements many others, and is useful for the future, then look no further.

What skills or background information will be needed?

No previous knowledge of Classical Civilisation is needed. No knowledge of Latin or Greek is required.

What is involved in A level study?

OCR offers a simple, straightforward assessment with no coursework. There are three papers for A level.

<p>The World of the Hero <i>The Odyssey and The Aeneid</i></p>	<p>You will study Homer's <i>Odyssey</i> as well as Virgil's <i>Aeneid</i>. Students will develop a knowledge and understanding of the epics themselves, the way in which they were composed, and the religious, cultural and social values and beliefs of its society. This is a chance to read about the heroes Odysseus and Aeneas: their adventures, their battles and their love stories.</p>
<p>Culture and the Arts Greek theatre (Comedy and Tragedy)</p>	<p>The Drama produced in the ancient Greek theatre forms some of the most powerful literature of the ancient world, and has had a profound and wide-reaching influence on modern culture. This study of the production of Greek Drama is coupled with an in-depth study of three plays: Sophocles' <i>Oedipus the King</i>, Euripides' <i>Bacchae</i> and Aristophanes' <i>Frogs</i>.</p>
<p>Beliefs and Ideas Greek Religion</p>	<p>Religion was an essential part of Ancient Greek identity, permeating all of society and all aspects of an individual's daily life. Religion could be connected to the household, to life in the city or the countryside; politics and religion were intertwined to the extent that political decisions were sometimes made on this basis. You will study the Olympian gods, initiation rites and hero cults, festivals, sanctuaries, ritual and sacrifices and the tension caused by the rise of philosophical thinking.</p>

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

There are many Classical Civilisation courses available and many combinations, eg with English Literature as a Joint Honours. You will find the skills acquired on the A level course transfer well to a range of Humanities degrees.

A level Classical Civilisation is highly regarded by employers and university admissions tutors alike; it will add value to any CV and combination of A level subjects, whether you intend to follow an arts, languages or science route.

"No subject opens up a wider range of skills and pleasure than a knowledge of Classics."

Angela Lambert, Journalist with ***The Independent***

Why study Computer Science?

Computer Science is an academic discipline born out of and linked to a number of well-established fields. These include Mathematics, Physics, Engineering, Biology and Psychology. If you study Computer Science you will gain a greater understanding of how computers work, as well as learning to create and code your own applications and programs using a number of different languages. Computer Science will also nurture many skills that will serve you well later in life, including problem solving, reasoning, and logical and computational thinking.

What skills or background information will be needed?

In order to study A level Computer Science, you must have studied GCSE Computer Science. A high grade in GCSE Mathematics (Grade 6 or above) is also desirable. Experience of some form of Computer Programming is essential and it is expected that, if you have not done significant amounts of programming before, you will undertake some work over the summer in order to give you a basic knowledge to work from.

What is involved in A level study?

Year 1 – Internal examinations

Component title	Mode of Assessment	Duration of Examination
Computer Science Principles	External Examination: Short and extended answers	1 hour 15 minutes
Algorithms and Problem Solving	External Examination: Short and extended answers	1 hour 15 minutes

Year 2 – A level

Component title	Mode of Assessment	Duration of Examination
Computer Systems	External Examination: Short and extended answers	2 hours 30 minutes
Algorithms and Programming	External Examination: Short and extended answers	2 hours 30 minutes
Programming Project	Marked in school and moderated externally	Not applicable

What university or HE courses and careers could follow?

The obvious choice for someone studying A level Computer Science would be a computer science degree, but those with a variety of other career aspirations would also benefit. mathematicians, scientists, engineers and psychologists, as well as many other professionals also require programming skills. Anyone interested in pursuing a career in Graphic Design would also benefit greatly from Computer Science.

As technology develops further, Computer Science will become even more prominent in our lives, and if you have the ability to mastermind and evolve these technologies you will have an exciting career ahead of you. The industry has a shortage of female graduates and therefore any woman with such qualifications would be extremely sought after by employers. A level Computer Science would be a useful subject to study if you are thinking of applying to almost any university course.

Why study Product Design?

Design and Technology: Product Design provides you with the opportunity to combine your creative, imaginative and practical skills to make a range of products using a variety of materials. This new course places an emphasis on understanding and applying iterative design processes. You will make prototypes to solve real and relevant problems, considering your own and others' needs, wants and values. Having the skills to follow that concept through its development and refinement to the creation of a final prototype is both challenging and rewarding.

Throughout the course, you will learn to participate successfully and with confidence in an increasingly technological world. You will learn from the wider influences on the subject including historical, cultural, environmental, moral and economic factors.

What skills or background information will be needed?

Most importantly, you should be interested and excited by this subject. Previous experience of Design and Technology is useful, but not essential, as the course will provide you with the opportunity to develop your own skills. The emphasis is on creativity through analysis and evaluation with the application of mathematic and scientific logic.

What is involved in A level study?

Component	Level	Unit Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting
1	A level	Technical Principles	1 x 2 hours 30 minutes examination	30%
2	A level	Designing and Making Principles	1 x 1 hour 30 minutes examination	20%
3	A level	Practical application of Technical Principles, Designing and Making Principles	(Internal) NEA	50%

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

Higher Education offers many design-related courses of study, from graphic products, industrial design, product design, furniture design and manufacture, to architecture, research and development and engineering or a combination of these such as the BSc in Engineering and Product Design, set up by the Dyson Institute where students are paid to work on live projects whilst studying.

Design is one of the most individual and fulfilling professions, giving you scope to specialise in any one of many areas as well as have a successful career across the globe. However, regardless of your intended career, the project management, methods of research, organisational and practical skills developed throughout the course are all transferable, and will undoubtedly be of use to you in your future vocation.

Why study Drama and Theatre?

This course demands a high level of practical and creative skill. You will learn through experience, seeing theatre and making theatre for yourself. You will be introduced to a wide range of theatrical styles and contexts as you explore plays practically and devise and work on performances.

You can choose to develop as a: performer, designer (lighting, sound, set, costume, puppets) director and, or, a combination of these.

What skills or background will be needed?

GCSE Drama would be excellent but is not essential. We would advise that you have a good grasp of English and analysis, as this will support your written work. Studying Drama and Theatre will require that you commit extra time to rehearsal, both individually and in your working group. We will want to see that you have a love and passion of Drama and that you are undaunted by failure and hard work.

What is involved in A level study?

The specification offers opportunities for practical exploration with a wide range of play scripts (five in total) and performances. It will enrich your education, vocabulary and ability to write in a formal, academic style. You will conduct your own research on a subject that will support your passion and love of theatre. Commitment, energy, vitality, a love of learning and openness are required for devised work. The course will be assessed through a combination of devised assessments, a working notebook, performance and written examinations.

Component 1: Drama and Theatre	When?
Study of two set plays from list A and B	Both plays are studied during Lower and Upper Sixth
Analysis and evaluation of live theatre	Live theatre introduction in Lower and Upper Sixth
3 hours written paper (80 marks)	Mocks: January and June
40% of A level	
Component 2: Creating Original Drama	When?
Devising a piece of original Drama	Begin work on devised piece in Upper Sixth
Working notebook (40 marks) Devised performance (20 marks) 60 marks in total	Working notebook also in Upper Sixth
30% of A level	
Component 3: Making Theatre Marked by AQA	When?
Practical interpretation of three extracts from three different plays	Performance of extract 1 and 2 in Lower Sixth
Extract 3 is performed as a final assessment (40 marks) and Reflective report (20 marks) 60 marks in total	Begin work on extract 3 in Upper Sixth Reflective report Lower and Upper Sixth
30% of A level	

Transferable skills

Studying Drama and Theatre will develop your soft skills in a way that no other subject can. Negotiation, planning, working to deadlines, working in a team, self-presentation, psychological insight, developing memory skills, good public speaking and learning great texts from memory, will certainly prepare you for the real world.

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

Although the course is not intended as a preparation for drama school, it could be helpful to anyone with such an ambition. This qualification can lead to further studies in Drama, Theatre and the Performance Arts. Drama and Theatre complements a wide range of A level subjects. It is an asset in a vast range of careers and is highly regarded at university.

Why study Economics?

If you feel like a change and a new challenge in the Sixth Form, then this is the subject for you. If you think logically, are interested in current affairs and enjoy discussions, you will love Economics. It is different from any of the subjects you have studied before. It is a Social Science concerned with people - what they produce, how they produce it, and the ways in which the fruits of that output are distributed amongst individuals and whole countries. Economics is a part of everyday life. The working of the economy and the economic decisions made by the world’s politicians affect us all. The impact of Brexit, student finance, COVID-19, unemployment, poverty and the development of a United Europe, are all elements of Economics.

What skills or background information will be needed?

Economists come from a variety of different backgrounds. The study of History or Geography at GCSE will be useful but is not essential. You need to be a thinker, enjoy discussion and be able to write well.

What is involved in A level study?

The study of Economics involves understanding the logic and thinking behind the theory which underpins decisions made by politicians, civil servants and business professionals. The approach to lessons will be very varied; some will be of the traditional ‘lecture’ style, others will be based around discussion of current economic problems such as ‘does free trade work?’, ‘should smokers be made to pay extra for using the NHS?’. You will learn to work and think like an economist, debating independent research, working on topics in pairs or small groups and presenting overall findings.

Level	Subject Content	Mode of Assessment	Weighting
A level	<p>Microeconomics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The economic problem and economy methodology, price determination, products, costs and revenue, competitive and concentrated markets, market failure and government intervention Individual economic decision making, perfect competition, imperfect competition and monopoly, the labour market, the distribution of income and wealth: poverty and inequality <p>Macroeconomics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measuring macroeconomic performance; economic growth, unemployment, inflation and the balance of trade, how the macroeconomy works, economic performance, and macroeconomic policy Financial markets and Monetary policy, Fiscal and Supply side policies and the international economy 	<p>Three written examination papers</p> <p>Papers 1 and 2 each lasting 2 hours</p> <p>Section A: data response questions from a choice of two contexts</p> <p>Section B: essay questions from a choice of three</p> <p>Paper 3: written examination, 2 hours,</p> <p>Section A: multiple choice questions</p> <p>Section B: case study questions</p>	<p>Paper 1: 80 marks in total, 33.3% of A level weighting</p> <p>Paper 2: 80 marks in total, 33.3% of A level weighting</p> <p>Paper 3: 80 marks in total, 33.3% of A level weighting</p>

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

Economics can be studied at university in its own right, or may be part of a Social Science degree when combined with such subjects as Sociology, Philosophy, Politics and Economic History. It is also of direct use to those who read for degrees in Law, Accountancy, Management, Marketing, History, Politics, Geography and Modern Languages.

Why study English Literature?

English Literature is a course for people who love reading, discussing and arguing. It is a course for people who want to study a discursive subject at university, but also a course for people who want to pursue a scientific career. Studying English Literature will keep you in touch with culture and allow you to be an informed reader for the rest of your life.

English Literature is for anyone who thinks, anyone who reads, and anyone who writes. Great literature is about life and death, love and loss, laughing and crying, and this course covers all of these and more. What could be better than that?

What skills or background information will be needed?

You need the skills of GCSE English, and you need to love reading.

What is involved in A level study?

- You will learn to organise your ideas into good arguments
- You will develop confidence in expressing your opinion, and be informed by other readers
- Your written style will improve
- You will learn to write at length and to communicate effectively
- You will study a wide range of texts and learn to evaluate these both critically and personally
- The teaching methods and ways of examining vary, so there should be something to suit you
- Each group has two teachers, so you get a wide variety of opinions

Level	Unit Title	Mode of Assessment
Unit 1	Love through the Ages (incorporating Drama, Poetry and Prose)	One x 3 hours examination, with some set texts allowed
Unit 2	World War I and its aftermath (incorporating Drama, Poetry and Prose)	One x 2 hours 30 minutes open book examination
Unit 3	Independent Critical Study of Texts across Time (two texts of student's choice)	2500 word piece of written coursework

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

This is the premier route to an English degree and is also perfect for those interested in journalism, law, advertising, teaching, media and business: the possibilities with an English degree are endless.

Why study Geography?

The Geography syllabus is an exciting concept that provides a bridge between the sciences and the arts. It focuses on issues that are both topical and interesting. Geography is a well-respected subject by both university admissions staff and employers.

- Geographers are one of the most employable graduates
- Geography is regarded as a desirable academic A level by the Russell Group of universities

You will develop a wide range of skills that will be useful in any sector of employment. These will include essay writing, research, collation and presentation of data, ICT, teamwork, and analytical and personal skills.

What skills or background information will be needed?

In order to study Geography, you must be both literate and numerate, with a curiosity to learn more about the world around you. It is not necessary to have studied the subject at GCSE and we have successfully taught many students who have decided to embark upon the A level course without prior qualifications.

What is involved in A level study?

Unit	Level	Unit Title	Mode of Assessment
1	A level	Physical Geography	External Examination: 2 hours 30 minutes
2	A level	Human Geography	External Examination: 2 hours 30 minutes
3	A level	Geographical Investigation	A field study report based upon fieldwork completed in the Upper Sixth

Fieldwork: There is a compulsory element of fieldwork which will necessitate two days in the field collecting data. This is administered by the Geography Department at a minimal cost to parents.

Visit www.aqa.org.uk for full specification.

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

Geography is an excellent choice as it widens your career options in both the arts and the sciences. Some of the career paths that can be followed include: accountant, business analyst, cartographer, education, law, PR, marketing, environment officer, planning, civil servant, armed forces, tourism management, journalism, media studies, administration, investment banking, finance and the oil industry. Alternatively, you could start your own business.

Recent graduates from Queen Mary's in London have started a wine importing business and a fair-trade online shop. Geography graduates have one of the highest employment rates of any university leavers.

Why study History?

History is the study of people who schemed and plotted, fell in and out of love, got angry and jealous, won and lost, lived and died - just like us. What could be more fascinating? Focusing on key events and personalities from the last five hundred years, you will gain an insight into the forces which have shaped Britain and the Modern World. Ask yourself:

- have I enjoyed History at GCSE?
- do I enjoy lively debate and discussion?
- am I interested in people?
- am I interested in asking questions and searching for answers?

What skills or background knowledge will be needed?

Prospective candidates for this course need to demonstrate a real and active interest in the subject, in addition to a good set of GCSE results, solid ability in written communication and a hunger to find out why the world is like it is today.

What is involved in A level study?

As you study this course you will:

- Explore the significance of events, individuals, cultures and social movements in history
- Learn how to gather and analyse information, weigh up evidence and communicate effectively
- Develop the ability to critically evaluate historical sources from within their historical context

Level	%	Unit Title	Mode of Assessment
Paper One	40	The Tudors: England 1485-1603	Two x 2 hours 30 minutes examinations
Paper Two	40	Democracy and Nazism: Germany 1918-1945	
NEA	20	Non-Examined Assessment: Russia 1855-1964	Coursework

For more information and a look at the specification in detail you can visit www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/history

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

As one of the most respected of A level subjects, History is an ideal preparation for most courses or careers that you may wish to follow. The core skills that you will develop in building arguments, writing essays, reading for meaning and understanding the work of others, are useful for careers from journalism to teaching and advertising, or marketing. More subject-specific professions, such as law, are keen to employ historians. Many politicians have History degrees and political think tanks, watchdogs, national charities and general advisory bodies have History graduates in many top positions.

Why study Latin?

- Did you enjoy Latin literature at GCSE and would you like to study Latin literature in greater depth?
- Do you relish the intellectual challenge of getting to grips with the Latin language?
- Would you like to gain a deeper understanding of the ancient world?
- Would you like to enhance your critical and analytical skills?
- Do you enjoy making connections with language and literature in other subjects?
- Would you like to develop a succinct style of writing in English?

If so, this subject is definitely for you.

What skills or background information will be needed?

- A good grade at GCSE Latin
- A love of the literature
- A reasonable grasp of the language
- A real enthusiasm for, and interest, in the subject

What is involved in A level study?

The OCR board offers a course with simple, straightforward assessment. There is a 50:50 split between Language and Literature, with four papers at A level:

Unseen Translation	This unit will build on the knowledge, understanding and skills specified for GCSE. You will be introduced to a greater range of vocabulary, through wider reading of original material and more complex examples of syntax and accidence. You will translate a prose passage from Livy and a verse passage from Ovid.
Comprehension	You will demonstrate your understanding of a passage of unseen prose text through comprehension, translation and questions on syntax and accidence.
Prose Literature	You will study parts of a Cicero speech and will be expected to show your knowledge and understanding of characterisation, context and literary techniques. You will also study additional literature in translation to understand the context from which the set text has been taken.
Verse Literature	You will study sections of Virgil's Aeneid and develop an appreciation of its context, characterisation and literary techniques. You will demonstrate detailed knowledge and understanding of this text, including metre. You will also study material in translation to develop wider understanding.

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

Latin is an academic qualification that is highly regarded by employers and university admissions staff alike for the training it provides in logical thought and clear expression. Latin is most commonly studied as part of a Classics degree, which can lead to almost any profession from accountancy to law. An A level in Latin will add value to any CV and combination of subjects, whether you intend to follow an arts, languages or scientific route. For each of the last 12 years, at least one Farnborough Hill student has gone on to study a Classical subject at university; destinations include Cambridge, Oxford, UCL, Nottingham, Roehampton, Royal Holloway and Winchester.

“[Classicists offer] clear thinking, the ability to order material, to adapt to different situations ... and that is what employers are looking for.” - **Market survey of graduate employers.**

Why study Mathematics?

Mathematics at A level is a course worth studying not only as a supporting subject for the physical and social sciences, but also in its own right. It is challenging yet fascinating. It builds upon work that you will have undertaken at GCSE, but also involves new ideas produced by some of the greatest minds of the last millennium.

What skills or background information will be needed?

This course is suitable for students who have achieved a Grade 7 or above in GCSE Mathematics. However, it is important that you speak to your Mathematics teacher about your suitability for studying Mathematics at this level.

What is involved in A level study?

In Pure Mathematics, you will extend your knowledge of Algebra and Trigonometry as well as learning new concepts such as Calculus. Mechanics will teach you about how forces act on everything around us, and you will get to understand friction and kinematics at a deeper level. In Statistics, you will extend your knowledge of how to analyse and summarise numerical data, as well as meeting new concepts such as the Normal Distribution.

Qualification	Component /Content	Mode of Assessment	Weighting
A level Mathematics	Pure Mathematics, Mechanics and Statistics Pure Mathematics: Proof, Algebra and Functions, Coordinate Geometry, Sequences and Series, Trigonometry, Exponentials and Logarithms, Differentiation, Integration, Vectors, Numerical Methods Applied Mathematics: Quantities and Units in Mechanics, Kinematics, Forces and Newton's Laws, Moments. Statistical sampling, Data Presentation and Interpretation, Probability, Statistical Distributions, Statistical Hypothesis Testing	Two x 2 hours Pure Mathematics examinations One x 2 hours Statistics and Mechanics examination	Pure Mathematics: 66.7% Mechanics: 16.7% Statistics: 16.7%
A level Further Mathematics	Core Pure Mathematics, Options Core Pure: Proof, Complex Numbers, Matrices, Further Algebra and Functions, Further Calculus, Further Vectors, Polar Coordinates, Hyperbolic Functions, Differential Equations Pure Options: Conics, Number Theory, Groups, Further Differential Equations, Recurrence Relations, Further Trigonometry, Series and Limits	Four examinations – each 1 hour 30 minutes	Core Pure Mathematics: 50% Options: 50%

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

Mathematics and Further Mathematics are facilitating subjects. This means that they are among those A level subjects most frequently asked for by universities. Degree choices where A level Mathematics is an essential requirement of nearly all universities include: Actuarial Science, Aeronautical Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Economics, Electrical / Electronic Engineering, Engineering (general), Mathematics, Mechanical Engineering, Physics, and Statistics. For courses such as Mathematics, Physics, Engineering, Economics, and Computer Science, it is advisable to study Further Mathematics.

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

Further Mathematics is taken in addition to A level Mathematics. It is excellent preparation for university, especially if you wish to study any Mathematics-related subjects such as Sciences, Engineering, Computing, Technology, Economics or Mathematics itself. Some leading universities specify Further Mathematics as an entry requirement for such courses. If you wish to study Further Mathematics, you will need to discuss this with your Mathematics teacher. You will find it to be a fascinating course, which broadens and deepens your knowledge of this subject. Further Mathematics may be taken as a fourth subject if desired.

Why study languages?

In a world where communication is key and companies are becoming increasingly multinational, the knowledge of a language has become so much more important. Learning a foreign language is a great way to improve your understanding of other people and their cultures. An A level qualification in a modern language is a great asset to have.

Studying **French, German or Spanish** at A level will give you the opportunity to:

- learn more about different cultures and customs
- research and discuss topics ranging from literature, architecture, film, fashion and art
- work in and travel to different countries
- gain access to a wider range of information
- develop skills of practical use in almost any career
- be able to interact with millions more people around the world

What skills or background information will be needed?

All you need is a love for languages and an interest in different cultures and societies. If you enjoyed learning a language at GCSE, you will love it at A level.

What is involved in A level study?

Unit	Level	Unit title	Mode of Assessment
1	A level	Listening, Reading and Writing	50% of A level
2	A level	Writing	20% of A level
3	A level	Speaking	30% of A level

Topics studied at A level:

- Social Issues and Trends
- Artistic Culture
- Multiculturalism in Society
- Aspects of Political Life
- Literary Texts and Films
- Individual Research Project

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

Languages demonstrate a high level of communication skills and the ability to work independently so, just by incorporating a language into your degree course, you can set yourself ahead of the rest when applying for jobs after university. A whole range of career options opens up with a language: the diplomatic service, journalism, the Civil Service, publishing, jobs with charities, banking, marketing, translation, education – the list is endless.

Why study Music?

If you have an interest in, and enthusiasm for, all aspects of the subject, including a willingness and desire to explore Music of different styles through performance, composition and listening, this is an ideal course for you.

What skills or background information will be needed?

GCSE Music is a significant help in providing a grounding for the subject, but may not be essential if you have been taking private instrumental and theory lessons. Achieving Grade 6 standard in voice or instruments at the start of the course is highly recommended.

What is involved in A level study?

Unit	Component Title/Content	Mode of Assessment	Weighting
1	Appraising Music An assessment of skills in listening, analysis and contextual understanding based on familiar and unfamiliar works	A 2 hours and 30 minutes examination sat at the end of the Upper Sixth, including aural extracts	40%
2	Performance Candidates prepare a programme of at least 10 minutes in length	The performance is recorded in school between March and May of the Upper Sixth and submitted for external assessment by the board	35%
3	Composition Candidates create two compositions, totaling at least four minutes and 30 seconds of Music. Of these, one is a Free Composition. The second is to a brief set by the board	The compositions are submitted for external assessment as both a printed score and as an audio recording. You are required to produce a written Programme Note to accompany your work	25%

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

This course is recognised by all leading universities as an academic qualification for those applying to study other disciplines. The course provides an important foundation for students wishing to pursue a career in Music, be it performing, teaching, or in management and arts administration. It also provides evidence of the skills required by subjects ranging from Medicine to Law.

Why study Photography?

Studying Photography in the Sixth Form is a great opportunity to continue with a creative and expressive examination option. You will encounter many new processes and approaches including black and white photography and digital imagery.

You are seen as an individual with your own talents and you will be encouraged to follow your own path. You will be expected to develop your knowledge and understanding of a range of dark room processes, techniques and the use of cameras. You will also gain experience in digital image manipulation through the use of Photoshop and the iPad.

You will have your own working space allocated to you in our exclusive Sixth Form Studio and you can use this space whenever you wish (as long as a teacher is in the building). Photography encourages independent learning and critical thinking. It involves learning through practical work and includes the study of photographers and artists, with regular visits to galleries and exhibitions.

What skills or background information will be needed?

It is useful to have taken Art and Design at GCSE, but is not essential.

What is involved in A level study?

The A level coursework units enable you to develop ideas through more sustained research of your own personal themes. It is envisaged that you will complete two practical units of work. The first unit from September to Easter of the Lower Sixth; the second unit from Easter of the Lower Sixth to the end of January in the Upper Sixth. You will be required to produce a written study, as well as practical work. You will receive the externally set question and a new sketchbook at the end of January of the Upper Sixth. The externally set examination will take the same format as the GCSE, except that you will have 15 hours of unaided time.

Unit	Level	Unit Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting
1	A level	Photography Coursework including personal study	Internally marked Externally moderated	60%
2	A level	Externally set assignment	Internally marked Externally moderated	40%

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

Students have been able to apply directly to universities / art college from Farnborough Hill to take a degree in Photography. This could subsequently lead to a career in the media, press photography, sport photography, photo journalism, documentary photography, wildlife photography, fashion photography or fine art photography.

Why study Physical Education?

Sport has a high profile and whether used as a form of leisure, entertainment, business or simply as part of the education system, it involves many sectors of our society and generates opportunities for employment. These opportunities have been enhanced by the expansion of the leisure and fitness industries.

This diverse course examines the issues surrounding sport and the many factors that underpin practical performance. It is an academic course with a strong scientific content and ideal for those with an interest in sport. It allows candidates to combine their academic studies with their sporting abilities and can be used for entry into higher education or simply to gain knowledge which has a practical, everyday use.

What skills or background information will be needed?

It is essential for candidates to have studied Physical Education at GCSE. It is important for candidates to have an interest in sport and good practical ability. They will be required to apply and relate theoretical concepts to sporting examples and will be assessed in one practical activity. Continued, regular participation in competitive sport is a strong pre-requisite for studying A level Physical Education.

What is involved in A level study?

Unit	Level	Unit Title	Content	Mode of Assessment	Weighting
1	A level	Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport	Section A: Applied Anatomy and Physiology Section B: Skill Acquisition Section C: Sport and Society	Written Examination: 2 hours For each section, there is a mixture of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing	105 marks 35% of A level
2	A level	Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport	Section A: Exercise Physiology and Biomechanics Section B: Sport Psychology Section C: Sport and Society and Technology in Sport	Written Examination: 2 hours For each section, there is a mixture of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing	105 marks 35% of A level
3	A level	Non-Examined Assessment: Practical performance in physical activity and sport	Students assessed as a performer or coach in the full sided version of one activity Written analysis and evaluation of practical performance	Internal Assessment, external moderation	90 marks 30% of A level

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

If you want to specialise in coaching or teaching a specific sport, you may need a degree in Physical Education. If you plan to study Sports Science or Occupational Therapy, then having an A level in Physical Education will be useful when applying to university. Every institution is different and you should check each entry criteria – some universities now consider an A level in Physical Education as an equivalent to studying a science.

Studying Physical Education can lead to various careers, including within the health and fitness industry. Potential careers for those who have studied Physical Education are nutritionists, physical therapists, chiropractors, physiotherapists, Physical Education teacher, sports scientist, sports coach / consultant, personal trainer and a wide range of jobs with sports development.

Why study Physics?

If you have a passion for understanding how things work and enjoy asking the ‘big questions’, then you should study Physics. Physics is a wide-ranging subject - from the largest galaxies to the smallest subatomic particles, and from the start of the universe to its end. It is an exciting, challenging and rapidly-evolving field, requiring imagination, problem-solving abilities and good mathematical skills. Our Physics students often go on to study Physics, Mathematics, Computing or Engineering at university. There is much demand for graduates in these areas, with excellent employment prospects, attractive salaries, and high levels of job satisfaction.

What skills or background will be needed?

If you wish to follow the A level Physics course you should have gained a grade 7 or higher in GCSE Combined Science or Physics, and grade 7 in Mathematics. It is strongly recommended to study A level Mathematics alongside A level Physics as the two subjects support each other well. Physics may be combined with Mathematics and any other subjects, but would be a strong complementary subject to Chemistry, Biology, Design and Technology, or Computing.

What is involved in A level study?

We follow the OCR Physics A syllabus which builds on topics and skills developed at GCSE. It acts as a firm foundation for further study in Physics, Engineering and related areas, and also promotes logical and precise thinking. It will develop your interest in the subject by introducing new and exciting areas of Physics, such as Particle Physics, Medical Physics and Cosmology. The course will deepen your knowledge and understanding of key principles and their relevance in modern society. The assessment of this syllabus is outlined below. Investigative skills are developed throughout the course and assessed in the examinations. You will also be given a folder for practical work and are expected to complete a set number of tasks in order to gain a ‘practical endorsement’ at the end of the A level course. For more details visit www.ocr.org.uk.

There are six A level modules. Modules 3 and 4 are studied in the Lower Sixth. Modules 5 and 6 are studied in the Upper Sixth. Modules 1 and 2 are ongoing throughout the course.

Module 1 – Practical skills in Physics

Module 2 – Foundations of Physics

Module 3 – Forces and Motion

Module 4 – Electrons, Waves and Photons

Module 5 – Newtonian World and Astrophysics

Module 6 – Particle and Medical Physics

A level Physics (H556)

Unit	Unit Title	Weighting	Time
1	Modelling Physics (assesses modules 1, 2, 3 and 5)	37%	2 hours 15 minutes
2	Exploring Physics (assesses modules 1, 2, 4 and 6)	37%	2 hours 15 minutes
3	Unified Physics (assesses all 6 modules)	26%	1 hour 30 minutes
4	Practical Endorsement (internally assesses module 1)	Pass / Fail	-

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

Physics A levels are very highly regarded by universities, and can lead to a varied and exciting array of careers, for example forensic scientist, medical engineer, optician, pilot, radiologist, speech therapist, or environmental engineer. Many students from Farnborough Hill have gone on to follow such careers. Physics is also extremely useful in the study of medicine and veterinary medicine; Module 6 explores the principles behind modern imaging techniques such as ultrasound, PET and CAT scans.

Why study Politics?

No matter whether the UK Government makes you feel angry or reassured, it is worth having knowledge of how an elected government works. This A level will give you the knowledge to understand how government works in the UK, Europe and the USA. There has never been a better time to study Politics. Recent controversies involving the actions of UK politicians such as 'Partygate' and lobbying scandals and, further afield, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, have reawakened people's interest in politics and this is something we wish to harness at Farnborough Hill.

What skills or background knowledge will be needed?

Apart from the obvious need for hard work, the key qualities needed for success in Politics are; a capacity to combine sound knowledge and understanding with good analytical and evaluative skills, an enjoyment of political debate and a genuine interest in current affairs.

What is involved in A level study?

Debate, independent research into topical issues, group work, essay and short answer practice, field trips and meeting MPs are part of the things you could expect to be doing in A level Politics.

Unit	Unit Title	Weighting
1	<p>The Politics of the UK Democracy and Participation, Electoral Systems, Political Parties, Pressure Groups and the European Union.</p> <p>Core Political Ideas Liberalism, Conservatism, Socialism</p>	33%
2	<p>The Government of the UK Constitution, Parliament, Judiciary, Devolution and Executive</p> <p>Non-Core Political ideas Nationalism</p>	33%
3	<p>The Government and Politics of the USA Constitution, Congress, Presidency, Supreme Court, Electoral Processes, Political Parties, Pressure Groups and Civil Rights</p> <p>Comparative Politics A detailed comparison of UK and US Government and Politics</p>	33%

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

Politics A level provides an excellent grounding for degree courses in law, humanities and business. Anybody considering a career in journalism or the media, teaching, charities, public relations, human resources, the Civil Service and of course local or national politics should also consider opting for this subject.

Why study Psychology?

Psychology is the scientific study of people, the mind and behaviour. Psychologists observe and measure behaviour and then use this knowledge to develop psychological theories and therapies to enhance people’s lives. Psychology is a fascinating subject that is directly relevant to everyday life.

What skills or background information are needed?

It is not necessary to have any previous knowledge or understanding of Psychology before starting A level. The ability to write clearly and a willingness to join in discussion would be an advantage. Also, a good understanding of the sciences, in particular Biology, would be helpful. Finally, A level Psychology, research methods and Mathematics skills are important. As stated in the AQA A level Specification:

- “At least 10% of the overall assessment of Psychology will contain Mathematical skills equivalent to Level 2 or above.
- “At least 25 - 30% of the overall assessment will assess skills, knowledge and understanding in relation to research methods.”

What is involved in A level study?

Initially you will study social influence, memory, attachment, approaches in Psychology, Psychopathology, and Research Methods. During the second year, you will continue learning about the approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology and Research methods. In the final unit, you will study the main issues and debates in Psychology, including the topics of Relationships, Schizophrenia and Addiction.

A level	Unit Title	Mode of Assessment	Weighting
Paper 1	Introductory Topic in Psychology Social influence, memory, attachment, psychopathology	External examination with multiple choice, short answer, application and extended writing style questions	96 marks 33.3%
Paper 2	Psychology in Context Approaches in Psychology, Psychopathology, Research Methods	External examination consisting of two essay questions, application and one structured question	96 marks 33.3%
Paper 3	Issues and Options in Psychology Issues and debates, relationships, schizophrenia, addiction	External examination consisting of two essay questions, application and one structured question	96 marks 33.3%

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

Psychology is a very popular and widely available degree course. A level study of Psychology also provides a useful background for degrees that require a Science background, or the ability to critique, analyse, and evaluate, such as law, business studies and teaching. Psychologists work in a wide variety of occupations such as education, research, and clinical settings, as well as areas such as advertising, marketing and forensic science. Jobs directly related to a degree include: clinical psychologist, educational psychologist, forensic psychologist, sports and exercise psychologist, counselling psychologist.

Why study Religious Studies?

The course provides a critical approach to the consideration of moral and philosophical issues. You will study the theories of philosophers such as Aristotle and Aquinas to contemporary discourse from Bertrand Russell and Richard Dawkins. An integral part of the course is to apply theories to contemporary issues of abortion, euthanasia, sexual ethics, war and peace, justice, law and punishment. Think of Religious Studies as brain gym; you will certainly exercise your mind.

What skills or background information will be needed?

All you need to study this subject is an open mind and an ability to argue. This course is accessible to candidates of any religious persuasion, or none. There is no requirement to have studied the subject at GCSE but this would be an advantage. You will have to write essays, so good skills in this area will be useful. Above all, you need to be prepared to be challenged intellectually and to challenge the ideas of others.

What is involved in A level study?

Lessons are varied and involve lectures, tutorial style lessons, group work, discussion, debates, independent research and student presentations.

Component	Level	Content	Mode of Assessment	Weighting
1 Philosophy of Religion and Ethics	A level (LVI)	Section A: Philosophy of Religion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arguments for the existence of God Evil and suffering Religious experience 	Section B: Ethics and Religion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethical theories Issues of human life and death Issues of animal life and death 	
	A level (UVI)	Section A: Philosophy of Religion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Religious language Miracles Self and life after death 	Section B: Ethics and Religion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to meta ethics Free will and moral responsibility Conscience Bentham and Kant 	3 hours Examination 100 marks 50% of A level
2 Study of religion and dialogues (Christianity)	A level (LVI)	Section A: Study of Religion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sources of wisdom and authority God / gods / ultimate reality Life after death Good conduct and key moral principles Religious identity 		
	A level (UVI)	As above plus: Section A: Study of Religion and Dialogues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Religion, gender and sexual identity Religion and science Religion and secularisation Religion and religious pluralism 	Section B: The dialogue between philosophy of religion and religion. How religion is influenced by, and has an influence on philosophy of religion in relation to the issues studied	3 hours Examination 100 marks 50% of A level
		Section C: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The dialogue between ethical studies and religion How religion is influenced by and influences ethical studies in relation to the issues studied 		

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

Religious Studies is highly regarded by universities and employers as it proves that you are able to think critically, discuss and evaluate. It is an excellent preparation for any Humanities degree. It particularly prepares you for the following careers: legal and medical services, journalism and publishing, education and social work, the media sector and politics.

Why study Food Science and Nutrition?

This course is for people who have a passion for all elements of food and food production. It would suit you if you want to pursue a career or learning in related areas such as food industry production.

What skills or background information will be needed?

GCSEs in Food Preparation and Nutrition, Catering and Hospitality, Biology, Physical Education and Humanities are great starting points for this course.

What is involved in Level 3 Diploma study?

- You will build on and extend your practical food preparation skills
- You will develop skills required for independent learning and development
- You will develop skills to ensure your own dietary health and well-being
- You will develop a range of generic and transferable skills
- You will develop the ability to solve problems
- You will develop the skills of project-based research, development and presentation
- You will develop the ability to apply mathematical and ICT skills
- You will develop the ability to apply learning in vocational contexts

Level	Unit Title	Mode of Assessment
Unit 1	Meeting Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups	One 90 minute examination, plus 15 minute reading time and one 9 hours and 30 minutes assignment
Unit 2	Ensuring Food is Safe to Eat	One x 8 hours assignment
Unit 3	Experimenting to Solve Food Production Problems	
Or		
Unit 4	Current Issues in Food Science and Nutrition	
One x 12 hour assignment		
One x 14 hour assignment		

What university or higher education courses and careers could follow?

With this qualification, together with others at Level 3, such as A levels in Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics, you will gain the required knowledge and be able to use the qualification to support entry to higher education courses such as: BSc Food and Nutrition, BSc Human Nutrition, BSc (Hons) Public Health Nutrition, BSc (Hons) Food Science and Technology.

THE EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)

We are pleased to offer this qualification as part of our academic Enrichment Programme in the Sixth Form. The EPQ, equivalent to an AS level qualification, offers the opportunity to undertake an extended piece of research, resulting in a Research Log, Written Report and Presentation submitted at the start of the Upper Sixth. Candidates have a free choice of topic, although it is likely that topics will emerge from a particular interest within an A level subject or relate to the subject chosen for university study.

EPQ is an integral part of the timetabled curriculum, with the Taught Sessions delivered once every three weeks. These cover topics such as research, bibliographic, and essay writing skills (including Oxford Referencing) as well as time management, research ethics and critical thinking. You will also be allocated a personal Supervisor with whom you will meet individually to develop your project and to further refine your skills.

In 2021-22, 20 students completed the EPQ, with over 75% achieving either an A or A* grade. Project titles included:

Assess the significance of recent developments into the link between dysbiosis of the gut and mental health.

To what extent is it possible to demonstrate a link between air pollution and a high levels of incidence of COPD and asthma in the urban environment in the UK?

To what extent is Athenian Democracy the basis for modern British democracy?

Should parents have the right to refuse childhood immunisations for their children?

Undertaking an EPQ will allow you to develop and apply decision-making and problem-solving skills, and to extend your planning, research, critical thinking, analytical and presentation skills, as well as demonstrate to your chosen university a commitment to delve further into your chosen field. It is highly valued by many top universities. In some cases, completing an EPQ can result in receipt of a lower offer. More fundamentally, the course provides you with the skills to ensure that you are 'university ready'.

ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

In the Sixth Form you will participate in an Enrichment Programme most Friday afternoons. You will have the opportunity to opt for two courses over the duration of the year, from a wide selection. The choice of activities available gives you opportunities to acquire new skills, to make new friends and to have fun. The list below shows a small selection of the activities that have been offered this academic year. It is likely that similar options will run next year and we are always open to bringing in something new.

- **Tutoring (helping younger pupils in their lessons)** – A six-week course which gives you the opportunity to complete a placement of a minimum of ten hours either at Farnborough Hill or a local primary school.
- **Scuba Diving** – Over six sessions held in the pool at Farnborough Hill and one weekend in open water, you will learn how to scuba dive and will earn the globally recognised certification ‘PADI Open Water Diver’ which means you will be qualified to dive anywhere in the world with a buddy.
- **Self-Defence** – The Self-Defence course is brought to you by the Andy Roberts BJJ Academy who are based in Farnborough and have been teaching Martial Arts for over 20 years, both to the public and the UK military. The programme will teach a variety of effective skills to enable and empower you to be more confident and stay safe.
- **Technical Theatre (Sound and Lighting)** – Over six weeks you will be trained in the School’s new sound kit and lighting desk, as well as learning about the various pieces of industry-standard software used for events and shows.
- **TEFL** – Over 12 weeks you will complete a TEFL course led by an external expert, after which you will be fully qualified to teach English as a foreign language whilst travelling around the world.
- **Minimus** – This 12-week course involves teaching a Classical Civilisation and / or Latin lesson to selected pupils in Years 4 – 6, once a week, at St Bernadette’s Catholic Primary School, Farnborough.
- **Mindfulness** – A six-week introductory course which will help you cope with normal feelings of stress, as well as increase creativity and concentration.

During the year, there are afternoons organised for cultural trips and visits, and also for you to listen to visiting speakers who are experts in their fields, to help broaden your knowledge and experience on a variety of topics.

NOTES

FARNBOROUGH HILL
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