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WELCOME TO THE SIXTH FORM



Statement from CEO

The Midsomer Norton Partnership Sixth Form provides challenges, progression, support and opportunity for students as they transition into the final stage of school. It is made up of three campuses each with its own unique identity. Students are encouraged to work hard towards exceptional outcomes for themselves and to have high expectations of what they are able to achieve. The Sixth Form provides a balance between independence and freedom on the one hand and responsibility and diligence on the other. In these uncertain and rapidly changing times it is essential that we prepare students for a dynamic jobs market, by equipping them with resilience, stamina and academic success as well as a flexible skills set. We are proud of the legacy of success that sixth form students have achieved and hope to welcome you to become part of this.

Mr Alun Williams, CEO and Executive Headteacher



Statement from Director of Sixth Form

Our aim is to provide the guidance and support necessary to ensure that you succeed on your chosen post 16 courses. We also offer a wide range of experiences designed to allow you to develop into confident individuals equipped with the skills and independence to lead fulfilling lives.

We take great pride in your success and want to ensure that, no matter what your ability or background, you enjoy your time here and succeed in realising your potential.

Mrs Karen Ward, Director of Sixth Form

Our Sixth Form

The MNSP Sixth Form in the Norton Radstock area offers you three different campuses with different characteristics and options. These campuses are all high-performing, ranging from a smaller community feel on the Writhlington Campus, vocationally focussed courses at the Somerset Studio School Campus, to a large and vibrant campus with an extensive range of courses at MSN Sixth; all campuses offer an impressive range of opportunities.

Wide range of courses

The greatest attraction of The Sixth Form is the quality of courses on offer. You can choose from over 40 subjects including T Level, A Level and BTEC courses. With so much choice, you may need some advice on the combination of courses that will best fit your interests, abilities and ambitions. To do this, firstly, find out about the courses that interest you, then discuss the opportunities at home, and check the advice in this prospectus.

THE SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM

Students normally choose three courses, unless they are choosing a T Level. The T Level is equivalent to three A Levels. If students are taking three separate options then they can also opt to take a fourth course, for example Core or Further Maths.

A Level

These are two year courses. Study begins at the start of Year 12 and continues into your second year in the Sixth Form. Each A Level course usually contains three or four modules. All exams are at the end of Year 13. The final A Level grade can be used to enter Higher Education.

T Levels

T Levels are courses developed in collaboration with employers, so that the content meets the needs of industry and prepares students for work, and is based on the same employer-led standards as Apprenticeships. T Levels are the first step towards a higher level apprenticeship.

As one of the first school based sixth forms in the country offering these courses in the Bristol and Bath area, we have an extensive network of employers and first class support system for students whilst on work placement. We are offering T Levels at both the Writhlington and Somerset Studio School Campus.

BTEC Level 3 Qualifications

Level 3 BTECs are the "real world" equivalents of A Levels. These qualifications are the most popular vocational qualification in UK Further Education, recognised and respected world-wide and valued by universities as well as employers. They also enable you to go on to study for a degree. The 'single' is equivalent to one A Level.



English Language and Maths GCSE Retakes

We provide exceptional support for those who need to retake English Language and/ or Maths. There is also additional Maths Support for those who choose to take the Engineering qualifications.

Extended Project

You can choose this course as part of your curriculum in Year 13. You can complete a project in any area that interests you.

Students have completed projects on a wide variety of topics, from 'What Position should Sharia Law have in the UK?' to 'Medical Negligence and its Impact on Society'. This is equivalent to half an A Level, and is highly regarded by universities as it allows you to demonstrate your passion for a subject you may want to study and will also enable you to develop your ability to research and work independently.

Each campus offers a different combination of courses.

Your programme will be made up of a combination of the courses you have chosen, together with private study periods. The tutor programme is part of the Core Activities that all students participate in.

This comprises:

- Tutor time
- Assembly
- Academic coaching



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An extremely positive climate for learning where students want to succeed and do well.

OFSTED

SIXTH FORM EXTRA

Our Sixth Form Extra programme offers students a unique super-curricular experience. Students are able to experience university lectures and visits. There is a wide range of clubs and societies for students available. Students are also encouraged to set up their own.

Our Aspire programme is designed to support students applying for competitive career paths, such as Medicine and Veterinary Medicine. As a partner to organisations such as the Medic Mentor scheme and working with our link Cambridge college - Trinity Hall and our Oxford link college - Merton College, we have both the skills and the expertise to help students realise their potential.

The support for admissions to university is unsurpassed. The team have over 40 year's combined experience of the application process and a high success rate for applications to Oxbridge, Medicine, and the top Russell Group universities. The team are all trained USA college application advisers and are the South West link for the Harvard UK.







T LEVEL INDUSTRY PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The industry placement is a key part of an A Level course giving students the chance to practise the skills and knowledge they have learned in the classroom. Employers of all sizes offer industry placements as part of an T Level. These last for a minimum of 315 hours/45 working days and make up 20% of the qualification.

These two year courses have been developed in collaboration with employers and businesses so that the content students learn meets the needs of industry and prepares them for work. We are lucky to be supported by a wide range of employers and organisations offering students high quality placements.

Each placement is different depending on the course the student is completing, but all students are supported by our work placement co-ordinator who manages the placement process and ensures placements are well matched to the needs and ambitions of the student.

During the placement, targets are set by the student, tutor and work placement to make sure that each student progresses and achieves their best.

Placements give valuable work experience, which contributes to a robust and impressive CV for each student over the course of the T Level. T Level students are often highly sought after, particularly degree apprenticeships who know that T Level students have already experienced an apprenticeship based experience as part of the T Level programme and therefore are reassured that these students will succeed.

This also means that for many placements, they may wish to employ students once the course has commenced given the time and training they have already dedicated to that student, and especially so when students make such fantastic progress

We believe that T Levels, like apprenticeships, give students a real feel for the job and the benefit that experience brings. This is what makes our T Level students attractive to both employers and Universities.











THREE CAMPUSES ONE SIXTH FORM

As a student at the MNSP Sixth Form, you will benefit from a huge range of rigorous subjects with expert subject teaching being pooled from across the three campuses.



I like that there is a better dynamic with teachers than at secondary level and the greater sense of freedom that comes with life in the Sixth Form.

Year 13 Student

SOMERSET STUDIO SCHOOL (SSS) SIXTH FORM CAMPUS

SSS Sixth Form is a small campus with around 70 students in the Sixth Form. This campus offers a range of vocational qualifications within a supportive nurturing environment.

Our facilities are industry standard and we offer a broad experience including a fantastic range of work placements. Allowing students to have the edge over others when applying for work placements or further study.

We offer:

- Course related Work Placement
- Employers regularly working with students during the school week
- A tutor-coach pastoral programme so that students develop their social skills, resilience and role-modelling
- A small school where students benefit from a caring student-centred team focusing on each individual's needs, personal ambitions and future dreams





Outcomes for pupils are good.

OFSTED

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They are enthusiastic in their ambition to use industry links to provide realistic learning experiences for pupils. Pupils' problem solving and team working skills improve as a result.

OFSTED







I like the freedom that we have within the centre. It is also a lot smaller than other sixth forms meaning there is a lot more focus on students and one-to-one support.

Simon, T Level Engineering

SSS STUDENT PROFILES



Mya

Course:

Education and Early Years T Level

Plans Post Sixth Form:

I would like to continue working with children within a primary school.

What I like/Love:

The pastoral care is really good. They are helping me during placement and supporting me to succeed. Having a placement alongside my course is really beneficial as we get hands on experience.



Simon

Course:

 ${\sf Engineering\,T\,level}$

Plans Post Sixth Form:

Degree Level Apprenticeship, Aerospace (Defence sector).

What I like/Love:

The course is really good, having the industry placement will give us the experience and an advantage when we are applying for jobs.



Toby

Course:

Engineering T Level

Plans Post Sixth Form:

Working for Aston Martin, designing their cars as an Apprentice.

What I like/Love:

The teachers of the course are really passionate about us succeeding. I also love the atmosphere in the Sixth Form.



Archy

Course:

Engineering T level

Plans Post Sixth Form:

Degree Apprenticeship/ Gap Year.

What I like/Love:

I love the practicals involved in my course and the Sixth Form environment.

WRITHLINGTON SIXTH FORM CAMPUS

The Writhlington Sixth Form campus has a real community feel with around 200 students having access to a bespoke Sixth Form building. Students here consistently achieve academic success in A Level, BTEC and T Level courses.

This success is underpinned by high quality teaching and a varied curriculum designed to support a wide range of aspirations and abilities.

The facilities at Writhlington campus are second to none. The Sixth Form building is for Sixth Form students only and the majority of lessons take place there. There's not many sixth forms where students have a balcony to work on! The campus offers a dedicated IT room, along with study and social spaces for the Sixth Form students.

Students have the opportunity to be part of a Sixth Form whilst also being able to contribute to the wider school community through mentoring programmes with lower school students.

Students benefit from a high level of support at this smaller community-focused Sixth Form campus.

The Writhlington campus prides itself on being a community focused Sixth Form and we offer some amazing extra-curricular opportunities, such as:

- Outdoor education, including Ten Tors, Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Numerous sporting opportunities and teams in our sports centre





WRITHLINGTON STUDENT PROFILES



Gil

Subjects:A Levels in Psychology, Physics, Maths

Writhlington Sixth Form embraces learning through a range of extracurricular activities that provide an area of learning focused on personal development outside the classroom and studies.

Sixth Form Adventure Team students are able to enjoy adventurous activities that are available alongside our courses here. From hiking in the Lake District to coasteering in Portland, there is always an opportunity to experience your post 16 pathway wish a spark of adventure.



Barclay

Subjects: A Levels in Maths, PE, Biology

I really love being in Sixth Form, I find my lessons interesting and engaging. My teachers have such a passionate way of teaching and they put a lot of effort into helping and supporting us to further develop our knowledge. I am also involved in lots of extra curricular activities, such as Adventure Club and the Duke of Edinburgh Award, which I find great fun and thoroughly rewarding.



Anna
Subjects:
Including A Level English Literature
and A Level History

I love Sixth Form because of the constant support from my teachers, all the extracurricular opportunities and the environment that I get to learn in. I enjoy being able to sit and socialise in the Sixth Form Centre, but also to utilise the silent study areas during my free periods. My teachers have always helped me with whatever I need, like transitioning into Year 12 or writing my personal statement. I love being at Writhlington.



Florrie
Subjects:
A Levels Maths, Physics, PE plus
Extended Project

I enjoy being a student at Writhlington Sixth Form and find that having our own building creates a space for productive and focused learning, as well as creating a supportive community





Midsomer Norton Sixth Form is the largest sixth form campus in the Norton Radstock area with approximately 450 students spread over two sites.

We are based at Norton Hill and Somervale Schools, both of which are high performing. We have a vibrant and lively learning environment where students have a vast array of opportunities available to them. Students have the benefits of being able to use two sites, both with bespoke Sixth Form centres, libraries and IT facilities.

Students are able to choose from over thirty different courses including A Level and BTEC options. Outcomes are consistently above national average in terms of attainment and over the past three years students have made progress well above the national average.

The size of this campus, and the culture of high achievement means we can offer a wide variety of courses and a wide programme of extracurricular opportunities. These include a successful Outdoor Education programme encompassing both the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award and Ten Tors. There will also normally be opportunities to take part in a wide variety of trips, such as the History trip to Rome and the Geography field trip to Devon. There are a great variety of Drama and Music groups and opportunities allowing you to get involved in performances, even if you don't take these subjects. Students will also benefit from the recently refurbished theatre.

This is a high performing Sixth Form with a reputation for supporting our students and enabling them to achieve their ambitions.





Clara
Subjects studied:
A Levels - French, Drama and
English Literature.

As a French, Drama, and English Literature A Level student aiming for a career in broadcasting and film/television, MSN Sixth's experiences have equipped me with transferable skills. The school's connection to Somer Valley FM and Sound Vision has boosted my confidence, life skills, and future aspirations. I've also appreciated the Sixth Form's unique maturity and independence.



Edie
Subjects studied:
A Levels - Chemistry, Biology and Drama

The encouragement from Sixth Form to engage in extra-curricular and Supra-Curricular activities allowed me to explore different pathways, careers and interests while focusing on my studies. Sixth Form staff are supportive and eager to push you to your best.

MSN STUDENT PROFILES



Leo

Subjects studied:

A Levels - Sociology, Business and Photgrpaghy.

I joined MSN Sixth Form an external school because of the many opportunities and options available here, It is through the mature treatment and enjoyable atmosphere that I can confidently say it has been one of the best choices I have ever made. My plans for after sixth form are that I hope to get a Degree Apprenticeship in Quarry Management.



Thomas

Subjects studied:

A Levels - Sociology, History and English Literature.

My name is Thomas, I study Sociology, History and English Literature, and hold a position on the 6th Form student council. After Sixth Form, I am planning to attend a Russell Group university, and the school has been incredibly helpful with applications to Oxford, encouraging and pushing me all the way. The most important thing 6th Form has taught me is self-belief.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

The move from GCSE to Post-16 study can be a daunting prospect, however, in the Sixth Form we support students to adapt to their new academic environment through our tailored Tutor Programme and Academic Mentoring. Students have regular one to one meetings with their tutors to assist with the challenges of both time management and organisation; these are crucial skills for students to utilise if they are to get the most out of their courses. Transition support is also offered at subject level with course leaders tailoring their teaching to support students in developing the skills they need.

The Tutor Programme is also designed to support students' well-being and looks at mindfulness techniques and study skills, such as note-taking and effective revision. We have a programme of external speakers who visit school to speak to the students about their experiences and cover topics such as 'How to Develop Resilience'. We also recognise that some students need extra support with transition and so at the Sixth Form we offer students an opportunity to access counselling services on site.







WIDENING YOUR EXPERIENCE

Important as academic achievement is, you will find there is much more to life in the Sixth Form.

As well as participating in a wide range of sporting activities, a large number of students are involved in the most challenging Ten Tors expeditions and Duke of Edinburgh Awards. The creative arts, sports and community programmes offer opportunities which are open to all. You will have the chance to visit theatres, concerts and art galleries throughout the year, as well as the chance to perform in the campus's musical and drama productions. In the past, Sixth Formers have visited France, Spain, Italy, Poland and Germany. You may wish to get involved with the Sixth Form Council and help arrange Sixth Form events, work with younger students, or to be involved in voluntary activities and events within the wider school community. There are a wide variety of first class facilities for Sixth Form students across all campuses.

These include:

- Dedicated Sixth Form independent study areas.
- ICT Suites
- Sports Hall and Astro Turfs
- Extensive specialist facilities in Science and Technology, including 3D printer
- Sixth Form libraries
- Specialist Drama performance areas
- Music performance rooms and Music Tech areas
- Specialist Media Suites



YOUR TUTOR AND OTHER SUPPORT

The Tutor

Your tutor is central to your progress in the Sixth Form. Your tutor will be a member of staff who understands your needs and aspirations well and who is best placed to guide, inform and support your academic progress. Your tutor:

- Is the first point of contact between teachers, you and your parents
- Ensures that you make progress and succeed
- Helps you to overcome any difficulties or problems
- Organises tutor sessions, writes your references and administers
 University and College Admission Service (UCAS) procedures.

Career Guidance

In the Sixth Form you will be offered a full programme of Career and Higher Education guidance including:

- A range of activities in tutor periods to help with your career choice
- Opportunities for work experience
- Visits to universities and colleges
- A specifically designed preparation programme if you are planning to go directly into work after the Sixth Form
- A preparation programme to assist those planning to apply for Oxbridge, Medicine or other competitive courses at university, such as the Russell Group
- A preparation programme to help you to complete your university application process
- Information evenings for your parents to help them in supporting you
- A chance to take part in a wide range of HE opportunities such as Access to Bristol, Pathways to Law Course, Maths lectures at Bristol University and visits to Cambridge and Oxford Universities
- An opportunity to talk to medics about their experiences.



Teachers use their strong subject knowledge and effective questioning to support students to build up the body of knowledge required to be successful learners at this level.

Ofsted





RESULTS & DESTINATIONS

We are exceptionally proud that we can ensure you will have both a fantastic time in the Sixth Form, and also a clear plan and destination at the end of your time here.

100% of all Year 13 students went on to their first choice destination, whether that was an apprenticeship, a job or a place at university or college.

Destinations

Manchester University - Chemistry Birmingham University - Psychology University of Sheffield - Law with Spanish Law University of Kent - Biomedical Science University of Bristol - Medicine University of Oxford - Maths & Computer Science Plymouth Marjon University - Sport Coaching University of Bath - Mathematics University of Exeter - Politics, Philosophy and Economics University of Nottingham - Archaeology and Geography University of Southampton - Education and Psychology Swansea University - Biochemistry University of East Anglia - Chemical Physics University of Exeter - Engineering City University of London - Investment and Financial Risk Management Cardiff University - Law University of Portsmouth - Film Production Plymouth University - Geography University of Bristol - Veterinary Science Bournemouth University - International Hospitality Management

OVER 61.1% OF STUDENTS ACHIEVING A*-B

(National Average 53%)

University of Oxford - French

University of Oxford - English Literature University of Cambridge - Maths Imperial College, London - Physics



CHOOSING YOUR COURSES

Course Guidelines

If you are aiming to study at A Level, it's usually expected that you would achieve at least a 5 at GCSE. To study a BTEC course, you will need a 4 in the subjects you are hoping to study. To study a T Level course you would normally need to have a range of 4/5 grades at GCSE.



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The support I received was brilliant and I am so grateful that I have been able to get into University to study the course I am so passionate about.

Year 13 Student



The Process

Stage One

We recommend that you read this prospectus carefully, then visit our website and visit our open evenings. Take the opportunity to find out about subjects and find out what interests you and are appropriate to your needs.

Stage Two

Talk with as many people as possible. You may want to approach:

- Your parents
- Your tutor
- Your subject teachers
- Sixth Form students
- Careers Support
- Director of Sixth Form (Mrs Ward)
- Sixth Form Pastoral Staff:
 MSN Sixth (NH & SV) Ms Oxley-Hughes/Ms Barker-Starling;
 Writhlington Mrs Sage;
 SSS Mr Hain

Stage Three

Select your course(s). Fill in your application form online and submit by the December deadline. The deadline for external candidates is also December. All external students will be interviewed. If you are based at one of the schools linked to the Sixth Form, you will be seen by one of our Sixth Form Transition Team to ensure your choices are suitable for your career aspirations.

Stage Four

After the results of your GCSE examinations you will be able to discuss any concerns or changes you might wish to make with either Mrs Ward, Director of Sixth Form or another member of the Sixth Form team.

Contact us

If you would like to visit any of the campuses and meet staff and students, or if you have any questions relating to the information in this prospectus, please contact the Sixth Form on 01761 402280 or sixthformadmin@msnsixth.com





WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE...

Aspirational Destinations

Students from the Sixth Form consistently leave with clear and purposeful destinations. The Sixth Form encourages students to be ambitious for their future with a high proportion of students progressing onto higher education and higher and degree level apprenticeships. Students consistently progress to top flight universities across the country including the highly regarded universities, such as Imperial College, London. All the campuses also have growing success in placing students at both Oxford and Cambridge. Students have also progressed to prestigious apprenticeship with employers such as the Lloyds Bank, Airbus, and other more local employers.

In 2024, 30% of students applying to university progressed onto Russell Group/ the top third most selective universities; a real achievement when compared to the 14% national average. The focus here is not just on students who want to progress onto further study; students are exceptionally well supported to apply for degree and level 3 apprenticeships and are successful in achieving them. The exceptional support provided ensures that consistently 100% of students have achieved a secure destination in the past three years. With over 90% of students achieving a place at their first choice of University.

Harvard UK

The Sixth Form is also a link school for Harvard UK with trained counsellors to support student applications. Four students from the MSN Sixth campus in recent years have successfully progressed onto US universities obtaining the highly sought after full scholarships.











APPLICANTS FROM OTHER SCHOOLS ARE SIXTH FORM

The Process

Unlike other Sixth Forms, our curriculum is built around the students' requests and allows maximum choice.

We will send you an acknowledgement as soon as we receive your application form. You will be invited for an interview early in the Spring.

After the interview, we will contact you as soon as possible to let you know the result and we hope to offer you a place in the Sixth Form. If you are an external applicant, you will be invited to the Sixth Form Taster Day in July to meet your teachers and to sample some lessons.

When the GCSE exam results are issued we will send a letter with details of the start of term arrangements. The deadline for applications from other schools is the end of the Autumn term. Applications after this date will be considered, but you may find your choices are restricted if you apply late.

Visiting the Sixth Form

If you would like to visit the Sixth Form and meet staff and students, or if you have any questions relating to the information in this prospectus, please contact the Sixth Form Administrator on 01761 402280.

Sixth Form Bursary

The 16-19 Bursary Fund helps young people facing financial hardship stay on in full-time education after Year 11. The scheme comprises two parts:

» A full bursary (£1,200 per academic year) for those most in need of support e.g. young people in care.





PATHWAY GUIDANCE

This pathways guidance has been created to help give you information about what qualifications are needed for a wide range of different careers. You have worked really hard to get to this point and we want to make sure that your experience at Sixth Form allows you to progress and secure your future ambitions.

This guide aims to give you clear advice and also help to dispel some of the myths surrounding progress into university and the world of work. The advice we give here cannot cover every pathway, but please ask and we can help you look to see how to achieve your dream goal in the future

The routes indicated here follow advice offered by universities and employers, and is also based on our experience. As a rule of thumb, we advise that you choose a balanced range of subjects which you enjoy, especially if you do not yet know what you want to do in the future, as this helps to keep your options open.

This guidance also contains the entry requirements for the courses we offer and details on how to apply using the online application form. If you are unsure of what options to pick then we are happy to meet with you to give some additional guidance.

Please contact us on sixthformadmin@msnsixth.com or 01761 402280 to arrange an appointment.



AREAS OF STUDY AFTER SIXTH FORM

Archaeology	A Level in History, English and a Sci-	
- 3,	ence subject.	
Architecture	A Level Maths and Physics and either Graphics or Art.	
Art related courses/ 3D Design	Any Art/ design courses. A Level Photography required for Foundation courses and/ or degree course in Photography.	
Biochemist	A Level Chemistry and Biology and some require Maths.	
Biologist	A Level Chemistry and Biology.	
Biotechnology/ Medical engineering	2 or 3 from A Level Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Maths.	
Business	No specific requirements - International Business courses will require a language at A level and some with a financial element will require A level Maths.	
Chemistry	A Level Chemistry and one other science subject.	
Computer science courses	A Level Maths and a science subject required for some courses.	
Childcare/ Early Years teaching	Education & Childcare T Level and Health and Social Care BTEC are both highly recommended.	
Dance	Practical experience required, but no specific A Levels.	
Dentistry	GCSE grades need to be mainly A* & A grades. A Level Chemistry and Biology required for most courses.	
Dietician	A Level Biology and/ or Chemistry.	
Drama	English and Drama may be required.	
Economics	A Level in Maths, Economics or Business.	
Education/ Teacher Training	T Level Education and Childcare is useful. For Secondary teaching a course in subject you would like to teach is required. For Primary school teaching there are no specific course requirements.	

AREAS OF STUDY AFTER SIXTH FORM

Engineering	A Level Physics and Maths. Some courses recommend Further Maths. T Level Engineering is also acceptable for some courses and for direct access into apprenticeships.	
English (including Creative Writing and journalism)	A Level English Lit / Lang or English Literature.	
Environmental Related careers	One or two science A Levels required - Geography often accepted. Some require Maths A Level.	
European studies and Languages	An A Level in a Modern Language is required. Some courses will require a second Language A Level.	
Law	No specific requirements, however English Literature, History, Philosophy, and Politics are all viewed favourably.	
Maths	A Level Maths and Further Maths.	
Media	Any creative arts or humanities/social science can be useful.	
Medicine	A Levels in Biology and Chemistry, although some Medical schools will accept Chemistry A Level with another Science A Level.	
Music	Subjects relating to performance or Music - either A level Music.	
Nursing/ Medical related careers	T Level Healthcare Science or Two A Level/BTEC Science subjects required - Applied Science, Health and Social Care, Childcare or Psychology are generally accepted. A Level Biology is required for some Paramedic Science courses.	
Physiotherapy	A Level Biology is usually required for most courses; a Science based BTEC is acceptable for some. T Level Healthcare Science is acceptable for some courses. (Contact TLevel@msnsixth. com for more information).	
Psychology/Counselling	Psychology, Sociology is viewed favour- ably. Chemistry is required for some Psychology courses.	
Sports Coaching	BTEC Sport or A Level PE recommended.	
Sports Science	An A Level Science subject or A Level PE subject is required.	
Uniformed Services	No specific requirements.	
Veterinary Science	ce A Level Biology and Chemistry are required. Although, a limited number of universities will accept Chemistry and another science.	

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SIXTH FORM

Listed below are the entry requirements for all the courses offered across all three sites; we have indicated next to each course title the sites on which it is offered.

Overall entry requirements: All students must achieve 5 GCSE or equivalent at grades 4 and above.

MSN - MSN Sixth SSS - Somerset Sixth WRI - Writhlington Sixth

Applied Law (BTEC) (MSN)	5 9-4 Grades at GCSE or equivalent, including a grade 4 or higher in English Language and a grade 4 or higher in either History, Geography, English Literature or Philosophy and Belief.
Applied Science (Level 3) (MSN)	Minimum of five grade 4s at GCSE including English and / or Maths. In addition, a minimum of a grade 44 in Double Award GCSE Science or two of the three separate sciences.
Art & Design (A Level) (MSN, WRI)	Grade 5 in GCSE Art.
Biology (A Level) (MSN, WRI)	Grade 55 in GCSE Combined Science higher paper and a Grade 5 in Maths.
Business (BTEC) (WRI)	5 9-4 grades at GCSE or equivalent including a 4 grade in GCSE Mathematics.
Business Studies (A Level) (MSN, WRI)	Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Business and a grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics in addition to 6 9-5 grades at GCSE.
Chemistry (A Level) (MSN, WRI)	Minimum of five grade 4 GCSEs, with at least one of these in English or Maths GCSE.
Computer Science (A Level) (MSN)	Grade 5 in GCSE Maths and/ or GCSE Computer Science.
Core Maths (Level 3) (MSN)	Grade 55 in GCSE Combined Science higher paper and a Grade 5 in Maths.
Criminology (Level 3 Diploma) (MSN, WRI)	5 9-4 Grades at GCSE or equivalent including a grade 4 in English Language or English Literature.
Digital Production (T Level) (IT) (WRI)	5 9-4 at GCSE or equivalent.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SIXTH FORM

Drama & Theatre Studies (A Level)	Grade 5 in GCSE Drama or a Grade 5 in English with extra-curricular	
(MSN)	experience in Performing Arts.	
Economics (A Level) (MSN)	Grade 5 in both GCSE Maths and GCSE English Language or English Literature, in addition to 6 GCSEs at grades 9-5.	
Education and Early Years (0-5years) (T Level) (SSS)	Education - Minimum of 5 grade 4 GCSE's, with at least one of these in English and Maths GCSE.	
Engineering (T Level) (SSS)	Minimum of five grade 4 GCSEs including English and Maths; Maths needs to be at a grade 5. In addition, a minimum of a grade 44 in Double Award GCSE Science or 4 in Physics separate GCSE.	
English Language and Literature (A Level) (MSN)	Grade 5 or above in English Language and/or English Literature.	
English Literature (A Level) (MSN, WRI)	Grade 5 or above in English Language and/or English Literature.	
Extended Project (EPQ) (MSN, WRI)	5 9-4 grades at GCSE or equivalent.	
Food & Nutrition (Level 3 Diploma) (WRI)	Grade 4 or equivalent in Hospitality and Catering, a similar Food related course or a grade 4 in Science.	
French (A Level) (MSN, WRI)	GCSE Grade 5 or higher in the chosen language.	
Further Mathematics (A Level) (MSN)	Grade 8 in GCSE Mathematics.	
Geography (A Level) (MSN, WRI)	Grade 5 in GCSE Geography or through discussion with Head of Geography if not studied Geography at GCSE.	
Health and Social Care (BTEC) (MSN)	5 9-4 grades at GCSE or equivalent.	
Healthcare Science (T Level) (SSS)	Five grade 4 GCSEs at grade 9-4 (including English, Maths & Science).	
History (A Level) (MSN, WRI)	Grade 5 in GCSE History. If History not taken at GCSE then a Grade 5 in English Language or English Literature.	
Legal Services (T Level) (WRI)	5 9-4 Grades at GCSE or equivalent including a grade 4 in English Language or English Literature.	
Mathematics (A Level) (MSN, WRI)	Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics (1-9).	

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SIXTH FORM

Media, Broadcast and Production (T Level) (WRI)	No previous qualification in Media Studies is necessary, but candidates must have a Grade 4 in GCSE English Language or English Literature and have an interest in the media.	
Music (A Level) (MSN)	A minimum of a Grade 5 in GCSE Music or Grade 5 standard on an instrument or voice (exam doesn't have to have been taken) and a passion for the subject.	
Philosophy & Ethics (A Level) (MSN) GCSE Grade 5 in English or Philos & Belief.		
Physical Education (A Level) (MSN, WRI)	Grade 5 or above at GCSE PE or Distinction at VCERT Health & Fitness. Student must be taking part in competitive sport outside of school.	
Physics (A Level) (MSN, WRI)	Grade 55 in GCSE Combined Science higher paper and a Grade 5 in Maths.	
Politics (A Level) (MSN)	GCSE Grade 4 in English Language or a similar subject and an interest in politics.	
Product Design (A Level) (MSN)	Grade five in GCSE Design Technology, Graphics, Resistant Materials. If a student has not studied the subject before the entry is at the discretion of the Head of Technology.	
Psychology (A Level) (MSN, WRI) Grade 5 in English Language, Nand Grade 55 in Combined Science		
Sociology (A Level) (MSN, WRI)	Grade 5 in English Language GCSE.	
Spanish (A Level) (MSN)	GCSE Grade 5 or higher in the chosen language.	
Sport (BTEC) (MSN, WRI) (WRI Single + Double Award)	Grade 4 in GCSE PE or VCERT Health and Fitness and a grade 44 in GCSE Science. Students must be taking part in competitive sport outside of school.	

HOW TO APPLY TO THE SIXTH FORM

The application form for The Sixth Form is electronic and the link will open for applications on Monday 4th November via our website.

You will need to choose three courses you would like to take, unless you are choosing a T Level course in which case you should pick only one option. You can also choose an additional Enrichment option; in some cases students do choose more than three options.

The subjects are organised in blocks so that you have a clear view of which subject combinations are possible. These blocks have been designed to allow for all the main career pathways to be followed. However if your desired combination does not fit then you can indicate this on the application form and we will see what we can do to assist.

Further details of how to apply, and subject blocks, will be available on our website ahead of the open evening.

The deadline for initial applications is 16th December; applications after this date will be accepted but course choices may be limited. Applications made before this deadline will be considered with equal parity.





COURSE DETAILS FOR

SOMERSET STUDIO SCHOOL (SSS) SIXTH FORM CAMPUS

Course combinations for SSS Sixth Form

Students have the option of choosing from 3 T Levels which are a full time courses which include a work placement.

T level options

T Level Education and Early Years

T Level Engineering

T Level Healthcare Science





T LEVEL EDUCATION AND EARLY YEARS

What is the course about?

Topics you will study include - child development; theories of development, learning and behaviour; health and safety and safeguarding; observation, assessment and planning, special educational needs and disability; legislations, policy and procedure; children's health and care; Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage One.

One day a week will be applying your new knowledge and skills in the workplace such as schools or nurseries. Resources on the course are designed to follow active learning principles and include - interactive learning e-modules, virtual reality apps, interactive PDFs, a range of class based activities and independent study and research tasks.

How is it assessed?

Assessment is through examinations and an employer-led project.

What might the course lead to?

This qualification will support learners on to a range of progression routes including employment, higher education and higher apprenticeships. The T Level study programme is eligible for UCAS points equivalent to three A levels. The degrees that previous learners have progressed into include teacher training, early childhood studies, psychology, or onto the in BA (Hons) Early Years, BA (Hons) Education, Society and Childhood.

Job roles may include employment as an early years educator, teacher or classroom teaching assistant. Students who achieve this qualification could progress to the following, depending on their chosen occupational specialism.

Employment, Higher Education, Apprenticeship, Degree programmes, such as teaching, youth and community studies, Higher Level Technical studies or degree level apprenticeships.

Before starting the course, the Sixth Form will carry out a DBS check.

T LEVEL ENGINEERING

What is the course about?

Engineering has many wide ranging careers and fields within it that are too numerous to describe, but in short, Engineering is 'Designing things using Physics and Maths. Here are a few examples of elements we teach on the course:

- Engineering, Product Design and Manufacture.
- Applied Commercial Engineering.
- Specialist Engineering projects of any kind.
- Delivery of Engineering processes (metal folding/forming/riveting etc).
- Engineering principles (core maths application).
- CAD (2D and 3D advanced levels).
- Fluid Dynamics.
- Research engineering of any kind (new emerging technologies).
- · Geological engineering.
- Man made structural engineering.
- Electrical engineering.

In school, Your objective is to prove you can have a strong understanding of the basics and apply this to make complex things in the real world.

- Make shapes using CAD (inventor).
- Use a range of materials and their properties (metals, composites etc).
- Design and make products with high precision using machinery like CNC lathes, CNC laser cutters and CNC millers.
- Identify a range of processes and be able to explain their advantages and disadvantages. (For example: Robotic welding vs welding by hand)
- Calculating area and geometry on more complex shapes.

How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed via a combination of written examinations, employer-set project and coursework assignments.

What might the course lead to?

Once you have mastered the basics of Engineering by completing this course, you can go on to specialise in the almost infinite field of Engineering either through university or apprenticeship. For example: Mechanical, Aeronautical, Nuclear, Chemical, Renewables, Electrical, Vehicle (boats, cars, bikes), CAD, CAM, CNC, buildings, design and build robotics.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Minimum of five grade 4 GCSEs including English and Maths; Maths needs to be at a grade 5. In addition, a minimum of a grade 44 in Double Award GCSE Science or 4 in Physics separate GCSE

T LEVEL HEALTHCARE SCIENCE

What is the course about?

You will develop a general understanding of health and science:

- Working within the health and science sector.
- Health, safety and environmental regulations.
- Managing information and data.
- Principles of good scientific and clinical practice.
- Core science concepts including the structure of cells, tissues and large molecules, genetics, microbiology and immunology.

You will also learn about topics specific to healthcare science:

- Understanding the healthcare science sector.
- Further knowledge of human anatomy and physiology, diseases and disorders, genomics and medical Physics.
- Providing person-centred care.
- Infection prevention and control.
- Good scientific practice.

How is it assessed?

Core component: Grades A* to E are based on combines scores from written examinations and an employer-set project.

Occupational specialism component: distinction/merit/pass grades are based on coursework assignments.

Why choose T levels?

T Levels are ideal if an individual wants to:

- Develop practical skills, knowledge and behaviours that show occupational competence.
- · Apply theory in real workplace settings.
- Combine classroom learning (80%) with on-the-job employment experience (20%).
- Pursue a high-quality technical route into skilled employment, further study or higher/ degree apprenticeships.
- Develop maths, English and digital skills within the qualification framework.

What might the course lead to?

You could progress to higher education, apprenticeship or employment in the healthcare science sector or a job as a pharmacy technician, nurse, paramedic or clinical healthcare scientist.



COURSE DETAILS FOR

WRITHLINGTON SIXTH FORM CAMPUS

Course combinations for Writhlington Sixth Campus

Students take three options and they can combine BTEC/ Applied options with A Levels. Students also have the option of taking enrichment options, such as the Extended Project.

Students also have the option of taking a T Level Media, Broadcast and Production or T Level Digital Production Design and Development or T Level Legal Services which is a full time course and includes work placements.

T Level Options

T Level Digital Production (IT)	
T Level Legal Services	

T Level Media, Broadcast and Production

BTEC/Applied options

Business BTEC	
Criminology Level 3 Diploma	
Food and Nutrition Level 3 Diploma	
Sport BTEC (Single and Double Award)	

Enrichment Options

Extended Project

A Level Options

Art and Design	French	Physics
Biology	Geography	Psychology
Business	History	Sociology
Chemistry	Maths	
English Literature	Physical Education	





ART (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

Art at this level is a challenging but rewarding subject that combines the intellectual with the practical and requires a high level of energy and commitment.

You will develop a working knowledge of materials, practices and technology within art. You will also gain the skills to interpret and convey your ideas and feelings using art, craft and design by building on your imaginative and creative powers and your experimental, analytical and documenting skills. By understanding specialist vocabulary and developing your working knowledge you will understand the place of art, craft and design in historical and contemporary society.

What might the course lead to?

Teaching, fashion, gallery/museum management, architecture, interior design, graphics, film and television Design, jewellery design, theatre and set design and production, TV and film, art directing, artist or art technician.

Assessment Method

There is one 15 hour exam at A level and your portfolio will also be assessed and count towards your award.

Taught Modules

Year 12: Practical skills based learning and development of critical understanding of art history together with concepts. You will begin to develop depth of understanding and learn how to respond to the visual word in both practical and written forms.

Year 13:

Component 1 (assessed portfolio): produce a collection of work exemplifying aspects of their developing knowledge, skills and understanding. It should provide evidence of research, the development of ideas, making skills and critical/contextual understanding. Component 2 (exam): respond to a stimulus, produce work which evidences your ability to work independently within specified time constraints, developing a personal and meaningful response which addresses all the assessment objectives and leads to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes.

BIOLOGY (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

Although we know a lot (but not everything) about individual organisms, these do not exist in isolation and understanding how these communities work is one of the forefronts of Biological research. At A level you will learn how scientific models are developed, the applications and implications of science, the benefits and risks that science brings and the ways in which society uses science to make decisions.

What might the course lead to?

Medicine, scientific research (including biotechnology, systems biology, biofuels, stem cells; genetics), sports science, food safety and development, zoology, veterinary science, agriculture, building and industry, ecology, conservation, oceanography, forestry, environmental health, etc.

Assessment Method

There are three final written examinations at A level. Practical skills will be tested in the exams and you will be awarded a pass on your certificate, if you successfully complete the practicals and laboratory books

Taught Modules

Year 12:

Module 1: Practical skills are developed through a range of guided practical activities.

Module 2: Understand how sub-cellular structures and biochemistry interact to allow cells in living organisms to function effectively. Module 3: Study the structure and function of gas exchange and transport systems in a range of animals and in terrestrial plants. Module 4: Learn about the biodiversity of organisms, their classification and the ways in which biodiversity can be measured as well as evolution and phylogeny.

Year 13:

Module 5: Develop an understanding of how organisms respond to stimuli by using chemical and/or electrical carriers.

Module 6: Investigate the role of genes in regulating and controlling cell function and development together with associated ethical considerations.

BUSINESS STUDIES (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

Learn about marketing and people, managing business activities, decisions and strategy and global business. This course combines theory with current world topics and allows you to understand what is happening in the economic world and how businesses, and you, are affected through a holistic understanding of business in a range of contexts. You will develop a critical understanding of organisations and their ability to meet society's needs and wants and be aware of the ethical dilemmas and responsibilities faced by organisations and individuals. This course also allows you to acquire a range of transferable skills, including; decision making, problem solving, numeracy skills and the ability to challenge assumptions.

What might the course lead to?

This course enables you to go into any future career with confidence as you will understand how the business you are working for operates and the external environment that will affect your chosen career path. Possible specific business career choices however include; Advertising and Marketing, PR, Market Researcher, Research Analyst, Recruitment, Banking, Finance, Accountancy, Industry buyer, Retail, Distribution Management, Human Resource Management, Sales, Stockbroker, Systems analyst.

Taught Modules

Year 12: You will learn how to meet customer needs, about business markets and marketing strategy, how people are managed and about entrepreneurs and leaders. Learn how to raise finance, financial planning and management together and how external influences can affect business.

Year 13: Building on previous studies you will look at business objectives and strategy, studying business growth, decision-making techniques and how these are influenced, assessing competitiveness and managing change. Finally you will develop your knowledge by looking at the impact of globalisation, market expansion, global marketing, industries and companies as well as multinational corporations.

Assessment Method

There are 3 final written examinations at the end of Year 13.

BUSINESS (BTEC)

What is the course about?

Business employers value employees who are able to communicate effectively both verbally and using electronic communication methods. BTEC Business Extended Certificate provides opportunities for you to develop your communication skills as you progress through the course. This can be both through presentations and discussions in which they have the opportunity to express their opinions.

Taught Modules

Year 12: Learn about personal and business finance, develop a marketing campaign as you prepare for the external exam and an externally marked portfolio which are completed in Year 12.

Year 13: Explore business and learn to manage an event, as you complete your internally assessed portfolio.

Assessment Method

You will sit two written examinations, during Year 12. You will prepare four units including a portfolio which is marked externally, the remaining two units of work will complete an internally assessed portfolio.

What will this course lead to?

Relevant job areas include- Advertising and Marketing, PR, Market Researcher, Research Analyst, Recruitment, Banking, Finance, Accountancy, Industry buyer, Retail, Distribution Management, Human Resource Management, Sales, Stockbroker, Systems Analyst.

CHEMISTRY (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

You will study a variety of topics which deal with the substances that make up our universe. Learn about the way that elements can be combined in a seemingly limitless number of ways to give countless millions of different materials. Study how atoms link together to form larger structures such as molecules and the mechanisms by which molecules can be reshaped and adapted. Chemistry occupies a central position between Physics, Mathematics, Engineering, Biology, Earth Science and Medicine on the other.

Taught Modules

Year 12:

Module 1: Practical skills are developed through a range of guided practical activities.

Module 2: Develop your understanding of atomic structure, types of bonding and quantitative chemistry.

Module 3: Further study of Group 7 halogens, comparing their reactions with those of Group 2.

Module 4: Study the varied chemistry of carbon and discover ideas of modern analytical techniques.

Year 13:

Module 5: Deal with the practical realities of the chemical industry in a quantitative way. It provides in-depth study of transition metals and their role.

Module 6: More reactions that can be done by carbon, develop problem solving skills and study advanced analysis in settings such as drug testing in sport.

What might the course lead to?

Pharmacy, food science, chemical engineering, metallurgy, environmental protection, medicine and other healthcare courses, forensic science, agriculture, business, industrial management and education.

Assessment Method

There are three final written examinations at A Level. Practical skills will be tested in the exams and you will be awarded a pass on your certificate if you successfully complete the practicals and laboratory books.





CRIMINOLOGY (LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA)

What is the course about?

The Level 3 Diploma in Criminology offers students the opportunity to understand crime and deviance in society. This qualification is equivalent to one A Level and enables students to display their knowledge and understanding through one assignment per year (50% of final grade) and one external examination (50% of final grade). The topics the course covers includes:

- Types and consequences of under-reported crime. These include domestic violence, hate crime and e-crime.
- Theoretical explanations for criminal behaviour including.
- Psychological, Biological and Sociological perspectives.
- The role the media plays in our perception of crime.
- The effectiveness of crime prevention strategies and campaigns.

Who might the course suit?

The Diploma is designed to appeal to those who are interested in a career in the criminal justice system such as Policing, Law, Social and probation work. It is also suitable to those who are interested in either Sociology or Psychology- an interest in current issues is a must. The course is aimed at anyone who is interested in discussions, asking questions and understanding the criminal justice system.

What might the course lead to?

You may go to University to read Law, Criminology, Social Work or other related subjects requiring a high level of evidenced based judgement. You may wish to pursue a career in the Criminal Justice System as either a Police Officer, Legal Executive, Social Worker or Probation Officer.

DIGITAL PRODUCTION (IT)

(T LEVEL - EQUIVALENT TO THREE A LEVELS)

Overview

As the world becomes more digital, having knowledge in this area will be hugely beneficial for your employability, and is perfect for anyone wanting to pursue a career in software production and design. The course will give you an understanding of:

- The ethical and moral implications of digital technology.
- Using data in software design.
- Using digital technologies to analyse and solve problems.
- Digital environments, including physical, virtual and cloud environments.
- Emerging technical trends, such as Internet of Things (IoT), Artificial Intelligence (AI), Augmented Reality (AR), Blockchain, 3D printing.
- Legal and regulatory obligations relating to digital technologies.
- The technical, physical and human aspects of internet security.

Assessment Method

You will be assessed through a number of exams and project work throughout the programme.

Who might the course suit?

This course is suited to students who want the benefits of an industrial placement. The T Level is designed and developed in collaboration with employers, this programme is a mixture of classroom and work-based learning to give you the technical skills and workplace experience to kick-start your career into the digital arena. You will complete a core technical qualification and digital specialism, and an industry placement of at least 45 days.

What might the course lead to?

This T Level opens up many opportunities while your industry placement highlights your commitment to the digital industry. You will have opportunities to progress to university degrees, degree apprenticeships or directly to the workplace.

The course is a perfect starting point for progressing into roles such as: web developer or designer, software developer, computer games tester or developer, E-Learning developer, or user experience designer.

ENGLISH LITERATURE (A LEVEL)

Overview

English Literature encourages students to explore the relationships that exist between texts and the contexts within which they are written, received and understood.

Studying texts within a shared context enables students to investigate and connect them, drawing out patterns of similarity and difference using a variety of reading strategies and perspectives.

Texts studied include:

- Othello by Shakespeare.
- Frankenstein by Mary Shelley.
- The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood.
- A Streetcar named Desire by Tennessee Williams.

Assessment Method

There are two final written examinations at A Level. This is supported by coursework which makes up 20% of the course.

Who might the course suit?

Students who genuinely enjoy reading literary texts, discussing ideas and exploring different interpretations and points of view will gain a great deal from this course. We expect our candidates to have a love of literature and a thirst to discover more about it!

What might the course lead to?

A Level English Literature is highly regarded by universities in the UK and across the globe - including Oxbridge and the lvy League universities in the States. It is well-established and demonstrates that a student can interpret and analyse language as well as argue a case fluently. These are essential skills in many professions including journalism, law, publishing and teaching.

EXTENDED PROJECT (EPQ)

What is the Course?

The Extended Project is a one year course which carries equivalent points for university entry as half an A Level and is awarded Grades A*-E. Some universities will accept it as part of an offer, but the top universities will not but have said that they would look favourably on students who opt to do it and others have said they would be willing to make lower offers because of it, e.g. Bristol.

How is it assessed?

- Students record what they do in a production log.
- They produce an extended piece of work and make a presentation about it.
- They are assessed on the log, the project and the presentation.

What can they look at?

- Students can choose to look at an area which is an extension to their current area of study or alternatively they can explore an area of personal interest or an activity outside the main programme of study.
- Students have taken the opportunity to examine a wide variety of subjects from Radiography, cubist artwork to devising a training plan for a hockey team.

What will students need to show that they can do to achieve a good grade?

- To choose an area of interest.
- Draft a project title.
- Draft aims of the project.
- Plan, research and carry out the project.
- Provide evidence of all stages of project production.
- Deliver a presentation to a specified audience.

FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION (LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA)

What is the course about?

Food Science and Nutrition is relevant to many industries and job roles. You will explore the relationship between food, nutrition and health. Making use of creative, investigative and analytical study methods you will learn and demonstrate an understanding of the science of nutrition and nutritional needs in a wide range of contexts. The ongoing practical sessions enable you to gain a wide range of high level skills to produce quality food items and meet the needs of individuals.

Working on a selection of optional units over the duration of the course, you will be able to tailor your studies towards your area of interest in developing and problem solving in food production, food science and nutrition.

This course is suitable for students who have taken the L2 Hospitality and Catering or Food Preparation and Nutrition, but can also be accessed by students with an interest in Science.

What might the course lead to?

Global opportunities in hotels and restaurants, nutritionists, sports coaches, fitness instructor, care provider, food manufacturer, environmental health, teaching, higher education.

Assessment methods

The course is split over multiple modules which range from food safety, to nutrition and finishing with the analysis of a range of different diets.

You will sit a written exam in Year 12 as well as completing an internally marked assignment, which includes a practical assessment.

In Year 13 you will carry out a 9 hour externally marked assessment and submit internally assessed coursework which will focus on a food issue which interests you. These will contribute towards your final results.

FRENCH (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

You will develop the skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing; you will refresh and extend your knowledge of the basic rules of grammar; and develop your language skills.

Topics studied include social issues, such as the family, new technology and young people's involvement in politics and also cultural aspects such as music, cinema and literature.

Classes are conducted mainly in French and students are encouraged to contribute as much as possible to discussions.

Who might the course suit?

Applications are welcome from students who have shown an aptitude for understanding language structures at GCSE level and who want to build on these foundations to study the language in greater depth.

What might the course lead to?

Each year, a number of our students go on to pursue their language studies at university, either as the main focus of their degree or as a supplementary subject.

Assessment Units (AQA exam board, 100% final exam):

A Level Paper 1 (50%) - Listening, reading and writing (aspects of French society, current trends, artistic culture, aspects of political life in the target language country).

A Level Paper 2 (20%) - Writing (based on an in-depth study of two books, or a book and a film).

A Level Paper 3 (30%) - Speaking (20 minutes, discussion of prepared themes, and unprepared discussion based on a stimulus).

GEOGRAPHY (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

Geography gives students a view of issues facing the planet, such as physical world topics; managing coastal landscapes (fieldwork), water and carbon cycles, climate change and hazardous earth. Additionally students understand the complex challenges of the human world involving the study of local and global issues including; understanding human environments (fieldwork), identity of places, social inequality, rebranding and regeneration, disease dilemmas and the future of food. Geography develops a sophisticated understanding of the connections between the physical and human issues our planet faces, while equipping students with decision making and problem solving skills and a love and appreciation for the incredible natural world around us.

Assessment Method

There will be one non-exam assessment, a written investigation planned and conducted independently by the students.

There are three final written examinations at A level which are taken at the end of Year 13

What might the course lead to?

Environmental protection/conservation, education, law, politics, town planning, tourism, journalism, coastal or hazard management, mapping, weather and humanitarian work (aid, hazard response and migration etc).

Taught Modules

Year 12:

- Coastal Landscapes (including fieldwork).
- Changing places: Making spaces (including fieldwork).
- Geographical debates: Hazardous Earth.
- Fieldwork Investigation: planning, fieldwork and consultation
- sessions.
- Written investigation for completion Dec 2020.

Year 13:

- Earth's Life Support Systems: Carbon and Water cycle.
- Geographical debates: Future of food.
- Global Connections: 'Global Migration' and 'Power and borders'.



HISTORY (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

Studying history will help you understand the significance of historical events, the role of individuals in history and the nature of change over time. History allows students to gain a deeper understanding of the past through political, social, economic and cultural perspectives. You will examine a **breadth study** and a **depth study** in addition to completing an historical enquiry.

Assessment Method

There are two written examinations at A level, one for each main topic. These are each worth 40% of your grade. A 3,000-4,500 word historical investigation accounts for 20% of your mark.

What might the course lead to?

Politics, civil service, journalism, media, teaching, law, academia, broadcasting, consultancy, business and intelligence.

Taught Modules:

Year 12:

The British Empire Part One: The High Water Mark of the British Empire, c1857-1914

- The development of Imperialism, c1857-c1890.
- Imperial consolidation and Liberal rule, c1890-1914.

Revolution and Dictatorship in Russia Part One: The Russian Revolution and the Rise of Stalin 1917-1929

- Dissent and Revolution, 1917.
- Bolshevik Consolidation, 1918-1924.
- Stalin's Rise to Power, 1924-1929

Year 13:

The British Empire - Part Two: Imperial Retreat, 1914-1967

- Imperialism challenged, 1914-1947.
- The winds of change, 1947-1967.

Revolution and Dictatorship in Russia Part Two: Stalin's Rule, 1929-1953

- Economy and society 1929-1941.
- Stalinism, politics and control, 1929-1943.
- The Great Patriotic War and Stalin's dictatorship 1941-1953.

LEGAL SERVICES

(T LEVEL - EQUIVALENT TO THREE A LEVELS)

Overview

During the 2-year programme, students will learn the core knowledge and skills that are needed for entry to a range of legal occupations.

The course will give you an understanding of:

- Criminal Law.
- Contract Law.
- Business Law.
- The Legal System.
- Judicial Review.

Assessment Method

You will be assessed through a number of exams and project work throughout the programme. You will need to complete all elements to achieve the overall T Level.

Who might the course suit?

The T Level is designed and developed in collaboration with employers, this programme is a mixture of classroom and work-based learning to give you the technical skills and workplace experience to kick-start your career in legal services. You will complete a core technical qualification and specialism in crime, criminal justice and social welfare, alongside an industry placement of at least 45 days.

What might the course lead to?

Job roles open to you once you complete your T Level could include:

- Paralegal.
- Legal Secretary.
- Usher.
- Business Assistant in legal services function.
- Executive Officer Caseworker.

MATHEMATICS (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

The A-Level course consists of a Pure Mathematics component and two Applied Mathematics components: Mechanics and Statistics. Pure Mathematics is the core of the course and extended the study of Algebra, Geometry and Trigonometry from GCSE and introduces Calculus.

Mechanics is the study of how physical objects behave when acted upon by different forces. You will learn how to model objects and predict their motion. There is a strong relationship with concepts in Physics and Engineering, but since all concepts are introduced from first principles it is not necessary to study Physics in order to be successful in this part of the course.

Statistics is the study of how to analyse data and calculate probability. Statistics is absolutely fundamental to scientific process and in this component of the course you will learn how scientists distinguish results that back up their hypotheses from random noise. Concepts from statistics will help with the study of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Medicine, Psychology, Sociology and Business at A-Level and beyond. All three components are interrelated and there will a strong emphasis in learning to solve problems in one component using concepts from another.

Who this course might suit?

Students wishing to take this course must enjoy mathematics and problem solving. Students will be expected to have strong foundation in Algebra and Trigonometry. A-Level Mathematics is an invaluable companion course for Science A-Levels and for anyone intending to study the sciences, Medicine or Engineering at University.

What might the course lead to?

Mathematics is described by university admissions tutors as a facilitating subject, this means it is often a stipulated or preferred pre-requisite for many university courses. Additionally Mathematics A-Level is recognised internationally as a proof of a student's intelligence, tenacity and work ethic. If you have the ability you can't afford to miss out on the huge boost Mathematics A-Level will give to your future options and prospects?

MEDIA, BROADCAST AND PRODUCTION

(T LEVEL - EQUIVALENT TO THREE A LEVELS)

The course will give you an understanding of:

- The creative economy.
- The individual in the creative industries.
- Cultural context and vocabulary.
- Audience.
- Legislation/regulations.
- · Professionalism and ethics.
- Equality, diversity and inclusion.
- Research skills.
- · Project methodology and administration.
- Continued professional development.

Your choice of occupational specialism will allow you to develop the relevant skills in preparation for your career in the media, broadcast and production sector.

Assessment Method

The core component will be assessed by two exams and an employer set project which is linked to the occupational specialism.

Who might the course suit?

The T Level is designed and developed in collaboration with employers, this programme is a mixture of classroom and work-based learning to give you the technical skills and workplace experience to kick-start your career in media broadcast and production. You will complete a core technical qualification and media specialism, and an industry placement of at least 45 days.

What might the course lead to?

This T Level opens up many opportunities while your industry placement highlights your commitment to the media industry. It is ideal if you are intending to progress directly to employment within the media, broadcast and production sector in roles such as a broadcast systems technical operator, production assistant, junior content creator, junior broadcast engineer.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

The A Level Physical Education course is a detailed study of Sports Science, Sports Psychology and Sport in Society. The course has a great deal of variety within its content, which allows students to gain experience and understanding in all areas of Physical Education. The majority of the course is classroom based as pupils prepare for two examinations at the end of their studies. An A Level Physical Education student will also be assessed in their ability to perform and analyse themselves in one sport, so playing at least one sport regularly is essential for acceptance onto this course.

Assessment Method

There are two final written examinations at A level each of which are 2 hours long. There is also an assessment where students are assessed as a performer or a coach in a full sided version of one activity. Pupils also analyse their performance in a written piece of work.

What might the course lead to?

Fitness Instructor, Personal Training, Physiotherapy, Nutritionist, roles within the Leisure Industry, Sports Coaching, PE Teaching, working for national and international Sport organisations, Sport Science.

Taught Modules

Year 12:

Applied Anatomy & Physiology. Skill Acquisition. Sport & Society.

Year 13:

Exercise Physiology & Biomechanics. Sport Psychology; Sports & Society. Technology in Sport.

PHYSICS (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

We'd be a bit lost without Physics. All the gadgets that we take for granted like laptops and mobile phones wouldn't be here. Physicists have recently shown that teleportation is possible - who knows what that will lead to in a few years' time?

At A level you will start to see how forces, energy, waves, radioactivity, electricity and magnetism work together, and begin to grasp the universal principles that apply to everything from the smallest atoms to the largest galaxies.

Assessment Method

There are three final written examinations at A level. Practical skills will be tested in the exams and you will be awarded a pass on your certificate if you successfully complete the practicals and laboratory books.

What might the course lead to?

Astronomy, education, engineering, medicine, meteorology, music, nanotechnology, oil & gas, renewable energy, scientific research, space exploration, telecommunications, transport, banking, insurance, accountancy, law, software, computing, etc.

Taught Modules

Year 12:

Module 1: Practical skills are developed through a range of guided practical activities.

Module 2: An introduction to important conventions and ideas that permeate the fabric of Physics.

Module 3: Learn how to model the motion of objects using mathematics, understand the effect forces have on objects, the important connection between force and energy, appreciate how forces cause deformation and understand the importance of Newton's laws of motion.

Module 4: Introduction to the key ideas of quantum Physics.

Year 13:

Module 5: Learn about thermal Physics, circular motion, oscillations, gravitational field, astroPhysics and cosmology.

Module 6: Learn about capacitors, electric field, electromagnetism, nuclear Physics, particle Physics and medical imaging.

PSYCHOLOGY (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

Psychology is concerned with all aspects of behaviour and with the thoughts, feelings and motivations underlying that behaviour. Psychology is a science and psychologists study human behaviour by observing, measuring and testing, then arriving at conclusions that are rooted in sound scientific methodology. The course looks at important aspects of human life; relationships, stress, memory, aggression, obedience and mental health issues such as depression, schizophrenia or anxiety.

Who might the course suit?

It is naturally suited to those who have an interest in people and who want to understand more about the causes of behaviour. Given the competing explanations of why people "do what they do" the best students are those with an "open mind" and a willingness to read around the "key issues" discussed.

What might the course lead to?

There are professionally trained clinical, educational, occupational and forensic Psychologists - but Psychology features in many degree courses (nursing and health care, marketing and advertising, education, criminology). It also prepares students for jobs including health care, police work, management, teaching, personnel work, workplace design, retailing and advertising.

SOCIOLOGY (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

Sociology is the study of society. It aims to explain how institutions (for example the family, education, religion and the media) within society make people behave the way that they do.

Have you ever wondered...

- How being poor affects education?
- Why 1 in 4 marriages end in divorce?
- Why we obsess over fashion labels?
- Why black males are 7 times more likely to be stopped and searched?

Who might the course suit?

Sociology is an exciting subject that challenges your everyday experience. It will help you develop skills to assess different views and reach conclusions about society, based on careful consideration of evidence.

Who might the course suit?

Sociology is an exciting subject that challenges your everyday experience. It will help you develop skills to assess different views and reach conclusions about society, based on careful consideration of evidence.

Students should be interested in contemporary social issues and will be expected to be well informed in political and social debates.

What might the course lead to?

Sociology is a highly valued course and prepares students for a variety of courses in higher education. Particularly relevant areas are law, academic research, advertising, criminology, social policy planning, teaching, journalism and social work.

SPORT (BTEC) (SINGLE & DOUBLE AWARD)

What is the course about?

BTEC Sport is aimed at students with an interest in sport, exercise and health and includes a range of practical and theory based lessons in order to give students an insight into a variety of sports based careers or further study. We are delighted to offer you the options of taking either a single award (equivalent to 1 A Level) or a double award (equivalent to 2 A Levels)

Assessment Method

You will sit one written examination during Year 12. You will prepare one task which is marked externally, the remaining two units of work will complete an internally assessed portfolio during Year 13

What might the course lead to?

Fitness Instructor, Personal Training, roles within the Leisure Industry, Sports Coaching and PE Teaching.

Taught Modules

Year 12:

In Year 12 you will study a range of topics including Anatomy & Physiology, Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being.

Year 13:

In Year, you will study a range of topics including Professional Development in the Sports Industry and Sports Leadership

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS



COURSE DETAILS FOR

MSN

SIXTH FORM CAMPUS

Course combinations for MSN Sixth

Students take three options and they can combine BTEC/ Applied options with A Levels. Students also have the option of taking enrichment options, such as Core Maths.

Details of the entry criteria are available in Pathway Guidance booklet.

A Level Options

Art and Design	Economics	Maths	Politics
Biology	English Language and Literature	Modern Languages (French, Spanish)	Product Design
Business	English Literature	Music	Psychology
Chemistry	Further Maths	Philosophy and Ethics	Sociology
Computing	Geography	Physical Education	
Drama and Theatre	History	Physics	

BTEC/Applied Options

Applied Law	Criminology Level 3 Diploma	Sport
Applied Science	Health and Social Care	

Enrichment

Core Maths
Extended Project
Further Maths





APPLIED LAW (BTEC)

What is the course about?

How are laws made? How are negligence cases dealt with? What are the aspects of a crime? What is the difference between theft and robbery or murder and manslaughter? These are the sorts of questions you will consider in BTEC Applied Law.

The BTEC Level 3 in Applied Law offers students the opportunity to understand the civil and criminal court structure, the ways in which laws are enacted and key aspects of offences and negligence. This qualification is equivalent to one A Level and enables students to display their knowledge and understanding through assignments, examinations and controlled assessment tasks. This course will help students to understand the practical impact of legal rules.

Year 12 - Dispute solving in Civil Law Investigating aspects of Criminal Law and the Legal system

Year 13 - Applying the Law, Aspects of Family Law.

What might the course lead to?

The BTEC in Applied Law is designed to appeal to those who are interested in a career in law, criminology, social work or other related subjects requiring a high level of evidenced based judgement. You may wish to pursue a career in legal services for example as a police officer or paralegal. Alternatively it will prepare you well for a career in any of the public services, in teaching, social work, business management, journalism or the civil services.

Who might the course suit?

The BTEC in Applied Law is designed to appeal to those who are interested in a career in law. The course is aimed at anyone who is interested discussions, asking questions and understanding the legal aspect of society.

APPLIED SCIENCE (BTEC)

What is the course about?

The Applied Science course is a two year course which will allow you to study how science is used in many different types of professions and industries.

You will learn how science contributes to our lifestyle and the environment in which we live.

The course is designed to allow you to spend a considerable amount of your time in the laboratory, working on the kind of practical projects that may be undertaken by employees working in science-based industries.

You will complete core units on the fundamentals of science, working in the science industry and scientific techniques. You will then have the opportunity to investigate the three science disciplines in a practical aspect as well as an in-depth look at human physiology.

Who might the course suit?

The course that you choose to study will depend on your interests, strengths and preference for a particular style of learning as well as your future ambitions. You will need to work independently on a number of projects. The course is aimed at students who do not necessarily want to specialise in the separate sciences at this stage.

What might the course lead to?

The BTEC in Applied Science will prepare you for a career in the science industry or industries that use scientific knowledge and skills. It will also prepare you to take on learning and training in further and higher education. The types of courses include, for example, many science and Paramedic Science.

ART (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

The A level course consists of one coursework unit and an externally set exam unit. The coursework unit is designed to build on skills and knowledge gained at GCSE level, and to extend these into new areas and to a much higher standard.

The coursework unit contains a separate written element, consisting of an essay investigating artists and art works linked to the student's practical work. For the externally set exam unit students select one question from the exam paper and develop a practical creative response. This is self-directed, and demonstrates the student's level of skill in a chosen range of media.

The department organises a series of visits to galleries and aims to introduce students to ways of working outside the classroom environment. Every year there is a gallery trip to either Paris, Barcelona or London which students are expected to take part in, which is designed to enhance skills and contextual understanding.

A thirst for experiencing and engaging with the Arts is vital if students are to develop their skills and understanding, and we expect students to be open and enthusiastic towards any experiences that might develop their knowledge and experience of the world around them, and the Arts in particular.

Who might the course suit?

Students who are well-motivated and capable of independent thought. It is beneficial, though not essential, for students to be studying other visual, creative and expressive subjects.

What might the course lead to?

A-Level Art is acceptable as an A-Level for most university courses. Many students go on to study some aspect of Art and Design at foundation level, before progressing to a degree in areas such as: Architecture, Fashion, Television, Film, Photography, Animation, Graphic Design, Theatre Design, Art History, Museum work, Illustration and Advertising etc.

BIOLOGY (A LEVEL)

What is the course about

The course explains the molecular and cellular bases of life and then uses this grounding to explain the key processes that life entails, including transport, defence, ecology, evolution and a comprehensive understanding of the metabolic pathways in photosynthesis and respiration.

Human physiology forms an important part of the course and students gain an insight into how the main organ systems work. Genetics and cellular control are also vital topics studied, and students have the opportunity to get hands-on with a field trip.

Practical skills are a key part of biology and students will build up their laboratory skills in lessons, including dissection, research skills, biological drawing and microscopy.

Who might the course suit?

Students must have an inquisitive nature and show great enthusiasm for biology. Organised students who work hard will be successful on this course. Self-reliance is an important quality as independent background reading will be essential. Students need to engage in all aspects of practical work and adopt a methodical approach to improve their scientific skills.

What might the course lead to?

Biology can open doors to many different courses at university. There are courses in Biochemistry, Cell Biology, Microbiology, Medicine, Biomedical Sciences, Nursing and many more for which Biology A-Level is either essential or strongly advised. Many students who go on to secure places at university to study Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Sciences choose Biology to complement a Chemistry A-Level

BUSINESS (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

Students will study business in a variety of contexts (eg large/small, UK focused/global, service/manufacturing) and consider:

- How businesses develop a source of continued competitive advantage.
- The competitive environment and the markets in which businesses operate.
- The factors that might determine whether a decision is successful eg
 the quality of data and the degree of uncertainty.
- How technology is changing the way decisions are made and how businesses operate and compete.
- Use of non-quantitative and quantitative data in decision making (including the interpretation of index numbers and calculations such as ratios and percentages).
- The impact of technology on strategic decision making.
- The influences of Corporate Social Responsibility, ethical and environmental issues on strategic decisions.
- The difficulties in forecasting future trends.
- The importance of assessing feasibility and risk when making strategic decisions.

What might the course lead to?

Entrepreneurship, careers in marketing, finance, IT, operations management and human resource management. Accountancy and many other related areas.

Who might the course suit?

Students who wish to have a better understanding of the world around them. In particular, a grasp of how the financial world works and how economies determine their priorities. You are likely to be inquisitive, analytical and happy working with numbers.

CHEMISTRY (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

The course aims to:

- Develop essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of the subject.
- Develop and demonstrate a deep appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of scientific methods.
- Develop competence and confidence in a variety of practical, mathematical and problem solving skills.
- Develop their interest in and enthusiasm for the subject, including developing an interest in further study and careers associated with the subject.
- Understand how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society (as exemplified in 'How Science Works').

The Practical Endorsement:

The practical endorsement accompanies the A level qualification. It requires a minimum of 12 practical activities to be completed over the 2 year course.

Who might the course suit?

Students who have enjoyed GCSE Science and have a natural interest in Chemistry would be best suited to the course. Students who are considering careers in Medicine or Veterinary Science should also take Chemistry. Well-motivated and organised students will be the most successful. This course also relies on Maths skills and therefore an interest in Maths is also desirable. An A-Level in Maths would compliment this course but this is not essential. Extended writing skills are not essential

What might the course lead to?

There are numerous job opportunities for students with Chemistry qualifications including Medicinal Chemistry, Forensic Science, Biomedical Sciences, Pharmacy and Biochemistry. A Level Chemistry is also highly regarded for non-scientific careers including Accountancy and Law.

COMPUTING (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

Computer Science is a practical subject that combines invention with creativity to understand the power and limits of both human and machine intelligence. Students complete three units, two are external exams with the final unit being an internally assessed project.

Unit 1 focuses on all the elements of how computers function. Students will learn about the intricacies of object-oriented programming, computer architecture, artificial intelligence, networking, forensic encryption and the latest in web technologies.

Unit 2 focuses on algorithms and programming. Push your problem solving skills to the limits and apply your understanding from Unit 1 to solve complex computational problems using a range of abstract thinking methods

Unit 3 is where creativity flourishes in the programming project. Apply the principles of computational thinking to develop solutions to a practical coding problem. Learn how to develop using agile methods and produce professional grade software built for the real world to defacto industry standards.

Who might the course suit?

Students who are interested in computers and problem solving will thrive on this highly engaging and rewarding course.

What might the course lead to?

Computing is the perfect stepping stone to further education as well as a career in Computer Science in all aspects including software engineering, robotics, network administration, game design and more. Students who study Computer Science can use their computational thinking to enhance a career in Business, Engineering, Medicine or any type of science, IT and Computing related career path.

CORE MATHS (LEVEL 3 CERTIFICATE)

What is the course about?

Core Maths is an AS Level equivalent, post-16 qualification that is specifically designed for students who wish to continue developing their Mathematics and problem solving expertise, but do not wish to study Mathematics A Level.

Core Maths focuses on how students can apply the Mathematics they already know from GCSE to solve extended real-world problems, whilst also introducing them to some of the applied concepts from the Mathematics A Level course. Amongst the learning of some new Mathematical formulae and techniques, the course focuses on investigating real-world scenarios, testing hypotheses, making suggestions and improvements and using technology to further investigate problems and support conclusions.

Core Maths is a Level 3 qualification studied over two years alongside your three other choices.

Who might the course suit?

The course is aimed at students who want to develop their problem solving skills and learn some new Mathematics. It is suitable for students who enjoy Mathematics and wish to further their understanding. It also supports the study of other post 16 qualifications in subjects such as Geography, Business, Psychology and the Sciences.

What might the course lead to?

Universities are keen for students to be more Mathematically savvy, regardless of the discipline they wish to study, therefore Core Maths will be an excellent qualification to enhance your university application and prepare you for any higher education and career.

CRIMINOLOGY (LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA)

What is the course about?

The Level 3 Diploma in Criminology offers students the opportunity to understand crime and deviance in society. This qualification is equivalent to one A Level and enables students to display their knowledge and understanding through one assignment per year (50% of final grade) and one external examination (50% of final grade). The topics the course covers includes:

- Types and consequences of under-reported crime. These include domestic violence, hate crime and e-crime.
- Theoretical explanations for criminal behaviour including.
- Psychological, Biological and Sociological perspectives.
- The role the media plays in our perception of crime.
- The effectiveness of crime prevention strategies and campaigns.

Who might the course suit?

The Diploma is designed to appeal to those who are interested in a career in the Criminal Justice system such as Policing, Law, Social and probation work. It is also suitable to those who are interested in either Sociology or Psychology. The course is aimed at anyone who is interested in discussions, asking questions and understanding the criminal justice system.

What might the course lead to?

You may go to University to study Law, Criminology, Social Work or other related subjects requiring a high level of evidenced based judgement. You may wish to pursue a career in the Criminal Justice System as either a Police Officer, Legal Executive, Social Worker or Probation Officer.

DRAMA AND THEATRE (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

Drama and Theatre Studies is a practical, intellectual and artistic subject. Students' creativity and understanding are developed through the active study of major play texts enhanced through practical drama exploration. In the first year of the course the students are introduced to two play texts: one theatre performance and one 'set' text. Pupils will engage in a practical exploration of two play extracts leading to an assessed performance. The students also have to compete a portfolio of evidence including analysis and evaluation of the process.

In the second year students will devise their own piece of unique drama in the style of an established theatre practitioner. Towards the end of the A-level, students will undertake a practical exploration of a modern play extract, with a final performance assessed by a visiting external examiner.

Who might the course suit?

Students need to be prepared to perform in front of an audience throughout the course. Additionally, they will be expected to attend live theatre productions as a critical aspect of textual analysis. In both years there are options for performance support candidates who may be interested in developing their skills as directors or technicians. Students need to have completed a GCSE in Drama, achieving a grade 5 or above.

What might the course lead to?

Universities and employers are looking for students who are creative; therefore A Level Drama and Theatre will be an excellent qualification to enhance your university application and prepare you for any career. The course would also suit anyone interested in pursuing a career in the Arts as an actor, director or designer. More specifically, it would be a valuable starting point for a student wishing to go to Drama School or University to study a drama or theatre based course.

ECONOMICS (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

Economics is the study of choices and their consequences. It affects every aspect of our lives, from personal decisions to government policies. By understanding economics, we can make better choices. One of the most fascinating areas is exploring economic problems and government solutions.

At the micro level, we'll focus on market failure. This occurs when markets don't function as they should. A prime example is environmental pollution and global warming. We'll examine government policies like taxation, subsidies, and regulations to address these issues. We'll also discuss government failure, where policies are ineffective or harmful.

At the macro level, we'll tackle problems like unemployment, slow economic growth, inflation, and trade imbalances. We'll explore fiscal, monetary, and supply-side policies used to address these challenges.

Who might the course suit?

Economics is a current-affairs subject. If you're interested in what's happening in your country and the world, this course is for you.

How much maths do I need to know?

You won't need new math skills beyond GCSE, but you'll develop analytical and quantitative skills in economics. These skills make up about 20% of the A-level assessment.

What might the course lead to?

Economists work in various fields, including finance, technology, consulting, and government. While many don't become economists, they use their skills in diverse careers like analysis, public policy, consulting, accountancy, research, and market regulation. Economics graduates are among the highest earners and are sought after by many sectors, including the public sector, technology, and healthcare.





ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

These are just some of the questions that might be discussed by English Language and Literature students:

- How can I manipulate different features of language in my own creative writing?
- What are the differences between written and spoken English?
- What are the different ways in which people manipulate language to present their views, prejudices and feelings?
- How do writers create fictional and fantasy worlds?

Who might the course suit?

The course is aimed at anyone who enjoys creative writing and reading literary and non-fiction texts. Lesson time is often spent talking and writing about texts so you will need to enjoy forensic analysis of language. The course will develop your skills as a critical reader, your ability to listen attentively to the views of others, and establish your own critical viewpoints through speaking, listening, reading and writing.

What might the course lead to?

English is one of the most popular degrees at University; nearly every University in the country offers a wide range of courses in the subject. Often students who take an English A Level and then go on to do an English based degree will enjoy careers in print journalism, advertising, public relations and teaching. It is highly regarded by both employers and higher educational establishments because of the way it helps students to develop analytical skills and their powers of communication and persuasion.

What are the texts studied?

- The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood.
- The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini.
- A Streetcar Named Desire by Tennessee Williams.
- The poetry of Seamus Heaney.
- Paris Anthology a collection of non-fiction texts written in or about the city of Paris.

ENGLISH LITERATURE (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

English Literature A-Level continues the development of literary analysis skills from GCSE. English Literature enables students to study a wide range of literary texts across genres and time periods, enabling students to understand how literature has changed over time. English Literature encourages students to explore the relationships that exist between texts and the contexts within which they are written, received and understood. Studying texts within a particular genre or context enables students to investigate and connect them, drawing out patterns of similarity and difference using a variety of reading strategies and perspectives.

Assessment Method

There are two final written examinations at A Level. This is supported by the Texts Across Time NEA (a comparative essay) which makes up 20% of the course. For this essay, students will study the novel Frankenstein as a class and then compare an element of Frankenstein with a text of their choice. Students work closely with their teacher on the text and title for their NEA and receive one to one mentoring.

Who might the course suit?

Students who genuinely enjoy reading literary texts, discussing ideas and exploring different interpretations and points of view will gain a great deal from this course. Our students to have a love of literature and a thirst to discover more about it!

What might the course lead to?

A Level English Literature is highly regarded by universities in the UK and across the globe - including Oxbridge and the Ivy League universities in the States. It is well-established and demonstrates that a student can interpret and analyse language as well as argue a case fluently. These are essential skills in many professions including journalism, law, publishing and teaching.

What are the texts studied?

- Othello by William Shakespeare.
- The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald.
- A Streetcar Named Desire by Tennessee Williams.
- The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood.
- Feminine Gospels by Carol Ann Duffy.
- Love Across the Ages a collection of pre-1900 poetry.
- Frankenstein by Mary Shelley.

EXTENDED PROJECT (EPQ)

What is the Course?

The Extended Project is a one year course which carries equivalent points for university entry as an AS level and is awarded Grades A*-E. Some universities will accept it as part of an offer, but the top universities will not but have said that they would look favourably on students who opt to do it and others have said they would be willing to make lower offers because of it, e.g. Bristol.

How is it assessed?

- Students record what they do in a production log.
- They produce an extended piece of work and make a presentation about it.
- They are assessed on the log, the project and the presentation.

What can they look at?

- Students can choose to look at an area which is an extension to their current area of study or alternatively they can explore an area of personal interest or an activity outside the main programme of study.
- Students have taken the opportunity to examine a wide variety of subjects from Radiography, cubist artwork to devising a training plan for a hockey team.

What will students need to show that they can do to achieve a good grade?

- To choose an area of interest.
- Draft a project title.
- Draft aims of the project.
- Plan, research and carry out the project.
- Provide evidence of all stages of project production.
- Deliver a presentation to a specified audience.

FURTHER MATHS (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

This course is an additional A-Level for those who wish to take the study of Mathematics to a higher level. The A-Level Further Maths Course studies Pure Mathematics in greater depth as well as covering further applications of Mathematics in Mechanics and Statistics problems. The Further Core Pure components introduce Matrices, Complex Numbers, Methods of Proof and Differential Equations. In the applied component, students will study how to model more complicated Mechanics problems and probability distributions.

Further Mathematics lessons take place after school to avoid conflict with other subjects and make the option available to a greater number of students.

Further Mathematics is only available to students already opting for A-Level Mathematics.

Who might the course suit?

The course is aimed at students who wish to specialise in Mathematics. It is particularly suitable for those who might study Mathematics or a heavily mathematical discipline such as Engineering, Physics or Economics at university.

What might the course lead to?

Universities and employers alike are impressed by students who can demonstrate the ability to succeed in Mathematics at this level. Many of the most prestigious universities prefer, or require, their Mathematics applicants to have studied Further Maths.

GEOGRAPHY (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

- **1. Dynamic Landscapes:** tectonic hazards, landscape systems, processes and change. Coastal Landscapes as a field trip.
- **2. Dynamic Places:** globalisation of the world over time. Shaping urban areas through regenerating them as a field trip.
- **3. Physical System and Sustainability:** water insecurity, energy security, life cycles and future climate change.
- **4. Human Systems and Geopolitics:** superpowers, global development, global health and human rights.

These are some of the topics we'll cover in Geography A-Level. The course content is divided between physical and human topics and is supported with field trips and extra-curricular university conference visits. We look at the processes that cause change and the impacts of that change on human activity. Interpretation of geographical data and fieldwork are integral parts of the course.

Who might the course suit?

Anybody who has an interest in what is happening in the world will enjoy A-Level Geography. Do you have concerns about the environment? Do you enjoy fieldwork and practical learning as geographers often enjoy the outdoors and will be inquisitive?

What might the course lead to?

Geography graduates are now some of the most employable as they have such a wide range of skills including problem solving, decision making, teamwork and communication. Geographers work in diverse areas such as business and finance, environmental management, engineering, medicine, politics and education.

Often our students go on to study Geography or subjects related at university and others also move on to work with companies and charities with a more geopolitical view.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE (BTEC)

What is the course about?

The course will give you an introduction to the Health and Social Care sector and its associated careers. You will explore the skills needed to care for people with a range of specific needs and medical conditions. You will explore the different physiological conditions that are common in this field of work and will develop an understanding of the career opportunities available.

Who might the course suit?

The course is ideal for those who are unsure of their specific future pathway in Health and Social Care as it provides an insight and broader understanding of the sector. It consists of four units completed over two years and is based on the **person-centred approach** and **care values** needed to work in the health and social care sector.

The mandatory units in Year 12 focus on:

- Human Lifespan Development.
- Human Biology and Health.

The mandatory units in Year 13 focus on:

- Health and Social Care Practise.
- Health Science.

What might the course lead to?

This will enable you to progress to higher education and in previous years students have pursued study in midwifery, nursing and adolescent mental health. For those wishing to enter the world of work this course provides a springboard into employment and apprenticeships in a variety of health and social care fields.

HISTORY (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

The A-level History qualification has been designed to help students understand the significance of historical events, the role of individuals in history and the nature of change over time. The qualification will help them to gain a deeper understanding of the past through political, social, economic and cultural perspectives. The engaging topics available to them throughout the course will provide them with the knowledge and skills they require to succeed as A-level historians.

Students will study three components throughout the course: Germany 1918-1945, the British Empire 1857-1967 and the NEA (non-examined assessments).

Who might the course suit?

History combines well with almost any other subject because it requires both the empirical skills of science and the creative imagination of the arts.

What might the course lead to?

The list of occupations and prospects is endless. Studying History provides more than knowledge and understanding of the key events. It provides each student the essential skills required to succeed in any occupation, course or apprenticeship. Many of our pupils go on to study History at undergraduate level, but some will opt for related disciplines such as Law or other Humanities subjects. Even those moving into unrelated areas will find the skills fostered by History, the ability to analyse, explore and communicate in a clear and interesting way, will be profoundly useful.

MATHEMATICS (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

The A-Level course consists of a Pure Mathematics component and two Applied Mathematics components: Mechanics and Statistics. Pure Mathematics is the core of the course and extends the study of Algebra, Geometry and Trigonometry from GCSE and introduces Calculus.

Mechanics is the study of how physical objects behave when acted upon by different forces. You will learn how to model objects and predict their motion. There is a strong relationship with concepts in Physics and Engineering, but since all concepts are introduced from first principles it is not necessary to study Physics in order to be successful in this part of the course

Statistics is the study of how to analyse data and calculate probability. Statistics is absolutely fundamental to scientific process and in this component of the course you will learn how scientists distinguish results that back up their hypotheses from random noise. Concepts from statistics will help with the study of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Medicine, Psychology, Sociology and Business at A-Level and beyond.

Who this course might suit?

Students wishing to take this course enjoy mathematics and problem solving. Students will have a strong foundation in Algebra and Trigonometry. A-Level Mathematics is an invaluable companion course for Science A-Levels and for anyone intending to study the sciences, Medicine or Engineering at University.

What might the course lead to?

Mathematics is described by university admissions tutors as a facilitating subject, this means it is often a stipulated or preferred pre-requisite for many university courses. Additionally Mathematics A-Level is recognised internationally as a proof of a student's tenacity and work ethic.

MODERN LANGUAGES -FRENCH, SPANISH (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

French and Spanish are some of the most widely spoken languages in Europe. You will develop the skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing; you will refresh and extend your knowledge of the basic rules of grammar; and develop your language skills.

Topics studied include social issues, such as the family, new technology and young people's involvement in politics and also cultural aspects such as music, cinema and literature.

Classes are conducted mainly in the foreign language and students are encouraged to contribute as much as possible to discussions.

Who might the course suit?

Applications are welcome from students who have shown an aptitude for understanding language structures at GCSE level and who want to build on these foundations to study the language in greater depth.

What might the course lead to?

Each year, a number of our students go on to pursue their language studies at university, either as the main focus of their degree or as a supplementary subject.

Assessment Units (AQA exam board, 100% final exam):

A Level Paper 1 (50%) - Listening, reading and writing (aspects of French/Spanish society, current trends, artistic culture, aspects of political life in the target language country).

A Level Paper 2 (20%) - Writing (based on an in-depth study of two books, or a book and a film).

A Level Paper 3 (30%) - Speaking (20 minutes, discussion of prepared themes, and unprepared discussion based on a stimulus).

MUSIC (A LEVEL)

Who might the course suit?

- Are you passionate about music?
- Do you ever create your own original music?
- Spend your free time singing, playing an instrument or creating tracks using music technology software?
- Loved GCSE Music and don't want it to end?
- Didn't do GCSE Music, regret it and have spent the last 2 years playing music?

What is the course about? Listening and Evaluating:

The exam section of the course requires you to be familiar with a variety of styles of music:

- The Baroque Concerto.
- Mozart's Operas.
- Romantic Piano Music.
- Pop Music.
- Music for Media (film and gaming).

Composing:

You will create 2 compositions; one in a style of your choice, the other to a brief set by the examiner, which could include lyrics, a chord pattern or the outline of a scene from a film.

Performing:

You will choose from several performance tasks, which include performing as a soloist, as part of an ensemble on an instrument of your choice and through music technology, resulting in a 10 minute recording at the end of year 13.

What subjects does Music goes well with?

As it is both a Science and an Art. Students may combine Music with other traditional Arts subjects such as English Literature, History, Drama and Art, but it is also often studied alongside Sciences and Maths.

What might the course lead to?

Music is a recognised academic subject and will provide you with transferable skills attractive to universities and employers. Possible careers: Theatre/session musician, Sound Engineer, Music journalism, Composing, Music therapy, Teaching.

PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

- How can we know how to live a good life?
- Are some actions always right or wrong, or does it depend on the circumstances?
- How can a theist justify the existence of God in the face of human suffering?
- Is there life after death?

This course engages students with the questions that human beings have asked since the time of the ancient Greek philosophers.

In the first year the Philosophy section includes philosophical issues and questions; religious experience; Problems of evil and suffering. The ethics unit includes issues or debates in religion and ethics.

The Buddhism section includes Buddhist beliefs, values and teachings; Sources of wisdom and authority; Practices that shape and express religious identity.

In the second year, The Philosophy section includes Philosophical issues and questions; The nature and influence of religious experience; Problems of evil and suffering.

The Religion and Ethics section includes Significant concepts in issues or debates in religion and ethics; A study of three ethical theories; Application of ethical theories to issues of importance; Medical ethics: beginning and end of life.

Who might the course suit?

The course is aimed at anyone who enjoys asking questions and does not mind not getting a straight answer!

Each module of the course is assessed through essay style questions in an exam. However, some of these are based on the material studied, some on the student's own research and some on the student's ability to critically engage with texts.

Therefore students will need to be able to develop their arguments in written form as well as through class discussion and presentations.

What might the course lead to?

The study of Philosophy of Religion, Ethics and Buddhism enables students to develop transferable skills such as communication, empathy, reason, logic, analysis and critical thinking, which are key skills that employers and universities look for.

It combines well with almost all other humanities subjects and will give a broad-based education which will enable you to enter higher education.

PHYSICS (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

The course covers all the key concepts of Physics. As learners progress through the course they will build on their knowledge of the laws of Physics, applying their understanding to solve problems on topics ranging from sub-atomic particles to the entire universe.

The course aims to:

- Develop essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of the subject and how they relate to each other.
- Develop competence and confidence in a variety of practical, mathematical and problem solving skills.
- Develop interest in and enthusiasm for the subject, including developing an interest in further study and careers associated with the subject.
- Understand how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the Sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society.

The Practical Endorsement accompanies the A level qualification. It requires a minimum of 12 practical activities to be completed over the 2 year course. It will appear on all students' certificates as a separately reported result, alongside the overall grade for the qualification.

Who might the course suit?

If you have an enquiring mind, always asking why things happen, then Physics will help you find the answers. It forms the basis of most modern technologies and holds the key to the future for global well-being.

What might the course lead to?

Physics is at the heart of everything and is a highly rewarding discipline to study at School, University and beyond. Above all Physics opens doors to a wide variety of careers. Employers see a Physics qualification as an indication of someone who will immediately be an asset to the organisation.

Assessment is by 3 exams.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

A-level Physical Education allow students to play to their strengths and gain dynamic theoretical and practical skills for further education or work. They'll be familiar with some of the content from GCSE, yet they will study it in more depth, acquiring new knowledge along the way.

- · Applied anatomy and physiology.
- Exercise physiology.
- Skill acquisition.
- Sport psychology.
- · Sport and society.
- Biomechanical Movement.

Practical Module:

Students will be required to perform in one physical activity. They will be required to demonstrate their skills in this sport and should be already performing at a high level with the intent to continue participation in their sport.

Performance Analysis and Evaluation:

Students must complete a Performance Analysis and Evaluation based on their performance or the performance of another sports person.

Who might the course suit?

An interest in the theoretical aspects of Physical Education and Sports Science is essential as the A-Level is majority theory based. To have studied GCSE PE is highly recommended

What might the course lead to?

The specification prepares students well for further study in various fields, for example, social and natural sciences, teaching, sports science, leisure and tourism. An A Level qualification is rapidly becoming essential for specialist study in PE and Sport Science in Higher Education and is also a desirable qualification for other areas of study, including physiotherapy, nutrition and teaching.

POLITICS (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

Politics is an exciting and challenging course that tackles some of the biggest questions about the way in which our country is run, as well as focusing on the difference between US and UK politics. It is an ideal choice for so many students. It can complement arts subjects like History or Economics, or balance a selection of Science subjects. Any student looking forward to gaining the right to vote within the next few years will benefit from a critical understanding of current political affairs and institutions. It would suit students who have an interest in the world around them and who enjoy debate, discussion and argument. If you're interested in current affairs and want to learn more about the people who lead our country, this is the course for you.

During the first year of the course, you will look at UK Politics and Government, covering topics such as elections, political parties, pressure groups, Parliament, and the Prime Minister. The topics are examined both in terms of the powers of the institutions and how individuals have used these powers to try and achieve their aims. In the second year, you will study US Government and Politics, and see how it compares with that of the UK, as well as developing an understanding of Political ideas like conservatism, socialism and anarchism.

What might the course lead to?

This subject is particularly useful if you are looking for a career in law, in the Civil Service or in local government. One of our former students went on to become an MP and a number are now local councillors. Politics A Level also gives you essential transferable skills that would be useful in a wide range of careers, such as journalism, marketing and human resources. Any potential employer who sees that an applicant has studied Politics will realise that this is someone who takes an interest in the world at large and is likely to be a valuable asset to any team.

Who might the course suit?

The subject can be studied in combination with a range of others but English, History, Economics and Social Sciences are the most common combination. The main requirements are an interest in Politics and the ability to express yourself well on paper.

The vast majority of our Politics students progress onto university and many take related degrees: Politics, International Relations or Public Administration, some of our past students have gone on to work in Parliament, with Pressure Groups and even in the White House.

PRODUCT DESIGN (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

The Product Design A Level is a creative qualification that supports the development of both practical skills and theoretical knowledge, providing students with the confidence to succeed in a number of careers. Students will investigate a range of influences on Design and Technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put their learning into practice by producing a range of exciting projects. The 2-year course is linear, with the exams (worth 50% of the qualification) and the NEA (coursework- worth 50%) completed in Year 2.

Who might the course suit?

This course would be suitable for students who enjoy being creative and problem solving to create functional prototypes.

This course will develop your practical, problem solving, CAD/ CAM and theoretical skills

The structure of the course enables learners to identify their own areas of interest and produce appropriate work.

Taught Modules:

Paper 1

- Materials, characteristics & uses.
- Advanced materials.
- Enhancements, processes and finishes.
- Industry, requirements & standards.
- Feasibility, design, manufacture & use.

Paper 2

- Design methods, influences & issues.
- Design processes & evaluation.
- · Manufacturing.
- Wider issues & standards.

What might the course lead to?

This qualification will help you to access a number of university courses at foundation or degree level.

Careers that you can explore include; architect, graphic designer, 3D product designer, web design, engineer and many more.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Grade five in GCSE Design Technology, Graphics, Resistant Materials. If a student has not studied the subject before the entry is at the discretion of the Head of Technology.

PSYCHOLOGY (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

Psychology is concerned with all aspects of behaviour and with the thoughts, feelings and motivations underlying that behaviour. Psychology is a science and psychologists study human behaviour by observing, measuring and testing, then arriving at conclusions that are rooted in sound scientific methodology.

The course looks at important aspects of human life; relationships, stress, memory, aggression, obedience and mental health issues such as depression, schizophrenia or anxiety.

Who might the course suit?

It is naturally suited to those who have an interest in people and who want to understand more about the causes of behaviour. Given the competing explanations of why people "do what they do" the best students are those with an "open mind" and a willingness to read around the "key issues" discussed.

What might the course lead to?

There are professionally trained clinical, educational, occupational and forensic Psychologists - but Psychology features in many degree courses (nursing and health care, marketing and advertising, education, criminology). It also prepares students for jobs including health care, police work, management, teaching, personnel work, workplace design, retailing and advertising.

Taught Modules

- Memory.
- Attachment.
- Social Influence.
- Psychopathology.
- Research Methods.
- Biopsychology.
- Approaches.
- Issues and Debates.
- · Aggression.
- Schizophrenia.

SOCIOLOGY (A LEVEL)

What is the course about?

Sociology is the study of society. It aims to explain how institutions (for example the family, education, religion and the media) within society make people behave the way that they do.

Have you ever wondered ...

- » How being poor affects education?
- » Why 1 in 4 marriages end in divorce?
- » Why we obsess over fashion labels?
- » Why black males are 7 times more likely to be stopped and searched?

Taught Modules:

- Families and Households.
- Education.
- Beliefs in Society.
- Crime and Deviance.

Who might the course suit?

Sociology is an exciting subject that challenges your everyday experience. It will help you develop skills to assess different views and reach conclusions about society, based on careful consideration of evidence.

Students should be interested in contemporary social issues and will be expected to be well informed in political and social debates.

What might the course lead to?

Sociology is a highly valued course and prepares students for a variety of courses in higher education. Particularly relevant areas are law, academic research, advertising, criminology, social policy planning, teaching, journalism and social work.

SPORT (BTEC)

What is the course about?

The Sport BTEC course examines various components of sport, including how the body systems respond during exercise, different careers in the sporting sector and how to construct a health and fitness programme for a client with specific needs.

There are four units in total across the 2 years:

- Unit 1 Anatomy and Physiology
- **Unit 2** Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Fitness and Well-Being
- Unit 3 Professional Development in the Sports Industry
- Unit 7 Practical Sports Performance

Each unit is unique in its content. Some of the material builds on previously acquired knowledge from KS4 (GCSE PE or Health and Fitness), but students are also introduced to new knowledge, concepts and skills across the course of study.

Who might the course suit?

Students with an interest in pursuing a careers in the sports industry or health and fitness sector, or those who wish to continue studying PE/Sport at a higher level.

A range of assessment methods including exams, coursework and practical work make up the Sports BTEC.

What might the course lead to?

Studying this course can lead to Higher Education courses or directly into employment. Many of our students have progressed onto the following progression routes:

Sports Coaching, Sports Development Officer, Fitness Professional, Sports Events Management, Teaching and Physiotherapy.

THE SIXTH FORM TEAM



Director of Sixth Form Mrs K Ward



MSN
Deputy Director of Sixth
Form
Ms C Oxley-Hughes



Deputy Director of Sixth FormMrs K Barker-Starling



SSS Head Teacher Mr B Hain



Writhlington Deputy Director of Sixth Form Mrs E Sage



MSN Sixth Form Office Manager/T Level Work Placement Coordinator Mrs S Jackson



Sixth Form Pastoral Administrator Mrs P Malone



MSN Sixth Form Administrator Mrs J Proctor



Sixth Form Data Manager Ms S Murphy



MNSP SIXTH FORM

Administration based at Norton Hill School Charlton Road, Midsomer Norton Somerset BA3 4AD







Our Sixth Forms are part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership