

PROSPECTUS 2024

SIXTH FORM

BRIGHTON GIRLS

WELCOME TO BRIGHTON GIRLS SIXTH FORM...



The next two years of your education will be the most enjoyable and transformational: you will delve deeply into the subjects that inspire you, form lifelong friendships and make decisions that will shape your future.

In joining Brighton Girls Sixth Form, you can be assured that you will be welcomed into our inclusive community, and that our tutorial-style teaching and attention to your wellbeing will enable you to achieve your goals.

Our experienced Sixth Form tutor team will guide you as you fulfil your ambitions for your Sixth Form years and prepare for life beyond, whether that is at a British or overseas university, a performing arts college or degree apprenticeship. You will get the advice you need as you forge your own pathway.

You will have the platform to develop your leadership skills and embody Brighton Girls' values of being both kind and bold, through our wider-learning programme: Bright Futures. As a member of our Sixth Form, you will also be a member of your House and the wider GDST Sixth Form community; you will forge strong connections with fellow students and staff alike, and be encouraged to lead and shape your community. Beyond this, our aim is that you enrich your day through our co-curricular programme of dance, music, sport and outdoor pursuits.

We hope that you will consider Brighton Girls to be the right Sixth Form for you and look forward to welcoming you to an Open Day or visit to meet our students and staff.

Lorrayne

Lorrayne Lainchbury
Head of Sixth Form

GOOD
TO SEE
YOU!

COME ON IN...



"THE ATMOSPHERE IS WHAT MAKES IT FOR ME – THE SIXTH FORM IS REALLY FRIENDLY AND RELAXED. TEACHING STANDARDS AND SUPPORT SYSTEMS ARE REALLY GOOD. I'M ALWAYS AWARE THAT IF I NEED HELP IN A SUBJECT, IT'S ON HAND."

STUDENT, YEAR 13







A wooden wall with teal paint and white graffiti. The graffiti consists of large, stylized letters, possibly spelling 'HOLY'. In the bottom left corner, there are red and pink circular shapes, possibly part of a mural or another graffiti piece.

FREEDOM TO BE YOURSELF AND PURSUE
THE SUBJECTS THAT INTEREST YOU.



CHOOSE YOUR A LEVEL SUBJECTS...

+ OUR BRIGHT FUTURES PROGRAMME
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SMALL CLASSES

Our average class size is just 5,
so you will get a highly personalised approach

61% A*/A including 34% at A*
[2022 A Level results]

BIG

RESULTS



GIRLS NEED AND DESERVE SPACE IN WHICH TO DEVELOP THEIR FULL POTENTIAL, AND TO MAKE INFORMED AND UNCONSTRAINED CHOICES ABOUT INTERESTS, SUBJECTS AND CAREERS.

IN A GIRLS-ONLY SIXTH FORM THEIR NEEDS AND PREFERENCES CAN BE FULLY ACCOMMODATED WITHIN A DEDICATED LEARNING ENVIRONMENT.



[We are just 10 minutes walk to the beach.]

MOST RECENT

UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS / COURSES

Pembroke College, University of Cambridge / Engineering
University College London / Biomedical Sciences / Biochemistry
Durham University / Computer Science / Mathematics
University of Birmingham / Medicine / Liberal Arts
Central Saint Martins University of the Arts / Textile Design
University College London / Classics
University of Bath / Robotics Engineering
University of Exeter / English and Modern Languages
King's College London, University of London / Medicine
Oxford Brookes University / Criminology / Business Enterprise
and Entrepreneurship
University of Brighton / Psychology and Criminology
University of Sheffield / Psychology
University of Westminster / Marketing Management
University of Nottingham / Medicine
University of Leicester / Biological Sciences (Genetics)
University College London / Law
Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance /
Ballet and Contemporary Dance
Brighton Met / Art and Design Foundation
Edge Hill University / Psychology
University of Sussex / Biomedical Science
University of York / Theatre: Writing, Directing
and Performance
University of Bath / Management with Marketing
University of Leeds / Modern Languages
and International Relations
University of East Anglia / English Literature
with Creative Writing





Bright Futures

Our Bright Futures programme enables you to benefit from a broad educational experience, equipping you with skills and qualities that will enable you to thrive beyond your time with us in the Sixth Form.

The programme focuses on the development of independent study skills, leadership and work-preparedness, as well as opportunities to develop evidence of super-curricular engagement.

You will have the opportunity to complete an Extended Project Qualification and the GDST Leadership and Enterprise Advanced Diploma and, for some, the choice of either the GDST Space Technology Diploma, the DELE or DELF Language Diploma.



THE EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION (EPQ)

This is a serious academic course valued by universities and employers. It is an opportunity to work independently and pursue a personal interest. Success requires you to be both problem-seeking and solution-focused; you will learn how to analyse, evaluate, test and develop ideas which become robust and successful. The inventiveness and resilience this requires is exciting, as well as valuable.

You can see why employers and universities would value this qualification from all the reasons above; many universities make a lower entry offer to students succeeding with the EPQ. If you have a particular career ambition, you might use an EPQ to explore that area, and the expertise gained can be invaluable in a university interview. For most students, their completed EPQ is the single item of work from their whole school career of which they are most proud, and the self-confidence this generates is often the springboard from which successful careers develop.

GDST LEADERSHIP AND ENTERPRISE ADVANCED DIPLOMA (LEAD)

In partnership with the London School of Economics, the GDST Leadership and Enterprise Advanced Diploma equips our Sixth Formers with the requisite skills for future leadership in a fast-changing workplace. There are three strands to the Diploma: Leadership, Social Enterprise and Mentorship.

You will complete modules covering a range of topics: self-awareness of your leadership style; dealing with difficult people and situations; AI and unconscious bias, to name a few. You will also put your skills into practice through running your own social enterprise, supported by a mentor from the LSE.

Many Year 12 students across the GDST participate, and you will join them at a Bootcamp in the Autumn term and a showcase event in the Spring, which is the culmination of the Diploma.

SOME STUDENTS MAY OPT TO ALSO STUDY ONE OF THESE ENRICHMENT OPTIONS...

1

THE GDST SPACE TECHNOLOGY DIPLOMA

In September 2021 the UK National Space Strategy was released, calling for the UK to position itself as a Science and Technology superpower. This Diploma has been developed by the GDST to address the Education sector's role in achieving this, supported by the University of Hertfordshire School of Physics, Engineering and Computer Science.

The Diploma focuses on the computer science related disciplines of automotive, aeronautical, communication, electronics, data analysis and automated robotic programming technologies in the space science domain. Adjacent elements of mathematics, physics, astronomy, survival medical and the chemical, biological and geological aspects of planetary science, will also amalgamate at an A Level standard. As well as lectures and seminars in school, students will participate in a one-day UK based field trip and assessment is through a viva at the end of Year 12.

You will need prior knowledge of the Python coding language, either through studying Computer Science GCSE or self-taught knowledge of Python and an interest in space technology. Our Head of Computer Science would be very happy to advise interested students how to develop their Python skills over the summer break.

2

LEVEL B1 DIPLOMA IN SPANISH (DELE) OR FRENCH (DELF)

These diplomas are studied all over the world and are designed to make students more independent and capable of dealing with everyday situations. Studying this course will enable you to maintain a conversation, understand and follow a discussion and give views and opinions.

Perhaps you are planning to take a gap year and travel in the future and this course could be invaluable to you. Regardless, a commitment to developing your language skills will impress universities and future employers.

The diploma is externally assessed across four core competences: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.




UNIVERSITY APPLICATION PROCESS

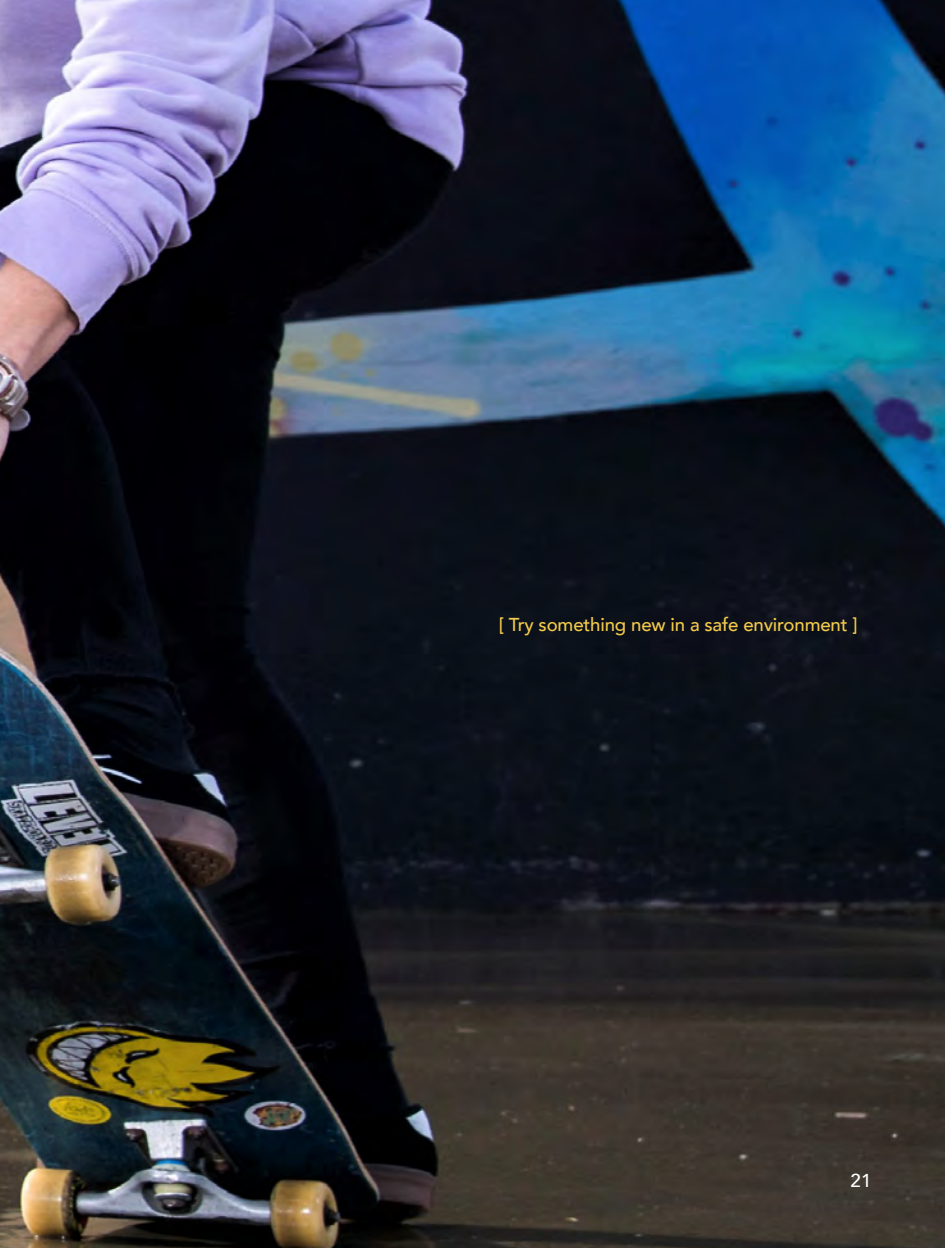
You can expect guidance for applications, college choices, interview skills and academic support on an individual basis. There will also be visits and GDST-run courses to help you as well as the opportunity to attend the Higher Education Fair and our university information evening.

OXBRIDGE AND MEDICINE CANDIDATES

Students with the academic ability and curiosity may wish to apply to Oxford, Cambridge or medical school. You can be placed on the GDST Oxbridge on Track Programme or GDST Medics on Track programme. This is a unique programme set up for Brighton Girls students and involves developing research skills, independent learning skills, interview skills and much more, to support your application.

A person is shown from the waist down, wearing a light purple long-sleeved shirt and black pants. They are holding a skateboard with a teal deck and yellow wheels. Their hands are positioned to ride the board. The background is a large, colorful mural with abstract shapes in black, teal, yellow, and brown. The text is overlaid on the bottom left of the image.

SKATEBOARDING, BOXING, CODING, ART,
DESIGN, WATERSPORTS, DEBATING ARE JUST
SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES YOU CAN TRY AT
BRIGHTON GIRLS.



[Try something new in a safe environment]

Kind &
BOLD

Girls-only Sixth Form

Self-confidence, resilience, academic attainment and enhanced career progression some of the benefits of a girls-only Sixth Form.



TIME FOR SOMETHING DIFFERENT...

Choose from a vast selection of clubs and co-curricular activities:

Try a new sport, from Boxing, Skateboarding, Watersports, Karate, and Gymnastics to a full range of team sports including Football, Netball, Hockey and Rugby where there's plenty of support and camaraderie on offer.

Love music? You can join Brighton Girls Chamber Choir (with the option to join a tour to Italy) Orchestra, Rock and Pop School, Flute Ensemble or Violin Quartet. Or belt out a Pop song in Brighton Girls Voices club, or join Theatre club.

Coding and Maker Club is perfect if you're interested in the GDST Space Technology Diploma, or simply want to design your own game.

Get creative at our design and art clubs, or if words are your medium, join the Creative Writing club or pursue your interest in journalism with the Temple Times Newspaper club. Learn a language or discover other cultures at our various language and culture clubs.

Weekly sessions are also on offer for scientists to help boost your grades, and a Bridge to University group for all students going to university.





"THE STAFF ARE ALL REALLY NICE, THE CLASS SIZES ARE SMALL, THE SUPPORT WHEN APPLYING TO UNIVERSITY IS VERY GOOD AND THE SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM ARE VERY FRIENDLY – IT'S A REAL COMMUNITY."

STUDENT, YEAR 12



SUPPORTING YOU

At Brighton Girls, we understand that some students may need a little more time and support to achieve their academic potential.

At the core of what we offer is increasing your confidence and self-belief so you feel equipped to meet the demands not just of the Sixth Form day, but also life beyond the classroom. Treating each student as an individual is important to us, and we work alongside your teachers and parents to ensure our approach is student-centric.

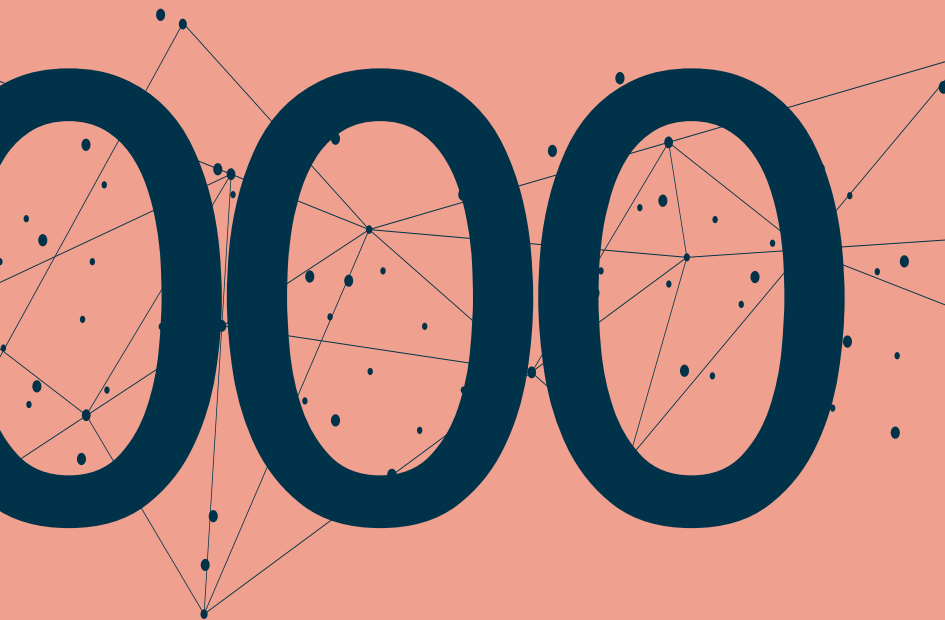
We monitor students closely, and any concerns raised by a department are followed up quickly and efficiently. The small sixth form classes means that the teachers can get to know the students well and tailor their teaching to the needs of the group.



POWERFUL ALUMNAE NETWORK

An abstract graphic featuring a network of dark blue dots connected by thin lines, overlaid on a solid coral background. The dots are of varying sizes and are scattered across the page, with a higher concentration around the large text. The lines form a complex web, suggesting a global or interconnected network.

70,000



Through the GDST family, we can connect you to 70,000 professional women potentially offering help, advice and work experience placements. You can connect with alumnae via the GDST Runway app which is great for asking questions and making useful connections with those already at university or in the working world. Sixth Formers can benefit from help with sourcing work experience with alumnae and opportunities to apply for paid internships via the Network.



UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES & COMMUNITY

You will have access to a vast range of leadership roles and inspirational speakers, and develop links with the local community. All helping you to live your best life at Sixth Form and preparing you for the world beyond.

Sixth Formers lead the way in developing links with the local community, working with representatives across the School to run charitable events and raise funds and awareness for various causes. Recent examples included City Mission and volunteering with the local foodbank.

Events have included the Brighton Marathon where we manage a water station, a Christmas Tea Party for local Senior Citizens, involvement in the St Anne's Well Garden Festival, choir singing in Churchill Square and collecting donations for Brighton homeless at Christmas time.



[Exceptional support to forge your own pathway]

"BRIGHTON GIRLS
INSTILS AN INNATE
SENSE OF CONFIDENCE
– THAT AS YOUNG
WOMEN THEY ARE
CAPABLE OF ACHIEVING
ANYTHING THEY SET
THEIR MINDS TO."

SIXTH FORM PARENT



A LEVEL COURSES
[Take your pick]



Art & Design / Biology /
Chemistry / Classical Civilisation /
Computer Science / Dance /
Design & Technology / Drama
& Theatre Studies / Economics /
English Language / English
Literature / Food Science and
Nutrition / French / Geography /
Government & Politics / History /
Latin / Law / Mathematics /
Further Mathematics / Music /
Philosophy, Religion & Ethics /
Photography / Physics / Physical
Education (PE) / Psychology /
Sociology / Spanish

Art & Design /

The opportunity to build on the solid foundation of GCSE Art is one that many students take. The A Level course is a natural follow on encouraging observational skills, experimentation with materials and imagination, analysis of the visual world and discovering ways to reflect and interpret ideas. Through exploration of practical techniques such as printing, mixed-media, painting and three-dimensional materials, students can develop their confidence and understanding of all things visual. Drawing, as in the GCSE, is the backbone of the course and pupils learn to use it as the means to begin their personalised research.

All Sixth Formers have access to a dedicated specialist workspace in the Sixth Form studio so that they can be supported in working outside of lesson time. Practical exploration of art history and contemporary artists through studies and sketchbook work are begun from a wide range of visits to exhibitions and galleries. Students are encouraged to explore their ideas in depth and through their practical skills, develop independent research. Themes of study are wide ranging but often include aspects of the natural world, artist and architects, the human form, and the built environment. The school's unique location in the centre of Brighton allows students to study the urban and natural environment. This makes for exciting outcomes and many of our students are inspired to study Art at degree level.

Course structure /

Exam board: OCR

Unit 1: Personal Investigation (60%)

This unit is divided into the practical and academic section. Emphasis is on practical coursework developing ideas, refining them in sketchbooks as well as some final resolved pieces.

Academic research allows students to study in depth aspects of the visual arts that particularly interest them. This personal study will take the form of a visual workbook with an accompanying 3000-word essay.

Unit 2: Controlled Assignment (40%)

From a series of thematic titles given by OCR, the candidate chooses one question which needs to be researched by direct observation and artists research. Over a preparatory period of 8 weeks, students develop ideas in a supporting sketchbook and prep. Sheets to present alongside their final piece. (15 hour examination).

Beyond A Level /

Students will develop sufficient skill for the study of Art to be rewarding in its own right, but it also provides an essential foundation for a wide range of careers in Art, Design and Architecture. Art is accepted for entry into Arts and Humanities courses at universities and as a supporting A Level in many other subject areas.

Careers include: theatre design, fashion design, graphics, architecture, computer game design, art historian, museum and gallery work, film and television to name but a few!

Entry requirements /

GCSE Art (Grade 6)

Alternatively, an art portfolio submission will be considered where students have not studied Art at GCSE.



Biology /

If you are interested in how complex organisms are arranged in order to fulfil their function, then this is the subject for you. Biology is never far from the news, and with scientists still trying to understand the long impacts of COVID, this is truer than ever. You may have recently seen that technology is now improving at such a pace that, a possible way to upgrade current artificial intelligence is to use human brain cells. Boys are now being advised to have the HPV vaccine in order to prevent certain cancers, and RNA is again in the news but this time advancing regenerative personalise medicine, gene therapy and biotechnology. All of this, and more, can be linked to the A-Level Biology course. You will cover topics involving microorganisms up to large populations. You will study and understand how the organelles of cells work, and learn about how DNA technology could help prevent diseases spreading or stop tumours growing.

The course also covers the current issues of how climate change is affecting our environment and what this may mean in the future. This range of topics ensures there is something that every student knows they will love, and many other topics they will realise they find fascinating. Biology A Level is challenging but also rewarding and you will be amazed at the progress you will make across the two-year course.

Course structure /

Exam board: AQA

It is a linear two-year course and comprises of three exams at the end. The first is based on the year 12 content and finishes with three 5-mark questions. The second is based on year 13 content and finished with a 15-mark comprehension. The third exam is a synoptic paper that covers both years and finishes with a 25-mark essay (which you will be fully prepared for – these are nothing like English or history essays).

You will also be required to complete 12 required practicals. You will be given a lab book to use and complete throughout the course. After each practical your lab book will be marked and skills ticked off. At the end of the course, if you pass your practical skills you will be awarded a P after your grade. E.g. E.g. A P.

Beyond A Level /

An A Level in Biology will show any university or future employer that you have a good set of transferable skills including statistical, evaluative, comprehensive, practical and teamwork skills. These are desirable even if you do not choose to go on and study Biology at a higher level.

Biology is an essential component for any degree involving the biological sciences. Chemistry would also have to be taken if a medical or healthcare related degree was being considered. There have been students who take Biology with the intention of not studying this at a higher level, who have gone on to study a range of subject from Law, English, History, Maths, and Physiotherapy degrees.

Entry requirements /

GCSE Mathematics (Grade 7)

GCSE Biology or Double Science (Grade 7)



Chemistry /

Chemistry A Level delves more deeply into topics with which you are already familiar, such as bonding, and those with which you may not be, such as entropy. Chemistry requires an understanding and application of knowledge, making it completely different to the demands of GCSE. As an experimental science lessons in our Sixth Form will reinforce what you learn; we do far more experimental work than the core/required practical work required by the course. You will benefit hugely from working in smaller teaching groups because it allows dedicated one-to-one support; you will not simply be 'a face in the crowd' struggling to get help.

A weekly, exclusively A Level, clinic is a central part of our teaching and learning in addition to being able to come and see your teachers at any time for additional help. You will develop excellent learning independence, an essential skill for university and beyond, whilst still enjoying and benefiting from the structure and support we provide.

Course structure /

Exam board: Edexcel

There are three examination papers that are taken at the end of the course and no assessed coursework. There are 16 core (required) experiments that are compulsory (although, of course, we do more than that).

There are three examination papers, taken at the end of the course:

Unit 1: Physical chemistry and inorganic chemistry (30%)
(1 hour 45 minutes)

Unit 2: Organic chemistry and physical chemistry (30%) (1 hour 45 minutes)

Unit 3: The entire course, including the practical skills gained from the core (required) practical exercises (40%) (2 hours 30 minutes)

Beyond A Level /

Chemistry is essential for a wide variety of careers, such as medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, veterinary science and biochemistry. You could even become a chemistry teacher. Given the problem solving, analytical and research skills that the course will help you to develop, along with teamwork and communication, it provides an excellent route into non-scientific subjects, such as law and journalism.

Entry requirements /

GCSE Mathematics (Grade 7)

GCSE Chemistry or Double Science (Grade 7)



Classical Civilisation /

The Classical Civilisation course offers the opportunity to explore the significance of Greek and Roman culture in our contemporary lives. The course enables students both to gain a broad understanding of the major periods of classical civilisation and to study selected topics at greater depth through the reading of Greek and Roman authors in translation.

In the A Level, we study three key areas of the ancient world. Firstly, we explore the concepts of epic poetry and read both Homer's Iliad and Virgil's Aeneid in translation. Heroism, human emotion and the demands of society are all explored through the study of these poems. In addition, we look at Roman politics and the republican era of Roman history, which enables us to look at political conflict and disorder in ways that are very relevant today. Finally, we study art history and look at the development of vase painting, freestanding sculpture and architectural sculpture from archaic through to high classical Greece. In this module we explore how art can be used as political propaganda and can be reflective of the political situation of the era.

If you enjoy learning about ancient culture and society without translating the original languages, then Classical Civilisation is the subject for you. You will find the course challenging, enjoyable and stimulating and you will be encouraged to relate what you study to the modern world and your own experience. English, History, Modern Languages, Religious Studies, Drama, Geography and Art all complement Classical Civilisation.

Course structure /

Exam board: OCR

Unit 1: The World of the Hero (40%)

Unit 2: Culture and the Arts:
Greek Art (30%)

Unit 3: Beliefs and Ideas: Politics
of the late Republic (30%)

Entry requirements /

GCSE English Literature / English
Language / Classical Civilisation
(Grade 6).

*GCSE Classical Civilisation is not
a requirement for the A Level.*

Beyond A Level /

Students of Classical Civilisation
go on to follow a wide variety
of degree courses including
Archaeology, Ancient History,
English, History and Sociology.

Careers include: archaeologist,
museum curator or archivist,
the heritage industry, journalism,
law, media and politics.



Computer Science /

Computer Science is a practical subject where students can apply the academic principles learned in the classroom to real-world systems. It's an intensely creative subject that combines invention, problem-solving and excitement.

This subject really gives the students the opportunity to shape their world and the world of others through the creation of digital hardware and software.

The aims of this qualification are to enable learners to develop an understanding and ability to apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms and data representation.

Students will also build the ability to analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems, including writing programs to do so.

They will develop the capacity to think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically. In addition to this they'll begin to see relationships between different aspects of computer science and further enhance their mathematical skills.

Course structure /

Exam board: OCR

There are 2 OCR Exam papers in the final year and a coursework project which will also be submitted in the final year.

Unit 1: Computer systems (40%)

Written paper (no calculators allowed)
(2 hours and 30 minutes).

Unit 2: Algorithms and programming (40%)

Written paper (no calculators allowed)
(2 hours and 30 minutes).

Unit 3: Programming project (20%)

Non-exam assessment.

Beyond A Level /

The course imbues students with resilience and problems-solving skills that will benefit them in any future projects.

Careers include: Students who have studied Computer Science at A Level have gone on to work in areas such as medicine, research and development, entertainment, web development, cyber security, information systems, database administration, systems analysis, games development, software development, artificial intelligence and hardware development.

Entry requirements /

GCSE Computer Science (Grade 6)

Alternatively, if Computer Science has not been studied at KS4, a grade 6 at GCSE in Mathematics.



Dance /

A Level Dance is a hugely rewarding course that offers a dynamic mix of physical and mental challenge for those who are passionate about Dance. During the two-year course, you will have the opportunity to develop your own artistic practice, while also strengthening your technical skills. Performance opportunities will enable you to translate theory to real life, helping you to develop confidence and a real sense of presence in front of others.

Through looking at professional dance works, you will grow your understanding of the UK and international dance landscape as well as the social, political, historical and economic factors that have influenced Dance today. This course is rich in opportunities for you to challenge and apply your interpretative, analytical and evaluative skills. The benefits of these critical thinking skills extend far beyond A Level Dance; they will help to feed your future curiosity, appreciation and understanding in all areas of life.

Our Dance students have been able to further their dance education at a variety of institutions, including vocational dance conservatoires such as London Contemporary Dance School, Northern School of Contemporary Dance, Rambert and Trinity Laban. Dancers may also choose to specialise in areas such as Dance Science, Dance History, Dance Performance, Dance Choreography and Dance in Education, as well as other Performing Arts professions, such as Physical Theatre, Musical Theatre and Drama.

Ultimately, A Level Dance helps to promote the practical, creative, social and academic skills needed to thrive in today's complex and fast-paced world.

Course structure /

Exam board: AQA

Unit 1: Performance and Choreography (Practical exam 50%)

- Solo performance (25%)
- Performance in a quartet (25%)
- Your group choreography (50%)

Unit 2: Critical engagement (Written exam 50%)

- Section A: short answer questions and one essay question on the compulsory set work/area of study (50%).
- Section B: two essay questions on the second set work/area of study (50%).

Beyond A Level /

Even if a career in Dance isn't the end goal, there are still many reasons why A Level Dance is the right course. A Level Dance fosters independent and proactive learning for life. It promotes the type of leadership skills that are needed in Higher Education and beyond. Students are well-versed in creative thinking and doing, enabling them to consider decisions and solve problems in a dynamic and comprehensive way. As well as written and verbal communication skills, students are adept at physically inferring and communicating ideas. Knowing how to effectively engage and relate to others, they make excellent collaborators and team players.

Entry requirements /

**GCSE English Language or Literature
(Grade 5)**

*Students are not required to have
studied Dance at GCSE.*



Design & Technology /

This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers. Especially those in the creative industries. They will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put their learning in to practice by producing prototypes of their choice.

All Sixth Formers have access to a specialist space in the two design workshops. Students will be taught how to independently use a range of innovative machines such as 3D Printers and Laser Cutters. They will also have independent use of traditional tools and machines in the workshop. Students are encouraged to explore their ideas in depth and through their practical skills, develop independent research. Students will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers.

The school's unique location in the centre of Brighton allows students to study the urban and natural environment, as well as local architecture. This makes for exciting outcomes and many students are inspired to study design, engineering, architecture.

Course structure /

Paper 1: (30%)

This is a written exam covering theory on Technical principles. It is worth 120 marks and is a 2 hour 30 minute exam. Mixture of short answer and extended response.

Paper 2: (20%)

This is a written exam covering Design & Making principles. It is worth 80 marks and is a 1 hour and 30 minute exam.

Non Exam Assessment: (50%)

Practical application of technical principles, designing and making principles.

How it's assessed:

- Substantial design and make project
- 100 marks

Evidence:

- Written or digital design portfolio and photographic evidence of final prototype.

Beyond A Level /

Careers include: Architecture, Engineering, Product Design, Theatre Design, Fashion Design, Graphics, Robotics, Computer Game Design, Aeronautical Design.

Entry requirements /

GCSE Mathematics (Grade 6)

GCSE Design & Technology (Grade 6)

If you have not studied GCSE Design & Technology, you can still be considered but may need to complete a design task to show competency.



Drama & Theatre Studies /

This qualification emphasises practical creativity alongside research and theoretical understanding. Students learn through experience, seeing theatre and making theatre for themselves. Students are introduced to a wide range of theatrical styles and contexts as they explore plays practically, devise and work on performances.

Each exam paper is designed to allow students to demonstrate their creativity and imagination in interpreting set texts and apply independent thinking as they evaluate a live theatre production.

Students of Drama & Theatre develop skills that are not just essential for drama but applicable to a wide range of higher education subjects and in the workplace.

This specification refines students' collaborative skills, their analytical thinking and their approach to research. Students grow in confidence and maturity as they successfully realise their own ideas. They learn to evaluate objectively and develop a sound appreciation of the influences that cultural and social contexts can have on decision making.

Course structure /

Exam board: AQA

Unit 1: Drama and theatre (40%)

- Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre
- Study of two set plays
- Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre maker

Written exam (open book) (3 hours)

Unit 2: Creating original drama (practical) (30%)

- Process of creating devised drama
- Performance of devised drama

Unit 3: Making theatre (practical) (30%)

- Performance of extract
- Reflective report

Beyond A Level /

Whatever the future holds, students of A Level Drama & Theatre emerge with a toolkit of transferable skills preparing them for their next steps.

Entry requirements /

GCSE English Language or Literature (Grade 5)

Students are not required to have studied Drama at GCSE

Experience of performing outside of school is desirable, but not essential



Economics /

More than ever, it is a fascinating time to study Economics. Many aspects of everyday life involve economic problems and studying this subject will give you the tools to understand world events and the problems our society faces: poverty in the UK and elsewhere; the economic impact of the Ukrainian war; the consequences of monopoly power amongst the giant tech firms, such as Apple; the long-term impact of financial crises.

Economics is an academically rigorous subject in which you will learn to apply analytical models to real-world phenomena. You will develop the ability to think clearly and logically and have a considered opinion on national, European and world economic issues.

The most important requisites for success are that you have an enquiring mind, an eye for detail and an eagerness to understand the world around you.

If you are interested in understanding more about the implications for the UK of the rapid growth of economies such as China and, more recently, their slow-down; the economic justification for top footballers earning many multiples more than the Prime Minister, how climate change and plastic pollution threaten future economic growth and how economies can respond to the sudden economic changes precipitated by the global pandemic then this is likely to be the subject for you.

As a social science, Economics combines well with both the humanities and sciences. It is very effectively studied alongside Geography, History, Mathematics, Government & Politics and Philosophy and many students combine the subject with the sciences to develop breadth to their learning.

Course structure /

Exam board: AQA

Assessment is through three equally weighted exams at the end of the 2-year course. Each exam is 2 hours in duration and consists of a combination of short analytical questions and longer essays, drawing on your economic knowledge and unseen data provided in the exam.

Beyond A Level /

Studying the techniques, theorems and insights of Economics is not only seen as good preparation for a wide range of university courses (such as Business, Law, Geography, History, and Engineering); it is also in great demand by employers. Economics can prepare you for a number of different careers: business or banking; journalism or law; teaching or academia or as an economist for the government or a private firm. Regardless of your chosen future career, studying Economics will provide you with highly sought after skills, such as the ability to debate issues, handle and assimilate complex data and form reasoned opinions.

Entry requirements /

GCSE Mathematics (Grade 6)

GCSE English Language (Grade 5)



English Language /

Studying language is about studying a fundamental aspect of what makes us human: communication. There are three main areas of study in the English Language course. Language Acquisition is the study of how children learn to speak from birth and in this part of the course you will use seminar teaching, research and real-life observations as part of your investigation. This may lead to further study in Linguistics, Speech Therapy, Teaching and Child Development. Crafting Language focuses on a genre study followed by the opportunity to produce your own written texts in your choice of genre for a range of audiences. Many students find this element of the course hugely rewarding and a useful preparation for further studies or employment in creative writing, journalism and advertising.

Language is vital in shaping the world and our understanding of it: in the third component of this course students can choose their own area of special interest to investigate. Possible areas of focus include Global English, Language and Gender Identity, Language and Journalism, Language and Power or Regional Language Variation.

Course structure /

Exam board: Pearson Edexcel

There is a combination of exam and coursework assessment.
3 exams weighted at 35%, 20% and 25% of the overall grade. Candidates apply linguistic knowledge and skills to a range of unseen and studied texts.

1 assignment of 2,500 – 3,000 words, including candidate's own original writing and analytical commentary weighted at 20% of the overall grade.

Beyond A Level /

Students who have studied English Language at A Level have gone on to study and have careers in law, philosophy, english, education, politics, creative writing, advertising and marketing, television and radio, copy editing and content production, journalism and many more.

The course empowers students with transferable skills for life and work including written and verbal communication, interpretation, debate, evaluation, reading for inference & analysis, organisation, persuasion, team-work, independent learning and research.

Entry requirements /

GCSE English Language or English Literature (Grade 6)



English Literature /

When we study Literature, we are studying an art form. It is more than reading wonderful books although that does form a large part of what you will be doing on a Literature course. Literature students read and discuss set novels, plays and poetry including *Anthony and Cleopatra*, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, *The Little Stranger*, *The Bloody Chamber* and a range of 'classic' and contemporary poetry from exciting poets of diverse backgrounds.

An A Level in English Literature will introduce you to a wide range of challenging texts. It will showcase some of the greatest minds at work, inspiring you philosophically, as well as linguistically. In Literature, your writing skills will be honed and developed to an impressive level of powerfully expressed clarity.

Classes are seminar style with plenty of opportunities to discuss ideas, themes, narrative and character. Literature students will also be encouraged to read widely with Reading Lists to support the set texts and to work independently in a way that will prepare them for degree-level studies.

The English Department supports the teaching of this course with theatre trips and a day out at the EMC's annual Literature Conference.

Course structure /

Exam board: Pearson Edexcel

There is a combination of exam and coursework assessment.

Three exams weighted at 30%, 30% and 20% of the overall grade. Candidates respond to questions and 'unseen' extracts on the set texts.

1 assignment of 2,500 – 3,000 words, starting with the candidate's own choice of focus, comparing *The Bloody Chamber* and a second text weighted at 20% of the overall grade.

Beyond A Level /

Students who have studied English Literature at A Level have gone on to study and have careers in law, philosophy, english, education, politics, creative writing, advertising and marketing, copy editing and content production, journalism, television and radio, publishing and many more.

The course empowers students with transferable skills for life and work including written and verbal communication, interpretation, debate, evaluation, reading for inference & analysis, organisation, persuasion, team-work, independent learning and research.

Entry requirements /

GCSE English Literature or English Language (Grade 6)



Food Science & Nutrition /

(Level 3 Diploma Applied Food Science and Nutrition)

This course has been designed to offer exciting, interesting experiences that focus learning through the acquisition of knowledge and understanding in purposeful, work-related contexts; linked to the food production industry. There will be a considerable amount of practical work consisting of cooking a wide range of skilful dishes and carrying out food-based experiments.

This is currently the only food centred qualification available to study for post-16 learners and has been designed to replace the A Levels once offered in Food Technology and Home Economics. This is an Applied General qualification. This means it is designed primarily to support students who wish to progress to university.

Course structure /

Exam board: WJEC

The Diploma is assessed using a combination of internal and external assessment.

Unit 1: Meeting Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups (compulsory)

External assessment (90 minute examination)

Internal assessment: an assignment will be set by the exam board, which will include written and practical work, carried out in controlled conditions.

Unit 2: Ensuring Food is Safe to Eat (compulsory)

External assessment: timed, supervised assessment responding to information provided in a scenario relating to a food safety situation (8 hours).

The following units are internally assessed:

Unit 3: Experimenting to Solve Food Production Problems (optional)

Unit 4: Current issues in Food Science and Nutrition (optional)

50% internal assessment (coursework) and 50% external examination.

Beyond A Level /

Together with other relevant qualifications at this level, students will be qualified to gain entry to higher education courses such as:

- BSc Food and Nutrition or Human Nutrition or Public Health Nutrition
- BSc (Hons) Food Science and Technology
- BSc (Hons) Dietetics
- BSc (Hons) / FdSc Food Development and Innovation
- BA/BSc (Hons) Hospitality and Catering

This diploma will also link extremely well with higher education courses in Sport and Exercise Science, Geography, Biomedical Science, Osteopathy, Social Sciences and even Art.

Entry requirements /

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition (Grade 6)



French /

Are you passionate about France and all things French? Are you independent and proactive in your approach to language learning? This course would suit you if you enjoy setting yourself language goals and targets, and working towards them.

In our tutorial style classes, you will learn about the culture, history and politics of the Francophone world and soon become an expert in these areas. You will have individual attention to help you to grow as a linguist.

In addition to your taught classes, we offer an hour per student per week with our French Assistant who will tailor the lessons to suit the needs of the individual. You will enhance your communication skills and develop the confidence to initiate face to face interactions and respond naturally and spontaneously.

Nothing could equip you better for a changing world than learning a Modern Foreign Language at this level.

Course structure /

Exam board: AQA

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing (50%)

Covering aspects of French-speaking society: current trends and issues; artistic culture in the French-speaking world; aspects of political life in the French-speaking world and grammar.

Written exam: (2 hours 30 minutes)

Paper 2: Writing (20%)

Covering One text and one film or two texts from the list set in the specification and grammar.

Written exam (2 hours)

Paper 3: Speaking (30%)

Individual research project
One of four themes (Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends, Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues, Artistic culture in the French-speaking world, Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world).

Oral exam (21 – 23 minutes)

Beyond A Level /

With an A Level in French you will have acquired not only practical language skills but also the skills of communication, analysis and argument which will be highly beneficial in any career you pursue.

Careers include: Graduates often go on to careers in the Foreign Office, international businesses, charities and NGOs to name but a few careers. It is also integral to, or complements, a huge number of careers including computing, travel and tourism, public administration, law, banking, medicine, journalism, education and social work.

Entry requirements /

GCSE French (Grade 6)



Geography /

Geography is “the subject which holds the key to our future”. With what is occurring in the world, there has never been a more vital time to study Geography – learning about climate change, migration, environmental degradation, social issues and natural hazards has never been more relevant. *The Guardian*, in 2015, identified Geography as the ‘must have A Level’ and, with the world changing more now than ever, 4 years on this remains true. Geography bridges the gap between the social and the physical, broadening your ability to understand the world around you. The course splits its topics into human and physical, however geography is incredibly fluid and issues often overlap.

The skills developed in A Level Geography will benefit you exponentially. Throughout the A Level course we focus on becoming independent thinkers and learners, whilst also having the skills to understand and critique a range of views and opinions. The A Level also offers the opportunity to develop investigative skills and data analysis through fieldwork study visits.

Course structure /

Exam board: Edexcel

This A Level is examined by three written examination papers and one piece of coursework.

Paper 1: (30%) (2 hours 15 minutes)

- Tectonic Processes and Hazards
- Landscape Systems, Processes and Change (with sub-topic Coastal Landscapes and Change)
- The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity and The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security.

Paper 2: (30%) (2 hours 15 minutes)

- Globalisation and Superpowers
- Shaping Places
- Global Development and Connections

Paper 3: (20%) (2 hours 15 minutes)

- Players, Attitudes and Actions

Coursework: (20%)

You define a question or issue for investigation, relating to the A Level content. Your investigation will incorporate fieldwork data and your own research and/or secondary data.

Beyond A Level /

Geography is a broad based subject which provides a huge number of opportunities for future progression. Geography is a clear choice for careers involving sustainability, urban regeneration, energy supply, managing natural hazards and climate change. However, it is a great option if you are thinking about a career in human rights, international relations or development; for example, learning how development is measured or the impact of migration on societies.

However, if you have no clear career path or university degree programme you might want to follow, geography is excellent for developing transferable skills; whilst demonstrating academic ability.

Entry requirements /

GCSE Geography (Grade 6) or
Biology (Grade 6)



Government & Politics /

Government & Politics is an exciting and challenging course which 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. 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.

The subject can be studied in combination with a range of others but English, History 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.

Course structure /

Exam board: AQA

Assessment is 100% exam based.

During the first year of the course you will look at Elections, Political Parties, Pressure Groups, Parliament, the Prime Minister and Government. 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 look more closely at US Politics. Topics studied are: Reforming the electoral system; Use of referendums; Why electors vote for the parties that they do; Why so many people do not vote in elections; The use of Direct Action by pressure groups and where does power lie in the US and UK systems of government.

Beyond A Level /

The vast majority of our Government & Politics students' progress onto university and many take related degrees: Government, International Relations or Public Administration. This subject is particularly useful if you are looking for a career in Law, Civil Service, Local Government or the Police. Government & Politics students have secured excellent work experience placements with local MPs.

Any potential employer who sees that an applicant has studied Government & 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. The nature of this course and the activities undertaken within it will hone your communication skills, creativity, independence of thought, your respect for the views of others and problem-solving skills.

Entry requirements /

GCSE English Language or English Literature (Grade 6)



History /

History offers the committed student a tremendous opportunity – you can study some of the most exciting, controversial and important stories of the past and do so in an academically respectable way. The course ranges over the sixteenth and twentieth centuries, and includes some of the social, political and intellectual topics that have shaped the way we live and think today. Lots of subjects deal with big issues and big personalities, but History is different; in History the big issues really happened and the big personalities really existed. You can have fun, and develop an exceptional range of transferable skills.

We love history – let us show you why!

Course structure /

Exam board: OCR

Unit 1: The Tudors: England 1485 – 1603 (40%)

The whole sweep of the Tudor family, from Henry VII's seizure of the throne through to his granddaughters Bloody Mary and Gloriana.

Unit 2: The American Dream: reality and illusion, 1945 – 1980 (40%)

The way the USA rose to dominate the world in the years after World War Two, and the way presidents like Kennedy and Nixon dealt with the challenges they faced.

NEA: Non-Examined Assessment (20%)

An extended essay on a topic of your own choosing.

Beyond A Level /

History teaches a broad range of transferable skills which equip you to do just about anything at degree level and beyond. You will learn to assess material critically and then turn it into a clear, organised and convincing argument – exactly the kind of skills that careers like law, journalism and public relations call for. However, you don't have to be limited to that – history will demonstrate an understanding of and empathy for the human condition, leading into careers in medicine, NGOs, the civil service and charitable sectors.

Entry requirements /

GCSE History (Grade 6) or English Language or English Literature (Grade 6).



Latin /

Latin A Level develops precise, analytical thinking. If you are logical, have an attention to detail and enjoy language then it is a subject for you. The language element of the course develops problem solving skills as we translate prose and verse passages, exploring how the grammar and syntax has been used by an author. The literature element of the course focuses on developing your empathetic and evaluative skills. We study ancient rhetoric and oratory reading Cicero's murder trial, Murder at Larinum as well as historiography with Tacitus Annals Book IV, exploring the reign of the emperor Tiberius. For verse literature, we study the passionate love poems of Catullus as he grapples with his feelings for his mistress, as well as the climactic ending of Virgil's Aeneid in the final duel between Aeneas and Turnus in Book XII.

Latin A Level is a challenging but rewarding course which combines well with both Arts and Science courses. Studying Latin, A Level gives you the key to Romance languages, provides an experience of literature and mythology that resonates through English Literature and gives you an understanding of the language of legal, diplomatic and religious communication.

Course structure /

Exam board: OCR

Unit 1: Unseen Translation (33%)

Unit 2: Prose Comprehension (17%)

Unit 3: Prose Literature (25%)

Unit 4: Verse Literature (25%)

Beyond A Level /

Latin is a rigorous and demanding A Level which develops your logic and problem solving skills. As such, it is highly regarded by universities and employers and sits equally well with both Science and Arts courses.

Careers include: Latin leads to a range of careers including law and finance.

Entry requirements /

GCSE Latin (Grade 7)



Law /

Law plays a vital and wide-ranging role in society. Its functions include protecting the public, regulating relationships, the construction of agreements and the resolution of disputes. A Level Law is a thinking, writing, debating, and learning subject. You need to be able to understand precision use of language, and to write clearly, and you will learn how to argue, on paper and in class, to develop and defend your views on how legal principles apply to specific situations. And yes, you do need a reasonable memory for the names and events involved in key cases.

An aspect of A Level Law students particularly enjoy is the 'case study' approach, in which legal principles are applied to real-life cases. For example, *Fagan v Metropolitan Police Commissioner* (1969), where a police officer's foot was accidentally driven over and parked upon, or the negligence case of *Donoghue v Stevenson* (1932) involving the infamous snail in the ginger beer. It is the combination of human stories raising real and relevant issues that makes A Level Law an engaging, yet challenging subject to study.

Course structure /

Exam board: AQA

Nature of Law: The relationship of law with society, morality and justice, and explores fundamental concepts such as the 'Rule of Law' and 'Parliamentary Sovereignty'.

English Legal System: How law is made both centrally within parliament, and by decisions made in the appeal courts. You learn about key legal institutions, including the civil and criminal court hierarchy, and the various processes and personnel involved in the practice of law.

Criminal Law: This considers both Fatal and Non-Fatal Offences Against the Person as well as offences against property. Criminal legal theory is also studied to provide context.

Tort Law: Various torts ('wrongs') including Negligence and Private Nuisance and explores concepts such as 'Liability' and deals with the 'Remedies' available to the courts.

Option choice: You study either Human Rights or Contract Law. Human Rights considers the historical development of human rights and legal theory. Contract Law deals with

the essential components of contract; offer, acceptance, consideration, and intention to create legal relations.

Beyond A Level /

As well as being innately interesting, A Level Law provides a taster for Law at university (though it is not required) and gives students a head start compared to those who have never studied Law before. Research carried out by AQA shows that university Law faculties welcome applications from students who have taken A Level Law, provided that their A Level subject combination meets 'breadth' and 'skills' requirements.

A Level Law is also useful for those with no intention of reading Law at university. It is stimulating, promotes critical thinking, and deals with current issues such as 'right to die', or the legal significance of Brexit. It encompasses skills and knowledge that are relevant and prized in many vocational areas.

Entry requirements /

GCSE English Language or English Literature (Grade 6)



Mathematics /

The study of Mathematics in the Sixth Form offers an opportunity to extend your knowledge of topics from GCSE such as algebra and trigonometry, but also to encounter entirely new branches of Mathematics. You will push the boundaries of your understanding quite literally to infinity, with the study of calculus, infinite sequences, connected systems in mechanics and statistical distributions. To gain the most from this course you should be an enthusiastic problem solver with an inquiring mind and an eye for detail, and you should have a very good grasp of algebra at GCSE.

Extra-curricular opportunities include participation in the UKMT individual and team Mathematics Challenges, and in the Mathematical Association local branch activities.

Extension classes are available for any student applying to Oxbridge, Warwick or Imperial for Mathematics-related courses; and who therefore require additional support with preparation for additional entrance tests or interviews.

Course structure /

Exam board: OCR

Paper 1: Pure (33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %)

Paper 2: Pure & Statistics (33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %)

Paper 3: Pure & Mechanics (33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %)

There is also a pre-release data set that is to be used in Paper 2.

Beyond A Level /

Mathematics combines well with any other subjects and is highly regarded by universities and employers. Many students go on to study pure mathematics, engineering, medicine, economics/finance and computer science.

The financial sector, the actuarial profession, ICT, teaching and academia are some of the most popular choices but there is a huge choice of careers available. Most areas of business and industry rely on people with good mathematical knowledge, analytical, investigative and problem-solving skills and A Level Mathematics fully supports students in developing these skills.

Entry requirements /

GCSE Mathematics (Grade 7)



Further Mathematics /

Further Mathematics is ideal for those students who love the subject of Mathematics! You will be devoting two whole A Level subjects to Mathematics and Further Mathematics so you must be a keen problem solver with excellent algebra skills. You will begin to understand new aspects of mathematics in complex numbers which previously you thought as impossible, essential statistical techniques, optimisation problems and the mathematics behind mechanics in the real world.

Extra-curricular opportunities include participation in the UKMT individual and team Mathematics Challenges, and in the Mathematical Association's local branch activities.

Extension classes are available for any student applying to Oxbridge, Warwick or Imperial for Mathematics-related courses; and who therefore require additional support with preparation for additional entrance tests or interviews.

Course structure /

Exam board: OCR

Paper 1: Core Pure 1 (25%)

Paper 2: Core Pure 2 (25%)

Paper 3 & 4: *(Two from the following, 25% each)*

Statistics (25%)

Mechanics (25%)

Discrete (25%)

Additional Pure (25%)

In addition to the Mathematics lessons, Further Mathematics will be taught in a separate class. The study of Mathematics and Further Mathematics in Year 12 only, as a means of achieving A Level Mathematics in a year, is not an option.

Beyond A Level /

Further Mathematics combines well with any other subjects, especially Physics and is highly regarded by universities and employers. Many students go on to study pure mathematics, engineering and computer science.

The engineering, computer science and finance sectors are the most popular choices and they require an analytical, investigative and problem solving mind. An A Level Further Mathematics student will acquire all of these necessary skills by the end of the course.

Entry requirements /

GCSE Mathematics (Grade 8)



Music /

Students who have a love of listening to and performing music will find studying Music A Level extremely rewarding. We study a huge range of music from Bach to Kate Bush and from The Beatles to the Batman soundtrack. There is music to suit every taste and open-minded students will find many musical discoveries along the way.

As well as developing analytical and listening skills, students are able to develop their skills as a performer. Instrumentalists and vocalists are given many performance opportunities during the course which culminates in a showcase of their performing talent during a final recital.

Independence is a prominent feature of the course and students enjoy tailoring their composition projects to match their own musical interests and talents while working in a variety of genres.

This independence to develop as a creative musician alongside opening students' ears to such a wide range of music provides a great opportunity for students to develop into accomplished and mature musicians.

Course structure /

Exam board: Edexcel

Performance (30%): An 8-minute recital on your strongest instrument.

Composition (30%): One 4-minute composition (either free or written to a brief) one compositional techniques exercise.

Listening and Appraising exam (60%): Covering 6 areas of study; Vocal Music; Instrumental Music; Music for Film; Popular Music and Jazz; Fusions and New Directions.

Careers include: Career opportunities in music include (but are not limited to) – performance, composition (including for film and TV), arts administration (such as artist management), radio/recording producer, music therapy and music education. Amongst the many transferable skills in the subject perhaps the strongest are; self-discipline and independence, creative thinking and ability to collaborate effectively.

Entry requirements /

GCSE Music (Grade 6) or GCSE Music Theory (Grade 6)

Beyond A Level /

Music A Level prepares students to go on to study Music at University or Music College/Conservatoire. The course also prepares students for possible Choral/Instrumental Scholarships at University (which can often be pursued even when not studying for a degree in Music). Music is also an excellent preparation for an extremely wide range of degree courses as it contains analytical and essay writing skills, alongside more scientific and mathematical approaches.



Philosophy, Religion & Ethics /

You will find every lesson inspirational and life changing. Why? Because Philosophy is an excellent training in thinking for yourself. The questions you investigate are the most profound questions you can ask. If there are any answers to these questions, they are not obvious! This means you have to be open minded. This doesn't just mean it gives you new thoughts, but that it opens up new ways of thinking – about yourself, about others, about the world.

Doing Philosophy is not easy; it is tricky to understand the arguments and the ideas. However, with doing anything that is tricky, you develop new skills that make you highly employable. Some of the skills that doing Philosophy can teach you are:..

- understanding the relations between ideas: how one idea can imply another or contradict it
- the ability to spot flaws in arguments
- the ability to argue
- imagination: coming up with novel solutions and novel ideas
- communication and conversation: philosophy is done through discussion and debate

Most importantly you develop self-understanding: taking all these ideas together – being able to think independently, reflect on deep questions but without resorting to what you already think. Even more, Philosophy can help you understand yourself. It is what education is really about.

What more could you want from an A Level?

Course structure /

Exam board: OCR

This A Level is examined by three written examination papers. Each Paper is 2 hours long and counts for a third of your total marks. In each paper you write three essays from a choice of four.

Paper 1: Philosophy

You will study ancient philosophical influences, the nature of the soul, mind and body, the problem of evil, the nature of language.

Paper 2: Ethics

Examples of what you study are: divergent ideas of right and wrong, utilitarianism, Kantian ethics, situation ethics and natural law. The conscience. Sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious beliefs.

Paper 3: Modern Developments of Thought

Examples of what you study are: feminism, Marxism and secularism.

Beyond A Level /

It's surprising just how many career paths a Philosophy, Religion & Ethics A Level or degree can help you with. In a nutshell, doing philosophy can make a significant contribution to any job that requires you to think well, that is clearly and rigorously. Big business – the City firms, the banks, the management consultancies, the chartered accountants – are enthusiastic about people who've done philosophy A Level or degree, because they know how to think clearly.

Philosophy students also go into law, politics, and the civil service. Journalism is a logical career path, since you have to be able to write well and present ideas logically and clearly. Advertising is another choice, and of course, last in this very incomplete list, but never least, there's always education! So, a degree in Philosophy opens doors, it doesn't close them.

Entry requirements /

GCSE English Language or English Literature (Grade 6)



Photography /

"Photography takes an instant out of time, altering life by holding it still."
Dorothea Lange

We are surrounded by photography. Sharing imagery is a global form of communication and students who choose Photography are choosing an exciting and relevant subject for the workplace of today and of the future!

During the A Level you will consider the importance of certain images and discuss the context of photographs throughout history. In the first term you will learn how to take professional quality photographs using both digital and film cameras. You will learn how to control the camera to shoot any subject in any light conditions. You will learn how to edit using the darkroom and the Adobe digital suite, including Photoshop. You will engage with a variety of artists and photographers work learning to analyse and make connections with your work. From this you will be encouraged to experiment and 'break the rules' to produce personal, original and meaningful visual pieces which will form a final year exhibition.

Photography complements many other subjects across the curriculum including the sciences, maths and humanities subjects, as well as those who wish to study the visually creative subjects such as Art or Media alongside. You may decide to take your work into a variety of areas such as fashion, journalism, documentary, advertising or fine art. Your portfolio can be used to apply for a foundation course in any arts subject or directly to a degree course of your choice.

Course structure /

Exam board: OCR

Assessment is based on the sketchbook, portfolio and outcomes produced throughout the two year course alongside the final exam which is done internally and structured with support in the weeks leading up to the timed test. The timed test is 15 hours unaided work on a final outcome.

Beyond A Level /

Photography A Level can lead to a variety of degree courses depending on the subjects chosen alongside it: Photography, Film, Art, Drama/Theatre, Computer science, Curating, Media related degrees, Marketing and Business, Forensics, Architecture.

Careers include: commercial art gallery manager, curating, brand ambassador/sales promotion executives, multimedia specialist, community arts worker, advertising art director, marketing assistant, web editor, forensics, television/radio/broadcasting, magazine editor, graphic designer, press photographer, journalist, stylist, web designer, visual merchandiser, VFX artist.

Entry requirements /

Students do not have to have taken GCSE Art or Photography. It would be advantageous for students to have achieved at least grade 6 in English Language GCSE



Physics /

Physics is the most fundamental science because it answers the really big questions; 'Do you want to understand how everything works, from your phone to the universe?'

Physics lies behind all technologies from cancer treatment and the internet, to sportswear and climate change. Under the traditional topic headings below, the excitement begins when the power of the underlying equations enables you to solve problems and link together different areas. There are lots of practical exploration lessons in our very well-equipped labs which bring the equations to life! The application of ideas demonstrate how Physics is central to all intellectual endeavour and everyday life.

We start in Year 12 with the very small: the mysteries of Quantum Physics, studying photons and quarks. We finish with the very large: the supernovas and galaxy clusters in the Cosmology option. This course will vastly expand your knowledge and will develop in you an analytical and inquiring approach to your physical and intellectual environment; which will prepare you for everything that lies ahead!

Course structure /

Exam board: AQA

100% exam – three two-hour papers, with practical endorsement based on lab work.

Unit 1: Measurements and their errors

Unit 2: Particles and radiation

Unit 3: Waves

Unit 4: Mechanics and materials

Unit 5: Electricity

Unit 6: Further mechanics and thermal physics

Unit 7: Fields and their consequences

Unit 8: Nuclear physics

Unit 9: Astrophysics

Beyond A Level /

Physics leads to further study and careers in physics, all sciences, engineering and computing. In addition, the very strong analytical skills that physicists develop, make them very attractive to a very wide range of employers including the financial sector. This highly regarded A Level leads to a very wide range of opportunities.

Entry requirements /

GCSE Mathematics (Grade 7)

GCSE Physics or Double Science (Grade 7)



Physical Education (PE) /

A Level PE is an academically challenging and diverse course studying the physical, psychological and cultural aspects of sporting performance. Students will gain a fantastic insight into the amazing world of sports performance and deepen their knowledge of the how and why of physical activity. When delving into the interlinked factors that can impact on performance, students will gain an understanding of why an athlete can compete outstandingly one week; and sub-standard the next and how minor adjustments to technique or diet can have a 'winning' impact.

Due to the combination of physical and theoretical performance, students will have the opportunity to apply all newly acquired knowledge to their own practical performance in their chosen sport.

Course structure /

Exam board: OC

Non-exam assessment (30%)
consisting of one practical performance in a sport of the student's choice, and one piece of course work allowing for application of theory to sporting performance.

Theoretical study (70%) covering applied anatomy and physiology, skill acquisition, sport and society, biomechanical movement, sports psychology, and contemporary issues. These are assessed through 3 written papers:

Paper 1: Physiological factors affecting performance (30%)

Paper 2: Psychological factors affecting performance (20%)

Paper 3: Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport (20%)

Beyond A Level /

A Level PE combines well with subjects such as Biology, Economics, Geography and Psychology. It is a recognised entry qualification to Higher Education and is of particular value to those wishing to pursue careers in sport science, sports coaching and development, sports therapy, teaching, leisure management or the Armed Forces. It is also valuable for medically-related courses such as nursing, sports rehabilitation and physiotherapy.

However, it isn't only about further education. Students will leave as confident leaders and life-long learners. They will have developed independent, critical thinking skills and will have been required to use their initiative and resourcefulness often when under pressure.

Entry requirements /

GCSE Physical Education (PE)
(Grade 5) and level standard practical performance within one sporting activity



Psychology /

Ever wondered if we can really trust eyewitness testimonies? Or why some individuals commit crimes? Or if the experiences you had before the age of five really do shape the person you are today?

Psychology will help you to answer these questions and gain an insight into the motivations and reasons behind a range of behaviours. It is the study of the human mind, the most complex machine on Earth. Although we cannot observe the mind directly, everything we do, think, feel and say is determined by the functioning of the mind. For that reason, psychologists take human behaviour as the raw data for testing their theories about how the mind works.

This A-Level is designed to develop skills of analysis and evaluation through an examination of arguments and evidence put forward by psychologists. You will also get the opportunity to conduct your own research, which will test your intellectual curiosity, problem solving and communication skills. Finally, learning about the human mind will develop your understanding of others, resulting in greater empathy and patience. The ideal student would enjoy discussion, reading about new ideas and challenging assumptions. Good numeracy skills are required due to the scientific and mathematical nature of the subject.

Course structure /

Exam board: AQA

Year 1: Social Influence, Memory, Attachment, Approaches in psychology, Biopsychology, Psychopathology, Research Methods

Year 2: Issues and debates in psychology (*compulsory content*)
Relationships, Gender or Cognition and Development, Schizophrenia, Eating Behaviour or Stress, Aggressions, Forensic Psychology or Addiction (*optional content*)

Assessment is through three exams, each account for one third of your A Level. The three exams last two hours each. Each exam consists of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions.

Beyond A Level /

Students who have taken A Level in Psychology often go on to degree courses in: Psychology, English Studies, Sociology, Business Studies, Teaching, Sport and Exercise Science, Law.

Careers include: marketing, business development, accountancy, human resources, forensic psychology, occupational therapy, clinical psychology, nursing and teaching.

Entry requirements /

GCSE Biology (Grade 6)

GCSE Mathematics (Grade 6)

GCSE English Language or English Literature (Grade 6)



Sociology /

Sociology is an immensely challenging and exciting discipline. Its aim is to understand how societies work. It investigates the structures and cultures of different societies throughout the world and throughout history. When you study sociology, you will acquire the knowledge and skills to analyse society in the United Kingdom in the 21st Century.

You will also gain an understanding of the theories and concepts which form a key part of the current debate about contemporary society and the critical changes taking place. Sociology will certainly help you to help make sense of your own experiences in society. It can give you new ways of seeing the social world around you. You will also develop the necessary skills to enable you to assess different views and reach conclusions about society based upon a careful consideration of evidence.

Course structure /

In Year 12, you will study: Education with Methods in Context: Do children from different social and ethnic backgrounds have an equal and fair chance at school? Why do girls do better than boys in exams; How do Sociologists research society and in particular the education system?

Topics in Sociology (Families and households): Why do we live in families? Are women and men equal in families? How much power and influence do children have in their families?

In Year 13, you will study: Topics in Sociology (Beliefs in Society): Why do young people have an increasingly low level of participation in religion? What are sects and cults? Is there an increase in fundamentalism and why?

Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods: What is crime? How is it different from deviance? Who breaks the law and why? Is the criminal justice system racist? What are sociological perspectives? How do sociologists research society and human behaviour?

Beyond A Level /

A Level Sociology provides a good preparation for University as it equips you with the skills needed to succeed in higher education. It is also important for any career which involves dealing with the general public such as teaching, social work, police and youth work. Moreover, it is particularly relevant for those working in market research and social science research. Finally, it can lead to careers in advertising, journalism, government policy making, business and law.

Entry requirements /

GCSE English Language or English Literature (Grade 6)



Spanish /

Are you passionate Spain and all things Spanish? Are you independent and proactive in your approach to language learning? This course would suit you if you enjoy setting yourself language goals and working towards them.

In our tutorial style classes, you will learn about the culture, history and politics of the Hispanic world and soon become an expert in these areas. You will have individual attention to help you to grow as a linguist. In addition to your taught classes, we offer an hour per student per week with our Spanish Assistant who will tailor the lessons to suit the needs of the individual. You will enhance your communication skills and develop the confidence to initiate face to face interactions and respond naturally and spontaneously.

Nothing could equip you better for a changing world than learning a Modern Foreign Language at this level.

Course structure /

Exam board: AQA

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing (50%)

Covering aspects of Spanish-speaking society: current trends and issues; artistic culture in the Spanish-speaking world; aspects of political life in the Spanish-speaking world and grammar

Written exam (2 hours 30 minutes)

Paper 2: Writing (20%)

Covering one text and one film or two texts from the list set in the specification and grammar.

Written exam (2 hours)

Paper 3: Speaking (30%)

Individual research project
One of four themes (Aspects of Spanish-speaking society: current trends, Aspects of Spanish-speaking society: current issues, Artistic culture in the Spanish-speaking world, Aspects of political life in the Spanish-speaking world)

Oral exam (21 – 23 minutes)

Beyond A Level /

With an A Level in Spanish you will have acquired not only practical language skills, but also the skills of communication, analysis and argument which will be highly beneficial in any career you pursue.

Careers include: Graduates often go on to careers in the Foreign Office, international businesses, charities and NGOs to name but a few careers. It is also integral to, or complements, a huge number of careers including computing, travel and tourism, public administration, law, banking, medicine, journalism, education and social work.

Entry requirements /

GCSE Spanish (Grade 6)





A PL FOR



ACE YOU

[BRIGHTON GIRLS SIXTH FORM]





We are committed
to recruiting
students who we
believe are most
likely to flourish at
Brighton Girls Sixth
Form regardless
of their means.



SCHOLARSHIPS & BURSARIES

Year 12 Bursaries are awarded based on performance in our entrance assessment process.

Minerva Scholarships: To be eligible for an all-round award Sixth Form candidates should demonstrate academic endeavour, strength in a particular area such as Art, Music, Sports, STEM or Maths, and a commitment to the service of the school, for example aspirations to be a Head student or House Captain. We will also consider other pursuits not listed.

Further details and how to apply for funding: www.brightongirls.gdst.net/admissionsbursaries-scholarships



To explore financial support options please contact our Admissions Department on 01273 280 280 or email admissions@brightongirls.gdst.net as early as possible.

NOTE: Scholarship application deadline is Monday 6th November 2023

APPLY NOW!

You can apply online now for 2024 entry. Scan the QR code below or visit: www.brightongirls.gdst.net/admissions/how-to-apply/





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