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Sixth Form

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Entry 2024

# A Level & Vocational Courses

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## Welcome to our Sixth Form

### One of the most frequent questions that I used to be asked as Headteacher was, 'When are you going to open a Sixth Form at Heron Hall?'

So I was extremely proud to enroll our first group of Sixth Form students last year.

Heron Hall has consistently achieved some of the best exam results in the Borough, extremely high academic standards that we will maintain in our Sixth Form.

Choosing the right Sixth Form is a key decision in a student's educational journey.

Heron Hall is a place of academic excellence, love, respect and tolerance, a home away from home for our students, and a school that in 2021 was a Bronze Award winner for the prestigious Pearson UK Secondary School of the Year competition.

Our Sixth Form is not just a school; it's a launchpad for your dreams. Heron Hall boasts a distinguished faculty dedicated to nurturing your intellectual curiosity. Our classrooms are vibrant hubs of innovation, where critical thinking and creativity are celebrated daily.

But education at our Sixth Form is not confined to textbooks and lectures. We are a community that values holistic development, empowering our students with the skills, resilience, and adaptability needed to thrive in an ever-changing world. Our extracurricular activities, clubs, and societies provide the perfect platform for you to explore your passions and develop leadership qualities.

It is also not just about the education; it's about the experience. The friendships forged, the memories created, and the networks established here will last a lifetime. You'll be part of a diverse and dynamic community, exposed to a world of cultures and perspectives.

Join us at our Sixth Form, where you'll not only acquire knowledge but also the confidence to shape your destiny. The future is bright, and it begins at our Sixth Form. Dare to dream, and together, we'll make those dreams a reality.

*A. Barzey*

**Arthur Barzey**

Times UK Headteacher of the Year for 2022-23





STUDENT COMMENTS

**In just one year, I've grown more than I ever thought possible. This Sixth Form isn't just a school; it's a launchpad for my future.**

# Our Vision

## Mr Molokwu - Head of Sixth Form

I am delighted that you are considering furthering your education journey with us. At Heron Hall, we support all of our students in their pursuit of excellence as well as developing well-rounded global citizens capable of doing extraordinary things.

We have built a diverse, engaging and challenging curriculum that seeks to enthuse, inspire and nurture every learner. Our enrichment programme will help to shape our students socially and morally and underpin the school's values of STRIVE. It is important to us that we are an inclusive Sixth Form with a welcoming approach in which all of our students feel cared for and supported.

Our vision for the Sixth Form has three distinct but vital elements.

The primary focus of our vision is in ensuring that students achieve the best possible outcomes academically and strive beyond their potential. I believe that with hard work, commitment and determination, all students can progress academically and exceed their expectations.

The second part of our vision is focused on ensuring that students are adequately prepared for the next stage of their lives after they finish Year 13. It is vital that students are supported to transition into and out of the Sixth Form. As such, the Sixth Form will implement a comprehensive careers and employability programme that will upskill any student. Whether that be a student who wishes to continue with higher education at university or those who may wish to leave post-compulsory education and transition into the world of work. Irrespective of what any student intends to do with their career, all will access an in-depth and tailored Careers Information and Guidance Programme.

The final part of our vision is focused on ensuring that students are given the chance to develop key skills that are needed in the workplace and everyday life. This will be achieved by developing and enhancing the character and culture of students within the Sixth Form.

## Enrichment Programme

All students will participate in the Sixth Form Enrichment Programme, which will allow them to volunteer within a range of different contexts. This will not only be within the school but the wider community.

Volunteering will be encouraged in local primary schools or local charitable organisations. This will allow students to develop critical life skills such as confidence, communication, resilience, tolerance and integrity. The enrichment programme will support students to embody our school ethos and our STRIVE values within Heron Hall and also the local and wider community.

I eagerly await welcoming you all. I believe that students will be very happy and able to continue with their success at Heron Hall's new Sixth Form.

**[heron-sixthform@northstartrust.org.uk](mailto:heron-sixthform@northstartrust.org.uk)**

## How to apply

**We welcome applications from all students.**

Applications must be made online. External applicants must include a reference and a certificate of attendance from their current or previous school. The reference form and application can be downloaded from the school website [www.heronhallacademy.org.uk/how-to-apply](http://www.heronhallacademy.org.uk/how-to-apply). Internal candidates can apply by completing the application form or by speaking to the Head of Year 12.

Courses and options are subject to alterations and in some cases cancellation depending on student numbers. Internal candidates can arrange to apply in school with Mr Molokwu.

## Admissions criteria

**Academic Pathway:** A minimum of 6 GCSE grades 9-4 with at least 3 grades 9-6 at GCSE including Maths, English and the subject-specific entry requirements.

**Applied Vocational Pathway:** A minimum of 5 GCSE grades 9-4 including English and Maths.

**Interview process:** All students that apply for a place within the Sixth Form will be subject to an interview to ensure they adequately meet the admissions criteria. At this stage, where applicable, all references will be checked. The interview process will support students to make appropriate course choices.

**Offers of places at Heron Hall:** All students who meet the admissions criteria will be made a conditional offer in writing. A firm offer will only be made following confirmation of GCSE results in the summer. On GCSE results day, students will be able to confirm their qualifications and begin enrolment into the Sixth Form. If you do not achieve your expected grades please speak to us so we can discuss your options. Students applying from Heron Hall will be expected to attend school during the final week of August to complete the full enrolment process.

## Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

EPQ stands for Extended Project Qualification, which is an additional qualification you can take alongside your academic studies. It helps to develop research skills, time management and a number of other skills that are necessary for higher-level study.

The EPQ course is offered to students aiming to study at elite universities. Studying an EPQ demonstrates valuable proof of your capacity for independent learning, as well as your passion for the subject you want to study at a higher level.

The EPQ is an independent research project that can but does not have to relate to an A-level subject that is being studied. It is important therefore that students choose topics that they are interested in and relate to further study so they are motivated to complete it. Students who undertake the EPQ will be expected to complete a 5000-word research task and a presentation relating to their research task.

So what are the benefits of doing the EPQ:

- Practice academic writing which is necessary for studying at a university
- Supports your university application
- Increased chance of being given a conditional offer for your first choice university
- Potential lower admissions criteria for those who have completed the EPQ
- Development of key skills needed for university and employment

## Making the best subject combination choices

When you are considering the choices and qualifications, you would like to study in the Sixth Form, it is important to keep in mind how they will support your progression into the next phase of your life.

For example, if you are not planning to go to university, but after studying at Sixth Form would like to progress into employment and further training, then an Applied Vocational Qualification would be an appropriate choice. However, if you are planning to progress to higher education and university, then it is important to keep in mind the essential subjects required by universities (academic pathway).

Some subjects are more frequently required for entry to degree courses than others are. These are often referred to as 'facilitating' subjects because choosing them at an advanced level keeps open a wide range of options for university study. The facilitating subjects are Biology, Chemistry, English Literature, Geography, History, Languages, Physics and Mathematics and Further Mathematics.

If you are unsure what you want to study at undergraduate level at university, then it would be advisable to study at least two facilitating subjects. This will broaden your options when making a choice at university level.

The table below provides essential and useful subject combinations for popular university courses. The Russell Group publication 'Informed Choices' also provides supportive information to assist with choosing the right university for you. See [www.informedchoices.ac.uk](http://www.informedchoices.ac.uk)

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES	ESSENTIAL A-LEVEL SUBJECTS	USEFUL ADDITIONAL SUBJECTS
<b>Medicine, Dentistry Biological, Life Sciences</b>	Chemistry & Biology	Mathematics & Further Mathematics
<b>Physical Sciences, Engineering</b>	Mathematics & Physics	Chemistry & Further Mathematics
<b>Mathematics</b>	Mathematics & Further Mathematics	Physics & Computer Science
<b>Economics, Actuarial Science</b>	Mathematics	Economics & Further Mathematics
<b>Humanities</b>	N/A	English, History, Geography, Languages, Psychology, Biology, Religious Studies & Sociology
<b>Psychology</b>	Some require Biology or Chemistry	Biology, Psychology, Chemistry, English, Sociology & Religious Studies
<b>Law</b>	Some require English	English & History
<b>Computer Science</b>	Mathematics	Further Mathematics, Physics & Computer Science
<b>The Arts, Social Sciences, English</b>	English Literature, History, Languages, Drama, Art & Mathematics	Economics, Geography, Religious Studies, Sciences & Sociology
<b>Business, Accounting</b>	N/A	Mathematics, Business, Economics
<b>Teacher training</b>	A national curriculum subject	English, mathematics, Geography, History, Sciences, Religious studies, Sociology.

# Curriculum and subjects

## A' Levels

### **Art & Design** - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 5 in GCSE Art, textiles or photography and Grade 4 in GCSE English. Exam Board – AQA.

### **Biology** - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 5 in GCSE English and Grade 6 in GCSE Biology and Maths. Exam Board – AQA.

### **Business Studies** - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 5 in GCSE English and Grade 6 in GCSE Maths. Exam Board – Edexcel

### **Chemistry** - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 5 in GCSE English and Grade 6 in GCSE Chemistry and Maths. Exam Board – AQA.

### **Computer Science** - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 6 in GCSE Computer Science or Grade 6 in GCSE Maths. Exam Board – OCR.

### **English** - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 6 in GCSE English Literature. Exam Board – AQA.

### **Geography** - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 6 in GCSE Geography and Grade 5 in GCSE English and Maths. Exam Board – Edexcel.

### **Government and Politics** - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 5's in English and Maths, Grade 5 in History or Geography preferable but not compulsory. Exam Board – AQA.



**History** - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 6 in GCSE History and Grade 5 in GCSE English and Maths. Exam Board – AQA.

**Mathematics** - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 6 in GCSE Maths. Exam Board – Edexcel.

**Media Studies** - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 6 in GCSE Maths. Exam Board – Edexcel.

**Physics** - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 5 in GCSE English and Grade 6 in GCSE Physics and Maths. Exam Board – AQA.

**Product Design** - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 5 in GCSE Product Design or GCSE Art. Exam Board – AQA.

**Psychology** - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 6 in GCSE English and Grade 6 in GCSE science and maths. Exam Board - AQA.

**Sociology** - *Entry requirements:*

Grade 6 in GCSE English or Grade 6 in GCSE Humanities subject. Exam Board - AQA.

## Art & Design – AQA

### Entry requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE Art & Design, textiles or Design and Technology. Grade 5 in English Lit & Lang.

### Course content

Students will produce a body of work for all units throughout the course. Students will compile a collection of work linked to at least 2/3 investigations. Both Component 1 and Component 2 both have the same expectations of investigations and conclusion with a final piece. Students will sit a 15hr exam to complete their set Investigation response.

Students are required to conduct investigations, related to an issue, concept or theme supported by a written piece. Students' investigations must show independent development from the original issue, concept or theme to the outcomes. Student Investigations must evidence students' ability to research and develop ideas into outcomes. The written material must be comprehensibly structured and be between 2000-3000 words. The written materials must include appropriate spelling, punctuation and grammar throughout the topics. The student's practical work will produce a response or to conclude the investigation without any restriction on materials or scale. Students must demonstrate their artistic skills being developed and challenged throughout the investigations as they conclude.

The following topics are studied:

- Personal investigation outline and structure.
- Essay writing and research gathering. An introduction to lecture-style sessions about art & design influencers and the Art world to build up an understanding of the importance of research and investigations.
- Practical Art skills and techniques developed using a vast set of materials, building independent practical working. Students should aim to develop Artistic skills through various mediums such as drawing, painting, mixed media, sculpture, ceramics, printmaking, animation and photography.

### Assessment overview

1. **Component 1:** Coursework (Internal personal investigation) 96 marks, 60%
2. **Component 2:** Exam (External set assignment ) 96 marks, 40%

### Progression

A-Level Art & Design is just the beginning to deepen your knowledge and understanding of the world in which we all live. Art & Design A-Level can lead you into the various different fields of work and life in the future. Students can go onto study at Degree level and explore the world of Visual artists, Digital artists, Animators, Advertisement, Photographers, Product designers, Architectures, Interior designers and so on. Art & Design is a forever changing and challenging field to develop and dive into and to be a part of the change.





STUDENT COMMENTS

I used to dream about achieving big things. Here, I've started turning those dreams into plans. It's incredible how much support and guidance I receive.



# Biology – AQA

## Entry requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE English and Grade 6 in GCSE Biology and Maths

## Course content

Biology is the study of life and living organisms. This science encompasses a wide range of domains including genetics, microbiology, taxonomy, biochemistry, physiology but also ethology and ecology. Studying A level Biology will give you a basic understanding of the way the body works, an overview of the impact of the expression of the genome and epigenome on metabolism, an insight into how cells communicate or how molecules interact or the use of microorganisms in industry and ecology.

The A level Biology Course is a two-year course gained by completing eight modules combined with the practical endorsement. The practical endorsement is an assessment of a student's skills and competency when completing core practicals.

The following topics are studied during A level biology:

### Year 12

Biological molecules

Cells

Organisms exchange substances with their environment

Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms

### Year 13

Energy transfer in and between organisms

Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments

Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems

The control of gene expression

## Assessment overview

1. **Paper 1:** 2 hours (written paper) – 91 marks, 35% of A-level
2. **Paper 2:** 2 hours (written paper) – 91 marks, 35% of A-level
3. **Paper 3:** 2 hours (written paper) – 78 marks, 30% of A-level

## Progression

A-level Biology is a stepping-stone to future study. Biologists have a key role in contributing to improvements in tomorrow's world of health, sport, medicine, conservation and the food industry. The Biology course provides an excellent basis for further study and careers in the Life Sciences. From GM crops to diseases and medicines, to environmental issues, there has never been a more exciting time to be a Biologist.





# Business Studies - Edexcel

## Entry requirements

Grade 5 in English Language and Grade 5 in maths

## Course content

Whether you want to start your own company or be a CEO of a multinational corporation, an A-Level in business studies will teach you the skills that are required. Business is a dynamic, fast-moving subject based in the real world. You will learn about how businesses operate and discover that business is always in the news. There is always something going on directly related to what you will be studying, from mergers and takeovers to ethical concerns about supply chains or executive pay.

You will discover how to market a product successfully depending on the target audience and you will learn to analyse the strategies employed by businesses such as Jaguar, Land Rover and Ikea for success. You will also find out how to motivate people, and look at different ways of leading an organisation. You will discover what it takes to be a successful entrepreneur.

Business will equip you with the skills you need to progress into work or on to University. You will learn how to apply theory to factual situations, how to analyse problems, arrive at solutions, and how to evaluate business strategies.

Students are encouraged to use an enquiring, critical and thoughtful approach to the study of business, to understand that business behaviour can be studied from a range of perspectives and to challenge assumptions.

## Assessment overview

1. **Paper 1 – Marketing, people and global business** – 2hrs – 100 marks - 35% of A level
2. **Paper 2 – Business activities, decisions and strategy** – 2hrs – 100 marks - 35% of A level
3. **Paper 3 – Investigating business in a competitive environment** – 2hrs - 100 marks – 30% of A level

## Progression

Studying Business will open your eyes to the wide range of job opportunities available, ranging from finance to marketing to management. Jobs in business include human resources management, fashion retailing, accountancy and finance, as well as setting up your own business.

Many business A-Level students' progress onto university or degree apprenticeships. This ranges from courses such as Business Studies, International Business Management to more specialised ones such as Accounting and Finance, Marketing and Human Resources Management.

HOW TO  
POSITION YOUR  
FOR SUCCESS

THE  
THINGS  
YOU  
CARE  
ABOUT

YOUR  
BRAND

WHAT  
YOUR  
CUSTOMER  
CARES  
ABOUT

STUDENT COMMENTS

Every day in Sixth Form is a new adventure. I've discovered passions I didn't even know I had and skills that I'm excited to develop further.



# Chemistry – AQA

## Entry requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE English and Grade 6 in GCSE Chemistry and Maths

## Course content

Chemistry is the study of the properties and reactions of materials. It is sometimes called a central science, because it links the other sciences to each other, such as biology, physics, geology and environmental science.

The A level Chemistry Course is a two-year course gained by completing modules in 3 larger sections combined with the practical endorsement. The practical endorsement is an assessment of a student's skills and competency when completing core practicals.

The following topics are studied during A level chemistry:

### Year 12

**Physical Chemistry** – atomic structure, bonding, energetic, kinetics, chemical equilibrium

**Inorganic Chemistry** – periodicity, group 2 the alkaline earth metals and group 7 (17) the halogens

**Organic Chemistry** – Alkanes, haloalkanes, alkenes, alcohols, organic analysis

### Year 13

**Physical Chemistry 2** - Thermodynamics, kinetics, equilibrium constant, electrode potentials, acids, bases & buffers

**Inorganic Chemistry 2** - Periodicity, transition metals, reactions of inorganic compounds in aqueous solutions

**Organic Chemistry 2** - Isomerism, carbonyl groups, aromatic chemistry, amines, polymerisation, amino acids, proteins & DNA, organic synthesis, chromatography

## Assessment overview

1. **Paper 1:** 2 hours (written paper) – 105 marks, 35% of A-level
2. **Paper 2:** 2 hours (written paper) – 105 marks, 35% of A-level
3. **Paper 3:** 2 hours (written paper) – 90 marks, 30% of A-level

## Progression

A-level Chemistry is a stepping-stone to future study. Having a chemical science qualification is desirable and valuable to future employers as it provides you with a wide range of transferable skills. It gives you a vast choice in a wide range of careers such as Research and Development, Production, Marketing and Sales, Veterinary Science, Forensic Science, Marine Science, Management and Marketing, Patent Agent, Environmental, Finance, and Sales and Advertising.





Photo by Neil Garrett

# Computer Science – OCR

## Entry requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE Computer Science or Grade 6 in GCSE Maths.

## Course Content

Computer Science has computational thinking at its core; thinking that provides solutions to problems, designs systems and recognises the nature of human and machine intelligence.

It is a creative subject that involves the innovative thinking and development of ideas through coding.

You will learn to become a strong programmer using different programming paradigms. As part of this, you will explore many of the standard algorithms used in searching, sorting and pathfinding and will be able to select the most appropriate to use, based on its efficiency and suitability for the problem at hand. A diverse range of theoretical topics are covered, including how computers use logic, number systems, networks, databases and more.

Computer science is split into papers one, two and non-examined assessment (NEA). Students will study a range of topics over the two years of A-level.

The following topics are studied during A level computer science:

- The characteristics of contemporary processors, input, output and storage devices
- Types of software and the different methodologies used to develop software
- Data exchange between different systems
- Data types, data structures and algorithms
- Legal, moral, cultural and ethical issues
- Elements of computational thinking
- Problem-solving and programming
- Algorithms to solve problems and standard algorithms

## Assessment overview

1. **Computer systems:** 2 hours and 30 minutes (written paper) – 140 marks, 40% of A -level
2. **Algorithms and programming:** 2 hours and 30 minutes (written paper) – 140 marks, 40% of A - level
3. **Programming project:** NEA component – 70 marks, 20% of A -level

## Progression

University progression. Students progress to Russell Group universities or take up apprenticeships with leading companies to become programmers, computer engineers, big data analysts, computer game designers or specialists in the telecommunications industry.

Employment progression. Future careers include: computer science, software development, IT support, cyber security, web development, computer programming.





STUDENT COMMENTS

**The teachers here don't just educate; they inspire. They've helped me see the potential in myself that I never knew existed.**

## English – AQA

### Entry requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE English Literature.

### Course content

English Literature's historicist approach to the study of literature rests upon reading texts within a shared context. Working from the belief that no text exists in isolation but is the product of the time in which it was produced, 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. English Literature privileges the process of making autonomous meaning, encouraging students to debate and challenge the interpretations of other readers as they develop their own informed personal responses.

Whilst the course invites a variety of written response types, these will all encourage critical debate. Students will be required to argue and to show personal responses and critical preferences, supported by the terminology relevant to the topics and contexts with which they are engaging. In doing so, they will be able to show 'creativity'.

Both examined elements of the course have the methodologies of historicism at their centre. In *Love through the ages*, the theme of love, one of the most central themes in literature, is explored across time. In *Texts in shared contexts*, students explore texts written within a narrower and clearly defined time period: either WW1 and its aftermath, or Modern times: literature from 1945 to the present day. The non-exam assessment element offers students the freedom to compare texts either diachronically or synchronically.

### Assessment overview

1. *Love through the ages*: 3 hours (written paper) – 75 marks, 40% of A-level
2. *Texts in shared contexts*: 2 hours and 30 minutes (written paper) – 75 marks, 40% of A-level
3. Independent critical study: Non-exam assessment (NEA) 50 marks – 20% of A-level

### Progression

A-Level English students will have a world of opportunities open to them, specifically the opportunity to study topics such as Law, Journalism, Psychology and Sociology. Studying English is very useful for any subject area that you need to communicate. English is one of the most popular subjects to study at university level and the skills developed from this subject are in great demand from employers.





# Geography - Edexcel

## Entry requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE Geography and Grade 5 in GCSE English and Maths.

## Course content

In Year 12 Geography is split into two sections – one physical and one human. Physical geography will include Tectonic processes, hazards, and coastal landscapes; two topics that students should be somewhat familiar with from GCSE study. On the human paper, students cover globalisation and either regeneration or diverse places, linking in with similar topics taught at GCSE. Students will also cover questions relating to fieldwork on a residential trip that year, on the topic of coasts, regeneration and diverse places.

In Year 13, students sit 3 exam papers. The first is on the physical geography above, but adding in topics on water insecurity, the carbon cycle and energy. The human paper gains additional content on Superpowers and global development, with options to study health or migration. The third paper is a decision making exercise investigating one of the compulsory issues studied throughout the course. The exam board in advance of the exam will send out a pre-release paper. The fieldwork that was studied in Year 12 will form the basis of a roughly 3000-4000 word independent report which will be internally marked and submitted to the exam board.

## Assessment overview

1. Physical Geography: 2hr 15m – 105 marks, 30% of A level
2. Human Geography: 2hr 15m – 105 marks, 30% of A level
3. Synoptic Investigation: 2hr 15m – 70 marks, 20% of A level
4. Independent Investigation: non examined assessment (NEA) – 70 marks, 20% of A level

## Progression

A level Geography is seen as one that presents students with a wide range of skills to progress in future careers. The ability to communicate complex points, use evidence to come to an informed decision and skills used to complete an independent investigation in the subject are highly valued by employers and universities. Jobs directly involving geography include roles in international development agencies, flood management, land surveying, architecture, health research and the civil service.



STUDENT COMMENTS

**This Sixth Form has been my second home. It's a place where I feel both challenged and cared for, and that's made all the difference.**





# Government and Politics - AQA

## Entry requirements

Grade 5's in English and Maths; Grade 5 in History or Geography preferable but not compulsory. There is an expectation that you will have an understanding and interest in current affairs.

## Course content

The students study three main units over the two years. The first unit covers British Politics and the Government of the UK and looks at the nature and function of the British Constitution and the three branches of the British Government: the Prime Minister & the Cabinet; the Judiciary and Parliament. Students also study how democracy operates in the UK by looking at political parties, pressure groups, elections and referendums and how we measure participation.

The second unit is US politics. Students need to be able to make synoptic links between this unit and the British Politics unit and understand that while there are differences between the two political systems there are also similarities. Students will understand the constitutional framework of the US government focusing on the difference between the power of Congress and the US President. Students also study the US Judiciary, political parties and pressure groups and can make connections, links and highlight differences between the US and the UK. One of the key aspects of the US political system is an understanding of Civil Rights thinking about how the United States have developed political freedoms and rights for individuals.

The final unit is an understanding of different political ideologies. Students understand the key features of different political ideologies and the similarities and differences between them. These ideologies include socialism, conservatism, nationalism and feminism.

## Assessment overview

1. Government & Politics of the UK: 2 Hours (written paper) – 77 marks, 33.3%
2. Government & Politics of the USA (+ Comparative Study): 2 Hours (written paper) – 77 marks, 33.3%
3. Political Ideas: 2 Hours (written paper) – 77 marks, 33.3%

## Progression

A level Government & Politics is a subject that is well viewed by the majority of Russell Group and non-Russell Group universities. Students of Politics can go into a range of different careers including political research, the Civil Service, the police, education or even working for a political party or a pressure group. Students of Government and Politics can understand different viewpoints, understand complex problems and be able to articulate and argue effectively.



## History - AQA

### Entry requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE History and Grade 5 in GCSE English and Maths

### Course content

In year 12, students will study two courses concurrently with two different teachers. They study the rise of Communism in Russia and the reasons for, and impact of, the February and November revolutions in Russia in 1917. Students look at the social, economic and political impact of the revolutions and the reasons why Russia was ripe for revolution and how Lenin exploited the impact of WWI and the Tsar's inability to rule. Students also study the Early Tudor period looking at the victory at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485 and how Henry Tudor secures his position on the throne and wins the War of the Roses.

In year 13, students continue their studies sitting two exams at the end of Year 13 with each constituting 40% of their final mark. Students continue studying Russia under Stalin looking at the changes he makes in Russia and the impact of his economic and social policies on the people. We finish this unit by looking at the Soviet victory in WWII and the final years of Stalin and how secure Stalinism was upon his death in 1953. On the other side of the course students continue their study of Henry's 3 children and their reigns focusing much of the time on Elizabeth I and the Golden Age. This includes an analysis of her foreign policy relations with Spain and the New World and her religious policies and impacts on England. Students also study an NEA or Non-Examined Assessment. This involves a self-studied and self-researched historical investigation with students choosing and answering their own question over the course of Year 13 and submitting this prior to the exam. The NEA constitutes the final 20% of the student's overall mark.

### Assessment overview

1. Breadth Study: 2hr 30m – 80 marks, 40% of A level
2. Depth Study: 2hr 30m – 80 marks, 40% of A level
3. Historical Investigation – non examined assessment (NEA) – 40 marks, 20% of A level

### Progression

A level History is a subject which is well viewed by the majority of Russell Group and non-Russell Group universities. History supports careers such as Law, Journalism, Politics and Finance. Many History graduates go on to study for further qualifications and can work in museums, teaching or project management.





STUDENT COMMENTS

**I've made friends for life and learned lessons that go way beyond textbooks. This Sixth Form experience is truly shaping who I am.**

# Mathematics - Edexcel

## Entry requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE Maths

## Course content

Maths is a stimulating and rewarding course that is highly regarded by universities and employers. Additionally, however, studying maths will greatly improve your numeracy which is a life skill that can have profound positive effects on you. Having high levels of numeracy is linked with higher wages, will enable you to make sense of charts and information reported in the media and have financial capability.

The following topics are studied during A level Maths:

### Pure Maths

This is the study of the more abstract elements of maths, which teaches the knowledge and skills that underpin the entire course.

- Topic 1 – Proof
- Topic 2 – Algebra and functions
- Topic 3 – Coordinate geometry in the  $(x, y)$  plane
- Topic 4 – Sequences and series
- Topic 5 – Trigonometry
- Topic 6 – Exponentials and logarithms
- Topic 7 – Differentiation
- Topic 8 – Integration
- Topic 9 – Numerical methods
- Topic 10 – Vectors

### Statistics

When you study statistics you will learn how to analyse and summarise numerical data to arrive at conclusions about it. Many of the ideas in this part of the course have applications in a wide range of other fields, from assessing what your car insurance is going to cost to how likely it is that the Earth will be hit by a comet in the next few years.

- Topic 1 – Statistical sampling
- Topic 2 – Data presentation and interpretation
- Topic 3 – Probability
- Topic 4 – Statistical distributions
- Topic 5 – Statistical hypothesis testing

### Mechanics

Mechanics deals with the action of forces on objects. It is therefore concerned with many everyday situations, e.g. the motion of cars, the flight of a cricket ball through the air, the stresses in bridges and the motion of the earth around the sun. Such problems have to be simplified or modelled to make them capable of solutions using relatively simple mathematics.

- Topic 6 – Quantities and units in mechanics
- Topic 7 – Kinematics
- Topic 8 – Forces and Newton's laws
- Topic 9 – Moments
- Topic 7 – Differentiation
- Topic 8 – Integration
- Topic 9 – Numerical methods
- Topic 10 – Vectors

## Assessment overview

1. Pure Mathematics 1: 2 hours (written paper) – 100 marks, 33.33% of A-level
2. Pure Mathematics 2: 2 hours (written paper) – 100 marks, 33.33% of A – level
3. Statistics & Mechanics: 2 hours (written paper) -100 marks, 33:33% of A- level

## Progression

There are a wealth of careers and degree choices that either require or would benefit from studying maths including; Engineering, Computing, Medicine, Science, Finance and Economics, Accountancy and Architecture.



$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\rho u) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\rho u) + u \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} = 0$$



# Media Studies - AQA

## Entry requirements

Grade 5 in English Language and Grade 4 in maths

## Course content

Media and communication are at the centre of our everyday lives. At home, at work, at college or while travelling we are rarely far away from mediated sounds, images or words in the form of TV, film, radio, music, Internet, magazines, newspapers or games. The media entertain us, enable connections with friends and communities, provide interpretations of the world around us and offer us resources for creating identities and imaginations. We live in a media culture, a media society.

Media Studies at St Charles gives you the opportunity to investigate how the media work in society and to understand the role that the media play in our complex world. The balance of media theory and practical media production on the course means that you will learn about how media industries operate, research and investigate issues and debates about the role of the media in society, analyse media products in depth and produce amazing media of your own.

## Assessment overview

1. **Media One** – 2hrs – 84 marks - 35% of A level
2. **Media Two** – 2hrs – 84 marks - 35% of A level
3. **Creating a cross-media production** – non examined assessment (NEA) – 60 marks - 30% of A level

## Progression

Media studies naturally leads to exciting careers in TV, film, journalism, web development, marketing, advertising, social media or public relations. An awareness of how the world of media works can also support other careers, such as business, commerce, law, finance, medicine, the arts, social work, and education. By knowing how the media operate you'll be able to decode messages more skilfully, understand how to use the media to your advantage and engage with topics and issues that interest you.

Many of our students go on to university to study media, cultural or communication studies as academic subjects. Many more choose to study and train on media, film and TV production courses or apprenticeships as a way into exciting careers in the creative, media and marketing industries.



STUDENT COMMENTS

What sets this Sixth Form apart is its spirit of innovation. We're not just learning about the world as it is; we're preparing to lead the world as it could be.

## Physics – AQA

### Entry requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE English and Grade 6 in GCSE Physics and Maths

### Course content

Students studying A level Physics will cover a range of key concepts such as particle physics, wave-particle duality, the photoelectric effect and atomic energy levels. There is also an electricity section that develops concepts like current, voltage and resistance in direct current circuits. Students will get a more in-depth treatment of topics like kinematics, dynamics, statics and energy that they were introduced to during their GCSE. This is combined with a study of the properties of materials to complete the mechanics component. Additionally, there is also a study of the properties of waves, which includes a look at progressive and standing waves, refraction, diffraction and interference.

The syllabus provides a choice of optional topics such as astrophysics. This gives students a view of the universe at large including dark matter and energy, black holes and quasars along with knowledge of the tools used by astronomers to see to the edge of space and time.

A level physics is a two-year qualification that involves a practical endorsement. The practical endorsement is an assessment of a student's skills and competency when completing core practicals.

The following topics are studied during A level physics:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Measurements and their errors</li><li>• Particles and radiation</li><li>• Waves</li><li>• Mechanics and materials</li><li>• Electricity</li><li>• Further mechanics and thermal physics</li><li>• Fields and their consequences</li><li>• Nuclear physics</li></ul> | <b>Optional topics:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Astrophysics</li><li>• Medical physics</li><li>• Engineering physics</li><li>• Turning points in physics</li><li>• Electronics</li></ul> |
|---|--|

### Assessment overview

1. Periodic Motion: 2 hours (written paper) – 85 marks, 34% of A-level
2. Thermal Physics: 2 hours (written paper) – 85 marks, 34% of A - level
3. Practical Skills & Data Analysis: 2 hours (written paper) - sections A & B – 80 marks, 32% of A - level

### Progression

A-level Physics is a stepping-stone to future study. Having a qualification in A-Level Physics will equip you with sought after skills in Banking, Logistics, Management, Game Design and a host of other industries. It is invaluable for studying medicine and other related subjects as well as engineering and a wide range of technological subjects. Studying Physics beyond A-Level also opens up opportunities for exciting and well-paid careers. Physics graduates are found working in a range of professions as diverse as patent lawyers, brewing technologists, investment bankers, architects and acoustic engineers as well as the more traditional careers in research and teaching.





# Product Design – AQA

## Entry requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE Product Design or GCSE Art

## Course content

Do you want to make the world a better place for consumers? Do you look at some products and think you could have done better? Have you ever wondered how a product continues to stay popular in the marketplace?

Product Design is an inspiring, rigorous and practical subject. This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in several careers, especially those in the creative industries. The subject content is focused on consumer products and applications; their analysis in respect of materials, components, and marketability to understand their selection and uses in industrial and commercial practices of product development.

The course is designed to teach students to initiate design solutions and develop, test and trial working models and prototypes. Develop and sustain imagination, innovation and flair when working with concepts and material. Develop an understanding of contemporary design and technological practices and consider the uses and effects of new technologies and modern materials. Develop thinking skills, financial capability, and enterprise and entrepreneurial skills.

During the two-year course, you will study a range of materials. You will develop a technical understanding of how products function and how they are made to appropriately support the design and manufacture of your own design solutions. You will learn about wider design principles and the effect of design on users and the world we live in. You will identify market needs and opportunities for new products, initiate and develop design solutions, and make and test prototypes/products.

## Assessment overview

1. Technical Principles: 2 hours and 30 minutes (written paper) – 120 marks, 30% of A-level
2. Designing & Making Principles: 1 hour and 30 minutes (written paper) – 80 marks, 20% of A - level
3. Design Portfolio: Non-exam assessment (NEA) – 100 marks, 50% of A – level

## Progression

This qualification can lead to a variety of different career pathways, including product design, engineering and architecture.

It could also form part of your route into university, especially if you wish to pursue a subject like Engineering.

Some students progress to taking advanced apprenticeships with local companies or gain employment directly in the technology and engineering sector in their local area.





# Psychology - AQA

## Entry requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE English and Grade 6 in GCSE science and maths

## Course content

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behaviour, it is a multi-layered discipline and includes many sub-fields of study such areas as human development, health, clinical, social behaviour and cognitive processes. This course has been designed to equip you with critical psychological skills, knowledge and values that can be applied to real world contexts.

You will discover a key topic of research and learn about important studies related to that topic, and find out how research is conducted in that area. You will learn to use statistical tests to help interpret data. You will have an opportunity to study some uses of psychology in the real world, such as gender and social influences.

Psychology confers a broad variety of transferable skills. Psychology students will have the usual array of skills that science students acquire - from experimental design to statistical analysis. Psychology students will gain an understanding of human behaviour and motivation, the ability to work with a wide variety of people, and skills in demonstrating compassion and empathy.

During the course you will study the following topics over two years:

- Social Influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Research Methods
- Approaches in Psychology
- Psychopathology
- Biopsychology
- Issues and Debates
- Relationships
- Eating Behaviour & Aggression

## Assessment overview

1. Introductory Topics in Psychology: 2 hours (written paper) – 96 marks, 33.3% of A-level
2. Psychology in Context: 2 hours (written paper) – 96 marks, 33.3% of A - level
3. Issues and Options in Psychology: 2 hours (written paper) – 96 marks, 33.3% of A-level

## Progression

A Psychology A level enables you to acquire a variety of transferable skills. These include numeracy, argument synthesis, data analysis, time management, independent research, teamwork, report writing, presentation skills, interpersonal and communication skills, plus an evolved ability to work ethically and professionally with people. All skills are highly valued in a range of employment fields.

Career opportunity areas include - Clinical Psychology, Counselling Psychology, Forensic Psychology, Health Psychology, Neuropsychology, Occupational Psychology, Research and Academic & Forensic Psychology, Sports and Exercise Psychology



#### STUDENT COMMENTS

Being part of this Sixth Form has boosted my confidence incredibly. I now feel ready to take on challenges that once seemed impossible.

# Sociology - AQA

## Entry requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE English or Grade 6 in GCSE Humanities subject

## Course content

Sociology is the study of human social relationships and institutions. Sociology's subject matter is diverse, ranging from crime to religion, from the family to the state, from the divisions of race and social class to the shared beliefs of a common culture, and from social stability to radical change in whole societies.

Sociology will help you to think about society in a new and critical light, questioning the status quo and developing a sophisticated understanding of the real issues that affect the society we live in. It is an excellent subject for showing you how society works and for making you aware of the range of conditions that individuals within society experience. Students often comment that they didn't realise how varied the human experience can be and how powerfully group identity shapes a person's future.

Sociology is for you if you want to explore and understand society. Why do some people do well at school and others don't? Why do some people have children and others don't? Why do some people join cults and others don't? Why do some people commit crimes and others don't? Also if you enjoy debating and evaluating social theory and indicating strengths and weaknesses the course gives a lot of weight to those skills. Sociology can make the world around you "come alive" and every day there will be examples for you to consider.

During the course you will study the following topics over two years:

- Education and Methods in Context
- Research Methods and Families and Households
- Education with Theory and Methods
- Families, Households and Beliefs within Society
- Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

## Assessment overview

1. Education with Theory and Methods: 2 hours (written paper) – 80 marks, 33.3% of A-level
2. Topics in Sociology: 2 hours (written paper) – 80 marks, 33.3% of A - level
3. Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods: 2 hours (written paper) – 80 marks, 33.3% of A-level

## Progression

Sociology develops several skills that are transferable and useful in a variety of careers. Analysis of evidence, evaluation and essay writing skills develop as do research skills. Sociology can directly lead you into higher education courses such as Law, Social Policy/Politics or Anthropology. Many areas such as Business, Marketing, Journalism, Social Research, Teaching, Management Consultancy, HR and Public Relations all require skills learnt in Sociology.







# Curriculum and subjects



## Vocational subjects

### Applied Science

**BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Applied Science.**

**Entry requirements:** Grade 4-4 in GCSE Combined Science and Grade 5 in GCSE Maths and English Language.

### Business

**BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Business.**

**Entry requirements:** 5 GCSE grades at 9-4 including grades 4 in GCSE English & Maths. Exam board – Edexcel.

### Health & Social Care

**BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Health & Social Care.**

**Entry requirements:** 5 GCSE grades 9-4 including Maths and English. Exam Board – Edexcel.

### Information Technology

**BTEC National Extended Diploma in Information Technology.**

**Entry requirements:** Grade 4 in GCSE English and GCSE Maths

### Sport

**BTEC Level 3 Sport and Physical Activity (Extended Diploma)**

**Entry requirements:** Grade 4 in GCSE PE or Distinction in BTEC/OCR Sports Studies and Grade 4 in GCSE English and Science. Exam Board – OCR.

# **BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Applied Science – Edexcel**

## **Entry requirements**

Grade 4-4 in GCSE Combined Science and Grade 5 in GCSE Maths and English Language.

## **Course content**

This qualification provides learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills that underpin study of the applied science sector, providing the opportunity to focus on different aspects of applied science.

You will study seven mandatory units:

- Unit 1: Principles and Applications of Science I
- Unit 2: Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques
- Unit 3: Science Investigation Skills
- Unit 4: Laboratory Techniques and their Application
- Unit 5: Principles and Applications of Science II
- Unit 6: Investigative Project
- Unit 7: Contemporary Issues in Science.

There is the opportunity to explore, through the optional units below, a particular area of science, to support progression to applied science courses in higher education, and to link with relevant occupational areas. The particular scientific areas covered are:

- Biomedical Science – optional units cover topics such as physiology, microbiology, and diseases and infections
- Analytical and Forensic Science – optional units cover topics such as chemical analysis, applications of organic chemistry, and forensic evidence collection and analysis
- Physical Science – optional units cover topics such as materials science, astronomy and electrical circuits.

## **Assessment overview**

Assessment is specifically designed to fit the purpose and objective of this qualification. It includes a range of assessment types and styles suited to vocational qualifications in the sector. For this qualification, there are three main forms of assessment; external, internal and synoptic.

External-assessed units: Learners will sit written examination papers based on the qualification content, under specified conditions. These are marked by Pearson and a grade awarded.

Internally-assessed units: Most units on this qualification are internally assessed. This means that the school will set and assess assignments, which will be externally moderated by Edexcel.

Synoptic- assessed units: There are formally identified units which contain a synoptic assessment task. These tasks allow learners to apply their knowledge and skills to realistic contexts.

## **Progression**

Applied science qualification provides a range of progression pathways. It supports entry to university degree courses, for example BSc (Hons) in Chemistry with Analytical Science, BSc (Hons) in Forensic Science, BSc (Hons) in Biomedical Sciences, BSc (Hons) in Pharmacy (some university courses may require achievement of specific units) as well as Higher National Diploma (HND) in Applied Science. The course also provides learners with a range of transferrable employability skills including cognitive and problem-solving skills, interpersonal skills and intrapersonal skills.



# **BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Business – Edexcel**

## **Entry requirements**

5 GCSE grades at 9-4 including grades 4 in GCSE English & Maths

## **Course content**

The programme aims to provide learners with an in-depth understanding of the operations and structures of businesses and also to equip students with the skills required to succeed in employment or at university. You will explore businesses in the public, private and voluntary sectors. You will also cover a range of topics that include exploring business, marketing, finance, managing a business event and recruitment.

Students complete a range of mandatory and optional units as listed below:

- Exploring Business
- Developing a Marketing Campaign
- Personal & Business Finance
- Managing an Event
- International Business
- Principles of Management
- Business Decision Making
- Recruitment & Selection Process
- Investigating Customer Service
- Market Research
- The English legal System
- Work Experience in Business
- Market Research

## **Assessment overview BTEC Business**

1. Developing a Marketing Campaign: Part A – 2 hour preparation period & Part B – 3 hours supervised assessment completed using a computer – 70 marks
2. Personal & Business Finance: 2 hours (written paper) - 80 marks
3. Principles of Management: 3 hours supervised assessment completed using a computer – 88 marks
4. Business Decision Making: 3 hours supervised assessment completed using a computer – 70 marks

## **Progression**

This qualification gives learners experience of the breadth and depth of the sector that will prepare them for further study or training. This includes the opportunity for learners to choose several topics from a selection of options reflecting the progression pathways in business.

Students can use this qualification to either progress onto higher education and study for an undergraduate degree in careers such as finance, administration, accountancy, banking, law and business management.

Further training and qualifications can lead to a wide variety of careers in business, finance, insurance, banking and management.



STUDENT COMMENTS

**I always thought Sixth Form would be just about academics, but here I've learned about leadership, teamwork, and resilience. It's been transformative.**

# **BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Health & Social Care – Edexcel**

## **Entry requirements**

5 GCSE grades 9-4 including Maths and English

## **Course content**

To study Health & Social Care, you need to be interested in working with people. It is also important that you develop a greater understanding of Health & Social Care professionals such as nurses and social workers and how they support individuals when they need help. This might include understanding the support that an elderly client with dementia might need.

If you want to make a positive difference in people's lives, then studying Health and Social Care is for you.

Students complete a range of mandatory and optional units as listed below:

- Human Lifespan Development
- Working in Health and Social Care
- Anatomy and Physiology for Health and Social Care
- Enquiries into Current Research in Health and Social Care
- Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs
- Work Experience in Health and Social Care
- Principles of Safe Practice in Health and Social Care
- Promoting Public Health
- Sociological Perspectives
- Psychological Perspectives
- Supporting Individuals with Additional Needs
- Physiological Disorders and their Care
- Nutritional Health

## **Assessment overview BTEC Health and Social Care**

1. Human Lifespan Development: 1 hour 30 minutes (written paper) – 90 marks
2. Working in Health and Social Care: 1 hour 30 minutes (written paper) – 80 marks
3. Anatomy and Physiology for Health and Social Care: 1 hour 30 minutes (written paper) – 90 marks
4. Enquiries into Current Research in Health and Social Care: Part A and Part B supervised assessment – 65 marks

## **Progression**

Health and Social Care is a vocational qualification. For students who are interested in pursuing a career in a health or social care profession or seeking employment, the opportunities are endless. Health and Social care can lead to higher-level study in the following areas; nursing or midwifery, social work, teaching and youth and community work.





# **BTEC National Extended Diploma in Information Technology – Edexcel**

## **Entry requirements**

Grade 4 in GSCE English and GCSE Maths

## **Course content**

This course is designed for ICT students who are serious about a future within the Computing and IT industry and who want to acquire the professional skills needed to succeed in the world of Technology. If you like working with computers, enjoy solving problems using logical, analytical thinking and enjoy hands-on practical work then this course is for you. You will learn how to create websites, coding, animations, games, spreadsheets and databases. You will also develop practical skills in computer hardware and networking.

Students will undertake 4 units for the Extended Certificate Diploma, 3 of these units are mandatory and 1 are optional unit. All four units will need to be completed to achieve your qualification.

- Information technology Systems (Mandatory)
- Creating Systems to Manage Information (Mandatory)
- Using Social Media in Business (Mandatory)
- Data Modelling (Optional)
- Website Development (Optional)

## **Assessment overview IT BTEC National Extended Certificate**

1. Information Technology Systems – 2 hour (written paper) – 90 marks
2. Creating Systems to Manage Information – Part A & Part B – controlled assessment – completed using a computer and submitted electronically – 66 marks

## **Progression**

Students may use this course to study IT, programming, software development, games design and other related degrees at university, whilst others may use it as a stepping stone to study another discipline such as business, finance, and marketing. Students may also go onto high quality IT apprenticeships with well-known big companies.

The transferable skills developed whilst studying IT include problem solving, project management, creative thinking, the capacity for independent enquiry and team working which are all highly valued skills for further or higher education as well as prized by top quality employers.







# Sport and Physical Activity Extended Diploma - OCR

## Entry requirements

Grade 4 in GCSE PE or Distinction in BTEC/OCR Sports Studies and Grade 4 in GCSE English and Science

## Course content

You will learn the theoretical, biological and mechanical knowledge of different body systems and how they impact directly on sport. You will develop practical skills needed to work within the sporting environment, such as how large sporting organisations are run and how to effectively plan, implement and deliver sporting events to a large audience. You will undertake an in-depth analysis researching the importance and necessity of adequate nutrition and hydration, identifying its importance for elite performance.

Students complete a total of seventeen units for the qualification, thirteen mandatory units alongside four optional units.

- Body Systems and the Effects of Physical Activity
- Sports Coaching and Activity Leadership
- Sports Organisation and Development
- Working Safely in Sports, Exercise, Health and Leisure
- Performance Analysis in Sport and Exercise
- Group Exercise to Music
- Improving Fitness for Sport and Physical Activity
- Organisation of Sports Events
- Physical Activity for Specific Groups
- Nutrition and Diet for Sport and Exercise
- Health and Fitness Testing for Sport and Exercise
- Working in Active Leisure Facilities
- Sports Injuries and Rehabilitation
- Practical Skills in Sport and Physical Activities
- Sport and Exercise Psychology
- Sport and Exercise Sociology
- The Business of Sport

## Assessment overview Sport and Physical Activity

Assessment is specifically designed to fit the purpose and objective of this qualification. It includes a range of assessment types and styles suited to vocational qualifications in the sector. For this qualification, there are two main forms of assessment; internal and synoptic.

Internally-assessed units: Most units on this qualification are internally assessed. This means that the school will set and assess the assignments, which will be externally moderated by OCR.

External assessment: Four units on this qualification are externally assessed. Students will sit written exam papers based on the qualification content.

## Progression

Sport and Physical Activity can open up a vast array of career paths. Students studying this course will have developed the analytical, evaluative and critical thinking skills required to undertake degree-level study in Sports Science, PGCE Teacher Training, Sports psychology, Sports Development and sports physiotherapy/rehabilitation.

For those not wishing to continue with higher education, there are a range of apprenticeships and employment opportunities in sports coaching, officiating and administration and additional training opportunities for those interested in becoming Personal Trainers and Fitness Instructors.



## Heron Hall Academy Football Academy Programme

We are very excited to introduce our Football Academy Programme for 2024-25, designed to offer students a unique blend of academic excellence and professional football training.

### Flexible study options:

Our Football Academy Programme offers great flexibility, allowing students to choose between pursuing A-Levels or Level 3 Applied Vocational Qualifications.

This approach ensures that every student can tailor their academic journey to suit their personal goals and aspirations, without compromising on their passion for football.

### Elite coaching staff:

Participants in the Football Academy will benefit from the expertise of UEFA A & B licensed football coaches.

Our coaching team is committed to fostering technical and tactical excellence, ensuring that all players reach their full potential.

### Training sessions:

The programme includes three training sessions per week, meticulously designed to enhance both individual and collective skill levels.

These sessions are crucial in developing the technical, tactical, psychological, emotional, and interpersonal skills necessary for success on and off the pitch.

### Competitive games programme:

Our students will have the opportunity to put their skills to the test in a full games programme, including participation in the ESFA League and Cups.

This competitive experience is invaluable, offering real-world application of training and fostering a spirit of teamwork and sportsmanship.

### Education and career opportunities:

The Football Academy Programme goes beyond the field, offering students the chance to undertake coaching qualifications.

Additionally, we will provide comprehensive support and guidance for careers post-academy, ensuring our students are well-prepared for the future.

### Overview of academy programme

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.30am – 3.30pm	Lessons	Lessons	Lessons until 12pm – match day	Lessons	Lessons
3.30pm – 5pm	Football training	Football training		Recovery/academic catch-up	Football Training





### **Our Vision and Values:**

At Heron Hall Academy, we leverage football as a vehicle to reinforce our school's STRIVE Values.

Our vision is to nurture well-rounded young people and footballers, equipping them with a blend of technical prowess and essential life skills.

Through our shared vision, we aim to cultivate not just exceptional athletes, but also resilient and compassionate individuals ready to make a positive impact in the world.

Join us at Heron Hall Academy's Football Academy Programme, where your passion for football meets academic ambition, paving the way for a bright and successful future.



# The Experience

Life in the Sixth Form is much more than just attending your lessons and studying hard in the library. Students will enjoy their own café and study areas. We will be also offering our students lots of enrichment initiatives and opportunities while they are with us to ensure they can acquire a range of different skills and experiences to add to their academic ones, helping to make their time with us, we hope, memorable for the rest of their lives.

## Leadership opportunities

Our Sixth Form has an active body of Student Leaders who work as ambassadors for the school and Sixth Form. Student Leaders have a variety of roles, giving our students a voice in decision-making. The Student Leaders' work allows them to learn how to effect positive change and take on roles of responsibility to prepare them for life beyond education.

Being a good role model is an important part of being a Sixth Form student. Our students are given the opportunity to develop their leadership skills and embody our school and Sixth Form values. Alongside their academic studies, students can become involved in activities that help to develop their creativity, communication and teamwork skills, as well as helping to embed resilience, excellence and tolerance. All of which are underpinned by our STRIVE values.

## Subject ambassadors and voluntary service

One of our strengths is that our Sixth Form is part of a wider school community and students have the opportunity to be a subject ambassador, supporting staff and students in the lower school. This involves mentoring younger students in lessons, and after-school clubs, and supporting them with their reading. Sixth Form students lead assemblies and run after-school enrichment such as sports and drama workshops, homework clubs, debating clubs and much more. Student leaders organise fund raising events for both national and local charities

All Sixth Form students are encouraged to volunteer to help with Heron Hall and community events, developing a range of transferrable skills. These experiences will enhance their CVs and UCAS applications, ready for the next stage of their lives whether this be higher education or employment.

## Dress expectations

All students are expected to wear smart formal business attire. This will include a top with a collar and a tie for male students. In addition, all students must wear black shoes. Any student dressed inappropriately may be asked to go home and change.

## Careers information and guidance

At Heron Hall Academy we work tirelessly to ensure that all students are supported for life after they finish the Sixth Form. So whether a student wishes to seek further training and employment, or apply to Oxford, Cambridge or any other leading University, all students receive independent careers information, support and guidance.





STUDENT COMMENTS

**This place is about more than just grades; it's about growing as a person. I've become more independent, more curious, and more ambitious in just one year.**





## **Enrichment lessons**

In addition to academic subjects, students will also attend enrichment lessons. This is a great opportunity to develop personal development skills and study skills to prepare students for applications, personal statements and UCAS entries. We will have a variety of talks from guest speakers.

## **UCAS preparation and guidance**

Any student that applies to university will be given a comprehensive programme of support prior to attending university and completion of their UCAS application form. Year 12 and 13 students will undertake bespoke workshops delivered by a university organisation covering a wide range of topics such as budgeting and finance and how to write an outstanding personal statement. In addition, students will be given 1 to 1 tailored support whilst writing their personal statements. Year 12 students will undertake a 'UCAS Preparation and Guidance Day'. They will be supported to understand how the UCAS process works, key dates and how to complete their online form. Throughout their time within the Sixth Form, students will be given the opportunity to participate in a number of University taster days, trips and visits.

## **Work experience and placements**

During Year 12 students will receive the opportunity to experience the world of work first-hand. This is managed and coordinated by the school and students are encouraged to source their own work experience placements. This offers them more flexibility and choice in what they want to do and what skills they would like to learn during placements. Students are able to gain industry-specific knowledge and skills that are vital for future employment.

## **Fantastic sporting facilities**

At Heron Hall we have some of the very best sporting facilities in the borough, from state-of-the-art astro pitches, to an indoor sports hall that is the envy of most schools. So, whether you fancy a game of football, or want to shoot some hoops, we have everything you need.

## **Dedicated library staff**

We pride ourselves on having two members of staff who work full time in the library. Every student should benefit from a great school library staffed by dedicated professional librarians.

## **Bursaries**

You could get a bursary to help with education-related costs from the government and from the Trust's scholarship fund. Students can apply for financial support in a variety of ways during their time in at the Sixth Form.

# How to find us



Heron Hall Academy

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Heron Hall Academy



Heronhallchat



HeronHallAcademy



North Star Community Trust



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