



NONSUCH
HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

**A LEVEL
SUBJECT COURSES
2024 – 2025**

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*Please note that if there is insufficient demand then an A Level subject may not run or may be run across more than one school in the Trust.



NONSUCH
HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

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ART & DESIGN (FINE ART)

EXAM BOARD AQA

WHY STUDY FINE ART?

Art is everywhere. We live in a predominantly and ever-increasing visual society where visual communication and understanding is vital. Employers increasingly seek those who can exercise initiative, adaptability, independent judgement and creative problem solving which are the attributes that art and design students have in abundance. The UK produces extremely talented artists and designers who work in world-leading industries. The study of Art & Design will develop your creativity, visual learning, motor skills, decision making, perseverance, focus, collaboration, accountability, improve confidence and has been scientifically proven to improve academic performance. It's not just drawing and painting!

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the AQA Fine Art endorsement (full linear course). Two components of work are created over the two year course; the Personal Investigation and Portfolio (September in Year 12 to January in Year 13) and the Externally Set Assignment in Year 13 (February to May) culminating in a 15 hour practical exam. We work in a self-directed route, engaging in personal lines of visual enquiry and developing individual technical skills to expand your creativity and imagination and develop a personal style. You will explore the use of drawing for different purposes, using a variety of methods and media on a variety of scales. You will use sketchbooks/journals to underpin your work where appropriate to accompany each component and you will be aware of the importance of process as well as product.

You will develop an understanding and appreciation of aspects of the history of Art and Design and this should lead, inspire and enhance your own work. You will explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to a range of art, craft and design, from the past and from recent times.

With the removal of exams at the end of Year 12, this will give us more time for practical studio work and critical and contextual research, gallery visits and workshops to explore a range of materials and processes.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

Students usually progress to degree courses in Art & Design through application to a Foundation course. This in turn gives students a broader understanding of the wide variety of specialisms available at degree level.

The choice of further study is extraordinary with new courses emerging year-on-year with the advance of creative technologies. Career paths include: creative technologies, fashion, interior design, web and digital design, textile design and manufacture, graphic communication, animation, conservation and restoration, history of art, curation and education, film and television, product design, photography, 3D design, advertising, marketing, journalism, set design, stylist, special effects, industrial design... the list goes on!



CASE STUDY – BERNI

Why I chose Fine Art...

"I have always loved how art encourages creative problem-solving and allows me to develop my creativity, as opposed to the very structured thinking in my other subjects. As well as improving my techniques and learning different media, I can also explore topics that have a personal significance to me as forms of storytelling or transformations in nature. Even at GCSE, art has helped me appreciate the world around me more, whether because I drew an object I would have otherwise overlooked or because of the enriching contextual and artist studies."

What I like best about the course...

"I love the freedom to experiment and to develop a brand-new form of self-expression. With broad topics, anyone can explore an area they are passionate about, research it and present their interpretation in a completely unique way. Art never gets repetitive as we are constantly experimenting, encouraged to go outside and take photographs, visit places relevant to our theme, do life drawing and observe the world around us. The opportunities with this subject really are endless."

Where I hope it will take me...

"Art has been my greatest passion and I want to pursue my studies in animation and visual effects at university. I hope to become a character designer, and to create storyboards for animate movies. Solid drawing, composition, colour and capturing life around us are core elements which make up the amazing animated films we grew up with, and taking art is helping me improve in these areas every day".

BIOLOGY

EXAM BOARD OCR

WHY STUDY BIOLOGY?

Biology is a vast and varied subject which includes the study of living things from minuscule micro-organisms right the way up to human beings and beyond. The course aims to develop your interest and enthusiasm for Biology and hopefully inspire you to further study or careers in Biology. In addition we want to develop your understanding of how different areas of Biology relate to each other and help you to apply this understanding to unfamiliar situations. It encourages students to appreciate how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how Biology contributes to the success of society and the economy. In the course you will develop and demonstrate a deeper appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of How Science Works.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the OCR Biology fully linear course, with assessment being on a terminal exam at the end of two years. We study the following topics:

- Development of practical skills
- Foundations in Biology
- Exchange and Transport
- Biodiversity, evolution and disease
- Communication, homeostasis and energy
- Genetics, evolution and ecosystems

We run a field trip to Camber Sands during Year 12, which provides an excellent opportunity to develop fieldwork skills and ensures students are able to meet the required practical skills which are difficult to gain in a laboratory environment.

All A Level students are encouraged to participate in the Biology Olympiad and we run a support club to help all students with any questions they have or clarifications that are needed.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

There are many options available for further study at university. These include medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, biochemistry, biological sciences, microbiology, psychology, nursing, pharmacology, physiotherapy, environmental science amongst many more options.



CASE STUDY – SILYA

Why I chose Biology...

“I chose Biology to further understand the living world and environment around me and how the world’s many species evolve due to my interest in zoology. Another reason was because it offered balance as a Science subject while I also study English literature, allowing me to apply my knowledge in different ways.”

What I like best about the course...

“From studying Biology I have an improved outlook on wellness from my course, in research projects regarding biotechnology and uses of probiotics. As well as that, I really enjoyed the biodiversity topic we studied, as it presented the value of each organism to our planet, motivating me to take part in volunteering aiming to preserve our environment.”

Where I hope it will take me...

“Studying Biology A Level has granted me with improved skills when analysing new content in my courses and applying that knowledge concisely I exams. This has been a very useful skill that aided me in preparation for my Law entrance exam as well as other topics. Finally I now aim to pursue Environmental Law regarding carbon dioxide emission and pledges from corporations.”

CHEMISTRY

EXAM BOARD OCR

WHY STUDY CHEMISTRY?

Completing an A Level in Chemistry can open so many doors for you in the future. It is a challenging, academic and rigorous A Level that will impress a lot of universities and future employers. Studying A Level Chemistry can lead to many careers in healthcare such as medicine, pharmacy and dentistry but is also extremely useful in careers in the biological sciences, veterinary science, physics, mathematics, pharmacology and analytical chemistry. Did you know that chemists are also involved in many other areas, such as Law, Art Restoration, Forensic Science, Sport & Fitness Training, Conservation, Photography and the formulation of cosmetics and perfumes?

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the OCR Chemistry A fully linear course, with assessment being on terminal exams at the end of two years. We study the following topics:

- Development of practical skills
- Foundations in Chemistry
- Periodic Table and energy
- Core Organic Chemistry
- Physical chemistry and transition elements
- Organic chemistry and analysis

With the removal of exams at the end of Year 12, this will give us time to consolidate material on to University level and provide opportunities to make exceptional progress. All A Level students are encouraged to participate in both the Chemistry Olympiad and the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge. We run a 'Stretch and Challenge' Club for students to pursue their studies to the highest level.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

The choice of further study is vast, e.g. medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, biochemistry, pharmacology, biological sciences, microbiology, psychology, nursing, physiotherapy, speech therapy, forensic science and many more. Chemistry degrees are well respected for general graduate careers and PhD studies.



CASE STUDY – CHARVI, YEAR 13

Why I chose Chemistry...

"I chose Chemistry as it was one of my favourite subjects since Y7. I wanted to develop my problem solving and research skills, which chemistry has allowed me to do."

What I like best about the course...

"I really enjoy the practical aspects of the course, both on the physical and organic side, such as making esters using equipment I've never used before. I also love how the teachers make the lessons very interactive and fun, beyond just learning the content."

Where I hope it will take me...

"I am applying for Pharmacy at university and Chemistry has a strong presence in the course. It also allows me to integrate the research skills I have gained during my chemistry studies."

COMPUTER SCIENCE

EXAM BOARD OCR

WHY STUDY COMPUTER SCIENCE?

Advances in computing are continually transforming the way we learn, work and live. A Level Computer Science is relevant, valuable and interesting. The course focuses on the knowledge, skills and understanding that students need to progress to higher education or to thrive in an IT environment. One can study Computing and go on to a career in medicine, law, business, politics or any type of engineering or science. A Level Computer Science features as a useful A Level subject in the Russell Group's 'Informed Choices', for many scientific and engineering degrees.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the OCR Computer Science (H446) fully linear course, with assessment being at the end of two years made up of two exams and a project.

The main areas covered are:

Computer systems – looking at characteristics of contemporary processors, input, output and storage devices; software and software development; exchanging data between systems; data types, data structures and algorithms and consider legal, moral, cultural and ethical issues.

Programming – looking at elements of computational thinking, problem solving, programming constructs, standard algorithms and how to use algorithms to solve problems. While we will learn using C#, the exams do not require the use of any particular programming language, focussing on the understanding of principles instead. The emphasis is on computational thinking. This requires abstraction and decomposition. The study of computation is about what can be computed and how to compute it. Computer Science involves questions that have the potential to change how we view the world.

The final project will enable you to develop your interests in the world of Computer Science in any direction you like, while having the opportunity to apply the skills learnt in class and go beyond the curriculum to enhance your skills and understanding. This can be completed using any programming language allowing you to develop and hone skills in most mainstream languages.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

Computer Science can open most doors. The skills you learn demonstrate your ability to think analytically, critically and logically. Careers reach from research and development into new technologies, to data efficiency and environmental improvements. At management level, having the ability to mediate between clients and technical teams is highly desirable.

DO I HAVE TO HAVE GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE?

No, but you should have a grade 7 or above in Maths and be willing to work hard at the start to learn the basics of programming and theory that were already covered.



CASE STUDY – LOUISA

Why I chose Computer Science...

“The subject fulfils my curiosity about how computers work and provide us with lots of convenient and usable tools. The theories behind computers are always fascinating, from their architecture with the CPU to the abstract ideas of data structures such as queues and databases. I gained a deeper understanding by learning the basics in computer science and in new technologies and developed a strong interest in areas such as AI, machine learning and IoT (Internet of Things).”

“It felt like a relief from my other GCSE subjects, and while A Level is certainly much more challenging, the pace and atmosphere is definitely enjoyable, which still getting through the necessary content, which is a good mix of theoretical and practical. I've really enjoyed the programming aspects, both learning algorithms and writing them. While the NEA is a massive undertaking, especially for only 20% of the grade, it's invaluable experience as it drastically develops your ability to both tackle projects and also your breadth of coding abilities. I have absolutely loved programming it, as I am writing code to generate chords for a melody. It's really great that you can bring in extracurricular interests and passions to the project. I'd recommend computer science to anyone who finds it enjoyable.”

DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES

EXAM BOARD AQA

WHY STUDY DRAMA?

As Shakespeare so eloquently writes, 'All the world is a stage, and all the men and women merely players.' Drama and Theatre Studies is an exciting, practical and academic course that allows you to get the key communication skills needed to succeed in life. Through exploration of playwrights, practitioners and genres pupils will work as a production company to produce interesting and innovative interpretations of key plays.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the AQA Drama fully linear course, with assessment being broken into 3 components:

Component 1: Interpreting Drama: Written Exam:

- Two set texts which will be practically explored. One text will be pre 20th century and the second text will be post 20th century. The set text questions are open book.
- A production explored practically and seen live.

Component 2: Creating Original Drama:

- This a devised unit of work in which a completely original piece of theatre is created. This is influenced by one theatre practitioner.
- A working notebook will be kept and assessed.

Component 3: Making Theatre:

- A practical exploration of three chosen plays. The third extract will be performed to an external examiner.

You will develop:

- The practical skills of voice and body language
- Understanding of key theory
- Analytical and evaluation skills
- Performance and rehearsal techniques
- Production elements

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

The choice of further study is vast, e.g. medicine, law, teaching, stage craft, production, acting, costume design, sound production – the list is endless.



CASE STUDY

– LAUREN, YEAR 13

Why I chose Drama...

"I chose Drama A Level because of my longstanding passion for live theatre and Drama has allowed me to explore the art form in depth. It has provided a safe space to develop and stretch my out of the box thinking due to the freedom we are given in the creative process. The different, more hands-on learning style provides welcome variety to my other subjects (Politics and Psychology) keeping me engaged and excited about my A Level studies. The Drama department is a really tight-knit community and I have made so many lasting friends through it who makes me excited to come to every lesson!!"

What I like best about the course...

"Drama A Level is steps up from GCSE, encouraging greater independence and creative liberty when devising theatre. I also love that you explore all aspects of theatre in greater depth giving you a more holistic appreciation of the art form. The course is very varied meaning you develop a range of skills especially written and verbal communication which has been vital for me in sixth form life. The teachers are absolutely rooting for you and do everything they can to help you excel to the best of your abilities. Overall we genuinely have a great time in lessons."

Where I hope it will take me...

"Drama has been an extremely beneficial subject for gaining skills applicable to any degree. I'm aiming to pursue Education at university and I am particularly drawn to a course which has modules about how theatre can be used in education. After this I hope to work in the theatre industry as studying Drama at Nonsuch has instilled a great passion for theatre within me which I wish to pursue further."

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY: PRODUCT DESIGN

EXAM BOARD AQA

WHY STUDY PRODUCT DESIGN?

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 engineering and creative industries. They will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put their learning into practice by producing prototypes of their choice. 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.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the AQA Design and Technology: Product Design full linear course. Areas that will be studied include:

- Technical principles
- Designing and making principles
- Practical application of technical principles, designing and making principles.

Students are encouraged to be open to taking risks, showing innovation and enterprise whilst considering their role as responsible designers and citizens.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

The choice of further study is vast. You could study a BA, BEng or BSc in areas like engineering, architecture, designing and manufacturing, STEM, as well as careers in the creative industries.

Design and Technology compliments other A Level subjects including Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Computer Science and Art.

Design and Technology is a great subject to study for jobs that require problem solving and practical skills and demand for people in these work areas is growing.

Any career in the creative or scientific industries including;

- Design
- Engineering
- Architecture
- Business



CASE STUDY – NSHIRA, TANYA, GABBY, SHAKTHI, NETHRA AND VAISHARA

Why I chose Product Design...

“I chose Product Design as I enjoy the creative freedom in these lessons compared to other subjects.”

“DT gives you space to put your creative mind into practice. It has helped me to use modelling effectively and design iteratively.”

“I enjoyed Product Design at GCSE and wanted to develop my knowledge further. I like the creative aspects that the subject brings.”

What I like best about the course...

“I like the theory best as I enjoyed learning about materials and how products are manufactured.”

“I like the NEA side to product design best, as it lets me create my own products.”

Where I hope it will take me...

“I am hoping to pursue a career in architectural engineering.”

“DT allows me to explore and improve my creative and problem-solving skills which will help me in the future when studying Architecture at university.”

ECONOMICS

EXAM BOARD EDEXCEL (PEARSON)

WHY STUDY ECONOMICS?

Economics is about choice and the impact of our choices on each other. It relates to every aspect of our lives, from the decisions we make as individuals or families to the structures created by governments and firms. The economic way of thinking can help us make better choices.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the Edexcel Economics linear course, with assessment being on a terminal exam at the end of two years. We study the following topics:

Markets and market behaviour

- Economic methodology and the economic problem
- Individual economic decision making
- Price determination in a competitive market
- Production, costs and revenue
- Perfect competition, imperfectly competitive markets and monopoly
- The labour market
- The distribution of income and wealth: poverty and inequality
- The market mechanism, market failure and government intervention in markets

The national and international economy

- The measurement of macroeconomic performance
- How the macro-economy works: the circular flow of income, AD/AS analysis, and related concepts
- Economic performance
- Financial markets and monetary policy
- Fiscal policy and supply-side policies
- The international economy

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

The majority of students gain access to university normally taking an Economics or Business related degree. A number have gone into careers in commerce, banking and financial service industries and working for the Government.



CASE STUDY – DHRITI, YEAR 13

Why I chose Economics...

“Read any newspaper and you will have no shortage of economic issues and questions, that’s why I wanted to study Economics.”

What I like best about the course...

“Economics is the only social science awarded the Nobel Prize. Economics is a rich intellectual tradition, and the economic way of thinking gives you a distinct voice in the choices faced by society.”

Where I hope it will take me...

“As well as Economics I study Government and Politics and Mathematics. At university I want to read Economics and Management.”

ENGLISH LITERATURE

EXAM BOARD AQA

WHY STUDY ENGLISH LITERATURE?

English Literature is a gift for the rest of your life. The texts you study and characters you meet stay with you, even change you. Like GCSE, it invites you into the mind of the writer by discussing and interpreting why words or phrases are used and developed and how texts are shaped by their contexts. Unlike GCSE, the focus is more on argument and interpretation and so almost all exams are open book. An A Level in English Literature sharpens your skills to construct and develop precise and persuasive arguments within a well-built and cogent essay and within your life.

It is an excellent foundation subject for a variety of degrees including Law, History, History of Art, Philosophy and Theatre Studies. English is a particularly popular degree for those intending to work in publishing, journalism, television, advertising or teaching, or those who intend to take a Law conversion course after their first degree. Effectively, it is an excellent preparation for the high level communication skills that all school leavers need to succeed in the 21st century.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the AQA English Literature Specification A fully linear course, with there being a terminal exam at the end of two years. The following units will be completed:

Paper One – Love Through the Ages

- Section A – Shakespeare: one passage-based question with linked essay
- Section B – Unseen poetry: compulsory essay comparing two unseen poems
- Section C – Comparing texts: one question linking two set texts (one of which must be pre-1900) – clean copies of texts can be taken into the examination

Paper Two – Texts in Shared Times Option 2B Modern Times: Literature from 1945 to Present Day

- Section A – Set text: one essay question on set text
- Section B – Contextual linking: one question on unseen extract, one question linking the remaining set texts

Non-Exam Assessment – Independent Critical Study: Texts Across Time

- Coursework essay of 2500 words comparing two texts of your choice (one must be pre-1900)

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

The study of English Literature at A Level will equip you with a wide range of skills that can be applied to all disciplines and occupations later on. It is very highly regarded by universities and employers because of the rigour and complexity of the skills and knowledge that the subject demands.



CASE STUDY – ELLA

Why I chose English Literature...

“I always loved English Literature while studying it at GCSE and enjoyed looking at different interpretations of language choices and analysing the meaning within different contexts. I enjoyed that there was a historical element to the study as well as the range of literary texts and genres explored.”

What I like best about the course...

“I enjoy being able to choose my own texts to analyse for the NEA part of the course. I also really love the discussions and debates, as there is never a wrong answer and it’s always interesting to learn about other people’s interpretations. I love this aspect so much that I help run both LitSoc and Book Club to continue the discussion outside the classroom with a wider range of works. I also love being introduced to new novels that I may not have considered reading before they’re suggested in class!”

Where I hope it will take me...

“I am hoping to study Law at University and English is a great foundation for the essay writing and analytical skills needed to study Law. It is also really great in developing your sense of structuring a balanced argument when comparing two pieces of literature. Having an essay-based A Level is also really helpful when it comes to writing your personal statement!”

FRENCH

EXAM BOARD PEARSON

WHY STUDY FRENCH?

By studying A Level French you will develop a lasting appreciation of the French language, the ability to comprehend the language in a wide range of contexts, the ability to communicate readily in French for a variety of purposes, useful knowledge of and insights into the culture of France and the French-speaking world and valuable skills for foreign travel, further education and employment.

Over 220 million people around the world speak French. French is the official language in 29 countries which puts it in second place behind English.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the Pearson French course, with assessment being on a terminal exam at the end of two years. We study the following topics:

- The evolution of French society
- Culture in the French-speaking world
- Immigration and the French multicultural society
- The National Front
- The Second World War
- Film: Les Choristes
- Text: Un Sac De Billes

All A Level students, In addition to normal lessons, will also have the chance to have individual lessons with our French assistant.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

The course will give you a good foundation for further study in higher education. French is in demand in a wide variety of professions including banking, international trade and commerce, import and export, tourism, foreign office, diplomatic corps, teaching, translating, interpreting and many more.



CASE STUDY

– HELENA

Why I chose French...

“I really enjoyed it at GCSE and because I think being able to speak multiple languages is an important skill in the current world and French is a widespread language.”

What I like best about the course...

“I like the variety of the A Level course. We looked at so many contemporary aspects of French society as well as historical aspects. I am also enjoying the study of the film and the book.”

Where I hope it will take me...

“I hope to study French along with other modern foreign languages at university which will include studying and working abroad in a Francophone country.”

GEOGRAPHY

EXAM BOARD AQA

WHY STUDY GEOGRAPHY?

Geography is a dynamic and highly relevant subject. Geography is appearing daily on our news screens, with links to the impacts of climate change, how we should reduce our carbon emissions, how to best tackle plastic pollution, managing migration, dealing with global pandemics, how to manage and respond to natural disasters, seemingly increasing extreme weather events, sustainability, trade and the economy, geopolitics and geopolitical relationships – learning about Geography has never been more important!

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

AQA Geography is a fully linear course, with two exam papers sat at the end of Year 13. We study the following topics:

Paper 1: Physical: (40%)

- Water and Carbon Cycle
- Coastal Systems and Landscapes
- Hazards

Paper 2: Human: (40%)

- Contemporary Urban Environments
- Changing Places
- Global Systems and Global Governance

NEA - Non-Examined Assessment (20%)

- Students complete an individual independent fieldwork investigation based on a question or issue relating to any part of the specification content that they are interested in.
- They must collect primary data as part of this investigation, so students have to complete 4 days of fieldwork as part of the course.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

Students have gone to study Geography at a range of universities – Oxford, Cambridge, Durham and Southampton to name a few, with courses focusing just on human Geography (BA) or physical Geography (BSc) as well environmental science, oceanography, international development and geopolitics.

Geography graduates can progress on to a wide range of careers, including finance, commerce and business, local and national government, international relations and development, urban planning, teaching, meteorology, conservation, flooding, renewable energy and journalism!



CASE STUDY
– DAISY,
CURRENT YEAR 12

Why I chose Geography...

“I chose A Level Geography, because as well as it being very interesting to me at GCSE, it also allows me to broaden my understanding of the world. Whenever I look at the news, I feel that geography is so connected to all the stories, whether it’s climate change or natural disasters or politics. This allows me to see what I’m learning on a worldwide scale and understand the importance and relevance of it.”



CASE STUDY
– SARAH,
CURRENT YEAR 12

Why I chose Geography...

“I chose geography as one of my A Level subjects because I found it a fascinating subject during my GCSEs. The wide range of topics covered means that my knowledge about the world is ever-growing. Moreover, human geography ties very closely with economics, allowing me to make links quickly and enforcing my arguments with more evidence during discussions. On the other hand, physical geography draws scientific processes into understanding the development of natural phenomenon.”

GERMAN

EXAM BOARD PEARSON

WHY STUDY GERMAN?

By studying A Level German you will develop a lasting appreciation of the German language, the ability to understand and communicate in German and useful knowledge of and insights into the culture of Germany and the German-speaking world.

Germany today is the political, economic, artistic and intellectual powerhouse of Europe and the European Union. Knowledge of the mother tongue of over 100 million people, (German has the largest number of native speakers in the European Union, more than English, Spanish or French) has never been more important for governments, businesses and private citizens, and students of German are therefore consistently amongst the most sought-after graduates for major employers.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the Pearson German course, with assessment being on a terminal exam at the end of two years. We study the following topics:

- The evolution of German society
- Culture in the German-speaking world
- Immigration and the German multi-cultural society
- East-German society pre-unification
- The Reunification of Germany
- Text: Das Leben der Anderen
- Film: Andorra by Max Frisch

All A Level students are encouraged to take part in a trip to Cologne. In addition to normal lessons, you will also have individual lessons with our German assistant.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

The course will give you a good foundation for further study in higher education. German is recognised by universities as a facilitating subject and is in demand in a wide variety of professions including banking, import and export, foreign office, diplomatic corps, international trade and commerce, law, tourism, teaching, translating, interpreting and many more.



CASE STUDY – JAYANI, YEAR 12

Why I chose German...

"I chose to study German as I had really enjoyed the subject at GCSE and wished to develop my skills in the hope of being able to communicate in German fluently and widen my knowledge on the culture and history of Germany."

What I like best about the course...

"I love that the course not only teaches you a new language but opens doors to culture and diversity and broadens your knowledge worldwide. Also, being a Politics student, I am particularly enjoying learning about the political system of a different country. Through keeping up with German news I am able to compare how different parts of the world are tackling the trending challenges such as dealing with the climate change crisis."

Where I hope it will take me...

"I intend to study Law with German law at University and am hopeful that my new outlook through learning a language will equip me with a more objective perspective of people, and that I will gain invaluable communication and comprehension skills."

GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

EXAM BOARD EDEXCEL

WHY STUDY GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS?

The world is in a state of turmoil. Megalomaniacs and egotistic have seized power and are set about dismantling everything we have always thought sacred. Young women of Nonsuch, it's time to take back control, it's time to make politics great again!

Study politics, find out about the systems and the people that govern us, evaluate the ideologies available and then determine to set the future course of British political history yourself.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

In Year 12 you will study British Politics, examining the systems of government, the people in power, and the nature of democracy that exists here.

In Year 13 you will focus on American Politics and examine the controversies and debates that surround their political system.

Over both years you will study the major political ideologies that exist, conservatism, liberalism and socialism as well as a specific focus on feminism.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

Politics doesn't close doors, nor does it mean you are destined for a career as a politician. Employers respect the academic nature of politics as an A Level or degree level subject as it identifies strong minded, culturally aware and analytically minded individuals. Russell Group universities want more than just grades. They want to find students who are aware of the world, who have opinions and can discuss the matters of the day and nothing will better prepare you for an interview at a Russell Group university than a good understanding of politics.

In the longer term politics can open up many employment opportunities. However, a large number of politics students have gone to work as journalists, bankers, public relations officers, civil servants and in a wide range of roles for multi-national organisation and charities.



CASE STUDY – SAMAR, YEAR 13

Why I chose Politics...

"I have always kept up with politics and it has always been something I have found very interesting; however, I never had the chance to explore it in depth.

I chose to study it at A Level to contextualize the events I was seeing not only on the news but also the information I was seeing on social media, and to further develop and challenge my own existing opinions."

What I like best about the course...

"I really enjoy the discussions we have in class, these first and foremost help me consolidate what we have learnt, but also have given me the chance to develop my communication and listening skills. Since starting the course, I have noticed I feel much more confident getting explaining my views in tutorial discussions, in clubs and in everyday conversations."

"My politics lessons are my favourite classes and it's honestly my favourite A Level, we have quite good fun whilst learning. My classmates and I can take on different opinions and learn from each other when discussing real world problems.

I find that we have increasingly been continuing our debates outside of classes too! I am looking forward to starting US politics as well!"

Where I hope it will take me...

"Having an understanding of politics is absolutely vital to understanding the world we live in and the people we live in it with. Although I am not pursuing politics at higher education, I will always carry what I have learnt from this course with me. I hope to maintain a habit of grounding my medical studies in the relevant political context and I know that the greater understanding of the world and politics has helped me in curating a stronger application to study medicine at university."

HISTORY

EXAM BOARD OCR

WHY STUDY HISTORY?

History is about people. It is the study of the past through compelling stories that tell us about the ideas and events that have been and are destined to be repeated. It will sharpen your ability to think critically, to consider options and make judgements that are based on facts and not opinion. Moreover, history opens doors to future employment. It doesn't shoehorn you down one career path at the end of A Level but instead opens up a multitude of possibilities to be explored.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the OCR History course, with assessment being based on three exams at the end of year 13. We study the following topics:

- **Britain 1930-1997:** In this unit we look at the political, social and economic history of Britain in the twentieth century. Students will study the life of Winston Churchill in detail, particularly focusing on his actions as Prime Minister during WW2.
- **Democracy and Dictatorship in Germany, 1918-1963:** In this unit students will learn about the creation and subsequent collapse of democracy in Germany in the years immediately following WW1. The course will then chart the rise of the Nazi Party until their demise at the end of WW2. Finally, the course will examine the reintroduction of democracy following the war.
- **The Tudors 1485-1603:** In this unit students will examine the reign of England's most famous royal dynasty. Our course will consider how they seize the throne in battle and plot the seismic religious, economic and cultural changes that occurred during their reign, whilst examining the continuous threats to their throne from both home and abroad.
- **Coursework:** – Students will be allowed to pursue a coursework option of their choosing.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

History doesn't close doors. Employers respect the academic and critical nature of a history degree and historians can enter virtually any employment that they choose, from lawyers, bankers and civil servants to accountants, investors and politicians. Studying History at A Level and beyond provides you the opportunity to enter virtually any career and gives you the option and time to make an informed choice as to what that career will be.



CASE STUDY – ARSHIKA

Why I chose History...

"I chose to study history because it challenges me to question the typical view on past events and form my own judgement through debates with my peers. I am also able to widen my understanding of a variety of other subjects such as British politics and international economics which not only contributes to my understanding of history but also the world around me. Despite history focusing on the past, it is fascinating to be able to draw similarities between our society and historic events and see the impact that the past made on current life. The units that are covered at A Level cover a range of both modern history (20th century Britain & Weimar and Nazi Germany) and 16th century history (Tudor rebellions) providing me with an extensive insight into the subject and a deeper understanding of other topics."

What I like best about the course...

"My favourite aspect of studying history is the ability to form my own perspective built on the lessons covered for each topic. Studying history independently through my NEA (coursework) has been incredibly academically stimulating as I have the opportunity to develop my interest in South Asian history by exploring the British empire in India. The history department has helped me throughout this process by providing me with resources and meetings with teachers one to one to enhance my knowledge of the subject. I also enjoy the lessons about Tudor Rebellions as the lessons are organised in a way that makes the content more manageable and allows for more discussion. I am able to form closer bonds to my peers in this way and both learn from my teachers and my friends' perspectives."

Where I hope it will take me...

"In the future I hope to be a lawyer and studying history has not only developed key skills that I would require as a lawyer such as critically examining sources, but it also allowed me to witness key changes to the law. Whilst I was studying Britain in the 1960s, I learnt about the implementation of the race relations act which still remains a monumental piece of legislation today. This is just one example of how studying history has allowed me to identify points of interest within the law and consolidate a more thorough understanding of the degree I hope to pursue at university. History also featured as one of the most common subjects taken to pursue law, due to it being facilitating and the depth of study you undertake at A Level. Its precise nature is often compared and likened to that of law and so pursuing this subject has given me the time to develop the skills that I will need in the future."

LATIN

EXAM BOARD OCR

WHY STUDY LATIN?

Latin gives you direct access to the founding texts of European – ‘Western’ – culture. From the Roman Empire through the European Middle Ages to the Renaissance and Enlightenment, Latin was language of high literature, international diplomacy and scholarship. Most sophisticated and technical English vocabulary is Latin-based, so your linguistic knowledge and analytical skills will help you to explore and express ideas precisely and forcefully in any discipline.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

Students pursue a course of parallel language and literature study. In Language, we progress through graduated grammar, translation of verse and prose passages, and translation into Latin (“prose composition”). We use the official language textbook supported by a range of board-endorsed complementary textbooks.

By Year 13 the language course proceeds to regular translation of sophisticated, unadapted Latin prose and verse authors, and composition into sophisticated stylish Latin prose. All of this is underpinned by rigorous vocabulary building.

At the same time, with their other teacher, students study Literary Texts. Students combine close critical reading with wider academic research based on undergraduate commentaries and articles. For examination in 2026:

- Cicero, *Pro Caelio*, - Defence against charges of political violence and murder.
- Tacitus, *Annals of Rome*, 12-14 – The rise of Nero and his murder of his own mother!
- Virgil *Aeneid II* – Trojan Hero Aeneas recounts Troy’s fall (Wooden Horse!).
- Juvenal, *Satires* (selected) – Biting critique of life in Imperial Rome.

There will be many opportunities beyond and around study: essay and translation competitions; local lecture visits; museum / play trips.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

Latin supports University study across the Humanities: Modern Languages, History, Archaeology, Philosophy, English, Law and Politics. Indeed, any degree subject requiring rigorous research and essay-writing will benefit from Latin A Level skills. It nurtures precise and logical textual analysis and sophisticated expression. Such transferable skills are highly sought-after job sectors from business consultancy to media production.



CASE STUDY – PHOEBE, YEAR 13

Why I chose Latin...

“I chose Latin because I found it enjoyable at GCSE and loved translating new and interesting stories. The literature sounded fascinating to me and I wanted to gain a deeper understanding of the language and knew it would help with learning other languages.”

What I like best about the course...

“I love the smaller class size as it means we can work through material at our own pace and gain a more in-depth understanding. All the texts and passages we study are engaging and exciting and the classes are NEVER boring.”

How I think it will benefit me...

“The essay structure has helped me in all my other subjects, and the small class size is similar to the tutorial/supervisions at Oxbridge and has given me transferable skills for interviews for my head girl role and for Oxford applications. The analytical study of the language is useful for solving all kinds of problems, even in STEM subjects, and provides a fundamental understanding of language.”

MATHEMATICS

EXAM BOARD EDEXCEL (PEARSON)

WHY STUDY MATHEMATICS?

Mathematics is a rigorous and challenging subject to choose at A Level and is a strong addition to any university or job application. Over the duration of the two-year course, you will encounter familiar topics from GCSE that are extended naturally as well as brand new topics such as calculus and logarithms that are crucial to the study of advanced mathematics. The qualities of a successful A Level Maths student are an inquisitiveness to learn in more depth about the subject as well as the drive to challenge themselves to develop a higher level of problem-solving ability that is required at this level.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the Edexcel specification. There are three terminal examinations at the end of Year 13. Two of them are based around Pure Mathematics with the third examination being a combined Mechanics and Statistics course. Some of the topics over the course of the two years will include:

- Calculus – Differentiation and Integration
- Logarithms
- Vectors
- Trigonometry
- The Laws of Motion
- The Normal Distribution

Students will require a new calculator for this course. The recommended model is the Casio Classwiz FX-991 EX which is available at many online retailers.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

A Level Mathematics forms a pivotal part of an application for many different university courses. Whilst an obvious requirement for admission to Mathematics degree programmes, a Mathematics A Level also forms a critical part for admissions to degree courses such as Engineering, Physics and Economics.



CASE STUDY – OHEMAA AND TAYBAH

Why I chose Mathematics...

Ohemaa: “I chose Maths because I felt like I wanted to further pursue some of the enjoyable topics that I studied at GCSE to a higher level. I enjoyed the challenges that some of the more advanced problems presented me with and felt like I wished to develop this skill set further.”

Taybah: “Of all the subjects that I have studied, the ‘buzz’ of getting the correct answer was something that Mathematics could provide like no other subject.”

What I like best about the course...

Ohemaa: “I enjoy the extension of the topics at GCSE that I have studied. It has been satisfying seeing how these topics branch into more advanced mathematics.”

Taybah: “The study of calculus I have found fascinating as a new concept and how it applies to optimisation problems.”

Where I hope it will take me...

Ohemaa: “I am considering a science based degree course and I know it will compliment my study.”

Taybah: “I am pleased to study A Level Mathematics as I know it will be helpful on any future application for a job.”

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

EXAM BOARD EDEXCEL (PEARSON)

WHY STUDY

FURTHER MATHEMATICS?

Further Mathematics is a separate qualification to Mathematics A Level and involves studying other areas of mathematics that are more challenging than the normal Maths A Level. This qualification is designed for students for whom mathematics is unquestionably one of their favourite subjects and a subject for which students have a high level of natural ability at and a consistent track record of high performance throughout their school life.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the Edexcel specification. There are four terminal examinations at the end of Year 13. Two of the papers will be in Further Pure Mathematics, one will be in Further Statistics and one will be in Further Mechanics. Some of the topics covered include:

- Complex Numbers
- Matrices
- Hyperbolic Functions
- Trigonometry
- Central Limit Theorem
- The Normal Distribution
- Momentum and Impulse

Further Mathematics requires a substantial amount of independent study that should not be underestimated by potential students.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

A Level Further Mathematics forms a pivotal part of an application for many different university courses. Further Maths is a requirement for Mathematics degree courses at some leading universities. It is also a highly prized qualification for degree courses such as Engineering, Physics and Mathematics.



CASE STUDY

– NAYANI

Why We chose Further Mathematics

“I chose Further Maths as maths has always been my favourite subject at school. I knew that I would relish an additional challenge that Further Maths would give me.”

What I like best about the course...

“I enjoy learning the new topics that Further Maths presents such as Complex Numbers and Matrices. The pace of the learning is quick, but I am finding that the class collaboratively works together really well in a highly academic atmosphere.”

Where I hope it will take me...

“Further Maths is providing a boost to my university application as some courses specify it as a requirement. I am beginning to think about approaching higher level problems from a variety of different approaches and I feel that this will serve me well at university level study.”

MUSIC

EXAM BOARD EDEXCEL (PEARSON)

WHY STUDY MUSIC?

Music is a challenging subject to study, the value of which is recognised by all highly academic universities, particularly Oxbridge and the Russell Group. It develops a range of cross-curricular skills, including in-depth critical analysis, creativity, dedication and collaboration. Music works well in combination with many different subjects – it is often favoured as a creative option amongst Sciences/Maths, but also compliments other artistic and humanities subjects such as English, History, Languages etc.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the Edexcel Music A Level course, with final assessment occurring at the end of the two-year period. The course consists of:

- Performing – solo skills (Assessment Objective 1)
- Composing – composing music and learning about harmony (Assessment Objective 2)
- Appraising – developing aural and analytical skills through the study of 13 set works (Assessment Objective 3 & 4)

All components are externally assessed.

It is a requirement that all A Level students participate in the school's extensive extra-curricular music schedule and undertake peripatetic instrumental lessons outside of the school classroom in their first-study instrument.

Students must also have grade 7 or above in GCSE/IGCSE Music and at least Grade 6 in their first-study instrument. It is preferential for students to have also achieved their Grade 5 Theory exam.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

Of students graduating with a Music degree, 50% go on to careers in completely unrelated fields: science, IT, welfare, business, administration or public service; 25% become teaching or education professionals, and 25% find employment in artistic, literary and media occupations.



CASE STUDY – HAZEL

Why I chose Music...

"I chose music A Level as I enjoyed GCSE and love learning more about a variety of styles and genres. I also play numerous instruments and the ability to incorporate this practical skill into an A Level appealed to me."

What I liked best about the course...

"It has given me a more rounded view of music as a whole as well as the different cultures behind the pieces. From Baroque to the Beatles, it has broadened my musical horizons."

Where I hope it will take me...

"While I am not taking music as a degree, I hope to continue playing music in ensembles at university, and throughout my life. It has given perseverance and determination which I will carry through to my further studies."

PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS

(RELIGIOUS STUDIES)

EXAM BOARD OCR

WHY STUDY PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS?

It is fascinating and enlightening! Not only will you develop a deeper knowledge and understanding of a key world faith, philosophy and ethics but you will also gain many valuable transferable skills along the way. It gives the opportunity to explore some of the biggest issues that have ever challenged humanity in the search for truth, justice and meaning. The course is excellent for developing clear, concise, thinking skills with incisive analysis and evaluation. In the world of work, employers look for someone with an enquiring mind, an appreciation of different viewpoints and an ability to come to clear, balanced decisions. These skills are emphasised and developed throughout the course.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the OCR fully linear course, with assessment being on a terminal exam at the end of two years. We study three broad areas:

Philosophy – a variety of fascinating topics, including the nature of the mind, body and soul, the thinking of ancient Greek philosophers, arguments for and against the existence of God, and whether we can truly claim to know anything.

Ethics – Ethical arguments about different ways to know if actions are right or wrong, such as Natural Moral Law, Situation Ethics and the ideas of Kant. You will also apply ethical theories to real world issues such as euthanasia.

Developments in Christian Thought – topics including the self, human nature, death and the afterlife, gender and sexuality and expressions of religious identity. It is a very thought-provoking subject with excellent opportunities for debate.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

Philosophy & Ethics is a valuable entry qualification to higher education opportunities. All universities regard Philosophy & Ethics as an academic subject and accept and welcome students with this qualification onto a variety of courses. A qualification in Philosophy & Ethics is considered an asset in many careers particularly those involving working with people e.g. journalism, politics, law, teaching, medicine and publishing.



CASE STUDY

– GIFT

Why I chose Philosophy & Ethics...

“I chose Philosophy and Ethics to be able to debate widely accepted philosophical ideas (e.g., the existence of the soul) and analyse different views on morality. I find Philosophy and Ethics unique in the critical evaluative skills it offers, both for essay writing and discussion, having to consider counterarguments to your perspective – and I feel that my confidence in articulating myself has improved as a result.”

What I like best about the course...

“I like that current events can be interwoven to develop my understanding of the course – both learning and applying theory, such as Business Ethics and considering the real impacts this has on society. I love reading about new scholars (whether I agree with them or not!) and defending or criticising their ideas in class discussions – best of all I like how opinion can vary from one lesson to the next.”

Where I hope it will take me...

“I am pursuing Pharmacy at University, with a particular interest in Hospital Pharmacy, where an understanding of (medical) ethics, such as euthanasia will be largely beneficial. Philosophy and Ethics has provided me with the skills to consider alternative views, communicate effectively and empathise with others – all valuable and transferable to wider life.”

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

EXAM BOARD AQA

WHY STUDY PE?

The A Level PE course is very broad; it covers topics such as anatomy and physiology, as well as sports psychology and sports technology. Students who study A Level PE find it to be an interesting and engaging course providing insight and information about both past and modern-day sporting issues/ideas around elite sport performance as well as many physiological and psychological concepts. The course lends itself well to careers in medical related fields due to the large physiological component, as well as many other diverse careers including sports media, sports coaching and Physical Education teaching.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

Theory

This is a linear A Level with two exams undertaken at the end of Year 13. The theoretical content is worth 70% of your final A Level grade and is comprised of the following topics:

Paper 1:

Section A: Applied anatomy and physiology

Section B: Skill acquisition

Section C: Sport and society

Paper 2:

Section A: Exercise physiology and biomechanics

Section B: Sport psychology

Section C: Sport and society and technology in sport

Non-Examined Assessment (Practical)

The practical aspect of the course is assessed internally and then moderated externally.

The practical assessment is worth 30% of the total A Level. Students are assessed in one activity in the role of player/performer or coach.

In addition, you will be required to undertake a written or verbal analysis of performance.

Learning involves a variety of methods such as practical work, group work and independent study.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

An advanced level qualification will be useful for students intending to study a sport related course at university. It is also an excellent foundation for students of physiotherapy, medicine, sports science, teaching, coaching, sports development, recreational management and professional sport.



CASE STUDY – CHARLOTTE

Why I chose PE...

“I chose PE because I have always had an interest in sport and really enjoyed studying it at GCSE.”

What I like best about the course...

“The best thing about the course is that it covers so many different aspects of sport. I find learning about how society affects sport the most interesting.”

Where I hope it will take me...

“It has helped me decide on a sports science course at university and its content will hopefully help me to achieve the degree!”

PHYSICS

EXAM BOARD OCR (SPECIFICATION A)

WHY STUDY PHYSICS?

A Level Physics gives you the opportunity to explore the phenomena of the universe and to look at theories that explain what is observed. Being in a highly respected A Level, in physics you will study every part of the universe, from the largest galaxies (and indeed the universe itself), to the very smallest sub-atomic particle. Studying physics also allows you to examine, and understand more clearly, the concepts that underpin many of the other sciences including chemistry, astronomy and engineering.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the OCR Physics A specification as a linear course which comprises of the following units.

- Development of practical skills
- Foundations of physics
- Forces and Motion
- Electrons, waves and photons
- Newtonian world and astrophysics
- Particles and medical physics

With the removal of exams at the end of Year 12, we have taken the opportunity to adapt our teaching orders to make the course of study more dynamic and more appropriate to the level of our students. We have recently renewed and added to our practical facilities and complete practical work as often as possible.

Support is offered in lessons and with a weekly physics club.

You will also have the opportunity to challenge yourself through our Advanced Maths and Physics Club in which we take both subjects well beyond A Level and explore their intrinsic link. All A Level students are encouraged to participate in the Physics Olympiad. Another main highlight is Cern trip to Geneva, Switzerland – very interesting and informative.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

Physicists are always in demand, one of the most sought-after subject at Universities. The choice of further study is vast, not least the study of theoretical Physics, Medical Physics, Astrophysics, engineering, radiography, technical theatre, architecture, Finance, Maths, economics, PhDs, information technologies and many more.



CASE STUDY – SOPHIE, YEAR 13

Why I chose Physics...

“I chose to take physics because it is the subject that offers the most fundamental understanding of the world around us. There are so many different concepts that we study, varying from the small scale of quantum physics to the much larger astrophysics. As someone who is always asking questions, physics is the perfect subject for satisfying my knowledge.”

What I like best about the course...

“I love how we can see the real life applications of physics, where the topics we have covered in class come into play in everyday scenarios. Beyond the syllabus, teachers are always offering supercurricular opportunities to ensure that we can explore physics in new ways, further to what is covered by the syllabus.”

Where I hope it will take me...

“There are many skills that we get to develop in physics, including logical thinking in how to explain your reasoning, organisation for practicals, and maths skills. These are applicable in many different career options and elsewhere in the world beyond sixth form. I plan to study physics at university, for which A Level physics is a foundation to build upon.”

PSYCHOLOGY

EXAM BOARD AQA

WHY STUDY PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology is the science of mind, brain and behaviour. It is a subject at the frontier of scientific discovery and, as researchers gradually reveal the secrets of the human brain and how it relates to behaviour, an understanding of psychology has become important across many areas of employment.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the AQA Psychology fully linear course, with assessment being on 3 terminal exams at the end of two years. We study the following topics:

- | Year 12 | Year 13 |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| • Social Influence | • Eating Behaviour |
| • Attachment | • Cognition & development |
| • Memory | • Aggression |
| • Psychopathology | • Research methods |
| • Biopsychology | • Issues and Debates |
| • Approaches | |

The exams involve a mixture of multiple-choice questions, short and longer answer questions and questions that require students to apply their knowledge to real life scenarios.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

Universities accept A Level Psychology as an excellent foundation for a wide range of degree courses. It is an asset in the health professions, law, teaching, advertising and marketing, human resources, general management, the police and the media. In recent years around a quarter of students have gone on to Psychology degrees at universities such as Oxford, Kings College London, Nottingham, and Southampton. Others have been accepted onto a range of courses including Law, Medicine, Dentistry, Midwifery, Nursing, Architecture, Mathematics, Criminology, Sociology, English Literature, History and Art Foundation.



CASE STUDY – JENNIFER, NITISHA, AND RAOLAT, YEAR 13

Why I chose Psychology...

“I chose Psychology because I am really interested in studying mental health and how it can be affected by many factors over a lifetime.”

“I chose Psychology because the content is really interesting and relatable. I like it because it seemed like the one of the most interesting sciences.”

What I like best about the course...

“The content is genuinely interesting as you are exposed to various topics that sometimes interlink with another subject you are doing which is really helpful.”

“The case studies!!! Learning about the evidence behind the theories.”

“I like how it can be seen in my real life. Some of the studies are very funny which makes them easy to remember.”

Where I hope it will take me...

“I plan to do a Psychology degree with the aim of helping people with learning difficulties, and finding ways to support them further with their education.”

“I hope Psychology will make me a more compassionate individual, with a better understanding of how to treat people. I hope it continues to shape my way of thinking to be more open.”

SPANISH

EXAM BOARD PEARSON

WHY STUDY SPANISH?

By studying A Level Spanish you will develop a lasting appreciation of the Spanish language, the ability to comprehend the language in a wide range of contexts, the ability to communicate readily in Spanish for a variety of purposes, useful knowledge of and insights into the culture of Spain and the Spanish-speaking world and valuable skills for foreign travel, further education and employment.

There are an estimated 437 million native speakers of Spanish in the world, placing it as the second most important language in the world in terms of native speakers.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

We follow the Pearson Spanish course, with assessment being on a terminal exam at the end of two years. We study the following topics:

- The evolution of Spanish society
- Culture in the Spanish-speaking world
- Immigration and the multi-cultural society
- The Spanish Civil War
- Franco's dictatorship and the transition to democracy
- Text: La Casa de Bernarda Alba
- Film: Volver

All A Level students are encouraged to take part in our Year 12 trip, which will be to Malaga for the academic year 2023/24. In addition to normal lessons, you will also have the chance to have individual or small group lessons with our Spanish assistant.

WHERE COULD IT LEAD?

The course will give you a good foundation for further study in higher education. Spanish is in demand in a wide variety of professions including banking, international trade and commerce, import and export, tourism, foreign office, diplomatic corps, teaching, translating, interpreting and many more.



CASE STUDY – CHAITRA

Why I chose Spanish...

"I chose Spanish because I like the idea of being able to communicate with a lot of people. I found it very enjoyable during GCSE, and being able to speak another language has been an interesting skill to learn. I think it will also be beneficial on my application to University and my CV."

What I like best about the course...

"The course covers a range of subjects and combines them, such as Literature, History, Politics, etc. Learning about so many aspects of Spanish Language and Culture has been very interesting, and it was fun to apply this to the Spanish trip to Santander. In Santander I was able to use my learned Spanish skills in conversation and learn more about the culture."

Where I hope it will take me...

"I hope to study Spanish alongside English Literature in order to help me eventually complete a Law conversion course. I think that doing Spanish at Uni will help me with global job opportunities – I'd love to work and live in Spain!"



NONSUCH

HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

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