

Course Guide 2017 - 2018



Welcome

The next two years will be exciting
and important stepping stones
in shaping your future.

This course guide will provide you with valuable information
as you make some very important decisions.

Contact details for the member of staff leading each course are
also included. If you have further questions about the courses
or future opportunities please get in touch.

We look forward to guiding you and advising you
through this formative time and answering any questions
that you might have.



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Choosing your courses

At Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form we pride ourselves in offering personalised programmes of study. You can choose either traditional academic A levels with a flexible Extended Project Qualification or specialist vocational courses. For some students a combination of A levels and vocational courses may be appropriate.

Level 3 courses (A levels, BTECs and CTECs) are two year programmes of study and all students must choose a minimum of 3 courses.

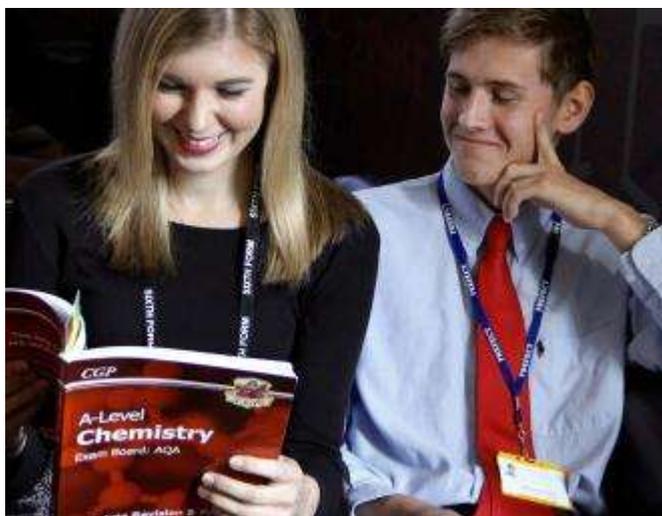
Students wishing to join the Sixth Form must attain a minimum of 5 GCSEs (or equivalent) at grade 4 in Maths and English and if they do not have this minimum entry requirement they must retake those GCSEs during Year 12.

To study a particular subject at A level a grade B (equivalent to a Grade 5) or above must have been achieved at GCSE. If the A level subject was not studied at GCSE then a grade B (or 5) in a related subject will be required.

Course requirements will be discussed with students at their Sixth Form interviews which all prospective students will have to undertake to assess their suitability for their chosen courses. During this interview you and your parents will also be able to ask any other questions you have about the Sixth Form. In their two years of Sixth Form, students will also be encouraged to undertake work placements and complete the Extended Project Qualification. These activities help you develop the necessary skills to operate independently and communicate effectively.

We strongly recommend that you carefully read the course information contained in this guide; that you consider the qualification recommended for your possible chosen career and/or university course and that you discuss your choices with your tutor, teachers and parents.

The award winning careers team in The Careers Hub are also available to provide independent guidance and help you with further research.



UCAS Tariff points explained

UCAS Tariff points are used by some universities and colleges to set their entry requirements and to make offers. Currently, one third of courses in the UCAS search tool have a Tariff entry requirement.

Instead of asking for grades, a university might express the offer as a number of points. To help understand how many points a qualification is worth, UCAS has a tariff calculator that you can use.

For courses starting from September 2017, a new Tariff will be in place. The new Tariff provides a fair and more transparent process of allocating Tariff points across a wider range of qualifications.

What the new points mean to you

- The new UCAS Tariff points should not have any impact on your decisions about qualification choices at school or college, or your preparation for or application to a higher education course.
- You'll still need to achieve the same A level, Scottish Advanced Highers, Scottish Highers, or BTEC grades (or grades in any other qualification you're taking) to meet the higher education course entry requirements.
- All qualifications that are currently on the UCAS Tariff will continue to be allocated points under the new system.
- The new Tariff is based on a different approach, using a qualification's size and grades to calculate total Tariff points.
- The numbers are much lower, for example an A level grade A* gets 56 points under the new Tariff, in comparison to 140 under the current Tariff.
- The AS level is now worth 40% of an A level – this is more accurate according to qualification regulators.
- 2017 entry courses advertised in the UCAS search tool from May 2016 will refer to the new UCAS Tariff points only. Approximately one third of courses on UCAS search currently refer to Tariff points. It is anticipated a number of courses will refer to the new Tariff from September 2017 onwards.



Example of a UCAS Tariff table

Extended Project Qualification	AS Level	A Level	New Tariff points	BTEC Extended Diploma	BTEC Diploma	BTEC Subsidiary Diploma	BTEC Certificate
			168	D*D*D*			
			160	D*D*D			
			152	D*DD			
			144	DDD			
			128	DDM			
			112	DMM	D*D*		
			104		D*D		
			96	MMM	DD		
			80	MMP	DM		
			64	MPP	MM		
		A*	56			D*	
		A	48	PPP	MP	D	
		B	40				
		C	32		PP	M	
A*			28				D*
A		D	24				D
B	A		20				
C	B	E	16			P	M
D	C		12				
	D		10				
E			8				P
	E		6				

A Level University Requirements

The following is a brief summary of A level requirements for different subjects at University influence the choices you make.

Art and design: Specialist Level 3 courses including Art, Textiles, Product Design and Photography.

Architecture: A combination of subjects will be accepted but evidence of design ability is essential. Some universities require one or a combination of Physics, Mathematics and Art.

Chemistry, Biology & Physics: In addition to the subject itself a second Science and Maths are advisable.

Drama: English is usually required in addition to Drama.

Economics & Business Studies: Although neither is required to have been studied at A level it is helpful. Many universities recommend Maths also.

English: Any combination of subjects with English is accepted.

Engineering: Maths, Further Maths and Physics are likely to be required.

Environmental Studies: Science based courses require Chemistry and/or Biology. For issue based courses Politics, Geography and Philosophy are useful.

Geography: This can be combined with any Humanities or Science courses.

History: Advisable to study other essay subjects such as English, Politics and

Law: Most combinations of subjects are acceptable but essay based subjects such as English, History, Philosophy and Politics are recommended.

Mathematics: Biology and Chemistry are essential. A third Science or Maths is desirable. English and Philosophy are also welcomed.

Music: This can be combined with any other subjects.

Nursing: Any combination of subjects but Biology is recommended.

Pharmacy: Chemistry is essential and Biology and Maths are recommended.

Psychology: Psychology A level is not necessary, but desirable, as is at least one Science, often two.

Sports Science: Biology is usually required.

Veterinary Science: Physics, Chemistry and Biology are required.

Philosophy, Theology, Anthropology, Politics or Social Sciences: No specific requirements but a combination of essay based subjects are recommended.

It is important that you complete some research into your possible chosen careers before choosing your Level 3 courses.

The award winning Careers team in The Careers Hub can also help you with this.

Some universities particularly welcome applications from students who have studied two or more facilitating subjects. These facilitating subjects are Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Geography, History, English Literature and Classical or Modern Languages.

It is also worth considering that many careers such as Accountancy, Advertising, Banking, Civil Service, Computing, Journalism, Publishing, Telecommunication, TV, Film and Radio can be entered into via apprenticeships, A levels or after completion of a non-specific degree.

A Level



Art & Design

A Level

Examination Board: AQA

Specification: 7241/C, 7241/X

Course Leader: Mr E Clark

Contact Email: eclark@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

A Level Art and Design explores many of the techniques, processes and concepts behind traditional and contemporary Art. It gives students a range of skills, the ability to think in depth about the concepts and ideas underpinning great Art and a critical approach towards the presentation and quality of their own.

During year 12 students develop their ability to use materials, techniques and processes through intense experimentation, guided by in depth research into historical and contemporary starting points.

In the second half of year 12 and the first term of year 13, students complete a 'Personal Investigation' component in which they apply the skills they have developed through an independently designed project which combines practical and written elements. In year 13 the students complete an externally set (exam) project which comprises 40% of the overall assessment.

Entry Requirements

Students require a Grade B or above in GCSE Art and Design.

Assessment

Formative assessment takes place throughout the course with feedback, group critiques and learning conversations used to drive progress. The exam takes place at the end of the second year and is externally moderated by AQA.

Where Next?

A Level Art and Design can be used as a bridge to FE courses such as ND, HND or Foundation Art and Design or HE courses such as degrees in various disciplines of Art, such as fine art, illustration and so forth. It is also an excellent grounding in practical skills which can lead to work based learning and internships.

Biology

A Level

Examination Board: AQA

Specification: 7401 (AS), 7402 (A2)

Course Leader: Mrs A Bevan-Smith

Contact Email: abevan-smith@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

Biology is the natural science concerned with the study of living organisms, ranging from the simplest life forms to the complex systems operating in higher animals, including humans. An understanding of Biology will provide a platform from which to evaluate the effects of a range of factors, both natural and man-made, on the living organisms in our world.

- Biological molecules
- Cells
- Organisms exchange substances with their environment
- Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms
- Energy transfers in and between organisms
- Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
- Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
- The control of gene expression

Entry Requirements

Students should hold a minimum of 2 B Grades in Science at GCSE, one of which must be Biology, as well as a Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics.

Assessment

100% Examination

Students studying A Level Biology will be assessed through three written papers, each 2 hours:

Paper 1 – comprising a mixture of short and long answer questions, with the addition of extended response questions, to a total of 91 marks, and contributing 35% of the A Level

Paper 2 - comprising a mixture of short and long answer questions, with the addition of comprehension questions, to a total of 91 marks, and contributing 35% of the A Level.

Paper 3 – comprising structured questions, including practical techniques, critical analysis and one essay from a choice of two titles, giving a total of 78 marks, and contributing 30% of the A Level qualification.

Where Next?

Biology A Level is ideal preparation for a variety of careers; there is no such thing as a typical biologist. Biologists could work in a number of fields, including medicine, healthcare, agriculture, environment, ecology, conservation, biomedical, education, museums, zoos... the list is extensive.

Chemistry

A Level

Examination Board: AQA

Specification: 7405

Course Leader: Mr A Cameron

Contact Email: acameron@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

The course is divided into the fundamental areas of Chemistry study: Organic, Inorganic and Physical.

Organic Chemistry

Accelerates the students' learning from their GCSE Chemistry into the world of organic molecules. The students learn about the properties and reactions of the different families of organic chemicals. These topics in turn introduce the students to aspects of bio-chemistry, medicine and polymer synthesis.

Inorganic Chemistry

Builds on prior knowledge of the Periodic table and the patterns that can be observed within it. The students will learn how to explain those patterns and investigate the unique chemistry of the Transition metals.

Physical Chemistry

Explains the energies that drive chemical reactions by applying fundamental principles. The students can reveal the reasons behind the spontaneity of certain reactions and explain the lack of reactivity in others. These principles allow Chemists to manipulate the elements into unique chemicals and underpin the other two disciplines.

Practical skills in Chemistry will be taught throughout the content.

Entry Requirements

Students require a Grade B in GCSE Chemistry and Grade 5 in Maths or a Grade B in Additional Science and Grade 5 in Maths.

Assessment

1 x 2 hour exam on Inorganic, Physical Chemistry and relevant practical skills for 35% of the A level.

1 x 2 hour exam on Organic, Physical and relevant practical skills for 35% of the A level.

1 x 2 hour exam on all content and practical skills for 30% of the A level.

Where Next?

Study of Chemistry or other Natural Sciences at University. Medicine and Veterinary Medicine courses often require Chemistry at A Level.

Drama and Theatre Studies

A Level

Examination Board: WJEC Eduqas

Specification: 601/8554/5

Course Leader: Mrs J Arrow

Contact Email: jarrow@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

Component 1: Theatre Workshop (either acting or design)

Students participate in the creation, development and performance of a piece of theatre based on a reinterpretation of an extract from a text chosen from a list supplied by the exam board. The piece is developed using techniques from either an influential theatre practitioner or a recognised theatre company. They will produce a creative log to accompany their performance.

Component 2: Text in Action (either acting or design)

Students participate in the creation, development and performance of two pieces of theatre based on a stimulus provided by the exam board. One will be a devised piece of theatre, using either an influential practitioner or theatre company and the other is an extract from a text in a different style. Students produce a process and evaluation report following their performance to an external examiner.

Component 3: Text in Performance (written exam)

Students will study two different texts from different time periods: one pre 1956 and one post 1956. Students will then answer 2 questions about the two plays under timed examination conditions. Students will also study the play *Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* and will answer a question based on a chosen extract from that play under timed examination conditions.

Entry Requirements

Students require GCSE English Grade 5, GCSE Drama B (not essential).

Assessment

Assessed workshops, performance, written coursework and written examination.

Where Next?

This is an academic course recognised by universities of good standing. For those taking English, it gives a more practical and hands on approach to Drama as well as academic rigour. For those interested in careers in the Arts, whether backstage, lighting, sound, acting or directing it gives you knowledge of drama and theatre. This course does allow performers to enhance their acting skills but students still need a good academic background.

Please note

Students who have not taken GCSE Drama will be considered. Students must have an interest in theatre and plays as well as performing.

Students would benefit from being involved with the school production and opportunities LAMDA coach provided by the school. The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts is a prestigious organisation offering examinations in Drama and Communication. There is a charge tuition but financial help is available. These lessons are available in school.



English Language

A Level

Examination Board: AQA

Specification: 7702

Course Leader: Mrs N Gilligan

Contact Email: ngilligan@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

The main topics you will study during the course are:

- Exploring and analysing a wide variety of texts and their purposes, genre and audience and how language is adapted according to context.
- Understanding how children learn to speak, read and write.
- Developing a knowledge of how the English Language has developed and changed over time.
- Exploring the different varieties of English spoken in this country and around the world.
- Considering how language is affected by gender, occupation and social context.
- In addition, there will be coursework which involves producing creative, original writing and an investigation into an aspect of language study which interests you.

Entry Requirements

English Language GCSE Grade 5

Assessment

Two exams at the end of the two year course, each 2 hours 30 minutes and each worth 40% of the final grade.

The original writing and language investigation coursework is worth a further 20% of the final grade.

Where Next?

As well as English at university, the course provides an excellent foundation for numerous other courses such as linguistics, law, history, psychology, sociology, journalism, modern foreign languages, public relations, media, teaching and many more.

A more developed understanding of the ways in which we use language is also excellent preparation for any career where you will be required to work with others or communicate with clients and customers.

English Literature

A Level

Examination Board: AQA

Specification: 7713/7712

Course Leader: Mrs S Hindson

Contact Email: shindson@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

Paper 1 – Aspects of Tragedy

Possible texts include Shakespeare's *Othello*, *Richard II* and *King Lear*, Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman*, Tennessee Williams's *A Streetcar Named Desire*, poetry by Keats, the AQA Poetry Anthology, Thomas Hardy's *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*.

Students study two texts including one drama from the following list. At least one of the texts must be written pre-1900.

Paper 2 - Texts and Genres: Elements of Crime Writing

Choice of texts includes: Kate Atkinson's *When Will There Be Good News?* Agatha Christie's *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*, Samuel Taylor Coleridge's *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*, Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist*.

Students study three texts from the following list: one post-2000 prose text, one pre-1900 poetry text and one further text.

Non-exam assessment: Theory and Independence

Study of two texts: one poetry and one prose text, informed by study of the Critical anthology

Entry Requirements

At least Grade 5 in English Language and English Literature GCSE.

A genuine enthusiasm for reading – you're going to need to do a lot of it, not only set texts but a wide range of background material!

Assessment

A Level

Paper 1 – written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes, closed book, 40% of A level

Paper 2 – written exam: 3 hours, open book, 40% of A level

Non-exam assessment – 20% of A level, assessed by teachers, moderated by AQA

Where Next?

Law, journalism, public relations, advertising, teaching, theatre and any careers that require you to organise your thoughts and read beyond the surface of things!

Food Technology

Level 3 Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition

Examination Board: WJEC

Specification: QAN 601/4553/5)

Course Leader: Mrs H Lindsay

Contact Email: hlindsay@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

Unit	Unit Title	Structure	Assessment	UMS (D)	UMS (M)	UMS (P)
1	Meeting nutritional needs of specific groups	Mandatory	Internal & External	160	120	80
2	Ensuring food is safe to eat	Mandatory	External	80	60	40
3	Experimenting to solve food production problems	Optional	Internal	80	60	40
4	Current issues in food science and nutrition	Optional	Internal	80	60	40

Units 1 & 2 are mandatory; the school will decide on the most appropriate optional unit.

Total UMS Points available for a distinction is 320.

Unit 1

The purpose of this unit is for learners to develop an understanding of the nutritional needs of specific target groups and to plan and cook complex dishes to meet their nutritional needs.

Unit 2

Ensuring food is safe to eat. (Externally assessed; this is an 8 hour timed assessment.)

Unit 3 (Optional)

The aim of this unit is for learners to use their understanding of the properties of food in order to plan and carry out experiments. The results of the experiments would be used to solve food production problems.

Unit 4 (Optional)

This unit develops skills in planning, carrying out and presenting a research project on current issues related to food science and nutrition. This could be from the perspective of a consumer, food manufacturer, caterer or policy-maker.

General

Learners will have gained an in-depth understanding of food science and nutrition, on the lives of individuals and on society today. They will be able to identify hazards, reduce risks and produce food to meet the nutritional requirements of individuals. This will involve practical work and analysis of the results. Learners will draw on a range of skills, research, planning, analysis, evaluation and drawing conclusions from findings. Learners will be able to identify and transfer accurately in-depth knowledge and understanding from one task to another.

Entry Requirements

Students require a GCSE Food Technology Grade B or above, students should also have achieved Grade B or above in Science and Grade 5 in English.

Where Next?

Careers such as: Dietician, Nutritionist, Food Scientist, Product Manager, Environmental Health Officer, Department of Health, Schools & Local Community Advisor, Home Economist for TV programmes, Scientist for the Food Standards Agency, Supermarket Food Buyer, Food and Nutrition Teacher or Private Catering. Further studies could include, BSc Food & Nutrition, BSc Human Nutrition, BSc (Hons) Public Health Nutrition, BSc (Hons) Food Science & Technology.



French

A Level

Examination Board: Edexcel

Specification: 9FRO

Course Leader: Mr A Blagona

Contact Email: ablagona@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

Theme 1: The Changes in French Society:

Family life in France, attitudes towards friendships, relationships and marriage; the education system in France, the working life of the French – **workers' rights, equality in the workplace.**

Theme 2: Culture in French-speaking countries:

The influence of music on young people and society, listening habits, the right of expression in the media; the role of the press; festivals, customs and traditions in French-speaking countries.

Theme 3: Immigration and multiculturalism in France:

The impact of immigration; the contribution and benefits of migration to society; dealing with the challenges of immigration; marginalisation and alienation of migrants; the rise of the far-right in France

Theme 4: The Occupation of France and the French Resistance:

Life in occupied France; French collaborators; Anti-Semitism; the regime of Vichy Maréchal Pétain and the National Revolution; the lives of Jean Moulin, Charles de Gaulle and the women of the Resistance; the fight of the French Resistance.

Entry Requirements

Students require a Grade B or above at GCSE French, or substantial experience of speaking the language either at home or while living abroad.

Assessment

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Translation

Paper 2: Written response to works and Translation

Paper 3: Oral (discussion of an issue and research-based project)

Where Next?

A wide range of careers where a language is a useful extra such as accounting, public relations, journalism, advertising, law, international marketing, administration and many more in this increasingly global world. In addition more traditional language routes include translating. As part of your course you will be able to do a work experience placement in France, during that time you will live with a family and work in area of your interest.

Please note

During this course you will read and listen to authentic French language materials and will study aspects of the contemporary society, cultural background and heritage of a country where French is spoken. You will have opportunities to develop your understanding and awareness of spiritual, moral, ethical, environmental, health and European issues.

Geography

A Level

Examination Board: AQA

Specification: 7037

Course Leader: Mr N Bennett

Contact Email: nbennett@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

You will study six units at A Level. 3 human and 3 physical geography based.

Units studied are:

- Natural Hazards: Tectonics, wildfires, hurricanes and storms.
- Coastal Systems: Landforms and coastal management.
- Water and Carbon cycles: River management and climate change
- Global Systems and Governance: Globalisation and its impacts, Antarctica and its changing places.
- Changing Places: Place-making, re-branding and forces causing change in two contrasting places.
- Population and the Environment: Global population growth, global health issues and food security.

Entry Requirements

Students require a Grade B or above in Geography.

Assessment

There will be 2 exams both 2 1/2 hours long. These include a mix of question types from an essay, short data response questions and multiple choice questions.

There will be a piece of coursework worth 20% of the total grade. This is an individual study where you complete primary and secondary data collection on a title you have independently devised - please speak to your Geography teacher for further details.

Fieldwork

Students will complete a residential fieldtrip in Year 12 to Dorset and hopefully in Year 13 to South Wales.

Where Next?

Geography A-level can lead to a variety of careers including marketing, insurance, transport planning, travel, cartography, surveying, demography, urban planning, hydrology, ecology, geology, and climatology. To continue further study in a Geography degree, related science and social science subjects may also be an asset, including Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, Sociology, Economics, Politics and History.

Please note

You will explore issues and discuss them, and be expected to give your own views and opinions. You will have the opportunity to carry out research using the internet, undertake fieldwork at various stages of the course, and learn through enquiry.



German

A Level

Examination Board: Edexcel

Specification: 9GN0

Course Leader: Mr M Kiely

Contact Email: mkiely@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

Theme 1: Aspects of German Society:

The environment, renewable energy, recycling; education in Germany; the world of work, working life in Germany, German business and industry.

Theme 2: Culture in German-speaking countries:

The influence of music on young people and society, listening habits, the right of expression in the media; the role of the press, festivals, customs and traditions in German-speaking countries.

Theme 3: Immigration and multiculturalism in Germany:

The impact of immigration, the contribution and benefits of migration to society; guest-workers in Germany, dealing with the challenges of immigration, marginalisation and alienation of migrants, the rise of the far-right in Germany

Theme 4: German Reunification:

Life in the former East Germany, the demise of communism, the fall of the Berlin wall; the consequences of unity, economic troubles and unemployment; migration from East to West Germany

Entry Requirements

Students require a Grade B or above at GCSE German, or substantial experience of speaking the language either at home or while living abroad.

Assessment

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Translation

Paper 2: Written response to works and Translation

Paper 3: Oral (discussion of an issue and research-based project)

Where Next?

A wide range of careers where a language is a useful extra such as accounting, public relations, journalism, advertising, law, international marketing, administration and many more in this increasingly global world. In addition more traditional language routes include translating. As part of your course you will be able to do a Work Experience placement in Germany, during that time you will live with a family and work in area of your interest.

Please note

During this course you will read and listen to authentic German language materials and will study aspects of the contemporary society, cultural background and heritage of a country where German is spoken. You will have opportunities to develop your understanding and awareness of spiritual, moral, ethical, environmental, health and European issues.

Government & Politics

A Level

Examination Board: Edexcel

Specification: 9PLO

Centre Leader: Mr C Howe

Contact: chowe@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

You will learn about political participation in the UK and the USA or Global, both in and beyond elections, including:

Component 1: UK Politics and Core Political Ideas

Component 2: UK Government and Optional Political Ideas

Component 3: Comparative Politics

You will be taught using active and collaborative learning approaches, as well as individual reading and written assignments. You will be expected to keep up with current affairs by reading newspapers, watching and listening to the news

If you want to challenge the system, challenge politicians and debate meaningful issues, then this course is for you. Whether you want to get into politics, become a journalist, enter law, or simply want to add a highly-rated Social Science A-level to your CV.

Entry Requirements

Students should have achieved a good GCSE grade in a source-based subject i.e. Humanities and preferably a Grade 5 in GCSE English.

Assessment

There are 3 units, each examined with a 2 hour exam. Exams contain structured, source-based questions choices and shorter 'quote' based questions. The final paper requires more 'synoptic' answers.

Where Next?

A-level Government and Politics will help you gain access to university to study Social Sciences, including Politics and Sociology, Law, Criminology, Medicine, History, English, and many others.

History

A Level

Examination Board: Pearson Edexcel

Specification: 9H10

Course Leader: Mr Billimore

Contact Email: pbillimore@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

Paper 1: Germany and West Germany, 1918–89

In this unit you study how the republic, set up after the First World War, was turned into a dictatorship under Hitler. Then, after the Second World War, how West Germany had to deal with the legacy of the Nazis. A special case study is based on how far Hitler was responsible for the outbreak of the Second World War.

Paper 2: The Rise and Fall of Fascism in Italy, c1911–46

In this unit you will learn about the nature of the profound political, economic and social changes experienced by the Italian people in the years c1911–1946 and how the failure to create a stable, democratic Italian state in the early twentieth century led to the rise of Fascism and emergence of Mussolini as a leader.

Paper 3: Lancastrians, Yorkists and Henry VII, 1399–1509

This unit focuses on Shakespeare's Kings from his great cycle of history plays. From the Triumph of Henry V at Agincourt to the spectacular death of Richard III on the battlefield, deserted by all including his horse, the question in the background was always who should be King? Did a mad King and a bad marriage result in the blood and gore of the Wars of the Roses?

Paper 4: The Witch Craze c1450-c1750

This is a coursework unit based on the nature of the witch craze that took hold in the late sixteenth century and the changing attitudes to magic and sorcery that eventually contributed to its decline. Students study the social, economic and political of the phenomenon, using case studies like Matthew Hopkins and the Salem witch hunt.

Entry Requirements

You need at least a B in GCSE History. If you have not studied GCSE History, then a minimum of a Grade 5 in GCSE English.

Assessment

At the end of the course you will sit three exams and submit a piece of coursework.

Where Next?

University to study History, alternatively you have acquired skills to support you in any degree course and future career.

Please note

This course has been designed to give you a taste of different areas and types of History. As Lord Acton said “*study problems, not periods*”.

Law

A Level

Examination Board: AQA

Specification: 7162

Course Leader: Mr C Howe

Contact Email: chowe@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

The course provides a good grounding in the legal system, the legal profession and concepts of liability in crime and tort and in forming a contract. This means that you will know how the legal system works and have opportunities to apply concepts of liability and case law in contract, crime and tort.

The study of Law at A Level will include offences, such as murder, manslaughter and non-fatal offences, Torts against property, contract and consumer rights and the philosophy of Law. This will enable students to develop their analytical and critical thinking skills. Studying Law develops **students' problem solving skills through the application of legal rules, together with an** understanding of legal method and reasoning. These skills provide excellent preparation for those students who wish to progress to degree level study or pursue a wide range of careers.

Entry Requirements

Students should have achieved a good GCSE grade in a source-based subject i.e. Humanities and preferably a Grade 5 in GCSE English.

Assessment

There are 3 units and each is assessed by external exam. Exams will take the form of application of legal theory illustrated by cases.

Where Next?

Students could go on to take a degree course in Law, History, English, Sociology, Criminology, Business, Politics, Government and Accounting, Business and Economics, or alternatively take advantage of fast-track Policing.

Please note

A variety of teaching and learning methods are used including trips to court and parliament as well as outside speakers in order to make the learning fun and real.

Mathematics

A Level

Examination Board: Pearson Edexcel

Specification: 9371

Course Leader: Mr B Mills

Contact Email: bmills@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

The course has three modules at AS and three modules at A2. These are divided into Core and Applied Modules. AS modules are Core 1, Core 2 and Mechanics 1.

Core 1

–In this introductory unit, you will study simple algebraic manipulations, quadratic functions and their graphs, equations and inequalities, curve sketching, coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane, sequences and series, and basic techniques of differentiation and integration.

Core 2 –

The second Core Mathematics unit will deepen your knowledge of algebra, coordinate geometry, sequences and series, and calculus. It will gently introduce you to the bases of trigonometry, exponentials and logarithms, binomial expansion and radian measure.

Mechanics 1 –

The mechanics module covers briefly mathematical modelling, and elaborates on kinematics, dynamics and statics of particles, as well as moments, and applications of vectors in describing motion and forces, providing an essential background for further study of the subject.

A2 modules are Core 3, Core 4 and Statistics 1.

Core 3 –

You will develop the skill of manipulating algebraic fractions, increase your knowledge of functions, and the effect of transformations on their graphs, study new trigonometric functions and identities and learn many important rules for differentiation.

Core 4 –

The last of the Core units includes partial fractions, parametric equations, binomial expansion for constant indices and vectors. Finally you will study more complex results and rules of differential and integral calculus.

Statistics 1 –

Starting with explanation of importance of mathematical modelling in the subject, you will be taught such topics as representation and summary of data, probability theory, correlation, regression lines, discrete and continuous random variables and conclude by establishing the normal distribution concept. Statistics provides skills that can be used in Psychology, Geography and Biology as well as Mathematics. Some pupils may have studied Statistics at GCSE and will build upon the knowledge gained through this.

Entry Requirements

Students require a Grade 5 or above in GCSE Higher Mathematics.

Assessment

Each unit is examined in June by an examination lasting 1 hour 30 minutes. Core 1 is a non-calculator paper. For all other examinations calculators can be used. Each unit contributes equally to the overall qualification.

Where Next?

If you want to continue your study of Mathematics further you could follow a course in Mathematics level. Degree courses that benefit from A Level Mathematics include economics, medicine, architecture, engineering, accountancy, teaching, psychology, physics and IT.

Researchers at the London school of Economics have recently found that people who have studied Mathematics can expect to earn up to 11% more than their colleagues.



Mathematics, Further

A Level

Examination Board: Pearson Edexcel

Specification: 9372

Course Leader: Mr B Mills

Contact Email: bmills@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

The following units will be studied in addition to those that are taken for Mathematics.

- AS Further Mathematics will consist of FP1 and a choice of two other units.
- A2 Further Mathematics will consist of FP2 and/or FP3 and a choice of 1 or 2 other units.

Each unit is described below:

Further Pure 1 –

The first unit will introduce you to the fundamental ideas of complex numbers, matrices, summation of finite series and polynomials, and proof by contradiction; expand your knowledge of parabola and hyperbolae, and develop your numerical techniques to include Newton-Raphson method.

Further Pure 2 –

You will continue studying the applications of complex numbers, and summation of series. While the rules for manipulating inequalities will be formalised, the unit will also present new topics, namely first and second order differential equations and the Maclaurin and Taylor Series.

Further Pure 3 –

In the final module of Further Pure Maths, you will learn several mathematical ideas and notions that are crucial to understanding higher level mathematics at university. They include: hyperbolic functions, conic sections, further matrix algebra, and advanced calculus. Results and formulae given in the chapter on vectors will lay solid foundations for understanding geometrical objects in 3D space.

Decision 1

The first of the decision units introduces you to algorithms, algorithms on graphs, the route inspection problem, critical path analysis and linear programming.

Decision 2 –

This unit follows on from the skills taught in Decision 1 but introducing new concepts such as transportation problems, allocation (assignment) problems, the travelling salesman, game theory, further linear programming, dynamic programming and flows in networks.

Statistics 2 –

This unit presents key statistical concepts such as Binomial and Poisson distributions and their Normal distribution approximations, continuous random variables (including continuous uniform distribution), hypothesis testing; and equips you with the knowledge of sampling techniques for large and small populations.

Mechanics 2 –

Building on the knowledge gained in the M1 unit, you will start studying some “serious” Mechanics: projectile motion, centres of mass, work – energy principle and power, collisions of particles and learn more about statics of rigid bodies.

Students who are awarded certificates in both Advanced GCE Mathematics and Advanced GCE Further Mathematics must use unit results from 12 different teaching modules. If all 18 modules are completed then an award of GCE Additional Further Mathematics is possible.

Entry Requirements

Students require a Grade 7 or above in GCSE Higher Mathematics.

Assessment

Each unit is examined in June by an examination lasting 1 hour 30 minutes. Calculators can be used in all of the examinations. Each unit contributes equally to the overall qualification.



Music

A Level

Examination Board: Pearson Edexcel

Specification: 9MU01

Course Leader: Mr M Uplh

Contact Email: mulph@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

- Unit 1: Performing Music
- Unit 2: Composing
- Unit 3: Developing Musical Understanding
- Unit 4: Extended Performance
- Unit 5: Composition and Technical Study
- Unit 6: Further Musical Understanding

You will be developing a variety of musical skills in both a practical and academic sense. You will perform your own recital, learn to compose to a given brief and learn to analyse music from a score and aurally.

Entry Requirements

Students require a BTEC Music (Merit) or GCSE Music (Grade B) or Associated Board Grade 5 Theory standard Proficiency on an instrument to Grade 5 standard.

Assessment

- *Unit 1* - 30%: Performing Music. Recorded 5-6 minute recital.
- *Unit 2* - 30%: Composing. CD and score of 3 minute composition completed under controlled conditions.
- *Unit 3* - 40%: Developing Musical Understanding. 2 hour examination of listening and analysis.
- *Unit 4* - 30%: Extended Performance. Recorded 12-15 minute recital.
- *Unit 5* - 30%: Composition and Technical Study. Either 2 compositions, 2 technical studies or one of each, completed under controlled conditions.
- *Unit 6* - 40%: Further Musical Understanding. 2 hour examination of listening and analysis.

Where Next?

Further study into music at University whether on an academic music degree or a practical performance course. A Level Music develops both your creative and analytical skills, these being transferable to any course or profession in the future. Please note it is advantageous to have or to be working towards the Associated Board Grade 5 Music Theory Qualification as this will support your learning on the A Level course.

Philosophy & Ethics

A Level

Examination Board: OCR

Specification: AS, H173 A and A2, H573 A

Course Leader: Mr J Hempel

Contact Email: jhempel@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

AS Level

1: Philosophy of Religion

- Arguments about the existence or non-existence of God
- What is a 'Religious Experience' and how may it affect a person?
- How may evil and suffering challenge Religious Belief?
- The nature of the soul, mind and body
- The possibility of whether there is a life after death

2: Ethics

- Different forms of ethical theories on how to determine how we should act.
- Applying these ethical theories to two contemporary issues of importance
- Reflecting on ethical language and thought.

3: Developments in Religious Thought, within Christianity

- Religious beliefs, values and teachings, their interconnections and how they vary historically and in the contemporary world
- Sources of religious wisdom and authority
- Practices which shape and express religious identity, and how these vary within a tradition.

A2 Level

In addition to continuing their studies on the topics listed in the AS Course outline A2 students will further their studies to include:

1: Philosophy of Religion

- Ideas about the nature of God
- Issues in the meaning and use of Religious Language.

2: Ethics

- Debates surrounding the significant ideas of conscience and free will
- The influence on ethical thought of developments in religious beliefs and the philosophy of religion

3: Developments of Religious Thought Within Christianity

- Practices which shape and express religious identity, and how these vary within a tradition
- Significant social and historical developments in theology and religious thought
- Key themes related to the relationship between religion and society.

Entry Requirements

Students require at least 5 A*-C GCSEs (Equivalent to five Grade 9-4). A grade B or above in Philosophy is also recommended.

Assessment

Three one hour externally assessed exams. Each exam is marked out of 30 and contributes third of the final grade.

Where Next?

It is a fully recognised qualification by all universities. A Level Philosophy and Ethics links well to future undergraduate courses, such as: Law, Psychology, Education, Philosophy, Literature, Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) - to name just a few. As a stand-alone qualification it is particularly useful for students considering future careers in Law, Medicine, Public Services, the Police, NHS, Teaching and the Armed Services.

Please note

Philosophy & Ethics will stimulate and challenge you. It is an excellent choice for students who have lots of opinions, are able to express them and are thoughtful, and critical, of views that they may disagree with. Current Full Course students of Philosophy are strongly recommended to pursue the subject further by taking this A level.



Photography

A Level

Examination Board: AQA

Specification: Art 7241/C, 7241/X

Course Leader: Mr E Clark

Contact Email: eclark@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

A Level Photography explores many of the techniques, processes and concepts behind traditional chemical and modern digital Photography. The course gives students a range of skills, the ability to think in depth about the concepts and ideas underpinning the work of Photographers and a critical approach towards the presentation and quality of their own photography.

During year 12 students develop their ability to use techniques and processes through intense periods of experimentation, guided by in-depth research into a variety of photographic starting points. There are two portfolio projects in the autumn term, exploring chemical processes and portraiture.

In the second term of year 12, students begin the 'Personal Investigation' component in which they apply the skills they have developed through an independently designed project, which combines practical and written elements. In year 13 the students complete an externally set (exam) project which comprises 40% of the overall assessment.

Entry Requirements

Students require a Grade B or above in GCSE Art and Design or Photography and a Grade B in GCSE Science.

Assessment

Formative assessment takes place throughout the course with feedbacks, group critiques and learning conversations used to drive progress. The exam takes place at the end of year 13 and is externally moderated by AQA.

Where Next?

A Level Art and Design can be used as a bridge to FE courses such as ND, HND or Foundation Art and Design or HE courses such as degrees in various disciplines of Art; such as fine art, illustration and so forth. It is also an excellent grounding in practical skills which can lead to work-based learning and internships.

Physical Education

A Level

Examination Board: OCR

Course Leader: Mr R Myhill

Contact Email: rmyhill@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

A Level PE includes the compulsory study of: Applied Anatomy and Physiology, Exercise Physiology, Biomechanical Movement, Skill Acquisition, Sports Psychology, Sport and Society and the Role of Technology in Physical Activity and Sport. Alongside this are the skills of PE which are examined via the non-exam assessment component on performance.

Component 1: Physiological Factors Affecting Performance

This group of topics focuses on key systems of the human body involved in movement and physical activity. Candidates will develop their knowledge and understanding of the changes within these body systems prior to exercise, during exercise of differing intensities and during recovery. Application of this theoretical knowledge will enable candidates to understand how changes in physiological states can influence performance in physical activities and sport. Students will be expected to be able to interpret data and graphs relating to changes in these body systems during exercise of differing intensities and during recovery.

Component 2: Psychological Factors Affecting Performance

This component focuses on the psychological factors affecting physical activities and sports, including: models and theories that affect learning and performance in physical activities; how different methods of training and feedback work and why their effectiveness differs from person to person; group dynamics and the effects of leadership and stress on performers. Through the study of this component, students will gain a deeper understanding of the underlying psychological factors that influence our performance in physical activity and sport. They will learn how to apply the theories to practical examples, giving guidance and feedback in **constructive ways that are suited to that individual's personality; therefore assisting in developing practical performance in physical activities and sports.**

Component 3: Socio-cultural and Contemporary Issues

This component focuses on the sociological and contemporary factors that influence and affect physical activity and sport for both the audience and the performer and how sport affects society. It includes the emergence and evolution of modern sport and how social and cultural factors shaped the characteristics of sports and pastimes in pre-industrial and post-industrial Britain. The impact of the modern Olympic Games will be understood as well as the impact on society of hosting global sporting events. The ever-evolving modern technology and its influence on sport performers and spectators will be understood and practical examples will be used by candidates to show the effect of modern technology.

Component 4: Performance within Physical Education

Learners will be required to undertake two parts within this component.

Part 1: Performance/coaching of a sport or activity.

Part 2: The Evaluation and Appreciation of Performance for Improvement (EAPI) of a sport or activity.

This component is assessed via non-exam assessments.

Entry requirement

Students should have achieved a grade B or above in GCSE PE.

Assessment

Three examination papers 2x 1 hour and 1x 2 hours taken at the end of the two year course.

Non-exam assessment, one Practical Performance, as either a coach or a performer in an activity.

Non-exam assessment, one Performance Analysis task.

Where Next?

On this course you will learn a number of transferable skills which will allow you to move on to higher education if you wish to continue your studies in sport. Students could go on to study degree courses in Sports Science, Physiotherapy, Teaching, Sports Psychology or sports media. Alternatively a career in the leisure industry including management, coaching, personal training



Physics

A Level

Examination Board: AQA

Specification: 7407 'AS' Level, 7408 'A' Level

Course Leader: Mrs K Ward

Contact Email: kward@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

Physics is at the forefront of our everyday lives and is constantly expanding human understanding of the world in which we live. It is a subject which underlies the everyday functioning of the physical world and mastery of the topics and skills allow a deep understanding of the intricate interconnectivity of the Universe.

Students study the following 5 units for AS Level for which there are 2 exams, each worth 50% of the AS Grade.

AS Level

- Measurements and their errors
- Particles and radiation
- Waves
- Mechanics and materials
- Electricity

To complete the A Level qualification the students will also study the following 3 units and 1 additional unit from the options which will be jointly agreed between the teacher and the cohort.

There are 3 exams.

A Level

- Further mechanics and thermal physics
- Fields and their consequences
- Nuclear physics

Optional Units:

- Astrophysics
- Medical physics
- Engineering physics
- Turning points in physics
- Electronics

Entry Requirements

Students should hold a minimum of 2 Grade B's in Science at GCSE 1 of which must be Physics, as well as a Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics.

Assessment

100% Examination

Where Next?

Physics A level is a highly sought after qualification and is applicable to many Higher Education courses. It is an excellent A Level to have if you are intending to pursue a career in any type of Engineering, Telecommunications, Medical Physics, Research, or Manufacturing, and is widely accepted in apparently unrelated disciplines such as Banking, Finance and Insurance to name but a few.

Product Design

A Level

Examination Board: WJEC

Specification: 9080

Course Leader: Mr P Bentley

Contact Email: pbentley@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

Product Design is intended to be of interest to a wide range of candidates including those intending to directly follow a Higher Education course or career in Design and Technology or associated area. The course builds upon the knowledge, understanding and skills established by the National Curriculum and GCSE, whilst at the same time, accommodating the needs of candidates who have not studied Design and Technology at GCSE Level. It promotes progression and provides a suitable foundation for the study of Design and Technology, or a related area of study, at further or higher education and/or preparation for future employment and the world of work. There are opportunities for candidates to gain a broad appreciation of the skills, understanding and knowledge inherent in Design and Technology and to specialise in one focus area. Candidates are encouraged to develop their critical thinking, to see the relationships between designer, manufacturer and user and to perceive Design and Technology within the world in which we live.

Entry Requirements

Students require a Grade B at GCSE in Resistant Materials, Graphics or Product Design.

Assessment

AS Level Component 1: Design and Technology in the 21st Century

Written examination: 2.5 hours, 50% of qualification

AS Level Component 2: Design and make task

Non-exam assessment: 40 hours, 50% of qualification

A Level Component 1: Design and Technology in the 21st Century

Written examination: 3 hours, 50% of qualification Component 1

A Level Component 2: Design and make project

Non-exam assessment: 80 hours, 50% of qualification Design and Technology in the 21st Century

Where Next?

A degree in the following areas: Product Design, Graphics, Illustration, Architecture, etc.

Psychology

A Level

Examination Board: AQA

Specification: 7182

Course Leader: Mrs C Buller

Contact Email: cbuller@tgschool.net

What will I study?

Paper 1: Memory, Attachment & Social Influence, Psychopathology:

You will learn how yours and other peoples' memory works, as well as how different cognitive psychologists analyse memory. You will also study attachment in which you will look at how the attachments you make throughout your life are formed. In addition you will examine the more social aspects of psychology and look at how and why different psychological perspectives account for and suggest treating abnormal behaviour. You will then look at various ways in which people conform to social pressures.

Paper 2: Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology, Research Methods:

In this unit you will learn about the approaches to psychology including Cognitive, Biological, Psychodynamic and Behaviourist. You will also learn how stress affects each of us in different ways. In addition to this, you also cover psychology research methods.

Paper 3: Cognition and Development, Schizophrenia, Aggression & Issues and Debates in

Psychology this unit of the course you will examine different psychological explanations of the diagnosis and treatment of schizophrenia as well as the psychology of relationships and aggression. You will also look in detail at the issues of gender bias/cultural bias, the debates of nature versus nurture, free will versus determinism, and reductionism versus holism.

Entry Requirements

Students should have achieved 5 GCSEs at grades A-C (equivalent to five 9-4 grades) including a Grade 5 or above in English and Maths and a Grade B in Science

Assessment

There are 3 exams, 1 per unit each worth 96 marks, 33.3% of the final A level grade. Each exam will include multiple choice, short answer and extended writing. All exams will be taken in June of your second year: June 2018.

Where Next?

Psychology is a discipline widely studied at University and post graduate level. After completing a Psychology degree you can go on to careers in fields such as teaching, criminology, the police and armed forces as well as the medical profession or clinical/occupational psychology.

Sociology

A Level

Examination Board: AQA

Specification: 2190

Course Leader: Dr C Talbot

Contact Email: ctalbot@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

Unit 1 (SCY1): Culture and Identity

You will learn how culture and subcultures have shaped the nature of society. The course also examines how identity related to socialization, how the self is seen in terms of disability, gender, nationality, sexuality and social class. You will also consider the effects of leisure and consumption upon identity.

Unit 2 (SCY2): Education with research methods

You will learn about the role of the education system and why certain groups do better or worse than each other in terms of performance. You will examine some of the hidden processes that go on in the classroom concerning roles: regulating behaviour and teacher student relationships.

Unit 3 (SCY3): Global Development

This unit is focused on the globalisation of culture and the development of societies within the global community. You will examine different theories of development, underdevelopment and global inequality.

Unit 4(SCY4): Crime and Deviance with theory and methods

Throughout this unit of the course you will examine different sociological explanations of the social distribution of crime between social class, gender, ethnicity and age. You will look at crime control, prevention, punishment and the role of the criminal justice system.

Entry Requirements

Students require a Grade 4 in English and Maths and a grade C in Science. Reading and informal discussion are an essential part of the course.

Assessment

Written examination: one paper in each of the topic areas.

Where Next?

Sociology is a discipline widely studied at University and post-graduate level. After completing a Sociology degree you can go on to careers in fields such as law, criminology, social services, teaching and social research.

Spanish

A Level

Examination Board: Edexcel

Specification: 9SP01

Course Leaders: Mrs L Magowan

Contact Email: Imagowan@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

Theme 1: The Changes in Spanish Society

The change in family structure; The evolution of attitudes toward marriage, relationships and families; The working world; Working life in Spain and attitudes towards work; job opportunities for the young; gender equality; The impact of tourism in Spain; the economic impact; the opportunities offered by tourism; the social and environmental impact.

Theme 2: Culture in Spanish-speaking countries

Music - changes and trends; the impact of music in contemporary culture; The media: television and soap operas; the print media and the Internet; the impact of the media on society and politics; festivals and traditions in Spain

Theme 3: Immigration and multiculturalism in Spain

The positive impact of immigration on Spanish society; the contributions of immigrants in the economy and culture; addressing the challenges of immigration and integration in Spain; the measures taken by local communities; marginalization and isolation from the point of view of immigrants. The social and public reaction to immigration in Spain; the political approach towards immigration and public opinion.

Theme 4: The Franco dictatorship and the transition to democracy

The Spanish Civil War and the rise of Franco, Republicans against nationalists; the divisions in society; the Franco dictatorship; daily life under Franco's dictatorship - political oppression and censorship; the transition from dictatorship to democracy; the role of King Juan Carlos in the transition; the Government of Suarez; the coup of 1981.

Entry Requirements

Students require a Grade B or above at GCSE Spanish, or substantial experience of speaking the language either at home or while living abroad.

Assessment

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Translation

Paper 2: Written response to works and Translation

Paper 3: Oral (discussion of an issue and research-based project)

Where Next?

A wide range of careers where a language is a useful extra such as accounting, public relations, journalism, advertising, law, international marketing, administration and many more in this increasingly global world. In addition more traditional language routes include translating. As part of your course you will be able to do a work experience placement in Spain, during that time you will live with a family and work in area of your interest.

Please note

During this course you will read and listen to authentic Spanish language materials and will study aspects of the contemporary society, cultural background and heritage of a country where Spanish is spoken. You will have opportunities to develop your understanding and awareness of spiritual, moral, ethical, environmental, health and European issues.



Textiles

A Level

Examination Board: AQA

Specification: Art 7241/C, 7241/X

Course Leader: Miss A Bowman

Contact Email: abowman@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

A Level Textiles explores many of the techniques, processes and concepts behind Fine Art Textiles design by exploring materials, surface, techniques and processes and linking them to contemporary and historical contextual references. The course gives students the opportunity to develop a range of skills, the ability to think in-depth about the concepts and ideas underpinning the work of Textile Artists and a critical approach towards the presentation and quality of their own work.

During year 12 students develop their ability to use techniques and processes through intense periods of experimentation, guided by in-depth research into a variety of starting points. There are two portfolio projects in the autumn term, exploring practical and contextual starting points.

In year 13, students complete a 'Personal Investigation' component in which they apply the skills they have developed through an independently designed project which combines practical and written elements. In year 13 the students complete an externally set (exam) project which comprises 40% of the overall assessment.

Entry Requirements

Students require a Grade B or above in GCSE Art and Design or Textiles.

Assessment

Formative assessment takes place throughout the course with feedback, group critiques and learning conversations used to drive progress. The exam takes place in year 13 and is externally moderated by AQA.

Where Next?

Studying textiles is an exciting course that will open opportunities for careers in Textiles, Fashion and Art & Design. Students can go on to a one year foundation college course, creative apprenticeships within the design industry and Degree courses.

Vocational Qualifications



Applied Science

Level 3 BTEC National Diploma

Examination Board: Edexcel

Course Leader: Mr G Bradley

Contact Email: gbradley@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

Students will study 4 units over two years to obtain an Extended Certificate in Applied Science:

The course is split into three mandatory units and one optional unit.

Mandatory Units

Unit 1: Principles and Applications of Science 1 (Assessed Externally)

Unit 2: Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques (Assessed Internally)

Unit 3: Scientific Investigative Skills (Assessed Externally)

Optional Unit (one from:)

Unit 8: Physiology of Human Systems (Assessed Internally)

Unit 14: Applications of Organic Chemistry (Assessed Internally)

Unit 16: Astronomy & Space Science (Assessed Internally)

Qualifications

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Applied Science Diploma equivalent to one A Level

Entry Requirements

Students require at least a B in a Core GCSE Science

Assessment

The course is assessed both externally (approximately 60%) and internally (approximately 40%). Two of the mandatory units are assessed externally. One is via an Examination marked by the examination board; the other is via a Task. This Task is an investigation carried out and written up in school under supervision of the teacher and then submitted to the examination board for marking. The remaining two units are assessed through the completion of assignments completed in school and assessed internally. The examination board will moderate a sample of completed student internal assignments, or can visit a centre to observe students and their work. All internally completed work therefore needs to be completed to a deadline.

Where Next?

This course is designed for students who are interested in learning about the applied science sector of industry alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses or training, not necessarily in applied science.



Business Studies

Level 3 BTEC National Diploma

Examination Board: Edexcel

Course Leader: Mr C Howe

Contact Email: chowe@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

Year 1:

- The Business Environment: the local, national and international factors that operate in businesses and how they organise themselves to succeed.
- Business Resources: the materials buildings, equipment, knowledge and people that make up a business including financial resources.
- Marketing: how a business builds a relationship with their customers through branding and loyalty.

Year 2:

- Business Communications: how information is stored, moved and distributed through a business.
- Recruitment and Selection in Business: you will create and apply for a position within a business, taking the role of both the employer and the employee.
- Starting a Small Business: you will produce a business plan which will include all of the elements learnt in your other units.

Qualifications

BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma equivalent to one A Level.

Entry Requirements

Students require 5 GCSEs Grades A*-C (or five Grades 9-4)

Assessment

Every unit is assessed based on a detailed piece of coursework that is submitted according to set deadlines throughout the year.

Where Next?

Business Studies can provide you with the knowledge and skills which will support you in a variety of careers as we live in a global and commercialised society.

A study of Business is compatible with areas such as finance, banking, accounting and marketing and not just for entrepreneurs who wish to set up their own business.

Please Note

All assessment in Business is through written assignments so this will aid you in developing your ability to write clearly and succinctly. The coursework requirements encourage much evaluation and analysis of subject knowledge and particular business scenarios. This will develop important thinking skills and provide a greater understanding of processes in businesses as well as personal interaction.

Computing & Information Technology

BTEC

Examination Board: Pearson Edexcel

Course Leader: Mr J Oliver

Contact Email: joliver@tgschool.net

What will I study?

The Qualification has two pathway options; Computing or Information Technology.

Topic areas studied include three mandatory units and one option unit.

Computing

Unit 1 – Principles of Computer Science (External written exam 2 hours)

This unit covers the principles that underpin all areas of computer science. It will develop your computational-thinking skills and you will apply those skills to solve problems.

Unit 2 - Fundamentals of Computer Systems (External written exam 1hr 45 mins)

Learners study the fundamental principles of how computer systems work, including the role of hardware and software, the way components of a system work together and how data in a system is used.

Unit 7 - IT Systems Security and Encryption (Internally Assessed)

Learners study IT system security threats and the methods to protect against them. Learners undertake activities to protect IT systems from security threats, including data encryption.

Unit 14 - Computer Games Development (Internally Assessed)

Learners investigate the computer games industry and its impact on technological and social trends. They will design and develop a computer game to meet requirements.

Information Technology

Unit 1: Information Systems (Externally Assessed)

Learners study the role of computer systems and the implications of their use in personal and professional situations.

Unit 2: Creating Systems to Manage Information (Externally Assessed)

Learners study the design, creation, testing and evaluation of a relational database system to manage information.

Unit 3: Using Social Media in Business (Internally Assessed)

Learners explore how businesses use social media to promote their products and services. Learners also implement social media activities in a business to meet requirements.

Unit 6: Website Development (Internally Assessed)

Learners investigate website development principles and they design and develop a website using scripting languages

Qualifications

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Computing

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Information Technology

Entry Requirements

Students require 5 GCSEs at Grades A-C (equivalent to five Grades 9-4), GCSE Computer Science Grade C and above for Computing and GCSE ICT Grade C and above for Information Technology.

English language and at GCSE Grade 4 is desirable due to nature of literacy requirement. Maths at GCSE Grade 4 and Science at Grade C is essential for the Computing pathway.

Assessment

Computing

Written Exam – Externally Assessed

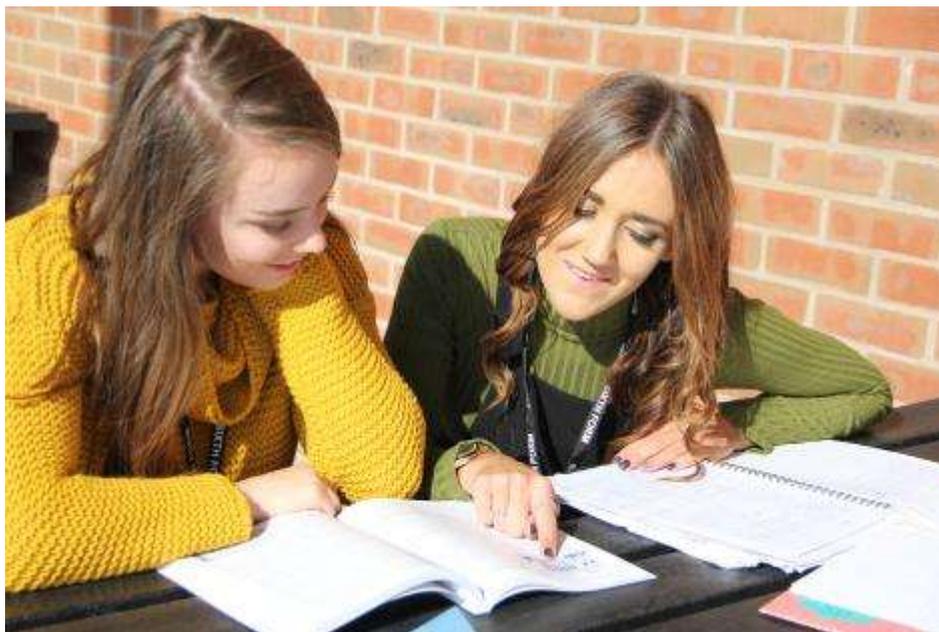
Assignments – Set and Marked by Thomas Gainsborough School

Information Technology

Written Exam – Externally Assessed

Tasks – Externally Assessed

Assignments – Set and Marked by Thomas Gainsborough School



Digital Media

Cambridge Technical Level 3 Extended Certificate

Examination Board: OCR

Course Leader: Mrs S Crawte

Contact Email: scrawte@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

The Cambridge Technicals in Digital Media have been developed to meet the changing needs of **the sector, and prepare students for the challenges they'll face in Higher Education or** employment. Designed in collaboration with experts spanning the breadth of the sector, the Cambridge Technicals in Digital Media focuses on the skills, knowledge and understanding that **today's universities and employers demand. Students will apply practical skills and knowledge in** preparation for further study or the workplace.

Students will develop professional and social skills through interaction with performers, clients and peers; as well as theoretical and technical knowledge and understanding to underpin these skills. This will allow their creativity and flair to be harnessed in the design and production of media products used within the industry. Students will develop conceptual ideas, and visualise these all the way through the production cycle: from planning and pre-production right through to editing, **post-production and presentation of products. They'll also learn how** to analyse target audience requirements, research market demand and bring a media concept alive working in line with legal and regulatory requirements, in a safe and effective way, protecting themselves **and those they're working with from injury or harm.**

Students will also gain an understanding of how different businesses and organisations in the media sector work. When it comes to progression or employment, students will understand the variety of opportunities available to them, and the roles and responsibilities of media businesses and organisations within the sector. This will make sure students develop clear ideas about where they might like to take their career and what progression routes they would like to follow.

- Unit 1 Media products and audiences (External Assessment) (90GLH)
- Unit 2 Pre-production and planning (External Assessment) (90 GLH)
- Unit 21 Plan and deliver a pitch for a media product (Internal Assessment) (30 GLH)
- Unit 3 Create a media product (Internal Assessment) (60 GLH)
- Unit 20 Advertising Media (Internal Assessment) (60 GLH)
- Unit 23 Create a personal media profile (Internal Assessment) (30 GLH)

Qualifications

OCR Cambridge Technical Level 3 Extended Certificate (360 GLH)

Entry requirements

Students must have achieved 5 GCSEs at Grades A-C (equivalent to five Grades 9-4). English Language and Maths at a grade 5 are desirable.

Assessment

Final Grades awarded are Distinction* (A*), Distinction (A), Merit (C) and Pass (E).

UCAS points are available for this qualification. Assessment is 50% coursework portfolio based, which is subject to internal assessment, followed by a visiting external moderator to verify the assessment. The other 50% is externally assessed.

Where Next?

Progressions to further qualifications, such as HNDs or degrees in media-related subjects are a likely route. Alternatively, this qualification is designed to enable candidates to enter employment at a trainee level.

Please Note

This is a vocational course, which reflects the rigours and working roles in the world of the creative media industry. As in this industry, analysis, planning, design and creative work require a great deal of commitment and the ability to meet deadlines. This course is ideally suited to organised and productive students.



Health & Social Care

Level 3 BTEC National

Extended Certificate, Diploma or Extended Diploma

Examination Board: Pearson Edexcel

Course Leader: Mrs Tracey Welsh

Contact Email: twelsh@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care:

360 GLH Equivalent in size to one A Level. 4 units of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external. Mandatory content (83%). External assessment (58%).

Mandatory and External:

- Unit 1 Human Lifespan Development
- Unit 2 Working in Health and Social Care

Mandatory and Internal:

- Unit 5 Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs

Optional and Internal:

- Unit 14 Physiological Disorders and their Care

Diploma in Health and Social Care:

720 GLH Equivalent in size to two A Levels. 8 units of which 6 are mandatory and 3 are external. Mandatory content (83%). External assessment (46%).

Mandatory and External:

- Unit 1 Human Lifespan Development
- Unit 2 Working in Health and Social Care
- Unit 4 Enquiries into Current Research in Health and Social Care

Mandatory and Internal:

- Unit 5 Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs
- Unit 7 Principles of Safe Practice in Health and Social Care
- Unit 8 Promoting Public Health

Optional and Internal:

- Unit 6 Work Experience in Health and Social Care *
- Unit 14 Physiological Disorders and their Care

*100 hours of work experience

Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care:

1080 GLH Equivalent in size to three A Levels. 13 units of which 8 are Mandatory and 4 are external. Mandatory content (72%). External assessment (42%).

Mandatory and External:

- Unit 1 Human Lifespan Development
- Unit 2 Working in Health and Social Care
- Unit 3 Anatomy and Physiology for Health and Social Care
- Unit 4 Enquiries into Current Research in Health and Social Care

Mandatory and Internal:

- Unit 5 Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs
- Unit 6 Work Experience in Health and Social Care *
- Unit 7 Principles of Safe Practice in Health and Social Care

- Unit 8 Promoting Public Health

Optional and Internal:

- Unit 10 Sociological Perspectives
- Unit 11 Psychological Perspectives
- Unit 16 Policy in Health and Social Care
- Unit 18 Physiological Disorders and their Care
- Unit 20 Understanding Mental Wellbeing

Entry Requirements

- BTEC Merit-Level 2 from H&SC, Science and PE
- GCSE English Grade 4, Maths Grade 4
- 5 Cs and above (Grade 4 or above) or BTEC equivalent
- Commitment to 200 hours of relevant work experience

Assessment

The course is assessed through a range of assessment types and styles suited to vocational qualifications in the sector. There are three main forms of assessment: internal, external and synoptic. Most units are internally assessed and subject to external standards verification. The styles of external assessment are examination and set tasks. Synoptic assessment requires learners to demonstrate that they can identify and use effectively (in an integrated way) an appropriate selection of skills, techniques, concepts, theories and knowledge from across the whole sector as relevant to a key task. Synoptic units may be internally or externally assessed.

Where Next?

The health and social care sector is a major employer of almost 4 million people in the UK, many of whom are highly skilled. Almost 1.7 million job openings are expected over the period to 2020. It also makes a vital contribution to all other aspects of the economy and society by creating a healthy and productive workforce and by caring for the ageing and the vulnerable. Services provided by the sector will touch every individual and family in the UK.

The BTEC Level 3 Diploma and Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care prepare learners to become occupationally ready to take up employment in the health and social care sector at the appropriate level. This can follow either directly after achieving the qualification, or via the stepping stone of Higher Education (HE) in university or college.

University of Suffolk

Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form and University of Suffolk would like to widen access to higher education in Suffolk by identifying and enhancing progression routes between them. This includes the provision of guaranteed HE places if Entry Requirements are met, and other collaborative activities designed to support progression between the identified programmes.

Music

BTEC National Diploma or Subsidiary Diploma

Examination Board: Edexcel

Course Leader: Mrs C Pipe

Contact Email: cpipe@tgschool.net

What Will I Study?

There are 6 units of work, which will be spread out over the 2 years.

The units include:

- *Unit 22: Music Performance Session Styles*
- *Unit 23: Music Performance Techniques*
- *Unit 24: Music Project*
- *Unit 30: Pop Music Practice*
- *Unit 33: Solo Music Performance Skills*
- *Unit 40: Working and Developing as a Musical Ensemble*

You can be any type of musician to take this course and although traditionally it has been a pop based course, there are lots of units to choose from and we can tailor the course to your own needs.

Qualifications

BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma equivalent to one A Level.

BTEC Level 3 Diploma equivalent to two A Levels.

Entry Requirements

Students require a GCSE Music, Grade B or above, Grade 4 or above on your voice or instrument. You need to have a singing or instrumental teacher. It is advisable to start the course with a group of musicians you intend to work with for 2 years.

Assessment

You will achieve marks for each piece of work you do. You must pass all of your coursework to pass the course.

Where Next?

University – Performance, Music Technology, Arts, Administration courses.

Employment – in any of the above areas.

Please note

The course includes writing! It is not just about performing and organising concerts.

Sport

Level 3 BTEC National, Extended Diploma / Foundation Diploma

Examination Board: Pearson Edexcel

Course Leader: Mr B Richards

Contact Email: brichards@tgschool.net

What will I study?

You will study 14 units for the Extended Diploma, or 7 units for the Foundation Diploma:

- 1. Anatomy and Physiology
- 2. Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being
- 3. Professional Development in the Sports Industry
- 4. Sports Leadership
- 5. Application of Fitness Testing
- 6. Sports Psychology
- 7. Practical Sports Performance
- 8. Coaching for Performance
- 9. Research Methods in Sport
- 10. Sport Event Organisation
- 11. Research Project in Sport
- 13. Instructing Gym Based Exercise
- 14. Exercise and Circuit Based Physical activity
- 17. Sports Injury Management
- 24. Provision of Sport for People with Physical and Learning Disabilities
- 25. Rules, Regulations and Officiating in Sport
- 26. Technical and Tactical Demands of Sport
- 27. The Athletes Lifestyle
- 28. Sports Performance Analysis
- 31. Team Building

Entry Requirements

Students should have achieved a Merit in Level 2 BTEC in Sport, Grade B or above in GCSE PE.

Assessment

Units will be assessed through one of three methods:

- Assignment - Set and marked internally by Thomas Gainsborough School, then a sample will be sent to the exam board for standardising
- Task - Set and marked by Pearson, the exam board
- Written Exam - Set and marked by Pearson, the exam board

Where next?

This qualification is primarily designed to support progression to employment after further study at university. However, it also supports learners who choose to progress directly to employment, as the transferable knowledge, understanding and skills will give learners an advantage in **applying for a range of entry level roles or 'school leaver' industry training programmes and Higher Apprenticeships** in areas such as sport and fitness training, coaching, and sports performance research. The qualification is intended to carry UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as meeting admission requirements for many relevant sports and sport-related courses, for example: Degrees in Sports Science or Sports and Exercise Sciences. Learners should always check the entry requirements for degree programmes with specific Higher Education providers.

Other Qualifications



Extended Project Qualification

A Level

Examination Board: AQA

Specification: 7993

Course Leader: Mr K Alexander

Contact Email: kalexander@tgschool.net

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) offers Sixth Form students the opportunity to study a topic in depth and produce a final dissertation. It is a free-standing qualification and its purpose is to add a further dimension to Sixth Form and to stretch the more ambitious scholar.

EPQ lessons & assessment

Students who wish to attempt the EPQ will attend an introductory set of lessons that prepare them to choose a topic and to carry out research. For much of the course they will work independently, although their progress will be monitored by a supervisor who will offer guidance and support. During the course there will be further lessons to develop the analytical skills of the students and to prepare them to write the final dissertation, which will be 5,000 words in length or at least 1,000 words if producing an artefact. The dissertation is assessed internally and moderated externally.

The EPQ represents a significant additional undertaking for any A level students, so good time management will be essential. Part of the final assessment asks the students to reflect on their experience and to evaluate objectively their own performance. Participation in the EPQ should **enhance a student's performance in all subjects and provide** an excellent foundation for study at University.

Benefits of EPQ

The course is not compulsory but it offers some significant benefits to those involved who will:

- Pursue in depth one aspect of their A level studies, which should develop their knowledge and understanding.
- Undertake a significant piece of research which should be excellent preparation for **Diversity study**.
- Develop their powers of analysis and expression.
- Have an excellent command of one topic to quote on their University applications and discuss at interview
- Enhance their Curriculum Vitae.

“We welcome the introduction of the Extended Project and would encourage you to undertake one as it will help you develop independent study and research skills and ease the transition from school/college to higher education.”
(University of Cambridge)

“The university is supportive of the requirement to undertake an Extended Project...It is expected that some admissions tutors may make two alternative offers to those offering this qualification, one of which involves success in the Extended Project (for example either AAA at A Level or AAB at A level plus Extended Project.”
(University of Bristol)

Football Scholarship Programme

Norwich City Football Club
Regional Football Development Programme



Overview

The Norwich City Regional Football Scholarship Programme in partnership with Thomas Gainsborough School, is an exciting for young people between the ages of 16-18 to continue their footballing and career development through Norwich City Football

This unique and high quality experience will combine focused, group educational sessions with our designated education tutor the opportunity to train with qualified coaches and represent Norwich City Football Club and Gainsborough College in our football fixture programme.

Education

The Norwich City Scholarship Students can either study for a Level 3 BTEC Extended Diploma in Sport over 12 hours per week across a two year period and will follow a carefully planned pathway of modules to provide them with a broad range of knowledge and experience whilst remaining linked to potential career pathways, OR can select a combination of A levels, OR a combination of A levels and Vocational subjects. Carrying a potential of 420 UCAS points, it provides the perfect opportunity for university progression. There are direct links to University of East Anglia.

Football

The Norwich City Regional Scholarship Programme will see scholars train 4-6 hours per week using a technical programme based around technical and tactical development.

The squad of players will play in the British College League ensuring a competitive fixture programme on a weekly basis.

Progression Opportunities

The experience of the football programme and the carefully chosen module pathway is designed to form a clear pathway into employment within the sports and active leisure sector.

Potential career pathways include, but are not limited to: Sports Coaching, Sports Nutrition, Sports Science, Fitness Instructor, Performance Analyst.

Register an Interest

To register for interest in gaining a place on the Scholarship Programme, then complete the Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form application and return it to Mrs King at Lking@tgschool.net

This unique and high quality experience will combine focused, small-group educational sessions with our designated education tutor alongside the opportunity to train with qualified coaches and represent Norwich City Football Club in our football fixture programme.

How to Apply

Applicants will receive a letter of invitation to an interview during December or January. They will be informed by letter if their application has been successful by the end of January, pending successful exam results in August 2017.

Students from Thomas Gainsborough School should complete the Sixth Form Application form and return it to Student Services or the Sixth Form Office.

All other applicants should complete the Sixth Form Application form and return it along with a recent copy of their school report to the main school reception or by post to:

Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form
Wells Hall Road
Great Cornard
Sudbury
Suffolk
CO10 0NH

Disclaimer

Every effort is made to ensure the information contained in this Course Guide is accurate at the time of publication. However, because of possible changes to qualification systems or staffing, Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form may from time to time need to provide alternative courses to some students.

Finding out more

You are always welcome to come and visit our school and Sixth Form to see the facilities, experience lessons and talk to staff and current students.

To ask any further questions or to arrange a personal tour please arrange an appointment by contacting Mrs Kerry Fuller either by phone or email.
kfuller@tgschool.net

If you wish to find out more about Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form and the school as a whole you will also find more useful information on our website.

We look forward to welcoming you to our Sixth Form.

Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form
Wells Hall Road
Great Cornard
Sudbury
Suffolk
CO10 0NH
01787 375232

enquiries@tgschool.net
www.tgschool.net

