



**Gosfield School**  
Established 1929



# SIXTH FORM OPTIONS

2026 - 2028

# ART AND DESIGN A LEVEL

Head of Art - Mr J Beasley  
Email: [jonathan.beasley@gosfieldschool.org.uk](mailto:jonathan.beasley@gosfieldschool.org.uk)

Exam board - Pearson Edexcel

## Is this the right subject for me?

If you enjoy:

- Drawing, painting, ceramics and textiles.
- Working with a variety of materials.
- Learning about artists and their work and the work of designers and craftspeople.
- Presenting information in a sketchbook/generating a personal journal.
- Risk, challenge and perseverance.

Then this course is for you.

## What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

- You will need to make intellectual, imaginative and creative decisions.
- Investigate, analyse, experiment and have an aesthetic understanding for art, craft and design.
- Have an independent mind in developing, refining and communicating your own ideas.
- Have experience of working with a broad range of media.
- An understanding of the interrelationships between art, craft and design processes and an awareness of the contexts in which they operate.

## How will I be assessed?

- The coursework consists of two major elements: preparatory studies and practical outcomes.
- A 15-hour practical exam over 3 x days to produce a final piece/s for the Externally Set Assignment.
- Supporting sketchbooks and studies, completed essay component.

## What can I do after I have completed the course?

- This A Level will provide the portfolio for further education, e.g. Foundation course in Art and Design and then further studies at degree level in a range of disciplines to do with Art and Design.
- Art and Design A Level may support further education and be a link to teaching Art and Design.
- Alternatively, you could work independently as an artist, work in theatre for set or costume design, become a graphic artist, interior designer or fashion designer -the possibilities are endless!

### Component 1

- This incorporates three major elements,
- Supporting studies, practical work, and a personal study.
- Personal study in an essay format marked discreetly out of 18 marks.

60% weighting

### Component 2

- Externally Set Assignment: This is the final exam paper which has a title set by the exam board of which you will need to respond.
- You will have supporting studies and sketchbooks and a final examination of 15 hours to produce the final piece.

40% weighting

# BIOLOGY A LEVEL

Second in Science – Mr A Morris  
Email: adam.morris@gosfieldschool.org.uk

Exam board - AQA

## Is this the right subject for me?

If you enjoy:

Understanding how living things work and how they interact with one another, problem solving, mathematical challenges, practical biology, then A Level Biology could be the right choice for you.

## What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

You need to have ideally achieved a Grade 7 or above in GCSE Biology or Combined Science and GCSE Mathematics.

## What will I learn?

You will study eight topics over the two-year course:

- 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 change in their internal environment
- Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
- The control of gene expression

## How will I be assessed?

The qualification will be assessed in three exam papers and Practical Endorsement.

### Paper 1 - Topics 1- 4 including practical skills

91 marks

- 2 hours written paper - 76 marks short and long answer questions, 15 marks for extended response questions.
- 35% of total A level

### Paper 2 - Topics 5-8

91 marks

- 2 hours written paper – 76 marks short and long answer questions, 15 marks for extended response questions.
- 35% of total A level

### Paper 3 - Topics 1-8

78 marks

- 2 hours written paper - 38 marks short answer questions. 15 marks critical analysis, 25 marks for 1 essay from a choice of 2 titles.
- 30% of total A level

## What can I do after I have completed the course?

Biology can open the door to many careers including medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, pharmacology, optometry, nursing, microbiology, marine biology, forensic science, farm management, equine studies and sports science.

# BUSINESS A LEVEL

Exam board – Pearson Edexcel

## Is this the right subject for me?

If you enjoy:

- Debating and understanding business issues such as inequality, globalisation and the impact of the Ukraine war.
- Exploring and presenting alternative courses of action.
- Keeping up to date with national and international trends.
- Learning about the economic environment and business through research and investigation.

***“Business opportunities are like buses, there’s always another one coming.”***

- Richard Branson

## What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

It doesn't matter if you haven't studied business or economics before. You should have an interest in business and economics and want to know more about the impact that they have on you.

## What will I learn?

- Business A Level is about marketing, finance, managing people and resources. We also look at how to make decisions and manage change. 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. A business way of thinking can help you to make better choices.
- In Year 12 we do Theme 1 and Theme 2, and you will be introduced to meeting customer needs, the market, marketing mix and strategy, managing people, entrepreneurs and leaders. In addition, we will look at raising finance, financial planning, resource management and external influences.
- In Year 13 we do Theme 3 and Theme 4, and you will explore the impact of business objectives and strategy, business growth making decisions and managing change. You will also investigate the role of globalisation and the impact of multinational corporations.

## How will I be assessed?

<b>Paper 1</b> Marketing, people and global businesses Questions drawn from Themes 1 and 4	<b>Paper 2</b> Business activities, decisions and strategy Questions drawn from Themes 2 and 3	<b>Paper 3</b> Investigating business in a competitive environment Questions drawn from all themes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 100 marks</li><li>• 2 hours written paper</li><li>• 35% of total A level qualification</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 100 marks</li><li>• 2 hours written paper</li><li>• 35% of total A level qualification</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 100 marks</li><li>• 2 hours written paper</li><li>• 30% of total A level qualification</li></ul>

## What can I do after I have completed the course?

Studying Business will help you develop transferable skills that will prepare you for studying at university or moving into the world of work. These include skills in data interpretation and essay writing. You will also develop commercial awareness. Suitable higher education courses include Management degrees or degrees in Economics. You might choose to study business economics, international business or a business and management degree.

# CHEMISTRY A LEVEL

Head of Chemistry – Dr A Hubbard  
Email: [adrian.hubbard@gosfieldschool.org.uk](mailto:adrian.hubbard@gosfieldschool.org.uk)

Exam board - AQA

## Is this the right subject for me?

If you enjoy:

Problem solving, mathematical challenges, practical chemistry, understanding how things work and human impact on our world, then A Level Chemistry could be the right choice for you.

## What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

You need to have ideally achieved a Grade 7 or above in GCSE Chemistry or Combined Science and GCSE Mathematics.

## What will I learn?

You will study three main areas:

- Inorganic Chemistry, which includes atomic structure, chemical bonding and the main groups in the periodic table in this area of study you will gain an appreciation of trends within groups and periods and the elegance of the table devised by Dmitri Mendeleev.
- Organic Chemistry, in this topic you will look at carbon's ability to form multiple bonds and give rise to life. You will employ high level thinking to solve synthesis problems, ensuring that your reaction pathways are both cost effective and sustainable. This area of study also introduces you to analytical techniques applied by forensic scientists to discover the identity of unknown substances.
- Physical Chemistry, covers electrode potentials, electromotive force, enthalpy and entropy. From your physical chemistry studies, you will be able to give a scientific explanation to why it's futile to try and maintain a tidy bedroom. In all areas you will have the opportunity to develop practical skills.

## How will I be assessed?

<b>Paper 1</b> Periodic table, elements and physical chemistry.	<b>Paper 2</b> Synthesis, analytical techniques and physical chemistry.	<b>Paper 3</b> All topics and practical skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 105 marks</li><li>• 2 hours written paper</li><li>• 35% of total A level qualification</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 105 marks</li><li>• 2 hours written paper</li><li>• 35% of total A level qualification</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 90 marks</li><li>• 2 hours written paper</li><li>• 30% of total A level qualification</li></ul>

The qualification will be assessed in three exam papers and a Practical Endorsement.

## What can I do after I have completed the course?

Chemistry is a good choice for anyone considering a career in STEM it is also an important subject for medicine, environmental science, engineering, toxicology, pharmaceuticals, metallurgy, space exploration, developing perfumes and personal care products. Chemistry is desirable in many non-science fields as studying chemistry helps develop transferable skills such as mathematical capability, problem solving, practical aptitude and modelling.

# CLASSICAL CIVILISATION A LEVEL

Principal – Mr R Jackson  
Email: [rod.jackson@gosfieldschool.org.uk](mailto:rod.jackson@gosfieldschool.org.uk)

Exam Board - OCR

## Is this the right subject for me?

If you are interested in History, Politics, Literature, Art, Theatre, Warfare, and anything and everything about the culture of the Ancient World, this may be the course for you!

## What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

Ideally a Grade 6 or equivalent in English or History or another humanity subject at GCSE

## What will I learn?

A knowledge of the civilisations of Greece and Rome is fundamental to an understanding of our own. The A-level syllabus offers an integrated study of literature, art, history, culture and philosophy in the ancient Mediterranean world. No previous knowledge of the subject is needed at all.

A typical lesson will involve reading or studying a primary source (an extract of literature or an image of Greek sculpture, for example), followed by discussion. Often, we will turn the spotlight back from the ancient world and onto our own world to reassess the nature of our modern societies and values. We will visit the British Museum as part of our studies and hope to venture further afield as well.

## How will I be assessed?

At the end of two years you will sit three papers and exam questions test a balanced combination of factual knowledge and evaluative skills, both historical and literary.

### Paper 1 – The World of the Hero

This is a compulsory paper consisting of an in-depth study of either Homer's Iliad or Homer's Odyssey and Virgil's Aeneid. These Epic poems are studied in translation.

### Paper 2 – Culture and the Arts

You will study one of the following options:

Greek Theatre; Imperial Image; Invention of the Barbarian; Greek Art.

All of these topics involve the study of visual and material culture and all but Greek Art include the study of literature in translation.

### Paper 3 – Beliefs & Ideas

You will study one of the following options:

Greek Religion; Love and Relationships; Politics and the Late Republic; Democracy and the Athenians.

These topics involve the study of an area of classical thought, in combination with the study of literature in translation or visual/material culture.

## What can I do after I have completed the course?

An A-level in Classical Civilisation provides an excellent basis for a range of degrees from Art to Philosophy. The subject can also be continued at university on its own or in combination with others. Well-known public figures who have found the study of Classics a valuable training before going to high achievement in other fields include: JK Rowling (best-selling author of the Harry Potter series), Tom Hiddleston (Actor), Susan Greenfield (who presented the series Brainstory on BBC2), Sir Anthony Cleaver (ex-Chairman of IBM, Head of UK Atomic Energy Authority) and Sir Jeremy Morse (ex-Chairman, Lloyds Bank).

# ENGLISH LITERATURE A LEVEL

Head of English - Mr D Paige  
Email: david.paige@gosfieldschool.org.uk

Exam board - AQA

## Is this the right subject for me?

If you enjoy:

- Analysing texts in detail
- Studying a variety of texts through history
- Applying advanced theories and analytical readings
- Debating your views
- Reading.

## What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

During the GCSE English courses, you will already have begun to develop your analytical and interpretation skills. However, the A Level English Literature course will require you to take this level of skill and comprehension one step further.

## What will I learn?

As well as complementing your analytical skills, your sensitivity to language, your comprehension of literary terminology and your awareness of social and cultural contexts, the course will help you to build up some key generic skills that you can apply to your work and studies beyond the A Level course. These include improved oral and written skills, more advanced research and planning techniques as well as the capacity for independent thought and more resourceful IT skills.

## How will I be assessed?

<p><b>Paper 1</b> Love Through the Ages (7712/1)</p> <p><b>Section A: Shakespeare</b> Othello</p> <p><b>Section B: Unseen Poetry</b> Analyse two unseen poems.</p> <p><b>Section C: Comparing Texts</b> The Great Gatsby and a selection of pre-1900 love poetry.</p> <p><b>Marks:</b> 75 marks (40% of A-level)</p>	<p><b>Paper 2</b> Texts in Shared Contexts (7712/2B - Modern Times: Literature from 1945 to the present day)</p> <p><b>Section A:</b> The Handmaid's Tale A Streetcar Named Desire Or Feminine Gospels</p> <p><b>Section B: Contextual Linking</b> Part 1: One question on an unseen extract. Part 2: One essay question linking texts studied.</p> <p><b>Marks:</b> 75 marks (40% of A-level)</p>	<p><b>Non-exam Assessment (NEA)</b> Independent Critical Study: Texts Across Time</p> <p><b>Task:</b> Comparative critical study of two texts (one must be pre-1900)</p> <p><b>Length:</b> 2,500 words</p> <p><b>Marks:</b> 50 marks (20% of A-level)</p>
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\*It is a linear course so all of the examinations will be at the end of the two-year course.

## What can I do after I have completed the course?

English A Level opens doors into all careers, particularly the media in all of its forms; advertising, the legal profession and politics.

# FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA

Head of Food Technology – Mrs J Allwood  
Email: jennifer.allwood@gosfieldschool.org.uk

Exam board - Eduqas

## Why choose Level 3 Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition?

An understanding of food science and nutrition is relevant to many industries and job roles. Care providers and nutritionists in hospitals use this knowledge, as do sports coaches and fitness instructors. Hotels and restaurants, food manufacturers and government agencies also use this understanding to develop menus, food products and policies that support healthy eating initiatives. Many employment opportunities within the field of food science and nutrition are available to learners who have studied Food Science and Nutrition. The WJEC/Eduqas Level 3 Applied Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition is worth one A Level and can be studied over 2 years.

## What will I study?

You will complete three units: two mandatory and one optional, over the two years.

The first mandatory unit: Unit 1 Meeting nutritional needs of specific groups will enable you to demonstrate an understanding of the science of food safety, nutrition and nutritional needs in a wide range of contexts, and through on-going practical sessions, to gain practical skills to produce quality food items to meet the needs of individuals.

The second mandatory unit: Unit 2 Ensuring Food is Safe to Eat will allow you to develop your understanding of the science of food safety and hygiene; essential knowledge for anyone involved in food production in the home or wishing to work in the food industry. Again, practical sessions will support the gaining of theoretical knowledge and ensure learning is a tactile experience.

Studying one of the two optional units Unit 3 Experimenting to Solve Food Production Problems or Unit 4 Current Issues in Food Science and Nutrition will allow you the opportunity to study subjects of particular interest or relevance to you, building on previous learning and experiences.

## What skills will I develop?

Careers with Level 3 Certificate in Food Science and Nutrition You will build on and extend your practical food preparation skills and also each unit within the qualification has an applied purpose which acts as a focus for the learning in the unit. The applied purpose demands authentic work related learning in each of the available units. It also requires you to consider how the use and application of your learning impacts on yourself, other individuals, employers, society and the environment.

## How will I be assessed?

The Level 3 Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition is assessed using a combination of internal and external assessment.

- Unit 1 and Unit 2 are assessed through external assessments (examinations).
- Unit 1 is usually sat at the end of Year 12 (can resit in Year 13 if needed) and Unit 2 is sat between May 1st – June 1st in Year 13.
- Unit 3 and Unit 4 are assessed internally: you will need to respond to a set assignment brief at any time within the academic year, which will be marked by your teacher and moderated.

## Careers with Level 3 Certificate in Food Science and Nutrition

Together with other relevant qualifications at Level 3, such as AS and A levels in Biology, Chemistry, Sociology and Maths and/or Level 3 qualifications in Hospitality or Science, learners will gain the required knowledge to be able to use the qualification to support entry to higher education courses such as:

- BSc Food and Nutrition, BSc Human Nutrition, BSc (Hons) Public Health Nutrition, BSc (Hons) Food Science and Technology

# FORENSIC INVESTIGATION BTEC

Head of Science – Dr C Clarkson  
Email: christopher.clarkson@gosfieldschool.org.uk

Exam board – Pearson Edexcel

## Is this the right subject for me?

The BTEC Pearson National Foundation Diploma in Forensic Investigation is a vocational qualification designed to provide students with foundational knowledge and practical skills in the fields of forensic science and criminal investigation. This course includes science investigation skills and practical techniques, as well as a range of optional topics to tailor the course around the student (please see below). It serves as a preparatory course for students who wish to pursue further studies or entry-level careers in forensic science, law enforcement, or related areas. It is equivalent to 1.5 A Levels, attracting UCAS tariff points in the same fashion to traditional A Levels.

## What will I learn?

You will study these units.

Unit (number and title)	Unit Size (GLM)	Foundation Diploma (510 GLM)	Diploma (720 GLM)	Extended Diploma (1080 GLM)
1. Principles and Applications of Science I*	90	M	M	M
2. Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques*	90	M	M	M
3. Science Investigation Skills*	120	M	M	M
4. Forensic Investigation Procedures in Practice	90	M	M	M
5. Applications of Ciminology	120		M	M
6. Criminal Investifation Procedures in Practice	90		M	M
7. Applications of Criminology	120			M
8. Physiology of Human Body Systems*	60	O	O	O
9. Environmental Forensics	60	O	O	O
10. Forensic Fire Investigation*	60	O	O	O
11. Forensic Traffic Collision Investigation*	60	O	O	O
12. Forensic Photography	60	O	O	O
13. Forensic Genetics	60	O	O	O
14. Forensic Anthrapology and Archaeology	60		O	O
15. Practical Chemical Analysis*	60		O	O
16. Microbiology and Microbiological Techniques*	60			O

\* Units 1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 11, 15 and 16 are also part of the BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Applied Science

Entry requirements: A pass at GCSE Science, English and Maths (Grade 4 or higher)

## What can I do after I have completed the course?

**Higher Education:** Degree courses in Biology, Chemistry, Forensic Science, Criminal Justice, Law, Cybersecurity, Public Administration

**Careers:** Police or other emergency services, Forensic Scientist, Pathologist, Researcher in the field of Forensic Science

# FRENCH A LEVEL

Head of MFL – Mrs S Reid  
Email: [stephanie.reid@gosfieldschool.org.uk](mailto:stephanie.reid@gosfieldschool.org.uk)

Exam Board - Edexcel

## Is this the right subject for me?

If you are:

Open-minded, curious, courageous, hard-working, determined, and passionate about the French language.

If you enjoy:

Communicating and explaining your ideas, building more sophisticated linguistic expression, learning about other cultures, and developing your ability to debate, then French could be the right A Level choice for you.

## What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

You need to achieve minimum of Grade 7 in GCSE French

## What will I learn?

You will study technological and social change, looking at diversity and the benefits it brings. You will study highlights of French-speaking artistic culture, including francophone music and cinema, and learn about political engagement and who wields political power in the French-speaking world. You will also explore the influence of the past on present-day French-speaking communities. The A-level course is rooted in the context of French-speaking countries and the issues and influences which have shaped them. You will study one French film and one novel and will carry out an independent research project on an area of your choice.

## How will I be assessed?

Paper 1 - Listening, Reading and Writing exam	Paper 2 - Writing exam	Paper 3 - Speaking exam
<p><b>Section 1</b> - Listening comprehension (candidates control the recording Themselves)</p> <p><b>Section 2</b> - Reading comprehension</p> <p><b>Section 3</b> - Translation from English into French and from French into English.</p> <p>50% of total exam 2 hours 30</p>	<p>Write 2 essays in French: one on the novel and one on the film they have studied.</p> <p>20% of total exam 2 hours</p>	<p>The speaking exam is conducted by the Class Teacher. Candidates present and discuss their Individual Research Project as well as one other theme based on a stimulus.</p> <p>30% of total exam 15 minutes</p>

## What can I do after I have completed the course?

The A level course provides a sound basis for studying French in higher education as a single degree or combined with another subject, such as Business Studies, Law, History, Music or another Language. A-level French will give you a critical awareness of the world around you. You'll be able to utilise your communication and analytical skills to navigate through your professional and personal life both at home and on the international stage.

Career options include: interpreter, translator, education, international development worker, diplomacy, broadcasting, journalism, fashion, business, logistics, finance, marketing, advertising and public relations (PR) careers, sport, medicine...

# GEOGRAPHY A LEVEL

Head of Geography: Mr Neal Wilcox  
Email: [neal.wilcox@gosfieldschool.org.com](mailto:neal.wilcox@gosfieldschool.org.com)

Exam board - AQA

## Is this the right subject for me?

This course will excite your mind, challenge perceptions and stimulate investigation whilst developing analytical skills. This course will explore the diversity of the world, exploring physical and human realms and the complex challenges and opportunities that exist within them. This A level will allow you to develop transferable skills such as analysis, reasoning and making judgements that are highly sought after by higher education and employers.

## What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

To take this course, you will need a keen interest in the world around you. You will be able to write short and extended answers that demonstrate analytical and reasoning skills. You will need to be able to work independently, be organised and self motivated to assist you with the non examined coursework element of the qualification.

## What will I learn?

In A level Geography you will study a selection of topics from both Physical Geography and Human Geography. You will also take part in a geography fieldwork investigation, as well as developing your geographical skills.

Physical units:

Coastal systems and landscapes  
Hazards  
Water and carbon cycles

Human units:

Global systems and global governance  
Changing places  
Contemporary urban environments

## How will I be assessed?

Paper 1	Paper 2	Fieldwork
Written exam 2 hours and 30 minutes 40% of the A Level	Written exam 2 hours and 30 minutes 40% of the A Level	Coursework project (NEA) 20% of the A Level

## What can I do after I have completed the course?

An A Level in Geography is a good platform for further study or employment in areas such as environmental and sustainability, urban planning, disaster planning and management, teaching, cartography, surveyor, alternative energy, tourism and government agencies. It also teaches many transferable skills such as analysis, detailed reasoning, discussion and data analysis that can be applied to a wide range of subjects at university and is widely appreciated by university courses due to its diverse skill base.

# HISTORY A LEVEL

Head of Humanities – Mrs L Yeomans  
Email: [lisa.yeomans@gosfieldschool.org.uk](mailto:lisa.yeomans@gosfieldschool.org.uk)

Exam board – Pearson Edexcel

## Is this the right subject for me?

This is the subject for you if you are interested in the world around you, if you like current affairs and often why things happen around us. History A level will help you wish develop your interest and enthusiasm for history as well as helping you understand your place in the world. It will develop your understanding of society and will help you see the importance of cultural, religious, ethnic and social diversity.

## What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

You don't need any special entry requirements, but, show a keen interest in the past and the present world around us. You must be able to demonstrate the ability to write an extended piece of writing and formulate an argument.

## What will I learn?

You will have the chance to look at periods of History that you may not have covered before, you will be able to study both topics from modern and early modern history. In History A level you will have to partake in an independent study of a historical interpretation. This can be of your choice from a period of History you would like to look at in more depth.

**Year 1** - Communist States Russia, 1917-1991. From Lenin to Yeltsin. The German Democratic Republic 1949-1990.

**Year 2** - Lancastrians, Yorkists and Henry VII and Independent study/coursework.

## How will I be assessed?

Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3
30% of the mark 2 hours 45 minutes	20% of the mark 1 hour 30 minutes	30% of the mark 2 hours 45 minutes

The papers will be a mixture of extended writing and source based questions.

The remaining 20% will be an independent study.

## What can I do after I have completed the course?

History is highly sought after by higher education providers and employers and will help with careers.

During the A Level course you will develop transferable skills such as debating, analysis of sources and constructing a critical argument. These skills are useful in many areas of employment including such as, business, law, politics, government and journalism to name a few.

# MATHEMATICS A LEVEL

Head of Mathematics - Mr M McCormack  
Email: mark.mccormack@gosfieldschool.org.uk

Exam board – Pearson Edexcel

## Is this the right subject for me?

This course is suitable for a wide variety of students, as it encourages the learning of skills, the application of logical thought and the ability to read texts and documents. It is considered to be essential or strongly recommended for many of the sciences especially Physics. It is also used by students to widen their field of study and demonstrate that they are capable in more than one area of expertise. It is highly regarded by all universities and is essential for those considering Physics, Mathematics, Actuarial Studies, Accountancy or Engineering at a higher level. Many other courses, such as Business and Psychology, like their candidate to have studied A Levels Maths so it may be worth researching your preferred degree beforehand.

## What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

To begin the AS/A level Maths course you need to have at least grade 7 at GCSE, however we will consider all students with a grade 6 on an individual basis. You will need enthusiasm, a fondness for the subject and willingness to learn. It is essential you also purchase a graphics calculator at an early stage of the course, although the scientific calculator from your GCSE is suitable for the first half term.

## What will I learn?

The course is split into different subjects, pure mathematics (an extension of the work that you have covered at GCSE) including the wide field of calculus and both mechanics and statistics. Two-thirds of the course is Algebra based, but also includes topics such as Trigonometry and Vectors. At the beginning of the course there will be a period of revision of previous skills in order that you will all be able to start the new work from the course. From that time on, you will learn a wide variety of skills that are all inter-dependent. A couple of weeks after the start of term you will look back at your GCSE work and realise how much progress you have made.

## How will I be assessed?

Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3
Pure Mathematics 1 (2 hours)	Pure Mathematics 2 (2 hours)	Statistics and Mechanics (2 hours)

## What can I do after I have completed the course?

Maths careers include:

- Actuarial Science
- Aerospace Engineering
- Biomathematics
- Cryptology
- Data Scientist
- IT and Computing
- Quantitative Finance

# FURTHER MATHEMATICS

Head of Mathematics - Mr M McCormack  
Email: mark.mccormack@gosfieldschool.org.uk

Exam board – Pearson Edexcel

## Is this the right subject for me?

This course is suitable for a wide variety of students, as it encourages the learning of skills, the application of logical thought and the ability to read texts and documents. It is considered to be essential or strongly recommended for many of the sciences especially Physics. It is also used by students to widen their field of study and demonstrate that they are capable in more than one area of expertise. It is highly regarded by all universities and is essential for those considering Physics, Mathematics, Actuarial Studies, Accountancy or Engineering at a higher level.

## What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

This subject is done in addition to A level Maths but provides you with a separate full A level grade. You will ideally need a grade 8 GCSE if you intend to complete the A level.

This is for the type of student who enjoys doing Maths but who also likes to read around the subject. It has very high credibility with universities. For those interested in doing Mathematics, Physics and Engineering at degree level, this course will provide the basis of some of the work covered in the first year at university.

## What will I learn?

Further Maths takes the maths that you have been learning at GCSE and will learn at A level and extends and hones these skills. Half of the course is algebra based and you also complete studies in Discrete (or Decision) Mathematics.

## How will I be assessed?

### Paper 1

### Paper 2

### Paper 3

### Paper 3

**AS Level** (awarded an AS grade if taken at the end of Year 12)

Exam Code Edexcel 8FMO

Paper 1 -  
Core Pure Mathematics  
(1 hour 40 minutes)

Paper 2 -  
Decision Mathematics  
(1 hour 40 minutes)

**A Level** (awarded an A2 grade when taken at the end of Year 13)

Exam Code Edexcel 9FMO

Paper 1 -  
Core Pure Mathematics 1  
(1 hour 30 minutes)

Paper 2 -  
Core Pure Mathematics 2  
(1 hour 30 minutes)

Paper 3 -  
Decision Mathematics 1  
(1 hour 30 minutes)

Paper 4 -  
Decision Mathematics 2  
(1 hour 30 minutes)

# MUSIC A LEVEL

Head of Music – Mrs K Lane  
Email: Katharine.lane@gosfieldschool.org.uk

Exam board - Pearson Edexcel

## Is this the right subject for me?

If you enjoy:

Playing your instrument or singing both solo and in ensembles. If you enjoy studying the theory and techniques of music and music composition; if you enjoy listening to and learning about all genres and styles of music from Classical to world music to pop and musicals.

## What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

The performance element requires you to be a minimum of grade 5 standard on your instrument or voice along with grade 7+ at GCSE Music.

## What will I learn?

- You will be developing a deeper understanding of the language of music over the past 400 years and applying this to your compositional skills and your performances.
- Through listening and analysis, you will study the following areas of study: Vocal Music, Instrumental Music, Music for Film, Popular Music and Jazz, Fusions and New Directions.

## How will I be assessed?

- Three components
- Performing 30% (6 minutes total)
- Composing 30% (2 pieces, 1 free and 1 set brief)
- Appraising 40% exam (2 pieces from each area of study, plus wider listening)

### Paper 1 - Performing (30%)

This component consists of 60 marks.

- 48 marks for the performance
- 12 marks for the difficulty of the programme.
- Students must perform publicly and the programme should be no less than 6 minutes in total playing time.
- The programme can consist of any combination of solo or ensemble pieces.

### Paper 2 - Composing (30%)

Students produce one composition that is free i.e. not related to a set brief.

The second composition is from the set brief linked to the 6 Areas of Study.

- Vocal Music
- Music for Film
- Fusions
- Instrumental Music
- Popular Music and Jazz
- New Directions

### Paper 3 - Listening and Appraising (40%)

There are two sections in the examination:

Section A (45 marks)

- 3 questions based on extracts from the set works and one question on dictation.

Section B (35 marks)

- One essay on an unfamiliar piece.
- One essay on a set work and how it relates to wider
- Listening

## What can I do after I have completed the course?

Music is highly regarded as an academic subject and is key in the creative industries such as Film and Television.

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION DIPLOMA IN SPORTS COACHING

Director of Sport – Mr I Simpson  
Email: [ian.simpson@gosfieldschool.org.uk](mailto:ian.simpson@gosfieldschool.org.uk)

## Cambridge OCR Technicals - Equivalent to 2 A levels

Exam board - OCR

### Is this the right subject for me?

This course is designed for students who are keen to develop a knowledge of sport and their own individual performance.

Students who select this course will be able to play 2 hours of their own sport each week and will have the opportunity to analyse their own technique, improve, earn coaching badges and umpiring qualifications and also develop a deeper understanding of the body, how it functions and how its function can be improved to enable their performance to improve.

### What will I study?

- Body system and the effects of physical activity
- Sports Coaching and Activity Leadership
- Sports Organisation and Development
- Working Safely in sport, exercise, health and leisure
- Performance Analysis in sport and Exercise
- Organisation of sports events
- Physical activity for specific Groups
- Sports injuries and rehabilitation
- Practical skills in sport and physical Activity

### How will I be assessed?

Students will have a mixture of internal assessment (on going coursework) and external Moderation (exams), depending on the units that they are studying.

### What can I do after I have completed the course?

Physical Education is about so much more than playing sport. It is about developing a knowledge of the impact sport can have on health, well-being and fitness. Physical Education lends itself to a range of careers in sport and leisure industries and beyond; for example teaching, coaching, personal training, sports science, physiotherapy, occupational health, nutrition, consultancy and sports journalism. Alongside the deep theoretical knowledge and understanding that you will gain, whilst studying Sports Coaching you will learn a range of skills that will serve you, whatever your future may hold. For example: teamwork, resilience, competitive spirit, communication and analytical skills.

# PHYSICS A LEVEL

Teacher of Physics – Miss C Rice  
Email: [catherine.rice@gosfieldschool.org.uk](mailto:catherine.rice@gosfieldschool.org.uk)

Exam board - AQA

## Is this the right subject for me?

If you enjoy problem solving, mathematical challenges and understanding how the world and things around us work then A Level Physics could be the right choice for you.

## What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

You need to have ideally achieved Grade 7 or above in GCSE Physics and Mathematics (Combined Science at Grade 7/7 will be accepted in place of GCSE Physics). It is highly recommended that if choosing Physics at A level you also take A level Mathematics as mathematical skill makes up 40% of the assessment of A level physics and so it is incredibly difficult to perform well without it.

## What will I learn?

You will study twelve main areas:

- Mechanics
- Electric Circuits
- Electric and magnetic fields
- Nuclear and particle physics
- Materials
- Waves and the particle nature of light
- Thermodynamics
- Space
- Nuclear radiation
- Gravitational fields
- Oscillations
- Working as a physicist and practical skills

## How will I be assessed?

The qualification will be assessed in three exam papers and Practical Endorsement.

<b>Paper 1 -</b> Mechanics, electric and magnetic fields, nuclear and particle physics.	<b>Paper 2 -</b> Materials and thermodynamics, Space. Nuclear radiation, gravitational fields, waves and oscillations.	<b>Paper 3 -</b> Unified physics covering all content from the course and experimental methods.
90 marks 1 hour 45 minutes written paper. 30% of total A level	90 marks 1 hour 45 minutes written paper 30% of total A level	120 marks 2 hours 30 minutes written paper 40% of total A level

## What can I do after I have completed the course?

Physics is a good choice for anyone considering a career in STEM it is also an important subject for modern medicine including radiotherapy and medical imaging; civil engineering; architecture; computer games programming; environmental engineering; materials design and the study of space and space exploration.

Physics is desirable in many non-science fields as studying physics helps develop transferable skills such as mathematical capability, problem solving, practical aptitude and modelling.

# POLITICS A LEVEL

Teacher of Humanities – Mrs L Yeomans  
Email: [lisa.yeomans@gosfieldschool.org.uk](mailto:lisa.yeomans@gosfieldschool.org.uk)

Exam board - AQA

## Is this the right subject for me?

Studying A-level Government and Politics will provide insight into political beliefs central to an understanding of the modern world. It also develops analytical and evaluative skills in relation to interesting topics prevalent in the turbulent political climate of today.

## What skills will you get from studying Politics?

Studying this subject will develop your understanding of structures of authority and power, how political systems differ, and enable you to interpret, evaluate and comment on the nature of politics and government. You will also develop a range of transferrable analytical, debating and communication skills - all of which are valuable in a wide range of careers.

## What will I learn?

Within the AQA specification, topics covered currently include democracy in the context of the UK, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the role of the media, UK constitution and parliament, the EU, the US Constitution, US federalism, US Supreme Court and civil rights and US Congress.

## How will I be assessed?

<b>Paper 1 -</b> UK Government and Politics	<b>Paper 2 -</b> Government and Politics of the USA and comparative Politics	<b>Paper 3 -</b> Political Ideas
2 hours written paper The exam will be a mixture of short answers and extended writing.	2 hours written paper The exam will be a mixture of short answers and extended writing.	2 hours written paper The exam will be a mixture of short answers and extended writing.

## What can I do after I have completed the course?

An A-level in Government and Politics provides an excellent background for careers in law, journalism, the caring professions, teaching, and a range of management and business areas.

# PRODUCT DESIGN A LEVEL

Head of Product Design / 3D Design - Mr M Pitts  
Email: [mick.pitts@gosfieldschool.org.uk](mailto:mick.pitts@gosfieldschool.org.uk)

Exam Board - AQA

## Is this the right subject for me?

If you enjoy learning about materials and manufacturing processes, as well as all the elements of the design process using CAD, CAM and traditional manufacturing methods then this qualification is for you. You will have the opportunity to use your creativity and imagination to design and make prototypes that solve real and relevant problems, considering your own and others' needs, wants and values.

This creative and thought-provoking qualification will give you the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers, especially those in the creative industries. You 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 do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

You will need to:

- Demonstrate an imaginative and creative approach to decision making.
- Be curious about the products around us, analysing and having an appreciation for aesthetic design.
- Have an independent mind in developing, refining and communicating your own ideas graphically.
- Have experience of working with a range of media and materials.
- Be prepared to make mistakes as part of the iterative design process.
- Aim to have high standards of accuracy when manufacturing a product.

## How will I be assessed?

The Product Design: 3D Design A level consists of two major elements:

- A non-examined assessment (NEA) piece of coursework which requires you to design and produce a product of the student's own choosing and produce an associated design folio.
- Two written exam papers demonstrating your knowledge and understanding of the subject theory.

### Component 1

This comprises of two written exams based on Technical Knowledge and Design Theory. The papers are 2.5hrs and 1.5hrs respectively.

50% weighting

### Component 2 (NEA)

Students must undertake a small-scale design and make task and produce a final prototype based on a problem that they have found or to improve an existing product.

50% weighting

## What can I do after I have completed the course?

This A level will provide the portfolio and qualification for further education at degree level. When combined with other relevant A level subjects, students could progress on to study Product Design, Engineering or Architecture at university.

# PSYCHOLOGY A LEVEL

Teacher of Psychology – Mrs L Taylor  
Email: [lyndsey.taylor@gosfieldschool.org.uk](mailto:lyndsey.taylor@gosfieldschool.org.uk)

Exam Board - AQA

## Is this the right subject for me?

If you enjoy:

Understanding what makes people behave the way they do, how the mind works, and how to use science to step beyond just having an opinion then A Level Psychology could be the right choice for you.

## What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

You need to be comfortable discussing ideas and writing essays. Mathematical and scientific skills are also a huge advantage as both Maths and Science feature in Psychology. To study this course, you should have achieved a Grade 7 or above in at least one of GCSE English, GCSE Combined Science or GCSE Mathematics.

## What will I learn?

You will study compulsory areas of Psychology and then more advanced options in Year 2.

Compulsory options include:

- Social Influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Psychopathology
- Approaches in Psychology
- Biopsychology
- Research Methods
- Issues and debates in Psychology

Examples of the optional areas include Eating behaviour, Relationships, Forensic Psychology and Addiction.

## How will I be assessed?

The qualification will be assessed in three exam papers. We follow the linear AQA 7182 specification.

Paper 1 - Introductory Topics in Psychology	Paper 2 - Psychology in Context	Paper 3 - Issues and Options in Psychology
96 marks	96 marks	96 marks
2 hours written paper	2 hours written paper	2 hours written paper
33.3% of total A level	33.3% of total A level	33.3% of total A level

## What can I do after I have completed the course?

Psychology is recognised as a science A-level by universities. It is a great choice for anyone considering a career in any of the psychological disciplines—Educational, Occupational, Clinical etc. Knowledge of Psychology is useful in careers such as teaching, health service related occupations, law (including police), human resources, marketing and social work. However, it is of course also of great value for anyone who will be leading and working with teams of people.

# SOCIOLOGY A LEVEL

Head of Humanities – Mrs L Yeomans  
Email: [lisa.yeomans@gosfieldschool.org.uk](mailto:lisa.yeomans@gosfieldschool.org.uk)

Exam Board - AQA

## Is this the right subject for me?

A level Sociology will help you make sense of the society we live in and understand the cultural and identity issues which affect us all. Studying sociology could lead careers in social work, human resources, advertising, policing, marketing, journalism, law and teaching.

## What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

You will need to express an interest in the world around you. You will need to be able to remember key people and terms, to be happy with extended writing and forming an argument.

## What will I learn?

You will learn a number of skills including the use of evidence to support your arguments, how to investigate facts, critical thinking. It is relevant to the society we live in, so you are bound to enjoy learning about the topics that are relevant to everyday life, plus it opens lots of doors to interesting careers.

**Year 1** – Education and Methods in Context, Research Methods, Families and Households

**Year 2** – Crime and Deviance, Beliefs in Society

## How will I be assessed?

Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3
2 hours written paper 80 marks The exam will be a mixture of short answers and extended writing.	2 hours written paper 80 marks The exam will be a mixture of short answers and extended writing.	2 hours written paper 80 marks The exam will be a mixture of short answers and extended writing.

## What can I do after I have completed the course?

An A Level in sociology is a useful platform to further studies at university in sociology or any other subjects where you can use the transferable skills such as essay writing and debating that will be developed during the course. Sociology could lead careers in areas such as social work, human resources, advertising, policing, marketing, journalism, law and teaching.

# SPANISH A LEVEL

Head of MFL – Mrs S Reid  
Email: [stephanie.reid@gosfieldschool.org.uk](mailto:stephanie.reid@gosfieldschool.org.uk)

Exam Board - AQA

## Is this the right subject for me?

If you are:

Open-minded, curious, courageous, hard-working, determined, and passionate about the Spanish language.

If you enjoy:

Communicating and explaining your ideas, building more sophisticated linguistic expression, learning about other cultures, and developing your ability to debate, then Spanish could be the right A Level choice for you.

## What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

You need to achieve minimum of Grade 7 in GCSE Spanish

## What will I learn?

You will study technological and social change, looking at diversity and the benefits it brings. You will study highlights of Spanish-speaking artistic culture, including Hispanic music and cinema, and learn about political engagement and who wields political power in the Spanish-speaking world. You will also explore the influence of the past on present-day Spanish-speaking communities. The A-level course is rooted in the context of Hispanic countries and the issues and influences which have shaped them. You will study one Spanish language film and one novel and will carry out an independent research project on an area of your choice.

## How will I be assessed?

Paper 1 - Listening, Reading and Writing exam	Paper 2 - Writing exam	Paper 3 - Speaking exam
<p><b>Section 1</b> - Listening comprehension (candidates control the recording Themselves)</p> <p><b>Section 2</b> - Reading comprehension</p> <p><b>Section 3</b> - Translation from English into Spanish and from Spanish into English.</p> <p>50% of total exam</p> <p>2 hours 30</p>	<p>Write 2 essays in Spanish: one on the novel and one on the film they have studied.</p> <p>20% of total exam</p> <p>2 hours</p>	<p>The speaking exam is conducted by the Class Teacher. Candidates present and discuss their Individual Research Project as well as one other theme based on a stimulus.</p> <p>30% of total exam</p> <p>15 minutes</p>

## What can I do after I have completed the course?

The A level course provides a sound basis for studying Spanish in higher education as a single degree or combined with another subject, such as Business Studies, Law, History, Music or another Language. A-level Spanish will give you a critical awareness of the world around you. You'll be able to utilise your communication and analytical skills to navigate through your professional and personal life both at home and on the international stage.

Career options include: interpreter, translator, education, international development worker, diplomacy, broadcasting, journalism, fashion, business, logistics, finance, marketing, advertising and public relations (PR) careers, sport, medicine...

# UAL PERFORMING AND PRODUCTION ARTS

Head of Performing Arts - Miss D Duffy  
Email: [deirdre.duffy@gosfieldschool.org.uk](mailto:deirdre.duffy@gosfieldschool.org.uk)

University of London Arts Performing and Production Arts Level 3 Diploma

## Who is this course for?

This unique full-time course is aimed at students who have a passion for the Performing Arts and gives students the knowledge and skills needed to progress to degree level study or employment in the industry. The course rewards young people's creativity and passion for the arts and is shaped to get the maximum out of its students. We welcome students with a wide range of skills and backgrounds. The key qualities we look for are enthusiasm, passion for the arts, and a 'can-do' attitude.

## Why UAL?

The University of Arts London (UAL) is a university solely focused on the Creative Arts. Working with UAL allows us to offer our students a bespoke pre-university course. At the end of this two year course you will achieve a UAL Level 3 Extended Diploma in Performing and Production Arts, which is equivalent to three A Levels.

## What will you study?

Throughout this course you will explore a wide range of Performing Arts work and develop both as an artist and as a person. The course is designed to grow your knowledge and skills across all three disciplines: acting, song and dance. A variety of performance opportunities will allow you to put your skills and technique into practice. Examples of projects include contemporary theatre practice, musical theatre, acting for screen and devising. Students will also have the opportunity to develop knowledge and skills in technical theatre and other roles involved in the Performing Arts industry, such as lighting, stage management and directing.

As well as technical ability, the course will help you to develop skills such as resilience, responsibility, organisation, critical and creative thinking, teamwork and professionalism, which are highly transferable to a wide range of careers.

## Masterclasses and workshops

The course will be enriched with a variety of masterclasses and workshops with industry specialists, in a range of disciplines and performance styles. We also make the most of our close ties with higher level training professionals by providing exclusive opportunities to prepare for the application and audition process, such as Audition Self-Tape workshops, and Q&A sessions with drama school alumni.

## How will you be assessed?

Our approach to assessment allows you to hone your skills, technique and knowledge over a period of time. Practical assessments are carried out through a series of projects based on real industry scenarios. All work is internally assessed and externally moderated, so there are no formal examinations on this course. Students are required to produce a 'Digital Portfolio' of evidence which demonstrates their learning throughout the course and within individual projects.

## Where next?

At the end of this course, you will be equipped with the practical and theoretical skills to join the professional world of Performing Arts or to continue with your education and training elsewhere.



# Gosfield School

Established 1929

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**Tel:**  
01787 474040

**Email:**  
[enquiries@gosfieldschool.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@gosfieldschool.org.uk)

**Website:**  
[gosfieldschool.org.uk](https://www.gosfieldschool.org.uk)