

2027-2029

Sixth-Form Curriculum & Options



OUR LADY'S
CATHOLIC
COLLEGE



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Welcome to our Sixth Form

For the next stage of your education you have many important choices to make with a range of opportunities available.

The next two years should be some of the best years of your life, providing you with memories to last a lifetime. We are immensely proud of our Sixth Form at Our Lady's Catholic College, not just for all that they achieve, but also for all that they do to contribute to our school and community.

At OLCC, staff will go the extra mile for you, but Sixth Form life isn't just "more of the same". The ingredients which make us a successful school are still present; Sixth Form life is very different with greater privileges and responsibilities.

Throughout your time with us you will receive the very best pastoral and academic support possible. Sixth Form study has to be challenging and worthwhile, preparing you for life at University, an Apprenticeship or the workplace, but it also has to be enjoyable.

Helen Seddon
Headteacher



My role as Head of Sixth Form is such a rewarding one because I get to work so closely with our young people in the most exciting phase of their education, as they make the transition from pupil to student and then beyond.

Our Lady's Sixth Form is an inclusive and welcoming Catholic community, promoting academic excellence alongside personal development; helping to mould our students so that they become valued and valuable members of both our school community and a wider global society.

Our tutor team and Pastoral Support Officer will be here to support you academically and pastorally, to help you reach your full potential.

Ali Bates
Head of Sixth Form & Assistant Headteacher



Sixth Form Curriculum

At OLCC, we offer both A-Level & Vocational courses.

We are unique in Lancaster, in that we offer students the opportunity to study both A-Levels and Vocational subjects alongside each other, should they wish.

Entry Requirements

- 5 GCSE (or equivalent) passes at Grade 4 or higher.
- This must include at least one Grade 4 or higher in either English and Maths.
- Students who do not achieve the minimum requirements outlined above may be offered a Level 2 course with a strong emphasis on GCSE English and GCSE Mathematics. The Level 2 programme is a one year course.



A-Levels

- All A-Level courses are examined at the end of Year 13. Some subjects have a coursework unit.
- Many A-Level qualifications are academically demanding and there may be additional entry requirements for these subjects. These are found on our website.
- A-Levels are graded A* to E.

Level 3 Vocational Courses

- All Vocational courses have both internal and external assessment. Students complete coursework assignments as well as external assessments (a written exam or a task) that has been set and marked by the exam board. This must be done under exam conditions.
- Work is graded at Pass / Merit / Distinction / Distinction*.
- Vocational courses help students develop specialist and practical skills essential for working life.

PSHE, Careers & Core RE

These are compulsory lessons which allow students to have further learning opportunities and experiences and develop their careers aspirations.

Enrichment

As well as super-curricular and extra-curricular opportunities, all our Year 12 students have timetabled enrichment lessons.

The options for these include Sports for Leisure, Healthy Cooking on a Budget, Money & Adulting, Sign Language, First Aid and Learn Something New.

In addition, all Year 12 students undertake volunteering roles in or out of school to help make a positive contribution to society and develop their soft skills.

Leadership

Each year, we appoint a Student Leadership Team to help shape our sixth formers' experiences and who act as role models and work with main school.

Study at OLCC

Information & Guidance

The Level 3 programme is a two year course. Students choose either:

- 3 (or 4) A-levels
- 3 Vocational courses
- A mixture of Vocational and A-Levels

Many students in Year 12 begin with four subjects to help them decide on the right courses. Most continue with three subjects from October onwards, although there are opportunities to study four subjects for some students.

Higher Education

All of our Level 3 courses allow for progression into Higher Education.

Both A-Levels and Vocational courses carry the same number of points required for University. However, it is worth checking specific university websites as some do not accept BTEC qualifications.

The Level 2 programme is a one year course in Year 12 only. Students study:

- One Level 2 BTEC (equivalent to two GCSEs)
- English GCSE
- Mathematics GCSE and/or Functional Skills

After successful completion, students could do a Level 3 course or apply for an apprenticeship.

We provide high quality information and guidance in the Sixth Form.

We use an excellent careers platform, Unifrog, which allows students to explore career paths and prepare for future careers and university applications.

Students benefit from careers lessons, focusing on guidance and skills for either university, apprenticeships or employment.

Students have opportunities to visit careers fairs, the Higher Education Conference and university campuses. Visiting speakers from industry and higher education are invited to speak to students in lessons and additional drop in sessions.

Preparation for university applications is very thorough and students have an enormous amount of support from a UCAS adviser. Students receive one-to-one interviews with an experienced tutor on applications for apprenticeships.

Students are successful when applying for all pathways, whether this be highly-competitive university courses or apprenticeships.



Our Faith



Our faith underpins everything we do at Our Lady's Catholic College.

We echo the school ethos of 'aspire not to have more but to be more' by encouraging students to achieve.

We also live by the Catherine of Siena quote of 'Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire'.

You do not have to be Catholic to be part of our Sixth Form, but we hope you will observe the difference our values and virtues make, and take an active role in contributing to the Catholic life of the Sixth Form, school and wider community.

In form time, your tutor will lead prayers and reflections and our 'assemblies' have a liturgical focus. There is also an optional Sixth Form Retreat in Spring which gives you a chance to reflect on your personal life and beliefs in a quiet, comfortable and stress-free environment.

It is so important that our faith is put into action. You will get many opportunities to do this. For example, raising awareness and funds for Cafod, St John's Hospice, Lancaster Homeless Action and the Olive Branch. Our Uganda Action Group raise huge amounts of money to be used in partner schools and clinics who have great need.

Tutor Time Programme

We see this time as a valuable part of your education.

We have a weekly programme that is designed to support development of important skills and promote an understanding of local and global affairs. Our weekly programme is outlined below:

- Monday - Mentoring
- Tuesday – Transition
- Wednesday – World Affairs
- Thursday – Weekly Focus
- Friday – Current Affairs Quiz

Labour Market Information

In Lancaster & Morecambe, the sectors that employ the most people are:

- Education
- Health & Social Care
- Visitor Economy
- Professional & Legal Services
- Retail

No one can predict all the jobs young people will be able to choose from in the 21st century, but here are just a few that are likely to be in demand over the next 15 years:

Engineering & Technology

All types of engineers are in demand but those who are highly skilled in coding and software are needed in areas such as biomedical engineering, warehousing and logistics, agricultural technology and hi-tech manufacturing such as driverless vehicles.

- Cyber security expert
- Robotics engineer
- Software developer
- Renewable energy & low carbon
- User experience (UX) designer - combines branding, design, function and usability for websites, apps and other digital platforms

- E-sports coach - online gaming experts
- Diagnostics technician
- VFX/CGI - film, TV, apps, video games
- Artist - video gaming, fashion, advertising

Health & Social Care & Education

By 2039 the number of people aged 75+ will have doubled meaning a huge demand for people to work in care. Hugely rewarding, these can be careers with plenty of opportunities to progress.

- Care worker
- Epidemiologist - researching the cause and effects of viruses & diseases
- Nurse
- Teachers - the numbers of children moving into secondary schools are growing but teachers (especially of physics, maths, computer science and languages) are in short supply.

Construction & Environment

We need to find new ways to build homes and work places that impact less on the environment and skilled workers will be needed to design and maintain renewable sources of energy.

- Carpenters and joiners
- Electricians
- Smart meter fitter - every home in the UK needs one!
- Countryside officer - protecting natural habitats and animal species
- Maintenance technician - more machines means more human maintenance
- Agronomist - expert in the science of soil management to improve crops for global food supply.

Food & Agriculture

The expectation in Lancashire is that growth in this sector will rise over the next 5 years. 10% of young people in Lancashire are currently employed in this industry, more than the national percentage.

- Wholesale/retail of food
- Farming
- Food manufacturing
- Selective breeding

Source: www.parentalguidance.org.uk

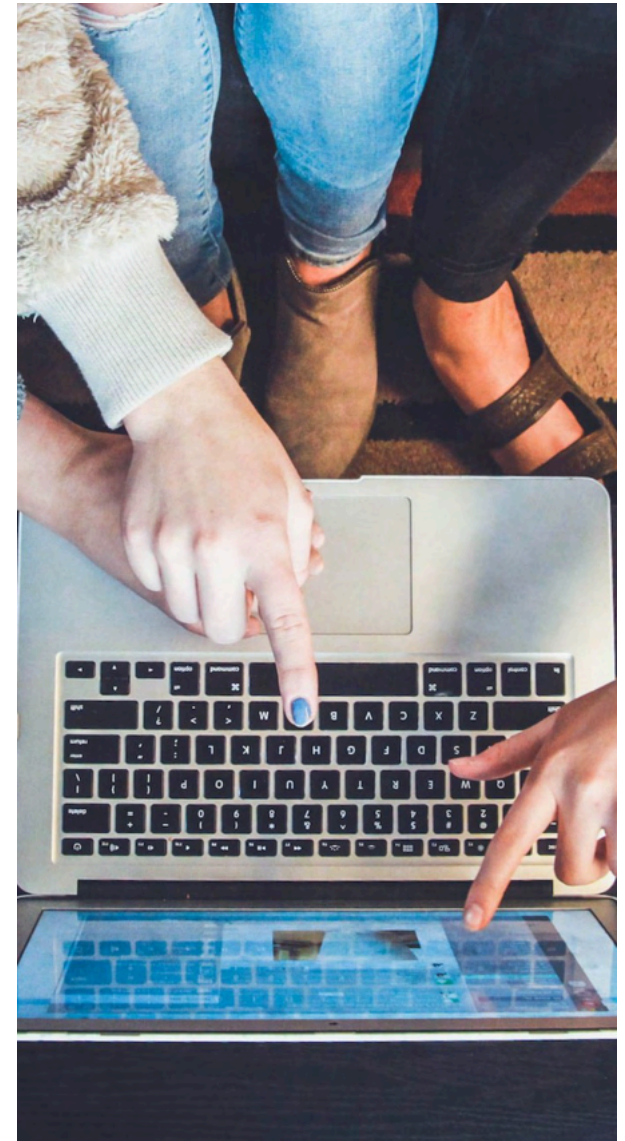
Careers Links

Maths	www.mathscareers.org.uk
Science	www.rsc.org/careers www.iop.org/careers www.intobiology.org.uk
History	www.history.org.uk/resources
Geography	www.rgs.org/careers
Technology	www.dba.org.uk/all-about-design/careers-in-design
Hospitality & Catering	www.tastycareers.org.uk
PE	www.careers-in-sport.co.uk
Health & Social Care	nhscareersnw.co.uk www.healthcareers.nhs.uk
Travel & Tourism	tourismteacher.com/jobs-in-travel-and-tourism
Art	www.creativeskillset.org/creative_industries
Music	www.ukmusic.org
Drama	allaboutcareers.com/careers/career-path/acting-drama
Law	www.lawcareers.net l2b.thelawyer.com
Engineering	www.theiet.org/career/routes-to-engineering
Public Services	nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-categories/emergency-and-uniform-services

There are so many websites and online platforms to help with your choices that it can be confusing to know which ones to look at. Here is a list of reliable and credible careers resources that are used by careers professionals.

The list is also available on our school website in the Careers & IAG section.

Apprenticeships	www.apprenticeships.gov.uk
General Sites	www.icould.com www.successatschool.com www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/careers www.nationalcareersservice.gov.uk





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Sixth-Form

Option Subjects

Applied Science (AAQ)

The OCR AAQ Extended Certificate in Applied Science is a Level 3 qualification equivalent to one A-Level, combining practical and theoretical science learning across biology, chemistry, and physics, with pathways to higher education or science-based careers.

The course is designed for students aged 16-19 and provides a balance between practical laboratory work and academic study, emphasizing applied scientific knowledge in real-world contexts. It develops understanding not only of scientific theory but also of how science is used in industry, healthcare, and research settings.

Students study across all three sciences: Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, covering topics such as cellular structure and disease, fundamental chemical and physical principles, electromagnetic waves, and medical physics.

The five core units you will study are:

- Fundamentals of Science
- Science in Society
- Investigative Science
- Analytical Techniques in Chemistry
- Medical Physics or Forensic Biology

Future Careers

The course allows you to go on to Further Education, Higher Education or into employment. The course prepares you for further study or employment in a range of occupations, such as laboratory technicians, nursing, midwifery and biomedical scientists.

Course Title	AAQ Applied Science
Examination Board	OCR
Specification/Code	601/7434/1

Assessment

Year 12

- 1 written exam and 1 coursework unit

Year 13

- 1 written exam
- 2 optional coursework units

Contact Teacher

Mr Bird
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Art (A-Level)

In Year 12, students begin the course with an introductory project where they play and experiment with a variety of materials, techniques and processes, including ceramics.

Workshops are delivered and students create work on a variety of themes. After February half-term, students begin their personal investigation which carries on into year 13.

During the course students are made aware of both traditional and new media. Students will explore the use of drawing for different purposes, using a variety of methods and media on a variety of scales. Students explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to a range of art, craft and design, from the past and from recent times, including European and non-European examples.

During the course students are required to work in one or more areas of Fine Art, including:

- Drawing and painting
- Mixed-media, including collage and assemblage
- Sculpture
- Ceramics
- Printmaking (relief, intaglio, screen processes and lithography)
- Photography
- Textiles

Future Careers

Following completion of A-Level Fine Art, candidates are advised to enrol for the Art Foundation One Year course before entering University to follow their chosen specialism. Past students are now following various higher education courses including degrees in Architecture, Set Design and Fine Art.

Course Title	A-Level Fine Art
Examination Board	AQA
Specification/Code	7202

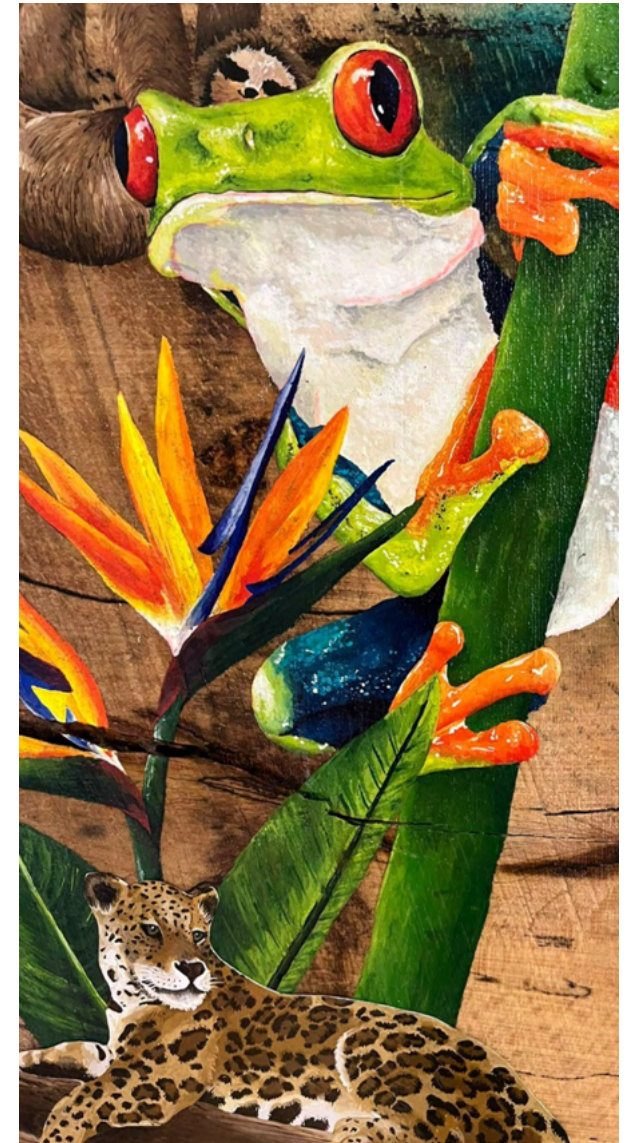
Assessment

- Personal Investigation (60%) - this is a practical investigation supported by written material.
- Externally Set Assignment (40%) - including a preparatory period and 15 hours supervised time.

A-Level Fine Art is open to both GCSE Art and GCSE Ceramics students.

Contact Teacher

Mrs Wharton
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Biology (A-Level)

Biology literally means the study of life, and if that's not important, what is? Biology A-Level will give you the skills to make connections and associations with all living things around you. You will build on your GCSE knowledge as well as learning new topics and skills. Being such a broad topic, you're bound to find a specific area of interest, and open the door to a fantastic range of interesting careers.

Content is split into eight teaching modules:

- Module 1: Biological Molecules (Y12)
- Module 2: Cells (Y12)
- Module 3: Organisms Exchange Substances with their Environment (Y12)
- Module 4: Genetic Information, Variation and Relationships between Organisms (Y12)
- Module 5: Energy Transfers in and between Organisms (Y13)
- Module 6: Organisms Respond to Changes in their Environments (Y13)
- Module 7: Genetics, Populations, Evolution and Ecosystems (Y13)
- Module 8: The Control of Gene Expression (Y13)

Biology, like all sciences, is a practical subject. Throughout the course you will carry out practical activities, including using microscopes, dissection of animal or plant systems and aseptic technique.

Future Careers

Biology is useful in a large number of careers and former students have gone on to the following: medicine, pharmacology, teaching, biochemistry, environmental management, forensic science, agriculture, sports science and food science.

Course Title	A-Level Biology
Examination Board	AQA
Specification/Code	7401 / 7402

Assessment

A-Level

- Paper 1: Modules 1 to 4 (35%)
- Paper 2: Modules 5 to 8 (35%)
- Paper 3: Modules 1 to 8 (30%)

There is no coursework on this course. However, your performance during practicals will be assessed.

Contact Teacher

Mr Bird
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Business Studies (BTEC)

Business Studies explores business organisations, marketing, personal and business finance and recruitment. Through practical projects, research and interview activities you will develop communication, analytical, evaluation, and financial skills. Learn to create marketing campaigns, solve problems and justify decisions, preparing you for university, apprenticeships or an exciting career in business.

Topics you will cover include:

- Unit 1: Exploring Business – Examine businesses such as Apple, McDonalds & CAFOD and assess the different reasons that they are successful.
- Unit 2: Developing a Marketing Campaign – Create a marketing campaign for a business.
- Unit 3: Personal and Business Finance – Understand the different aspects of personal and business finance. Students will be able to complete calculations that will assess the performance of businesses and then know how the performances can be improved.
- Unit 8: Recruitment and Selection Process – Understand the recruitment policies in large organisations and take part in an external recruitment and selection process for a job of your choice.

Studying Business at GCSE/BTEC Level 2 is not a requirement.

Future Careers

A BTEC National in Business carries UCAS points and is recognised by Higher Education providers as contributing to meeting admission requirements for many courses. It could also lead to a direct route into employment or onto an apprenticeship, in areas such as marketing, digital marketing, web content creation, social media, accounting, financial services and banking.

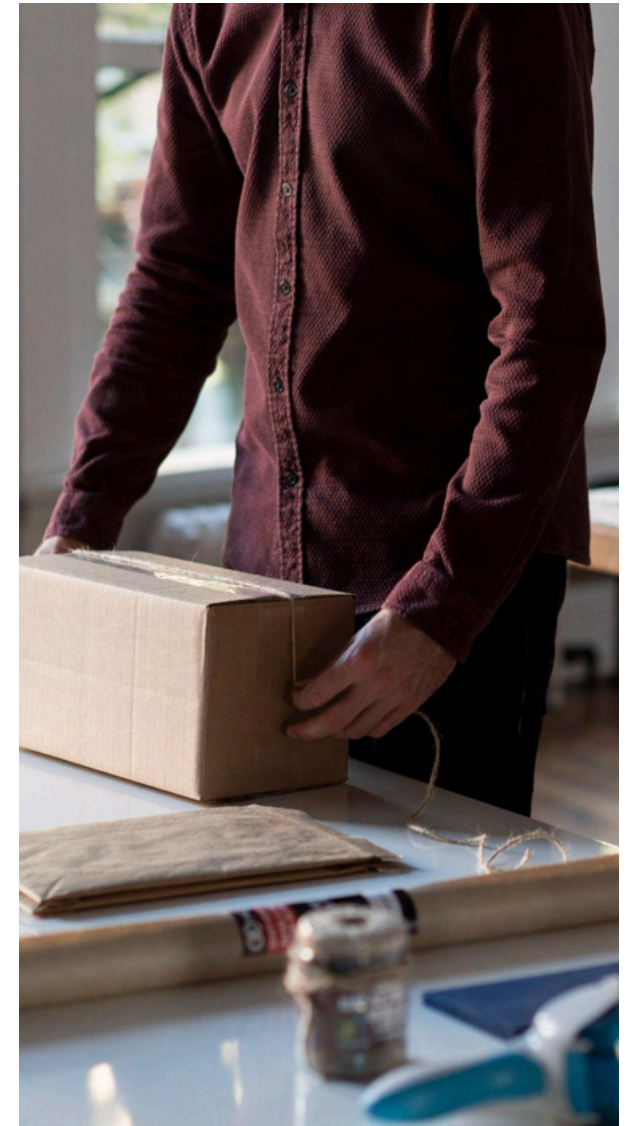
Course Title	BTEC L3 Business
Examination Board	Edexcel
Specification/Code	601/7159/5

Assessment

- Unit 1: assessed internally (30%)
- Unit 2: assessed externally (25%)
- Unit 3: written exam (33%)
- Unit 8: assessed internally (17%)

Contact Teacher

Mr Watson
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Chemistry (A-Level)

The course builds upon the chemical concepts introduced at GCSE. There is a heavy emphasis on practical work and students are taught to use sophisticated apparatus. A-Level Chemistry allows students to develop competence and confidence in a variety of practical, mathematical and problem solving skills.

It allows students to develop and demonstrate a deep appreciation for the skills, knowledge and understanding of scientific methods. It also gives students the opportunity to explore their interest and enthusiasm for the subject, as well as any future study and careers.

Content is split into six teaching modules:

- Module 1: Development of Practical Skills (Y12)
- Module 2: Foundations in Chemistry (Y12)
- Module 3: Periodic Table and Energy (Y12)
- Module 4: Core Organic Chemistry (Y12)
- Module 5: Physical Chemistry and Transition Elements (Y13)
- Module 6: Organic Chemistry and Analysis (Y13)

Future Careers

Chemistry is essential for medicine, veterinary science, forensic science, pharmacology, pharmacy, biomedicine and dentistry. Other related careers include: polymer science, food technology and the manufacture of cosmetics and dyes.

Course Title	A-Level Chemistry
Examination Board	OCR
Specification/Code	H432

Assessment

A-Level

- Periodic Table, Elements and Physical Chemistry (37%)
- Synthesis and Analytical Techniques (37%)
- Unified Chemistry (26%)

Students are also assessed on their practical skills in a non-exam assessment practical endorsement .

Contact Teacher

Mr Bird
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Design & Technology (A-Level)

A-Level Design & Technology develops creative, practical and analytical skills through the design and manufacture of innovative products.

Students explore historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design while developing prototypes using a range of techniques.

The course builds confidence, technical knowledge and problem-solving abilities, along with preparing students with skills and knowledge sought by employers, higher education and careers in design, engineering and related industries.

The course is assessed over 3 units:

- Unit 1: Technical Principles
- Unit 2: Design and Making Principles
- Unit 3: NEA (Design and Make Project)

Student will develop the following skills:

- Design Skills - Creative thinking, Innovation
- Practical Skills - Workshop skills, Manufacturing
- Research Skills - User interviews, Product analysis
- Evaluation Skills - Testing, Analysis, Reflection
- Transferable Skills- Project & time management

Future Careers

The course also allows you to go onto further study at university. Most universities look favourably on Design & Technology students.

A-Level Design & Technology can lead to apprenticeships with companies such as BAE or other nationally recognised companies. It can also lead to studying at university on courses such as Engineering, Architecture, Design, Games software design, teaching, civil engineering and construction.

Course Title	A-Level Design & Technology
Examination Board	AQA
Specification/Code	7552

Assessment

- Paper 1: Technical Principles - written exam (30%)
- Paper 2: Design & Making Principles - written exam (20%)
- Non-Exam Assessment: Design & Make Project - coursework (50%)

Contact Teacher

Mr Scott
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English & English Literature (A-Level)

This course builds on the skills and knowledge covered at GCSE and extends the study within two combined disciplines. The course examines the language and styles that have and are continuing to shape our language and society within the fields of linguistics and literature today.

Students will critically evaluate the concepts of audience and producer; does language shape society or does society shape language? This specification integrates the critical debates that underpin the continuing evolution of how language shapes ideas and identities in modern society.

Course content includes:

- Telling Stories - the term 'telling' in the title is deliberately chosen to reflect the twin aspects of how stories are told, and why stories are 'telling', or valuable, within societies.
- Exploring Conflict – this part of the subject content focuses on how language choices help to construct ideas of conflict between people, and between people and their societies.
- Making Connections – students draw on their study to conduct an investigation and create an NEA (non exam assessment).

Future Careers

An advanced qualification in English can lead to a wide variety of careers. In completing this A-Level, you are demonstrating a sound competence in language and communication. You will be well placed for a career in Media, Communications, Education, Management, The Civil Service, Sales, Promotions and PR, Law, Tourism, Journalism, Librarianship, or in the more specialised areas of theatre, poetry or writing.

Course Title	A-Level English
Examination Board	AQA
Specification/Code	7707

Assessment

- Component 1: Written Paper (40%)
- Component 2: Written Paper (40%)
- Component 3: Non-Exam Assessment, 2500-3000 words (20%)

Contact Teacher

Mrs Brown
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Food Science and Nutrition (AAQ)

The WJEC Level 3 AAQ in Food Science and Nutrition is designed for 16–18-year-olds who are passionate about food science, nutrition and health, and who are considering pursuing graduate careers in these fields. It blends academic knowledge with practical application, helping you develop valuable real-world skills while building a solid academic foundation.

It provides in-depth knowledge on key topics like food safety, the role of nutrients in the body and how to create innovative food products. By focusing on applied learning, it equips you with the research, analytical, and practical skills needed for university and beyond.

Unit 1: Nutritional Needs Across the Life Stages

- Understand properties of nutrients
- Be able to plan nutritional requirements

Unit 2: Developing Practical Food Production Skills

- Planning, preparation and cooking techniques
- Evaluating dishes for specific target groups

You will be assessed on your ability to plan, prepare, cook and present a meal through recipe development and testing, showcasing a range of skills and techniques.

Unit 3: Principles of Food Hygiene and Food Safety

- Understand how micro-organisms affect food safety
- Understand how food can cause ill health.

Unit 4: Experimenting to Solve Food Production Problems

- Understand the scientific properties of food
- Solving food production problems

Future Careers

The course is an AAQ qualification designed to support in the progression to higher education at university. The course is recognised within a variety of professions and industries such as Education, Food industry, Government Agencies (such as Environmental Health, Food Standards), Health and Social care, Health professions (Dietetics, Nutritionals), Hospitality and Catering industry, Journalism, Medicine, Sports Science and Fitness Training.

Course Title	AAQ Food Science & Nutrition
Examination Board	WJEC
Specification/Code	610/6190/6

Assessment

- Unit 1 (Y12): Exam (25%)
- Unit 2 (Y12): NEA (25%)
- Unit 3 (Y13): Exam (25%)
- Unit 4 (Y13): NEA (25%)

Contact Teacher

Mrs Cliff
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French (A-Level)

Our A-Level French course serves as a gateway to linguistic mastery and a deeper understanding of the vibrant cultures of the French-speaking world. French A-Level course offers a plethora of life-enhancing skills and benefits:

- The ability to communicate confidently and articulately in French.
- A thorough understanding of the nature, scope, and nuances of the language, equipping you for further academic pursuits, work, and leisure.
- Fascinating insights into the culture and contemporary society of French-speaking countries.
- Transferable cognitive skills, such as analytical thinking and enhanced memory.

Our A-Level French course is structured to be comprehensive, fostering not just language proficiency but also intellectual and cultural enlightenment. You will continue to practise listening, reading, writing and speaking in French, but to a higher level, with much more interesting topics focusing on the culture of France and French-speaking countries.

You will:

- Study a range of topics covering different aspects of French society and culture
- Analyse text and films as part of the written exam
- Carry out a research project on an aspect of Francophone culture to discuss in the speaking exam.

Future Careers

French combines well with a number of other subjects. Business Studies, Computer Science and Economics are obvious examples. Other suitable subjects are Art and Design and Photography.

Some other examples of jobs where French is relevant include interpreters, translators, MFL teachers, international lawyers, risk analysts, broadcast journalists, diplomatic service workers, international marketing executives, international travel consultants and many more.

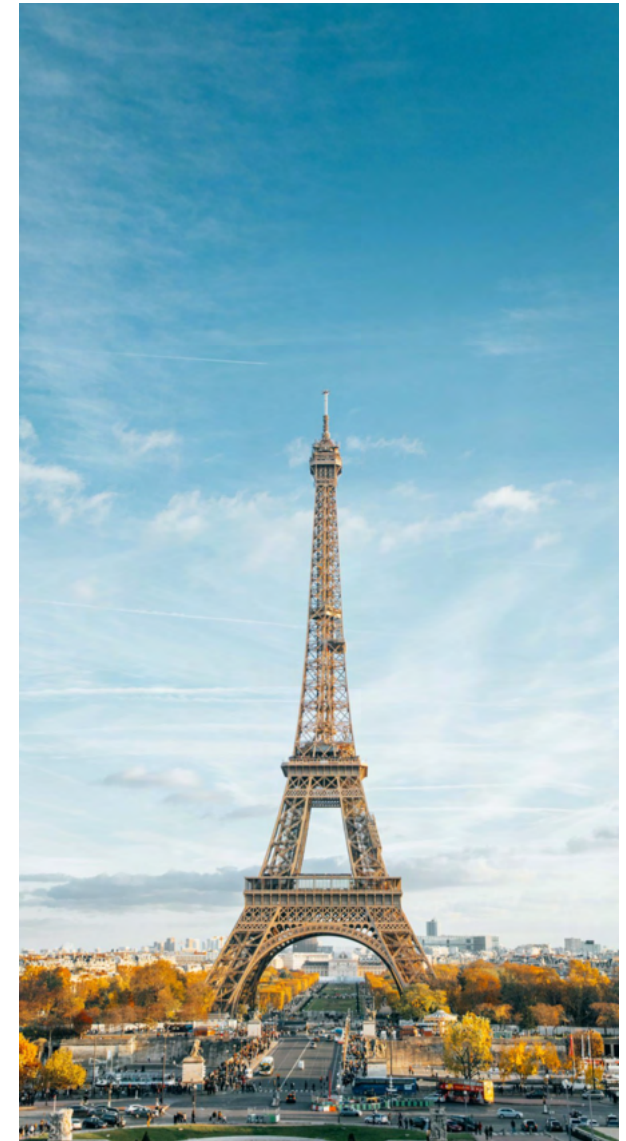
Course Title	A-Level French
Examination Board	AQA
Specification/Code	7652

Assessment

- Component 1: Speaking (30%)
- Component 2: Reading, Listening & Translation (50%)
- Component 3: Essay-Writing: Text (No et Moi) / Film (La Haine) (20%)

Contact Teacher

Mrs Lopez
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Geography (A-Level)

Geography is a study of contemporary global issues in both human and physical context. The world around us is constantly changing and by studying A-Level Geography you will begin to understand the causes and impacts of the dynamic earth. Geography is a subject that has links with many other subjects, due to it underpinning life on earth.

Throughout the two years you will cover a wide range of different topics including:

- Tectonic Hazards
- Development in an African Context
- Global Energy Issues
- Coastal Landscapes
- Changing Places
- Global Governance
- Water and Carbon Cycles

Future Careers

Due to the synoptic nature of Geography, there is a wide variety of career opportunities available. It is a subject where students learn a number of transferrable skills including decision making and evaluation skills.

Students are therefore highly employable in a variety of apprenticeships, as well as studying degrees linked to medicine and health care, engineering, finance, law and urban landscapes.

Course Title	A-Level Geography
Examination Board	Eduqas
Specification/Code	A110QS

Assessment

- Component 1: Changing Landscapes and Changing Places (Exam, 20.5%)
- Component 2: Global Systems and Global Governance (Exam, 27.5%)
- Component 3: Contemporary Themes in Geography (Exam, 32%)
- Component 4: Independent Investigation (Coursework, 20%)

As part of your course students are expected to undertake a minimum of 4 days of fieldwork.

Students are then able to select their own research title, based on the fieldwork that they enjoyed the most and complete a piece of coursework based on their title. This accounts for 20% of the overall A-Level qualification.

Contact Teacher

Mrs Wane

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Health & Social Care (AAQ)

A BTEC in Health and Social Care can give you the practical skills and knowledge to progress to a wide variety of career pathways. It can prepare you for real-life working experiences as includes opportunities to develop a range of skills and attributes essential for successful performance.

Universities and employers value BTEC Nationals highly as they prove you are committed, have robust practical and theoretical academic skills and are prepared for the world of work.

Learners will develop transferable knowledge and skills that prepare them for progression to higher education and apprenticeships.

These include:

- The ability to learn independently
- The ability to research actively and methodically
- Being able to give presentations and being active group members.
- Reading technical texts
- Analytical skills
- Linked work experience and placement options
- Report writing
- Academic referencing skills
- Interview skills

Future Careers

Having completed a BTEC Level 3 qualification students will be ideally placed to progress to higher education, onto a higher apprenticeship or enter employment. Potential careers include nursing, social work, midwifery, allied health care professionals (e.g. paramedics) and speech therapy, pharmacy, teaching and care work.

Course Title	BTEC AAQ Health & Social Care
Examination Board	Edexcel
Specification/Code	610/3964/0

Assessment

- Unit 1: Human Lifespan Development - External Exam (25%)
- Unit 2: Human Biology and Health - External Exam (25%)
- Unit 3: Principles of Health and Social Care Practice - Coursework (25%)
- Unit 6: Safe Environments in Health and Social Care - Coursework (25%)

Contact Teacher

Mrs Park
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History (A-Level)

You will study a variety of British, European and World History from different periods and eras. The course includes a combination of 'depth' and 'thematic' study. Lots of new and very interesting history to discover!

In Year 12 students study the early Tudors, and also study Germany from 1919-1963. In Year 13 students study Civil Rights in the USA 1865-1992. Students will choose a historical topic of their choice for the coursework element of the A-Level. This is their opportunity to pursue an area of history that really interests them.

Topics you will cover include:

- England 1485-1558 (British period study and enquiry)
- Germany 1919-63 (Non-British Period Study)
- Civil Rights in the USA 1865–1992 (Thematic Study)
- Coursework (A personal and independent essay of the student's choice)

Future Careers

History A-Level allows you to develop your skills of critical thinking, analysis, evaluation, discussion and communication. These skills are highly sought after by Universities and Employers alike. History students go on to a variety of different careers including law, journalism, the media, business, the civil service, accountancy, theatre costume and set design, as well as careers in History such as teaching, museum work and archaeology.

Course Title	A-Level History
Examination Board	OCR
Specification/Code	H505

Assessment

- England 1485-1558 (25%)
- Germany 1919-63 (15%)
- Civil Rights in the USA 1865–1992 (40%)
- Coursework (20%) - 3,000- 4,000 words

We regularly take opportunities to improve our students' skills through local history study. In recent years our students have been involved in history projects linked to Lancaster University, the City Museums and the National Archives.

Every year, our students are given the opportunity to become 'Ambassadors' as part of the Holocaust Educational Trust's 'Lessons from Auschwitz' project. This includes seminars in Manchester where students meet and hear the testimony of Holocaust survivors, and a visit to the camp itself in southern Poland. OLCC students who have taken part all agree it is one of their most memorable and important life experiences.

Contact Teacher

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Information Technology: Digital Systems & Data (V-Level)

Learn how digital systems work, how data informs decisions and how digital solutions are designed to meet user needs with a V Level in Digital Systems and Data.

Build the knowledge, skills and understanding that can support progression to higher education, apprenticeships and future careers in digital fields.

Mandatory units you will cover include:

- Understand what makes a computer system work
- Learn how data can be used within organisation to support decision making
- Create software solutions for end users
- Develop and utilise software skills
- Test and evaluate systems

Future Careers

Careers needing IT are spread across a range of different industries such as programming and software development, IT business analysts, architects and systems designers, IT user support technicians, cyber security professionals and many more.

Assessment

Year 12

- Practical work and written exams

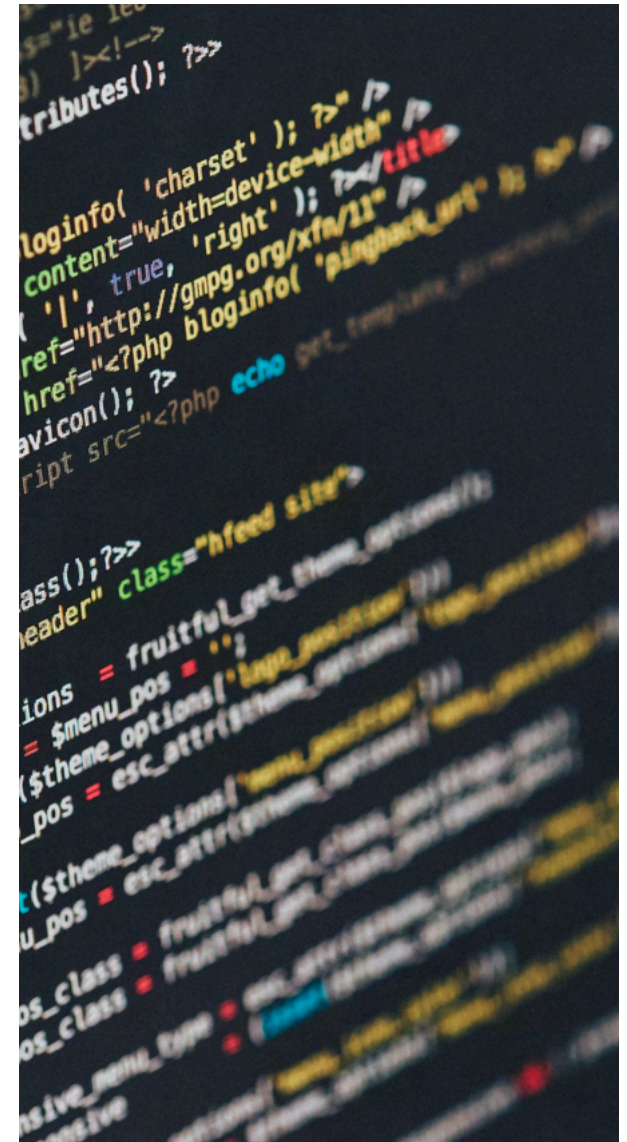
Year 13

- Practical work and written exams

Course Title	V-Level Digital Systems & Data
Examination Board	Edexcel
Specification/Code	601/7575/8

Contact Teacher

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Mathematics (A-Level)

Mathematics is one of the most valued A Levels, opening doors to university courses and careers in engineering, science, medicine, economics, computing and finance.

The course builds on GCSE and develops three strands: Pure Mathematics (algebra, calculus, trigonometry and proof), Statistics (data analysis, probability and hypothesis testing) and Mechanics (modelling forces and motion).

Students learn to think logically, solve unfamiliar problems and communicate their reasoning clearly. The course is assessed through three two-hour exams at the end of Year 13. It suits students who enjoy a challenge, are resilient, and take pride in careful, precise work.

Units

1. Algebra, functions and proof
2. Differentiation and integration
3. Trigonometry, exponentials and logarithms
4. Sequences, series and vectors
5. Statistical sampling, probability and hypothesis testing
6. Kinematics, forces and Newton's laws
7. Problem-solving, mathematical modelling and logical reasoning

Future Careers

A-Level Mathematics paves the way for diverse and rewarding career paths. One option is to pursue mathematics-intensive fields such as engineering, computer science, and data analysis. It can also lead to careers in finance, where mathematical skills are in high demand. Other possibilities include becoming an actuary, a statistician, or entering the field of research and academia. A-Level Mathematics serves as a valuable foundation for various STEM-related roles, offering a world of opportunities.

Course Title	A-Level Maths
Examination Board	Edexcel
Specification/Code	9MA0

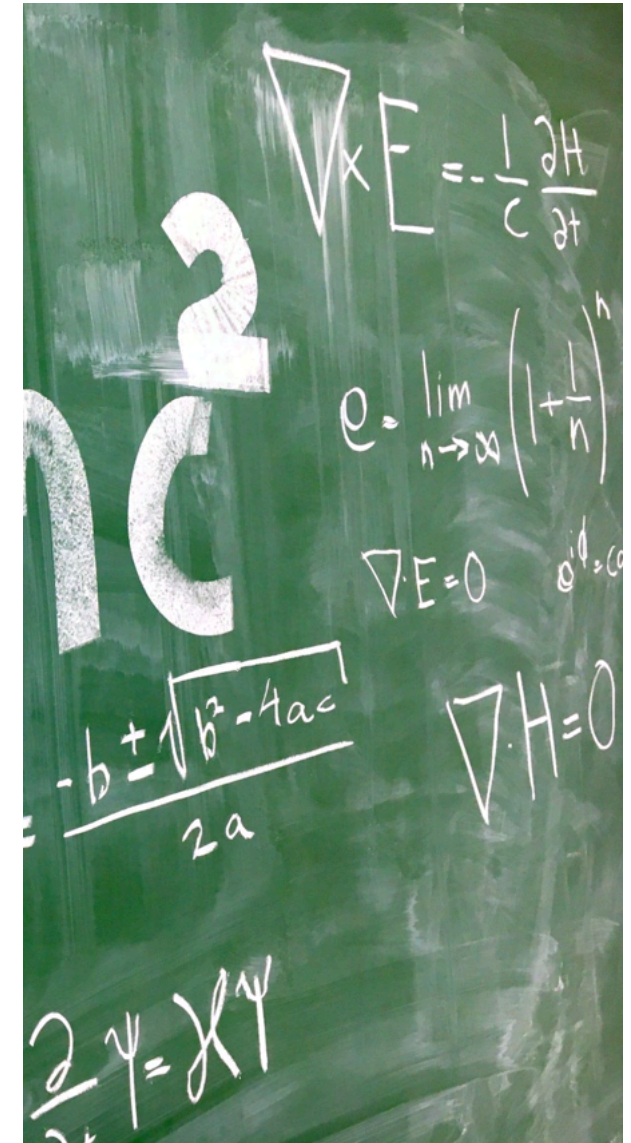
Assessment

Three written exams, all taken at the end of Year 13. No coursework.

- Paper 1: Pure Mathematics 1 (33.3%)
- Paper 2: Pure Mathematics 2 (33.3%)
- Paper 3: Statistics & Mechanics (33.3%)

Contact Teacher

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Music (BTEC)

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Music Performance is intended for post-16 learners who want to continue their education through applied learning. It is for learners who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment, possibly in the music sector or the creative sector as a whole.

The course includes three mandatory units:

- Unit 1: Practical Music Theory and Harmony
- Unit 2: Professional Practice in the Music Industry
- Unit 3: Ensemble Music Performance

Learners also choose one optional unit. These have been designed to support progression to more specialist music courses in higher education and to link with relevant occupational areas, such as composing music, improvising music and solo performance.

Future Careers

This course is intended to be an Applied General qualification. It is for post-16 learners who want to continue their education through applied learning and who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment, possibly in the music sector or the creative sector as a whole.

Course Title	BTEC L3 Music
Examination Board	Edexcel
Specification/Code	601/7090/6

Assessment

Units 2 and 3 are tasks set and marked by Pearson and completed under supervised conditions in a two week period, timetabled by Pearson.

- Unit 1 (marked internally) - evidence through written tasks, composition and presentations.
- Unit 2 (marked externally) - the supervised assessment period is 5 hours.
- Unit 3 (marked externally) - the supervised assessment period is two hours for the written activity. In addition, there is performance evidence that totals between approximately 30 minutes and 45 minutes.
- Optional Unit (marked internally) - evidence through written, performance and composition tasks.

Contact Teacher

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Physical Education (A-Level)

A-Level Physical Education provides students with the opportunity to develop a detailed understanding of the scientific, psychological, sociocultural and practical factors that influence participation and performance in physical activity and sport.

The course combines academic study with practical performance, allowing learners to develop their knowledge of how the body responds to exercise, how skills are learned and developed, how psychological factors influence performance and how social and cultural factors have shaped sport.

Students will develop their ability to apply, analyse and evaluate theoretical knowledge and use this understanding to improve sporting performance. The course provides an excellent foundation for progression into higher education and careers within sport, health and the wider physical activity sector.

Students will study the following areas :

- Applied Anatomy and Physiology
- Skill Acquisition
- Sport and Society
- Exercise Physiology
- Biomechanical Movement
- Sport Psychology
- Sport and Society and Technology in Sport

Future Careers

Students can progress to a wide range of university courses and careers within the sport, health and physical activity sectors.

Potential career pathways include Sports Coaching, Sports Science, Physiotherapy, Strength and Conditioning, Personal Training, Sport and Exercise Psychology, Teaching, Sports Development, Performance Analysis and Sports Therapy.

The qualification can also provide a strong foundation for degree courses in Sport & Exercise Science, Physiotherapy, Sports Coaching, Physical Education, Sports Psychology and related health disciplines.

Course Title	A-Level Physical Education
Examination Board	AQA
Specification/Code	7582

Assessment

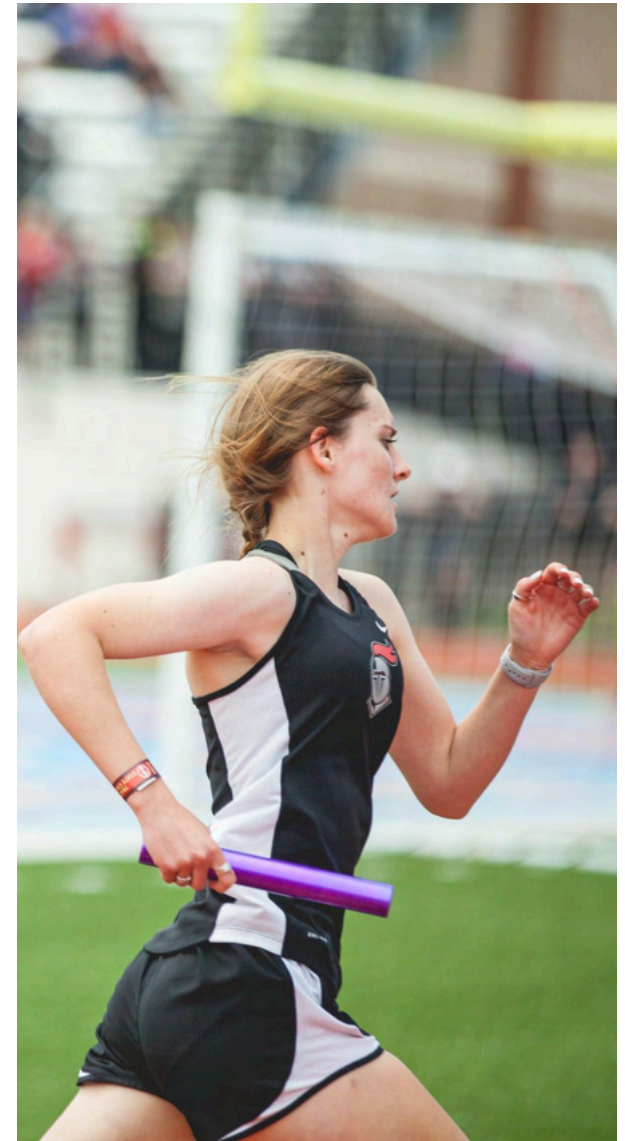
Paper 1: Factors Affecting Participation in Physical Activity and Sport – written exam (35%)

Paper 2: Factors Affecting Optimal Performance in Physical Activity and Sport – written exam (35%)

Non-Exam Assessment (NEA): Students are assessed as a performer or coach in one activity, together with an analysis and evaluation of performance (30%)

Contact Teacher

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Physics (A-Level)

Physics is the study of everything in the Universe. It seeks to understand and explain every action that occurs. To do this requires a blend of practical and theoretical approaches to develop the ideas that can explain such things as why a rainbow occurs or how to get to Mars to what are the building blocks of all matter.

The course builds from your GCSE studies on forces, energy and waves but by the end of Year 12 has looked into modern physics of sub-atomic particles and quantum effects. Strong maths skills are really beneficial at A-Level, and Physics and Maths A-Levels complement each other well.

Content is split into eight teaching modules:

- Module 1: Measurements and their Errors (Y12)
- Module 2: Particles and Radiation (Y12)
- Module 3: Waves (Y12)
- Module 4: Mechanics and Materials (Y12)
- Module 5: Electricity (Y12)
- Module 6: Further Mechanics and Thermal Physics (Y13)
- Module 7: Fields and their Consequences (Y13)
- Module 8: Nuclear Physics Option Module: Turning Points in Physics (Y13)

Future Careers

A-Level Physics is an essential qualification, providing potential for progression onto university degree courses necessary for many careers including architecture, engineering, electronics and physics. You will also develop analytical, numerical and problem-solving skills that are highly valuable in a wide range of occupations and activities.

Course Title	A-Level Physics
Examination Board	AQA
Specification/Code	7407 / 7408

Assessment

AS-Level

- Papers 1 and 2: Modules 1 to 5

A-Level

- Paper 1: Modules 1 to 5
- Paper 2: Modules 6 to 8
- Paper 3: Practical skills, data analysis and the option module

Contact Teacher

Mr Bird
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Psychology (A-Level)

A-Level Psychology is an engaging and comprehensive course that delves into the multifaceted realm of human behaviour and the workings of the mind. Students develop crucial research methods skills, empowering them to critically evaluate and conduct psychological investigations.

Students also learn about contemporary debates and challenges within the field, addressing issues of bias, free will, and the nature-nurture debate.

Throughout the course, emphasis is placed on honing practical skills, from experimental design to data analysis, ensuring students emerge not only with theoretical knowledge but also with the ability to apply and evaluate psychological research.

The course content is outlined as follows:

- Modules 1 - 4: Social Influence, Memory, Attachment and Approaches in Psychology
- Modules 5-7: Clinical Psychology in the Field of Mental Health, Research Methods and Biopsychology
- Modules 8 - 11: Issues and Debates, Cognition and Development, Schizophrenia and Forensic Psychology

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Maths Grade 4 or higher
GCSE English Grade 5 or higher

Future Careers

A-Level Psychology is a highly popular A-Level course that provides a multifaceted knowledge base and skill set that can be applied to a wide variety of roles and careers. Psychology is a branch of science that has a heavy biological component and can be a highly useful degree to complement students looking to go into the medical or pharmaceutical industry.

Furthermore, social psychology and the understanding of how people behave will be highly applicable to students considering careers in the police, social care or marketing.

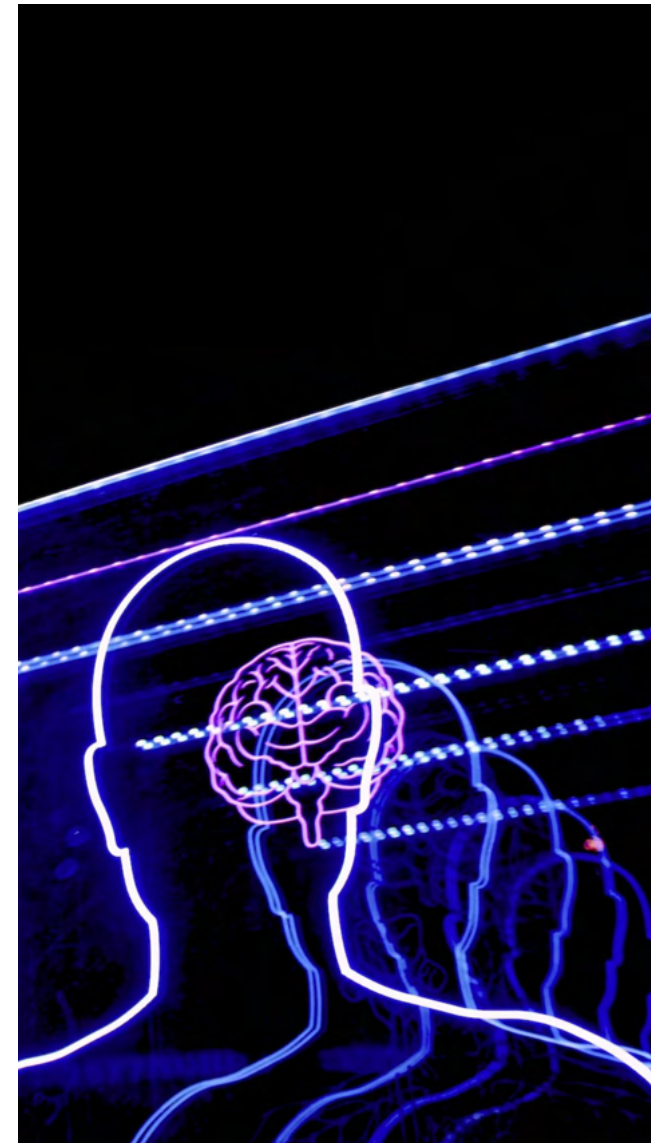
Course Title	A-Level Psychology
Examination Board	AQA
Specification/Code	7182

Assessment

- A-Level - three exam papers, assessing Modules 1-4, Modules 5-7 & Modules 8-11.

Contact Teacher

Miss Graham
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Religious Studies (A-Level)

At A-Level, Religious Studies gives you the opportunity to develop your interest in a rigorous study of religion and belief and relate it to the wider world. It gives you the chance to explore questions about existence, morality and the human experience. The subject makes links to contemporary issues and we look at how religion intersects with politics and ethics.

This comes alongside the opportunity to undertake an in-depth and broad study of Christianity, covering themes ranging from religious figures and sacred texts to practices that shape religious identity. We examine big questions such as why we exist and what it means to be good? Throughout the A-Level course, we build skills such as critical evaluation, analytical thinking and effective communication skills. All this contributes to a well-rounded skill set that can set you up for your future career path.

Course content includes:

- Philosophy of religion and ethics: Arguments for the existence of God, Evil and suffering, Miracles, Self and life after death, Ethical theories, Issues of human life and death, Issues of animal life and death, Free will and moral responsibility, Conscience.
- Study of religion and dialogue: Study of religion, Sources of wisdom and authority, Good conduct and key moral principles, Expression of religious identity, Religion, gender and sexuality, Religion and science, secularisation, religious pluralism.

Future Careers

A-Level Religious Studies opens up various career paths. Students often pursue roles in education, becoming teachers or lecturers. The analytical and critical thinking skills gained are valuable in areas such as law and journalism.

Careers in counselling, social work or international relations benefit from the empathy and cultural awareness promoted in Religious Studies. Religious Studies provides you with a range of skills that will enable you to embark on many different professional journeys.

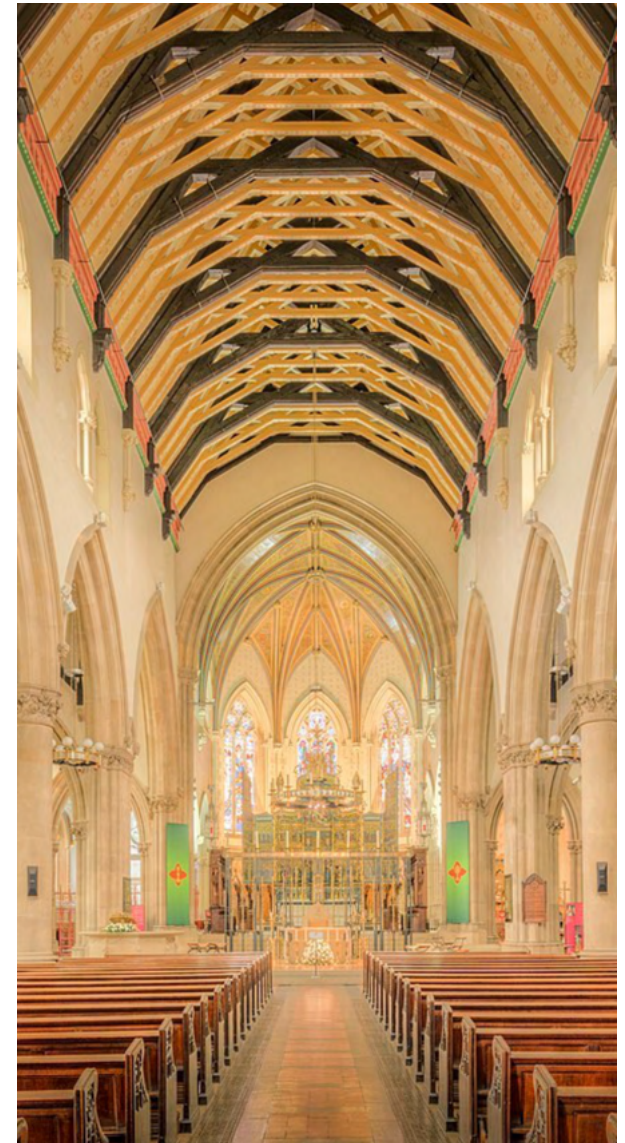
Course Title	A-Level Religious Studies
Examination Board	AQA
Specification/Code	7062

Assessment

- Component 1: 3 hour exam (50%)
- Component 2: 3 hour exam (50%)

Contact Teacher

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Sociology (A-Level)

Choosing to study A-Level Sociology can be a rewarding decision for several reasons. Studying Sociology involves analysing and evaluating social issues, theories, and research methods which makes it both a fascinating and useful subject choice for many future careers.

Furthermore, Sociology fosters a deep awareness of societal issues, inequality, and diversity. It encourages empathy and a greater understanding of the experiences of individuals and will foster inner growth to prepare you for the world.

Topics you will cover include:

- Sociological perspectives including Marxists, functionalists, Feminists and Postmodernist views.
- Education system in the UK and the impact it has on society.
- Family and its functions in society.
- Crime and deviance in society.
- Beliefs in society which includes the purpose of religion in society.

Future Careers

Sociology can provide an excellent basis for many careers, including social work, research, journalism, nursing, teaching, the police force, probation work, law, counselling and many of the caring professions.

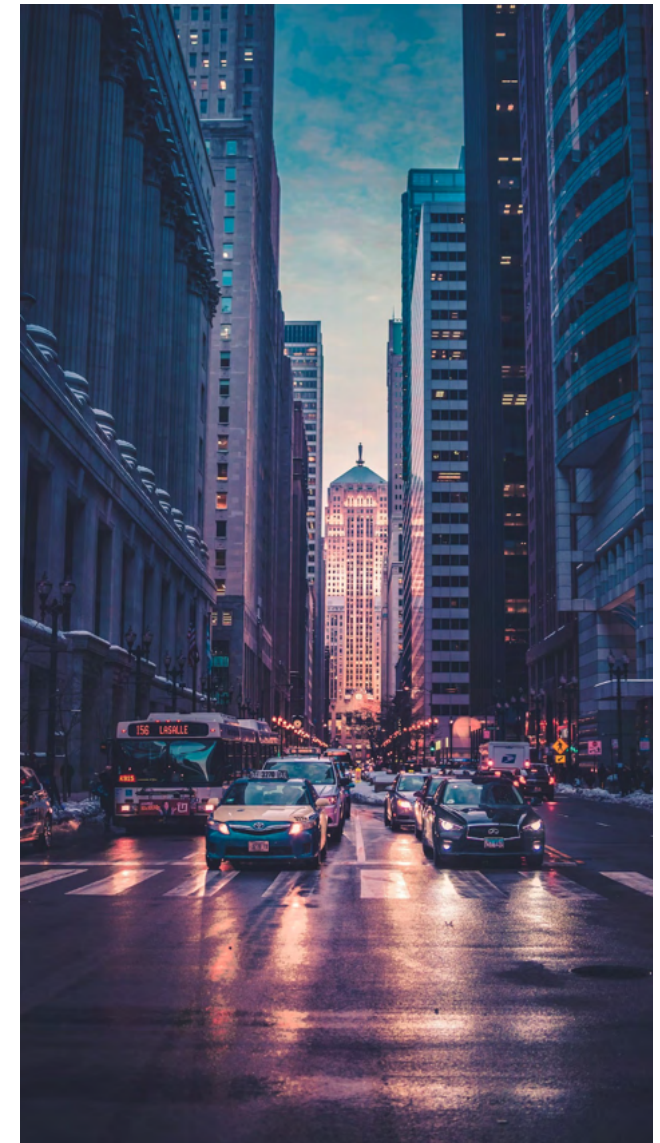
Course Title	A-Level Sociology
Examination Board	AQA
Specification/Code	7192

Assessment

- Component 1: Education and Research Methods (33%) - a series of short questions, two mini essays, two longer essay questions and one document-based question (150 minutes).
- Component 2: Family Life and Beliefs in Society (33%) - two 'mini-essay' questions and one essay question for each topic (120 minutes)
- Component 3: Crime and Deviance: Research and Methods (33%) - a series of short questions, two mini essays, two longer essay questions and one document-based question (150 minutes).

Contact Teacher

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Spanish (A-Level)

Our A-Level Spanish course serves as a gateway to linguistic mastery and a deeper understanding of the vibrant cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. Spanish A-Level course offers a plethora of life-enhancing skills and benefits:

- The ability to communicate confidently and articulately in Spanish.
- A thorough understanding of the nature, scope, and nuances of the language, equipping you for further academic pursuits, work, and leisure.
- Fascinating insights into the culture and contemporary society of Spanish-speaking countries.
- Transferable cognitive skills, such as analytical thinking and enhanced memory.

Our A-Level Spanish course is structured to be comprehensive, fostering not just language proficiency but also intellectual and cultural enlightenment. You will continue to practise listening, reading, writing and speaking in Spanish, but to a higher level, with much more interesting topics focusing on the culture of Spain and Latin America.

You will:

- Study a range of topics covering different aspects of Spanish society and culture
- Analyse text and films as part of the written exam
- Carry out a research project on an aspect of Hispanic culture to discuss in the speaking exam.

Future Careers

Spanish combines well with a number of other subjects. Business Studies, Computer Science and Economics are obvious examples. Other suitable subjects are Art and Design and Photography.

Some other examples of jobs where Spanish is relevant include interpreters, translators, MFL teachers, international lawyers, risk analysts, broadcast journalists, diplomatic service workers, international marketing executives, international travel consultants and many more.

Course Title	A-Level Spanish
Examination Board	AQA
Specification/Code	7692

Assessment

- Component 1: Speaking (30%)
- Component 2: Reading, Listening & Translation (50%)
- Component 3: Essay-Writing: Text (La Casa De Bernarda Alba) / Film (El Laberinto del Dauno) (20%)

Contact Teacher

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Travel and Tourism (BTEC Level 2)

The BTEC Level 2 in Travel and Tourism provides students with a thorough understanding of the global travel and tourism sector, preparing students for potential careers in one of the world's and potentially Morecambe and Lancaster's fastest-growing industries.

This course covers essential areas including customer service, airports and airlines, the cruise industry, International and UK destinations and travel and tourism business environments.

Skills you will develop include:

- Being able to give presentations and being active group members
- The ability to research actively and methodically and write reports
- Customer service and communication skills
- Itinerary, event planning and marketing skills
- Understand how the tourism sector operates in the UK and internationally

Our aim is for this course to be a stepping stone to future employment or future Level 3 education by teaching a wide range of study and research skills that are applicable in the workplace. Many of our students have previously gone on to study Travel and Tourism on our Level 3 course here at OLCC.

Future Careers

A BTEC Level 2 in Travel and Tourism recognised by sixth form colleges & education providers as contributing to meeting admission requirements for many Level 3 courses. It could also lead to a direct route into employment or onto an apprenticeship.

This course has many direct links to careers including marketing and sales, airline roles, hospitality roles, tour operations, customer service and travel agency roles.

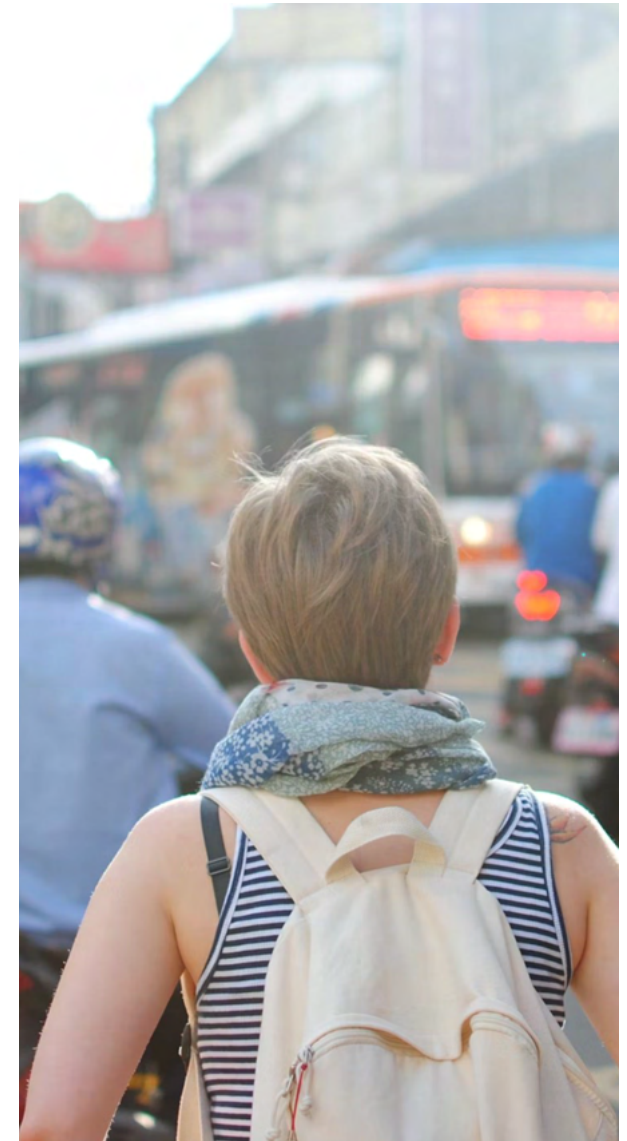
Course Title	BTEC L2 Travel and Tourism
Examination Board	Edexcel
Specification/Code	603/6512/6

Assessment

- Unit 1 and Unit 7 are external examinations set by Edexcel (25%)
- The remaining Units are all coursework-based assessments (75%)

Contact Teacher

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Travel and Tourism (BTEC Level 3)

The BTEC Level 3 in Travel and Tourism provides a comprehensive understanding of the global travel and tourism sector, preparing students for dynamic careers in one of the world's fastest-growing industries. This course covers essential areas, including customer service, marketing in tourism, global destinations, and the economic impact of tourism on local and international scales.

Skills you will develop include:

- Analyse and evaluate a business' performance
- Being able to give presentations and being active group members
- The ability to research actively and methodically and write reports
- Customer service and communication skills
- Itinerary, event planning and marketing skills
- Understand how global and local events can affect the tourism sector

Studying Travel and Tourism at GCSE/BTEC Level 2 is not a requirement. Our aim is for the course to be a stepping stone to future employment or higher education by teaching a wide range of study and research skills that are applicable in the workplace. Many of our students have previously gone on to study Travel and Tourism in further education or found employment in the tourism industry.

Future Careers

A BTEC National in Travel and Tourism carries UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers as contributing to meeting admission requirements for many courses. It could also lead to a direct route into employment or onto an apprenticeship.

This course has many direct links to careers including marketing and sales, airline roles, hospitality management, tour operations, customer service and travel agency roles.

Course Title	BTEC L3 Travel and Tourism
Examination Board	Edexcel
Specification/Code	601/9023/1

Assessment

- Unit 1 and Unit 2 are external examinations set by Edexcel (58%)
- Unit 3 and Unit 9 are coursework-based assessments(42%)

Contact Teacher

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