EVERY YOUNG PERSON WANTS TO BE PART OF SOMETHING GREAT

2020/21

CARMEL VI FORM PROSPECTUS

WELCOME

WELCOME TO CARMEL COLLEGE, WHERE STUDENTS LEAVE WITH MORE THAN JUST OUTSTANDING RESULTS.

We are an 11-18 Catholic Academy with an outstanding record of academic achievement at both GCSE and A Level, which places the College as one of the top performing schools in the country.

Carmel College VI Form provides outstanding academic and vocational courses for students from all over Darlington and surrounding areas. The VI form is renowned for high quality teaching, small classes, personal support and fantastic opportunities.

We are proud to provide an environment of joyous corridors and purposeful classrooms, with the expectation that students have a rewarding and fulfilling experience during their time with us.

MIKE SHORTEN
Principal, Carmel College
Deputy CEO,
Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust

So you are starting to think about your next step after Secondary School. Choosing where to go can sometimes be confusing but don't let it be daunting for you. By choosing Carmel VI Form, you will be making a decision that will help ensure your safe passage to the wider world of higher education or successful employment. At Carmel VI Form we work hard to promote a balance between the structure you have been used to in secondary school and greater independence. There are many differences between life in VI Form and life in secondary school. A Level work is challenging and time-consuming but here at Carmel we will support you and provide outstanding academic and pastoral care throughout your time as a VI Form student and also equip you with the practical and emotional tools you need to help you cope with the increased pressure of being a VI Form student. VI Form is an exciting time in your life and by choosing the subjects you love, studying is made much more enjoyable.

LOUISE PARNABY
Head of VI Form

Here at Carmel VI Form we focus on a core of just over 300 students. This, we believe, is the right size to offer dedicated facilities, outstanding teaching and the capacity to help and support our students to make the right choices to succeed at university, in life and employment. Our College has a history of successful students. Every year we achieve excellent results and our students go on to study at many of the UK's leading universities. Carmel VI Form is full of new opportunities. We are a community built on, 'Academic Strength and Spiritual Depth'; a community of individuals from a wide variety of backgrounds who come together to work, play, reflect, compete, discover, analyse and ultimately succeed.

It is my firm belief that every young person wants to be part of something great. Therefore, whether you are already a Carmel student, or coming to us from another school, I am confident you will find Carmel VI Form to be a great place to grow and learn.

CONTENTS

4 Top Ten Reasons to Choose Carmel
5 Leadership Team
6 Your Application
7 Where Are They Now?

COURSES

8 Extended Project Qualification

AS/A LEVEL COURSES

9 Art
10 Biology
11 Business
12 Chemistry
13 Computer Science
14 Design and Technology/Product Design
15 English Language
16 English Literature
17 Geography
18 History
19 Law
20 Mathematics
21 Mathematics (Further)
22 Media Studies
23 Modern Foreign Languages
24 Music
25 Religious Studies
26 Photography
27 Physical Education
28 Physics
29 Psychology
30 Sociology
31 Textiles

BTEC & LEVEL 3 COURSES

32 Children's Play, Learning and Development
33 Health & Social Care
34 Applied Human Biology
35 Mathematical Studies
36 Performing Arts
37 Public Services

CAMBRIDGE TECHNICALS LEVEL 3 COURSES

38 Information Technology (IT)
39 Sport and Physical Activity

TOP TEN REASONS TO JOIN US

1 We are the only college in the area rated as **'Outstanding'** by Ofsted.

2 We are a community where **everyone is welcome**; Carmel is open to students of any faith or none. Everyone is supported in their particular journey. Students from various different schools in Darlington and the surrounding areas come together to make our VI Form amazing.

3 We offer **bespoke packages** to our students. We look at each individual's strengths and weaknesses and the skills you possess and we tailor a package to suit you. After receiving important information and guidance, students can select 3, 4 or 5 A Levels with the opportunity also to complete either the EPQ, Mathematical Studies and/or Sports Leaders Awards.

4 **Excellent exam results** each year, of which we are very proud. Our students progress to the finest universities in the country – and sometimes beyond these shores. Some move directly into apprenticeships or employment and all are provided with individual advice and careful support. Our A Level performance is significantly higher than the national average with 57% of entries for the past three years (2017 to 2019) graded A*-B grades, and 30% of entries awarded the top grades of A*-A.

5 **We have a strong team of VI Form tutors** who track the progress of each student, assisting them every step of the way in their academic and personal development and providing outstanding pastoral care.

6 We value our VI Form students very highly and they are afforded many **privileges**. As well as having access to the whole College, they have their own common room, complete with a pool table, Playstation, hot and cold drinks machine and an all-day bistro.

7 Our subject teachers are all highly qualified and experienced A Level teachers. Carmel VI Form is for students who want to achieve at the highest level. The curriculum is wide-ranging and includes **traditional A Levels alongside vocational courses.**

8 There are many opportunites to get involved in a number of activities and events beyond the classroom, all part of our extensive **enrichment** programme. The College has an unrivalled history of sporting success, a great tradition of amazing musical productions and a well-established Duke of Edinburgh scheme. There are also fantastic opportunities to travel to places such as Paris, Lourdes and the USA.

9 We currently offer a successful **Bursary** scheme. The Bursaries are intended to provide financial help to young people aged 16 to 19, who face financial barriers to participating in education or training, provided they meet agreed standards of attendance and behaviour.

10 Carmel VI Form has a dynamic and focused **Student Leadership Team.** There are many opportunities to develop leadership skills at Carmel. In addition to the roles for which students are elected, there is the opportunity for all to be involved in the running of the College and assisting staff with day-to-day duties.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Being an external student transitioning to Carmel VI form, I could not have wished for a better environment to support and guide me on my journey. I have developed both academically and personally in such a short space of time. Carmel is an inclusive sixth form that encourages students of all backgrounds to embrace their diversity, ambition and passion in all aspects of College life. As students, we are given the foundations to form strong relationships with peers and teachers allowing us to feel comfortable and accepted. I am incredibly proud, not only to be a part of such an amazing community of students and staff alike, but also to have been given an opportunity to embrace all of the positives Carmel represents as Head Girl. I have no doubt that your gifts and talents would be honoured here at Carmel!

MIA AINSLEY - HEAD GIRL

Carmel VI form has an outstanding reputation and students produce exceptional results. In addition there is a close-knit, caring, family atmosphere. As an external student, this unique blend is what drew me to Carmel. Excellent facilities provide ideal learning environments. Staff are experienced, friendly and approachable but also have very high expectations. There is always support when needed- something which has been continuously displayed throughout the recent Lockdown period. Form Tutors work closely with students to ensure smooth progress and assist with university and career choices, applications and interview techniques. Students create friendships, support each other and contribute to the family atmosphere in our community. Carmel VI will provide you with foundations to achieve your dream, but also the opportunity to make life long friends in the process!

JUDE BLACKMORE - HEAD BOY

ENRICHMENT

PARTICIPATE IN THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

APPLY TO BE ON THE STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

JOIN A SPORTS TEAM;PARTICIPATE IN SPORTING ACTIVITIES

ORGANISE AND ATTEND COLLEGE SOCIALS

SUPPORT AND RAISE AWARENESS FOR A CHARITY

MAKE USE OF OUR EXCELLENT INDUSTRY LINKS

GO ON TRIPS E.G NEW YORK AND LOURDES

PARTICIPATE IN PUBLIC SPEAKING

AUDITION FOR A PERFORMANCE OR CHOIR

THINK ABOUT YOUR NEXT CAREER STEPS - UNIVERSITY OR EMPLOYMENT

MENTOR YOUNGER STUDENTS IN LESSONS

PARTICIPATE IN A VARIETY OF COURSES: EG DEAF AWARENESS

YOUR APPLICATION

At Carmel College we treat all applications in exactly the same way. Entrance to the VI Form is not based on religious affiliation. Any candidate who meets our conditions will be invited in for a consultation and places are offered on commitment and merit. Our entry requirements are at least 5 GCSEs at grade 9-4, including English Language, maths and any other subject-based grades specified. We pride ourselves on attracting the best students from many different schools and look forward to receiving your application.

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

MOSTLY ACHIEVED THESE GRADES AT GCSE	Y12- YOUR POSSIBLE OPTIONS	Y13- YOUR PROGRESSION
Achieved at least eight grades 9-7 (A*-B) including English Language and maths above a grade 5	You are able to take 4 A Level subjects in Year 12 plus Core Enrichment and an enrichment option of either the EPQ and or/ Mathematical Studies	Successfully completed the first year? Continue with your 4 subjects in the second year with the option to continue with your enrichment option or start a new one if your original choice has been successfully completed
Achieved at least six grades 9-6 (A*-B) including English Language and maths above a grade 5	You are able to take 3 A Level subjects in Year 12 plus Core Enrichment and an enrichment option of either the EPQ and or/ Mathematical Studies	Successfully completed the first year? Continue with your 3 subjects in the second year with the option to continue with your enrichment option or start a new one if your original choice has been successfully completed
Achieved at least six grades 9-4 (A*-C) including English Language and maths above a grade 4	You are able to take 3 A Level subjects or BTECs (or a combination) in Year 12 plus Core Enrichment and an enrichment option of either the EPQ and or/ Mathematical Studies	Successfully completed the first year? Continue with your 3 subjects in the second year with the option to continue with your enrichment option or start a new one if your original choice has been successfully completed
Achieved at least five grades 9-4 (A*-C) including English Language and maths above a grade 4	You are able to take 3 BTECs in Year 12 plus Core Enrichment and an enrichment option of either the EPQ and or/Mathematical Studies	Successfully completed the first year? Continue with your 3 subjects in the second year with the option to continue with your enrichment option or start a new one if your original choice has been successfully completed

This is just a guide. However, you will have an opportunity to discuss the number of courses you study when you speak to the VI Form Team.

HOW DO I FIND OUT MORE?

Application forms are available from the College and an online version can be found on the College website at **www.carmel6.org.uk/apply**. For more information please email enquiries@carmel6.org.uk or call 01325 523421.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

University Destinations

North East
Newcastle University (22)
University of Northumbria (14)
Durham University (4)
Teesside University (1)
The Northern School of Art (1)
University of Sunderland (1)

Yorkshire & the Humber
University of Leeds 6)
Leeds Beckett University (1)
Leeds Trinity University (1)
Leeds Conservatoire (1)
The University of Sheffield (3)
University of York (6)
York St John University (1)
University of Hull (1)
University of Bradford (1)

East Midlands
Nottingham Trent University (5)
University of Nottingham (1)
De Montfort University (1)

East of England
University of Derby (1)
Suffolk University (1)

London
Imperial College London (3)
University of East London (1)

North West
The University of Manchester (2)
Edge Hill University (1)
University of Central Lancashire (1)

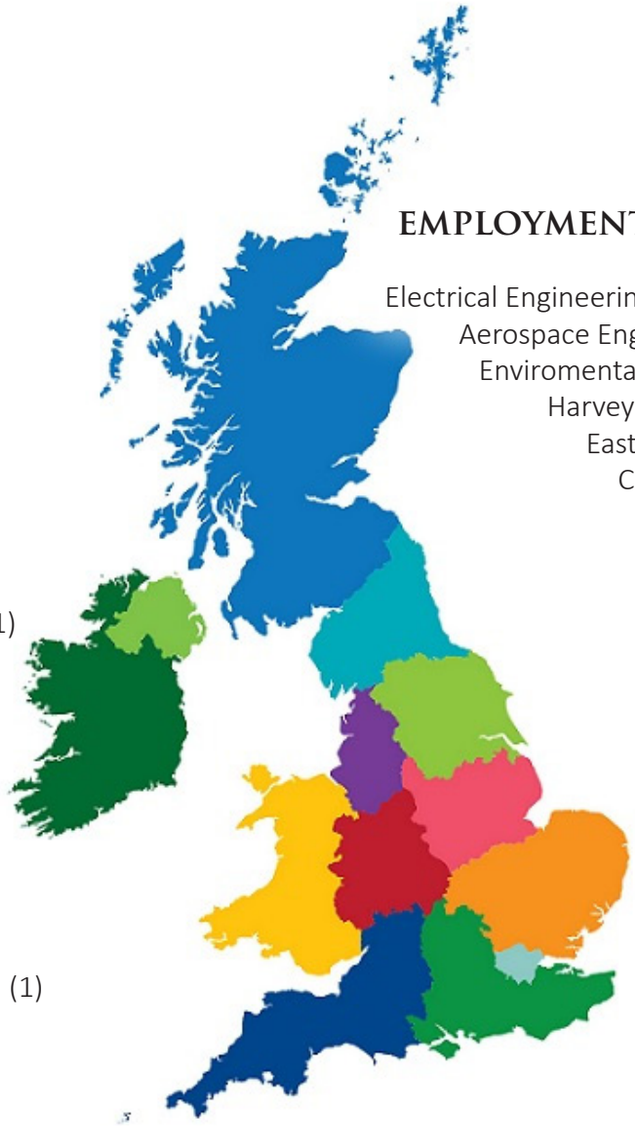
Wales
Swansea University (2)

West Midlands
University of Warwick (1)
University of Birmingham (1)

South East
Brighton & Sussex Medical School (1)
University of Surrey (1)
University of Suffolk (1)
BIMM Institute (1)

"I really appreciated having smaller class sizes compared to secondary and having increased one on one support from teachers, which helped me to achieve my best. That support was evidently shown through my own application process for medicine and keeping us all on track during the height of the pandemic."
- Jeanne Jose, Studying Medicine at Newcastle University

"Coming from a different school, it was surprising to me how easily I integrated and made great lifelong friendships. I felt the personal approach to teaching made the work really enjoyable, but also allowed me to push myself and achieve great grades. In addition to this, the added support from the teachers and sixth form staff, both inside and outside of college, has helped me to find success in an amazing apprenticeship opportunity. I thoroughly enjoyed my time at Carmel!"
- Dominic Hancock, Aerospace Engineering Apprenticeship at BAE systems



Employment Destinations

Electrical Engineering Quartz Apprenticeship
Aerospace Engineering Apprenticeship
Enviromental Science Apprenticeship
Harvey Electrics Apprenticeship
East Durham Apprenticeship
Chipchase Apprenticeship
Property Apprenticeship
Amazon Apprenticeship
Police Apprenticeship
Healthcare Assistant
RSM Apprenticeship
Property Leasing
Royal Navy

EPQ

COURSE CODE:

AQA Extended Project - 7993

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

5 in English Language

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

The EPQ is a great addition to any CV as you can tailor the research topic to suit your needs. This allows you to focus on your own area of interest and spend time investigating this in detail, achieving a qualification, as well as developing the skills, knowledge and confidence that will help you in both job and university interviews.

The Programme

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is a stand-alone qualification designed to extend and develop students' skills in independent research and project management. The EPQ is awarded UCAS points worth half an A Level and is recognised by universities and employers; some leading universities make alternative offers to students undertaking an EPQ.

The EPQ requires students to carry out research on a topic that they have chosen and is not covered by the other qualifications. They then use this research toproduce a written report and, in the case of practical projects, an artefact or a production. A student can take inspiration from something studied in class or something completely unrelated to their studies.

What does it involve?

Students work independently with a staff supervisor for an hour a week to undertake a research project of their choice, producing either a 5,000 word research project or an artefact supported by a 1,000 word research document. The assessment rewards learning process over final product; a successful EPQ student will need the skills to work independently. All our students, no matter what their course of study, are able to add this qualification to their programme.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

The EPQ is an independent research project where you can learn about and begin to develop the higher level skills that are essential for university study. You can visit university libraries to gain an insight into the size and scale of them and to experience studying in that environment. The EPQ is increasingly popular with universities looking for candidates who can demonstrate their ability to conduct detailed, independent research in the manner that is expected of a higher education student.

ART (FINE ART)

COURSE CODE:

Fine Art A Level - 7202/C
7202/X

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

6 in Art

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

Graphic designer, packaging designer, milliner, photographer, stylist, advertising designer, architect, fashion designer, video editor, web design, film director, jeweller, animator, children's book illustrator, cartoonist, interior designer, stage/costume designer, fashion journalist, printmaker, fabric designer, camera operator, self- employed artist or a teacher.

The Programme

Students are required to produce two coursework and exam units over the two year course. Candidates will develop a coursework portfolio based on given themes, such as "Music", "Structures", "Feast for the Eyes" and "Surfaces". The GCSE Art course requires students to work in sketchbooks, researching and developing ideas, towards a final outcome. All units of work will include looking at the work of other artists and designers, supported by visits to galleries and museums.

Teaching is directed at the needs, strengths and interests of the individual student. All units of work are tailored to allow the individual to explore original and creative solutions in any or several of the following techniques: print making, sculpture, photography and ICT, painting and drawing, mixed media and collage relief techniques.

There is a balance of learning activities, which include specific skill and technical instruction, self and peer assessment and one to one tutorials. The exam board we use is AQA and the A Level will be assessed on students personal investigation unit worth 60%, including a 3,000 word essay and an externally set unit worth 40%, including a 15 hour practical exam. This is internally marked and externally moderated. For students opting to only complete AS, the coursework portfolio (60%) and externally set unit (40%) is internally marked and externally moderated.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Art enhances fine motor skills, hand-eye co-ordination, problem solving skills, lateral thinking, complex analysis and critical thinking skills. No matter what career you choose, those who can arrange, present and display material in a way that is aesthetically pleasing have an advantage. Art makes us look at things anew, appreciate beauty, embrace diversity, it broadens our cultural horizons and develops our personal resources. Communicating with colour and shape and form awakens the imagination, sharpens our senses and expresses our identity. If you love making art, you'll miss it when it's gone. If you do choose to study Art, it is likely to be your favourite class of the day.

BIOLOGY

COURSE CODE:

OCR Biology AS - H020
OCR Biology A Level - H420

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

2 × 6s from higher Science papers (including Biology) and a 6 in Maths.

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

As well as the more obvious career links such as medicine, dentistry, nursing, ecology, veterinary medicine, etc., it is looked favourably upon for a large number of non-science careers and courses, including Law, Computing, Accountancy, Teaching and Sports Science. This list is by no means exhaustive and there is a huge number of other careers and degree courses which look favourably on Biology.

The Programme

In Year 12 (and AS) biology students will study: Cell structure and Microscopy; Biochemistry; Nucleotides and Nucleic Acids; Enzymes; Biological Membranes; Cell Division, Cell Diversity and Cellular Organisation; Exchange with the environment; Transport in animals; Transport in plants; The immune system and disease; Biodiversity; Classification and evolution. For the full A Level, all of the above topics are studied, plus: Communication and homeostasis; Excretion; Nervous Communication; Hormonal Communication; Responses to change; Photosynthesis; Respiration; Genetics and Cellular control; Patterns of Inheritance; Manipulating Genomes; Cloning and Biotechnology; Ecosystems; Populations and Sustainability.

During VI Form lessons, you will experience various teaching methods and styles such as demonstrations, practical work,lectures, handouts/notes, ICT work and one-to-one support. You will be expected to work much more on your own than you did at GCSE and to take a greater responsibility for your own organisation and learning.

There are five main areas that A Level students need to be prepared for: organising time, coping with workload, note-taking, reading around the subject and self-motivation. Students will sit the AS exams at the end of the first year of study. All exams will have questions covering the whole of the relevant subject content- there are no “module” exams- and include a range of question styles: multiple choice, structured questions and longer answer, essay questions.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Biology is the study of life and is therefore a very wide-ranging subject, examining the functioning and inter-dependence of living organisms from the molecular level, through the microscopic and whole-organism levels, to global issues of ecology and sustainability. Biology is regarded as the youngest of the main sciences and every day there are new discoveries being made as more and more focus is given to biological research, which is a rapidly-expanding field. Many of the big challenges that face the world in the 21st century, such as coping with climate change, feeding an expanding population, combatting disease, etc. will all need to be answered with the help of biologists.

BUSINESS

COURSE CODE:

WJEC Eduqas A Level Business- A510QSL

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

5 in English and a 5 in Maths

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

This course provides a suitable foundation for the study of business or a related area through a range of higher education courses, progression to the next level of vocational qualifications or employment. Other subjects which match well with Business Studies are: Mathematics, Information Technology and Media Studies.

THE PROGRAMME

The subject content enables learners to investigate different types and sizes of organisations in various business sectors and environments, drawing on local, national and global contexts. Students will develop an holistic understanding of business and enterprise and be aware of the opportunities and threats of operating in a global marketplace. They will be expected to be familiar with current issues in business and be able to investigate, analyse and evaluate contemporary business opportunities and problems in a wide range of contexts, whilst recognising how businesses adapt to operate in a dynamic business environment.

Students will gain an understanding of the important role played by small businesses in the economy and the opportunities that exist for entrepreneurs, as well as the importance of established business and not-for-profit organisations in providing goods and services. They will also apply a number of analytical techniques, including decision-making models, investment appraisal tools and ratio analysis, to investigate business opportunities and problems to determine business strategy in a range of contexts.

The following three components are all written exams worth 33% each, taken at the end of thetwo year course: Business Opportunities and Business Functions, Business Analysis and Strategy, and Business in a Changing World.

Lessons offer a range of engagement and challenging teaching and learning styles, including student led-mini- projects to allow development of team building, communication, leadership and many more. These will be a combination of teacher-led, student-led, independent enquiry, independent research projects and mini enterprise challenges.

Students work independently with a staff supervisor for an hour a week to undertake a research project of their choice, producing either a 5,000 word research project or an artefact supported by a 1,000 word research document. The assessment rewards learning process over final product; a successful EPQ student will need the skills to work independently. All our students, no matter what their course of study, are able to add this qualification to their programme.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

This A Level specification introduces learners to the dynamic business environment and the importance of entrepreneurial activity in creating business opportunities and sustaining business growth. Learners will have the opportunity to develop a wide range of essential skills required for higher education and employment.

The focus of the specification is to nurture an enthusiasm for studying business using contemporary contexts, allowing learners to develop an appreciation of the strategic, complex and inter-related nature of business issues from a local to a global perspective.

CHEMISTRY

COURSE CODE:

AQA Chemistry AS- 7404
AQA Chemistry A Level- 7405

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

2× 6s from higher Science papers (including Chemistry) and a 6 in Maths.

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

Chemistry is a very useful 'general' qualification as, like all of the sciences, it develops the skills of planning, evidence gathering, analysis and critical thinking. As well as the more obvious career links such as medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, chemical engineering, pharmaceuticals etc.,it is therefore looked favourably upon for a large number of non-science careers and higher education courses, including Law, Computing, Accountancy, Teaching and Sports Science.

The Programme

In Year 12 (and AS) chemistry students will study: Atomic structure; Bonding; Energetics; Kinetics; Chemical Equilibria; Redox Reactions and Equations; Periodicity; Groups 2 & 7 Elements; Alkanes; Halogenoalkanes; Alkenes; Alcohols; Organic analysis. For the full A Level, all of the above topics are studied, plus hermodynamics; Rate Equations; Equilibrium Constants; Electrode Potentials and Electrochemical cells; Acids and bases; Period 3 elements and their oxides; Transition metals; reactions in Aqueous Solution; Optical isomerism; Aldehydes and ketones; Carboxylic acids; Aromatic Chemistry; Amines; Polymers; Amino Acids, Proteins and DNA; Organic Synthesis; NMR Spectroscopy; Chromatography.

During VI Form lessons, you will experience various teaching methods and styles such as demonstrations, practical work, lectures, handouts/notes, ICT work and one-to-one support. You will be expected to work much more on your own than you did at GCSE and to take a greater responsibility for your own organisation and learning.

There are five main areas that A Level students need to be prepared for: organising time, coping with workload, note-taking, reading around the subject and self-motivation. Students will sit the AS exams at the end of the first year of study. At AS, Papers 1 & 2 are worth 50% each and cover different areas of the syllabus- there are no "module" exams. At A2 there are three papers. Each paper includes a range of question styles: multiple choice, structured questions and longer answer essay questions. Practical skills are now assessed separately and do not contribute marks to the overall A Level grade but will be reported separately at the end of the full A Level course as Pass/Fail on the "Practical Endorsement".

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Chemistry is an incredibly fascinating field of study. Because it is so fundamental to our world, chemistry plays a role in everyone's lives and touches almost every aspect of our existence in some way.

Chemistry is sometimes called the "central science" because it connects other sciences to each other, such as biology, physics, geology and environmental science.

Chemistry is essential for meeting our basic needs of food, clothing, shelter, health, energy, and clean air, water, and soil. Chemical technologies enrich our quality of life in numerous ways by providing new solutions to problems in health, materials and energy usage. Thus, studying chemistry is useful in preparing us for the real world.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

COURSE CODE:

OCR Computer Science A Level- H446

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

6 in Computing or a 6 in Maths and an additional Science or equivalent.

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

Computer Science is seen as either essential or facilitating in a range of Higher Education subjects such as; Biological, Chemical, Medical and Physical Sciences, Engineering in all its forms, Social Sciences, Maths Economics and Medicine. In addition, Computer Science is a direct route to Software Development, Web Development and Network Engineering among other career paths.

The Programme

Computer Scientists are a necessary part of every type of industry and, especially in the digital age, we have the prospect to work in a rewarding environment with many opportunities internationally. Studying Computer Science at A Level will involve learning about the hardware and software aspects of computer systems:

Computer Systems: You will learn about the inner workings of the computer such as the CPU, the exchange of data, software development, data types and legal and ethical issues concerning computers.

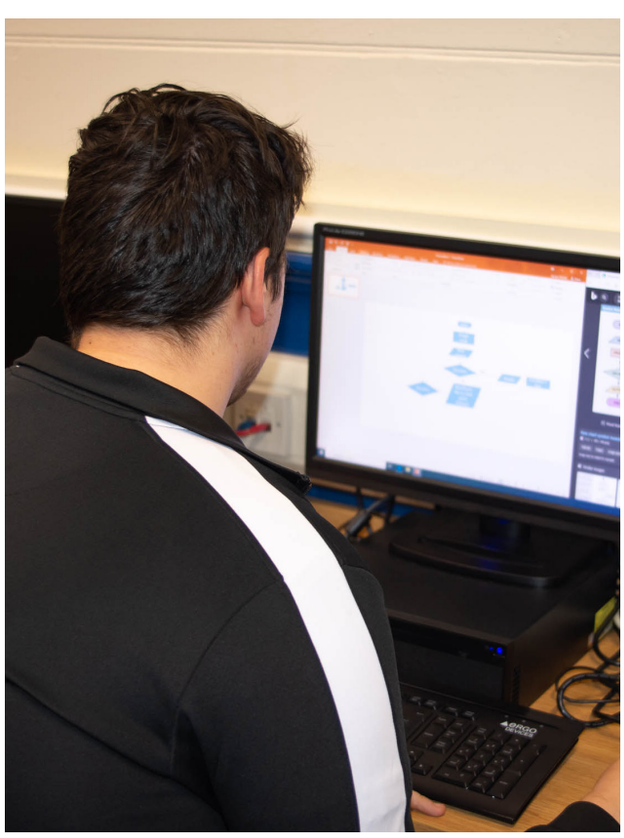
Algorithms and Programming: You will develop your understanding of 'computational thinking' and apply your knowledge to solving a wide variety of problems. You will learn to use algorithms to describe problems and analyse those problems to their component parts.

In the second year of the A Level, you will also complete a Programming Project. In this non-exam unit, you will analyse, design, develop, test, evaluate and document a program that solves a computationally solvable problem. You will use 'agile' development techniques to ensure that your project is completed successfully. The teaching styles are lectures, presentations, practical lessons, coding/programming sessions,individual/paired/group reports, guided research and self-study. For the full A Level there are two exams at worth 40% each and one coursework project worth 20%.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

While it is true that we will all use computers in our professional and everyday life, not all of us need to be programmers. Computer Science is not simply about programming computers. Studying Computer Science allows us a deeper understanding of the way that computers work and gives us a fuller understanding of the nature of problems and the way that they can be solved successfully. In describing a problem fully, decomposing it to its component parts, we can ensure that a computer, whether electronic or human, can follow the instructions given and ensure that the problem is solved entirely. The computational methods and the thinking involved are applicable to many of the world's greatest problems. This is why the subject is held in such high regard by engineers, mathematicians, physicists, software developers andthe medical profession.

In addition to the direct benefits of understanding computer systems, it is important to note that you might well, in the future, be dealing with computer scientists who will be solving the problems that you face. In this context, it is beneficial to be able to communicate using a common language understood by everyone involved. The transferable skills gained are wide-ranging and useful in many disciplines beyond the computersuite.



Design and Technology - Product Design

Course code:

AQA Design and Technology AS Level - 7551
AQA Design and Technology A Level - 7552

Typical entry requirements:

6 in Design & Technology and a 5 in Maths.

Career possibilities:

The course is particularly useful to those wishing to go on to careers such as product design, architecture, automotive design, jewellery design, packaging design and some engineering courses, as it combines creativity with a high level of technicalunderstanding.

The Programme

This exciting course looks at how everyday products have been designed and made. You will use a wide variety of tools and equipment which may include work iCAD/CAM, graphics, resistant materials or electronics. It gives you the opportunity to develop skills in designing and making products of high quality. The course comprises 50% coursework and a 50% examination element. The styles of teaching include practical activities, creative design work, modelling, demonstrationand practice exam questions.

AS Level

Paper 1 - Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes 50% of AS Level

What's assessed
Technical principles, designing and making principles
(Short answer and extended response)

Non-exam assessment (NEA) 50% of AS Level

What's assessed
Single design and make project
Context set by AQA
Recommended 35 pages

A Level

Paper 1 - Written exam: 2.5 hours - 30% of A Level

What's assessed
Technical principles
(Mixture of short answer and extended response)

Paper 2 - Written exam: 1.5 hours - 20% of A Level

What's assessed
Designing and making principles
(Mixture of short answer and extended response questions)

Non-exam assessment (NEA) - 50% of A Level

What's assessed
Substantial design and make project
Written or digital design portfolio and photographic evidence of final prototype

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

COURSE CODE:

AQA English Language A Level- 7702

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

6 in English Language and English Literature.

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

The demands of the English Language A level means that students will have acute communication skills, adapting their linguistic choices to suit audience and purpose. These skills will be of use in fields such as journalism, publishing and clerical service. Further to this, the opportunity to explore language change and language acquisition would provide students with knowledge that could be applied to a teaching qualification.

The Programme

The AQA A Level English Language covers a broad range of topics which help pupils to develop their subject expertise by exploring key language concepts and engaging with a range of texts and discourses. The English language is constantly evolving and while studying we focus on language as a living thing, a constantly evolving process that provides a unique and insightful view of people and society. The course consists of three broad components: Language the Individual and Society; Language Diversity and Change and Language in Action. These areas cover a range of interesting topics such as: language and ethnicity; child language acquisition; language and occupation and many more. Pupils who study English Language learn to analyse the building blocks of language and investigate the situations that influence how we use it.

The timetabled allocation for English Language is five hours per week and you will have two teachers who deliver different aspects of the course. The course is designed to allow students to create texts and reflect critically on their own processes of production, while analysing the texts produced by others. An emphasis is placed on the ability of students to pursue lines of enquiry, debate different views, and work independently to research aspects of language in use. Pupils will draw on the linguistic experience of their teachers as well as pursue individual lines of enquiry.

The duration of the A Level course is two years, with two written examinations at the end of the course, in which pupils draw together their knowledge, skills and understanding from across the full course of study, alongside a coursework component, which is worth 20% of the overall A Level qualification.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

The course makes use of a variety of assessment styles such as data analysis, discursive essays, creative writing and research-based investigative writing. Due to this breadth, students are able to develop a wide range of skills such as critical reading, data analysis, evaluation, the ability to develop and sustain arguments and a number of different writing skills, which are invaluable for both further study and future employment. The multi faceted nature of the course enables students to apply these skills to other curriculum areas such as, history, philosophy and ethics and English Literature.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

COURSE CODE:

AQA English Literature A Level- 7717AB

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

2 × 6s from higher Science papers (including Biology) and a 6 in Maths

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

Careers that centre on the ability to debate and evaluate evidence, such as those in the field of law (police/ solicitor etc.) would find A Level English Literature a useful course to pursue. Alternatively, their immersion in a range of texts from different eras would provide a firm literary background to draw creative inspiration from. As a consequence, careers in the creative arts, or even curatorship, wouldbenefit from this wide breadth of literary knowledge.

The Programme

Students who choose English Literature are not only looking to study a subject that is recognised and sought after by institutions of higher education, they are fascinated by the truth of the written word. Literature is the creation of another world, a world that we can only see through reading and discussion. Literature offers students the opportunity to learn about history, politics, linguistics, art and culture.

Students who study A level Literature will study not only works established as part of the canon of English Literature but also exciting, innovative texts from other cultures as well. Genre study is at the heart of English Literature and students will study a range of prose, drama and poetry texts through the lens of either tragedy or political and social protest writing. Students will also study a range of critical theory, including feminism and Marxism, and apply these to poetry and prose texts of their own choosing as part of their coursework.

Areas of Study:

Tragedy
Othello- William Shakespeare. The Great Gatsby- F. Scott Fitzgerald. Richard II- William Shakespeare.

Social and Political Protest
The Handmaid's Tale- Margaret Atwood. The Kite Runner- Khaled Hosseini. Songs of Innocence and Experience - William Blake.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

A Level English Literature offers students the opportunity to develop inference and deduction skills which are particulary useful to careers and courses that require you to break down rhetoric and formulate an informed argument. The content of the course enables students to explore the study of literature through the lens of genre and theory, which in turn encourages the independent study of a range of texts within a shared context. This unifying approach facilitates the inclusion of a range of wider reading, thus extending students' experience and appreciation of literature beyond core set texts. This course allows students the autononmy to explore, debate and tackle challenging literary concepts and shape their understanding of the world around them.

GEOGRAPHY

COURSE CODE:

Edexcel Geography A Level – 9GE0

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

5 in Geography

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

Many careers value the skills gained from a geography A Level, whether that be town planning, estate management, meteorology, environmental management or GIS. Subjects which go particularly well with Geography are Biology, Sociology, English or Maths. We are in the unusual position of being both an Arts and Scientific area of study, which enables purely science based students to continue to develop their literacy skills, while also allowing arts based students to maintain statistical and mathematical skills.

The Programme

The A Level consists of 3 elements – a physical paper, a human paper and an The A Level consists of four elements – a physical paper, a human paper, a synoptic investigation paper and a non-examined assessment which is a coursework component of between 3000-4000 words. The physical paper consists of *Tectonic Processes and Hazards, the Water Cycle and Water Insecurity, the Carbon Cycle and Energy Security* and *Coastal Landscapes and Change*. On the human paper students study *Globalisation, Shaping Places, Superpowers* and *Global Development and Connections.*

Some of the material on both the physical and human elements is relatively unfamiliar to students so there is an opportunity to really stretch and develop students' understanding of the world in which they live in new and exciting ways, whilst also building on existing knowledge. Students are also required to be involved in 4 days of fieldwork to help them decide on a suitable coursework topic.

There is a range of teaching styles from seminars, presentations and lectures and students are expected to have an awareness of contemporary issues in the news. The A Level course is linear with 3 terminal exams; one for the physical topics, one for the human topics and a synoptic investigation paper which are all 2 hours 15mins. Within each paper there will be a mixture of shorter questions (between 1 and 8 marks) moving up to longer 12 and 20 mark extended prose questions. In addition, students must complete a piece of fieldwork consisting of minimum of four days' work in the field. This geographical investigation will be marked in school and should be between 3000-4000 words.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Studying geography allows students to have a much deeper and fuller understanding of the changing world in which they live. We teach students to question cause and effect, why issues happen and the implication on people and places and this can be as diverse as who owns Antarctica and how that wilderness can be managed to the role of water supply in the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. Geography is a highly respected academic A Level and many students who have a science background and who study geography have commented upon how valuable the written element of the course has been as they have progressed to degree level study. We aim to give our geography students the tools and curiosity to enquire and discover more about the places and spaces of this increasingly globalised world in which they live.

HISTORY

COURSE CODE:

AQA History A Level - 7042CH

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

6 in History (if taken at GCSE) or a 6 in English Language if not taken

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

History helps with a number of career opportunities,some directly connected to the study of history and others where the skills can be transferred. These include:law, archaeology, museum work, teacher (primary and secondary), university lecturer, civil service, politics and journalism. History complements a number of other subjects including other written subjects such as English, Geography, Philosophy and Ethics. It is also a popular subject for students who are studying sciences and maths and wish to have a subject that contrasts with their options and allows the opportunity to study a subject that requires extensive written work.

The Programme

A Level history at Carmel offers students the opportunity to study 3 topics in great detail over the course of 2 years. These include:

- The Tudors: England , 1485-1603
- France in Revolution, 1774-1815
- Personal Enquiry

In Year 12, students study Henry VII and Henry VIII, as well as the background to the French Revolution and the Revolution itself. For example, students debate the factors leading to Tudor Rebellions, riots in Paris, the outbreaks of war and the numerous consequences, while in Year 13 they continue to study Elizabeth's reign, as well as Napoleon's rule. In Year 13, students also undertake a personal enquiry of 3500-4000 words, covering 100 years of history from a choice of options.

Teaching at A Level takes on many forms including lectures, presentations, group work and project work. The course is a 2-year programme of study.

At the end of the 2 year course, students need to submit their personal enquiry as well as sit 2 x 2.5 hour examinations on the topics covered in the two years of study.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

History is not only about the past. History is understanding where we are now, how we got here, understanding the mistakes and the successes that have been made and seeing how the past shapes our world today. It also offers the opportunity to study some fascinating and interesting areas of history, the individuals who shaped it and to see correlations between events from hundreds of years ago and their sometimes frightening similarity to today.

LAW

COURSE CODE:

Law, OCR H418

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

Grade 6 in either English Literature or Language or History

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

Some students take A Level Law because they already know that they want a career in law. The A Level gives an excellent introduction for students who want to read law at university or start a legal apprenticeship. It demystifies the law. Universities recognise the advantages of A Level Law and the old view that it should not be studied has long since faded away. The OCR course has been developed following the advice of teachers, students and universities. However, A Level Law is not just for students who want to enter the legal professions. It is a well-respected subject and links well with science subjects and humanities and social science subjects including, history, sociology, philosophy, economics and business, to name just a few!

The Programme

This course teaches you about the interaction between law and morals, justice and society. The legal system is something that concerns almost everything we do from birth until death and even beyond. Human activity is governed by rules, and a knowledge of how law develops and operates is useful in any field of employment.

The A Level comprises 3 Units taught over two years. You will study three areas of law as well as key aspects of the legal system. The three areas of law are: Criminal Law, Tort Law and either Contract Law or Human Rights Law. In addition, you will study the English legal system – the legal system of England and Wales.

Studying Law at A Level provides you with the ability to develop and apply legal rules to problems and construct reasoned arguments which are supported by legal authority. This makes it an A Level that can benefit all students, whether they wish to pursue a career in Law or not.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

You will develop the key skills of problem solving and analysis as well as learning to think rationally and logically. You will improve your written communication skills and will have opportunities to improve your verbal communication and presentation skills. The course includes opportunities to apply the law to real-life and theoretical scenarios and there may be opportunities to gain first-hand experience of the courts system through a visit to a Magistrates court.

MATHEMATICS

COURSE CODE:

OCR Mathematics AS Level- H230
OCR Mathematics A Level- H240

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

7 in Maths

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

A Level mathematics complements and supports many other subjects at A Level including sciences, social sciences, geography and economics, or you may choose to study it simply because you enjoy it. Students at Carmel who have studied A Level mathematics have gone on to study a wide variety of undergraduate courses ranging from fashion buying to illustration, as well as more traditional subjects such as engineering, medicine and law. Research has shown that students who have studied A Level Mathematics have gone on to earn 10% more than those who didn't.

The Programme

The course provides a broad and widely applicable base of mathematical knowledge, including rigorous treatment of calculus and proof alongside statistics and mechanics, preparing learners for a wide range of destinations in higher education and employment. All aspects of the course are compulsory. It emphasises how mathematical ideas are interconnected and how mathematics can be applied to modelsituations mathematically, using algebra and other representations, to help make sense of data, to understand the physical world and to solve problems in a variety of contexts, including social sciences and business.

The mechanics element of the course strongly supports students studying physics. A new feature of A Level maths will be to use a large data set of pre-released material, which will be used throughout the course. It will be necessary for students to purchase a new calculator with specific functions that will allow them to work with real data and explore it with appropriate technology.

We would strongly recommend students to wait before beginning the course when they will be advised on which calculator to purchase. Students will find A Level lessons similar to those at GCSE, with the teacher introducing a topic and demonstrating how to solve problems with students contributing to solutions. Regular homework is set to allow students to practise and consolidate their learning. AS exams will be taken at the end of Year 12 before we embark on the A2 course for those who wish to continue studying mathematics in Year 13.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

If you enjoy Mathematics and are confident with the work you have met so far at GCSE, A Level Mathematics could be the course for you. Students enjoy its challenge, its clarity and the fact that you know when you are right. The solution of a problem has an excitement and a satisfaction. Mathematics is good training for the mind, helping to develop logical thinking and problem-solving skills – the kind of analytical processes that have helped solve problems of all kinds for thousands of years. It is a demanding and challenging subject but it can be an extremely rewarding one if you are prepared to put in time and effort. Mathematics is classed by the Russell Group Universities as a facilitating subject for Maths and Science-based degree courses.

MATHEMATICS (FURTHER)

COURSE CODE:

OCR Further Mathematics AS- H235
OCR Further Mathematics A Level- H245

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

8 in Maths

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

University and future employers are able to distinguish students who have studied Further Mathematics as able mathematicians in their applications for courses and jobs. Students at Carmel who have studied A Level Further Mathematics have gone on to study a wide variety of undergraduate courses ranging from medicine and music, to more typical subjects such as mathematics, physics and engineering. Students have also gone on to train as accountants in local firms.

The Programme

Further Mathematics is a second A Level in Mathematics which can only be studied if A Level Mathematics is also being studied. Further Mathematics both extends and deepens your knowledge and understanding beyond the standard A Level Mathematics.

Students will study different areas of pure mathematics, mechanics and statistics than in A Level Mathematics. Students will broaden their knowledge into other areas of pure mathematics, that underpin further study, with complex numbers, matrices, polar coordinates and hyperbolic functions. In statistics, content includes combinatorics, probability distributions for discrete and continuous random variables, hypothesis tests and confidence intervals for a population mean, squared tests, non-parametric tests, correlation and regression.

In mechanics, students use their extended pure mathematical knowledge to explore more complex physical systems. The area covers dimensional analysis, work, energy, power, impulse, momentum, centres of mass, circular motion and variable force.

Students gain two A Levels, one in Mathematics and one in Further Mathematics and consequently have twice as many maths lessons as A Level maths students. Students will take AS exams in Further Mathematics at the end of Year 12, alongside AS exams in Mathematics, before continuing with the A2 Further Mathematics course if they wish. We have had a number of students in previous years who havestudied Further Mathematics to AS level only.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Further Mathematics is an ideal subject for the most academic students who wish to immerse themselves in maths. Students who take Further Mathematics are generally students who can master the more demanding concepts in GCSE mathematics quickly and easily.

Students who take Further Mathematics find that the additional time spent studying mathematics boosts their marks in A Level Mathematics. It makes the transition from VI Form to university courses, which are mathematically rich, that much easier as much of the first year course content will be familiar. If you are planning to take a degree such as Engineering, Sciences, Computing, Finance, Economics, etc., or perhaps Mathematics itself, at the more selective universities, you will benefit enormously from taking Further Mathematics, at least to AS level.

AS Further Mathematics introduces new topics such as matrices and complex numbers that are vital in many STEM degrees. Students who have studied Further Mathematics find the transition to such degrees far more straightforward.

MEDIA STUDIES

COURSE CODE:

AQA Media Studies A Level- 7572

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

5 in English Language

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

There is a plethora of career opportunities with Media Studies, for example: multimedia specialist, writer, market researcher, TV/Film producer, programme researcher, Public relations, Advertising account executive, magazine journalist, editorial assistant, broadcast journalist and many more!

The Programme

Studying A Level Media will enhance your knowledge of the influence the media and cultural industry has on people's lives. You will benefit from analysing a range of media platforms, including the rapidly developing digital media. You will explore issues of representation in the media and the influence this has upon wider society. You will also be given the opportunity to take an active part in planning and creating media, developing media production skills and using industry standard software. You will be able to take advantage of the opportunity to research topics of interest to you, researching contemporary subjects across TV, film, news and music. The course is for two years and this qualification is linear. Linear means that students will sit all their exams and submit all their non-exam assessment at the end of the course.

The core content includes: media language, media representation, media industries and media audiences. Exam questions will focus on issues and debates in the media. Students will be expected to use any relevant elements of the theoretical framework in order to explore the ideas in the paper. Other questions will focus on the analysis of media products, through the lens of the theoretical framework. Non-exam assessment focuses on the creation of a media product demonstrating practical skills relating to a media format of their choice.

Students work independently with a staff supervisor for an hour a week to undertake a research project of their choice, producing either a 5,000 word research project or an artefact supported by a 1,000 word research document. The assessment rewards learning process over final product; a successful EPQ student will need the skills to work independently. All our students, no matter what their course of study, are able to add this qualification to their programme.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Media is extremely interesting and fun with a hands on approach (production of media). The content is very relevant to today and the world in which you, the younger generation live. Therefore, you will no doubt find it fascinating to compare a range of cultures across the globe; specifically how technology influences us and our behaviours (e.g. representations of different social groups and how these stereotypes influence the way in which we think/act. Media studies is beneficial on a wider contextual basis.

It will develop skills that will stand out in a UCAS application and when being interviewed for career opportunities. You will be encouraged to examine media texts across the platforms and to research current news affairs and the negative/positive influences they have in shaping identities. Furthermore, it will also develop your persuasive skills, as you closely examine media texts and examples.

COURSE CODE:

AQA French AS- 7651, AQA French A Level- 7652
AQA Spanish AS- 7691, AQA Spanish A Level- 7692

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

2 × 6s from higher Science papers (including Biology) and a 6 in Maths.

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

The main career possibilities for language graduates are in education (Language secondary school teacher, teacher of English as a second language, etc.), interpreting and translating and in the tourism and hospitality industry (e.g. tour manager). Other sectors and industries looking for candidates with language skills include the Culture sector, businessservices, charity work, engineering, the media industry, public administration or the fashion industry.

The Programme

Students will be exploring aspects of French or Spanish-speaking societies, including current trends and issues, as well as the artistic culture and the political life in the French or Spanish-speaking world. Some of the sub-themes that will be covered within those main themes include the changing nature of family, the cyber-society, voluntary work, music and cinema, cultural heritage, the diversity in society, political commitment or immigration.

Students will study a film in the first year *(El laberinto del fauno or La Haine)* and a book in the second year of A Level *(Como agua para chocolate in Spanish and L'Etranger in French).*

The key skills covered will be reading (authentic magazine articles, online pages), writing (essays, research projects, articles, reviews), listening (authentic radio programmes, video clips, interviews) and speaking (debates, role-playing, videos, presentations). Other skills will include grammar, translation and summary.

AS and A Level students will be assessed through 3 papers: one written exam including listening, reading, summary tasks and translation; another written exam including essay(s) on the film and/or book; an oral exam based on the sub-themes covered in the course and an individual research project at A Level.

The course will include 5 x 1-hour lessons a week with a teacher. Some activities will be based on the textbook,the dedicated online platform Kerboodle, a variety of high-quality material developed by the department or a range of other resources such as magazines, books, etc. All learning styles will be catered for, with a range of engaging, practical activities. Many activities will require students to develop higher-thinking skills, research and communication skills.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Learning a language is an amazing opportunity to gain a life-long skill which will boost your employability and make your university application stronger. The world is changing fast. More and more companies are going global and recruiters are increasingly looking for globally-minded people who can speak at least one foreign language. It also helps give your brain a boost and become a better learner.

It develops your understanding of your own mother tongue, consolidating your literacy skills and therefore your communication ability. It will also be a real asset in your personal life, allowing you to establish deep connections and cross-cultural friendships or making holidays abroad more accessible and exciting!

MUSIC

COURSE CODE:

AQA Music A Level- 7272

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

5 in GCSE Music or a Distinction* in BTEC Level 2 Music and a 5 in English Language or English Literature. Must be able to read music and have competent vocal/ instrumental performing skills. Will need to be working at Grade 4 standard minimum. Must be having and continue to have vocal/instrumental lessons either privately or through the music service. Must be willing to participate in the full range of College extra-curricular activities.

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

Studying Music opens the doors to all kinds of careers – and not just the obvious ones like performing, composing and teaching. 'The music industry' can mean anything from working for a record label; broadcasting; selling music for films, TV and advertising; venue or festival management; music journalism; copyright law; music therapy and countless other varied and exciting roles. Former music students find themselves thriving in roles in the business, legal, medical, academic and financial fields.

THE PROGRAMME

If you have a love of music, have been successful at GCSE and enjoy the academic study of music as well as the performing and composing then you will enjoy studying the subject at A Level. There are a variety of practical activities which encourage students to perform as often as possible. This includes a series of concerts throughout the year at the college, and students often organise other performance opportunities.

Appraising Music – Written examination. This component is worth 40% of the A Level marks.
Performance – Solo and/or ensemble performing as an instrumentalist/vocalist. A minimum of ten minutes of performance in total is required at A Level. This component is worth 35% of the A Level marks.
Composition – Two compositions with a minimum of four and a half minutes in total is required. This component is worth 25% of the A Level.

Developing and applying the musical knowledge, understanding and skills set out in the specification of this course ensures that students can form a personal and meaningful relationship with music. They will be encouraged to engage critically and creatively with a wide range of music and musical contexts, and reflect on how music is used in the expression of personal and collective identities.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Music offers academic rigour through the study of music theory, history and analysis of musical works, while through composition and performance, independent creativity is developed. A Level Music prepares students for further musical study, should they wish to follow this pathway, or provide a solid foundation for musical participation and enjoyment outside of studies, should a different career path be pursued.

As a VI Form musician you will be expected to play a full part in the musical life of the College, playing in ensembles and taking leadership roles where possible. There are many and varied opportunities for performance, both in and out of College and Carmel musicians are also encouraged to become part of the Durham Music Service ensembles.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

COURSE CODE:

OCR Religious Studies A Level- H573A

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

6 in RE (if taken at GCSE) or a 6 in English Language or English Literature if not taken.

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

Religious Studies opens many different doors due to its skills being highly marketable, desirable and transferable to a range of academic disciplines, careers and endeavours. Recent students are undertaking further studies in Law, Media Studies, History, Theatre Studies, Medicine and many others, as well as the traditional routes of pure Philosophy, Theology and Biblical Studies. Graduates in Religious Studies gain employment in a wide range of areas, e.g. Teaching, Counselling, the Police, Law, the Service Industry and Medicine.

THE PROGRAMME

Students study this course in Religious Studies with the OCR exam board. This course includes three areas of study, which are:

Philosophy of Religion; Ethics and Religion; Development in Christian Thought

These modules are studied at A Level and examined at the end of the course. Links are assessed across the topics in order to reinforce the learning and critically think about the extensive nature of religious, theological, philosophical and moral issues. The course is delivered utilising a variety of pedagogical methods including: lectures, seminars, workshops, thinking points, student-led presentations and debates.

The course is delivered utilising a variety of pedagogical methods including: lectures, seminars, workshops, thinking points, student-led presentations and debates. If you have studied RE at GCSE, you must have at least achieved an A/B grade. Additionally, you must also have achieved an A/B grade in English.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Religious Studies is incredibly challenging, hugely interesting and extremely rewarding. The course covers some of the most profound questions in the history of humanity, such as 'Does God exist?' 'Is killing always wrong?' 'Why do innocent people suffer?' and 'Are we really free?' Therein, students discover the intrinsic value in reflecting and contemplating, in order to develop and challenge their own ways of thinking.

PHOTOGRAPHY

COURSE CODE:

AQA Photography AS- 7246/C 7246/X
AQA Photography A Level- 7206/C 7206/X

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

5 in Art. Portfolio needed to demonstrate interest and aptitude if the applicant has not done Art.

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

Entry to a Foundation course in Art and Design and / or Degree entry into a specialised area. There is a wide variety of careers that you could follow with a photography qualification, of which the following are a small selection. Wedding Photographer, Architectural Photographer, Cloudscape Photographer, Environmental Photographer, Documentary , Fashion, Food and many more.

The Programme

Like GCSE Art, this course requires students to work in sketchbooks researching and developing ideas towards a final outcome. All units of work will include looking at the work of other photographers, artists and designers.

This is supported by photography field trips and visits to galleries. Teaching is directed at the needs, strengths and interests of the individual student. All units of work are tailored to allow the individual to explore original and creative solutions in any or several of the following area(s) of Photography, such as: portraiture, documentary, photo-journalism, environmental photography, still life or experimental imagery.

Students will be introduced to a variety of experiences exploring a range of photographic techniques including digital as well as traditional black and white (silver halide) chemical technique.

Students will develop skills in the following:

- The ability to explore elements of visual language, line, form, colour, pattern and texture in the context of Photography.
- Responding to an issue, theme, concept or idea or working to a brief.
- An appreciation of viewpoint, composition, depth of field and movement; time- based, through such techniques as sequence or frozen moment.
- The appropriate use of the camera, film, lenses, filters and lighting for work in their chosen area of Photography.
- An understanding of techniques related to the developing and printing of photographic images, presentation, layout and mounting.

The exam board we use is AQA and the A Level will be assessed on students personal investigation unit worth 60%, including a 3,000 word essay and an externally set unit worth 40%, including a 15 hour practical exam. This is internally marked and externally moderated. For students opting to only complete AS, the coursework portfolio (60%) and externally set unit (40%) is internally marked and externally moderated.

Students work independently with a staff supervisor for an hour a week to undertake a research project of their choice, producing either a 5,000 word research project or an artefact supported by a 1,000 word research document. The assessment rewards learning process over final product; a successful EPQ student will need the skills to work independently. All our students, no matter what their course of study, are able to add this qualification to their programme.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Through photography we learn to be perceptive, to observe and see interesting things in the world around us. We learn to find the extraordinary in ordinary places. Studying photography develops skills of creative thinking, critical analysis, perseverance, patience, reflection, independent enquiry, collaboration and self-motivation.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

COURSE CODE:

AQA Physical Education AS- 7581
AQA Physical Education A Level- 7582

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

6 in PE with a minimum 6 in the theory paper and a 4 in Core Science.

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

Sport & fitness is a huge industry ... and you can be part of it. If you're keen on sport, you can make a healthy living from your passion. Whether that's working for a football club, as a personal trainer at the local gym, or training to be a physiotherapist, there are lots of opportunities. From professional sport through to amateur teamsand individuals who just want to get in shape, sport and fitness is a fast-growing business. Best of all, you could be in a career doing something that you love. PE goes well with other subjects. If you want a career in physical education, you might also consider Biology and Psychology. But no matter what your career ambition, if you are passionate about sport, this course is great to take alongside other subjects.

The Programme

Applied anatomy and physiology; Skill acquisition; Sport and society; Exercise physiology; Biomechanical movement; Sport psychology; Sport and society and The role of technology in physical activity and sport. Practical: performance in physical activity and sport. Students assessed as a performer or coach in the full-sided version of one activity and written/verbal analysis of performance. The style of teaching for this course is a teacher-centred approach through direct teacher instruction and student-centred approach, through enquiry-based and cooperative learning.

The AS assessment process is the following:

Component 1:- 2 hour written paper. 70% of AS level
• 84 marks Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport
Component 2:- Non-exam assessment: 30% of AS-level
• 45 Marks for Practical performance in physical activity and sport:- Students assessed as a performer in the full sided version of one activity.
• 45 marks for Written/verbal analysis of performance. Internal assessment, external moderation

The A Level assessment includes:

Component 1:- 2 hour written paper 35% of A Level. Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport
•105 marks- Applied anatomy and physiology, Skill acquisition, Sport and society
Component 2:- 2 hour written paper 35% of A Level. Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport
•105 marks- Exercise physiology and biomechanics, Sports psychology, Sport society and technology
Component 3:- Practical performance in physical activity and sport. 30% of A Level. Internal assessment, externally moderated. 90 marks total
•45 marks Practical Performance
•45 marks Analysis and Evaluation

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

This study will enhance your knowledge and experience of PE and Sport, as well as giving you a deeper understanding of health issues. This A Level offers a multi-disciplinary approach to the study of and participation in sport, play, leisure and recreation, allowing you to study movement, performance and behaviour, in relation to PE. You should enjoy science and looking at how the human body and mind is affected by sport participation and performance and you should also be interested in the place of PE and sport in our society and how the subject has developed opportunities for participation. It goes without saying that you must also enjoy developing and acquiring skills and techniques in a variety of physical activities.

PHYSICS

COURSE CODE:

OCR Physics AS- H156
OCR Physics A Level- H556

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

2 × 6s from higher Science paper (including Physics)

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

Physics brings a broad perspective to any problem. Because they learn how to consider any problem, physicists are not bound by context. This inventive thinking makes physicists desirable in any field: along with mathematicians, physicists have the best job prospects of all graduates. As well as the more obvious careers such as engineering and astronomy, physics qualifications are a great foundation for careers in: Journalism, Law, Finance, Medicine and Computer Science.

The Programme

In Year 12 (and AS) physics students will study: Physical quantities and units; Making measurements and analysing data; Nature of quantities; Motion; Forces in action; Work, energy and power; Materials; Momentum; Charge and current; Energy, power and resistance; Electrical circuits; Waves; Quantum physics.

For the full A Level, all of the above topics are studied, plus: Thermal physics; Circular motion; Oscillations; Gravitational fields; Astrophysics and cosmology; Capacitors; Electric fields; Electromagnetism; Nuclear and particle physics; Medical imaging.

During VI Form lessons, you will experience various teaching methods and styles such as demonstrations, practical work, lectures, handouts/notes, ICT work and one-to-one support. You will be expected to work much more on your own than you did at GCSE and to take a greater responsibility for your own organisation and learning. There are five main areas that A Level students need to be prepared for: organising time, coping with workload, note-taking, reading around the subject and self-motivation.

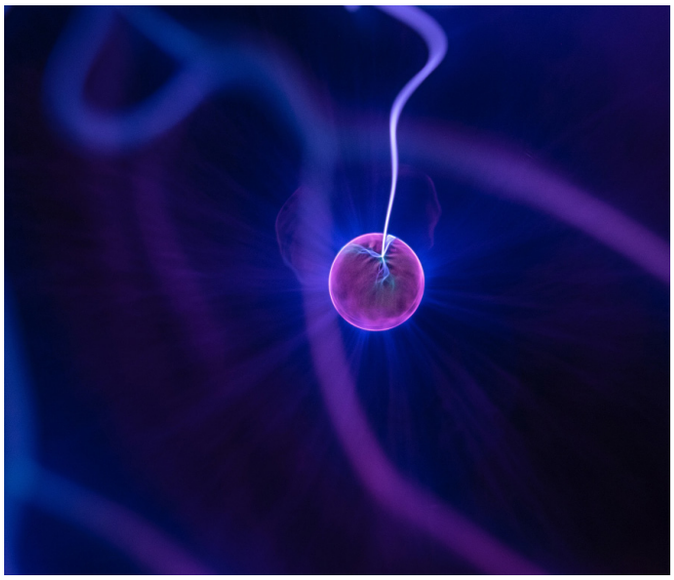
Students will sit the AS exams at the end of the first year of study. At the end of the course, the exams for the full A Level will include questions on the whole of the course i.e. including those topics already examined at AS. All exams will have questions covering the whole of the relevant subject content – there are no "module" exams – and include a range of question styles: multiple choice, structured questions and longer answer essay questions.

Practical skills are now assessed separately and do not contribute marks to the overall A Level grade but will be reported separately at the end of the full A Level course as Pass/Fail on the "Practical Endorsement". There is no practical endorsement for AS. Practical skills and knowledge will also be assessed on the written exam papers for both AS and A Level.

Students work independently with a staff supervisor for an hour a week to undertake a research project of their choice, producing either a 5,000 word research project or an artefact supported by a 1,000 word research document. The assessment rewards learning process over final product; a successful EPQ student will need the skills to work independently. All our students, no matter what their course of study, are able to add this qualification to their programme.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

It all began with Physics! Physics encompasses the study of the universe from the largest galaxies to the smallest subatomic particles. Physics is crucial to understanding the world around us, the world inside us and the world beyond us. It is the most basic and fundamental science. Physics challenges our imaginations with concepts like relativity and string theory and it leads to great discoveries, like computers and lasers, that led to technologies which change our lives- from healing joints, to curing cancer, to developing sustainable energy solutions. There are countless more examples of research in physics leading to the development of important technologies. It is hoped that today's research on nanostructures (structures a billion times smaller than a meter), quantum information or photonics (basically electronics with light) will lead to the next generation of technologies including faster and more robust computers and communication systems- you could do that research!



PSYCHOLOGY

COURSE CODE:

AQA Psychology A Level- 7182

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

6 in Biology, 6 in English Language and a 5 in Maths

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

The course will provide you with a solid foundation into the key topic areas as well as a range of skills that will be relevant to many different careers. A few possible careers include: Counsellor, Teaching, Police, Social Work, Health Care and Management. Since Psychology is a science, other science subjects, especially Biology, will combine well with the subject. The subject also involves extended writing and so any other subject that is assessed through essay writing will help to develop this skill.

The Programme

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behaviour. The course covers key topics in psychology including: social influence, memory, attachment, abnormality, relationships, schizophrenia and forensic psychology. In addition, you will learn about the different approaches and methods used by psychologists to conduct their research, such as experiments, observations, questionnaires, interviews and case studies.

The full course is two years, at the end of which there will be three written exams, consisting of multiple choice, short question and extended writing questions. The maximum number of marks awarded to any one question is 16, which constitutes an essay in psychology.

It is important to note that 25% of the course is mathematical. Additionally, since it is purely examination based, a willingness to write essays is essential. In lessons, students are required to work in groups, discuss psychological theories and share their ideas. There is also the expectation that students engage in independent reading and practical research.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Psychology is all around you and touches on every aspect of your life! Who you are now, how you will be in the future, how you interact with family, friends and strangers; these are all things that psychology can help you better understand. Whatever career you pursue, a background in psychology will enhance your employability. Studying psychology can help you understand yourself and other people by learning about aspects of human behaviour that will help you in daily life, including your learning and memory performance, your ability to cope with pressure and your understanding of the causes of psychological disorders. From intriguing optical illusions that reveal the inner workings of the brain to shocking experiments that expose how far people will go to obey an authority figure, there is always something amazing and even astonishing to learn about the human mind and behaviour.

SOCIOLOGY

COURSE CODE:

AQA Sociology A Level- 7192

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

6 in English Language

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

The course provides students with a wide range of career paths, such as: Social researcher, Journalist, Legal work, Police work, Social work, Health care, Politics, Management, Teaching and Welfare officer. Sociology is an ideal subject for students who are considering careers in numerous areas of contemporary society and it develops many transferable skills, such as communication, analysis, evaluation and literacy.

The Programme

Sociology is the systematic study of social behaviour, its origins, development and the impact of different institutions on individuals. The subject looks for patterns and relationships between areas such as the family and the British education system and the life chances of certain social groups. In sociology, students learn to relate sociological theories, such as Functionalism, Marxism, Feminism and Postmodernism to everyday experiences. Social inequality and moral issues are debated, and students often find they begin to question many social experiences they have previously taken for granted. The subject explores contemporary topics such as gender patterns in criminal behaviour, differing educational achievement across a variety of ethnic groups and changing roles of the family considering reasons for these differences.

The A Level qualification is comprised of three units, each being assessed by an examination at the end of the two-year period.

Unit 1 – Education with Theory and Methods
Unit 2 – Family and Household and Beliefs in Society
Unit 3 – Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

An avid interest in both political events and current affairs is vital, with students needing to be continually aware of issues and debates in contemporary society. It is an essay-based subject and so a willingness to formulate arguments is also essential.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Sociology is a discipline highly regarded by universities and employers alike. The course helps to develop a variety of skills that will be relevant to a broad range of careers. In lessons, students are expected to participate fully in group work, complete extended writing and formulate a balanced argument. In addition, communication skills will be developed along with an increased awareness of social diversity.

TEXTILES

COURSE CODE:

AQA Textiles AS- 7244/C 7244/X
AQA Textiles A Level - 7204/C
7204/X

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

6 in Textiles or Art

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

There is a wide variety of careers that you could follow with an art textile qualification. The following are a small selection: fashion graphics, fashion designer, packaging designer, milliner, photographer, stylist, advertising designer, jeweller, interior designer, stage/costume designer, fashion journalist, marketing manager, print-maker fabric designer, buyer, mer-chandiser, fashion events' co-ordinator, freelance designer, fashion prediction, shoe and bag design, self- employed artist or teacher!

The Programme

Students will complete two coursework and one exam units over the two years. This course requires students to work in sketchbooks, researching and developing ideas towards a final outcome. The first project will be focused on skill building and candidates will develop a coursework portfolio based on 'Strange nature' leading to the designing and making of a bodice. All units of work will include looking at the work of other textile artists and fashion designers, supported by visits to galleries and museums. In Year 13 students will produce a personal, practical investigation of their own choice, supported by a 3,000 word written reflection.

This is followed by an externally-set exam unit, where students can choose from a range of themes that is developed into a final response in a 15 hour practical exam. Students will be introduced to a wide range of new techniques and media, beginning with observational drawing and sampling in sketchbooks. They will explore and experiment with a range of textile techniques, such as silk painting, appliqué, fabric transfer, machine embroidery, printmaking and batik, before designing and making individual outcomes which can include fashion outcomes, accessories or wall hangings. Teaching is directed at the needs, strengths and interests of the individual student.

All units of work are tailored to allow the individual to explore original and creative solutions in any or several of the techniques they have experienced. Teaching includes activities to demonstrate different skills and technical work, self and peer assessment and one to one tutorials. The exam board we use is AQA and the A Level will be assessed on students personal investigation unit worth 60%, including a 3,000 word essay and an externally set unit worth 40%, including a 15 hour practical exam. This is internally marked and externally moderated. For students opting to only complete AS, the coursework portfolio (60%) and externally set unit (40%) is internally marked and Externally moderated.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Textiles embraces creativity and will give a grounding in a broad range of skills which play an important role in today's design world. Transferable skills such as complex analysis and critical thinking will help in any career you choose.

This course will allow you to develop desirable skills that universities and employers would look for, such as being able to work towards deadlines, being organised, having a strong work ethic, good communication skills, IT literacy and flexibility.

Textiles allows you to be creative and respond to the world around you through a variety of materials and techniques.

Children's Play, Learning and Development National Award

COURSE CODE:

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate - UFK70

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

5 in English Language and a 4 in Science

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

The early years sector in England is made up of over 80,000 settings, with 1.3 million childcare places for children under five. This ranges from childmindersand nannies, to nurseries, crèches and pre-schools. Alongside the care provision, the sector has further career paths for students interested in working with children. Degree courses in teaching Early Years, Primary or Secondary; speech therapy, social work, special education and playwork offer additional opportunities in the sector.

The Programme

A broad basis of study of the early years' sector. This qualification is designed to support progression to higher education when taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A Levels. This is a two year course, equivalent in size to one A Level.

Students taking this qualification will study three mandatory units, which cover the following topics: children's development, communication and numeracy and play and learning. Students will complete 50 hours of work experience in the sector. We then select one option unit, which supports students' progression to specialised degree programmes within the sector and covers areas such as: safeguarding, the early years' foundation stage, physical development, care and health needs.

Units are a mix of two mandatory external exams and two internal assessments. There are three main forms of assessment that you need to be aware of: external, internal and synoptic. Externally-assessed units:- Each external assessment for a BTEC National is linked to a specific unit. Each assessment is taken under specified conditions, then marked by Pearson and a grade awarded. The styles of external assessment used for qualifications in the Children's Play, Learning and Development suite are:

Examinations - all learners take the same assessment at the same time, normally with a written outcome;

Set Tasks - learners take the assessment during a defined window and demonstrate understanding through completion of a vocational task; internally-assessed units- most units in the sector are internally assessed and subject to external standards' verification;

Synoptic assessment - Synoptic assessment requires learners to demonstrate that they can identify and use effectively, in an integrated way, an appropriate selection of skills, techniques, concepts, theories and knowledge from across the whole sector, as relevant to a key task.

Lessons offer a range of engagement and challenging teaching and learning styles, including student led-mini- projects to allow development of team building, communication, leadership and many more. These will be a combination of teacher-led, student-led, independent enquiry, independent research projects and mini enterprise challenges.Students work independently with a staff supervisor for an hour a week to undertake a research project of their choice, producing either a 5,000 word research project or an artefact supported by a 1,000 word research document. The assessment rewards learning process over final product; a successful EPQ student will need the skills to work independently. All our students, no matter what their course of study, are able to add this qualification to their programme.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Would you love a career surrounded by the boundless energy, enthusiasm and optimism that comes from working with children? The aim of the course is to equip you with both knowledge and skills to care for young children in a wide variety of settings (day nurseries, children's centres, reception class, infant class, nursery class, special school, child-minders and family refuge centres) so the content reflects the breadth of work opportunities and experiences to enable you to do so.

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

COURSE CODE:

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National certificate in Health and Social Care - ULT20

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

5 in English Language and a 4 in Science

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

Students have the opportunity to consider a range of options within each vocational pathway- health, social care and early years' care and education. It provides an excellent basis for a wide range of higher education courses and careers: Radiography, Midwifery and nursing, Paramedic science, Podiatry, Healthcare science, NHS Practitioner Training Programme and many more opportunities. Many past students find themselves in caring roles, midwifery, childcare and sports physiotherapy to name but a few.

THE PROGRAMME

A broad basis of study for the health and social care sector, this qualification is designed to support progression to higher education, when taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A Levels. The qualification studied over 2 years is equivalent in size to one A Level. There are 4 units of which 3 are mandatory and 2 of these are externally assessed. Mandatory content (83%). External assessment (58%).

The mandatory content of the qualification incorporates topics relevant across the health and social care sector:
- Human Lifespan Development
- Working in Health and Social Care
- Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs

The optional unit delivered:
- Supporting Individuals with Additional Needs

There are three main forms of assessment that you need to be aware of: external, internal and synoptic. The styles of external assessment used for qualifications in the Health and Social Care suite are:

Examinations – all learners take the same assessment at the same time, normally with a written outcome.

Set tasks – learners take the assessment during a defined window and demonstrate understanding through completion of a vocational task. Most units in the sector are internally assessed and subject to external standards' verification. Synoptic assessment requires learners to demonstrate that they can identify and use effectively, in an integrated way, an appropriate selection of skills, techniques, concepts, theories and knowledge from across the whole sector, as relevant to a key task.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

This qualification will provide the opportunity for full-time learners to enter employment in the health and social care sector or to progress to vocational qualifications. It also gives the opportunity for learners to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal skills and attributes essential for successful performance in working life.

APPLIED HUMAN BIOLOGY

COURSE CODE:

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Applied Human Biology (603/3040/5)

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

2 x 5s in Science and a 5 in Maths

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

The specification aims to maintain and support therecognised standards demanded for science education and training in order to meet the requirements of various biological science sectors: health care, leisure and associated industries, medical and laboratory-based science, food and catering industries. Many previous students have used Applied Scienceas a route into higher education courses in areas such as nursing or midwifery, sports science, psychology, etc. Mathematics, Information Technology and Media Studies.

THE PROGRAMME

This course is an extended certificate which is the equivalent to 1 A-level. It compromises of 4 units in total of which 2 are externally examined and two are portfolio work.

Unit 1 is a 1 hour and 30 minutes exam based on principles of human biology such as how the human body functions at a genetic, cellular and tissue level.

Unit 2 is portfolio work which is internally assessed. It consists of candidates own investigation into the effect of antimicrobial agents on the growth of microorganisms and will recognise the importance of disease management to modern human society.

Unit 3 is the other external assessment which is a three hour exam with a supplement which candidates will be expected to analyse. The unit encourages candidates to analyse and evaluate scientific information related to health issues and initiatives and explore the presentation of this information for a defined purpose and audience.

Unit 4 will be chosen by the staff who deliver it, but the possibilities are; functional physiology, diseases, disorder, treatments and therapies; genetics and genetic engineering, biomedical sciences, human reproduction and fertility.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

The qualifications in Applied Biology are intended to encourage candidates to; develop and sustain an interest in and enjoyment of biology; appreciate how science develops and the impacts such developments may have in present day society; develop essential knowledge and understanding relating to science and, where appropriate, the applications of science and the skills needed for the use of this in new and changing situations; develop practical skills relevant to science; appreciate the importance of science as a human endeavour which interacts with social, philosophical, economic, environmental and industrial matters; encourage candidates to develop skills in communication, application of number and the use of ICT. You will gain an awareness of how industry applies science in a wide range of essential functions and be introduced to a range of career possibilities which use aspects of science as their base point.

MATHEMATICAL STUDIES

COURSE CODE:

AQA Level 3 Mathematical Studies - 1350

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

5 in Maths

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

The skills developed in the study of mathematics are increasingly important in the workplace and in higher education; studying Mathematical Studies will enhance these essential skills. Employers from many different sectors acknowledge the importance of the Mathematical Studies' qualification. Many roles in today's workplace require high levels of budget management and problem-solving skills; this course will be a useful tool in equipping you with these skills.

The Programme

Mathematical Studies is A Level 3 qualification, equivalent to an AS level in terms of UCAS points. There are 2 exams taken at the end of the course, with an element of pre-release material issued for both papers. You can decide whether to study the course over 1 or 2 years depending on your other subject choices.

Paper 1 (Compulsory content)

Analysis of Data – building upon knowledge from GCSE, you will gain an appreciation of different types of data and sampling techniques. You will be required to choose effective ways to represent and analyse data, suggesting improvements where appropriate.
Maths for Personal Finance – arguably the most useful topic that you will study during your time in VI form, this element of the qualification will give you an understanding of how to calculate tax, National Insurance and other salary deductions. Additionally, you will learn about interest rates, loans and investments as well as savings and mortgages. You will also learn about the effects of inflation and practise budgeting for real-life scenarios.
Estimation – students will use Fermi estimation techniques to estimate solutions to real-life problems.

Paper 2 (Optional modules)

All optional modules contain one element of compulsory content, Critical Analysis of Data, where students will be required to critically analyse data and suggest improvements.

Option 1: Statistical Techniques- students will study the normal distribution, including finding probabilities and estimating outcomes, as well as correlation and regression.
Option 2: Critical Path Analysis – in addition to critical path analysis, students will study expectation and cost benefit analysis.
Option 3: Graphical Techniques – as well as studying various graphical methods, students will also gain an understanding of rates of change and exponential functions.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

There has been a tremendous amount of coverage in the media about the UK's gap in basic maths skills. Only 20% of students study maths beyond GCSE in the UK – the lowest rate in leading developed countries in the world; in Japan, this figure is 85%. This puts young people in the UK at a major disadvantage in a global job market.

Mathematical Studies (also known as Core Maths) has been designed to maintain and develop real-life maths skills. What you study is not purely theoretical or abstract; it can be applied on a day-to-day basis in work, study or life and most courses will include a financial maths element. It will also help with other A Level subjects – in particular with science, geography, business studies, psychology and economics.

PERFORMING ARTS

COURSE CODE:

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate Performing Arts- ZTR96

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

5 in English Language or English Literature

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

This vocational course is designed to give you the skills to go to University or Drama School, pursue an apprenticeship or go straight into the world of work. As well as leading to Performing Arts careers, studying this subject opens up a range of other possibilities in jobs that involve working with people and it is one of the most popular subjects for students interested in studying Law, English and other subjects related to the arts.

The Programme

Equivalent in size to 1 A Level, this is a practical, vocational course, suitable for students with a range of previous experience, including those who have not been able to study Performing Arts at school. The course consists of four units of study spread across the two years, developing your practical and written skills to a high standard. Lessons focus primarily on musical theatre skills and many students complete all assessments as an actor, singer and dancer. You can also choose to be assessed on technical, backstage or design skills in some units.

Units studied include:

- Investigating a practitioner's work
- Developing skills and techniques for live performance
- Musical Theatre Techniques
- Group workshop performance

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

Performing arts offers the opportunity to express your talent and determination as part of a varied, skilled and passionate group of performers. Whether you choose to sing, dance, act or to be part of technical team, the confidence and skills gained through completion of this course are invaluable to any given career path.

When comparing surveys of the skills employers want with the subjects offered to VI Form students, the course that best meets the needs of employers is Performing Arts. You will develop confidence, become articulate in front of others and learn how to organise and develop complex projects as part of a team, as well as gaining the high standard of skills required if you wish to pursue a career in a Performing Arts-related field.

PUBLIC SERVICES*

COURSE CODE:

Pearson BTEC Level 3 Certificate- LR350
Pearson BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma- LR351

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

4 in English and Maths

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

Public Services, provided by government such as law enforcement, health, defence and central and local government remain in demand and, whilst growth has slowed, will continue to have a vital role in the economic and social welfare of the nation. By studying a BTEC National Award Course, learners develop knowledge, understanding and skills required by the sector, including essential employability skills and apply them in real work contexts.

The Programme

The BTEC National Award in Public Services is designed to equip learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills required for success when moving towards a career in the uniformed services, for example, Police, Emergency Fire Services, Prison Service, Security or Armed Services. Its main purpose is to allow learners to develop the core specialist knowledge, understanding and skills, including government policies and leadership and teamwork required by the sector.

The course is studied over two years –enabling students to achieve the BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma.

It is portfolio based with a variety of assessment methods: practical, written and verbal. There will be an external assessment but no formal examinations.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

This qualification will:

•Enable you to make an informed judgement of your suitability to a career in a public service organisation

•Prepare you for entry into a public service organisation

•Enable you to recognise and work towards acquiring the skills and abilities which enhance promotion and career prospects within the public services

•Enable you to acquire the skills for entry into higher education in a public service related field

*Please note this course will run subject to Government funding

IT (Information Technology)

COURSE CODE:

Year 12- OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Certificate in IT- 05838
Year 13- OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Introductory Diploma in IT- 05840

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

4's in English and Maths and a 4 in either Computer Science or IT

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

Web developer, software engineer, network management, systems analyst, roboticist, any engineering discipline, physics, medicine and medical related courses (such as optometry, pharmacy and orthoptics) and mathematics. Other subjects that link well with this course are Mathematics, Business, Media, Computer Science and Geography.

The Programme

Unit 1: Fundamentals of IT- A sound understanding of IT technologies and practices is essential for IT professionals. Information learnt in this unit will provide a solid foundation in the fundamentals of hardware, networks, software, the ethical use of computers and how business uses IT.

Unit 2: Global Information- The purpose of this unit is to demonstrate the uses of information in the public domain, globally, in the cloud and across the internet, by individuals and organisations. This unit will help you to understand the legislation and regulation governing information that flows into and out of an organisation and the constraints and limitations that apply to it.

Unit 21: Web Design and Prototyping - You will research, design and produce an interactive, responsive website that is specific to a client's needs, culminating in presenting the concept of the website using the prototype to the client.

Unit 6: Application Design - You will explore potential ideas for a new application and develop the fundamental design for it. You will then develop the designs for an application and how users will interact with it. The application that you design can be for any sector and for any purpose. You will have the opportunity to present your ideas, prototype them, and gain feedback before refining your design.

Unit 9: Product Development- Whether you are building a network, developing a website, developing a system for data analytics or creating an augmented or virtual reality resource, they are all products. It is therefore important that you understand the processes required for the development of products and that you can apply them to a variety of situations.

The teaching styles for this subject will be lectures, presentations, practical lessons, extended research and projects, individual/paired/group reports, guided research and self-study. There are two exams in the first year worth 50% and three coursework units in the second year worth the other 50%.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

ICT systems are used in almost all areas of working and social life. The skills, knowledge and understanding that are gained through studying this engaging and complex subject are invaluable in almost all aspects of modern life. Given that in the future, be you employed by an organisation or be you self-employed, you will most likely require the ability to either work directly with ICT systems or have the understanding and knowledge to deal with those people that do. Each of the units that have been chosen connect the dots between far-reaching aspects of a complex, 21st century working life.

Sport and Physical Activity

COURSE CODE:

Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Sport and Physical Activity- 05827

TYPICAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

4 or above in PE (if taken at GCSE) or a Merit or above at BTEC, or a 5 or above in Science if PE was not taken

CAREER POSSIBILITIES:

The Level 3 Cambridge Technicals in Sport and Physical Activity focus on the requirements that today's universities and employers demand. You will practically apply their skills and knowledge in preparation for further study or the workplace. Future careers include coaching, nutritionist, personal trainer, fitness instructor, leisure centre manager, sports therapy, PE teacher. primary teacher, sports development officers, sport psychologist, fitness centre manager, outdoor pursuits' centre manager, health trainer, sport science, physiologist, physiotherapy, armed forces, sports journalism, events management, sports marketing and many more.

The Programme

A wide range of centre assessed units with practical and wider project-based assessment opportunities, as well as examined units on the body systems and the effects of physical activity; how sport is organised and the purpose of sports development.

Learners will take between five and six units made up of mandatory and optional units: Everybody will study the following mandatory units:

- Body systems and the effects of physical activity
- Sports coaching and activity leadership
- Sports organisation and development

These units will give learners an understanding of sport in the wider contexts of coaching and leadership, anatomy and physiology, the body's short- and long-term responses to physical activity and the framework of sport in the UK and the organisations involved. Learners will also develop transferable skills such as planning, communication, adaptability and leadership.

WHY STUDY THIS SUBJECT?

The course has been designed, in collaboration with experts spanning the breadth of the leisure and fitness sector, using refreshing and exciting content, that's up to date, engaging, fit for purpose and suitable for the needs of students in 2020 and beyond. The qualification will develop your knowledge, understanding and skills of the principles of Sport and Physical Activity. This qualification is for learners 16 years old or over who want to study sport, leisure or fitness. This qualification is not just about being able to play sport, it will provide learners with the skills, knowledge and understanding to progress into Higher Education on a sport-related programme.

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITY ON THIS COURSE

Sports Leaders Level 3 now is a nationally recognised qualification (worth 16 UCAS points), that enables successful learners to independently lead purposeful and enjoyable sport/physical activity. The key content is based on developing leadership skills applying them to sport/physical activities to a range of participants with differing needs. There is 60 hours of tutored time, 30 hours of voluntary leadership time and 36 hours of home study, giving a Total Qualification Time (TQT) of 126 hours.

Carmel is located in the west end of Darlington, the College is situated off The Headlands.

We are approximately a 5-10 minute drive from Darlington Train Station which is on the East Coast Mainline.

we are 10 minutes from the A1 and 15 minutes from Durham Tees Valley Airport.

A Member Of
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Robur Mentis - Animi Profunditate
ACADEMIC STRENGTH - SPIRITUAL DEPTH

VI CARMEL