

DEFINING MOMENTS  
DISCOVER YOURS...

HLC  
Harrogate  
Ladies' College



# Sixth Form



@ HLC



Information Booklet

## Principal's Welcome

Welcome to HLC Sixth Form – a vibrant community of learning and discovery where you will be challenged to be curious, encouraged to be better than you thought you could be and inspired to ask impossible questions.

The HLC Sixth Form experience is different from anything you have known so far in terms of the style of learning and the expectations that the staff will have of you. It will be a time of excitement as you can concentrate on the subjects which really engage you.

The subjects listed in the booklet are those that we currently offer. Some of the newly reformed subjects do not yet have agreed syllabi and hence the content of these courses might change and are shown as *draft*. It is also possible that a subject may not run without a viable number of pupils – a decision which will be made on a subject-by-subject basis.

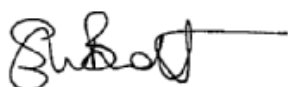
When you are thinking about making your choices, read the information in this booklet carefully and talk to girls who are currently studying these subjects and the teachers whose passion has led them to deliver them. Think about what inspires you? What subjects will sustain you through dark nights and long exams? What ideas will keep you buzzing around the dinner table?

HLC's teachers are highly qualified and will work with determination and dedication to ensure that you gain the best outcome in your subjects. At the same time they will expect you to rise to the challenge of independent study and embrace the chance to take responsibility for your learning – in so doing you will grow in self-awareness and understanding.

To support your academic development, members of teaching, house and pastoral staff will work with you to try to ensure an emotionally and physically healthy two years so that you can flourish in all areas of your life. A wide programme of enrichment activities will offer you the chance to experience everything from DIY to budgeting. The style of teaching will encourage your independence and help you to develop key skills for future employment by being an active member of a team, having to manage your time and being resilient.

When you leave the Sixth Form at HLC, it is our aim that you are ready to embrace every opportunity that is offered to you and able to seek out others that you did not think possible; you will have the confidence to make mistakes and the pride to take risks; you will be citizens of the world. In the words of our school crest you will be a hard-working, trustworthy and decent young woman.

Please do not hesitate to discuss the HLC Sixth Form experience with me or any member of my team.



Sylvia Brett  
**Principal**

## An Introduction to the Sixth Form

The Sixth Form is a crucial period in your life, when you will grow academically, socially, emotionally and intellectually. It is a challenging time, but also a very exciting, fulfilling and enjoyable one.

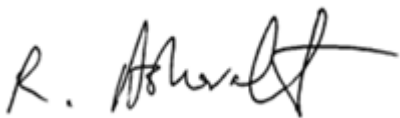
Harrogate Ladies' College has a flourishing Sixth Form of around 120 girls. This booklet gives a summary of the wide range of academic courses we offer after GCSE, including several which have not been available to you before. A good, balanced Sixth Form education, however, moves beyond the purely academic. For this reason, we also offer you many opportunities for leadership and responsibility as well as for team-building, physical fitness and relaxation.

After your GCSEs, you will be able to concentrate on a smaller number of subjects which you particularly enjoy, and which for most of you will lead on to higher education courses in preparation for a career. It is perfectly natural that it may take you a little while to get used to things: the nature of the work at this level is different and demands new skills. Teaching takes place in small, less formal groups and encourages discussion, interaction and independent study.

You will also move from a form-based unit to a tutorial system; one tutor remains with a group of pupils for the two years of the course and is able to offer guidance on both work and personal matters, as well as writing your all-important university reference. Working together closely for two years is a great advantage for you and your tutor as advice is given from a sound knowledge of your attributes, both academic and personal.

Whether you are a day girl or a boarder, you will have your own study area with internet access which you will keep for a year, so that you feel secure and comfortable as you work, both during free periods during the day and after school. Also, during non-working hours, you will have access to our common room, café and kitchen.

The two years spent in the Sixth Form are busy and rewarding. The mutual trust and respect found here create a warm and successful environment of which we are very proud. We hope you enjoy reading this booklet and that it gives you a flavour of the exciting times that lie ahead. If any questions arise as you read through, please do get in touch with us at any time.



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## What is the Sixth Form like?

This section of the booklet gives you information about some of the key features of your Sixth Form years and how they differ from your earlier school career.

### **Induction**

When you first arrive in the Lower 6, you will take part in an Induction programme to enable you to get to know the new members of your year group as well as many of the staff who will be responsible for you during your Sixth Form years. It is a great opportunity to renew old friendships and, we hope, to forge some new ones.

### **Academic guidance**

Being a relatively small school, we are able to offer a great deal of close support throughout your Sixth Form years. This will be provided primarily by your Tutor, Head of Sixth Form and Deputy Head of Sixth Form, although of course subject teachers will be closely involved at times too.

As Sixth Formers, we expect you to take more responsibility for your own learning. So if you are struggling with your workload or with a particular subject, you must talk it through with a member of staff. We cannot help you if you do not tell us that something is wrong!

### **Academic monitoring**

We will monitor your progress closely from the start of your Sixth Form years to make sure you are keeping up with what is required of you academically.

Progress checks are made half way through the first term, and there will be an internal examination (similar to your GCSE mocks) straight after the October half term holiday of your Lower 6 year to ensure that you have chosen the right subjects and that you are coping with the move to Sixth Form study. All Sixth Formers are also expected to attend Parents' Evening, with or without their parents.

### **The working environment**

The Sixth Form Centre benefits greatly from being separate from the rest of the school and we hope you will find that it is an easy place to get on with your work undisturbed. Most of your free time will be spent in your study, which is a private work area shared with a small group of your peers and is very much your 'home

away from home'. Studies are allocated on the first day of the Autumn Term, with Prefects and Upper 6 getting first choice of rooms.

### **Planning for the future**

Your Tutor, the Head of Sixth Form and Deputy Head of Sixth Form will keep in close contact with you about your aspirations, discuss your options in depth and guide you through application procedures for whichever course of action you want to take after you finish school. The Careers Room is available with information on a wide variety of Higher Education options, including overseas institutions and more practical options such as Drama Schools, Music Colleges or Apprenticeships.

In addition, a series of Careers Talks is offered most Wednesday lunchtimes and you are encouraged to sign up for three of these each term. These cover a wide range of careers options and focus on the benefits and drawbacks of particular jobs, as well as advice on how to get into them.

Meanwhile, the Upper 6 'You and Uni' programme offers a series of talks and seminars about adapting to life as a university student, covering issues such as managing money, cooking on a budget, and alcohol awareness.

### **Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)**

In both Lower and Upper 6, you will have an extended period of form time each week during which you will discuss with your Tutor a variety of topics concerning your academic work, revision, entry to higher education and the responsibilities which will go with your new independence.

### **Extra-Curricular opportunities**

It is important to remember that there is more to life than academic study; although UK universities are primarily interested in your academic credentials, a wide range of experience can be very beneficial when it is time to apply for graduate jobs. In both Lower and Upper 6 at HLC there are many opportunities to build up this portfolio. We hope you will consider becoming involved.

All of the opportunities that have been available to you thus far remain so in the Sixth Form, and many such as Chapel Choir or team sports will offer positions of responsibility to Sixth Form girls. There are also some activities open only to members of the Sixth Form. The two main ones are Gold Duke of Edinburgh and LEAP, and more information about this can be found towards the end of this booklet.

You can be certain of one thing: there is never time to feel bored in the Sixth Form at HLC!

## The Sixth Form Curriculum, 2016-2018

### **A level reform**

From September 2017 all of the A levels taught at Harrogate Ladies' College will be the new, reformed A levels. All of the A level assessment will take place in the Upper 6 (this is known as linear assessment). Although you may opt to sit the AS level at the end of the Lower 6, the result in this qualification will not count towards your final A level grade.

### **How many subjects will I choose?**

We anticipate that most girls will study three subjects, though some may choose four.

Our advice is to choose only three subjects unless:

- You are studying Mathematics and Further Mathematics as two of your subjects
- You are absolutely confident that you can cope with the exceptionally high academic demand of four A levels (this is likely to apply only to girls who expect to achieve a majority of their GCSEs at grade A\*).

The reason for this is that the new A levels are very demanding; girls will have nine periods a week in each subject. Choosing four therefore means that a girl's free time during the week will be limited, and the academic pressure will be enormous. Moreover, even the most competitive universities will require only three full A levels to have been taken.

### **How do I choose my A levels?**

Choosing the right subjects can be difficult, so staff will be on hand, both during your Upper 5 year and over the weeks leading up to the start of the Lower 6, to offer advice. This is a crucial decision, as you will be studying these subjects very intensely for the next two years. You must take advice and consider your options very carefully.

That said, in some ways the choice is simple. You should choose your favourite subjects, and the ones in which you are likely to achieve most highly.

### **Is it sensible to do a subject I have not studied before?**

There are several new subjects offered at A level that you have not had the opportunity to study before, such as Psychology and Business. These are a very sensible choice for many girls. However, it would be a mistake to choose

one or more of these purely because they are new; you should only take them if you have a genuine interest in the subject area.

### **What about 'soft' and 'facilitating' subjects?**

There is a lot of misunderstanding about the issue of 'soft' subjects. Many people feel obliged to choose subjects that they don't necessarily want to do, because they think they will be more impressive to universities.

This is a big mistake. The truth is that what universities ultimately want is three good A level grades. Whether they are in 'soft' or 'hard' subjects is usually irrelevant.

The only time universities have a problem with 'soft' subjects is when pupils apply to the very top universities with two 'soft' subjects as part of their final three A levels. This is a very rare occurrence, so for the vast majority of HLC girls, the issue of 'soft' subjects is an irrelevant distraction.

The Russell Group's list of 'facilitating subjects' can also largely be ignored. These are merely the subjects which leave the largest number of courses open at Russell Group universities. They are not compulsory in any way, and every year large numbers of applicants get offers at Russell Group universities without offering any of them, never mind two!

### **Don't I have to do certain subjects to get into my chosen university course?**

There are some university courses that require specific A levels to have been taken. It is extremely difficult to get in to study Medicine, for example, without Biology and Chemistry at A level. However, it is very important to realise that the majority of university courses, including, for example, Law, can be studied with only one specific A level studied, or none at all.

When you think about it, though, unless you really enjoy Biology and Chemistry in the first place, and want to do them for A level anyway, you probably won't be a very good doctor! So in practice the rule is just the same ...

**Never choose a subject because you think you have to.  
Just study what you enjoy and what you will do well in!**



## Accounting (Draft) Examination Board – AQA A level 7127

**To be reformed for first teaching in September 2017.**

**This draft qualification has not yet been accredited by Ofqual. Further changes may be required and no assurance can be given by AQA that this proposed qualification will be made available in its current form.**

### Proposed Assessment

	A level		Content summary
1	Written examination 50% of A level 3 hours 120 marks Three compulsory sections	<b>Topics:</b>	Role of the accountant, Types of business organisation. Preparation of financial statements of sole traders, Limited company accounts, Accounting for organisations with incomplete records, partnership accounts.
2	Written examination 50% of A level 3 hours 120 marks Three compulsory sections	<b>Topics:</b>	Analysis and evaluation of financial information, Marginal costing, Standard costing and variance analysis, Absorption and activity based costing, capital investment appraisal, The impact of ethical considerations.

### What does this course involve?

The Accounting A level qualification allows pupils to develop quantitative data analysis and interpretation skills, whilst the inclusion of ethics and an emphasis on management accounting will give pupils the confidence to communicate information to non-accountants and future clients.

### Why study Accounting?

It is an exciting choice in its own right for anyone intrigued by business or accounting; it also provides an excellent basis for subsequent university study and/or a career in Business Management, Finance or Economics.

There are no rigid pre-requisites for Accounting, although a minimum GCSE Mathematics grade B is highly desirable and confidence in the use of English is essential if higher grades are to be achieved. A logical mind is also crucial; this is a structured subject, where processes and procedures are important.

### What is the proportion of coursework?

Examination	100%
Coursework	0%

## Art and Design

### Examination Board – OCR Fine Art/Mixed Areas

### A level H600/H601

**There are two routes available: Unendorsed Mixed Media or Fine Art.**

Assessment:

<b>1</b>	<p><b>Personal Investigation and a Related Study.</b> This runs from September of Lower 6 to February of Upper 6, and accounts for 60% of the A level mark.</p> <p>The Personal Investigation is a portfolio of practical work showing a personal response to a starting point. Sustained development and refinement of your ideas should be clearly shown in a sketchbook and on larger final pieces. Work is selected and presented for assessment in May of Upper 6.</p> <p>The Related Study is a written study reflecting upon the practical work in the Personal Investigation unit. It is a personal journey of thoughts, minimum 1,000 words in length, using analysis and critical appreciation of the work of other artists. It can be illustrated using drawings and/or photography.</p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>External Set Task.</b> This runs from February to May of the Upper 6, and accounts for 40% of the A level mark.</p> <p>Pupils are required to create individual pieces by working on a theme set by the board which is in the format of written or visual starting points. During a preparatory period from February until April of Upper 6 pupils will show development of their chosen theme, and in April and May they will produce work over a 15 hour period using their preparatory studies. These pieces are displayed, marked internally and externally moderated by a visiting moderator in June of Upper 6.</p>

#### **What does this course involve?**

Starting points are usually from still life involving experimentation with a wide range of media. You will develop your work in a personal and creative way, incorporating ideas gained from looking at the work of other artists. Frequent visits to local galleries are recommended, life drawing, etching, and master class demonstrations from visiting artists are provided.

Written analysis: offering your own informed opinions and judgements about what you see is vital at this level.

#### **Why study Art and Design?**

Art encourages your personal expression, stimulates your imagination and powers of observation, your conceptual thinking and analytical abilities, and develops individual practical skills. It complements the literary, mathematical, scientific and factually based subjects, giving a freedom to express practically ideas and feelings.

#### **What is the proportion of coursework?**

<b>Examination</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>Coursework</b>	<b>60%</b>

## Art and Design: Photography

### Examination Board – OCR Photography

#### A level H603

### Assessment

<b>1</b>	<p><b>Personal Investigation and Related Study.</b> Timescale is from September of Lower 6 to February of Upper 6.</p> <p>The Personal Investigation Unit is a portfolio of imagery work showing a personal response to a starting point. Sustained development and refinement of ideas should be clearly shown in a sketchbook and through manipulation using Photoshop. Work is selected and presented for assessment in May of Upper 6.</p> <p><b>Related Study:</b> This is a written related study reflecting on the practical work in the Personal Investigation Unit. It is a personal journey of thoughts using analysis and critical appreciation of the work of other photographers and artists. It is 1,000 words minimum, which can be illustrated using drawings and photography.</p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Externally Set Task:</b> January to May Upper 6.</p> <p>Pupils are required to create individual pieces by working on a theme set by the board which is in the format of written or visual starting points. During a preparatory period from January until April of Upper 6, pupils will show development of their chosen theme through experimentation with materials and recording of ideas through practical photoshoots. In April and May of Upper 6, pupils will produce work in a 15 hour period using their preparatory studies. These pieces are displayed, marked internally and externally moderated by a visiting moderator in June of Upper 6.</p>

### What does this course involve?

The starting points emerge from your own digital photoshoots. Chosen themes are varied, including ideas such as Architecture, Reflections, Man-made and Natural Forms. You will develop your work in a personal and creative way, incorporating ideas gained from looking at the work of other artists. Frequent visits to local galleries are beneficial.

Written analysis: offering your own informed opinions and judgements about what you see is vital at this level.

### Why study Photography?

Photography encourages your personal expression, stimulates your imagination and powers of observation, conceptual thinking and analytical abilities, and develops individual practical skills. It complements the literary, mathematical, scientific and factually based subjects, giving a freedom to express practically ideas and feelings. It can give you a sense of relaxation and great self-satisfaction manipulating imagery to bring to life your ideas, as well as analysing and being inspired by the work of other artists and photographers.

### What is the proportion of coursework?

<b>Examination</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>Coursework</b>	<b>60%</b>

## Art and Design: Textiles Design

### Examination Board – AQA Textiles Design

#### A level 7204

### Assessment

<b>1</b>	<p><b>Personal Investigation.</b> This runs from September of Lower 6 to February of Upper 6, and accounts for 60% of the A level mark.</p> <p>The Personal Investigation is a practical investigation supported by written material. Pupils are required to conduct a practical investigation into an idea, concept or theme. The work is a personal response to a starting point. Sustained development and refinement of ideas should be clearly shown in a sketchbook and will lead to a finished outcome or a series of related outcomes. Work is presented for assessment in May of Upper 6.</p> <p>The written material must clarify the focus of the investigation, show critical understanding of contextual and other sources and substantiate decisions leading to the development and refinement of ideas. The material must be coherent and logically structured and will be between 1000 and 3000 words of continuous prose.</p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>External Set Task.</b> This runs from February to May of the Upper 6, and accounts for 40% of the A level mark.</p> <p>Pupils are required to create individual pieces by working on a theme set by the board which is in the format of written or visual starting points. During a preparatory period from February until April of Upper 6 pupils will show development of their chosen theme through experimentation with materials and recording of ideas through practical work. In April and May of Upper 6, pupils will produce a piece(s) of work in a 15 hour period using their preparatory studies. These pieces are displayed, marked internally and externally moderated by a visiting moderator in June of Upper 6.</p>

### What does this course involve?

Pupils will produce practical and critical/contextual work in one or more areas of study. This could be fashion design, fashion textiles, costume design, art textiles or installed textiles. The pupils will explore a range of textile media, processes and techniques. They will explore the use of drawing for different purposes, using a variety of methods and media on a variety of scales.

### Why study Textiles?

Textiles encourages personal expression whilst stimulating the imagination and powers of observation. You will develop practical skills which complement the literary, mathematical, scientific and factually based subjects, giving you freedom to express yourself in a range of tactile materials. Whichever specialism you choose, you will have fun creating new and exciting fashion or textiles products either for the catwalk or exhibition space.

### What is the proportion of coursework?

<b>Examination</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>Coursework</b>	<b>60%</b>

# Business

## Examination Board – AQA Business

### A level 7132

#### Assessment

	A level		Content summary
1	Written examination: 2 hours 33.3% of A level Multiple choice and short answer questions. 100 marks	<b>Topics:</b>	Management, Leadership, Marketing, Finance, Operations and HR.
2	Written examination: 2 hours 33.3% of A level Data response questions using stimulus materials. 100 marks	<b>Topics:</b>	Decision making, Market analysis, Strategic direction.
3	Written examination: 2 hours 33.3% of A level One detailed case study and 6 extended answer questions. 100 marks	<b>Topics:</b>	Managing strategic change, Strategic methods.

#### What does this course involve?

The Business A level studies strategic decision making built on the functional areas of marketing, finance, operations and human resources. Students analyse how these decisions are affected by changes in the business environment, such as changes in the government, the economy or the environment. Pupils are encouraged to follow business developments and think critically about contemporary business issues. Alongside this they are required to think logically and realistically to develop and justify corporate strategy. Assessment is based on real business situations and pupils need to analyse, solve problems and formulate practical strategies.

#### Why study Business Studies?

The world of business is a constantly changing environment. This is increasingly the case with the rise of online shopping and a global marketplace. This A level encourages pupils to study commercial concepts and business decisions in depth. There is a strong focus on strategic decision making and applying real life case studies, both nationally and globally.

#### What is the proportion of coursework?

Examination	100%
Coursework	0%

# Biology

## Examination Board – AQA Biology

### A level 7402

#### Assessment

<b>1</b>	<p>Written examination: 2 hours</p> <p>35% of A level</p> <p>Assesses any content from topics 1– 4, including relevant practical skills.</p>
<b>2</b>	<p>Written examination: 2 hours</p> <p>35% of A level</p> <p>Assesses any content from topics 5 – 8, including relevant practical skills.</p>
<b>3</b>	<p>Written examination: 2 hours</p> <p>30% of A level</p> <p>Assesses any content from topics 1– 8, including relevant practical skills.</p> <p>Includes structured questions, critical analysis of experimental data, and one essay from a choice of two titles.</p>

#### What does this course involve?

The AQA Biology course is designed to inspire an enthusiasm for Biology, practical skills alongside understanding of concepts and principles, and a foundation of knowledge and skills for studying Biology in higher education.

It involves the study of eight key topic areas: biological molecules; cells; how organisms exchange substances with their environment; genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms; energy transfers in and between organisms; how organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments; genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems; and the control of gene expression.

#### Why study Biology?

It will give you the skills to make connections and associations with all living things around you. Biology literally means the study of life and if that's not important, what is? Many pupils study Biology alongside at least two sciences leading to a scientific career; others study Biology because they enjoy it, but combine it with unrelated subjects. A study of Biology to A level opens the door to a fantastic range of interesting careers. Given the mathematical content of the A level, a minimum of B at GCSE Mathematics or equivalent is required.

#### What is the proportion of coursework?

There is no coursework. Instead you will carry out complex and engaging practical work, including 12 compulsory practicals specified by the examination board. There will be questions on these practicals and on general practical skills in the final examination papers.

# Chemistry

## Examination Board – AQA Chemistry

### A level 7405

#### Assessment

<b>1</b>	Physical Chemistry, Inorganic Chemistry, practical skills Written examination: 2 hours 35% of A level
<b>2</b>	Physical Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, practical skills Written examination: 2 hours 35% of A level
<b>3</b>	Any content, any practical skills Written examination: 2 hours 30% of A level 40 marks of questions on practical techniques and data analysis 20 marks of questions testing across the specification

#### What does this course involve?

A level Chemistry goes into much more detail than GCSE. It attempts to answer the big question 'what is the world made of' and it's the search for this answer that makes this subject so fascinating. From investigating how one substance can be changed drastically into another, to researching a new wonder drug to save millions of lives, the opportunities that Chemistry provides are endless.

#### Why study Chemistry?

Chemistry is a fundamental subject for Medicine, Veterinary Science, Dentistry and other health-related courses. The A level course is highly regarded as a rigorous qualification that provides a pathway into a host of possible careers such as Chemical Engineering and Research and Environmental Science.

A level Chemistry builds on the work done in GCSE Science and Mathematics, so you'll need good GCSE results from both. A minimum of B at GCSE Mathematics or equivalent is required. Written communication is also important and you'll need to be a strong writer.

#### What is the proportion of coursework?

There is no coursework. Instead you will carry out complex and engaging practical work. Included in this will be 12 compulsory practicals specified by the examination board. There will be questions on these practicals and on general practical skills in the final examination papers.

## Classical Civilisation (Draft)

### Examination Board - OCR Classical Civilisation A level H408

#### Assessment

Module Content		Assessment Method
1	<b>The World of the Hero</b> Homer's Odyssey and Virgil's Aeneid, both studied in translation.	2 hour 20 minute written paper: 40% of the overall A level
2	<b>Culture and the Arts</b> Greek Theatre – a study of the production of Greek drama coupled with an in-depth study of three plays by Sophocles, Euripides and Aristophanes.	1 hour 45 minute written paper: 30% of the overall A level
3	<b>Beliefs and Ideas</b> Love and Relationships – an exploration of Greek and Roman thought through the medium of ancient philosophy and the poetry of Sappho and Ovid.	1 hour 45 minute written paper: 30% of the overall A level

#### What does this course involve?

There is a strong emphasis on both history and literature and you would study topics in each of these fields, reading the original literature in translation. Historically there is a fascinating and wide-ranging exploration of the passions, frustrations and delights of love in the Ancient World, while from a literary point of view you will meet some of the earliest plays written and two of the greatest poems ever written, the Odyssey and Aeneid. There is no coursework component.

If you enjoy English Literature and History and would like a subject to complement either of these, then you would find much to enjoy in Classical Civilisation. It also provides a good balance alongside more empirical subjects such as Psychology, Geography and the Sciences.

#### Why study Classical Civilisation?

Classical Civilisation offers you the opportunity to study elements of the art, architecture, history, literature, politics, philosophy and religion of the classical Greek and Roman worlds. It encourages the development of a range of analytical, interpretative and communication skills that will prepare you for work and study in a wide variety of areas. It can be studied together with related subjects but would also be a most interesting way to broaden the scope of your study; this is becoming increasingly attractive to universities and employers.

#### What is the proportion of coursework?

<b>Examination</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Coursework</b>	<b>0%</b>



# Drama and Theatre Studies

## Examination Board – AQA Drama and Theatre Studies A level 7262

### Assessment

A level structure			
<b>Component 1</b> Drama and theatre <u>Written Paper</u>	40%    80 marks	3 hours; 3 separate sections  Section A: Set Text 1 – (25 marks) Section B: Set Text 2 – (25 marks) (Sections A & B are open book) Section C: Live Production Seen – (30 marks)	
<b>Component 2</b> Creating original drama  <u>Practical Coursework</u> Teacher marked; AQA moderated	30%    60 marks	Devised performance – (20 marks) Working notebook – (40 marks)  For this unit you will work in a group to create an original piece of theatre. There is a requirement for candidates to demonstrate the clear influence of one <i>prescribed</i> theatre practitioner.	
<b>Component 3</b> Making theatre  Practical Coursework <u>Marked by AQA</u>	30%    60 marks	Practical exploration of <b>three key extracts</b> from contrasting plays; one performed in the style of a second prescribed practitioner. (40 marks) Reflective report – (20 marks)	

### What does this course involve?

The specification is designed to offer a broad experience of theatre and drama with the emphasis firmly on learning through practice. Year 1 of the course focuses on building performance skills and analysis and interpretation of text from page to stage. In year 2 you have greater artistic responsibility and are able to get hands-on experience of directing and of technical aspects such as lighting and sound.

### Why study Drama and Theatre Studies?

The skills gained on the course are as much about personal development as becoming a subject specialist. The value of being a confident communicator, engaging performer, and creative team player is widely recognised by employers. More importantly you acquire these skills in an exciting learning environment.

### What is the proportion of coursework?

<b>Written examination</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>Performance and coursework</b>	<b>60%</b>

# Economics

## Examination Board – Edexcel Economics A A level 9ECO

### Assessment

<b>1</b>	<b>Markets and business behaviour (microeconomics)</b> Written Examination: 2 hours (35% of A level)
<b>2</b>	<b>The national and global economy (macroeconomics)</b> Written Examination: 2 hours (35% of A level)
<b>3</b>	<b>Microeconomics and macroeconomics</b> Written Examination: 2 hours (30% of A level)

### What does this course involve?

In the first year of study, pupils build knowledge and understanding of how individual markets, (eg oil/ wheat), and how the whole economy functions. This is assessed by a range of multiple choice and short answer questions. In addition, skills are developed in order to answer data response and extended open response questions. In Upper 6, pupils build on this and apply their knowledge to more complex concepts and models: applying theories in a range of contexts appreciating their value and limitations in explaining real-world phenomena. There are many opportunities for class discussion and debates around government policy; on both a micro and macro level. The course encourages pupils to extend their independent research skills and keep abreast of current affairs on a national and global scale.

### Why study Economics?

Have you ever read a newspaper headline or watched the television news and wondered what all the fuss was about? Economics is a study of these real events, in the real world, that affect us all. Central to the study of Economics is the allocation of scarce resources – money, time and labour. These choices have a wide ranging impact and impact everyone (you included!). For example, whether people should be allowed to smoke; eat sugar; or drive cars.

Many employers are interested in the skills which economics graduates tend to possess. These include:

- skills in gathering and analysing data;
- skills in writing clear, technical reports and essays;
- skills in critical thinking and in quantitative analysis;
- ability to analyse and to communicate the results of their analyses.

Economics can be combined with a wide range of subjects and can open up a great variety of opportunities in Higher Education.

### What is the proportion of coursework?

<b>Examination</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Coursework</b>	<b>0%</b>

## English Language Examination Board – AQA English Language A level 7702

### Assessment

Paper 1 (40%)	<b>Language, the individual and society</b> Textual variations Children's language development (0-11 years) 2 hour 30 minute paper
Paper 2 (40%)	<b>Language diversity and change</b> 2 hour 30 minute paper
Non-examination assessment (20%)	<b>Language in action</b> Language investigation Original writing

### What does this course involve?

The A level specification grows naturally from the IGCSE course in English Language, but also introduces new skills and topics. Its aim is to encourage an appreciation of how language is used in a wide variety of contexts and how it has evolved historically.

During the course, you will study a variety of text types, learn about how children acquire language, discover how and why English has developed and evolved over the years, write creatively and also conduct an investigation into an aspect of language of your choice.

### Why study English Language?

English Language is a fascinating and varied course. It works well for those hoping to pursue an arts related degree as it develops the crucial skills of essay writing and discussion. Equally, however, it is closely linked to social science subjects such as Psychology and Sociology with the language investigation requiring skills such as data collection and analysis.

### What is the proportion of coursework?

<b>Examination</b>	<b>80 %</b>
<b>Coursework</b>	<b>20 %</b>

## English Literature

### Examination Board – AQA English Language A level 7712

#### Assessment

Paper 1 (40%)	<p><b>Love Through the Ages</b></p> <p>Study of 3 texts: prose, poetry and a Shakespeare play. Examination will include 2 unseen poems.</p> <p>3 hour paper</p>
Paper 2 (40%)	<p><b>Texts in Shared Contexts: World War One and its Aftermath</b></p> <p>Study of 3 texts: one prose, one poetry and one drama. Examination will include an unseen extract.</p> <p>2 hour 30 minute paper</p>
Non-examination assessment (20%)	<p><b>Texts Across Time</b></p> <p>Comparative study of 2 texts, at least one of which is pre-1900.</p> <p>One extended essay of 2,500 words</p>

#### What does this course involve?

The A level specification grows naturally from the GCSE courses in English Language and English Literature. Its aim is to encourage an enjoyment and appreciation of literature, based on an informed and confident personal response. You will study texts of different types and periods and evaluate ways in which writers choose form, structure and language to express meanings. An understanding of the contexts in which literary works are written will open up many areas of interest and you will be able to explore not only your own, but also other readers' interpretations of text. The desire to offer your own informed opinions and judgements about what you read is vital at this level.

#### Why study English Literature?

To enjoy it! The informal nature of lessons invites interaction and debate which are stimulating and challenging. Your ability to communicate will develop and underpin work in your other subjects, and the skills fostered are highly regarded by university admissions tutors. The study of English will lead naturally into any career in which clear thought, effective communication, imagination and perception are valued.

#### What is the proportion of coursework?

<b>Examination</b>	<b>80 %</b>
<b>Coursework</b>	<b>20 %</b>

# Geography

## Examination Board – AQA Geography

### A level 7037

#### Assessment

<p>Component 1 (40%)</p> <p>96 marks</p>	<p><b>Physical Geography</b>            Section A: Water and carbon cycles            Section B: <b>either</b> Hot desert environments and their margins <b>or</b> Coastal systems and landscapes            Section C: <b>either</b> Hazards <b>or</b> Ecosystems under stress <b>or</b> Cold environments</p> <p>Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes</p>
<p>Component 2 (40%)</p> <p>96 marks</p>	<p><b>Human Geography</b>            Section A: Global systems and global governance            Section B: Changing places            Section C: <b>either</b> Contemporary urban environments <b>or</b> Population and the environment <b>or</b> Resource security</p> <p>Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes</p>
<p>Component 3 (20%)</p> <p>35 marks</p>	<p><b>Geographical investigation</b></p> <p>Individual investigation including data from field work</p> <p>One extended essay of 3000 - 4000 words internally marked and externally moderated.</p>

#### What does this course involve?

The A level course allows pupils to challenge perceptions and stimulate their investigative and analytical skills. Many of the new units reflect the world today and allow for an in depth knowledge of case studies and discussion topics. The course requires pupils to acquire practical skills both in the field and in the classroom and encourages pupils to develop their ability to work independently and as a team.

#### Why study Geography?

“No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent...” If the words of John Donne are true, Geography should help open our eyes to the world. In developing a sense of place, we learn how people interact with their environments and we gain greater awareness and understanding of the complexities of our dynamic planet. Moreover, studying the processes that are at work in Physical and Human Geography helps to clarify our own values and attitudes about geographical issues.

#### What is the proportion of coursework?

<b>Examination</b>	<b>80%</b>
<b>Coursework</b>	<b>20%</b>

# History

## Examination Board - AQA History

### A level 7042

#### Assessment

1	<p><b>Breadth Study (40%)</b></p> <p>Tsarist and Communist Russia, 1855–1964</p> <p>2 hours 30 minutes written examination</p>
2	<p><b>Depth Study (40%)</b></p> <p>The Making of Modern Britain, 1951–2007</p> <p>2 hours 30 minutes written examination</p>
3	<p><b>Historical Investigation (20%)</b></p> <p>A piece of work, independently researched and written, investigating an issue which has been subject to different historical interpretations and covers a hundred years.</p> <p>You will study Tudor England in class and can choose from suggested questions or you can pursue a different historical enquiry that interests you.</p>

#### What does this course involve?

All components involve essay work and structured questions. Components 1 and 2 will be assessed by written examination. Component 3 is an internally set and moderated historical investigation of approximately 3,500 words.

#### Why study History?

First and foremost, you should choose to take History at A level because you have a passion for the subject. You will then gain a deep understanding of the people, ideas and events of these periods. A level History allows you to develop as a critical and reflective thinker and to improve your analytical skills.

In practical terms, the subject is a good basis for numerous degrees: History, Law, English, Psychology, Philosophy, Journalism, Archaeology, Anthropology and Politics – to name a few! You will be taught more informally than at GCSE by a specialist, who will set assignments at regular intervals.

#### What is the proportion of coursework?

<b>Examination</b>	<b>80%</b>
<b>Coursework</b>	<b>20%</b>

# Latin

## Examination Board - OCR Latin

### A level H443

#### Assessment

<p><b>Unseen Translation (01)</b></p> <p>1 passage of unseen prose (Livy) <b>and</b> 1 passage of unseen verse (Ovid) and Scan two lines of verse</p> <p>1 hour 45 minutes written paper</p> <p>100 marks (<b>33%</b> of total A level)</p>	<p><b>Prose Composition or Comprehension (02)</b></p> <p><b>Either</b> translate unseen material from English to Latin <b>or</b></p> <p>Answer questions and translate from a passage of unseen prose</p> <p>1 hour 15 minutes written paper</p> <p>50 marks (<b>17 %</b> of total A level)</p>
<p><b>Prose Literature</b></p> <p>2 authors, both prose and some in English translation</p> <p>2 hours written paper</p> <p>75 marks (<b>25%</b> of total A level)</p>	<p><b>Verse Literature</b></p> <p>2 authors, both verse and some in English translation</p> <p>2 hour written paper</p> <p>75 marks (<b>25%</b> of total A level)</p>

#### What does this course involve?

If you have enjoyed Latin at GCSE, then you will certainly derive much interest from the subject at A level. It will give you a chance to extend your language skills and enjoy some delightful and fascinating new literature. By the end of Upper 6 you will have gained extra vocabulary and linguistic maturity.

In the Lower 6 we will consolidate language learning and read lots of Latin. The Upper 6 course includes the set texts which you will read and prepare in class, just as you did for GCSE, but with greater attention to the wider context of the literature.

#### Why study Latin?

Latin is the basis for many modern European languages and gives you a richer and deeper understanding of English and the Romance languages. If you have reached GCSE, you have done the ground work and prepared the way and you are now on the threshold of enjoying some of the world's finest literature and gaining a deeper understanding to enhance your travels and your own wider reading.

#### What is the proportion of coursework?

<b>Examination</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Coursework</b>	<b>0%</b>

## Mathematics (Draft)

### Examination Board – AQA Mathematics

### A level 7357

#### Assessment

A level Mathematics is assessed by three papers, all 2 hours long, taken at the end of Upper 6. All papers have a mix of problem styles from short single mark questions to multistep problems.

<b>Paper 1</b>	Proof, Algebra and functions, Coordinate geometry, Sequences and series, Trigonometry, Exponentials and logarithms, Differentiation, Integration, Numerical methods.
<b>Paper 2</b>	Vectors, Quantities and units in mechanics, Kinematics, Forces and Newton's laws, Moments <b>as well as any topics from Paper 1.</b>
<b>Paper 3</b>	Statistical sampling, Data presentation and Interpretation, Probability, Statistical distributions, Statistical hypothesis testing <b>as well as any topics from Paper 1.</b>

#### What does Mathematics involve?

A large proportion of A level Mathematics teaches the skills and concepts necessary to understand Differential Calculus. As well as being a mathematical interesting topic in its own right, it is used in forming an enormous range of mathematical models, including models of stock markets, how rockets and aeroplanes fly, and how populations of species develop. In Mechanics topics in Paper 2, this is developed to understand Newton's Laws of Motion. In the Statistical topics in Paper 3, it is developed to understand how we can meaningfully test hypotheses such as "girls are more intelligent than boys."

#### Why study Mathematics?

Although the syllabus has change this year, the core content of A level Mathematics has not changed for over 50 years, as it remains relevant because of the wide applications to other subjects as well as the problem solving skills it develops. The discipline of Mathematics teaches pupils to be accurate, to communicate clearly and to construct rigorous logical arguments. At this level you are encouraged to think for yourself, to recognise the underlying principles and to appreciate their applications. Many topics studied have applications in real life as well as direct links to other topics and other subjects. Qualifications in Mathematics are hugely respected academically and both employers and universities accept them for a very wide range of courses.

#### What is the proportion of coursework?

<b>Examination</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Coursework</b>	<b>0%</b>



## Further Mathematics (Draft)

### Examination Board – AQA Further Mathematics A level 7367

#### Assessment

**Note:** Further Mathematics can only be taken with Mathematics. This is a double course, with 18 periods of teaching a week. The A level Mathematics course is covered in Lower 6 and the A level Further Mathematics course is covered in Upper 6.

A level Further Mathematics is assessed by three papers, all 2 hours long, taken at the end of Upper 6. All papers have a mix of problem styles from short single mark questions to multistep problems.

<b>Paper 1 and Paper 2</b>	Proof; Complex numbers; Matrices; Further Algebra and Functions; Further Calculus; Further Vectors; Polar coordinates; Hyperbolic functions; Differential equations; Trigonometry; Coordinate geometry.
<b>Paper 3</b>	Additional topics on statistics and mechanics.

#### What does Further Mathematics involve?

All topics that are taught in the Single Mathematics A level can be tested in Further Mathematics A level. Further Mathematics A level continues these topics to a much higher level as well as introducing new pure topics such as complex numbers, hyperbolic functions and matrices. The further study of mechanics develops understanding of how solid objects behave and circular motion. If you lift up one edge of a table, exactly when and how fast would a vase on top of the table topple? Or will it slip down the table first? The statistics part develops understanding further of hypothesis testing, considering when they can go wrong, and how the chances of that happening can be reduced. The chi-squared test is also introduced.

#### Why study Further Mathematics?

The discipline of Mathematics teaches you to be accurate, to communicate clearly and to construct rigorous logical arguments. At Further Mathematics level pupils tend to study the subject for the sheer joy of discovering new principles and to explore this fascinating world. Who would have thought using the square root of 1 would work mathematically? It turns out it has beautiful mathematical properties, and most surprising of all, an enormous array of real world applications. All qualifications in Mathematics are highly respected and universities accept them for a very wide range of courses. It is particularly highly thought of on Engineering, Physics, Economics, Computer Science as well as Mathematics courses. Career choices are wide open, especially with a Further Mathematics qualification.

#### What is the proportion of coursework?

<b>Examination</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Coursework</b>	<b>0%</b>

**Modern Foreign Languages: French, German, Spanish  
Examination Board - AQA French, German, Spanish**

**French    A level 7652  
German   A level 7662  
Spanish   A level 7692**

**Assessment**

<b>Paper 1</b>	<b>Listening, Reading and Writing</b> I. Aspects of French / Spanish / German – speaking society: current trends; II. Aspects of French / Spanish / German – speaking society: current issues; III. Artistic culture in the French / Spanish / German - speaking world; IV. Aspects of political life in the French / Spanish / German-speaking world; V. Grammar. Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes 160 marks in total - 40% of A level
<b>Paper 2</b>	<b>Writing</b> I. One text and one film <b>or</b> two texts from the list set in the specification; II. Grammar Written examination: 2 hours 90 marks in total - 30% of A level
<b>Paper 3</b>	<b>Speaking</b> I. Individual research project; II. One of four sub themes ie Aspects of French / Spanish / German-speaking society: current trends, Aspects of French / Spanish / German-speaking society: current issues, Artistic culture in the French / Spanish / German-speaking world, Aspects of political life in the French / Spanish / German-speaking world. Oral examination: 21-23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time) 60 marks in total - 30% of A level

**What does this course involve?**

A level builds on the material studied at IGCSE and aims to develop more sophisticated vocabulary usage and a higher level of grammatical accuracy. The focus is firmly on contemporary issues and society. Lessons are often conducted in the language being studied. You continue to have a weekly conversation class with a native speaker.

**Why study Modern Foreign Languages?**

The course is both useful and enjoyable, and will be of interest to a wide range of pupils, from those who are thinking of a degree course in languages to those for whom it will provide an additional useful skill. A language can be effectively combined with many other subjects, whether artistic or scientific. As well as pure language degree courses, universities offer many courses that include a modern language element. The ability to understand and speak other languages opens many doors, and is invaluable in many professions, from secretarial work to international banking and more. Graduates who also have a language qualification prove infinitely more marketable.

**What is the proportion of coursework?**

<b>Examination</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Coursework</b>	<b>0%</b>

# Music

## Examination Board - AQA Music

### A level 2271

#### Assessment

A level Components	
1	<p><b>Appraising 40%</b></p> <p>2.5 hour written examination</p> <p>Section A Listening – answer 3 questions in response to extracts on CD</p> <p>Section B Analysis – answer two questions on set works (from a choice of 3 topics)</p> <p>Section C Essay – one essay from a choice of 5 Areas of Study</p>
2	<p><b>Performance 35%</b></p> <p>Perform for 10-12 minutes (any style, solo and/or ensemble)</p> <p>Performances are recorded and sent off for external assessment</p>
3	<p><b>Composition 25%</b></p> <p>Two compositions. One to a brief (choice of 7), one a free composition</p> <p>Combined compositions must last at least 4.5 minutes. Externally assessed</p>

#### What does this course involve?

You will be able to continue the skills you learnt at GCSE i.e. Listening, Composing, and Performing. The Appraising component requires the writing of essays, so a good command of English is necessary. There are plenty of options within the course to suit a wide variety of musical tastes. Fluent music reading, Grade 5 theory and a minimum standard of Grade 6 on an instrument or singing at the start of the course is essential. Commitment to ongoing instrumental/vocal studies is expected, and participation in extra-curricular music groups is highly recommended for honing listening skills, broadening musical knowledge, and improving general musicianship and confidence in performing.

#### Why study Music?

Obviously the course is essential for potential Music students, but it is also an excellent addition to Mathematics, Physics or other sciences as well as Arts. Music is a well-regarded A level with a high academic content. It involves discipline, analysis, writing skills, creativity, emotional development, historical development and research, as well as offering you an opportunity to take your practical music skills even further.

#### What is the proportion of coursework?

<b>Examination</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>Coursework</b>	<b>60%</b>

# Physics

## Examination Board – AQA Physics

### A level 7408

#### Assessment

<p><b>Paper 1</b> - 2 hours</p> <p><i>Measurement, Particles, Waves, Mechanics and Materials, Electricity, Periodic Motion</i></p> <p>85 marks in total (34% of A level): 60 marks of short and long answer questions; 25 multiple choice questions</p>
<p><b>Paper 2</b> - 2 hours</p> <p><i>Thermal Physics, Fields, Nuclear Physics</i></p> <p>85 marks in total (34% of A level): 60 marks of short and long answer questions, 25 multiple choice questions</p>
<p><b>Paper 3</b> - 2 hours</p> <p>80 marks in total (32% of A level)</p> <p>Section A – 45 marks of short and long answer questions on practical experiments and data analysis</p> <p>Section B – 35 marks of short and long answer questions on the optional topic</p>

#### What does this course involve?

You will carry out complex and engaging practical work. Included in this will be 12 compulsory practicals which are specified by the examination board. There will be questions on these practicals and on general practical skills in the final examination papers. This replaces coursework.

You do not need to have studied separate sciences in order to take Physics, but it is no disadvantage. Good grades in either Separate Science Physics or Dual Award Science are essential.

It is highly recommended that you take A level Mathematics alongside your Physics. It is not compulsory, but if you do not like the idea of A level Mathematics then you will probably not enjoy A level Physics, which is quite mathematical. If you are not taking Mathematics, you must have achieved at least a grade A at I/GCSE.

#### Why study Physics?

In order to understand your world and your universe; as Bill Bryson put it, “I will never know another world, so I thought at least I should understand how this one works.” Physics also opens the door to many careers, and is particularly important for those considering the Sciences, Engineering, Industry and Medicine. Physics is highly sought after by employers.

#### What is the proportion of coursework?

<b>Examination</b>	<b>100 %</b>
<b>Coursework</b>	<b>0 %</b>

# Psychology

## Examination Board - AQA Psychology

### A level 7182

#### Assessment

1	<p><b>Introductory topics in Psychology</b></p> <p>Written Examination: 1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>Social influence; Memory; Attachment; Psychopathology.</p> <p>The examination consists of multiple choice questions, short-answer questions and an extended writing section.</p>
2	<p><b>Psychology in Context</b></p> <p>Written Examination: 1 hour 30 minutes</p> <p>Approaches in Psychology; Biopsychology; Research Methods.</p> <p>The examination consists of multiple choice questions, short-answer questions and an extended writing section.</p>
3	<p><b>Issues and options in Psychology</b></p> <p>Written Examination: 2 hours</p> <p>A range of options in practical Psychology, including Aggression, Relationships, Schizophrenia and issues debates in Psychology.</p> <p>The examination consists of short-answer questions and extended writing for each of the two topic areas.</p>

#### What does this course involve?

All modules involve essay work, structured questions and experimental analysis. Each module will be assessed by a written examination which will include a variety of questions. In addition to studying the course content for each unit, you will also be completing a number of mini research projects of your own.

#### Why study Psychology?

You should choose to take Psychology at A level if you are interested in different types of behaviour and in discovering why we act in certain ways. You do not need any previous knowledge to study Psychology; however, the nature of the course means that having both Mathematics and English Language to a good level at I/GCSE is strongly advisable.

You will learn about all of the major approaches to Psychology. In each one you will discover a key topic of research, learn about important studies related to that topic and find out how research is conducted. You will learn to use statistical tests to help interpret data collected in class exercises. Importantly, you will also learn how Psychology can be applied to the real world and consider how different approaches address key issues of relevance to all of us today. The subject is a good basis for a range of degrees, and a number of universities accept Psychology as a science A level.

#### What is the proportion of coursework?

<b>Examination</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Coursework</b>	<b>0%</b>

# Religious Studies

## Examination Board – OCR

### A Level H573

#### Assessment

<b>Philosophy of Religion</b> Written Examination: 2 hours	<b>Religion and Ethics</b> Written Examination: 2 hours	<b>Developments in Religious Thought</b> Written Examination: 2 hours
Plato and Aristotle Plato's Forms, Aristotle's Prime Mover	Ethical theories – Natural Law, Situation Ethics, Kantian Ethics, Utilitarianism	Augustine's teaching on human nature
The nature of the soul, mind and body – the ideas of Plato, Aristotle, and Descartes	Ethical issues – Euthanasia, Business Ethics	Christian teaching on the afterlife – heaven, hell, purgatory, election
Teleological and cosmological arguments – Aquinas, Paley Challenges- Hume and Darwin	Application of Natural Law and Situation Ethics to euthanasia	Knowledge of God – innate sense, creation, faith, revelation through Jesus and the Bible
The ontological argument from Anselm. Challenges from Gaunilo and Kant	Application of Kantian Ethics and Utilitarianism to Business Ethics	The person of Jesus Christ – his divinity, moral teaching, role as liberator
Religious experience - Mystical experience, conversion, William James	Ethical language – meta-ethical theories	Christian moral principles – Bible, Church teaching, reason, Christian love (agape)
The problem of evil. Theodicies of Augustine, Irenaeus and Hick.	Conscience – ideas of Aquinas and Freud	Christian moral action – Dietrich Bonhoeffer
Nature and attributes of God – omnipotence, omniscience, omnibenevolence, eternity	Sexual Ethics – premarital and extramarital sex, homosexuality	Religious pluralism and theology Religious pluralism and society
Religious language - the via negativa, analogy, and symbol, logical positivism, and the ideas of Wittgenstein and Ayer	The application of Application of Natural Law, Situation Ethics, Kantian Ethics, and Utilitarianism to Sexual ethics	Gender and society Gender and theology – ideas of Rosemary Reuther and Mary Daley

#### What does this course involve?

The course develops some GCSE topics, exploring them in much more depth, and also introduces you to a range of new issues in philosophy, ethics, and theology. You will examine the ideas of some of the greatest thinkers in human history. You will be encouraged to engage in guided reading and you will test your own ideas in class discussion and make occasional presentations to your peers.

#### Why study Religious Studies?

Because you enjoy thinking for yourself and asking awkward questions. Because you want to include a subject that will help you develop essay technique and critical thinking. Religious Studies can both support and complement your studies in other areas. It is recognised by university admissions tutors as a demanding academic subject, and can support the development of careers in fields as diverse as Law, Medicine, Journalism, Teaching, Business, and Personnel Management.

#### What is the proportion of coursework?

<b>Examination</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Coursework</b>	<b>0%</b>

## Additional Options

### **Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)**

The EPQ is a level 3 certificate, an equivalent level of study to half of an A level qualification and involves extended autonomous work to a total of 120 guided learning hours. The completed project can develop and extend from one or more of the pupil's study areas or from an area of personal interest or activity outside their main programme of study. Each pupil works closely with a supervisor who will oversee, guide and facilitate their learning throughout and assess their achievement based upon thorough knowledge of the pupil's autonomous work. Whilst many pupils will opt to write an extended essay of approximately 5,000 words, they may also create an 'artefact' which can be an object, a performance, a presentation or an event.

The project is marked holistically meaning that all aspects of the pupil's written work, production log and final presentation contributes towards the final mark. The project is graded A\*- E and must demonstrate an equivalent degree of understanding and sophistication to that of A level learning.

### **GCSE Mathematics and English Language - resits**

Of all the I/GCSEs taken in Upper 5, Mathematics and English Language are the ones which are most often required at a C grade or above when applying to university or for employment. Therefore, if you have not reached this level in both subjects by the time you enter the Sixth Form, you will be required to attend resit classes until you do.

The only exception to this is those girls who have not attained C in English Language and for whom English is not their native language; these girls will be advised whether it is more sensible to pursue the IELTS qualification.

### **International English Language Testing Service (IELTS)**

The IELTS course is designed for girls for whom English is not a first language and leads to a qualification that is recognised round the world. It is taught in both Lower 6 and Upper 6 in order to help girls to achieve a level acceptable for university entry (6, 6.5 or 7 to 8, depending on the establishment).

IELTS lessons are compulsory for girls who do not have a C or above at I/GCSE English Language and who have a native language other than English. We may require girls also to sit extra IELTS sessions.

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The test has four components, each marked from 0 to 9; these are then averaged to produce an overall Band Score. The most common requirement for UK university entry is an overall score of 6.5, with at least 6.0 in each individual component.



## Extra-curricular opportunities

### Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award

The Award is open to all young people who are eager to grasp opportunities for enjoyment, excitement and new experiences. It is intended to develop those qualities of maturity and responsibility which will help you throughout your lives, in your homes, your jobs and in your relationships, whatever your personal abilities or circumstances.

Challenge is the essence of the Award. It presents to young people a balanced, non-competitive programme of voluntary activities which encourages responsibility, self-reliance, personal discovery and perseverance.

You will participate as Direct Gold Entrants and pursue a two year-programme within the Sixth Form. The time to complete the Award is not limited but open-ended until the age of 25 years.

At Gold, the Award consists of 5 sections:

Service	giving help to the local community over a minimum time span of 12 months.
Skill	to encourage the discovery and development of personal interests, social and practical skills. Time span – either 6 or 12 months.
Physical	any form of sports, dance or fitness training. Time span - either 6 or 12 months.
Additional Time	6 months in either the Service or the longer Skills or Physical Recreation sections

Examples:

- a Service 18 months + Skill 12 months + Physical Recreation 6 months
- b Service 18 months + Skill 6 months + Physical Recreation 12 months
- c Service 12 months + Skill 18 months + Physical Recreation 6 months
- d Service 12 months + Skill 6 months + Physical Recreation 18 months

All these examples are based on regular commitment of an average of at least one hour a week.

**Expedition** training, planning and executing a journey. The final expedition is 6 hours of planned activity a day, plus a maximum of 80km/50miles walking over 4 days, 3 nights of camping in wild country. The expedition section is the most time-consuming and in many respects the most challenging. It demands enterprise, careful attention to detail and organisational ability in preparation. Shared

responsibility for the venture, leadership from within the group, self-reliance and co-operation are necessary among those taking part.

**Residential** spending 5 days/4 nights on a useful project with new companions. Examples: Language, Sailing, Conservation courses.

It does take up time and this means you have to organise your free periods in a positive way; but in gaining the Award, you learn the importance of commitment and effort and discover a great deal about yourself. Above all, you will find it a most enjoyable experience and you will meet dedicated adults willing to share with you a wealth of experience, abilities and attitudes which can have a profound influence upon you.

What do you want from life?

**Success .... Job .... Friends .... Excitement .... Happiness .... Achievement?**

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award cannot guarantee all of these, but it can certainly help towards some of them!



LEAP (Leeds Enterprise Advisory Programme) is a registered charity that enables pupils to set up their own companies for a school year. The programme provides an opportunity for the pupils to learn business skills alongside the development of their 'enterprising' life skills: teamwork, problem solving, communication, risk assessment, initiative and confidence.

At HLC the programme is run within the Business School. It is open to all members of the Lower 6 and girls are required to apply for the programme at the start of the academic year. The number of companies formed will depend upon the number of girls applying to take part. Two years ago we had two companies, one of which won the overall regional competition, and we are looking to repeat their success this year!

Weekly meetings are held in the Business School on a Thursday at lunchtime and each company has the support of a Business Advisor, who attends the weekly meetings. The Business Advisors are local business women who kindly volunteer to support the programme.

With the support of their Business Advisor the girls are guided through the process of raising share capital, electing directors, choosing a product, completing market research and developing a business plan.

Later in the autumn term, the girls identify potential selling opportunities both in and out of school and may decide to attend the LEAP Christmas and Valentine Trade Fairs which take place at the Merrion Centre in Leeds.

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Throughout the period they are required to prepare an agenda for each weekly meeting, to take minutes and maintain full accounting records.

LEAP arranges seminars on various aspects of setting up a company, electing directors, choosing the product, marketing, selling and accounting. The LEAP Board Members are also accessible during the year to provide advice and support.

LEAP organises three main competitions: Marketing at Trade Fairs, the Company Report and a Company Presentation. The top four companies in each competition are then invited to take part in the LEAP Finals in April.

LEAP is a wonderful opportunity. It is great fun and, whilst it can be frustrating at times, it can develop an enormous sense of personal achievement. LEAP requires a high degree of commitment, attendance at weekly meetings is essential, the responsibilities of a director are important and finding time to market and sell a product can be difficult. But it is worth it. Get involved!

## A level Choices Form 2017

Please return to Miss Preece by **Monday, 6 March**.

Name:

My chosen A level subjects, in order of preference, are:

1.

2.

3.

You should only choose a fourth subject if you are doing Further Mathematics, or if you have been given permission to do so after discussions with Dr Ashcroft or Mrs Parker. If any of these applies to you, indicate your fourth choice below:

4.

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Signature of girl:

Signature of parent/guardian:

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