



HARROGATE LADIES' COLLEGE.
SIXTH FORM
CURRICULUM.

INFORMATION BOOKLET

Since 1893

SIXTH FORM BOOKLET CONTENTS

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WELCOME TO THE SIXTH FORM INFORMATION BOOKLET

Welcome to Harrogate Ladies' College 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 Harrogate Ladies' College 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. It is 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 students 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?

Harrogate Ladies' College 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 Harrogate Ladies' College, 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 Harrogate Ladies' College Sixth Form experience with me or any member of my team.



Mrs Sylvia F. 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 100 students. 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.

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 student 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 study periods during the day and after school. Also, during non-working hours, you will have access to our common room, games room, The Hub and the Sixth Form kitchen.

The two years spent in the Sixth Form are busy and rewarding. The mutual trust and respect found here creates 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.

B. Christie

Mrs Bonnie Christie
Head of Sixth Form
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WHAT IS 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 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 and the Heads 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. 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 the first choice of rooms.

Planning for the Future

Your Tutor, the Heads 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. We give advice and use UniFrog to provide 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, our "Be Inspired" programme 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.

Personal, Social, Health and Economic 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 Harrogate Ladies' College 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 students. There are also some activities open only to members of the Sixth Form. The two main ones are Gold Duke of Edinburgh and the Duchy Enterprise, and more information about these 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 Harrogate Ladies' College!

THE SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM 2025-2027

A Level Reform

From September 2017 all of the A levels taught at Harrogate Ladies' College will be the reformed A levels. All of the A level assessment will take place in Upper 6 (this is known as linear assessment).

How many subjects will I choose?

Our pupils will study three subjects and an EPQ. Even the most competitive universities only require three A Levels for admission. The only exceptions, where it would be appropriate for a pupil to study four A Levels would be if a pupil is choosing to study Maths and Further Maths as two of their subjects, or if a pupil is an international pupil and plans to take an A-level in their native language. We offer A-level Mandarin and Cantonese (not listed in this booklet) through extra, paid for classes every Saturday. Students can study other native language A Levels but we require they source weekly tuition for these.

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 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 students. 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 do not 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 Harrogate Ladies' College students, 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 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 should consider whether the medic route is right for you! 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!

ART AND DESIGN

EXAMINATION BOARD - AQA - A LEVEL ART, CRAFT & DESIGN 7201

Assessment

1 Component 1 - Portfolio

Timescale is from September of Lower 6 to February of Upper 6. Component 1 is a portfolio of imagery showing a personal response to a starting point. Sustained development and refinement of ideas should be clearly shown in a sketchbook and through digital manipulation using Photoshop. At least one extended collection of work or project, based on an idea, concept, theme or issue. This should demonstrate the student's ability to sustain work from an initial starting point to a realisation. Work is selected and presented for assessment in May of Upper 6.

2 Component 1 - Personal investigation

This is a practical investigation supported by written material completed in the fourth term of the coursework. It should be between 1000 - 3000 words in length. Students are required to research an idea, issue, concept or theme, supported by written material.

The investigation must be informed by an aspect of contemporary or past practice of artists, photographers, designers or craftspeople.

3 Component 2 - Externally set assignment

This runs from February to May of the Upper 6, and accounts for 40% of the A level mark.

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 to May 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.

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?

Examination	40%
Coursework	60%

ART AND DESIGN: PHOTOGRAPHY

EXAMINATION BOARD – AQA PHOTOGRAPHY – A LEVEL 7206

Assessment

1 Component 1 - Portfolio

Timescale is from September of Lower 6 to February of Upper 6. Component 1 is a portfolio of imagery showing a personal response to a starting point. Sustained development and refinement of ideas should be clearly shown in a sketchbook and through digital manipulation using Photoshop. At least one extended collection of work or project, based on an idea, concept, theme or issue. This should demonstrate the student's ability to sustain work from an initial starting point to a realisation. Work is selected and presented for assessment in May of Upper 6.

2 Component 1 - Personal investigation

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The investigation must be informed by an aspect of contemporary or past practice of artists, photographers, designers or craftspeople.

3 Component 2 - Externally set assignment

This runs from February to May of the Upper 6, and accounts for 40% of the A level mark.

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 to May 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.

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?

Examination	40%
Coursework	60%

ART AND DESIGN: TEXTILES DESIGN

EXAMINATION BOARD – AQA TEXTILE DESIGN - A LEVEL ART, CRAFT & DESIGN 7204

Assessment

1 Personal Investigation

This runs from September of Lower 6 to February of Upper 6, and accounts for 60% of the A level mark. 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.

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.

2 External Set Task

This runs from February to May of the Upper 6, and accounts for 40% of the A level mark.

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.

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?

Examination	40%
Coursework	60%

BIOLOGY

EXAMINATION BOARD - AQA BIOLOGY - A LEVEL 7402

Assessment

1	<p>Written examination: 2 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > 35% of A level. > Assesses any content from topics 1 – 4, including relevant practical skills. > Includes short and long answer questions, and extended responses.
2	<p>Written examination: 2 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > 35% of A level. > Assesses any content from topics 5 – 8, including relevant practical skills. > Includes short and long answer questions, and an extended comprehension question.
3	<p>Written examination: 2 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > 30% of A level. > Assesses any content from topics 1 – 8, including relevant practical skills. > Includes structured questions, critical analysis of experimental data, and one essay from a choice of two titles.

What does this course involve?

The AQA Biology course is designed to inspire an enthusiasm for Biology; develop practical skills alongside understanding of concepts and principles; and build 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.

What is the proportion of coursework?

There is no coursework. Instead students carry out complex and engaging practical work including 12 compulsory practicals specified by the examination board. These practicals are assessed against a set of competencies which a student must demonstrate during the two years of the course. This will allow them to achieve a pass grade in practical skills which is separate to the overall A level grade. There are questions on the 12 practicals and on general practical skills in the final examination papers.

BUSINESS

BUSINESS STUDIES A LEVEL EDEXCEL 9BSO

Assessment

1	Marketing, people and global businesses. Each question is drawn from topics across Themes 1, (Marketing and people) and Theme 4, (Global business) and from one or more of the following contexts: local, national or global. The assessment is 2 hours and is worth 35% of the final A level grade.
2	Business activities, decisions and strategy. Each question is drawn from topics across Themes 2 (Managing business activities) and Theme 3 (Business decisions and strategy), and from one or more of the following contexts: local, national or global. The assessment is 2 hours and is worth 35% of the final A level grade.
3	Investigating business in a competitive environment. Each question is drawn from one or more of the following contexts: local, national or global. The assessment comprises 2 questions and is worth 30% of the final A level grade.

Course Content

Theme 1: Marketing and People

- > Meeting customer needs
- > The market
- > Marketing mix and strategy
- > Managing people
- > Entrepreneurs and leaders

Theme 2: Managing Business Activities

- > Raising finance
- > Financial planning
- > Managing finance
- > Resource management
- > External influences

Theme 3: Business Decisions and Strategy

- > Business objectives and strategy
- > Business growth
- > Decision-making techniques
- > Influences on business decisions
- > Assessing competitiveness
- > Managing change

Theme 4: Global Business

- > Globalisation
- > Global markets and business expansion
- > Global marketing
- > Global industries and companies

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%

CHEMISTRY

EXAMINATION BOARD - AQA CHEMISTRY - A LEVEL 7405

Assessment

- | | |
|----------|---|
| 1 | Physical Chemistry, Inorganic Chemistry, practical skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Written examination: 2 hours. > 35% of A level. > 105 marks of short and long answer questions. |
| 2 | Physical Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, practical skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Written examination: 2 hours. > 35% of A level. > 105 marks of short and long answer questions. |
| 3 | Any content, any practical skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > 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. > 30 marks of multiple choice questions. |

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 is 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, Research, Environmental Science and Finance.

A level Chemistry builds on the work done in GCSE Chemistry or Dual Award Science and Mathematics, so students need good GCSE results in these subjects. Written communication is important so good English skills are also needed.

What is the proportion of coursework?

There is no coursework. Instead students carry out complex and engaging practical work including 12 compulsory practicals specified by the examination board. These practicals are assessed against a set of competencies which a student must demonstrate during the two years of the course. This will allow them to achieve a pass grade in practical skills which is separate to the overall A level grade. There are questions on the 12 practicals and on general practical skills in the final examination papers.

ECONOMICS

EXAMINATION BOARD – EDEXCEL ECONOMICS A – A LEVEL 9ECO

Assessment

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

Examination

100%

ENGLISH LITERATURE

EXAMINATION BOARD - AQA ENGLISH LITERATURE - A LEVEL 7712

Assessment

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

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?

Examination	80%
Coursework	20%

EPQ

EXAMINATION BOARD – AQA LEVEL 3 CERTIFICATE 7993

Assessment

Single unit internally assessed qualification that is assessed against four objectives:

> Manage > Use resources > Develop and realise > Review

What does this course involve?

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 90 guided learning hours and a 30-hour taught programme. In the taught programme you will learn project management skills, presentation methods, research methods and planning techniques.

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. Artefact projects are supported by a written explanation of around 1000 words.

The project is marked holistically meaning that all aspects of the pupil's written work, production log and final presentation contribute 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.

Why study an EPQ?

The EPQ gives pupils the opportunity to develop their extended project skills through allowing them to take responsibility for the choice, design and decision making of a project. Useful data about the EPQ:

- > Students who have completed an EPQ are more likely to gain a First-Class degree and less likely to leave university at the end of their first year. (Source: University of Southampton).
- > Students with an EPQ increase their chances of an A*-B by 29%.
- > Students with an EPQ receive lower offers from some universities.
- > Students with an EPQ have something to write about and talk about in university applications.
- > Students with an EPQ have already learned how to write and reference before they go to university.

What is the proportion of coursework?

Coursework

100%

FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION

**EXAMINATION BOARD - WJEC - ADVANCED DIPLOMA LEVEL 3
(OR FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION CERTIFICATE)**

Assessment

Unit 1 (50%) Completed in Lower 6 200 marks	<p>Meeting nutritional needs of specific groups</p> <p>Internal written and practical assessment (50%)</p> <p>Written examination (50%) Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes)</p> <p>(Pupils who do not wish to take the full Level 3 Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition may be interested in the Level 3 Certificate in Food Science and Nutrition which is comprised of one mandatory unit and completed in Lower 6).</p>
Unit 2 (25%) Completed in Upper 6 100 marks	<p>Ensuring food is safe to eat</p> <p>Food safety and hygiene study</p> <p>Supervised assessment (8 hrs), externally moderated</p>
Unit 3 (25%) Completed in Upper 6 100 marks	<p>Experimenting to solve food production problems</p> <p>Food science study</p> <p>Supervised assessment (14 hrs), externally moderated</p>
Or	Pupils choose from either Unit 3 or Unit 4
Unit 4 (25%) Completed in Upper 6 100 marks	<p>Current issues in food science and nutrition</p> <p>Research project</p> <p>Supervised assessment (14 hrs), externally moderated</p>

What does this course involve?

The qualification is divided into 3 units, 2 mandatory and 1 elected. It allows students the opportunity to advance their understanding of food science and nutrition and recognise their relevance within a wide range of professions and industries including; Education, the Food Industry, Government agencies, Health and Social care, Health, Hospitality, Journalism, Medicine and Sports science. Students learn about the relationship between the human body and the food we eat. The course includes practical lessons to gain a wide range of high-level technical skills to produce quality food items to meet the needs of individuals.

Why study Food Science and Nutrition?

- > You enjoyed GCSE Food preparation and nutrition and wish to broaden your understanding of current food and nutritional issues.

- > You are creative and would like to learn complex practical skills.
- > You enjoy a combination of theoretical and practical lessons.
- > You have a genuine passion for food and would like to pursue your studies in Food and Nutrition, with a view to working in the food or nutrition industries.

What is the proportion of coursework for the Advanced Diploma?

Examination	25%
Coursework	75%

GEOGRAPHY

EXAMINATION BOARD - AQA GEOGRAPHY - A LEVEL 7037

Assessment

Component 1 (40%) 120 marks	Physical Geography Section A: Water and carbon cycles Section B: Coastal systems and landscapes Section C: Hazards (Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes)
Component 2 (40%) 120 marks	Human Geography Section A: Global systems and global governance Section B: Changing places Section C: Population and the Environment (Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes)
Component 3 (20%) 60 marks	Geographical investigation Individual investigation including data from field work that relates to any part of the specification content. (An extended written report of 3,000 - 4,000 words internally marked and externally)

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. A minimum of four days of fieldwork in a variety of landscapes is a requirement of this course.

Why study Geography?

Geography is the science of the surface of the earth and its inhabitants. In an era when we have the potential to affect the earth in more ways than ever before Geography can prepare us for what we may expect, but could also give us the tools to work with the planet instead of against it. We learn how people interact with their environments and we gain greater awareness and understanding of the complexities of our dynamic world. 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?

Examination	80%
Coursework	20%

HISTORY

EXAMINATION BOARD - AQA HISTORY - A LEVEL 7042

Assessment	
Component 1	Breadth Study (40%) Tsarist and Communist Russia, 1855-1964 2 hours 30 minutes written examination
Component 2	Depth Study (40%) The Making of Modern Britain, 1951-2007 2 hours 30 minutes written examination
Component 3	Historical Investigation - Non Examined Assessment (20%) The chance to work as an historian to write an independently researched piece of course work. The essential skills required and elements of Tudor England, 1485-1603 are taught. Students select an issue to study over the course of a hundred years. Many students choose a Tudor topic, but at Harrogate Ladies' College subjects ranging from Roman Britain, Early Modern Witch Trials, Medieval Georgia, Imperial Russia and Ukrainian history have been supported.

What does this course involve?

Both examinations require candidates to answer a source question and write two essays. Component 3 is an internally agreed and marked 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 three compelling periods. You will develop as a critical thinker and improve your analytical skills.

The subject is a good basis for numerous degrees and careers: History, Law, English, Psychology, Philosophy, Journalism, Archaeology, Anthropology and Politics – to name a few. You will be taught more informally than at GCSE by two subject specialists.

What is the proportion of coursework?

Examination	80%
Coursework	20%

LATIN

EXAMINATION BOARD OCR A LEVEL LATIN H443

Assessment

<p>Unseen Translation (01) 100 marks 1 hour 45 minute paper Written paper 33% of total A Level</p>	<p>Learners build their knowledge of vocabulary and linguistic structures through reading and studying prose and verse texts in Latin. Learners study texts written by a range of prose authors and the verse unseen author to develop linguistic competence.</p>
<p>Prose Composition or Comprehension (02) 50 marks 1 hour 15 minute paper Written paper 17% of total A Level</p>	<p>Learners build their knowledge of vocabulary and linguistic structures through reading and studying prose and verse texts in Latin. Learners study texts written by a range of prose authors and the verse unseen author to develop linguistic competence.</p>
<p>Prose Literature (03) 75 marks 2 hour paper Written paper 25% of total A Level</p>	<p>Learners study two Latin Prose Literature set texts in depth. Learners also study additional literature in translation in order to understand the context from which the set texts have been taken.</p>
<p>Verse Literature (04) 75 marks 2 hour paper Written paper 25% of total A Level</p>	<p>Learners study two Latin Verse Literature set texts in depth. Learners also study additional literature in translation in order to understand the context from which the set texts have been taken.</p>

What does this course involve?

The course follows smoothly from GCSE. There are a few new bits of grammar but the language work largely develops on the foundations laid at GCSE. The literature works in the same way as it did at GCSE. You will study the texts in class with your teacher and discuss them. They will be examined in the same way as GCSE, with questions about content and style

Why study Latin?

Because you enjoy it! If you are enjoying the rigour and challenge of your studies at GCSE, then you will enjoy the A Level. You will have the opportunity to be inspired, motivated and challenged by reading widely across a range of set texts. You will gain a deeper understanding of the life and culture of the ancient world through the literature studied. You will develop critical analytical skills which will help you whatever you go on to do.

Studying a Classical language also makes you very employable. Universities highly value these subjects because students display precision and clarity of thought and are often widely read and articulate. Latin A level complements most other A Levels and high-achieving students pursuing medicine or veterinary science can achieve breadth in their curriculum by studying Latin alongside the sciences.

MATHEMATICS

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.

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

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 mathematically interesting topic, it is used in the real world application of many mathematical models, including those used for stock markets, how rockets and aeroplanes fly, and how populations of species develop. In the Mechanics topics in Paper 2, differential calculus is developed to understand Newton's Laws of Motion. In the Statistical topics in Paper 3, students are introduced to the notion of hypothesis testing which allows them to tackle questions such as 'are students more intelligent than boys?'

Why study Mathematics?

Although the syllabus has changed recently, 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?

Examination

100%

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

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.

Paper 1 and Paper 2	Proof; Complex numbers; Matrices; Further Algebra and Functions; Further Calculus; Further Vectors; Polar coordinates; Hyperbolic functions; Differential equations; Trigonometry; Coordinate geometry.
Paper 3	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. The Further Mathematics course 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. 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, as well as a formal mathematical study of the chi-squared test.

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 minus one would make any sense 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. Further Mathematics qualifications are hugely valued in a wide range of careers and university courses.

What is the proportion of coursework?

Examination

100%

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES: FRENCH, GERMAN AND SPANISH

**EXAMINATION BOARD - AQA. FRENCH - A LEVEL 7652.
GERMAN - A LEVEL 7662. SPANISH - A LEVEL 7692.7.**

Assessment

Paper 1	<p>Listening, Reading and Writing</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes 160 marks in total - 40% of A level</p>
Paper 2	<p>Writing</p> <p>I. One text and one film or two texts from the list set in the specification; II. Grammar</p> <p>Written examination: 2 hours 90 marks in total - 30% of A level</p>
Paper 3	<p>Speaking</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Oral examination: 21-23 minutes (including 5 minutes preparation time) 60 marks in total - 30% of A level</p>

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?

Examination

100%

MUSIC

EXAMINATION BOARD - AQA MUSIC - A LEVEL 7272

Assessment

A level Components

1	<p>Appraising 40%</p> <p>2 hour 30 minute written examination</p> <p>Section A Listening - answer three questions in response to extracts on CD</p> <p>Section B Analysis - answer two questions on set works (from a choice of three topics)</p> <p>Section C Essay - one essay from a choice of five Areas of Study</p>
2	<p>Performance 35%</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>Composition 25%</p> <p>Two compositions. One to a brief (choice of seven), one a free composition</p> <p>Combined compositions must last at least four and a half 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?

Examination	40%
Coursework	60%

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

EXAMINATION BOARD - OCR PHYSICAL EDUCATION - A LEVEL H555

Assessment

Paper 1 - 2 hours

Physical factors affecting performance; Applied Anatomy and Physiology, Exercise Physiology and Biomechanics

90 marks in total (30% of A level): comprises of short answer questions, one 6-mark question and one 20-mark question

Paper 2 - 1 hour

Psychological issues affecting performance; Skill Acquisition and Sports Psychology

60 marks in total (20% of A level): comprises of short answer questions, one 6-mark question and one 10-mark question

Paper 3 - 1 hour

Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport; Sport and Society and Contemporary Issues in Physical Activity and Sport

60 marks in total (20% of A level): comprises of short answer questions, one 6-mark question and one 10-mark question

Practical Unit - Practical Performance and Coursework

Practical Component; students are assessed in the role of either a performer or coach in ONE practical activity. 45 marks (15%)

Coursework; Students are assessed in the Evaluation and Analysis of Performance for Improvement (EAPI). Students will observe a performance and provide oral analysis and critical evaluation of that performance. 45 marks (15%) for coursework

90 marks in total (30% of A level)

What does this course involve?

We study how exercise affects physiological structures in the body; including topics on the heart and lungs, energy systems and biomechanics. The Sports Psychology section includes topics such as theories of learning and memory, moving onto Leadership theories and controlling anxiety. The Contemporary issues section looks at World Games, routes to sporting excellence and moves onto the use of technology and the commercialisation of sport. The course also offers the pupil a practical element which includes developing an interest in performing or coaching.

Why study Physical Education?

Physical Education is a well-regarded A level and can lead onto one of the many sports-related degree courses. Not only this, A Level Physical Education enables you to grasp a wide range of skills - from scientific research through to debate, as well as offering you an opportunity to take your practical skills even further. This wide variety of skill sets will stand you in good stead for most university courses and employment. Sport is now such a huge industry where there are endless employment opportunities. Examples including: Coaching, Teaching, Biomechanics, Sports Rehabilitation, Officiating, Sports Technology Development, Sports Administration, Sports Management and Media.

PHYSICS

EXAMINATION BOARD – AQA PHYSICS – A LEVEL 7408

Assessment

Paper 1 - 2 hours

Measurement, Particles, Waves, Mechanics and Materials, Electricity, Periodic Motion

85 marks in total (34% of A level): 60 marks of short and long answer questions; 25 multiple choice questions

Paper 2 - 2 hours

Thermal Physics, Fields, Nuclear Physics

85 marks in total (34% of A level): 60 marks of short and long answer questions, 25 multiple choice questions

Paper 3 - 2 hours

80 marks in total (32% of A level)

Section A – 45 marks of short and long answer questions on practical experiments and data analysis

Section B – 35 marks of short and long answer questions on the optional topic

What does this course involve?

The AQA Physics course is a traditional course that is an excellent foundation for further study, but we put an emphasis on real life applications and interesting experimental work.

Key topic areas in the Lower 6 year include forces, electricity, waves, materials, quantum and particle physics. In the Upper 6 year we study advanced mechanics, fields, thermal physics, radioactivity and astrophysics.

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.

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?

There is no coursework. Instead students carry out 12 practicals which are specified by the examination board. By the end of the course a student must have demonstrated that they are competent at practical work. There are also questions on the 12 practicals and on general practical skills in the final examination papers.

PSYCHOLOGY

EXAMINATION BOARD - AQA PSYCHOLOGY - A LEVEL 7182

Assessment

1	<p>Introductory topics in Psychology</p> <p>Written Examination: 2 hours</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>Psychology in Context</p> <p>Written Examination: 2 hours</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>Issues and options in Psychology</p> <p>Written Examination: 2 hours</p> <p>A range of options in practical Psychology, including Forensic Psychology, Cognition and Development, 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 analysis of research methods. 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 complete 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 human behaviour and in discovering why we feel and think in certain ways. Whilst you do not need any previous knowledge of Psychology, 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 as it trains you to think critically and analytically, to design valid research studies and to reflect on the human experience. A number of universities accept Psychology as a science A level.

What is the proportion of coursework?

Examination

100%

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

EXAMINATION BOARD - OCR - A LEVEL H573

Assessment		
Philosophy of Religion	Religion and Ethics	Developments in Religious Thought
Written Examination: 2 hours	Written Examination: 2 hours	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 & the person of Jesus Christ
The ontological argument from Anselm. Challenges from Gaunilo and Kant	Application of Kantian Ethics and Utilitarianism to Business Ethics	Christian moral principles and action, example of Dietrich Bonhoeffer
Religious experience – Mystical experience, conversion, William James	Ethical language – meta-ethical theories	Religious pluralism and theology Religious pluralism and society
The problem of evil Theodicies of Augustine, Irenaeus and Hick	Conscience – ideas of Aquinas and Freud	Gender and society Gender and theology – ideas of Rosemary Reuther and Mary Daley
Nature and attributes of God – omnipotence, omniscience, omnibenevolence, eternity	Sexual Ethics – premarital and extramarital sex, homosexuality	The challenge of secularism – does religion make people happier? Does it have a future? Freud & Dawkins' ideas.
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	Liberation Theology & Marx: Should Christianity engage with secular ideologies and politics... or not?

What does this course involve?

Lessons include plenty of discussion and debate, collaborative reading and analysis of primary texts, paired or small-group activities and diverse written exercises preparatory to and including writing persuasive arguments. Be prepared to think deeply, reflecting on your own beliefs and ideas and engaging with those of others, to develop and communicate well-informed judgements about the very big questions this course covers.

Why study Religious Studies?

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?

Examination

100%

DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES

EXAMINATION BOARD - AQA DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES - A LEVEL 7272 2

Assessment

A level Components

1 Drama and theatre 40%

- > Study of two set plays; one dramatically significant pre-20th Century play and one 20th or 21st Century play.
- > Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre productions

2 Creating original drama 30%

The process of creating devised drama using the methodology of a chosen practitioner in the role of an actor or designer or director. Performance of the devised work carries 20 marks (10%) and coursework carries 40 marks (20%). Performances are recorded and sent to examination boards for external moderation.

3 Making a theatre performance 30%

The practical exploration and interpretation of three separate extracts each taken from a different play. The methodology of a selected practitioner must be applied to ONE extract which will be performed as a final assessed piece to a visiting examiner. Pupils may contribute as performer, designer or director. An accompanying reflective report analysing and evaluating the theatrical interpretation of all three extracts is also submitted.

What does this course involve?

You will be able to further develop the performance skills you learnt at GCSE as well as extending your critical appreciation of theatre and drama. You will learn about the history of theatre to provide a secure cultural context for the study of set texts. You will also refine your essay writing skills in response to examination questions that demand greater use of creative initiative and informed evaluation. You will be encouraged to be artistically independent and explore increasingly ambitious styles of performance by applying the ideas and theories of different theatre practitioners.

Why study Drama and Theatre Studies?

Firstly, because it's creative, challenging and fun! It offers a balanced blend of practical and academic learning with many performance opportunities. It develops a wide range of cognitive and interpretive skills such as analysing, conceptualising, synthesising and evaluating. It offers the opportunity to experience all aspects of theatre production and builds valuable transferable skills that will enhance your employability, particularly communication and project management skills. It also complements a surprisingly wide range of other A level subject choices as evidenced by the huge number of degree courses that can be studied alongside Drama.

What is the proportion of coursework?

Examination	70%
Coursework	30%



ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award

The Duke of Edinburgh Award and HLC's provision of it has been badly disrupted by COVID restrictions for the last couple of academic years. We hope to be able to offer it again when restrictions ease.

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 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:

- > **Volunteering** - 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.
- > **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 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!

DUCHY ENTERPRISE

Duchy Enterprise is a school club 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 Harrogate Ladies' College the programme is run within the Business School. The number of companies formed will depend upon the number of students applying to take part.

Weekly meetings are held in the Business School, during which the students 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 students identify potential selling opportunities both in and out of school and may decide to attend the School Christmas Fair. Throughout the period they are required to prepare an agenda for each weekly meeting, to take minutes and maintain full accounting records.

Duchy Enterprise 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. Duchy Enterprise requires a high degree of commitment and attendance at weekly meetings is essential. Finding time to market and sell a product can be difficult, but it is worth it. Get involved!

LAW SOCIETY: INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION

The Independent Schools Mock Trial Competition helps young people understand how the law touches every aspect of their lives, gaining an insight into how the legal justice system works. Schools are given access to resources, including specially written criminal cases, to help their team prepare legal arguments. Each school is usually given a legal advisor to help them prepare their case. After preparation, the team will take part in a regional heat and go head-to-head with other schools to prosecute and defend the cases. The trial takes place in a real court room. There is a regional heat, followed a by a national final for all the regional winners.

Students meet on a weekly basis to prepare for the competition. In the group, we look at how the English court system works. We look at the role of the defence and prosecution teams. Discuss proof in legal cases. We practice the cases we will be talking to court. There will also be guest speakers.

How will it benefit you?

For most students it is their first experience of the law. There is no better way to introduce them, than in a **fun and engaging** experience that stays with them for life. Students who take part are encouraged to **think critically, build arguments, and boost their confidence**. Through enabling students to interact with legal professionals, the competition helps develop **employability skills**. The experience will help students develop a sound **knowledge and understanding** of the role of law and the justice system in our society.

If you are considering a career in the law, or studying the law at university – this will be a fantastic opportunity for you.





International English Language Testing Service (IELTS)

The IELTS course is designed for students 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 students to achieve a level acceptable for university entry (6, 6.5 or 7 to 8, depending on the establishment).

IELTS lessons are compulsory for students who do not have a 6 or above at I/GCSE English Language and who have a native language other than English. We may require students also to sit extra IELTS sessions. 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.

I AM ME.



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