



WETHERBY
SENIOR SCHOOL



SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS



A proud member of the prestigious Wetherby family - which includes Wetherby School, Wetherby Prep, and Wetherby Kensington - Wetherby Senior was founded in 2015. Our Sixth Form opened in 2018 and our alumni are now studying at top universities across the UK, continental Europe and North America.

Our School occupies two beautiful buildings in W1, with state-of-the-art facilities on-site for science, art, music, drama, sport and more, plus dedicated study rooms and a common room for our sixth formers.

Keep up-to-date with our latest news and events by following Wetherby Senior on social media - search for Wetherby Senior on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

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“An energetic, forward-looking school with a traditional core but thoroughly modern approach to caring for boys and helping them succeed academically – and in life.”

Good Schools Guide 2022

Our Sixth Form prospectus was produced in June 2023. All details were correct at the time of going to print.

I am delighted that you are considering Wetherby Senior's Sixth Form for your A Level studies.

Our supportive and successful Sixth Form will prepare you for future study and employment, combining academic excellence with outstanding guidance on applying to universities in the UK and overseas, a rich careers programme and array of co-curricular activities, state-of-the-art facilities, and strong pastoral support.

Within our Sixth Form, we are academically ambitious for all our young people. Our rigorous and rewarding curriculum is taught by dynamic and experienced staff, and class sizes are kept small, so our sixth formers are guided towards the highest levels of attainment and future success.

I am particularly proud of our bespoke advice and support which ensures our sixth formers meet their individual university ambitions. Each Wetherby Senior sixth former is provided with a personal university advisor to guide them through applying to universities in the UK and across Europe, while our two US Advisors provide one-to-one support, and weekly group sessions, on applications to North America.

The success of our university support is reflected in the results of our young people - at the time of going to print, our Class of 23 had secured over 100 offers for top universities across the UK and continental Europe, and more than a dozen offers for prestigious North American colleges.

Indeed, in just four years, our sixth formers have received fifty offers to study in the USA and Canada, including institutions like the University of Pennsylvania (Ivy League), NYU Stern School of Business, University of Chicago, and UCLA, as well as a D1 Football Scholarship to Akron.

I appreciate that choosing the right sixth form is an important decision, so I hope this prospectus and our website will provide you with further information. If you have any questions, then please contact our Registrar on telephone: 0207 535 3533 or email: registrar@wetherbysenior.co.uk

Joe Silvester
Headmaster



WELCOME TO OUR SIXTH FORM

Year 12 marks a vibrant, exciting and rewarding moment in your education.

Within Wetherby Senior's Sixth Form, most of our sixth formers take three A Levels and their Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), a highly respected independent research project on a topic of their own choosing. Our highly skilled teachers are all subject specialists and class sizes remain small.

Our Sixth Form facilities include study rooms and a common room, while further School facilities comprise high-tech science laboratories supported by full-time lab technicians; well-resourced art rooms (with printing presses, a kiln, a laser cutter, and two computer suites with Adobe Creative Suite software); extensive computing laboratories; a language laboratory; and music practice rooms and a music tech suite.

Alongside your studies, you can continue with existing hobbies or develop new ones, through our amazing range of co-curricular clubs and activities. For example, our most popular Sixth Form options include Young Enterprise, Duke of Edinburgh Award and Model UN. There are also leadership opportunities to apply for, like Head Boy and prefect roles.

Located in Marylebone, our Sixth Form is close to Oxford Street and Mayfair, and a short walk from landmarks like Hyde Park, Regent's Park and the Wallace Collection. Transport links enable a smooth commute, as we are well served by a number of bus routes and our nearest tube stations are Baker St, Bond St or Oxford St (Bakerloo, Central, Jubilee, Victoria, Hammersmith and City, Circle, and Elizabeth lines).

Our central London location means you can go beyond your A Level subjects by attending workshops or lectures with leading experts, by participating in conferences or research programmes at top universities, or by visiting the many museums, galleries, theatres, exhibitions and more across London.

Wellbeing underpins all that we do. The relatively small size of our Sixth Form means that we get to know each boy as an individual, which is vital when writing that all-important university reference letter.

I look forward to welcoming you to our Sixth Form.

Mr Oliver Hayes
Head of Sixth Form



ACHIEVEMENT

Our Sixth Form encourages higher education ambitions with bespoke guidance and support.

By June 2023, our Year 13 held over 100 offers for top universities in the UK, continental Europe, and North America. Please visit our website to find out more. Our Class of 23 results reflect the strong performance of our recent alumni, as shown below:

Destinations of our alumni in 2022

Location	University	Number	Location	University	Number
London	City	1	UK	Southampton	1
	Imperial	1		York	2
	King's College	1	Canada	McGill	3
	Queen Mary	1		Toronto	1
	SOAS	2	Italy	Bocconi	1
	UCL	1		IMS Milan	1
UK	Bath	1	Netherlands	Amsterdam	1
	Durham	1	Spain	IE Madrid	2
	Edinburgh	2	USA	Babson	1
	Exeter	2		California, Berkeley	1
	Glasgow	1		New York	3
	Leeds	1		Northeastern	1
	Loughborough	1		Notre Dame	1
	Manchester	1		Pennsylvania	1
	Nottingham	3		Purdue	1
	Reading	3			

Destinations of our alumni in 2021

Location	University	Number	Location	University	Number
London	Brunel	1	UK	Cardiff	1
	City	2		Durham	1
	City & Guilds Art	1		Exeter	4
	Imperial	1		Glasgow	2
	King's College	6		Harper Adams	1
	Met Film	1		Loughborough	3
	Queen Mary	1		Manchester	1
	Royal Holloway	1		Sussex	1
	UCL	3	France	ESSEC	1
UK	Bath	1	USA	Bucknell	1
	Bristol	1		Georgetown	1

AMBITION

We maintain high aspirations for our sixth formers, providing specialist advice and guidance to enable future success at university and in the workplace.

Higher education

Our Sixth Form will encourage your university goals, offering bespoke support on applying to study in the UK, continental Europe and North America. We inspire our ambitious and talented sixth formers via:

A **personal university advisor** to guide and empower your higher education planning. Together, our team of university advisors have over 100 years' experience of offering higher education support, across the UK and worldwide, meaning your university advisor is fully equipped to help you plan your academic journey after A Levels.

Our two **US Advisors**, who support applications to study in North America. Their expertise is reflected in our Sixth Form's fantastic results - in just four years, our sixth formers have received fifty offers to study in the USA and Canada. Our US Advisors provide one-to-one guidance on the North American application process, plus weekly group sessions on preparing application essays.

Our **programme of talks, workshops and events** to help with university applications. These include twilight seminars to parents on university options, workshops with sixth formers on US admissions and on applying through UCAS, and talks by invited university representatives.

Our **annual university fair**, which provides a valuable opportunity to talk with over 30 representatives from institutions across three continents.

Visits to universities, so you can see what student life is like, receive advice on degrees from university staff, and speak to current undergraduates.



Employability

Our Sixth Form careers programme supports you in making informed choices about your future employment, helping develop your employability and providing up-to-date advice for the future world of work.

Wetherby Senior's Head of Careers - who worked as a financial analyst and held senior positions in banking and finance, before re-training as a teacher of economics and business - has established a strong programme that improves your skills, knowledge and understanding for career planning via:

Our **Year 12 Futures Day** where you undertake mock interviews with respected professionals from different fields, and join workshops on important work-based topics like event management, presentation skills, and technology.

Our unique partnership with an **internationally renowned coaching and consulting firm**, Magnolia Tree. This enables sixth formers to undertake a five-month leadership coaching programme and learn to become ethical leaders.

One-to-one careers meetings where you explore career options, develop your CV, and receive support with applications for internships, apprenticeships, volunteering or gap year opportunities.

Our **Meet the Professional talk series**, which runs throughout the year and offers an insight into different careers. In 2022-23, speakers ranged from the UK Space Agency to banking and from pioneering female barristers to leaders in medicine.

Wetherby Senior's **annual careers fair**, which provides a brilliant chance to meet different industry representatives, gathering information on the skills and aptitudes needed for success in your future career.

Our Sixth Form's **PSHE programme**, which includes career development, to help you better understand the opportunities available after your studies.

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“Wetherby Senior staff have been incredibly supportive of my plans to study in the USA, particularly when I was preparing to submit all my applications. Our School's two US Studies Advisors met with me weekly to offer advice and guidance. It is always helpful to have someone to talk to about your applications, but their specialist knowledge and expertise has been invaluable.”

Stepan will complete his A Levels in summer 2023 and has been accepted by the prestigious New York University to read economics.

ACADEMIC ENDEAVOUR

At Wetherby Senior, we are academically ambitious for all our sixth formers, so provide every opportunity for boys to excel and achieve future success.

Alongside our Sixth Form's bespoke guidance on university applications and careers, our Competitive Applications Co-ordinator - who studied at the University of Cambridge before starting his teaching career - oversees preparation for the most competitive degrees and universities, with dedicated programmes for boys considering options like medicine, dentistry or veterinary science, or boys applying to Cambridge or Oxford. This includes specialist workshops to help with the application process, talks by experts, and support in arranging work experience.

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

All sixth formers taking three A Levels also undertake an EPQ, which allows you to work on an independent and academic project, on a topic of your choosing, that is relevant to your future plans. Worth half an A Level, the EPQ is highly valued by universities as it offers evidence of your ability to carry out in-depth independent research and builds presentation skills.

Your EPQ may be a research-based report, an event, or the creation of an artefact (eg a piece of art or a play). In recent years, EPQs submitted by our sixth formers have included topics like:

- Has technology ruined the music industry?
- Can North Korea modernise?
- Is social media safe for its users?
- How do performance enhancing substances affect the body?
- How far has the Cuban economy successfully developed after the Cold War?
- Why does the NHS not have enough funding?
- Who was the greater classical hero: Odysseus or Aeneas?
- Is Islam a peaceful or violent religion?
- Has evolution or culture been the driving force in human behaviour?
- What is the legacy of apartheid?
- How viable is space travel?
- How should you manage retirement from sport?

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“Wetherby Senior staff have been incredibly supportive of my university plans. Teachers were always very accessible and provided great advice on courses and institutions that I should consider. At Wetherby Senior, you are encouraged to start your university research and applications early, which I think is wise as it means you can easily balance this alongside your A Level studies. Applying to university has been a very straightforward process.”

Ali will complete his A Levels in summer 2023 and has offers to read philosophy, politics and economics at top universities, including Exeter and Southampton.



Liberal Studies

Our Sixth Form's Liberal Studies options are designed to extend your learning beyond your A Level curriculum, building valuable skills and knowledge for future study and the workplace. Through our Liberal Studies programme, you may explore subjects around a university course that interests you or you may examine a topic linked to your A Level studies.

Our Liberal Studies programme changes annually but, in recent years, has included:

- A Brief History of America
- Anthropology
- Economic Crises
- French Cuisine
- Future Leaders
- Geography IT Skills
- German for Business
- IT Skills for Careers
- Mandarin
- Mindfulness Masterclass,
- Neuropsychiatry
- Psychology
- Sports and Nutrition

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“Throughout my time in Marylebone, I have received brilliant advice from School staff about my university applications, alongside great support from my friends. Wetherby Senior is a close-knit community and I feel lucky to have been part of this wonderful network.”

Jack will complete his A Levels in summer 2023 and has offers to read chemistry at top universities across the USA, including USC and USCB.

LIFE IN OUR SIXTH FORM

Our Sixth Form capitalises on our prestigious Marylebone location and we work hard to enrich the education of our sixth formers.

Our central London home makes it possible to invite **outside speakers** to give talks or run workshops, aimed at our sixth formers and at our parents. As part of our plans to support the higher education ambitions of our young people, we run a series of inspiring talks to both sixth formers and parents on applying to study at universities in the UK, as well as across Europe and North America.

Our sixth formers are further inspired by our **bi-monthly Monday Lecture Series**. With talks given by eminent guests on a wide range of topics, these lectures introduce fascinating subjects of interest to our young people, as well as supporting topics within PSHE, careers and wellbeing.

In 2022-23, talks have included:

- Being an MP
- Careers in banking and finance
- Careers in law
- Managing exam preparation and stress
- Overcoming gambling addiction
- Prison reform
- Working within the UK Space Agency

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“I am incredibly proud of how far I have come at Wetherby Senior – I’m a Deputy Head Boy, I’m a regular performer in plays, I represent our School in sports, and I lead the pupil body in voluntary work, and have now been accepted to study at one of the world’s most competitive universities.”

Benjamin will complete his A Levels in summer 2023 and has an offer to read education at the University of Cambridge.



Being located in the heart of London enables a safe and smooth commute to our Sixth Form. Yet it also means we can easily undertake **trips** to museums, galleries, theatres, exhibitions, lectures and more, across and outside of London.

During 2022-23, some activities that our sixth formers enjoyed have included:

- Monthly visits to the nearby Royal Geographical Society, to hear talks by world-leading experts
- A guided tour of the Houses of Parliament and the House of Lords
- Regular attendance at Intelligence Squared debates at the Southbank, hearing from some of the most brilliant minds in the world
- Theatre trips to see *Lemons, Lemons, Lemons*, *Accidental Death of an Anarchist*, *Hamilton*, and more
- Participation in Model UN conferences across and outside London, including a Highland Ball and black-tie dinner at Wycombe Abbey School
- Our Upper School ski trip to Panorama, Canada

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“Before applying to study in North America, I didn’t know a lot about the US admissions system and I’m very grateful for the support and guidance provided by Wetherby Senior staff. Our US Advisor met me weekly, which was invaluable when I was writing 30+ application essays in time for early application deadline! As well as offering her expertise, she also put me in touch with a US scholarship consultancy, based in the UK, who help talented athletes study in the USA, since I was applying for a sports scholarship.”

Elias will complete his A Levels in summer 2023 and has been accepted by the prestigious Mendoza College of Business at Notre Dame to read business.

EXPERIENCE

Our rich co-curricular programme aims to develop confidence, teamwork and leadership skills, while enabling you to make friends and enjoy your time in our Sixth Form. Below are some options that are particularly popular amongst our sixth formers.

The Barometer is our entirely pupil-led magazine, published every half-term, featuring news from our School and the wider world. It provides a fantastic opportunity for keen writers, journalists, editors, critics, photographers, illustrators or designers, amongst our Sixth Form, to see their work in print.

Model United Nations (MUN) is an educational simulation in which young people learn about diplomacy, international relations, and the UN, while building valuable skills like research, public speaking, debating, and writing. In 2022-23, our sixth formers particularly enjoyed taking part in conferences in and outside London, working as representatives of a country to solve a problem with other sixth formers from across the UK.

Young Enterprise involves our sixth formers creating their own company, gaining valuable business skills and real-life experiences. In 2022-23, our Year 12 participants made it to the finals of the Young Enterprise Company of the Year Awards 2023, Central and North London Showcase.

Sport is timetabled for all year groups and, behind our trademark red doors, lies a treasure trove of sporting facilities. This includes a fully-equipped strength and conditioning suite, a superb spin studio, an excellent boxercise studio, and space for yoga. Our central London location also makes it possible to use nearby state-of-the-art facilities, like Ealing Trailfinders, which boys visit several times a week, using equipment and pitches for football, rugby, cricket, tennis and more.

Music remains a vibrant dimension of life, with our Music Department providing tuition in a number of instruments, as well as boasting numerous music ensembles and an active Choir. Concerts and recitals take place every term, enabling our boys to demonstrate their musical talent and gain public performance experience.

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“Alongside my A Levels, I was a prefect with responsibility for co-curricular activities at Wetherby Senior. This meant I assisted Ms Walters, our Assistant Head: Co-curricular, in the creation and running of different clubs and activities for all boys at our School. It was a great experience and a fantastic opportunity to build my leadership skills and organisation, while also supporting life at Wetherby Senior.”

Edward will complete his A Levels in summer 2023 and has offers to read management at top universities, including Exeter and Bath.



Our **Drama Department** produces three large scale productions a year, with many opportunities to get involved, from performing on stage to behind-the-scenes work. For example, our Autumn Term production sees sixth formers work with professional set, lighting and costume designers from the West End, to put on a show at RADA.

Within our Sixth Form, you can develop your existing interests or try something completely new! Every Friday afternoon, time is set aside to take part in **co-curricular activities**, with further opportunities before- and after-school, and over lunch, during the week. To develop leadership and teamwork, most of our sixth formers run their own co-curricular club.

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“I’ve had a fantastic time at Wetherby Senior and been given so many opportunities – from being Head Boy to taking part in sport. However, one of my favourite memories will be performing in our School plays. In Year 9, I took part in Trib Drama, never thinking I would love this so much that I’d star in future productions and, eventually, take on a large role in our Upper School Drama play, in my final year!”

Matteo (pictured, above, in our Upper School Drama play in December 2022) will complete his A Levels in summer 2023 and has been accepted by the University of Pennsylvania (an Ivy League college) to read materials science and engineering.

GLOBAL CITIZENS

At Wetherby Senior, we strive to develop our sixth formers beyond their academic studies, to ensure all contribute positively to society.

Our central London location means every sixth former takes part in valuable and important **volunteering opportunities**. In 2022-23, this included sixth formers visiting nearby Marylebone Library to help older people learn to better use digital devices, supporting learning at London primary schools, and entertaining members of the local community by hosting afternoon teas and undertaking musical performances.

Through **volunteering or service learning**, our sixth formers learn new skills and broaden their horizons, which can also help with future university applications (particularly for the USA, where colleges care about all applicants do outside school, as well as their grades). Since every Wetherby Senior sixth former takes part in this valuable service learning work, our young people develop a strong sense of compassion and responsibility, whilst giving back to the community.

Participation in the well-respected and challenging **Duke of Edinburgh Award** remains popular amongst our sixth formers. From volunteering to hiking across the English countryside, the Duke of Edinburgh Award provides an excellent opportunity to enhance your teamwork, organisation and leadership skills.

There are numerous **leadership responsibilities** at Wetherby Senior, which enable you to support life across our School whilst developing important transferable skills needed in any future career, like public speaking. On the following page are some of our most popular leadership opportunities.



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“My time in our Sixth Form has been brilliant, with many further responsibilities and opportunities. For example, as a Senior Prefect, I was the head of one of our Tribes (houses), so provided leadership and acted as role model to younger boys.”
Jamie will complete his A Levels in summer 2023 and has offers to read economics and finance at top Russell Group universities, including Glasgow and Manchester.

Our **School Council** consists of representatives from all year groups, who meet every half-term to make important decisions about life at Wetherby Senior, such as agreeing the charities our School will support through fundraising each year.

Members of Year 12 join our **Charity Committee**, to help plan and deliver all fundraising activities across our School. Events like our sponsored cycle ride, in our School’s spin studio in spring 2023, raised over £6,000 for West London Mission.

Our **Year 12 academic mentors** are trained to help younger pupils with different subjects. Working with Heads of Department, you are assigned a younger pupil to support each week, which could mean helping to boost a pupil’s performance in class, supporting their understanding of their prep, or extending and challenging their learning to a higher level.

Our **Year 12 peer mentors** undertake training to support younger pupils and act as a ‘big brother’ role model. You receive training to ensure you can approach discussions seriously and sensitively, as issues discussed could vary, from school to home life.

Our **prefect posts** include Head Boy, Deputy Head Boy and prefects, and you apply during Year 12 for these exciting opportunities to provide leadership, manage teams, and act as role models to younger boys, with responsibilities ranging from helping with open events to assisting with life across Wetherby Senior. In recognition of the honour of being a prefect, you have access to a Prefect Office, are awarded a prefect tie and different shirt, and attend our Prefect Dinner at the end of Year 13.



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“During my time in our Sixth Form, I’ve been heavily involved in interesting co-curricular activities, especially around fundraising. As well as being a member of our Charity Committee and sitting on our School Council, I was also Senior Prefect: Head of Charity, which meant I worked closely with Mr Thornton (Head of Charity) to arrange School-wide fundraising. Not only was this a great way to get involved in the life of our School, while raising funds for deserving causes, it also allowed me to build my own skills and experience, and take part in fun events like Wetherby Senior’s sponsored spin!”
Felix will complete his A Levels in summer 2023 and has been accepted by IE Madrid to read international relations.

OUR SIXTH FORM TEAM

Our Sixth Form offers a friendly atmosphere and supportive community, with each boy known as an individual by our dynamic Sixth Form team.

Our outstanding pastoral system is overseen by experienced staff and includes dedicated support for wellbeing, university applications, and careers planning.

Alongside form tutors, our Sixth Form team includes:

Deputy Head: Academic	Ms Bainbridge
Deputy Head: Pastoral	Ms Pheiffer
Head of Sixth Form	Mr Hayes
Deputy Head of Sixth Form	Ms Mendes
Deputy Head of Sixth Form	Ms Maroudi
Head of Careers	Ms Holmes
Assistant Head of Careers	
EPQ Co-ordinator	Ms Vanags
Scholarship Co-ordinator	Mr Chidell
Competitive Applications Co-ordinator	Mr Brennan
US University Advisor	Ms Gagnon
Wellbeing Coach	Ms Leonello
Wellbeing Counsellor	Mr Goodwin

In addition to the above, we have a team of experienced university advisors. From Year 11 onwards, each boy at Wetherby Senior is assigned a personal university advisor to guide and empower their higher education planning.

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“There is a wonderful community across Wetherby Senior and I’ve made great friends, which proved invaluable while applying to university. For example, one friend visited several universities in the USA, so was able to give us all firsthand feedback on different colleges. In addition, once I received my offer from NYU Stern, I spoke to a Wetherby Senior alumnus, already studying in New York, to get advice and tips on my move to the Big Apple!”

Charlie will complete his A Levels in summer 2023 and has been accepted by the prestigious NYU Stern School of Business to read business, technology and entrepreneurship.

CHOOSING YOUR A LEVELS

Wetherby Senior's Sixth Form offers A Levels that are challenging, exciting and rewarding. All can lead to fantastic university courses, and future careers.

In our Sixth Form, you will be able take A Levels in subjects that interest you and in which you can enjoy success. If you already have a specific university course or career in mind, then you need to ensure your A Levels support these ambitions. Make sure to do your research and select the right subjects.

When thinking about your A Level options, try to choose subjects that:

- You enjoy – we all work harder if we enjoy what we are doing
- You believe you will do well in – know your own strengths and weaknesses
- You think will help you in the future – if you know what you want to study at university, or what career you would like, ensure your A Levels will enable you to enter that university course or field of employment. If you are unsure, then try to select A Levels that give you future flexibility

Please note: if less than three boys sign up for an A Level, it is liable not to run.

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“The entire Wetherby Senior community has been very supportive of my university plans. Sixth Form staff provided strong guidance on my application to Russell Group universities, while teachers in our Classics Department undertook individual sessions to prepare me for my interviews. In addition, my friends provided fantastic moral support – we encouraged and motivated each other with our A Levels and when undertaking our university applications.”

Theo will complete his A Levels in summer 2023 and has offers to read classics at top universities, including Durham and UCL.



ART AND DESIGN

Why study A Level Art and Design?

A Level Art and Design is the course for you, if you have an imagination and dedicated work ethic, and want to explore a range of disciplines and give visual form to their thoughts, feelings, observations and ideas.

How is A Level Art and Design structured?

Personal investigation (coursework): You will be required to identify an area of particular interest and formulate a personal challenge that you wish to investigate. You will research, evaluate, analyse and establish coherent and sustainable links between your own artwork, and that of historic and contemporary references. You will also write an extended essay that explores the themes you have chosen to investigate.

Externally set assignment (exam): An externally set question paper will be released in February of Year 13. You will produce preparatory studies (research, written analysis, artwork) over eight weeks, culminating in the production of an unaided final piece, completed within 15 hours under examination.

How will I be assessed?

We follow the Edexcel specification:

Personal investigation (60%)	Externally set assignment (40%)
Overview of content: You will generate and develop ideas for your own concept, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas towards producing personal resolved outcomes which address each of the assessment objectives.	Overview of content: You will generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas towards producing personal resolved outcome(s) in response to an externally set theme.
Overview of assessment: A portfolio of development work and outcomes based on themes and ideas developed from personal starting points A 'personal study' which is a 1,500 to 3,000 word dissertation that demonstrates your ability to interpret the work of other artists and designers, and make links with your work.	Overview of assessment: Incorporates two major elements: preparatory studies and the 15-hour exam. Preparatory studies will comprise a portfolio of practical and written development work. Final outcomes(s) produced during your exam.

Where will A Level Art and Design take me?

The creative industries are a fast growing part of the economy and as diverse as they are fascinating.

A Level Art and Design can set you on a path to many careers: an artist, a graphic designer, a product designer, a design engineer, an industrial designer, an architect, a career in advertising or marketing, or a film maker, to name but a few.

BIOLOGY

Why study A Level Biology?

Are you captivated by the animals on BBC nature programmes? Do you want to understand the causes of cancer or the potential uses of stem cells in medicine? Are you concerned about the impact of our ever increasing population on the environment? If so, A Level Biology is for you. Biologists want to understand how living organisms function and interact, so they can help solve the problems of the future.

What skills will I gain through A Level Biology?

You will gain a broad knowledge of biological processes, from the micro to the macro level, and how they relate to each other. You will also develop an understanding of scientific methods, including the ability to research, plan and execute scientific investigations. You will learn a variety of practical, mathematical and problem-solving skills, as well as gain an appreciation of how biology contributes to the success of the economy and society.

How will I be assessed?

We follow the Edexcel A Level Biology (Salters-Nuffield) specification:

Title	Topics	Assessed by	Weighting
Paper 1: The Natural Environment and Species Survival	- Genetics, Health and Lifestyle - Biodiversity and Natural Selection - Photosynthesis and Decomposition - Immunity, Infection and Forensics	Exam	33.33%
Paper 2: Energy, Exercise and Co-operation	- Genetics, Health and Lifestyle - Biodiversity and Natural Selection - Respiration and Exercise - The Brain, Communication and Co-ordination	Exam	33.33%
Paper 3: General and Practical Applications in Biology	- A synoptic paper where you can be assessed on any topic in the course, as well as experimental design. - You will also be assessed on your understanding of a scientific article released eight weeks prior to exams.	Exam	33.33%

Where will A Level Biology take me?

A Level Biology is a fascinating and demanding subject, highly regarded by universities. If you are considering a career in: medicine, veterinary science, pharmacology, optometry, dentistry, zoology, sports science, physiotherapy, microbiology or environmental science, then A Level Biology is often a necessary or desirable subject.

However, regardless of whether you are going to study a biology-related degree, you will gain a range of transferable skills through A Level Biology that will prove very useful in any workplace.

BUSINESS

Why study A Level Business?

Business is a field that is undeniably important to society, with businesses and business leaders being the key architects of the digital age and the globalised world we inhabit.

The challenge of managing finite resources in a way that satisfies a network of stakeholders is perhaps greater and more exciting than ever, while the ability to critically engage with businesses and the commercial world equips you with the tools needed to excel in your future career, and make a meaningful contribution to the progression of society.

What skills will I gain through A Level Business?

Business is a live subject, which means you are required to apply your knowledge to current business situations. It is also a written subject, allowing you to develop strong analysis and evaluation skills, and develop the ability to interpret and analyse quantitative data.

How will I be assessed?

We follow the Eduqas A Level Business specification:

Title	Topics	Assessed by	Weighting
Component 1: Business Opportunities and Functions	- Business Start Ups, Small and Medium sized Enterprises, and Multi-National Corporations - Marketing, Finance, HR, and Operations Management	Exam	33.33%
Component 2: Business Analysis	- How to Analyse Business Performance - Business Strategy - Decision-making Models	Exam	33.33%
Component 3: Business in a Changing World	- Risk Management - Business Ethics - International Trade and Globalisation	Exam	33.33%

Where will A Level Business take me?

There are a wide range of business-related university degree options, including joint honours with another subject. These are particularly valuable in the modern business world as they include an international dimension in the form of an internship abroad.

However, the theory taught in A Level Business is useful in all walks of life, as most of us work as employees, while an understanding of how businesses operate is always helpful in assessing the prospects of particular firms, and can aid career planning.

CHEMISTRY

Why study A Level Chemistry?

Chemistry is sometimes known as the central science, since it connects the physical sciences (eg mathematics and physics) with the applied sciences (eg biology, medicine or engineering). A Level Chemistry provides an opportunity to study the amazing variety of substances that make up our world, as you appreciate why they are the way they are, why they behave as they do, and how they can be adapted and used in modern life.

What skills will I gain through A Level Chemistry?

You will explore a body of chemical theories and facts, which enables you to identify the patterns and themes fundamental to chemistry. A Level Chemistry puts emphasis on the importance of the scientific method, helping you to design, carry out and evaluate experiments. Through this, you develop chemical knowledge, skills and understanding that teaches you to problem-solve in a wider context. In addition, you develop an appreciation for how chemistry has social, industrial, technological, environmental and economic consequences for our world.

How will I be assessed?

We follow the OCR A Level Chemistry specification:

Title	Topics	Assessed by	Weighting
1 - Periodic Table, Elements and Physical Chemistry	- Development of Practical Skills in Chemistry - Foundations in Chemistry - Periodic Table and Energy - Physical Chemistry and Transition Elements	Exam	37%
2 - Synthesis and Analytical Techniques	- Development of Practical Skills in Chemistry - Foundations in Chemistry - Core Organic Chemistry - Organic Chemistry and Analysis	Exam	37%
3 - Unified Chemistry	- A unified paper where you can be assessed on any topic in the course, as well as experimental design. All topics from above will be examined.	Exam	26%
You must complete a minimum of 12 core practicals from the Practical Activity Groups (PAGs) during your A Level. You are assessed against the OCR's Common Practical Assessment Criteria (CPAC) and receive a 'pass' if you demonstrate the required standard.			

Where will A Level Chemistry take me?

A Level Chemistry can complement arts subjects, and is an excellent base for degrees in healthcare (eg medicine, pharmacy and dentistry), or the biological sciences, physics, mathematics, pharmacology and analytical chemistry. It is taken by many law or finance applicants, as the problem-solving skills gained are useful and it shows that you can cope with difficult concepts.

Future career opportunities include the chemical, manufacturing, and pharmaceutical industries, or areas like forensics, environmental protection, and healthcare.

DRAMA

Why study A Level Drama?

A Level Drama is a vastly enjoyable course that focuses on creativity, academic reading, teamwork and performing, as you write your own plays, act in plays, and review professional productions. Top universities appreciate that A Level Drama applicants have strong skills in literature, leadership and public speaking, and it is an excellent option if you wish to take a balanced array of subjects. It also looks good on university applications when taken alongside subjects that require different skills, since it proves your well-roundedness as a scholar.

What skills will I gain with A Level Drama?

A Level Drama involves writing plays, acting, essay writing and performance analysis, so you develop exemplary skills in leadership, management, creativity and collaboration. Alongside our studio and classroom lessons, we collaborate with theatre companies to master playwriting skills and establish advanced theatrical skills.

How will I be assessed?

We follow the Edexcel A Level Drama specification:

Component/content	What is assessed?	Weighting
1 - Devising (Devising an original performance piece and creating a supporting portfolio)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Devising an original performance piece- Using a key extract of performance text as a stimuli- Portfolio must justify research and rationale- Piece of theatre to be 'advanced' and 'highly creative'	40%
2 - Texts in Performance (Scripted acting)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Group performance from a scripted play- Monologue from a scripted play- No written work in this module, which is marked entirely on creativity and acting	20%
3 - Theatre Makers in Practice (Written exam)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Live theatre evaluation (multiple theatre trips take place during the course)- Writing about dramatic literature from the perspective of an actor- You will 're-imagine' a production and create ideas for how this will be communicated to a contemporary audience, writing about staging as if you are the director with a new concept	40%

Where will A Level Drama take me?

Do **not** think you should only study A Level Drama if you want to be an actor! As workplaces highly value creative thinking and entrepreneurial skills, A Level Drama is appreciated by a diverse range of employers.

Those who have studied A Level Drama can go into any career involving leadership, literature and creativity, which can range from being a lawyer, a journalist or a business manager, to careers in the arts, publishing, advertising or politics.

ECONOMICS

Why study A Level Economics?

What caused the global economy to crash in 2008? How will AI affect your future? How bad for the UK is 10% inflation? Why has the cost of living increased so much? By studying A Level Economics, you will gain the tools to tackle these questions, as well as examine the questions that will define our current and future generations.

What skills will I gain through A Level Economics?

Economics is a quantitative social science, so you learn how to analyse and interpret quantitative data. However, as A Level Economics is primarily a written subject, not a mathematical one, there is a strong emphasis on the quality of your written communication, thus developing your written analysis and evaluative skills. In addition, since A Level Economics is a live subject, you also deepen your knowledge and understanding of current affairs.

How will I be assessed?

We follow the Edexcel A Level Economics specification:

Title	Sample Topics	Assessed by	Weighting
Paper 1: Markets and Business Behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Nature of Economics- How Markets Work- Market Failure- Government Intervention- Business Growth and Objectives- Revenues, Costs and Profit- Market Structure- Labour Markets	Exam (2 hours)	35%
Paper 2: The National and Global Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Measures of Economic Performance- Aggregate Demand and Supply- National Income- Macroeconomic Objectives and Policies- International Economics- Poverty and Inequality- Emerging and Developing Economics- The Financial Sector- Role of the State in the Macroeconomy	Exam (2 hours)	35%
Paper 3: Microeconomics and Macroeconomics	This paper covers topics from across the A Level	Exam (2 hours)	30%

Where will A Level Economics take me?

A Level Economics develops both quantitative and written skills, preparing you for a broad range of university degrees, not least because economics is a common subject in joint honours courses with mathematics, politics, management, a language or finance.

Graduates in economics rank top or near the top of charts for earnings and employment rates, in comparison to other degrees.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Why study English Literature?

One of the best ways to develop a greater understanding of both yourself and others is through the careful study of literature, which can act as a gateway into the broadest possible range of lives, places and experiences. By reading and studying works of literature, you are able to explore bold ideas, travel in strange and fascinating worlds, and experience more than you could ever hope to in just one lifetime.

While, hopefully, all of that sounds challenging and rewarding, perhaps the best reason to study A Level English Literature is that reading, discussing and writing about literature can simply be really good fun!

What will I study in A Level English Literature?

Here is an outline of the OCR course components and a selection, by no means prescriptive, of the texts which you would have the opportunity to explore:

- Shakespeare (eg *Hamlet*)
- Drama and Poetry Pre-1900 (eg Webster's *The Duchess of Malfi* and Christina Rossetti's poetry)
- Comparative and Contextual Study of a Genre: American Literature, The Gothic, Dystopia, The Immigrant Experience (here, you select one of these genres and independently explore a range of texts within it, complementing a class set text)

There are three components of coursework, which are all based on texts of your choosing. This includes a piece of creative writing, a close reading of a passage, and a comparative essay.

How will I be assessed?

We follow the OCR English Literature specification:

	% of A Level
Comparative and Contextual Study exam paper	40%
Drama and Poetry exam paper	40%
Coursework	20%

Where will A Level English Literature take me?

The short answer is: wherever you want to go! A Level English Literature is highly-respected and, regardless of what you want to study after school, universities appreciate the skills of analysis, creativity and communication you have developed.

Whether you choose to study A Level English Literature alongside other essay-based subjects (like A Level History, Economics or Geography), or see it as a way to complement further study of A Level Mathematics or, indeed, as an option to sit alongside creative subjects (like A Level Art or Drama), it will stand you in excellent stead for our Sixth Form and beyond.

FRENCH

Why study A Level French?

More than 220 million people speak French on five continents. France is also a key economic global player, with French being the other language of international relations widely used (alongside English) in the UN, the EU, UNESCO and NATO.

What will I study in A Level French?

As well as studying one literary text and one film in French, you will explore artistic culture, current trends and issues in society, and aspects of political life in the French speaking world.

Examples of topics include: 'French diverse society, immigration and racism', 'Cinema, music, architecture and gastronomy', 'Impact of scientific and technological progress' and 'Causes of poverty in Europe and developing countries'. Whilst there are many more topics, these give you a flavour of what you will learn.

What skills will I gain through A Level French?

In your A Level language lessons, unlike at GCSE, you will be exposed to a wider range of linguistic skills, including essay writing, debating and translation. As part of your oral exam, you will be required to give a presentation on a subject of your choice that you will have researched, allowing you to pursue something which personally interests you, whilst gaining independent research skills. You will learn to use language to discuss concepts, rather than just facts.

How will I be assessed?

We follow the AQA A Level French specification:

Component	Involves	What is assessed?	Weighting
Paper 1	Listening, reading and writing	- Current trends of French-speaking society - Artistic culture in the French world - Current issues in French-speaking society - Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world	50%
Paper 2	Writing	- Knowledge of one literary text - Knowledge of one film - Knowledge of grammar	20%
Paper 3	Speaking	Individual research project and discussion of sub themes	30%

Where will A Level French take me?

As well as complementing other A Level subjects, A Level French is well respected by universities and can lead to an exciting range of future careers.

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

Why study A Level Further Mathematics?

A Level Further Mathematics is aimed at those who enjoys mathematics, as it provides a challenge and chance to explore new and/or more sophisticated mathematical concepts.

As well as being highly regarded by universities, those who take A Level Further Mathematics often find the additional time spent studying mathematics boosts their marks in A Level Mathematics.

What skills will I gain?

A Level Further Mathematics is a separate A Level, taken in addition to A Level Mathematics. Three quarters of the course is Further Pure Mathematics and the remainder is Decision Mathematics. A Level Further Mathematics introduces new topics, like matrices and complex numbers, vital in many STEM degrees.

How will I be assessed?

We follow the Edexcel Further Mathematics specification:

Title	Topics	Assessed by	Weighting
Core Pure Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Proof- Complex Numbers- Matrices- Further Algebra and Functions- Further Calculus- Further Vectors- Polar Coordinates- Hyperbolic Functions- Differential Equations	Exams	50%
Further Pure Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Further Vectors- Further Differential Equations- Further Calculus	Exams	25%
Decision Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Algorithms- Linear Programming- Graphs and Networks	Exams	25%

Where will A Level Further Mathematics take me?

If you are planning to take a degree such as engineering, sciences, computing or finance/economics, or perhaps mathematics itself, you will benefit enormously from A Level Further Mathematics. Young people who have studied A Level Further Mathematics find the transition to such degrees to be far more straightforward.

GEOGRAPHY

Why study A Level Geography?

Geographers are excited about the world in which they live and develop a valuable understanding of the physical and human processes which shape our planet. If you want to answer questions such as, 'What are the issues caused by unequal flows of international trades?', 'How will the world cope with a projected population of 10 billion?', or 'How would a supervolcano eruption affect our planet?' then A Level Geography is for you.

What skills will I gain through A Level Geography?

Geographers are numerate, literate, and good team workers. You will develop a knowledge of social, economic and physical processes, and be able to plan, research, develop and test hypotheses, and write reports. You will learn to think analytically and critically, and develop valuable computer skills. You will practice a variety of fieldwork skills via the range of trips we offer, which have included Greece, the Azores, Italy and Croatia.

How will I be assessed?

We follow the AQA A Level Geography specification:

Title	Topics	Assessed by	Weighting
Module 1: Physical Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Water and Carbon Cycles- Coastal Systems and Landscapes- Ecosystems and Processes	Exam	40%
Module 2: Human Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Global Systems and Global Governance- Changing Places- Population and the Environment	Exam	40%
Module 3: Independent Investigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Independent investigation which may be human or physical or a combination of both.- Fieldwork over four days (there will be an additional charge for this trip but it will be in the UK, so costs will be kept to a minimum).	Written (3,000-4,000 words)	20%

Where will A Level Geography take me?

Not only is A Level Geography a vital subject in its own right, it is also unique in providing a bridge between the sciences and the arts.

A Level geographers go on to read a huge range of subjects at university, from medicine to law and from engineering to English. Indeed, many science degrees recognise and include A Level Geography as a science, so it can be a useful alternative to traditional sciences, like chemistry or physics.

In addition, the broad range of skills learnt through A Level Geography makes you highly employable in practically every career field.

GERMAN

Why study A Level German?

Globally, around 132 million people speak German as a first or second language. In addition, learning German can open the door to exciting opportunities in Germany, Austria, Switzerland and the UK, as these countries are some of Britain's biggest trade partners, with strong financial service and business ties.

What skills will I gain through A Level German?

In A Level German, you will be exposed to a range of linguistic skills, like essay writing, debating and translation, that are incredibly important and will aid your study of other subjects at A Level and at university. In your speaking exam, you will complete an independent research project, allowing you to pursue topics that interest you, giving you a flavour of the independence you will enjoy when at university.

Studying German will boost your CV, give you valuable transferable skills, and offer all the benefits that come with learning another language – experiencing the world through another language broadens your horizons, heightening your understanding of what it means to live in a global community of diverse cultures, traditions and histories.

How will I be assessed?

We follow the AQA A Level German specification:

Title	What is assessed?	Questions	Weighting
Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing	- Aspects of German-speaking society - Artistic culture in the German-speaking world - Multiculturalism in German-speaking society - Aspects of political life in the German-speaking world - Grammar	Reading Listening Summary writing Translation	40%
Paper 2: Writing	- Knowledge of one literary text (<i>der Vorleser</i>) - Knowledge of one film (<i>das Leben der Anderen</i>) - Knowledge of Grammar	Essay on literature Essay on film	40%
Paper 3: Speaking	- Individual research project and discussion of sub-themes, eg Germany in the EU, digital technology, immigration	Sub-themes Presentation Discussion	20%

Where will A Level German take me?

German is an exciting language to learn, will complement any subjects studied at A Level, and is viewed highly by universities.

German remains the highest language in demand by British businesses, and *The Independent* ranked it the number one language to learn for the best paid jobs.

GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Why study A Level Government and Politics?

If you want to know where power lies, how parties operate, and how governments work, then A Level Government and Politics is for you. Politics has an enormous impact on our lives, and A Level Government and Politics will equip you with a strong understanding of how power is exercised, in this country and internationally.

A Level Government and Politics will equip you with the knowledge and skills to play a full part in the political process.

What skills will I gain through A Level Government and Politics?

A Level Government and Politics is an exciting and intellectually challenging subject with an emphasis on debate, discussion and argument.

While the ability to look at different perspectives, and critically analyse them, is of fundamental importance, you will also develop other important qualities, like critical thinking and effective writing skills.

How will I be assessed?

We follow the AQA A Level Government and Politics specification:

Title	Topics	Assessed by	Weighting
Module 1: Government and Politics of the UK	- Structure of British Government - Elections and Participation - Political Parties and Pressure Groups	Exam	33.33%
Module 2: Government and Politics of the USA	- Structure of US Government - Electoral Process - Political Parties and Pressure Groups - Comparative Politics	Exam	33.33%
Module 3: Political Ideas	- Liberalism - Conservatism - Socialism - Anarchism	Exam	33.33%

Where will A Level Government and Politics take me?

A Level Government and Politics is highly regarded by both universities and employers, due to the critical thinking skills you develop and due to its analytical and discursive nature. It fits well with a variety of other subject areas, including economics, history and English.

Furthermore, A Level Government and Politics provides an excellent academic foundation for careers in the media, teaching, law, social work, the civil service, local government, and research.

HISTORY

Why study A Level History?

History is the study of humanity in all of its chaotic complexity. While there is pleasure to be derived from delving into the narrative of our past for its own sake, history is not just about chronicling the past. It is an ongoing dialogue, between academics, who use empirical evidence to explain why events unfolded as they did. The breadth of evidence available makes history a truly multidisciplinary subject.

When historians investigate the past, they use an array of skills to come to the fullest understanding possible. For example, if studying the British Empire, you need a working knowledge of chronology, geography, economics, sociology, literature, art and science (to name but a few) to stand a chance of developing your own convincing interpretation.

Studying history will not help you avoid the mistakes of your predecessors but a solid grounding in history is the best preparation for understanding and dealing with the problems of the present, and anticipating those of the future.

What will I study?

Here is an outline of the topics you will study: British Period Study and Enquiry (Britain 1930-97 with an enquiry of Churchill 1930-51); Non-British Period Study (American Revolution 1740-96); Thematic Study and Historical Interpretations (Civil Rights in the USA 1865-1992); Topic-based Essay (3,000-4,000 word independent study).

How will I be assessed?

We follow the OCR A Level History specification:

Component	Mark	Duration	Weighting
British Period Study	50	One hour 30 minutes	25%
Non-British Unit	30	One hour	15%
Thematic Study	80	Two hours 30 minutes	40%
Topic-based Essay			20%

Where will A Level History take me?

History is a rigorous and well respected academic discipline, since it places a firm emphasis on the construction of well reasoned arguments and interpretations, based upon carefully researched evidence from a wide array of sources and disciplines. As such, it is a valuable subject for many university degrees and careers.

Aside from continuing with the subject itself, A Level historians are equipped to study courses like law, economics, geography and English, or scientific degrees like physics and medicine, where A Level History is seen as a good way to add breadth to your skills and interests. In career terms, the perspective and understanding gained from A Level History is almost custom made to help you aspire to be a leader of the future.

LATIN

Why study A Level Latin?

A Level Latin offers an insight into one of the greatest ancient civilisations of the western world. Not only will you continue to develop your linguistic skills, you will use these skills to read and analyse some of the finest pieces of literature written. Such texts are wonderful to read in themselves but it is very gratifying to read them in the original language, knowing over 2,000 years separates you from the author.

What skills will I gain through A Level Latin?

You will further enhance your knowledge of grammatical structures, so you are able to read unabridged versions of Latin texts by authors like Livy and Ovid. You will develop your analytical and essay writing skills, as you study prose and verse literature in depth. In addition, through your study of literature, you will learn about the historical context of the end of the Roman Republic and early imperial Rome.

How will I be assessed?

We follow the OCR A Level Latin specification:

Title	What will I need to do?	Assessed by	Weighting
Unseen Translation	- Translate a passage of unseen Latin prose (written by Livy) into English - Translate a passage of unseen Latin verse (written by Ovid) into English	Exam	33%
Prose Composition or Comprehension	- Translate a passage of unseen prose OR - Answer comprehension, translation and grammar questions on a passage of unseen prose	Exam	17%
Prose Literature	- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of a prose set text (author examples: Cicero and Tacitus) - Questions will require you to translate, analyse literary style and write an essay	Exam	25%
Verse Literature	- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of a verse set text (author examples: Virgil and Catullus) - Questions will require you to translate, analyse literary style and write an essay	Exam	25%

Where will A Level Latin take me?

A highly academic subject, Latin is very well regarded by universities and employers, with Latin scholars respected for their wide variety of skills - a highly developed sense of logic, the ability to appreciate and critically analyse literature, and the ability to form clear and persuasive arguments. With such skills, those who have studied Latin can find themselves in diverse career fields, ranging from the civil service to accountancy, and from law or business to the media.

MATHEMATICS

Why study A Level Mathematics?

A Level Mathematics is a good option, regardless of your desired future university study. It develops concepts that you first learnt in IGCSE Mathematics and introduces many new ones, to allow you to solve problems with more complexity.

What skills will I gain through A Level Mathematics?

Through solving problems, you will develop resilience and be able to think creatively and strategically. The writing of structured solutions, proof and justification of results will help you to formulate reasoned arguments. Importantly, you will build excellent numeracy skills, plus the ability to process and interpret data.

How will I be assessed?

We follow the Edexcel GCE Mathematics specification:

Title	Topics	Assessed by	Weighting
Pure Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Proof- Algebra and Functions- Coordinate Geometry in the (x, y) Plane- Sequences and Series- Trigonometry- Exponentials and Logarithms- Differentiation- Integration- Numerical Methods- Vectors	Exams	66.67%
Statistics and Mechanics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Statistics- Statistical Sampling- Data Presentation and Interpretation- Probability- Statistical Distributions- Statistical Hypothesis Testing- Mechanics- Quantities and Units in Mechanics- Kinematics- Forces and Newton's Laws- Moments	Exams	33.33%

Where will A Level Mathematics take me?

While the mathematical skills learnt in A Level Mathematics are of great benefit to other A Level subjects (like physics, chemistry, biology, computing, geography, psychology, economics and business studies), A Level Mathematics is well-respected by employers and a “facilitating” subject for higher education. For many university courses, it is important to have strong mathematics skills, while most science, technology, engineering and mathematics degrees require A Level Mathematics.

PHILOSOPHY

Why study A Level Philosophy?

Philosophy is concerned with ideas: ideas about the world, ideas about the self, ideas about others, ideas about right and wrong, and ideas about the beyond. Philosophy pulls these ideas apart and forms them anew.

What skills will I gain through A Level Philosophy?

A Level Philosophy is stimulating, challenging and thought-provoking. It is an essay-based subject requiring a certain amount of intellectual curiosity and a willingness to reflect on the big questions of life. While a logical mind is a good starting point, you will also develop a range of transferable skills that are applicable far beyond the study of philosophy.

For the study of A Level Philosophy, there are no pre-requisites but a willingness to read, write, research and discuss is expected.

How will I be assessed?

We follow the AQA A Level Philosophy specification:

Title	Topics	Assessed by	Weighting
Module 1: Epistemology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- What is knowledge?- Theories of perception- Reason as a source of knowledge	Exam	25%
Module 2: Moral Philosophy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Normative ethical theories- Applied ethics- Meta-ethics	Exam	25%
Module 3: Metaphysics of Mind	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- How do the mind and body relate?- Dualist theories of mind- Physicalism	Exam	25%
Module 4: Metaphysics of God	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Concept and nature of 'God'- Arguments relating to the existence of God- Religious language	Exam	25%

Where will A Level Philosophy take me?

Traditionally speaking, A Level Philosophy has been viewed as an excellent course for those thinking of studying subjects like law or politics at university and thinking of a future career in these fields. However, it is becoming increasingly popular in the business sector too.

Fundamentally, A Level Philosophy is not only enjoyable and highly regarded on its own, it also enhances studies in other areas, including science or mathematics, as well as humanities.

PHYSICS

Why study A Level Physics?

Physics is a subject for curious minds. It aims to provide a fundamental understanding of our world, from the large scale structure of the universe to the behaviour of sub-atomic particles. Aside from the simple joy of finding things out, physics plays a central role in a wide range of practical applications.

Whether you want to develop a *Theory of Everything* or make your e-scooter more efficient, A Level Physics will help build the skills you need.

What skills will I gain through A Level Physics?

Those who study A Level Physics become creative, analytical thinkers, good at applying knowledge and understanding to novel situations in order to solve problems. Through theoretical and practical work, you learn the value of rigour, independence, collaboration, risk-taking, effective communication and asking good questions.

How will I be assessed?

We follow the AQA A Level Physics specification:

	All modules examine	Assessed by	Weighting
Paper 1	Measurements and their errors, particle physics, waves, mechanics and materials, electricity, and periodic motion	Exam	34%
Paper 2	Thermal physics, fields, and nuclear physics	Exam	34%
Paper 3	Section A: practical skills and data analysis Section B: you can choose a topic of study from astrophysics, medical physics, engineering, turning points in physics, or electronics	Exam	32%
The practical endorsement is non-examined and is a continuous monitoring of your skill in experimental physics. This is recorded in a lab-book which provides evidence of your competence.			

Where will A Level Physics take me?

For universities, A Level Physics is highly regarded and can lead to studies in other sciences or in financial or medical disciplines. Graduates in physics are extremely employable and, in a recent report published by Russell Group universities, A Level Physics was listed as one of the top three most valuable 'facilitating subjects', showing its flexibility, popularity, and huge potential.

Physicists in the past have split the atom, landed on the moon, and invented the World Wide Web. Physicists in the future will help solve the problems of climate change, the risks of an asteroid strike, and the continued exploration of our solar system.

SPANISH

Why study A Level Spanish?

It is estimated over 437 million people speak Spanish as a native language, making it the second most spoken language in the world! Being able to understand Spanish not only makes travel abroad easier, it also opens up an exciting range of opportunities.

In an increasingly global market, speaking Spanish will help you communicate with international clients, negotiate business deals, and collaborate with experts from across the globe. In addition, language skills are important for professional success in the current business climate, and can help you learn about other cultures and your own!

What will I study?

Your core themes will be aspects of Spanish society, artistic culture in the Hispanic world, multiculturalism in Hispanic society, and aspects of political life in the Hispanic world. So you may enjoy topics like: 'The evolution of the monarchy in Spain', 'Latin American dictatorships', 'Franco, Spain and the Civil War', and 'Peru and the Incas'. You also study one literary text and one film in Spanish.

What skills will I gain through A Level Spanish?

In your A Level language lessons, unlike at GCSE, you will be exposed to a wider range of linguistic skills, including essay writing, debating and translation. As part of your oral exam, you will be required to give a presentation on a subject of your choice that you have researched, allowing you to pursue something which personally interests you, whilst gaining independent research skills.

How will I be assessed?

We follow the AQA A Level Spanish specification:

Title	Topics	Questions	Weighting
Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing	- Aspects of Hispanic society - Artistic culture in the Hispanic world - Multiculturalism in Hispanic society - Grammar	Reading Listening Translation into English Translation into Spanish	50%
Paper 2: Writing	- Knowledge of one literary text - Knowledge of one film - Knowledge of grammar	Essay on literary text Essay on film	20%
Paper 3: Speaking	- Individual research project and discussion of sub-themes	Sub-themes Presentation Discussion	30%

Where will A Level Spanish take me?

As well as complementing other subjects, A Level Spanish is well respected by universities and can lead to an exciting range of future careers.

ADMISSIONS TIMELINE

We welcome applications to join our successful and dynamic Sixth Form.

Most of Wetherby Senior's Year 11 cohort remain with us for their A Level studies, and are joined by up to 15 external sixth formers. Our current pupils receive guidance from staff in Year 11 and follow a separate application procedure.

If you are an external applicant, please follow the below schedule, while in Year 11:

June to October	Enquire about study at Wetherby Senior by contacting our Registrar on telephone: 0207 535 3533 or email: registrar@wetherbysenior.co.uk. Visit our Sixth Form by booking a private tour or attending our Open Day in early October. Apply online at: www.wetherbysenior.co.uk .
November	Attend our assessment day where you will be interviewed and sit our bespoke entrance exam.
December	Receive your offer to join Wetherby Senior's Sixth Form (conditional on your GCSE results).
August	Inform us of your GCSE results, so we can confirm your Year 12 place in our Sixth Form.
September	Join our Sixth Form induction day at the start of term, so you can settle in, make new friends, and feel part of our community. Begin your academic journey in Wetherby Senior's Sixth Form.

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“I joined Wetherby Senior in Year 12, and found it easy to settle in, as our Sixth Form is a relatively small community and everyone was very friendly and welcoming. I have enjoyed focusing on my A Level subjects in much greater detail, and have been very impressed by the high standard of teaching.”
Tianzhi will complete his A Levels in summer 2023 and has offers to read computer science at top universities, including Imperial College, King’s College, and Queen Mary.

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“Wetherby Senior has lofty expectations of its pupils and employs high calibre and passionate teaching staff in order to get the very best out of the children.”
Talk Education 2022

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