

ST IVO SCHOOL



SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS

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THE SIXTH FORM AT ST IVO



THE SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM

For the Sixth Form curriculum, there is an expectation that all students will put together a package with a breadth of study, whilst at the same time retaining the sense of academic rigour that we believe essential for Post-16 education. So in Year 12 we will expect a typical time-table to include the following elements:

- ◆ The equivalent of four AS or Advanced Applied courses, on the understanding that at least three of them will be continued through into Year 13 for the A2 exam

OR

- ◆ an Intermediate Level 2 course which will give opportunities for achieving five or more A* - C grades at GCSE.

Our Sixth Form at St Ivo has an excellent record of student achievement, and we want that to continue. From the entry requirements laid down by universities and colleges, we believe that such students should study full A2s or/and Advanced GCE in Applied subjects. Employers too are looking for the same standards of completed Level 2 courses, A levels and Advanced GCE in Applied subjects.

In order to study a curriculum of AS and/or Advanced GCE courses, students must satisfy the entry requirements of a minimum of 5 A* - C passes at GCSE. They should also have the recommendation of subject teachers or in the case of new subjects, a recommendation from teachers of equivalent subjects. All students must also satisfy the subject entry requirements as outlined on the subject pages. For students studying Level 2 courses, the minimum requirement is 4 grade Ds or above, together with a teacher recommendation.

Alongside your courses you will be expected:

- ◆ to carry out a period of community service, and/or work placement
- ◆ to cover functional skills requirements as part of your course - in literacy, numeracy and ICT
- ◆ to participate in leisure/sporting activities
- ◆ to contribute to the full life of the student body in the sixth form
- ◆ to follow the designated PSHE/assembly programme

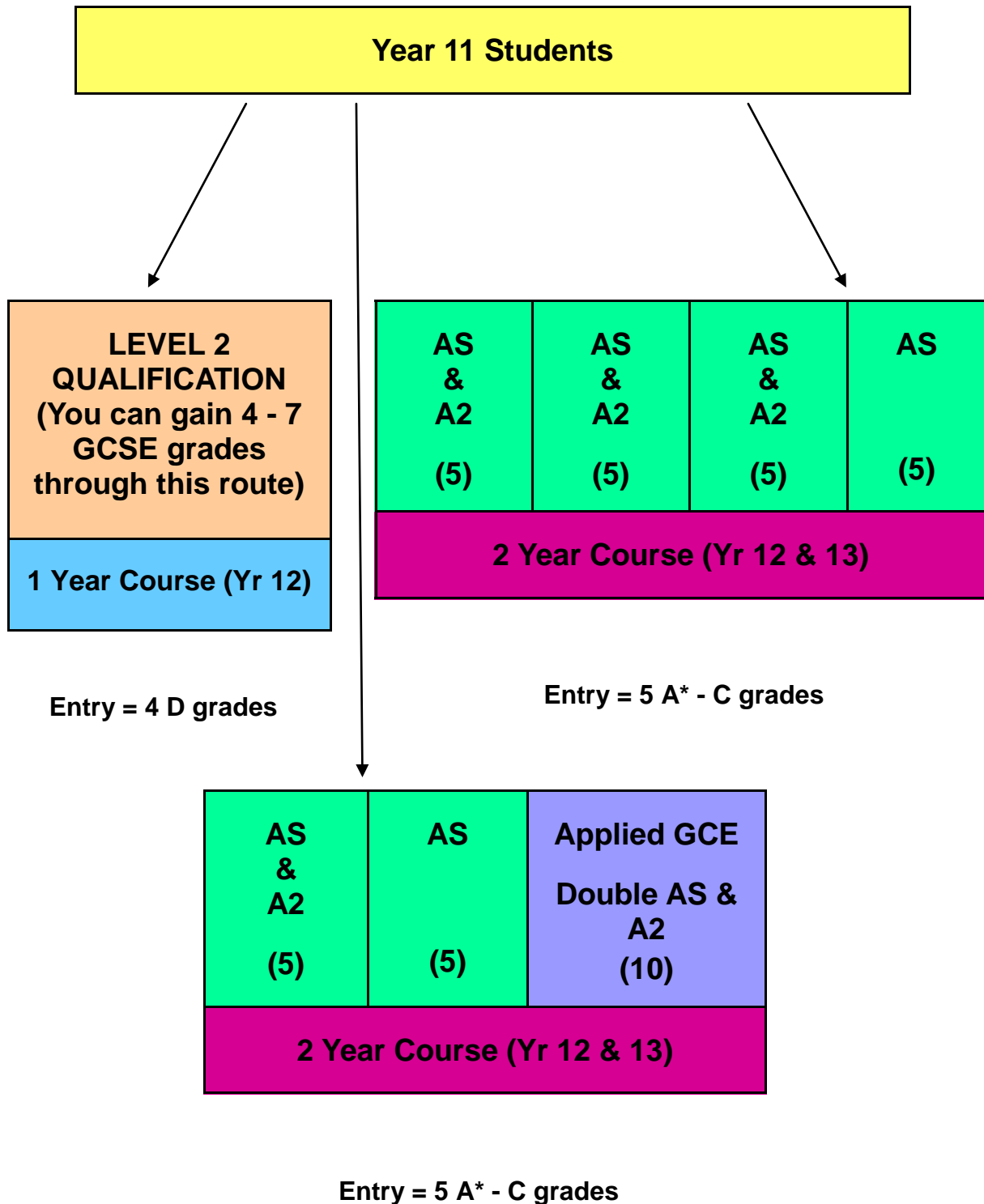
There will be some of you for whom this package needs to alter slightly, and we are quite happy to try and accommodate this request. For example, a course of three advanced courses may be more appropriate, or a mixture of courses. But for most of you we think the time-table outlined above will be the best way forward for your time in the Sixth Form. We expect that the majority of students will make a two-year commitment to the Sixth Form, although some students may choose to take a one-year course.

Your subject teachers will give you as much information as they can at present regarding all courses on offer. They will also tell you how the exams and assessment will work.

If you feel uncertain about any aspect of your application, you should talk to your subject teachers or, if you are not presently at this school, please telephone us.

THE SIXTH FORM AT ST IVO

SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM MAP



OFSTED COMMENTS (October 2007 Inspection)

Extracts from last OFSTED Inspection Report

“A large number of students stay on in the sixth form. They make good progress and attain highly.”

“The standards reached by students in the sixth form are well above average at the end of year 12 and above average at the end of year 13. Over half the students obtain the higher grades of A or B in their A level courses. Attainment in the vocational advanced courses is better than in A levels. The students make good progress throughout their time in sixth form.”

“Students receive very helpful advice and guidance.”

“The personal development of sixth form pupils is outstanding.”

“Sixth formers make an outstanding contribution to the life of the school.”

“Many pupils in the sixth form, make an outstanding contribution to the community, for example through fund raising, charities and helping and supporting others within the school.”

CORE PHYSICAL EDUCATION - for all students

Course Outline

Nowadays, when there is great media coverage given to the concern about the lack of general fitness of the youth of today (with some justification), participation in some form of PE or recreational sport is a 'healthier option'. When we are being encouraged to stay healthy, look better, feel fitter and live longer, a certain level of physical fitness should be part of everyone's life-plan. Enjoy taking part!

The physical education department is able to offer one period of PE to the Sixth Form. The emphasis is on recreational sport, and we remain ever optimistic that by participating, you will prove fitter, healthier and better adjusted individuals.

The availability of staff and/or facilities affects the precise activities offered, but St Ivo is more fortunate than a lot of other educational establishments. We are usually able to offer most of the following:

- aerobics
- basketball
- volleyball
- badminton
- swimming
- soccer
- weight training
- table tennis
- netball
- tennis
- rugby
- cricket
- rounders.

The PE department and Sixth Form members also organise fixtures against other local Sixth Forms in a variety of sports as well as tutor group and inter-faculty tournaments.

FRENCH/GERMAN - FOREIGN LANGUAGES AT WORK (FLAW)

Course Introduction The FLAW course is ideally suited to pupils who enjoyed their GCSE course in French or German and would like to keep up their contact with the language while following other courses at sixth form level. It is also open to AS students of French / German who would like to develop their knowledge of business vocabulary and etiquette.

The course is delivered in modules, covering situations encountered in the workplace, e.g.

- Introducing yourself and others
- Showing customers around company premises
- Discussing companies and their products
- Making and receiving phone calls
- Discussing prices and stock, taking orders
- Arranging deliveries
- Dealing with complaints
- Job applications and CVs
- Working at a trade fair

All four language skills i.e. listening, speaking, reading and writing, are developed through a variety of tasks and activities which aim to emulate realistic situations in a lively business environment.

Assessment and Deadlines

It is a pre-requisite of certification that students have spent a minimum of 60 hours post GCSE studying the foreign language. In addition to the one hour a week spent in the FLAW lessons, pupils will be expected to complete one hour a week of private study for which their teacher will set appropriate tasks.

There is no formal examination, but candidates must keep a complete portfolio of all their written work in a file and have examples of speaking tasks on cassette and video. The work portfolio is externally moderated at the end of the course in July.

Entry Requirements

Candidates should have at least a grade D at GCSE in the chosen language.

Progression

Students should be aware that a language qualification is highly regarded by employers, and in an increasingly international world can give them a significant advantage over monolingual competitors in the job market.

ART AS/A2 UNENDORSED (Edexcel)

The Unendorsed Course

The unendorsed advanced AS and A2 in art and design is a general course where students can work in a wide range of disciplines. These are painting and drawing, print making, sculpture, pottery, textiles, photography, digital video and illustration. Students will be required to work in two or more of the disciplines.

Course Aims

This course aims to develop:

- Intellectual, imaginative, creative and intuitive powers
- Investigative, analytical, experimental, practical, technical and expressive skills, aesthetic understanding and critical judgement
- An understanding of the inter-relationships between art and design and an awareness of the contexts in which they operate
- Knowledge and understanding of art and design; both the contemporary and the historical.

Assessment and Deadlines

AS Course:

Comprises two units of assessment and can be awarded as a discrete qualification.

- Units: 1 Art and Design coursework
2 Externally set assessment (ESA)

A2 Course:

Comprises the two AS units, plus a further two units in the second year.

- Units: 3 Art and Design coursework
4 Art and Design ESA

Coursework to be completed by Easter in the year of the examination.

Entry Requirements

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCES or Advanced GCES should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. One of these should be at least a GCSE grade C in art or a closely related subject. Students wishing to take this subject should have a strong teacher recommendation.

There are always a few students with natural ability who wish to take one of these courses, even though they have not followed an art and design course in Years 10 and 11. The art and design department welcomes these enquiries and will advise students accordingly. It is an expectation of the art department that students who do not have an art/textile GCSE will present a portfolio of their own art work on application. This is to demonstrate skills and commitment.

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade D/E would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

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ART AS/A2 UNENDORSED (Edexcel)

Entry Requirements (cont)

Costs: It is always preferable to use your own equipment, although some basic equipment is supplied. There would be some financial involvement with art equipment packs, sketch books, trips and workshops, approximately £70 per year.

Progression

Various courses in further and higher education including technical illustration, graphic design, fashion design, degree, art foundation courses, etc.

BIOLOGY

Course Outline

If you've ever wondered if blood really is thicker than water, or whether the grass could be greener on the other side, then wonder no more - join the biology course in the Sixth Form!

Biology is a science in which exciting new discoveries are being made all the time, such as DNA fingerprinting, or working towards a vaccine to combat the AIDS virus. Topics such as human effects on the environment and conservation issues are important for all of us.

If you have an interest in biology, this course provides a stimulating and useful educational background, whether you intend to study biology at a higher level or not.

AS Examination:

- Unit 1 Biology and disease
- Unit 2 The variety of living organisms
- Unit 3 Practical and investigative skills

A2 Examination:

- Unit 4 Populations and environment
- Unit 5 Control in cells and organisms
- Unit 6 Practical and investigative skills

Homework is set and marked on a regular basis and students are expected to produce work to schedule, as well as spending time consolidating topics covered in lessons and reading around the subject.

Practical work forms an important part of the learning process and students will be covering a good deal of their syllabus through experimental work. There is an element of assessed practical work in both the first year (AS) and second year (A2) of the course. This will be assessed on the major skills of:

- 1 Planning investigations
- 2 Implementing
- 3 Analysing evidence and drawing conclusions
- 4 Evaluating evidence and procedures

Assessment and Deadlines

The course is divided into six modules - the AS in the first year comprising units 1, 2 and 3, the A2 the following year being units 4, 5 and 6. Units are assessed in January or June.

Entry Requirements

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. Students are expected to have both GCSE Science and Additional Science at grade A* - B and a strong teacher recommendation.

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BIOLOGY

Entry Requirements (cont.)

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade C would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

Higher education courses in biology and related sciences, also courses which require an AS/A2 level pass in a science subject. A wide range of careers are open to individuals with a qualification in biology, including education, the Civil Service, research, the health service and the medical and pharmaceutical industries.

BUSINESS STUDIES

Course Outline

A level business studies encourages students to understand, explain and investigate the ways in which businesses make decisions and solve problems, together with the wider economic, political and social environments in which businesses operate. Studies will focus upon acquiring knowledge of various business terms, concepts and methods, and then utilising them to resolve business problems, and make business decisions. Issues that may be considered include:

- How best to advise a manager about staff motivation
- The preparation, function and use of cash flow forecasts in business
- The marketing process and the ethical and legal constraints firms face when devising marketing activities.

The course may be studied with A level economics.

The business studies course is modular:

AS Course:

All students take two compulsory modules.

- Module 1 - An introduction to business - assessed in January of Year 12
Module 2 - Business function - assessed in June of Year 12.

A2 Course:

They include one compulsory module:

Module 1 - Strategic management.

and one option module, either:

- a Marketing
- b People in organisations

It is likely that both of these modules will be assessed in the June session of Year 13.

Please note that as the exam boards release new specifications, it may be that some topics within this course change.

Assessment and Deadlines

- 1 All modules are examined by a written paper, with some based on a pre-issued case study.
- 2 Candidates must complete all four AS and A2 modules to qualify for the full A2 level award.

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BUSINESS STUDIES

Entry requirements

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs are expected to have at least 5 A* - C GCSE grades before starting this course, although occasionally students may be accepted onto the course on the basis of individual merit. Students wishing to take this subject should have a strong teacher recommendation. This requirement is also true for students contemplating AS level only. It is not necessary to have taken GCSE business studies to be accepted onto the course.

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade C/D would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

Students may use the AS and A2 level qualifications for further study on a wide variety of university and other higher education degree courses, or as a direct entry into a career in business.

CHEMISTRY

Course Outline

Chemistry is the science that asks questions about materials, the differences between them, how they react with one another and how heat or other forms of energy affect them. The AS/A2 level course expands on many aspects of the chemistry strands of the science National Curriculum, starting with the structure of the atom and how atoms join together to make compounds.

Why does ice float on water? Why are acids acidic, and why are alkalis alkaline? Why do alkalis feel soapy when you get them on your skin? Why are some acids (and alkalis) more dangerous than others? Why should you not connect a camping stove to the mains gas supply, and why can't you run a normal gas cooker from bottled gas? How can you make an electric cell? Why do people put the milk in the cup first when pouring a cup of tea? What are the compounds that make up living things? All these questions and more will be answered by the AS/A2 level chemistry course.

AS Examination

Unit 1	Foundation chemistry
Unit 2	Chemistry in action
Unit 3	Investigative and practical skills

A2 Examination

Unit 4	Kinetics, equilibria and organic chemistry
Unit 5	Energetics, redox and inorganic chemistry
Unit 6	Investigative and practical skills.

Homework is set and marked on a regular basis and students are expected to produce work to schedule, as well as spending time consolidating topics covered in lessons and reading around the subject.

Practical work forms an important part of the learning process and students will be covering a good deal of their syllabus through experimental work. There is an element of assessed practical work in both the first year (AS) and second year (A2) of the course. 15% of the overall AS mark and 12% of the overall A2 mark is obtained from practical assessments. This will be assessed on the major skills of:

- 1 Planning investigations
- 2 Implementing
- 3 Analysing evidence and drawing conclusions
- 4 Evaluating evidence and procedures.

Assessment and Deadlines

The course is divided into six modules; the AS in the first year comprising units 1, 2 and 3, the A2 the following year being units 4, 5 and 6. Units are assessed in January or June.

Entry Requirements

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. Students are expected to have both GCSE Science and Additional Science at grade A* - B and a strong teacher recommendation.

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CHEMISTRY

Entry Requirements (cont.)

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade B/C would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

Chemistry is a very useful subject for those who wish to go on to science based employment or higher education, especially when studied in conjunction with physics and biology or maths. Chemistry is essential for courses such as chemistry, biochemistry, environmental sciences, pharmacy, medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, agriculture, food science, genetics, ecology, botany, chemical engineering and many more. Although particularly useful when studied along with other sciences at AS/A2 level, the course is independent of other subjects and can be very successfully attempted alongside other non science subjects.

DANCE

Course Outline

This syllabus is designed for candidates who wish to study dance in depth. They will be expected to acquire experience of the practical skills of dance and of dance appreciation.

Assessment and Deadlines

The exam will assess the student's ability to:

- show the practical skills of dance
- show knowledge of skills involved in performance
- show knowledge of the constituent features and form of dances
- interpret and evaluate dances

AS Course:

Unit 1 Understanding Dance

Written paper: 1 hour 30 minutes 60 marks

Weighting: 40% of the total AS marks
20% of the total A Level marks

The unit comprises two sections, A and B. Both structured essay style questions will be set on the dancer as a performer, the process and craft of choreography and the significance of dances.

Unit 2 Choreography and Performance

Practical Coursework: 90 marks

Weighting: 60% of the total AS marks
30% of the total A Level marks

Candidates answer two questions, one on solo choreography and performance and one other on performance

A2 Course:

Unit 3 Appreciation: Content & Context

Written Paper: 1 hour 30 minutes 80 marks

Weighting: 25% of the total A Level marks

Candidates answer questions in two sections, one on a chosen area of study within ballet, modern dance or jazz dance and one other on the set work studied.

Unit 4 Group Choreography and Solo Performance

Practical examination 75 marks

Weighting: 25% of the total A Level mark

Section A: Group Choreography 45 marks

Candidates choreograph a group dance, of two to three minutes' duration, in which they do not perform. Questions will be set and pre-released by AQA, from which the candidate selects one.

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DANCE

Assessment and Deadlines (cont)

Section B: Solo Performance 30 marks
Candidates present a solo performance, of to three minutes' duration, which demonstrates understanding of a performance style linked to a specific practitioner from the areas of study prescribed in Unit 3. The dance performed may be choreographed by the candidate.

The practical examination is set by AQA and marked by a visiting examiner.

Entry Requirements

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. Students are expected to have grade C or above at GCSE dance, or a strong interest and involvement in dance. Students wishing to take this subject should have a strong teacher recommendation.

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade D would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

Further study of dance at higher education. This could be through choreography, techniques, dancer in action, dance history, or as part of a performing arts course. Movement into any other course or job where personal confidence and presentation, inter-personal skills or creativity is important.

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY - FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Course Outline

The syllabus has been developed to encourage candidates to take a broad view of design and technology, to develop their capacity to design and make food products and to appreciate the complex relationships between design, materials, manufacturing and marketing.

The course is designed to build upon the GCSE design and technology syllabus, developing design skills and knowledge further.

The course is divided into six units:

AS candidates take units 1 and 2

A2 candidates take units 3 and 4

Assessment and Deadlines

AS Course:

Unit 1 Industrial and commercial products and practices
Materials components and systems
Section A - compulsory
Section B - contains options
External assessment. 50%

Unit 2 Product development
Coursework project - approx 50 hours
Internal assessment. 50%

A2 Course:

Unit 3 Further study of materials, components and systems
Product study
External assessment. 50%

Unit 4 Product development II
Coursework project - approx 50 hours
Internal Assessment. 50%

Entry Requirements

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. One of these should normally be in this subject or a closely related subject, but well motivated students who have not studied allied subjects at GCSE would be considered. Students wishing to take this subject should have a strong teacher recommendation.

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade D would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

Degrees in nutrition, food science, food technology, teacher training. There are many career opportunities for students of food technology in the food preparation and hotel and catering industries.

ECONOMICS

Course Outline

The A level economics course is designed to educate students to a greater knowledge and understanding of the principles of economics, together with an appreciation of the more important economic forces and institutions, so that they have a broad awareness of the main economic issues which confront them and society. Methods of study will vary according to the modules being covered, though economic models, simulations and audio-visual media will be used, discussion is encouraged and visits arranged to amplify certain areas of the course. A level geographers, historians and politicians may find the course particularly beneficial in prompting a greater awareness of the economic factors important in these subjects, whilst scientists and linguists may prefer this course which will provide them with some economic awareness that may be of value in later life.

Costs: There may be occasional costs for trips and visits.

This course may be taken with A level business studies.

Assessment and Deadlines

The economics course is modular.

AS Course:

Module 1 Markets and market failure
Module 2 The national economy.

These two modules are compulsory and are normally examined in the June of Year 12.

A2 Course:

Module 3 Business economics and the distribution of income
Module 4 The national and international economy.

These modules will be available in the June of Year 13.

Candidates must complete all four AS and A2 module to qualify for the full A2 level award.

Please note that as the exam boards release new specifications, it may be that some topics within this course change.

Entry Requirements

Students wishing to follow a programme of A level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. One of these should normally be in this subject or a closely related subject although occasionally students may be accepted onto the course on the basis of individual merit. Students wishing to take this subject should have a strong teacher recommendation. It is not necessary to have taken GCSE economics to be accepted onto the course.

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade C would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

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ECONOMICS

Progression

The course is particularly suited to those students who are contemplating a career in any aspect of business management, accountancy, banking, the Civil Service, insurance, etc and for those who are already thinking ahead to a university or other higher education course in economics and/or related subjects.

ENGLISH

Course Outline

This is a well-established and popular A2 level course. It has a good reputation with universities and is a very useful qualification to have for any kind of humanities degree. Employers, too, respect the rigour and quality of the course. It is a demanding course that will call for intelligence and sensitivity to language for success.

The course is based on literature and entirely builds on what you have learnt at GCSE. You will be taught:

- how to study texts in depth and respond to them;
- how to write creatively and structure written work effectively;
- how to argue a case;
- how to persuade a reader of the validity of your viewpoint;
- how to use language effectively for your own purposes.

The course is based around the study of a variety of texts.

The essay is the central mode of writing and you will leave the course as an expert in this kind of writing. The skills you learn here will be applicable very widely in further education as well as in the wider world.

The literary study will involve examining the basics such as character, plot and style. You will also learn how to interpret difficult texts in terms of the themes, language and imagery. You will come across texts which show you different cultures and different ways of looking at the world. You will study books from many different ages and of many different kinds.

You will be expected to join in lively discussion. You will use film, audio tape and video in your study of your chosen texts. In the course of studying these texts you will touch on many diverse fields of study such as psychology, history, politics, cultural history and gender issues although literature and language will always remain your central concern.

Costs: Many students like to **write on their texts** and we ask, therefore that they buy texts. Occasional theatre visits (voluntary) £10 per visit approximately.

Assessment and Deadlines

AS Level: Two modules in June. One coursework folder containing two essays.

A2 Level : Two modules in June, including a synoptic coursework module.

Entry Requirements

If you wish to take the course, then you should see the head of department, Mr Andrews, whatever your GCSE grade or predicted grade. Each individual wishing to take the course will be advised by the head of department about their chances of success and suitability for the course.

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE and a strong teacher recommendation. One of these should normally be in English.

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ENGLISH

Entry Requirements (cont.)

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade D/C would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

There are always some students who go on to university to study English. They can then go into a very wide range of careers - business, commerce, civil service, teaching, publishing, media. English is not a vocational degree and so the choice of post-graduate options is very wide indeed. For those not taking English at university the subject provides a firm supportive basis for any course or employment requiring language skills of any kind.

ETHICS

Course Outline

What is Ethics?

It is the study of belief, philosophy and ethical systems.

We focus on Christianity and its developments feminist and liberation theologies, Judaism, Greek philosophy, Marxism, science and psychology, sociology and many other belief systems.

Who does Ethics?

The course is available to people of any religious belief, or none; you do not have to be religious to succeed in Ethics. If you have an enquiring mind, are receptive to new ideas and enjoy asking fundamental questions about important issues, then Ethics is the right subject for you.

The department offers a course with OCR.

Assessment and Deadlines

AS Level*

- Unit 1 Philosophy of religion (G571)
- Unit 2 Developments in Christian Thought (G575)

Each unit will be examined by a written exam paper. Each paper is 1 hour in length.

* This option is available as a discrete one year AS course.

A2 Level

- Unit 3 Philosophy of religion (G581)
- Unit 4 Developments in Christian thought (G585)

Units 3 and 4 will be examined by a written 90 minute paper in June.

Entry requirements

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. Students who have not followed an ethics GCSE course, but have an interest and aptitude for the subject, are welcome to apply. Any humanities GCSE which involves coursework and essay writing will help. Students wishing to take this subject should have a strong teacher recommendation.

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade C/D would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

It is possible to study theology at degree level, but AS/A2 level ethics is also a good foundation for subjects such as English, media studies or history and politics, as it uses research and essay writing skills. Many students continue on into careers such as journalism, nursing and other 'people-centred' jobs where an understanding of cultural and religious beliefs is important. Some science based courses look favourably on the philosophy element of the course as it shows a particular skill in critical thinking.

FILM STUDIES

Course Outline

The film studies course is designed to deepen students' understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of film, the major art form of the twentieth century. Students will engage with a wide range of different kinds of films, developing skills of observation, critical analysis and personal reflection, as well as developing their creativity and practical skills, either in audio-visual or written form.

Students will have the opportunity to study a diverse range of film form and film styles developed in different places throughout the history of cinema. Also some of the recurring debates within film culture will be explored, including the global dominance of Hollywood and the significance of fandom.

Assessment and Deadlines

AS Course:

Unit 1 FM1 20% (40%) Internal assessment

Exploring Film Form

- **One** analysis of how micro aspects of a chosen extract from a specific film produce meanings and responses (1500 words) (30)
- **One** creative project based on a film sequence or short film (50: sequence or short film [40]/reflective analysis [10])

Paper raw mark total: 80

Paper UMS total: 80

Unit 2 FM2 30% (60%) External assessment (2½ hour written paper)

British and American Film

Three questions, **one** from each section:

- Section A: Response to stimulus material set by Awarding Body based on Producers and Audiences of film (40)
- Section B: Topics in British Film (40)
- Section C: US Film - Comparative study of two films (40)

Paper raw mark total: 120

Paper USM total: 120

A2 Course (the above plus a further 2 units):

Unit 3 FM3 25% Internal assessment

Film Research and Creative projects

- A small scale research project (40)
- Creative project (60-45 product/15 reflective analysis)

Paper raw mark total: 100

Paper USM total: 100

continued overleaf

FILM STUDIES

Assessment and Deadlines (cont.)

Unit 4 FM4 25% External assessment (2¾ hour written paper)

Varieties of Film Experience: Issues and Debates

Three questions, **one** from each section:

- Section A: World Cinema Topics (35)
- Section B: Spectatorship Topics (35)
- Section C: Single Film - Critical Study (30)

Paper raw mark total: 100

Paper UMS total: 100

Entry Requirements

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. Students are expected to have grade C or above at GCSE English, and grade C or above at GCSE media studies or a strong interest in the area of film. Students wishing to take this subject should have a strong teacher recommendation.

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade D would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade D at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

The course provides suitable foundation for the study of film studies or a related area through a range of higher education degree courses, or direct entry into employment, in addition, the specification provides a coherent, satisfying and valuable course of study for all candidates.

FRENCH

Course Outline

The AS French course is stimulating and varied. In addition to acquiring a greater proficiency in the French language, you study in depth aspects of culture and society in French speaking countries and consider a wide range of topical issues. The course enhances your skills in communication, research, analysis, discussion and presentation whilst developing your command of French. Up to date materials are sourced from newspapers and magazines, radio and television programmes, as well as many Internet sites. Regular lessons with the French assistant provide extra, intensive conversation practice.

Assessment and Deadlines

AS Course:

There are 2 examination modules which can be taken in the summer of year 12, the January of year 13 or the summer of year 13.

- Unit 1: Speaking 1 – candidates are required in this exam to take part in a role play based on a stimulus text in English and to discuss a topic of their own choice.
- Unit 2: Listening, reading and writing - in this paper, candidates answer a range of listening and reading tasks requiring non-verbal and target language responses and produce writing texts.

A2 Course:

There are 2 further modules taken at the end of year 13.

- Unit 3: Speaking 2 – candidates take part in a discussion based on a stimulus text in the target language and discuss a topic of their own choice.
- Unit 4: Listening, reading and writing 2 - in this paper, candidates answer a range of listening and reading tasks and produce an essay.

Entry Requirements

Preferably grades A* - C in French and a strong teacher recommendation. Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE.

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade C would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

Successful completion of these courses entitles students to apply for:

- Pure language degrees, diplomas, certificates at colleges or universities

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FRENCH

Progression (cont.)

- Joint degrees with a language as one element (e.g. combined with business studies, history, engineering, science, maths etc.). Universities are increasingly offering language courses to run alongside other study, in response to demand.
- Jobs which require specific language skills e.g. in travel and tourism, marketing and sales, hotel and catering, journalism or transport.

Students should be aware that a language qualification at AS/A2 level is highly regarded amongst employers in general, and in an increasingly international world can give them a significant advantage over monolingual competitors in the job market.

GEOGRAPHY

Course Outline

The new AQA AS/A2 geography specifications present an exciting and fresh approach to geography while at the same time offering a strong foundation in both human and physical disciplines as well as practical skills. It addresses many themes including a concern for the environment and an appreciation of global changes and inequalities. **Fieldwork** continues to be very important aspect of the department's delivery. There will be a range opportunities for students to be involved in a very 'hands on' course in which students will participate in both day trips, as well as a residential field course in **Snowdonia**. The department also has a bi-annual visit to **South Africa**, which also underpins many aspects of the AS/A2 course.

AS COURSE

Unit 1 Physical and Human Geography - 35% 2hr exam in June

PHYSICAL

Core – Rivers, floods and management

Options – one of the three options below is selected and studied in detail

- Cold environments
- Coastal environments
- Hot deserts and their margins

HUMAN

Core – Global population change

Options – one of the three options below is selected and studied in detail

- Food supply issues
- Energy issues
- Health issues

Unit 2 - 15% 1 hour exam in Jan

This paper will be based upon fieldwork that students will carry out at a local river in **Northamptonshire**. It is not coursework in the traditional sense but will allow students who enjoy and learn by being involved in practical activities, a chance to really excel.

A2 COURSE

Unit 3 - Contemporary Geography Issues - 30% 2hrs 30 mins

A study of at least **three** of the six options below:

The Physical options

- Plate tectonics and associated hazards
- Weather and climate and associated hazards
- Challenges facing ecosystems

The Human options

- World cities – evolution or revolution ?
- Development and globalisation
- Contemporary conflicts and challenges

Students choose one human and one physical structured question and then a synoptic essay on a third topic from the units studied. Again a full range of fieldwork experiences will be integral to the delivery of the course.

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GEOGRAPHY

Course Outline (cont.)

Unit 4 Geography fieldwork and Investigation - 20% 1hr 30 mins
Again students can build upon their fieldwork expertise in this module which will be based around work carried out on a field trip to **Holkham Bay, North Norfolk**.

Fieldwork

All students will have the opportunity to develop their practical skills on a range of day field trips, as well as a residential trip to **Snowdonia**.

Entry Requirements

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. One of these should be a grade C in geography, together with the strong recommendation of your GCSE subject teacher.

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade C would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

Geography advanced level provides a wide and varied base for entry into university and many practical professions. It can be successfully combined with both arts and science subjects as a foundation for higher or ongoing education. Opportunities for geography graduates include cartography, surveying, environmental and ecological work, teaching and travel and tourism.

GERMAN

Course Outline

The AS German course is stimulating and varied. In addition to acquiring a greater proficiency in the German language, you study in depth aspects of culture and society in German speaking countries and consider a wide range of topical issues. The course enhances your skills in communication, research, analysis, discussion and presentation whilst developing your command of German. Up to date materials are sourced from newspapers and magazines, radio and television programmes, as well as many Internet sites. Regular lessons with the German assistant provide extra, intensive conversation practice.

Assessment and Deadlines

AS Course:

There are 2 examination modules which can be taken in the summer of year 12, the January of year 13 or the summer of year 13.

- Unit 1: Speaking 1 – candidates are required in this exam to take part in a role play based on a stimulus text in English and to discuss a topic of their own choice.
- Unit 2: Listening, reading and writing - in this paper, candidates answer a range of listening and reading tasks requiring non-verbal and target language responses and produce writing texts.

A2 Course:

There are 2 further modules taken at the end of year 13.

- Unit 3: Speaking 2 – candidates are required in this exam to take part in a discussion based on a stimulus text in the target language and to discuss a topic of their own choice.
- Unit 4: Listening, reading and writing 2 - in this paper, candidates answer a range of listening and reading tasks and produce an essay.

Entry Requirements

Preferably grades A* - C in German and a strong teacher recommendation. Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE.

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade C would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

Successful completion of these courses entitles students to apply for:

- Pure language degrees, diplomas and certificates at colleges or universities.
- Joint degrees with a language as one element (e.g. combined with business

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GERMAN

Progression (cont.)

- studies, history, engineering, science, maths etc.). Universities are increasingly offering language courses to run alongside other study, in response to demand.
- Jobs which require specific language skills e.g. in travel and tourism, marketing and sales, hotel and catering, journalism or transport.

Students should be aware that a language qualification at AS/A2 level is highly regarded amongst employers in general, and in an increasingly international world can give them a significant advantage over monolingual competitors in the job market.

GRAPHICS WITH MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY

Course Outline

The course specialises in the development of skills from the graphic design industry; design process, concept modelling of products, knowledge and understanding of materials and processes along with the role of the designer. The course also provides a combination of theoretical study to support students.

The breakdown of the course is: - coursework folder and practical 60%
- theory with externally marked exam 40%

Units of Assessment

AS Course:

Unit 1

Product Development

This requires a portfolio of evidence which will be built up from 3 distinct and different selections.

- Product investigation - analysis and comparison of a selected product group.
- Product design - design ideas developed into a final outcome.
- Product manufacture - a practical planning and making task.

The unit is internally marked against specified criteria with external moderation from the exam board. This accounts for 60% of the AS grade - 30% of the A2 grade.

Unit 2

Knowledge and understanding of product design

Areas being covered will require an understanding of materials, components and manufacturing processes including CAD/CAM, quality standards, health and safety, hand and commercial processes within the graphics industry and will also cover the effects of design and technology changes on society.

The unit has a 2 hour examination externally set and marked. 40% of AS grade - 20% of A2 grade.

A2 Course:

Unit 3

Further study of product design

Looking at modern technologies and materials and how they impact on the development of new products and processes. Learning about the diverse contribution that ICT has within the design and manufacture industry. Also considering how design in practice impacts upon global and economic issues.

The unit has a 2 hour examination externally set and marked 20% of A2 grade.

Unit 4

Commercial Product development

A design and make activity. The student will this time identify a client or user group with whom they will liaise to develop a concept for a commercial product. This will result in a design folder along with a 3D outcome and a linked 2D graphics development.

The unit is internally marked against specified criteria with external moderation from the exam board. 30% of the A2 grade.

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GRAPHICS WITH MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY

Entry Requirements

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. Those students who achieve an A* - C grade in resistant materials, graphics or electronics, will be accepted onto the course. There will be a total maximum of 2 groups for graphic design and product design. Students wishing to take this subject should have a strong teacher recommendation.

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade D would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

This course is compatible with a wide range of A level options and is an accepted entry qualification for higher education in subjects ranging from architecture, interior design and art & design based courses through a wide spectrum of other subjects, where it can form a very useful third study area. People interested in working in the print industry or advertising and marketing would also benefit from this course.

Please note

Students may not choose the graphics and resistant materials courses together, as they would not be recognised as two separate subjects in future course applications.

HISTORY

Course Outline

The study of history at AS/A2 level is both fascinating and educational. It serves as an excellent foundation in helping us to interpret our own world. The AS/A2 modular course has been very popular and successful, with a high number of students and strong exam results. Furthermore, the popular residential trips to Berlin (Year 12) and Dublin (Year 13) have proved to offer valuable links to the course exams and developed the wider cultural experience of students.

AS Course:

The AS course in Year 12 consists of two modules:

1. **FROM PITT TO PEEL 1783 – 1846**
AS Unit F961 : British History Period Study
Exam (May/June): 2 essays, 1½ hours, 100 marks
Module Value : AS – 50% A2 – 25%
2. **DICTATORSHIP AND DEMOCRACY IN GERMANY 1933-1963**
AS Unit F964 : European and World History Enquiries
A document studies unit involving sources
Exam (May/June): A two-part question, 1½ hours, 100 marks
Module value: AS – 50% A2 – 25%

A2 Course:

The A2 course, to be studied in Year 13, will also consist of two modules:

1. **BRITAIN AND IRELAND 1798-1921**
A2 Unit F966 : Historical Themes
Exam: 2 essays, 2 hours, 120 marks
Module value: A2 – 30%
2. **HISTORICAL INTERPRETATIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS**
A2 Unit F965 - Coursework unit, 80 marks
2 extended essays up to 2,000 words each
Total module value: A2 – 20%
 - a) **HISTORICAL INTERPRETATIONS**
Topic: Russian Revolutions 1894-1924
2,000 words; 40 marks; A2 10%
 - b) **HISTORICAL INVESTIGATIONS**
A personal investigation decided by candidates
2,000 words; 40 marks; A2 10%

Assessment and Deadlines

AS level students will sit Modules 1 and 2 in June.

A2 level students will sit 2 further modules in Year 13, and there will also be an opportunity to re-sit any of the previously attempted modules.

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HISTORY

Entry Requirements

Admission to the course will be dependent upon an acceptable GCSE grade (not lower than a strong C grade) and the strong recommendation of the pupils' Year 11 history teacher.

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. One of these should be in this subject .

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade C/D would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

Many students progress to university to study history. Others who study history at advanced level are sought after for a wide range of degree courses. Their skills of analysis, research, critical awareness, essay and report writing and many others make them acceptable firstly as undergraduates, and then desirable employees in many fields. Many students will progress straight into employment from school and will find that this is a subject valued by employers.

Course Outline

The law of England and Wales is an exciting and fascinating subject to study. It is a subject which is always in the news, is constantly changing and affects many areas of our lives. If you have a genuine interest current affairs, enjoy expressing your opinions and are willing to work hard, this course is for you.

The A2 course incorporates 4 units; 2 are studied and examined each year. There is no coursework. At the end of year 12 students may leave the course having gained an AS or they may choose to continue and gain a full A level at the end of year 13.

Course content:

Year 12

Unit 1: Law Making and the Legal System: This unit covers how laws are made, the role of Parliament, the courts and the impact of the European Union. We also study the structure and of the criminal and civil courts and the various forms of dispute resolution, the legal professions and the role of lay people.

Unit 2: The Concept of Liability: This unit gives the students the opportunity to look at criminal and civil law in action. We will look at the law of negligence, assaults and murder. We will also look at the sanctions used to punish criminal behaviour and how people are compensated if they sue in negligence.

Year 13

Unit 3: Special Study- Criminal Law: In this unit we look in great detail at the law of homicide (murder and manslaughter), the non-fatal offences against the person ("GBH, ABH" and common assault and battery) and the various specific and general defences available to the defendant.

Unit 4: - a) The Law of Tort: Here we look in detail at negligence and the various "land torts"- nuisance and occupiers' liability as well as the corresponding defences.

b) "Concepts of Law": This is the synoptic element of the A level course where students are required to investigate and discuss various themes which run throughout the two year course (e.g. the relationship between law and morality)

Assessment and Deadlines

Students are assessed in June on the modules they have studied. Some of the exams are essay questions, whereas others require students to look at a fictitious legal problem and advise the parties of their rights and liabilities.

Entry Requirements

Students will need a good standard of English and the ability to think and write logically. A GCSE grade A/B in English is a fair indication of their suitability to the course. Students wishing to take this subject should have a strong teacher recommendation.

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. One of these should normally be in this subject or a closely related subject.

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LAW

Entry Requirements (cont.)

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade C/D would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

Many students studying A2 level law continue to study the subject at degree level or alternatives such as criminology. It is also an ideal accompaniment to further study in economics, business or finance. Some students, however, find that the research and essay skills learnt in law A2 level are ideal for employment and for further education in subjects such as English and history.

AS MATHEMATICS

Course Outline

The course consists of modules on both pure mathematics and applied mathematics and is designed to be readily accessible to students. There are no compulsory additional costs, but graphical calculators and text books to use as home resources are available to buy as required (please note this is not compulsory and not required for lessons in school).

The course is modular in format with three units being assessed within the year. The course is designed to develop skills and techniques necessary to manipulate and solve mathematically formulated problems as well as to appreciate the application of mathematics in the 'real world'.

The course is based on a student-centred approach to learning mathematics. Two of the units are based around the pure mathematics side and are compulsory. A wide range of topics are covered, including various algebraic techniques, differentiation and integration, trigonometry and co-ordinate geometry. The remaining unit will be one of the following:

- **mechanics** (the application of mathematics to physical problems, with the emphasis on modelling and interpretation - particularly complementing A2 level physics) or
- **statistics** (the application of mathematics to the concepts of probability and to the drawing of inferences from the collection and analysis of data - complementing geography, biology and business orientated subjects) or
- **discrete mathematics** (involving ideas on algorithms networks and linear programming).

Assessment and Deadlines

There are two assessment times, in January and June. Students will be entered for the assessment of a unit at a suitable time after completing the necessary theory, undertaking their first assessment in January. Each of the three assessment units is equally weighted.

Entry Requirements

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. Grades A*, A or B in GCSE maths are required. Students wishing to take this subject should have a strong teacher recommendation.

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade C would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

AS level mathematics is the first stage of the A2 level qualification, and is a useful qualification into a great number of university and other higher education courses. It is also seen as a particularly useful qualification for a large number of career options.

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A2 MATHEMATICS

Course Outline:	This is the second year of the full A2 level mathematics course. Three more units are undertaken, of which two are compulsory units based on pure mathematics, and the third is an applied module. The pure units cover further differentiation and integration techniques, vector and other co-ordinate geometry work, numerical methods, and more advanced algebraic manipulation. The applied unit will depend on the AS applied unit, involving either statistics, mechanics or discrete mathematics.
Assessment and Deadlines	There are two assessment times in January and June. Each of the three assessment units is equally weighted.
Entry Requirements	Students must have achieved at least a grade E in the AS level examination.
Progression	A2 level mathematics is a useful qualification into a number of university and other higher education courses as well as being seen as a particularly useful qualification for a large number of career options. It is particularly respected as an A2 level subject and has received very favourable press coverage concerning future employment and enhanced earnings.

AS FURTHER MATHEMATICS

Course Outline

Further mathematics is a course designed for able students who want to extend their mathematical knowledge. The course is an extension of the AS level mathematics course and allows students to tackle a wider breadth of work and some more demanding topics. It is also modular in format with three units being assessed within the year. One of the modules is compulsory and is based around the pure mathematics side, covering topics such as complex numbers, matrices and numerical methods. The remaining units will involve statistics, mechanics, discrete mathematics or further pure units depending on the AS mathematics applied units.

Candidates must also study the AS level mathematics course.

Assessment and Deadlines

There are two assessment times, in January and June. Students will be entered for the assessment of a unit at a suitable time after completing the necessary theory, undertaking their first assessment in January. Each of the three assessment units is equally weighted.

Entry Requirements

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. Grade A* or A in maths at GCSE is normally required. Students wishing to take this subject should have a strong teacher recommendation.

Progression

AS level further mathematics is the first stage of the A2 level qualification. It is very suitable for students with a strong mathematical ability and enjoyment of the subject.

A2 FURTHER MATHEMATICS

Course Outline

This is the second year of the full A2. level further mathematics course. Three more units are undertaken, of which one is a compulsory unit based on pure mathematics, covering amongst others hyperbolic functions, De Moivre's Theorem and surface areas of revolutions. The other two modules may include statistics, mechanics, decision mathematics or further pure units depending on the modules taken in other parts of the course.

Candidates must also study the A2 level mathematics course.

Assessment and Deadlines

There are two assessment times in January and June. Each of the three assessment units is equally weighted.

Entry Requirements

Students must have studied both AS mathematics and AS further mathematics.

Progression

A2 level further mathematics is a useful qualification for any higher level course with a strong mathematical content and is regarded with a great deal of respect. It is seen as a useful qualification for science, engineering and computing courses at university.

MUSIC

Course Outline	There are three core elements the course: Performing, Composing, and Musical Understanding. Performance may be done on any instrument or combination of instruments, and music of any genre may be performed, as a wide range of musical styles are studied in the course. Composition is done to a brief set by the exam board. Musical Understanding involves listening to and analysing various pieces of music.
Performance	<p>AS level: 30% of AS marks. 15% of total GCE marks. Candidates will present one performance lasting 5-6 minutes which can be solo, ensemble or a combination of the two.</p> <p>A2 level: 30% of A2 marks. 15% of total GCE marks. Candidates will present one performance of 12-15 minutes which can be solo, ensemble or a combination of the two.</p>
Composition	<p>AS level: 30% of AS marks. 15% of total GCE marks. Students will produce a 3 minute composition to a brief set by the exam board, along with CD sleeve notes to describe the piece and influences on it. The composition and sleeve notes will be completed in controlled circumstances; students will have 15 hours in total to do this.</p> <p>A2 level: 30% of A2 marks. 15% of total GCE marks. There are two sections at A2: composition and technical study. Students will produce either 2 compositions, 2 technical studies or one of each. Composition requires a 3 minute composition in response to a chosen brief. The technical study asks students to complete a piece in a certain style from musical history.</p>
Musical Understanding	<p>AS level: 40% of AS marks. 20% of total GCE marks. Students study and analyse 9 pieces covering a range of dates and genres. They will learn to study scores and identify important musical features, and will also learn the basic principles of 4-part harmony which will lead them to complete a short passage for SATB.</p> <p>A2 level: 40% of A2 marks. 20% of total GCE marks. Students study a further 12 pieces of music for close analysis in a written exam. They will also listen to a wide range of familiar and unfamiliar music in preparation for a listening exam.</p>
Assessment and Deadlines	Assessment is by a mixture of coursework and final examinations. Performance, composition and technical study (A2 level) will be coursework modules, and Musical Understanding will be examined in final examinations. All coursework will be due at the end of the second term of the year it is set.
Entry Requirements	A sound musical grounding and an academic mind is essential for this course. The ability to play or sing to a standard equivalent to Grade 5 (AS level) and Grade 6 (A2 level) is necessary. Students will need a good ear and an open and enquiring musical mind. They should be receptive to a wide variety of styles and genres. Students who thrive on this course enjoy studying the structure, texture, harmony and tonality of musical works in detail. The ability to read and write music is an integral part of the course, and knowledge of music theory to around grade 5 standard is recommended. Students wishing to take this subject should have a strong teacher recommendation.

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MUSIC

Entry Requirements (cont.)

A minimum of 5 grade A* - C grades is required for any student wishing to follow a programme of A level GCEs. It is strongly recommended that any student wishing to study music at GCE level achieve a grade C or above at GCSE. Students interested in the course who did not study music at GCSE will be judged on their musical experience, academic ability and understanding of music theory (equivalent to grade 4 or above).

National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade C/D would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining grade E at the end of the A2 level course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

Any course in music is excellent training for self-discipline, working with others, developing aural skills, performance skills and self-confidence. A2 music is invariably suited to committed students perhaps wishing to study the subject beyond GCE standard, but AS level is a most worthwhile course for budding musicians who wish to develop the whole range of their musical skills because of their love of music.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Course Outline

This 'A' level uses the disciplines of physical sciences and life sciences as well as requiring an understanding of the historical development and cultural context of sport. Students need to have a keen interest in sport, be it as a performer, official or spectator.

The syllabus focuses on the following areas, and seeks to establish how much impact they have on improving and then optimising sports performance:

- 1 Physiological factors
- 2 Psychological factors
- 3 Socio-cultural effects
- 4 Historical effects
- 5 Biomechanical effects

Assessment and Deadlines

AS Course:

Unit 1

- a. Summer exam on the three topics covered in the first year
- b. Applied practicals: taught practically but assessed in the summer written exam.

Unit 2 - Coursework

Students cover a range of sports and are assessed in two out of three components:

- a. Practical performance
- b. Coaching
- c. Officiating

A2 Course:

Unit 1

- a. Summer exam on the three topics covered in the first year
- b. Applied practicals: taught practically but assessed in the summer written exam.

Unit 2 - Coursework

Students cover a range of sports and are assessed in two out of three components:

- a. Practical performance
- b. Coaching
- c. Officiating

Entry Requirements

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. One of these should normally be in this subject or a closely related subject. Students wishing to take this subject should have a strong teacher recommendation.

Those who have studied OCR National Level 2 Vocational Sport at KS4 must have achieved Merit or better.

The course covers a wide range of curriculum areas. Science at grade C or above is the generally accepted minimum. It is also helpful, although not essential, to have taken GCSE PE.

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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Entry Requirements (cont)

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade C/D would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

Medical schools will only accept sports studies if it is supported by chemistry and mathematics or biology. It combines well with subjects like biology, English, history, physics and sociology. You can study sports studies/sports science at honours degree and masters level and even progress to PhD in any one of its disciplines.

Many jobs in the sport and leisure industry are now looking at sports studies as an essential background for future development. Sports studies is also an advantage when looking into jobs such as physiotherapy and sports journalism.

PHYSICS

Course Outline

This AS/A2 level AQA modular course is designed to stimulate interest in, and enjoyment of, the study of physics; and to provide a qualification and knowledge base suitable not only for students planning to continue further studies in physics, or related subjects, but also for those not intending to pursue the subject beyond A2 level.

Students will be expected to develop their experimental, evaluative, analytical, observational, problem solving and communicative skills, as well as an appreciation of the context of physics within the general scientific, social, economic and technological environment. The subject is rigorous and demanding and is, as a result, a well respected qualification for entry to a wide range of careers.

AS Examination:

- Unit 1 Particles, quantum phenomena and electricity
- Unit 2 Mechanics, materials and waves
- Unit 3 Investigative and practical skills.

A2 Examination:

- Unit 4 Field and further mechanics
- Unit 5 Astrophysics
- Unit 6 Investigative and practical skills.

Homework is set and marked on a regular basis and students are expected to produce work to schedule, as well as spending time consolidating topics covered in lessons and reading around the subject.

Practical work forms an important part of the learning process and students will be covering a good deal of their syllabus through experimental work. There is a practical assessment in both the first year (AS) and the second year (A2) of the courses. This will be assessed on the major skills of:

- 1 Planning investigations
- 2 Implementing
- 3 Analysing evidence and drawing conclusions
- 4 Evaluating evidence and procedures

Assessment and Deadlines

The course is divided into six modules; the AS level in the first year comprising units 1, 2 and 3, the A2 level the following year being units 4, 5 and 10. Units are assessed in January or June.

Entry Requirements

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. Students are expected to have GCSE Science and Additional Science at grade A* - B or strong teacher recommendation .

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PHYSICS

Entry Requirements (cont.)

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade B/C would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

A2 level physics is a required qualification for university physics and engineering courses and is helpful in gaining admission to many other science and science related courses such as materials science and medicine.

Career opportunities exist in many fields including research, industry, commerce and/or public services.

POLITICS

Course Outline

We are exposed to political decisions every day of our lives. This course aims to demystify the reasons for those decisions and demonstrates the machinery whereby the political process works.

This course does not claim to be able to prepare students for a successful career in politics! Instead it should be seen as an excellent area of study for students in social science and arts courses, or as an interesting option for those following science courses. Political studies should appeal especially to those interested in careers in journalism, the media, the law and the Civil Service.

For teaching purposes the course is divided into British and American political studies.

Costs: The department offers opportunities to visit politics conferences and the Houses of Parliament, normally costing £20 per visit twice a year. Books and publications are provided by the department, although a reading list is provided for students who may want to buy some of their own resources.

Assessment and Deadlines

AS course: Complete 2 modules in Year 12: - assessed by exams

- 1 Contemporary politics of the UK (parties, pressure groups and elections).
- 2 Contemporary government of the UK (structure and workings of government).

A2 course: Complete 2 modules in Year 13: - assessed by exams

- 1 US government and politics.
- 2 UK and American politics. The systems compared.

Entry Requirements

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. One of these should normally be in this subject or a closely related subject. Good GCSE grades in English, history, geography and business studies are a strong indication of suitability for the course. Students wishing to take this subject should have a strong teacher recommendation.

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade C/D would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

Politics is a well-established subject at Post-16 level. It is accepted by all institutions of higher education as a preparation for undergraduate study in most subjects. An education in politics provides an important part of the preparation for citizenship and the world of work.

PSYCHOLOGY

Course Outline

Psychology is a wide-ranging course which involves students in a variety of interesting topics.

If you are the sort of person that is often intrigued by the actions and thoughts of others (and yourself), then psychology will develop this interest and add some analytical skills.

It is an academic subject which requires students to read and respond critically to research studies and the theories that relate to them.

AS Course:

15 core studies (from 15 different psychologists) from 5 different areas of psychology (Social, Cognitive, Physiological, Developmental & Individual differences) and psychological investigations.

Candidates will study and conduct 4 investigations (experiment, correlation, observation and self-report).

A2 Course:

Candidates will choose to study 2 out of the following options of applied psychology:

- Forensic psychology
- Health and clinical psychology
- Psychology of sport and exercise
- Psychology of education.

Candidates will also study a range of perspectives, issues, methods and debates and will study aspects of research design and implementation.

Assessment and Deadlines

Students will be externally assessed in June of each year. During the year they will have to meet certain deadlines, which will be to assess progress in the modules as we work towards the final examinations.

Entry Requirements

Students will need a good standard of English and the ability to think and write logically. A good GCSE grade in English is a fair indication of their suitability to the course. Students should discuss their choice with the Head of Department before making an application. Students wishing to take this subject should have a strong teacher recommendation.

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. One of these should normally be in this subject or a closely related subject.

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade C would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade D at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

continued overleaf

PSYCHOLOGY

Progression

There are a wide range of degree courses in psychology available at the majority of universities. A psychology degree could lead to a career in, for example, social work, criminal justice, child development, mental health services, marketing, counselling and so on.

RESISTANT MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY

Course Outline The course specialises in developing practical and design problem solving skills, through designing, analysing and making products from appropriate resistant materials such as wood, metals and plastics. Final products should be functioning, useable outcomes.

The breakdown of the course is: - coursework folder and practical 60%
- theory with externally marked exam 40%

Units of Assessment AS Course:

Unit 1 Product development
This requires a portfolio of evidence which will be built up from 3 distinct and different selections.

- Product investigation - analysis and comparison of a selected product group.
- Product design - design ideas developed into a final outcome.
- Product manufacture - a practical planning and making task.

The unit is internally marked against specified criteria with external moderation from the exam board. 60% of AS grade - 30% of A2 grade.

Unit 2 Knowledge and understanding of product design
Areas being covered will require an understanding of materials, components and manufacturing processes including CAD/CAM, quality standards, health and safety, hand and commercial processes within the manufacturing industry and will also cover the effects of design and technology changes on society.
The unit has a 2 hour examination externally set and marked. 40% of AS grade - 20% of A2 grade.

A2 Course:

Unit 3 Further study of product design
impact on the development of new products and processes. Learning about the diverse contribution that ICT has within the design and manufacture industry. Also considering how design in practice impacts upon global and economic issues.
The unit has a 2 hour examination externally set and marked 20% of A2 grade.

Unit 4 Commercial product development
Students will this time identify a client or user group with whom they will liaise with to develop a functioning prototype commercial product. Students will apply a range of appropriate practical skills to develop a product from materials selected through knowledge and understanding of their working properties. The finished outcome will be accompanied by a folder which shows the design process with a strong link to industrial applications and commercial working practices. The unit is internally marked against specified criteria with external moderation from the exam board. 30% of A2 grade.

continued overleaf

RESISTANT MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY

Entry Requirements

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. Those students who achieve an A* - C grade in resistant materials, graphics or electronics will be accepted onto the course. There will be a total maximum of 2 groups, one for graphic design and one for product design. Students wishing to take this subject should have a strong teacher recommendation.

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade D/C would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

This course is compatible with a wide range of AS/A2 level options and is an accepted entry qualification for higher education in subjects ranging from architecture, interior design and art and design based courses through a wide spectrum of other subjects, where it can form a very useful third study area. This also gives possible entry into a modern apprenticeship with the construction industry or a design based sales position.

Please note

Students may not choose resistant materials with graphics courses as they would not be recognised as two separate subjects in future course applications.

TEXTILES AS/A2 ENDORSED ART (Edexcel)

The Unendorsed Course

This is an endorsed advanced AS and A2 in textiles. The students will be expected to explore textiles in the broadest sense, using a variety of processes such as paint, dye application, stitch, construction and weave.

Course Aims

This course aims to develop:

- Intellectual, imaginative, creative and intuitive powers
- Investigative, analytical, experimental, practical, technical and expressive skills, aesthetic understanding and critical judgement
- An understanding of the inter-relationships between art and design and an awareness of the contexts in which they operate
- Knowledge and understanding of art and textile fashion design; both the contemporary and the historical.

Assessment and Deadlines

AS Course:

Comprises two units of assessment and can be awarded as a discrete qualification.

- Units: 1 Textile coursework
2 Externally set assessment (ESA)

A2 Course:

Comprises the two AS units, plus a further two units in the second year.

- Units: 3 Textile coursework
4 Art and Design ESA

Coursework to be completed by Easter in the year of the examination.

Entry Requirements

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. One of these should preferably be a GCSE grade C in art or a closely related subject. Students wishing to take this subject should have a strong teacher recommendation.

There are always a few students with natural ability who wish to take one of these courses, even though they have not followed a textile course in Years 10 and 11. The art and design department welcomes these enquiries and will advise students accordingly. It is an expectation of the art department that students who do not have an art/textile GCSE will present a portfolio of their own art work on application. This is to demonstrate skills and commitment.

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade D/E would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Costs: It is always preferable to use your own equipment, although some basic equipment is supplied. There would be some financial involvement with art equipment packs, sketch books, trips and workshops, approximately £70 per year.

continued overleaf

TEXTILES AS/A2 ENDORSED ART (Edexcel)

Progression

Various courses in further and higher education including technical illustration, graphic design, fashion design, degree, art foundation courses, etc.

THEATRE STUDIES

Course Outline

The course offers students the opportunity to work practically in the drama studio, directing and acting in plays both written and of their own making. The practical examination tests students' theatrical skills and the ability to work flexibly with other people. No other AS/A2 level develops or tests this ability, which is surely an important aspect of the world of employment.

Students are expected to visit the theatre regularly and build up an understanding of modern theatrical practice.

The written papers test students' knowledge and understanding of plays, practitioners and contemporary work. Although this part of the course is academic in content, much of the preparation is practical, since students are expected to see plays in terms of performance.

The course is successful and popular, but it is worth bearing in mind that it demands a great deal of commitment to, and enthusiasm for, the theatre. Students will be expected to dedicate time outside of lessons to rehearsals as well as completing written homework after each lesson.

Costs: Various theatre trips for Paper 3 - average £10 (suggest you will need to see a minimum of four).

Texts can be bought if students wish to annotate them - average £5.

Assessment and Deadlines

AS level:

Unit 1 - Written examination.

- Section 1 - Response to a live piece of theatre seen during the course.
- Section 2 - Study of one set play from a choice of six plays.

Unit 2 - Practical examination.

- Performance in a group of an extract of a published play.

A2 level:

Unit 3 - Written examination.

- Study of two plays - one from pre-twentieth century and a second from the twentieth or twenty-first century.
- A synoptic paper requiring a full written realisation of a published play.

Unit 4 - Practical paper.

- A performance of a group devised piece of theatre.

Entry Requirements

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. One of these should normally be in this subject or a closely related subject. Those students who did not gain 5 or more A* - C, but who did gain an A or A* in drama, are welcome to apply. Students wishing to take this subject should have a strong teacher recommendation.

continued overleaf

THEATRE STUDIES

Entry Requirements (cont.)

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade D/E would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade E at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

Theatre studies is recognised by universities for the purpose of matriculation. Students have gained places on drama and theatre courses at degree level and on a wide range of arts and humanities courses. Theatre studies is recognised by employers as developing confidence and articulacy. It is useful for any career involving people.

Applied subjects - General information for all areas

What are “applied” qualifications?

An applied qualification is one which may be seen as preparing the student for a career in a particular field.

At St Ivo we offer a range of applied subjects at different levels:

	Level 2	Single A2	Double A2
Art & Design	X	X	✓
Business	✓	X	✓
Health & Social Care	X	X	✓
Information & Communication Technology - National Diploma	✓	✓	✓
Sport - National Certificate Level 3	X	✓	✓
Travel & Tourism	✓	✓	✓

Applied qualifications have many benefits:

Students get the opportunity to investigate the many career paths covered by their particular subject. They will have the opportunity to meet people who work in a particular industry and will have the chance to take part in work experience.

There is an emphasis on research and students are required to present their ideas and findings in portfolios which are assessed by the exam boards.

Students are required to sit fewer exams than those taking non-applied courses, but will have more portfolio deadlines to meet.

Employers are becoming increasingly concerned that young people do not have the skills required to be a successful employee. A vocational qualification enables students to see how an industry works, the type of jobs in the field that are available and the pressures and benefits of working in a particular sector.

On the following pages are descriptions of the applied courses followed by the Level 3 course. As some courses are more vocational than others, students should discuss their career and learning goals with teachers before making their final choice.

Advanced GCEs (also known as “Applied A levels”)

Single Award

This is a 3 unit award and is the vocational equivalent of the traditional AS level. The award can be followed through into year 13. The 3 additional units studied makes a full A2 level.

Double Award

A subject can be studied at a “double” AS or A2 level and is the equivalent of two A levels. It will therefore take up 10 hours a week of a student’s timetable. They are available as advanced GCE.

Grading for the single award is A*-E and for the double award is A*A*-EE and carry the same UCAS tariffs as the non-applied subjects.

Progression is the same as for any A level student in employment or further or higher education. It is important to note that higher education institutions recognise applied A levels as being as important and as valuable as non-vocational subjects.

Please see overleaf for a description of the various courses on offer.

ADVANCED GCE in Applied ART & DESIGN

Course Outline	<p>The art and design course introduces students to the exciting and skilled world of the artist, designer and craftsman.</p> <p>The aim of this course is to provide a broad education as a foundation both for training to lead to possible employment or for further and higher education. This is achieved by ensuring that candidates develop the general skills, knowledge and understanding that underpin a range of occupations or professions. Students can explore areas such as textiles, photography, printmaking, sculpture and fashion.</p> <p>Costs: It is always preferable to use your own equipment, although most is supplied. There will be some financial involvement with sketch books and trips - approximately £40 per year.</p>
Qualification	<p>We offer this Advanced GCE in Applied Art and Design as a Double Award consisting of 12 units. The course has been designed to encourage candidates to develop and use 2D and 3D visual language; develop skills in materials and techniques; develop an understanding of vocationally relevant aspects of art, craft or design preparing candidates for the world of work or higher education. There is also the flexibility to offer this course as a single award. Please see Ms Coupland for further information.</p> <p>The course is portfolio and assignment based and students must present evidence to show that they have met all the performance criteria in all of the AS and A2 units. Three of the twelve units are externally set and assessed. Three of the remaining nine units allow some scope for students to specialise.</p>
External Tests	<p>These can be taken in January or June.</p>
Coursework Portfolios	<p>These are submitted in May.</p>
Grading	<p>Double award AA - EE.</p>
Entry Requirements	<p>Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. One of these should normally be art or a design related subject. Students wishing to take this subject should have the strong teacher recommendation.</p> <p>Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade C would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade CC at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.</p>
Progression	<p>Progression is to higher education or to employment in an area related to art and design.</p>

ADVANCED GCE in Applied BUSINESS

Course Outline The Advanced GCE in Applied Business is offered at Double Award level, as both an AS and an A2 qualification. The course includes a mix of portfolio coursework and external exams. The course offers students the opportunity to develop skills in the researching of a problem, finding solutions and producing coursework to a deadline. The successful Advanced GCE student will be able to take control of his or her own learning. Practical understanding is developed through a number of visits to organisations dealing with business issues; and the use of guest speakers to cover real world solutions to business problems.

The course is intended to offer a more vocational route to AS and A2 students. This course is well suited to students who can work to coursework deadlines and who prefer to be assessed on coursework rather than by exam.

Qualification We offer this Advanced GCE in Applied Business as a Double Award.

The assessment of both the Double As and Double A2 awards is made via a combination of portfolio work and external tests. A student who goes through the full 2 year course can achieve 2 A level grades that carry the same value as 2 distinct A level grades in different subjects.

External Tests These can be taken in January or June.

Portfolio Requirements These are submitted throughout the academic year..

Grading Double Award of 'A' level grades from AA to EE.

Entry Requirements Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. One of these should normally be in this subject or a closely related subject. Students wishing to take this subject should have the strong teacher recommendation.

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade D would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade DD at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression Advanced GCE has been designed to provide a broad education leading to further or higher education. It is constructed to allow students to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding that underpin a range of occupations or professions. Students might choose to enter employment and to work towards further qualifications.

In recent years many successful students from St Ivo have progressed to university.

ADVANCED GCE in Applied HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

Course Outline Applied GCE in Health and Social Care offers students the opportunity to develop skills, knowledge and understanding that prepares them for entry on to university courses or into employment in the health and social care sector.

Applied AS

- Unit 1 - Effective caring. Examination.
- Unit 2 - Effective communication. Portfolio.
- Unit 3 - Health/illness & disease. Portfolio.
- Unit 4 - Child development. Examination.
- Unit 5 - Nutrition and dietetics. Examination.
- Unit 8 - Needs and provisions for elderly clients. Portfolio.

Applied A2

- Unit 11 - Working in health & social care. Portfolio.
- Unit 12 - Human development - factors and theories. Examination.
- Unit 13 - The role of exercise in maintaining health and well being. Examination.
- Unit 15 - Clients with disabilities. Examination.
- Unit 17 - Understanding mental disorder. Portfolio.
- Unit 20 - Environmental health. Portfolio.

Qualification We offer this Applied GCE as a Double Award studied over two years.

External Tests These will be taken in January or June.

Coursework portfolios These are submitted in May.

Grading The grading for the Double Award will be AA - EE.

Entry Requirements Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Applied GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. A good science grade is a strong indication of suitability for the course. Students wishing to take this subject should have the strong teacher recommendation.

Please note. National data from students taking this subject suggests that candidates who enter with an average points score equivalent to a grade D would have a minimum level of expectation of attaining a grade DD at the end of the A2 course. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression The course provides a sound basis for progression into higher education and degree programmes. The scientific knowledge offers opportunities to enter medically related areas, such as nursing and other professions allied to medicine. This is a very suitable course for students considering working in children's services and the teaching profession.

ADVANCED GCE in Applied INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

Course Outline	Advanced GCE in Applied Information and Communication Technology offers students the opportunity to develop skills, knowledge and understanding that prepares them for entry onto university courses or into employment in their specialist area. Topics covered include: ICT and society, data handling, creating a website, project management, publishing, programming and more.
Qualification	We offer this Advanced GCE in Applied Information and Communication Technology as a Double Award consisting of twelve units and as a Single Award consisting of six units (over two years).
External Tests	These will be taken in January or June.
Coursework Portfolios	These are submitted in May.
Grading	Applied GCE Double Award A level qualifications will be graded on an eleven point scale: A*A*, A*A, AA, AB, BB, BC, CC, CD, DD, DE, EE. To be awarded an A*A*, candidates will need to achieve a grade AA on the full Double Award A level qualification and at least 90% of the maximum uniform mark on the aggregate of the A2 units.
Entry Requirements	<p>Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Applied GCEs should have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE. One of these should normally be in this subject or a closely related subject. We would expect a grade C at least in English as minimum evidence of coursework capability. Students wishing to take this subject should have the strong teacher recommendation.</p> <p>If students are to keep up with the demanding pressure of coursework, it is important that they have their own computer at home, with appropriate software, to allow them to complete assignments and support their studies.</p>
Progression	<p>Students who successfully complete the qualification will be well equipped to move on to degrees and BTEC Higher National Diplomas in related subjects such as IT, computer science, information systems, multimedia, software engineering, computer networking, E-business and information management.</p> <p>Both courses are very intensive and because of this student numbers are limited to 16.</p>

APPLIED SCIENCE

Course Outline

This is an ideal qualification for those students who want a broad background in science which will allow them to progress to further or higher education, training or employment. Students will investigate the type of work undertaken in a scientific organisation or workplace and the science involved in this work. They will study how energy plays a crucial role in our everyday lives and learn about the work of analytical scientists. Students will study different analytical techniques and conduct analysis on a variety of substances. Students will be expected to use the knowledge and skills they have gained to undertake research and investigative work of their own.

AS Applied Science

The AS comprises the following units: 'Investigating science at work'; 'Energy transfer systems' and 'Finding out about substances'. The course is 66% portfolio work, which is internally assessed and moderated by AQA with the remaining 34% being assessed by an external examination.

A2 Applied Science

The A2 comprises the following unit 'Planning and carrying out a scientific investigation' plus two optional units. The course is 66% portfolio work, which is internally assessed and moderated by AQA with the remaining 34% being assessed by an external examination.

Homework is set and marked on a regular basis and students are expected to produce work to schedule, as well as spending time consolidating topic covered in lessons where necessary. Portfolio work forms a significant part of the assessment for this course as it is vital that students complete coursework by the deadlines that are given.

Assessment and Deadlines

The course is divided into six units which are assessed in January or June.

Entry Requirements

Students wishing to follow a programme of 'A' level GCEs or Advanced GCEs should have a minimum of five A*^C grades at GCSE. Students are expected to have both GCSE Science and GCSE Additional Science at grade C or above and a strong teacher recommendation. Students who have studied the BTec course in Science must have a merit or distinction. All students must discuss their application for a course with an appropriate member of staff from the subject department.

Progression

Higher education courses in science and related subjects, also courses which require an AS/A2 level pass in a science subject. A wide range of careers are open to individuals with a qualification in Applied Science, including research, the health service and the medical and pharmaceutical industries.

LEVEL 3 National Certificate in Sport - Vocational Course

Course Outline	<p>This course is for students with an interest in sport and the sports industry. You will cover topics including coaching, health, fitness, injury, local and national sport and sport in the industry. The course has a strong practical emphasis and includes work experience visits to local sporting facilities to learn, study and practice new skills.</p>
Assessment and Deadlines	<p>Within the one year course, four mandatory units will be undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The sports industry• Sport and society• Principles of sports coaching• Sport in the UK <p>You will also study two optional units.</p> <p>Year 2 units of study are varied and wide ranging in a sport context. There will be no formal written examination. All work will be internally assessed by portfolio and externally moderated.</p>
Equivalency	<p>The qualification is equivalent to one A level , grade A - E at the end of Year 1 and if continued on to Year 2, then it is equivalent to 2 A level grades.</p>
Entry Requirements	<p>Students will be required to produce a portfolio of work that will be assessed at regular intervals throughout the course. Good organisational skills and a conscientious approach to studies are essential.</p> <p>It is recommended that students entering the course have a minimum of five A* - C grades at GCSE or equivalent. Students wishing to take this subject should have the strong teacher recommendation.</p> <p>While GCSE PE or OCR National Sport would be beneficial, they are not a requirement. However an interest in sport is essential.</p>
Progression	<p>This course provides a sound basis for progression onto the Level 3 Diploma in Sport, will help progression into further and higher education and will be an ideal start to a career in the sports sector.</p>

Level 2 courses and curriculum

Level 2 courses are one year courses which are the equivalent of 4 or more GCSEs at grade C or above. The student has to create a portfolio of work which contains pieces of work on each unit covered in the course. Each portfolio of evidence is moderated in school and the marks are sent off to the examination board. There may also be an externally moderated unit.

Grading: Level 2 courses are graded Pass, Merit and Distinction.

In addition to studying for the core Level 2 qualification they have opted for, students will be required to take the following courses:

Preparation for Working Life

You will be studying about employment opportunities and qualifications needed for employment, how to confidently make decisions about your personal finance, how to lead a safe and healthy lifestyle and how to play a positive role in society. This course is worth $\frac{1}{2}$ GCSE at grade C and above.

Enterprise and Employability

This course covers topics including entrepreneurial activity, business opportunities, safety in the workplace and the role of Trade Unions. This course is worth $\frac{1}{2}$ GCSE at grade C and above.

Assessment of each of these courses is through a combination of examination and portfolio work.

BTEC First Certificate in Public Services

This course is designed to teach you about the skills you need to enter a career in the uniformed public services (e.g. emergency services, armed forces, prison service etc). **If you do not plan this kind of career, the course is still extremely valuable** because you will be doing lots of team work activities, you will learn how to deal with people from many different backgrounds and you will be learning about your rights and responsibilities as a British citizen. All of these are very important in a wide range of careers. Assessment is through a portfolio and the qualification is worth 2 GCSEs at grade C and above.

Students will also be expected to resit their mathematics and English GCSE to attain a grade C or above where appropriate.

There will also be an opportunity to take a Level 1 course in First Aid in the Workplace.

If you are a Level 2 student you will have a timetable which is busy and varied. It is therefore important that you are committed and conscientious. If you are organised and hardworking you will leave year 12 with a wider portfolio of GCSE and equivalent qualifications, which will enhance your career prospects and prepare you for further study at St Ivo or elsewhere.

Please see overleaf for a description of the various core Level 2 courses.

Level 2 BUSINESS - BTEC First Diploma - 1 Year Course

Course Outline

The BTEC First Diploma provides an opportunity for learners to develop a practical understanding of the systems used by businesses in their day to day work and also the problems faced by business and the methods used by business to solve those problems. The qualification offers the opportunity for learners to develop skills and understanding of work carried out within organisations across a range of business.

Assessment and Deadlines

During the one year course learners will study three mandatory units:

- ◆ Introduction to Business Activity
- ◆ Exploring Key Business Pressures
- ◆ Investigating Financial Control

Learners will also study three optional units.

All but one of the units will be assessed internally via a portfolio of work. Unit 1 will be assessed externally by the awarding body, through an externally set and assessed assignment. Learners can achieve a Pass, Merit or a Distinction.

Entry Requirements

It is recommended that students have at least 4 GCSEs at grade D or above in order to begin the course. Students wishing to take this subject should have a strong teacher recommendation.

Progression

The BTEC First Diploma is designed to provide a specialist work-related qualification. The successful First Diploma student will be a person who can manage his or her own learning successfully, but who may not perform to their best in exam conditions.

The qualification has been developed to provide a preparation for employment and also offers a sound basis for progression to further education at AS or Applied GCE level.

Students who take this course will also study "Enterprise and Employment" and "Preparation for Working Life". Students can take the BTEC First Certificate in Public Services.

Level 2 IT DIPLOMA (Higher) - 1 Year Course

Course Outline

We offer the Higher Diploma in Information Technology, which is suited to students who have an interest in the real world application of ICT. This course would be suitable for students who have not achieved 5 A* - C at GCSE level as the Diploma has an equivalent qualification of 7 GCSEs A* - C.

This course will enable students to succeed in a competitive world increasingly dependent on technology. The Diploma in IT will look at how organisations work and the role technology can play. It will develop students' knowledge and understanding of issues that are affecting IT today, how it works and the key skills involved. Students will learn what different people in Industry do – as well as how to manage projects, design new business solutions, develop websites, manage networks and deliver IT support.

Students will use Technical, Interpersonal and Business skills through theoretical study and practical experience, and then given the chance to apply the knowledge learnt in work scenarios. The Diploma will also help to develop personal, learning and thinking skills such as team working, creative thinking and self-management which are vital in both life and work.

Units

IT Diploma cover:

1. The potential of technology

Students will discover the ever changing effect that technology has on society; it will give them an insight into both the changes that are taking place and the basis for these changes. They will use relevant examples, studying the ways in which technology can help organisations and individuals to achieve their objectives.

2. Exploring organisations

Students will develop an understanding of enterprise and business organisations, using current examples from industry. This will include exploring technology-enabled business processes.

3. Effective communication

Students will develop the ability to communicate and operate effectively in a business-like environment, including understanding teams, communication methods and the consequences of different behaviours. It will encourage students to keep pace with future technological developments.

4. Skills for innovation

Students will be able create and present IT-based solutions for business problems. This will develop students' use of creative, investigative and numerical reasoning skills, and the interpersonal skills to negotiate agreements.

5. Technology systems

Students will gain skills required to develop technology systems for a range of business environments. Students will assemble business-relevant technology systems; design, develop and test simple programs; and understand the principles of systems availability.

continued overleaf

Level 2 IT DIPLOMA (Higher) - 1 Year Course

Course outline (continued)

6. Multimedia

Students will develop an understanding of multimedia technology and its relevance to communication and entertainment. They will design and create a multimedia product that demonstrates an understanding of the business needs of the client and the needs of the associated target audience.

7. Managing projects

Students will understand the principles of planning and completing a project. They will have the opportunity to apply this knowledge to the development of task-based project plans for technology-enabled solutions, and how this process is used in business.

All students will need to achieve a minimum standard in Personal, Learning and Thinking skills and Functional skills.

All students will undertake Work Experience, as it is a key part of the Diploma.

Assessment and Deadlines

This course requires students to undertake examinations, practical and written assessments and work experience.

This course is challenging for students.

Entry Requirements

It is recommended that students have achieved at least four subjects at GCSE grade D or above. ICT courses in Year 10 and 11 give a basic knowledge of ICT. However, for this course, students should have a real desire to extend their ICT skills and show determination in becoming sophisticated and high level users. Access to a computer and software applications at home would be a real advantage for this course. Students wishing to take this subject should have a strong teacher recommendation.

Progression

This course will develop the range of skills and knowledge needed to succeed in further training or employment, providing students with an insight into the wide range of career and further study options available.

It will provide a sound basis for further studies at A level, Applied A Level and Level 3 Diploma (Advanced).

This course is very intensive and because of this student numbers are limited to 15.

Level 2 TRAVEL & TOURISM - 1 Year Course

Course Outline

An alternative course for students who do not have 5 grade C GCSEs. This course is offered by OCR and helps learners to reach, through practical investigation, an understanding of the ways in which the travel and tourism industries attempt to satisfy people's demands for using leisure and holiday time. The qualification offers learners the opportunity to develop skills, knowledge and understanding of travel and tourism and its component industries.

Learners are offered the opportunity to participate in a number of day visits to travel and tourism venues e.g. Hunstanton, Cambridge, The Marriott Hotel.

Assessment and Deadlines

During the one year course, learners will study three mandatory units plus three optional units:

- a) introduction to the travel and tourism industry
- b) introduction to tourist destinations
- c) Introduction to customer service in travel and tourism

All but one unit of the course will be assessed internally through portfolios and oral work. Unit 1 will be assessed externally by the awarding body through an externally set assignment. Learners can be awarded a Pass, Merit or Distinction.

Entry Requirements

It is recommended that learners have at least 4 GCSEs at grade D or above for the course. Students wishing to take this subject should have a strong teacher recommendation.

Progression

The OCR Level 2 course is designed to relate to the National Occupational Standards in the sector, which in turn forms the basis of National Vocational Qualifications (NVQ). The qualification provides much underpinning knowledge for the National Occupational Standards, as well as practical skills in preparation for work and possible achievement of NVQs in due course.

The course therefore provides a sound basis for progression to the advanced level programme, or to employment or further training. Employment may be in the public, private or voluntary sectors and further training may involve a wide range of relevant NVQs, including travel services, catering and hospitality, accounting, creative arts, entertainment and many others.

Students who take this course will also study "Enterprise and Employment" and "Preparation for Working Life". Students also take the BTEC First Certificate in Public Services.



ST IVO SCHOOL

Tel: 01480 375400
Fax: 01480 375444

SIXTH FORM ENTRY PROCEDURE 2010-2011

Head of Sixth Form:	Richard Perry
Assistant Heads of	Michael Oswell
Sixth Form:	Kim Perry

October 2009

Dear Student

I am pleased that you are considering applying to join the St Ivo Sixth Form. I hope that you find the brochure, with its subject inserts, of use.

The decision you are about to take is an important one and not one to be taken lightly. Therefore, we feel that it is important that you, your family and the school spend a lot of time reflecting upon what is the best programme of study for you within the Sixth Form. The following list of dates is designed to help you and the school to plan your choices within the school.

Each course outline indicates any costs which might be incurred. If your family is in receipt of Family Credit or Income Support, please write to the Head, as there are some funds available to help in these instances. This will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is any aspect of our Sixth Form about which you are unclear or which you wish to discuss.

*Richard Perry
Head of Sixth Form*

Schedule for Sixth Form Applications 2009/2010

2009

- 9 October** - Issue of Sixth Form Brochure
- 22 October** - **Intake Evening** for students and parents/carers of new Year 12 in the Hall at 6.45pm

2010

- Throughout January** - Talks given by Heads of Department to prospective students
- 8 February** - Return of application forms for entry to Sixth Form to Year 11 tutors
- February
March
April** - Interviews with prospective students, plus input from tutor staff and careers staff. Offers of acceptance given
- May/June** - GCSE examinations
- September** - Signing on day for new students

The Sixth Form Contract - The Student's Commitments

It is understood that being a student in the St Ivo Sixth Form offers certain privileges and demands certain responsibilities in return.

1. Attendance at registration, form periods and assembly is compulsory and is recorded for future references . A punctual attitude is expected.
2. Signing on for Post-16 courses involves a high degree of commitment. All lessons must be attended and deadlines for work followed.
3. A 'viable timetable' in the Sixth Form involves a commitment to 21 periods in agreed subject areas. If students leave a subject they must look for other areas to make up a 'viable timetable'. Students must fill out a course change form available from the Sixth Form office.
4. The 21 periods must include either one PE or one Community Service period.
5. Students must follow the code of behaviour laid out in the Sixth Form booklet. Dress must be in line with the dress code. Clothes should not be dirty, torn or offensive. The Keep building must be respected and looked after by students.
6. The difference between social and anti-social behaviour is as clear as in other areas of the school. Students should be respectful and polite to members of staff and to each other. Bullying is not tolerated.

The Sixth Form Contract - St Ivo's Commitments

It is understood that St Ivo School has these commitments to every Sixth Form student:

1. Appropriate academic teaching and facilities are provided for all.
2. Each student is entitled to opportunities for Community Service, PE, work placement and ICT training.
3. The Keep building is made available by the school for use of members of Years 12 and 13.
4. Academic progress is carefully monitored and pastoral care is given. Form teachers are responsible for their students and offer help and support when needed.
5. There is a representative body for Sixth Formers, the Sixth Form Committee. It's duties and powers are laid down in the Committee Constitution.