



SWALE SIXTH FORM

BETTER TOGETHER

Prospectus 2018/19 for Students and Parents

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Dear Student

Thank you for your interest in Swale Sixth Form. We offer a unique and challenging programme to all our students, whatever course you might choose, and look forward to the possibility of working with you in the future.

As you look at the courses and qualifications available to you, both academic and vocational, please note the entry requirements. You will be encouraged to undertake additional studies to complement your main course (you will need to study at least 3 A levels or equivalents). We believe this is an essential part of preparing you for the challenge and opportunities that lie ahead in either the world of work or Higher Education. All students will be interviewed by either a Principal or Vice Principal of Swale Sixth Form. Some courses will then require a further meeting/audition with the Subject Leader.

Additional opportunities will be offered to you as a student in Swale Sixth Form and excellent facilities and resources are available to all our students, at all sites. Both the main sites at Westlands and Sittingbourne Community College, have dedicated sixth form study areas, as well as an extensive range of IT facilities, performing studios, sports facilities and more. In addition, we have professional facilities at our Skills Centre, for the catering, hair and beauty courses.

One to one support is available to all our students from the Sixth Form teams, which includes a Learning Leader and Pastoral Support Manager, as well as a dedicated Careers and progression advisor throughout your studies.

We look forward to you joining us in 2018.

Mrs Z Romney
Deputy Head teacher
Principal SSF

Mrs J Noble
Assistant Head teacher
Principal SSF

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Swale Sixth Form Course Choices - September 2018

	A	B	C	D	E		
Level 3	History A level	Psychology A level	Geography A level	English Literature A level	Psychology A level	A levels	
	Maths A level	Art A level	Media Studies A level	Photography A level			
	PE A level		Physics A level	Sociology A level			
			Sociology A level				
	Business Single	Applied Science Single	Business Single	Business Double (1)	Business Double (2)	Applied General	
	Finance	Business Single	Finance	Engineering (1)	Engineering (2)		
	HSC Triple (1)	Dance Single	HSC Triple (2)	HSC Triple (3)	Drama Single		
	Music Performing Single	Computing Single	IT Single		Sport Single		
	CACHE pathway						CACHE
	Maths A level			Engineering (1)	Engineering (2)	Tech Bacc	
GCSE Resits	English GCSE	English GCSE	Maths GCSE	Maths GCSE	English GCSE	GCSE Resits	
		Maths GCSE					
L2 Pathways	L2 Childcare plus Finance qualification					Full time level 2 pathways	
	L2 Light Vehicle Maintenance						
	L2 Painting and decorating						
	L2 Sport and Activity Leaders plus Finance qualification						
	L1 Hair and Beauty						
	L2 Hair						
	L2 Beauty						
L1 or L2 Catering							

Please note – courses and venues are subject to change due to student numbers.

SSF Recruitment process for Sept 2018 entry

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graph TD; A[SSF Recruitment process for Sept 2018 entry] --> B[Students have information and guidance within Year 11 tutor groups from Sept to Nov and support in writing personal statements, in preparation for KC4U online applications in November—course information given by Sixth Form Careers leaders]; B --> C[SSF Recruitment assembly for all Y11 students  
Sixth Form Principal/Vice Principal outline curriculum and application/interview process]; C --> D[SSF Recruitment evening 2 November 2017]; D --> E[KC4U opens and students start the official application process online]; E --> F[SSF Yr11 Taster Day — 13 December 2017];
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Students have information and guidance within Year 11 tutor groups from Sept to Nov and support in writing personal statements, in preparation for KC4U online applications in November—course information given by Sixth Form Careers leaders

SSF Recruitment assembly for all Y11 students
Sixth Form Principal/Vice Principal outline curriculum and application/interview process

SSF Recruitment evening 2 November 2017

KC4U opens and students start the official application process online

SSF Yr11 Taster Day — 13 December 2017

All Y11 students are interviewed individually by Principal, Vice Principal and Careers officer—conditional offers made for courses—starts January 2018

All conditional offers based on student meeting entry requirements for each course

On going IAG throughout Y11, following all interviews from Principal/Vice Principal/Careers officer
- Support given for students making outside applications/interviews

Results download day — August 2018
Principals/VPs — check results against offers/entry grades
Students not meeting the grade identified for a discussion

Student Results day — August 2018

Students collect results
Staff either confirm place being accepted by student
Or, offer alternative due to entry grades not met
Or, offer IAG to seek alternative destination outside current school

New SSF students enrol and attend induction day at start of Sept 2018

Applied Science BTEC Level 3

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

The BTEC level 3 extended certificate in applied science provides students with a fundamental understanding of key scientific concepts in biology, chemistry and physics. The course will enhance the students' understanding from GCSE and develop their knowledge to a higher level.

The course provides a variety of assessment methods, including a written examination on scientific theory (Unit 1), a written examination based on scientific practical work and investigation skills (Unit 3) and coursework style assessments (Unit 2 and Unit 10). Through the different styles of assessment pupils will develop a range of skills and will be required to independently take responsibility for their own development.

Course specification

Unit 1 – Principles and Applications of Science I

Unit 2 – Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques

Unit 3 – Science Investigation Skills

Unit 10 – Biological Molecules and Metabolic Pathways

Assessment

Unit	Format	Weighting
1 – Principles and Applications of Science I	Written examination on scientific theory	90
Unit 2 – Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques	4 Written coursework assignments	90
Unit 3 – Science Investigation Skills	Written examination following practical component	120
Unit 10 – Biological Molecules and Metabolic Pathways	3 Written coursework assignments	60

Entry Requirements

Students need to achieve at least 5 Grade 4+ GCSE grades including English, as well as a grade 6 in GCSE science, plus a grade 5 in mathematics.

Progression and career opportunities

Pupils will be able to study an array of scientific degree courses at university and have gained both practical skills and academic understanding that will aid them in undertaking apprenticeships or employment.

Fine Art A Level

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

Students will develop a wide range of skills in both two and three dimensions, exploring; drawing, painting, print-making, photography, textiles and sculpture. In addition to this, students will be taught how to develop their critical analysis skills by deconstructing the work of other artists, whilst evaluating their own work.

Units that will be studied

The course comprises of:

- Component 1: This comprises of a personal study which takes the form of a portfolio of work, produced in response to a theme, chosen by the student. This is also accompanied by a written essay of at least 1000 words, which supports the work produced, explains the concepts investigated, whilst demonstrating how the project has developed in response to the chosen artists. This component is worth 60% of the final grade.
- Component 2: This is an externally set exam question which is issued at the start of February in the final year. Students are required to build a portfolio of work, in response to their chosen question and produce a final outcome in a timed 15 hour controlled, practical exam. This component is worth 40% of the final grade.

Assessment

Students' work is assessed against these four assessment objectives:

AO1: Develop ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding

AO2: Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops

AO3: Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress

AO4: Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and, where appropriate, makes connections between visual and other elements

Entry Requirements

Minimum grade 6 or equivalent Art & Design GCSE.

5 or above grade in English and mathematics, along with 3 other 9 to 5 grades (or equivalent).

Progression and career opportunities

Most students are expected to apply to join a Foundation Diploma course at UCA in Canterbury or Rochester – a 1 year course which acts as the spring board into a wide range of degree options. From fashion to film, graphics to jewellery the choice is highly individual. Final employment is likely to be within the creative industries, which is a thriving sector of the economy.

Business BTEC Level 3

This qualification is available for study as a single or a double BTEC

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

Students will develop practical skills and theoretical understanding of the world of business and complete projects investigating topics such as; preparing a marketing campaign, managing an event and business finance. During the course students will develop through their group work, IT and presentation skills. Students who study Business will gain an insight into the short, medium and long term running of small to global businesses. Critical thinking of real life examples gives students the skills to understand how businesses operate and compete in various industries.

Potential Topics / Units that will be studied

The units you will study include elements of accounting, marketing, human resource management and event planning. You will have access to a variety of tutors who will support and guide you through the course.

By the time you have completed the course you will have a good knowledge of the wide world of business and a practical skill set that will prepare you for the next stage in your business career.

Assessment

On the BTEC course assessment takes place in a variety of ways including internally set assignments, externally assessed controlled assessments, as well as written exams.

Entry Requirements

Students will need to achieve grade 5 in GCSE including English and mathematics, with 3 further GCSE grade 5s. Previous Business knowledge is useful, but not essential.

Progression and career opportunities

This course is all about preparing you for employment and/or entry to university. Future careers include accounting, banking, insurance, human resources, marketing and sales. Business is a broad subject that can mix with a combination of any other vocational or academic courses.

Swale Sixth Form

CACHE NCFE Technical Level 3 Diploma in Childcare and Education (Early Years Educator)



Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

Students completing this course will develop a wide range of skills including communication, organisation, empathy, and time management. There will be opportunities to partake in team work and a wide variety of childcare settings, enabling the development of social and interpersonal skills. Strong literacy and numeracy skills are also important.

Topics that will be studied

Alongside completing 750 hours work experiences pupils will cover 14 mandatory units including:

Child development Conception to 7 years

Child health, wellbeing and safety

Play and learning

Understanding additional needs

Observations, planning an assessment

Literacy, mathematics and school readiness

Assessment

On the CACHE course assessment takes place in a variety of ways including internally assessed assignments, externally set and assessed assessments and practical work place observations

Entry Requirements

Students need to achieve 5 GCSE grades 9-5, including English and mathematics. All candidates will be required to attend a standard entrance interview and complete an enhanced DBS (police check).

Progression and career opportunities

Upon achievement, this qualification enables student to enter the workforce as an Early Years Educator, nanny, or practitioner in an Early Years workforce, reception class or primary school working with children from birth to 5 years.

Students following this course may also choose to progress onto higher education into a variety of degree subjects including social work, occupational therapist, and primary education.

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

Students study a wide range of computing skills ranging from understanding basic computer hardware to identifying and troubleshooting complex hardware problems. They learn to write computer programs to create websites, games and bespoke software. Students will cover a range of practical content where they will develop employability skills like teamwork, communication, project work, research and assessment skills. They will become reflective practitioners, working to deadlines.

Potential Topics that will be studied

A range of topics will be covered within this qualification, such as principles of computer science (software development), computer games development, fundamentals of computer systems (computer hardware) and IT security systems.

Assessment

BTEC Nationals in Computing use a combination of assessment styles to give students confidence they can apply their knowledge to succeed in the workplace – and have the study skills to continue learning throughout their career.

This range of vocational assessments – practical and written - mean students can showcase their learning and achievements to best effect when they take their next step, whether that's supporting applications to higher education courses or potential employers.

Entry Requirements

Students will need to achieve 5 9- 5 GCSE grades, including English and mathematics, as well as a 5 or Merit in ICT/Computing.

Progression and career opportunities

This course prepares students for employment in many areas of IT, as well as qualifying them to study for an HNC/D or Degree like: Computing (Foundation Degree), Computing (BSc), Business Computing (BSc), Forensic Computing (BSc), and Internet Computing (BSc).

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

The aim of the course is to provide you with a practical understanding of professional performance activities. It will provide you with the opportunity to develop skills and understanding in contemporary, jazz, African, and urban techniques. Many of the projects undertaken will enable you to work creatively and collaboratively in choreographing and creating performance material. To support your development we provide opportunities to see live dance performances by renowned dance companies, as well as master classes provided by visiting professionals.

The course allows you to focus on the essential techniques and disciplines needed to prepare you for work as a dancer or performer in the entertainment industry, on stage, in television or as a teacher.

Potential Topics that will be studied

Students will follow a variety of courses and units which may include developing skills and techniques for live performance, group performance workshops, performing in the community, individual performance commission, and employment opportunities in performing arts.

Assessment

On the BTEC course assessment takes place in a variety of ways including assignments, and externally assessed exam board tasks.

Entry Requirements

Students need to achieve 5 9-5 GCSE grades including English and mathematics. A grade 5 or higher in GCSE dance is useful but not essential. Equivalent experience outside school will also be considered. Students will also need to take part in an audition to gain a place on this course.

Progression and career opportunities

We boast a history of excellent results with students progressing to vocational schools as well as gaining coveted places at the top dance university courses in the country. If you decide that a career in dance is not for you then the creative element to the course will provide you with excellent skills for progression onto degree courses such as events management and the tourism industry.

Drama BTEC Level 3

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

It is important to note that performing arts is not just studied by people wanting to be actors, singers or dancers. Where we provide training that will allow you to work professionally in the theatre, the skills learnt on the course are transferable to many employment sectors.

To prepare you for work in the entertainment industry, on stage, in television or as a teacher, the course will provide a direct route into further training at University level or into your first job via the use of an agent. The course provides a strong foundation in acting as well as directing, devising and television and film work. You do not need to be fully experienced in every area you do need to be ready to develop your creative flair and technical proficiency. You are treated as professional performers and you are expected to take the work seriously.

Some of the skills gained by studying this course include creative thinking, team work, communication, imagination, organisation and leadership.

Potential Topics that will be studied

Students will study four different aspects of performer training and the course covers topics on areas such as Improvisation, Developing skills for live performance and Investigating practitioners.

Assessment

Assessment is mostly coursework based and this includes practical rehearsal material, performance work and supporting written files. We also have two externally assessed exam units over the two years.

Entry Requirements

Students need to achieve 5 9-5 GCSE grades including English and maths. A pass at BTEC performing arts or a 5 at GCSE drama is preferable but not essential; another arts subject would be the most appropriate replacement. Equivalent experience outside school will also be considered. Audition will be required.

Progression and career opportunities

Many students will want to take up a degree level qualification at the end of this course to continue their training. There are, however, many possibilities open to you, including youth work and production roles, writing, holiday entertainer in the UK or abroad and working on screen in film and TV.

Engineering Tech Level 3 Double

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

The AQA Tech Level in Engineering will allow learners the opportunity to learn and understand the core principles and technologies that underpin modern engineering. It will provide them with opportunities to develop sound practical engineering investigation, design, construction, and testing skills which are critical to being a good technician and/or Incorporated Engineer.

Potential Topics that will be studied

This qualification will provide the core technical knowledge required for preparing to work in the engineering industry and reflects the nature of modern engineering. This may include:

- Analytical and scientific methods for engineers
- Mechanical, electrical, electronic and digital principles and applications
- Applications of pneumatics and hydraulics
- Health, safety and risk assessment in engineering
- Plant and process principles and applications.

Assessment

Course assessment takes place in a variety of ways including assignments, externally assessed exam board tasks, as well as written examinations.

Entry Requirements

Students need to achieve 5 9-5 GCSEs grades including English (and a minimum of a grade 5 in Science). In addition students must achieve a 6 grade in either Mathematics or Science as well as a 6 grade or Merit in an Engineering level 2 course or similar Design Technology course. An interview is also required and students may be asked to complete some induction tasks prior to being accepted on the course.

Progression and career opportunities

This engineering course allows you to gain essential employability skills, valued by employers and training agencies alike. You may be able to progress onto further Level 4 qualifications or pursue an apprenticeship with an employer. This course gives you the essential practical and theoretical knowledge to progress in an engineering career.

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

The skills gained through the study of English Literature are immeasurable. Students are able to broaden their knowledge, not only of a wide range of texts, but also of human relationships, history and different views of the world. Throughout the two year course, students are trained to become more independent and perceptive in their reading skills, developing their powers of analytical and evaluative thinking. They also learn to become more proficient and sophisticated in their writing and to carry out research with discrimination and a critical eye. Most importantly, their knowledge and horizons are expanded through being introduced to a wealth of novels, plays and poetry ranging through many genres and eras.

Potential topics that will be studied

We offer AQA English Literature A Level Specification B and plan to continue with the topics of Aspects of Tragedy (which explores tragic texts from Shakespeare's Othello, through to 20th Century plays and poetry) and Elements of Crime Writing (which explores some of the most impressive texts of the genre). The course also includes a Non-Exam Assessment, in which students are able to select texts of their own choosing from any genre and era and respond to them from a critical viewpoint, allowing scope to cater for all interests.

Assessment

This course is assessed by 80% examination, with two exams, each worth 40% of the final grade. The NEA (Non-Exam Assessment) is initially marked by the teachers and is worth 20% of the final grade.

Entry Requirement

Students need to achieve 5 9 -5 grade GCSEs including English and mathematics, one of which should be a grade 6 or higher in English Literature or Language.

Progression and career opportunities

All universities see an A-Level in English Literature as a major asset to any course, as it exhibits that students are academically able, well-read and capable writers. Specific careers which are benefitted by this subject are publishing, journalism, law, broadcasting, media, acting, teaching and advertising, among many others. An A Level in English Literature will open many doors to a successful future.

Extended Project

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

This course provides an opportunity for students to extend their abilities beyond the A-level syllabus, whilst also standing out and preparing for university or their future career. Students will identify, plan and complete an individual project on a subject of their choosing, applying a range of strategies to prove a hypothesis or to create something new. They will obtain, critically select and use information from a range of sources; analyse data, apply it relevantly and demonstrate understanding of the complexities of the topic. Students will use a range of skills, solve problems, and to make decisions analytically, creatively and flexibly, to achieve planned outcomes.

Potential Topics that will be studied

Students who choose the Extended Project can complete their assignment on any topic of their choosing. This can be linked to something they are currently studying on one of their courses, or something completely different.

Examples of recent project topics include: *the decline of heavy metal music, whether aggression is a result of nature or nurture, and an investigation into how effective coastal defences have proved to be.*

Assessment

The assessment is very different from other qualifications because there are no exams. In fact, in the Extended Project, the learning process is more important than the outcome.

That is, the skills you develop and the experiences you go through are more important than what you actually make, present or conclude.

Students will achieve an outcome equivalent to an AS grade.

The project involves the completion of

(1) Project outcome:

- 5000 word essay, centred around a question
- Or: 5000 word scientific report
- Or: 1000 word essay + artefact
- Or: 1000 word essay + performance

(2) Project log

- Planning
- Mid Term Review
- Reflection

(3) Presentation

Entry Requirements

Students need to achieve 5 9-5 GCSE grades, including English and mathematics.

Progression and career opportunities

No matter what your next step in life, a carefully chosen Extended Project can help you to make sound decisions, to become more confident, and to develop important skills and knowledge.

Universities particularly value the Extended Project Qualification as it helps them to select students with a commitment to their chosen subject and a head-start in the independent learning skills that higher education demands.

Finance LIBF Level 3

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

Students who study finance will look at the immediate, short term and long term elements of the financial world. Students will first understand key criteria such as saving, borrowing, budgeting and financial providers such as Banks and Building Societies before they critically analyse and evaluate how as a society we can become more sustainable and secure with our money.

Potential Topics that will be studied

The purpose of money, budgeting, saving, borrowing, sustainability, ethics and globalisation are some of the key topics included in the subject. Short term and long term financial sustainability for individuals and businesses are the key units included.

Assessment

100% exam based

All units have a Multiple Choice test and a Case Study Written Examination. Marks are also awarded for spelling and grammar which ensures students' literacy levels are improved upon.

Entry Requirements

Students need to achieve five 9-4 GCSE Grades, including English and mathematics.

Progression and career opportunities

Finance opens up an exciting world of opportunities for students. Students can go on to study Accounts and Finance at University or seek an opportunity with a financial company through an Apprenticeship Scheme. The LIBF University offer scholarships to students who have excelled on the Finance course. Fields of employment include accountancy, financial advice agents, and estate agency amongst many other areas.

Geography A Level

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

There are many different skills gained by studying geography. The course requires research as well as data handling skills to be developed and refined, including map and cartographic skills, production and analysis of graphs, and data sensors. Geography also involves written work so strong literacy and communication skills are required and developed. Field trips are an integral part of geography, so collaborative work in small groups is also important. This qualification enables students to engage critically with real world issues and places, apply their own geographical knowledge, understanding and skills to make sense of the world around them, and to help prepare them to succeed in their chosen pathway.

Potential Topics that will be studied

The course covers both human and physical geography. Units of study include:

Physical Geography	Human Geography
Water and carbon cycles	Global systems and global governance
Hot desert systems and landscapes	Changing places
Coastal systems and landscapes	Contemporary urban environments
Glacial systems and landscapes	Population and the environment
Hazards	Resource security
Ecosystems under stress	

Assessment

The course is assessed through written examinations (80%), as well as an extensive field work investigation (20%).

Entry Requirements

Students need to achieve a grade 6 for GCSE Geography. Other entry requirements include grade 5 for English and Maths plus two other subjects at grade 5.

Progression and career opportunities

A geography qualification will demonstrate a plethora of skills and an awareness of global issues which are transferable to different roles and careers in the world of work- many geographers for example work in banking. A geography qualification can also lead to a degree which will be the first building block in more specialist areas such as geology, cartography and environmental studies. Town planning and careers in development as well as hazard management are also popular.

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

Students completing this course will develop a wide range of skills including communication, organisation, empathy, and time management. There will be opportunities to partake in team work and work placements, enabling the development of social and interpersonal skills. Strong literacy and numeracy skills are also important.

Potential Topics that will be studied

Students will cover a variety of topics which may include:

- Working in the sector
- Equality, diversity and individual rights
- Effective communication
- Human development
- Anatomy and physiology
- Health and safety

Assessment

On the BTEC course assessment takes place in a variety of ways including assignments, externally assessed exam board tasks, as well as written examinations.

Entry Requirements

Students need to achieve 5 GCSEs at grade 5 and above, including English and mathematics. Also, if students study GCSE health and social care, they will need to achieve at least a grade 6. All candidates will be required to complete an enhanced DBS (police check – to be self-funded).

Progression and career opportunities

Students following this course may progress into higher education into a variety of degree subjects, midwifery, nursing, social work, occupational therapy, mental health nursing, counselling and primary education.

There may be opportunities to progress onto apprenticeships at Level 4 and above, or gain employment within the sector.

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

You will acquire a broad range of historical knowledge and understanding, including a sense of development over time, and an appreciation of the culture and attitudes of societies other than our own. You will critically evaluate a large body of material, including evidence from contemporary sources and the opinions of more recent historians. Students will engage directly with questions and present independent opinions in arguments that are well-written, clearly expressed, coherently organised and effectively supported by relevant evidence. You will gain confidence to undertake self-directed learning, making the most effective use of time and resources, being able to organise thoughts and ideas to present strong arguments.

Potential Topics that will be studied

The Crusades 1071 - 1204

The War of the Roses 1450-1499

Historical Investigation (personal study)

Assessment

The two year course is assessed by two written exams (1 hour 30 minutes each) and a historical investigation of 3000-3500 words.

Entry Requirements

Students need to achieve at least five grade 5s at GCSEs including mathematics, as well as 6 grades or higher in English and History.

Progression and career opportunities

Skills acquired through a history course are well sought after by a variety of employers due to the critical thinking, analytical nature and independence the subject teaches you.

Possible career opportunities include being a teacher, museum curator, excavator, researcher, barrister, various television roles, author, journalist and many more.

You will also need a history A Level in order to study the subject at university.

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

Students study a wide range of IT skills ranging from understanding basic computer systems and requirements to understanding how businesses use social media. They will learn to create websites and databases using bespoke software.

Potential topics that will be studied

A range of topics will be covered within this qualification, such as information technology systems, creating systems to manage information, social media in business and website development.

Assessment

On the BTEC course assessment takes place in a variety of ways including assignments, externally assessed exam board tasks, as well as written examinations.

Entry requirements

Students will need to achieve 5 grades at grade 5 or above, including English and mathematics. Previous experience of ICT will be required.

Progression and career opportunities

This course prepares students for employment in many areas of IT, as well as qualifying them to study for an HNC/D or Degree like: Computing (Foundation Degree), Computing (BSc), Business Computing (BSc), Forensic Computing (BSc), Internet Computing (BSc).

Mathematics A Level

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

You will learn how higher level algebra can be used to solve a variety of problems. The topics on sequences and series will broaden your understanding of its application in the financial sector. You will also explore calculus (differentiation and integration) and learn how it is applied to create mathematical models and solve problems. The use of vectors in the aviation and marine industry will also become clear by studying this subject. The statistics element of this qualification will further your understanding of probability and teach you how to test statistical hypotheses. The mechanics part of the course will bring the concepts of forces, moments and Newton's laws alive.

Units that will be studied

Pure Mathematics 1

Pure Mathematics 2

Statistics and Mechanics

Assessment

This is a linear course, which is examined via three 2 hour written examination papers for each unit stated above at the end of two years. The modules carry equal weight and there is no coursework. Calculators are allowed in the examinations.

Entry Requirements

Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics and **Grade 6** or better in GCSE Statistics, plus 3 other GCSE or equivalent grades at 5, to include GCSE English.

Progression and career opportunities

Students who succeed will be awarded a full A Level qualification in Mathematics, which is an entry level requirement for many university courses.

You could take this course with other advanced level courses to prepare for higher education in Mathematics related areas such as Engineering, Economics, Physics or more general higher education courses.

Many employers are also offering apprenticeships to candidates with an A-level Mathematics qualification in the field of Science and Technology. Gaining this qualification will enable you to pursue a career in jobs such as Accountancy, Engineering, Teaching, Insurance under-writing and the Financial sector. You could also consider becoming a tutor of mathematics and earn up to £35/hour.

This course also helps you develop the analytical and problem solving skills that many employers across lots of industries are looking for, especially in the Economics and Financial sectors.

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

We live in a media-saturated world. From video clips on your phone, to TV ads, to blockbuster movies, to posters at the bus stop, to the music in your ears; you are surrounded by media messages for most of your waking hours.

How do you make sense of them all? How do you know what they are trying to communicate? How do you know how much you have been influenced by these messages? Does the media reflect your reality, or control the way you view it?

Studying media will enable students to become proficient in skills which are invaluable to employers, including communication (verbal and written), research, planning and design, presentation skills, and critical thinking.

Topics that will be studied

A-level Media Studies is a two-year course that engages students in the in-depth study of media products in four key areas; language, representation, industries and audiences.

Students will study a range of products from the following forms:

- television
- film industry
- radio
- music video
- newspapers
- magazines
- advertising and marketing
- online, social and participatory media
- video games

Students will also develop their practical skills, which will allow them to apply the media theory that they've learnt on the course. This is usually in the form of a cross-media campaign based on a set of design briefs.

Assessment

35% written examination – “Language & Representation” 2 hours

35% written examination – “Industry & Audience” 2 hours

30% practical controlled assessment – “Making media”

Entry Requirements

Students need to have 5 GCSEs graded at 9-5 including mathematics, and at least a grade 5 in English or English Literature. A grade 6 in media studies GCSE is desirable, however students new to media studies will be considered if a positive and dedicated attitude to learning is shown.

Progression and career opportunities

Apprenticeship opportunities with film and television companies such as SKY and BBC and radio such as Global and KMFM look favourably on an A level media qualification. Most universities offer media based courses, often tailored to the student's specific area of interest in media.

MUSIC PERFORMING BTEC LEVEL 3

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

- Cognitive and problem-solving skills: use critical thinking, approach non-routine problems applying expert and creative solutions, use systems and technology.
- Intrapersonal skills: communicating, working collaboratively, negotiating and influencing, self-presentation.
- Interpersonal skills: self-management, adaptability and resilience, self-monitoring and development.

Potential Topics that will be studied

- ✓ Ensemble Music Performance
- ✓ Professional Practice in the Music Industry
- ✓ Composing Music
- ✓ Solo Performance

Assessment Methods

Externally assessed units - the styles of external assessment are:

- Examinations, where all learners take the same assessment at the same time, with a written outcome.
- Set tasks, where learners take the assessment during a defined window and demonstrate understanding through completion of a vocation task.

Internally assessed units – Most units are internally assessed. Examples of what would be internally assessed are:

- Writing up findings of their own research
- Case studies to explore complex or unfamiliar situations
- Carrying out projects, where the learners have the choice over the outcomes
- Demonstrating practical and technical skills using appropriate instruments and techniques.

Entry Requirements

Minimum 'merit' grade at BTEC Level 2 or a 5 at GCSE, plus grade 5 or higher at GCSE for English and Maths, and 2 further GCSE grade 5 qualifications.

Must have studied music at KS4 (BTEC or GCSE) to be able to do Level 3.

Audition required.

Progression and career opportunities

For learners who wish to study an aspect of music at Higher Education, opportunities include:

- BA (Hons) in Performing Arts, if taken alongside an A Level in Music and a BTEC in Performing Arts.
- BA (Hons) in Music Industry Management, if taken alongside a BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Business.
- BA (Hons) in Music Business and Arts Management, if taken alongside a BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Business and an A Level in Art.

All BTEC Nationals provide transferable knowledge and skills that prepare learners for progression to university. The transferable skills that universities value include:

- the ability to learn independently
- the ability to research actively and methodically
- to be able to give presentations and be active group members.

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

Students develop a wide range of practical photographic skills using traditional film and digital cameras. Processing and post production techniques are taught using a darkroom and Photoshop software. Analytical and evaluative skills are developed through annotations and more in depth writing to build technical and contextual understanding and inform practical progress. Students will also gain an understanding of how to use an SLR camera. Contextual understanding of photographers and styles of photography will also be explored.

Potential Topics that will be studied

Topics provide a structure within which a student learns technical skills and creatively develops and explores their potential.

Contextual studies range from early pioneers of photography to contemporary practice. Field trips and gallery visits are an essential component of the course.

Assessment

Assessment is conducted by the teacher in the first instance then shared and discussed within the department prior to external moderation by the examination board.

Entry Requirements

Students need to achieve 5 GCSE 9-5 grades, including a grade 9-5 or equivalent at GCSE in Photography or an Art & Design course is also required.

Grade 4 will be considered through interview, supported by previous teacher references.

Progression and career opportunities

High achievement can enable direct access to degree courses in photography or lens based media. Due to its balance between visual and academic skills, photography is valued by many career paths within the creative industries, in the media and wider economy. Other career opportunities may include photo journalism, fashion photography, advertising and police evidence photography.

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

You will develop your subject knowledge in physical education, exploring specific areas of PE and sport. In choosing this course, students will develop knowledge which will equip them for undergraduate study in a number of different areas (highlighted below). You will develop your analytical skills, extended writing skills and the ability to evaluate performances effectively.

Potential Topics that will be studied

You will also use a range of skills to cover both practical and theoretical concepts relating to participating in sport, health and fitness and the history of sport and its importance in society. Specific topics are:

- Applied anatomy and physiology;
- Skill Acquisition;
- Sport and Society;
- Exercise Physiology;
- Biomechanical movement;
- Sport Psychology;
- Sport and society and the role of technology in physical activity and sport.

Assessment

This course will be assessed through coursework and final examinations. The examinations make up 70% of the course and the coursework 30%. There are two final examinations which are worth 35% each and these take place at the end of year 2 (year 13).

Entry Requirements

Students will need to achieve 5 9-5 GCSE grades, including English, mathematics and science. Additionally, it is desirable for students to have studied GCSE PE or BTEC Sport and achieved at least a grade 6 or Distinction grade. Students **must** also be playing sport for a club or at a higher level outside of school, so that the coursework component can be completed.

Progression and career opportunities

This qualification provides the opportunity to pursue a career in sport e.g. sports coach, physiotherapy, sports development, physical trainer. Students will be able to progress on to a number of higher education courses involving sport, such as sports science, sports coaching, sports therapy, sports development as well as PE teaching degrees.

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

Students will gain an understanding of how the physical world can be interpreted and described using the very fundamental concepts of science. This will cover topics that range from the forces between the smallest sub-atomic particles to the nature of the Universe.

Students will gain a range of practical skills, which will include using sensitive electronic equipment to carrying out practical measurements on different physical situations to an incredible degree of precision. Mathematical skills also play a big part in this subject.

Potential Topics that will be studied

Practical skills in physics
Foundations of physics
Forces and motion
Electrons, waves and photons
Newtonian mechanics and astrophysics
Sub-atomic particles and medical physics

Assessment

This is a 2-year course which is assessed by 3 examinations at the end of year 13.

Practical skills are assessed throughout the A-Level.

Entry Requirements

Students need to achieve 5 9-5 GCSE grades or equivalent, including English. Students are also required to gain 9 & 8 in GCSE science (Core and Additional) and grade 6 in mathematics.

Progression and career opportunities

A level physics makes use of many different skills. This can lead to a number of different careers, with obvious links to technology, engineering and scientific research. Physics is the type of qualification that can open doors to many other surprising and interesting career paths. This could be in science roles such as working for organisations such as CERN as a particle physicist, for ESA on development of space technology, working in the medical sector as a radiologist or within oncology. A level physics complements the other sciences and can help you on your way to careers in marine biology or chemical engineering. Also the demanding nature of the course means it could lead you to a career in finance or business as it is a highly regarded qualification.

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour and it aims to develop an understanding of psychological theories, research, terminology, concepts, approaches, methods and application. Students will develop skills of critical analysis, interpretation and evaluation, as well as an understanding of different areas of psychology, including the core areas of cognitive, social, developmental and biological psychology; individual differences and research methods. The course covers an understanding of how to design and report on psychological investigations and analyse data. Students will also understand ethical issues in psychology, including the implications of psychological research.

Potential Topics that will be studied

This is a two year A level course which broadly divides into two sections: compulsory content which looks at the various strands of psychology such as research methods, social psychology, and psychopathology. There are also specialised units such as eating behaviour, gender and forensic psychology.

Assessment

This course is wholly assessed through examination. There will be three two hour papers at the end of the course (each worth 33.3% of the A level).

Entry Requirements

Students need to achieve 5 GCSEs at grade 5 and above, including mathematics and English, as well as a grade 6 or higher in science.

Progression and career opportunities

Psychology A Level is relevant to many jobs, particularly those dealing with people. These include health and social care, childcare, customer service, the police and other emergency services, armed forces, advertising, sales, market research, personnel management and many others. Many choose to study psychology at university, with opportunities for further professional training in clinical, educational, forensic, organisational and counselling psychology. Psychology also offers an excellent foundation for higher education in biological sciences (in combination with science subjects), social sciences, sports science, humanities, business, law and education. It is particularly useful for those wishing to pursue vocational training in social work, education and child care, nursing, medicine and related areas. Students will learn the fundamentals of the subject and develop skills valued by higher education and employers, including critical analysis, independent thinking and research.

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

Sociology will equip you with a wide variety of marketable skills. Perhaps the most important is that of **critical thinking**. The course exposes you to many different ways of thinking about our social world, enabling you to make informed decisions as part of evaluation. Other important skills the course equips you with are: communication, cross cultural understanding, forming evaluation using a range of theoretical perspectives, the ability to make reasoned arguments, organisation, analysing sources, conducting research, presentation.

Potential Topics that will be studied

During the course you will look at different aspects of the social world. Topics can include:

- Social media – *‘What impact does the internet have on social relations?’*
- Crime and deviance – *‘Why are some people more likely to commit crime than others?’*
- The family – *‘How diverse are modern families?’*
- Culture, socialisation and identity – *‘Who and what has influenced my identity?’*
- Researching society – *‘What is the most useful way to research each topic?’*
- Inequality in society – *‘Why do some people in society experience more deprivation than others?’*

Assessment

The course is assessed solely through examinations which you take at the end of year 13:

- Unit 1: Socialisation, culture and identity (1h30m) 30% of total A level
- Unit 2: Researching and understanding social inequalities (2h15m) 35% of total A level
- Unit 3: Debates in contemporary society (2h15m) 35% of total A level

Entry Requirements

Students need to achieve at least 5 GCSEs at grade 5 and above, including mathematics and science, as well as a grade 6 or higher in English.

Progression and career opportunities

Many of our students go on to study at University level. Possible career opportunities include: social work, teaching, community development work, charity fundraising, human resources officer, public relations officer, social researcher, writer, advice worker.

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

You will develop your subject knowledge of the sporting world, covering every aspect of sport, health and fitness. You will also use practical skills, developing confidence through officiating and coaching younger children, as well as taking part in a variety of fitness tests and training methods.

Potential Topics that will be studied

You will study a range of units including anatomy and physiology, sports injuries, sports nutrition, sports psychology, biomechanics, fitness testing and many more.

Assessment

On the BTEC course assessment takes place in a variety of ways including assignments, externally assessed exam board tasks, as well as written examinations.

Entry Requirements

Students will need to achieve 5 9-5 GCSE grades, including English and mathematics. Students will also require a 5 grade in GCSE physical education or a merit in Level 2 BTEC sport studies.

Progression and career opportunities

Students will be able to progress into a range of job opportunities such as a fitness instructor, personal trainer, physiotherapist, sports scientist, sports therapist, sports psychologist, PE teacher and sports coach.

Beauty Therapy Level 2 City and Guilds (NVQ)

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

Students will gain a wide range of skills whilst studying this course, such as communication, time management, team work, social skills, literacy and numeracy, objectivity, work experience, patience, resilience, compassion, enthusiasm, building positive relationships and promoting independence in themselves.

Potential Topics that will be studied

During this course you will look at the beauty industry, promoting a professional image, health and safety, communication, consultation and salon based learning.

Assessment

Assessment will take place through a range of online open and closed book exams. Practical assessments will be completed within a commercial working beauty salon.

Entry requirements

Students will need to achieved 5 GCSE's 9-4, including maths and English.

Progression and career opportunities

Level 3 courses. Career opportunities leading to salon/spa work, retail, theatre and television and cruise ships.

Work based learning

Students will be expected to attend salon based learning at local salons throughout the course.

Catering Level 1 City and Guilds Professional Cookery Diploma

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

Become a professional chef by completing these industry standard qualifications. You'll gain a high standard of cookery skills from processes, such as roasting and frying to commodities, whilst also learning other workplace essentials like menu design.

The Diploma in Professional Cookery is for anyone who wants to work as a chef in the catering and hospitality sector. It is ideal for learners coming straight from school who wish to seek a career in this industry.

Potential Topics that will be studied:

During the course, you will look at: Food safety, Health and safety in catering, Healthier foods, Costs and menu planning, Preparing and cooking a varied selection of foods.

Assessment:

As well as doing written assignments, you will be assessed in practical tests. Some will be a single dish while others will comprise of a number of dishes. Your tutor will explain these to you between one and three weeks before the date of each test so that you have adequate chance to prepare. You will need to ensure you understand all the relevant Health and Safety rules and legislation before you take your practical tests.

Entry Requirements

Students will need to have achieved 5 GCSE grade 9 to 1, including maths and English.

Progression and career opportunities:

The Diploma in Professional Cookery can help you find a job as a:

- Catering or restaurant manager
- Chef/Restaurant Manager

After taking the Level 1 qualification you could move on to:

- Level 2 Professional Cookery (7100)

After taking the Level 2 qualification you could move on to:

- Level 3 Professional Cookery (7100)
- Level 3 Professional Patisserie and Confectionary (7120)

Catering Level 2 City and Guilds Professional Cookery Diploma

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

Become a professional chef by completing these industry standard qualifications. You'll gain a high standard of cookery skills from processes, such as roasting and frying to commodities, whilst also learning other workplace essentials like menu design.

The Level 2 Diploma will suit you if you have some basic skills and experience as a chef, probably from a role where you work under supervision. You want to gain a formal qualification and increase your skills so that you can take on a more senior role.

Potential Topics that will be studied:

During the course, you will look at: The hotel and catering industry, costs and menu planning, differences in star & rosette ratings, preparation of whole cuts of meat and fish.

Assessment:

Assessment focus is for the final product but just as important are the use of methods, cleanliness and the application of individual skill and flair. The kitchen assessments range from 15 minutes to 5 hours.

Entry Requirements

Students will need to have achieved 5 GCSE grade 9 to 1, including maths and English.

Applicants will also need to have passed Level 1 professional cookery (7100-11).

Progression and career opportunities:

The Diploma in Professional Cookery can help you find a job as a:

- Catering or restaurant manager
- Chef/Restaurant Manager

After taking the Level 2 qualification you could move on to:

- Level 3 Professional Cookery (7100)
- Level 3 Professional Patisserie and Confectionary (7120)

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

Students studying this course develop skills in effective communication, independent enquiry and research. Practical skills are applied in work placement settings, with work experience forming a critical part of the course. Students will also develop skills in creative thinking, reflective learning, team work, and work and deadline management. A key feature of the course involves supporting the development of children under the age of 5.

Potential Topics that will be studied

- Patterns of Child Development
- Promoting Children's Development Through Play
- The Principles of Early Years Practice
- Promoting Children's Positive Behaviour
- Health and Safety in Early Years Settings
- Making Healthy Food Choices for Children
- Introduction to Working in the Early Years Sector

Assessment

On the BTEC course assessment takes place in a variety of ways including assignments, externally assessed exam board tasks, as well as written examinations. There is also a work placement element to the course.

Entry Requirements

Students need to achieve 5 9-1 GCSE grades including English and maths.

A merit or higher in BTEC level 2 Health and Social Care, or a 5 grade in GCSE Health and Social Care would be beneficial, although students new to the subject will be considered.

All candidates will be required to complete an enhanced DBS (police check – self-funded).

Progression and career opportunities

This course provides opportunities for progression onto a range of careers paths and University degrees, as well as an early years educator qualification. Students wishing to work in areas including childcare and primary teaching would be particularly suitable for this course.

Swale Sixth Form

Hair and Beauty City and Guilds Level 1

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

Students will gain a wide range of skills whilst studying this course, such as communication, time management, team work, social skills, literacy and numeracy, objectivity, work experience, patience, resilience, compassion, enthusiasm, building positive relationships and promoting independence in themselves.

Potential Topics that will be studied

During this course you will look at the hair and beauty industry, promoting a professional image, health and safety, communication, consultation and salon based learning.

Assessment

Assessment will take place through a range of assignments and practical assessed tasks.

Entry requirements

Students will need to achieved 5 GCSE's 9-1, including maths and English.

Progression and career opportunities

Level 2 courses in either hair or beauty progressing to Level 3.

Students can progress to a wide variety of job roles in a range of sectors. Career opportunities leading to salon/spa work, retail, theatre and television and cruise ships.

Work based learning

Students will be expected to attend salon based learning at local salons within either hairdressing or beauty.

Hairdressing Level 2 NVQ City and Guilds

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

Students will gain a wide range of skills whilst studying this course, such as communication, time management, team work, social skills, literacy and numeracy, objectivity, work experience, patience, resilience, compassion, enthusiasm, building positive relationships and promoting independence in themselves.

Potential Topics that will be studied

During this course you will look at the hair industry, promoting a professional image, health and safety, communication, consultation and salon based learning. Practical skills will cover shampooing and conditioning hair, styling and finishing, plaiting and twisting, colouring and cutting.

Assessment

Assessment will take place through a range of online open and closed book exams. Practical assessments will be completed within a commercial working salon.

Entry requirements

Students will need to have achieved 5 GCSE's 9-4, including maths and English.

Progression and career opportunities

Level 2 courses will be able to progress on to the Level 3 NVQ hairdressing.

Students can progress to a wide variety of job roles: Career opportunities include salon work, retail, theatre and television and cruise ships.

Work based learning

Students will be expected to attend salon based learning at local salons within either hairdressing or beauty.

Painting and Decorating City and Guilds Level 2

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

This course is designed to develop skills to work in the construction industry with a specific focus on painting and decorating. A variety of skills are covered relating to painting, decorating, wallpapering, plastering and furniture restoration as well as opportunities to explore some other areas of the construction industry as well. Pupils will learn about how to prepare surfaces for painting as well as using appropriate surface coatings on a variety of materials found in the construction industry. This course has been specifically developed to use simulated conditions, and the tests are based on you showing what you can do as an individual through the completion of theory work packs, end of unit tests and set practical tasks. Students could also be involved in community projects, providing a service to the local community whilst developing valuable skills at the same time.

Assessment

The course is assessed through the completion of theory work packs and set practical tasks as well as an external examination. Practical skills are assessed as each practical unit nears completion.

Entry Requirements

Students need to achieve 5 9-3 GCSE grades including English and mathematics. If you wish to take this course it is recommended that learners have completed either the BTEC Level 1 Certificate or BTEC Level 2 Extended Certificate in construction. Other Design technology qualifications would also be beneficial.

Progression and career opportunities

This course is designed to develop your skills and knowledge, enabling you to work as a decorator in the construction industry. It could lead to a trade specific qualification, or apprenticeship. The course also enables you to develop your interpersonal skills within the team environment.

Light Vehicle Maintenance IMI Level 2 Certificate

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

This course is suitable for students wanting to develop some of the key skills and understanding in motor vehicle systems. Throughout the course learners will develop the basic skills needed to apply for an automotive apprenticeship or similar engineering pathway. The course comprises of three core and six specialist units, covering knowledge, understanding and skills required to work in the sector. The qualification has a flexible design to provide progression opportunities into a technician role within industry or on to further education

Assessment

The course is assessed through the completion of theory work packs and set practical tasks. At the end of each unit knowledge is assessed. Practical skills are also assessed as each practical unit nears completion.

Course units include: Health and safety, Removing and refitting components, Removing and replacing, engine components, Carrying out a full service.

Entry Requirements

Students need to achieve 5 9-3 GCSE grades including English and mathematics. If you wish to take this course it is recommended that learners have completed a Design technology style course at level 1 or 2.

Progression and career opportunities

This course is designed to develop your skills and knowledge, enabling you to work in the motor industry. It could lead to a trade specific qualification. The course also enables you to develop your interpersonal skills within a team environment.

Sport & Activity Leaders Level 2 BTEC

Summary of skills students gain by studying this subject

The students will acquire technical skills through vocational contexts by studying how to plan individual and team sporting activities. The qualification will provide the opportunity to improve organisational skills, leadership, management of people, understanding of the sporting sector and professionalism in a working environment. The qualification will also broaden the learner's experience and understanding of the varied progression options available to them.

Potential Topics that will be studied

The topics that will be covered in the course will include the following:

- Development of the skills required to lead sports activities
- Processes that show effective ways of working in sports leadership such as planning and leading an individual or team sporting activity session
- Attitudes that are considered most important in sports leadership, including personal management, communication and problem-solving skills
- Knowledge that underpins effective use of skills, process and attitudes in sports leadership

Assessment

This course will be assessed through completion of two internally marked units of work and one externally marked units of work. The internal units are completed through the form of assignments and the external unit is based on a set key task that learners have to complete.

Entry Requirements

The entry requirements for this course are five 9 to 1 grades.

Progression and career opportunities

This course can lead to careers in the sporting industry, including sports coaching, gym instructors and teaching assistant.