



Bishop Stopford's School

Sixth Form Prospectus

2014



CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	Page 1
GENERAL INFORMATION	Page 2
ADVANCED LEVEL COURSES	Page 6
ADVANCED LEVEL SUBJECT PROSPECTUSES	Page 10
LEVEL 2 VOCATIONAL COURSES	Page 32
ADDITIONAL SIXTH FORM COURSES	Page 37

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for the interest you have shown in Bishop Stopford's School. We welcome applications from both our current students and external students who wish to join our vibrant Sixth Form community. We look forward to welcoming you and to working with you to maximise your success in this, the next stage of your lives.

Bishop Stopford's has had a Sixth Form since inception so we have considerable expertise and experience in the teaching of Advanced Skilled courses. The Sixth Form offers a range of courses. Alongside the full range of traditional A Levels we now offer Applied A Levels and Diploma courses providing our students with greater choice. We intend to extend the BTEC offer this September to include the Extended Diploma, which is a full time course equivalent to 3 A Levels. In summer 2013 we substantially increased the number of A* and Distinction* grades. Christiana Naziris, our Deputy Head Girl achieved A*, A*, A*, A* and has gone to Cambridge to read Natural Sciences, and 67 students have taken up university places, some to read medicine.

The achievement and attainment of all students is paramount at Bishop Stopford's School. The School has a rigorous monitoring system which tracks the progress of students throughout the year. Our tracking system enables teachers to give personalised support, advice, and guidance in obtaining the very best results.

Bishop Stopford's School is renowned for its distinctly Christian ethos and its intense support of the individual; however, our Sixth Form is open to students of all faiths and none. Our Sixth Form team place great importance on the relationship that the students share with both their teachers and their Form Tutors. This, compared with our supervised study space provides the perfect atmosphere for students to flourish. Bishop Stopford's School offers a safe, secure and supportive environment which allows students to develop a variety of skills in preparation for university, college or the workplace. We have strengthened the Sixth Form team adding a Deputy Headteacher and Heads of Year 12 and 13.

Finally, we would like to assure all prospective students, either from this school or from other schools that we have a thorough induction process to help you make realistic and appropriate choices. If you are currently studying elsewhere, please come along and meet us. Our Sixth Formers will be glad to give you a guided tour of the School and we will be happy to discuss all aspects of the Sixth Form with you. Making the right choice at this very important time in your career is crucial.

With best wishes for an enjoyable and successful Year 11.

Sarah Hannan
Assistant Headteacher Sixth Form

GENERAL INFORMATION

Study Pathways

In order to raise attainment in our Sixth Form we are adapting the course offer to include three critical pathways.

A Levels

Students who achieve at least 5 GCSEs at Grade B or higher will be eligible for A Level or other Level 3 study which has A Level equivalence.

BTEC Vocational

Students who achieve 5 GCSEs at Grade C will be eligible for BTEC courses which are full time and are equivalent to 3 A Levels.

Level 2 Courses

Students who achieve 4 D Grades at GCSE can take Level 2 courses to increase their GCSEs which will allow them access to Level 3 courses the following year.

Any student whose current predicted grades suggest that they will not be able to study at Bishop Stopford's should be looking at possible college courses.

Sixth Form Accommodation

The Sixth Form has new purpose-built accommodation in a separate teaching block. This consists of two study rooms, one with a refreshment area, and teaching rooms. The study room is equipped with computers. In addition, nearby computer rooms may be used by Sixth Formers with staff permission when not required by teaching groups. The main school library, with its reference and computer section, can be used throughout the day on the same basis.

Attendance

We expect Sixth Formers to be punctual and to attend registration and all of their lessons on a regular basis. Students who fail to achieve a satisfactory attendance rate of at least 95% over the period of the course without due cause may not be entered for the appropriate examinations.

Periods of absence because of illness or any other pressing reason must be explained by a note from a parent or guardian.

Duties

As senior members of the School, all Sixth Formers are expected to undertake duties within the school community.

Commitment to Studies

Courses in the Sixth Form make different demands from those in Years 10 and 11. Successful students in the Sixth Form recognise that study includes perseverance, self motivation and high levels of organisation. All students commit themselves to timetabled supervised study.

Private Study Periods

Using private study effectively is essential to success in the Sixth Form. Whether students are involved in independent research or bouncing ideas off peers, private study is a significant factor in the level of student attainment. Each Sixth Former will have a number of private study periods, and it is MOST important that they are used wisely. The study rooms are always available for supervised private study, and Sixth Formers are expected to make appropriate use of these rooms.

Student Progress

Regular monitoring of attendance and work by Sixth Form Tutors supports students in maximising progress. Student progress is reviewed regularly throughout the year in identified assessment weeks. Parents are contacted by staff if there are concerns. Subject teachers conduct learning conversations with students following assessments. This thorough approach to monitoring ensures that students make at least expected progress. Students who fall behind can therefore be easily identified and interventions can be put into place quickly to ensure success.

Sixth Form Collective Worship

Collective worship takes place on Friday morning and attendance is compulsory. On occasions a visiting speaker will address the Sixth Form.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

It is important that Sixth Form students make the most of the extra-curricular activities available to them in the School, not least because university admissions tutors look favourably on students who can offer more than just passes in their academic courses. All Year 12 Level 3 students follow a Key Skills for Leadership course (please see page 37 for more information).

Opportunities are provided for students to participate in a range of sports activities during Sixth Form sports. The PE Department also encourages Sixth Form students to take part in senior sports leagues which include Borough, County and National competitions.

There are enriching activities including a Higher Education Fair, university visits, external speakers and department trips.

During Activities week, Sixth Formers work with staff and younger students, gaining other valuable mentoring skills.

In Rag Week students develop their team building skills to raise money for Hillcrest, our School charity.

All students are invited to attend the annual Religious Education Conference which considers major moral issues and helps to develop spirituality.

Community Service

The work that Sixth Formers undertake with their Houses is a vital part of the Sixth Form experience. Departments in the School use Sixth Formers as a valuable support within the classroom and on the games field. We also have close links with Youth Action Volunteering Enfield who provide placements for students wishing to offer their services to the wider community on a regular basis e.g. in hospitals.

Students are actively involved in fundraising for the Hillcrest charity, which supports children who are victims of AIDS and HIV. Hillcrest provides opportunities for students to visit South Africa to see how the funding is utilised.

The Collegiate System

As students and their parents are probably aware, the Local Education Authority operates a Collegiate System for the education of students who intend to continue full-time education beyond the age of sixteen. However, the most popular Sixth Form subjects continue to be taught here at Bishop Stopford's. Where collaboration over courses that are not so fully subscribed is possible, students will travel to other schools for some lessons. At the same time, students from other schools may join our groups.

FUTURE CAREERS

The latest university prospectuses are available for students to look at in the Sixth Form study room. All Year 12 students will visit the North London Higher Education Fair at Middlesex University. All students will have the opportunity to meet university representatives at school.

The careers service in Enfield has been significantly reduced but still offers support for some students. Mrs Chalmers supports the Sixth Form with careers advice.

ADVANCED LEVEL COURSES

Introduction

Prospective students for these courses, and their parents, should be aware that study to Advanced Level standard involves a great deal of hard work over the normal two year period. Not only will regular homework be set, but background reading and individual study are essential in all subjects. Every student has a certain amount of time set aside for private study but will also need to spend a great deal of time working at home. As a guide, students should be prepared to spend at least five hours a week on course work outside of lessons on each Advanced Level subject.

The Advanced Level Qualification

A full GCE Advanced Level course is divided into two parts, Advanced Subsidiary (AS) and A2.

The AS Level consists of two or three units of approximately equal length that are the first half of an A Level course. These units are the more straightforward sections of the overall Advanced Level. The remaining units make up the final, higher level, A2 component.

The AS and A2 components are assessed separately. The A2 assessment element includes a synoptic (summary) unit which covers work from both parts of the Advanced Level course.

Choice of Subjects

The reforms introduced to GCE Advanced Level courses several years ago were designed to encourage students to follow a broad learning programme by studying more courses than previously, and also a wider range of subjects.

At this stage students may be uncertain about the subjects they wish to take. For planning purposes however, students applying for Advanced Level courses will be asked to make an initial choice of four AS Level subjects from the likely list below.

Advanced Level Subjects

Please note that courses will only run if there is sufficient demand. Where we have students that want to take a course that will not be offered at Bishop Stopford's we will endeavour to find a school in the collegiate system where that course can be taken.

The following subjects are being offered as AS Level courses from which students make a choice:

Applied Business
Biology
Chemistry
Economics
English
Geography
History
ICT
Mathematics
Music
Religious Education : Philosophy and Ethics
Physical Education
Physics
Product Design
Psychology
Sociology

Students may also choose from these Level 3 courses (A Level equivalent). We are currently designing a new course offer which will include some full time courses which are equivalent to 3 A Levels.

Business
Music
Performing Arts
Sport
Cambridge Technical Diploma in ICT (Single Award)
Science

Level 2 Courses (*for students who do not have sufficient GCSE grades to go straight to Level 3*). The entry requirement is 4 GCSEs at Grade D including English and mathematics.

Art & Design - BTEC
National Certificate in Business - OCR
Construction - BTEC
DIDA – Edexcel

Provisional blocks for September 2014 AS and Level 3 have yet to be fixed. You will get these as soon as some curriculum changes have been completed. This is an example of what it will look like; each block contains the subjects which are taught at the same time. When you make your preliminary choices you will choose 3 or 4 subjects which must be in different blocks.

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D	Block E
	BTEC Sport	BTEC Sport		BTEC Sport
	BTEC Business Studies	BTEC Business Studies		BTEC Business Studies
	BTEC Performing Arts	BTEC Performing Arts		BTEC Performing Arts
	BTEC Science	BTEC Science		BTEC Science
Chemistry	English Literature	Physical Education	Biology	Mathematics
Business Studies	Religious Education	Sociology	ICT OCR	Psychology
History	Music	Physics	Geography	Philosophy
	ICT AS	Economics	t	Product Design

Entry Requirements

Level 3 (AS Levels) – 5 A*-B grades and including a Grade B in English and mathematics and a Grade B in the AS level subjects of choice.

Level 3 (BTEC) – 5 A* - C including a Grade C in English and mathematics.

Level 2 (GCSE & BTEC) – 5 GCSE's including a D in English and mathematics.

You will be asked to make a preliminary first and second choice by Friday 6th December 2013.

Please note that these blocks are provisional. If you want a different set of choices there is room on the form for you to indicate this.

Changes to the ways in which A Level subjects have been offered in all schools in Enfield may mean that there will be some changes for September 2014. For teaching purposes, students in less popular A Level subjects may have to travel between schools for lessons. Consequently, individual students may not always be able to take their initial four first choice subjects.

Details of individual courses are included in later sections of the booklet.

Students applying for our Sixth Form are expected to attend the transition fortnight, further information regarding this will be announced shortly.

Examinations and Progression onto A2 Courses

As a general rule, students sit AS module examinations in June of Year 12. The A2 examinations at the end of Year 13 include a synoptic (summary) component covering units of both AS and A2 courses. Consequently, students cannot follow the A2 component of the Advanced Level course without first having studied the AS units.

The AS examinations are a fundamental part of full Advanced Level courses. Constraints of time mean that the teaching of A2 units will begin immediately after the examinations at the end of Year 12. However, students will be expected to demonstrate competency at AS level before progressing on to study a particular subject at the more difficult A2 Level in full during Year 13. The results of AS examinations will provide the basis of the predicted grades used for university references.

Progression to Higher Education

A high proportion of Sixth Formers progress to degree courses after leaving school. In theory, the **minimum** requirements for a degree course are two full passes at Advanced Level. In practice, however, point scores are often required that are equivalent to three good passes.

Applications for university have to be made at the beginning of Year 13.

ADVANCED LEVEL SUBJECT PROSPECTUSES

APPLIED SCIENCE (BTEC L3)

Entry Requirement : C in Core and Additional Science at GCSE

Qualification details

BTEC qualifications have been developed to provide specialist work related qualifications in a range of areas. The course offered is practical and will give you the opportunity to complete assignments and activities based on realistic situations linked to working in a variety of science related environments. It will give you a good feel for what it will be like to be at work as well as developing your communication, numeracy, IT, time management and teamwork skills. There are no formal exams.

Programme Overview and Unit Details

You will be studying for BTEC Certificate in Applied Science at Level 3. This involves completing three core units:-

Unit 1	Fundamentals of Science
Unit 2	Working in the Science Industry
Unit 3	Scientific Practical Techniques

BTEC Qualifications

You will be assessed on the assignment work that you undertake during the year and will be given overall grades at the end of the year as follows:-

BTEC Certificate (Pass)
BTEC Certificate (Merit)
BTEC Certificate (Distinction)

How will my learning be assessed?

Courses recognised by BTEC give you credit for what you do as you learn and the methods of assessments vary depending on the type of course you are on.

Because there is no final examination, however, it is essential that you keep a portfolio of evidence of all of your achievements. This includes the coursework you produce, such as items, photographs, video footage, assignments, computer print-outs, questionnaires, check lists or projects etc. It shows you and your tutor what you have learnt and will be looked at during marking and moderation.

What can I do after this course?

If you achieve an overall pass grade or better in the BTEC Certificate of Applied Science at Level 3, it may be possible for you to progress further to the BTEC Subsidiary Diploma in Applied Science at Level 3. At the end of Key Stage 5, you could move onto further education or you could, alternatively, go into employment in roles such as quality control technician/analysis; working in a hospital as a medical physics technician; working in a research laboratory in the development of new drugs; working for a science magazine or journal etc.

BIOLOGY (AQA)

Entry Requirement : at least Grade B in GCSE in both Core and Additional Science

Biology seeks to explain how living organisms work, both on an individual level and as part of the wider community. The A level course starts with a look at the detailed structure and function of cells and goes on to investigate some of the major organ systems in both plants and animals. The influence of pathogens and the body's defences against them are also covered. Students gain an awareness of the adaptations of organisms to their environment and also consider a range of relationships between organisms.

There are currently many exciting developments in areas of biology such as stem cell research, DNA technology and new drugs to treat disease. Students who study this subject may go on to a biology-related degree course and have access to a wide range of career opportunities including medicine, conservation work, nursing, physiotherapy, sports science etc.

At AS level there are three units to be studied:

- Biology and disease
- The variety of living organisms
- Investigative and practical skills (ISA).

The A2 course builds upon these with units on

- Populations and environment
- Control in cells and in organisms
- Further assessed practical skills (ISA).

The course is academically challenging and demands a high level of commitment to master the concepts involved. Students should be prepared to spend their own time on background reading and independent research as well as keeping up to date with science in the news and TV programmes. There is a significant practical aspect to the subject and students must understand the need to participate fully in all their lessons.

Biology also requires some skills relating to chemistry and mathematics. For this reason applicants for the course should have at least Grade B in GCSE in both Core and Additional Science. Most students will find it beneficial to study another science to at least AS level. To continue to A2 level students will need to have been successful at AS Biology.

BUSINESS STUDIES (EDEXCEL BTEC L3)

Entry Requirement : at least Grade C in GCSE English and Mathematics

The BTEC Business studies courses is worth 1, 2 or 3 A Levels depending on whether it is taken as a single, double or triple option. The single option would be 6 units of coursework, the double option would be 12 units of coursework and the triple option would be 18 units of coursework. It has been designed to give students a 'hands on' practical approach to learning Business Studies. The course is assessed through 100% coursework.

The course will cover most aspects of how businesses are run and managed. A successful student will be an organised independent learner who is prepared to spend a lot of time researching topics and businesses.

Topics to be covered could include;

- The Business Environment
- Business Resources
- Introduction to Marketing
- Business Communication
- Business Accounting
- Creative Product Promotion
- Market Research in Business
- Recruitment and Selection in Business
- Developing Planning for a Career in Business
- Human Resource Management in Business
- Managing a Business Event
- Developing Teams in Business
- Understanding retailing
- Visual Merchandising in Retail
- The impact of Communication Technology on Business
- Website Design Strategy
- Starting a Small Business
- Understanding Business Ethics.

The BTEC Business course assumes students have no prior knowledge of Business Studies.

CHEMISTRY (OCR)

Entry Requirement : at least Grade B in GCSE in both Core and Additional Science. In addition they should have gained at least a Grade B in GCSE in English and Mathematics.

Our knowledge of chemicals has revolutionised the way in which we live. Think of polymers and paracetamol, of dioxins and nanotechnology. Society relies on the chemist to discover new anti-viral drugs, monitor the atmosphere for pollution, provide forensic evidence and to develop a range of new materials such as polymers, fertilisers, semi-conductors and plastics.

The course will help develop a clear understanding of the ways in which substances interact, and the reasons behind many chemical and biological reactions, you can expect to:

- Learn how materials behave and react at the atomic level and understand the synthesis of polymers such as nylon and PVC.
- Understand how medicines and drugs affect the body at the molecular level.
- Become familiar with modern analytical techniques such as MRI which have been responsible for major advances in medicine.

Studying chemistry to this level will open doors to many career opportunities, not only is it essential for studying Medicine, Pharmacy, Veterinary Science, Dentistry, Chemistry or any related science course at degree level, but it is also highly regarded for many other career paths. The course develops scientific thinking and critique, it requires an enquiring mind and builds numeracy skills. All of these skills are becoming increasingly invaluable in a vast range of sectors including engineering, software design, business and consultancy to name a few.

At AS there are three units to be studied:

- Atoms, Bonds and Groups
- Chains, Energy and Resources
- Practical Skills in Chemistry 1.

The A2 course builds upon these with units on:

- Rings, Polymers and Analysis
- Equilibria, Energetics and Elements
- Practical Skills in Chemistry 2.

To continue to A2 level students will need to have been successful at AS level.

ECONOMICS (AQA)

Entry Requirement : at least Grade B in GCSE English and Mathematics

Economics (AQA)

The Economic A-Level course is designed to equip students with a knowledge and appreciation of one of the most relevant topics in society today – The Economy; what is going on and why it has happened.

Economics is 100% exam assessed and consists of 2 exams at the end of Year 12 and 2 at the end of Year 13.

Topics to be covered during the AS Economics course include;

- Unit 1 – Markets and Market Failure; the economic problem, the allocation of resources in competitive markets, production and efficiency, market failure and government intervention in the market.
- Unit 2 – The National Economy; the measurement of macroeconomic performance, how the macroeconomy works: AD/AS analysis, the circular flow of Income and related concepts, economic performance and macroeconomic policy.

Topics to be covered during the A2 Economics course include;

- Unit 3 - objectives of the firm, why do firms grow, revenue of the firm, costs of the firm, efficiency, profit, barriers to entry and exit, market concentration, what determines the behaviour of firms , how does the threat of competition affect a firm's behaviour and government intervention in markets to maintain competition.
- Unit 4 – globalisation, trade, protectionism, balance of payments account, exchange rate policies, competitiveness, absolute and relative poverty, differences between growth and development, evaluations of fiscal, monetary and supply side policies.

A Level Economics assumes students have no prior of Economics.

ENGLISH LITERATURE (AQA SPECIFICATION A)

Entry Requirement : at least Grade B in GCSE English

The aim of this well-established English Literature course is to encourage students to develop an enjoyment of English Literature by reading widely, critically and independently across centuries, genres and gender. This gives students the capacity to read, analyse, report and reframe all key skills for a variety of careers.

The AS specification has two units.

Unit 1 Texts in context: We study World War One Literature. This unit assesses the poetry set text 'The Oxford Book of War Poetry' and the candidate's wider reading. Assessment comes in the form of a two hour exam with two questions. Question 1 invites candidates to link their wider reading to the focus of a given passage and Question 2 assesses the poetry set text. This is an engaging and interesting course which students really enjoy.

Unit 2 assesses prose and drama texts, currently 'Regeneration' and 'Journey's End'; assessment is in the form of coursework including transformational writing, which gives students the opportunity to get the best marks possible.

A2 consists of a further 2 units. Unit 3 focuses on Reading for Meaning. Here we study a range of texts on the theme of Love through the Ages. Assessment is in the form of a written exam. As a class we have the opportunity to look at some of the finest pieces of literature. Exciting discussions take place and this allows the students to explore the theme of love at a much deeper level. This year we have already looked at a range of plays, including Shakespears Twelfth Night and Williams' 'Streetcar Named Desire' and novels such as 'A Room with a View' and 'Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit'.

Unit 4 is the Extended Essay and Shakespeare study. Assessment is in the form of an essay which explores the themes of the play (at the moment, 'Twelfth Night') and compares it with two other texts.

A Level English is an enabling subject which is looked on favourably by universities and employers.

GEOGRAPHY (OCR)

Entry Requirement : at least Grade B in GCSE Geography

Geography is recognised as a valuable A Level subject because of its strong skills base and its subject content. It is unique in its capacity to bridge across the humanities - science divide. For this reason geographers find careers in the scientific arena, such as meteorology, geology, hydrology, pollution control, geomorphology and cartography but can be equally successful in business and finance, banking, town planning, local government, transport management, research, teaching/lecturing, law and journalism.

The course offered at AS and A2 is modular with written examinations in each year. There will be a residential field trip to Dorset in Year 12. Students will also be required to undertake individual research on a Geographical Skills Unit in Year 13.

AS Level (Year 12)

Unit 761 – Managing Physical Environments (50%)

Exam: 1 hour 30 minutes

The aims of this unit are to develop an understanding of :

- The physical processes and factors that produce the diverse features of the physical environment overtime.
- The dynamic nature of environments that change over time and place.
- How the physical environment is managed in a sustainable way.
- Examine river, coastal, cold, hot arid and semi arid environments.

Unit F762 – Managing Change in Human Environments (50%)

Exam: 1 hour 30 minutes

The aims of this unit are to develop knowledge and understanding of:

- The factors that produce a diverse variety of human environments.
- How environments change over time and place.
- The dynamics of interaction between people and the environment.
- The need for sustainable management.

Advanced GCE Level (Year 13)

Both AS units become 50% of the final A2 mark

Unit F763: Global Issues (30%)

Exam: 2 hours 30 minutes

The aims of this unit are for candidates to develop:

- The ability to identify and quantify issues of global concern.
- The dynamic interaction of people and the environment.
 - a) Environmental issues.
 - b) Economic Issues.
 - c) Hazard Management.

Unit F764: Geographical Skills (20%)

Exam: 1 hour 30 minutes

Options range from those with a strong physical geography focus, to those concerned more with environmental, social and cultural geographies.

Why study geography at AS Level?

You will develop transferable skills (e.g. use of data, analysis, evaluation, report writing, research, etc).

You will develop ICT skills and practical experience resulting from fieldwork and environmental investigations.

You will benefit from high academic standards. Geography always achieves good examination results – between us we have more than 20 years experience of teaching geography A Level.

Geography is welcomed by **all** universities but as a traditional subject is highly popular in the Russell Group of Universities.

HISTORY (EDEXCEL)

Entry Requirement : at least Grade B in GCSE History

History is a popular and successful subject choice within the Sixth Form. During this course, students are provided with the opportunity to attend conferences led by professional historians to enhance their knowledge and skills in preparation for their exams and university. There is also a four day trip to Berlin which is specifically aimed at Unit 3 of the course.

Studying History provides students with the valuable skills to write up reports, carry out research and analyse information. History prepares students for careers in law, journalism, research, teaching, marketing, librarianship, museum work and various administrative roles.

At AS Level students will study 2 units of History.

Unit 1: Russia in Revolution & Stalin's Russia

This unit is assessed by exam and is worth 50% of the AS course and 25% of the final grade. The unit requires students to address two linked themes, which occur before and after the assassination of Tsar Nicholas II.

Unit 2: Henry VIII: Authority, Nation and Religion

This unit is assessed by exam and is worth 50% of the AS course and 25% of the final grade. This unit enables students to study British History in some depth, focusing on and exploring sources and understanding the attitudes and beliefs the Tudor period.

At A2 Level students will study a further two units.

Unit 3: From Kaiser to Fuhrer 1900-1945

This unit is assessed by exam which is worth 60% of the A2 course and 30% of the final grade. This unit focuses on the historical controversies of the period and compares the reign of Kaiser Wilhelm II to Hitler's dictatorship.

Unit 4: Black Civil Rights 1877-1980

This unit is an historical enquiry that is worth 40% of the total A2 course and 20% of the final grade. The students write two 2000 word essays, the first being an in depth enquiry; the second focuses on a broader context, exploring the change in attitudes of the black and white communities in the north and south of the USA during this period.

CAMBRIDGE TECHNICAL INTRODUCTORY DIPLOMA IN ICT (OCR LEVEL 3)

Entry Requirement : at least Grade C in English and mathematics

6 Units including 2 mandatory Units.

This qualification is suitable for those studying in preparation for employment in the Information and Communication Technology sector particularly in job roles where they will be expected to use ICT skills and liaise with users.

To achieve this qualification, candidates must complete a total of **6** units consisting of 2 mandatory units and 4 optional units.

Mandatory units

Unit 1 Communication and Employability Skills for IT

Unit 2 Information Systems

There is a varied selection from which the other 4 units can be chosen. Each unit within these specifications is designed around the principle that candidates will build a portfolio of evidence relating to progression towards meeting the unit assessment objectives. There are no timetabled exams required.

APPLIED ICT (OCR)

Entry Requirement : As a minimum, students beginning the course should have achieved the equivalent of two GCSE passes at Grades A*-B in the ICT OCR National course, as well as passes at a similar level in English and Mathematics.

The aim of this specification is to encourage candidates to:

- Develop a broad range of ICT skills and knowledge of the uses of ICT in vocational contexts, as a basis for progression into further learning in ICT-related fields, including progression from AS to A2.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of the components, functions and applications of information systems within a range of organisations.
- Develop an understanding of the main principles of solving problems using ICT and develop the skills necessary to apply this understanding.

The following 3 Units are studied at AS level:-

GO40 Using ICT to Communicate (Coursework assessed)

GO41 How Organisations use ICT (External examination)

GO42 ICT Solutions for Individuals and Society (Coursework Assessed)

What will you be working towards:

OCR Advanced Subsidiary GCE in Applied ICT.

OCR code H115

The following three units will be studied at A2

G048 Working to a Brief

G051 Publishing

G053 Developing and Creating Websites.

What will you be working towards:

OCR Advanced GCE in Applied ICT

OCR code H515

MATHEMATICS (EDEXCEL)

Entry Requirement : at least Grade A in GCSE Mathematics

Universities are always looking to recruit students who have a mathematical background, so by demonstrating you can complete a demanding course such as this, your chances of getting into further education institutions is enhanced. Mathematics is considered by many employers as an indication of a person's ability to think logically and solve problems as well as being able to sustain a line of logic and to question assumptions that may have otherwise been made incorrectly.

Mathematics at Advanced Level is a combination of pure mathematics [Core], Mechanics [M] and Statistics [S]. The full Advanced Level course is made up of six modules, three of which are examined at the end of the Lower Sixth. The three modules examined first are C1, C2 and S1. Half the content of C1 is some of the higher level GCSE put in a new context. This enables students to consolidate their algebraic skills before moving onto more demanding concepts. In the Upper Sixth C3, C4 and S1 are examined. All exams are given the same weighting, so their final A2 result is simply an average of all their exam marks. In the past we have had upper sixth students work through additional modules: D1, M2 and FP1 in order to gain a Further Maths AS qualification. Universities look for this type of ambition when offering places on their courses.

Students who aspire to take A Level maths but who are currently working at the B grade should attend the Aspiring to Maths A Level course which the department will run.

Students taking mathematics at Advanced Level should:

- Have achieved an A or A* at GCSE or have completed our Access to A Level course during Year 11.
- Enjoy the subject.
- Expect to supplement their class work with background study of mathematical techniques and exercises. Students will need to complete a minimum of 2 hours additional study for each 1-hour lesson.
- Have the capacity to organize and discipline themselves to identify areas of weakness and spend long hours working on difficult concepts and problems.

Further Mathematics

In addition to AS and A2 mathematics, some students opt to take AS Further Mathematics over two years (3 extra units) or A2 Further Mathematics over two years (6 extra units). Further Mathematics builds upon knowledge and skills learnt in standard GCE mathematics, and is a good option for students expecting to achieve an A or A* mathematics and who would like to read mathematics at University. The units are selected from the following: Further Pure 1 (FP1) (compulsory), FP2, FP3, Mechanics 2 (M2), M3, M4, Statistics 2 (S2), S3, S4, Decision Maths 1 (D1) and D2.

Quotes about A-Level Mathematics from publications:

“Young people with A-level mathematics earn 10% more than their mathematically challenged counterparts,” (The Times, Feb 1999).

“This is probably the most marketable A-level in terms of acceptability. It is difficult to think of any course/career where it would not be welcomed in combination with other subjects,” (Dorset Careers Service, current).

“Maths is essential to study computing,” (University Prospectus, current).

“Mathematics enables you to better understand and appreciate other subjects such as Geography, Sciences, Computing and Economics...” (University Prospectus, current).

MUSIC

Two courses are offered:

Advanced Level

Entry Requirement : . Candidates wishing to follow the course should be working at or towards Grade 5 of the Associated Board on their first instrument.

The Advanced Level course requires students to participate in a wide range of musical activities. During the AS course in the Lower Sixth, students make at least four public performances, and are expected to submit one composition and some musical techniques exercises. The written paper in June contains questions on recorded and prescribed musical extracts.

The A2 course in the Upper Sixth allows students to continue their studies with a greater degree of flexibility to suit individual tastes, candidates choosing from two options, recital and composition.

Advanced Level Music is a normal entrance requirement for music colleges and university music departments where students' principal study is Music

Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Certificate in Music (Performing)

1 year course (AS equivalent)

Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Music (Performing)

2 year course (A2 equivalent)

Entry Requirement : . Instrumental/Vocal skills at a level equivalent to Grade 4/5.

These courses are aimed primarily at students who are interested in developing practical music skills and might be considering a career in the Popular Music Industry. They are very practical courses and are centred around music performance and related activities.

The three unit Certificate and the six unit Subsidiary Diploma in Music (Performing) are equivalent to one GCE AS/A2 Level. They also attract UCAS points in the same way as an A level.

Students are required to study 6 units over the 2 year course, 3 in the first year (Certificate) and 3 in the second (Subsidiary Diploma). Some units are assessed internally via portfolio work while others are externally assessed.

Instrumental/Vocal skills at a level equivalent to Grade 4/5 and a keen interest in Popular Music are essential. Students must be prepared to perform regularly and will preferably already have significant experience of doing so.

The BTEC Level 3 Certificate/Subsidiary Diploma in Music (Performing) provide a sound basis for students wishing to proceed to Higher education courses in Music. They can lead to careers in performing, teaching, and composition as well as related areas in publishing and media.

SUBSIDIARY DIPLOMA IN PERFORMING ARTS (PERFORMANCE) (BTEC L3)

Entry Requirement : at least Grade C GCSE in Drama or Music

Why take Performing Arts?

Having arts qualification amongst your A-Level options is an excellent way to demonstrate to Universities and employers that you are confident, energetic and have an aptitude for creativity, good presentation and team work. If you are keen to 'tread the boards', study innovative plays and view live theatre, then this could be the course for you!

Course Breakdown

This course is a GCE BTEC Subsidiary Diploma, meaning it is equivalent to one A Level. It is split into six units covering various performance skills, which will be covered over the two years. The choice of units will be tailored to the experience, talents and needs of the class; however, popular units include:

- Performing to an Audience
- Contemporary Theatre Performance
- Classical Theatre Performance
- Devising Plays
- Theatre in Education
- Approaches to Directing Theatre.

What do I need in order to take this course?

Students who have achieved a Grade A*-C in GCSE Drama or Level 2 BTEC performing Arts will find this course easy to adapt to; however, students with no performing experience are also welcome. Enthusiasm, good team spirit and a willingness to step outside your comfort zone are essential for success on the course.

Where will this course lead me?

Most jobs require an element of performance, be it presenting speeches, speaking to customers or managing a team. Therefore, this course is suitable for most career pathways.

However, with a BTEC in Performing Arts you will have gained enough experience to pursue a career as a:

- Performer
- Director
- Producer
- Stage Manager
- Critic
- Editor... and many more.
- Lighting/Set/Costume Designer
- Stage or Film Technician
- Cameraman
- Writer

RE : PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS (AQA)

Entry Requirement : at least Grade B in GCSE Religious Studies

Philosophy and Ethics is becoming a popular A Level option. It enables students to develop a range of key skills from critical argument to philosophical and religious discussion. The AS and A2 courses provide an introduction to philosophy, ethical and theological studies. At AS you will develop philosophical ideas, such as the existence of God, based on the teleological argument and the ethics behind decision making, including utilitarianism and situation ethics. At A2 there will be an investigation into the nature of the soul, beliefs in the afterlife and sexual and business ethics.

The subject is ideal for both religious believers and non-believers and challenges students to think.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (AQA)

Entry Requirement : at least Grade B in GCSE PE and Additional and Core Science

Physical Education is an established Advanced Level subject which is recognised by all universities and employers. The course covers both theoretical and practical aspects of the subject. Students should have taken and achieved at least Grade B in the GCSE course, as well as a minimum Grade B pass in Science.

At AS students study two units:

Unit 1 (Theory)

Opportunities for and the effects of leading a healthy and active lifestyle.
(sports physiology, psychology and social/historical aspects)

Unit 2 (Practical)

Analysis and evaluation of physical activity in two roles, as a performer, coach or official.

For those wishing to be a performer, students should be playing competitively for a senior school team or for an outside club. Details of other permitted sporting activities can be discussed with members of the PE staff.

Students study a further two units for the A2 course:

Unit 3 (Theory)

Optimising performance and evaluating contemporary issues within sport
(sports physiology, psychology and social/historical aspects)

Unit 4 (Practical)

Optimising practical performance in a competitive situation.

PHYSICS (OCR)

Entry Requirement : at least Grade B in GCSE in both Core and Additional Science and in Mathematics (taken at the higher tier)

Physics seeks to explain how the world and universe work. It does this by looking at universal rules that apply to everything from objects the size of Galaxies to the tiniest of sub atomic particles. The A Level course is wide ranging covering topics as diverse as:

- The mechanics of car crashes.
- How do we weigh the Earth (or the sun)
- Quantum theory and the nature of light
- Medical Physics and Medical Imaging
- Thermal Physics
- Electricity and its control.

Not surprisingly with such a widely applicable subject, career opportunities abound with Physics qualifications in very high demand in a huge range of industries, from the obvious like engineering, medical specialism's and the energy industry through computer programming and software engineering to business, retailing and financial industries where the understanding of the world and high numerical skills are in great demand. In addition the range of physics related university degrees is enormous. For example; Physics, Engineering (in all forms), Medical Physics, Geophysics, Oceanography, Astrophysics etc.

At AS Level there are three units to be studied:

- Mechanics
- Waves, Photons and Electrons
- Assessed Practicals.

The A2 course builds upon these with units on:

- The Newtonian World
- Fields, Particles and the frontiers of Physics
- Further Assessed Practicals.

The course is challenging highly numerical and demands a high level of mathematical skill. Most students find it beneficial to study mathematics and or another science to at least AS Level. To continue to A2 Level students will need to have been successful at AS.

PRODUCT DESIGN (OCR)

Entry Requirement : at least Grade B in GCSE Resistant Materials/Graphics or Food Technology

Aims of the course:

AS and A Level specifications in design and technology should encourage candidates to:

- make use of tacit knowledge and reflective practices in order to work on tasks that are challenging and often require definition;
- develop and sustain their creativity and innovative practice;
- recognise and overcome challenges and constraints when working towards the production of high-quality products;
- develop a critical understanding of the influences of the processes and products of design and technological activities from a contemporary and historical perspective;
- draw on a range of skills and knowledge from other subject areas;
- draw on and apply knowledge, understanding and skills of production processes to a range of design and technology activities;
- develop an understanding of contemporary design and technology practices;
- use information and communications technology (ICT) and information handling skills to enhance their design and technological capability;
- recognise the values inherent in design and technological activities, and develop critical evaluation skills in technical, aesthetic, ethical, economic, environmental, sustainable, social, cultural and entrepreneurial contexts.

Students will take part in a design challenge to design and model a product and then reflect on this. They will have to produce a product study as one part of their coursework and a coursework portfolio. The final part of the assessment is a written paper consisting of two components on product design.

PSYCHOLOGY (OCR)

Entry Requirement : at least Grade B GCSE in Core and Additional Science as well as Grade B in English Language. Students are required to have a good understanding of statistical methods.

Advanced Subsidiary and Advanced Level

Approach

Psychology is the study of the mind and behaviour. Anything we do, think or experience can be studied by psychologists. The subject is taught through lectures, group work, research, discussions, presentations, videos and role play.

As you study psychology you will begin to understand the factors that affect your behaviour. You will learn about yourself and why you do the things you do. It can teach you about the ways people interact in social situations and give you a better understanding of your own feelings and attitudes. You will also learn techniques that may help you study more effectively.

How long is the course?

1 – 2 years

What will you be studying?

AS Level (First year of course)

G541 Psychological investigations

Through this module, an introduction to the world of psychological research methods, you will be introduced to carrying out research in a practical setting.

G542 Core studies

The component covers the classic exemplar studies in psychology and demonstrates how learning about behaviour has influenced our thinking today. You will learn about 15 studies, 3 each from the 5 psychological approaches: social, cognitive, physiological, developmental and individual differences. You will use these studies to explore issues, debates, perspectives and methods.

A2 Level (Second year of course)

G543 Options in applied psychology

The component gives you the opportunity to learn about how psychological theory is applied in real life situations. You will study 2 of the following options:

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

Currently, we study Forensic and Health and Clinical options.

G544 Approaches and research methods in psychology

This component draws together everything you have learnt into a whole. In particular you will look at approaches and develop aspects of research methods that will have been introduced in previous units. Candidates will be required to design a practical project, using all that they have learned in Psychology.

How will I be assessed?

All formal assessment for A Level Psychology is by exam. Throughout the course, you will also be assessed by your teacher. This informal assessment will consist of written work, project work, presentation and discussions.

Where can I go after completing the course?

If you choose to study Psychology at University you will find a large number of courses to choose from, some of them covering the traditional areas of the subject and some with a narrower focus. After graduation many avenues are open, both in specialist areas of Psychology and in the wider market place. Clinical, Educational, Counselling, Occupational and Health Psychology are just some of the specialist fields.

Careers Related to this course:

- Child Psychologist
- Criminologist
- Psychologist.

SOCIOLOGY (AQA)

Entry Requirement : If you have studied Sociology at GCSE you will need a B Grade or above; Grade B in another Humanity.

Sociology is a subject of great practical potential for students who wish to go on to Higher Education courses in social sciences, law and politics, as well as more vocationally-orientated courses in media, education and social work.

Sociology prepares students for careers in the following areas: law, journalism, research, teaching, marketing and market research and human resources.

Students who anticipate leaving full-time education at the age of 18 will find the skills of presentation and analysis developed during the course of immense use to them. Sociology is often a subject that is interesting and useful to students who are following both conventional Arts or Sciences courses as a way of broadening

their studies. In recent years, Bishop Stopford's Sociology students have achieved more A grades at A2 than in any other subject.

The Advanced Level course includes study of the sociology of the family education, religion and crime and deviance as well as elements of sociological theory and of research methodology.

Assessment for AS is by two examination papers assessing learning about the family and education, combined with research methods and sociological theory. At A2, there are two examinations on learning about religion and crime and defiance, which is again combined with assessing knowledge on research methods and sociological theory.

Sociology is a subject for the student who asks why society works the way it does and who is not satisfied with easy answers. Students should have at least a Grade B in English GCSE and C or better in History, Geography or Religious Studies and be self-motivated and capable of working independently on research projects.

DIPLOMA IN SPORT (BTEC L3)

Entry Requirement : at least Grade C GCSE in English, Mathematics and Science

The BTEC subsidiary Diploma is equivalent to 1 A-Level.

The BTEC Diploma is equivalent to 2 A-levels.

The Level 3 BTEC National Award is a 2-year qualification, which gives you specialist and practical knowledge that focuses on particular aspects of sport. The course is suitable for students with 5 GCSEs at Grade C and above. You do not have to have studied PE at GCSE level to do well on this course.

BTEC Sport is a qualification that is designed to provide specialist work-related qualifications in a range of sectors. It gives the learners the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need to prepare them for employment and attributes essential for successful performance in working life.

Career Opportunities

On successful completion of a BTEC Diploma in Sport, learners can progress into employment in the sport and recreational sector, continue their study in the same vocational area or use the qualification to count towards entrance to a range of academic degree courses.

LEVEL 2 VOCATIONAL COURSES

Entry Requirements : 4 GCSEs at Grade D incl. English and Mathematics

Introduction

Vocational qualifications extend students' knowledge in their chosen subject with an emphasis on developing the skills and understanding necessary to prepare learners for employment or higher-level courses.

Four Intermediate Level programmes of study are offered in Art and Design, Construction, ICT and in Business.

Although there are no specific entry requirements, students embarking on these programmes of study would normally be expected to have achieved at least four GCSE passes at Grade D or above and to have demonstrated a reasonable level of commitment to their studies in their GCSE courses. Within their vocational programmes students will also be able to follow GCSE resit courses in English and Mathematics or a different qualification in English and mathematics.

The successful completion of either course programme will help students to progress onto appropriate higher level courses, such as Vocational Advanced Levels, at college.

ART AND DESIGN (BTEC L2)

The BTEC first diploma in Art and Design is a guided learning qualification comprising core and specialist units covering Art, Textiles and Graphics. Students experience a broad-based approach to the Art and Design sector. They are required to complete a total of six courses units; these include the development of visual and communication skills, the deepening of an understanding of art and design history and the development of an understanding of the Art and Design industries. Students will go on at least one school trip during the course and have the opportunity to work with an art and design industry professional. At the end of the course students will create a final piece of artwork that demonstrates their ability to employ the knowledge, skills and understanding gained throughout the course.

BUSINESS (CTEC L2)

The Business course is assessed through 100% coursework. This course is only suitable to students who are willing to work very hard throughout the year and produce detailed work that they have researched to specific deadlines set a regular intervals.

You need a good standard of English because you will produce a lot of written work. You need to be happy with basic Maths to help handle data, statistics and numbers.

A grade of at least a 'Merit' is required for subsequent admission onto Advanced Level courses.

The course is made up of 6 units;

- Business Purpose
- Business Organisation
- Financial Forecasting
- Business Enterprise
- Business Ethics
- Business Communication Through Documentation

CHILD DEVELOPMENT (AQA L2)

The Child Development course is assessed through a mixture of exam (40%) and two controlled assessments; a child study (40%) and a research task (20%). The course is suitable for students who want to pursue a career either working with or looking after children.

The exam covers 5 main topics;

- Parenthood
- Pregnancy
- Diet, health and care of the child
- Development of the child
- Support for the parent and child

The child study is a controlled assessment that takes place over 40 hours throughout the year. Students will have a number of different focuses that they can choose from, they then 'study' a child at 4 points over the year to see how they are developing in relation to the topic they have chosen.

The research task is a controlled assessment that takes place over 7 hours and again students will have a number of different focuses that they can choose from.

The course is taught in a very practical 'hands on' way and students have the chance to take home one of our RealCare[®] babies for the weekend and get firsthand experience of looking after a new born baby!

CONSTRUCTION (BTEC L2)

What will you be learning?

Edexcel BTEC Level 2 Extended Certificate in Construction 500/7239/0

The qualification provides a specialist work-related programme of study aimed at learners with an interest in working in construction. The BTEC Level 2 Extended Certificate in Construction will provide you with a practical understanding of the fundamental aspects of the industry, as well as an appreciation of the knowledge, skills and competency needed when considering entering employment in the sector.

The course is designed to enable you to study other subjects alongside your BTEC Certificate. There are two core units and four specialist units totalling 180 guided learning hours. The specialist units on offer can allow you to focus on your existing interests or to discover new areas, such as construction drawing techniques, exploring painting and decorating or the use of science and mathematics in construction. The units Bishop Stopford's School offer are listed below.

Unit 1: Structure of the Construction Industry

Unit 2: Exploring Health, Safety and Welfare in Construction.

Unit 3: Exploring Health, Safety and Welfare in Construction.

Unit 4: Exploring Trowel Operations.

Unit 5: Exploring Painting and Decorating

Unit 6: Exploring Building Services Techniques in Construction.

Where will this qualification take me?

Employment opportunities - Following successful completion of the BTEC First Certificate in Construction, candidates may enter initial employment, on a junior level, in a wide range of areas, such as carpentry, bricklaying or building conservation.

Further Vocational and Academic Qualifications

The achievement of the BTEC First Certificate has the equivalence of 2 GCSEs graded A*-C. If you achieve an overall pass grade or better in the BTEC First Certificate in Construction, it is possible for you to progress further to the BTEC First Diploma Construction, or to enrol on another Level 2 programme, such as a relevant NVQ, or to move on to a higher level qualification such as the Level 3 BTEC National Certificate in Construction.

Who can do it?

The entry requirements for the Edexcel Level 2 BTEC First Certificate in Construction are laid down by individual centres. You should have the interest and potential to succeed in achieving the qualification and ideally be able to show you have a standard of literacy, numeracy and general education equivalent to four GCSEs Grade D.

DiDA (EDEXCEL)

This suite of qualifications allows students to develop their ICT skills.

21st century qualifications for a digital generation

The DiDA suite of qualifications is unique in its scope, philosophy and delivery methods.

Inspiring and challenging

DiDA promotes creative use of digital applications. Its real-life, outcome-driven approach inspires and challenges learners to demonstrate what they know and are able to do in authentic contexts.

Modern and future-proofed

DiDA is a modern, world-class suite of qualifications that is designed to equip learners with the skills they need to live, learn and earn in the 21st century.

Creative and collaborative

DiDA enables learners to make the leap from passive consumers to active producers of quality digital content. It develops their ability to organise themselves and their work and encourages them to reflect critically on their own and others' use of ICT.

DiDA **Diploma in Digital Applications** (Unit 1 plus any other three units) - equivalent to 4 GCSEs.

Unit 1 – Using ICT

This unit provides learners with the knowledge and skills they need to design and produce publications for print and screen that are fit for audience and purpose. Learners will discover how to:-

Establish the 'who, why, where and what' requirements for publications
Produce an up-front plan to help them manage a project and use it to track, monitor and communicate progress
Select and capture information from various sources and use spreadsheet and database tools to collate and analyse data
Build an eportfolio that presents their achievements, giving 'pride of place' to project outcomes
Evaluate the effectiveness of publications they produce and assess the contribution of underpinning processes, such as planning and testing, to their success.

Unit 2 – Multimedia

This unit provides learners with the knowledge and skills they need to design and produce effective multimedia products. Learners will discover how to:

- Produce detailed, up-front design documentation
- Collect, create and prepare different types of digital assets – audio, video, animation, still images, movies and text – for use in multimedia products
- Carry out different types of testing – for functionality, for usability, for accuracy for impact and obtain and use feedback from others as an integral part of the development process.
- Use multimedia assets to showcase their achievements in an eportfolio
- Evaluate the effectiveness of multimedia products they produce and assess the contribution of underpinning processes, such as planning and design, to their success.

DiDA qualifications are available at two levels, providing full A* - G equivalence. Learners can combine different units and levels.

ADDITIONAL SIXTH FORM COURSES

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (CORE)

An annual day conference has been arranged in previous years for all Sixth Form students by the Religious Studies Department, providing an opportunity for them to consider issues of a religious, ethical or philosophical nature. The conference includes some input from visiting speakers as well as the opportunity for discussion and reflection.

The weekly Sixth Form Assembly also includes a brief time of reflection on religious themes.

GCSE RETAKES

Many careers ask for qualifications in specific subjects, and GCSE passes in English Language and mathematics at grades A* to C are essential for most higher education courses and many other opportunities.

Lessons in English and mathematics are timetabled within the Level 2 programme. Students must understand that attendance at the re-sit lessons remains compulsory until the receipt of a pass grade in the results. This is to maximise opportunities for the future since it allows those students who are not successful to take the exam again in the summer sessions.

KEY SKILLS FOR LEADERSHIP

This course is compulsory for all students studying for Level 3 courses in Year 12. It runs during an extended registration period one day a week and allows students the opportunity to develop their own study skills as well as a chance to gain extra UCAS points for university.

SIXTH FORM GAMES

An opportunity to participate in a range of sports on free timetable periods.

NOTES

NOTES

Facilities



Bishop Stopford's School
Brick Lane , Enfield, Middlesex
EN1 3PU
tel: 020 8804 1906 fax: 020 8216 1760
heasoffice@bishopstopfords.enfield.sch.uk
www.bishopstopfords.enfield.sch.uk

