



Tytherington
SIXTH FORM



Course Information

September 2020



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Possible Pathways & Entry Requirements

Students at Tytherington Sixth Form follow a two-year programme of study incorporating three A Levels or A level equivalent courses. There are three pathways of study at Post-16, designed to guide students to embark on appropriate courses in line with their performance at GCSE.

	GCSE Performance	Appropriate Courses
Pathway 1	For students whose GCSE results are mainly grade 6 and above	The full range of courses is open to students on Pathway 1, though students in this group would normally choose to study 3 A levels. NB. Students who achieve mainly grade 8 and 9 at GCSE can choose to do 4 A levels.
Pathway 2	For students whose GCSE results are mainly grade 5 and above	Students on Pathway 2 would normally choose a combination of A level and BTEC / Level 3 Extended Certificate Courses. (An A level only route is possible depending on the entry requirements for the subjects chosen).
Pathway 3	For students whose GCSE grades are mainly 4 and above	Students on Pathway 3 will normally choose 3 BTEC / Level 3 Diploma Courses.

Through a series of one-to-one discussions with a member of the Sixth Form team, applicants can be assured that they will be supported in choosing a suitable study programme.

In order to ensure that students enrol on courses that they will be able to complete, and in which they will gain success, we set the following minimum entry requirements:

Students wishing to study **A Level courses must normally achieve a minimum of 5 Grade 5s at GCSE.**

Students wishing to study mainly **BTEC / Level 3 Diploma courses must normally achieve a minimum of 5 grade 4s at GCSE.**

Students who achieve below grade 4 in English and Mathematics will have to re-sit the examination in Year 12. Students who achieve grade 4 will be given the opportunity to re-sit the examination in Year 12 in order to achieve a grade 5.

Entry Criteria

Below is the list of entry criteria for each course. More detail on each course can be found in this booklet.

NB. You will notice from the list below that AS Further Mathematics is an additional option for interested students to take alongside their three A levels in Year 12.

AQA Level 3 Extended Certificate in Applied Science	Grade 5 in Separate Sciences, or 5-5 in Trilogy Science at GCSE (4 or 4-4 will be considered).
A Level Art and Design	Grade 5 at GCSE, if taken.
A Level Art and Design Textiles and Fashion	Grade 5 in a GCSE Design subject, if taken.
A Level Biology	Grade 6 in Biology Separate Science GCSE, or grades 6-6 in Trilogy Science GCSE. Grade 6 in Mathematics GCSE recommended.
BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Business	5 grade 4s at GCSE including English. Grade 4 in GCSE Business, if taken.
BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Business	5 grade 4s at GCSE including English. Grade 4 in GCSE Business, if taken.

BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Business	5 grade 4s at GCSE including English. Grade 4 in GCSE Business, if taken.	A Level Music Technology	Grade 5 in GCSE Music or demonstrable interest in the subject with evidence of prior work completed.
A Level Chemistry	Grade 6 in GCSE Chemistry Separate Science or grades 6-6 in Trilogy Science GCSE. Grade 6 in Mathematics GCSE.	A Level Physical Education	Grade 6 at GCSE, if taken. Regular participation in one team/individual sport is essential. (The ability to play this sport to a high standard is desirable.)
A Level Computer Science	Grade 6 at GCSE, if taken. Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics. (Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics if Computer Science not taken at GCSE).	A Level Physics	Grade 6 in Physics Separate Science GCSE, or grades 6-6 in Trilogy Science GCSE. Grade 6 in Mathematics GCSE.
A Level Drama and Theatre	Grade 5 at GCSE, if taken. Grade 5 in GCSE English.	A Level Politics	5 GCSE Grade 5s including English Language and Mathematics.
A Level English Language	Grade 5 at GCSE.	A Level Design Technology: Product Design	Grade 5 in a GCSE Design subject, if taken. Grade 5 in Mathematics.
A Level English Literature	Grade 6 at GCSE. Grade 5 in GCSE English Language.	A Level Psychology	Grade 5 at GCSE, if taken. Grade 5 in one Science (4 will be considered) and Grade 5 in English.
A Level French	Grade 6 at GCSE achieved on higher papers.	A Level Spanish	Grade 6 at GCSE achieved on higher papers.
A Level Geography	Grade 5 in GCSE Geography. Grade 5 in GCSE English Language.	BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Sport	5 grade 4s at GCSE including English and Mathematics. Grade 4 in GCSE PE, if taken.
A Level German	Grade 6 at GCSE achieved on higher papers.	BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Sport	5 grade 4s at GCSE including English and Mathematics. Grade 4 in GCSE PE, if taken.
BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care	5 grade 4s at GCSE including English and Mathematics.	BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Sport	5 grade 4s at GCSE including English and Mathematics. Grade 4 in GCSE PE, if taken.
BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care	5 grade 4s at GCSE including English and Mathematics.	Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)	5 GCSE grades at 9-5 including English. This is an additional option alongside the 3 A level or equivalent programme of study which will be open to students from term 2 in Year 12.
A Level History	Grade 6 at GCSE, if taken. Grade 5 in GCSE English.		
A Level Mathematics	Grade 7 at GCSE. Students who achieve a high grade 6 will be considered.		
A/AS Level Further Mathematics	Grade 8 in GCSE Mathematics.		
A Level Music	Grade 6 in GCSE Music and grade 5 instrumental/voice (ABRSM or similar). Audition required for external applicants.		

NB. All courses are subject to demand. Parents and students will be kept informed of any changes.

All applications will be considered at individual student level.

AQA Level 3 Extended Certificate in Applied Science

The UK is currently regarded as a world leader in sectors including renewable energy, space, low carbon, pharmaceuticals, utilities, automotive, agri-food and bioscience.

The Applied Science course offers huge potential and opportunities for those interested in working in the scientific industry.

This qualification is the equivalent of one A level and students will cover topics such as:

- Scientific principles associated with Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- Experimental and practical techniques associated with Applied Science
- The roles and skills of scientists, and the public and media perception of science
- How the human body works
- Scientific investigations.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 5 in Separate Sciences, or 5-5 in Trilogy Science at GCSE.
(4 or 4-4 will be considered).

Assessment:

50% coursework portfolio
50% examination

Complementary Courses:

Applied Science particularly complements PE and Health and Social Care. However, it can also be taken as one science subject with a mixture of other non-scientific BTEC/A Levels.

Specification:

AQA Level 3 Extended Certificate in Applied Science

A Level Art & Design

A level Art and Design engages students in both practical and written creative studies. The course content requires individual exploration and development of each student's:

- Personal ideas through contextual research and analysis
- Ability to record their ideas in a visual way
- Experimentation with appropriate media, materials, technique and processes
- Ability to present a personal and meaningful response

There is a predominant focus on drawing, which will be the basis for building a portfolio of work that is both personal and informed. Opportunities exist for students to take part in residential Art courses and gallery visits. Teachers provide extended skills workshops and one-to-one tuition as part of the course.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 5 in GCSE Art and Design, if taken.
Students who have not taken GCSE Art and Design may also apply.

Assessment:

*60% coursework portfolio

40% examination

*This includes a 1000-word essay which explains the coursework portfolio as it progresses.

Complementary Courses:

Art and Design complements all A Level courses.

Specification:

AQA A Level Art and Design (Fine Art)

Progression:

Progression from Art and Design A Level can be extremely varied, although a significant number of students progress onto a one-year Art Foundation course. This is an ideal course for those who wish to gain further specialist knowledge and skills in preparation for Art and Design-based university courses. Each year we also have students taking routes into architecture, marketing, advertising and design-based courses such as Graphics and Fashion.

A Level Art & Design Textiles & Fashion

The Art and Design Textiles and Fashion course provides opportunities for students to:

- Develop knowledge of what is Textile Design and the varied routes you can go down
- Use various drawing techniques to present solutions to a prescribed problem
- Develop investigative and analytical skills
- Widen understanding of Textile and Fashion Designers
- Experiment and learn new practical techniques and develop skills to produce an end product of the student's choice ranging from garment construction to craft and also Textiles as an art form

Entry Requirements:

Grade 5 in a GCSE Design subject, if taken.

Prior study of one of the Design and Technology subjects is advantageous but not necessary.

Assessment:

A Level: Component 1:

Personal investigation: this involves students compiling a portfolio of work and is worth 60% of the A Level.

A Level: Component 2:

Externally set assignment: this will be a supervised 15 hour examination and is worth 40% of the A Level.

Complementary Courses:

Art Textiles particularly complements studies in English, Art and other creative subjects.

Specification:

OCR A level Art & Design Textiles

Progression:

Progression from A Level can be extremely varied, although a significant number of students progress onto a degree in Fashion or Textile Design. A Level Textiles & Fashion is also a great choice if you want to go on to a one-year Art Foundation.

The course provides a suitable foundation for the study of design, fashion, textiles or related courses in higher education. It also provides a basis for students intending to pursue careers in areas related to the focus material areas of textiles, retail, fashion design, merchandising, buying, fashion communication, fashion journalism and factory production amongst others.

A Level Biology

Biology is a stimulating and challenging study of a rapidly developing subject which is highly relevant in today's world. Biological matters are constantly in the news with exciting discoveries in genetics and biotechnology. More sinister, global, ecological issues are also ever-present with biologists holding some of the possible long-term strategies that could minimize catastrophic change. A well-informed citizen should be able to understand the principles behind such issues and evaluate the information on offer.

The Year 12 course aims to develop knowledge and understanding of the essential core concepts of biological molecules, cells, transport systems and DNA. The Year 13 course moves from the core concepts into an understanding of the nervous system, homeostasis, global energy transfer via photosynthesis and respiration, evolution and the frontiers of genetic technology. All students' learning will be supported by practical work. This will develop an understanding of key protocols and the scientific method as well as the ability to report findings.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 6 in Biology Separate Science GCSE, or grades 6-6 in Trilogy Science GCSE.

Grade 6 in Mathematics GCSE recommended.

Assessment:

100% examination

Complementary Courses:

Biology particularly complements studies in Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics, Psychology, Health and Social Care, and Physical Education.

Specification:

AQA A Level Biology

Progression:

A level Biology is a highly regarded qualification as it develops a wide range of skills. It can give you access to an ever-expanding variety of Biology-related courses leading to careers in Biotechnology, Microbiology, Food Science, Environmental Science, Agriculture, Pharmaceuticals, drug research, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Biophysics, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Physiotherapy, Nursing, Sport Science and Genetics.

BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Business

This course is equivalent to 1 A Level and will be studied alongside 2 additional A Level (or equivalent) subjects. The Extended Certificate in Business is an ideal course for those who wish to continue their education through applied learning and who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment in the business sector.

There is a high percentage of internally assessed coursework, which may appeal to students who prefer a more continuous approach to assessment. The external assessments may be in the form of a written examination, but may also be a set task which is completed during a defined window.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 4 in GCSE Business, if taken. 5 grade 4s at GCSE including English.

Assessment:

58% External assessment
42% Coursework

Complementary Courses:

BTEC Business works well across a range of subject combinations. It works particularly well as part of a two or three A level equivalent Business option as well as being combined with other subjects. Business particularly complements studies in English, Mathematics and Social Sciences.

Specification:

Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Business.

BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Business

This course is equivalent to 2 A Levels and will be studied alongside one additional A Level (or equivalent) subjects. The diploma is an ideal course for those who wish to continue their education through applied learning and who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment in the business sector.

There is a high percentage of internally assessed coursework, which may appeal to students who prefer a more continuous approach to assessment. The external assessments may be in the form of a written examination, but may also be a set task which is completed during a defined window.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 4 in GCSE Business, if taken. 5 grade 4s at GCSE including English.

Assessment:

46% External assessment
54% Coursework

Complementary Courses:

BTEC Business works well across a range of subject combinations. It works particularly well as part of a three A level equivalent Business option as well as being combined with other subjects. Business particularly complements studies in English, Mathematics and Social Sciences.

Specification:

Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Business.

Progression:

A Diploma in Business can lead to a variety of university and career options in the fields of Business and Finance, especially when combined with specific A Level / BTEC courses (see complementary courses).

BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Business

(incorporating the Career Ready Programme)

This course is equivalent to 3 A Levels and will be the main focus of a student's sixth form study. The Extended Diploma is an ideal course for those who wish to continue their education through applied learning and who aim to progress to higher education and ultimately to employment in the business sector. The qualification aims to provide a comprehensive study of the business sector.

There is a high percentage of internally assessed coursework, which may appeal to students who prefer a more continuous approach to assessment. The external assessments may be in the form of a written examination, but may also be a set task which is completed during a defined window.

Students studying the Extended Diploma will have the opportunity to follow the 'Career Ready' programme, which involves working with a Business Partner and completing a six-week summer internship as part of the course.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 4 in GCSE Business, if taken. 5 grade 4s at GCSE including English.

Assessment:

42% External assessment
58% Coursework

Complementary Courses:

Business combines well with other subjects. This course comprises a complete suite of Business and Finance units and, as stated above, will be the main focus of a student's sixth form study.

Specification:

Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Business.

Progression:

An Extended Diploma in Business can lead to a variety of university and career options in the fields of Business and Finance, and it enables students with a real interest in Business and Finance to specialize in this area. It provides a strong link to a career in this area through the 'Career Ready' component. Students will experience a taste of their chosen career sector through work with their business partner and their internship placement.

A Level Chemistry

Chemistry and chemists hold a key role in society, from the large petrochemical industry to the wider world of medicine. A Level Chemistry allows students to open doors to a number of industries and experiences.

This A Level provides students with analytical skills, both practical and theoretical, across organic, inorganic and physical chemistry. Students will build on prior knowledge of atomic structure and bonding, while learning new aspects of Chemistry such as mathematical-based equilibria and an introduction to organic mechanisms and reactions. In Year 13 students will build on these areas and expand their learning into structural and chemical analysis.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 6 in GCSE Chemistry Separate Science, or grades 6-6 in Trilogy Science GCSE.
Grade 6 in Mathematics GCSE.

Assessment:

100% examination

Complementary Courses:

Chemistry particularly complements studies in Biology, Physics and Mathematics.

Specification:

AQA A Level Chemistry

Progression:

Chemistry A Level is a highly regarded qualification. It develops students' ability to think logically, to solve problems and to apply knowledge to new situations.

Chemistry is an essential requirement for Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Chemical Engineering, Forensics, Pharmacy and Biochemistry.

A Level Computer Science

Designed for students who have already studied GCSE Computer Science, this course expands on the concepts covered and enables students to further develop their programming skills in an environment that encourages creative thinking and logical problem-solving.

Although access to a computer at home is not compulsory, a number of resources involve electronic files and programming tasks that students will be required to work on outside the classroom. It would be an advantage for students to have internet access at home and a suitable PC or laptop. The software used will be open source and free.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 6 at GCSE, if taken. Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics (Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics if Computer Science not taken at GCSE)

Assessment:

80% External assessment
20% Coursework

Complementary Courses:

A level Computer Science particularly complements studies in Mathematics, Further Mathematics and the Sciences.

Specification:

OCR A level Computer Science

Progression:

The course has been designed for students who wish to go on to higher education or employment where knowledge of computing would be beneficial. A Level Computer Science will develop key business and personal skills, in addition to advanced software capability and a theoretical understanding of computer programming. These skills are required in a wide range of employment sectors.

A Level Drama & Theatre

Through the study of a range of texts, theatre makers and live theatre, candidates will develop an understanding of how to interpret text for performance and analyse and evaluate performance alongside developing their acting and performance skills. Students will devise an original performance piece applying the ideas of a recognised theatre maker; they will perform three key extracts from three differing performance texts.

In the written examination students evaluate a live piece of theatre, answer a question based on their practical exploration and study of a complete text, and explain their interpretation of another complete performance text. Candidates will explore all work from the perspective of performer, director and designer.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 5 or above at GCSE, if taken. Grade 5 in GCSE English.

Assessment:

Drama and Theatre consists of two coursework components and one externally examined paper.
40% Devising
20% Text in Performance
40% Theatre Makers in Practice (externally examined)

Complementary Courses:

A Level Drama and Theatre particularly complements studies in English Literature, History and Psychology.

Specification:

AQA A level Drama and Theatre

Progression:

Through the practical exploration of performance texts, students will develop a range of skills. Students will be able to articulate how they would perform in certain roles, design for certain scenes and interpret a text for performance. They will also gain transferable skills including collaboration, communication and an understanding of how to amend and refine work. Many students who study Drama and Theatre go on to work in the Performing Arts industries, the Media and Education.

A Level English Language

'In the beginning there was the word...'

Language is central to our lives, both individually and socially, politically and globally. The ability to use language at a sophisticated level, whether it be speaking, reading or writing, is a highly desirable skill.

The A level English Language course offers students the opportunity to explore and develop their own writing and analytical skills. In Year 12 students will investigate the diversity of the English language and look at language used by different social and regional groups. In Year 13 students study the history of the English Language and explore how children learn to speak, read and write. Students will also complete a language investigation, a piece of original writing and an accompanying commentary in Year 13 for the non-examined assessment component of the course.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 5 in GCSE English Language.

Assessment:

80% examination
20% coursework

Complementary Courses:

English Language blends particularly well with History, Modern Foreign Languages, English Literature and Business Studies.

Specification:

AQA A Level English Language

Progression:

English Language will equip students with high-level communication skills, an ability to analyse oral and written texts closely, and the experience of writing competently for a wide range of audiences and purposes. English Language students frequently go on to pursue careers in journalism, broadcasting, public relations, marketing and creative industries.

A Level English Literature

English Literature is a highly regarded A level. Universities and employers view it as a versatile qualification which shows that a student can think deeply, communicate clearly, and write with flair and accuracy. It is a course that will be useful to all students, but will be most enjoyable to those who like reading and expressing their views in writing and in discussion.

Students study an interesting mixture of modern literature and texts from the English literary heritage. In Year 12 students will study a Shakespeare play, a collection of poetry and one prose text. In Year 13 students will study 'Modern Times – Literature from 1945 to the present day'. In Year 13 students also write a sustained comparative essay on two texts of their choice for the non-examined assessment component of the course.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 6 at GCSE in English Literature. Grade 5 in GCSE English Language.

Assessment:

80% examination
20% coursework

Complementary Courses:

English Literature blends particularly well with History, Modern Foreign Languages, Drama, Politics, and Art.

Specification:

AQA (A) English Literature

Progression:

English Literature is an excellent route into many interesting careers including journalism, broadcasting, marketing, public relations, human resources, the creative industries teaching and law.

A Level French

A Level French is an ideal course for those who wish to enhance their job prospects both in the UK and abroad in the increasing internationalism of the 21st Century.

A Modern Languages A Level aims to encourage maximum use of the foreign language in all four skill areas. In addition to the allocated lessons, in which students develop a range of practical skills to enable them to understand and communicate in the written and spoken language, they also work individually with a foreign language assistant to develop confidence and fluency in preparation for the oral examination. The course will foster an awareness and understanding of the cultural, social, commercial and political background of the countries in which the language is spoken. Wider reading will be greatly encouraged as a means of gaining maximum exposure to the foreign language and enhancing cultural awareness and understanding in preparation for study at degree level.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 6 in French GCSE, achieved through taking the higher tier paper.

Assessment:

Paper 1: 40% Listening, reading and translation into English

Paper 2: 30% Writing and translation into French

Paper 3: 30% Speaking

Complementary Courses:

Modern Languages courses can easily be combined with any other subject for careers in Business, Finance, Journalism, Law, Marketing, Media, Sales, Science, Travel and Tourism, Teaching or the Civil Service.

Specification:

Edexcel A level French

Progression:

Whether continuing on to university or entering the world of work, Modern Languages will equip students with highly transferable skills. As nations become ever more dependent upon one another to supply goods and services, solve political disputes and ensure international security, more and more businesses work closely with companies in other countries. They need many different kinds of workers who can communicate in different languages and understand other cultures.

A Level Geography

Geography A Level will inspire students to engage critically with real world issues and places, and to apply their geographical knowledge, theory and skills to the world around them.

The course will allow students to develop an understanding of human and physical processes such as tectonic hazards and globalisation on a range of different scales. Students will be able to analyse the interactions between people and the environment, appreciating how these underpin some of the key issues facing the world today. Fieldwork forms an important part of the course and is used as a tool in the understanding of the natural environment. In the process students become skilled at planning, undertaking and evaluating their own research.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 5 in Geography GCSE. Grade 5 in GCSE English Language.

Assessment:

80% examination.

20% independent investigation.

Complementary Courses:

Geography A Level combines well with the full range of A Level subjects.

Specification:

AQA A Level Geography

Progression:

Geography allows students to develop highly transferable skills. Students will grow as independent and reflective thinkers, able to articulate opinions, suggest relevant new ideas and provide evidenced arguments in a range of situations.

The understanding and skills that come from the study of Geography are highly valued by universities and employers.

A Level German

A Level German is an ideal course for those who wish to enhance their job prospects both in the UK and abroad in the increasing internationalism of the 21st Century.

A Modern Languages A Level aims to encourage maximum use of the foreign language in all four skill areas. In addition to the allocated lessons, in which students develop a range of practical skills to enable them to understand and communicate in the written and spoken language, they also work individually with a foreign language assistant to develop confidence and fluency in preparation for the oral examination. The course will foster an awareness and understanding of the cultural, social, commercial and political background of the countries in which the language is spoken. Wider reading will be greatly encouraged as a means of gaining maximum exposure to the foreign language and enhancing cultural awareness and understanding in preparation for study at degree level.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 6 in German GCSE, achieved through taking the higher tier paper.

Assessment:

Paper 1: 40% Listening, reading and translation into English

Paper 2: 30% Writing and translation into German

Paper 3: 30% Speaking

Complementary Courses:

Modern Languages courses can easily be combined with any other subject for careers in Business, Finance, Journalism, Law, Marketing, Media, Sales, Science, Travel and Tourism, Teaching or the Civil Service.

Specification:

Edexcel A level German

Progression:

Whether continuing on to university or entering the world of work, Modern Languages will equip students with highly transferable skills. As nations become ever more dependent upon one another to supply goods and services, solve political disputes and ensure international security, more and more businesses work closely with companies in other countries. They need many different kinds of workers who can communicate in different languages and understand other cultures.

BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Health & Social Care

This course is equivalent to 1 A Level and will be studied alongside 2 additional A Level (or equivalent) subjects. Health and Social care is an ideal course for those who wish to pursue a career in the Health Care or Social Care sectors. There are more than 300 distinct career paths in this sector which is a major employer, employing almost four million people across the UK.

There is a high percentage of internally assessed coursework, which may appeal to students who prefer a more continuous approach to assessment. The external assessments may be in the form of a written examination, but may also be a set task which is completed during a defined window. There will be an external exam at the end of Year 12.

Students will be encouraged and supported to participate in work experience as part of the course in order to develop a better understanding of the demands of working in the sector and to enhance university, employment or apprenticeship applications.

Entry Requirements:

5 grade 4s at GCSE including English and Mathematics.

Assessment:

Assessments consist of four units of work, two of which are external.

58% External assessment

42% Coursework

Complementary Courses:

Health and Social Care particularly complements studies in Biology, Applied Science, English Language, and Psychology.

Specification:

Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care

Progression:

An Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care can lead to a variety of university and career options in the Health Care and Social Care fields, especially when combined with specific A Level courses.

The course supports access to a range of higher education courses in health and social care disciplines, if taken alongside further level 3 qualifications; for example, combined with Biology, Sport or Psychology, it can lead to courses in Midwifery, Nursing, Physiotherapy or Psychology.

BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Health & Social Care

This course is equivalent to 2 A Levels and will be studied alongside one additional A Level (or equivalent) subject. Health and Social care is an ideal course for those who wish to pursue a career in the Health Care or Social Care sectors. There are more than 300 distinct career paths in this sector which is a major employer, employing almost four million people across the UK.

There is a high percentage of internally assessed coursework, which may appeal to students who prefer a more continuous approach to assessment. The external assessments may be in the form of a written examination, but may also be a set task which is completed during a defined window. There will be an external exam at the end of Year 12.

Students will participate in a timetabled work experience placement as part of the course in order to develop a better understanding of the demands of working in the sector and to enhance university, employment or apprenticeship applications.

Entry Requirements:

5 grade 4s at GCSE including English and Mathematics.

Assessment:

Assessments consist of six units of work, two of which are external.
46% External assessment
54% Coursework

Complementary Courses:

Health and Social Care particularly complements studies in Biology, Applied Science, Psychology and English.

Specification:

Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care

Progression:

A Diploma in Health and Social Care can lead to a variety of university and career options in the Health Care and Social Care fields, especially when combined with specific A Level courses.

The course supports access to a range of higher education courses in health and social care disciplines, if taken alongside further level 3 qualifications; for example, combined with Biology, Sport or Psychology, it can lead to courses in Midwifery, Nursing, Physiotherapy or Psychology.

A Level History

History at A level is an interesting and challenging subject which is well regarded academically by employers and universities. Former students have pursued a wide range of different courses and careers. History goes well with other Arts and Social Science subjects such as Politics, English and Geography.

The A Level looks at three very different areas of History: The Russian State 1855-1964, British History between the years 1906 and 1957, and the Tudor Monarchy. This has been designed to help students understand the significance of historical events, the role of individuals in history and the nature of change over time. The course will help students to gain a deeper understanding of the past through political, social, economic and cultural perspectives.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 6 in History GCSE, if taken. Grade 5 in GCSE English.

Although prior study of History is not required, students are expected to be able to demonstrate an interest in the subject.

Assessment:

80% examination.
20% coursework.

Complementary Courses:

History particularly complements studies in English Language, English Literature and Politics.

Specification:

AQA A Level History

Progression:

History will equip students with highly transferable skills. Students will be able to understand and assess ideas and arguments, construct cogent and focused arguments and support their claims with well-selected evidence.

With a qualification in History, you can go on to work in a great variety of careers in law, business and administration, the civil service, the armed forces, journalism and the media, teaching and the custodial arts.

A Level Mathematics

We believe that students should learn an approach to Mathematics that will equip them to use it in the adult world and be able to communicate what they are doing to those around them.

This course encourages students to develop their understanding of Mathematics in a way that promotes confidence and fosters enjoyment, extend their range of skills and techniques and use them in difficult unstructured situations, and develop an understanding of coherence, progression and connections.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 7 in Mathematics GCSE.

Students who achieve a high grade 6 will be considered for A Level Mathematics.

Assessment:

All components are assessed by examinations taken at the end of the course.

A Level Mathematics:

Three 2 hour papers

Complementary Courses:

Mathematics A level particularly complements studies in Science (especially Physics), Psychology, Business and Geography.

Specification:

OCR (MEI)

Progression:

Mathematics will develop a student's ability to reason logically. Students will find that many of the mathematical skills encountered will assist them when modelling 'real life' situations. Many students go on to study Mathematics, Physics and Engineering.

A/AS Level Further Mathematics

We believe that students should learn an approach to Mathematics that will equip them to use it in the adult world and be able to communicate what they are doing to those around them.

This course encourages students to develop their understanding of Mathematics in a way that promotes confidence and fosters enjoyment, extend their range of skills and techniques and use them in difficult unstructured situations, and develop an understanding of coherence, progression and connections.

Further Mathematics will be taught concurrently with A Level Mathematics. If students are considering a degree in Mathematics or related subjects (eg. Physics, Engineering) they will find that an increasing number of universities welcome knowledge beyond A Level Mathematics. They would therefore be wise to consider Further Mathematics at A or AS Level should they wish to pursue a Mathematics-based career.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 8 in Mathematics GCSE.

Assessment:

All components are assessed by examinations taken at the end of the course.

A Level Further Mathematics:

Three papers (a mandatory 2 hours 40 min paper, one major option 2½ hour paper and one minor option 1¼ hour paper)

Complementary Courses:

Mathematics A level particularly complements studies in Science (especially Physics), Psychology,

Specification:

OCR (MEI)

Progression:

Mathematics will develop a student's ability to reason logically. Students will find that many of the mathematical skills encountered will assist them when modelling 'real life' situations. Many students go on to study Mathematics, Physics and Engineering.

A Level Music

Music A level enables students to develop their musical skills in the three key areas of performance, listening and appraising, and composition.

The A Level aims to provide students with a good understanding of theoretical and historical aspects of music, as well as the opportunity to apply this through developing a live performance repertoire and compositions. The examination will involve aural testing, applying musical knowledge and essay writing. In both Years 12 and 13 students will explore music from a wide range of genres and from different eras through listening and score analysis.

Musical performances give students the opportunity to demonstrate the ability to play pieces from a range of styles with accuracy and expression. Performance can be solo and/or ensemble. Composition will apply knowledge gained from all areas of the course to create interesting and stimulating music in a recognised style.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 6 in GCSE Music. ABRSM (or similar) Grade 5 practical on an instrument or voice. An audition will be required for external applicants. Students are expected to be open to a wide range of musical styles and genres from across a range of historical periods.

Assessment:

40% Written Examination
30% Performance
30% Composition

Complementary Courses:

Music A level complements studies in Music Technology.

Specification:

Edexcel A Level Music

Progression:

Music A Level will help students to develop a critical ear through listening as well as performance and creative skills. This will lead to the ability to analyse, deconstruct and construct music of any genre.

Performance opportunities allow for collaboration between musicians and the opportunity to develop working relationships with others while regular private practice will help develop a strong sense of independence. The knowledge and skills students gain will be particularly useful for careers in live performance, songwriting and teaching, both classroom-based and peripatetic.

A Level Music Technology

Music Technology has become an integral part of the popular music industry. Understanding and using technology effectively and tastefully is a fundamental feature of this specification. This course will give you the scope to develop your individual strengths in a supportive environment while you explore new areas and skills.

The course looks at creating, producing and manipulating music and sound through sequencing, arranging, listening and recording. It also develops knowledge and understanding of how recording processes have changed.

Teaching and learning in Music Technology operates in a variety of styles. Some aspects of the course are teacher-led whereas others require candidates to research and work independently whilst the teacher acts as a mentor to guide work. There is a good balance between academic and creative input.

Entry Requirements:

Students will require a grade 5 in GCSE Music or will be able to demonstrate a strong interest in the subject area with evidence of prior work completed. The ability to play an instrument and read music is desirable but not compulsory as long as a student is willing to commit additional time to outside study in order to catch up.

Assessment:

Component 1: 20% Recording
Component 2: 20% Composition
Component 3: 25% Listening and Analysing
Component 4: 35% Producing and Analysing

Complementary Courses:

Music Technology complements studies in Music and Computer Science.

Specification:

Edexcel A Level Music Technology

Progression:

Music Technology will provide students with the ability to critically analyse work and carry out individual study methodically, both of which are highly transferable skills.

Potential careers include those in: Broadcasting, the Recording Industry, Media, Publishing, Arts Administration, Composing and Arranging, Sound Engineering, Teaching and Performing.

A Level Physical Education

This course provides breadth and balance, giving students the chance to study a wide array of theoretical areas that underpin physical education and sport. In choosing this course, students will develop knowledge which will equip them for undergraduate study in areas of Physiology, Biomechanics, Psychology and Sociology.

Students will also be able to gain credit for their practical sports ability through their performance in a wide range of individual or team sports.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 6 in GCSE PE, if taken.

Although prior study of examination based Physical Education is not required, interest in a range of sporting areas is essential.

Regular participation in one team/individual sport essential. (The ability to play this sport to a high standard is desirable.)

Assessment:

70% Written examination.

20% Practical performance in one sport or activity.

10% Written analysis of performance.

Complementary Courses:

Courses such as Psychology and Biology particularly complement A Level PE.

Specification:

AQA GCE A Level Physical Education

Progression:

The diverse nature of Physical Education makes it an excellent choice for students considering a wide range of higher education courses.

In previous years students have gone on to study Medicine, Law and Physiotherapy.

A Level Physics

Physics plays a key part in the future and success of society; it reveals to us how the world works and interacts together. Physics A level will take students along a path to create real change through the study of a number of areas such as innovation, design, medicine and engineering.

In Year 12 students will develop a deep knowledge and understanding of Physics at particle level and of how materials can be used in engineering. They will also look at some of the fundamental experiments that underpin our understanding of light.

In Year 13 students will look at interactions on macro and microscopic levels through fields and investigate the motion of objects through further mechanics. Students will also have the opportunity to choose an optional module including astrophysics or medical physics. All students' learning will be supported by practical activities and research to enable them to continue their studies of Physics at degree level, if they choose to do so.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 6 in Physics Separate Science GCSE, or grades 6-6 in Trilogy Science GCSE.

Grade 6 in Mathematics GCSE.

Assessment:

100% examination.

Complementary Courses:

Physics particularly complements studies in Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Further Mathematics and Languages.

Specification:

AQA A Level Physics

Progression:

Physics is a highly regarded A level course. It equips students with highly transferable skills much sought after in the wider world. The course will develop analytical and problem-solving skills.

Physics A level is extremely useful for careers in Medicine, Veterinary Science, Engineering, Banking, Pharmacy and Research.

A Level Politics

Politics is an ideal course for those with a keen interest in the world around them, a desire to engage in informed debate and an openness about their own and others' views.

The A Level course aims to provide students with a general introduction to the political and governmental processes of the UK and USA and core political principles such as conservatism and socialism. In Year 12 students will be looking at issues such as the extent to which the UK has a democratic system, how the ideologies of the main political parties differ and whether it is time for there to be a written UK constitution. In Year 13 students compare and contrast UK systems with those of the USA, considering the impact of race and a presidential system on the workings of politics.

Entry Requirements:

5 GCSE Grade 5s including English Language and Mathematics.

Although prior study of Politics is not required, students are expected to have an interest in current affairs.

Assessment:

100% examination.

Complementary Courses:

Politics particularly complements studies in History, English Language and English Literature.

Specification:

Edexcel A Level Politics

Progression:

Politics will equip students with highly transferable skills. Students will be able to understand and assess ideas and arguments, construct cogent and focused arguments and support their claims with well-selected evidence.

The knowledge and skills gained will be particularly useful for careers in law or journalism.

A Level Design Technology: Product Design

The Product Design course is focused on the analysis of consumer products and applications in respect of materials, components, and marketability in order to understand their selection and uses in industrial and commercial practices of product development.

Product Design A level is designed to encourage students to:

- Identify product requirements
- Understand implications of wider design issues
- Consider materials
- Understand manufacturing processes and techniques
- Understand and follow health and safety requirements
- Learn from existing products and practice
- Develop design, thinking and communication skills
- Increase technical understanding
- Evaluate the viability of design solutions
- Advance making skills

Entry Requirements:

Grade 5 in a GCSE Design subject, if taken. Minimum Grade 5 in Mathematics.

Prior study of one of the Design and Technology subjects is advantageous.

Assessment:

Component 1: 27% Principles of Product Design Examination

Component 2: 23% Problem Solving in Product Design Examination

Component 3: 50% Iterative Design Project

Complementary Courses:

Product Design particularly complements studies in Sciences, Mathematics, Art and other creative subjects.

Specification:

OCR A level Design and Technology: Product Design.

Progression:

The course provides a suitable foundation for the study of design or design-related courses in higher education such as Engineering, Resistant Materials and the specific focus Product Design.

A Level Psychology

Through the study of psychological theories, concepts and research, candidates will develop an understanding of the principles and perspectives governing the subject.

Year 12 students will be looking at Cognitive and Developmental Psychology, Biopsychology, Individual Differences and Social Psychology plus Research Methods, giving candidates a broad base of understanding in the subject. In Year 13 there is the opportunity for candidates to further develop their knowledge and understanding of some of the core areas from Year 12. In addition, Year 13 students will look at the units of Topical Issues and Debates as well as three additional units, chosen from a list of options.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 5 in GCSE Psychology, if taken.

Grade 5 in one Science GCSE (Grade 4 will be considered).

Grade 5 in GCSE English.

Assessment:

100% examination.

Complementary Courses:

A Level Psychology particularly complements studies in English, Biology, PE and Health and Social Care.

Specification:

AQA A level Psychology

Progression:

Students of Psychology develop the ability to apply psychology to cultural, social and contemporary issues and use a range of research methods to investigate psychological issues. Students will develop the ability to understand theories, interpret research evidence, formulate and develop arguments and form effective evaluation. The knowledge and skills you will gain will be particularly useful for careers working with people. Many students who study Psychology go on to work in sport, business, health, psychology and education.

A Level Spanish

A Level Spanish is an ideal course for those who wish to enhance their job prospects both in the UK and abroad in the increasing internationalism of the 21st Century.

A Modern Languages A Level aims to encourage maximum use of the foreign language in all four skill areas. In addition to the allocated lessons, in which students develop a range of practical skills to enable them to understand and communicate in the written and spoken language, they also work individually with teachers outside of lesson time to develop confidence and fluency in preparation for the oral examination. The course will foster an awareness and understanding of the cultural, social, commercial and political background of the countries in which the language is spoken. Wider reading will be greatly encouraged as a means of gaining maximum exposure to the foreign language and enhancing cultural awareness and understanding in preparation for study at degree level.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 6 in Spanish GCSE, achieved through taking the higher tier paper.

Assessment:

Paper 1: 40% Listening, reading and translation into English

Paper 2: 30% Writing and translation into Spanish

Paper 3: 30% Speaking

Complementary Courses:

Modern Languages courses can easily be combined with any other subject for careers in Business, Finance, Journalism, Law, Marketing, Media, Sales, Science, Travel and Tourism, Teaching or the Civil Service.

Specification:

Edexcel A level Spanish

Progression:

Whether continuing on to university or entering the world of work, Modern Languages will equip students with highly transferable skills. As nations become ever more dependent upon one another to supply goods and services, solve political disputes and ensure international security, more and more businesses work closely with companies in other countries. They need many different kinds of workers who can communicate in different languages and understand other cultures.

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Sport

This course is equivalent to one A Level and is an ideal course for those who have a passion for sport. It would particularly suit students who are likely to go on to study at higher education or work in the sport and leisure industry as it is a vocational qualification. The qualification covers a diverse range of areas within sport. Students will study 4 units of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are externally assessed. External assessment accounts for 67% of the course with the remaining 33% internal assessment.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 4 in GCSE PE, if taken. 5 grade 4s at GCSE including English and Mathematics. Although GCSE Physical Education is not required, a keen interest across a wide range of sporting areas is essential.

Assessment:

Externally assessed units:

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being

Mandatory internally assessed units:

- Development and Provision of Sport and Physical Activity

Optional internally assessed units:

- Sport Psychology
- Application of Fitness Testing
- Practical Sports Performance

Complementary Courses:

The Extended Certificate in Sport particularly complements courses such as Psychology, Biology and Applied Science.

Specification:

Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Sport

Progression:

This qualification is recognised by higher education providers as meeting admission requirements for many relevant specialist courses, for example:

- BSc (Hons) in Sport, Physical Education and Coaching Science, which could lead to employment as a community sports coach or a Physical Education (PE) teacher;
- BA (Hons) in Sports Studies and Development, which could lead to employment as a sports development officer for a National Governing Body or County Sports Partnership.

BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Sport

This course is equivalent to two A Levels and is an ideal course for those who have a passion for all aspects of sport. It would particularly suit students who are likely to go on to study at higher education or work in the sport and leisure industry as it is a vocational qualification. The qualification covers a diverse range of areas within sport. Students will study 9 units in total. There are six mandatory units and three optional units. External assessment accounts for 45% of the course with the remaining 55% internal assessment.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 4 in GCSE PE, if taken. 5 grade 4s at GCSE including English and Mathematics. Although GCSE Physical Education is not required, a keen interest across a wide range of sporting areas is essential.

Assessment:

Externally assessed units:

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being
- Investigating Business in the Sport and Active Leisure Industry

Mandatory internally assessed units:

- Skill Acquisition in Sport
- Professional Development in the Sports Industry
- Sports Leadership

Optional internally assessed units:

- Sport Psychology
- Practical Sports Performance
- Coaching for Performance

Complementary Courses:

The Diploma in Sport particularly complements courses such as Psychology, Biology and Applied Science.

Specification:

Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Sport

Progression:

This qualification is recognised by higher education providers as meeting admission requirements for many relevant specialist courses, for example:

- BSc (Hons) in Sport, Physical Education and Coaching Science, which could lead to employment as a community sports coach or a Physical Education (PE) teacher;
- BA (Hons) in Sports Studies and Development, which could lead to employment as a sports development officer for a National Governing Body or County Sports Partnership.

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Sport

This course is equivalent to three A Levels and is an ideal course for those who have a passion for all aspects of sport. It would particularly suit students who are likely to go on to study at higher education or work in the sport and leisure industry as it is a vocational qualification. The qualification covers a diverse range of areas within sport. Students will study 14 units over the two years. External assessment accounts for 42% of the course with the remaining 58% internal assessment.

Entry Requirements:

Grade 4 in GCSE PE, if taken. 5 grade 4s at GCSE including English and Mathematics. Although GCSE Physical Education is not required, a keen interest across a wide range of sporting areas is essential.

Assessment:

Externally assessed units:

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being
- Investigating Business in the Sport and Active Leisure Industry
- Development and Provision of Sport and Physical Activity

Mandatory internally assessed units:

- Skill Acquisition in Sport
- Professional Development in the Sports Industry
- Sports Leadership
- Research Methods in Sport
- Coaching for Performance
- Practical Sports Performance

Optional internally assessed units:

- Sport Psychology
- Current Issues in Sport
- Technical and Tactical Demands of Sport
- Exercise, Health and Lifestyle

Complementary Courses:

The Extended Diploma in Sport particularly complements courses such as Psychology, Biology and Applied Science.

Specification:

Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sport.

Progression:

This qualification is recognised by higher education providers as meeting admission requirements for many relevant specialist courses, for example:

- BSc (Hons) in Sport, Physical Education and Coaching Science, which could lead to employment as a community sports coach or a Physical Education (PE) teacher;
- BA (Hons) in Sports Studies and Development, which could lead to employment as a sports development officer for a National Governing Body or County Sports Partnership.

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

During the Spring Term of Year 12 students who are coping well with their A level / BTEC studies will be given the opportunity to embark on the EPQ. This is a stand-alone qualification, equivalent to half an A level, which is graded A* - E and worth up to 28 UCAS points. The EPQ will develop and extend from one or more of the student's subjects and/or from an area of personal interest or activity outside their main programme of study. It will be based on a topic chosen by the student and agreed as appropriate by the EPQ Coordinator.

Delivery of the EPQ will involve some teaching of the necessary skills and supervision meetings to support and monitor the student's progress, but primarily it will require extended independent work by the student.

Entry Requirements:

5 GCSE grades at 9-5 including English and Mathematics.

Only students coping very well with the demands of their A Level / BTEC programme will be encouraged to embark on the EPQ.

Assessment:

The EPQ assesses a whole learning process, and in this respect is very different from coursework. All project products (outcomes can be in the form of a written dissertation or an artefact) must include a written report of between 1000 and 5000 words. In addition, students must provide a presentation for a non-specialist audience and use media appropriate to the type of project. Each student is allocated a supervisor who is there to guide and advise the student where appropriate.

Specification:

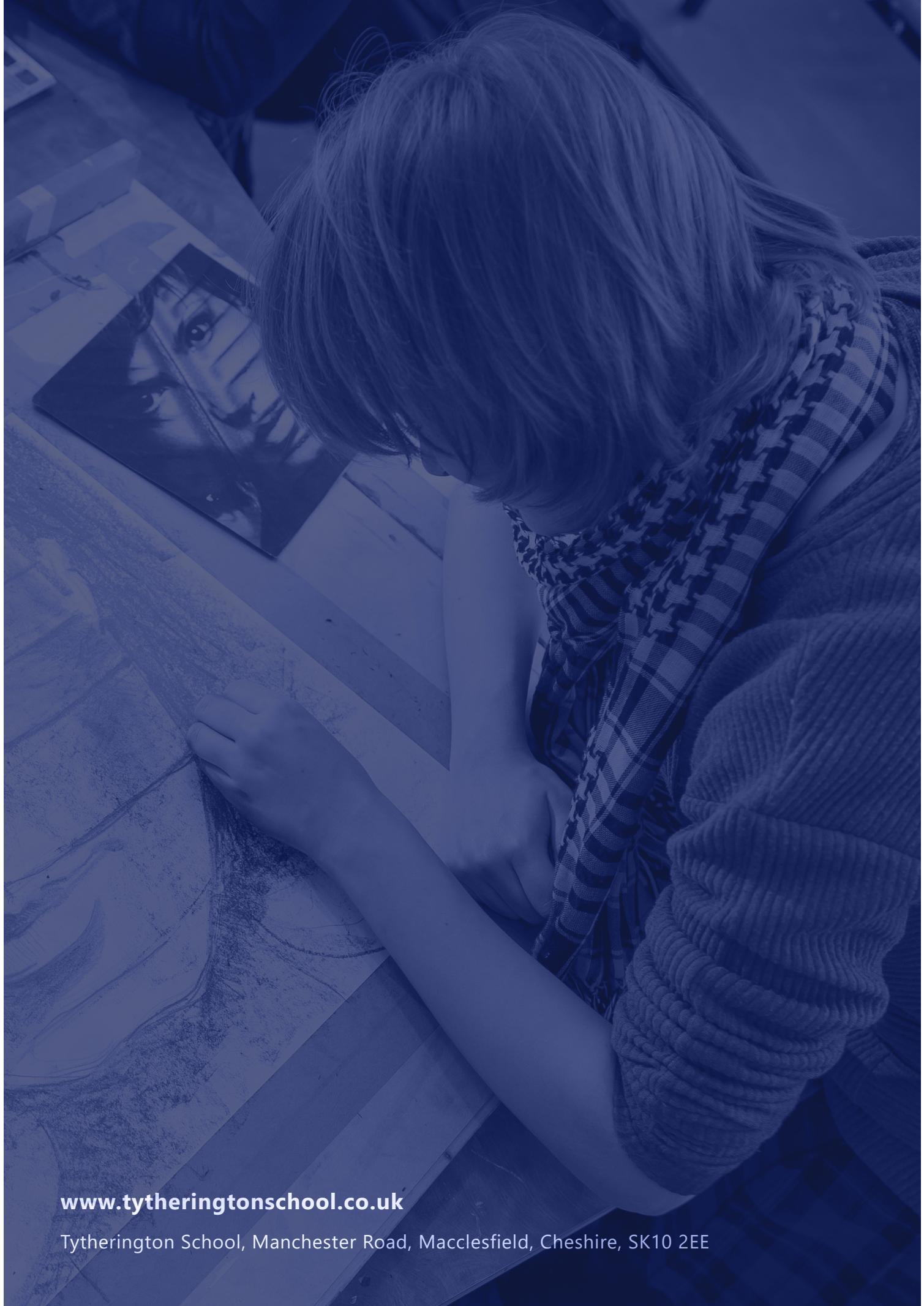
AQA EPQ

Progression:

Although the EPQ is not essential for a successful UCAS application, many universities view the EPQ favourably given that the level of research it requires prepares students very well for undergraduate study.

Complementary Courses:

The EPQ works well alongside all subjects.



A young girl with long, light-colored hair is shown from the side, looking down at a book she is holding. She is wearing a plaid shirt and a corduroy skirt. The book has a cover featuring a portrait of a person with glasses. The background is dark and out of focus.

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