

Loughborough
High School

Sixth Form Prospectus 2026/27

The School of **Her Future**



Welcome

Welcome to the Sixth Form at Loughborough High School! Over the next two years, we hope to inspire in you a passion for learning, challenge you to try new things and give you the confidence to fulfil your dreams, whatever they may be. Our Sixth Form is truly unique in that it offers all the benefits of an all-girls' school within a co-educational campus: it really is the best of both worlds.

You now have the luxury of focusing on what you want to study, and we offer a wide range of A Level subjects – some of which are taught jointly with Loughborough Grammar School. We build the timetable around your choices and, provided there is sufficient demand (usually seven students), we do our very best to offer every student their first choice of courses.

All A Level subjects, with the exception of Geography, are fully linear, with public examinations taken at the end of Year 13. The vast majority of students will choose three subjects from the outset, with the opportunity to study for an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) or Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) as part of their weekly timetable. A small number of students may wish to study four A Levels and should discuss this further with Mr Travis or Dr Reid.

Student wellbeing has never been more important, and we do not expect Sixth Form to be all work and no play. Not only do we have a fabulous Sixth Form Centre and quiet study area for you to enjoy, we also want to ensure that you have time to pursue new opportunities and interests. All students participate in our weekly Health and Wellbeing programme, and every Thursday afternoon, you will take part in Sixth Form Enrichment sessions. This fully co-educational programme offers over 30 options for students from Combined Cadet Force (CCF) to creative writing. Pupils in Year 12 and 13 continue to have a weekly Personal, Social Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE) lesson covering topics such as mental and emotional health, relationships, finance, diversity and prejudice, careers and aspirations, and personal safety. Co-curricular and leadership opportunities are extensive and we look to our sixth formers to act as role models and guides to younger pupils.

Loughborough High School (LHS) students achieve some of the best outcomes in the East Midlands and whatever next steps you choose, we will provide you with first-class higher education, careers and employment advice. Mrs Grainger is our dedicated Head of Futures, and brings wide-ranging experience of advising on careers, admissions and placements in the world of work. We also offer bespoke guidance for students considering particularly competitive courses: Mrs Peart is our Medical Applications Advisor and Mrs Burn is our Oxbridge Applications Advisor.

We hope and anticipate that all of our current Year 11 will go on to study in our Sixth Form, and there is no need to formally re-register. We do, however, expect all students to gain at least five Grade 6s overall at GCSE, which should include Maths, English and a science (regardless of the subjects to be taken at A Level) and to achieve good grades (usually 7-9) in the subjects chosen for A Level where applicable. Individual grade and subject requirements are specified by departments in the 'Subject Information' section of this booklet.

In the event that you are considering alternative pathways, we do ask you to keep us fully informed, and we would welcome a discussion with you and your parents so that we can best support your decision-making at this crucial point in your education. Whether you are joining us from our current Year 11 or from another school, we very much look forward to welcoming you into the Sixth Form at Loughborough High School and hope that you will approach the next two years with energy, enthusiasm and a sense of adventure.



Dr Fiona Miles
Head

Introduction to the Sixth Form

Whether you are a current High School student or are looking at joining us from elsewhere, I firmly believe that you would be making an outstanding decision in choosing LHS for the next stage of your education.

Wherever you go, Sixth Form and A Level studies are no walk in the park, and over the two years, there will be highs and lows. Here at LHS you will be intellectually stretched, pushed and challenged, and at times it will be tough. But we are a Sixth Form that works together, digs deep for each other and achieves together in a caring and supportive environment, both inside the classroom and out of it.

If you're willing to put in the work and give it your all; if you're willing to listen to and work with the subject staff, your form tutors, your friends and peers, I have no doubt that you will find that we are a Sixth Form full of opportunities, full of energy, full of vibrancy and full of life. We value our students and are committed to working with you to get the absolute best out of you, to help you maximise your potential and give you every chance to leave here with the qualifications, life skills, ambition, and drive to go out and forge your future. If you choose us, I believe you will look back on your time in the LHS Sixth Form as the pinnacle of your secondary school career.

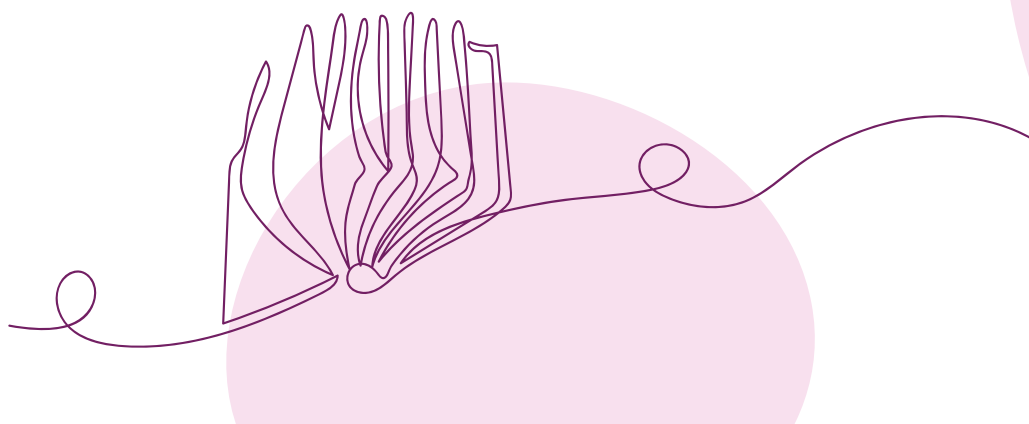
We have a teaching staff with fierce enthusiasm, passion for their subjects and a proven track record of excellent exam outcomes. Our dedicated pastoral care teams and tutors routinely go the extra mile for girls in their care and our students broaden their horizons through a co-curricular programme that has outstanding breadth, depth, variety and choice.

Our first-rate Futures programme ensures that at the end of your time here, you will progress to courses and destinations that help you on your path to becoming who you want to be.

We are the LHS Sixth Form - there is something here for you. I can't wait for you to find out what that is.



Mr James Travis
Director of Sixth Form





Futures and Destinations

Our aim is for every student to leave Sixth Form not just with a destination, but with the insight, adaptability and confidence to shape a fulfilling future – wherever it leads.

At Loughborough High School, our Sixth Form Futures programme is designed not just to guide students toward successful applications but to help them ask better questions, weigh their options, and make informed, confident decisions about what comes next.

Leading this process is our full-time, professionally qualified Head of Futures, who works one-to-one with students to help them reflect on their interests, skills and values – and understand how those can shape their next steps. Whether a student has a clear ambition or is still exploring, they receive impartial, expert support to plan a path that reflects their strengths, aspirations and evolving goals.

From the moment students enter Year 12, they are immersed in a structured programme that supports them through what can be a daunting process. The early stages of Year 12 focus on building a solid foundation for their futures, with Form time dedicated to UCAS applications and early entry deadlines. Students are encouraged to explore their interests and ambitions through mock interviews and support for competitive courses, ensuring they are well-prepared for the challenges ahead. This phase is crucial in helping students refine their goals and develop the skills needed to navigate the UCAS process effectively.

Throughout this journey, parents are also actively supported and informed. Parent information evenings are held at every stage, providing them with valuable insights into the UCAS process, student finance, and other important aspects of their daughters' futures. These evenings offer a platform for parents to ask questions, gain reassurance, and stay informed about the progress their daughters are making. This collaborative approach ensures that both students and parents feel confident and prepared as they navigate the complexities of the application process.

As students transition into Year 13, the programme continues to evolve, offering tailored support to meet their changing needs. The focus shifts to making final UCAS choices and preparing for the next chapter of their lives. Students benefit from personal statement workshops, which help them articulate their unique strengths and aspirations, and January mock exams, which simulate the pressures of the real thing and provide valuable practise. The programme also includes a student finance information evening, ensuring students are equipped with the knowledge they need to manage their financial future. By the time students reach the end of Year 13, they are fully prepared to celebrate their achievements and embark on their chosen paths, whether that's university, apprenticeships, employment, or a gap year.



Mrs Ruth Grainger
Head of Futures

“In terms of UCAS, the **support was 10/10**. There are so many evenings and events to tell you about options for life after LHS, plus staff **can answer any and every question** I’ve ever had about my application.”

Year 13 student

“Sixth Form staff have been **really supportive** in my university application journey. I went from having no idea what to do to finding a degree that I’m really excited to pursue.”

Year 12 student



Futures and Destinations

The Sixth Form Journey

We have carefully planned out a two-year programme for supporting both students and parents with Futures and Destinations. Having carefully considered the right times of year to introduce ideas such as possible options after Sixth Form, or applying for student finance, our proven track record demonstrates that over these final two years of school we can support, advise and guide students to their chosen destination.

Year 12

A Levels begin and academic extension gets underway

Support for competitive courses begins

Life after LHS day and parent information evening

Year 13

UCAS open for applications

Internal UCAS deadline

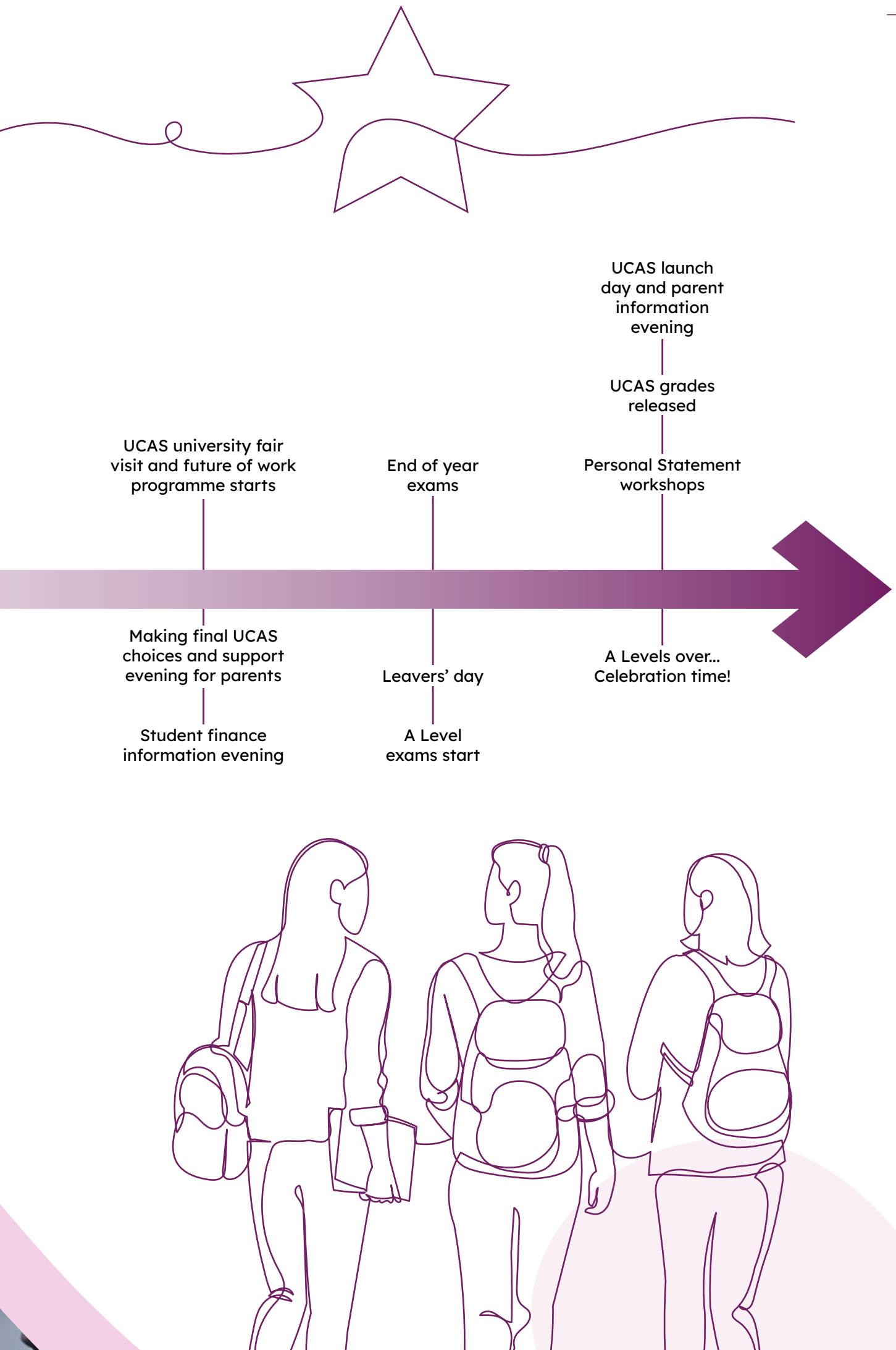
January mock exams

Form time dedicated to UCAS

Mock interviews

Early entry deadline





Pastoral Support

From the Sixth Form Tutor Team to the wider pastoral support network, including onsite school matrons and a dedicated counsellor, an outstanding Learning Support department and of course Oakley, the Wellbeing dog, everyone works together to ensure that student wellbeing is at the forefront of our thinking and girls get individual one-to-one support on a daily basis.

Students in Sixth Form have a weekly PSHCE period that gives girls the tools to prepare for life beyond Sixth Form - whether it's university, an apprenticeship, or full-time work. Our carefully designed programme aims to provide students with the practical knowledge and emotional resilience they need to succeed. We'll explore how to manage mental health and relationships, alongside honest discussions about alcohol and drugs. Students also gain essential life skills in personal finance: understanding taxes, banking, and effective money management. This isn't just another subject; it's a toolkit for adulthood.



“There has always been a member of staff whom I have felt able to talk to at LHS. **Pastoral support is definitely at the forefront of the School** and there are so many points of contact: Form Tutors, Heads of Year, and subject teachers, to name a few. It is also easy to arrange appointments with Beth, our school counsellor, no questions asked.”

Year 12 student



The Social Side of Sixth Form

Whether it's a large-scale event like our superb annual Snow Ball, a more relaxed after-school quiz night, or simply sharing a cup of tea with friends during a study period, the social side of Sixth Form is a true highlight of student life. From weekly quizzes and friendly form group challenges to group bonding trips at a variety of exciting external venues, there's always something to look forward to. Our vibrant social calendar offers the perfect balance of fun, friendship, and friendly competition—creating unforgettable memories alongside academic success.

“The social side of Sixth Form is **definitely my favourite part**. There is always a formal or a fun event to look forward to in the calendar and I like that many are mixed across the senior schools so **I can see my friends at LGS too.**”

Year 12 student

“Life here is nurturing, inclusive, instils ambition and determination and fun. **I have made friendships which I know will last a lifetime.**”

Year 12 student



Student Leaders

At LHS, we are passionate about female leadership and are dedicated to creating a nurturing, fun and inclusive environment, where girls are put first and given the opportunities they deserve to shine. Whether it's through a role on the prefect team, leading clubs and societies in lower school, or being the role models on Sports Day, our Sixth Form students are truly leaders in our school community.

Prefects and other student leaders are supported by staff through guidance and mentoring. We empower girls to be forward-thinking young women, who are resilient, empathetic and assertive, confident to take initiative and see their vision through.



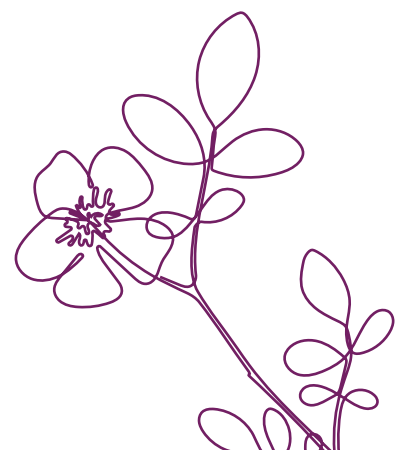
“Sixth Form has a variety of opportunities for leading societies, clubs, or events. These roles of leadership have probably been my favourite aspect of Sixth Form, and have been so rewarding and fun to deliver.”

Year 12 student



“I’ve loved representing the school as a Senior Prefect. It has allowed me to get to know people lower in the school and it’s **definitely taught me skills in time management and responsibility.**”

Senior Prefect



Health and Wellbeing

Non-Competitive

Health and Wellbeing in the Sixth Form is not just a buzzword. It is built into our weekly timetable. Our programme offers students the opportunity to choose either a competitive or non-competitive pathway, or a combination of the two, depending on where their interests lie. This flexibility and range of choice allows students to participate in a wide variety of sports and activities. From high intensity spin and gym classes, to more mindful yoga, climbing or walk-and-talk with a friend, students have autonomy over the choices that they make throughout the two years - with activities changing termly.

“There’s a lot of flexibility in Sixth Form. I have particularly **loved going climbing every week** at the climbing station as part of health and wellbeing, there are so many other offsite activities you can choose from as well as the on-site ones.”

Year 13 student



Health and Wellbeing

Competitive

For the students who enjoy their sport on a more serious level, the Competitive Pathway of Health and Wellbeing allows time for fixtures, training with specialist coaches, match analysis and preparation to aid and support them in their sporting journey.

In recent years we have been crowned National Hockey Champions in Tier 2, competed at U18 Regional Finals for Netball, and attended National Badminton Finals. If you are competing at a high level outside of school we also offer Player Pathways for our elite sportswomen to support them around their A levels and help to prepare them for life after school.





Enrichment

Students have an afternoon each week for the Sixth Form Enrichment Programme, STEP (Social, Transferable, Enjoyable, Personal). This time complements our students' learning and helps them to develop skills that employers and universities value, such as initiative, resilience, teamwork and leadership. Some STEP activities include service to the community, such as those who volunteer at local primary schools, some are academic and offer students a chance to pursue an extra qualification, and some are creative to allow students to maintain their creativity even if their A Levels are not in the Arts, such as producing podcasts, or completing the Gold Arts Award. The STEP programme also allows our students to be part of the Combined Cadet Force (CCF) where they are part of an Army, Royal Navy or Royal Air Force section.

“In my primary school partnership I help in a year 4 class. **I absolutely love it and have looked forward to it every week.** I learned so many skills and was such a nice change from lessons. Built some great relationships and felt like I was making a difference.”

Year 13 student



Outside of the Classroom

A wide variety of clubs and societies are available to our Sixth Form students and, as role models in the school, we look to them to take a lead with our younger pupils. With everything from Debating to Drama Club, there is something for everyone. And if it doesn't exist, students are encouraged to start, promote and run their own societies.

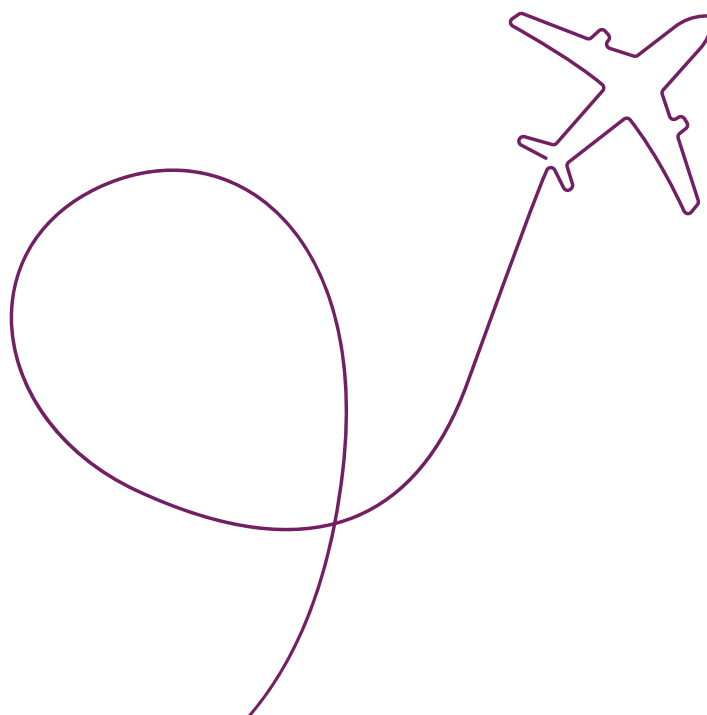
The year group trips we run in Sixth Form are designed to foster a sense of camaraderie and team bonding. Whether it's up in the tree-tops taking on a high wire course, or working together with your friends to complete an escape room, we work hard to ensure that everyone in Sixth Form feels united as part of their year group.

Our Music department is absolutely first class, and whether it's through participating in ensembles and orchestras, or pursuing music lessons alongside A Levels, Sixth Form students benefit hugely from the outstanding facility at the centre of our campus.

In recent years our Sixth Form students have been part of teams that have competed in national hockey finals, won shooting competitions and represented school at international debates. This is in addition to students we've supported with A Levels while they compete in sport at the highest level, including Loughborough Lightning netball players, Academy footballers, Nottingham Blaze cricketers and Team GB track athletes.

“This is one of the many things I love about LHS, **that there are opportunities which cater to everyone**, whether you are into art, sport, drama, or academics there is always something going on at LHS in which you can showcase your talent or even just express an interest.”

Year 13 student



Academic Extension

Students studying three A Levels also have the opportunity to complete an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) alongside their subjects. This gives our students the opportunity to undertake university-style research into a topic of their choice and earn a highly respected qualification at the end of it.

Students are also regularly pushed beyond the confines of the curriculum through participation in subject-specific independent research or academic competitions and challenges.

“EPQ has **allowed me to explore my passions** that lie further beyond the school curriculum in a greater depth and detail, allowing me to broaden my knowledge.”

Year 12 student

Making Choices and a Typical Timetable

We are really proud to offer 28 different A Level courses, and whatever your future plan, your passion or your area of interest, there is a suitable A Level combination for you.

You will choose three A Level subjects and study each for 10 periods a week. Additionally, you will have Tuesday afternoons dedicated to Health and Wellbeing and Thursday afternoons reserved for an enrichment activity. Students will also have a single PSHCE lesson, some academic enrichment, such as the EPQ, and regular Form time with a dedicated Form Tutor.

Students opting to study Further Mathematics generally do so as an additional, fourth A Level option.

Please see on the following page a timetable of a typical student enrolled in CCF, studying three A Levels and an EPQ.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
08:40 - 09:10	Registration				
Period 1 09:10 - 09:40	English Literature	Biology	Private Study	Psychology	Form Time
Period 2 09:40 - 10:10					Biology
Period 3 10:10 - 10:40					
10:40 - 11:05	BREAK				
Period 4 11:05 - 11:40	Biology	Psychology	Biology	Private Study	English Literature
Period 5 11:40 - 12:10					
Period 6 12:10 - 12:40	Psychology	Private Study		Private Study	English Literature
Period 7 12:40 - 13:10		PSHCE			
13:10 - 14:20	LUNCH				
Period 8 14:25 - 15:00	EPQ	Health and Wellbeing	English Literature	CCF	Psychology
Period 9 15:00 - 15:30					
Period 10 15:30 - 16:00	Private Study				

How to Choose Just Three?

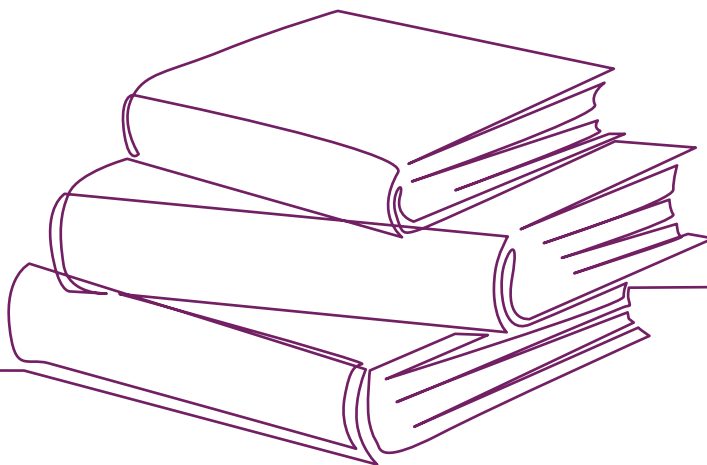
Be sure to check entry requirements carefully, ensure a balance between subjects you really enjoy and also those that maximise your chances of success. Also make sure that your chosen subjects will get you where you want to go at the end of your time in Sixth Form.

Teaching and Learning Across Loughborough Schools Foundation

We always endeavour to offer subjects at LHS wherever possible and practical to do so. Our rough guide is that a subject requires a minimum of seven pupils to run successfully. If this is not possible, we aim to combine with Loughborough Grammar School to ensure that a subject can run in any given cohort. A number of subjects have long-standing arrangements for being taught across the Foundation, and these are signposted throughout our documentation. As this is a dynamic exercise, please always be in touch if you have any queries about the incoming cohort in terms of arrangements for teaching or learning with staff or pupils across Loughborough Schools Foundation.

“It’s a **perfect balance** of being an all-girls environment but also being allowed to integrate with the other schools. We have our hub where the girls can be together, but there are also so **many opportunities to make friends** further afield.”

Year 12 student





Fine Art

Why study Fine Art? Studying Fine Art at A Level is an exciting and forward-looking pursuit that aids in the development of creative and innovative thinking skills, which are highly valued in professional fields. The course provides the opportunity to research and develop ideas that interest you personally, allowing you to express yourself and explore your imagination. Through Fine Art, you will gain a deeper understanding of aesthetic and intellectual concepts, as well as the ability to communicate complex ideas and emotions through various media and processes. By studying Fine Art, you will become a more creative, critical, and open-minded individual, equipped with skills that are essential for success in today's fast-paced and ever-changing world.

Entry requirements: To study Fine Art at A Level, we expect at least a Grade 7 in a GCSE Art and Design qualification, although those with an 8 or higher may find the course more accessible. A good standard of written English is helpful, and you must be prepared to undertake self-directed research work, manage your time effectively, and take risks.

Course content: Some of the topics that will be studied include:

- Investigating an artist of your choice
- Exploring personal and cultural identity through art
- Developing practical skills in traditional or digital media and processes
- Understanding visual language and technology

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Fine Art is EDEXCEL.

Assessment type: The course is 100% non-exam assessment, with 60% coursework and 40% externally set assignment.

Relevance: Fine Art is a highly relevant subject in today's world, as employers and industries increasingly value creativity and innovative thinking.

Career versatility: Studying Fine Art at A Level can lead to a wide range of career paths, including those in the creative and design industries, as well as sectors such as architecture, business, journalism, politics, and psychology, where creative thinking and problem-solving skills are highly prized.

Academic flexibility and skills developed:

Fine Art pairs well with subjects like English Literature, History, and Philosophy, making it an excellent choice for university applications in the humanities. Through studying Fine Art, you will develop a range of key skills, including critical thinking, creativity, and effective communication, as well as practical skills in various media and processes. You will also become more confident in your ability to express yourself and articulate your ideas, both visually and verbally, making you a more versatile and attractive candidate for further study and employment.



Art at A Level teaches you discipline and focus, and you are in charge of your progress. I chose it because creativity is such an important aspect of modern life, in every sector.



Biology

Why study Biology? Biology is a constantly evolving subject that is more relevant than ever before. The A Level course allows you to explore the intricacies of living organisms and their interactions with the environment. Through Biology, you will gain a deeper understanding of the fundamental processes that govern life, from the molecular level to entire ecosystems. By studying Biology, you will develop essential skills in critical thinking, problem-solving, and scientific inquiry, making you a more informed and engaged citizen of the world. You will also have the opportunity to explore the many applications of biology in fields such as medicine, conservation, and biotechnology.

Entry requirements: To study Biology at A Level, you need to achieve a Grade 8 or above in GCSE Biology and a Grade 7 or above in Mathematics.

Course content: Some of the topics that will be studied include:

- Biochemistry and Physiology
- Ecology and Conservation
- Genetics and Evolution
- Plant, Animal and Human Biology

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Biology is AQA.

Assessment type: The course is assessed with three written exams: Paper 1 (35%) assesses work and practical skills covered in Year 12 topics, Paper 2 (35%) assesses work and practical skills covered in Year 13 topics, and Paper 3 (30%) is a synoptic paper covering topics and practical skills across both years of study.

Relevance: Biology is a vital subject in today's world, with applications in fields such as medicine, conservation, and environmental management, making it essential for addressing global challenges like climate change and public health.

Career versatility: Studying Biology at A Level can lead to a wide range of career paths, including those in medicine, veterinary science, sports science, nutrition, marine biology and conservation, and of course, research, where a strong understanding of biological principles is highly valued.

Academic flexibility and skills developed: Biology fits well with subjects like Chemistry, Physics, and Mathematics, making it an excellent choice for university applications in the sciences. It also pairs well with subjects such as Psychology, Physical Education, and Food Science and Nutrition. Through studying Biology, you will develop key skills in scientific inquiry, critical thinking, problem-solving, scientific writing and communication, as well as practical skills in laboratory techniques and data analysis, preparing you for a range of academic and professional career paths.

Business

Why study Business? The Business A Level course helps you understand the interrelated nature of business using models, theories, and techniques to analyse business issues, strategies and situations. The course content is designed to engage you with relevant topics, including digital technology, business growth, innovation, business ethics, and globalisation.

Entry requirements: To study Business, you should be comfortable with expressing yourself in essay form and have some numerical analysis skills to assess the performance of a business. You need a Grade 5 in GCSE Maths, but most importantly, an interest in the workings of a business.

Course content: The course involves:

- Year 12: Introduction to key business areas (marketing, operations, finance, human resource management), different types of businesses and decision-making
- Year 13: Understanding the external environment in which a business operates. Developing an understanding of business strategy while incorporating Year 12 content.

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Business is AQA 7132.

Assessment: The course is assessed with three 2-hour written exams at the end of the two-year course, each worth a third of the A Level. The exams feature a range of question styles, including multiple-choice, short-answer, essay, data-response, and case-study questions.

Relevance: An A Level in Business provides an excellent foundation for studying Business, Finance, Marketing or Business Management at university. The skills learned are transferable across various subjects and careers, helping you work with others, achieve your potential, and make informed decisions.

Career versatility: The course prepares you for a wide range of careers, including starting your own business, working in marketing, finance, or management. The skills developed, such as decision-making, problem-solving, and analytical thinking, are highly valued in many industries.

Academic flexibility and skills developed: The Business A Level course helps you become a skilled decision-maker, learning essential managerial skills and techniques to become an analytical problem solver. These skills are highly sought after and valued in various careers, making you a versatile and attractive candidate.

Chemistry

Why study Chemistry? Studying Chemistry at A Level enables you to explore the fundamentals of Physical, Organic, and Inorganic Chemistry in more detail, developing problem-solving and analytical skills, and learning how to be objective. The course requires teamwork and communication skills, with opportunities to develop practical skills over two years.

Entry requirements: To study Chemistry at A Level, you need to achieve a Grade 8 or above in GCSE Chemistry and a Grade 7 or above in Mathematics.

Course content: The A Level course covers key topics:

- Year 12: Development of Practical skills, Foundations in Chemistry, Periodic Table and Energy, Core Organic Chemistry
- Year 13: Physical Chemistry and Transition Elements, Organic Chemistry and Analysis

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Chemistry A is OCR H432.

Assessment type: The course is assessed with three exams at the end of Year 13:

- Periodic table, elements, and Physical Chemistry (37%)
- Synthesis and analytical techniques (37%)

- Unified Chemistry (26%) The Practical Endorsement in Chemistry is assessed throughout the course and reported on the A Level certificate as a pass or fail.

Relevance: An A Level in Chemistry can lead to various career paths, including chemical research, medical-based careers, finance, economics, materials science, accountancy, sports science, food technology, pharmacy, and more. It also develops analytical skills useful for degree courses in languages, management, law, and patent law.

Career versatility: Chemistry is a versatile subject that can lead to many career possibilities, both in and out of science. Some careers that may require or benefit from A Level Chemistry include biochemistry, medicine, physiotherapy, dentistry, veterinary medicine, chemical engineering, and more.

Academic flexibility and skills developed:

The course helps develop competence and confidence in analytical, practical, mathematical, and problem-solving skills, demonstrating a deep appreciation of scientific methods. You will learn to work independently, conduct groupwork, write up experiments, analyse data, and apply what you have learned to exam-style questions.

The way you approach situations is something I think Chemistry helps a lot with; **you learn to be more organised with the way you think and how to take your time to solve problems** under tight timing. It is a really rewarding subject.”



Classical Civilisation

Why study Classical Civilisation? The influence of the classical world is all around us, and studying Classical Civilisation gives you the opportunity to explore the literature and culture of ancient Greeks and Romans, reading famous authors such as Homer, Virgil, Aristophanes, and Sophocles. This course enables you to assess the contribution made by these two great civilisations to our lives today.

Entry requirements: There are no specific entry requirements for the A Level Classical Civilisation course, but students should have achieved at least a Grade 7 in English Literature and History (if studied). An enjoyment of Greek and Roman mythology and a willingness to read and discuss literature are necessary for this course.

Course content: The course involves studying three components:

- The World of the Hero: exploring the lasting legacy of the Homeric world and its attitudes and values
- Culture and the Arts: studying one component taken from Greek Theatre, Imperial Image, Invention of the Barbarian, Greek Art. Components in this group involve the study of visual and material culture. In all except Greek Art this is combined with the study of literature in translation.
- Beliefs and Ideas: studying either Greek Religion or Politics of the Late Republic. Components in this group involve an area of classical thought, in combination with either the study of literature in translation or visual/material culture.

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Classical Civilisation is OCR H408.

Assessment type: The A Level qualification consists of three externally assessed written examinations:

- The World of the Hero (40%): 2 hours 30 minutes
- Culture and the Arts (30%): 1 hour 45 minutes
- Beliefs and Ideas (30%): 1 hour 45 minutes

Relevance: Classical Civilisation is a well-regarded A Level that serves as a good base for any literary or historical degree course, and its skills are beneficial for a wide range of careers.

Career versatility: An A Level in Classical Civilisation can lead to various career paths, including archaeology, drama, English, history, law, psychology, philosophy, politics, art, and more. The knowledge gained from the course is valuable for many jobs that do not require specific degree subjects.

Academic flexibility and skills developed:

The course helps develop skills of critical analysis and evaluation, as well as the ability to articulate informed responses using appropriate evidence to formulate coherent arguments with substantiated evidence-based judgements. These skills are highly valued by universities and employers alike.

Classical Civilisation is usually taught jointly with Loughborough Grammar School.

Classical Greek

Why study Classical Greek? The ancient Greeks continue to fascinate us with their remarkable achievements in various areas, and their influence can still be observed today in literature, art, philosophy, religion, politics, mathematics, and medicine. The A Level Classical Greek course is intellectually rigorous and challenging, but also immensely rewarding, offering students the opportunity to further their linguistic proficiency and delve deeper into the fascinating history and culture of the ancient Greeks.

Entry requirements: Normally, students are advised to have attained a grade 8 or above in their Classical Greek GCSE to pursue the subject at A Level successfully.

Course content: The course involves:

- Greek Language: continuation of grammar study, tackling more challenging constructions, and translating from English into Greek
- Greek Literature: studying set texts, including prose and verse works by authors such as Plato, Herodotus, Homer, and Sophocles

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Classical Greek is OCR H444.

Assessment type: The A Level qualification comprises four externally assessed written examinations: Unseen translation (33%), Prose composition or comprehension (17%), Prose literature (25%), and Verse literature (25%).

Relevance: Classical Greek is a subject that continues to influence many areas of modern life, from literature and art to philosophy and politics, making it a highly relevant and valuable area of study.

Career versatility: An A Level in Classical Greek can lead to a wide range of career paths, including classics, Asian and Middle Eastern studies, mathematics, natural sciences, physics, English literature, medicine, modern languages, linguistics, and Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic, as it provides a strong foundation in analytical and problem-solving skills, intellectual flexibility, and linguistic sensitivity.

Academic flexibility and skills developed: Classical Greek pairs well with both arts and science subjects and is highly valued by universities and employers for its intellectual integrity and rigour. The course facilitates the development of a wide range of skills, including analytical and problem-solving skills, intellectual flexibility, linguistic sensitivity, and the ability to appreciate literary techniques, styles, and genres, as well as articulate informed responses to the material at hand, using evidence to construct coherent, logical, and persuasive arguments and judgements.

Classical Greek is usually taught jointly with Loughborough Grammar School.

“I’ve **really enjoyed the texts** we’re doing for the literature side (Iliad, Plato and Plutarch). I’d recommend Classical Greek A Level to anyone who’s enjoyed it at GCSE and is up for a challenge!”

Computer Science

Why study Computer Science? Computer Science is one of the most exciting and important subjects in today's world. At its heart lies problem-solving, a critical life skill that helps students approach challenges with logical thinking and creativity. In this course, students learn to design, develop, and analyse both software and hardware systems, gaining insight into how technology works and how it can be used to solve real-world problems. Computer Science also builds on and enhances mathematical thinking, making it particularly suited to students who enjoy working with logic, structure, and numbers. Students will develop a deep understanding of computational thinking and programming alongside core theoretical knowledge.

Entry requirements: Grade 7 in GCSE Maths or Computer Science.

Course content: The key areas covered include:

- **Programming (Python):** Learning to write and refine code, focusing on problem-solving and the development of efficient, well-structured programmes.
- **Data Representation:** Understanding how text, images, and sound are stored and processed by computers.
- **Computer Architecture:** Exploring the internal workings of a computer, including the CPU, memory, and storage.
- **Algorithms & Problem Solving:** Learning how algorithms are designed and evaluated and applying them to a range of scenarios.
- **Ethics & Laws:** Considering the ethical, legal, and environmental impact of digital technology in society.
- **Fundamentals of Networking:** Investigating how data is transmitted and how networks operate, including the Internet.

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Computer Science is AQA.

Assessment type: Assessment is split into three components:

- **Paper 1 (40%)** – An on-screen exam focused on programming and problem-solving.
- **Paper 2 (40%)** – A written exam covering theory topics such as algorithms, data structures, and computer systems.
- **Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) (20%)** – A Programming project in which students identify a real-world problem and develop a solution, applying their skills independently.

Relevance: Computer Science is a rapidly expanding field, with new technologies driving job creation in areas such as software engineering, game development, and data analysis, making it a highly relevant subject in today's world. The demand for professionals with technical and analytical expertise continues to rise, making it a highly employable subject in both the public and private sectors.

Career versatility: Graduates often pursue careers in various fields, including software development, cybersecurity, Artificial Intelligence (AI) game design, robotics, and data science. The demand for professionals with technical and analytical expertise continues to rise, making it a highly employable subject in both the public and private sectors.

Academic flexibility and skills developed:

Computer Science pairs particularly well with subjects like Mathematics, Physics, and Engineering, creating strong university applications for courses in STEM fields. Throughout the course, students develop a range of transferable skills, including programming, logical reasoning, problem-solving, independent research, and teamwork. These skills are not only essential for further academic study but are also highly valued by employers across industries.

Computer Science is usually taught jointly with Loughborough Grammar School.

```
sessionOnlineController(http.controller):  
t/type_wise_program', website=True, auth='none',  
ogram(self, **kwargs):  
s['types'])<=0:  
None"  
gs['types']  
= []  
  
local_bachelor_program_hsc':  
[('course_id.is_local_bachelor_program_hsc', '=  
= 'local_bachelor_program_a_level':  
[('course_id.is_lo  
= 'local_bachelor_pro  
[('course_id.is_lo  
= 'local_masters_pro  
[('course_id.is_lo  
= 'international_bac  
[('course_id.is_int  
= 'international_mas  
[('course_id.is_int  
d(('state', '=', 'application',  
gister_list = http.req  
_register_list  
ram i
```

“At A Level, you get the chance to go so much further than at GCSE. My favourite part so far has probably been starting the NEA coursework project - **you get pretty much free rein to do your programming project** in an area you find interesting. I’m super excited about this!”

Design and Technology

Why study Design and Technology? Design and Technology heavily influences the world around us, with careers in product design, architecture, and engineering all stemming from problem-solving and creative thinking. This subject encourages pupils to develop these skills by creating working solutions for problems by using various techniques, including critical thinking, visual communication, and practical work.

Entry requirements: While there are no prior learning or other requirements for this qualification, it is beneficial for pupils to have studied the subject at GCSE, as it provides essential experience with assessment and develops necessary practical and graphical skills. However, it is possible for students to study the A Level without prior study of the subject; a discussion with the Head of Department is a prerequisite to assess a prospective candidate's suitability for undertaking the course.

Course content: Theory Topics include:

- Materials, Processes and Techniques
- Digital Technologies
- Factors influencing the development of products
- Effects of Technological Developments
- Features of Manufacturing Industries
- Current Legislation
- Designing for Maintenance and the Cleaner Environment

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Design and Technology is Pearson Edexcel. Level 3 Advanced GCE in Design and Technology (Product Design) (9DT0).

Assessment type: The A Level is assessed through two components:

- One 2-hour 30-minute written examination (50%)
- An Independent Design and Make Project (Non-Examined Assessment, 50%) comprising a digital portfolio and accompanying prototype – approximately 60 sides of A3 paper.

Relevance: Design and Technology is a highly relevant subject, as it equips pupils with skills to solve real-world problems and create innovative solutions, making it a valuable subject in today's world. With every item having been designed, whether it be consumer goods, vehicles or buildings, the subject equips pupils with the necessary skills to create effective solutions.

Career versatility: An A Level in Design and Technology can lead to careers in industrial design and technology, civil engineering, architecture, mechanical engineering, aerospace engineering, and business management, as it provides a strong foundation for university studies and future employment in these fields.

Academic flexibility and skills developed: Design and Technology pairs well with subjects like Physics, Mathematics and Art, and develops key skills such as critical thinking, visual communication, practical work, and project management. These are highly valued by universities and employers, enabling pupils to integrate and apply their understanding and knowledge from the subject to multiple career areas.

Design and Technology is taught jointly with Loughborough Grammar School.

DeSign

a n d

Tech-
nology

Drama and Theatre

Why study Drama and Theatre? You may be interested in acting, writing, or the technical aspects of theatre, or alternatively, you may have a desire to develop the transferable skills inherent in this creative subject, such as working collaboratively, communicating effectively, and using approaches from various disciplines. The course enables you to acquire knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre language, as well as performing and analytical skills.

Entry requirements: We expect a Grade 7 in GCSE Drama and/or English. You must be prepared to articulate historical and political ideas, test your own ideas in a practical setting, and work collaboratively under pressure.

Course content: The course has three components; devising; performing or designing skills such as lighting or costume; and practical exploration of texts to interpret them for performance. You will explore play texts, create theatre, perform plays, analyse theatre, and critically evaluate these elements. Specific texts include *Accidental Death of an Anarchist* by Dario Fo and *Woyzeck* by Buchner.

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Drama and Theatre is Edexcel.

Assessment type: The course is assessed through a combination of written coursework, practical examinations, and one written exam at the end of Year 13. The three components are: Devising, Text in Performance, and Theatre Makers in Practice.

Relevance: Drama and Theatre develops valuable 'soft' skills especially your emotional intelligence which includes empathy, active listening, effective communication, and the ability to adapt to change all of which are highly valued in all professions and careers.

Career versatility: An A Level in Drama and Theatre can lead to careers in creative industries, such as acting, stage management, or arts administration. However, it can also provide a strong foundation for careers in other fields, including politics, psychology, business, law, and the sciences.

Academic flexibility and skills developed: The course develops a range of skills, including collaboration, problem-solving and higher-order thinking. This is achieved through various projects that involve the process of transforming a creative idea or concept into a tangible, viable, dramatic product. You will gain insight into important aspects of human psychology, such as thoughts, feelings, and actions. The skills gained in this course are valued by employers across various industries, including confidence, self-presentation, teamwork, and collaboration.

Drama and Theatre Studies is taught jointly with Loughborough Grammar School.



Economics

Why study Economics? Economics is about choice and its impact on others, relating to every aspect of life, from individual decisions to those of governments and firms. It helps you make better choices and understand economic issues such as inequality, immigration, and healthcare. You'll analyse economic problems, discuss alternative courses of action, and stay up to date with national and international trends.

Entry requirements: You should be comfortable expressing yourself in both essay and numerical analysis, with a Grade 6 or above in GCSE Maths. A strong interest in current economic affairs is essential, as Economics comes to life when you see it at work in the world around you. Economic theory seeks to explain contemporary economic situations.

Course content: The course covers the role of markets, market failure, government intervention, and a study of the UK economy, as well as international aspects of economics such as trade and economic development. You'll explore how markets work, the role of government, business growth and competition, the labour market, and public finances. You'll also consider emerging and developing economies, inequality, and the financial sector.

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Economics is Edexcel (A) 2015.

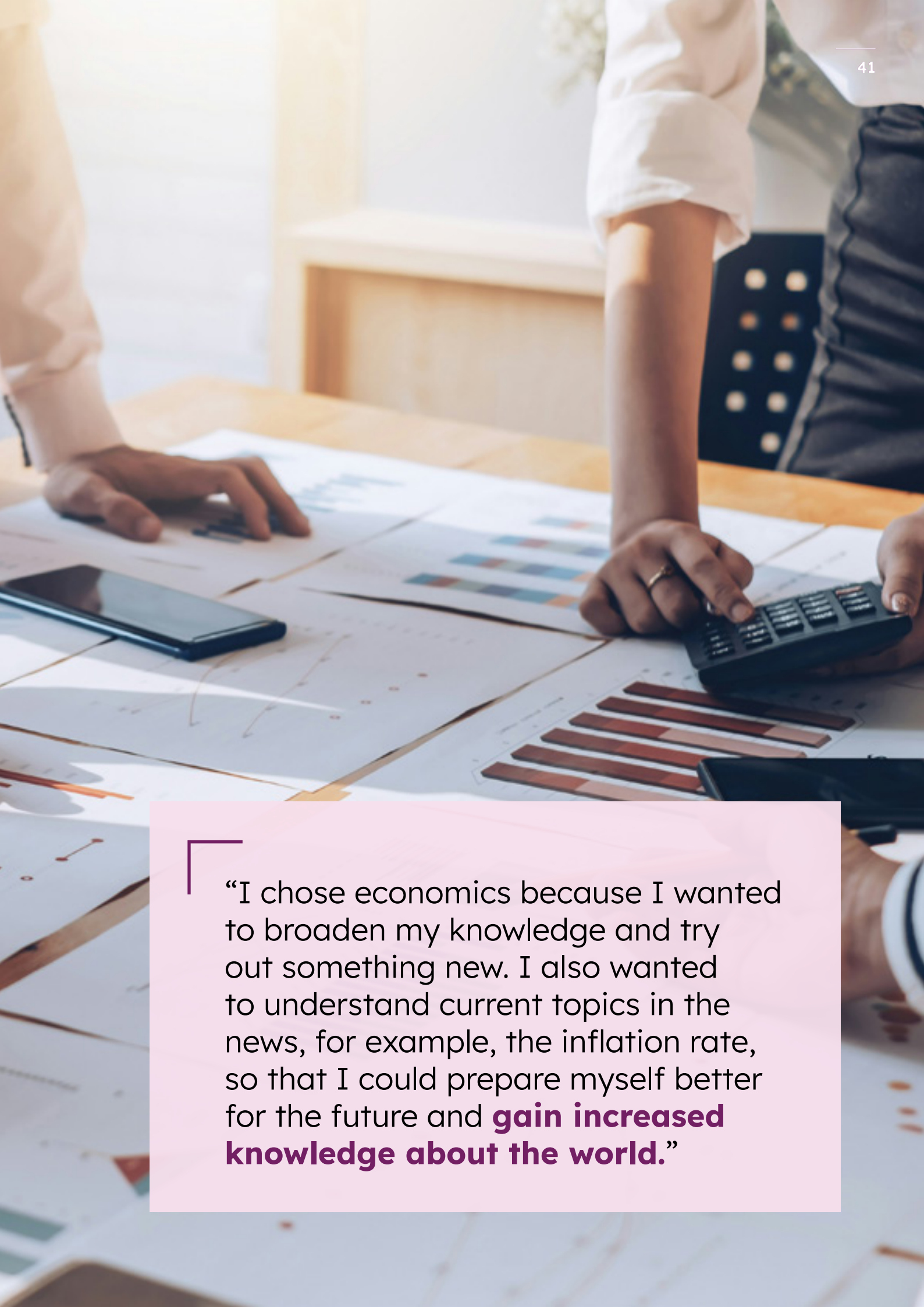
Assessment type: The course is assessed through three papers, each accounting for one-third of the final mark. Papers 1 and 2 cover

markets, business behaviour, and the national and global economy, while Paper 3 covers concepts and theory from the whole course with data response and essay questions.

Relevance: Economics is a relevant subject that helps you understand the world around you and make informed decisions. It develops valuable skills like data interpretation, problem-solving, and independent research.

Career versatility: An A Level in Economics can lead to various higher education courses, such as Economics degrees, Applied Economics, Business Economics, Econometrics, or Management Science. There are other courses which are less mathematically based too, such as Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE,) History and Economics, Economics and Politics or Economics and a Modern Language. Economics students can pursue careers in industry, commerce, finance, and the civil service.

Academic flexibility and skills developed: Studying Economics develops transferable skills like data interpretation, essay writing, problem-solving, and independent research. You'll learn to undertake investigations concerning economic concepts, essential for extended writing, competitions, and classroom discussions. These skills prepare you for university study or entering the workforce.

A close-up photograph of a person's hands working at a wooden desk. The person is wearing a white long-sleeved shirt and a dark skirt. Their right hand is holding a black calculator, and their left hand is resting on a desk with various financial documents, including bar charts and line graphs. A black smartphone is also visible on the desk. The background is softly blurred, showing a bright, sunlit office environment.

“I chose economics because I wanted to broaden my knowledge and try out something new. I also wanted to understand current topics in the news, for example, the inflation rate, so that I could prepare myself better for the future and **gain increased knowledge about the world.**”

English Literature

Why study English Literature? English Literature is a dynamic and forward-looking subject that enables you to think more deeply about literature and develop highly valued transferable skills. It's a useful springboard for a range of higher education courses or career paths, particularly suited to those who enjoy expressing their ideas in discussion and on paper. By studying English Literature, you'll explore literature more deeply and refine your communication skills.

Entry requirements: You will usually require a Grade 8 in your English Literature and a Grade 7 in your English Language GCSE to study the subject at LHS.

Course content: The course includes the study of:

- Poetry, prose, and drama from the 15th century to the present day
- Texts by authors such as Shakespeare and Rossetti
- Drama and poetry pre-1900, including a detailed study of a Shakespeare text
- Comparative and contextual study of a genre

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level English Literature is OCR.

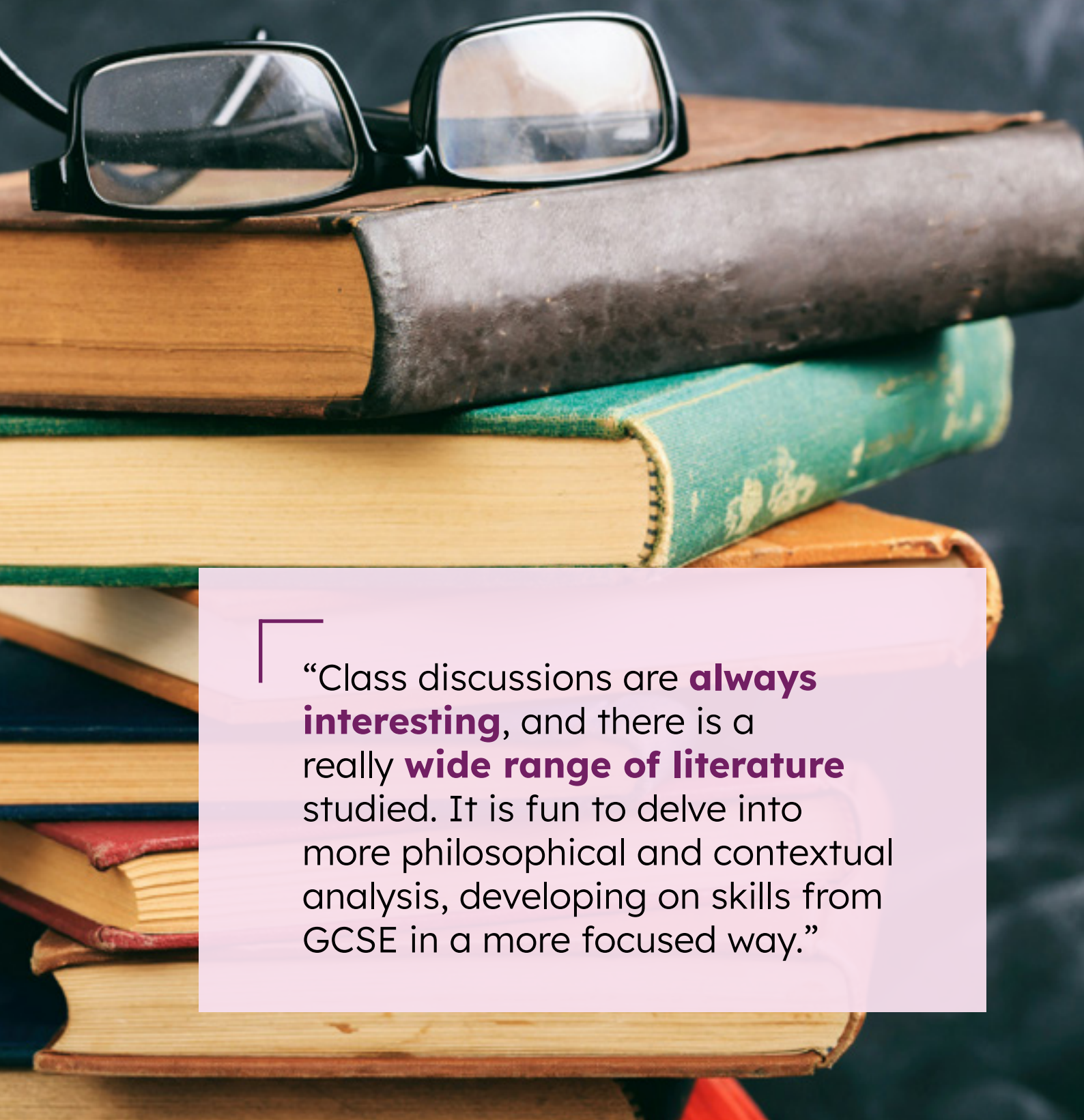
Assessment type: English Literature is assessed in the form of two examinations (80%) and one Non-examined Assessment (20%), which includes two coursework tasks, one comparative essay and one close reading of a short section of text.

Relevance: English is a highly valued subject that is widely respected for its academic rigour, making it a popular choice for those looking to develop their critical thinking and analytical skills.

Career versatility: An A Level in English Literature can lead to a wide range of career paths, including law, journalism, philosophy, and many others, as it provides a strong foundation in critical thinking, analysis, and communication, making English graduates highly employable in various sectors.

Academic flexibility and skills developed:

English Literature pairs well with subjects like History, Religious Studies, and Classics, but is also popular with linguists and scientists who enjoy a different method of study. By studying English Literature, you'll develop your ability to think critically, analyse, and evaluate, as well as synthesise ideas, reflect upon them, and form your own cogent, articulate, and independent arguments, which will enhance your other studies and prove useful in the workplace.



“Class discussions are **always interesting**, and there is a really **wide range of literature** studied. It is fun to delve into more philosophical and contextual analysis, developing on skills from GCSE in a more focused way.”

Food Science and Nutrition

Why study Food Science and Nutrition? This qualification has an applied purpose, with a focus on learning through practical experiences in a dedicated theory classroom and state-of-the-art kitchen. Students are assessed through a combination of exams and controlled assessments, allowing them to demonstrate their theoretical knowledge and creative flair.

Entry requirements: Ideally, students should have studied Food at GCSE with a Grade 7 or above. Alternatively, a Grade 6 in English is recommended if food was not taken at GCSE.

Course content: The course involves two main units: Meeting the nutritional needs of specific groups (Year 12) and Ensuring food is safe to eat (Year 13). Students also choose one optional unit from Experimenting to Solve Food Production Problems or Current Issues in Food Science and Nutrition. The course covers a range of topics, including nutrition, food safety, hygiene, and food science.

Exam Board: The exam board for the Level 3 Extended Certificate in Food Science and Nutrition is WJEC.

Assessment type: The course is assessed through a combination of controlled assessments (25% each) and externally marked written examinations (25% each). The assessments are spread across two years, with equal weight given to Year 12 and Year 13 work.

Relevance: An understanding of Food Science and Nutrition is relevant to many industries and job roles, including healthcare, sports, hospitality, food manufacturing, and government agencies. This knowledge is essential for developing menus, food products, and policies that support healthy eating initiatives.

Career versatility: A Level 3 Food Science and Nutrition Diploma can lead to various university courses, such as Food Science, Food and Nutrition, Human Nutrition, Food and Business, and Food Marketing. Career opportunities include working as a dietitian, nutritionist, sports coach, fitness instructor, or food manufacturer.

Academic flexibility and skills developed: Through this course, students develop a range of skills, including theoretical knowledge, practical skills, creativity, problem-solving, and logical thinking. They also acquire skills that enable them to maintain good health throughout life and become independent learners. The course links well to other subjects like Chemistry, Biology, PE, Psychology, and Geography.

Food Science and Nutrition is also offered at Loughborough Grammar School, with lessons taught at Loughborough High School.



French

Why study French? Studying French at A Level is a significant advantage in today's international world. French is a widely spoken language, with millions of speakers across the globe. It is also a language of culture, business and international relations. During the course, you will explore a range of topics, including cultural and social issues in French-speaking countries, and will develop much greater fluency in the language.

Entry requirements: You need a minimum Grade 7 in GCSE French, though a Grade 8 or 9 is preferable. Enjoying all aspects of language learning, including speaking and writing, is essential.

Course content: The course involves studying various themes and topics, including:

- Theme one, Year 12: Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends (The changing nature of family; The 'cyber-society'; The place of voluntary work.)
- Theme two, Year 12: Artistic culture in the French-speaking world (A culture proud of its heritage; Contemporary francophone music; Cinema: the 7th art form.)
- Theme three, Year 13: Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues (Positive features of a diverse society; Life for the marginalised; How criminals are treated.)
- Theme four, Year 13: Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world (Teenagers, the right to vote and political commitment; Demonstrations, strikes – who holds the power?; Politics and immigration.)

You will also study a literary text and a film, and you will complete an individual research project.

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level French is AQA.

Assessment type: The course is assessed through a combination of exams at the end of Year 13, including:

- Listening, reading, and writing paper (50%)
- Writing paper (20%)
- Speaking exam (30%)

Relevance: An A Level in French will go well with any combination of subjects, whatever university course you are considering, whether in the UK or abroad, thanks to the skills you develop on the course. Many students choose to study a language-related degree, either studying French on its own or in combination with another subject. The course links particularly well to subjects like Politics and History. Having an A Level in French can also make you stand out in the job market, with skills highly sought after by potential employers.

Career versatility: By studying A Level French, you will open yourself up to a wide range of career opportunities, as the skills you develop are highly prized by employers across various industries, from translation and interpreting services to international business and finance, and from journalism and broadcasting to education and environmental conservation. French is an official language for a huge number of international organisations, such as the UN, the International Red Cross and the Olympic Committee. Additionally, having an A Level in French can give you a competitive edge in the job market, as speaking multiple languages can increase your salary potential and provide opportunities for travel or living abroad.

Academic flexibility and skills developed: Through this course, you will develop a broad range of skills that will serve you well in both academic and professional pursuits. As you become increasingly proficient in French, you will find that your communication skills improve dramatically, enabling you to express yourself with confidence and nuance in a variety of contexts. Additionally, you will cultivate valuable research skills, independence, and cultural awareness, as well as critical thinking and problem-solving abilities, all of which will be highly beneficial as you progress through your academic career and beyond.



Geography

Why study Geography? Geography at both AS and international A Level comprises both human and physical units, covering a wide range of topics such as the issues that affect people and their environments, how people impact the environment, and current events like natural hazards and refugee crises. You will also learn about resource management decisions and how to plan fieldwork investigations.

Entry requirements: A Grade 7 in GCSE Geography or a related subject is expected for entry onto this course.

Course content: The course involves studying various modules, including:

- Core Physical Geography: Hydrology and fluvial geomorphology, Atmosphere and weather, Rocks and weathering
- Core Human Geography: Population, Migration, Settlement dynamics
- Advanced Physical Geography: Coastal environments, Hazardous environments
- Advanced Human Geography: Global interdependence, Economic Transition

Exam Board: The exam board for Geography is Cambridge International AS and A Level Geography (9696).

Assessment type: The course is assessed through a combination of exams at the end of Year 12 and Year 13, with two exams (Human and Physical) contributing 50% of the total marks each year.

Relevance: An A Level in Geography is highly valued by universities and combines well with both arts and science subjects. It is a subject that can keep options open for university courses and is often preferred or required for degree courses.

Career versatility: By studying Geography at A Level, you will develop a unique blend of skills that employers across various industries highly prize. As you explore the complex interactions between human and physical environments, you will become an independent thinker and learner, able to approach complex issues from multiple perspectives. This will serve you well in a wide range of careers, from environmental management and conservation to urban planning and international development.

Academic flexibility and skills developed: Through this course, you will develop a broad range of skills that will enable you to think critically and approach complex problems with confidence. You will learn to frame your own questions using higher-level thinking skills and to illustrate your answers with case studies from local, national, and international examples. With a focus on fieldwork and practical investigation, you will also develop valuable skills in data analysis, mapping, and Geographic Information System (GIS,) as well as report and essay writing. By the time you complete the course, you will be able to demonstrate a deep understanding of complex geographical issues and to approach them with a nuanced and informed perspective.



German

Why study German? Studying German at A Level is a significant advantage in our increasingly international world. As the most spoken native language in Europe, German is a highly useful language to learn, particularly in the worlds of business and innovation, as Germany is renowned for its success in engineering and technology. During the course, you will explore a range of topics, including cultural and social issues in German-speaking countries, and will develop much greater fluency in the language.

Entry requirements: You need a minimum Grade 7 in GCSE German, though a Grade 8 or 9 is preferable. Enjoying all aspects of language learning, including speaking and writing, is essential.

Course content: The course involves studying various themes and topics, including:

- Theme one, Year 12: Aspects of German-speaking society (The changing state of the family; The digital world; Youth culture.)
- Theme two, Year 12: Artistic culture in the German-speaking world (Festivals and traditions; Art and architecture; Cultural life in Berlin.)
- Theme three, Year 13: Multiculturalism in German-speaking society (Immigration; Integration; Racism.)
- Theme four, Year 13: Aspects of political life in the German-speaking world (Germany and the European Union; Politics and youth; German re-unification and its consequences.)

You will also study a literary text and a film, and you will complete an individual research project.

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level German is AQA.

Assessment type: At the end of Year 13, you will take three exams:

- Listening, reading, and writing paper (50%)
- Writing paper (20%)
- Speaking exam (30%)

Relevance: An A Level in German will go well with any combination of subjects, whatever university course you are considering, whether in the UK or abroad, thanks to the skills you develop on the course. Many students choose to study a language-related degree, either studying German on its own or in combination with another subject. The course links particularly well to subjects like Politics and History. Having an A Level in German can also help you stand out in the job market, with skills highly sought after by potential employers.

Career versatility: By studying A Level German, you will open yourself up to a wide range of career opportunities, as the skills you develop are highly prized by employers across various industries, from translation and interpreting services to international business and finance, and from journalism and broadcasting to education and environmental conservation. German is particularly useful in the fields of engineering, technology, and manufacturing, and it is also one of the three official working languages of the European Union. Additionally, having an A Level in German can give you a competitive edge in the job market, as speaking multiple languages can increase your salary potential and provide opportunities for travel or living abroad.

Academic flexibility and skills developed: Through this course, you will develop a broad range of skills that will serve you well in both academic and professional pursuits. As you become increasingly proficient in German, you will find that your communication skills improve dramatically, enabling you to express yourself with confidence and nuance in a variety of contexts. Additionally, you will cultivate valuable research skills, independence, and cultural awareness, as well as critical thinking and problem-solving abilities, all of which will be highly beneficial as you progress through your academic career and beyond.



“I like how at A Level we study topics that feel more relevant, like German politics or issues such as immigration and racism. We’re also **encouraged to research topics that interest us in German**, like news articles or watching TV shows, and it feels satisfying to be able to understand ‘real-life’ German.”

History

Why study History? A Level History offers students a unique opportunity to explore other societies, their politics, social and economic structures, culture, and ideologies. By studying European History from 1450-1499 (Wars of the Roses) and from 1789-1871, as well as US history from 1865-1975, students will gain a wide-ranging introduction to the complexities of Europe's past and the development of the United States as a superpower.

Entry requirements: There are no formal entry requirements for A Level History, but students who have studied GCSE History are expected to have secured at least a Grade 7.

Course content: The course comprises three units:

- Unit one: The making of a Superpower: USA 1865-1975 (Breadth Study)
- Unit two: The Wars of the Roses 1450-1499 (Depth Study)
- Unit three: Italian unification and German unification, 1789-1871 (NEA) (Coursework)

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level History is AQA.

Assessment type: The course is assessed through a combination of exams and coursework:

- Units one and two are examined at the end of Year 13, with one 150-minute exam per unit
- A Coursework essay is submitted towards the end of the Easter term in Year 13

Relevance: An A Level in History is highly regarded and works well alongside a wide range of other subjects, including Humanities, Sciences, and Social Sciences. The skills developed through this course are highly transferable and can be applied to various careers, such as law, finance, civil service, and journalism.

Career versatility: By studying History at A Level, students will develop a range of skills that are highly valued by employers, including analysis, communication, and problem-solving. These skills can be applied to various careers, and the course provides a solid foundation for further study in a range of subjects.

Academic flexibility and skills developed:

Through this course, students will develop a range of skills, including analysis, communication, and problem-solving. They will also refine their ability to think critically and express themselves effectively, both orally and in writing. The course encourages students to form and express opinions in discussion, developing their confidence and independence as learners. By studying History, students will gain a deeper understanding of the past and its relevance to contemporary issues, preparing them for success in a wide range of academic and professional pursuits.



I would recommend studying History at A Level because it is a fascinating subject. I also find that it helps to develop analysis and evaluation, which is critical to anyone considering studying a humanities-based degree.



Latin



Why study Latin? Latin is a highly valued A Level subject that offers students a unique opportunity to explore the language, literature, and culture of the Roman world. By studying Latin, students will gain a deeper understanding of the legacy of the Roman world and its influence on modern languages, literature, and society. The course cultivates precision of thought, develops students' appreciation of their own language and culture, and fosters a deeper understanding of literature through the study and critical appreciation of set texts.

Entry requirements: Normally, students are advised to have attained a grade 8 or above in their Latin GCSE to pursue the subject at A Level successfully.

Course content: The course involves two main components:

- **Latin Language:** Students will continue to develop their language skills, learning to translate from Latin into English and from English into Latin. The passages for translation will be taken from two specified authors, namely Ovid and Livy.
- **Latin Literature:** Students will study a range of set texts, including prose and verse, from authors such as Cicero, Nepos, Virgil, and Ovid.

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Latin is OCR (H443).

Assessment type: The A Level qualification comprises four externally assessed written examinations:

- Unseen translation: 1 hour 45 minutes (33%)
- Prose composition or comprehension: 1 hour 15 minutes (17%)
- Prose literature: 2 hours (25%)
- Verse literature: 2 hours, (25%)

Relevance: An A Level in Latin is highly valued by universities and employers for its intellectual integrity and is well respected as a subject in its own right. It is an advantage for anyone wishing to read Classics at university but also goes well with both arts and science subjects.

Career versatility: Previous A Level Latin students have gone on to read a wide variety of subjects at university, including Classics, Modern Languages, History, Medicine, Biological Sciences, Theology, English Literature, Law, and Music. The skills developed through this course are highly transferable and can be applied to various careers.

Academic flexibility and skills developed: The Latin A Level course promotes the development of a wide range of skills, including analytical and problem-solving skills, intellectual flexibility, and a sensitive appreciation of language. Students will also develop their ability to appreciate literary techniques, styles, and genres, as well as their ability to articulate an informed response to the material studied, using a range of appropriate evidence to construct coherent, logical, and persuasive arguments and evidence-based judgements. By studying Latin, students will gain a unique perspective on the world and develop a deeper understanding of the cultural and historical context of the Roman world.

Latin is usually taught jointly with Loughborough Grammar School.



“Latin is a **truly amazing subject**, and if you enjoyed it at GCSE it gets better! I have loved learning it at A Level because you really go into depth about the Literature. For me, I really enjoy looking at the stylistic features of writing (especially enclosing word order!) and the reasons why an author would include them in their text.”

Mathematics

Why study Mathematics? Mathematics is a highly valuable subject that supports a wide range of other subjects, including Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, as well as Geography, Psychology, and Sociology. Studying Mathematics at A Level can complement most other subjects and is a must for Maths, Engineering and Computer Science courses.

Entry requirements: To study A Level Maths, students will need to have achieved an Grade 8 or 9 at GCSE. Students achieving a Grade 7 will be considered on an individual basis.

Course content: The A Level course is linear and consists of two thirds pure maths and one third applied maths. The pure maths covers topics such as algebraic techniques, coordinate geometry, trigonometry, series, and elementary calculus. The applied section is split evenly between mechanics and statistics topics, covering probability, distributions, hypothesis testing, kinematics, and Newton's laws of motion.

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Mathematics is Edexcel (9MA0).

Assessment type: The course is assessed through three exams, each 2 hours long. Two exams cover the pure content, and one covers the applied content. Each exam is worth a third of the overall mark.

Relevance: An A Level in Maths is highly valued for its applicability to many fields of academic study, including geography, psychology, sports science, engineering, economics, medicine, scientific research, actuarial work, statistical services, and teaching.

Career versatility: A Level Maths is clearly essential for studying Maths at university, but the skills developed through this course are also highly transferable to other careers. Mathematics students become better at reasoning logically and analytically, and develop excellent numeracy skills and the ability to process and interpret data. By studying Maths at A Level, students will gain a strong foundation for further study in Maths and related fields, as well as developing valuable skills that are highly prized by employers.

Academic flexibility and skills developed: The Maths A Level course promotes the development of a wide range of skills, including logical and analytical thinking, adaptability, resilience, creativity, and strategic thinking. Students will also develop their attention to detail, quantitative literacy, and ability to formulate reasoned arguments. The writing of structured solutions, proof, and justification of results will enhance these skills, making Mathematics students highly sought after by universities and employers.

Additional Information: Students studying Maths are required to purchase a suitable calculator. The minimum requirement is for a Casio FX-991cw (approximately £22) but a preferred calculator is the Casio FX-CG100 graphical calculator (approximately £100).



$$2x+3)=90 \quad \angle = \arccos \frac{A_1A_2+B_1B_2+C_1C_2}{\sqrt{A_1^2+B_1^2+C_1^2} \cdot \sqrt{A_2^2+B_2^2+C_2^2}}$$

$$3x-90=0$$

$$15)(x-6)=0$$

$$\frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\int -x^2 dx = \frac{\pi a^2}{4}$$

$$F(x) \pm g(x) = f(x)$$

$$f(x) \cdot g(x) = f(x)$$

$$\frac{1}{f(x)} = \frac{1}{x}$$

$$+3+3+6+8+$$

$$+4+4^6+8+$$

$$=c^2$$

$$c^2-b^2$$

$$c^2-a^2$$

$$a^2+b^2$$

$$\log_a(mn) = \log_a m + \log_a n$$

$$n(A \cup B \cup C) - n(B \cup C)$$



$$n(B \cap C) = 22$$

$$n(B) = 68$$

$$n(C) = 84$$

$$n(B \cup C) = n(B) + n(C)$$

$$\leq 5 \quad -n(B \cap C)$$

$$x+5 \leq 5 \quad \sqrt[n]{a^m} = a^{\frac{m}{n}}$$

$$x \leq 0 \quad \frac{a}{3} = \sqrt[3]{a}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{a} = \sqrt[3]{a^3}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{a^3} = \sqrt[3]{a^3}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{24} = \sqrt[3]{5}$$

$$\frac{1}{2^{n-1}} =$$

$$\frac{1}{2^9} =$$

$$(100^2)$$

$$1000$$

$$\frac{8}{8} \rightarrow y=4 \quad p_8$$

$$AB+BC=x+$$

$$x+y=8+4$$

Further Mathematics

Why study Further Maths? Further Maths is a highly desirable, if not required, A Level for many top universities, particularly for Mathematics, Science, and Engineering courses, as well as Computing and Economics. It must be studied alongside A Level Maths and is typically chosen as a fourth A Level option.

Entry requirements: To study A Level Further Maths, students need to have achieved a Grade 9 at GCSE. Students achieving a Grade 8 will be considered on an individual basis, ensuring that only those with a strong foundation in Maths are admitted to the course.

Course content: The course is linear and split into 50% Core Pure Maths, which is compulsory, and two 25% options. The Core Pure Maths covers complex numbers, matrices, further vectors, hyperbolic functions, and differential equations. The options can be taken from Further Pure Maths, Further Statistics, Further Mechanics, or Decision Mathematics. The options are chosen after discussion with the class.

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Further Mathematics is Edexcel (9FM0).

Assessment type: The course is assessed through four 90-minute exams. Two exams cover the core pure content, and one covers each of the two chosen options, providing a comprehensive evaluation of students' knowledge and skills.

Additional Information: Wherever possible, we aim to timetable the Further Mathematicians' timetables so that all Further Maths pupils are blocked in the same Maths and Further Maths sets, taking up two of our four timetable blocks in total.

This allows us to teach an integrated and continuous Maths and Further Maths curriculum for the next two years across these combined 20 periods as one single class, rather than having to teach the qualifications as separate classes.

This means it might not be possible for a girl to step down from Further Maths but still maintain her other curriculum choices of Maths plus two other subjects. Over the weeks, both Maths and Further Maths topics will be covered in these lessons, so it will be difficult to move from Further Maths to just Maths.

Therefore, choosing Further Maths requires a firm commitment by the girls in this class.



Music Technology

Why study Music Technology A Level? The Music Technology A Level course provides a comprehensive grounding in both the theory and history of Music Technology, as well as its practical application through coursework-based tasks. This course is ideal for students interested in becoming sound engineers, record producers, or working in visual and sound media.

Entry requirements: No specific entry requirements, but a background or strong interest in music technology and production is essential for success on this course.

Course content: The course covers a range of topics, including recording, sequencing, and arranging using professional-standard technology. Students will learn to record, edit, process, and mix audio tracks, as well as create technology-based compositions using sampled, recorded and Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI) tracks.

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Music Technology is Edexcel.

Assessment type: There are two elements of Non-Examined Assessment (NEA), Recording and Technology-Based Composition, testing students' ability to record, edit and mix in the studio and creatively compose a piece of music using synthesis, sampling and creative use of effects. There are also two examined elements in Listening and Analysis, and Production and Analysis. These exams will test students' skills in manipulating audio/MIDI, analysing production techniques and technical theory elements.

Relevance: An A Level in Music Technology is highly relevant for careers in the music industry, including sound engineering, radio engineering, record production, media composition and music technology. The course also provides transferable skills that can be applied to other areas of the creative arts, media, and film production.

Career versatility: A Music Technology student demonstrates a range of both creative and technical skills as well as technical knowledge, drawing from areas such as physics, electronics, acoustics and mathematics. Knowledge of recorded music history and production techniques has historical and socioeconomic relevance as well as the more obvious musical aspects. This wide range of skills and knowledge are transferable across the music industry and beyond. Previous students have gone on to study Music Technology (including the prestigious Tonmeister course at the University of Surrey), Music, Engineering and Graphic Design.

Academic flexibility and skills developed: The Music Technology A Level course promotes the development of a range of skills, including practical music production skills, analytical and evaluative skills, and technical skills in recording and sequencing. Students will also develop their creativity, problem-solving abilities, essay writing and attention to detail.

Music Technology is usually taught jointly with Loughborough Grammar School, with lessons taught centrally in the Music School.



Music

Why study Music? Music A Level is an incredibly diverse course, encompassing a variety of practical and academic approaches to the study of music. The varied nature of the course enables students to develop highly desirable skills in areas such as independent learning, self-management, teamwork, problem-solving, communication, and creativity.

Entry requirements: Grade 7 in GCSE Music is advised, as well as an advanced level of performance on your instrument, voice or production via technology.

Course content: The Music A Level course is structured around the same three components you studied for GCSE: performance, composition, and listening and appraising.

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Music is AQA.

Assessment type:

1. Performance: You will record a 10-minute solo and/or ensemble performance as an instrumentalist, vocalist or via technology in the March of Year 13 (35%).
2. Composition: You will write one 'free' composition and complete a series of technical compositional exercises (25%).
3. Listening and Appraising Music: This is a 2-hour and 30-minute exam paper with listening and written questions using excerpts of music (40%).

Components one and two are Non-Examined Assessments and are marked externally.

Relevance: An A Level in Music is highly relevant for careers in the music industry, including performing, composing, teaching, and music administration. However, the skills developed on this course are also transferable to other areas, making it a valuable qualification for a wide range of career paths.

Career versatility: The Music A Level course can lead to a variety of career pathways, including obvious careers such as a performing musician, composer, teacher, and music administrator, as well as less obvious roles like lawyer, doctor, politician, and TV presenter. Previous students have gone on to study at prestigious universities and conservatoires, pursuing degrees in Music, Engineering, Medicine, Law, Geography, Psychology, Biochemistry, and many other subjects.

Academic flexibility and skills developed:

The Music A Level course promotes the development of a range of skills, including practical music performance and composition skills, as well as analytical and evaluative skills. Students will develop their creativity, problem-solving abilities, communication skills, and teamwork skills, making them highly sought after by universities and employers. With an A Level in Music, students can pursue a wide range of degree courses and career pathways, and previous students have gone on to achieve great things at universities including Oxford, Cambridge, Durham, King's College London and conservatoires.

Music is usually taught jointly with Loughborough Grammar School, with lessons taught centrally in the Music School.

Physical Education

Why study PE? Studying A Level Physical Education will give you a fantastic insight into the amazing world of sports performance. Not only will you have the chance to perform or coach a sport through the non-exam assessment (NEA) component, you will also develop a wide-ranging knowledge of the how and why of physical activity and sport.

Entry requirements: Ideally, you will have studied PE at GCSE, although this is not essential. Grade 7 or above would be advised at GCSE. If you have not previously taken the subject, then a Grade 7 in an equivalent subject, such as Biology, would be considered.

Course content: The course involves four components:

- Physiological factors affecting performance (applied anatomy and physiology, exercise physiology, and biomechanics)
- Psychological factors affecting performance (skill acquisition and sports psychology)
- Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport (sport and society, and contemporary issues in physical activity and sport)
- Performance in physical education (non-exam assessment)

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Physical Education is OCR (H555).

Assessment type: The course is assessed through a combination of non-exam assessments and examinations. The NEA includes one practical performance as either a coach or a performer, and one performance analysis task. The examinations consist of 4 hours of assessment, split over three papers (two 1-hour papers and one 2-hour paper).

Relevance: An A Level in PE is highly relevant for careers in sports science, sports management, healthcare, and exercise and health. It can also complement further study in biology, human biology, physics, psychology, nutrition, sociology, and many more.

Career versatility: The PE A Level course can lead to a range of career opportunities, including sports development, sports coaching, physiotherapy, personal training, and becoming a PE teacher. The transferable skills developed through the course, such as decision-making and independent thinking, are also useful in any career path you choose to take.

Academic flexibility and skills developed: Throughout the two-year course, you will have the opportunity to develop many transferable skills, including decision-making, psychological understanding of people, independent thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills, as well as thinking and acting under pressure. These skills will be developed through a combination of theoretical and practical work, including performance, coaching, and analysis tasks.

Physical Education is a subject that is offered jointly with Loughborough Grammar School, with lessons taught in the joint Parkin Sports Centre.



Physics

Why study Physics? Studying Physics helps us to understand so much of what exists and happens around us, from the largest galaxies to the smallest of particles that make up atoms. It is one of the most relevant subjects for the 21st century as humanity seeks to explore beyond the Earth and solve the world's energy and climate challenges.

Entry requirements: You will need to achieve a Grade 8 or above in GCSE Physics and a Grade 7 or above in Mathematics. More importantly, we would like you to have an enquiring mind and be curious about how things work. You should have enthusiasm and commitment and enjoy practical work. You do NOT need to be studying A Level Maths to be successful at A Level Physics. Still, it is advisable to study A Level Maths if you intend to study Physics (or Engineering) beyond A Level.

Course content: The course is divided into topics over the two-year period. In the first year, we study fundamental particles, waves, optics, forces, linear and circular motion, materials, electricity, and quantum phenomena. In the second year, we study electrical and magnetic fields, gravity fields and orbital motion, harmonic motion, capacitance, electromagnetic induction, nuclear physics, and thermal physics. We also study one option from astrophysics or 'turning points' (significant advances and discoveries) in physics.

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Physics is AQA 7408.

Assessment type: The course is assessed through three final exam papers. Papers 1 and 2 each account for 34% of the total marks and cover the core topics. Paper 3 is 32% and covers the assessment of practical and analytical skills as well as the content of the option topic studied.

Relevance: An A Level in Physics is highly relevant for careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). It helps you to analyse, interpret, and apply information, as well as developing the skills of problem-solving and critical thinking. The knowledge developed helps you to explain how things happen or how things work, or to be an inventor.

Career versatility: The Physics A Level course can lead to a range of career opportunities, including law, economics, finance, medicine, medical physics, environmental sciences, renewable energy, earth science, astronomy, engineering, forensics, communication technology, space technology, and many specialisms within physics. It is an essential entry to most engineering courses. A Level Physics is also a gateway subject into the vast majority of university courses, and the skills developed are useful for any science or applied science course or career.

Academic flexibility and skills developed: You will develop a wide range of transferable skills, including teamwork, technical ability, problem-solving, time-management, organisation, numeracy, communication, attention to detail, understanding technical plans, analytics, discipline, and IT. These skills are easily transferrable into many different academic and career areas.

$I[\text{mA}]$	0	0	4	50	104	170
$U[\text{V}]$	0	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.0
$I[\text{mA}]$	0	-1.05	-2.1	-3.2	-4.2	-5.3
$U[\text{V}]$	0	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5
$I[\text{mA}]$	0	0	4	44	115	175
$U[\text{V}]$	0	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.0
$I[\text{mA}]$	0	-0.4	-0.76	-1.12	-1.5	-1.9
$U[\text{V}]$	0	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5
$I[\text{mA}]$	0	1.4	2.8	4.2	5.6	7.1
$U[\text{V}]$	0	1	2	3	4	5
$I[\text{mA}]$	0	-1.4	-2.8	-4.2	-5.6	-7.1
$U[\text{V}]$	0	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5

$$-Q_{41} = \nu C T_1(1 - \epsilon^{1/2}) + \nu C_V T_1(\mathcal{K} - 1),$$

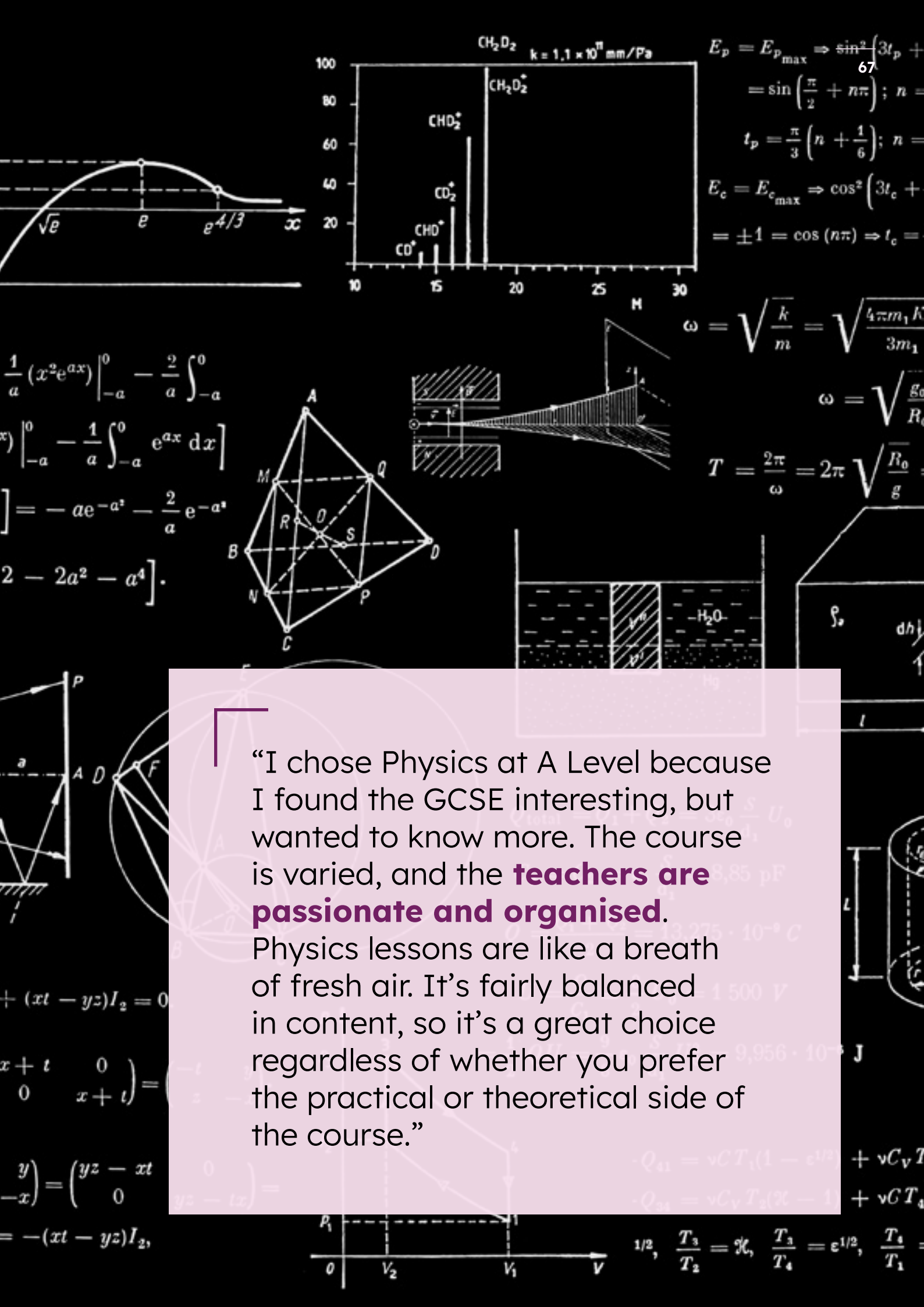
$$-Q_{34} = \nu C_V T_2(\mathcal{K} - 1) + \nu C T_4(1 - \epsilon^{1/2}),$$

$$^{1/2}, \quad \frac{T_1}{T_2} = \mathcal{K}, \quad \frac{T_1}{T_4} = \epsilon^{1/2}, \quad \frac{T_1}{T_1} = \mathcal{K}_1$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ z & t \end{pmatrix} -$$

$$y) \begin{pmatrix} -t \\ z \end{pmatrix}$$

$$yz - xt)I_2 =$$



“I chose Physics at A Level because I found the GCSE interesting, but wanted to know more. The course is varied, and the **teachers are passionate and organised.**

Physics lessons are like a breath of fresh air. It's fairly balanced in content, so it's a great choice regardless of whether you prefer the practical or theoretical side of the course.”



“Politics is **an amazing A Level to study**, especially if you are interested in current affairs. It allows you to keep up with relevant information about the country, as well as understand how the electoral and party systems work. It is an **incredibly detailed subject**, and the **support from the teachers is amazing.**”

Politics

Why study Politics? Few subjects are more central to your everyday life than 'government and politics'. Politics dominates domestic and foreign news, shaping the society you inherit as adults. By studying Politics, you'll gain a deeper understanding of how governments and institutions impact your life, from education and healthcare to national security and the economy. This knowledge will enable you to engage with current events, think critically about complex issues, and develop informed opinions on the world around you.

Entry requirements: Politics is a prose-based subject, so a Grade 6 in a humanities subject is required, as is a genuine interest in politics and current affairs.

Course content: Some of the topics studied include:

- Democracy and participation
- Political parties and pressure groups
- Core political ideas like Liberalism, Conservatism, and Socialism
- US government and politics, including the Constitution and Federalism

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Politics is Edexcel.

Assessment type: The course is 100% exam-based, with three 2-hour exams, one for each unit.

Relevance: Politics is a highly relevant subject in the modern world, as it shapes the decisions that affect our daily lives and influences global events. With the rise of social media, political awareness and engagement have become more important than ever, and studying Politics will provide you with a nuanced understanding of

the complex issues that shape our world, from climate change and economic inequality to social justice and human rights.

Career versatility: Studying Politics can lead to a range of career opportunities, including roles in law, journalism, international business, technology, and public service, making it a beneficial subject for those interested in pursuing careers in these sectors. By developing strong analysis, critical thinking, and communication skills, you'll be well-equipped to succeed in careers such as policy analysis, advocacy, or diplomacy. You will also be well-prepared to pursue further study in fields such as international relations, economics, or law.

Academic flexibility and skills developed:

Politics pairs well with subjects such as History, Economics, English, and Business for university applications, as it develops key skills like analysis, critical thinking, and effective communication. By studying Politics, you'll learn to construct and defend arguments, write clearly and concisely, and engage in informed discussions, making you a strong candidate for a variety of academic and professional pursuits.

Politics is a subject that is offered jointly with Loughborough Grammar School, with lessons taught at Loughborough Grammar School.

Psychology

Why study Psychology? Psychology is the scientific study of people, the mind, behaviour, and experience, offering a unique opportunity to explore key features of everyday life that are of direct relevance. By studying Psychology, you'll gain a deeper understanding of human thought and behaviour, and develop a range of skills that will enable you to engage with complex issues in a nuanced and informed way. Psychologists and psychological research have a significant impact on public life, particularly in areas such as education, health, and the economy.

Entry requirements: You don't need any prior knowledge of psychology to start the A Level course, but you should have a solid complement of GCSEs, including a Grade 6 in a science subject and a Grade 5 in Mathematics. You should also have a good grasp of the English language, as essay writing is a key component of the course. Most importantly, you should have a genuine curiosity about human thought and behaviour.

Course content: Some of the topics studied include:

- Social Psychology, focusing on social interactions and relationships
- Cognitive Psychology, exploring internal mental processes and behaviours like perception and intelligence
- Developmental Psychology, considering how people develop and change throughout their lives
- Clinical Psychology and Mental Health, studying the causes of mental disorders and potential therapies
- Biological Psychology, examining the role of evolutionary forces and genetics in behaviour

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Psychology is AQA.

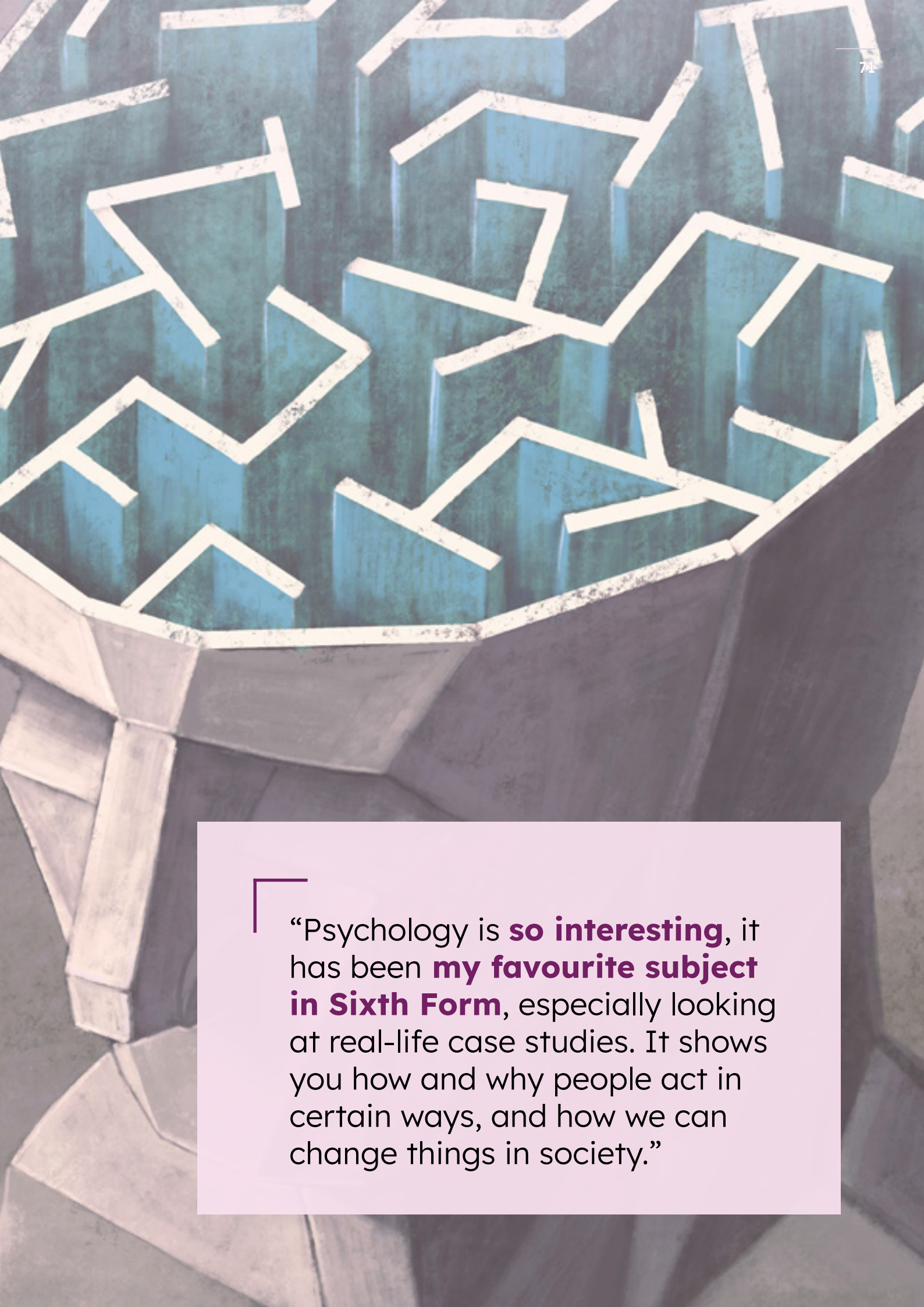
Assessment type: A Level Psychology is a linear subject, assessed at the end of two years of study through three 2-hour exams, each comprising short questions, essay questions, and scenarios that require you to apply your knowledge.

Relevance: Psychology is a highly relevant subject in the modern world, as it seeks to understand human thought and behaviour, and develop evidence-based solutions to real-world problems. By studying Psychology, you'll gain a deeper understanding of the complex issues that shape our lives, from mental health and wellbeing to social relationships and cognitive development.

Career versatility: Studying Psychology can lead to a wide range of career opportunities, including roles in health and caring professions, management, education, criminology, marketing, and advertising, as well as supporting applications for science-based and humanities degree courses. By developing transferable skills like critical thinking, research design, and data analysis, you'll be well-equipped to succeed in a variety of careers that require a nuanced understanding of human thought and behaviour.

Academic flexibility and skills developed: Psychology pairs well with a range of subjects, including Biology and Sociology, and develops key skills such as critical thinking, research design, and data analysis. By studying Psychology, you'll learn to evaluate conflicting theories and research findings, develop practical research skills, and engage with complex issues in a nuanced and informed way, making you a strong candidate for a variety of academic and professional pursuits.

Psychology is a subject that is offered jointly with Loughborough Grammar School, with lessons taught at Loughborough High School.



“Psychology is **so interesting**, it has been **my favourite subject in Sixth Form**, especially looking at real-life case studies. It shows you how and why people act in certain ways, and how we can change things in society.”

Religious Studies

Why study Religious Studies? Religious Studies (RS) is a subject that poses significant questions and encourages you to think deeply about complex philosophical and ethical issues. By studying Religious Studies, you'll have the opportunity to engage with challenging ideas, evaluate different perspectives, and develop your own positions on key topics such as the existence of God, evil and suffering, and religious experience. You'll also gain an insight into the role and significance of Christianity in a modern context.

Entry requirements: Ideally, you'll have studied RS at GCSE level, although this is not essential. A Grade 7 or above would be expected at GCSE, or a Grade 7 in an equivalent subject such as History or Classical Civilisation if you haven't previously taken the subject. An open mind and a willingness to embrace new and challenging ideas are essential for success in A Level Religious Studies.

Course content: Some of the topics studied include:

- Philosophy of Religion: Plato and Aristotle, questions of the soul, mind and body, arguments for the existence of God, evil and suffering, religious experience, and miracles
- Ethics and religion: ethical theories, applied to issues in business ethics, sexual ethics, and end-of-life
- Study of Christianity: sources of wisdom and authority, God, self and death, good conduct and key moral principles

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Religious Studies is OCR (H573).

Assessment type: The course is assessed through three 2-hour written examinations. Paper 1 covers the Philosophy of Religion, Paper 2 covers Religion and Ethics, while Paper 3 covers Developments in Christian Thought.

Relevance: Religious Studies is a highly relevant subject in the modern world, as it encourages you to think critically about complex philosophical and ethical issues that affect individuals and society. By studying Religious Studies, you'll gain a deeper understanding of different perspectives on key topics such as morality, identity, and belief, and develop skills in evaluating and forming your own opinions.

Career versatility: An A Level in Religious Studies can lead to a variety of university courses and careers, including law, journalism, social services, teaching, medicine, and dentistry. The subject develops valuable skills in working with people, understanding different perspectives, and communicating complex ideas, all of which are crucial in the AI age, where information and data analysis are becoming more automated.

Academic flexibility and skills developed: Religious Studies pairs well with a range of subjects, including History, and English, and develops key skills in critical thinking, research, and communication. By studying Religious Studies, you'll develop your ability to read, research, and assimilate new materials, write clear and logical written answers, and express your views in discussion and debate. You'll also have the opportunity to reflect on your own views and critically evaluate a wide range of alternative perspectives. As you progress to Higher Education, these skills will be invaluable.



“RS allows you to look at the culture of different groups of people, the history of religions, and try to answer some of the most important questions to do with humanity and existence. **It teaches you how to develop your own opinions and arguments** towards debates that have continued since ancient times.”

Sociology

Why study Sociology? Sociology is the study of the society in which we live, helping you to develop a wide range of perspectives about the way we live our lives, and it will enable you to develop a critical approach to understanding important issues that affect us. By studying Sociology, you will gain a deeper understanding of how society has been formed and explore the impact of this on structures such as the education system and families.

Entry requirements: A Grade 6 in English at GCSE is required to study Sociology. Essay writing is a vital skill for success in the subject, and you need to be aware of broader social issues such as class inequality, racism, sexism and ageism and how these may affect life chances. It is advisable that you are politically aware and are tuned into current affairs through the news.

Course content: The course covers a range of topics, including:

- Families and Households
- Research Methods
- Education
- Crime and Deviance
- Theory and Methods
- Beliefs in Society

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Sociology is AQA.

Assessment type: The course is assessed through three written exams (linear route) at the end of Year 13, each accounting for one third of your final A Level grade. The exams are:

- Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods (2 hours, 80 marks)
- Paper 2: Topics in Sociology: Families and Beliefs (2 hours, 80 marks)
- Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods (2 hours, 80 marks)

Relevance: Sociology is a highly relevant and sought-after subject in the modern world, helping you to understand the intricacies of society and the issues that affect us. By studying Sociology, you will gain a sophisticated analytical understanding of how social systems, organisations, and institutions work, and you will become critically aware of your own beliefs and biases.

Career versatility: An A Level in Sociology is desirable for a variety of career paths, including:

- The Police
- Local and central government
- Charitable, counselling, and voluntary organisations
- Public relations, journalism, and communications
- Media and marketing
- Law firms and the criminal justice system
- Teaching and education
- Advertising and management

Academic flexibility and skills developed:

Sociology pairs well with a range of subjects, including Psychology, History, and Politics, and develops key skills in critical thinking, research, and communication. By studying Sociology, you will enhance your ability to analyse complex information, think critically about contemporary social issues, and communicate effectively through extended writing. You will develop valuable skills in problem-solving, interpersonal relationships, and analytical thinking, making you a strong candidate for a diverse range of careers.

Sociology is a subject that is offered jointly with Loughborough Grammar School, with lessons taught at Loughborough High School.



Spanish

Why study Spanish? Studying Spanish at A Level is a huge advantage in our increasingly international world. It is one of the most widely spoken languages globally and is highly valued in the fields of tourism, business and innovation. During the course, you will explore a range of topics, including cultural and social issues in Spanish-speaking countries, and will develop much greater fluency in the language.

Entry requirements: You need a minimum Grade 7 in GCSE Spanish, though a Grade 8 or 9 is preferable. Enjoying all aspects of language learning, including speaking and writing, is essential.

Course content: The course involves studying various themes and topics, including:

- Theme one, Year 12: Aspects of Hispanic society (Modern and traditional values; Cyberspace; Equal rights.)
- Theme two, Year 12: Artistic culture in the Hispanic world (Modern day idols; Spanish regional identity; Cultural heritage.)
- Theme three, Year 13: Multiculturalism in Hispanic society (Immigration; Racism; Integration.)
- Theme four, Year 13: Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world (Today's youth, tomorrow's citizens; Monarchies and dictatorships; Popular movements.)

You will also study a literary text and a film, and you will complete an individual research project.

Exam Board: The exam board for A Level Spanish is AQA.

Assessment type: At the end of Year 13, you will take three exams:

- Listening, reading, and writing paper (50%)
- Writing paper (20%)
- Speaking exam (30%)

Relevance: An A Level in Spanish will go well with any combination of subjects, whatever university course you are considering, whether in the UK or abroad, thanks to the skills you develop on the course. Many students choose to study a language-related degree, either studying Spanish on its own or in combination with another subject. The course links particularly well to subjects like Politics and History. Having an A Level in Spanish can also make you stand out in the job market, with skills highly sought after by potential employers.

Career versatility: By studying A Level Spanish, you will open yourself up to a wide range of career opportunities, as the skills you develop are highly prized by employers across various industries, from translation and interpreting services to international business and finance, and from journalism and broadcasting to education and environmental conservation. Spanish is particularly useful in the fields of marketing, tourism and hospitality, and emerging economies in Latin America mean that Spanish is becoming increasingly important in business. Additionally, having an A Level in Spanish can give you a competitive edge in the job market, as speaking multiple languages can increase your salary potential and provide opportunities for travel or living abroad.

Academic flexibility and skills developed: Through this course, you will develop a broad range of skills that will serve you well in both academic and professional pursuits. As you become increasingly proficient in Spanish, you will find that your communication skills improve dramatically, enabling you to express yourself with confidence and nuance in a variety of contexts. Additionally, you will cultivate valuable research skills, independence, and cultural awareness, as well as critical thinking and problem-solving abilities, all of which will be highly beneficial as you progress through your academic career and beyond.



“It’s been **very interesting** analysing language and comparing it to English as well as learning about Spanish culture. I have really enjoyed feeling like I’ve developed a worthwhile skill in pursuing a language at A Level.”

Non-Exam Assessment (NEA)

Some subjects offer NEA, coursework, controlled assessment, or irregular exam times as an assessment route in addition to the more traditional route of end of year exams in May and June of Year 13.

Please consult those subjects for further information and take this into account when making your choices. Some girls might like the idea of these types of assessments, and others less so.

The table below shows major assessment points that sit outside of the traditional summer exam windows where most exams are taken.

Year	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
12		Food Science (internally assessed)	Drama and Theatre (internally assessed) Geography (externally assessed) Food Science (externally assessed)
13	English Literature 1 (internally assessed)	Art (internally assessed) Drama and Theatre (externally assessed) English Literature 2 (internally assessed) EPQ (internally assessed) Food Science (internally assessed) History (internally assessed) Music - Performance (externally assessed) PE (internally assessed) DT (internally assessed)	Art (externally assessed) Computer Science (internally assessed) Food Science (externally assessed) French/German/Spanish speaking exams (externally assessed) Practical Endorsements for Biology, Chemistry and Physics (internally assessed) Music - Composition (externally assessed) Music Technology (externally assessed)





Loughborough High School

Loughborough Schools Foundation puts pupil wellbeing and safety first. That's why we have taken the decision to avoid using close-up, full-face images of pupils on our external-facing digital outputs without explicit consent. We will continue to celebrate our brilliant pupils, while also protecting them from the growing risk of image misuse.

Loughborough High School
Burton Walks
Loughborough
Leicestershire
LE11 2DU

01509 212348
high.office@lsf.org

  @LboroHigh  Loughborough Schools Foundation

lborohigh.org