



Greyfriars Catholic School

SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS

2024-2025



Welcome to Greyfriars



Welcome to Greyfriars Sixth Form.

We pride ourselves in offering a welcoming yet academic environment to ensure that all our students become academically successful, confident and happy young people.

Starting 6th form is an exciting time for every student. Students will be joining a diverse, vibrant and highly aspirational community. We have high expectations of our students and our vision is that our school culture and community enables every student to flourish, academically and pastorally, individually and collectively.

Entering 6th form gives students an opportunity for growth and development. We know that students in 6th form are looking ahead to their next steps. They need high quality guidance and support to help them realise their potential. Independent study alongside lessons allows every student to flourish academically and develop key qualities for higher education and employment such as resilience, resourcefulness, and routine. Greyfriars' tutor, pastoral and mentoring programmes also help students navigate their way through Y12, Y13 and beyond. We expect every student to contribute to our school community. This enriches the experiences of 6th form students so that they become confident, articulate and compassionate young people.



To ensure students are well prepared for their future, Greyfriars Sixth Form offers an enriching programme of additional academic opportunities. Many students in Y12 take the Extended Project Qualification, an independent research project on any topic chosen by the student to enhance their interests or career pathway. This is worth up to 28 UCAS points and is well regarded by universities. In addition, students are introduced to academic enrichment throughout Y12 through the tutor time programme and super curricular opportunities. These have included participating in national programmes such as Women in Stem, taking part in national competitions such as the Mock Trial or attending lectures in different academic fields.

Sixth form students are also encouraged to work with the lower school on Electives, our whole school enrichment programme. This develops the leadership skills of our 6th form students as they can volunteer to support academic courses such as Latin, debating, first aid, journalism, coding etc. Sixth Form students have also had the opportunity to develop career-based skills by supporting with Primary School reading projects or working alongside teachers in classrooms.

All students in Y12 and Y13 have independent study periods on their timetable. During these periods, students are encouraged to complete homework, coursework, work on their EPQ, or engage with additional material to extend their knowledge of their subject. Independent study periods have a significant impact on academic outcomes and are an opportunity for students to build excellent habits, managing and organising their own time.

Our facilities for the Sixth Form include a common room, a quiet independent study area with full computer access, group work independent study areas and dedicated Sixth Form staff on hand to guide, support and mentor students. Greyfriars Sixth Form students are supported in their studies well.

'Teachers encourage us to push ourselves more'

Year 12 Student

'We are encouraged to do silent study which means we meet all our deadlines'

Year 13 Student

'I love our close school community where we support and empower each other'

Year 13 Student



A highly aspirational Sixth Form community

Students have consistently made good or better progress than national average over the past few years at all levels of ability. Our expectations for independent study and support given through our tutor system helps to keep students on track to achieve their academic potential.

Students move on successfully to their next stage of education, employment or training. Year 12 have an opportunity for work experience during our Careers Week in the summer, where support is given to help with applying for courses or employment. Our UCAS process for Y12 starts early, in February, so that students are fully prepared to meet the entry requirements for a wide range of courses including medicine, dentistry and engineering. We provide comprehensive Oxbridge preparation including one to one mentoring and mock interviews with experts in a range of academic fields.

As a small but growing Sixth Form, we are in the unique position of being able to tailor our curriculum offering to meet the needs of our students. This includes our Level 2 courses that allow students to retake English and/or Mathematics GCSE. We are also able to support students to take GCSEs and A Levels in their first language, be it Urdu, Spanish, Polish, Portuguese or Persian taking advantage of having English as an additional language.

Students received have over 70 offers from Russell Group universities in the past three years including two students last year who secured places to study Chemistry and Maths at Oxford University. Other offers included Economics and History at Warwick, Medicine and Physics at Manchester and UCL, Aeronautics and Astronautics at Southampton, Law at Durham and University of Bristol, Computing at Imperial, Geography at Nottingham and many more. Students have also secured places in apprenticeships in Sport, Unipart and Property.



Ms L Caldwell
Headteacher



Ms K McCabe
Head of
Sixth Form



Mr Stephen Shaw
Deputy
Head of Sixth Form



Mrs F Kiran
Pastoral Lead
for Sixth Form

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1. Choosing your subjects and courses

The decision you are about to make is an important one; our aim is that each student will be on the right programme of study according to their interests, abilities, and future plans. Regardless of whether you are intending to study at Level 2 or Level 3, you will spend a considerable amount of time in those lessons. You will be expected to spend time studying independently, and you will be much more motivated if you really enjoy the subject.

The most important criteria for choosing A levels subjects are:

1. What subjects are you likely to enjoy and be good at?
2. What subject and grade combination do you need for a particular career, job or further study you may have in mind?
3. Do you want to keep your career or Higher Education options open?

Ability and enjoyment:

Think about the subjects you are good at and like. If you enjoy what you're studying, you are likely to be more motivated. If you have ability in your chosen subjects, you can increase your chances of success.

Subject combinations:

Some universities have very specific entry requirements about subjects needed for certain degree courses. This is particularly true of STEM degrees and careers such as medicine, engineering, science, computing or psychology. You should check the Universities admission website, UCAS (www.ucas.com) for clear and detailed advice about individual course requirements.

It is important to build your course choices around your strengths and interests. Some subject combinations are complimentary and fit well together such as doing physics as well as mathematics or another science. This can help you in your studies and enable you to meet entry requirements for higher level courses in future. If you have a particular career in mind, you should discuss it with Ms McCabe, who can give you guidance or refer you to our careers adviser, Kathy Wittet.

Keeping your options open:

Some subjects are well regarded by universities because they are the most often required or preferred subjects for universities for a very wide range of degrees. If you have not yet made up your mind about what you want to study later on, choosing one or two of these subjects is likely to enhance your application. These subjects often include Mathematics, Further Mathematics, English Literature, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Geography, History, Languages. The Russell Group of Universities has a website dedicated to helping you make A Level Subject choices based upon your degree or career choice: www.informedchoices.ac.uk/degrees



2. Entry requirements and course levels

Entry Requirements for Level 3—A Level and BTEC Level 3 courses

All students applying for A Levels will be entered for a two-year course A Level course. At the end of Year 12, students take internal UCAS predictor exams to monitor and track the progress they have made.

Students applying to take Level 3 / A Level courses should have a realistic expectation of achieving at least six GCSEs at grade 4 or above, with preferably a grade 6 in the subject to be studied. Please note that a BTEC Level 2 at Merit or above counts as only one GCSE equivalent. It may not be possible to take some subjects without a level 6 at GCSE. English and Mathematics at grade 4 or above are compulsory requirements to study a Level 3 course.

Many employers require English GCSE grade 4 or above and it is difficult to find a University course that does not require this level of English. Mathematics GCSE grade 6 or above is a requirement for all sciences, architecture, finance and most business courses at University. Science GCSE grade 4 or above is an important requirement for most teaching courses and nursing. Many medical courses at university require a 6 or above in GCSE sciences.

Entry Requirements for Level 2 courses

Greyfriars Sixth Form offers a one-year bridging course for students who have not achieved their grade 4 in either English and/or mathematics GCSE. The Level 2 courses have been extended this year to include an Extended Certificate in Business Studies, Sport and Applied Science. Each qualification is worth an extra two GCSEs and students should take two of these courses. The course are assessed through coursework and exams.

If successful at Merit Level or above and with 95% attendance, students can choose to move onto Level 3 courses at Greyfriars or enrol at college. Some students choose to move onto A Levels and some find the BTEC/Vocational style preferable. The Sixth Form team will support students who choose to begin a new course elsewhere after their Level 2 course. College offers a wide variety of Level 3 Vocational subjects that are not available through our Sixth Form. However, this support of Level 2 students and high success rate of moving students onto Level 3 courses is a distinctive part of our Sixth Form at Greyfriars.



3. Academic vs Vocational Routes

A Levels and BTECs count towards entrance requirements for FE and HE courses of all types. Many courses at University accept a mix of qualifications, and BTECs are well regarded by many universities. However, it is important to note that some Russell Group Universities ask that only one qualification is a BTEC and some courses or institutions do not accept BTEC qualifications at all. You can look up the entry requirements of particular university courses on the UCAS website, www.ucas.com.

The overall framework of qualifications is summarised in the following table:

Level	Academic Qualifications	Academic/ Work related qualifications	Work based qualifications
4+	Foundation and Bachelor Degrees, BTEC Professional Diplomas, HNCs, HNDs gained at University, Colleges of FE		
	Taught here	Taught here and at college	Taught only at college
3	A Level e.g. Biology, English	BTEC Nationals e.g. Applied Science, Business Studies, PE	NVQ 3 / Apprenticeships
2	GCSE 4-9 e.g. History, French	BTEC National Level 2, BTEC Firsts e.g. Business Studies, OCR Nationals e.g. ICT	NVQ 2
1*	GCSE 1-3		BTEC Introductory, NVQ 1

*** This means that if you are likely to achieve fewer than four grade 3 GCSEs, you will need to apply for a Level 1 course at college.**



4. Brief outline of courses

Level 3 Courses

A Level/BTEC National

There are four timetabled hours per subject per week at AS and A Level. Students also have Sixth Form tutor time every morning, assemblies, as well as opportunities for community involvement, RE and extra-curricular activities.

Level 2 BTEC Firsts

Provision includes Maths and English retake/resit lessons (compulsory for those who have not achieved a 4 at GCSE). Students also have assemblies and timetabled tutor time and opportunities for community involvement and extra-curricular activities. If a student has a grade 4 or above in English as an additional language they still need to take English GCSE.

Curriculum Enrichment

All students follow a compulsory core of RE and PE. Our Sixth Form students will also have access to further enrichment courses and activities including a week of careers events and work experience. Full details will be available in September. All students encouraged to volunteer in school community projects, whether this is supporting with Electives, assisting teachers in lessons, coaching younger students in sport, listening to children read or being trained to work in the school canteen. These activities give students additional evidence of their personal development.



5. Help and advice

Ms Caldwell	Headteacher
Ms McCabe	Assistant Headteacher & Head of Sixth Form
Mr Stephen Shaw	Deputy Head of Sixth Form
Mrs Kiran	Pastoral Leader

Faculty Leaders + Subject Leaders

Mrs Longley - Williams	Subject Lead for Business & Computing
Mrs J Couzens	Subject Lead for Design Technology & Art
Mr J Derrick	Faculty Lead for English, MFL & Film
Miss J Manns	Lead for History
Miss Watkin	Lead for Geography
Mr J Secker	Faculty Leader for Mathematics
Ms M Jelfs	Faculty Leader for Religious Education (includes Sociology & Philosophy)
Mr D Turner	Faculty Leader for Science
Mr B Mehmeti	Subject Leader for Sport & PE

Important Dates

Thursday 7th December 2023	Sixth Form Open Evening
Friday 8 th December 2022	Options Form for 2024-25 becomes live
Wednesday 17th January 2024	Deadline for application and completed options for 2024-25 entry
Monday 22 nd – 26 th January 2024	Sixth Form Course & Career Interviews
Thursday 23rd August 2023	GCSE Results Day, confirmation of acceptance/amendment to offer



6. Course list

Level 2 Courses:

Business—BTEC First Extended Certificate

Applied Science – BTEC First Extended Certificate

Sport – BTEC First Extended Certificate

GCSE English resit

GCSE Maths resit

Level 3 Courses:

Applied Science—BTEC

Art and Design—A Level

Biology—A Level

Business Studies—A Level

Chemistry—A Level

Computer Science – A Level

Economics – A Level

English Literature—A Level

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Film Studies - A Level

French—A Level

Geography—A Level

History—A Level

Mathematics—A Level

Further Maths - A Level

Philosophy and Ethics—A Level

Photography – A Level

Physics—A Level

Psychology—A Level

Sociology—A Level

Sport - A Level



7. Option blocks and subject combinations*

BLOCK A	BLOCK B	BLOCK C	BLOCK D	BLOCK E	BLOCK F	BLOCK G
Business	Biology	Business	Geography	Art	English GCSE	Maths GCSE
Philosophy & Ethics	Economics	Chemistry	Physics	Maths	English Literature	Further Maths
History	Applied Science BTEC	Sociology	Film Studies	Sport		EPQ
Computer Science	Level 2 Applied Science			Level 2 Sport		Psychology
Level 2 Business						
<i>*We will only be able to offer subjects if we have sufficient student numbers enrolled onto the course. Final courses will be confirmed in August shortly after GCSE results' day.</i>						

For further information about Sixth Form at Greyfriars Catholic School or to arrange an appointment with Ms McCabe (Head of Sixth Form) please contact:

Ms K McCabe

Head of Sixth Form

Tel: 01865 749933

E-mail: k.mccabe@gfcs.uk

What will I learn?

A BTEC is a practical, work related course. You learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands. It introduces you to the employment area you have chosen and provides a good basis to go on to a more advanced work-related qualification.

In Business Studies, you will cover nine units each looking at a different aspect of business, from setting up your own business to how businesses operate online to the principles of marketing.

In Applied Science, you will study units on the application of chemical substances, health applications of life science as well as developing scientific skills.

In Sport, you will learn about fitness for sport & exercise, practical sports performance as well as lifestyle and wellbeing.

Highlights

You could take this course to prepare for A Level study after 1 year. You could go straight into an apprenticeship related to Business, science or sport as the BTEC is a recognised qualification that will help you develop basic knowledge and understanding of these sectors. Successful completion of the course leads to an equivalent of 4 GCSEs at level 4 or above.

Previous students have gone on to study A Levels at Greyfriars Sixth Form, or moved to Level 3 courses at college. Students have also very successfully moved into apprenticeships and other training courses.

ASSESSMENT

A combination of coursework and exams

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 4 GCSEs at Grade 3 or above

What will I learn?

This course is for students who are interested in a career in the Science sector.

This course has been developed to give you the skills and knowledge you will need to deal with the challenges you will face whilst working in or studying in this field.

You will develop professional and practical skills through carrying out real experiments and research, working with local employers who can provide a workplace setting or national research projects that use volunteers to gather data, as well as theoretical knowledge and understanding to underpin these skills.

This will allow you to practice lab techniques required in an industrial setting using equipment that may not be readily available in the classroom. You will be made aware of safe working practices in a lab and the strict legal requirements you must adhere to.



Highlights

This course is vocational and so always makes the science that you learn relevant to real-world tasks and problems, whether that is preparing samples for forensic analysis or learning about medical techniques. We aim to make strong links with local science-based businesses and organise trips to give students a taste of the relevance of science to business and research.

ASSESSMENT

A combination of coursework and exams

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 6 GCSEs at grade 4-9 or above, including a grade 4 in single or combined science

Art and Design

A Level

Edexcel

What will I learn?

The Art and Design A Level (Edexcel 9FA0) consists of four components completed over the A Level course. The focus will be for students to develop knowledge, understanding and skills through a combination of workshops, teacher-led activities, and personal response to set themes and activities. You will follow a broad course, and will work in a range of media including drawing, painting, mixed media, ceramics, printmaking, photography and general construction work. Good drawing skills are a basic requirement, but in addition you must be prepared and have the ability to work independently and consistently, particularly on home tasks and projects. You will need to develop your own ideas and interests in Art and Design, and to adopt a critical approach to your own and other's work.

Highlights

A Level Art and Design is a successful and popular course with our students who consistently produce stunning artwork and go on to study Art in higher education. As part of the course we support students in preparing portfolios for university and college interviews. In previous years the majority of our Year 13 students applied to study Art at Foundation Level and all were offered places at local colleges. We continue to be able to get students the highest grades possible and start courses in Fine Art in further education.



ASSESSMENT

A combination of portfolio and exam work

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 6 GCSEs at grade 4-9 including a grade 5 or above in Art.

What will I learn?

Subject content is divided into four topics for the first year of A-Level and then a further four topics for the second year A-Level students:

- 1 Biological molecules
- 2 Cells
- 3 Organisms exchange substances with their environment
- 4 Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms
- 5 Energy transfers in and between organisms
- 6 Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
- 7 Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
- 8 The control of gene expression



Highlights

We have high success in Biology leading to many of our students at A Level achieving A grades, leading to degree courses in Medicine, Biomedical Science, Psychology, Genetics, Nutrition, and Biochemistry. Many transferable skills are developed throughout the course.

ASSESSMENT

Exam

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 6 GCSEs at grade 4-9 or above, including a grade 6 in Biology and a grade 6 in Maths

What will I learn?

This qualification has been introduced to provide a broad understanding of business for further training or for moving into appropriate employment within the business sector. You will learn features of businesses and how the business environment leads to success. You will create a marketing campaign, produce your own CV and cover letter, take part in a mock interview and create a personal development plan. In year 13 you will learn about personal and business finance which includes different types of accounts, savings and investments to producing and analysing break even charts, cash flow forecasts and balance sheets. Your final coursework will include a 40-hour work experience placement and also managing an event in school.



How will I be assessed?

The qualification will involve a variety of external assessment and internally assessed coursework modules.

What can the qualification lead to?

You could take this course to complement other A Level or BTEC Level 3 courses, which could lead you onto higher education, in areas of business such as management, economics and marketing. With further training, you could go into a job related to business, which could be through a trainee management scheme with a specific company. You could go straight into a job related to business as the BTEC Level 3 is a recognised qualification that will help you develop the basic knowledge and understanding about how a business works.

Highlights

In the last two years, we have had high levels of success which placed us in the top 25% for student progress in the country, and we perform well above the national average. Students have achieved 1.5 A levels (84 UCAS points) in this course, if topped up to a National Foundation Diploma.

ASSESSMENT

Coursework and exams

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 6 GCSEs at grade 4-9 preferably including Business Studies

What will I learn?

3.1 Physical chemistry

- Atomic structure
- Amount of substance
- Bonding
- Energetics
- Kinetics
- Chemical equilibria and Le Chatelier's principle
- Oxidation, reduction and redox equations

3.2 Inorganic chemistry

- Periodicity
- Group 2 and 7

3.3 Organic chemistry

- Alkanes
- Halogen alkanes
- Alkenes
- Alcohols
- Organic analysis



Highlights

A-level chemistry is a great choice for students considering careers in the health and clinical professions, including medicine, veterinary science, nursing, dentistry and forensic science. Studying chemistry will also prepare students for industry careers, such as those within the pharmaceutical or petrochemical sectors. Additionally, the varied skills learnt through studying Chemistry are respected across most career paths. Students who have completed A Level chemistry have moved on to scientific university degrees around the UK and beyond, including medicine, chemistry, biochemistry, pharmaceutical sciences, pharmacology, and physiology.

ASSESSMENT

Exam

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 6 GCSEs at grade 4-9 or above, including a grade 6 in Chemistry and a grade 6 in Maths

What will I learn?

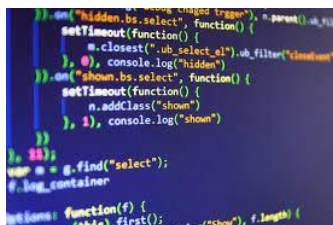
Computer Science A level teaches students the core principles of computer science. Students learn about real-world systems through the creation of an independent programming project. Computer Science teaches students technical understanding and the ability to analyse and solve problems using computational thinking concepts.

Units include:

Students learn about computer systems, algorithms and programming as well as undertaking a programming project. The project gives students the opportunity to design and create a substantial piece of software using RAD, prototyping or other techniques. Through this project, students are able to develop skills such as analysing, designing, developing, testing and evaluating a program.

Highlights

Achievement of this qualification can support progression to go on and study relevant IT degrees in a Higher Education institution such as, Computer Science, Software Developments, Software Engineering, ICT and Computer Networks or Business Information Systems.



```
$(document).ready(function() {
    // Hide on click
    $(".hidden.bs.select").on("click", function() {
        $(this).hide();
        console.log("hidden");
    });
    // Show on click
    $(".show.bs.select").on("click", function() {
        $(this).show();
        console.log("show");
    });
});
```

ASSESSMENT

Coursework and Exams

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 6 GCSEs at grade 4-9 or above, including a grade 6 in Science and Maths

What will I learn?

Over the two years of A Level study, students taking Economics A Level will critically approach and analyse economic models and develop different methods of enquiry. Students will gain good knowledge of developments in the UK economy and government policies over the past fifteen years.

Units include:

Students will be introduced to microeconomic issues and macroeconomic issues. Students will acquire competence in quantitative skills and become familiar with various types of statistical and other data which are commonly used by economists.

Highlights

Throughout the course, students will also be presented with real life scenarios and the current disagreements that exist between economists and the controversies that this has caused. Students should be encouraged to develop a critical approach to economic models and methods of enquiry. They should appreciate that value judgements play an important role in economic decision making. They should understand the methodology of economics and the role of evidence whilst recognising that economics is a social science and that people's behaviour is not necessarily rational or predictable.

ASSESSMENT

Coursework and Exams

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 6 GCSEs at grade 4-9 or above, including a grade 6 in Science and Maths

English Literature

A Level

AQA

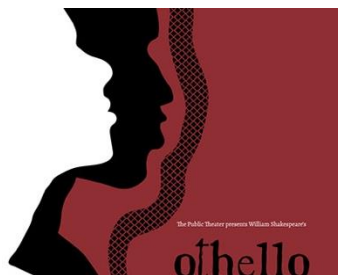
What will I learn?

If you enjoyed your GCSE English Literature course and want to develop your knowledge in this area, then this is the course for you! The aim of this course is to enable students to develop their interest in and enjoyment of literature and literary studies as they:

- Think critically about literature.
- Read widely and independently both including and beyond set texts.
- Engage creatively with a range of themes and issues relevant to contemporary readers and audiences.
- Examine texts by applying post-colonial, feminist, Marxist and neo-critical approaches.
- Studying texts in the genre of Tragedy and Crime.
- Explore the contexts of the texts they are reading and others' interpretation of them.

Highlights

A Level English Literature is a widely recognised and popular A Level choice and valuable for access to many degree courses. Many students take English degrees. Others find the skills of analytical reading, accurate and coherent writing and insightful use of knowledge developed through the course useful in careers such as Journalism, Law, Business, Teaching and Marketing.



ASSESSMENT

Exam and Coursework

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 6 GCSEs at grade 4-9 or above, including a grade 5 in English Language and English Literature

Film Studies

A Level

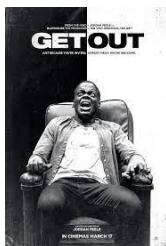
WJEC

What will I learn?

Film is one of the most powerful and influential forms of media in the world. Over the last century, it has had the ability to tell stories to a global audience that both challenge and celebrate communities and individual lives. D

During the two-year course, you will gain a deep insight into the medium of cinema through close textual study of 11 film. Students will analyse British Film, European Film, Hollywood, and documentary. In addition, students will create their own 4-5 minute short film and evaluate the choices that they have made.

Due to the analytical approach to filmmaking, as well as the creative element of Film Studies, the course is highly regarded by many universities and can lead onto a higher degree in the creative arts such as filmmaking or media, or degrees in journalism, history, sociology or English Literature.



ASSESSMENT

Two exams and a coursework task

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 6 GCSEs at grade 4-9 or above, including a grade 5 in English

Geography

A Level

AQA

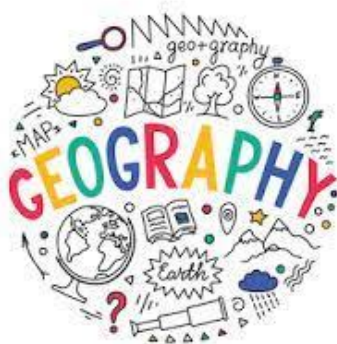
What will I learn?

The Geography A-Level challenge perceptions and stimulate students investigative and analytical skills. Students who have taken Geography at GCSE will benefit from being able to deepen their knowledge of hazards and coasts rather than discovering all topics for the first time. We have found as a Geography department that this provides better results overall. Although, a GCSE in Geography is not essential, some of our best attaining pupils in the past have taken Geography from GCSE. During the course, students will study a range of interesting topics and theories. This will include: physical geography, human geography and the NEA which is an independent research project comprising of 4000 words.

Highlights

Universities see Geography as a science when studied at A-level and it provides the scope for a well-balanced choice of subjects at A-level. It is a facilitating subject that helps students understand so much about the world.

Students will also undertake the Geography fieldwork investigation which helps students expand their geographical skills and be able to research the changing places, global governance and population & the environment.



ASSESSMENT

Coursework and Exams

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 6 GCSEs at grade 4-9 or above, including a grade 5 in Geography

What will I learn?

England 1485-1558 – The Early Tudors

- England 1485-1547 – Exploring the government of Henry VII, the foreign policy of Henry VII, Wolsey and Henry VIII and the reign of Henry VIII after 1529.
- Mid-Tudor Crises 1547-1558 – Examining issues concerning the stability of the monarchy, religious changes and rebellion and unrest.

The Cold War in Asia, 1945 to 1993

- Exploring Western policies in post-war Asia 1945-1979 and Indochina 1945-1967.
- Examining the Korean war 1950-1953 and its impact to 1977 and Wars in Vietnam and Cambodia 1968-1993.

Civil Rights in the USA 1865–1992

- African Americans, Trade Union and Labour Rights, Native American Indians, Women.
- Civil Rights in the Gilded Age c. 1875-1895, The New Deal and Civil Rights, Malcolm X and Black Power.

Topic Based Essay (Independent with assigned mentor)

- Choose from topics including the Russian Civil War, Mussolini, Vietnam War, and the Cambodian Genocide, Women's Suffrage in Britain, the Holocaust, and Hitler's responsibility for WW2.

Highlights

You could take this course to complement other A Level Humanities subjects such as English, Sociology, Philosophy or Geography. Many students of History go on to study subjects such as English, American Studies, Politics, Archaeology or more general courses.

ASSESSMENT

Coursework and Exams

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 6 GCSEs at grade 4-9 or above, including a grade in History and English

What will I learn?

Students will study the content of the new A-Level Edexcel Maths syllabus which consists of the study of Pure Mathematics and the study of the application of mathematics in Mechanics and Statistics. During this two-year course, you will be able to sharpen your skills in mathematics and take your powers of logic, analysis and problem-solving to the next level.

You will study 66% Pure Mathematics, 17% Mechanics and 17% Statistics.

What is Pure Maths?

Methods and techniques which underpin the study of all other areas of mathematics, such as, proof, algebra, trigonometry, calculus, and vectors

What is Statistics?

Reaching conclusions from data and calculating the likelihood of an event occurring.

What is Mechanics?

The modelling of the world around us, the motion of objects and the forces acting on them.

Year 12 (Pure content for Paper 1): Proof, algebra and functions, coordinate geometry in the (x,y) plane, sequences and series, trigonometry, exponentials and logarithms, differentiation, integration and vectors.

Year 12 Applied Content for Paper 2:

Section A- Statistics: Statistical sampling, data presentation and interpretation, probability, statistical distributions and statistical hypothesis testing.

Section B- Mechanics: Quantities and units in mechanics, Kinematics, forces and Newton's laws.

Highlights

The subject compliments all Sciences as well as Geography, Psychology, Economics and Business Studies well. A level Mathematics is also essential or desirable for a wide range of degree courses including economics, computing, social sciences, Business and Medicine.

ASSESSMENT

Exams

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

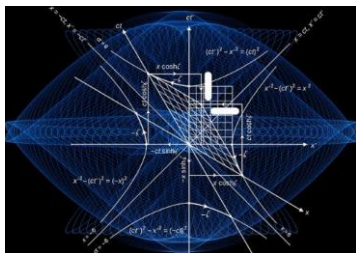
A minimum of 6 GCSEs at grade 4-9 or above, including a grade 7 in Maths

A Level

Edexcel

Further Mathematics is an AS/A level qualification taken in addition to an AS/A level in Mathematics.

It is designed to stretch and challenge students and prepare them for university courses in mathematics and related quantitative and scientific subjects.



Further Maths is a very demanding course, and requires a strong GCSE profile, particularly in Maths and Science subjects. It is a course for those with a strong interest in pursuing Maths, Physics, Engineering or Economics beyond sixth form. A Level Further Maths can only be studied by students who are also studying A Level Maths.

Paper 1: Core Pure Mathematics 1 ((Year 12)

Paper 2: Core Pure Mathematics 2 (Year 13)

Further Mathematics Optional Papers: (Further Stats Year 12) (Further Mechanics Year 13)

Highlights

The subject compliments all Sciences as well as Geography, Psychology, Economics and Business Studies well. A level Further Mathematics is also essential or desirable for a wide range of degree courses including doing Maths at university and economics, computing, social sciences, Business.

ASSESSMENT

Exams

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 6 GCSEs at grade 4-9 or above, including a grade 7 in Maths

A Level

OCR
OCR

Photography can be studied as part of an Art and Design specialism. Students will complete a series of workshop based projects to build their skills in Year 1. In Year 2, students will complete two projects that will contribute towards the final grade. These projects involve researching photographic work, responding to the work of other photographers, visually observe and record , experiment and develop personal ideas and well as reflect on your progress.

Areas of study include portraiture, landscape, commercial, still-life, fashion, documentary, editorial and experimental imagery.

The techniques and photographic skills students will learn include traditional darkroom processing, printing and developing films, digital technology, the use of camera equipment and lenses, lighting and exposure, moving image and animation and alternative art based printing techniques such as screen printing.



ASSESSMENT

Controlled Assessment

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 6 GCSEs at grade 4-9 or above, ideally including a grade 6 in Art

Philosophy and Ethics

A Level

OCR

What will I learn?

Component 1: Philosophy of Religion: you will study philosophical issues and questions raised by religion and belief. These include arguments regarding the existence or non- existence of God, the nature and influence of religious experience and the problems of evil and suffering.

Component 2: Religious Ethics: you will study ethical language and thought through significant concepts and the works of key thinkers, illustrated by issues in religion and ethics, and also by the application of ethical theory to issues of importance. You will study ethical theories and the application of these, as well as key ethical concepts.

Component 3: Developments in Christian thought: this will be an opportunity to systematically study the Christian tradition. This will include exploration of Christian beliefs, values and teachings, sources of wisdom and authority and practices that shape Christian identity. You will:

- Read widely and independently, both set texts and ones privately selected from a reading list
- Develop an evaluative, critical, enquiring and reflective approach to the study of religion
- Develop values, opinions and attitudes in light of their learning and relate it to the wider world.

Highlights

Thinking is a vocational skill and philosophy graduates are extremely marketable in a wide variety of fields such as law, journalism and public services. Your opinions will be challenged in lively classroom discussion as you are led through the maze of dilemmas.



ASSESSMENT

Exams

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 6 GCSEs at grade 4-9 or above, ideally including a grade 5 in English or RE/History

What will I learn?

In Year 12 there are five main topics:

- **Measurements and their errors**
- **Particles and radiation**
- **Waves**
- **Mechanics and energy**
- **Electricity**

Year 13 covers:

- **Further Mechanics and Thermal Physics**
- **Fields**
- **Nuclear Physics**
- **plus, an optional topic** taken from astrophysics, Medical physics or Turning points in physics



Highlights

Physics is a well-respected A Level course which will help you develop the skills, understanding and knowledge that many employers across a range of industries are looking for. Students develop scientific knowledge, problem solving skills, analytical thinking and meticulous practical skills. Some examples of other careers open to you include: architecture, economics, merchant banking, oceanography, photography, cartography, science broadcasting or journalism, computer-aided design, quantity surveying, graphic art and technical jobs in media.

ASSESSMENT

Exams

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 6 GCSEs at grade 4-9 or above, including a grade 6 in Maths and Physics

Psychology

A Level

AQA

What will you learn?

If you have ever wondered why people do the things they do or how we influence each other, then psychology is the subject for you. Psychology is not only interesting but also fun and applicable to everyday life. You will learn about:

- Social influence: conformity, obedience and the role of social influence in social change
- Memory: models of memory, explanation of forgetting, improving the accuracy or eyewitness testimony
- Attachment: explanation, types of attachment in babies and its impact on adult relationships
- Psychopathology: definitions of abnormality, OCD, depression, phobia
- Approaches in Psychology: a range of approaches taken in current research to explain behaviour
- Biopsychology: Endocrine and nervous system, stress response
- Research methods
- Issues and debates in Psychology
- Relationships
- Addiction
- Stress

Highlights

This course prepares you for higher education in Psychology or for a more general **science or humanities** degree. Career paths you could follow include a job related to psychology, such as a Psychologist, Researcher, Counsellor or Nurse. You could specialise in an area of Psychology such as forensics, education or mental health. Psychology also complements many other areas such as business and sport.

ASSESSMENT

Exams

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 6 GCSEs at grade 4-9 or above, including a grade 5 in Science and Maths

What will I learn?

The aim of the Sociology A Level is to encourage you to:

- Acquire knowledge and a critical understanding of contemporary social processes and social changes
- Appreciate the significance of theoretical and conceptual issues in sociological debate
- Understand and evaluate sociological methodology and a range of research methods through active involvement in the research process
- Develop skills that enable you to focus on your personal identity roles and responsibilities within society
- Develop a lifelong interest in social issues
- Focus on the topic of family
- Explain social inequalities



Highlights

Sociology is the study of human social life, groups and societies. It is a dazzling and compelling enterprise, having as its subject matter our own behaviour as social beings. Many students go on to study Sociology, or related subjects, at university including those achieving places at Nottingham and Southampton.

ASSESSMENT

Exams

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 6 GCSEs at grade 4-9 or above, including a grade 5 in English

What will I learn?

There are three mandatory units and one optional unit.

The mandatory units are:

- Anatomy and Physiology (*assessed externally in the form of an exam*),
- Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport & Well Being (*a task set and assessed by the exam board*).
- Professional Development in the Sports Industry (*written assignment marked internally*).



Then we must study one optional unit. This being Practical Sports Performance (*practical work and written assignments marked internally*).

Highlights

Sport and PE offers access to university, relevant work related to sport, the fitness Industry, Education and management positions.

Students further develop their skills through specialist pathways that help them deliver sport and physical activity to a wide range of participants. Due to the results gained from Sports in previous years, pupils were able to apply, and be selected for, two of the top Russell Groups Universities. Destinations for learners range from Physiotherapy, Business, Sports Science and Psychology Degrees.

ASSESSMENT

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Coursework and Exams

A minimum of 6 GCSEs at grade 4-9 or above, including a grade 4 in Science. You should also have a Merit or Distinction if you studied Sport in Y10 & 11

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

UCAS Points

AQA

In Year 12 and 13 pupils have the opportunity to take part in a two-year Edexcel Extended Project course as part of the Sixth form RE curriculum. Pupils write a 6000-word essay on an **ethical or religious** topic of their choice.

Previous projects have included:

- *Does racism still exist in the U.K?*
- *Is it right to create a life in order to save one?*
- *What is the role of marriage in the 21st Century?*
- *Is it ethical for animals to be tested on for human benefits?*
- *Is the Just War theory still relevant in modern warfare?*
- *Is abortion acceptable in a modern-day society?*

The purpose of an extended project is to extend the students' knowledge and skills in ways that are new and challenging. In particular, the three areas of the qualification are: deepening understanding, broadening skills and widening perspectives. Much of the course will make cross-curricular links and projects can be personalised to suit a pupil's individual strengths. This is a course Universities will ask for in their offers and it often gives students a depth of knowledge and confidence in university interviews.

The marking structure and grading of the course is as follows:

Grade	UCAS Points
A*	28
A	24
B	20
C	16
D	12
E	8



Students should also be prepared to complete a further two hours of independent study to successfully complete the EPQ.



10. Catholic Life in Sixth Form

What makes Greyfriars distinctive?

Every interaction should show the Catholic Life of Greyfriars and this included 6th Form. At the centre of this faith is our knowledge that the dignity of the person is sacred and our moral obligation to participate in our community. Our Catholic faith is in everything that we do but is also inclusive of all faiths and none. Our school is a diverse community with families of all faiths and none. We love this. We see our Catholic faith as being part of everything but also including everything and everyone.



Catholic Social Teaching

Catholic social teaching teaches us that the dignity of the person is sacred, that we should work in solidarity for our community, especially for the most vulnerable, and for the common good. We believe that everyone can see that these are good principles to live by and for regardless of faith. Our schools Feast Day is in October and we celebrate with a whole school led by our Priest Chaplin, Brother Martin. There are also opportunities for lunchtime prayer in the chapel. We want our 6th Formers to lead the community and see themselves as leading 'Greyfriars', using the model of St Francis as a guide.

The Chapel

Sixth Formers are welcome to use the chapel. It is a beautiful place to pray and celebrate. All are welcome to a time of music, prayer and silence at the start of the day.

Pastoral

Appointments can be made with any of the chaplaincy office depending on your needs; please pop in to our office in the RE corridor. We have Br Martin who can be available for support and advice as needed – cups of tea are always on offer!

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