



Prospectus for Sixth Form Entry 2024

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Saint Cecilia's
Church of England School

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“I am excited that you are considering joining us on this journey, and look forward to an opportunity to meet you.”

An Introduction to Saint Cecilia's Sixth Form

Welcome from Renata Joseph, Headteacher

A warm welcome to you, from me and the Saint Cecilia's family. I hope our Sixth Form prospectus will answer some of the questions you have, and give you an insight into a very special part of our school.

The Sixth Form is an integral part of our school family. Visible to the entire school community, it is a place where young people aspire to be, and once here, feel proud to be part of.

As a school, we exist to live out our mission statement in the Sixth Form, as much as we do in any other part of the school. By 'Glorifying God through outstanding, enjoyable education', we challenge students to take advantage of every opportunity offered by our broad curriculum offer and superb teaching by subject specialists; all delivered in a supportive Christian context.

Alongside our academic rigour and strength, we are socially inclusive, seeking the very best for all young people. Regardless of background or ability, everyone is invited to achieve, thrive and flourish in our Sixth Form.

The Sixth Form is very much a part of our journey as a 'Great' school. Whether you are a prospective student or a parent/carer, I am excited that you are considering joining us on this journey, and look forward to an opportunity to meet you.

Renata Joseph
Headteacher

'The Sixth Form is a strength of the school and has a track record of success in recent years. Typically, students' progress is above average.

This is very much down to leaders' single-minded focus on making sure that students are well prepared for the academic rigour of post-16 study.'

Ofsted, February 2018

Outline from Sixth Form Team

The Sixth Form at Saint Cecilia's has a track record of enviable exam results, strong pastoral care and a wealth of opportunities. This combination means students leave our Sixth Form prepared to deal confidently with the demands and challenges they will face in the future, whether in higher education, further education or employment.

The information in this prospectus will outline what options are available in our Sixth Form, to help you decide what subjects and types of courses are best suited to meet your career paths. Please read the subject information and course requirements carefully before making your final choices. If you have any queries, current Saint Cecilia's pupils should speak to the appropriate member of staff, and external applicants should email admission@saintcecilias.london with subject specific questions.

Our goal is to ensure you achieve academic success and receive a great learning experience, alongside extra-curricular opportunities, to help you develop as an individual. If you require any further information, please email admission@saintcecilias.london.

Paul Bishop
Director of Sixth Form

Joanne Osborn
Year Leader for Years 12 and 13



“Saint Cecilia’s offers a great range of subjects. My peers have been very kind and helped me settle into a new school really quickly. The teaching here is of a high standard.”

Andrew, Year 13



Key Staff

Renata Joseph

Lucy Bush

James Owen

Sixth Form Team

Paul Bishop

Joanne Osborn

Curriculum Team Leaders

James Aldridge

Stella Allan

Omara Muñoz Asensio

Alexander Bishop

Ewa Bednarek

Liz Hogg

Anessa Lee

Lisa Morris

Richard Noibi

Joanne Osborn

John Wells

Claire Woodhouse

Headteacher

Deputy Headteacher (Teaching, Learning and Professionalism)

Deputy Headteacher (Curriculum, Assessment and Standards)

Assistant Headteacher Director of Sixth Form

Year Leader for Years 12 and 13

History and Politics

Art and Design

Modern Foreign Languages

Physical Education

Religious Studies

Science

PSHE

Business Studies and Computing

Mathematics

Geography

Music

English and Drama



Exam Results

Saint Cecilia's has a strong academic record. Our A Level and BTEC results are consistent, and we do not have spikes where pupils do well some years and not the next. In 2023, several students achieved A*/A grades across all their A Level subjects. As always, the vast majority of our students last year secured a place on the university course of their choice, an art foundation course or apprenticeship.

Average A Level results 2017-2023:

30% A*- A

57% A*- B

81% A*- C

Average BTEC results 2017-2023:

53% Distinction* - Distinction

87% Distinction* - Merit

98% Distinction* - Pass

Results for some of our Class of 2023

Samuel

A Level Grades: A* A* A A

Destination: Imperial College, London to study Mechanical Engineering

Jude

A Level Grades: A* A* A*

Destination: University of Warwick to study Mathematics

Jake

A Level Grades: A* A A A

Destination: London School of Economics and Political Science to study Law

Jack

A Level Grades: A* A A

Destination: University of York to study Social and Political Sciences

Helena

A Level Grades: A* A* A B

Destination: University of Bristol to study Geography

Charlotte

A Level Grades: A A B

Destination: Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama to study Music

Natalie

A Level Grades: A* A A A

Destination: Queen Mary University of London to study History and Politics

Adam

BTEC Grades: D* D* A Level C

Destination: University of Westminster to study Fashion Business Management

Joel

A Level Grades: A* A A B

Destination: Loughborough University to study Mathematics

Kelly

BTEC Grades: D D M

Destination: Manchester Metropolitan University to study Business and HR Management



adidas

Lantern Youth Theatre

THE SHINING
A QUOTE FROM "SHOGUN" HOBSON
"THE POLICE ARE GOING TO
KILL YOU"

Leavers' Destinations

Our former students study at some of the most prestigious universities.

University of Cambridge	Education with English and Drama	University of Liverpool	Physics
University of Cambridge	Engineering	University of Liverpool	Architecture
University of Cambridge	Land Economy	University of Liverpool	Veterinary Science
University of Cambridge	Mathematics	London School of Economics	Anthropology and Law
University of Oxford	English Literature	London School of Economics	Law
University of Oxford	Law	The University of Manchester	Mechanical Engineering
University of Bath	Robotics Engineering	The University of Manchester	Chemistry
University of Bath	Mathematics	University of Nottingham	Physiotherapy
University of Bath	Chemical Engineering	University of Nottingham	Mechanical Engineering
University of Birmingham	Medicine	Queen Mary University of London	Computer Science with Management
University of Birmingham	Electrical Engineering	Queen Mary University of London	Mathematics with Statistics
University of Bristol	Biochemistry	Queen Mary University of London	Aerospace Engineering
University of Bristol	Civil Engineering	Queen Mary University of London	Dentistry
University of Bristol	Mathematics	Royal Birmingham Conservatoire	Music
University of Bristol	Geography	Royal Holloway, University of London	Theoretical Physics
Cardiff University	Medicine	Royal Welsh College of Music	Music
Cardiff University	History	St George's, University of London	Medicine
Durham University	Natural Sciences	University of Sheffield	Medicine
University of Exeter	History	University of Sussex	Chemistry
University of Exeter	Criminology	Trinity Laban Conservatoire	Music
University of Glasgow	English Literature	University College London	Law
Imperial College London	Medicine	University College London	Biological Sciences
Imperial College London	Mechanical Engineering	University of Warwick	Biomedical Science
King's College London	Global Health and Social Medicine	University of Warwick	Mathematics
King's College London	History	University of Warwick	Computer Science
University of Leeds	International Politics and Politics	University of York	Film and Television Production



Life in Saint Cecilia's Sixth Form

Students in our Sixth Form benefit from small, focused classes with an average class size of 16. If you have not been a pupil of ours in Years 7-11, do not worry. Each year 15-20% of our students join us from other schools, choosing to come to Saint Cecilia's because of its excellent results and strong, supportive pastoral care. Unlike the lower years, our Sixth Form students are not required to wear a school uniform, neither do we insist on suits, ties and business dress. However, we expect you to dress appropriately for an educational environment.

Dedicated Sixth Form Centre

Sixth Formers enjoy a dedicated Sixth Form Centre with a computer suite for studying (with free printing) and a common room for relaxing and group work. The common room has a Costa Coffee café run by our very own barista. Sixth Form students have open use of the Library for study, and the Refectory and outside spaces for relaxation.

Sixth Formers arrive in school in time for their first lesson and are actively encouraged to use free periods for private study on site. Our Sixth Form Centre is open from 7am to 6pm each day.

Supportive Atmosphere

All our students are well supported in terms of study and wellbeing. You will be in a mentor group of around 20 students led by experienced mentors, and will meet as a group three times a week. The Sixth Form office is within the Sixth Form Centre so students can easily access the Director of Sixth Form and the team of dedicated support staff when needed.

Our specialist Sixth Form Academic Mentor leads weekly sessions on a wide range of topics to help students achieve their potential and remove barriers that may prevent this from happening. This extra layer of support will help your transition from Year 11 to 12 and from Year 12 to 13.

"I chose to stay here because of how welcoming the environment is and how the teachers genuinely want you to succeed."

Fareeha, Year 13

Sixth Formers enjoy a dedicated Sixth Form Centre with a computer suite for studying and a common room with a Costa Coffee café for relaxing and group work.



UCAS Support

Thorough and comprehensive guidance is given throughout the UCAS university application process and the vast majority of our students progress onto university.

UCAS support starts in Year 11 with sessions run for pupils and parents to introduce the UCAS application process and highlight the value of strong GCSE grades, particularly when applying for competitive courses. This support includes a day trip to University of Sussex and, later in the year, a residential trip open to all applicants (internal and external) to University of Liverpool once GCSEs have finished.

In Year 12, PSHE lessons in the Spring Term focus on university and careers. The entire cohort of Year 12 students attend the London UCAS and Careers Fair. Work on personal statements continues in the Summer Term when students are permitted up to six days off school to attend open days. We strongly encourage students to send off their UCAS forms by the October half term of Year 13 and believe this is why so many of our students receive offers before Christmas.

Medicine, Veterinary, Dentistry and Oxbridge Applications

Students applying to Oxbridge, Medicine, Veterinary Science and Dentistry receive additional support with their applications. Potential medic Year 12 and 13 students are invited to attend a Medics Application Day at Ibstock Place School.

Students take part in workshops, including UCAS application support, preparation for the medical admissions tests, mock Multiple Mini Interviews (MMI), used by most of the medical schools, and a talk on medical ethics. Sessions are supported by teachers and by doctors from St George's, University of London. This support has led to a number of students obtaining places in the fields of Veterinary Science, Medicine, Nursing and Dentistry.

We also invite our established network of Oxbridge graduates, vets, doctors and dentists to hold mock interviews in school to give our students the best chance of receiving offers.



"I have received lots of support and found the Sixth Form to have a strong sense of community. Moving here has been the best decision I ever made."

Koko, Year 13

Extra-curricular Opportunities

Roles of Responsibility

Each year, a Head Boy and Head Girl are chosen from our Sixth Form community. They work with a group of Senior Prefects in assisting the Leadership Team in various initiatives and events. This team of Sixth Form students represents the school at open events and takes the lead in programmes for the lower years, such as organising buddy mentoring, reading buddies, subject prefects and support in local primary schools.

Sixth Formers are involved in conservation projects with the National Trust, Wimbledon Common and The Paradise Cooperative. Others have been involved in charity work on behalf of the school supporting Mind, Young Minds, Muscular Dystrophy UK, Cancer Research UK and the Multiple Sclerosis Society. Annually, they raise funds for Crisis at Christmas and Bloody Good Period. Not only does this demonstrate the school's Christian ethos in action, but it gives Sixth Formers valuable experience for UCAS personal statements, CVs and job applications.

Trips, Visits and Tours

A huge range of educational opportunities outside school bolsters teaching in the classroom. In previous years, for students in Years 12 and 13, we have run a music tour to Salzburg, a Sixth Form trip to Washington DC and New York, and students took part in the NATO Parliamentary Assembly Youth Event. Subject specific trips were also organised: a Religious Studies trip to Krakow, Science field trips to various UK destinations and termly visits to the West End for our Drama students. During 2024-25, we hope to run a ski trip and a summer music tour for our concert band, choir, string group and jazz band.

Operation Wallacea

We are a proud partner to Operation Wallacea, an organisation that runs biological and conservation management research programmes in remote locations across the world. Every two years, we organise an expedition for Sixth Form students with Operation Wallacea. Last time, a group of our students spent two weeks in South Africa. During their stay, students had the opportunity to assist the research team with biodiversity surveys and data collection. As part of their training for the expedition, they achieved a PADI Open Water qualification.



“The netball coaching has been really helpful. The team has become closer, training so regularly. Our weekly fixtures have improved our standard of play.”

Lily, Year 13

Saint Cecilia’s Rugby Academy with Harlequins

We are rightly proud of our partnership with Premiership Rugby Club, Harlequins. Each year, 26 Sixth Form boys enjoy a package of weekly coaching and training from the professionals, whilst studying for A Levels or BTEC qualifications at Saint Cecilia’s. Members of the Saint Cecilia’s Rugby Academy also benefit from strength and conditioning training, discounted local gym membership, nutritional support and opportunities to attend Harlequins home matches and to meet 1st XV players.

Trials for our 2024 Rugby Academy squad will take place on Monday 16th October 2.30 - 4.30pm at The Stoop in Twickenham. Transport will be provided from Saint Cecilia’s. Contact our Admissions Manager by email at admission@saintcecilias.london if you would like to be considered for the next cohort of Academy members.

Saint Cecilia’s Netball Academy

Our netball academy is for senior girls who play netball, want to improve their game and play at the highest level. The academy offers Sixth Form girls regular coaching and support and many opportunities to help them develop. Those selected for the Netball Academy receive an exciting raft of benefits. Members enjoy specialist coaching three times a week, special branded Saint Cecilia’s academy kit, regular fixtures and tournaments of their own and less than half price membership to a local gym.

Trials for our Netball Academy take place during the Autumn Term. Contact our Admissions Manager by email at admission@saintcecilias.london if you would like to be considered as an Academy member.

Duke of Edinburgh’s Award

We support Sixth Form students trying to achieve their Gold Duke of Edinburgh’s Award. The Gold Award is an excellent opportunity to practise or learn a new skill, to volunteer, to improve physical well-being, to embark on an expedition and undertake a residential trip. This will be invaluable for UCAS personal statements and university or job interviews. We are running an ‘Open Offer’ for Gold, which means we will support you to plan and run your own activities. With our Open Offer, students at Saint Cecilia’s receive weekly guidance and support for the completion of all five sections. If you have not completed Bronze or Silver, you can start Gold and bolt on additional time for one of the sections. One student was awarded the coveted Gold Award last year.

"The Harlequins programme gives me the opportunity to develop my rugby whilst I study for my A Levels."

Reece, Year 12





Curricular offer

A Level students are expected to choose four subjects when they start Year 12. There are opportunities to drop down to three subjects following our November assessment week or the January mock exams after a discussion with a member of the Sixth Form Team. BTEC students take at least three, with a maximum of four subjects. All our BTECs/CTEC are Level 3 qualifications and equivalent to A Levels.

Grade Requirements

Prospective students must achieve certain grades in order to secure a place at our Sixth Form. A successful consultation and suitable reference from your current school is also required. You will need five 9-5 grades at GCSE, including English and Maths, to take A Level courses. You will need five 9-4 grades at GCSE or equivalent including English to take the Level 3 BTECs.

Additionally, A Level courses demand certain grades at GCSE to have been achieved. Generally, you will need a minimum of Grade 6 in any GCSE in order to take that subject at A Level, but please refer to subject pages for all specific grade requirements.

Choosing between A Levels and BTECs

If your best eight GCSE grades (including English and Maths) average out as a Grade 6 or above then A Levels are most likely the best route for you. If your best eight GCSEs average out as a Grade 5, then BTECs are most likely the best route for success. It is possible to take a combination of A Levels and BTECs if we think this is the best pathway for you.

"I specifically chose to remain at Saint Cecilia's because it's a very caring and positive environment. I knew I would receive excellent academic and emotional support. Teachers here are always willing to give up their time. I feel completely confident in their subject knowledge and enjoy my lessons."

Layla, Year 13

UCAS Tariff Table for our Study Options

The UCAS Tariff is a means of allocating points to post-16 qualifications. It is based on a simple mathematical model, which uses a qualification size and grading scale to generate a total number of points. Our BTEC National Diploma in Business is equivalent to two A Levels; BTEC Music Technology is equivalent to one and a half A Levels; all other BTECs and CTEC are equivalent to one A Level. Here is the UCAS Tariff for all the Sixth Form qualifications we offer.

Tariff Points	A Level	CTEC Extended Certificate Applied Science	BTEC Extended Certificate Travel/Business	BTEC National Foundation Diploma Music Technology	BTEC National Diploma Business
112					D*D*
104					D*D
96					DD
84				D*	
80					DM
72				D	
64					MM
56	A*	D*	D*		
48	A	D	D	M	MP
40	B				
32	C	M	M		PP
24	D			P	
16	E	P	P		

Extended Project Qualification (AQA)

Why take the course?

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) equips you for university, developing a range of skills that other A Levels may not, such as critical thinking and research methods and techniques. Students are given the chance to research and study a topic of their own choice, beyond the confines of the A Level syllabi, and explore areas of interest and excitement.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

You will learn essential skills such as how to manage large scale projects, how to be time efficient, how to research, how to be a critical reader and thinker, how to write and format extended essays, how to reference accurately, and how to present research findings to an audience.

Summary of exam structure

The EPQ is fully coursework based, and is submitted in the February of Year 13. Students work independently on their project, with a supervisor to guide them along the way.

Where could this qualification take you?

The EPQ provides you with the skills required for any university degree course, ensuring that you thrive as an undergraduate. Many universities use the EPQ to provide a lower entry tariff for their most competitive courses, or use it as a factor when deciding whether to make you an offer.

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

No specific GCSE requirements for the EPQ, however the ability to be self-motivated and organised is essential.

PSHE

Why take the course?

Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) is compulsory for all students in Sixth Form. Unlike other subjects that are solely academic, PSHE acts as a breather for students and a space to discuss topics including mental health, current affairs, political interests, UCAS guidance, preparation for university and RSE (relationships and sex education) to name just a few.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

Units of study in PSHE include:

Year 12:

1. Independent study skills and transitioning into the Sixth Form
2. Relationships and sex education: what does consent mean? Keeping safe
3. Religion in Britain today and girls' right to education through Malala's story
4. The politics of environment and climate change: how it impacts us today and our future
5. UCAS application preparation from which course, which college or university to how to write your personal statement
6. Mental Health: how to talk about mental health and support

Year 13:

1. Relationships and sex education: understanding adult relationships and what a healthy relationship looks and feels like
2. Driving 'school': getting to grips with the law, starting to drive and driver awareness
3. University preparation: learning to cook in the Food Tech room, budgeting and accommodation options
4. First Aid: including CPR and using a defibrillator/AED device
5. Mental Health: how to talk about mental health and support

Summary of exam structure N/A

Where could this qualification take you? N/A

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course N/A

Applied Science Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate (OCR)

Why take the course?

The course enables students to gain practical laboratory skills and theoretical scientific understanding in a workplace setting. Students develop their knowledge and skills by exploring one of three vocational pathways: environmental, human or food science. It is equivalent to one A Level.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

Unit 1: Science Fundamentals

Unit 2: Laboratory Techniques

Unit 3: Scientific Analysis and Response

In addition, a range of modules studying topics including: Human Physiology, Genetics, Control of Hazards in the Laboratory, Human Nutrition, Cell Biology, Sustainability and Renewable Energy.

Summary of exam structure

Most of the assessed work is assignment based but there is an exam which students have to pass to complete the course.

Where could this qualification take you?

Science based apprenticeships or employment.

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

Grade 6 in any Science from either Combined or Triple Science

Art and Design A Level (Pearson) or Art and Design (Textiles) A Level (Pearson)

There are two options:

Art and Design A Level provides students with an excellent grounding in drawing, lino printing, mono printing, etching, painting, photography, 3D work, screen-printing, mixed media and more.

Art and Design (Textiles) A Level provides students with the opportunity to explore hand and machine embroidery, various methods of print and surface decoration, fabric manipulation, Computer Aided Design, screen-printing, batik, weaving and more.

Why take the course?

Art and Design and Art and Design (Textiles) feature in every aspect of our daily lives from the cereal box we grab every morning, the apps we use, the buildings we pass to the trainers we walk in – they've all been through an artistic process.

To thrive in a competitive creative industry, artists and designers need to be versatile, multi-skilled and able to promote their ideas and work. Studying Art and Design not only involves technical skill but requires understanding of how to carry out research, explore ideas and take projects further. A strong art training can also develop highly valuable transferable skills, including creative ideas development, problem-solving and visual communication, as well as organisational, presentation, and team-working skills.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

During the first two terms you undertake a mini-foundation course so you can explore a variety of techniques and skills. This helps to develop skills and take risks, and enables you to start building an impressive portfolio. Year 13 students complete their portfolio based on their own choice of theme, using work from Year 12 if relevant. An 'Externally Set Assignment' constitutes a 10-week investigation which culminates in a final piece.

Summary of exam structure

60% = Personal Portfolio on a theme of your choice

40% = Externally Set Assignment on a theme provided by the exam board

Where could this qualification take you?

Successful A Level Art and Textiles students can go on to study a range of Art and Design foundation and degree courses, nationally and internationally, and train in their area of specialisation. There is such a wide range of specialist areas, including graphic design, product design, architecture, film editing, photography, digital design, designing games, apps, software and online content, film and theatre set design, special effects, fashion design, illustration – the list is vast!

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

Grade 6 in Art or Textiles to take either course

Biology A Level (OCR)

Why take the course?

The study of life itself, biology is the investigation of living systems and the theories and principles behind them. A Level Biology provides a solid grounding in analytical thinking, writing reports and clear communication – all of which are useful life skills. You will undertake lab and field experiments which underpin the theoretical study; they also hone your teamwork skills and practical abilities. It's an exciting time to be a biologist, as we are working to solve the biggest challenges currently facing humans: fighting disease, protecting the environment and feeding our growing population in a sustainable manner.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

Cells, biological molecules, exchange and transport systems, disease and the immune system, biodiversity, evolution, organ systems for excretion, homeostasis, bioenergetics, genetics, ecosystems and sustainability.

Summary of exam structure

Biological Processes exam: 2 hours 15 min 37% 100 marks

Biological Diversity exam: 2 hours 15 min 37% 100 marks

Unified Biology exam: 1 hour 30 min 26% 70 marks

Practical endorsement, based on practical work completed across the two years:

Pass or Fail

Where could this qualification take you?

Biology A Level can lead to careers in medicine, veterinary medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, physiotherapy and other health-related professions. Higher education options can include degrees in Biology, Zoology, Botany, Ecology, Biochemistry and other 'pure' science degrees.

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

From the Combined Science GCSE course: 7, 7

From the Triple Science GCSE course: 6, 6, 6

Business BTEC National Diploma (Pearson)

Why take the course?

This is a vocational course, which is suitable for those who wish to pursue a career in business or study aspects of business in higher education. It combines practical assignments and activities, with controlled assessments and exams, so is a good choice if you feel you do best with these alternative methods of assessment. It is equivalent to two A Levels.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

You will study the following units:

1. Investigating Business
2. Planning a Marketing Campaign
3. Business Finance
4. Planning an Event
5. International Business
6. Principles of Management
7. Recruitment and Selection
8. Training and Development

Summary of exam structure

Five units are assignment based, which means you will complete coursework assignments or practical tasks that will be internally assessed and moderated.

You will plan and run an actual event, plan for employment, do role play tasks and complete reports and presentations.

Two units are controlled assessments (Planning a Marketing Campaign and Principles of Management) which means written tasks are completed under exam conditions in a set time in school.

One unit is an external examination (Business Finance).

Where could this qualification take you?

The qualification carries a maximum 112 UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers for many different courses. Some students have gone on to take Business and Management, Finance or International Management degrees. Some students go straight into work to undertake apprenticeships, training courses or junior business roles.

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

You need to have achieved a Grade 4 or above in Mathematics. If you have also studied Business Studies at Level 2, you will need either a minimum of a Pass at BTEC, or a Grade 5 for GCSE Business.

Business BTEC National Extended Certificate (Pearson)

Why take the course?

This is a vocational course, which is suitable for students who wish to pursue a career in business or study aspects of business in higher education. It combines practical assignments and activities, with controlled assessments and exams, so is a good choice for students who feel they do best with these alternative methods of assessment. It is equivalent to one A Level.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

You will study the following units:

1. Investigating Business
2. Planning a Marketing Campaign
3. Business Finance
4. Recruitment and Selection

Summary of exam structure

Two of the units are assignment based, which means you will complete coursework assignments or practical tasks that will be internally assessed and moderated.

One unit is a controlled assessment (Planning a Marketing Campaign) which is a written task completed under exam conditions in a set time in school.

One unit is an external examination (Business Finance).

Where could this qualification take you?

The qualification carries a maximum of 56 UCAS points and is recognised by higher education providers for many different courses. Some students have gone on to take Business and Management, Finance or International Management degrees. Some students go straight into work to undertake apprenticeships, training courses or junior business roles.

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

You need to have achieved a Grade 4 or above in Mathematics. If you have also studied Business Studies at Level 2, you will need either a minimum of a Pass at BTEC, or a Grade 5 for GCSE Business.

Chemistry A Level (OCR)

Why take the course?

There are many reasons for you to study chemistry! You will understand how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society. This course will develop the essential knowledge and understanding of chemistry and how the units that you study relate to each other. You will develop competence and confidence in a variety of practical experiments. Through these experiments, you will develop your mathematical and problem-solving skills. You will study specific reactions in detail by carrying them out yourself, working out the calculations associated with that reaction and the chemistry behind the results. You will also get to discover the real breadth that chemistry offers - there are many subjects within the area of chemistry, and we cover many of them throughout the two-year course.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

Development of practical skills and analysis, foundations in chemistry, periodic table and energy, core organic chemistry, physical chemistry and the transition elements. We also carry out a minimum of 12 required practicals throughout the course to support the learning of the content.

Summary of exam structure

Periodic Table, elements and physical chemistry exam: 2 hours 15 min 37% 100 marks

Synthesis and analytical techniques exam: 2 hours 15 min 37% 100 marks

Unified chemistry exam: 1 hour 30 min 26% 70 marks

Practical endorsement, based on practical work completed across the two years:

Pass or Fail

Where could this qualification take you?

Chemistry has huge potential in the medical, engineering, environmental and academic sectors. Possible careers include academic research, analytical chemist, biotechnologist, chemical engineer, biochemist, forensic scientist, pharmacologist, laboratory technician, toxicologist.

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

From the Combined Science GCSE course: 7, 7

From the Triple Science GCSE course: 6, 6, 6

Computer Science A Level (OCR)

Why take the course?

A Level Computer Science helps you understand the core academic principles of computer science. Classroom learning is transferred into developing real-world systems through the creation of an independent programming project. This course will develop your technical understanding and your ability to analyse and solve problems using computational thinking.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

Component 1: Computer Systems. You will be introduced to the internal workings of the CPU, data exchange, software development, data types and legal and ethical issues.

Component 2: Algorithms and Programming. This builds on Component 1 to include computational thinking and problem-solving.

Project: You will apply the principles of computational thinking to a practical programming project. You will analyse, design, develop, test, evaluate and document a program written in a suitable programming language.

Summary of exam structure

Computer Systems exam: 2 hours 30 min 40% 140 marks

Algorithms and Programming exam: 2 hours 30 min 40% 140 marks

Programming project: 20% 70 marks

Where could this qualification take you?

There are some fantastic degrees related to computer science, including Software Engineering, Computer Games Technology and Game Development. You can also combine this subject with courses such Business and Computing or Mathematics and Computing. This A Level could also lead to employment in some of the most forward thinking and exciting industries, in roles such as app developer, cyber security, web developer or IT consultancy. Opportunities exist in almost every industry from MI5 to Google!

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

Grade 6 in Computer Science and Grade 6 in Mathematics

Drama and Theatre Studies A Level (Pearson)

Why take the course?

A Level Drama and Theatre Studies is an exciting course and offers many opportunities for you to develop as a performer, director, writer and critic. Students who succeed in this subject pursue their own interests beyond what they are taught in lessons. In addition to lessons, which often take the form of practical workshops or seminars, you will be expected to work an equal number of hours in your own time. This may involve rehearsing, seeing productions, researching topics, devising pieces, preparing presentations or writing exploration notes, production concepts and live evaluations.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

Component 1: Devising – devise an original performance text using a theatre practitioner as a stimulus.

Component 2: Text in Performance – perform an extract from a performance text.

Component 3: Written examination which covers the areas of live theatre evaluation, page to stage and interpreting a performance text.

Summary of exam structure

Component 1: Devising 40% of qualification, internally assessed. Devise an original performance text, using a theatre practitioner as a stimulus, then write about your process in the submission of a portfolio between 2,500-3,000 words.

Component 2: Text in Performance 20% of the qualification, externally assessed. You will perform an extract from one performance text and a monologue from another.

Component 3: Written exam 2 hours 30 min 40% of qualification covering live theatre evaluation, page to stage and interpreting a performance text.

Where could this qualification take you?

Many of our students choose to study Drama and drama-related subjects at a higher level. In recent years, our students received offers from top universities and drama schools such as Cambridge, Warwick, Guildhall, Bristol, Exeter, Manchester, Rose Bruford, Central and Laine Theatre Arts.

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

Grade 6 in English or Drama

English Literature A Level (Pearson)

Why take the course?

To study literature is to study the best of what has been thought and said, while building the tools to be an independent thinker, critic and writer in your own right. Literature is a hotline to the emotions and to a sensitive appreciation of the world around us. If you like to speak your mind, if you have an impulse towards creative thought and expression, and if you have a naturally inquisitive nature, you have come to the right place!

Summary of what is studied (specification)

This course is spread across the three key branches of literature: Prose, Poetry and Drama. The Pearson specification allows us to study a selection of exciting, canonical texts from the Renaissance to the present day, taking in Shakespeare, modern drama and dystopian fiction.

Summary of exam structure

Prose exam 'The Handmaid's Tale' and 'The War of the Worlds': 1 hour 15 min 20% 40 marks

Poetry exam 'Poems of the Decade' and the poetry of Christina Rossetti: 2 hours 15 min 30% 60 marks

Drama exam 'Othello' and 'A Streetcar Named Desire': 2 hours 15 min 30% 60 marks

Coursework: A 3,000 word comparison of two texts of your choice 20% 70 marks

Where could this qualification take you?

English Literature, an academic subject held in high regard by prestigious universities, is an excellent complement to a wide range of further education and career paths. It is perfectly suited to any career where communication or people skills are a key requirement, beyond the more obvious examples of law, the media and journalism. Although English Literature evidently works in tandem with the humanities, our course is also proven to be a creative supplement to more scientific option choices.

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

Grade 6 in English Language and English Literature

French A Level (AQA)

Why take the course?

French is spoken by 300 million people across the world and so this A Level will open up travel and work opportunities. French is both a working language and an official language of the United Nations, the European Union, UNESCO, NATO, the International Olympic Committee, the International Red Cross and international courts. Studying French to A Level standard gives you an advantage in the international job market. It provides you with insights into French history and culture, helps you understand other cultures and is a good base for learning other languages.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

Year 12:

1. La famille en voie de changement
2. La « cyber-société »
3. Le rôle du bénévolat
4. Une culture fière de son patrimoine
5. La musique francophone contemporaine
6. Le septième art
7. Dossier cinéma/littérature

Year 13:

1. Les aspects positifs d'une société diverse
2. Quelle vie pour les marginalisés?
3. Comment on traite les criminels
4. Les ados, le droit de vote et l'engagement politique
5. Manifestations, grèves – à qui le pouvoir?
6. La politique et l'immigration
7. Dossier cinéma/littérature

Summary of exam structure

Paper 1 Listening, reading and writing: 2 hours 30 min 50% 100 marks

Paper 2 Writing (film/literature essay): 2 hours 20% 80 marks

Paper 3 Speaking: 21-23 min 30% 60 marks

Where could this qualification take you?

Marketing, business, UN, international banks, buying (e.g. fashion/food), logistics, tourism, sales, journalism, international aid, teaching, translating, interpreting, researching and political risk analysis.

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

Grade 6 in French

Geography A Level (Pearson)

Why take the course?

Geography is a broad academic subject that will open up options for you in your future. Your A Level Geography course will cover both the physical and human environments and the complex interaction of processes that shape our world. Employers and universities see geography as a robust academic subject rich in skills, knowledge and understanding. As a subject linking the arts and the sciences, it is highly flexible in terms of what you can combine it with at A Level.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

Paper 1 - Dynamic Landscapes: This is the physical part of the course and covers Tectonic Processes and Hazards, Landscapes Systems, Processes and Change, Coastal Landscapes and Change and the Water Cycle and Water Insecurity.

Paper 2 - Dynamic Places: This is the human part of the course. It covers Globalisation, Shaping Places, Regenerating Places, Super Powers, Health, Human Rights and Intervention.

Paper 3 - Synoptic Paper: This paper contains three synoptic themes: Players, Attitudes and Actions, Futures and Uncertainties.

Independent Investigation: A core element of this section is four days of fieldwork. This is a piece of coursework that is between 3,000-4,000 words.

Summary of exam structure

Paper 1 Dynamic Landscapes: 2 hours 15 min 30% 105 marks

Paper 2 Dynamic Places: 2 hours 15 min 30% 105 marks

Paper 3 Synoptic: 2 hours 15 min 20% 70 marks

Independent Investigation: Non-examined assessment 20% 70 marks

Where could this qualification take you?

Geography is a broad subject that provides lots of opportunities for future progression. Geography is an obvious choice for careers in sustainability and green issues, urban regeneration, energy supply, retail location, managing the effects of hazards and climate change. For careers in the world of business, an understanding of global economics forms an important part of geography.

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

Grade 6 in Geography and Mathematics

Government and Politics A Level (Pearson)

Why take the course?

A Level Government and Politics is an academically demanding course ideal for those with an analytical mind. You will investigate UK politics with political ideologies in Year 12 before comparing and contrasting the UK to US government and politics in Year 13.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

Component 1 - Political Participation in the UK. You will study democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media. Core political ideas studied: conservatism, liberalism, socialism.

Component 2 - UK Government. You will study the constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches. Non-core political ideas studied: anarchism.

Component 3 - US Government and Politics. You will study the US Constitution and federalism, US Congress, US presidency, US Supreme Court and civil rights, democracy and participation, comparative theories.

Summary of exam structure

Paper 1 UK Politics: 2 hours 33.3% 84 marks

Paper 2 UK Government: 2 hours 33.3% 84 marks

Paper 3 Comparative Politics (US and UK): 2 hours 33.3% 84 marks

Where could this qualification take you?

A Level Government and Politics teaches essay writing and critical thinking skills that are essential in a wide range of areas, including journalism, law and history.

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

Grade 6 in History (if taken) or Grade 6 in English Language (if not)

History A Level (AQA)

Why take the course?

You will develop an ability to communicate effectively about challenging ideas, whilst learning vital research skills for higher education, developing analysis and evaluation skills, and supporting and arguing substantiated judgements. You will reflect on the USA and Britain's changing positions in the world, as well as the interrelationship between political policies, economic and social developments.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

Component 1K – The Making of a Superpower: USA, 1865-1975

You will study issues of change, continuity, cause and consequence throughout the period. The course is split into two parts:

Part One: from Civil War to World War, 1865-1920

Part Two: crises and the rise of World Power, 1920-1975

Component 2S - The Making of Modern Britain, 1951-2007

This course is split into two parts:

Part One: building a new Britain, 1951-1979

Part Two: Modern Britain, 1979-2007

Non-Examined Assessment

This is a personal study based on Tsarist Russia in the form of an essay covering 100 years.

Summary of exam structure

Paper 1K Historical interpretations and knowledge-based questions: 2 hours 30 min 40% 80 marks

Paper 2S Historical sources and knowledge-based questions: 2 hours 30 min 40% 80 marks

Non-Examined Assessment worth 20%

Where could this qualification take you?

A Level History allows a wide range of options for degree study, such as History, Law, English and Philosophy. It is also suited to further employment in social work, publishing, museums and art galleries.

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

Grade 6 in History (if taken) or Grade 6 in English Language (if not).

Mathematics A Level (Pearson)

Why take the course?

Mathematics is the most popular A Level course in the UK. It is a gateway into a wide range of degree courses at university, such as the Sciences, Engineering and Architecture. Previous mathematics students have gone on to study Law, Economics, Finance and Computer Science.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

Pure Mathematics: This extends GCSE knowledge of algebra, geometry and number theory. You will also learn calculus and vectors that have a wide range of applications for future careers.

Statistics: This covers numerical and graphical aspects of statistics, with an emphasis on interpreting statistical information. With data becoming more important in daily life, a good understanding of statistics is vital to understanding the world.

Mechanics: This is the mathematics of moving objects and overlaps with the physics curriculum. You will learn how to apply Newton's Laws to practical applications in the outside world.

Summary of exam structure

Pure paper 1: 2 hours 100 marks

Pure paper 2: 2 hours 100 marks

Applied paper: 2 hours 50 marks statistics, 50 marks mechanics

Where could this qualification take you?

Mathematics is required or useful for many degree subjects. Students with Mathematics A Level go on to successful careers in many different areas.

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

Grade 7 Mathematics

Further Mathematics A Level (Pearson)

Why take the course?

Further Mathematics builds on the Mathematics syllabus and goes much deeper into new areas of mathematics that are otherwise not encountered until university. If you enjoy GCSE Mathematics and would like to explore a wide range of new ideas, then you should consider taking this subject.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

Core Pure: This explores topics not covered in the Mathematics syllabus such as matrices and complex numbers, whilst going deeper into mathematical proof and calculus, including 3-D geometry.

Decision Maths: This additional module is focused on algorithmic thinking and the mathematics behind decision making. This has many practical applications in computing and logistics.

Further Pure Maths: This additional module explores areas of mathematics that are covered more deeply at university. As well as advanced calculus, you will study the coordinate geometry that arises from slicing through cones at different angles.

Summary of exam structure

Core Pure paper 1: 1 hour 30 min 75 marks

Core Pure paper 2: 1 hour 30 min 75 marks

Decision Maths: 1 hour 30 min 75 marks

Further Pure: 1 hour 30 min 75 marks

Where could this qualification take you?

If you are considering a Mathematics degree or Engineering course you may need Further Maths. Further Mathematics goes well with Physics and Computer Science.

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

Grade 8 in Mathematics

You must also take Mathematics A Level in order to take Further Mathematics

Music A Level (Eduqas)

Why take the course?

Music A Level offers the opportunity to study music in considerable depth. It will improve your knowledge of styles and genres and enable you to develop into an outstanding performer and composer. Music A Level is both a practical and academic course. You will develop your own compositional style, performing skills and your understanding of music.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

Year 12: You will improve performing and composing skills and develop a stronger understanding of music theory. You work towards completing one composition (free) by the Summer Term and several performance assessments. You will begin work on the three areas of study: A) Development of the Symphony 1750-1900 focusing on Haydn Symphony 104 in D Major; B) Into the Twentieth Century focusing on the works of Poulenc and Debussy; C) Musical Theatre focusing on the works of Rodgers, Bernstein, Lloyd-Webber, Sondheim, Schönberg and Schwartz.

Year 13: You will continue your studies from Year 12 and prepare for examination in March (Performing), April (Composing submission) and June (Appraising written examination). You choose either a performing or a composing pathway and will be advised which pathway to take based on your strengths.

Summary of exam structure

Component 1: Performing (35% or 25%) Assessed live by visiting examiner

Component 2: Composing (35% or 25%)

Component 3: Appraising Examination (40%)

Where could this qualification take you?

This course is ideal if you want to extend your knowledge and skills, broaden your interest, study Music at university or just enjoy performing or composing. Music graduates are very employable and can be found in media, marketing, creative industries, education and performing. Music fits well with any other degree choice.

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

Grade 6 in Music and Grade 5 in one instrument/voice. Grade 5 theory is desired, or if not achieved, a strong commitment to undertake extra theory work to reach a similar standard during the early part of Year 12.

Music Technology BTEC National Foundation Diploma (Pearson)

Why take the course?

This is an exciting opportunity to learn about how music is produced professionally in studios and in concert venues. You will learn about MIDI sequencing, synthesising, sampling, acoustics, sound creation, studio recording and production, composing for media and the development of music technology and the music technology industry.

We have an extensive range of resources and recording equipment. Our PCs and Macs are specially designed for music technology and contain the latest versions of all industry standard applications including Pro Tools, Logic and Cubase. We have a Pro Tools 003 Factory Control Surface Mixing Desk, a range of effects units and professional microphones, acoustic and electronic drum kits, guitar FX pedals, DI boxes and multi-track recorders. It is equivalent to one and a half A Levels.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

This course consists of seven separate units to be completed over two years. You will learn the skills to use computers for music creation, develop recording techniques in the 24 track studio, and develop a thorough understanding of the music technology industry. You will develop research skills, create music and undertake project work.

Summary of exam structure

Five units: Studio Recording Techniques, Music for Sound and Media, Creative Synthesis and Sampling, Remixing and Reworking, Mixing and Mastering Techniques, internally assessed through assignments = 66%.

Two units: Music Technology in Context and Music Technology Enterprise Opportunities, externally assessed through examined tasks = 44%.

Where could this qualification take you?

The Music Technology course is specifically designed to cater for students who wish to further their studies in Music Technology, as well as those who wish to work in the sound and music technology industry. It also enables students to progress into higher education studying, for example, Sound and Engineering, Media, Music Technology, and Music Production.

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

This course can follow on from GCSE Music or Music Technology or equivalent vocational course. If you have not studied Music or Music Technology, you will need a strong interest in music technology, be ICT proficient and prepared to spend time learning to use the equipment.

Philosophy and Ethics A Level (OCR)

Why take the course?

Students who chose Philosophy and Ethics at A Level said:

"Studying Philosophy and Ethics at A Level has been very interesting and eye opening, as it has developed my thoughts on the world around us."

"The topics explored are fascinating, particularly when diving deeply into the concepts that the world is founded on, such as 'can the existence of God be proven?' and 'what does it mean for something to be good?'"

"It is mind-blowing. You'll go home and question everything. Studying about Plato and Aristotle, the soul and mind and about human nature have enlightened my way of thinking...I am 100% sure that I have made the right choice in taking it as an A Level and I am excited to learn more!"

Summary of what is studied (specification)

1. Philosophy of Religion (Ancient Philosophical Influences, Body, Mind and Soul, Arguments for the Existence of God, Religious Language)
2. Ethics (Ethical Theories such as Natural Moral Law, Situation Ethics, Kantian Ethics and Utilitarianism, Applied Ethics: Euthanasia, Business and Sexual Ethics, Meta-Ethics)
3. Developments in Christian Thought (Human Nature, Afterlife, Moral Principles and Action, Pluralism, Gender, Secularism, Liberation Theology)

Summary of exam structure

Paper 1 Philosophy of Religion: 2 hours 33.3% 120 marks

Paper 2 Ethics: 2 hours 33.3% 120 marks

Paper 3 Developments in Christian Thought: 2 hours 33.3% 120 marks

Where could this qualification take you?

Philosophy and Ethics builds a range of skills, most importantly the skills of analysis and critical thinking. Students interested in continuing the course at university will be well prepared to study Philosophy, Ethics, Theology, Biblical Studies and Anthropology. Other related degrees that value this A Level include History, Law, Psychology, Medicine (Ethics route) and Education.

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

Grade 6 in Religious Studies or Grade 6 in English

Physical Education A Level (OCR)

Why take the course?

Studying A Level Physical Education will give you a fantastic insight into the world of sports performance. You can perform and improve your performance through the application of theory. You will learn the reasons why we do things and why some people outperform others. You will also delve into the ethical considerations behind the use of drugs and the influence that modern technology is having on sports.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

Year 12 topics include: joint movement and muscles, analysis of movement, cardiovascular system, respiratory system, diet and nutrition, ergogenic aids, training (aerobic, strength, flexibility), impact of lifestyle, injuries (acute, chronic, prevention and rehab) and biomechanical principles. You will also study skills (classification, methods of practice, transfer, memory models, information processing, group and team dynamics), goal setting, confidence and self-efficacy, leadership in sport, stress management to optimise performance, and sport in the 21st century.

Year 13 topics include: diet and nutrition, periodisation of training, fluid mechanics, projectile motion, ethics and deviance in sport, commercialisation and the media, routes to sporting excellence in the UK, modern technology in sport and its impact on participation, fair outcomes, and entertainment.

Summary of exam structure

Paper 1 Physiological factors affecting performance: 2 hours 30% 90 marks
Paper 2 Psychological factors affecting performance: 1 hour 20% 60 marks
Paper 3 Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport: 1 hour 20% 60 marks
Practical performance across one sport including oral feedback 30% 60 marks

Where could this qualification take you?

A Level Physical Education is an excellent base for a university degree in Sports Science, Sports Management, Healthcare, or Exercise and Health. It can also complement further study in Biology, Human Biology, Physics, Psychology, Nutrition, Sociology and many more.

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

Grade 6 in PE

If no GCSE PE, then Grade 5 in Combined Science/Biology.

Physics A Level (OCR)

Why take the course?

Physics is awesome! You learn about how mobile phones work, or a car, or a nuclear bomb. From atoms, to the universe, prepare to have your mind blown! If you're thinking of doing Physics or Engineering (almost any type) at university, then you will need A Level Physics. However, A Level Physics allows you to do many other subjects at university: any Science, Medicine, Maths, Computing, Dentistry, Geology, Optometry, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Psychology, Sports Science, Veterinary, and more.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

In Year 12 you will study: practical skills, units, prefixes, physical quantities, analysing data, forces and motion (Newton's Laws, momentum, energy), materials (stress, strain), electricity (circuits, components), waves (propagating waves, stationary waves, polarisation) and photons/light (quantum mechanics).

In Year 13 you will study: thermal physics, circular motion and simple harmonic motion, capacitors, gravitational, electric and magnetic fields, electromagnetism, nuclear and particle physics, astrophysics and cosmology and medical physics.

You will do a series of 'endorsed practicals' during the course, which are written up in a lab book. You will be awarded a 'pass' or 'fail' by OCR based on this lab book.

Summary of exam structure

Paper 1 Modelling Physics: 2 hours 15 min 37% 100 marks
Paper 2 Exploring Physics: 2 hours 15 min 37% 100 marks
Paper 3 Unified Physics: 1 hour 30 min 26% 70 marks
You will also be given a 'pass' or 'fail' for the 12 required practicals.

Where could this qualification take you?

The diversity of physics careers is large including: acoustic consultant, astronomer, clinical scientist, medical physicist, geophysicist, petroleum engineer, professor, meteorologist, nanotechnologist, research scientist, secondary school teacher, sound engineer. Physics graduates have skills that are in high demand in diverse sectors.

Entry Requirements at GCSE

From the Combined Science GCSE course: 7, 7

From the Triple Science GCSE course: 6, 6, 6

Psychology A Level (AQA)

Why take the course?

Psychology is a popular subject because it develops a range of valuable skills, including critical analysis, independent thinking and research. These skills are particularly relevant to young people and are transferable to further study and the workplace. The qualification offers you an engaging and stimulating introduction to the study of psychology, combined with the academic integrity and skills that higher education and employers value.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

In Year 12 the topics taught are: social influence, memory, attachment, psychopathology, approaches in psychology, biopsychology, research methods.

In Year 13 the topics taught are: issues and debates in psychology and one of the topics from each of the three sections:

Option 1: relationships, gender, cognition and development

Option 2: schizophrenia, eating behaviour, stress

Option 3: aggression, forensic psychology, addiction

Summary of exam structure

Paper 1 Introductory topics: 1 hour 30 min 33.3% 96 marks

Paper 2 Psychology in context: 2 hours 33.3% 96 marks

Paper 3 Issues and options in Psychology: 2 hours 33.3% 96 marks

Where could this qualification take you?

A Level Psychology links directly to the following career paths: clinical psychologist, counselling psychologist, educational psychologist, forensic psychologist, health psychologist, occupational psychologist, wellbeing practitioner, sports and exercise psychologist. It is also useful if you are interested in a career in counselling/advice, human resources, marketing, police or uniformed services, education, therapy/coaching.

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

Grade 6 English Language and at least two Sciences at Grade 6

Spanish A Level (AQA)

Why take the course?

Being able to speak Spanish not only enables you to communicate with the 450 million other speakers worldwide, but it will bring other academic benefits as well. Given its rich artistic and literary history, studying Spanish at A Level will enhance any further study you do in arts-based subjects such as Art History.

Spanish is easy to combine with any other subject at university. It helps you understand other cultures. It gives you an advantage in the international job market. Spanish is both a working language and an official language of the United Nations, the European Union, UNESCO, NATO, the International Olympic Committee, the International Red Cross and international courts.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

Year 12:

1. Los Valores Tradicionales
2. El ciberespacio
3. La igualdad de sexos
4. La influencia de los ídolos
5. La identidad regional en España
6. El patrimonio regional
7. Ocho Apellidos Vascos (cine)

Year 13:

1. La inmigración
2. El racismo
3. La convivencia
4. Jóvenes de hoy ciudadanos del mañana
5. Monarquías y dictaduras
6. Movimientos populares
7. El patrimonio regional
8. La Casa de Bernarda Alba (libro)
9. Individual Research Project

Summary of exam structure

Paper 1 Listening, reading and writing: 2 hours 30 min 50% 100 marks

Paper 2 Writing (film/literature essay): 2 hours 20% 80 marks

Paper 3 Speaking: 21-23 min 30% 60 marks

Where could this qualification take you?

Marketing, business, UN, international banks, buying (e.g. fashion/food), logistics, tourism, sales, journalism, international aid, teaching, translating, interpreting, researching, political risk analysis.

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

Grade 6 in Spanish

Travel and Tourism BTEC National Extended Certificate (Pearson)

Why take the course?

Travel and Tourism BTEC has been developed by the travel and tourism industry sector to provide you with:

1. Education and training as a future travel industry employee.
2. The opportunity to enter employment in the travel sector or to progress to vocational qualifications or university degrees.
3. The opportunity to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal skills and attributes essential for successful performance in your working life.

It is equivalent to one A Level.

Summary of what is studied (specification)

Four units are studied over the two-year course:

1. The World of Travel and Tourism
2. Global Destinations
3. Principles in Marketing in Travel and Tourism
4. Visitor Attractions

Summary of exam structure

The World of Travel and Tourism exam: 1 hour 30 min 75 marks

Global Destinations External Assessment Supervised coursework: 3 hours 60 marks

Principles of Marketing Internal Assessment

Visitor Attractions Internal Assessment

Where could this qualification take you?

This BTEC can open opportunities for higher education, apprenticeships in the travel industry or employment in the travel industry.

Entry requirements at GCSE to join the course

Grade 4 in English



Whilst the school endeavours to run all the courses in this prospectus, should a course be significantly undersubscribed it may not be feasible for it to run. If this is the case, we will inform you in writing before the end of the Summer Term prior to you joining us.

Option Blocks

Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5
Biology	Applied Science CTEC	Computer Science	Art and Design	Business Studies Subsidiary Diploma
English Literature	Biology	Chemistry	Art and Design (Textiles)	Business Studies BTEC Diploma*
Geography	Drama	History	Business Studies BTEC Diploma*	Philosophy and Ethics
History	English Literature	Travel and Tourism BTEC	Government and Politics	Physical Education
Mathematics	Further Mathematics	Music	Mathematics	Physics
Music Technology BTEC	French	Psychology	Psychology	Spanish

NOTE:

PSHE is timetabled for all students.

GCSE English and Mathematics is available if you need to resit these subjects.

BTECs/CTEC are highlighted in blue above.

*To study the Business Studies BTEC Diploma you must select both darker blue option blocks.

If your preferred subject choices clash, please let us know. In some instances, we may be able to review these blocks subject to timetabling and staff resource.

We will discuss this with you at your consultation meeting.

Progression from Year 12 to Year 13

Progression from Year 12 to 13 is dependent upon satisfactory achievement in Year 12. There are exams in November, February and June of Year 12.

"I chose Saint Cecilia's Sixth Form as it's a great opportunity to build my business skills and I have settled in very quickly."

William, Year 12



Admissions Process

Open Sixth Form

The Governing Body of Saint Cecilia's Church of England School operates an Open Sixth Form, accepting both its own pupils and those from other secondary schools without reference to their religious commitment. External applicants should have a desire to continue their education in a church school, as well as a willingness to contribute to the school's Christian ethos.

The Sixth Form is a place of learning and a place of personal development. Students are provided with a first class experience as they develop into young adults and prepare for higher education or the world of work. With greater flexibility and greater responsibility, students are expected to act as positive role models for younger pupils in the school so that they, in turn, aspire to become a part of the Sixth Form.

Year 11 pupils who wish to apply for one of the Year 12 places available each year will need to fulfil the General Conditions of Entry together with the Minimum Academic Requirements shown below. Applications from external candidates are welcomed and encouraged. We admit a minimum of 10 students from other secondary schools each year, but often many more.

General Conditions of Entry

Places will be offered providing the following General Conditions are met:

- Saint Cecilia's Church of England School Sixth Form is able to provide a suitable course.
- The applicant meets the Minimum Academic Requirements.

Minimum Academic Requirements

The school has published specific criteria in relation to minimum academic entrance requirements in this Sixth Form prospectus for the range of courses available based upon GCSE qualifications or other measures of prior attainment. Please see each individual subject for details.

Our full Sixth Form admissions policy is available on our website in the Policies section.



The Application Process

Step 1: Open Event

We will host an open event on Thursday 12th October 2023 6:15-8:30pm to give all prospective students and parents/carers an overview of life in our Sixth Form. This will be a ticketed event. Prospective students and their parents/carers are encouraged to sign up to our mailing list on our Sixth Form information pages to receive a link when tickets are available to book, and to receive updates and information on Sixth Form admissions.

Step 2: Application

All prospective students (whether currently at Saint Cecilia's or not) will apply using the Admissions portal, which will go live on Friday 13th October 2023. If you wish to be sent the link by email, please sign up to our Sixth Form mailing list on our Sixth Form information page. Internal and external applicants have until Friday 24th November 2023 to submit their application via the portal. Following this, all prospective students will attend a consultation at the school.

Step 3: Consultation

All prospective students will have a consultation meeting with a member of school staff. We will hold consultations at the school on Saturdays in January 2024. We treat all prospective students equally and this consultation ensures that they are matched to the courses that will most likely lead to their future success. The consultation will be an opportunity for prospective students to discuss suitable courses and engage with the concept of post-16 education at Saint Cecilia's, to express their subject preferences and discuss the potential advantages and disadvantages of specific combinations of subjects.

Step 4: Provisional Offer Letter

Provided the applicant meets the General Conditions of Entry, a provisional offer letter will be sent with the Conditions of Entry.

Step 5: Confirmed Offer Letter after GCSE Results

Once GCSE results are known, applicants who have met the Minimum Academic Requirements and any other Conditions of Entry will have their provisional offer confirmed by the school. External applicants should visit the school on results day with evidence of their grades or email their results to admission@saintcecilias.london. Alternatively, external applicants can come with evidence of grades to our enrolment day, which is usually in the first week of September. Acceptance of the offer must be confirmed by the date specified in the offer letter, otherwise the place may be withdrawn.

“My whole family wants to come here, choosing to stay on was an easy decision, especially as I love netball.”

Melody, Year 12



Appeal Arrangements

Applicants refused a place at the school have the right to appeal against the decision to an independent admission appeal panel established under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. Appeals must be received within 20 school days of receipt of the letter refusing a place at the school.

Should an appeal be unsuccessful, the Governing Body will not consider further appeals from those applicants within the same academic year, unless there have been significant and material changes in their circumstances.

If you wish to appeal, please download an Appeal Form from the Admissions section on the school's website or contact the Admissions Manager admission@saintcecilias.london to request a form.

Admission of children outside their normal age group

Children are educated in school with others of their age group. However, in exceptional circumstances parents/carers may choose to seek places outside of their child's chronological year group. Decisions will be made on the basis of the circumstances of each case.

Parents/carers must state clearly why they feel admission to a different year group is in the child's best interest and may provide recent professional evidence to support this. Further details of how to make such a request are available from the Admissions Manager at the school.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can I come to the Sixth Form if I have not been to the school from Year 7?

Very much so. Each year 15-20% of all students in Year 12 join from other schools.

Q: Do I have to be a churchgoer?

No, you do not have to attend church, but all applicants should be comfortable with our Christian ethos.

Q: How many students do you take? What is your average class size?

We have approximately 100 students in Year 12 and the same in Year 13. Our average class size is 16.

Q: How many A Levels can I take?

We ask students to start with four A Levels until at least the November assessments. This allows for an informed opinion about which three subjects should be pursued. We encourage students to keep with four until the January mocks or beyond, but this is not compulsory.

Q: How many lessons will I have per subject?

Each subject has five hours of lessons taught by a subject specialist per week.

Q: If I don't have any lessons, do I have to stay at school?

Students can arrive in time for their first lesson and we expect students to stay on site all day. There is dedicated space for Sixth Formers to study or relax in school in the Sixth Form Centre, now with a Costa Coffee Cafe.

Q: Do you help with applying to universities or for jobs?

We offer a high level of support with writing personal statements. Virtually all of our students receive at least one offer through UCAS with many receiving the maximum of five. Students can access our careers advisor and are signposted to work experience, workshops and apprenticeship opportunities

through services such as Uptree and Unifrog.

Q: What is the school's policy on mobile phones?

You can use your mobile phone in the Sixth Form area. You can also use your mobile phone to aid learning in lessons with permission from your teacher.

Q: Does the school have a dress code?

Our dress code is deliberately relaxed. It should be appropriate for an 11-18 educational environment. Midribs need to be covered and shorts are not permitted.

Q: What if I don't get my grades? Do you offer resits?

If you achieve at least five GCSEs Grade 9-4 then we will be able to offer you a course but it may not be your first choice. Please read the grade requirements for all subjects in this prospectus. We offer GCSE English and Mathematics resits only.

Q: What study support is there to help students cope with the transition to A Levels?

Our Sixth Form Academic Mentor is here to help your transition from Year 11 to 12 and from Year 12 to 13. Our experienced team of teachers are well used to supporting students. Bridging work given after GCSEs helps prepare students. Our teachers have an open door policy at the end of the day if extra help is needed and the Director of Sixth Form and Year Leader for Years 12 and 13 have their office in the Sixth Form Centre. Help is always close at hand.

Q: What happens on Enrolment Day?

We check your results slips. If you have achieved the required grades, we can confirm your choices. If your results fall short of the grades required, we will discuss alternatives. We will also take your photo for your school ID card.



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