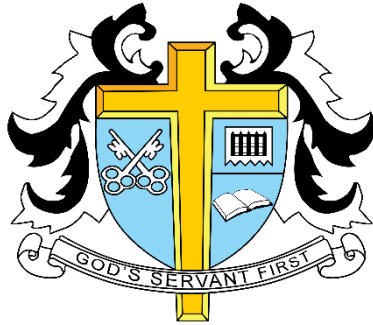


Sixth Form Courses 2022/23



[Art](#)

[Biology](#)

[Business Studies](#)

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[English Literature](#)

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Art (Fine Art)



Brief subject description	This course is based around painting and drawing with opportunities for printmaking, digital media and 3D work. The course is underpinned by art historical and contextual studies.
Entry requirements	GCSE grade 6 or higher and a genuine interest in the subject.
Assessment details	<p>Examination Board: EDEXCEL Syllabus:</p> <p>A LEVEL: FINE ART 9FA0/01/02</p> <p>Unit 1 coursework submissions and unit 2 exam submissions should include evidence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an exploration of a theme • appropriate research and recording from primary sources • selecting appropriate sources and contextual images for analysis, demonstrating, understanding, meaning and context • analysing and using sources and contexts to inform and inspire their own work • development of ideas, ongoing analysis and review • exploration of media and methods to record information and develop ideas • synthesis of ideas and outcome(s) which connect with appropriate contexts <p>The coursework is 60% and the Exam is worth 40% and compromises of a 3 month preparatory period and a 15 hour timed painting.</p>
What you will study	<p>On the A Level course, you will complete coursework which is intended to form the basis on which students develop their knowledge, skill and understanding in creating a rich visual language within the context of selected ideas. Ideas provide the starting point for art and design practice, forming an integral part of the creative process. Students should be encouraged to formulate ideas from a variety of starting points. They should learn how to carry out appropriate research into the works of artists and use this to inform the development of their ideas. Unit outcomes should reflect intentions expressed in the supporting studies. There will be a strong emphasis on developing technical skills including painting, drawing, printmaking and image manipulation using photoshop.</p> <p>In Year 13 students will be required to produce a 'Personal Study' which is a 1000-3000 word thesis based on a particular interest within the world of art and design. This is marked separately.</p>
What you can do once you have completed the course	Foundation course in art and design leading to a degree in one of many art and design courses available e.g Graphic design, Architecture, Fine art.

More details can be obtained from the school, please mark email FAO – Head of Art

Biology



Biologists are scientists who study the natural world and all the living things in it, from the largest mammals down to our very own microscopic DNA. They try to understand how animals and organisms work (including us humans), how we evolved and the things that can make us sick or improve our health. Biologists use this knowledge to do things like trying to stop the spread of disease, tracking down natural resources, improving public health, animal care and conservation and work out the true impacts of things like pollution.

Because biologists deal with the natural world, their jobs can take them anywhere, from labs to zoos to ocean liners in the arctic and fieldwork in the Amazon jungle.

Entry requirements	GCSE Double Science grade 77 or above OR Grade 7 in Biology and 6 in Chemistry (separate sciences) English and Maths grade 6 An enthusiasm for Biology A mature approach towards independent study																				
Course details	Exam Board: AQA Qualification Title: Biology A-Level Course Code: 7402																				
Course content	<p>Year 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Biological molecules• Cells• Organisms exchanging substances with their environment• Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms <p><i>Entry to Year 2 will depend on a successful Year 1 some students will be advised to sit the AS qualification rather than progressing to the full A-Level.</i></p> <p>Year 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Energy transfer in and between organisms• How organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments• Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems• The control of gene expression																				
Assessment details	<table><tr><th colspan="3">A-Level Biology</th></tr><tr><th>Paper 1</th><th>Paper 2</th><th>Paper 3</th></tr><tr><td>Topics 1-4</td><td>Topics 5-8</td><td>Topics 1-8</td></tr><tr><td>Written exam</td><td>Written exam</td><td>Written exam</td></tr><tr><td>2 hours</td><td>2 hours</td><td>2 hours</td></tr><tr><td>35% of A-Level</td><td>35% of A-Level</td><td>30% of A-Level</td></tr></table>			A-Level Biology			Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3	Topics 1-4	Topics 5-8	Topics 1-8	Written exam	Written exam	Written exam	2 hours	2 hours	2 hours	35% of A-Level	35% of A-Level	30% of A-Level
A-Level Biology																					
Paper 1	Paper 2	Paper 3																			
Topics 1-4	Topics 5-8	Topics 1-8																			
Written exam	Written exam	Written exam																			
2 hours	2 hours	2 hours																			
35% of A-Level	35% of A-Level	30% of A-Level																			

WHAT IS IT?

Business Studies looks at all the important activities which satisfy our needs. We want to spend our time doing interesting and exciting things in a safe and secure environment. We want to be challenged and we want to make our own lives and the lives of others better. The organizations' which carry out these activities are businesses. They all have the same goal - to provide goods and services which people want to buy. This will involve studying all areas of business including accounting and finance, marketing operations management, people in business and the external influences which can affect businesses.

WHICH BOARD DO WE USE?

Currently we use the AQA specification. The new specification consists of 3 exams to be completed at the end of year 13.

The exams are split into three different parts and although they all cover all material they are different ways of assessing the students' progress.

Each exam is worth 33.3% of the final grade and varies from multiple choice questions to more essay based long answer questions to ensure that all assessment criteria are met.

PREVIOUS RESULTS

Last year we were really pleased with the results attaining 100% A*-E grades, 91% A*-C and 45.5% at A*-B at A Level.

PROGRESSION

Business Studies is now one of the most popular degree level courses. It also offers those entering the job market practical skills that they can present to a wide range of employers. Business Studies involves many different skills that can be adapted to any career you choose.

WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION

To find out more information please contact Mrs Lindsay in BS1 or alternatively go onto the AQA website:

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/business-subjects/as-and-a-level/business-7131-7132>

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 in English and in Maths. If studied Business before you will need GCSE grade 6 or a Merit in BTEC Business Level 2.



BTEC Business Extended Certificate

The Level 3 Extended Certificate in Business is a specialist work-related qualification and covers the key knowledge and practical skills required in the Business vocational sector. The course offers greater flexibility for students and a choice of emphasis through some optional units. The Extended Certificate is for learners who are interested in learning about the business sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in business-related subjects. It is designed to be taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A Levels.

The styles of external assessment used for qualifications in the Business suite are: • examinations – all learners take the same assessment at the same time, normally with a written outcome • set tasks – learners take the assessment during a defined window and demonstrate understanding through completion of a vocational task.

Achievement in the qualification requires a demonstration of depth of study in each unit, assured acquisition of a range of practical skills required for employment or progression to HE, and successful development of transferable skills. Learners achieving a qualification will have achieved across mandatory units, including external and synoptic assessment.

WHICH BOARD DO WE USE?

Pearson Edexcel BTEC National Suite of qualifications

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

Units are assessed using a grading scale of Distinction (D), Merit (M), Pass (P), Near Pass (N) and Unclassified (U). The grade of Near Pass is used for externally-assessed units only. All mandatory and optional units contribute proportionately to the overall qualification grade, for example a unit of 120 GLH will contribute double that of a 60 GLH unit.

4 units of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external.

Mandatory content (83%). External assessment (58%).

PROGRESSION

Business Studies is now one of the most popular degree level courses. It also offers those on entering the job market practical skills that they can present to a wide range of employers. Business Studies involves many different skills that can be adapted to any career you choose. Many of our students have gone on to study Business related subjects at a wide range of universities or alternatively gone straight into employment.

WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

To find out more information please contact Mrs Lindsay in BS1 or alternatively go onto the Pearson website [Specification - Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Business](#)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

You will need to have a grade 5 in English and Maths (and business GCSE if you have studied it before), or alternatively a MERIT in Level 2 BTEC Technical Award in Enterprise/Business.

CHEMISTRY A-LEVEL

ST. THOMAS MORE

A-level Chemistry goes into much more detail than GCSE. It attempts to answer the big question 'what is the world made of' and it is the search for this answer that makes this subject so fascinating. From investigating how one substance can be changed drastically into another, to researching a new wonder drug to save millions of lives, the opportunities that chemistry provides are endless.

What we study in A-Level Chemistry:

A-level Chemistry lasts two years, with exams at the end of the second year.

The table below shows what you can expect to learn in each year.

	First year of A-level	Second year of A-level
Physical Chemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Atomic Structure,★ Amount of Substance,★ Bonding,★ Energetics,★ Kinetics,★ Chemical Equilibrium★ Le Chatelier's Principle	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Thermodynamics,★ Rate Equations,★ The Equilibrium Constant,★ Electrode Potentials,★ Electrochemical Cells
Inorganic Chemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Periodicity,★ Group 2 - the Alkaline Earth Metals,★ Group 7 - the halogens	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Properties of Period 3 elements and their oxides,★ Transition Metals,★ Reactions of ions in Aqueous Solution
Organic Chemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Introduction to Organic Chemistry,★ Alkanes,★ Halogenoalkanes,★ Alkenes,★ Alcohols,★ Organic analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Optical Isomerism,★ Aldehydes and Ketones,★ Carboxylic Acids and derivatives,★ Aromatic Chemistry,★ Amines,★ Polymers,★ Amino Acids,★ Proteins and DNA,★ Organic Synthesis,★ NMR spectroscopy,★ Chromatography



Practicals



Chemistry, like all sciences, is a practical subject. Throughout the course you will carry out practical activities including:

- measuring energy changes in chemical reactions
- tests for identifying different types of compound
- different methods for measuring rates of reaction
- studying electrochemical cells
- preparation of organic solids and liquids
- an advanced form of chromatography for more accurate results.

Exams

The exam board is AQA*.

The course is split into 3 units:

- ★ **Unit 1 – PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY**
- ★ **Unit 2 – INORGANIC CHEMISTRY**
- ★ **Unit 3 – ORGANIC CHEMISTRY**

These units are assessed in 3 papers that will all be sat at the end of the second year.

- **Paper 1** – Physical & Inorganic Chemistry inc. relevant practical skills (2hours, 105marks, 35% of A-Level).
- **Paper 2** – Physical & Organic Chemistry inc. relevant practical skills (2hours, 105marks, 35% of A-Level).
- **Paper 3** – Synoptic – Any content and practical skills from the A-Level course can be assessed in this paper (2hours, 90marks, 30% of A-Level).

The three exams at the end of the two years are all **2 HOURS** long.

There is no coursework on this course. However, your performance during practicals will be assessed.

At least 15% of the marks for A-level Chemistry are based on what you learned in your practicals.



Entry Requirements

To ensure you are able to meet the demands of this challenging A-Level course the entry requirements are as follows:

- GCSE Double Science at grade 7 or above OR
- GCSE Separate (Triple) Science at grade 7.
- GCSE Maths at grade 6 or above is also required.

To study A-Level Chemistry you also need to be:

- Interested in Chemistry
- Willing to work extremely hard
- A good time manager
- Organised
- Able to persevere when faced by difficult/challenging topics

Who teaches the course?

Currently A-Level Chemistry at St. Thomas More is taught by:

- MRS HARDIMAN

If you have any further questions after this evening, please do not hesitate to contact us via the school email:

office@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk

Just mark the email FAO: Mrs Hardiman



What can you do once you have finished studying A-Level Chemistry?

Possible Degree Options

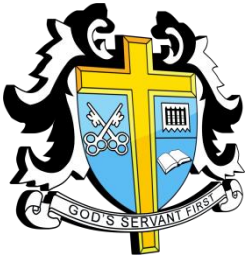
Currently, the most popular types of degree courses taken by students who have an A-level in Chemistry are:

- Chemistry
- Biology
- Medicine
- Mathematics
- Pharmacology
- Forensic Science
- Veterinary Science
- Dentistry
- Chemical Engineering
- Pharmacy
- Biochemistry
- Biomedical Sciences

Possible career options

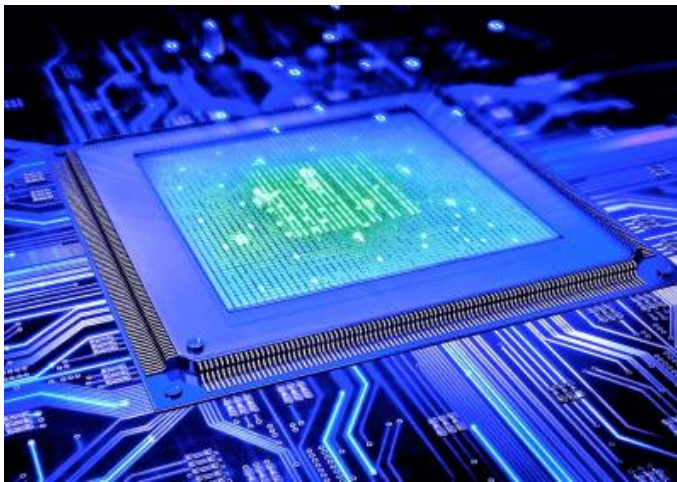
Studying an A-level Chemistry related degree at university gives you all sorts of exciting career options, including:

- Doctor
- Vet
- Dentist
- Analytical chemist
- Chemical engineer
- Clinical biochemist
- Pharmacologist
- Research scientist (physical sciences)
- Toxicologist
- Chartered certified accountant
- Environmental consultant
- Higher education lecturer
- Patent attorney
- Science writer
- Secondary school teacher!!



> A Level

> Computer Science



> Want to stand out

> from the crowd ?

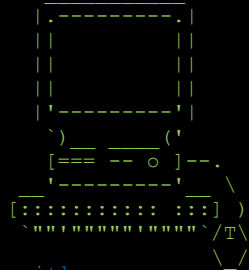
> Course Overview <

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> Paper 1                      40% of A-Level
> -----
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> 2 h 30m - Written Exam
> Computer Systems (01)
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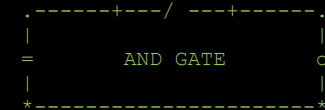
> Topics

- * The characteristics of processors
- * Software and software development
- * Exchanging data
- * Data types, data structures and algorithms
- * Legal, moral, cultural and ethical issues



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> Non-Exam Assessment      20% of A-Level
> -----
> In class report
```

> What is it?



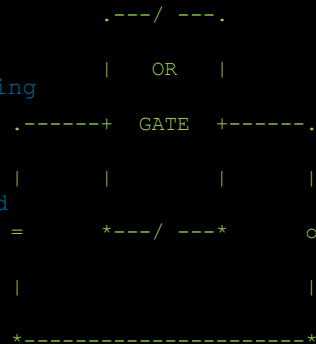
A computing practical project which involves using the knowledge and skills gained through the course, to design / Develop and test a computer program which solves a given problem.

```
Paper 2                      40% of A-Level
> -----
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```
> 2 h 30m - Written Exam
> Algorithms & Programming(02)
```

> Topics

- * Elements of computational thinking
- * Problem solving and programming
- * Algorithms to solve problems and standard algorithms



**SCAN ME FOR MORE
INFORMATION ABOUT THE
COURSE**



Useful websites to help you make a

Best Universities for Computer Science - goo.gl/2Phbr4

Careers in Computer Science - goo.gl/AibKLJ

Computer Science for fun - goo.gl/wXB5

Get coding with Python! - goo.gl/zD9zUP

Questions? schell@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk

Entry Requirements :

GCSE Subject	GCSE Grade
Computer Science	6
English Language	5
Mathematics	6

Word ladder

Convert the word ALICE into the word GENES in 13 steps or less. You must only change one letter of the word on each step. On every step you should have created an English word that is in the dictionary. ALICE in Wonderland was written by Lewis Carroll, who also invented this kind of puzzle. The binary version of the word ladder is called Gray code - a way of encoding numbers. Our bodies encode information using the 4 symbols of DNA rather than the 2 of binary. Its all in our GENES.

A L I C E

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G E N E S



More details can be obtained from Mr Marshall – jmarshall@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk



Design Technology



Why take this subject?

If you enjoy:

- thinking creatively
- problem solving
- designing products of the future
- making models
- testing your ideas

then this is the subject for you

Entry requirements

Grade 6 in Design Technology or suitable equivalent
Grade 5 in English, Maths and Science.

What you will study? (Assessment)

Component One: Principles of Design and Technology

Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes

50% of the qualification

Year 12	Year 13
Topic 1: Materials	Topic 8: Features of manufacturing industries
Topic 2: Performance characteristics of materials	Topic 9: Designing for maintenance and the cleaner environment
Topic 3: Processes and techniques	Topic 10: Current legislation
Topic 4: Digital technologies	Topic 11: Information handling, Modelling and forward planning
Topic 5: Factors influencing the development of products	Topic 12: Further processes and techniques.
Topic 6: Effects of technological developments	
Topic 7: Potential hazards and risk assessment	

Component Two: Independent Design and Make Project (Non-Examined Assessment)

Non-examined assessment

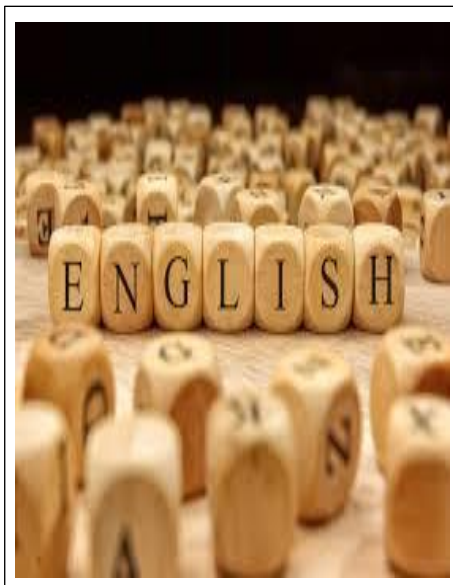
50% of the qualification

Non-Examined Assessment Section	What is it?
Part 1: Identifying and outlining possibilities for design	Identification and investigation of a design possibility, investigation of client/end user needs, wants and values, research and production of a specification.
Part 2: Designing a prototype	Design ideas, development of design idea, final design solution, review of development and final design and communication of design ideas.
Part 3: Making a final prototype	Design, manufacture and realisation of a final prototype, including tools and equipment and quality and accuracy.
Part 4: Evaluating own design and prototype	Testing and evaluation of prototype

Future Career Prospects

- Product design
- Interior design
- Architectural design
- Cabinetry
- Engineering

More details can be obtained from Mr Griffin



COURSE INFORMATION

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

A LEVEL

English Language A LEVEL (OCR exam board)

What will I study?

Students will study the rich complexity of the English language ranging from how language has changed over time to how we use language in the digital age.

Component 1: Exploring Language (40% of A Level)

In this section, students explore 'Language under the microscope' by analysing a variety of texts. This component also involves writing about a topical Language issue and comparing texts using a series of Language Frameworks such

as lexis and semantics.

Component 2: Dimensions of Linguistic Variation (40% of A Level)

This section will allow you to explore how children learn language (Child Language Acquisition) as well as looking at how texts on a similar topic or theme have changed over time. You will also analyse Media texts and consider the impact of language choices on audiences.

Component 3: Independent Language Research (20% of A level)

This component allows you to explore an area of Language study that interests you and to conduct your own investigation and research. Students also have to complete an additional academic poster highlighting the main points of their research.

How will I be assessed?

Externally assessed exams at the end of the course and internally assessed coursework module.

What previous qualifications or experience do I need?

You will need at least a Level 6 in English Language.

Who should take this course?

This course would suit you if you are the kind of person who enjoys analysing non-literary texts and engaging with a wide range of concepts and ideas. It involves a more scientific approach to the study of language than previously covered at GCSE.

What can I do after completing this course?

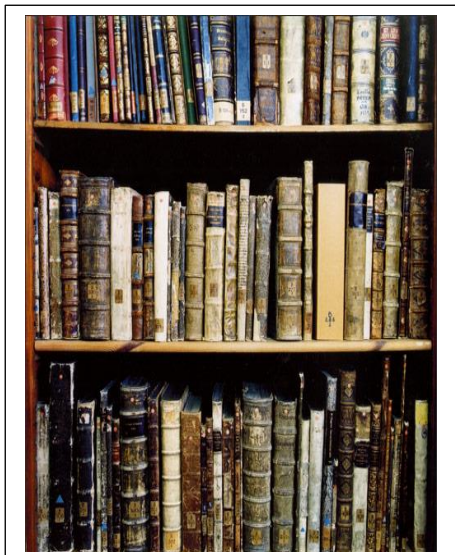
This course can provide a pathway to a related degree or career in the media and / or journalism. It links well with other academic humanities subjects.

Are there any extra costs for equipment or materials?

You may wish to purchase a course textbook during your studies.

More details can be obtained from Mrs Cotgrove

dcotgrove@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk



COURSE INFORMATION ENGLISH LITERATURE A LEVEL

English Literature A LEVEL (OCR exam board)

What will I study?

Studying English Literature allows students to develop their interest in and enjoyment of a broad range of English literature. They apply their knowledge of literary analysis and evaluation to engage critically and creatively with both set texts and others of their own choosing.

Component 1: Drama and Poetry Pre-1900 (40% of A Level)

In this section, students study a Shakespeare play and another drama text as well as pre-1900 poetry. Current Y12

are studying Hamlet, Ibsen's 'A Doll's House' and Milton's 'Paradise Lost Books 9 and 10' for this section.

Component 2: Comparative and Contextual study (40% of A level)

You will study two texts from a choice of the following areas: American Literature 1880-1940, Gothic, Dystopia, Women in Literature and The Immigrant Experience. Students will also be expected to read widely and independently around the chosen topic area.

Component 3: Literature Post-1900 (20% of A Level)

This component allows you to explore your own choice of three contemporary texts. Students write a comparative essay and also complete either a piece of re-creative writing or a close analysis of a passage.

How will I be assessed?

Externally assessed exams at the end of the course (Components 1 and 2), and internally assessed coursework module (Component 3).

What previous qualifications or experience do I need?

You will need at least a Level 6 in English Literature. A grade 5 in R.E could also be used to support your application for internal students.

Who should take this course?

This course would suit you if you are the kind of person who loves to read and enjoys analysing how writers construct their texts to convey meaning.

What can I do after completing this course?

This course can provide a pathway to a related degree or career in the media and / or journalism. It links well with other academic Humanities subjects.

Are there any extra costs for equipment or materials?

You may wish to purchase a course textbook during your studies.

More details can be obtained from Mrs Cotgrove

dcotgrove@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk

Film Studies



Film Studies A Level

Exam Board: WJEC Eduqas

Why study it?

This exciting course is designed to deepen your enjoyment, understanding and appreciation of film as an art form. As a Film student you will study a wide range of films from mainstream Hollywood to British and Global film. The course will help you develop academic skills in research, critical analysis and reflective evaluation that you can transfer to other courses and careers. The course will also provide practical experience, allowing you to create a professional portfolio of work to carry forward to university or employment.

Outline of the course

There are two examined components:

Component 1: Varieties of Film and Filmmaking

Section A: Hollywood 1930-1990 – a comparative study of one film from the classical Hollywood period (eg. *Vertigo*) and one from the 'New' Hollywood period (eg. *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest*)

Section B: American film since 2005: a study of one contemporary mainstream film (eg. *Inception*) and one contemporary Independent film (eg. *Boyhood*)

Section C: British Film Since 1995: a study of two British films (eg. *Trainspotting* and *This is England*)

Component 2: Global Filmmaking Perspectives

Section A: Global Film: a study of one European Film (eg. *Pan's Labyrinth*) and one Film from outside Europe (eg. *City of God*)

Section B: Documentary Film: study of one documentary such as *Amy*

Section C: Film Movements – Silent Cinema. Study of one film such as *Strike*

Section D: Film Movements – Experimental Film (1960-2000). Study of one film, for example *Pulp Fiction*

The coursework component is Component 3: Production

Students produce either a short film (4-5 minutes) or a screenplay for a short film (1600-1800 words) plus a digitally photographed storyboard of a key section of the screenplay.

An evaluative analysis (1600-1800 words).

Entry Requirement.

Sixth form entry requirements apply.

Career and Progression Opportunities

Students of this subject may choose to follow a course in a similar area at degree level. Typical career paths involve filmmaking, work within digital media and animation.

Contact Mrs Cotgrove (dcotgrove@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk) for more information.



Geography



A-Level Geography is ideal for those students who want to learn about the changing

physical and human environments in which we live. The course content is diverse, including both human and physical units. A series of fieldtrips will feature in Year 12, providing students with the skills and data to successfully complete their Independent Investigation. Extra-curricular trips to exciting geographical destinations are also run by the department – a trip to Iceland is currently being planned!

Course Outline (AQA)

There are two examined sections, and one piece of coursework.

Paper 1: Physical Geography (40%)

- Water and Carbon Cycle
- Coastal Systems and Landscapes
- Hazards

Paper 2: Human Geography (40%)

- Global Systems and Global Governance
- Changing Places
- Contemporary Urban Environments

Independent Investigation NEA (20%)

3000-4000 word independent assignment based on the fieldwork completed in Year 12

Teachers:

Mrs Shane and Mr Hollingsworth

Entry Requirements

- Grade 5 in GCSE Geography (if studied). If not studied, a Grade 5 in History or RE.
- Grade 5 in GCSE English Language
- Grade 5 in GCSE Maths

What can I do with an A-Level in Geography?

Geography students are the most employable out there! This is because of the diverse range of skills they develop. Studying Geography at A Level can open lots of doors into related subjects, however it also teaches lots of 'transferable skills' including data analysis, essay writing, research and evaluation which will help you succeed in many different career paths or university courses.

This subject can lead to a range of university courses both, BA and BSc, including Geography, Geology and Environmental Science, as well as a huge variety of options not directly related to Geography such as Law and Engineering.

Contact Mrs Shane (rshane@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk) for more information.



Geology

Studying Geology at A Level is ideal for anyone who is interested in developing their understanding of the structure and dynamics of the earth. It is a science that includes elements of Physical Geography, Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics and would link well with any of these subjects. The material covered is varied and includes topics ranging from volcanology to the history of the earth. Geology is a practical and fieldwork based science and as such there is a trip to the Isle of Arran, Scotland; it is compulsory for all students studying Geology in July of Year 12.

Course Outline (Eduqas):

The following topics will be covered in the 3 exams and 20 practicals undertaken during the course: structure of the earth; plate tectonics; seismology; volcanology; mineralogy; igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks; fossils; applied geology and geological mapping; ice ages; and dinosaurs.

Component 1: Geological Investigations (35%)

- Elements, minerals and rocks
- Surface and internal processes
- Earth structure and tectonics
- Rock deformation
- Past life and climates
- Earth materials and natural resources
- Geological investigation of an area using maps, hand specimens or minerals, fossils and rocks and cross-sections

Component 2: Geological Principles and Processes (30%)

- Elements, minerals and rocks
- Surface and internal processes
- Earth structure and tectonics
- Rock deformation
- Past life and climates
- Earth materials and natural resources

Component 3: Geographical Applications (35%)

- Geohazards
- Geological Map Applications
- Geology of the Lithosphere

Component 4: Practical Endorsement (PASS/FAIL)

- 20 practical's to complete over the 2 year course which assess different competencies, skills and knowledge

Teachers:

Mr Tyerman, Mr Hardiman, Mrs Vanhinsberg

Entry Requirements

- 66 in Double Science GCSE OR 6's in Separate Science GCSE
- 6 in GCSE Maths
- 6 in GCSE Geography (if taken)

What can I do with A Level Geology?

Geologists are in great demand and Geology can lead to a range of university courses, including Geology, Geography and the more specialised scientific fields of Volcanology, Oceanography and Palaeontology. Geology is a great combination if studying other Science/Maths subjects, and has links to Geography. Geology is classed as a 'science' subject, therefore is an alternative qualification that universities accept where students choose not to study the traditional sciences.

Contact Mr Tyerman (atyerman@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk) for more information.

A Level –Politics

Politics Course Information

Lessons: There will be 10 lessons a fortnight.

Prerequisite: Students are required to have at least a Level 6 in religious education or history (or other humanity if neither is studied) and a Level 5 in English GCSE.



Course description:

The course will follow the Edexcel Government and Politics A Level. The course is a comparative course looking at British politics and US politics. In Year 12 the course will explore the British aspects of the course, looking at a wide range issues from how political parties function, to the effect that the media has on voting behaviour. In Year 13 the course switches focus to the other side of the Atlantic, where the focus will be on the presidency, the Supreme Court and Congress. There will also be an opportunity to explore the classical political theories of Conservatism, Liberalism and Socialism, as well exploring the concept of Feminism. The full course breakdown can be seen below:

Component 1 (33%)	Component 2 (33%)	Component 3 (33%)
UK political participation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Democracy• Parties• Electoral systems• Voting behaviour/media Core political ideas <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Liberalism• Conservatism• Socialism	UK government <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Constitution• Parliament• Prime Minister• Relationship between branches One non-core political idea <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Feminism	US comparative <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Democracy/participation• Constitution• Presidency• Congress• Supreme Court

Assessment details:

As shown above there are three units that will be assessed, with all examinations taken at the end of Year 13. All components are equally weighted and will each involve a 2 hour examination. The exam layout is as follows:

Components 1 and 2 have:

2 x 30 mark questions + 1 x 24 mark question.

Component 3 has:

2 x 30 mark questions + 2 x 12 mark questions.

Why study Government and Politics:

There has never been a more important time to study and understand how our government and political systems work and what difference you can make in our world. This qualification will allow you to study a number of humanities at university level. This course is ideal for anyone considering a career in politics, law, international relations or the Civil Service.

For more info contact jwilkes@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk



HISTORY



A Level History @ St Thomas More: It is taught following the AQA exam board and delivered in three modules over two years; the modules are assessed in various ways including independent research essays and standard examinations; students will be required to contribute during lessons and undertake their own independent learning.

How do you do it? You will be expected to write regular research essays, requiring a great deal of reading, note making and thought. You will learn to read historical interpretations and sources of evidence and will develop the skills to interpret them. You will also learn how to construct an argument and support it with historical evidence. There are three units of assessment at the end of your A-Level course. All examinations are taken in May/June of your Yr13 course.

What will you study? **Unit 1D:** Stuart Britain and the Crisis of Monarchy, 1603-1702. This unit is a breadth study where students will have the opportunity to develop a secure understanding of the process of change over the Stuart period. The subject content is centred on six key questions:

1. How the monarchy changed? (from James I until the Act of Settlement under Queen Anne)
2. To what extent and why power was more widely shared?
3. Why and with what results were there disputes over religion?
4. How effective was opposition?
5. How important were ideas and ideology
6. How important was the role of key individuals and groups and how were they affected by developments?

The exam at the end of this unit is 2 hours and 30 minutes long and consists of a compulsory historical interpretation question, and then two essay questions from a choice of three.

Unit 2R: The Cold War, c1945-1991. This is a depth study that explores the evolving course of international relations during an era of tension between communist and capitalist powers. Moreover, the course gives students the opportunity to explore the origins of the Cold War in the wake of the Second World War, how tensions increased in the 50s and 60s, what steps were taken towards peace and how it ended in the late 80s/early 90s. The exam is two and a half hours long and is worth 80 marks. Question 1 is a compulsory source based enquiry and then students must answer two essays from a choice of three.

Historical Investigation: The Historical Investigation is 40 marks and worth 20% of the overall course. It is based on a topic of the student's choice. It should take the form of a question in the context of approximately 100 years (by which we mean between 80 and 120 years) and should not overlap or repeat spec content from either The Stuarts or the Cold War.

What are the entry requirements? Students will be expected to have scored no less than a level 5 in their GCSE history exams **or** no less than a level 6 in their English exams.

What else is available on the History course? Trips to History conferences around the UK; You are treated like the young adults that you are and are sent to conferences relevant to your modules; fantastic access to helpful staff; an ever growing History Department reference library and journal archive; UCAS application & career advice; The History Department has links to many top universities

What can you expect to get from History? A talent for clear expression, both oral and written; You'll be able to put forward ideas and arguments in a concise manner; History will allow you to develop the ability to gather, investigate and assess material; You will begin to base conclusions on research and generate ideas; History will help with organising material in a logical and coherent way; To employers who recruit history degree graduates in any discipline, these skills will be more important than the actual subject.

What can you do with history? History encourages students to investigate evidence, make judgments about the past, analyse and evaluate their ideas and construct balanced arguments. It is these transferable skills that will appeal to employers in a range of careers, including: Research, Business, Finance, Law, Journalism, and Education.



BTEC IT LEVEL 3



EXTENDED CERTIFICATE
ST. THOMAS MORE HIGH SCHOOL



ENQUIRING MIND?
INTEREST IN ICT?
EXPLORE NEW IDEAS?

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT MR. BARRETT

lbarrett@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk

FOUR UNITS

UNIT 1: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS
EXAM. EXTERNALLY ASSESSED.

UNIT 2: CREATING SYSTEMS TO MANAGE INFO
EXTERNALLY ASSESSED CASE STUDY MARKED
BY EXAM BOARD

UNIT 3: USING SOCIAL MEDIA IN BUSINESS
INTERNALLY ASSESSED UNIT

UNIT 4: WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT
INTERNALLY ASSESSED COURSEWORK

Yes, I am Interested?

The most important thing you need in order to take the BTEC Information Technology is a lively enquiring mind, and interest in ICT, a willingness to explore new ideas and an ability to communicate your ideas effectively.

What will I learn?

- gain a broad understanding of ICT and study selected areas in depth
- develop skills, knowledge and understanding
- apply learning in a practical and realistic way.



amazon



SCAN ME

CAREER PROGRESSION!

The course is designed to equip learners with the skills, knowledge and understanding required for a wide range of jobs in IT and Business.

Pupils went on to be Trainee Software Engineers, Computer Animators, Graphic Designers and Help Desk Support

WHAT IS THE COURSE WORTH?

- Each Unit is awarded in points, which are translated into overall grades! (PASS, MERIT or DISTINCTION)
- You will have 8 one hour lessons per fortnight
- an overall grade of a Distinction* (equivalent to A* at A-Level) is available for our National Extended Certificate.

PAST PUPILS: QUALIFICATION

SUPPORT ENTRY FOR

FURTHER EDUCATION IN:

- HND in Business
- BA (hons) in Computer Arts
- BSc (hons) in Fashion Buying Management
- BSc (hons) in Software Development for Animation
- BA (hons) in Accounting and Finance

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT MR.BARRETT

ibarrett@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk

AS & A level Mathematics

2022 - 2024

Course Information Sheet

Teachers: Ms Clarke and Mr Bowdery

Lessons: There will be 9 lessons a fortnight

Prerequisite: Students are required to have a grade 7 or above

Aims:

- To develop your understanding of mathematics and mathematical processes in a way that promotes confidence and fosters enjoyment
- To develop abilities to reason logically and recognise incorrect reasoning, to generalise and to construct mathematical proofs
- To extend your range of mathematical skills and techniques and use them in more difficult, unstructured problems
- To develop an understanding of coherence and progression in mathematics and of how different areas of mathematics can be connected
- To recognise how a situation may be represented mathematically and understand the relationship between 'real-world' problems and standard and other mathematical models and how these can be refined and improved
- To use mathematics as an effective means of communication
- To read and comprehend mathematical arguments and articles concerning applications of mathematics
- To acquire the skills needed to use technology such as calculators and computers effectively, recognise when such use may be inappropriate and be aware of limitations
- To develop an awareness of the relevance of mathematics to other fields of study, to the world of work and to society in general
- To take increasing responsibility for your own learning and the evaluation of your own mathematical development.

Outline syllabus:

Students will be entered for examinations using the Pearson Edexcel qualifications.

YEAR 12

Students will be given grounding in three key elements in year 12.

- Pure mathematics
- Statistics
- Mechanics.

YEAR 13

Further topics in the 3 key areas will be covered in year 13.

External Assessment:

AS Level

The A/S Level course will be assessed by an examination in both units in May/June 2024.

The Pure Mathematics unit is assessed by a 2 hour examination and is worth 62.5% of the qualification.

The statistics and mechanics unit is assessed by a 1 hour 15-minute examination and is worth 37.5% of the qualification.

The A/S is a stand-alone qualification and does not count towards the overall A level qualification regardless of the grade achieved. However, it would not be sensible to continue with the year 13 A level course after failing to gain a good grade at A/S level.

Paper 1: Pure Mathematics (*Paper code: 8MA0/01)
<p>Written examination: 2 hours</p> <p>62.5% of the qualification</p> <p>100 marks</p>
<p>Content overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic 1 – Proof • Topic 2 – Algebra and functions • Topic 3 – Coordinate geometry in the (x, y) plane • Topic 4 – Sequences and series • Topic 5 – Trigonometry • Topic 6 – Exponentials and logarithms • Topic 7 – Differentiation • Topic 8 – Integration • Topic 9 – Vectors
<p>Assessment overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students must answer all questions. • Calculators can be used in the assessment.
Paper 2: Statistics and Mechanics (*Paper code: 8MA0/02)
<p>Written examination: 1 hour 15 minutes</p> <p>37.5% of the qualification</p> <p>60 marks</p>
<p>Content overview</p> <p>Section A: Statistics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic 1 – Statistical sampling • Topic 2 – Data presentation and interpretation • Topic 3 – Probability • Topic 4 – Statistical distributions • Topic 5 – Statistical hypothesis testing <p>Section B: Mechanics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic 6 – Quantities and units in mechanics • Topic 7 – Kinematics • Topic 8 – Forces and Newton's laws
<p>Assessment overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The assessment comprises two sections: Section A – Statistics and Section B – Mechanics. • Students must answer all questions. • Calculators can be used in the assessment.

A Level

The A Level course will be assessed by an examination in both units in May/June 2024.

The Pure Mathematics unit is assessed by two 2 hour examinations and is worth 66.66% of the qualification.

The statistics and mechanics unit is assessed by a 1 hour 15-minute examination and is worth 33.33% of the qualification.

Paper 1: Pure Mathematics 1 (*Paper code: 9MA0/01)
Paper 2: Pure Mathematics 2 (*Paper code: 9MA0/02)
<p><i>Each paper is:</i></p> <p>2-hour written examination</p> <p>33.33% of the qualification</p> <p>100 marks</p>
<p>Content overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic 1 – Proof • Topic 2 – Algebra and functions • Topic 3 – Coordinate geometry in the (x, y) plane • Topic 4 – Sequences and series • Topic 5 – Trigonometry • Topic 6 – Exponentials and logarithms • Topic 7 – Differentiation • Topic 8 – Integration • Topic 9 – Numerical methods • Topic 10 – Vectors
<p>Assessment overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper 1 and Paper 2 may contain questions on any topics from the Pure Mathematics content. • Students must answer all questions. • Calculators can be used in the assessment.

Paper 3: Statistics and Mechanics (*Paper code: 9MA0/03)
<p>2-hour written examination</p> <p>33.33% of the qualification</p> <p>100 marks</p>
<p>Content overview</p> <p>Section A: Statistics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic 1 – Statistical sampling • Topic 2 – Data presentation and interpretation • Topic 3 – Probability • Topic 4 – Statistical distributions • Topic 5 – Statistical hypothesis testing <p>Section B: Mechanics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic 6 – Quantities and units in mechanics • Topic 7 – Kinematics • Topic 8 – Forces and Newton's laws • Topic 9 – Moments
<p>Assessment overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper 3 will contain questions on topics from the Statistics content in Section A and Mechanics content in Section B. • Students must answer all questions. • Calculators can be used in the assessment.

Assignments:

There will be either an 'Extended Learning' assignment or an assessment set at the end of each section of work. These are not optional and all students are expected to complete them.

Support material:

We subscribe to mymaths which has a very good A Level section. Students will also be given access to online text books and assessment materials.

Requirements to be entered for the exam:

- A minimum of 80% attendance to lessons
- At least 70% of 'Extended Learning' assignments and assessments must be passed (50% is a pass)
- The Spring term Mock exam must be passed

Core Maths – Level 3 Certificate

Brief subject description:	Core Maths helps students develop their quantitative and problem-solving skills. This is valuable preparation for the quantitative skills they will need for many degree courses.
Entry requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students are to have achieved a Grade 6 or above in GCSE Mathematics.
Assessment details:	<p>The exam board is AQA.</p> <p>Students will sit 2 papers. Paper 1, which is compulsory for all students and then one of three Paper 2s. All papers are 90 minutes.</p> <p>Paper 1 – 50% of Qualification</p> <p>One of:</p> <p>Paper 2a (Statistical Techniques) - 50% of Qualification</p> <p>Paper 2b (Critical Path and Risk Analysis) – 50% of Qualification</p> <p>Paper 2c (Graphical Techniques) – 50% of Qualification</p>
What you will study:	<p>During the course you will be studying four compulsory topics which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis of Data Maths for Personal Finance Estimation Critical Analysis of Given Data and Models <p>In addition to four optional topics from the following nine, depending on the paper 2 chosen, these topics are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.5 The normal distribution 3.6 Probabilities and estimation 3.7 Correlation and regression 3.8 Critical path and risk analysis 3.9 Expectation 3.10 Cost benefit analysis 3.11 Graphical methods 3.12 Rates of change 3.13 Exponential functions
What you can do once you have completed the course:	This qualification will help provide the quantitative skills that are essential for many degree level courses such as: Psychology, Business related course, sports & social sciences and the natural sciences.



Media Studies A LEVEL

(EDUQAS exam board)

What will I study?

Media Studies is a broad course in which you study everything from music videos to websites, magazines to games. The course is organised into 3 components, 2 are exam based and 1 is coursework.

Component 1: Investigating the Media

In this section, a whole range of media forms are considered. You will analyse media language and explore representations in the media, using relevant theories and consider representations. You will also develop knowledge and understanding of key aspects of media industries and study media audiences, considering aspects such how they are targeted and how they respond to media texts.

Component 2: Media Forms and Products in Depth

This section will allow you to explore texts in more detail with comparative analysis. The areas you will study are Television in the Global Age, Magazines: Mainstream and Alternative Media and Media in the Online Age

Component 3 Cross-Media Production

You will create an individual cross-media production using traditional and digital forms – for example a film marketing campaign. This may include a combination of print material, moving image and digital information.

How will I be assessed?

Externally assessed exams at the end of the course and internally assessed coursework module.

What previous qualifications or experience do I need?

You will need at least a Level 5 in English Language or Literature.

Who should take this course?

This course would suit you if you are the kind of person that is engaged in the media, be that binge watching TV drama on Netflix, music artists such Beyoncé or Dizzee Rascal or following social media stars. If you are interested in what the media tells us about the world we live in and how the media itself impacts upon us and our society, this is the course for you.

What can I do after completing this course?

This course can provide a pathway to a related degree or career in the media. An excellent route in Journalism, PR, Communications and the creative industries.

Are there any extra costs for equipment or materials?

You may wish to purchase a course textbook, which is available from www.illuminatepublishing.com and costs £24.50

What do students say about this course?

Media is a very interesting subject and lessons are informative and fun. It is easy to stay motivated and keep up with work. Elliot

More details can be obtained from Mrs Cotgrove (dcotgrove@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk)

More details can be obtained from any member of PE staff

BTEC LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA IN SPORT



Brief subject description	<p>The Level 3 BTEC in Sport has been designed to allow learners to select specialist units that reflect both their own aspirations and the diverse nature of the sporting sector. Students will be awarded the equivalent of two A Levels for this qualification.</p> <p>Students will study sport specific modules across a range of sporting disciplines. The course will allow students to develop their skills in a number of key sporting areas. Subject content ranging from exercise physiology to sport and exercise fitness training. Students will work through key modules that give them a good breadth of knowledge in the sport science and fitness sector.</p> <p>Students will be assessed via coursework and practical elements based on the various units they study.</p>
Entry requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCSE PE would be helpful but not vital. • A keen interest in sport/coaching or the leisure sector. • Pupils should enjoy taking part or playing sport • Students do not need to have taken the Level 2 BTEC in sport to do the course in the Sixth Form.
Assessment details	<p>Assessment on the course will take place via a range of diverse activities. Assessment methods include external assessment, role play, verbal assessment and written coursework type assignments. The evidence that each learner produces will be used to award candidates with a pass, merit or distinction grade in the various areas. At the end of the course unit grades are totalled to calculate a grade ranging from Pass to Distinction*</p>
What you will study	<p>BTEC National qualifications consist of core units (which are mandatory) and specialist units.</p> <p>Core units include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anatomy and Physiology (External Exam) • Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being (External Exam) • Professional Development in the Sports Industry (Internal) • Investigating Business in the Sport and Leisure industry (External) • Skill Acquisition (Internal) <p>In addition to the cores units, students will study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports Leadership (Internal) • Application of fitness testing (Internal) • Sport Psychology (Internal) <p>These units will be internally assessed through three assignments per unit.</p> <p>The variety of units means that students will gain a wide breadth of understanding in sports and exercise science.</p>

<p>What you can do once you have completed the course</p>	<p>The course will give students the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised vocationally specific qualification, carrying the same UCAS points as an A Level course. This course is recognised on par with the A Level PE course, especially since the new specification was released with the external units</p> <p>The course will give learners a solid and sound foundation in the sector, whilst also developing the essential skills required for employment, career progression, or progression to further qualifications and university.</p> <p>It will develop student's skills in leadership, organisation and sports analysis vital for progression in their university/career choices.</p>
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More details can be obtained by seeing Mr Kearney or emailing ejkearney@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk

BTEC LEVEL 3 EXTENDED CERTIFICATE IN SPORT



Brief subject description	<p>The Level 3 BTEC in Sport has been designed to allow learners to select specialist units that reflect both their own aspirations and the diverse nature of the sporting sector.</p> <p>Students will study sport specific modules across a range of sporting disciplines. The course will allow students to develop their skills in a number of key sporting areas. Subject content ranging from exercise physiology to sport and exercise fitness training. Students will work through key modules that give them a good breadth of knowledge in the sport science and fitness sector.</p> <p>Students will be assessed via coursework and practical elements based on the various units they study.</p>
Entry requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCSE PE would be helpful but not vital. • A keen interest in sport/coaching or the leisure sector. • Pupils should enjoy taking part or playing sport • Students do not need to have taken the Level 2 BTEC in sport to do the course in the Sixth Form.
Assessment details	<p>Assessment on the course will take place via a range of diverse activities. Assessment methods include external assessment, role play, verbal assessment and written coursework type assignments. The evidence that each learner produces will be used to award candidates with a pass, merit or distinction grade in the various areas. At the end of the course unit grades are totalled to calculate a grade ranging from Pass to Distinction*</p>
What you will study	<p>BTEC National qualifications consist of core units (which are mandatory) and specialist units.</p> <p>Core units include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anatomy and Physiology (External Exam) • Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being (External Exam) • Professional Development in the Sports Industry (Internal) <p>In addition to the core unit, students will study sport psychology. This unit will be internally assessed through three assignments.</p> <p>The variety of units means that students will gain a wide breadth of understanding in sports and exercise science.</p>
What you can do once you have completed the course	<p>The course will give students the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised vocationally specific qualification, carrying the same UCAS points as an A Level course. This course is recognised on par with the A Level PE course, especially since the new specification was released with the external units</p> <p>The course will give learners a solid and sound foundation in the sector, whilst also developing the essential skills required for employment, career progression, or progression to further qualifications and university.</p> <p>It will develop student's skills in leadership, organisation and sports analysis vital for progression in their university/career choices.</p>

More details can be obtained by seeing Mr Kearney or emailing ejkearney@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk

A Level Physical Education

The A Level PE course covers a range of topics that are designed to give you a deep insight into the world of Physical Education and sport. If you have a genuine passion for sport and want to develop your knowledge and potentially set yourself up for one of the many careers associated with PE and sport then this is the course for you.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

There is no expectation that you have studied GCSE PE although there are elements of the course that may be more accessible if you have, particularly in relation to the physiology modules. It is more preferable that you have at least a grade 6 in Science. If you have studied GCSE PE then a grade 6 or above would suggest you are suited to the A Level Course

SYLLABUS



We study the OCR PE syllabus although there is now very little difference between the exam boards. The aims and learning outcomes are set out as below:

OCR's A Level in Physical Education will equip learners with both a depth and breadth of knowledge, understanding and skills relating to scientific, socio-cultural and practical aspects of physical education. This requires them to:

- develop theoretical knowledge and understanding of the factors that underpin physical activity and sport and use this knowledge to improve performance
- understand how physiological and psychological states affect performance
- understand the key socio-cultural factors that influence people's involvement in physical activity and sport
- understand the role of technology in physical activity and sport
- refine their ability to perform effectively in physical activity and sport by developing skills and techniques and selecting and using tactics, strategies and/or compositional ideas
- develop their ability to analyse and evaluate to improve performance
- understand the contribution which physical activity makes to health and fitness
- improve as effective and independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers with curious and enquiring minds.

There are three exam papers to be sat at the end of the second year of study. These are weighted as follows:

PAPER 1 Applied Anatomy & Physiology, Exercise Physiology, Biomechanics

2 hour paper with 90 marks available – 30% of total A Level

PAPER 2 Skill Acquisition and Psychology of Sport

1 hour paper with 60 marks available – 20% of total A Level

PAPER 3 Sport & Society, Contemporary issues in physical activity and sport

1 hour paper with 60 marks available – 20% of total A Level

Paper 1 content includes topics such as:

Muscles & Movement

Skeletal System

Cardiovascular and Respiratory system

How ATP is used as Energy in the body

VO2 Max and Aerobic Capacity

Periodisation of Training

Diet and Nutrition

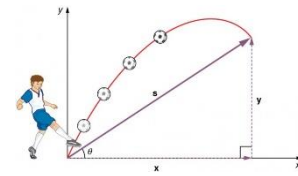
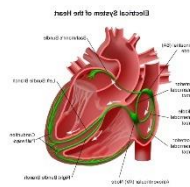
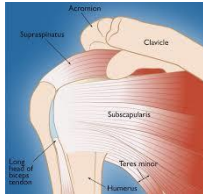
Effects of force and Newton's Laws in Sport

Injuries and their treatment

Effect of Altitude on the body

Projectile Motion and Air resistance

Flexibility & Strength Training



Paper 2 content includes topics such as:

Transfer of Skills

Types of Practice

Stages of learning

Guidance

Short & Long term memory

Personality

Types of Motivation

Aggression in Sport

Leadership

Stress Management



Paper 3 content includes topics such as:

Evolution of Sport from 1750 to 21st Century

The Olympic Games

Drugs & Doping

Routes to Sporting Excellence

Violence in Sport

Commercialisation & the Media

Modern Technology

Gambling



A Level PE Practical

If you opt for A Level PE you will be assessed in **ONE** sport only as a performer. The list sports you can choose from are:

Acrobatic Gymnastics
Amateur Boxing
Association football
Athletics
Badminton
Basketball
Blind Cricket
BMX
Boccia
Camogie
Canoeing
Cricket
Cross Country running
Cycling

Dance
Diving
Equestrian
Figure Skating
Futsal
Gaelic football
Goal Ball
Golf
Gymnastics
Handball
Hockey
Hurling
Ice Hockey
Inline Roller Hockey
Kayaking

Lacrosse
Netball
Polybat
Powerchair football
Rock Climbing
Rowing
Rugby League
Rugby Union
Sailing
Sculling
Skiing
Snowboarding

Squash
Swimming
Table Cricket
Table Tennis
Tennis
Trampolining
Triathlon
Volleyball
Water Polo
Wheelchair basketball
Wheelchair rugby
Windsurfing

You **MUST** be playing this sport on a regular basis and to a good level outside of school. The curriculum time in school will be filled with covering the theory syllabus.

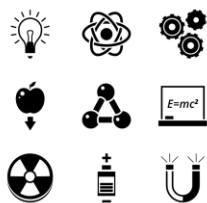
Your performance will be marked out of 30 and place within one of six bands. This will account for **15%** of your final A Level Grade

The final **15%** will come from the Evaluation and Analysis of Performance for Improvement (EAPI) coursework module. This is a filmed assessment where you observe another performer in your chosen sport and identify their strengths and weaknesses in relation to their skills, fitness and tactics. You then need to create an action plan to improve a weakness and justify all of this by using relevant theoretical knowledge.

If you are a St Thomas More student and require further details about any aspect of the course then please speak to one of the PE teachers.

If you are an external student from another school please email Mr Bass (Head of PE) at

sbass@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk



AS & A level Physics

2022 - 2024

Course Information Sheet

Teachers: Year 12 – Ms Pierce and Mr Clunn Year 13 – Ms Pierce and Mrs Summers

Prerequisite:

- Grade 7,7 at Double Science OR
- Grade 7 in Physics (separate sciences)
- At least a high grade 6 or grade 7 in Maths and an ability to handle equations in particular
- Grade 6 in English
- An enthusiasm to engage in the subject and work hard.

Aims:

The aims and objectives of the Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Physics are to enable students to develop:

- essential knowledge and understanding of different areas of the subject and how they relate to each other
- a deep appreciation of the skills, knowledge and understanding of scientific methods
- competence and confidence in a variety of practical, mathematical and problem solving skills
- their interest in and enthusiasm for the subject, including developing an interest in further study and careers associated with the subject
- an understanding of how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy and society.

Outline syllabus:

Students will be entered for examinations using the Pearson Edexcel qualifications.

YEAR 12

Students will study five key elements in year 12.

- Working as a Physicist
- Mechanics
- Electricity
- Waves and particle physics
- Materials

YEAR 13

Students will study a further seven key elements in year 13.

- Further Mechanics
- Electric and Magnetic Fields
- Thermodynamics
- Space
- Gravitational fields
- Nuclear Radiation
- Oscillations

Assignments:

There will be either an 'Extended Learning' assignment or an assessment each week.

External Assessment:A Level

The A Level course will be assessed by an examination in May/June 2024.

Paper 1: Advanced Physics I		*Paper code: 9PH0/01
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Externally assessedAvailability: May/JuneFirst assessments: 2017	30% of the total qualification	
Overview of content This paper will examine the following topics.		
Concept approach <ul style="list-style-type: none">Working as a PhysicistMechanicsElectric CircuitsFurther MechanicsElectric and Magnetic FieldsNuclear and Particle Physics	Salters Horners approach <ul style="list-style-type: none">Working as a PhysicistHigher, Faster, Stronger (HFS)Technology in Space (SPC) (except items 70 and 92–95)Digging up the Past (DIG) (except items 83–87)Transport on Track (TRA)The Medium is the Message (MDM)Probing the Heart of Matter (PRO)	
Overview of assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none">Assessment is 1 hour 45 minutes.The paper consists of 90 marks.The paper may include multiple-choice, short open, open-response, calculations and extended writing questions.The paper will include questions that target mathematics at Level 2 or above (see <i>Appendix 6: Mathematical skills and exemplifications</i>). Overall, a minimum of 40% of the marks across the three papers will be awarded for mathematics at Level 2 or above.Students will be expected to apply their knowledge and understanding to familiar and unfamiliar contexts.		

Paper 2: Advanced Physics II		*Paper code: 9PH0/02
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Externally assessedAvailability: May/JuneFirst assessments: 2017	30% of the total qualification	
Overview of content This paper will examine the following topics.		
Concept approach <ul style="list-style-type: none">Working as a PhysicistMaterialsWaves and Particle Nature of LightThermodynamicsSpaceNuclear RadiationGravitational FieldsOscillations	Salters Horners approach <ul style="list-style-type: none">Working as a PhysicistThe Sound of Music (MUS)Good Enough to Eat (EAT)Technology in Space (SPC) (only items 70 and 92–95)Digging up the Past (DIG) (only items 83–87)Spare-Part Surgery (SUR)Build or Bust? (BLD)Reach for the Stars (STA)	
Overview of assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none">Assessment is 1 hour 45 minutes.The paper consists of 90 marks.The paper may include multiple-choice, short open, open-response, calculations and extended writing questions.The paper will include questions that target mathematics at Level 2 or above (see <i>Appendix 6: Mathematical skills and exemplifications</i>). Overall, a minimum of 40% of the marks across the three papers will be awarded for mathematics at Level 2 or above.Students will be expected to apply their knowledge and understanding to familiar and unfamiliar contexts.		

Science Practical Endorsement**	*Paper code: 9PH0/04
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internally assessed and externally moderated by Pearson Availability: May/June First assessment: 2017 	
Overview of content <p>This qualification will give students opportunities to use relevant apparatus and techniques to develop and demonstrate specific practical skills. These skills must be assessed through a minimum of 12 identified practical activities within each qualification.</p> <p>The assessment outcomes will be reported separately on students' certificates alongside the overall grade for the qualification. To achieve a pass, students must demonstrate that they are competent in all of the practical skills listed in the subject content requirements for physics, as published by the Department for Education.</p> <p>Students must show practical competency by completing a number of core practicals throughout the course. These experiments will enable students to cover the practical skills that are required for physics as described in <i>Appendix 5c</i>.</p>	
Overview of assessment <p>Performance will be assessed by teachers against common assessment criteria that will be consistent across exam boards. Exam boards have developed draft common practical assessment criteria, these are set out on pages 48–49. These criteria will be trialled in autumn 2014 and spring 2015 to ensure they can be applied consistently and effectively. Specifications will be updated to include the final version of common practical assessment criteria in spring 2015.</p>	

*See *Appendix 3: Codes* for a description of this code and all other codes relevant to this qualification.

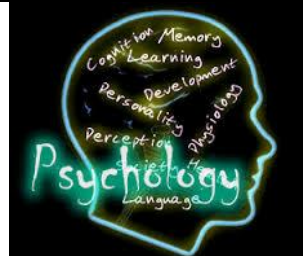
**Students will be assessed separately for the Science Practical Endorsement. The Endorsement will not contribute to the overall grade for this qualification, but the result will be recorded on the student's certificate.

Paper 3: General and Practical Principles in Physics	*Paper code: 9PH0/03
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Externally assessed Availability: May/June First assessments: 2017 	40% of the total qualification
Overview of content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Questions in this paper may draw on any of the topics in this specification. The paper will include synoptic questions that may draw on two or more different topics. The paper will include questions that assess conceptual and theoretical understanding of experimental methods (indirect practical skills) that will draw on students' experiences of the core practicals. 	
Overview of assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment is 2 hours 30 minutes. The paper consists of 120 marks. The paper may include multiple-choice, short open, open-response, calculations and extended writing questions. The paper will include questions that target mathematics at Level 2 or above (see <i>Appendix 6: Mathematical skills and exemplifications</i>). Overall, a minimum of 40% of the marks across the three papers will be awarded for mathematics at Level 2 or above. Some questions will assess conceptual and theoretical understanding of experimental methods (see <i>Appendix 5: Working scientifically</i>). Students will be expected to apply their knowledge and understanding to familiar and unfamiliar contexts. 	

Physics is an enjoyable, challenging subject. It develops not only knowledge of physics and all that involves, but skills as well that are vital in all potential university courses and potential careers. Those students who study physics and do well in the subject will be sought after by employers in scientific, engineering, financial, legal spheres of life.

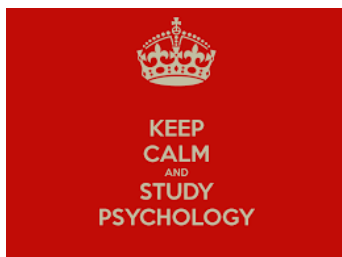
It is a worthwhile course to study, and so long as students work hard and dedicate themselves wholeheartedly to their studies, then they have the potential to do well in their lives.

Psychology



Brief subject description	<p>Psychology is the study of the mind and behaviour. There are plenty of reasons to learn more about psychology, even if you don't plan to work in a psychology-related profession. Psychology can help you better understand yourself. You'll gain a stronger grasp of research methods and you will develop your critical thinking skills. You can gain a greater appreciation for human development at all stages of life. Psychology can complement your study of related subjects. Psychology can be both fun and fascinating!</p>
Entry requirements	<p>Students should ideally have at least a grade '6' at GCSE level in English, Mathematics and either Core and Additional Science or in Biology plus two 5's in Chemistry and Physics, but each student will be considered on individual merit.</p>
Assessment details	<p>There are 3 units of assessment. All examinations are taken in May/June of your Year 13. This means there is NO AS Option.</p> <p>Unit One: Introductory Topics in Psychology – Social Influence, Memory, Attachment, Psychopathology 2 Hour exam paper</p> <p>Four compulsory sections all requiring written answers.</p> <p>Unit Two: Psychology in Context – Approaches in Psychology, Biopsychology, Research Methods 2 Hour exam paper</p> <p>Four compulsory sections all requiring written answers.</p> <p>Unit Three: Issues and Options in Psychology – Issues and Debates; one from Relationships, Gender, Cognition and Development; one from Schizophrenia, Eating Behaviour, Stress; one from Aggression, Forensic Psychology, Addiction. 2 hour exam paper.</p> <p>One compulsory section. Three sections each offering a choice of three topics. Students answer one question from each section.</p>
What you can do once you have completed the course	<p>Psychology is relevant to many occupations involving interactions with others'. Psychology prepares students for employment in a variety of areas including mental health, human resources, education, research, and law enforcement.</p> <p>Many careers directly related to psychology require education beyond an undergraduate degree and psychology graduates are well prepared for post-graduate studies in psychology, medicine, law, and business</p>

More details can be obtained from Ms Corr or Miss Osborne



A Level Religious Studies

Religious Education Course Information

Head of RE – Mr P Griffin

Teachers: Mr P Griffin, Mrs L Mason, Mrs. McKenna

Lessons: There will be 7 lessons a fortnight, with guided study time as extra

Prerequisite: Students are required to have at least a 6 in Religious Studies (or other humanity if RS not studied) and a 6 in English GCSE.



Aims:

- To develop their interest in, and enthusiasm for, a rigorous study of Religion and its relation to the wider world
- To treat the subject as an academic discipline by developing knowledge, understanding and skills appropriate to a specialist study of Religion
- To adopt an enquiring, critical and reflective approach to the study of Religion
- To reflect on and develop their own values, opinions and attitudes in the light of learning.

Outline syllabus: The exam board we use is AQA.

Overview of course:

Component 1: Philosophy of religion and ethics

Component 2: Study of religion and dialogues. Our choice of religion is Christianity.

Component 1: Philosophy of religion and ethics

Section A: Philosophy of religion

Arguments for the existence of God

Evil and suffering

Religious experience

Religious language

Miracles

Self and life after death

Section B: Ethics and religion

Ethical theories

Issues of human life and death

Issues of animal life and death

Introduction to meta ethics

Free will and moral responsibility

Conscience

Bentham and Kant

Component 2: Study of religion and dialogues. Our choice of religion is Christianity.

Section A: Study of religion

Sources of wisdom and authority
God/gods/ultimate reality
Self, death and the afterlife
Good conduct and key moral principles.
Expression of religious identity
Religion, gender and sexuality
Religion and secularisation
Religion and religious pluralism

Section B: The dialogue between philosophy of religion and religion.

How religion is influenced by, and has an influence on philosophy of religion in relation to the issues studied.

Section C: The dialogue between ethical studies and religion.

How religion is influenced by, and has an influence on ethical studies in relation to the issues studied.

Assignments: There will be extended learning assignments set each week. These are not optional and all students are expected to complete them. These will be exam question practices or students are expected to review notes, make revision materials and revise (there is a lot of content to learn).

Assessment: The course will be assessed by an examination in each module. Each component is of equal weighting. Each exam is 3 hours.

Support material: A course text book to accompany each year of this newly revised course is published by Hodder Education. There is a wide range of resources available on the VLE. Students are expected to read widely and extend their own learning. In addition to material available from the department many free resources and anthologies can be downloaded from the internet.

What you can do once you have completed the course: Religious Studies is an inter-disciplinary subject that develops skills of critical analysis, written expression, construction of arguments and skills of evaluation. The skills developed support a range of degree qualifications and future careers. Students with Religious Studies A levels and degrees have progressed to jobs in teaching, media, law, journalism, theatre and a range of other careers.

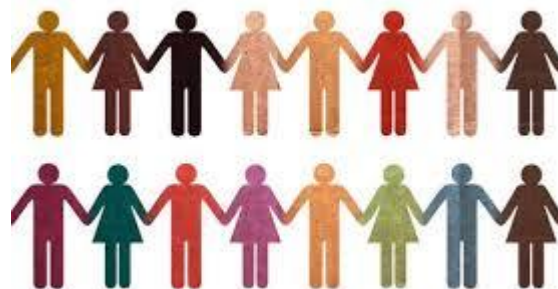
For more information see Mr. Griffin or e-mail Pgriffin@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk

Sociology

A Level Sociology

Exam Board: AQA

Why study it?



Ever wondered how we have become the society we are today? How the way you see yourself determines the way people identify you? Whether men or women are more likely to commit a crime?

A Level Sociology will help you to make sense of the society by studying issues which affect us all. You will learn a number of skills including; supporting arguments with relevant evidence, how to investigate and evaluate information, and critical thinking. Sociology opens the door to a fantastic range of interesting careers.

Course Outline

Paper One: Education with Theory and Methods

Students study the following areas: Education / Research Methods / Theory and Methods

Paper Two: Topics in Sociology

Students explore the topics of Families and Households and The Media in detail.

Paper Three: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

Students study crime, deviance and social control and examine different research methods.

Entry Requirements:

Students must have achieved Level 5 in the core subjects.

Progression routes – what's in it for me?

Students can progress directly on to degrees in Sociology, Psychology or Criminology. Sociology is also beneficial for degrees in Law, History, Politics or Social Work. Many students study Sociology with a combination of other subjects in order to facilitate a pathway into careers such as teaching, counselling, public services, family support work, social work and social research.

Sociology is a valued A Level by universities, due to the skills you acquire throughout the 2 year course.

Contact Mrs Cotgrove (dcotgrove@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk) for more details.

SPANISH A LEVEL



What is A-Level Spanish?

Spanish is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world, after English and Mandarin. There are more than 400 hundred million Spanish speakers in the world, not just in Spain and South America, but also in the United States and even the Philippines. 25 different nations speak Spanish either as the official language or as a first language. In addition, it is one of the top five languages used in business, so speaking Spanish could also improve your job prospects in the future. When you broaden your knowledge of the culture, traditions and societies within the Hispanic world, it helps you become a more flexible and open-minded person. Studying Spanish A-Level will enable you to build on the skills that you have learnt at GCSE and deepen your understanding of the language, culture, society and history of Spain, as well as develop your grammatical knowledge and your spoken fluency.

Assessment

Students will complete 3 external examinations at the end of their second year as follows:



Paper 1

Skills: Reading, Listening and Translation

Weighing: 50%



Paper 2

Skills: Text/Film based essay writing

Weighing: 20%



Paper 3

Skills: Speaking

30%



Linear A Level

Exam Board: **AQA**

Full course specification:

www.aqa.org.uk

What will you study?

- Family structures in Spain
- Spanish Traditional and modern values
- Friendships/relationships/citizenship in Spain
- Spanish Youth trends
- Issues and personal identity, education and employment opportunities as well as Literature, the Arts, Cinema and Music in Spain
- Discrimination and diversity in Spain
- Migration and integration in Spain
- Culture, history and politics of Spain from 1936 onwards
- A Spanish fiction (film and book)

What's next?

Any Modern Language is highly sought after by employers and is a great skill to possess in the current work market. Furthermore, top universities respect and recognise the demands of studying this subject and the wide array of transferable skills acquired by students who study a language at A Level. Languages can be combined with nearly any other subject at university. Many of our students choose to continue to study languages either on their own or as a combined programme after College.

What are the entry requirements for this course?

At least five 5's at GCSE, including at least a 6 in Spanish.

For more information contact Ms R G Rey:

rgarcia-rey@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk