



High Wood School

Sixth Form Prospectus

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Welcome to High Wood Sixth Form

Our Sixth Form is a vibrant and exciting place with four core values at the heart of our drive for all students to succeed at every opportunity throughout school life.

- **Creating an Ethos for Success**
- **Developing a Culture of High Expectations**
- **Offering a Curriculum which Promotes Inclusivity**
- **Enrichment and Cohesion opportunities for all students**

Daily life operates within a 'culture of high expectations' where students are set challenging targets. Students, subject tutors and Sixth Form tutors are collectively a mutually co-operative and supportive unit to ensure everyone aspires to achieve above and beyond their own expectations. Students are empowered to take responsibility for their own learning.

We are proud to offer a 'curriculum which promotes inclusivity', hence there is a range of A-Level and vocational qualifications to meet the needs of all our students to ensure they are very well prepared for the future.

Sixth Form students are a highly valued part of the school, therefore 'cohesion' and 'enrichment' are the core of student development and Sixth Form life. They are encouraged to engage in nurturing activities which enhance the learning and development of younger pupils whereby students are able to build strong relationships, enriching their own lives and those of others around them.

Finally, we offer a wide range of enrichment and work related learning opportunities.

I look forward to welcoming you to our vibrant and exciting Sixth Form.

If you require any further information that cannot be found in this prospectus, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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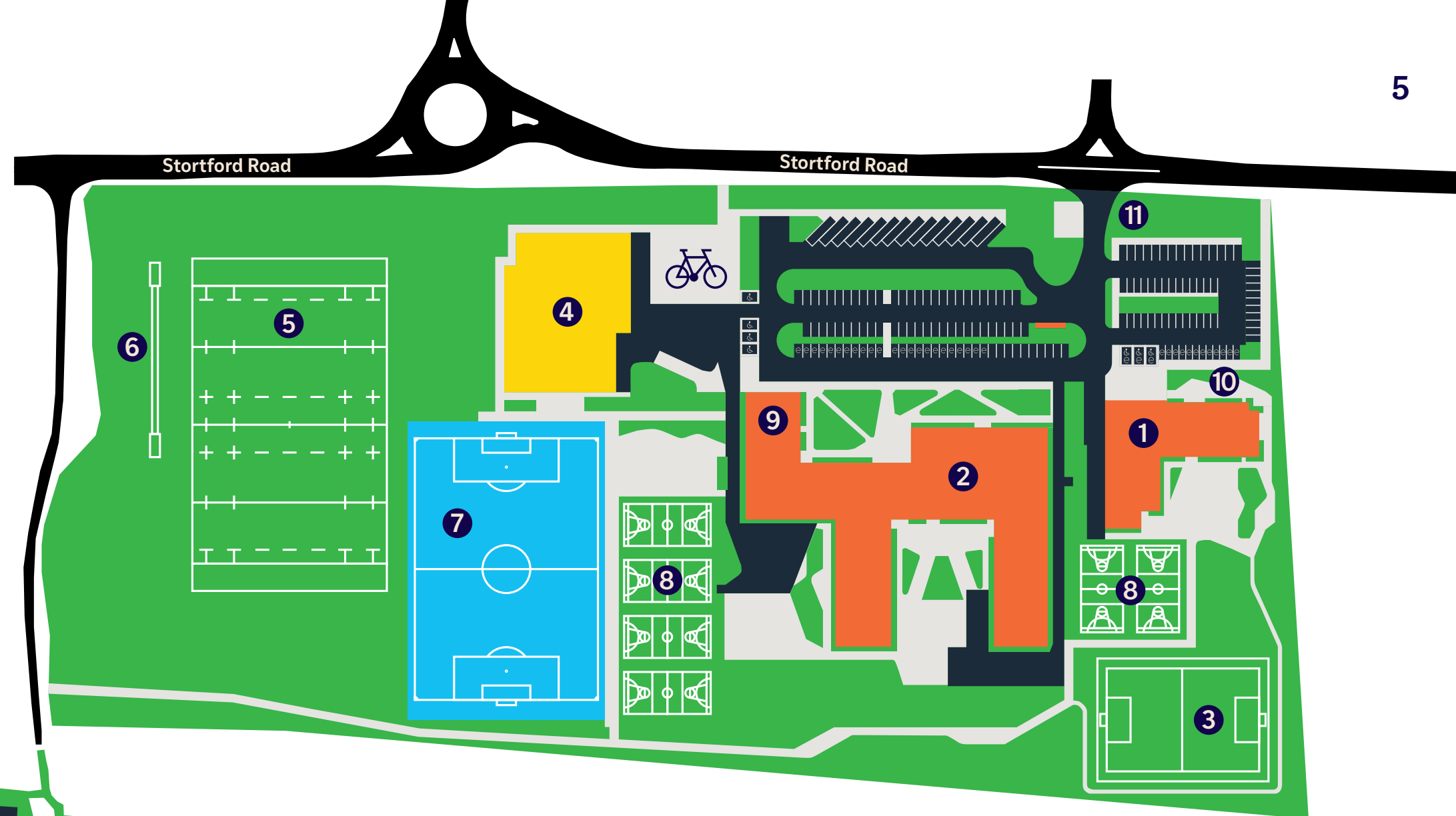


Russell Milne
Director of Sixth Form

Our New Campus

We are undergoing a significant transformation. With our relocation to a modern, purpose-built campus close to the woodland setting of High Wood, we are not just moving, we are evolving. Our new site, developed by the Department for Education, sets a benchmark in sustainability, achieving carbon neutrality and exceeding current environmental standards. High Wood School is poised to become a national example of what a modern, future-ready school can be.

"We're educating a generation that must tackle climate change. It's important that our students understand their responsibility to the planet. With our modern net-zero building, we have an opportunity to make sustainability part of everyday school life." Governor



The new, carbon-neutral school will be more than just a new building. The ground floor will house the subjects designed to unlock pupils' creativity: with specially equipped classrooms, a cutting-edge recording studio, multiple practice rooms, a black-box drama studio and art and technology classrooms containing the latest equipment. The Main Hall will provide students with an exceptional performance space and the fully-equipped Library and Learning Zone will encourage reading and independent learning. On the first floor, the technical subjects of Science, Mathematics and Computing will be taught in laboratories and teaching suites which are spacious and well-equipped. The second floor will house subjects linked by the theme of communication with children taught English, Humanities and Modern Foreign Languages in classrooms which are modern and attractive, ideal for developing oracy and reasoning.

A unique feature of the new school will be exceptional sports facilities which include an eight court sports hall, dance and activity studio, fitness suite, several large playing areas, multi-use courts and a 3G, all-weather pitch.

Students in the Sixth Form phase will benefit from a Sixth Form Café, Common Room, and well-equipped Study Centre.

- 1 Primary School**
- 2 Secondary School**
- 3 U9/U10 Football pitch**
- 4 Sports Centre**
- 5 Rugby Pitch**
- 6 Long Jump**
- 7 3G - All Weather Pitch**
- 8 MUGA**
(Multi Use Games Areas)
- 9 Sixth Form Centre**
- 10 Early Years Play Area**
- 11 Main Entrance**

6 Careers support and guidance

The school has a dedicated independent Careers Guidance Adviser and excellent up to date student resources. All students at High Wood Sixth Form have access to a fully qualified impartial Careers Guidance Adviser, and support and guidance is offered whichever pathway they choose.

For many students University is the next step in their educational journey and we are very proud that the majority of our students move onto some of the country's most competitive universities.

Others decide to follow a different pathway into work-based degree opportunities or employment and training. We support students through all stages of applications for whichever pathway they choose.

Independent advice and guidance is offered throughout this process to enable individuals to make well informed decisions.

Our focus is on giving guidance and support in the process of applying to university or employment, and careers work is an element of the Enrichment programme.

During the course of the academic year, students are engaged in various Work Related Learning activities. We arrange visits from various outside speakers, for example, from the National Careers Service or specialists to inform the students about opportunities available to them, such as Higher Apprenticeships.

Students also have the opportunity to visit events such as the Higher Education Fair and the Year 12 trip to University of East Anglia.

There is a very well-resourced Careers Centre available for use where a member of staff will be available to assist with research or queries at break and lunchtimes.

On request, students can receive a variety of printed information designed to assist with their progression and career planning. Access to various software packages is also provided for use in school or remotely.

High Wood School and Sixth Form Centre has proudly been accredited with the Recognition of Quality Award (RoQA) for its dedicated provision of Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance.



8 Holistic and Pastoral Support

We have a dedicated tutor team who play a vital role in student progress and development, offering practical and emotional support. Alongside this, Y12 and Y13 each have a Head of Year who ensures students have access to the type of support they require, when they require it. This role helps provide the holistic nurturing that is part of the High Wood Sixth Form experience; bringing together the student, their studies, learning expectations and financial and emotional wellbeing.

We operate in partnership with the school, parents and staff to ensure that there is a continuous support network from the very first day.

Supporting your studies

Sixth Form tutors play a vital role in students' progress and development through the setting of academic targets, progress checks, offering practical coping strategies, emotional support and points of reflection throughout their time in the Sixth Form.

The tutor is the one person who has the 'bigger picture' concerning student progression and development across all subjects and is ready to intervene if target grades are not met or advise where an individual is not applying themselves effectively in any one or more of their courses.

Tutors will offer support and guidance throughout the university application process to help students make informed decisions at what can often feel like a stressful time. Anyone wishing to pursue a higher apprenticeship or direct route to employment is equally valued and supported as they prepare for post-18 options.

As well as being the first point of contact each morning, tutors can be contacted by email so students can seek advice and guidance as required.

Teaching and learning

Teaching groups are smaller than main school groups and typically range between 6–15 students in each class. There is a high demand for students to complete independent learning outside of the classroom. The Sixth Form leadership team provides support during the transition phase to help students organise their time and manage their workload effectively.

Future Pathways:

University, Apprenticeships & Careers

At High Wood Sixth Form, a student's academic journey is only half the story. The Sixth Form is deeply committed to ensuring that every young person makes an inspired, well-planned, and successful transition to the wider world. Whether a student's sights are set on a world-class degree, a highly competitive degree apprenticeship, or entering the professional workforce, the dedicated careers and futures team provides tailored, expert guidance every step of the way.

A Comprehensive, Year-Round Tutorial Plan

The structured tutorial programme does not just prepare students for exams; it prepares them for life. Delivered through weekly dedicated sessions, this comprehensive curriculum covers every facet of post-18 planning.

The UCAS Masterclass

Demystifying the university application process. Tutors guide students through course selection, writing standout personal statements, and navigating the digital application portal.

The Apprenticeship Blueprint

Navigating the fast-growing landscape of Higher and Degree Apprenticeships. Students learn how to find vacancies, decode job descriptions, and understand employer requirements.

Professional Interview Skills

Interactive workshops focusing on body language, verbal communication, and structural techniques to handle competency-based questions with absolute confidence.

Financial Literacy & Independent Living

Practical sessions focusing on student finance, budgeting, understanding workplace contracts, and managing life after Sixth Form.

Real-World Work Experience & Industry Connections

The institution believes the best way to choose a career is to experience it. All students are supported when finding and securing high-quality, relevant work placements that bridge the gap between classroom theory and professional reality.

Why Work Experience Matters

A strong placement sharpens a student's career focus, provides invaluable material for personal statements or application forms, and frequently opens doors to future employment.

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Enrichment opportunities at Sixth Form

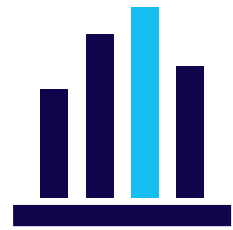
Sixth Form life at High Wood School is not just about working hard but also fully immersing yourself into every opportunity and enjoying a range of experiences and building your character as you transition from a secondary pupil into a young adult ready for the competitive jobs and employment market. The enrichment programme encourages you to broaden your horizons and develop a range of valuable skills that you can combine with your academic qualifications. We offer a range of enrichment opportunities in sport, further academic qualifications, work experience, societies, debate club, team building, GOLD Duke of Edinburgh award, literacy support in the primary school, mentoring, Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), and Charity work.



11

Subject Criteria

SIXTH FORM SUBJECT ENTRY CRITERIA 2026				
A-LEVELS AND BTEC SUBJECTS	MATHS	ENGLISH		OTHER REQUIREMENTS
		LANG	LIT	
ART, CRAFT AND DESIGN		4	4	Grade 4 in either English Language or Literature. You will require at least Grade 6 at GCSE Art supported by a recommendation from your GCSE Art teacher
BIOLOGY	5	5		Double Science (6/7) or Triple Science (Biology 6)
BUSINESS STUDIES	4	5		Grade 5 GCSE Business Studies
CHEMISTRY	6	5		Double Science (6/7) or Triple Science (Chemistry 6)
CLASSICAL CIVILISATION		5		Grade 5 English, 5 Humanities subject
CRIMINOLOGY		4		
DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY: FASHION AND TEXTILES				
DANCE		5		Textiles GCSE Grade 5, Grade 5 in either English Language or Literature, Grade 4 in Mathematics
DRAMA & THEATRE		5	5	Grade 5 in English, and/or grade 6 ISTD exam.
ECONOMICS	5	5	5	Grade 5 in GCSE Drama (if studied).
ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE		5	5	Grade 5 in either English Language or Literature
ENGLISH LITERATURE		5	5	
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE	5			Grade 5-5 in combined Science, or 5s in Triple Science.
GEOGRAPHY		4	4	Grade 5 Geography. Grade 5 in either English Language or Literature. Grade 4 Maths. Grade 4 Science
HISTORY		5	5	Grade 5 GCSE History. Grade 5 in English Language or English Literature
LAW		5	5	Grade 5 in a Humanities subject
MATHS	7			
CORE MATHS	4			
FURTHER MATHS	8			
MEDIA STUDIES		5	5	Grade 5 in GCSE Media (if Studied). Grade 5 in either English Language or Literature
MFL: FRENCH				Grade 6 GCSE French
MFL: SPANISH				Grade 6 GCSE Spanish
PHYSICS	6	5		Double Science (6/7) or Triple Science (Physics 6)
PSYCHOLOGY	5	5	5	Double Science (5/5) or Triple Science (Biology 5). Grade 5 in either English Language or Literature
RELIGIOUS STUDIES		5	5	Grade 5 in a Humanities subject
SOCIOLOGY		5	5	Grade 5 in a Humanities subject
BTEC LEVEL 3 SPORT				Minimum 4 in GCSE PE, Science and English
BTEC LEVEL 3 TRAVEL & TOURISM				Grade 4 in English Language or Literature
BTEC LEVEL 3 HEALTH & SOCIAL				Grade 4 in English Language or Literature
Some subjects may be subject to change and some may be withdrawn if there are insufficient numbers				



Business Studies A-Level

What is Business Studies?

The Business A-level course explores four main themes to give students an insight into marketing, managing businesses, decision making and strategy and global businesses. The aim of the course is to prepare students to work in any functional area of a business whilst also developing entrepreneurial skills.

First year content

- Meeting customer needs.
- The marketing mix.
- Managing people.
- Entrepreneurial activity.
- Raising finance.
- Financial planning.
- External influences.

Second year content

- Business objectives and strategy.
- Business growth.
- Decision making.
- Influences on Business decisions.
- Managing people.
- Globalisation.
- Global marketing.

Assessment criteria

100% exam.

Exam Board: Edexcel.

A-Level: Three x 120mins examination papers.

Minimum entry requirements

- Business Studies Grade 5 GCSE.
- Grade 5 in English Language.
- Grade 4 in Maths.

Are you interested in?

- Demonstrating entrepreneurial spirit?
- Analysing business problems and developing future strategies.
- Designing creative and persuasive marketing campaigns.
- Working with numbers and analysing financial problems.
- Gaining the legal insight to develop and run your own business.

Leading to careers in

Finance, banking and accounting, business management, marketing, e-commerce and web design, stockbroking, Human resource management and launching your own business.



Economics A-Level

What is Economics?

Economics is the study of how people choose to use scarce resources. The subject matter of economics is the economy which involves money, work, technology, international trade, taxes and the ways we produce goods and services.

It also compares alternative ways of using the limited resources that countries and individuals possess and considers how efficient and/or fair such alternatives are.

First year content

- Scarcity, choice and potential conflicts.
- Enterprise, business and the economy.
- The market.
- The role of credit in the economy.
- Market failure and government intervention.
- Revenue, costs, profits and cash.
- Business growth and competitive advantage.
- Firms, consumers and elasticities of demand
- Productive efficiency.
- Life in a global economy.
- The economic cycle.
- Introduction to macroeconomic policy.

Second year content

- Globalisation.
- Economic factors in business expansion.
- Impact of globalisation on global companies.
- Impact of globalisation on local and national economies.
- Global labour markets - inequality and redistribution.
- Competition and market power.
- Market power and market failure.
- Market failure across the economy.
- Macroeconomic policies and impact on firms and individuals.
- Risk and the financial sector.

Assessment criteria

100% exam.

Exam Board: Edexcel B.

Three x 120mins examination papers.

Minimum entry requirements

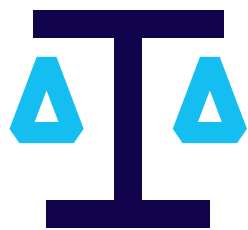
Grade 5 in either English Language or Literature and 5 in Maths.

Are you interested in?

- Debating economic issues such as inequality, globalisation and the Global Financial Crisis?
- Discussing alternative courses of action?
- Using and interpreting data to analyse economic problems?
- Keeping up to date with national and international trends?
- Learning about the economic environment and business through research and investigation?

Leading to careers in

Actuary, Consultancy, Auditing, Trading, Education, Research, Journalism, Investment Banking, Financial Services, Business, and Public-sector Management.



Law A-Level

What is Law?

Law is the study of the English Legal System, the roles of the Police and the Court, Sentencing policies, Sources of law, Law of Contract, Law of Tort.

Criminal law is the study of the elements of a crime and offences such as Homicide, Non-fatal Offences against the Person, Attempted Crimes, Defences and Property Offences such as Theft, Robbery Human Rights.

First year content

ELS

English Legal System (ELS) and Law Making Criminal Law Yr1:

- Elements of a Crime.
- Strict Liability Crimes & Non fatal offences against the person.

Tort Law Y1

What is a Tort?

- The law of Negligence.
- Occupiers Liability Act 1957 & 1984.

Second year content

Criminal Y2

- Fatal Offences Against the Person.
- Defences to Murder.
- Law of Attempts.
- Property Offences, Theft, Robbery & Burglary.
- Mental Capacity Defences.
- General Defences.

Tort Law Y2

- Private Nuisance.
- Rylands v Fletcher.
- Vicarious Liability.
- Defences in Tort.
- Remedies in Tort.

Human Rights Law:

The study of various Articles of the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR).

Assessment criteria

100% exam.

Exam Board: OCR.

A-Level: Three x 120mins examination papers.

Minimum entry requirements

Grade 5 in English Language and Literature.

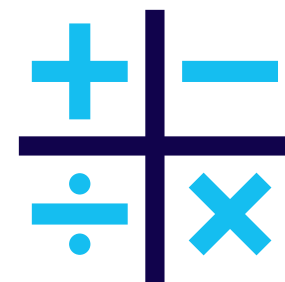
Grade 5 in a Humanities subject.

Are you interested in?

- Current Affairs, Legal Issues, Dispute Resolution, relationships between individuals and the State?
- The workings of the Police, their relationships with the public?
- Personal freedoms/ Human Rights?
- Crime and Punishment, The causes and effects.
- The Criminal Justice System, in theory and in practice?
- The Criminal Mind?
- Equality before the law? The role of Parliament and the Judges on our legal system.

Leading to careers in

Legal Professionals, Barristers and Solicitors, Police Force, Probation Service, Business, Retail, Social Work, Offender management and Education.



Mathematics A-Level

What is Maths about?

A-Level Mathematics involves developing your mathematical skills and then applying these to real life situations through mathematical modelling. The course also includes a whole section of statistics and mechanics study to develop your statistical interpretation and analysis skills as well as your ability to translate physical problems into mathematical models.

First year content

In your first year you will be building on the skills you have honed in year 11 and developing these further, with some areas of application to real life situations.

You will also start to learn formal methods for proof. In your statistics work you will be developing your understanding of statistical distributions and probability along with beginning to conduct hypothesis testing.

Year one mechanics involves exploring forces and motion, inclusive of Newton's Laws of Motion.

Second year content

Year Two of A-Level Mathematics Pure content delves further into calculus looking at more advanced methods for integration and differentiation and explores trigonometry in further depth.

In addition to these skills you will further develop your proof and modelling skills. Year two statistics explores the normal distribution and its applications to statistical analysis as well as probability and set notation. Meanwhile, the mechanics course advances into forces between connected objects, objects on an incline and applying your calculus skills to kinematics.

Assessment criteria

100% exam.

Exam Board: AQA.

- Paper 1: Pure Mathematics.
- Paper 2: Pure Mathematics.
- Paper 3: Applied Mathematics.

Paper 1 and Paper 2 may contain questions on any topics from the Pure Mathematics content.

Paper 3 will contain questions on topics from the Statistics content in Section A and Mechanics content in Section B.

Minimum entry requirements

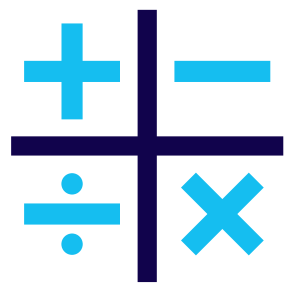
To apply for A-Level Mathematics at High Wood School you must achieve a minimum of a grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics.

Are you interested in?

- Where maths can take you?
- Spotting sequences and patterns?
- Applying your understanding of mathematics to the world around you?
- Data analysis?

Leading to careers in

Economics, Medicine, Engineering, Architecture, Data Science, Logistics, Actuarial Science and many more!



Further Maths A-Level

What is Further Maths about?

A-Level Further Mathematics builds on the skills learnt in GCSE Mathematics as well as developing and building on those skills covered in the AS Mathematics and AS Further Mathematics courses. In addition to these you will study new mathematical content such as imaginary numbers and matrices. The overarching themes are problem solving, proof and mathematical modelling.

First year content

Core Pure 1

Proof, Complex Numbers, Matrices, Further Algebra and Functions and Further Calculus.

Decision Mathematics 1

Algorithms, Graphs and Networks, Linear Programming and Critical Path Analysis.

Further Mechanics 1

Momentum and Impulse, Work, Energy and Power and Elastic Collisions.

Second Year Content

Core Pure 2

Further development of the content covered in AS Further Mathematics and AS Mathematics, in addition to studying Polar Coordinates.

Decision Mathematics 1

Further development of the content covered in the AS portion of the Decision Mathematics 1 course.

Further Mechanics 1

Further development of the content covered in the AS portion of the Further Mechanics 1 course.

Assessment criteria

- 100% exam.
- Exam Board: AQA.
- Paper 1: Core Pure Mathematics 1.
- Paper 2: Core Pure Mathematics 2.
- Paper 3: Decision Mathematics 1.
- Paper 4: Further Mechanics 1.
- Paper 1 and Paper 2 may contain questions on any topics from the Core Pure Mathematics content.
- All 4 exams carry equal weighting.

Minimum entry requirements

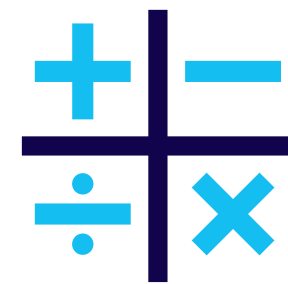
To apply for A-Level Further Mathematics at High Wood School you must achieve a minimum of a grade 8 in GCSE.

Are you interested in?

- Learning about numbers in greater depth?
- Computers and programming?
- How to solve equations with no real solutions?

Leading to careers in

Project management, banking, economics, medicine, engineering, architecture, data science, logistics, actuarial science and more.



Core Maths: Quantitative Reasoning

What is Core Maths: Quantitative Reasoning?

Core Maths is an exciting new mathematical qualification with clear links to the real world. The subject is A-Level 3 Certification, an A/S is worth half a full A-level. Mathematics can be used to help people make decisions, form business plans, and understand in detail the information they are presented with every day.

Core Mathematics aims to help students become more mathematically aware, in order to be more employable and less susceptible to the mathematical pitfalls of life. This course is ideal if you enjoy Maths but are not taking the A-Level, and as a course to support your other A-Level studies, such as Economics. It is also widely welcomed by many universities, with some altering entry requirements for those who gain a high grade in this qualification.

First And Second Year Content

Core Maths builds on and extends GCSE Mathematics, with a sharper focus on problem-solving skills. The skills taught support mathematical knowledge that is required in other A-Level subjects, such as Economics, Psychology, Sociology, Geography, Business, PE, History and Music.

The course covers:

- Statistics and algebra.
- Probability and estimation.
- Data analysis and modelling.
- Sequences and growth.
- Financial planning and management.

- Collaborative problem-solving approaches and techniques.
- Using technology and spreadsheets.

Assessment criteria

The course is assessed in two, 2-hour written examinations at the end of Year 13. Both exams include use of pre release materials that pupils are to familiarise themselves with ahead of the exams.

- Exam Board: AQA.
- 100% examination based

Minimum entry requirements

GCSE 4 in Maths and a 4 in GCSE English

Are you interested in?

Accountancy, personal finance, analysis data, probability and estimations and business modelling?

Leading to careers in

Accountancy, data and statistical analysis, journalism and cyber intelligence.



Biology A-Level

What is Biology?

From ecology to molecular biology the science of biology studies them all. Biologists study the structure, function, growth, origin, evolution and distribution of living organisms.

All the branches of biology can be unified within a framework of five basic understandings about living things. Studying the details of these five ideas provides the endless fascination of biological research:

- Cell Theory.
- Energy.
- Heredity.
- Equilibrium.
- Evolution.

First year content

Biological Molecules:

Carbohydrates, Proteins, Lipids, Enzymes, Structure of DNA and RNA, DNA replication and Water.

Cells

Eukaryotic and prokaryotic cells, mitosis, diffusion, osmosis, active transport, defence mechanisms and vaccinations. Organisms and their environment: Gas exchange systems, digestion, circulatory system, Xylem and Phloem. Genetic Information and Variation: Genes and DNA, RNA, transcriptions, translation, mutations, meiosis, genetic and species diversity.

Second Year Content

Energy Transfers

Photosynthesis, respiration, nutrient cycles.

Organisms responding to change

Survival and response, nervous coordination, control of blood sugar and water.

Genetics and Populations:

Inheritance, populations, evolution and speciation.

Gene Expression:

Mutations, Gene expression, regulation of transcription and translation.

Assessment criteria

100% exam.

Exam Board: AQA.

A-Level: Three x 120mins examination papers.

Minimum entry requirements

Double Science (6/7) or Triple Science (Biology 6). Plus a Grade 5 in English Language and Maths.

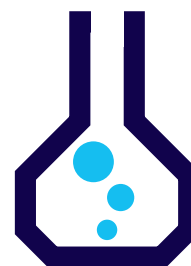
Are you interested in?

Biology involves the study of a wide range of exciting topics, ranging from molecular biology to the study of ecosystems and from micro-organisms to mammoths.

Biologists work in the fields of cell biology, medicine, food production and ecology... and the work they do is vital to us all.

Leading to careers in

Biology is a great choice of subject for people who want a career in health and clinical professions, such as medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, physiotherapy, pharmacy, optometry, nursing, zoology, marine biology or forensic science.



Chemistry A-Level

What is Chemistry?

Chemistry is the study of matter, its properties, how and why substances combine or separate to form other substances, and how substances interact with energy.

In the first year we'll develop your GCSE understanding and give you a clear foundational introduction to this higher-level study. You'll learn about physical, inorganic and organic chemistry. You will also undertake a series of practicals to develop your skills and the exam papers will include questions on the theory of practical work and interpretation of both quantitative and qualitative results.

First year content

Foundations in chemistry

Atoms, compounds, molecules and equations, Amount of substance, Acid-base and redox reactions, Electrons, bonding and structure.

Periodic table and energy

The periodic table and periodicity, Group 2 and the halogens, Qualitative analysis, Enthalpy changes, Reaction rates and equilibrium.

Core organic chemistry

Basic concepts, Hydrocarbons, Alcohols and haloalkanes, Organic synthesis and Analytical techniques (IR and MS).

Second Year Content

Physical chemistry and transition elements

Reaction rates and equilibrium (quantitative), pH and buffers, Enthalpy, entropy and free energy, Redox and electrode potentials and Transition elements.

Organic chemistry and analysis

Aromatic compounds, Carbonyl compounds, Carboxylic acids and esters, Nitrogen compounds, Polymers, Organic synthesis, Chromatography and spectroscopy (NMR).

Assessment criteria

100% exam.

Exam Board: OCR.

A-Level: Two x 135mins and one x 90min examination papers. Practical endorsement reported separately.

Minimum entry requirements

Double Science (6/7) or Triple Science (Chemistry 6). Plus a Grade 5 in English Language and 6 in Maths.

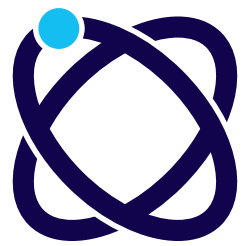
Have You Ever Wondered....?

- Why does ice float?
- Why do people put salt on icy roads?
- Why do onions make you cry?
- How does aspirin stop pain in your body?
- Can you turn lead into gold?

You will learn about chemistry in a range of different contexts and the impact it has on industry and many aspects of everyday life. You will learn to investigate and solve problems in a range of contexts.

Leading to careers in

Veterinary Science, Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Biochemistry, Biomedical Sciences, Biochemistry, Materials Science, Chemical Engineering, Environmental Science, Sports Science, Teaching.



Physics A-Level

What is Physics?

The branch of science concerned with the nature and properties of matter and energy. The subject matter of physics includes mechanics, heat, light and other radiation, sound, electricity, magnetism, and the structure of atoms.

First year content

Measurements

SI Units, Limitations of physical measurements and estimation of physical qualities.

Particles

Stable and Unstable nuclei, particles and antiparticles and particle interactions.

Waves

Longitudinal and transverse waves, refraction, diffraction and interference and diffraction.

Mechanics

Scalars and Vectors, moments, Projectile motion, Newton's Laws of Motion and Energy.

Second year content

Further Mechanics

Circular motion and Simple harmonic motion.

Thermal Physics

Thermal energy transfer, kinetic theory.

Fields

Gravitational Fields, Electric Fields, Capacitance and Magnetic fields.

Nuclear Physics

Radioactivity.

Optional Unit

Astrophysics, Medical Physics, Engineering Physics and Turning Points in Physics.

Assessment criteria

100% exam.

Exam Board: AQA.

A-Level: Three x 120mins examination papers.

Minimum entry requirements

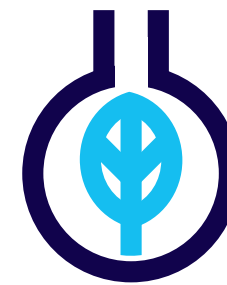
Double Science (6/7) or Triple Science (Physics 6) plus Grade 6 in GCSE Maths and Grade 5 in English Language.

Are you interested in?

It all began with Physics. Physics encompasses the study of the universe from the largest galaxies to the smallest subatomic particles. Moreover it is the basis of many other sciences, including chemistry, oceanography, seismology and astronomy.

Leading to careers in

Armed forces and defence solutions, astronomy, education, engineering, medicine, meteorology, nanotechnology, renewable energy, space exploration and telecommunication.



Environmental Science A-Level

What is Environmental Science?

Environmental Science is a rapidly growing discipline that explores the links between physical and social geography, conservation, zoology, marine biology, ecology, politics, engineering and new technologies. The course examines the causes and consequences of human impact on our planet and explores solutions to make our lives more sustainable.

With growing awareness of the climate crisis, this A-level provides students with the knowledge and skills to understand global environmental challenges and contribute to future solutions. Students develop critical thinking, analyse data, ask scientific questions and design experiments, preparing them for further study and careers in a world where sustainability is increasingly important.

First year content

- Unit 1 – The living environment.
- Unit 2 – The physical environment.
- Unit 3 – Energy Resources.
- Unit 7 – Research methods (in class and via a field trip or 4 days).

Second year content

- Unit 4 – Pollution.
- Unit 5 – Biological resources.
- Unit 6 – Sustainability.
- Unit 7 – Further Research methods.

Assessment criteria

100% terminal assessment in 2 x 3 hour exams consisting of short answer questions and essays taken at the end of year 13.

Exam Board: AQA Environmental Science Specification # 7447 Exams but there is a requirement to complete 4 days of field work during the course.

Minimum entry requirements

Minimum entry requirements Grade 5-5 in combined Science, or 5s in Triple Science. A grade 5 in Maths is required.

Are you interested in?

Why are the polar ice caps melting? How do increasing atmospheric pollution and climate change affect our planet? What are the benefits of biodiversity, and what happens when it is lost?

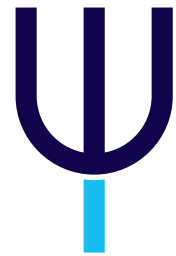
How can we conserve endangered and threatened species? How can we design and carry out experiments to measure our impact on the environment?

How do government strategies and policies influence local, national and international conservation? How can technology provide green solutions?

How can we live more sustainably and ensure a planet where future generations can thrive? How can we think critically about the environmental challenges the world will face over the next century?

Leading to careers in

Scientific research, ecology, engineering, conservation, hydrology, physical geography, journalism, waste management, law and politics, jobs in local and national organisations e.g. DEFRA, Environment Agency, utilities and the ever growing private green sector.



Psychology A-Level

What Is Psychology?

Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour. Studying Psychology at A-Level involves learning about theories of the human mind and behaviour, then evaluating this using research evidence. It also includes understanding research methods and approaches in Psychology.

First year content

Memory: how memory works and problems of eye witness testimony.

Attachment: why children form attachments and what happens when children don't form attachments.

Research methods: how to design and interpret research.

Biopsychology: an introduction to biological factors that affect behaviour.

Social Influence: why some people conform and obey and why some people don't.

Psychopathology: definitions, explanations and therapies.

Second year content

Relationships

Theories of attraction, formation, maintenance and dissolution, virtual and para-social relationships.

Schizophrenia

Biological and psychological assumptions, explanations and treatment of schizophrenia.

Forensic Psychology

Offender profiling, biological and psychological explanations of offending behaviour.

Assessment criteria

100% exam.

Exam Board: AQA.

A-Level: Three x 120mins examination papers.

Minimum entry requirements

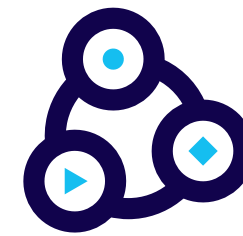
Double Science (5/5) or Triple Science (Biology 5).
Grade 5 in Maths. Grade 5 in English Language or Literature.

Are you interested in?

- Consciousness, thought processes and how the mind works?
- The relationship between mind and body including mental disorders?
- The extent to which the study of human behaviour can be scientific?
- The effects of nature on human behaviour e.g. genetics and evolution?
- The effects of nurture (the environment, learning and the media on human behaviour)?

Leading to careers in

Clinical, Forensic, Occupational and Sport Psychology, Police Force, Probation Service, Education and Human Resources.



Sociology A-Level

What Is Sociology?

Sociology is the study of society and of people and their behaviour. Sociologists study a wide range of topics such as education, families and households, beliefs in society and crime and deviance.

In studying topics like these, sociologists create theories to explain human behaviour and the workings of society. Sociology is also concerned with describing and explaining the patterns of inequality, deprivation and conflict which are a feature of virtually all societies.

First year content

- Education: the role and function of the education system, its relationship to the economy and the class structure. Differential achievement in social class, ethnicity and gender. The significance of educational policies.
- Families and Households: the relationship of the family to the social structure and social change; changing patterns of marriage, cohabitation, separation, divorce, childbearing and life course.
- Research methods: differences between and uses of qualitative and quantitative methods.

Second year content

- Beliefs in Society: Ideology, science and religion, including Christian and non-Christian. The relationship between social change and social stability, and religious beliefs, practices and organisations.
- Crime and Deviance: Crime, deviance, social order and social control. The social distribution of crime and deviance by ethnicity, gender and social class, including recent patterns and trends in crime. Crime control, surveillance, prevention and punishment.

- Theory and Methods: Consensus, structural and social action theories; the relationship between social theory and methods.

Assessment criteria

100% exam.

Exam Board: AQA.

A-Level: Three x 120mins examination papers.

Minimum entry requirements

Grade 5 in English Language and Literature plus a grade 5 or higher in a Humanities subject.

Have You Ever Wondered?

- How we have developed into 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 crime?
- A-Level sociology will help you to make sense of the society we live in and understand the cultural and identity issues which affect us all.

Leading to careers in

Social Work, Human Resources, Advertising, Policing, Marketing, Journalism, Law, Teaching.



Criminology

APPLIED LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA

What is Criminology?

Criminology is the study of crime and criminals. This applied qualification will give you the opportunity to study different types of crime, why people commit crime, how the criminal justice sector works and how policies can be implemented to try and reduce crime.

First year content

Unit 1 Changing Awareness of Crime

Learners develop an understanding of different types of crime, influences on perceptions of crime and why some crimes are unreported. There is an emphasis on why campaigns for change are important in changing the law / policy.

Unit 2 Criminological Theories

Enables learners to gain an understanding of why people commit crime, drawing on what they have learned in Unit 1.

Unit 3 Crime Scene to Courtroom

Provides learners with an understanding of the criminal justice system from the moment a crime has been identified to the verdict.

Unit 4 Crime and Punishment

Learners apply their understanding of the awareness of criminality, criminological theories and the process of bringing an accused to court, in order to evaluate the effectiveness of social control to deliver criminal justice policy.

Assessment criteria

Unit 1 and Unit 3 are assessed internally through controlled assessment.

- 8 hours for each unit (50%)
- Unit 2 and Unit 4 are assessed externally through exam (50%)
- Exam Board: WJEC
- Year 12 WJEC Level 3 Certificate in Criminology QAN 601/6249/1.
- Year 13 WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Criminology QAN 601/6248/X.

Minimum entry requirements

A minimum of 5 GCSEs at grade 4 or above including English is required.

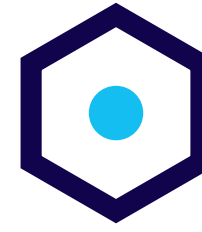
Are you interested in?

- What types of crime take place in our society?
- How do we decide what behaviour is criminal?
- What happens to those who commit a crime?
- How and why do we punish people?
- Differences between criminal behaviour and deviance?
- What organisations do we have in our society to control criminality?

Leading to careers in

The criminal justice sector, including police officers, probation and prison officers and social workers.

With their critical thinking, analytical and communication skills, criminology graduates are also attractive to employers in areas such as social research and politics.



Art, Craft & Design A-Level

What is Art, Craft & Design?

Students will be introduced to a variety of experiences that explore a range of two-dimensional and/or three-dimensional media, processes and techniques. They will be shown examples of both traditional and new media. Students explore the use of drawing for different purposes, using a variety of methods and media on a variety of scales. Students will use sketchbooks/ journals to underpin their work where appropriate.

Students explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to a range of art, craft and design, from the past and from recent times. This will be integral to the investigating and making processes. Students' responses to these examples will be shown through practical and critical activities that demonstrate their understanding of different styles, genres and traditions.

Areas of study

(September - January)

Within each component, students must demonstrate evidence that they have explored critical and contextual work through a range of two-dimensional and/or three-dimensional processes and media.

Component 1: personal investigation; this project is chosen and designed by the student with guidance from their teachers. This will begin in September of yr12 and finish in January of yr13. Students have the freedom to create work that they are passionate about or design their project to create a portfolio of work that will support their next academic journey, should that be an Art degree, Architectural course or design industry.

Component 2: Externally set exam; begins February of yr13 and completes in May of yr13. Students explore the externally set theme, looking at suggested artists and starting points.

They create and adapt this to a conclusion Art piece which they will create in the 15 hour exam at the end of the course.

Students will have practised, explored the materials and have created all preparatory work prior to the exam.

Assessment criteria

Exam Board: AQA

A-Level:

- Component 1: 60% Personal Investigation.
- Component 2: 40% Externally set assignment.

Minimum entry requirements

Grade 4 in either English Language or Literature. You will require at least Grade 6 at GCSE Art.

Skills and techniques

Fine art: for example drawing, painting, mixed-media, sculpture, ceramics, printmaking.

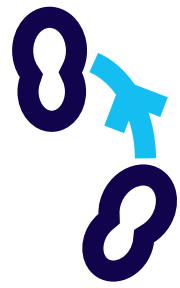
Graphic communication: for example design for print, illustration, communication graphics.

Photography: for example portraiture, landscape photography, still life photography, documentary photography, fashion photography, experimental imagery, digital editing.

Research and literacy skills: independent research skills, analysis and critical reflection comments, presenting project briefs.

Leading to careers in

Illustration, Graphic Design, Photography, Artist, Education, Designer, Creative Advertising, Sculptor, Museum/Gallery Curator, Journalist, Jewellery, Fashion, Arts Coordinator, Community Art, Set Designer, Architecture etc.



Dance A-Level

What is A-Level Dance?

A-Level Dance is a dynamics qualification which encourages students to develop their creative and intellectual capacity, alongside transferable skills such as problem solving, teamwork and communication. All of these are sought after skills by higher education and employers and will help them stand out in the workplace of their choice of career.

This course reflects both historical and current dance practitioners, making it more relevant and inspires a lifelong passion and appreciation for the Arts.

First year content

In your first year you will work on the development of your contemporary technique through the exploration of professional works and within specified technique classes. American Jazz Dance will also be a focus, working on physical, technical, interpretive and performance skills. Choreographic practice will be developed as you create solo and group pieces for internal assessment and performance within the Jazz and contemporary genre linked to a practitioner of your choice.

Second year content

The second year focuses on your preparation for the exams. You will respond to a set choreographic paper by creating a group piece on your peers as well as creating a solo dance and learning a quartet piece for performance. Alongside this you will continue to look at the two set works in detail and their accompanying areas of study showing critical engagement and developed writing.

Assessment criteria

Each component will be assessed by one of two methods:

1. Written Examination –
2.5 hour written paper set by exam board.
2. Practical Examination –
solo performance, performance in quartet and group choreography.

You will be expected to rehearse out of lesson hours.

A commitment to this is essential.

Exam Board: AQA.

Minimum entry requirements

GCSE Grades 5 above Or Grade 6 ISTD above.

Are you interested in?

Journalist, Therapist, Director, Producer, Artist, Choreographer, Film maker, Teaching, Performer, lecturer, researcher, physio, personal trainer, photographer, lighting/ costume designer, stage manager, arts administrator, dance writer.

Leading to careers in

Theatre and stage, choreographer, education, costume and set design, therapist.



Drama & Theatre Studies A-Level

What is Drama & Theatre Studies?

The course is a creative subject that encourages students to be self-managers and team workers. Students will use explorative strategies to enhance and develop their understanding of play texts, considering their original performance conditions and possible interpretations.

First year content

Students will study the playtexts 'Equus' and 'Hedda Gabler' in consideration of contrasting theatre practitioners such as 'Stanislavski' and 'Brecht'. To do this students will take on the role of theatre makers. This is in preparation for students written exam in Year 13. Students will then work on their devising skills and exploring companies such as Frantic Assembly and The Royal Shakespeare company, to create their own performance. Within this they look at the style and form of Steven Berkoff's East.

Second year content

Students will perform monologues/duologues as well as a group piece, using published play texts. Here they are also given the opportunity to be designers, working with the technical skills of costume, lighting, set and sound.

They also return to the Unit 3 exam, focusing on their ability to analyse and evaluate live theatre.

Assessment criteria

60% Coursework, 40% exam.

Exam Board: Edexcel.

Component 1: Devising.

Component 2: Text in Performance.

Component 3: Theatre Makers in practice.

Minimum entry requirements

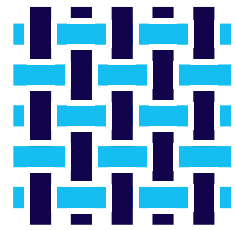
Drama grade 5, Grade 5 in English Language or Literature.

Are you interested in?

- Experiencing a range of opportunities to create theatre, both published text-based and devised work.
- Going to the theatre.
- Developing an understanding and appreciation of how the social, cultural and historical contexts of performance texts have influenced the development of drama and society.

Leading to careers in

Arts/theatre administration, arts journalism, director, actor, designer, playwright, stage management, theatre management, theatrical agent, technician, broadcasting, media presenting, education, drama therapy and scriptwriting.



DT Fashion & Textiles A-Level

What is Design Technology: Fashion & Textiles?

This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers, especially those in the creative industries. They will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put their learning in to practice by producing a prototype of their choice. Students will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers.

Example course content

- Design theory, linked with designers and their work practical manufacture reflecting design era.
- Pattern drafting- practical application making a toile.
- Materials and their application.
- Performance characteristics of materials- corset prototype, electronic product.
- Design communication.
- Non examination assessment portfolio.

Assessment criteria

50% written exam.

50% non-examination assessment.

Exam Board: AQA.

A-Level

Written examination:

- Two examination papers
- Paper 1 - 2h30.
- Paper 2 - 1h30.
- Maths and Science questions contribute 15% of papers.

Non examination assessment:

- Substantial design and make task with a portfolio and prototype.

Minimum entry requirements

Textiles GCSE Grade 6, Grade 5 in either English Language or Literature, Grade 4 in Mathematics.

Leading to careers in

Design based careers

Fashion garments, Uniforms, Protective equipment, Costume, Sports wear & equipment, Footwear, Technical Textiles, Interior Design, Carpets & flooring.

Technologists

Fibre Technologist, Fabric Technologist, Garment Technologist, Dye Technologist, Materials Testing Technologist, Product Development.

Manufacturing

Machinist, Sample maker, Pattern maker, Fabric cutter, Finishing & Pressing, Researcher, Printer, Dyer, Weaver, Knitter, Production supervisor, Production planner Testing, Quality Controller, Materials testing, Product testing.

Trends & Fashion

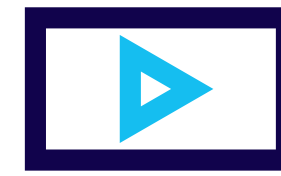
Colourist, Stylist, Trend forecaster, Visual merchandiser.

Retail & 'behind the scenes' retail roles

Buyer, Merchandiser, Advertising & marketing, Sales assistant, Retail manager.

Other related careers

Journalist, Photographer, Trainer /Teacher / Lecturer, Process engineer, Technician, Research scientist, Systems analyst, Computer programmer, Machine engineer/technician, Technician, Dry cleaning, Exhibition organiser, Curator.



Media Studies A-Level

Skills that will be developed

Media studies offers students the opportunity to study an intellectually stimulating and contextually relevant range of exciting products. Students will develop skills in key areas including debating, analysing materials and relating product to its historical and contemporary context. As well as engaging with a plethora of rich and stimulating texts, students will be expected to apply their understanding to a creative practical piece of their own design.

Synopsis of content

Component 1

Media Products, Industries and Audiences.

Section A may take the form of a comparison of one historical print advertisement compared to one contemporary advertisement.

Section B may take the form of a critical analysis of a niche and mainstream newspaper.

Component 2

Understanding Media Forms and Products In-Depth.

- Section A: a study of two contrasting texts from one television genre.
- Section B: A study of one historical (pre-1970) and one contemporary magazine.
- Section C: Online Media - A study of one blog and one online magazine or newspaper produced for a minority audience.

Component 3

Media Production. Students will need to produce one cross-media production in two forms for an intended audience. They will need to showcase their understanding of the theoretical frameworks through independently responding to a brief.

Assessment criteria

70% Exam. 30% Coursework.

Exam Board: Eduqas.

- Paper 1 Media Products, Industries and Audiences.
- Paper 2 Understanding Media Form and Products In-Depth.
- Non Exam Assessment Media Production.

Minimum entry requirements

Grade 5 in either English Language or English Literature.

Are you interested in?

Developing an understanding of how the Media shapes the world we live in – socially, culturally, politically and historically.

Leading to careers in

Media planner, Multimedia specialist, programme researcher, public relations officer, Runner, Producer, Advertising account executive, Journalist, Editor, Film Director, Event organiser, Market Researcher, Writer, presenter, actor, cameraman, and photographer.



English Language & Literature A-Level

Skills that will be developed

Skills will draw on the established and academic fields of stylistics, linguistics, narratology and creative writing.

A contemporary approach to the study of a range of literary and non-literary discourses and texts. The opportunity to explore key aspects of both established and new literary texts: point of view and genre in prose fiction; voice and identity in poetry; interaction and conflict in drama. The study of representation of place in an anthology of non-literary texts (including spoken language, media texts and new technologies).

A focus on students' own writing through textual intervention work.

Synopsis of content

Remembered Places

Narratives that construct different views of Paris (Anthology).

Imagined Worlds

Narratives that project a particular point of view and present characters, times and places in striking ways – The Handmaid's Tale.

Poetic Voices

Narratives that construct a strong sense of personal perspective – Carol Ann Duffy anthology.

Exploring Conflict

Writing about society – the role of the individual in society. Re-creative writing task and critical commentary based on set text. The Great Gatsby + Critical Commentary on transformation of The Kite Runner.

Dramatic Encounters

A Streetcar Named Desire.

Making Connections: A personal investigation that explores a specific technique or theme in both literary and non-literary discourse (written

up as a research report using headings). Students will make connections between a literary text and non-literary material, 2500–3000 words.

Assessment

Exam Board: AQA.

80% exam 20% coursework.

Paper one: 150 mins:

There are three sections:

- Section A: Remembered Places
- Section B: Imagined Worlds
- Section C: Poetic Voices
- Students answer one question from each section of the exam.

Paper 2: 150 mins:

- Section A: Writing about Society
- Section B: Dramatic Encounters
- Students answer three questions
- In total: two questions from Section A and one question from Section B.

Non exam assessment

A personal investigation that explores a specific technique or theme in both literary and nonliterary discourse (written up as a research report using headings). Students will make connections between a literary text and nonliterary material, 2500-3000 words.

Minimum entry requirements

Grade 5 in both English Language and Literature.

Leading to careers in

Advertising, Editing and Publishing, Journalism, Public Relations, Law and Teaching.



English Literature A-Level

Skills That Will Be Developed

This course attracts students who enjoy reading, debating and analysing a wide range of poetry, plays and novels.

Students will study a minimum of eight texts over the course. Not only will students broaden their knowledge of the literary canon, but they will also learn the vital importance of the contexts surrounding these texts. The course naturally develops the skills of debate and independent research.

Students will also explore new ways of interpreting literature – through the lens of critical literary theories such as Marxism and Feminism.

Synopsis of content

The first examined unit, entitled 'Drama and Poetry Pre-1900' involves the study of a Shakespeare play and the comparative study of drama and poetry produced pre-1900.

The second unit, 'Comparative and Contextual Study' invites students to become experts in a particular period or genre of literature (such as American Fiction or The Gothic).

The coursework unit (20% of the A-level) is an opportunity for students to showcase their appreciation of 21st century literature.

Assessment

Exam Board: OCR.

80% Exam. 20% Coursework.

Paper 1

Drama and Poetry Pre-1900.

Paper 2

- Comparative and Contextual Study.
- Non Exam Assessment:
- Close reading or re-creative writing piece with commentary.

Minimum Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in both English Language and Literature

Leading to careers in

Advertising, Editing and Publishing, Journalism, Public Relations, Law and Teaching.



French A-Level

Importance of a language at a more advanced level

Being able to speak a foreign language is a unique selling point for employers and universities. Language skills can give you an edge in a competitive employment market, with many businesses valuing employees who can communicate with international clients and partners.

French combines well with a wide range of subjects, including English, Humanities, Fine Art and Performing Arts, through essay writing, literature, immigration and French culture. It can also add an international dimension to the study of Sciences, broadening future study and career opportunities.

First year content

- Aspects of society (the changing family, cyber society and volunteering).
- Artistic culture (heritage, music, and cinema)
- Study of a film (Au revoir les enfants).

Second year content

- Aspect of society (diversity, marginalisation, criminality).
- Aspect of political life (the right to vote and political commitment, protests and strikes, politics and immigration).
- Study of a book (Kiffe kiffe demain by Faïza Guène).

Assessment criteria

100% exam.

Exam Board: AQA.

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing (50% of A-Level)

150-minute exam covering social, cultural and political life in France. Listening and reading use authentic sources and include multiple choice, matching, true/false and responses in French. Two short translation passages are also included (French to English and English to French).

Paper 2: Writing (20% of A-Level)

120-minute exam requiring an essay on each work studied. Students choose from two questions for each and write around 300 words per essay.

Paper 3: Speaking (30% of A-Level)

Approximately 20 minutes. Students respond to a stimulus card, chosen from two options, following five minutes' preparation. The test also includes a two-minute presentation on their Individual Research Project, followed by questions.

Minimum entry requirement

French GCSE grade 6.

Life-long learning

You may well have to learn another language in the course of your working life. Through further study in French you will acquire advanced linguistic skills and a more thorough understanding of how languages work.

Leading to careers in

Journalism, politics, financial sector, Education, Interpreting.



Spanish A-Level

Importance of a language at a more advanced level

Speaking a foreign language is a unique selling point for employers and universities. Spanish skills can give you an edge in a competitive employment market, with businesses valuing employees who can communicate with Spanish-speaking clients and partners.

Spanish combines well with English, Humanities, Fine Art, Performing Arts and Sciences, offering opportunities to explore literature, immigration, culture and international perspectives while broadening future study and career choices.

First year content

Aspects of society (family, attitudes towards marriage and divorce, the influence of the Catholic Church, the digital society, equal rights for men and women, LGBTQ+, machismo and feminism, Artistic culture (cultural heritage, Spanish regional identity, the influence of celebrities), Study of a film (El laberinto del fauno).

Second year content

Aspects of society (Immigration, racism, integration) Aspects of political life (today's youth, tomorrow's citizens, monarchies and dictatorships, popular movements, strikes, trade unions), Study of a book (La casa de Bernarda Alba).

Assessment criteria

100% exam.

Exam Board: AQA.

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing (50% of A-Level)

150-minute exam covering social, cultural and political life in Spain. Listening and reading use up-to-date, authentic sources and include multiple choice, matching, true/false and responses in Spanish. Two short translation passages are also included (Spanish to English and English to Spanish).

Paper 2: Writing (20% of A-Level)

120-minute exam requiring an essay on each work studied (film and book). Students choose from two questions for each and write around 300 words per essay.

Paper 3: Speaking (30% of A-Level)

Approximately 20 minutes. Students respond to a stimulus card, chosen from two options, following five minutes' preparation. The test also includes a two-minute presentation on their Individual Research Project, followed by questions.

Minimum entry requirement

Spanish GCSE grade 6.

Life-long learning

You may well have to learn another language in the course of your working life. Through further study in Spanish, you will acquire advanced linguistic skills and a more thorough understanding of how languages work.

Leading to careers in

Journalism, politics, financial sector, Education, Interpreting.



History A-Level

What is History?

History is the study of past events, particularly in human affairs. History is a narration of the events which have happened among mankind, including an account of the rise and fall of nations, as well as of other great changes which have affected the political and social condition of the human race and present day.

First year content

Unit 1

Italy 1896-1943.

Unit 2

Popular Culture and the Witchcraze of the 16th and 17th Centuries.

Second year content

Unit 3

From Pitt to Peel 1783-1846.

Unit 4

4000 word Coursework Essay on topic of your choice.

Assessment criteria

Exam Board: OCR.

A-Level

Units 1-3 are assessed by exam and Unit 4 is coursework.

Minimum entry requirements

History Grade 5 GCSE. Grade 5 in English Language or English Literature.

Are you interested in?

- An exciting and academically demanding subject?
- Studying a relevant subject? - In order to make sense of current affairs it is important to study the past, as everything which is happening around us has been influenced by, and is a direct result of, that which preceded it.
- Looking at the history of different cultures and developing a broad cultural awareness?

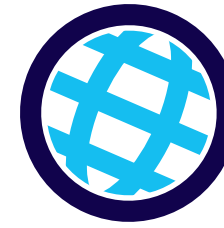
Leading to careers in

Studying History provides students with skills which are not confined to the study of the past. Skills of analysis are invaluable in many jobs, and the ability to analyse and then prioritise information is vital to decision making.

History allows students to follow clear and direct career routes - both subject specific and general; e.g.

Teaching, Accountancy, Journalism, Politics, Law and many more.

History can be an impressive and attractive feature on a CV and university and/or job prospects are both broad and high for History students.



Geography A-Level

What is Geography?

The A-Level Geography course will cover both the physical and human environments and the complex interaction of processes that shape our world.

It will also, importantly, show the applied side of the subject - how human intervention affects the environment and how people adapt and mitigate the effects of processes on their environment.

This is complex and dynamic and varies from place to place depending on people's resources, technology and culture. There is plenty of room for discussion and extended research which will help you become an independent thinker and learner. By the time you get to your exams, you will be able to show your understanding of a range of opinions and be able to illustrate your answers with case studies from local, national and international examples.

First year content

- Coastal systems.
- Hazards.
- Changing places.
- Geography fieldwork investigation and geographical skills.

Second year content

- Water and carbon cycles
- Global systems and global governance
- Contemporary urban environments
- Geographical investigation Students complete an individual investigation which must include data collected in the field. The individual investigation must be based on a question or issue defined and developed by the student relating to any part of the specification content.

Assessment criteria

Exam Board: AQA.

A-Level

Two x written exams 150mins each and one piece of coursework 3,000 – 4,000 words.

Minimum entry requirements

Geography Grade 5 GCSE.

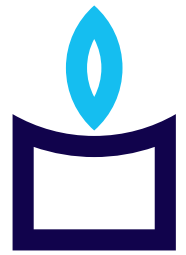
Grade 4 in either English Language or Literature.

Why choose geography?

The new AQA specification will excite students' minds, challenge perceptions and stimulate their investigative and analytical skills. New units have been added to reflect the world today, but the new specification has retained many of the topics that were investigated in GCSE Geography.

Leading to careers in

Cartographer, Surveyor, Environmental consultant, GIS officer, Town planner, Park ranger, Environment officer.



Religious Studies A-Level

What is Religious Studies?

Religious Studies is one of the most demanding and rewarding courses on offer. It is excellent preparation both for University and for life, training you in skills of independent thought, logical argument and creative problem solving. Religious Studies is also great fun! You have the opportunity to discuss some of the deepest questions of life in a non-threatening and prejudice-free environment.

First year content

- Does God exist: what arguments are there to prove the existence of God and how do atheists reply.
- Evil and suffering: does the existence of evil and suffering prove there is no all-loving, all powerful God.
- Self, death and the afterlife: who are we and what happens to this self after we die.
- Ethical theories: how should we live our lives and why?

Second year content

- Free will: do we really have the freedom to make our own decisions?
- Conscience: should we follow our conscience when making moral decisions or is there a better way?
- Religion and science: can these two ever be friends?

Assessment criteria

100% exam.

Exam Board: AQA.

A-Level

Two x 180mins written examination.

Minimum entry requirements

Grade 5 in both English Language and Literature. And a grade 5 or higher in a Humanities subject.

Some famous examples of people who have studied this Religious Studies

David Cameron (former Prime Minister), Moby (Musician), Martin Luther King (Civil Rights Leader), Susan Sarandon (Actress), Wes Anderson (Film Director), Bill Clinton (former President of USA), Ethan Coen (Coen Brothers Film Directors), Matt Groening (Creator of The Simpsons), Pope John Paul II, Ricky Gervais (Comedian), Aung San Suu Kyi (Nobel Peace Prize winner for peaceful protests in Burma) and Vann Martel (Author of Life of Pi).

Are you interested in?

- Why we are here?
- How should we live our lives?
- Should we listen to our conscience or logical reason?
- Is there proof that God exists?
- Does evil and suffering mean God doesn't exist?
- Do we really have free will?
- Can religion and science ever be friends?
- Are advances in medical and scientific technologies always ethical?

Leading to careers in

Legal profession, Medical ethics, Journalism, Education, Social Work, Broadcast, Film and Politics.



Classical Civilisation A-Level

What is Classical Civilisation?

Classical Civilisation is the study of the ancient Greek and Roman worlds, through examination of the literature, drama, politics, religion and history. These cultures are the basis of much of western civilisation, and although long-dead much of their beliefs and ideas still resonate in the modern world. Many of the issues raised in the literature have timeless themes such as war, suffering, the pain of love and broken family relationships. Students who are interested in history, philosophy, drama and other arts subject will find this subject complements such other disciplines.

The course is taught from scratch by subject specialists - there is no prior knowledge of the ancient world required. Classical Civilisation is highly regarded by universities and further education establishments.

Areas of study

The World of the Hero

In this module, we explore what it meant in the ancient world to be a good citizen and what heroism meant in their culture. We will read - in English - Homer's *Odyssey*. This is the tale of how the cunning hero Odysseus journeyed back from Troy having numerous adventures and escapes along the way, such as with the Cyclops and the Sirens, only to return and find his palace in uproar. In Year 13 we read Virgil's *Aeneid*, which is heavily influenced by the *Odyssey*, and tells of the Roman hero Aeneas' struggle to found the city in Italy, descendants of which would eventually go on to found Rome.

Greek Theatre

This module focuses on the two main genres in ancient drama - tragedy and comedy. We read *Oedipus the King*, the story of the

ill-fated man who accidentally kills his father and marries his mother.

We also read the *Bacchae*, a text which reminds audiences of the power of Dionysus, God of Wine. Finally, we read Aristophanes' *Frogs*, a comedy written just before the eventual defeat of the Athenians at the hands of the Spartans in the Peloponnesian War.

Politics of the late republic

In this ancient history module, you will learn about the great statesman and orator Cicero, as well as the rise and fall of the famous Julius Caesar.

His assassination caused the eventual fall of the republic and the consolidation of power in his successor, the first emperor Augustus, and the subsequent rise of the Roman Empire.

Assessment criteria

Exam Board: OCR

A-Level

- 40% Component 1: World of the Hero (*Odyssey* and *Aeneid*).
- 30% Component 2: Culture and the Arts (Greek Theatre).
- 30% Component 3: Beliefs and Ideas (Politics of the Late Republic).

Minimum entry criteria

Grade 5 in either English Language or English Literature.

Leading to careers in

Archaeologist, lawyer, museum curator, teacher, researcher, historian.



BTEC Sport

What is BTEC Sport?

BTEC Sport builds on students' experiences from Key Stage 4 and GCSE PE / CN Sports science to enhance their knowledge and increase their understanding of the factors that affect performance and participation in physical activity and sport. If you want a career in any aspect of sport this is the right course for you.

Course content

Paper 1: Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport Written Paper 35%.

- 2 hour written paper.
- 105 marks.
- Combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions.

Paper 2: Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport Written Paper 35%.

- 2 hour written paper.
- 105 marks.
- Combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions.

Non-exam assessment: Practical performance in physical activity and sport.

30% (90 marks) in one sport.

Internal assessment, external moderation.

Consists of 2 parts:

- 15% as a performer / coach.

Assessment criteria

2 examinations (70%)

Paper 1

Factors affecting participation in physical activity in sport.

Paper 2

Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity in sport.

Non-Examined Assessment (30% coursework) Internal and external moderation

Exam Board: AQA.

Minimum entry requirements

Grade 6 in GCSE PE or A-Level 2.

Merit in CN Sports science / BTEC and a Grade 5 in double science or biology.

Are you interested in?

Coaching, improving performance, improving physical and mental health, a wide range of sports.

Leading to careers in:

A-Level PE provides an excellent base for the majority of degree courses in physiotherapy, sports journalism, sport and exercise physiology, sports coaching in a range of sports, personal training and fitness training, sports performance research, PE teacher or a PTI in the armed forces.

Frequently asked questions

How much of the course involves a practical element?

Very little. The course is mainly theory based. 1 lesson a fortnight will look at the practical aspect of the course, but it will be mainly theory.

Do I need to play sport to a good standard?

You must be able to take part in 1 practical activity at club level. The expectation is that you will participate regularly in / out of school in training sessions.



BTEC Travel & Tourism

What is travel and tourism?

A BTEC in Travel and Tourism will develop and sustain an interest in travel and tourism and the issues affecting the development of the industry and its potential effect on employment opportunities.

Students can develop an understanding of the scale and importance of the travel and tourism industry.

The course encourages students to appreciate the positive and negative impacts travel and tourism may have on people, environment and economy; as well as developing practical and technical skills relevant to the travel and tourism industry.

The course enables students to develop their own values and attitudes in relation to travel and tourism issues as well as apply their knowledge and understanding of travel and tourism and use skills of research, evaluation and problem solving.

First year content

- The world of travel and tourism: intro work in preparation for second year exam.
- Principles of marketing in travel and tourism: coursework.
- Visitor attractions: coursework.

Second year content

- Global destinations: externally marked assignment under exam conditions (180mins.)
- Final exam in: The world of travel and tourism.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Two assignments:

- One exam 90mins.
- One assessed task 180mins.

Minimum entry requirements

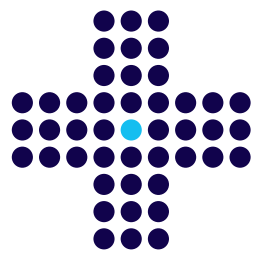
Grade 4 in English Language or Literature.

Why choose travel and tourism?

Travel and tourism is one of the largest single industries in the commercial world, and its importance to the economy is widely recognised. In the UK it is estimated that approximately 2 million people are employed directly in tourism. We have many visits linked to the course from Hatfield Forest and Freeport, to Buckingham Palace and Stansted Airport.

Leading to careers in

Holiday rep, Tour manager, Tourism officer, Tourist information centre manager, Travel agent, Hotel manager, Marketing executive.



BTEC Health & Social Care

What is Health & Social care?

The Health & Social Care sector comprises two sub sectors; health care and social care. Health care encompasses all hospital activities, medical nursing homes and GP services, for example. The social care sector includes, residential nursing care, residential care facilities, domiciliary care and social work. Students are able to progress into work in the sector through degree programmes in nursing, midwifery, social work, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and pharmacy, for example. There are more than 300 distinct career paths in this sector. The sector is a major employer, employing almost four million people across the UK.

First year content

Meeting individual care and support needs.

Second year content

Psychological perspectives.

Assessment criteria

90 minute exam –
Human Lifespan and Development.

90 minute exam –
Working in Health & Social care.

What does the qualification cover?

The content of this qualification has been developed in consultation with higher education to ensure it supports progression towards higher study. In addition, employers and professional bodies have been involved, in order to confirm that the content is also appropriate for those interested in working in the sector.

Will the qualification support progression to further learning, if so, what to?

Because the BTEC Level 3 in Health & Social Care is generally taken alongside other qualifications, as part of a two year programme of learning, students will be able to choose a wide range of degree programmes to progress to, depending on the other subjects they have chosen.

The qualification is intended to carry UCAS points and is recognised by Higher Education providers as contributing to meeting admission requirements to many courses.

For example, if taken alongside:

- A-Levels in Biology and Psychology, it could lead to a BSc (Hons) in Nursing.
- A-Levels in English and History, it could lead to a BA (Hons) in Primary Education.
- Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Sport, it could lead to a BSc (Hons) in Sports Science.
- Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Children's Play, Learning and Development, it could lead to BSc (Hons) in Social Work.

Students should always check the entry requirements for degree programmes at specific Higher Education providers.

Minimum entry requirements

Grade 4 in English Language or Literature.

Why choose Health & Social care?

This qualification aims to provide an introduction to study of the sector and is for the student interested in learning about the Health & Social care sector as part of a balanced study programme. It is intended as an Applied General qualification, and is equivalent in size to one A-Level. It supports access to a range of higher education courses, possibly in Health & Social care if taken alongside further Level 3 qualifications. The qualification typically makes up one third of a study programme.

Leading to careers in

This qualification is designed primarily to support progression to employment via higher education. It also support students choosing to progress directly to employment as the transferable knowledge, understanding and skills will give successful students an advantage in applying for a range of entry level roles, industry training programmes and Higher Apprenticeships; for example, the Adult Social Care Apprenticeship or the Allied Health Profession Support Apprenticeship.





How do I apply?

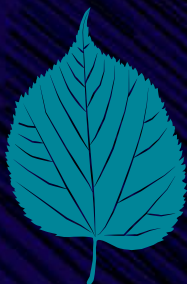
We welcome applications from both internal and external students who are required to apply through our online 'Applicaa Admissions' service.

This is a quick and easy process and more information can be found on the School website:

www.hws.education

All students have a guidance discussion for appropriate course selection following receipt of their application.

The High Wood Sixth Form Leadership Team, tutors and students are always available to answer questions regarding applications, courses and the Sixth Form life at High Wood Sixth Form.



High Wood School

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