



# HOWELL'S COLLEGE CURRICULUM CONTENT 2017-2018



**H·S·L**  
HOWELL'S COLLEGE  
*Llandaff*

---

COLEG HOWELL  
*Llandaf*



## Contents

<b>Letter of welcome</b>	3
<b>Curriculum subjects on offer</b>	4
<b>Subjects</b>	
Art & Design	5
Biology	6
Business	7
Chemistry	8
Classical Civilisation	9
Drama & Theatre	11
Economics	13
English Language & Literature	14
English Literature	16
Geography	17
Government & Politics	18
History	20
ICT	22
Latin	23
Mathematics and Further Mathematics	25
Modern Foreign Languages – French, German, Spanish	28
Music	32
Physics	35
Product Design	36
Religious Studies	37
Welsh (Second Language)	39

# Welcome from the Deputy Principal



Welcome to our curriculum booklet which aims to clarify for you which subjects we offer and how they are assessed. As you may be aware, A Levels are changing in terms of their content, depth, rigour and form of assessment. Reformed A levels were first introduced two years ago and the final subjects now join them for those students starting their A Level courses in 2017. This also means the AS no longer counts towards the full A level at Howell's as we offer linear subjects only. The exception to this is Welsh and ICT.

A Level is very different to GCSE and you will be expected to understand and apply your knowledge in the wider context so think carefully about your choices. Some of you may be uncertain about what you would like to do in the future and I would advise those students to choose a broad range of subjects you will enjoy to give you the best chance of top grades in two years' time.

If you are uncertain whether to take a subject, remember you should want to study not just what is taught in the classroom but be keen to read around the subject pursuing topics of interest, keeping up-to-date with developments in the subject area and really engaging with the subject.

If you know your career pathway, do check with us that your subjects are appropriately chosen. Some career paths will require certain subjects and we can advise you so that you match your A Level choices to the needs of your courses at university: for example you should consider both Chemistry and Biology to study medicine and Mathematics (mechanics) and Physics to study engineering.

Most students will choose four subjects to study at AS Level and drop to three subjects for the full A Level. In addition to their AS choices in Year 12, all students in 2017 will be able to take a timetabled Critical Thinking course to help them develop their reasoning, analysis, research and presentation skills. This course is the foundation for the Extended Project which is then offered to students who are interested.

If you have any questions regarding our curriculum offer, do contact us.

**Mrs Natalie Chyba,**  
**Deputy Principal**

# Curriculum Subjects on offer

## All subjects are linear specifications except ICT and Welsh

Subjects are studied over two years. An AS qualification will be taken at the end of Year 12 by students who are not studying the subject to A Level. The content is the same as that studied towards the A Level but assessed differently. Please note that for Welsh and ICT we offer WJEC. This specification is assessed differently.

The AS will count towards the full A Level on the reformed specification.

Subject	Examination Board
Art & Design	AQA
Biology	Eduqas
Business	Eduqas
Chemistry	OCR
Classical Civilisation	OCR
Drama & Theatre	Eduqas
Economics	Eduqas
English Language & Literature	Eduqas
English Literature	AQA
French	Eduqas
Further Mathematics	AQA
Geography	AQA
German	Eduqas
Government & Politics	TBC
History	AQA
ICT	WJEC
Latin	OCR
Music	Eduqas
Mathematics	AQA
Physics	OCR
Product Design	Eduqas
Religious Studies	Eduqas
Spanish	Eduqas
Welsh	WJEC

## ART & DESIGN

### Which Examination Board?

AQA

### Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?

**The AS is a standalone qualification. It does not count towards the full A Level. You can opt into the AS qualification if you choose to drop this subject at the end of Year 12.**

### How will you be assessed?

The coursework and externally set task are marked by the centre then moderated by an external moderator from the examination board.

### Why study this subject?

Flexibility, capability and creativity have been identified as vital for progress in the world of work in the future. Art and Design links all three with practical purpose, as well as providing a tool for personal expression and growth. Creativity is a form of intelligence and distinguishes those who will form the future we hope to live in. If you are interested in the visual world and visual culture, Art and Design offers you the opportunity to find your own solutions and produce a personal response.

### What is the outline content over 2 years?

#### YEAR 12 – AS Level

##### Component 1 Portfolio: 60% September to February

The students begin from a neutral theme set by the centre. In the first three weeks students have workshops exploring a range of media and approaches. They then develop the theme in their own direction, including reflective recording, contextual understanding and creative making before realising their ideas in a final outcome.

##### Component 2 Externally set assignment: 40% February to April (Preparatory period + 10 hours supervised time)

The examination paper consists of a choice of five questions to be used as starting points. Students are required to select one which they develop in their own direction, including reflective recording, contextual understanding and creative making before realising their ideas in a final outcome.

#### YEAR 13 – A Level

##### Component 1 Personal investigation: 60% September to February

Students are required to conduct a practical investigation, into an idea, issue, concept or theme, supported by written material. This work can grow out of the experiences from Year 12. The focus of the investigation must be identified independently by the student and must lead to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes.

##### Component 2 Externally set assignment: 40% February to April (Preparatory period + 15 hours supervised time)

The examination paper consists of a choice of eight questions to be used as starting points. Students are required to select one which they develop in their own direction, including reflective recording, contextual understanding and creative making before realising their ideas in a final outcome.

## BIOLOGY

### Which Examination Board?

Eduqas

### Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?

The AS is a standalone qualification. It does not count towards the A Level. You can opt into the AS qualification if you choose to drop this subject at the end of Year 12.

### How will you be assessed?

Students may sit the AS qualification in May/June 2017. There are two papers, each is 1 hour 30 minutes and worth 50% of the AS level.

Students will sit the A level qualification in June 2018. There are 3 papers, each 2 hours long and worth 33.3% of the final marks.

At A level there is a non-examination Practical Endorsement that is Pass/Fail and based on completion of specific practical tasks in class throughout the two years.

### Why study this subject?

It is a fascinating tour through the origin, breadth and characteristics of all living organisms from the level of the cell to the interactions of organisms and their environment. It allows you to combine skills of literacy and numeracy with practical investigation in the laboratory and field. If you enjoyed GCSE Biology you will really get immersed in the depth of study at A level and the widespread application of key principles in our modern world.

### What is the outline content over 2 years?

#### YEAR 12

- **Component 1: 50%** Basic Biochemistry & Cell organisation – cells, molecules, enzymes
- **Component 2: 50%** Biodiversity & Physiology of Body Systems – classification, adaptations for nutrition, gas exchange, transport

#### YEAR 13

- **Component 1: 33.3%** Energy for Life – respiration, photosynthesis, microbiology, human influence on the environment
- **Component 2: 33.3%** Continuity of Life – evolution, reproduction, inheritance
- **Component 3: 33.3%** Requirements for Life – homeostasis, nervous system, immunology and disease
- **Practical Endorsement**

## BUSINESS

### Which Examination Board?

Eduqas

### Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?

The AS is a standalone qualification. It does not count towards the A Level. You can opt into the AS qualification if you choose to drop this subject at the end of Year 12.

### How will you be assessed?

**100% Examination at AS and A Level.**

### Why study this subject?

The Eduqas AS & A level in Business introduces students to the importance of entrepreneurial activity in creating business opportunities in an ever changing business & economic environment.

Over the 2 years, students will study a wide range of topics which are current, interesting, challenging and thought provoking. Students often comment on how much they enjoy and take from being able to apply Business theory to real life business scenarios, such as the growth of Apple, globalisation of Coca-Cola, the impact of supermarket 'price wars' and many more.

By taking the course you will:

- gain an holistic understanding of business in a range of contexts
- develop a critical understanding of organisations and their ability to meet society's needs and wants
- understand that business behaviour can be studied from a range of perspectives
- generate enterprising and creative approaches to business opportunities, problems and issues
- be aware of the ethical dilemmas and responsibilities faced by organisations and individuals
- acquire a range of relevant business and generic skills, including decision-making, problem-solving, the challenging of assumptions and critical analysis
- apply numerical skills in a range of business contexts.

The nature of the course ensures that students have the opportunity to develop a wide range of essential skills required for higher education and employment.

### What is the outline content over 2 years?

#### AS Business

**Component 1: 40%** Business Opportunities, written examination: 1 hour (Short answer/structured questions)

**Component 2: 60%** Business Functions, written examination: 2 hours (Data response & essay paper)

#### A Level Business

**Component 1: 33.3%** Business Opportunities & functions, written exam: 2 hours 15 minutes (Short answer & data response questions)

**Component 2: 33.3%** Business Analysis & Strategy, written examination: 2 hours 15 minutes (Short answer & data response questions)

**Component 3: 33.3%** Business in a Changing World, written examination: 2 hours 15 minutes (Case Study & essay)

## CHEMISTRY

### Which Examination Board?

OCR

### Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?

The AS is a standalone qualification. It does not count towards the A Level. You can opt into the AS qualification if you choose to drop this subject at the end of Year 12.

### How will you be assessed?

Students may sit the AS examination in May/June 2017. There are two papers, each is 1 hour 30 minutes and worth 50% of the AS level.

Students will then sit the A level papers in June 2018. There are 3 papers. Two are 2 hours 15 mins and worth 37% of total A level and 1 unifying 1 hour 30 min paper worth 26% of the total A level.

At A level there is a non-examination Practical Endorsement that is Pass/Fail and based on completion of specific practical tasks in class throughout the two years.

### Why study this subject?

A Level Chemistry will give you an exciting insight into the contemporary world of chemistry. It covers the key concepts of chemistry and practical skills are integrated throughout the course. This combination of academic challenge and practical focus makes the prospect of studying A Level Chemistry highly appealing.

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.

### What is the outline content over 2 years?

#### YEAR 12

- Breadth in Chemistry 50%
- Depth in Chemistry 50%

#### YEAR 13

- Periodic table, elements and physical Chemistry 37%
- Synthesis and analytical techniques 37%
- Unified chemistry 26%

## CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

### Which Examination Board?

OCR

### Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?

The AS is a standalone qualification. It does not count towards the A Level. You can opt into the AS qualification if you choose to drop this subject at the end of Year 12.

### How will you be assessed?

**2 examinations at AS.**

**3 examinations at A2.**

### Why study this subject?

Classical Civilisation is the cornerstone of the humanities subjects. This course offers a unique opportunity to explore the significance of Greek and Roman culture in our contemporary lives. The specification enables students both to gain a broad understanding of the major periods of classical civilisation, and to study selected topics at greater depth through the reading of Greek and Roman authors *in translation*.

### What is the outline content over 2 years?

#### The Advanced Subsidiary course (AS)

Both topics have an examination of one and a half hours to be taken in May/June at the end of Year 12. There is no compulsory coursework within the AS course. In each examination you will answer one extract based question and one essay. During the year written work is assessed in accordance with OCR guidelines and students benefit from discussing their progress with the staff in tutorial sessions where appropriate.

Seminar sessions include group reading, textual analysis, discussion and presentations by students. Audio-visual materials are used where appropriate. Visits to plays, exhibitions and relevant cultural events are encouraged and arranged for the group when possible. You will attend external lectures and relevant college based cross-curricular lectures. You will also have access to a comprehensive range of resource materials, available in the library, on computer and within the Classics Department.

The subject matter of the course will include the following selected topics:

**The World of the hero – Homer's epic poems** (the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*) are the first and originally the greatest European works of literature. You will read one of these in any given year. Epic explores, among other things, the Greek myths and concepts of heroes and gods, the interaction between mortals and immortals, and the storytelling techniques of the ancient world. In addition, you will study the religious, cultural and social values and beliefs of the period represented in the poems (circa 1200 BC).

**Culture and the Arts – Greek Theatre** – is the topic available for study. The drama produced in the ancient Greek theatre forms some of the most powerful literature of the ancient world and has had a huge influence on our concept of the theatre. You will study the physical space used by the ancient Greeks to stage their dramas as well as staging, costumes and masks. You will also have the opportunity to study the origins and development of performance and its religious significance. Three plays (currently Sophocles' *Oedipus the king*, Euripides' *Bacchae* and Aristophanes' *Frogs*) are studied, with emphasis on both literary and dramatic qualities. This module also involves the study of depictions of scenes from the plays via a range of vase paintings and similar artefacts.

*Continued*

Continued

### The A2 course

Each topic is examined via a written paper to be taken in May/June at the end of Year 13. The world of the hero is synoptic. By this stage you will have developed confidence in your knowledge of the ancient world and an increased maturity in discussion and essay work. Similar arrangements for assessment and guidance are provided for students in accordance with procedures at AS level.

### YEAR 13

The subject matter of the course will include the following selected topics and builds on the knowledge and understanding acquired at AS:

**The World of the Hero** – Students will develop their understanding of epic poetry by studying Virgil's *Aeneid* which offers a new, Roman perspective to the epic form and gives a deeper insight into the heroes of the Trojan War, enabling students to examine the nature of heroism.

### Culture and Arts – Greek Theatre – This module is studied at AS

#### Beliefs and Ideas

**Either: Love and Relationships** – Students will continue to develop their knowledge of the Greek and Roman world in this module. Areas of study will include: the role of men and women, philosophical ideas of Plato and Seneca, love and desire, marriage and adultery, society and values, as well as two poets defining aspects of love and human interaction – both serious and humorous. The Greek poetess Sappho bridges a link between the epic poetry of Homer and the plays of the 4th and 5th centuries BC in Athens. Ovid offers a lighter presentation, focusing on the fun and flirtatious nature of romance in Rome 1AD.

**Or: Greek Religion** – Religion was an essential part of ancient Greek identity, permeating all strata of society and all aspects of an individual's daily life. Religion could be connected to the household, to life in the city or life in the countryside; moreover politics and religion were intertwined to the extent that political decisions were sometimes made on the basis of divine oracular intervention. Religion was also an important tool for the creation of local and Panhellenic identities, as well as of competition between the Greek city-states. Students will have the opportunity of studying the practicalities of religious ritual, and the role it played in society, alongside the functions and layout of famous temple complexes. The scope of this module will develop their sense of the central role religion played in the life of everyday people. We will also explore the nature of the gods and their relationship with mortals. Also included are the very different role of Mystery Cults, and the tensions caused by the rise of philosophical thought.

## DRAMA & THEATRE

### Which Examination Board?

#### Eduqas

### Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?

**The AS is a standalone qualification. It does not count towards the A Level. You can opt into the AS qualification if you choose to drop this subject at the end of Year 12.**

### How will you be assessed?

You will be assessed on both the practical work and the theoretical content. There are practical examinations at AS and A2 level and a written paper at the end of the AS course and at the end of the A2 course.

### Why study this subject?

The skills developed in the study of Drama and Theatre Studies make an enormous contribution to your personal development. In today's world, employers are looking for mature creative people who can communicate effectively (precisely the skills that drama develops). Many of our students go on to study the more technical elements of theatre, such as theatre design, lighting design as well as combining the study of drama with English and classical studies or a foreign language. An understanding of drama and theatre will also enhance your appreciation of film, plays and the Arts in general for the rest of your life.

### What is the outline content over 2 years?

#### YEAR 12

##### Component 1: Performance Workshop

**Non-examination assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated**

**60% of qualification**

Students will be assessed on **either** acting or design

Students participate in the creation, development and performance of:

1. An extract from a text of the student's choice
2. A piece of theatre based on a *reinterpretation* of a second extract from a text from a different social, historical or cultural context using the techniques and working methods of **either** a theatre practitioner **or** theatre company

All learners must produce:

- a realisation of both performances or designs
- a creative log
- an evaluation of the process of creating and realisation of the reinterpreted extract only

##### Component 2: Text in Context

**Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes**

**40% of qualification**

A series of questions on one performance text

#### YEAR 13

##### Component 1: Theatre Workshop

**Non-examination assessment: internally assessed, externally moderated**

**20% of qualification**

Students will be assessed on **either** acting or design.

Students participate in the creation, development and performance of a piece of theatre based on a *reinterpretation* of an extract from a text chosen from a list supplied by Eduqas. The piece must be developed using the techniques and working methods of **either** an influential theatre practitioner **or** a recognised theatre company.

Continued

*Continued*

Students must produce:

- a realisation of the performance or design
- a creative log

### Component 2: Text in Action

**Non-examination assessment: externally assessed by a visiting examiner**

**40% of qualification**

Students will be assessed on **either** acting **or** design.

Students participate in the creation, development and performance of two pieces of theatre based on a stimulus supplied by Eduqas:

1. A devised piece using the techniques and working methods of **either** an influential theatre practitioner **or** a recognised theatre company (a different practitioner or company to that chosen for Component 1)
2. An extract from a text in a contrasting style chosen by the student.

Student must realise their performance live for the visiting examiner. Learners choosing design must also give a **5-10 minute** presentation of their design to the examiner.

Learners produce a process and evaluation report within **one** week of completion of the practical work.

### Component 3: Text in Performance

**Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes**

**40% of qualification**

#### Sections A and B

**Open book:** Clean copies (no annotation) of the **two** complete texts chosen must be taken into the examination.

**Two** questions, based on **two** different texts, **one** written pre-1956 and **one** written post-1956.

#### Pre-1956:

*The Trojan Women*, Euripides

*As You Like It*, William Shakespeare

*Hedda Gabler*, Henrik Ibsen

*Machinal*, Sophie Treadwell

*Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, Tennessee Williams

#### Post-1956:

*Saved*, Edward Bond

*Accidental Death of an Anarchist*, Dario Fo

*Racing Demon*, David Hare

*Love and Information*, Caryl Churchill

*Chimerica*, Lucy Kirkwood

#### Section C

**Closed book:** The extract of text required for answering the questions will be printed on the examination paper.

A question based on a specified **extract** from:

*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, Mark Haddon, adapted by Simon Stephens

Details of the 10-15 minute extract will be released during the first week of March, in the year of examination.

## ECONOMICS

### Which Examination Board?

Eduqas

### Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?

**The AS is a standalone qualification. It does not count towards the A Level. You can opt into the AS qualification if you choose to drop this subject at the end of Year 12.**

### How will you be assessed?

**100% Examination at AS and A Level.**

### Why study this subject?

The Eduqas AS & A level in Economics introduces you to the wide ranging topics of microeconomic and macroeconomic thought that underpin the social and economic issues faced by consumers, businesses and governments today.

By taking the course you will:

- develop an interest in and enthusiasm for current affairs including: The EU question, what activities should be taxed and why?, government austerity measures, recession and recovery, the role of interest and exchange rates, the importance of price and profits, globalisation to name but a few.
- appreciate the contribution of economics to the understanding of the wider economic and social environment
- develop an understanding of a range of concepts and an ability to use those concepts in a variety of different contexts
- use an enquiring, critical and thoughtful approach to the study of economics and develop an ability to think as an economist
- understand that economic behaviour can be studied from a range of perspectives
- develop analytical and quantitative skills, together with qualities and attitudes which will equip you for the challenges, opportunities and responsibilities of adult and working life.

The nature of the course ensures that students have the opportunity to develop a wide range of essential skills required for higher education and employment.

### What is the outline content over 2 years?

#### AS Economics

**Component 1: 40%** Economic principles, written examination: 1 hour (Short answer/structured questions)

**Component 2: 60%** Exploring Economic Issues, written examination: 2 hours (Data response questions)

#### A Level Economics

**Component 1: 30%** Economic Principles, written examination: 1 hours 30 minutes (Short answer & Multiple Choice questions)

**Component 2: 30%** Exploring Economic Behaviour, written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes (Data response questions)

**Component 3: 40%** Evaluating Economic Models & Policies, written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes (Essay Questions)

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

### Which Examination Board?

Eduqas

### Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?

The AS is a standalone qualification. It does not count towards the full A Level. You can opt into the AS qualification if you choose to drop this subject at the end of Year 12.

### How will you be assessed?

At AS two examinations, both 2 hours.

At A Level three 2 hour examinations and non examination assessment.

### Why study this subject?

It allows the student to complete a close, thorough study of selected texts from a range of genres and also gives genuine insight into and precise understanding of the way language works.

### What is the outline content over 2 years?

#### YEAR 12 (AS)

**Component 1: Written Examination 2 hours 40%**

##### Section A:

- Comparative analysis of one poem from the *WJEC English Language and Literature Pre-1914 Poetry Anthology* with an unseen text from a choice of two, one of which will be spoken language

##### Section B:

- One question presented in three parts, comprising two creative writing tasks, one of which will be spoken language, and a commentary exploring language choices in the written tasks.

**Component 2: Written Examination 2 hours 60%**

##### Section A: Post-1900 drama (open-book, clean copy)

- One two-part question from a choice of two based on the reading of one play (*Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* by Tennessee Williams)

##### Section B: Non-literary text study (open-book, clean copy)

- One question from a choice of two based on the reading of one non-literary text (*In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote)

#### YEAR 13 (A Level)

**Component 1: Written Examination 2 hours 30%**

##### Section A: Poetry (open-book, clean copy)

- One question from a choice of two based on the *WJEC English Language and Literature Pre -1914 Poetry Anthology* plus an unseen text published post-1914

##### Section B: Prose (open-book, clean copy)

- One question from a choice of two, presented in two parts, based on the reading of a prose fiction text from a prescribed list (text TBC).

**Component 2: Written Examination 2 hours 30%**

##### Section A: Shakespeare (closed-book)

- One compulsory extract-based task and one essay question from a choice of two based on the reading of a Shakespeare play from a prescribed list (text TBC).

##### Section B: Post-1900 Drama (closed-book)

- One question from a choice of two based on the reading of one play from a prescribed list (*Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* by Tennessee Williams).

**Component 3: Written Examination 2 hours 20%**

##### Section A: Comparative analysis of spoken non-literary texts

- Comparative analysis of three unseen spoken language non-literary texts

##### Section B: Non-literary text study (closed-book)

- One two-part question based on the reading of a non-literary text selected from a prescribed list (*In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote).

**Component 4: Non examination Assessment (20%)**

##### Section A: Genre Study

- A critical and sustained study of a prose genre

##### Section B: Related Creative Writing

- Two writing assignments (one literary/one non-literary)

## ENGLISH LITERATURE

### Which Examination Board?

AQA English Literature A

### Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?

The AS is a standalone qualification. It does not count towards the full A Level. You can opt into the AS qualification if you choose to drop this subject at the end of Year 12.

### How will you be assessed?

At AS two examinations, both 1 hour, 30 minutes.

At A Level two examinations one of 3 hours, the other of 2 hours 30 minutes, plus non examination assessment.

### Why study this subject?

It allows the student to read and analyse texts from a range of genres and times concentrating in Year 12 on *Love Through the Ages*.

### What is the outline content over 2 years?

#### YEAR 12 (AS)

##### Component 1: 50%

- Study of two texts: one Shakespeare play (*Othello*) and the AQA Anthology of pre-1900 love poetry through the ages.

##### Component 2: 50%

- Study of two prose texts (*The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald and either *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte or *Rebecca* by Daphne Du Maurier) and unseen prose extracts.

#### YEAR 13 (A Level)

##### Component 1: Written Examination 3 hours 40%

- Study of three texts: the AQA Anthology of pre-1900 love poetry through the ages and one prose text (*The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald and either *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte or *Rebecca* by Daphne Du Maurier and one Shakespeare play (*Othello*).
- Exam will include two unseen poems.

##### Component 2: Written Examination 2 hours 30 minutes 40%

- Study of three texts: one prose, one poetry, and one drama, of which one must be written post-2000 (set texts TBC). The examination will include an unseen extract.

##### Non-exam assessment – 20%

- Independent critical study: texts across time. A comparative critical study of two texts, at least one of which must have been written pre-1900.
- One extended essay (2,500 words) and a bibliography.

These are the texts currently taught but they may be subject to change.

## GEOGRAPHY

### Which Examination Board?

AQA

### Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?

The AS is a standalone qualification. It does not count towards the A Level. You can opt into the AS qualification if you choose to drop this subject at the end of Year 12.

### How will you be assessed?

Paper 1: 2 hours 30 minutes (40% of A Level),

Paper 2: 2 hours 30 minutes (40% of A Level).

Coursework Investigation – 3,000-4,000 words (20% of A Level) – marked by teachers, moderated by AQA.

### Why study this subject?

Geography at AS level is a balance of both human and physical units. The physical topics include water and carbon cycles, hazards and coastal systems. The human topics include global systems and global governance and contemporary urban environments.

In both units you will be expected to plan and take part in a range of fieldwork investigations in the local area and further afield. There will also be the option to take part in residential fieldwork. Recent visits have included Spain, Lesotho, Sorrento and Iceland.

The use of ICT to develop geographical knowledge, skills and understanding is an important aspect of the course. To develop GIS (geographical information systems) skills we use professional standard digital mapping software (ArcView and ArcGIS online) and mobile devices out in the field. By studying AS/A Level Geography you will develop as a highly skilled, critical thinking, independent learner; key attributes that make geographers highly employable.

We will be following the AQA AS and A-Level course which can be viewed here: [www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/as-and-a-level](http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/as-and-a-level)

The department were awarded the prestigious Geographical Association – Secondary Geography Quality Mark (SGQM) in recognition of the excellent geographical experiences on offer at Howell's School, Llandaff.

### What is the outline content over 2 years?

#### YEAR 12

1. Coastal systems and landscapes
2. Changing places
3. Hazards

#### YEAR 13

1. Water and carbon cycles
2. Global systems and governance
3. Resource security

Coursework Investigation (for A Level only)

## GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

### Which Examination Board?

TBC

### Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?

The AS is a standalone qualification. It does not count towards the A Level. You can opt into the AS qualification if you choose to drop this subject at the end of Year 12.

### How will you be assessed?

#### AS (2 units)

Component 1: 50% of AS  
Written Paper (1 hour 30 minutes)  
60 marks

##### UK Politics

Outline of paper structure:

2 structured questions, consisting of a short answer, source question and mini essay.

Component 2: 50% of AS  
Written paper (1 hour 30 minutes)  
60 marks

##### UK Government

Outline of paper structure:

2 structured questions, consisting of a short answer, source question and mini essay.

#### A Level

Component 1: UK Politics 33%  
Written Paper (2 hours)  
84 marks

1. Political Participation, students will study:

- democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media.

2. Core Political Ideas, students will study:

- conservatism, liberalism, socialism.

Component 2: UK Government 33%  
Written Paper (2 hours)  
84 marks

1. UK Government, students will study:

- the constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches.

2. Optional Political Ideas, students will study:

- one idea from the following: anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism, nationalism.

Component 3: USA Politics 33%  
Written Paper (2 hours)  
84 marks

For USA (3A), students will study:

- the US Constitution and federalism, US congress, US presidency, US Supreme Court, democracy and participation, civil rights.

### Why study this subject?

Students with AS and A2 level Government and Politics will have developed a wide range of skills. You will be able to analyse and evaluate, research, write coherently and form opinions, amongst other skills. These skills are welcomed by higher education establishments and by employers. Government and Politics combines well with many subjects at A Level and different combinations would make it possible to go on to read either Arts or Science degrees. A variety of employment opportunities are open to students with qualifications in Government and Politics, such as law, the media, journalism, management and public service.

### What is the outline content over 2 years?

#### YEAR 12

This year will focus primarily on UK Politics and Government. We will cover the content for Component 1 and 2 UK Government and Politics, including topics like:

- Participation and Voting Behaviour
- Electoral Systems
- Political Parties
- The British Constitution
- Parliament
- The Prime Minister

In the summer term we will cover political ideas, covering topics like Liberalism, Conservatism and Socialism.

#### YEAR 13

Year 13 will focus mainly on covering Component 3: The Government and Politics of the USA.

The following topics will be covered in Year 13:

- The Electoral Process
- Political Parties
- Voting Behaviour
- The President
- The Constitution
- The Supreme Court
- Congress

# HISTORY

## Which Examination Board?

### AQA

#### Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?

The AS is a standalone qualification. It does not count towards the A Level. You can opt into the AS qualification if you choose to drop this subject at the end of Year 12.

#### How will you be assessed?

### AS

#### Component 1: Breadth study

##### What's assessed?

The first part of the corresponding full A-level option. This involves the study of significant historical developments over a period of around 50 years and associated historical interpretations.

##### Assessed

- written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes
- two questions (one compulsory)
- 50 marks
- 50% of AS

##### Questions

- two sections
- Section A: one compulsory question linked to interpretations (25 marks)
- Section B: one question from two (25 marks)

### A Level

#### Component 3: Historical investigation

##### What's assessed

A personal study based on a topic of student's choice. This should take the form of a question in the context of approximately 100 years. It must not duplicate the content of options chosen for Components 1 and 2.

##### Assessed

- 3,000 - 3,500 words
- 40 marks
- 20% of A-level
- marked by teachers
- moderated by AQA

#### + Component 2: Depth study

##### What's assessed?

The first part of the corresponding full A-level option. This involves the study in depth of a major historical change or development and associated primary evidence.

##### Assessed

- written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes
- two questions (one compulsory)
- 50 marks
- 50% of AS

##### Questions

- two sections
- Section A: one compulsory question linked to primary sources or sources contemporary to the period (25 marks)
- Section B: one question from two (25 marks)

#### Component 1: Breadth study

##### What's assessed?

The study of significant historical developments over a period of around 100 years and associated interpretations.

##### Assessed

- written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes
- three questions (one compulsory)
- 80 marks
- 40% of A Level

##### Questions

- two sections
- Section A: one compulsory question linked to historical interpretations (30 marks)
- Section B: two from three essays (2 x 25 marks)

#### + Component 2: Depth study

##### What's assessed?

The study in depth of a Period of major historical change or development and associated primary evidence.

##### Assessed

- written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes
- three questions (one compulsory)
- 80 marks
- 40% of A Level

##### Questions

- two sections
- Section A: one compulsory question linked to primary sources or sources contemporary to the period (30 marks)
- Section B: two from three essays (2 x 25 marks)

#### Why study this subject?

Develop your interest in, and enthusiasm for, history. Learn how to make links and comparisons across the past and be able to communicate this in a variety of ways. Build on your understanding of the past through experiencing an exciting, broad and balanced course. Become effective and independent students who are critical and reflective thinkers with curious and enquiring minds. Develop the ability to ask relevant and significant questions about the past and to research them. History is greatly valued by universities and employers alike because of these skills that you will develop.

#### What is the outline content over 2 years?

##### YEAR 12

##### Consolidation of the Tudor Dynasty: England, 1485-1547

- Henry VII, 1485-1509
- Henry VIII, 1509-1547

##### Democracy and Nazism: Germany, 1918-1945

- The Establishment and early years of Weimar, 1918-1924
- The 'Golden Age' of the Weimar Republic, 1924-1928
- The Collapse of Democracy, 1928-1933

##### Non examined unit (Personal investigation)

- The status of African Americans in the USA 1860-1980

##### YEAR 13

##### England: turmoil and triumph, 1547-1603

- Instability and consolidation: 'the Mid-Tudor Crisis', 154-1563 (A Level only)
- The triumph of Elizabeth, 1563-1603

##### Part two: Nazi Germany, 1933-1945

- The Nazi Dictatorship, 1933-1939 (A Level only)
- The Racial State, 1933-1941 (A Level only)
- The impact of War, 1939-1945 (A Level only)

##### Non examined unit (Personal investigation)

- The status of African Americans in the USA 1860-1980

## ICT

### Which Examination Board?

WJEC

### Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?

The AS qualification does count towards the full A Level and is worth 40%.

### How will you be assessed?

40% Coursework, 60% Examination – both at AS and A2.

### Why study this subject?

Studying ICT gives you the knowledge and understanding to use a variety of software packages which are commonly used in all lines of business, education, health, retail and industry. In addition you will gain an understanding of how the recent advances in technology, and the world of work and leisure affect us all. By studying packages and their practical applications, you can ensure that you have a solid grounding to use any software package to a high level. Studying ICT also supports creativity and logical thinking within its modules, to help support your other option choices and includes project planning skills. Working in a small group offers excellent opportunity for discussion work, individual/group presentations and leading on school based ICT initiatives.

### What is the outline content over 2 years?

#### YEAR 12

- **Term 1:** 40% Coursework in Presenting Information
- **Term 2:** 60% Preparation for Information Systems Examination, including a 25% Spreadsheet Model
- **Term 3:** Examination, Coursework Preparation for A2

#### YEAR 13

- **Term 1:** 40% Coursework in Creating a Relational Database Solution
- **Term 2/3:** 60% Preparation for Use and Impact of ICT Examination

## LATIN

### Which Examination Board?

OCR

### Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?

The AS is a standalone qualification. It does not count towards the A Level. You can opt into the AS qualification if you choose to drop this subject at the end of Year 12.

### How will you be assessed?

2 examinations in May/June, each paper is worth 50% for the AS.

4 examinations in May/June for the A2.

### Why study this subject?

Classical texts form the foundation of our society. An education in literature as much as human psychology, the study of Latin allows students to tackle a variety of different issues, from how a classical text has influenced the works of famous writers from Hardy to Sheers, to how modern politicians have adapted ancient rules of rhetoric for the contemporary political scene.

Studying Latin is extremely beneficial to any student wishing to undertake a literary or historical based subject, equipping them with the fundamental knowledge of *our language* – where it has come from, how it was formed, how it has and is used.

### What can I do with it?

If the classical bug has bitten you and you want to pursue your interests at degree level, you will find a large selection of university courses involving varying amounts of language work and literature with related subjects, for example Greek, Ancient History, Philosophy, Art and Architecture and Archaeology. A glance through university prospectuses will reveal that in fact you can combine Latin with practically any subject, including ICT. Several students have opted for Latin in combination with French. Students wishing to take Greek will find a number of excellent summer schools offering the subject at all levels. Grants to assist with financing these courses are available from these schools as well as the GDST.

### What is the outline content over 2 years?

#### YEAR 12

##### The Advanced Subsidiary course (AS)

There are two examinations at the end of Year 12 (one literature and one language). You will usually study one prose and one verse author (currently we are reading Cicero and Ovid) in Year 12. You will answer:

- A commentary paper consisting of questions (in English) based on two extracts from the set texts (one and a half hours).
- An unseen translation and comprehension paper for which a definitive vocabulary list is provided (one and a half hours).

Group sizes tend to be small (up to seven in recent years) and this enables students to participate freely and with enjoyment in discussion and translation work, to enjoy a close and mutually supportive relationship with other members of the group and to benefit from individual help from staff.

Weekly translation, vocabulary learning and translation and discussion of the set texts form the basis of the seminars. Latin students are encouraged to attend both extra-curricular and subject based lectures and trips together with their Classical Civilisation peers. Tutorial sessions are available when the need for discussion of individual progress arises.

*Continued*

*Continued*

### YEAR 13

#### The A2 course

There are four examinations at the end of Year 13:

Language paper 1 Unseen Translation: For Section A, students will translate a piece of unseen prose in to English. Section B will be a translation of a piece of Latin verse into English

Language Paper 2 Prose Translation and Comprehension: students will translate a short piece of text into English and answer comprehension and grammar questions.

- **Latin Verse:** For Section A and B of the paper students study two poetry authors and answer comprehension questions, a set text translation and an analysis question on each text. Section C contains an essay question on one of the verse texts that they have read.
- **Latin Prose Paper:** For Section A and B of the paper students study two prose authors and answer comprehension questions, a set text translation and an analysis question. Section C contains an essay question on one of the prose texts that they have read.

## MATHEMATICS AND FURTHER MATHEMATICS

### *Which Examination Board?*

AQA

### *Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?*

**The AS is a standalone qualification. It does not count towards the A Level. You can opt into the AS qualification if you choose to drop this subject at the end of Year 12.**

### *How will you be assessed?*

**All assessment is through written examination.**

### *Why study this subject?*

Mathematics goes well with many combinations of subjects. It equips students with a uniquely powerful set of tools to understand the world. These tools include logical reasoning, problem-solving, number skills, and the ability to think in abstract ways.

Mathematics is important in everyday life and many forms of employment: science and technology, engineering, medicine, the economy, the environment, and public decision-making.

Mathematics is a creative discipline. It can stimulate moments of pleasure and wonder when a learner solves a problem for the first time, discovers a more elegant solution to that problem, or suddenly sees hidden connections.

### *What is the outline content over 2 years?*

#### YEAR 12

##### AS Mathematics

- All students study Pure Mathematics, Mechanics and Statistics.
- This is examined through two papers: Paper 1 is Pure Mathematics and Mechanics, Paper 2 is Pure Mathematics and Statistics.

##### Further Mathematics

- If students wish to study an additional A Level in Further Mathematics this is done in Year 13 with the whole A Level Mathematics studied in Year 12.  
(see below for full A level content)

#### YEAR 13

##### A Level Mathematics

- All students study Pure Mathematics, Mechanics and Statistics.
- This is examined through three papers: Paper 1 is Pure Mathematics, Paper 2 is Pure Mathematics and Mechanics and Paper 3 is Pure Mathematics and Statistics.

##### A Level Further Mathematics

- All students study Further Pure Mathematics, Mechanics and Statistics.
- This is examined through three papers: Paper 1 and 2 are Further Pure Mathematics and Paper 3 is Mechanics and Statistics.

## MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES: FRENCH

### Which Examination Board?

Eduqas

### Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?

The AS is a standalone qualification. It does not count towards the A Level. You can opt into the AS qualification if you choose to drop this subject at the end of Year 12.

### How will you be assessed?

Externally assessed oral examination and 2 written papers.

### Why study this subject?

- To build on previous study of French
- To develop linguistic knowledge and cultural understanding of the countries/communities where the language is spoken
- To study literature and film in order to undertake a deeper analysis of language structures and cultural awareness
- To build confidence and fluency in spoken French
- To research an area of personal interest related to the country/communities where French is spoken
- To gain a greater awareness of intercultural differences

### What is the outline content over 2 years?

**AS Component 1: Speaking 30% – 12-14 minutes + 15 minutes preparation**

**AS Component 2: Listening, Reading and Translation 50% – 2 hours**

**AS Component 3: Critical response in writing (closed book) 20% – 1 hour 15 minutes (essay on 1 piece of literature or 1 film)**

**A Level Component 1: Speaking 30% – 21-23 minutes + 5 minutes preparation**

**A Level Component 2: Listening, Reading and Translation 50% – 2 hours 30 minutes**

**A Level Component 3: Critical and analytical response in writing (closed book) 20% – 2 hours (2 essays on 1 piece of literature and 1 film)**

### YEAR 12 – Literature or film plus topics

#### Literature

1. Vigan: *Noetmoi*
2. Laroui: *Une année chez les Français*
3. Anouilh: *Antigone*

#### Film

1. *Intouchables*
2. *Les Choristes*
3. *Le Grand Voyage*

#### Topics

Areas	Social issues and trends	Political, intellectual and artistic culture
Themes	Travel and exploration	Contemporary youth culture
Sub-themes	Advantages of travelling, working and studying abroad Impact of travel on society Local culture and festivals in French-speaking countries	Entertainment, music and the arts Media and digital culture Youth sub-cultures, trends and personal identity

### YEAR 13 – Literature

#### Literature

4. Camus: *L'Étranger*
5. Vercors: *Le silence de la mer*
6. Ben Jelloun: *Le racisme expliqué à ma fille*

#### Film

4. *La Haine*
5. *Au Revoir les Enfants*
6. *Monsieur Batignole*

#### Topics

Areas	Social issues and trends	Political, intellectual and artistic culture
Themes	Diversity and difference	France 1940-1950: The occupation and post-war years
Sub-themes	Migration and integration Cultural identity and marginalisation Cultural enrichment and celebrating difference Discrimination and diversity	From June 1940-May 1945 (occupation, liberation and end of WWII) The cultural dimension in occupied France (theatre, cinema and literature) 1945-50: rebuilding and restructuring Repercussions for modern day France

## MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES: GERMAN

### Which Examination Board?

Eduqas

### Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?

The AS is a standalone qualification. It does not count towards the A Level. You can opt into the AS qualification if you choose to drop this subject at the end of Year 12.

### How will you be assessed?

Externally assessed oral examination and 2 written papers.

### Why study this subject?

- To build on previous study of German
- To develop linguistic knowledge and cultural understanding of the countries/communities where the language is spoken
- To study literature and film in order to undertake a deeper analysis of language structures and cultural awareness
- To build confidence and fluency in spoken German
- To research an area of personal interest related to the country/communities where German is spoken
- To gain a greater awareness of intercultural differences

### What is the outline content over 2 years?

**AS Component 1: Speaking** 30% – 12-14 minutes + 15 minutes preparation

**AS Component 2: Listening, Reading and Translation** 50% – 2 hours

**AS Component 3: Critical response in writing (closed book)** 20% – 1 hour 15 minutes (essay on 1 piece of literature or 1 film)

**A Level Component 1: Speaking** 30% – 21-23 minutes + 5 minutes preparation

**A Level Component 2: Listening, Reading and Translation** 50% – 2 hours 30 minutes

**A Level Component 3: Critical and analytical response in writing (closed book)** 20% – 2 hours (2 essays on 1 piece of literature and 1 film)

#### YEAR 12 – Literature or film plus topics

##### Literature

1. Kafka: *Die Verwandlung*
2. König: *Ich fühl' mich so 50-50*
3. Dürrenmatt: *Der Besuch der alten Dame*

##### Film

1. *Goodbye Lenin*
2. *Die Welle*
3. *Die fetten Jahre sind vorbei*

##### Topics

Areas	Social issues and trends	Political, intellectual and artistic culture
Themes	Travel and exploration	Contemporary youth culture
Sub-themes	Advantages of travelling, working and studying abroad Impact of travel on society Local culture and festivals in German-speaking countries	Entertainment, music and the arts Media and digital culture Youth sub-cultures, trends and personal identity

#### YEAR 13 – Literature

##### Literature

4. Böll: *Das Brot der frühen Jahre*
5. Brecht: *Das Leben des Gallilei*
6. Schlink: *Der Vorleser*

##### Film

4. *Das Leben der Anderen*
5. *Lola rennt*
6. *Kirschblüten Hanami*

##### Topics

Areas	Social issues and trends	Political, intellectual and artistic culture
Themes	Diversity and difference	The making of modern Germany: 1989 onwards
Sub-themes	Migration and integration Cultural identity and marginalisation Cultural enrichment and celebrating difference Discrimination and diversity	Initial and subsequent process of reunification Social cohesion in present-day Germany Economic impact of a united Germany

## MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES: SPANISH

### Which Examination Board?

Eduqas

### Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?

The AS is a standalone qualification. It does not count towards the A Level. You can opt into the AS qualification if you choose to drop this subject at the end of Year 12.

### How will you be assessed?

Externally assessed oral examination and 2 written papers.

### Why study this subject?

- To build on previous study of Spanish
- To develop linguistic knowledge and cultural understanding of the countries/communities where the language is spoken
- To study literature and film in order to undertake a deeper analysis of language structures and cultural awareness
- To build confidence and fluency in spoken Spanish
- To research an area of personal interest related to the country/communities where Spanish is spoken
- To gain a greater awareness of intercultural differences

### What is the outline content over 2 years?

**AS Component 1:** Speaking 30% – 12-14 minutes + 15 minutes preparation

**AS Component 2:** Listening, Reading and Translation 50% – 2 hours

**AS Component 3:** Critical response in writing (closed book) 20% – 1 hour 15 minutes (essay on 1 piece of literature or 1 film)

**A Level Component 1:** Speaking 30% – 21-23 minutes + 5 minutes preparation

**A Level Component 2:** Listening, Reading and Translation 50% – 2 hours 30 minutes

**A Level Component 3:** Critical and analytical response in writing (closed book) 20% – 2 hours (2 essays on 1 piece of literature and 1 film)

#### YEAR 12 – Literature or film plus topics

##### Literature

1. Lorca : *La casa de Bernarda Alba*
2. Gómez : *Las bicicletas son para el verano*
3. Esquivel: *Como agua para chocolate*

##### Film

1. *El laberinto del fauno*
2. *Mujeres al borde de un ataque de nervios*
3. *María llena eres de gracia*

##### Topics

Areas of Interest	Social issues and trendolitical, intellectual and artistic culture	
Themes	Being a young person in Spanish-speaking society	Understanding the Spanish-speaking world
Sub-themes	Families and citizenship <i>Changing family structures; the changing nature of marriage and partnership; being a good citizen</i>	Regional culture and heritage, in Spain, Spanish-speaking countries and communities <i>Festivals; customs and traditions; historical sites, museums and galleries</i>

Sub-themes	Youth trends and personal identity <i>Trends in fashion; how young people respond to modern technology; relationships with others and peer pressure</i> Education and employment opportunities <i>The education system and student issues; work and travel opportunities and the changing work scene</i>	Media, art, film and music in the-Spanish speaking world <i>Trends in media and art; film and music in the lives of young people</i>
------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

#### YEAR 13 – Literature

##### Literature

4. de Castresana : *El otro árbol de Guernica*
5. Márquez: *El coronel no tiene quien le escriba*
6. Sender: *Réquiem por un campesino español*

##### Film

4. *Las trece rosas*
5. *El lobo*
6. *La caja 507*

##### Topics

Areas of Interest	Social issues and trends	Political, intellectual and artistic culture
Themes	Diversity and difference	The two Spains: 1936 onwards
Sub-themes	Migration and integration Cultural identity and marginalisation Cultural enrichment and celebrating difference Discrimination and diversity	El franquismo – origins, development and consequences Post- Civil War Spain – historical and political repercussions Democracy (the arts, cinema, literature, art and photography) Spain – coming to terms with the past? 'Recuperación de la memoria histórica'

## MUSIC

### Which Examination Board?

#### Eduqas

### Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?

**The AS is a standalone qualification. It does not count towards the A Level. You can opt into the AS qualification if you choose to drop this subject at the end of Year 12.**

### How will you be assessed?

#### Performing, Composing, Appraising.

##### AS LEVEL

**Component 1: Performing** – 30% of qualification

Total duration of performances: 6-8 minutes

**Non-exam assessment:** externally assessed by a visiting examiner

**Component 2: Composing** – 30% of qualification

Total duration of compositions: 4½ - 7 minutes

**Non-exam assessment:** externally assessed by Eduqas

**Component 3: Appraising** – 40% of qualification

**Written examination:** 1 hours 30 minutes

##### A LEVEL

**Component 1: Performing**

**Option A:** Total duration of performances: 10-12 minutes

**Option A:** 35% of qualification

**Option B:** Total duration of performances: 6-8 minutes

**Option B:** 25% of qualification

**Non-exam assessment:** externally assessed by a visiting examiner

**Component 2: Composing**

**Option A:** Total duration of compositions: 4-6 minutes

**Option A:** 25% of qualification

**Option B:** Total duration of compositions: 8-10 minutes

**Option B:** 35% of qualification

**Non-exam assessment:** externally assessed by Eduqas

**Component 3: Appraising** – 40% of qualification

**Written examination:** 2 hours 15 minutes

### Why study this subject?

Music develops a mixture of skills which are highly sought in the world of work.

1. self discipline (self-motivation, self-evaluation, self-confidence);
2. develops communication – loyalty to a group;
3. co-operation;
4. commitment/perseverance;
5. pride in achievement;
6. reliability;
7. ability to follow instructions;
8. analysis and problem solving;
9. decision making, leadership qualities;
10. organisation, time keeping/accuracy;

11. physical and mental co-ordination;
12. imagination and inventiveness;
13. aesthetic appreciation.
14. ICT skills

Music combines successfully with many other subjects, arts, sciences and languages, and need not necessarily be your principal subject. For those wishing to pursue music as a career, the music industry is currently one of the largest employers in the UK. In addition to teaching, performing and composing there are numerous opportunities including administration, publishing, working for recording companies, instrument manufacture, broadcasting, librarianship, sound engineering and journalism.

### What is the outline content over 2 years?

#### YEAR 12

##### AS Level

**AS Component 1: Performing** – 30% of qualification

**Total duration of performances: 6-8 minutes**

**Non-exam assessment:** externally assessed by a visiting examiner

A performance consisting of a **minimum of two pieces** either as a soloist or as part of an ensemble or a combination of both. **One piece** must reflect the musical characteristics of **one** area of study

**AS Component 2: Composing** – 30% of qualification

**Total duration of compositions: 4½ - 7 minutes**

**Non-exam assessment:** externally assessed by Eduqas

**Two compositions:**

Two compositions one of which must reflect the musical techniques and conventions associated with the Western Classical Tradition and be in response to a brief set by Eduqas. Learners will have a choice of four briefs released during the first week of September in the academic year in which the assessment is to be taken.

The second composition is a free composition.

**AS Component 3: Appraising** – 40% of qualification

**Written examination: 1 hours 30 minutes**

**Two areas of study:**

**Area of study A: The Western Classical Tradition**

The Development of the Symphony 1750-1830, including a choice of one set work from either:

Symphony No. 104 in D major, 'London', movements 1 and 2: Haydn

A choice of **one** area of study from:

**Area of study B: Rock and Pop 1960-1990.**

**Area of study C: Musical Theatre** – Richard Rodgers, Leonard Bernstein, Stephen Sondheim, Claude-Michel Schönberg and Andrew Lloyd Webber.

**Area of study D: Jazz between 1920 and 1950.**

There are no set works in Areas of study B, C or D.

#### Questions:

1. Set work analysis with a score
2. Extended responses on wider context
3. Unprepared extracts of music with and without a score
4. Comparison questions

#### YEAR 13

##### A Level

**Component 1: Performing**

**Option A: Total duration of performances: 10-12 minutes**

**Option A: 35% of qualification**

**Option B: Total duration of performances: 6-8 minutes**

**Option B: 25% of qualification**

**Non-exam assessment:** externally assessed by a visiting examiner

*Continued*

*Continued*

**Option A: Performing (35%)**

A performance consisting of a **minimum of three pieces**. At least **one** of these pieces must be as a **soloist**. The other pieces may be **either** as a soloist **or** as part of an ensemble **or** a combination of both. **One** piece must reflect the musical characteristics of **one** area of study. **At least one** other piece must reflect the musical characteristics of **one other, different** area of study.

**Option B: Performing (25%)**

A performance consisting of a **minimum of two pieces** **either** as a soloist **or** as part of an ensemble **or** a combination of both. **One** piece must reflect the musical characteristics of **one** area of study.

**Component 2: Composing**

**Option A: Total duration of compositions: 4-6 minutes**

**Option A: 25% of qualification**

**Option B: Total duration of compositions: 8-10 minutes**

**Option B: 35% of qualification**

**Non-exam assessment: externally assessed by WJEC**

**Option A: Composing (25%)**

**Two** compositions:

1. One piece which must reflect the musical techniques and conventions associated with the Western Classical Tradition and be in response to a brief set by Eduqas. Learners will have a choice of **four** set briefs, released during the first week of September in the academic year in which the assessment is to be taken.
2. The second composition is a free composition.

*Or*

**Option B: Composing (35%)**

**Three** compositions:

1. One composition must reflect the musical techniques and conventions associated with the Western Classical Tradition and be in response to a brief set by Eduqas. Learners will have a choice of **four** set briefs, released during the first week of September in the academic year in which the assessment is to be taken.
2. The second composition must reflect the musical characteristics of one different area of study (i.e. not the Western Classical Tradition).
3. The third composition is a free composition.

**Component 3: Appraising**

**Written examination: 2 hours 15 minutes – 40% of qualification**

**Three areas of study:**

Area of study A: **The Western Classical Tradition (The Development of the Symphony 1750-1900) which includes two set works. Choose one set work for detailed analysis and the other for general study.**

- Symphony No. 104 in D major, 'London': Haydn
- Symphony No.4 in A major, 'Italian': Mendelssohn

A choice of one area of study from:

Area of Study B: Rock and Pop

Area of Study C: Musical Theatre

Area of Study D: Jazz

A choice of one area of study from:

Area of Study E: Into the Twentieth Century including two set works:

- Trio for Oboe, Bassoon and Piano, Movement II: Poulenc
- Three Nocturnes, Number 1, Nuages: Debussy

Area of Study F: Into the Twenty-first Century including two set works:

- Asyla, Movement 3, Ecstasio: Thomas Adès
- String Quartet No.2 (Opus California) Movements 1 (Boardwalk) and 4 (Natural Bridges): Sally Beamish

## PHYSICS

### *Which Examination Board?*

#### OCR

### *Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?*

**The AS is a standalone qualification. It does not count towards the A Level. You can opt into the AS qualification if you choose to drop this subject at the end of Year 12.**

### *How will you be assessed?*

**Students may sit the AS qualification in June 2017.**

**Paper 1: Breadth in Physics: 1 hour 20 minutes: 50%**

Multiple choice and structured questions.

**Paper 2: Depth in Physics: 1 hour 30 minutes: 50%**

Structured and extended response questions.

**Students will sit the A Level qualification in June 2018.**

**Paper 1: Modelling Physics: 2 hours 15 minutes: 37%**

Multiple choice and structured questions.

**Paper 2: Exploring Physics: 2 hours 15 minutes: 37%**

Multiple choice and extended response questions

**Paper 3: Unified Physics: 1 hour 30 minutes: 26%**

Structured and extended response questions.

**Non-examination assessment: Practical endorsement for Physics reported frequently.**

### *Why study this subject?*

Physics is the study of nature, so studying it is to boldly attempt to understand the world around us; from vast gravitational fields that stretch out across the universe, to the tiniest sub atomic particles that drift around in wires or that can be accelerated into each other at speeds approaching the speed of light to release vast amounts of energy. Not only do we strive to understand these things, we also seek to make links between them and to think about how we can best harness them. As Physicists we ask 'why?' and 'how?' as we study the workings of not only the Earth, but the Universe. Our aim is to simplify, where possible the complexities of the Universe – in so doing we should further not only our own understanding, but in the words of Richard P. Feynman, "learn what we can, improve the solutions and pass them on."

We hope you will enjoy studying Physics; it can be a very demanding subject but when studied in depth it is also very rewarding and can lead to many exciting careers including Engineering, Astronomy Medicine and the Finance sector.

### *What is the outline content over 2 years?*

**In Year 12 students study mechanics, materials, quantum physics, electricity and various aspects of wave motion. In Year 13 the course covers gravity and cosmology, aspects of medical physics applications, particle physics and electromagnetism. Practical skills are taught in tandem with the theory work to complement student understanding.**

## PRODUCT DESIGN

### Which Examination Board?

Eduqas

### Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?

The AS is a standalone qualification. It does not count towards the A Level. You can opt into the AS qualification if you choose to drop this subject at the end of Year 12.

### How will you be assessed?

50% Design and Make task, 50% Examination at AS and A Level.

### Why study this subject?

Are you interested in products, style, innovation, fashion, images, the modern and the traditional, design and designers, buildings and architecture? Do you ever ask yourself questions such as *I wonder how...? I wonder why...? What if...?*

Product Design (Design and Technology) is an inspiring, rigorous and practical subject. Students are encouraged to use creativity and imagination when applying design processes to develop and modify designs, and to design and make prototypes that solve real world problems. The course enables students to identify market needs and opportunities for new products, initiate and develop design solutions, and make and test prototypes.

### What is the outline content over 2 years?

#### Year 12

The Advanced Subsidiary Course (AS) is studied over one year.

**Component 1:** Design and Technology in the 21st Century. Students take a 2.5 hour single written examination in Product Design. 50% of the qualification.

**Component 2:** Design and make task. Non-exam assessment: 40 hours. 50% of the qualification.

A sustained design and make task, assessing the ability to:

- identify, investigate and outline design possibilities
- design and make prototypes
- analyse and evaluate design decisions and wider issues.

The A-Level Course (A2) is studied over two years.

**Component 1:** Design and Technology in the 21st Century. Students take a 3 hour single written examination in Product Design. 50% of the qualification.

**Component 2:** Design and make task. Non-exam assessment: 80 hours. 50% of the qualification.

A sustained design and make task, assessing the ability to:

- identify, investigate and outline design possibilities
- design and make prototypes
- analyse and evaluate design decisions and wider issues.

#### If you decide to continue with Product Design after taking AS in Year 12

The examination content already studied is half of what will be needed to complete the A level written examination. Your 40 hour Design and Make Task will be expanded for a further 40 hours in Year 13 to fulfil the assessment criteria needed to obtain a full A-level.

## RELIGIOUS STUDIES

### Which Examination Board?

Eduqas

### Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?

The AS is a standalone qualification. It does not count towards the A Level. You can opt into the AS qualification if you choose to drop this subject at the end of Year 12.

### How will you be assessed?

AS – 3 x 1 hour 30 minutes paper – each paper will ask four questions and students pick two to answer.

A2 – 3 x 2 hour paper – each paper will ask four questions and students pick two to answer.

There is no controlled assessment.

### Why study this subject?

In the world of work, employers look for someone with an enquiring mind, an appreciation of different viewpoints and an ability to come to clear, balanced decisions. These skills all develop through studying religions.

If you want to work with people in caring work, teaching, law, journalism, media, policing, tourism or to work abroad or in a cosmopolitan setting, a qualification in Religious Studies will be useful.

### What is the outline content over 2 years?

AS – 3 x 1 hour 30 minutes paper – each paper will ask four questions and students pick two to answer.

A2 – 3 x 2 hour paper – each paper will ask four questions and students pick two to answer.

Each unit is worth 33⅓% of the qualification.

#### Year 12 – Buddhism

- The Life of the Buddha
- Main Buddhist Scriptures
- Buddhist teachings on the self, death and afterlife
- Teachings of the Sangha
- Religious Practices (going for refuge and meditation)

#### Year 13 – Buddhism

- Mahayana Buddhist practices (Tibetan, Zen, Pure Land and Nirchiren)
- Buddhism in the West
- The Engaged Buddhism movement
- Mindfulness
- Women in Buddhism
- The work of the Dalai Lama and Thich Nhat Hanh

#### Year 12 – Philosophy of Religion

- The problem of evil
- Religious experience
- The existence of God
- Challenges to religious belief

Continued

*Continued*

**Year 13 – Philosophy of Religion**

- Religion and Belief according to Freud
- Religion and Belief according to Jung
- Mystical Experience
- Miracles
- Religious Language

**Year 12 – Religion and Ethics**

- Ethical Theories
- Natural Law (Abortion and Euthanasia)
- Situation Ethics (Sexual Ethics)
- Utilitarianism (Animal testing and Nuclear Weapons)

**Year 13 – Religion and Ethics**

- Development of Natural Law (immigration and capital punishment)
- Meta ethics (ethical language)
- Predestination and Free Will
- Determinism

## WELSH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

### *Which Examination Board?*

**WJEC**

### *Does the AS count towards the A Level or is it a standalone qualification?*

**The AS qualification does count towards the full A Level and is worth 40%.**

### *How will you be assessed?*

**At AS Level one written examination paper of 2 hours, an Oral Examination, plus non examined assessment. Students will sit the AS Level examination at the end of Year 12.**

**At A Level, two written examination papers of 2 hours and an Oral Examination. Students will sit the A Level examination at the end of Year 13.**

### *Why study this subject?*

Being able to speak any language is useful, but being bilingual gives you the best of both worlds and an opportunity to explore different cultures in English and Welsh. The demand from employers is also growing and there is an urgent need for staff who can use Welsh in the workplace. Public sector organisations in Wales are legally bound to provide services in Welsh and English. Future careers could include education and academia, media and journalism, local and national government, business, tourism and leisure to name but a few.

### *What is the outline content over 2 years?*

**AS: 3 Units**

**A2: 3 Units**

**Unit 1 (15%) Oral Examination**

**Unit 4 (25%) Oral Examination**

**Unit 2 (10%) Coursework**

**Unit 5 (15%) Written Paper**

**Unit 3 (15%) Written Paper**

**Unit 6 (20%) written Paper**

**Year 12 – AS Level**

**Unit 1**

**Oral Examination: Film and Oracy (15% of the Qualification)**

- Section A: 20 minutes per group (Discussing a film)
- Section B: 5 minutes per candidate (Personal response)

**Unit 2**

**Non-examined Assessment**

10% of the qualification

- 3 extended pieces of writing. A maximum of 1500-2000 words

**Unit 3**

**Written Paper: 2 hours**

**The Use of Language and Poetry**

15% of the qualification

- Section A: A composite question which includes different types of linguistic exercises.
- Section B: 3 structured questions on the prescribed texts

*Continued*

*Continued*

**Year 13 – A Level (the above and other additional units)**

**Unit 4**

**Oral Examination: Drama and Oracy (25% of the qualification)**

- Section A: 30 minutes per group – Living through the medium of Welsh
- Section B: 5 minutes per candidate – Discussing a play
- Section C: Personal Response
- Synoptic Assessment

**Unit 5**

**Written Paper: 2 hours**

**The Welsh language in Society and Translanguaging**

15% of the qualification

- Section A: The Welsh language in society
- Questions based on the prescribed text
- Section B: Translanguaging – a written response in Welsh to an English-language article
- Synoptic assessment

**Unit 6**

**Written Paper: 2 Hours**

**The Use of Language and the Short Story**

20 % of the qualification

- Section A: a composite question which includes different types of linguistic exercises.
- Section B: 2 questions based on one of the prescribed texts and 1 synoptic question which bring together the information, understanding and skills developed in the subject.
- Synoptic assessment

## NOTES

## NOTES



**PRIMARY PURPOSE**  
"NURTURING EXCELLENCE"

**CORE PRINCIPLES**  
CONFIDENT  
CREATIVE  
COMPASSIONATE

