

VYNERS SCHOOL SIXTH FORM OPTIONS BROCHURE 2020



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Welcome to the Sixth Form

Whether you are one of the vast majority of Vyners School students who choose to continue their education here or you are considering joining us from another school, it gives me great pleasure to introduce our Sixth Form to you. You'll be part of an extremely exciting, friendly and happy learning community in the Sixth Form at Vyners School.

We believe that here at Vyners we can offer you the very best education, offering the right balance of support and challenge to enable you to fulfil your ambitions. The next two years should be some of the best years of your life and, in my view, there is no better place to be than at Vyners School.

**Mr Mullings,
Headteacher**



Entry to the Sixth Form at Vyners

We offer a wide range of courses and the general requirements for entry into the Sixth Form are referred to on page 6 of this brochure. Along with meeting these requirements, it is important to stress that we will be happy to accept you provided:

- You genuinely wish to continue your education and have a passion for your subjects
- You accept the high expectations of the Sixth Form i.e. regular attendance, excellent work ethic, punctuality and prompt completion of work set, responsibility and being part of the community.
- We can offer you a relevant course in which you will be successful.

Final decisions will be made by Mrs Harvey, Senior Assistant Headteacher, in discussion with other members of the leadership team. All Sixth Form courses at Vyners are full time and full time commitment is expected (95% attendance or better).

Future Pathway Advice & Guidance

At Vyners we aim to give you ample opportunity to broaden your education and to bridge the gap successfully between school and the world of higher education or employment.

In addition to your one-to-one support with your Tutor, careers advice and guidance is an on-going process throughout the Sixth Form. There are specific inputs at certain times, for example the detailed programme of support for the Higher Education Application Process takes place during the Summer Term in Year 12 and Autumn Term in Year 13. Links with local universities provide up-to-date information on this as well as opportunities for the whole Sixth Form to visit universities. You will also be able to draw upon the expertise of careers staff within the school and the careers advisers from EBSI for independent advice and guidance on careers and other non-university destinations.

All Sixth Form students also have access to the online platform programme Unifrog, which allows students to search for apprenticeships and university courses all in one place. It is an invaluable tool which enables students to make informed choices for their future pathways.

All Year 12 students are also encouraged to do work experience in a field which has a notable connection to their future career choices.

Study Periods & Home Study

There is much more to Sixth Form education than your academic courses although the importance of these for your future should not be underestimated.

Sixth Form consists of time-tabled lessons, independent study time and supervised study time. We have high expectations of our students and the amount of time they are expected to work at home in addition to school time is at least five hours per subject per week. We also encourage extensive reading around your subjects in order to develop a passion for different areas of study or topics and to ensure that students are 'lesson ready' for every timetabled lesson. It is this independent wider reading which will be essential for future applications to university or the competitive job market.

Study time must be spent in private study either in the Study Room, in the Learning Resource Centre or an allocated classroom.

In all of these things we encourage an atmosphere of co operation and self discipline. You will be expected to take increasing responsibility for your own work and actions in the Sixth Form; however, teachers are subject specialists and are always available to guide you with reading lists of interest and subject specific study skills.

Community Service

Sixth Form students have a tremendous amount to offer others both inside school and outside in the local community. All students therefore do some form of community service on a regular basis.

This is normally the equivalent of two lessons per week although it is recognised that certain types of service have to take place outside the school day and so do not fit into this structure.

Examples of community service offered by Sixth Form students include:

- supporting staff in lessons with younger students as a Subject Ambassador
- supporting students in the Hearing Impaired Resource Base or Learning Support
- coaching extra-curricular sport
- working in local primary schools
- helping younger students with their reading
- leadership team mentoring younger students as part of the Peer Support Programme
- running intervention and academic support clubs for younger students including genius bars

Costs

All normal tuition costs and examination fees are paid for by the school but some additional costs may be incurred for a range of activities, such as residential courses, or as a result of field study, theatre or lecture visits. Speak to specific subject teachers for examples of equipment required such as books. Student bursaries are available to help with such costs, please see the Sixth Form area on our website for further details.

Dress Code

The emphasis is on smartness. You must dress as you would if you were working in a smart office environment. A suit or jacket and plain trousers or skirt, a shirt and tie or blouse / plain top. If a jumper is worn then it should be a V neck, also in a plain colour. No sweatshirts are allowed and neither is denim or trainers.

EPQ

We offer all students the opportunity to complete an EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) which takes the form of a dissertation and demonstrates the students' ability to research and write in depth and is recognised by top universities.



Courses in the Sixth Form

These will be the courses and subjects most appropriate to individual interests and aptitude. Courses are offered at Level 3 (two years). Any students without a Level 2 (grade 4 or above) qualification in English Language and/or Mathematics will be required to re-sit this subject in Year 12.

In general, if you wish to study A Levels/BTEC/Technical Courses, you need to demonstrate from your GCSE results that you have a reasonable expectation of success at that level. Depending on your average GCSE point score you will be offered various pathways.

For many A Levels a high grade at GCSE in that subject may be expected. The precise course entry requirements are included in the individual course information. Where students have not achieved a 4 grade in either English or Maths GCSEs they will be required to resit the exam/course.

Subject Choices

Initially, we are offering a free choice of subjects from the list below.

Data from the option choice forms will be collated and matched against teaching resources and staffing to determine how the course will fit on the timetable.

We will endeavour to meet the requests of all students but there may be combinations of subjects that we are unable to accommodate.

Meetings will take place with all students to confirm their option allocations and discuss opportunities available if the subjects chosen do not fit the time-table.

Courses in the Sixth Form currently being offered

Art & Design	History
Biology	ICT (BTEC) Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma
Business Studies	Mathematics & Further Mathematics
Chemistry	Media Studies
Computing	Music
Drama & Theatre	OCR Nationals in Sport Studies Double Award
Economics	Performing Arts (BTEC) Level 3
English Literature	Photography
Food Science and Nutrition (BTEC) Level 3	Physical Education
Geography	Physics
German	Product Design
Government & Politics	Psychology



Sixth Form Entry Criteria 2020

Pathway 1: Average GCSE Point Score* **above 6.5** (including Maths and English at grade 5): students choose 3 A Level subjects and have the option of studying a fourth A Level subject.

Pathway 2: Average GCSE Point Score **between 5.5 and 6.4** (including Maths and English at grade 5): students choose 3 A level subjects.

Pathway 3: Average GCSE Point Score **between 4.5 and 5.4** (including Maths and English at grade 4): students choose 3 A Level or equivalent subjects of which at least one is a vocational subject (e.g. BTEC).

Some subjects have specific requirements (shown in the table below) and we strongly advise that students have at least a GCSE Grade 6 (or equivalent Grade B) in the subjects they will study at A Level.

***To calculate your average point score, add up your top 8 GCSE grades and divide by 8.**

Subject	Specific Requirements
Biology	GCSE Science (Higher Paper) Trilogy/Synergy minimum Grade 7-6 or GCSE Biology minimum Grade 7 plus one other Science GCSE Grade 6 plus GCSE Maths minimum Grade 6.
Chemistry	GCSE Science (Higher Paper) Trilogy/Synergy minimum Grade 7-6 or GCSE Chemistry minimum Grade 7 plus one other Science GCSE Grade 6 plus GCSE Maths minimum Grade 5.
Computer Science	GCSE Grade 6 in Mathematics.
Economics	GCSE Grade 6 in Mathematics.
Mathematics	GCSE Mathematics Grade 7.
Further Mathematics	GCSE Mathematics high Grade 7 (preferably 8). All students will study A Level Mathematics as well. Further Mathematics is always a fourth A Level.
Music	GCSE Music Grade 6 and Performing/Music Theory at Grade 5
Physics	Students are required to study A Level Mathematics. GCSE Science (Higher Paper) Trilogy/Synergy minimum Grade 7-6 or GCSE Physics minimum Grade 7 plus one other Science Grade 6.

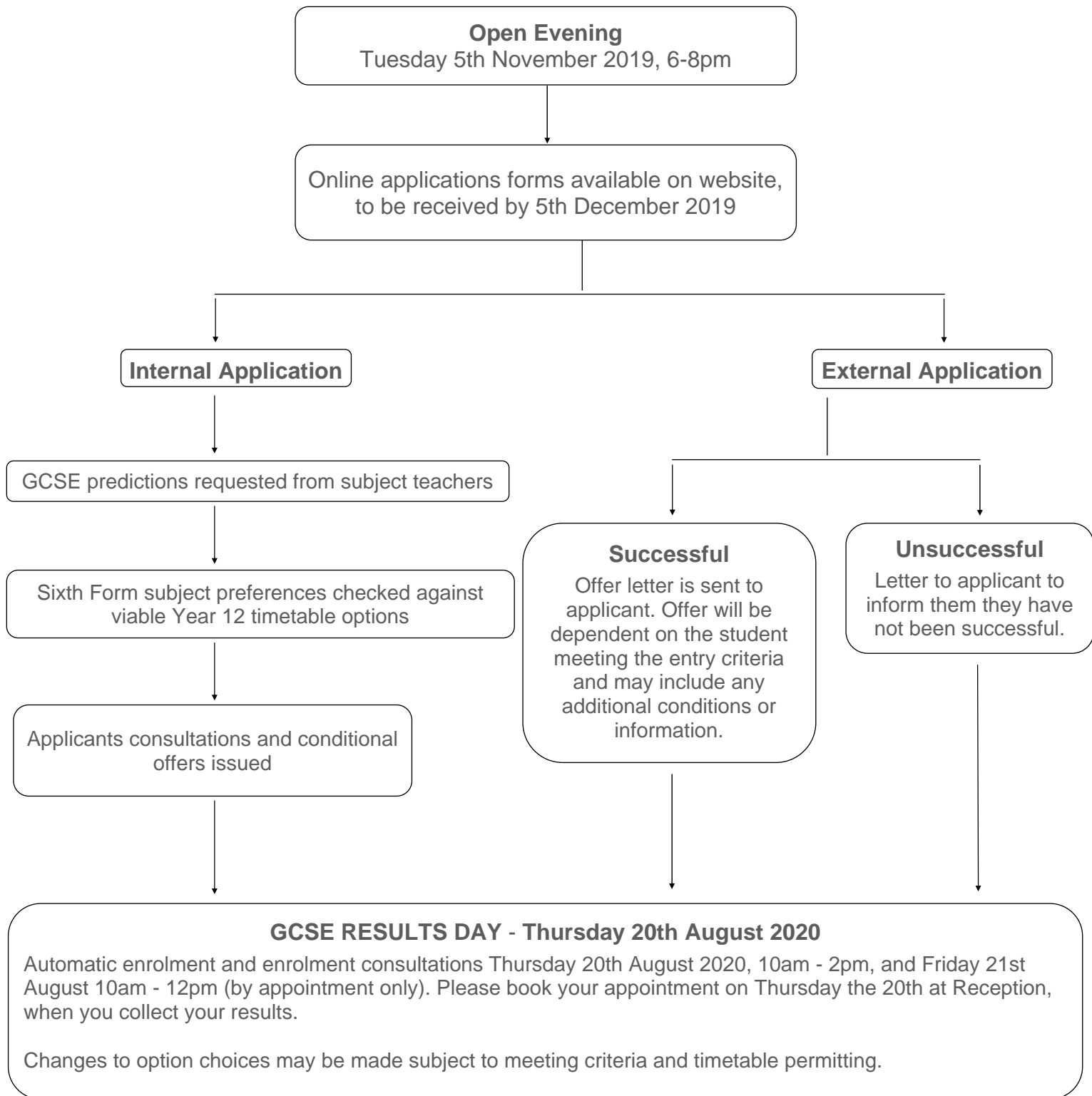


Below are some general guides to A Level subjects which may be needed for certain degree courses at Universities. It should be seen only as a guide to help you choose subjects and is **not** a comprehensive list of University requirements.

Science Courses	A Levels to consider
Agriculture/Biochemistry	Chemistry essential – Maths/Physics/Biology may be useful
Biology/Botany/Ecology/ Zoology	Chemistry and Biology
Chemical Engineering	Two from Chemistry, Maths and Physics
Chemistry	Chemistry and at least one from Maths, Physics and Biology
Computer Science	Maths and Computer Science
Dentistry	Chemistry and two from Physics, Maths & Biology
Engineering (including Civil, Electronic/ Electrical, Production & Mechanical)	Maths and Physics essential
Food Science/Nutrition	Chemistry may be preferred
Geology	Combination of Sciences and Geography useful
Mathematics	Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology and Physics useful
Medicine	Chemistry essential then two from Physics, Maths and Biology
Nursing	Chemistry and Biology preferred
Ophthalmic optics	Minimum of 2 Sciences
Pharmacy/Pharmacology	Chemistry and two from Physics, Maths and Biology
Physics	Physics and Maths
Veterinary Science	Chemistry, Biology and Physics
Arts/Humanities courses	A Levels to consider
American Studies	English or History
Archaeology	Most subjects acceptable
English	English – MFL useful
Fine Art/Art	Art an advantage – portfolio of work usually required
History, Government & Politics	History preferred – English and MFL can be useful
MFL	A Level in the main language to be studied. Two would be an advantage. More unusual languages may be learned without prior knowledge
Music	Music required by most with grade 7 performance preferred. A second instrument may be an advantage
Politics	Most acceptable: History, Economics, Maths. MFL and Geography can also be useful.
Theology	Religious Studies not essential. MFL, English and History may be useful
Degree Courses accepting mixed Art & Science A Levels	A Levels to consider
Accountancy	Maths preferred
Architecture	Maths and Physics may be useful. Aptitude for Art desirable but A Level not required. Geography, English, History, D & T could be useful. Student portfolio may be required
Business Studies	Maths, Business Studies, MFL, Economics useful
Drama	Drama & Theatre Studies, English, Media, Psychology
Economics	Maths preferred, History useful
Education	A Level in specialist subject required. GCSE English and Maths required
Geography	Geography preferred. Biology, MFL, History, Maths, Chemistry, Biology all useful
Leisure Industry	Business Studies/Economics useful and Technical Sport
Law	History, MFL, English, Maths all useful
Philosophy	Maths and MFL useful
Psychology	Some require Psychology or a Science
Sociology (including social work)	Economics, History, Maths useful – Sociology A Level not always required

Year 12 Admissions Policy

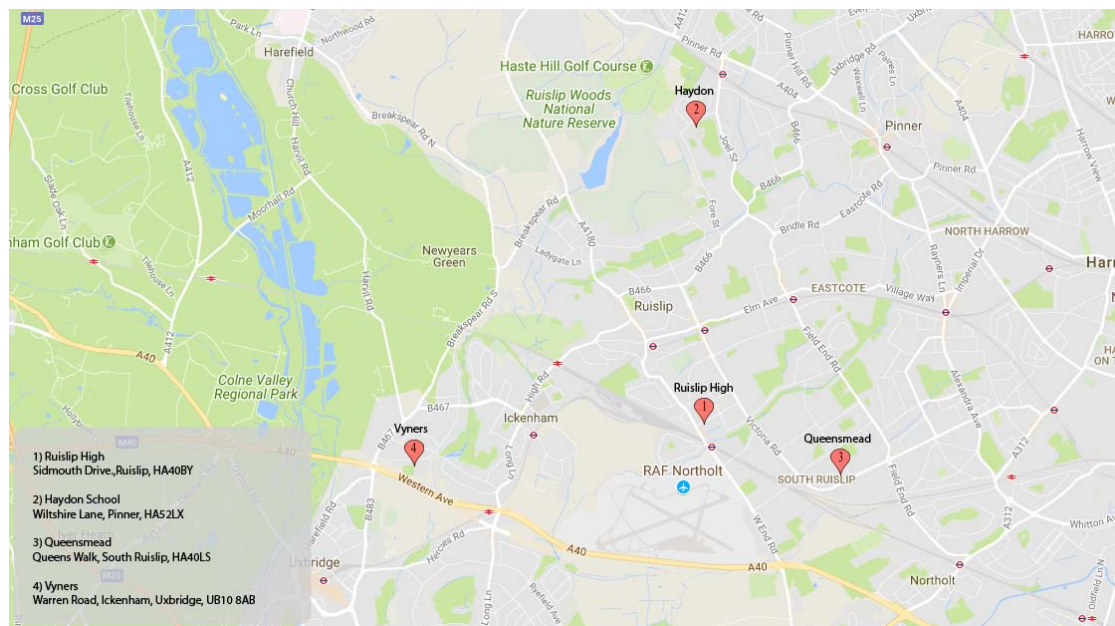
Applying to Vyners School Sixth Form - Entry September 2020



4H Sixth Form Consortium

4H Consortium offers students the opportunity to study **ONE** subject at another school if there is a clash in options at their home school, or if their home school does not offer a subject they wish to study.

Haydon	H
Queensmead	Q
Ruislip High School	R
Vyners	V



The benefits of the consortium for students are as follows:

- There will be an increase in the number of subjects that they can choose from which will be outlined in the consortium option grid
- There will be an increase in subject combinations which will reduce clashes
- There will be an opportunity to learn with Sixth Form students from other schools

Subjects offered at Vyners School

- Art & Design
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Computing
- Drama & Theatre
- Economics
- English Literature
- Food Science and Nutrition (BTEC) Level 3
- Geography
- German
- Government & Politics
- History
- IT (BTEC) Level 3
- Mathematics & Further Mathematics
- Media Studies
- Music
- OCR Nationals in Sport Studies
- Performing Arts (BTEC) Level 3
- Photography
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Product Design
- Psychology

Subjects not offered at Vyners School but offered through the consortium

- Applied Science BTEC Q
- Business BTEC Q
- Classics H & Q
- Engineering BTEC Q
- English Language R, H & Q
- Film Studies Q
- French R & Q
- Health & Social Care Q
- Italian H
- Law H & Q
- Media BTEC H
- Music BTEC H
- PE BTEC Sport single R
- Philosophy & Ethics H
- Sociology R, H & Q
- Spanish H
- Textiles H
- Travel & Tourism R

University Destination of Students 2019

The University of Birmingham	Chemistry with Business Management, English Literature
Bournemouth University	Marketing Communications, Biological Sciences, Sociology & Criminology
The Arts University Bournemouth	Illustration
University of Buckingham	Nursing Children
Buckinghamshire New University	Software Engineering, Events Festival and Venue Management
Cardiff University	Business Economics
Coventry University	Business & Finance, Engineering
University of Essex	Theatre Arts - Acting, Law & Business
University of Exeter	Sports & Exercise Science
University of Hertfordshire	Illustration
University of Kent	Asian Studies and German
Kingston University	Accounting and Finance with Business
Lancaster University	Maths & Computer Science
University of Liverpool	Psychology, Architecture
The Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts	Theatre Performance Technology
Roehampton University	Dance
University of the Arts London	Fine Art Foundation
University of the Arts London	Foundation Diploma in Art & Design & Graphic Communication Design
King's College London	Neuroscience
University College London	History
St George's, University of London	Biomedical Sciences
Imperial College London	Medicine
Brunel University	Psychology (Sport, Health and Exercise)
Queen Mary, University of London	Biochemistry
British Institute of Technology and E-commerce	Marketing Management
Richmond Upon Thames College	Film Studies, Digital Productions
Brunel University	Marketing, Industrial Design, Politics & History
University of Westminster	Fashion Marketing and Promotion
Loughborough University	Art Foundation
Manchester Metropolitan University	Environmental Science
University of Manchester	Chemistry
Middlesex University	Audiology
University of Nottingham	Zoology, Mathematics, Management BSc, Psychology & Philosophy,
University of Nottingham	Mechanical Engineering, Chemistry, Finance, Accounting & Management,
University of Nottingham	Electrical & Electronic
Oxford Brookes University	International Relations and Politics
University of Reading	Economics & Business, Architecture, Biomedical Engineering,
University of Reading	International Business & Management, Business & Management,
University of Reading	Computer Science
University of St Andrews	Computer Science
University of Sheffield	Journalism Studies
University of Southampton	Politics and International Relations, Economics
University Campus Suffolk (UCS)	Adult Nursing
University of Surrey	History, Biochemistry, Computer Science, Mathematics
Royal Holloway, University of London	Biomedical Science, Physics, Computer Science
University of Sussex	Social Sciences Foundation, Economics
Swansea University	Law with Criminology, Sport and Exercise Science
Lafayette College in Pennsylvania,	Liberal Arts Course
University of Warwick	Discrete Mathematics, Mathematics & Physics, Computer Science
University of Winchester	History

Courses in the Sixth Form 2020

ART & DESIGN A LEVEL

EXAMINING BODY: EDEXCEL

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

The main purpose of any course in art, craft and design is to develop your ability to appreciate the visual world, respond in a personal and creative way and perhaps even contribute for the benefit of everyone.

The skills you will develop will be varied. Among them you will develop a working knowledge of materials, practices and technology within art. You will develop the skills to interpret and convey your ideas and feelings using art, craft and design. You will develop your imaginative and creative powers and your experimental, analytical and documenting skills. You will also develop a specialist vocabulary and the knowledge and understanding of the place of art, craft and design in history and in contemporary society.

EXAMINATION

A Level

Component 1	Personal investigation	60% of total A Level
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Includes a portfolio of practical workPersonal Study- an extended written response minimum of 1000 words (12%)	

Component 2	Externally Set task	40% of total A Level
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The exam is 15 hours and will be taken at the end of the 2 year course.

KEY SKILLS

Communication is integral to the Study of AS/A Level Art. Some IT skills will also be appropriate.

PROGRESSION

There are many careers in Art and Design including advertising, architecture, graphics, textiles, fashion, film and photography, industrial/ product design, etc.

The most common route to a career in Art and Design is by taking a one-year Foundation Course before specialising in a chosen field. Vyners School Art Department has an excellent record of placing its A Level students on the best Foundation Courses in the London area. Alternatively, applications can be made through UCAS directly to specialist degree courses in Art and Design.

The study of Art and Design can also help you to develop transferable skills to take into any career or job.

If you require further information, please contact the Subject Leader Mrs F Vine, email: fvine@vynersschool.org.uk.

BIOLOGY A LEVEL

EXAMINING BODY: EDEXCEL

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

The A Level course follows on naturally from the topics covered at GCSE allowing for more depth and detail. The A Level Biology Course is intended to meet the needs of all students, those wishing to progress to higher education as well as those who have an interest in the subject but do not wish to study beyond A Level.

The course is at the forefront for producing answers to topical problems including cloning, genetic screening, gene therapy, global warming, Tuberculosis and HIV, hospital acquired infections, keyhole surgery and prostheses and Parkinson's. The course also provides the basis for an enriched life with interest in nature and the environment.

The syllabus is divided into 8 units allowing for both theory based and practical work in order to help you develop into an all round Biologist.

The format of these units is as follows:

Year 1

1. Lifestyle, health and risks
2. Genes and health
3. Voice of the genome
4. Biodiversity and natural resources

Year 2

5. On the wild side
6. Immunity, infection and forensics
7. Run for you life
8. Grey Matter.

EXAMINATION

A Level 3 exams in Year 13 during May/June

Paper 1	Units 1 - 6	2 hours	100 marks
Paper 2	Units 1 - 4, 7 and 8	2 hours	100 marks
Paper 3	Units 1 - 8*	2 hours	100 marks

**Pre release material in the form of a Scientific article for a comprehension section in the paper.*

In both years 12 and 13 there are set practical's that all students must complete and write up in full. These practical's will be tested in the exams and a pass or fail teacher assessment is also passed on to the board. This qualification is called CPAC.

PROGRESSION

Students who have followed the course will be equipped to proceed to study Medicine or other medical fields such as Nursing and Veterinary Science. The skills developed by studying Biology will open up a huge range of career choices. Students that have studied Biology have gone on to study Sciences, Environmental courses including Environmental Management, and Agriculture.

If you require any further information, please contact the Subject Leader Miss G Holt, email: gholt@vynersschool.org.uk

BUSINESS STUDIES A LEVEL

EXAMINING BODY: Edexcel

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Studying Business will give you the skills and understanding of the challenging business environment in which we live. You will become a better informed consumer and be able to make educated financial decisions. You will learn about how entrepreneurs spot business ideas and turn them into successful, profitable businesses, like Apple and Google.

You will learn about how entrepreneurs start and grow small businesses. You will research how small businesses grow into large ones, including topics such as marketing, operations, finance and human resources. If you enjoy watching Dragons Den, or you are interested in how businesses become successful, then Business is an ideal subject to choose.

Business sits in the middle of the learning spectrum. In one direction it has **close links to Mathematics** as calculations are invariably needed. In the other, its demand in terms of analytical **essay writing skills** align it with the 'arts' subjects such as History, English, Politics and Psychology. Housed in specialist classrooms equipped with multimedia PCs, all connected to the internet, the subject provides an ideal context for learning the practical uses of ICT.

The study of Business requires a multi-disciplinary, integrated approach ranging from accountancy to psychology and from sociology to economics. All of these topics and more are important foundations upon which Business is based. A successful business will manage its finances effectively, know how to manage people and get the most out of them. It will also attempt to understand the external influences which will affect its performance. The study of management is essential for any Business course. Good managers will make good decisions and understanding the art of management is another important area of study.

COURSE CONTENT

Theme 1: Marketing and People

- meeting customer needs
- the market
- marketing mix and strategy
- managing people
- entrepreneurs and leaders

Theme 2: Managing Business Activities

- raising finance
- financial planning
- managing finance
- resource management
- external influences

Theme 3: Business Decisions and Strategy

- business objectives and strategy
- business growth
- decision-making techniques
- influences on business decisions
- assessing competitiveness
- managing change

Theme 4: Global Business

- globalisation
- global markets and business expansion
- global marketing
- global industries and companies (multinational corporations)

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: Marketing, people and global businesses (35%)

Paper 2: Business activities, decisions and strategy (35%)

Paper 3: Investigating business in a competitive environment (30%)

PROGRESSION

At University more people choose a business or management related degree than any other course. Business is also an excellent foundation for a wide range of careers including: Marketing; Retail; Management; Finance.

If you require further information, please contact the Subject Leader Mr McDonough, email: nmcdonough@vynersschool.org.

CHEMISTRY A LEVEL

EXAMINING BODY: EDEXCEL

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Chemistry is the central science. It encompasses such an extensive spectrum of topics and is absolutely fundamental to our understanding of the world around us. This course provides a stimulating and exciting insight into the concepts, content and relevance of modern day chemistry.

During the first year, students will study the core foundations of Organic, Inorganic and Physical Chemistry.

The knowledge acquired in Year 12 is extended further in the second year, where students are introduced to key concepts in Advanced Organic, Inorganic and Physical Chemistry.

The format of these units is as follows:

Year 12

1. Atomic structure and the periodic table
2. Bonding and structure
3. Redox
4. Inorganic chemistry and the periodic table
5. Formulae, equations and amount of substance
6. Organic chemistry 1
7. Modern analytical techniques
8. Energetics 1
9. Kinetics 1
10. Equilibrium 1

Year 13

11. Equilibrium 2
12. Acid-base equilibria
13. Energetics 2
14. Redox 2
15. Transition metals
16. Kinetics
17. Organic chemistry 2
18. Organic chemistry 3
19. Modern analytical techniques 2

EXAMINATION

The A Level qualification involves sitting three examination papers. These are 'Advanced Inorganic and Physical Chemistry' (Paper 1), 'Advanced Organic and Physical Chemistry' (Paper 2) and 'General and Practical Skills in Chemistry' (Paper 3).

Paper 1	Units 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11-15	105 minutes	90 marks
Paper 2	Units 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 16-19	105 minutes	90 marks
Paper 3	Units 1-19*	150 minutes	120 marks

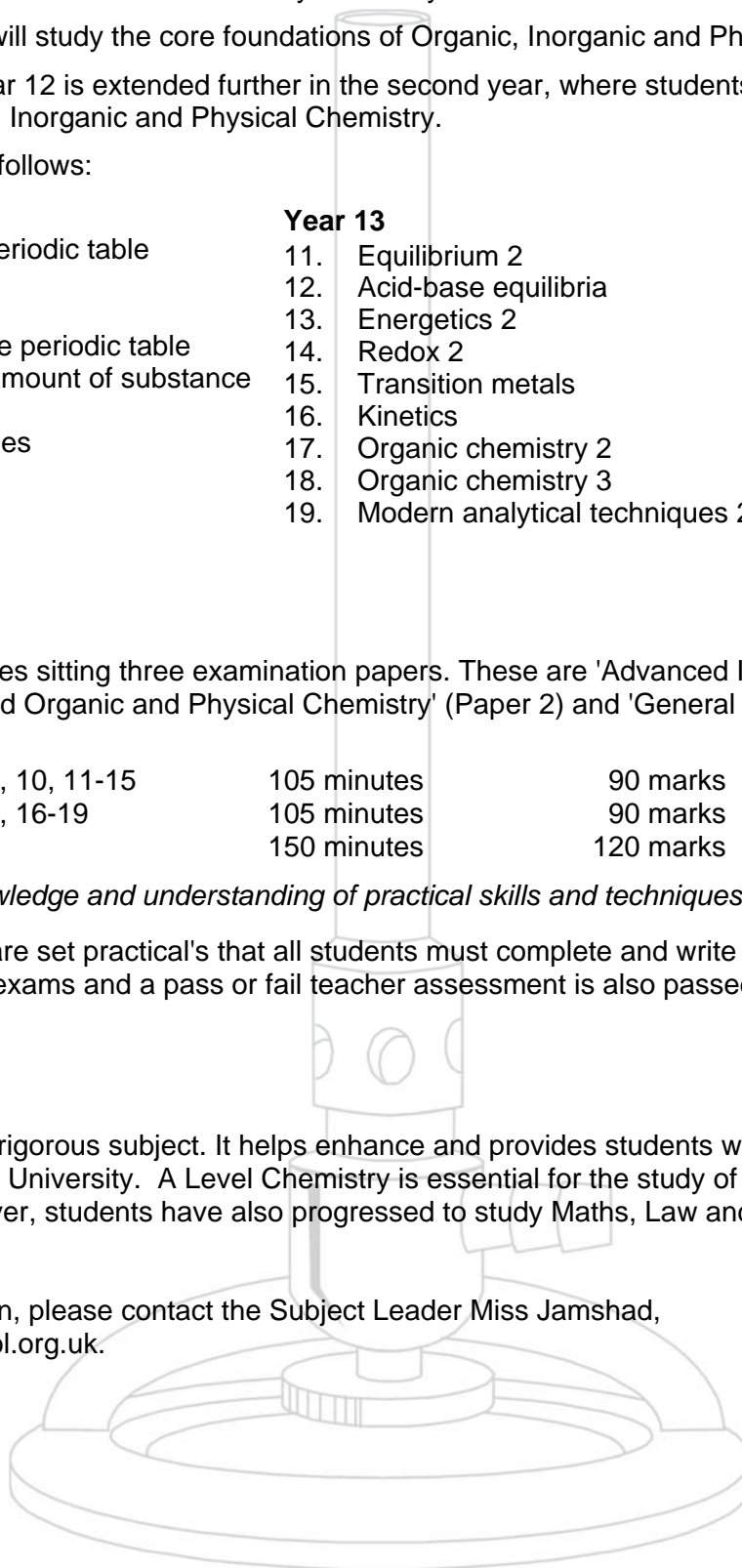
** half of the paper will test knowledge and understanding of practical skills and techniques*

In both years 12 and 13 there are set practical's that all students must complete and write up in full. These practical's will be tested in the exams and a pass or fail teacher assessment is also passed on to the board. This qualification is called CPAC.

PROGRESSION

Chemistry is an academic and rigorous subject. It helps enhance and provides students with many skills, preparing them for demanding courses at University. A Level Chemistry is essential for the study of Medicine, Veterinary Science and Pharmacy. However, students have also progressed to study Maths, Law and other arts based subjects.

If you require further information, please contact the Subject Leader Miss Jamshad,
email: ajamshad@vynersschool.org.uk.



COMPUTING A LEVEL

EXAMINING BODY: OCR

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

The A Level specification in computer science contains both theory and practical elements. The theory elements will enable you to develop an understanding of:

- the characteristics of contemporary processors
- input, output and storage devices
- software and software development
- exchanging data
- data types, data structures and algorithms
- legal, moral, cultural and ethical issues
- elements of computational thinking
- problem solving and programming
- algorithms to solve problems and standard algorithms

You will choose a computing problem to work through according to the guidance in the specification.

- Analysis of the problem
- Design of the solution
- Developing the solution
- Evaluation

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The A Level course in Computer Science covers the following topics:

Computer Systems

- The characteristics of contemporary processors, input, output and storage devices
- Software and software development
- Exchanging data
- Data types, data structures and algorithms
- Legal, moral, cultural and ethical issues

Algorithms and Programming

- Elements of computational thinking
- Problem solving and programming
- Algorithms

Programming Project

- Analysis of the problem
- Design of the solution
- Developing the solution
- Evaluation

EXAMINATION	What is Assessed?	Assessment
Paper 1	Computer Science knowledge from subject content above under the title Computer Systems.	Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes 40% of A Level
Paper 2	Computer Science knowledge from subject content above under the title Algorithms and Programming.	Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes 40% of A Level
Non-Exam Assessment (Programming Project)	You will be expected to follow a systematic approach to problem solving.	Non-Exam Assessment 20% of A Level

PROGRESSION

By studying the application and the fundamental principles of computing, and having practical experience of the current state of the art, students should be well equipped to appreciate and exploit future developments of computer systems and technology and to appreciate the effects of these developments both on themselves and on society.

Successful completion of the course can lead directly to a variety of careers in computing or to more advanced study in Higher Education.

If you require further information, please contact the Subject Leader Mrs Kaur, email: skaur@vynersschool.org.uk.

DRAMA & THEATRE A LEVEL

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Building on the philosophy of the GCSE syllabus, the emphasis is on Drama and Theatre Studies as a practical, intellectual and artistic subject. You will examine the use of theatrical forms and genre in relation to the exploration and performance of plays. You will develop an interest and enjoyment of Drama and theatre as a performer and as an analytical member of an audience, fostering a critical appreciation of the subject.

It is available at A2 Level only.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Component 1: Written Exam 40%

- Study 2 plays PRACTICALLY 1: Antigone Sophocles 2: Our Country's Good Wertebaker
- SEE live theatre
- Sit an exam Q1 on play 1 Q2 on an extract from play 2 Q3 regarding the work of live theatre seen

Component 2: Creating original drama 30%

- Create a devised performance (in the style of a practitioner)
- Teacher marked on process (rehearsal) your written work - a working notebook (2500 - 3000) words and your performance.

Component 3: Making theatre 30%

- Explore 3 extracts from different plays PRACTICALLY
- Apply practitioner knowledge to extract 3
- External examiner marks performance of extract 3
- Teacher marks your written work - a reflective report (2500 - 3000 words)

PROGRESSION

Drama is an ideal qualification for anyone intending to study an essay based or arts qualification at degree level. Drama is considered as an excellent choice for developing analytical, presentation and interpersonal skills. Depending on the course you intend to study, Drama is accepted at Russell group universities.

If you require further information, please contact the Subject Leader Mrs Moore, Email: hmoore@vynersschool.org.uk.

ECONOMICS A LEVEL

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

The basic economic problem is that we have limited resources like copper, oil and cotton. We also have unlimited wants for things like televisions, cars and branded t-shirts. Economics attempts to understand how an economy can provide us with the **things we need**, such as food and shelter, and the **things we want** like i-phones and holidays. A successful economy will do this efficiently, with as little waste as possible. A successful economy will also do this in a fair way, so that the needs of all people are met. Therefore, as a society we need to **make choices** including:

- Should we build more schools or more tanks?
- Should we increase taxes to pay for more roads?

The answers to these questions will **depend on your own values**, so you will be able to develop your own views and understanding of the economy we live in throughout the course.

Economics sits in the middle of the learning spectrum. In one direction it has **close links to Mathematics** as calculations are invariably needed. In the other, its demand in terms of analytical **essay writing skills** align it with the 'arts' subjects such as History, English, Politics and Psychology.

COURSE CONTENT

Component 1 - Individuals, firms, markets and market failure

1. Economic methodology and the economic problem
2. Individual economic decision making
3. Price determination in a competitive market
4. Production, costs and revenue
5. Perfect competition, imperfectly competitive markets and monopoly
6. The labour market
7. The distribution of income and wealth: poverty and inequality
8. The market mechanism, market failure and government intervention in markets

Component 2 - The national and international economy

9. The measurement of macroeconomic performance
10. How the macro-economy works: the circular flow of income, AD/AS analysis, and related concepts
11. Economic performance
12. Financial markets and monetary policy
13. Fiscal policy and supply-side policies
14. The international economy

ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: Markets and market failure (33.3%)

Paper 2: National and international economy (33.3%)

Paper 3: Economic principles and issues (33.3%)

PROGRESSION

Economics is also an excellent foundation for a wide range of university course and careers including: Banking; Accountancy; Retail; Politics.

If you require further information, please contact the Subject Leader Mr McDonough, email: nmcdonough@vynersschool.org.uk.

ENGLISH LITERATURE A LEVEL

EXAMINING BODY: OCR

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

This is an **English Literature** course which means that you must:

- read widely and independently;
- engage creatively with a substantial number of texts;
- develop your literary analysis explore the contexts of texts and how other readers interpret them.

The course builds on the analytical and expressive skills acquired up to Year 11.

As an essay-based subject, the transferable writing and analytical skills gained support A Levels such as History, Geography or Economics. The emphasis on the texts' social, political and literary contexts also creates a strong link with History. Many students with an interest in Psychology also choose to study English Literature as it allows them to examine 'the human condition' from a different perspective. The creative thinking involved means it complements the study of Art and Music. There are also clear links with Drama.

COURSE CONTENT

COMPONENT 1: DRAMA AND POETRY PRE-1900 – exam For this part of the examination you will study a Shakespeare play such as *Hamlet*, one pre-1900 play such as *The Duchess of Malfi* and one pre-1900 poem such as *The Merchant's Prologue and Tale*.

COMPONENT 2: COMPARATIVE STUDY – exam This study requires you to develop an expertise in a literary movement or genre, for instance Gothic Literature or American Literature. Two novels are studied in depth with independent study of a wide range of other related novels and short stories.

COMPONENT 3: POST 1900 - Coursework This is known as a synoptic assessment. It involves the explicit drawing together of knowledge, skills and understanding of different aspects of the A Level course. It requires the study of **three** literary texts: **one** novel, **one** poetry text and **one** play. The texts must have been first published or performed in 1900 or later. At least **one** of these texts must have been published or performed in 2000 or later. Students are encouraged to select their own choice of novel and to come up with their own areas of interest and essay titles.

ASSESSMENT

This is a course of learning that takes place during Years 12 and 13.

There will be ONE examination series each year in June. All examined components *must be taken in the same examination series at the end of the course*.

COMPONENT 1: DRAMA AND POETRY PRE-1900 - This is a **closed text** written paper of 2 hours and 30 minutes, worth 40% of the total A Level. 60 marks are available.

COMPONENT 2: COMPARATIVE STUDY This is a **closed text** written paper of 2 hours and 30 minutes, worth 40% of the total A Level. 60 marks are available.

COMPONENT 3: POST 1900 - Coursework This is a non-examined assessment (coursework) component for which 40 marks are available. There are **TWO** tasks. **Task One** is a response to a close reading of an extract from one of the texts which will be an essay of 1,000 words. **Task Two** is a comparative essay based on **two** of the texts. The essay must be 2,000 words.

PROGRESSION

The discipline of this subject can allow you to improve your communication skills through discussion, close reading and analytical writing. English can be studied in institutions of further and higher education, either by itself or along with other subjects, e.g. Drama, the Media. Although it is not a **specifically vocational subject**, it can lead to **journalism, law, broadcasting, the Civil Service and similar professions**.

If you require further information, please contact the Subject Leader Mr Cahill, email: ncahill@vynersschool.org.uk.

BTEC LEVEL 3 CERTIFICATE IN FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION

EXAMINING BODY: WJEC

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

The WJEC Level 3 Certificate in Food Science and Nutrition is assessed through a combination of a written exam and an internal centre marked assignment, set by the examination board.

Learners complete one unit in which they will investigate, demonstrate and evaluate their ability to meet the nutritional needs of specific groups

This mandatory unit will enable the learner to demonstrate an understanding of the science of food safety, nutrition and nutritional needs in a wide range of contexts, and through on-going practical sessions, to gain practical skills to produce quality food items to meet the needs of individuals.

90 minute examination plus 15 minutes reading time (Total of 90 marks)

Section A is short answer questions

Section B is extended answer questions

Section C relates to a case study

The paper is graded at pass, merit and distinction

Topics are...

Understand the importance of food safety (14-22 marks)

Understand the properties of nutrients (14-22 marks)

Understand the relationship between nutrients and the human body (22-31 marks)

Plan nutritional requirements (22-31 marks)

PROGRESSION

Together with relevant Level 3 qualifications such as AS and A Levels in Biology, Chemistry, Sociology and Maths and/or Level 3 qualifications in Hospitality or Science, learners will gain the required knowledge to progress to higher education degree courses, such as:

- BSc Food and Nutrition
- BSc Human Nutrition
- BSc (Hons) Public Health Nutrition
- BSc (Hons) Food Science and Technology

As well as preparing learners for future education or careers in the food and nutrition industry, the unit also provides a range of transferable skills such as...

- skills required for independent learning and development
- a range of generic and transferable skills
- the ability to solve problems
- the skills of project based research, development and presentation
- the fundamental ability to work alongside other professionals, in a professional environment
- the ability to apply learning in vocational contexts

If you require further information, please contact the Subject Leader Mr Welch, email: jwelch@vynerschool.org.uk.

GEOGRAPHY A LEVEL

EXAMINING BODY: EDEXCEL

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Geography forms the bridge between the natural and human world and the science and arts disciplines. The diverse nature of the subject engenders broad-minded, deep thinkers who learn from the world around them. Many employers recognise that Geography students have a wide variety of transferable skills ranging from enquiry-based data collection, presentation and analysis of data and the preparation and presentation of reports in written and oral form. Students of Geography are regarded as being skilled in making informed decisions based on a range of real world information

COURSE CONTENT

Throughout the two years of study students will focus on four key geographical themes:
Dynamic Landscapes focusing Tectonic Processes and Coastal Landscapes and Change
Physical Systems and Sustainability focusing on The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity and the Carbon Cycle and Energy Security
Dynamic Places focusing on Globalisation and Regenerating Places
Human Systems and Geopolitics focusing on Superpowers and Health, Human Rights and Intervention
Students will be expected to complete a minimum of 4 days of field work as part of their independent investigation.

ASSESSMENT

Unit 1 30% of A Level 2 hour 15 minute exam

Focuses on Dynamic Landscapes, Physical Systems and Sustainability

Unit 2 30 % of A Level 2 hour 15 minute exam

Focuses on Dynamic Places, Human Systems and Geopolitics

Unit 3 20% of A Level 2 hour 15 minute exam

Synoptic Decision Making Exam. An unseen resource booklet is provided in the exam

Unit 4 20% of A Level 3000 to 4000 word written report based on field work

Independent Investigation is based on field work carried out at A Level

PROGRESSION

Advanced Level Geography is a highly regarded academic discipline and valuable entry qualification to many higher education and degree courses. It combines well with other subjects such as Biology, Mathematics, Economics, History, Politics, Physics and Sociology and can be useful in a host of jobs, e.g. Land Management and Conservation, Town and Country Planning, Environmental Management and the Professional Services.

If you require further information, please contact Mr Cowling (Deputy Headteacher) or Miss Brown (Head of Geography).

GERMAN A LEVEL

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Britain's increasingly important role in Europe means that your career prospects could be enhanced if you are a competent linguist.

The syllabus is a natural extension from GCSE and approximately equal stress is laid on each of the four linguistic skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing. Great importance is attached to the life and culture in Germany. By the end of the 2 year A Level course you will have a sound grasp of grammatical structure and so be more confident in oral and comprehension skills so valued by employers.

The general topic areas in Year 1 are:

1. Social issues and trends; the digital world; youth culture; fashion and trends
2. Artistic culture; festivals; traditions; art; architecture, Berlin
3. Grammar; translation into English from German
4. Literary text or film; essay
5. Speaking on one or two topics from the subtopics.

The general topic areas in Year 2 are:

1. Aspects of German speaking society
2. Artistic culture
3. Multiculturalism
4. Aspects of political life grammar
5. Grammar: translation from and into target language
6. Speaking on two sub topics and a discussion card.

You will be encouraged to make as many visits as possible to countries where German is spoken. We particularly recommend German work experience which can be arranged in a wide range of sectors.

You should be prepared to read widely, use German websites to develop listening skills, make personal vocabulary lists, read from German press and magazines and fully exploit facilities offered by certain cinemas in the screening of German films.

You will also be attending weekly conversation classes with the assistant.

EXAMINATION

Unit 1	Listening, Reading and Writing	2 hours 30 minutes
Unit 2	Writing: essay on a film and book	2 hours
Unit 3	Speaking on topics covered in exam	23 minutes

PROGRESSION

Students with A Level can, of course, continue to study languages at university in order to work in a variety of industries and professions. It is now possible to study almost any subject with German at university and make yourself more attractive to employers.

Most students will seek work as non-specialists in industry, exporting, marketing, selling or in government jobs perhaps connected with the Diplomatic Service, the Civil Service or the European Community. Many other sectors also need linguists including travel and tourism, the BBC, shipping services and voluntary organisations.

Do remember, if you want to work in tourism you really need **two** foreign languages.

If you require further information, please contact the Subject Leader Mrs Maksymowych, email: cmaksymowych@vynersschool.org.uk.

GOVERNMENT & POLITICS A LEVEL

Government & Politics

Exam board AQA

Exam: Three 2 hour exams

1. Government and politics of the UK
2. Government and politics of the USA and comparative politics
3. Political ideas

Why choose AQA for A-level Politics

Lively, relevant, controversial... there are many ways to describe A-level Politics. There's no denying that it's one of the most interesting and engaging qualifications you can choose. Covering news and current affairs from the UK and US, it helps you understand how the UK country is run and develops research, written communication and debate skills. It also helps grow your confidence. It's ideal if you're considering studying politics, sociology, ethics, advertising or journalism at university and is highly regarded by employers in industries including politics, international organisations, the media, government and the civil service.

Unit 1: Government and Politics of the UK

Unit 1 is focussed on the way that the UK is governed. It includes the following topics

- The nature and sources of the British Constitution
- The structure and role of Parliament
- The Prime Minister and cabinet
- The Judiciary
- Devolution
- Democracy and participation
- Elections and referendums
- Political parties
- Pressure groups
- The European Union

Unit 2 Government and politics of the USA and comparative politics

Unit 2 covers how politics work in the USA and how the American style of Government is different from the UK.

The USA

- The constitutional framework of the US government
- The legislative branch of government: Congress
- The executive branch of government: President
- The judicial branch of government
- The electoral process and direct democracy
- Political parties
- Pressure groups
- Civil Rights

Comparisons

- Constitutional arrangements
- The executives
- The judiciaries
- Electoral and party systems
- Pressure groups
- Civil Rights

Unit 3 political ideas

This unit is designed to give pupils a deeper understanding of the concepts the form the basis of political beliefs.

- Liberalism
- Conservatism
- Socialism
- Feminism

If you require further information, please contact the Subject Leader Mr S Beale, email: sbeale@vynersschool.org.uk.

HISTORY A LEVEL

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

- (i) to offer you the opportunity to study History in length, breadth and depth across a variety of periods and topics.
- (ii) to develop expertise in a variety of skills such as analysis, communication, evaluation and interpretation.
- (iii) to produce your own ideas, theories and arguments based on personal research. This research (and discussion) should reinforce the idea that **truth** in History is not black and white, but **opinion** based on evidence, and therefore a questioning approach will be developed.
- (iv) to promote a course which is genuinely interesting, is self-contained and which will also serve as a preparation for those who want to study History in higher education.

METHODOLOGY

Such strategies may include note taking, reading, individual work, group work, discussion and debate, class presentations, role play and the use of ICT.

Students are also assessed in a variety of ways such as through document-based questions, note taking, projects, presentations, essays, model answers and critiques of work. Class lessons are used to check that satisfactory notes are being maintained and discuss the issues that have arisen.

While the History department can offer access to key texts it is important that you do not think in terms of relying on just one or two sources. You are encouraged to read as much as possible, to make use of the School Library, the History Room Libraries and local Libraries, while several books are now produced in reasonably-priced paperbacks.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this linear A Level you will sit two exams at the end of your second year. These will be a breadth study on The Tudors: England 1485-1603; and a depth study on The American Dream: Reality or Illusion 1945-1980.

Year One

The Tudors : Covers the years 1485-1547 and explores the reigns of Henry VII & Henry VIII. You will consider the political, economic and religious impacts of their reigns.

The American Dream : You will cover the years 1945-1963 and explore the presidencies of Harry Truman, Dwight Eisenhower and John F. Kennedy. You will consider the prosperity, inequality and superpower status of America, with particular focus on the Cold War, Economy and Civil Rights.

In the summer term you will be introduced to the Independent Investigation unit. This is a 4500 word essay where you will choose a 100-year period of history, formulate a question around a key theme from that period and conduct your own independent research.

Year Two

The Tudors : This covers the years 1547-1603 and explores the reigns of Edward VI, Mary I & Elizabeth I. You will consider the change and continuity in society and the impact of economic, social and religious developments.

The American Dream : This covers the years 1963-1980 and explore the presidencies of Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter. You will continue to consider the status of the USA as a superpower, examining the various Presidents' policies regarding the Cold War, Economy and Civil Rights.

You will continue to work on your Non Examined Assessment begun in the summer term of Year One.

EXAMINATION

Each examination unit is worth 40% of the A Level. Whilst the exams will each take slightly different formats they will both last 2½ hours and will be made up of 3 questions, totalling 80 marks.

The Non Examined Assessment is worth 20% of the A Level. It is marked internally and moderated externally.

PROGRESSION

History can be studied in institutions of further and higher education, either by itself or with other subjects, e.g. Politics, Economics, Law or the Media. Although it is not a specifically vocational subject, it can provide a good basis for broadcasting, the Civil Service, journalism and similar professions.

Skills acquired such as analysis, communication of argument, evaluation, interpretation and presentation of ideas would be beneficial in a variety of vocations.

If you require further information, please contact the Subject Leader Mr S Beale, email: sbeale@vynersschool.org.uk.

(BTEC) LEVEL 3 National Extended Certificate in IT

(Equivalent in size to 1 A Level)

EXAMINING BODY: EDEXCEL

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

The BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in IT is primarily a Technical Level qualification, **equivalent to ONE A level (56 UCAS points)**. It covers many aspects of the sector such as the use of social media marketing in business, developing and managing database information system followed by HTML and CSS Website development. This qualification is designed for learners who are interested in an introduction to the study of creating IT systems to manage and share information, alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in IT.

STUDY METHODS

This course is classroom taught, with a range of lectures, group work, presentations, practical sessions and workshops.

ASSESSMENT

The BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in IT consists of one externally assessed exam followed by one externally assessed controlled assessment and two internally assessed coursework units.

There are **three** mandatory units that you will have to cover:

1. Information Technology Systems
2. Creating Systems to Manage Information
3. Using Social Media in Business

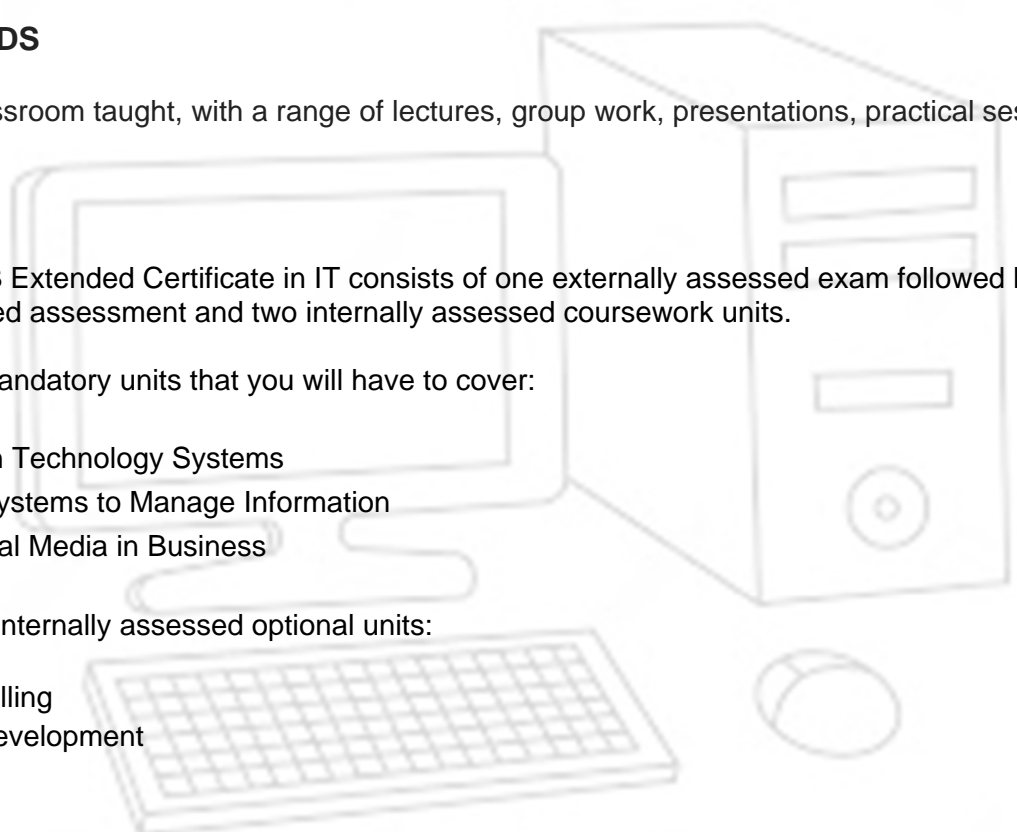
Following are the internally assessed optional units:

- Data Modelling
- Website Development

PROGRESSION

This qualification supports progression into further education, training or employment. Appropriate further education might be: BTEC Higher National Diploma in Computing; BTEC Foundation Degree in Computing; a degree in computing, IT or related fields; entry into employment.

If you require further information, please contact the Subject Leader Mrs Kaur, email: skaur@vynersschool.org.uk.



MATHEMATICS & FURTHER MATHEMATICS A LEVEL

EXAMINING BODY: EDEXCEL

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

A Level Mathematics

Year 1 at Vyners comprises all key foundation elements of advanced mathematical study, including pure as well as both statistics and mechanics content. Students will take 2 papers at the end of Year 12, set and marked internally.

Year 2 again comprises a mixture of pure, statistics and mechanics. The content of year 1 and year 2 Mathematics has been stipulated by the Department of Education. Students will sit all their external exams at the end of the course, this comprises 3 papers, each 2 hours long.

A Level Further Mathematics builds upon the pure, statistics and mechanics content of A Level Mathematics and includes new topics such as Complex numbers and Hyperbolic functions. Those choosing to study Further Mathematics will cover all of the Mathematics content in year 1, and all of the Further Mathematics content in year 2.

Students will sit all the exams for both Mathematics and Further Mathematics at the end of year 2. Further Mathematics comprises an additional 4 exams each of 1.5 hours in duration.

PROGRESSION

For progression to many courses at university it is important to have strong mathematical skills. For most science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) degree courses, A Level Mathematics is a requirement and A Level Further Mathematics is often a preferred subject. If you wish to study Mathematics, Physics or Computer Science, A Level Further Mathematics is often a required subject. Having A level Further Mathematics on your university application is a way to make it stand out.

Many employers highly value mathematics qualifications because mathematics students become better at thinking logically and analytically. Through solving problems you develop resilience and the ability to think creatively. Through creating proofs and justifying your results, you develop the skills needed to formulate well reasoned arguments. Crucially, you will develop excellent numeracy skills and the ability to process and interpret data.

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Studying Mathematics will enable you to develop the following skills:

- understanding of the mathematics that underpins many aspects of our lives
- the ability to apply a range of mathematical skills to different situations
- acute logical thinking and problem-solving abilities
- the ability to process, interpret and analyse information.

If you require further information, please contact the Acting Subject Leader, Ms H Vorce, email: hvorce@vynersschool.org.uk.

MEDIA STUDIES A LEVEL

EXAMINING BODY: EDUQAS

Alongside an examination, you will complete a piece of practical coursework which will make up 30% of your final A Level grade. You will be required to research in preparation for, plan, create and evaluate your practical work and will produce professional media artefacts. These practical exercises will enable you to experience what it actually feels like to be a working media practitioner.

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Throughout this course you will explore current debates about culture and the ways in which the media brings about social, cultural and political change. Studying the media means looking differently at the culturally shared products of our everyday lives as people living in the 21st—century technological world. This is the world where a film, a television programme, music or news on the internet can be accessed and understood by audiences and consumers across the globe. You will have first-hand experience as a consumer of the media as part of your everyday life and are already an expert at interpreting media images.

Media Studies is a popular subject at A Level. You will enjoy the challenge that comes with designing and creating your own original media texts and exploring the media that you use every day. The course offers the study of a variety of media texts, an exploration of current issues and debates within the world of the media and an evaluation of the way in which audiences consume, respond to, use and enjoy media texts. There is a wide range of exciting jobs available to those wishing to join the media industry and studying A Level Media Studies is the first step to securing a position in this ever popular field.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is based on 4 main areas of study: media concepts, media platforms (e.g. TV/film, digital/web-based media, newspapers/magazines), media debates (e.g. Reality TV, Regulation and censorship) and practical production. You will develop your understanding and appreciation of the media and also create a media product e.g. a video, magazine or website using industry standard software.

Throughout the two year course you will gain an understanding of notions of 'identity' within the context of cultural life and how people engage with media forms such as television, radio, print, digital communication, advertising and social media. The course will equip you with the knowledge and skills you'll need to engage critically and creatively with media and identity, both significant areas of contemporary culture.

EXAMINATION

Alongside an examination, you will complete a piece of practical coursework in both your first and second year of the course. You will be required to research in preparation for, plan, create and evaluate your practical work and will produce professional media artefacts. These practical exercises will enable you to experience what it actually feels like to be a working media practitioner.

PROGRESSION

Students with A Level Media can go on to university to study a range of disciplines within the media landscape, such as: film studies, television production, communication and advertising.

If you require further information, please contact the Subject Leader Miss L Parsons, email: lparsons@vynersschool.org.uk.

MUSIC A LEVEL

EXAMINING BODY: EDUQAS

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Part 1: Performance (25-35%)

Option A: (35%) A 10-12 minute performance consisting of a minimum of three pieces. 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: (25%) A 6-8 minute performance consisting of a minimum of two pieces, one piece must reflect the musical characteristics of one area of study

Part 2: Composition (25-35%)

Option A: Composing (25%) 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 WJEC. Learners will have a choice of four set briefs. The second composition is a free composition.

Option B: Composing (35%) Three 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 WJEC. Learners will have a choice of four set briefs. The second composition must reflect the musical characteristics of one different area of study while the third composition is a free composition.

Part 3: Examination (40%)

You will study 4 set works in two areas of study which are. Within these areas you will explore the different musical elements and the historical context behind each piece.

Western Classical:

Haydn London Symphony

Mendelssohn Italian Symphony

20th Century Music

Poulenc: Trio for Oboe, Bassoon and Piano

Debussy: Three Nocturnes

Students will also study one of three areas of study which are Rock and Pop, Musical Theatre or Jazz and have to answer questions general musicianship questions about the chosen genre.

EXAMINATION

Students will have to sit a 2.15 hour exam in which they are answer to respond to the follow types of 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

OTHER INFORMATION

As an A Level student, you are expected to be a role model for the younger years with music. Therefore, all A Level students must attend Senior Choir every week and one other musical ensemble.

PROGRESSION

Studying music is one of the most fulfilling subjects within school. Not only do you learn the skills of performing on your instrument to a high level, you also gain the ability to analyse any given music, compose your own music and learn many different languages including the language of music itself. Music is regarded highly among the top universities through its nature of encouraging hard work and perseverance. Music is also one of the top jobs for employment Post University with 91% of graduates gaining employment within six months of finishing their degree.

If you require further information, please contact the Subject Leader Mr D Cullum, email: dcullum@vynersschool.org.uk.

LEVEL 3 OCR TECHNICAL (EXTENDED CERTIFICATE OR FOUNDATION DIPLOMA) IN SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

AWARDING BODY

OCR

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Two Grade 4 in Combined Science and Grade 4 in English

Two Grade 4 in Triple Science and Grade 4 in English

WHAT ARE OCR LEVEL 3 QUALIFICATIONS?

These qualifications give learners the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need to prepare them for employment or higher education. Equivalent in size to two or three 'A' levels studied over two years.

COURSE AIM

A level 3 qualification for post - 16 learners who want to achieve their potential and progress to the next stage of their lives whether it be in higher education, an apprenticeship or employment. It aims to develop students' knowledge, understanding and skills of the principles of sport and physical activity to a wide range of participants.

CONTENT

- Body Systems and the Effects of Physical Activity
- Sports Coaching and Activity Leadership
- Sports Organisation and Development
- Working Safely in Sport, Exercise, Health and Leisure
- Organisation of Sports Events
- Physical Activity for Specific Groups
- Sports Injuries and Rehabilitation
- Practical Skills in Sport and Physical Activities
- Performance Analysis in Sport and Exercise
- Nutrition and Diet in Sport and Exercise
- Health and Fitness Testing for Sport and Exercise
- The Business of Sport
- Sport and Exercise Psychology
- Sport and Exercise Sociology

TYPES OF ASSESSMENT

- Assignments - set and marked internally
- Written exams - set and marked by OCR

PROGRESSION

University course, apprenticeship or employment.

If you require any further information please contact the Subject Leader Mr Hall, email: thall@vynersschool.org.uk.

BTEC EXTENDED CERTIFICATE IN PERFORMING ARTS

(Equivalent in value to 1 A Level)

EXAMINING BODY

EDEXCEL

ENTRY REQUIREMENT

Level 4 in English Language or English Literature or Merit in Performing Arts (if taken)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The BTEC Level 3 programmes are designed to help you extend your understanding of the Performing Arts Industry whilst developing your skills in drama with music & dance options; you will learn techniques as well as create your own performances. You will work on production projects and be involved in many activities both onsite and at external venues. If you are passionate about working in the Arts, then this is the programme for you.

Units

You will be given guidance over the development of projects, which help you to develop independence and are learner responsive. You will also participate in annual events, stage major productions and have the opportunity to see professional performances at venues in London.

Mandatory Units - Three

1. Investigating Practitioners
2. Developing skills for Live performance
3. Group Performance Workshop

and **One choice unit** from:

A variety of dance options

A variety of drama units

Vocal development unit

ASSESSMENT

50% internally assessed; 50% externally assessed.

PROGRESSION

Progression for most learners after successful completion of the Extended Certificate is onto a Foundation Degree in Performing Arts or a BA (Hons) in Performing Arts / Dance / Drama / Music.

Alternative choices include employment as a Performer, in Arts Administration or Production, either working for an employer or as a freelance artist.

Progression could be into employment or an Apprenticeship. You will have exposure to a range of practical activities through workshops, rehearsals, performances and work experience to develop practical skills and build theoretical portfolios to prepare you for the next level of study.

Due to the wide number of optional units available, it is possible within reason to 'tailor-make' your course to give you the best opportunity for further development, be it employment, theatre school or university.

For any further information, please contact the Subject Leader Mrs H Moore:
hmoore@vynersschool.org.uk

PHOTOGRAPHY A LEVEL

EXAMINING BODY: OCR

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

This course will offer you the opportunity to learn about a variety of lens and light based media. You will work with both film-based and digital photographic processes, which will enable you to form a means of personal enquiry and expression. You will be encouraged to be experimental in your selection and manipulation of images, and must employ creative approaches which go beyond mere observation and recording.

When using film-based photography, you will develop an understanding of SLR cameras and traditional dark-room techniques, involving the developing and printing of your own work. A significant element of the course will focus on the use of digital photography, and image manipulation software such as Adobe Photoshop.

The contextual element of the course will enable you to develop an awareness and understanding of the work of photographers. Through research into the work of others, you will seek inspiration, and will be able to extract useful information about working methods.

EXAMINATION A Level

Component 1 : **Personal Investigation** **60% of total A Level**

- Includes a portfolio of practical work
- A related study - an extended written response minimum 1000 words

Component 2 **Externally Set task** **40% of total A Level**

The exam is 15 hours and will be taken at the end of the 2 year course.

KEY SKILLS

Communication is integral to the Study of A Level Photography. Some IT skills will also be appropriate.

PROGRESSION

There are many careers which involve Photography. The most common route to a career in any Art and Design discipline is by taking a one-year Foundation Course before specialising in a chosen field. Vyners School has an excellent record of placing its A Level students on the best Foundation Courses in the London area. Alternatively, applications can be made through UCAS directly to a specialist degree course in Photography.

The study of Photography can also help you to develop transferable skills to take into any career or job.

If you require further information please contact the Subject Teacher for Photography Miss C McCormick, email: cmccormick@vynersschool.org.uk.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION A LEVEL

AWARDING BODY: OCR

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Our A Level in Physical Education develops knowledge, understanding and skills relevant to physical education. Students gain understanding of the scientific and socio-cultural factors that underpin physical activity, and demonstrate their ability as either performer or coach. This qualification is filled with a range of content across the sporting spectrum developing individuals knowledge in preparation for a possible career in teaching, sports medicine, nutrition, coaching, strength and conditioning to name a few.

COURSE CONTENT

- Physiological factors affecting performance
- Psychological factors affecting performance
- Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport
- Performance in Physical Education

ASSESSMENT

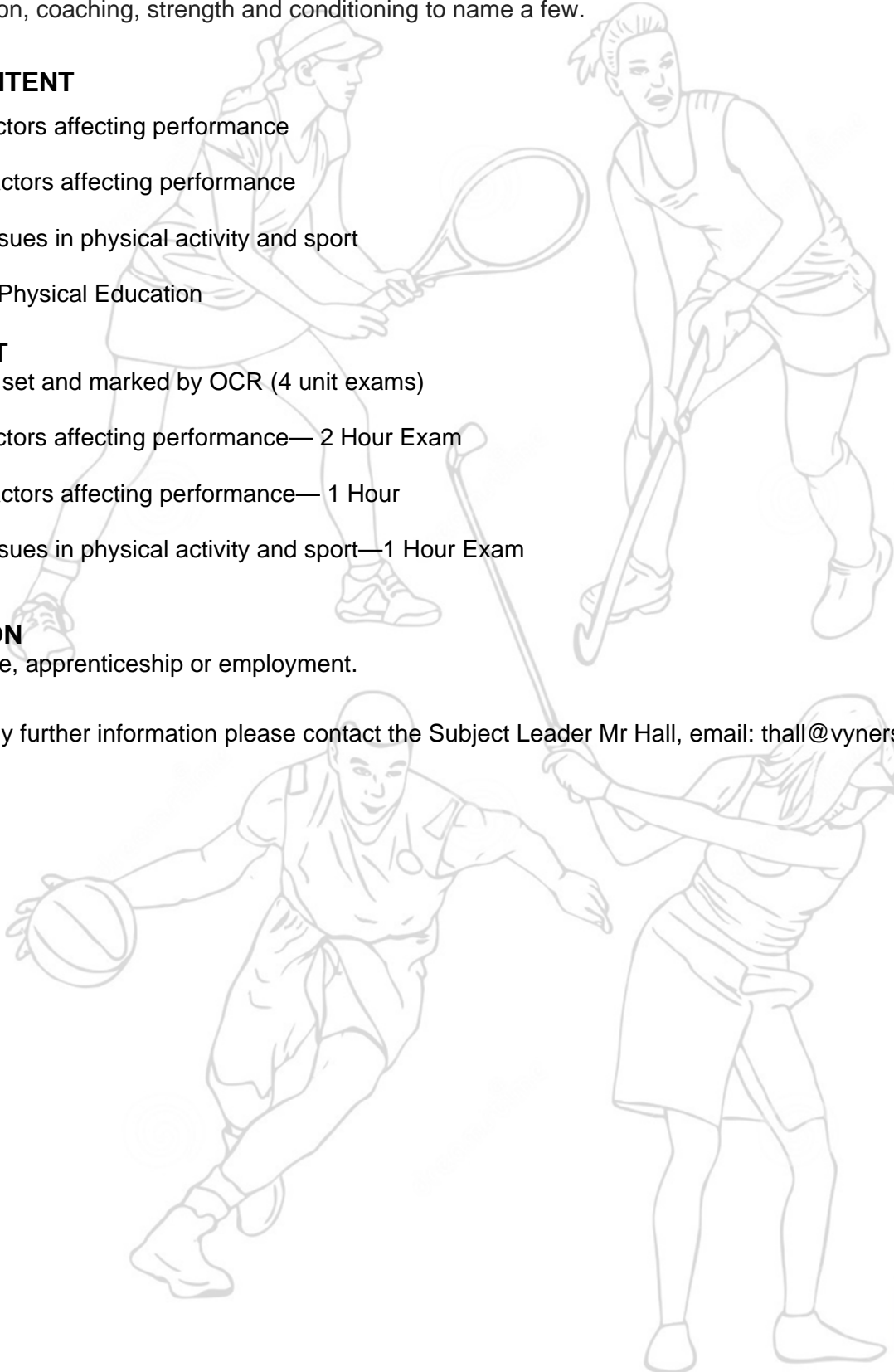
Written exams - set and marked by OCR (4 unit exams)

- Physiological factors affecting performance— 2 Hour Exam
- Psychological factors affecting performance— 1 Hour
- Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport—1 Hour Exam

PROGRESSION

University course, apprenticeship or employment.

If you require any further information please contact the Subject Leader Mr Hall, email: thall@vynersschool.org.uk.



PHYSICS A LEVEL

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

In Physics there will be opportunities for you to:
study and apply physics relevant in the real world,
meet entirely new ideas and ways of thinking,
develop practical and data analysis skills,
see how physics links to other sciences and mathematics,
use your imagination
develop your problem solving skills

Core content

Year 1

1. Measurements and their errors
2. Particles and radiation
3. Waves
4. Mechanics and materials
5. Electricity

Year 2

6. Further mechanics and thermal physics
7. Fields and their consequences
8. Nuclear physics
9. Turning points in physics

ASSESSMENT

The A Level qualification involves sitting three examination papers.

Paper 1 Topics 1-6 120 minutes 85 marks (including multiple choice section)

Paper 2 Units 1-8 120 minutes 85 marks (including multiple choice section)

Paper 3 All units of A2* + Options topic (Turning Points in Physics) 120 minutes 80 marks

** half of the paper will test knowledge and understanding of practical skills and techniques*

Throughout Years 12 and 13 there are set practical's that all students must complete and write up in full. These practical's will be tested indirectly through the exams and also directly as a pass or fail through the teacher assessed practical endorsement.

PROGRESSION

Physics offers immense benefits to people and to society – opening doorways, expanding horizons and driving development. It gives powerful and excellent explanations about the workings of the world – explanations that have esteem and are pertinent in an extensive variety of industries and research networks. Besides, it creates mindsets and thinking that are fulfilling and profoundly esteemed by managers in numerous sectors, from accounting to zoology to engineering, or law and medicine. It is a very demanding course, but this correspondingly increases the value of the qualification. Physics also provides a useful background for leisure activities such as astronomy, music and electronics.

If you require further information, please contact the Subject Leader Miss A Edwards, email: aedwards@vynersschool.org.uk.

PRODUCT DESIGN A LEVEL

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Students are encouraged to:

- Be open to taking design risks, showing innovation and enterprise whilst considering their role as responsible designers and citizens
- Develop intellectual curiosity about the design and manufacture of products and systems, and their impact on daily life and the wider world
- Work collaboratively to develop and refine their ideas, responding to feedback from users, peers and expert practitioners
- Gain an insight into the creative, engineering and/or manufacturing industries
- Develop the capacity to think creatively, innovatively and critically through focused research and the exploration of design opportunities arising from the needs, wants and values of users and clients
- Develop knowledge and experience of real world contexts for design and technological activity
- Develop an in-depth knowledge and understanding of materials, components and processes associated with the creation of products that can be tested and evaluated in use
- Be able to make informed design decisions through an in-depth understanding of the management and development of taking a design through to a prototype/product
- Be able to create and analyse a design concept and use a range of skills and knowledge from other subject areas, including maths and science, to inform decisions in design and the application or development of technology
- Be able to work safely and skilfully to produce high-quality prototypes/products
- Have a critical understanding of the wider influences on design and technology, including cultural, economic, environmental, historical and social factors
- Develop the ability to draw on and apply a range of skills and knowledge from other subject areas, including the use of maths and science for analysis and informing decisions in design

SUBJECT CONTENT & EXAMINATION

Assessments - Paper 1 - Technical principles

Written exam: 2 hours and 30 minutes

120 marks

30% of A-level

Paper 2 - Designing and making principles

Written exam: 1 hour and 30 minutes • 80 marks

20% of A-level Section A:

Product Analysis: 30 marks Section B:

Commercial manufacture: 50 marks

Non-exam assessment (NEA)

Practical application of technical principles, designing and making principles.

Substantial design and make project

100 marks

50% of A-level

Evidence

Written or digital design portfolio and photographic evidence of final prototype.

PROGRESSION

In recent years there has been a substantial recognition of the value of Product Design at governmental, industrial, commercial and educational levels. Product Design combined with other appropriate subjects, is now recognized as forming an excellent foundation for a wide range of studies at institutions of Higher Education, including the Sunday Times top 15 universities.

Progress into Careers / Sixth Form / Higher Education:

Sixth Form: A level Product Design (3D)

Higher Education: Secondary Design and Technology Education with QTS and Resistant Materials related degrees

Careers: Engineering, Carpentry, Graphics Designing, Architecture, Construction, Product Designer, Interior Designer, Architect, Blacksmith, Engineering Craft, Machinist, Engineering Machine Operator, Fabricator, Materials Engineer, Mechanical Engineer, Mechanical Engineering Technician, Scrap Dealer, Sheet, Metal Worker, Toolmaker, Track Maintenance Operative, Vehicle Body Repairer, Welder.

If you require further information, please contact the Subject Leader Mr Babra, email: sbabra@vynerschool.org.uk

PSYCHOLOGY A LEVEL

You will need grade 6 or above in English, Maths and Science

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Psychology provides a fascinating insight into the reasoning behind the human mind and behaviour, with the aim of answering the most interesting questions in life; why do people develop mental illness? Why do people obey authority figures?

You will develop knowledge and understanding of Psychological theories and explanations by applying them in real life contexts. Psychology is a very challenging but rewarding course. You will develop skills relating to problem-solving, organisation and initiative that are in demand in the workplace. You will also develop a practical understanding of research methodology and develop critical thinking skills relevant to the majority of degree level courses.

A level Psychology relates to a range of other subjects and would fit well with most but in particular: Maths, Science and extended writing and analytical subjects such as English, History, Media

COURSE CONTENT

You will study topics such as : Research methods, Social influence ,Memory, Attachment, Approaches, Psychopathology, Relationships, Aggression and Schizophrenia.

You will also study issues and debates within psychological research along with research methodology and Biopsychology.

ASSESSMENT

Three 2 hour examinations at the end of the two year course with regular testing throughout the course

PROGRESSION

Psychology is a very useful subject for many possible careers or courses in Higher Education. Whilst it is clearly relevant for careers/courses in many professions such as clinical psychology or social work, it is also relevant to many more such as medicine, computer science, scientific and social research, journalism, advertising and market research, nursing, criminology, counselling, management, personnel management, design studies, anthropology, clinical psychology, teaching, pharmacy and biology.

Some of our students have gone on to study Law, Dentistry, Physiotherapy, Business and Economics or related courses. Psychology can be studied at Higher Education as a BSc or in combination with many other subjects.

You will need grade 6 or above in English language, Maths and Science

If you require further information, please contact the Subject Leader Ms J Griffin: jgriffin@vynersschool.org.uk.