



# The Willink

*Village School, Global Outlook*

— Sixth Form —



Sixth Form Prospectus

2024

# Contents

Welcome.....	2
Why Join Our Sixth Form?.....	3
Five Reasons to Study with Us.....	4
Subjects and Application.....	5
Entry Requirements.....	6
Enrichment.....	8
Sixth Form Staff .....	9
Head Students .....	10
Futures Support.....	11
Destinations .....	12
Applied Science BTEC.....	13
Art & Design/Textiles.....	15
Biology.....	17
Business Studies.....	19
Chemistry.....	21
Computer Science.....	23
Criminology Diploma.....	25
Drama & Theatre.....	26
Economics.....	28
English Language.....	30
English Literature.....	32
Film Studies.....	34
French.....	36
Geography.....	37
German.....	39
History.....	40
Mathematics.....	42
Further Maths.....	43
Core Maths (AS).....	44
Media Studies.....	45
Digital Media CTEC .....	47
Music.....	49
Physical Education.....	50
Physics.....	51
Politics.....	52
Product Design.....	54
Psychology.....	55
Religious Studies.....	57
Sociology.....	58
Spanish.....	59



# Welcome



## A Welcome From The Headteacher



**We are an inclusive, vibrant, growing and highly successful Sixth Form. Our aim is to ensure that every student leaves The Willink Sixth Form with the knowledge, skills, qualifications and resilience to successfully progress to their next steps with confidence.**

We offer a mixture of Level 3 courses: A Levels, AS Levels, BTECs and CTECs, catering for a broad spectrum of students. We are skilled in giving up-to-date, accurate advice and guidance to young people. This, complemented by exceptional teaching and curriculum leadership and supportive ethos, means that the majority of our students progress to prestigious universities or apprenticeships. We want our students to be successful today and in the future: we make your aspirations our aspirations.

Achieving your best set of examination results is only part of our Sixth Form experience. Our Key Skills Programme will help you to prepare for life beyond school, with an enrichment programme, leadership opportunities, social activities and mentoring of students in the lower school all on offer. We know that university admissions tutors and employers are looking for more than academic success; they want young people who have a range of outside interests, who show initiative and enterprise, who are involved in voluntary and community activity and who have developed their creativity.

**Ms Browning - Headteacher**

## A Welcome From The Head of Sixth Form

Thank you for considering The Willink Sixth Form as your post-16 study pathway. We pride ourselves on being a welcoming and supportive environment for students to thrive and achieve their full potential. From helping find apprenticeships or university courses to applying for jobs, our focus is making sure students become the best version of themselves. Our dedicated Sixth Form team is on hand to ensure that each student is supported - both pastorally and academically.



**Mr Leach - Head of Sixth Form**

# Why Join Our Sixth Form?



**Students thrive in our Sixth Form irrespective of whether they were with us in Year 11 or join us at the start of Year 12.**

We help you to settle into new routines very quickly. Through our Key Skills Programme, we will support you as you develop new friendships and build upon your study skills to take on the exciting challenge of focusing on a small number of subjects in greater depth.

We offer a range of qualifications and different pathways to follow. Some students will study three A Levels (occasionally four) alongside an EPQ whilst others will study two CTECs and an A Level with all sorts of combinations in between.

Many students are clear about their future ambitions when they join The Willink Sixth Form whilst others need time and support to develop their ideas.

The majority of our students aim for university (and our students apply to a very broad spectrum of universities and courses) whilst others apply for apprenticeships (including degree apprenticeships) and jobs). One size definitely does not fit all! Our aim is to help you decide upon the future that works best for you and then support you in realising your ambition.



**“The Willink Sixth Form is a great place to improve your independence and further the subjects you already enjoy!”** – Lou, Year 12

Our teaching is exceptional and our Sixth Form teachers are all experts in their subjects. Our cross-curricular teams collaborate to ensure our teaching remains up to date and we share ideas about how to help individual students. We aim to cater for the needs of all students and target our teaching to ensure that you will be both challenged and supported in equal measure.

**“As a ‘New to The Willink’ student, I was extremely worried about the number of students and whether or not I would make friends - but I was super happy to find out that the school provides lots of opportunities for students to socialise and get to know each other.”** – Saba, Year 12

## Did you know...?



**We enrolled  
116  
Students in  
2023**



**We offer  
28  
Courses**



**12 students  
gained an EPQ  
qualification  
with us in 2023**



**You will have 1  
Key Skills  
period  
per week**



**You will have 2  
Personal  
Development  
periods per fortnight**

# Five Reasons to Study With Us

# 1

## **A Supportive Working Environment**

You'll be studying with like-minded students who want to work hard, do well and get on in life. The step up from GCSEs is demanding but our experienced teaching staff and pastoral team will ensure a smooth transition and provide you with the skills you need to succeed independently.

# 2

## **Excellent Teaching That Leads to Success**

Our teachers are experts in their subjects and enjoy excellent working relationships with students. We quickly learn students' strengths and how to get the best out of you. Nearly all students gain entry to their first choice of university including Oxford, Cambridge and the Russell Group of universities and many secure interviews at apprenticeship providers in their chosen field of future study. We are proud of the results which our students achieve and the destinations they reach.

# 3

## **A Rich and Fulfilling Student Life**

The Sixth Form has its own unique identity but remains a key part of the wider Willink community. We will offer you opportunities to act as leaders and role models to our younger students and take on responsibilities as senior students. Our Enrichment Programme and Personal Development provides opportunities to learn new skills and try new things. Throughout the year we offer a wide variety of talks, activities, clubs and sporting events.

# 4


## **Dedicated Common Room and Study Area**

Sixth Formers have their own Common Room to study, socialise and take a break from lessons. The whole Sixth Form area has Wi-Fi to allow you to connect anywhere. You will be able to use separate study rooms with computers and will have access to course materials, online storage and printing.

# 5

## **Dedicated Guidance to the Next Step**

We offer high quality advice, guidance and support from teachers and staff including a dedicated UCAS Coordinator, Careers Advisor and use of Unifrog (a comprehensive destinations planner). Whether your target is university, apprenticeships or the world of work, we have the resources and expertise to help you make the right choice.



**“The freedom we have as Willink Sixth Form students allows us to thrive as independent thinkers in this supporting yet relaxed environment. The walk to the local Tesco is a Willink tradition!”** – Isaac & Thomas, Year 12

# Subjects and Application

**The Willink Sixth Form has a strong tradition of delivering excellent teaching in A Level and A Level equivalent (CTEC and BTEC courses) subjects. All subjects lead to Level 3 qualifications which are recognised by universities and employers. Some of our A Level subjects allow you to take an AS Level after one year of study if you have chosen four at the start of Year 12.**

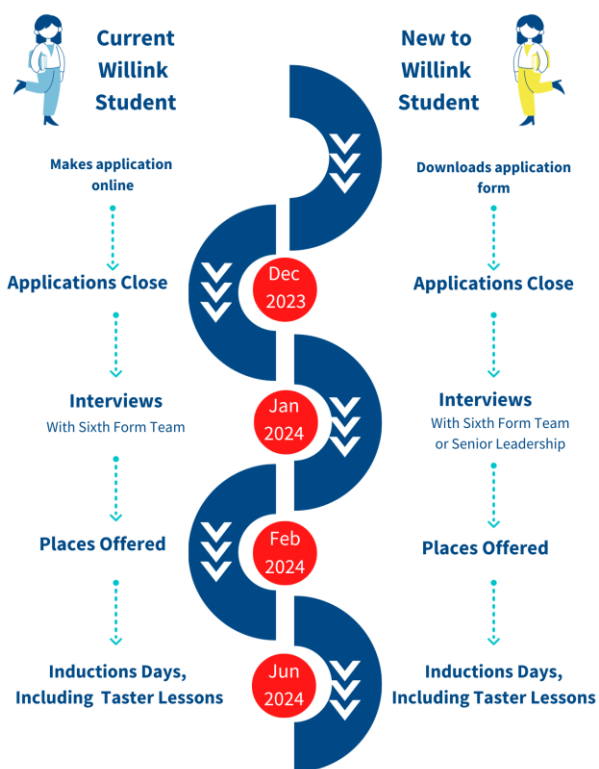
We believe in the capability of all our learners. We will help you to find the right combination of A Levels, BTEC and CTEC courses, and enrichment opportunities that will enable you to reach your full potential. Should you possess a genuine enthusiasm for learning, meet the entry requirement for your desired subjects, and attain a minimum of five GCSE grades at Grade 4 or above, you are eligible for enrolment in The Willink Sixth Form.

All courses are offered subject to suitable group numbers as course popularity varies from one year to the next.

A Level Courses		Vocational Courses
Art & Design* Biology Business Studies * Chemistry Computer Science * Core Maths (AS-Level) Drama Economics English Language* English Literature* Film Studies French Further Maths Geography*	German History Mathematics Media Studies * Music Physical Education * Physics Politics * Product Design* Psychology Religious Studies Sociology Spanish	Applied Science BTEC Criminology Diploma Digital Media CTEC

\* AS Levels are not available in these subjects

## The Willink Sixth Form Application Process



We'd like the opportunity to discuss your options based on your current predicted grades. Once you have applied, we will invite you to interview, where we can have a discussion about your future.

### Current Willink Students:

Applications should be made electronically via SIMS Options online.

### New To Willink Students:

Download an application form from the Sixth Form area on our website.

 [willinkschool.org.uk](http://willinkschool.org.uk)

 +44 (0)118 983 8428

 [sixthform@willink.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:sixthform@willink.w-berks.sch.uk)

# Entry Requirements



Course	Subject Entry Requirements
Applied Science BTEC	5, 4 in Combined Science or if taking separate sciences 5 and 4 in two of your three sciences. It is preferable that you have taken the higher paper in Science.
Art & Design	Grade 5 in Art or Art Textiles.
Biology	Combined Science 6 6 , or a Grade 6 in Biology and at least one other Science if studying separate Sciences, plus grade 5 in Maths.
Business Studies	Grade 5 in Business Studies or Grade 5 in English and Maths if not studied at GCSE.
Chemistry	Combined Science 6 6 , or a Grade 6 in Chemistry and at least one other Science if studying separate Sciences, plus grade 5 in Maths.
Computer Science	Grade 5 in Computing (if studied at GCSE) and Grade 5 in Maths.
Criminology Diploma	Grade 4 in English.
Drama & Theatre	Grade 4 in English.
Economics	Grade 5 in Maths and English Language.
English Language	Grade 5 in either English Literature or English Language.
English Literature	Grade 6 in either English Literature or English Language.
Film Studies	Grade 5 in English.
French	Grade 6 in French.
Geography	Grade 5 in Geography or Grade 5 in English and Maths if not studied at GCSE.
German	Grade 6 German.
History	Grade 5 in History or Grade 5 English if not studied at GCSE.
Mathematics	Grade 6 in Maths.
Further Maths	Grade 7 in Maths.
Core Maths (AS)	Grade 5 in Maths.

# Entry Requirements



Course (cont/.)	Subject Entry Requirements (cont/.)
Media Studies	Grade 5 in English or Grade 5 in English if not studied at GCSE.
Digital Media CTEC	Grade 4 in English.
Music	Grade 6 in Music and play an instrument to Grade 5.
Physical Education	Grade 5 in PE or Grade 5 in Biology or Combined Science if not studied at GCSE.
Physics	Combined Science 6 6 , or a Grade 6 in Physics and at least one other Science if studying separate Sciences, plus grade 5 in Maths.
Politics	Grade 5 in History or Grade 5 in English if not studied at GCSE.
Product Design	Grade 5 in D&T or a similar subject and Grade 5 in Maths.
Psychology	Grade 6, 6 in Combined Science or a grade 6 in Biology and at least one other Science if taking separate Sciences and Gade 5 in Maths.
Religious Studies	Grade 5 in Religious Studies.
Sociology	Grade 5 in English.
Spanish	Grade 6 in Spanish.



**“Sixth Form is a great opportunity to expand your learning with new and dynamic subjects that open up a range of future careers.”** – Isabelle, Year 12



# Enrichment



You and your fellow Sixth Form students will have achieved good (or fantastic!) GCSEs; you work hard on subjects that you are really interested in. For many of you, your intentions for the next steps are very clear and A Levels, BTECs and CTECs play a significant role. They empower you to stretch your academic potential and delve into subjects with greater depth. These qualifications will be valuable tools, whether you choose to use them directly in your future pursuits or not, as they demonstrate your dedication and ability to work hard and make significant progress.

With all that in mind, it's also important to recognise that life is about more than qualifications. As you prepare to become more independent, you need to develop a wider range of skills and put yourself outside your comfort zone. Our Enrichment programme is designed to do just that. We offer focused Personal Development sessions once a fortnight where you can choose from a wide variety of different activities. These activities change regularly because we encourage the more independent-minded students to develop their own ideas. From teacher-led activities such as socialising with students from a local SEND school to students focused exercise sessions at our local gym, we offer a diverse range of options to accommodate all students.

Many of our students take an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). This is an independent research project that enables you to explore a topic of your choice in real depth; you will learn research skills and have the chance to show off your knowledge and passion for learning. EPQs are recognised by all universities and most employers as they demonstrate high levels of independence, planning, organisation, thinking skills and reflection.

You will also go on trips during the year (careers fair, UCAS fair), listen to talks from external speakers, be allowed some time out for visits to universities or businesses, be expected to do a week of work experience and have leadership opportunities in school.

You might decide to support a teacher with a club or set up and run your own club. You could become involved in the Sixth Form committee or even become a Head of House. Two of the people reading this will become our Head Students and will lead the school council, lead initiatives in the Sixth Form and across the school and be active participants in the direction of both the Sixth Form and the wider school.

**All of our students are challenged to learn more about themselves and the things they want to achieve as they move off into an ever-changing world. Whilst we hope for great academic results, our real passion is seeing happy, confident students who are able to make their own choices and face the future with enthusiasm.**

*“The support for university applications is phenomenal, they have been so eager and efficient in helping me and I am extremely grateful for it.” – Georgia, Year 12*



# Sixth Form Staff

## Meet the Sixth Form Team

The Sixth Form team underpins everything we do; it includes eight tutors and seven members of staff in central roles alongside the Head Students and the Sixth Form Committee.



**Mr Leach**  
Head of Sixth Form



**Mr Jubb**  
Assistant Head of Sixth Form



**Mr Collot**  
Assistant Head KS5



**Miss Eggleton**  
Administrator



**Mrs Lake**  
Student Support Office &  
UCAS Co-ordinator



**Ms Desai**  
Careers Advisor



**Ms Wilson**  
Sixth Form Pastoral  
Support



## TUTOR TEAM

Upon entering The Willink Sixth Form, you will become part of a diverse and dynamic learning community and your tutor group will play a pivotal role in this. In the Sixth Form, you will join a combined tutor group, comprising of both Year 12 and Year 13 students. This setting offers the opportunity to build new friendships and interact with peers studying entirely different subjects.

Your tutor will serve as your primary point of contact for acquiring new skills and accessing the broader support network available in the Sixth Form. You will attend morning registration and participate in weekly Key Skill sessions where you'll learn essential life skills, such as interpreting a pay-slip and promoting positive mental health.

**“It is a big leap between KS4 and KS5, but there is a lot of support to help you adapt to the new learning environment.”**

- Tommy, Year 12

**“The Sixth Form provides a nurturing yet challenging environment where we are encouraged to be independent and motivated to push ourselves further.”**

- Will, Year 12

# Head Students

## Meet our Head Students

*“At The Willink Sixth Form you will have access to a variety of different working environments, from silent study spaces to areas for group work ; the Sixth Form caters to an array of different working styles!*

*Staff are eager to support students and the Sixth Form provides many opportunities to enrich our students' experiences, for example EPQs, MOOCs and work experience, as well as praise for achievements. With extra targeted support when applying to future opportunities and access to careers advice, we feel confident about our future prospects and our next steps.*

*The Sixth Form is always striving to improve, and feedback from students is encouraged. Furthermore, we all have the opportunity to get involved with the Sixth Form Committee to develop a closer community, helping us leave school as well-rounded individuals. A wide range of social events are held, such as movie nights, barbecues and a Summer Ball to end the year.*

*We have both thoroughly enjoyed our time at The Willink Sixth Form and feel well equipped to pursue our plans for the future.*

*Thank you for considering The Willink Sixth Form; we hope that you choose to join our supportive community.”*

*Georgia and Archie*

### Head Students, Georgia and Archie



# Futures Support

**We offer high quality advice, guidance and support from teachers and staff including our dedicated Futures Coordinator (Mrs Lake) and our Careers Advisor (Ms Desai).**

All our students are encouraged to use Unifrog, a comprehensive destinations planner, and this is embedded in our Key Skills programme.

As a Year 12 student, you will have the opportunity to attend both a careers fair and a UCAS fair. Additionally, you will be able to participate in a talk led by a leading expert in university applications. This combination of events provides you with valuable exposure to a diverse array of future career options and offers the necessary support to help you reach your goals. For those of you who aspire to attend the most competitive universities, there's also the option to join the Early Bird group, which will provide valuable guidance and preparation for university entrance exams.

Whether your target is university, apprenticeships or work, we have the resources and expertise to help you make the right choice. Our Year 13 students repeatedly say they had helpful support in the various application processes.

*“The Willink Sixth Form provides pastoral support which makes you feel cared for and helps build confidence when you need it.” – Izzy, Year 13*



# Destinations

## Our 2023 Leavers went on to study :

Accounting  
Accounting & Finance  
Aeronautics & Astronautics  
Animation  
Architecture  
Banking & Finance  
Biological Sciences  
British Politics & Legislative Studies  
Business & Management  
Cancer Biology & Immunology  
Civil Engineering  
Criminology  
Criminology & Sociology  
Criminology with Forensic Science  
Criminology with Psychology  
Electronic & Computer Engineering  
English with Study Abroad  
Esports & Livestreaming  
Filmmaking  
Finance  
Finance  
Financial Mathematics  
General Engineering  
History  
International Politics & Modern Languages  
International Relations  
International Relations & Human Rights  
Law  
Mathematics  
Mechanical Engineering  
Medicine  
Multimedia Journalism  
Natural Sciences  
Nursing (Adult & Child)  
Nursing (Child)  
Physical Education  
Physics  
Politics and International Relations  
Psychology  
Psychology & Counselling  
Renewable Energy Engineering  
Social Work & Applied Social Studies  
Sport Development with Coaching  
Sports & Exercise Therapy  
Sports Business Management

## Our 2023 Leavers went on to work :

First Responder  
Pastry Chef  
Thames Valley Police degree apprenticeship  
Thames Water degree apprenticeship  
The Willink as Teaching Assistants!

## Our 2023 Willink Sixth Form leavers went on to study a variety of courses across a number of different universities:



Students from The Willink Sixth Form have also been very successful moving straight into the workplace at the end of Year 13. Students from the 2023 cohort are established in jobs and apprenticeships covering fields such as Chemicals, Telecoms and Special Effects.

Some of our students are working on highly sought after degree apprenticeships in areas including Software Design, Cybersecurity and the Chemicals Industry.

Wherever your future lies, we will be with you as you take control of your destiny!

# Applied Science BTEC



**If you enjoy Science and would like to continue developing your scientific practical and research skills this is the course for you. It covers a wide range of topics in all three Sciences.**

The skills you will develop in the course include organisation, self-assessment and problem-solving, and the ability to interpret data all of which will be needed as you continue your education after school. Students enjoy discovering the connection between the theory and practical and real-world applications of what they learn. The combination of exams and coursework is great for showing the full extent of your knowledge.

You will be taught by experienced teachers who are subject experts. They will help you to cope with the step up from GCSE and encourage you to develop the skills you need to become successful independent learners.

We do a lot of practical work in lessons introducing you to a variety of different scientific equipment. This practical approach allows Applied Science learners to develop and apply the knowledge and skills that employers and universities are looking for.



## THE COURSE

### First Year:

Unit 1 is combination of all three Sciences allowing you to extend your knowledge from GCSE.

Unit 2 introduces you to standard laboratory equipment and techniques. You will develop proficiency in the quantitative analytical techniques.

### Second Year:

Unit 3 will develop the essential skills underpinning practical scientific investigations.

Unit 4: Option (Unit 8) which focuses on three body systems: musculoskeletal, lymphatic and digestive or (Unit 16) Astronomy and Space Science focusing on Solar System, Space flight, Astrophysics and Cosmology



## ASSESSMENTS

### Year 12:

**Unit 1:** External Exams: 3 papers: Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The papers will include a range of question types, including multiple choice, calculations, short answer and open response.

**Unit 2:** Internally assessed and externally moderated: Portfolio of practical investigations written up as assignments.

### Year 13:

Unit 3: External exam split into two sections:  
- Section A: 45 minutes - Reading & preparation for written exam  
- Section B: 1 & ½ hour written paper.

Optional Unit ( Unit 8 or Unit 16)  
Internally assessed and externally moderated: Portfolio of research assignments.



## RESOURCES

To support your independence, you will have access to 2 textbooks and online digital resources. There is a wealth of current research available online plus access to MOOCs on various topics. We will ensure that you cover all the theory required in the syllabus.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

5, 4 in Combined Science or if taking separate sciences 5 and 4 in two of your three sciences.

It is preferable that you have taken the higher paper in Science.



## WHAT SKILLS DO I GAIN?

- Research
- Problem solving
- Analysis
- Teamwork
- Communication



## WHERE TO NEXT?

You may also choose to go into Higher Education via a BTEC Higher National Certificate or Higher National Diploma before progressing to a full degree. The qualification is well regarded and accepted to help you gain entry into university or apprenticeships.



***“Applied Science is a brilliant course with many fun practical's that will teach you important skills. The units are fun, and the teachers are great!”*** – Ruby, Year 13



## CAREERS

The study of Applied Science opens exciting career possibilities. From Research scientist to Forensic criminologists, Lab Technicians to Health Professionals. Applied Science is also an excellent preparation for non-scientific careers.



## STUDENT CASE STUDY

**Who:** Izzy, Year 13  
**Studying:** Applied Science, English Language and Art  
**Next Stop:** Either to university to take Journalism or an Apprenticeship .  
**Loves:** Playing netball, working on art projects and reading.

***“Applied Science is a spectacular course! The teachers are very supportive, and the coursework is amazing. The course teaches you to work independently as well as a member of a team.”***

– Charlie Year 13

# Art and Design



If you enjoy being creative, want to increase your practical skills and improve your analytical, communication and research abilities, Art and Design is a great choice.

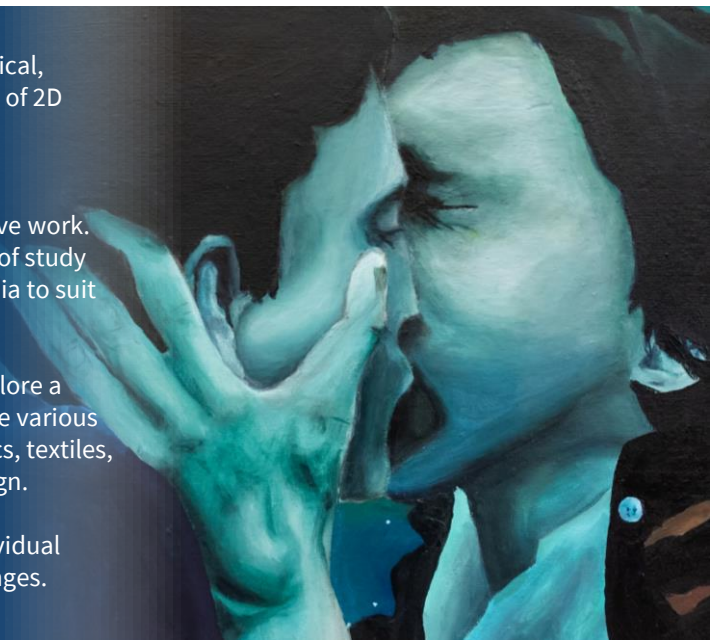
The skills you gain make it a great complement to other analytical subjects. Art is used as a way of seeing the world through alternative viewpoints and being able to share those views. It will help you with further study and prepare you for the world of work.

This is a broad-based course exploring practical, critical and contextual work through a range of 2D and/or 3D processes and media.

Art, craft and design gives you the skills and knowledge to create personal and imaginative work. You can choose to focus on a specialist area of study from a variety of exciting processes and media to suit your individual interests and abilities.

In our lessons there are opportunities to explore a range of techniques and processes within the various disciplines of Art and Design such as ceramics, textiles, painting, drawing, photography and 3D design.

Lessons will combine group discussion, individual work, computer-based exercises and challenges.



**“Art changes your perspective on the world, being able to express yourself in unique ways and inspire others to do the same.”** – Elspeth, Year 13



## THE COURSE

The A level is a practical course in which you learn by doing, so you will be able to create imaginative personal work.

You will find out about a whole range of media, techniques and processes. You will develop your creativity and independent thought, learn to express yourself visually and let your imagination flourish.

Art and design is a great companion to all other subjects as creativity, imagination and problem solving are skills needed in all forms of study.



## ASSESSMENTS

### Component 1:

60% of the total A Level marks. This is an investigation into an idea, issue, concept or theme supported by written material.

### Component 2:

40% Personal work in response to one of eight exciting starting points which will count for 40% of your total A-level marks

**“The community feel between the students helps us to gain inspiration.”** – Emily, Year 13



## RESOURCES

To support your independence, we will use student handbooks to guide you through modules and workshops, exercises to try and visits to galleries, museums and educational talks.

Students come along to our weekly drop-in sessions to receive personalised support from our teachers.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 in Art or Art Textiles.





## WHERE TO NEXT?

Art A Level to degree opportunities and careers ranging from painting portraits to producing exotic fashion costumes or designing futuristic architecture. If you have an adventurous, creative and enquiring mind and are excited by shaping and determining the visual world around us, there is a career opportunity waiting for you.



## CAREERS

Architecture, Animation, Art conservation, Art history, Art therapy, Fashion design, Film/video production, Fine art, Game designer, Graphic design, Illustration, Interior design, Jewellery design, Set designer, Photography, Product design, Textile design, Theatre design, Three-dimensional design, Web design to name but a few.....



## STUDENT CASE STUDY

**Who:** Isobel, Year 13

**Studying:** Art, History and Film studies

**Next Stop:** Animation at Farnborough University

**Loves:** Creating work that sends a message to the viewer.

*“ The teachers and the space are what makes such a difference to being able to be creative. The experiences we are given during our Art A Level give us such a strong foundation for university ” – Isobel Yr 13*



**A journey from molecule to ecosystem and everything in between! You will gain an appreciation of how organisms (including humans) work, how we evolved, the factors that can impact our health and how we can improve it.**

Whether you want to find out how to feed the planet or fight a global pandemic, Biology is the subject for you. You will gain many skills such as research, analysis and effective communication. Biology is a varied and interesting course.

You will be taught by experienced teachers who are subject experts. They will help you to cope with the step up from GCSE and encourage you to develop the skills you need to become successful independent learners.

We do group work, discussions, exam question practice and it wouldn't be Biology without some card sorts and video clips! We also do practical work which will contribute to your Practical Endorsement Qualification.



## THE COURSE

Biology is the study of life and living processes. We cover numerous varied topics across the 2 years, including:

- The molecular structure of key cellular components and how they interact within a cell.
- The structure of the cell and how cells are organised within an organism.
- How materials are transported and exchanged.
- The factors that affect human health and how the body responds to disease.

In Year 13 we study the genetic basis of inheritance and how the body responds to change (both internal and external). We look at biodiversity, populations and sustainability and energy transfers (at a cellular level and within an ecosystem). We also cover modern scientific principles such as manipulating genomes and cloning.



## RESOURCES

You will have plenty of structured, independent work using our online learning platform, Kerboodle, and textbooks. There is a wealth of current research available online plus access to MOOCs on various topics.

We will ensure that you cover all the theory required in the syllabus so that you can prepare for your exams with confidence.



## WHAT SKILLS DO I GAIN?

As well as these key biological principles, you will have the opportunity to develop your practical experimentation skills and learn how to interpret and evaluate data. The skills and knowledge taught in Biology will prepare you for university, the workplace and beyond.



## ASSESSMENTS

### AS Level:

2 papers covering:

- Development of Practical skills
- Foundations in Biology (the cell)
- Exchange & Transport
- Biodiversity, Evolution & Disease

### A Level:

3 papers covering the AS content plus:

- Communications, Homeostasis & Energy.
- Genetics, Evolution & Ecosystems.

Biology A Level also includes a Practical endorsement (Pass/Fail). There is no coursework for this subject. We follow the OCR A syllabus.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Combined Science 6 6 , or a Grade 6 in Biology and at least 1 other Science if taking separate Sciences, plus grade 5 in Maths.

***“Biology is a fascinating subject; it is very eye opening to the natural world around us and you find yourself captivated throughout the course with exciting practicals and thought-provoking engaging lessons.”***

– Danny, Year 13



***“The lessons are always varied and the teachers explain things clearly. The structured independent study and regular feedback helps me to feel well prepared for all assessments.”***

– Archie, Year 13



## WHERE TO NEXT?

Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Physiotherapy, Pharmacology, Physiology, Sport Science, Psychology, Biotechnology, Zoology, Marine Biology, Agriculture, Environmental Science and many more.



## CAREERS

The study of Biology opens up exciting career possibilities. From conservation to cancer research, biologists are tackling important 21st century challenges. Biology is also an excellent preparation for non-scientific careers, thanks to the skills it provides such as research, problem solving and analysis, alongside teamwork and communication. Universities and employers regard all of these very highly.



## STUDENT CASE STUDY

**Who:** Katie, Year 13

**Studying:** Biology, Chemistry and English Literature

**Next Stop:** University to study Biomedical Sciences / Human Biology

**Loves:** Playing the guitar.



# Business Studies



**Business will help you develop a variety of skills including problem solving, decision making, managing your own learning, using numerical techniques with confidence, working with others, judgment, and evaluation.**

The course introduces you to all you need to know about working in business, providing a solid foundation for further study. With a focus on helping you to become a good decision maker, you'll learn essential managerial skills, alongside techniques to help you become an analytical problem solver. These skills are all highly sought after and valued in a wide range of careers.

In this Business course, students will study four key themes, spread across two years:

- 1. Marketing and People:** Understanding customer needs, market analysis, and effective staff management.
- 2. Managing Business Activities:** Financial management, resource allocation, and external influences.
- 3. Business Decisions and Strategy:** Setting objectives, decision-making techniques, and stakeholder influence.
- 4. Global Business:** The impact of globalisation on business expansion and global market creation, with real-world examples of globalizing businesses like Netflix, Amazon, Jaguar Land Rover, and Apple.



## THE COURSE

Theme 1 and 2 will be studied in year one of the course, while 3 and 4 will be studied in year two. The assessment covers all four themes:

In our lessons subject experts deliver current and topical business issues. Lessons involve class discussions of real-world stimulus material and research exercises, role-play and presentations to the class, individual problem solving and the study of developing effective exam practice working on past papers.

The course follows the Edexcel Syllabus.



## ASSESSMENTS

**The Assessment Process A-Level Business is assessed at the end of the second year through three exams:**

**Paper 1:** Covers Themes 1 and 4 and accounts for 35% of the final grade

**Paper 2:** Covers Themes 2 and 3 and accounts for 35% of the final grade

**Paper 3:** Covers all four themes and is based around a pre-release case study on a particular business or market, and accounts for 30% of the final grade.



## RESOURCES

To support your independence, we use a range of online learning platforms such as Seneca, Taking the Biz, bizconsesh and Tutor 2 U online learning. Students also have access to the Business review magazine with up-to-date cases studies and helpful exam tips.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 Maths and English Language.



## WHAT SKILLS DO I GAIN?

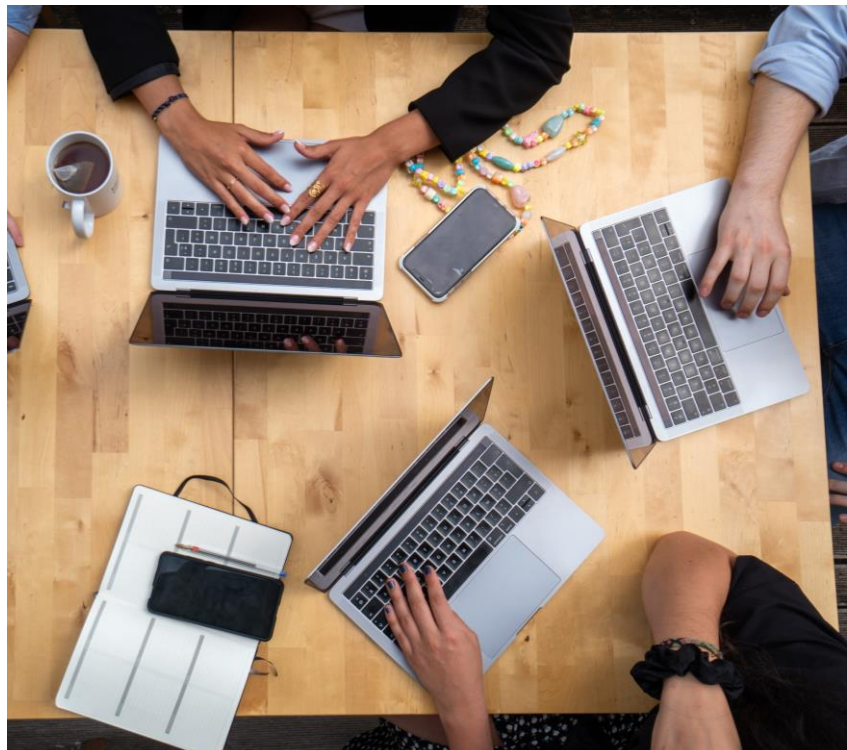
In the classroom Students will analyse real business situations and examples and identifying where problems have arisen and where success has been managed, as well as developing financial skills and an ability to analyse business financial statements. They will apply theories on management, motivation and operations to real business Case Studies (such as John Lewis, ASOS, Tesco, Jaguar and Land Rover among many others). They will be encouraged to do this through discussions and critical thinking is explored. In the future



## WHERE TO NEXT?

This course could lead to a degree, apprenticeship or job in: Management, Business Studies, Administration, Finance, Marketing, Events Management, Accountancy Marketing, Finance, Operations, Human Resources.

***“The Business A Level has given me the theoretical understanding of business and the processes needed to apply this in the real world. The course is challenging but rewarding as it prepares you for a wide range of jobs, apprenticeships and university courses.”*** – Ismael, Year 13





**Atoms, molecules and the manufacture of absolutely everything! You will gain an appreciation of how molecules are made up, work and interact with each other.**

You will:

- Explore a huge variety of chemical reactions from coating glass with a silver mirror to separating amino acids by Chromatography.
- Identify unknown substances by chemical analysis and synthesise organic molecules such as esters and aspirin.
- Gain many skills such as research, analysis and effective communication.

Foundations in Chemistry provides a bridge into AS Chemistry and explores atomic structure, electron orbital theory, moles and the shapes of molecules. We look at patterns in the Periodic Table, enthalpy changes, entropy and rates of reaction.

The Organic module covers a range of different functional groups and spectroscopic analysis, which provides an insight into Forensic Science.

In Year 2 we introduce aromatic chemistry and a wider range of functional groups and analytical techniques. This leads to developing a variety of synthetic routes for designing organic molecules for use in medicine and industrial processes.

We also study Physical Chemistry, to include the reactions of acids and the importance of buffers in living systems. Transition elements and Redox reactions form the basis of colour chemistry and research into hydrogen fuel cells and fuel cell vehicles.



## THE COURSE

You will be taught by experienced teachers who are subject experts. They will help you to cope with the step up from GCSE and encourage you to develop the skills you need to become successful independent learners.

We do group work, discussions, exam question practice, treasure hunts, competitions and lots of practical work, which will contribute to your Practical Endorsement Qualification.

There is no coursework for this subject. We follow the OCR A syllabus for Chemistry.



## ASSESSMENTS

You can choose to take AS Level, A Level or both. The majority of our students choose A Level.

**AS Two papers** worth 50% each, covering:  
Foundation Chemistry  
Periodic Table and Energy  
Core Organic Chemistry

**A2 Three papers:**  
Paper 1: Periodic Table, Elements and Physical chemistry (worth 37%)  
Paper 2: Synthesis and Analytical Techniques (worth 37%)  
Paper 3: Unified Chemistry (worth 26%)

A level Practical endorsement (Pass/Fail).



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Combined Science 6 6 , or a Grade 6 in Chemistry and at least 1 other Science if taking separate Sciences, plus grade 5 in Maths.

**“My class enjoys Chemistry because it’s practical and interactive. Throughout the course we’ve all grown in our analytical skills and determination.”**

– Sybil, Year 13

***“Chemistry is one of the subjects that never ceases to amaze you. The teachers explain concepts thoroughly and are very supportive, which makes Chemistry lessons my favourite part of the school day!”*** – Caitlin, Year 13



### WHERE TO NEXT?

Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Chemical engineering, Material Science, Quality control, Fuels technician, Research Scientist, Agriculture, Environmental Science, Analytical Chemist, Forensic Science



### CAREERS

Studying Chemistry opens up exciting career possibilities. Chemists are always at the forefront of innovation!

***“It is a pleasure to be taught Chemistry at The Willink. We get combination of expertly taught lessons, which are adapted for students no matter their level, enabling us all to succeed. All whilst fostering a passion for understanding the world of Chemistry in a deeper and much fuller way.”*** – Sam, Year 13



# Computer Science

**Now more than ever, the central and key enabling role of technology is drawn into keen focus. A good grade in Computer Science at A Level is valued by universities and employers. You will have demonstrated strong analytical thinking and problem-solving skills.**

A good grade in Computer Science at A Level is valued by universities and employers. You will have demonstrated strong analytical thinking and problem-solving skills.

This course is also a stepping-stone to study Computer Science, Engineering, Physics or related subjects in higher education.

This is a practical and theoretical subject, looking at the natural world through a digital prism. Students develop computational thinking skills to solve problems, design systems and understand the power and limits of human and machine intelligence. They also enhance their knowledge of algorithms, data representation and logic, as well as considering the risks and opportunities posed by digital technology.



## THE COURSE

Subject specialists deliver a mixture of unplugged theory lessons, teacher-led discussions and hands-on coding and computational challenges.

You will develop the ability to:

- Think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically.
- Apply skills in and an understanding of computing (including programming) in a range of contexts to solve problems.
- Delve into producing graphical user interfaces and object-orientated programming solutions.



## ASSESSMENTS

A-Level Computer Science is assessed through two written exams, each consisting of 140 marks per paper and lasting 2 hours and 30 minutes. These written papers collectively account for 80% of the overall grade. The remaining 20% of the overall grade is attributed to a Programming Project.

The awarding body is OCR.

**Paper 1:** Component 1, Computer Systems.

**Paper 2:** Component 2, Algorithms and programming.

**Coursework:** Component 3, Programming project, no time restriction.



## RESOURCES

To support your independence, we use a blend of teacher-led discussion, theory lessons, independent research (guided through worksheets and challenge questions), online learning from Ada Computing Computer Science, and an open-source ethos allowing you to use any programming language that meets the needs of the course.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Secured Computer Science Grade 5 or if you have not studied Computer Science, Maths Grade 5.





## WHERE TO NEXT?

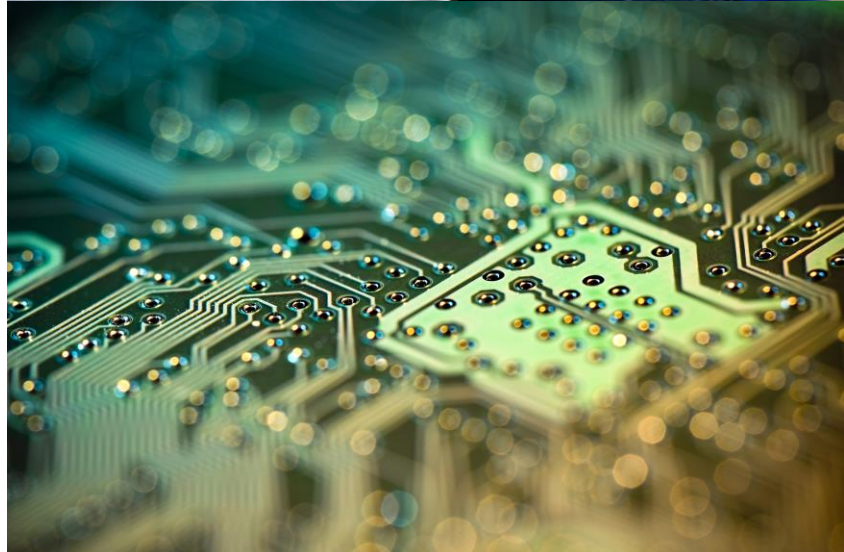
A lot of scientific problems, engineering challenges, health care & medical research, and business issues in general can be solved efficiently and effectively with computer based solutions.

***“Computer Science has empowered me to channel my creativity and innovation, transforming my visions into tangible reality through the mastery of computational techniques.”*** – Jake, Year 13

***“With technology advancing at its current rate, computer science is the best way to get your foot in the door of a great job and a good future.”***  
– Jo, Year 13

***“I enjoy computing as it encourages me to approach problems in new and creative ways.”*** – Isaac, Year 13

***“Computer Science is such an intriguing subject; the content never gets tedious and the skills you gain from the course are so valuable.”*** – Jago, Year 13



# Criminology Diploma

**Criminology is fascinating, rewarding and helps you to develop a range of skills. The Level 3 Diploma in Criminology not only develops your awareness of the function and workings of the Criminal Justice System, but it also provides insight in to the theoretical and practical nature and consequence of crime.**

If you are interested in studying a contemporary, topical and often controversial subject, then Criminology is for you!

This exciting and multidisciplinary course will encourage a deep, extensive understanding of how changes in technology and media contribute to the creation of new and stereotypical views of crime. We will explore the behavioural reasons for crime as well as the range of techniques and strategies used to deal with and punish criminal behaviour. As part of the course we will also consider the rationale and effectiveness of social policy.

Criminology lessons are taught in a variety of interactive ways. Ranging from teacher led presentations through to group activities, discussion, exam practice and independent study.



**“Criminology gives you a detailed insight into the behind-the-scenes happenings of crime scene investigations, court proceedings, criminological theories and campaigns for change. It provides you with a well-rounded understanding of the subject, as well as a want to pursue it further.”** – Samantha, Year 13



## THE COURSE

The course is made up of four units which, combined, make up the Level 3 Diploma qualification in Criminology:

**Unit 1** – Changing Awareness of Crime, which includes material on different types and perception of crime.

**Unit 2** – Criminological Theories, which includes views on criminal and deviant behaviour and theoretical understanding of such behaviours.

**Unit 3** – Crime Scene to Courtroom, which helps students to gain a detailed understanding of how the criminal justice system operates.

**Unit 4** – Crime and Punishment, which includes work on the link between social control and policy.



## ASSESSMENTS

We will follow the Eduqas specification.

**50% controlled assessment** (units 1 & 3: 8 hours in total for each unit)

**50% exam** (units 2 and 4: 1½ hours for each unit).



## RESOURCES

To support your independence, we encourage wider reading around the subject. We also set a variety skills-based practice questions and/or booklets on all topics covered, as well as draw upon connections from the real world.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

Criminology, Psychology, Sociology, Law, Social Policy, Forensics, Politics.



## CAREERS

Many who have studied Criminology work for the Police, Prison Services, National Probation Service, Legal Services, Youth Work & Social Work.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 4 English.

# Drama & Theatre



**A Level Drama & Theatre is an engaging and diverse course that develops your creative thinking, problem-solving and leadership skills.**

It challenges you to experience new things, build your confidence in public speaking and takes you out of your comfort zone; all of which builds resilience and makes you more able to face the world on your own terms.

Our drama experts will lead you through a range of practical workshops and seminar-style lessons.

Your teacher who will act as a critical friend while you develop your ideas.

Group work and individual presentations complement the essay writing and analytical tasks.



**“Drama is an amazing subject for people willing to open up their creative mind to develop their self confidence in public speaking as well as all kinds of skills needed for your academic years and life beyond school.”** – Freya Year 13



## THE COURSE

In the course you focus on the work of:

- **The Actor:** Finding the truth in a performance and communicating character, emotion and plot .
- **The Theatre Designers:** How they contribute to atmosphere, audience understanding and experiences
- **The Theatre Director:** How they create a production concept, developing the work throughout rehearsal and working closely with all creatives to bring their ideas to the stage.

Throughout all of these explorations, you will work in all of those roles and discover the style that works best for you, your group and the theatre you are creating.

Through the analysis of live theatre, both during trips and via streaming services, you will discover creative solutions for staging and performance. You can then use these ideas to create engaging and inspiring productions.



## ASSESSMENTS

### Component One 20% of A Level:

The reinterpretation of a text extract in the style of a theatre practitioner accompanied by your own Creative Log.

### Component Two 40% of A Level:

The creation of two performances and process logs in response to a stimulus set by Eduqas – one devised and one scripted piece.

### Component Three 40%:

A written exam based on two set texts from different time periods and an extract from the play “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time”.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 Drama.



## RESOURCES

To support your independence, we set a range of tasks that deepen your understanding of theatre, researching practitioners, watching 'live theatre', writing scripts and rehearsal outside formal lesson time.

*“Drama is a safe space, where we can express ourselves, be creative and collaborative, whilst enriching our minds with plays, practitioners, styles and techniques.” – Elspeth, Year 13*



## CAREERS

Careers in the Performing Arts Industry, Drama in education or therapy; work in any fields where presentation skills or interaction with the public are highly valued (Law, Politics, PR...)



**Economics is a fast-growing and successful A level. In our Economics lessons we consider the economic problem which faces both households and government alike: how to use the scarce resources available to satisfy our unlimited wants and needs. You'll investigate topics such as employment, international trade and poverty and consider why some policies work to improve economic variables such as GDP and others may not.**

Economics is a subject that features lots of lively debate and allows you to draw your own conclusions and opinions about the decisions made. It is challenging but fascinating.

The course is 100% examined. Economics is split into two core concepts: - Microeconomics and Macroeconomics.

**Microeconomics** is the study of the individual or company – this involves considering the impact of individual economic decision making and how companies compete using price determination and the concerns around monopoly – where companies control an entire industry or commodity. There is also a consideration of how far governments should intervene in this process.

**Macroeconomics** is about the economy in the wider world – considering how different financial markets coexist and compete and looking at the wider international economy. You'll consider the role of government in taxing and distributing the revenue gained as well as looking at supply and demand.

In lessons you will be encouraged to think for yourselves about the decisions made in the wider world. You'll be provided with a variety of different question types, including data analysis and debating.



## ASSESSMENTS

Assessment is linear. You will sit three examinations at the end of the course. Each paper lasts for 2 hours and is equally weighted.

### A Level Exams:

**Paper 1:** Markets and market failure, including a 40 mark data response section and a 40 mark essay question.

**Paper 2:** National and international economy, including a 40 mark data response and a 40 mark essay question.

**Paper 3:** Economic principles and issues, including a 30 mark multiple choice section and a case study section worth 50 marks, drawing together your knowledge of micro and macroeconomics.



## RESOURCES

To support your independence, we subscribe to the Economics Review magazine.

Tutor2U also provides excellent supporting resources.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 Maths and English Language.

***“Economics is everywhere and will allow you to make decisions and analyse issues with confidence.”*** – Josh, Year 13



## WHERE TO NEXT?

**University** – Economics, Maths, Politics, Business Studies

**Apprenticeships** – Banking, Accountancy.



## CAREERS

Management Accountancy, Analysis, Credit analyst, Banking, Accounting, Finance, Marketing.

***“Economics is truly an enjoyable and fascinating subject, it provides you with a real understanding of how economies function, from individual businesses to national governments. I have greatly developed my ability to assess and evaluate current issues through studying this subject, and this has proved invaluable to me outside of my academic studies.”*** – Former Willink Student

# English Language



## English Language is the fascinating study of Linguistics: how we write and speak.

You'll be an investigative learner with an inquisitive mind as you seek answers to questions like: Do men and women communicate differently? Is there a class divide in Britain? How do children learn to speak? Why is our English so different to Shakespeare's? Is there a right and wrong way to speak? How do the media use language to manipulate us? Your ability to ask probing questions and follow through with investigatory answers will make you attractive to universities and employers alike.

Our teachers are linguistic specialists and teach through the medium of class-centred discussion and debate, interactive tasks that focus on group work, presentations and fun quizzes.

Theory is taught through real-life contexts and knowledge is regularly assessed through class and homework essays.



**“English language has daily use, and you'll never listen to accents and everyday talk in the same way again. There are also interesting theories on gendered language use. It's a window to the world.”** – Kacper, Year 12



### THE COURSE

We follow the AQA Specification for A Level Language. The course is divided into three aspects: Language, The Individual and Society; Diversity and Change and Language in Action.

**The Individual and Society** introduces methods of language analysis to explore concepts of audience, purpose, genre, mode and representation. It also introduces the study of children's language development, exploring how children learn language and how they are able to understand and express themselves through language.

In **Diversity and Change** we study the key concepts of audience, purpose, genre and mode and explore language in its wider social, geographical and temporal contexts. This explores processes of language change but also social attitudes to, and debates about, language diversity and change.

**Language in Action** is a Non-Examined Assessment folder (NEA) of creative writing in a chosen style and an in-depth linguistic investigation in an area of your choice.



### ASSESSMENTS

Assessment is a mixture of examination at the end of the two-year course and the Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) folder.

**Paper 1:** Language, The Individual and Society (2 hours 30 mins)  
Section A: Representation and Meanings  
Section B: Child Language Acquisition

**Paper 2:** Language Diversity and Change (2 hours 30 mins)  
Section A: Diversity and Change  
Section B: Language Discourses

**NEA Folder:** Language in Action  
NEA 1: Original Writing  
NEA 2: Language Investigation



### GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 in English Language.



## RESOURCES

We use Seneca Learning to reinforce work done in class as well as independent tasks to complement current study. Towards exam season, focussed revision clinics are provided to boost confidence and practice exam technique. During the composition of the NEAs, individual tutorials and feedback sessions are offered.

**Our teachers are linguistic specialists and teach through the medium of class-centred discussion and debate, interactive tasks that focus on group work, presentations and fun quizzes.**

Theory is taught through real-life contexts and knowledge is regularly assessed through class and homework essays.

***“The English Language Course gave me a fascinating insight into how people use language and why they speak the way they do.”*** – Former Willink Student



## WHERE TO NEXT?

What can I study at degree level?  
Linguistics/Language, Publishing, Law, Media, Speech and Language, Psychology, Education, Marketing and Advertising, Digital Commerce.



## CAREERS

Teaching, Editor, Journalism, Copywriting, TEFL, Brand Manager, Speech and Language Therapy, Legal work and much more...





# English Literature

English literature is one of the most diverse and fascinating subjects to study at A level as it fosters skills in literacy, communication, history and social sciences.

As a facilitating subject, an A level in English will make you more attractive to prospective employers as well as universities as you'll be able to communicate in writing and orally at the highest level. You will also be able to read and interpret complicated texts and disseminate information harvested from them to a range of audiences.

We follow the EDEXCEL Spec for A level Literature, divided into four separate components:

- **Drama**
- **Prose**
- **Poetry**
- **Non-Examined Assessment (course work)**

The content of the course is flexible and offers teachers the ability to mould the selected texts around the interests and strengths of their groups.



## THE COURSE

**Drama** consists of either comedy or tragedy, studying one Shakespeare text and one other play by a range of playwrights from various literary periods. Possible texts could include Wilde's 'The Importance of Being Earnest' or Williams' 'A Streetcar Named Desire.'

**Prose** focuses on comparing two novels from a multitude of texts under the banners of various headings including Women and Society, Childhood or The Supernatural.

**Poetry** offers the opportunity to study a particular poetic movement or a named author from that period as well as an anthology of contemporary poetry.

**The NEA** fosters a love of independent reading from outside the course in a comparison of two texts from any genre.

The course is taught through the medium of interactive discussions, group work, presentations, independent study tasks and class-based, as well as homework-based essays.

You are encouraged to develop your love and opinions of literature with detailed feedback on how to communicate these in writing, as well as evaluate existing theoretical approaches and ideas.

You are recommended to read around your set texts and will be given a range of independent learning tasks to complete in your focused-study time to complement your reading. Regular one-to-one guidance is given in the development of the NEA and regular revision clinics are held as exams approach.



## ASSESSMENTS

Assessments are by examination at the end of the two-year course and the NEA.

**Drama Paper:** 2 hours 15 minutes. 2 questions – 60 marks

**Prose Paper:** 1 hour 15 minutes. 1 question – 40 marks

**Poetry Paper:** 2 hours 15 minutes. 2 questions – 60 marks

**NEA:** 2500-3000 word essay on two texts of your choice.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 in English Literature.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

English, Language/Linguistics, Law, Journalism, Creative Writing, Teaching, Education.

***“I like English Literature as it gives you a deeper insight into the books that you read and helps you understand the human condition.” – Elspeth, Year 13***



## CAREERS

Publishing, Communications Industry, Media, TEFL, Business Training and Consultancy, Hospitality, Management, Sales, Digital Copywriter and many more.



## STUDENT CASE STUDY

**Who:** Alina, Year 12

**Studying:** History, Politics, English Literature

**Next Step:** University to study Law

**Loves:** Creative art, painting and drawing, swimming

**Cinema is about 125 years old and it is a medium that provides us with both intense feelings and a window on the world. Studying film enables you to see the world in a different light.**

You'll develop an excellent understanding of the history of cinema, from silent cinema to contemporary Hollywood. Film Studies students explore the processes behind film – the economic, technological, sociological and mental processes.

In this course, you will be reflecting on how films conform to generic conventions, how far they make use of star systems and how they reflect national identity and culture.

We offer either the A Level or the AS Level – you would need to be sure about which path you are taking by Christmas as the coursework is slightly different for each path.



**“Film allows a range of topics to be covered through different film analysis, I have already enjoyed the film course, as it has explained a range of topics and activities.”**

– Ioana, Year 13



## THE COURSE

You'll explore the following topics:

- Hollywood 1930-1990
- American Film since 2005
- British Film since 1995
- Global film, Documentary Film, Silent Cinema and Experimental Film.

The course will challenge you to take a keen interest in the development of film over time and will enable you to create your own short film or screenplay.

You will also have an opportunity to evaluate your final piece of work.

There is due to be a change in set texts, but films currently studied are:

- **AS:** Do The Right Thing, Get Out, Shaun of the Dead, This is England, Some Like it Hot & Mustang.
- **A Level:** All the Above Plus Joker, Parasite, Stories We Tell, Sunrise and Memento.



## ASSESSMENTS

Assessments are linear and you will complete a coursework folder including either a short film or a screenplay plus a storyboard and an evaluative essay.

The two exams are 35% of the course each.

**A Level:** Two exams, each lasting for two and a half hours, plus a non-exam assessment.

**AS Level:** Two exams lasting one and a half hours each and a non-exam assessment.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 in an English qualification would stand in you good stead for this course.

**In our lessons you will be taught by teachers who are passionate about the subject and keen to discuss the film industry.**

Students will be given opportunities to debate key ideas and respond to extracts from set texts.



## RESOURCES

To support your independence, we provide students with a contents page and a book to create their own revision guides. Students also have access to a range of extra tasks to stretch them as well as access to Media Magazine to further their understanding of key concepts. We would also recommend that students read publications such as Sight and Sound and Empire.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

University – Film Studies, Media, Marketing, Journalism, Scriptwriting.

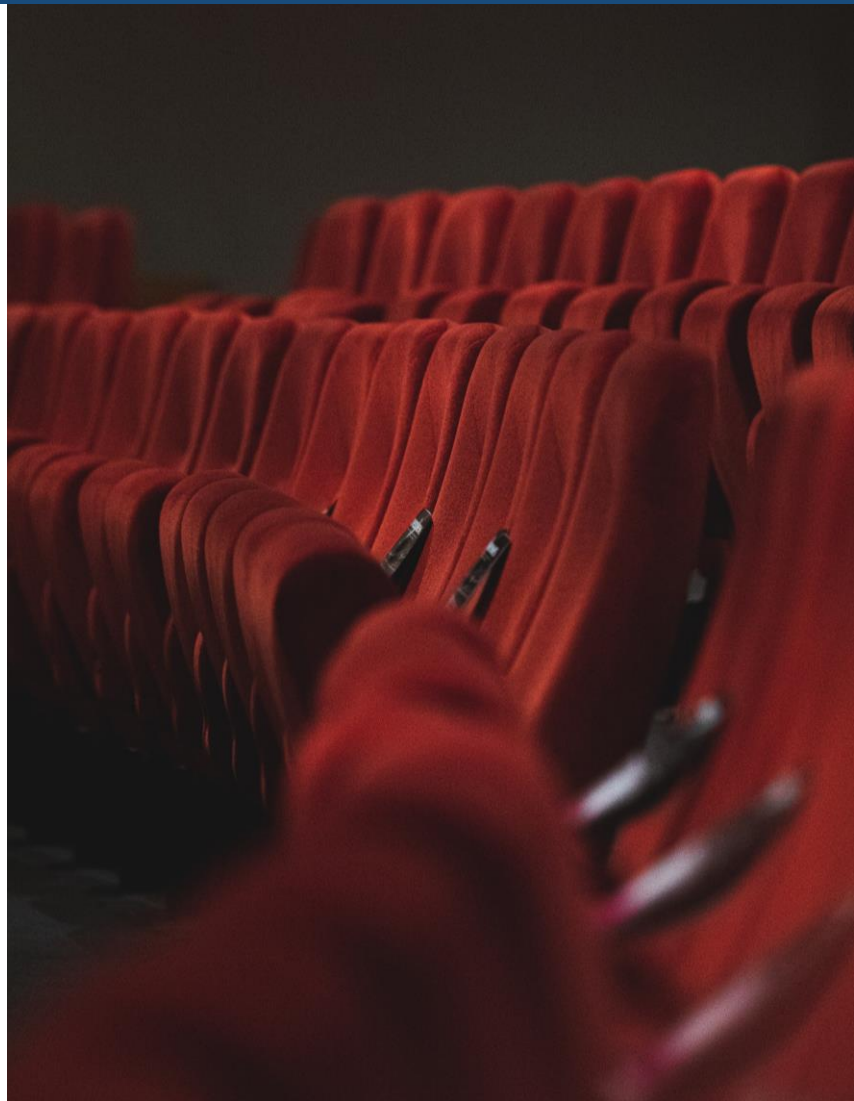


## CAREERS

Editing, Producing, Directing, Film Critic, Journalist, Location Management, Production Design.

***“I enjoy planning, shooting and especially editing films and videos. The satisfaction of seeing the final product after the hours of hard work is unmatched. Deep diving into every aspect of film that people do not normally acknowledge is enjoyable. I would like to explore and work in the film industry when I'm older.”***

– Connor, Year 13



**Learning French is more than just a boost to your CV or handy for travelling. It will make you smarter, more decisive and even better at English.**

The course builds on your knowledge, understanding and skills gained in your language. It constitutes an integrated study with a focus on language, culture and society. It fosters a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity. You will develop your understanding and knowledge of themes relating to the culture and society of countries where French is spoken and language skills. Authentic materials are regularly used and you will also be able to study a film and a book which will give you even greater insight into the culture of French-speaking countries.

In our lessons subject specialists, with so much enthusiasm for their language, will deliver well-paced lessons designed to meet the needs of all our pupils.

Teacher time is interleaved with group discussion, cultural study of the countries, focus on grammar to boost your accuracy and tailored speaking activities with your teachers, plus speaking sessions with our Foreign Language Assistants.



**“Learning a Language unlocks a world of exciting possibilities whether that be travelling, working, or exploring culture. A Level Language is different to GCSE because you don't just learn the language, you learn the culture of the country and how they use the language in real life settings”** – Charlotte, Year 13



## RESOURCES

You will have plenty of structured, independent work using our online learning platform, Kerboodle, and textbooks. There is a wealth of current research available online plus access to MOOCS on various topics. We will ensure that you cover all the theory required in the syllabus so that you can prepare for your exams with confidence.

Your one-to-one sessions with our Foreign Language Assistants will give you an opportunity to gain confidence with your speaking. We track your progress and give you the confidence to achieve your next goal in your language.



## ASSESSMENTS

Assessments are linear, there is no coursework. You take a set of exams at the end of the course. You can choose to take AS Level, A Level or both. The majority of our students choose A Level.

**Paper 1:** Listening Reading and Writing

**Paper 2:** Writing (essays on a French film and French novel)

**Paper 3:** Speaking



## WHERE TO NEXT?

International trade, business, tourism, travel industry, immigration, translation, education, multilingual job opportunities.



## CAREERS

International import/export manager, EMEA trade positions, translator, teacher, immigration officer and any relevant jobs abroad using your English and language skills!



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 French.



**So many of the world's current issues – at a global scale and locally - boil down to geography and need the geographers of the future to help us understand them.**

Global warming's impact on countries and regions, food and energy security, the degradation of land and soils from over-use and misuse, the spread of disease, the causes and consequences of migration, and the impacts of economic change on places and communities are just some of the challenges facing the next generation, which geographers must help solve.

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

It will also, importantly, show the applied side of the subject - how human intervention affects the environment and how people adapt and mitigate the effects of processes on their environment. This is complex and dynamic and varies from place to place depending on people's resources, technology and culture.

There is plenty of room for discussion and extended research which will help you become an independent thinker and learner.



***“A Level geography is a brilliant course and is very informative and enjoyable. I am so glad that I have chosen it because I have learnt lots about the world and how it works effectively. I would highly recommend it.”*** – Ben, Year 13



## ASSESSMENTS

- **Physical Systems** - 22% of the A Level, 1 hour 30 minutes written paper. The inter-relationships between the land, oceans and atmosphere, understanding the processes, characteristics and impacts of those landscapes.
- **Human interactions** - 22% of the A Level, 1 hour 30 minutes written paper. Investigate the actions, interactions and spatial patterns of people around the world, looking specifically at human rights and migration as well as the changing shape of the places around us.
- **Geographical debates** - 36% of the A Level, 2 hour 30 minutes written paper. Exploring the most challenging and fascinating issues facing the 21st century.
- **Investigative geography** - 20% of the A Level, coursework project on an area of geography of your choice.



## WHAT SKILLS DO I GAIN?

- Research skills
- Oral and written communication skills, producing convincing arguments to communicate ideas effectively.
- Visual communication skills: using maps, graphs, diagrams and images to problem solve.
- Data and geospatial skills, developing your qualitative and quantitative geographical skills.
- Data analysis
- Fieldwork experience



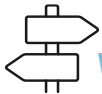
## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 Geography. Consideration may be given to pupils who did not take GCSE Geography.



## RESOURCES

You will learn in a wide variety of ways such as by using maps, GIS skills, data analysis, photos and videos. This will be undertaken in lessons, through fieldwork, and by yourself in independent study time both in the Sixth Form as well as at home. You will be encouraged to read around the subject in relevant news articles and academic journals.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

The skills and knowledge you gain from studying geography are relevant to almost all jobs and workplaces. What's more, Geography graduates are experiencing some of the lowest levels of graduate unemployment, so there has never been a better time to study geography!

Geography studies can lead you on to work in conservation, sustainability, environmental planning, town or transport planning, surveying, waste and water management, tourism, weather forecasting, research, law and business.

At university you could study a degree in subjects such as global studies, geography, environmental sciences, politics, economics, business and sciences.



## CAREERS

There are a wealth of jobs geographers do, spanning almost every sector including: Development and Global Issues, Society, The Business World, Travel, Tourism and Leisure, The Built Environment Geographical Information Systems, The Physical Environment, Policy and Government.

Examples roles: Senior Planner, Chartered Surveyor, Hydrologist, Environmental Consultant, Meteorologist, Lawyer, GIS, Finance, and International Development.



# German

German A Level constitutes an integrated study with a focus on language, culture and society. It fosters a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity. You will develop your understanding and knowledge of themes relating to the culture and society of Germany.

Authentic materials are regularly used and you will also be able to study a film and a book which will give you even greater hindsight of German culture.

Physiological studies have found that speaking two or more languages is a great asset to the cognitive process. The brains of bilingual people operate differently than single language speakers, and these differences offer several mental benefits. Here's a few examples :

- You build multitasking skills
- Your memory improves
- You become more perceptive
- Your decision-making skills improve
- You improve your English



## THE COURSE

In our lessons subject specialists, with so much enthusiasm for their language, will deliver well-paced lessons designed to meet the needs of all our pupils.

Teacher time is interleaved with group discussion, cultural study of the countries, focus on grammar to boost your accuracy and tailored speaking activities with your teachers, plus speaking sessions with our Foreign Language Assistants.



## ASSESSMENTS

Assessments are linear; there is no coursework. You will take a set of exams at the end of the course.

You can choose to take AS Level, A Level or both. The majority of our students choose A Level.

**Paper 1:** Listening Reading and Writing

**Paper 2:** Writing (essays on a German film and German novel)

**Paper 3:** Speaking.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

International trade, business, tourism, travel industry, immigration, translation, education, multilingual job opportunities.



## CAREERS

International import/export manager, EMEA trade positions, translator, teacher, immigration officer and any relevant jobs abroad using your English and language skills!



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 German

***“The standard of teaching at The Willink is so good throughout the school. Our teacher’s love for German is unbeaten, they definitely know their stuff when it comes to everything German, from the vocab to grammar to culture!”*** – Beth, Year 13



History is the most valuable subject you can study in the current world. With lines being blurred between facts and opinions, and with so many debates based on the consequences of history, it is more important now than ever to have a strong understanding of the past and how it shapes our today.

The skills learnt in History are highly sought after by employers and universities. Paramount are the skills of sorting through information and extracting the essential points which will reflect what you want to say. In addition you will build skills in analysis and evaluation, which will become second nature. The modules we study for A-level reflect our purpose as a discipline.

In our lessons the teacher's passion for our subjects and topics shine through. There are lots of debates and discussions of the work we are undertaking.



**“I took History because I find that looking to the past helps people for the future and with extended writing, time keeping and preparation, these skills will be helpful to anyone doing any combination of subjects.”** – Charlie, former Willink Student



## THE COURSE

The course is divided into three sections:

1. **Paper 1:** We study **The Crusades** – this is a breadth study covering 133 years and explores the rise and fall of the Crusader Kingdoms of Jerusalem. Imagine ‘Game of Thrones’, but real and fewer dragons.
2. **Paper 2:** This is an in-depth study of the **Making of Modern Britain, 1951-2007** looking at the political, social and foreign policies and how Britain changed during this period. The issues our current government face are completely rooted and shaped by the actions of the politicians that we study. In addition, the History we teach is from your parents’ lifetime! Also – Margaret Thatcher – she is like marmite – love or hate her.
3. **Section 3 : Coursework.** You will become an expert on **African-American Civil Rights**. You will then produce a 4500 word essay on this topic. You will independently research and evaluate sources, a skill that students are so grateful for when they go to university.



## ASSESSMENTS

### AS level exams:

Paper 1: 50% - The Crusades, 1½ hour exam (An extract question and one essay)

Paper 2: 50% - Making of Modern Britain, 1½ hour exam (A source question and one essay)

### A level:

Paper 1: 40% - The Crusades, 2½ hours exam (One extract based essay and 2 essays)

Paper 2: 40% - The Making of Modern Britain, 2½ hours exam (One source based essay and 2 essays)

Coursework: 20% 4500 word essay.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 History or Grade 5 English if you did not take History GCSE.



## RESOURCES

We encourage students to create a revision guide of their own which reviews and builds on prior work. We provide extensive additional reading to stretch and deepen your understanding, from our extensive lending library. Furthermore, we run a 6th form History Help Hub to provide specific and targeted intervention where necessary.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

History, Law, Journalism, Media, Politics, English, Geography, Economics, Medicine, Science, Accountancy.



## CAREERS

Lawyer, Journalist, Business, Advertising, Marketing, Accountancy, Education, Publishing, Archaeologist, Archivist, Curator, Politics and Civil Service.

***“I enjoyed A Level History because it allowed me to gain a deep understanding of some really useful eras. I also learnt many transferable skills which will be incredibly useful in the future.”***

– Jacob, Former Willink Student



# Mathematics



Maths is both fascinating and rewarding and will provide you with a varied set of skills (problem-solving, analytical, research, logic), which are indispensable to a very wide variety of careers. It will also enhance your enjoyment and performance in other maths-based subjects, as well as Engineering courses at university.

In our lessons teacher time is interleaved with group discussion, individual work, computer-based exercise, challenges and exam practice.

*“Mathematics sets a foundation for logical understanding for engineering and related subjects.”* – Maks, Year 12



## THE COURSE

The course is **two-thirds Pure** and **one-third Applied** (split evenly between Statistics and Mechanics). Each area is taught by experienced, and very enthusiastic, subject specialists.

Pure Mathematics takes familiar topics to a new level, such as **Coordinate Geometry, Quadratics and Trigonometry**, and introduces fascinating new concepts, such as:

- **Calculus:** The study of rates of change, important in all industrial optimisation processes.
- **Algebraic Methods:** Manipulating and solving higher order equations
- **Logarithms:** The maths we use to understand biological populations.
- **Binomial Expansions:** How to expand brackets to the power of 10 or  $\frac{1}{2}$  or  $-3$ .
- **Sequences and Series:** Ever wondered how mortgage payments and bank interest are really calculated?

In **Statistics**, you will study statistical sampling techniques and analyse large data sets and hypothesis testing using statistical distributions.



## ASSESSMENTS

Assessments are linear, you take a set of exams at the end of the course. You can choose to take AS Level, A Level or both. The majority of our students choose A-Level.

### AS Level Exams:

- Paper 1: Pure Mathematics, 2 hours, 100 marks.
- Paper 2: Statistics and Mechanics, 1 hour 15 minutes, 60 marks.

### A Level Exams:

- Papers 1 and 2: Pure Mathematics, 2 hours (each paper).
- Paper 3: Applied Mathematics (Statistics and Mechanics), 2 hours.



## RESOURCES

To support your independence we use an online learning platform equipped with walk-throughs, exercises to try, key points and section tests. Students come along to our weekly MathsAid drop-in sessions to receive focussed support from our Teachers.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

Mathematics, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Science, Engineering, Economics at University. Engineering, Accountancy apprenticeships.



## CAREERS

Accountancy, Banking, Analysis, Management Consultancy, Engineering, Architecture, Surveying, Teaching, Actuarial Work.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 Maths.

# Further Maths

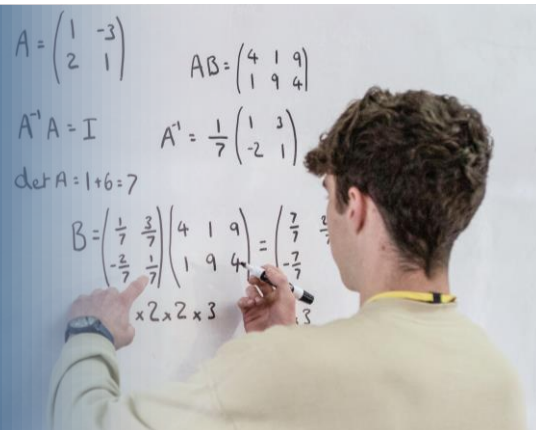


For someone who really enjoys Maths, Further Maths is a challenging subject, which extends and deepens their knowledge beyond A level Mathematics.

Students will often say it's their favourite subject, as most of the content could be described as beautiful! Further Maths is also highly desirable, if not required, by many top universities for Mathematics, Science and Engineering courses, as well as Computing and Economics.

*“From using probabilities to model a dice roll in a casino, to applying matrices to the translation of images on a web page, no subject has the variety of application as Mathematics or Further Mathematics. They are an intrinsic part of our world.” – Calum, Year 12*

*“Further Maths is an incredible challenge that will push even the top students to improve their knowledge, and working with the teachers to solve problems is a great experience.” – Kyra, Year 13*



**“Further Mathematics is the ultimate step up. If you’re not afraid of a challenge, and making normal Maths a walk in the park, it’s a must-have choice!”** – Sam, Year 13



## THE COURSE

The Course is **50% Pure Maths** and **50% Applied** (split evenly between Decision Mathematics and Further Mechanics). It is taught by subject specialists, who are all passionate about their area of expertise.

- **The Pure** aspect introduces students to the exciting concepts of **imaginary numbers** and **matrices**, as well as **proof** by induction, **series** and **further calculus** involving **hyperbolic functions**. What is not to get passionate about!
- **Decision Mathematics** involves studying a variety of common algorithms; **Graph Theory**, involving networks; **Linear Programming**, to identify optimal points; **Critical Path Analysis**, which helps find the optimal route through a complex project..
- In **Further Mechanics**, we learn about **Momentum & Impulse** (what happens when objects collide) and **Work, Energy and Power**.



## ASSESSMENTS

### AS level

2 papers Core Pure and Applied, which comprises Decision Mathematics 1 and Further Mechanics 1.  
Both papers are 1 hour 40 mins each.

### A Level

Paper 1 and 2: Pure Mathematics  
Paper 3: Decision Mathematics  
Paper 4: Further Mechanics  
Each paper lasts for 1 hour and 30 minutes and is worth one quarter of the overall mark.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

University – Maths, Engineering, Science, Computer Science, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Business.

Further Maths A Level is a great way to prepare for any course that relies on a logical, analytical approach.



## CAREERS

The study of Applied Science opens up exciting career possibilities. From Research scientist to Forensic criminologists, Lab Technicians to Health Professionals. Applied Science is also an excellent preparation for non-scientific careers.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 7 Maths.



**Core Maths (AS Level) is intended for students who have a keen interest in maths, but who do not wish to study it as a full A Level. It provides a valuable grounding in the quantitative skills that underpin many ungraduated courses, apprenticeships and jobs.**

The course is divided into units that require and develop your skills in statistics, number and decision-making. Topics that are covered include: Analysis of Data, Personal Finance, Estimation, Critical Analysis and Critical Path Analysis. Real life data and resources allow you to make the connection to how Maths is used in everyday life and prepare you with essential skills that will be used now and in the future.

Our lessons are based on collaboration and team work. You will use maths to solve real-life problems that are commonly encountered in other subjects, work and life. You will have discussions and analyse data; you will learn a variety of problem-solving techniques.

Core Maths encourages students to link Maths in the context of real-world examples. Reading a newspaper, picking up The Economist, comparing the interest rates on different banks - there are endless places you can find links and content that support Core Maths.



**“Core Maths is an intriguing subject which prepares you for the future, where the teachers are supportive and engaging throughout the year.” – Charli, Year 13**



## ASSESSMENTS

The qualification is an AS Level, there is no A Level equivalent.

You will be assessed at the end of Year 12, so you will have gained UCAS points before you start applying to Universities.

**Paper 1:** 50% - 1½ hour exam

- Analysis of Data
- Personal Finance
- Estimation

**Paper 2:** 50% - 1½ hour exam

- Critical Analysis,
- Critical Path Analysis
- Risk Analysis
- Probability.



## RESOURCES

Students are encouraged to revisit GCSE topics to help prepare them for Core Maths.



## CAREERS

The ability to analyse quantitatively helps you progress in a range of apprenticeships and jobs such as banking, accountancy and surveying.

People who run their own business will find Core Maths extremely useful.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

The skills you will acquire by completing Core Maths AS Level support courses in Psychology, Health and Social Care, Biomedical Sciences, Environmental Science, Geography and PE.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 Maths.

**Study this subject because Media is all around us – it is in our phones, on our screens and providing us with content to talk about and with.**

Media Studies is a great subject to get your teeth into. You will be able to see a project through from research and planning to an impressive cross-media piece. Near the end of the course, there is an enjoyable showcase evening to celebrate your work.

A well-experienced and passionate team deliver engaging and interesting lessons designed to support all students.

Most lessons are taught in a computer suite and there will be opportunities to put your theoretical understanding into practice by creating your own products. There is a lot of collaboration, group discussion and lively debate.



## THE COURSE

**Component 1: Media Products, Industries and Audiences** is a whistle stop tour of a range of different media products through 1950s advertising, 1960s film marketing right up to the modern day with music videos by Janelle Monáe and Tom Grennan and you will take a close look at the newspaper industry. You'll investigate texts that you may not have heard of before, like *Woman's Hour*. You will explore the impact of ownership and how the Internet has changed the ways in which we respond to texts.

**Component 2: Media Forms and Products in Depth** allows for a greater exploration of three key industries – Television, Magazines and Online. In this, we compare two sci-fi television series *Peaky Blinders* and *The Bridge* and see how genre is global. We will see how the magazine industry has changed, from 1960s *Vogue* to contemporary *Big Issue* and finally, in the Online unit, you will critically engage with KSI and gal-dem magazine online and consider gender as a performance.

**Component 3: Non-examined assessment – Cross Media Production** gives you a fantastic opportunity to create a cross-media campaign. In the past, students have created music videos and an online campaign or marketing materials and the opening to a true crime documentary.



## ASSESSMENTS

The course is **70% exam** and **30% non-examined assessment**. You will take two exams at the end of the course.

This is a two year A Level course but if you are interested in a one year course, we will offer AS Level Film or the Cambridge Technical Certificate in Digital Media.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

GCSE Media grade 6 or Merit in iMedia.  
Grade 5 in English if Media not studied

*"I like Media because it allows me to be creative and still develop my critical and analytical skills. It has helped me to look at the world differently and I hope to study Media at University next year."*

– Sofia, Year 13



## RESOURCES

To support your independence, we provide students with a contents page and a book to create their own revision guides. Students also have access to a range of extra tasks to stretch them as well as access to Media Magazine to further their understanding of key concepts.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

- **University:** Media, Marketing, Film Studies, Graphic Design, Journalism, Events Management.
- **Apprenticeships:** Marketing, Events Management.

***“I took Media A Level because it’s an extremely interesting subject that gives you a deeper understanding on a range of unique Media products. Music videos are very fun to watch and to understand a new element of them.”*** – Jacob, Year 13



# Digital Media CTECH

Digital Media is a practical and highly independent course that allows you to see two projects through from client brief to completion, creating industry standard documents along the way.

You'll also consider a range of texts from either the film industry or the television industry and consider current concerns with the relationship between the audience and the text, do video games really make teens violent? In the second year, you will have an opportunity to pitch your advertising campaign ideas to a client. Past clients include Vegivores and Fidget&Bob.

At the end of the two years, there is an enjoyable showcase evening to celebrate your work.



**“This is a fantastic course that has allowed me to utilise my creativity whilst also challenging me theoretically. It is enjoyable and is preparing me well to go onto study film making at university.”** – Maddy, Former Willink Student



## THE COURSE

The course is 50% coursework and 50% examination.

In Year 12, you will sit the **Unit 1: Media Products and Audiences** exam, which includes a close study of three films or television programmes and understanding how regulation works. Other questions consider areas like audience data and the effects debate. You will complete a project which will cover **Unit 3, Create a Media Product** and **Unit 22, Scripting for Media products**. For this, students currently script, film and then edit the opening for a BBC III documentary on crime.

In Year 13, you will sit **Unit 2, Pre-Production and Planning**, drawing on all your experience across the two years of creating pre-production materials and understanding different job roles in the industry. You will also complete a project which will cover Unit 20, Advertising Media and Unit 21, Plan and deliver a pitch for a media product which will involve creating an advertising campaign based on a brief for a company and pitching directly to managers from the company.



## ASSESSMENTS

Assessments are modular. You will complete one external exam and one project for coursework each year.

The coursework is moderated by an external assessor during the year, so you will know how you are doing and then make improvements if necessary.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Media grade 4 or a Merit L2 in iMedia. Grade 4 in English if not studied.

This course can be taken as a one year course alongside three other courses or as a two year course.



All lessons will be in a computer suite as you will often be working independently on your coursework.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

**University** - Media, Marketing, Film Studies, Graphic Design, Journalism, Events Management, Web design.

**Apprenticeships** – Marketing, Events Management.



## CAREERS

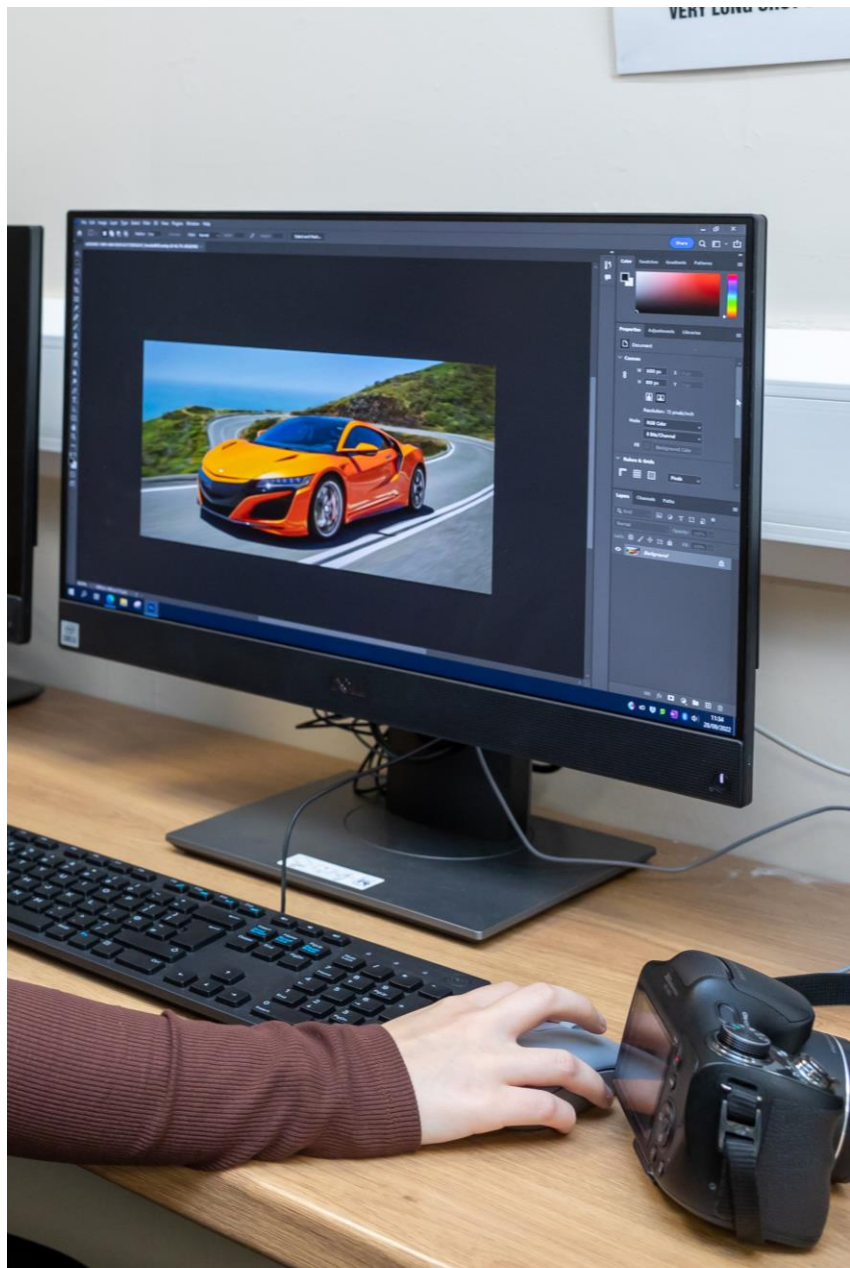
Marketing, Producing, Social Media Manager, Journalist, Event Manager, Editor, Public Relations, Education.

***"Digital Media allows me to explore various aspects of digital media product, from graphic design to video editing. I find it enjoyable because it combines creativity with technical skills, making it a dynamic field. I aim to build a strong foundation in digital media that will open opportunities for me in fields like multimedia production, web design or even game development in the future.***

– Jake, Year 13


***"I picked Digital Media because I wanted to work with professional equipment, such as cameras and software like Adobe Photoshop and Premiere Pro. The course has been very interesting with a lot of interesting projects and events that we get to be involved in."***

– David, Year 13



**A Level Music lets you delve deeper into the how and why of Music. Developing a deeper understanding and applying that to your own creative and musical talents.**

This course puts the students and their skills front and centre with customisable unit structure. The varied nature of the course will develop your problem solving, creative thinking, analytical, independent learning and performance skills which together will help prepare for whatever steps you take on your next steps.



During this course you will study a broad range of different pieces and styles of Music, further develop your performance skills through programmes of performance and learn how to compose like a master.

**“This in a fantastic, customisable, flexible course that lets us really focus on the strengths of each individual students and their needs.”** – Mr Murray, Head of Department



## THE COURSE

**Component 1: Appraising Music (40%):**  
You will study a range of set works and styles of music culminating in a written exam.

Compulsory areas of study (2 of the following): Baroque Concerto, Romantic Piano, Mozart Opera.

Optional areas of study (2 of the following): Pop music, Music for Media, Music for Theatre, Jazz, Contemporary traditional music, Art music since 1910.

**Component 2: Performing (35%):**  
You will record a 10 minute recital on your instrument as coursework.

**Component 3: Composition (25%):**  
Over the two years you will produce two compositions (one free and one to a set brief) as coursework.



## RESOURCES

Classes are typically small, providing ample individual support in all aspects of the course. Theory is taught through a combination of practical work, group discussions, listening activities, and independent study.

To support your learning, A-level music students enjoy priority access to practice rooms, the studio, and music software throughout the department. Additionally, they have opportunities for trips to live performances.



## CAREERS

Performing, Composing, Publishing, Music Producer, Music technician, Music therapist, Teacher, Audio engineering, broadcasting, the creative arts industry.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 in your own instrument (or that standard), Grade 6 at Music GCSE or Grade 5 Theory.



# Physical Education

PE provides a fascinating insight into how the body, mind and social factors affect performance in sport and physical activity. PE A Level provides multiple skills including teamwork, oral presentation, analysis, critical evaluation, and practical performance. It is highly respected by employers and universities alike.

*“I chose to take PE as I enjoyed it a lot at GCSE and wanted to learn more about the theoretical side of sport and how the body works.”*

– Will, Year 12



## THE COURSE

The course is split into 5 areas:

- **Physiology & Biomechanics** – 30%
- **Sport Psychology** – 20%
- **Contemporary Issues** – 20%
- **Practical Performance** – 15%
- **EAPI (Coursework in the form of an oral presentation)** – 15%

Subject specialists focus in on each area and expand on knowledge gained in the GCSE PE course as well as introducing interesting new concepts, such as:

- **Energy Systems:** How we create energy to enable our muscles to contract
- **Cardiac Control Centre:** How heart rate is controlled
- **Projectile Motion:** Factors that determine distances and flight paths
- **Attribution:** How success and failure are attributed
- **Modern Olympic Games:** The background and how they have been politically exploited.



## ASSESSMENTS

Assessments are linear, there is coursework which is both the practical and EAPI components, a set of exams are completed at the end of the course.

There are 3 exam papers:

- **Physiology and Biomechanics** – 2 hours, 90 marks
- **Sport Psychology** – 1 hour, 60 marks
- **Contemporary Issues** – 1 hour, 60 marks



## WHERE TO NEXT?

### Further Education:

Physical Education, Sports Science, Exercise Science, Sports Psychology, Sports Coaching, Sports Analysis, Sports Administration.

**Apprenticeships** in Gym instructor, Coach, Fitness Instructor, Lifeguard, Personal Trainer, Leisure Centre Assistant



## RESOURCES

To support your independence, we use the Everlearner package equipped with tutorials, tests and checkpoints.

Students come along to weekly PE boost sessions to receive individually focussed support and feedback to further enhance understanding.

Lessons are designed to meet the needs of all our pupils. Understanding is checked regularly through group discussion, individual work, exam practise and peer assessment.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 PE or Grade 5 Biology if PE not taken.



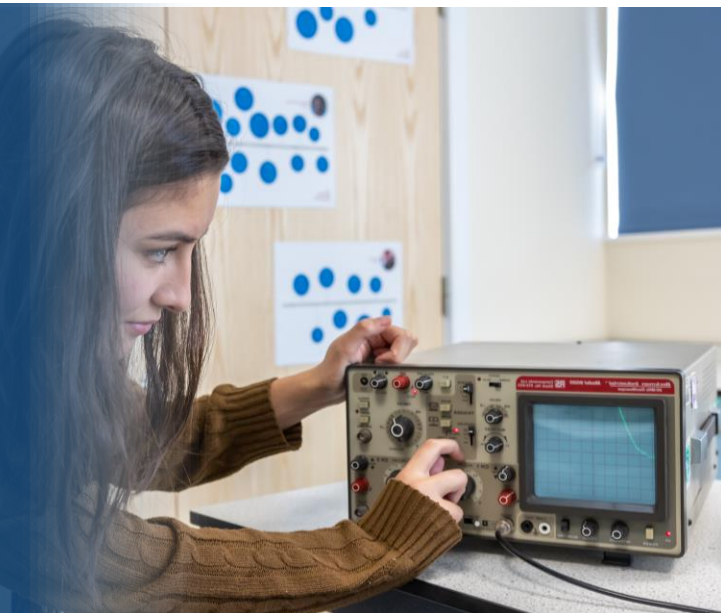
**From the smallest quark to the largest galaxy, Physics explains it all! It develops logical, practical, mathematical and technical thinking.**

It is one of the facilitating subjects looked on favourably by the top universities. If you have a Physics A Level “everybody thinks you are clever.”

We begin with a short section learning about the foundations of Physics which will underpin the rest of the A Level. This includes scalars and vectors, dealing with errors and uncertainties and using SI prefixes.

Pupils then cover longer topics on mechanics and electricity, before moving on to work on waves and quantum physics.

In Year 13, the depth of the content increases as we study thermal physics, simple harmonic and circular motion, astrophysics, nuclear and particle physics. We also explore gravitational fields, electromagnetism and medical physics.



## ASSESSMENTS

You can choose to take this course as an AS or an A-level. The vast majority of students choose A-level.

### AS Level Physics:

Two papers worth 50% each, covering:

- Practical skills in physics
- Foundations of physics
- Forces and motion
- Electrons, waves and photons

### A Level Physics:

Three papers covering the AS content plus:

- The Newtonian World and Astrophysics
- Particles and medical physics
- A Level Practical endorsement (Pass/ Fail).

There is no coursework for this subject.



## RESOURCES

You will be given a week-by-week list of suggested independent study ideas. In your 11th lessons, you will have short self-assessment tests to help you identify weaker areas.

Physics students have access to the Kerboodle online resources and a range of textbooks are available for loan.

***“Physics is by far the most interesting and inciteful course I do, with lessons adapted to be easily understandable while also being complex and in depth enough to gain a deeper understanding of the world around us.” – Ben, Year 13***



## WHERE TO NEXT?

Students have gone on to study Astronomy, Chemical Engineering, Aeronautical Engineering, Medicine, Maths, Computer Science, Robotics, Natural Sciences and Music Technology.



## CAREERS

Accountancy, Banking, Engineering, Architecture, Management consultancy, Project management, Automotive design, Astronomy and Radiography.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Combined Science 6 6 , or a Grade 6 in Physics and at least 1 other Science if taking separate Sciences, plus grade 5 in Maths.



**Politics is a fascinating, ever-changing, and eye-opening subject which encourages you to discuss, debate and decide your views on a variety of topics.**

You get to delve into questions such as: What do you think of the current Prime Minister? Should we lower the voting age? How effective do you think Parliament is? Does socialism work? Why did people vote for Tony Blair? How could we hold governments and countries to account across the world? To what extent are China, USA and Russia superpowers? These are just a handful of topics which you will study in politics.

Teachers are keen to support our students in their pursuit of excellence, putting them at the centre of our lessons. Debating, individual work, group work and project work are interwoven throughout the two-year course all whilst seamlessly helping you to develop your exam practise and skills.

We offer a weekly drop-in for students to ask further questions or help with understanding the work to ensure you make the most out of an engaging and exciting subject.



**“I chose to study Politics due to the fact that Politics builds the foundations of the country we live in and affects everyone’s lives.”** – Ismael, Former Willink Student.



## THE COURSE

The course is split into three modules.

In Year 12 you will study UK Government & Politics and Ideologies; followed by Global Politics in Year 13.

**UK Politics encompasses:** Democracy and participation, political parties, the types of electoral systems we use, voting behaviour and the influence of the media.

**UK Government includes:** The UK’s Constitution, the role and effectiveness of Parliament, the role and effectiveness of the Prime Minister and their cabinet and the relations between different UK institutions.

**The Ideologies module** looks at the core doctrines of the UK – Socialism, Liberalism and Conservatism and in Global Politics we look at world theories such as Realism and Liberalism and how they affect the workings of the world.



## ASSESSMENTS

Assessments for A Level Politics are linear with exams at the end of Year 13. Students taking Politics will sit the full A Level, which consists of three written exams (components), each one lasts 2 hours and is worth 33% of the overall mark (84 marks each).

- **Component 1:** UK Politics and Core-Ideologies
- **Component 2:** UK Government and Non-Core Ideologies
- **Component 3:** Global Politics



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 History, if taken, otherwise grade 5 English.



## WHAT SKILLS DO I GAIN?

Studying Politics develops analytical, debating and evaluative skills as well as preparing you for the wider world. All of these skills are sought after at University for a variety of courses.



## RESOURCES

Students are given access to Politics Review magazine and an array of books written by Political Scholars and lecturers to encourage them to delve further into subjects discussed in class and develop revision guides.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

Students go on to study; Politics, Philosophy, Economics, History, International Relations, English & Journalism at degree level. Apprenticeships are also available in the civil service, government and local authorities.

***“Politics gives me a deeper understanding of the world around me and allows me to make the best choices possible for my future”*** – Charlie, Former Willink Student

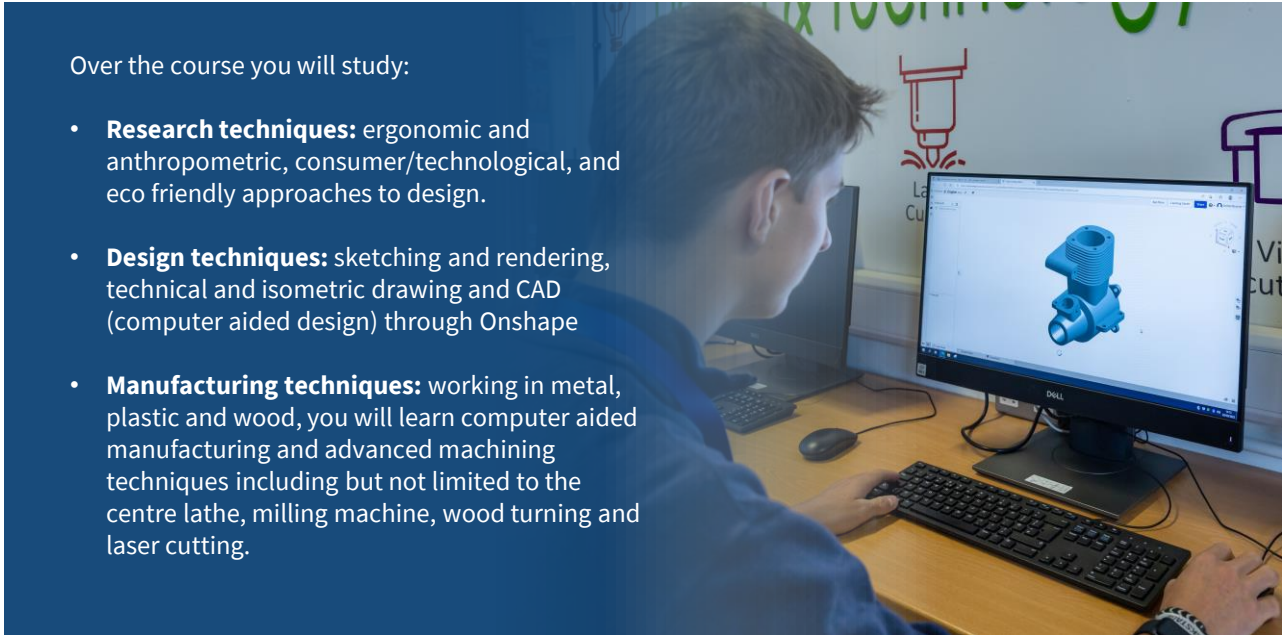


# Product Design

Product Design gives you a creative and dynamic opportunity to develop a wide variety of skills; from designing, problem solving, project management and engineering to manufacturing.

Over the course you will study:

- **Research techniques:** ergonomic and anthropometric, consumer/technological, and eco friendly approaches to design.
- **Design techniques:** sketching and rendering, technical and isometric drawing and CAD (computer aided design) through Onshape
- **Manufacturing techniques:** working in metal, plastic and wood, you will learn computer aided manufacturing and advanced machining techniques including but not limited to the centre lathe, milling machine, wood turning and laser cutting.



**“Design has helped me bring my ideas to life and given me a better understanding of how things are made.”** – Former Willink Student



## ASSESSMENTS

Design and Technology (Product Design) is an A Level only course. Grades are awarded based upon coursework (NEA) and examined content, with 50% of the final mark being drawn from each.

The NEA starts at Easter of year 12 and is completed by Christmas of year 13. You will develop an independent project covering a wide range of skills required to enter the world of commercial design and engineering and produce a report at the end.

There are two exams at the end of year 13 that cover the full range of materials, manufacturing processes, design processes and the history of design.



## RESOURCES

Product Design lessons offer you the opportunity to work independently in solving real life problems in the CAD suite, Design Studio and Machine workshops. To support your independence, we offer access to the workshops and design suites outside of lessons and afterschool, as well as a KS4/5 only workshop.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

Degrees and Apprenticeships in Engineering, Architecture, Project management, Industrial Design, Product Design Advertising and Business.



## CAREERS

People with D&T A Level find work in Mechanical, Industrial, Civil or Electronic Engineering, Architecture, Project Management and many other fields.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 D&T or a similar subject.  
Grade 5 or above in Maths.

Psychology is an extremely interesting and highly relevant subject. It provides students with an opportunity to explore the intricacies of human behaviour at a deeper level, whilst gaining knowledge of theory, all the while making direct applications to the real world.

Psychology will challenge you to question the root cause of all behaviour. You will consider individual motive, action and associated consequence. You will explore the impact of a variety of therapies and treatments and will consider the theories applied and methods used which enable psychologists to conduct meaningful research.

Psychology is taught in a variety of interactive ways ranging from teacher led presentations, through to group activities, discussion, exam practice and independent study.

The course consists of a range of fascinating and complimentary topics.



## THE COURSE

During Year 12 there are two components:

- The first component is based around 'Introductory Topics to Psychology', which includes content on social influence, memory and attachment.
- The second component is 'Psychology in Context' which encourages students to explore material on the differing approaches, issues relating to psychopathology and associated treatments and therapies, alongside biopsychology and research methods.

In Year 13 a third component is introduced. During this component a range of topic-based options are studied. These topics range from the formation, maintenance and breakdown of in person and virtual relationships, forensic psychology, focusing on criminal profiling techniques, psychological and biological reasons for offending as well as different the ways of dealing with offenders. We will also consider the causes and treatments for different eating behaviours.

In addition to the listed topics, we will explore the range of methods used to facilitate effective research.



## ASSESSMENTS

We follow the AQA specification.

The A Level is examined in 3 papers, each lasting for 2 hours. During the course, students' progress will be tracked and monitored via internal assessment.

It is possible to sit an AS in Psychology. Further details can be obtained from Miss Flipping.

***“Psychology is very interesting as you learn about concepts and theories that can be applied to your own life. All the topics we cover are engaging and are delivered by excellent teachers.”*** – Haris, Year 13



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

6, 6 in Combined Science or a grade 6 in Biology and at least one other Science if taking separate Sciences, plus grade 5 in Maths.





## RESOURCES

You will have plenty structured, independent work using our online learning platform (Kerboodle) and textbooks. There is a wealth of current research available online plus access to MOOCs on various topics. We will ensure that you cover all the theory required in the syllabus so that you can prepare for your exams with confidence.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

Most universities offer a Psychology degree, as well as related or combination degrees. Criminology, Psychology, Sociology, Law, Social Policy, Forensics & Politics.



## CAREERS

Psychology is a popular subject to study and psychologists may work in all areas ranging from Education and Health, to the Economy, Research and Forensics.

***“It was so interesting being able to understand the human psyche at a much deeper level, learning why we behave in the way we do and why we do the things we do.”*** – Former Willink Student



# Religious Studies

**Religious Studies is one of the most fascinating subjects to study. It forms the basis of knowledge for many humanities and social science subjects.**

Some of the key questions we will be considering are: Is capital punishment ever justified? When does life begin? Is embryo research ethical? Is evil inevitable? Do human beings have free will?

This course consists of the Philosophy of Religion and Ethics in which the approach of philosophy to the study of religion and belief will be explored. In addition, this course provides strong grounding in the application of natural moral law, situation ethics and virtue ethics as well as an introduction to meta-ethics. Key to the topics will be the arguments put forward by eminent philosophers in this area including Hume, Kant and Anselm.

In the second part of this course there will be a strong focus on the study of Islam, the 2nd largest religion in the world. This component will investigate the key beliefs of Islam, values and its religious expression across different communities and societies. There will be exploration into Islam and its relationship to science and Islam and the challenges of secularisation as well as Islam, migration, gender, and religious pluralism. The course further consists of the study of dialogues, which explores the dialogue between Islam and Philosophy and Islam and ethics.



**“Religious Studies is an enthralling subject, examining where we come from and what is the point of existence. It is extremely helpful in broadening our perspectives of different cultures and experiences.”** – Matthew, Year 12



## ASSESSMENTS

### AS Level Exams

**Component 1:** Philosophy of Religion and Ethics

Written exam 2 hours - 67% of AS

Section A - Philosophy of religion

Section B - Ethics

**Component 2:** Study of Religion

Written exam 1 hour exam 33% of AS

### A-Level Exams

**Component 1:** Philosophy of Religion and Ethics

Written exam 3 hours - 50% of A Level

Section A - Philosophy of religion

Section B - Ethics

**Component 2:** Study of Religion



## RESOURCES

Independent study is a key component of this course, we encourage and will support students with lesson and revision material. Further and wider reading is encouraged and access to a range of extra tasks and resources to stretch and challenge students will be available.



## CAREERS

Lawyer, Journalist, Charity Sector, International aid/development, Business, Social Work, Academia, Civil Service



## WHAT SKILLS DO I GAIN?

Religious Studies can provide you with strong transferable skills including, debating and critical thinking through an exploration of different viewpoints. These skills are excellent grounding for many University degrees involving critical thinking and discussion e.g., Philosophy, Economics, English, Sociology, Politics, Psychology, Theology and Law.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

5 in Religious Studies at GCSE



**Sociology provides students with a broad knowledge and appreciation of social processes and social change. From the development of cultures and subsequent subcultures, to the changing nature of family and education systems, all the way through to the causes and consequences of crime and deviance, alongside theory and methods, Sociology considers how differing individual life chances impact more widely.**

Throughout the course students will be encouraged to develop their own social awareness through active engagement with the contemporary social world and will gain a wider range and depth of knowledge and understanding as well as highly developed skills of application, analysis, interpretation and evaluation.

Lessons consist of teacher led presentations, group activities, discussion, exam practice and independent study.



**“I am really interested in the world I am living in, and Sociology has provided me with a whole new perspective on society and how it functions. We cover so many different topics, lessons are always interesting!”** – Becky, Year 13



## THE COURSE

The course consists of a variety of fascinating and diverse topics. In Year 12, students will explore the evolving nature and function of the education system, alongside the impact of issues relating to gender, class and ethnicity on educational achievement. We will then move on to consider the changing nature of contemporary family structures and the associated impact on individuals as well as to wider society in general.

In Year 13 we move on to study beliefs in society. As part of this topic we will explore the changing nature of religion, the reasons for the development of new religious movements all the while questioning if society has become secular. The course then moves on to look at issues relating to the causes of crime. As part of this topic we study patterns and consequences of crime for wider society.

Alongside all of the afore mentioned topics we will also consider sociological theory and methods.



## ASSESSMENTS

Sociology is a linear course meaning students sit final exams at the end of the course. We follow the AQA specification. The A Level is examined in 3 papers, each lasting for 2 hours.

All papers include short answers and extended writing.

As part of the course, students' progress will be tracked and monitored via internal assessment. It is possible to sit an AS in Sociology. Further details can be obtained from Miss Flipping.



## WHERE TO NEXT?

Criminology, Psychology, Sociology, Law, Politics, Education, Media



## CAREERS

The subject provides a good insight into the structure of society and the effects of this on the individual, therefore it is a strong basis for careers in social work, the public sector including education and the police force, as well as journalism and research.



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 in English.



**Learning Spanish is more than just a boost to your CV or handy for travelling. It will make you smarter, more decisive and even better at English.**

Physiological studies have found that speaking two or more languages is a great asset to the cognitive process. The brains of bilingual people operate differently to those of single language speakers, and these differences offer several benefits. Here are a few examples :

- You become smarter
- You build multitasking skills
- You stave off Alzheimer's and dementia
- Your memory improves
- You become more perceptive
- Your decision-making skills improve
- You improve your English



## THE COURSE

Lessons will include teacher input, group discussion and cultural studies, as well as a focus on grammar to boost your accuracy. Tailored speaking activities with your teachers and speaking sessions with our Foreign Language Assistants will prepare you for communicating in Spanish-speaking countries as well as for your exams.



## RESOURCES

We use a wide range of resources that will inspire you. They are linked to the topics in our AS/A Level courses as well as to our cultural topics. Your one to one sessions with our Foreign Language Assistants will also give you an opportunity to gain confidence with your speaking. We track your progress and give you the confidence to achieve your next goal in your language.



## WHAT SKILLS DO I GAIN?

Spanish A-level builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills gained in your Spanish GCSE. It constitutes an integrated study with a focus on language, culture and society.

It fosters a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity.

You will develop your understanding and knowledge of themes relating to the culture and society of Spanish-speaking countries as well as language skills.

Authentic materials are regularly used, and you will also be able to study a film and a book which will give you even greater insight into culture in Spanish-speaking countries.



## ASSESSMENTS

Assessments are linear and there is no coursework meaning that you take a set of exams at the end of the course. You can choose to take AS Level, A Level or both. The majority of our students choose A Level

Paper 1: Listening Reading and Writing

Paper 2: Writing (essays on a Spanish film and Spanish play)

Paper 3 Speaking



## GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 in Spanish.

***“The MFL department is outstanding at The Willink. It's where I discovered my love for Spanish. I can't wait to see where it will take me next! Salud”***

– Maryam , Year 12 Student

***“Taking languages has significantly improved my overall performance in school, and I am looking forward to taking them further into the future, especially with the teachers who continue to make them fun and interesting at Willink. ¡Amamos los idiomas!”***

– Charlie, Year 12 Student



## WHERE TO NEXT?

International trade, business, tourism, travel industry, immigration, translation, education, multilingual job opportunities.



## STUDENT CASE STUDY

**Who:** Zac, Year 13

**Studying:** Spanish, History and Maths

**Next Step:** Spanish and Portuguese at University

**Loves:** Sports, Scouting, football and languages

***“I love this school and the language department as both have made me enjoy my education a lot more - it’s allowing me to thrive and challenge myself. I cannot emphasize how great learning a language is, especially when the teachers are the best!”***

– Ethan, Year 12 Student



Engage

Respect

Achieve

# 5 Reasons To Study With Us

1. A Supportive Working Environment
2. Excellent Teaching That Leads to Success
3. A Rich and Fulfilling Student Life
4. Dedicated Common Room and Study Area
5. Dedicated Guidance to the Next Steps



**Ms N Browning**  
Headteacher



**Mr M Leach**  
Head of Sixth Form



**Mr I Jubb**  
Assistant Head of  
Sixth Form



**Mr A Collot**  
Assistant Head  
Key Stage 5

0118 983 8428

sixthform@willink.w-berks.sch.uk

The Willink, School Lane, Burghfield Common, Reading RG7 3XJ

[willinkschool.org.uk](http://willinkschool.org.uk)

@thewillinkschool @willinksixth @willinkschooluk