



SIXTH FORM BOOKLET

CONFIDENCE | LEADERSHIP | ENGAGEMENT | ACHIEVEMENT | RESILIENCE



OVERVIEW

Adcote Sixth Form is a dynamic and purposeful community, which offers a unique and fulfilling experience, to enable our students to grow as individuals. In addition to our Year 11 students staying on to our Sixth Form, we also welcome a number of girls from other schools. Our outstanding academic results at A Level, our Oxbridge success and entry to other top universities accounts for our recent popularity. Our Sixth Form offers first class teaching in a wide range of subjects, in a caring and supportive environment. The average class size in the Sixth Form is around eight students. By studying the subjects that students have chosen, the girls will broaden their experience and enjoy exclusive Sixth Form privileges. Adcote Sixth Form students leave us as confident, poised young women, who are ready to take their place in society. We encourage our students to apply for positions of responsibility. Holding a position of responsibility within the school really helps to prepare students for the world beyond school and university. These roles are in addition to acting as role models and guides to the younger girls.

The Sixth Form experience at Adcote School is a structured, academic programme and this booklet is principally concerned with explaining that structure and the contents of each of the subjects on offer. Central to studying at Sixth Form is the need for the development of productive habits of study and all girls are encouraged to take increasing responsibility for their own work ethic. Almost all of our students choose to move on to university and we are justly proud of the tremendous expertise that the school possesses in helping students gain places at the most prestigious universities in the UK and beyond.

“
In Sixth Form, we inspire confidence and ambition, guiding each girl to excel academically and personally.
”

Miss. H Barker
Head of Sixth Form

HOW IT WORKS



In the Lower Sixth we usually advise studying up to three subjects to full A Level (A2). Of course these are only guidelines and Adcote strongly believes in adopting the best combination and number of subjects for each individual student.

Courses at A Level normally require you to have at least GCSE grades 9 - 4 or equivalent. For entry to Adcote Sixth Form we like students to have a range of GCSE qualifications, including English and Mathematics, with an average of grade 5 or above. Most students starting A Level courses will have grade 6 or above in their chosen subjects, or in related subjects if they have not taken that subject at GCSE.

LEVEL 3 QUALIFICATIONS

The range of courses available through our A Level Programme are as follows:

- Art & Design
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Drama
- Economics B
- English Literature
- Geography
- History A
- Mathematics
- Mathematics: Further
- Music
- Physics
- Psychology
- Spanish
- Textiles

Alternative Courses available are:

- EPQ

Please note that, while we make every effort to ensure accuracy and to provide the full range of courses on offer, we reserve the right to change or cancel courses at any time depending on take up and the availability of resources.

ART & DESIGN

EDUQAS

The department has a history of “**Outstanding Results**”

- **Unit 1 portfolio of work**
- **Unit 2 externally set examination (preparatory period + 15 hours)**

This two-year course is for creative students wanting to extend their skills, confidence and understanding in the visual Arts . The course will be tailored to suit each candidate making sure each student is aspirational. Familiarisation of advanced skills and critical analysis of art history will be integral to independent study. Gallery visits and specialist workshops provide an excellent foundation for creative thinking, to study creative based subjects at University and use those skills in life.

Painting, drawing, photography, sculpture and textiles are just a few of the areas that can be explored through programmes designed to offer opportunities to develop imaginative personal expression. Themed topics will allow studies to grow using the experience of analytical thought and problem solving. Reference to other styles, genres and context should be recorded and evaluated through a sketchbook.

Unit 1. This project takes the form of a personal investigation; the title for this project is designed by the student to reflect their areas of interests and strengths, this is guided by the teacher. This is a practical unit, which usually takes the form of a sketchbook with written elements of 1,000 words in which students are expected to develop their research on an idea, issue, concept or theme leading to a finished piece /pieces.

Unit 2. Is the 15-hour controlled test. There is a preparatory period following the examination start date where you will be expected to produce developmental ideas before a final realisation within the fifteen-hour examination time.

Assessment

Your work will be rigorously assessed, DIRT marked and given a supportive and personalised one to one programme. You will receive verbal, written and peer feedback as to your progress, using exemplary benchmarks and exam board criteria. At the end of the course there will be an exhibition and your work will be externally moderated.. We follow the Eduqas GCE Syllabus and their assessment objectives.



Questions matter

Biology A Level will give you the skills to make connections and associations with all living things around you.

Biology literally means the study of life and if that's not important, what is? Being such a broad topic, you're bound to find a specific area of interest, plus it opens the door to a fantastic range of interesting careers.

Possible degree options

According to bestcourse4me.com, the top seven degree courses taken by students who have an A Level in Biology are:

- Biology
- Psychology
- Sport and exercise science
- Medicine
- Anatomy
- Physiology and Pathology Pharmacology

Practical's Biology, like all sciences, is a practical subject. Throughout the course you will carry out practical activities including:

- using microscopes to see cell division
- dissection of animal or plant systems
- aseptic technique to study microbial growth
- investigating activity within cells
- investigating animal behaviours

Exams

There is no coursework on this course. However, your performance during practical's will be assessed against a range of standards. When you have demonstrated all these skills you will be awarded the Practical Endorsement qualification. There are three exams at the end of the two years for A Level, all of which are two hours long; the final paper includes an essay. At least 15% of the marks for A Level Biology are based on what you learned in your practical's (specification code 7402).

Entry requirements

A Level Biology builds on the work done in GCSE Science and Maths, so you'll need good GCSE results from both, ideally grades 7-9. 10 % of the marks for A Level Biology assess your mathematical skills and understanding. Written communication is also important and you'll need to be a strong writer.

BIOLOGY

Possible career options

Studying A Level Biology at university gives you all sorts of exciting career options, including:

- Doctor
- Clinical molecular geneticist
- Nature conservation officer
- Pharmacologist
- Research scientist
- Vet
- Secondary school teacher
- Marine biologist
- Dentist



BUSINESS



The specification focuses on different types of organisations in various business sectors and environments. We examine how businesses function domestically and globally. All types of business ownership are studied to understand how scale and size of organisations affect decisions they make.

Students will have the opportunity to:

Explore current issues in business and to investigate problems which are of current interest and importance in the domestic and international context of the UK economy
Make justifiable decisions and offer solutions to such problems using both quantitative and qualitative methods, taking into account opportunity and cost
Be aware of the threats, constraints and opportunities arising from trading in a global economy
Develop an understanding of the need for businesses to adopt a moral/ethical stance in their decision-making and a responsible attitude towards the physical environment

What will I learn?

The Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Business is structured into four themes and consists of three externally examined papers. Students are introduced to business in Themes 1 and 2 through building knowledge of core business concepts and applying them to business contexts to develop a broad understanding of how businesses work. Breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding, with applications to a wider range of contexts and more complex business information, are developed in Themes 3 and 4, requiring students to take a more strategic view of business opportunities and issues. Students are encouraged to use an enquiring, critical and thoughtful approach to the study of business, to understand that business behaviour can be studied from a range of perspectives and to challenge assumptions.

Paper 1 - Examines theme 1 and 4

Paper 2 - Theme 3 and 4

Paper 3 - Focuses on pre released stimulus released in November before the summer examination but covers all 4 themes.

How can I use it?

This specification provides a suitable foundation for the study of Business or a related area through a range of higher education courses, e.g. degree courses in Business and Economics, Business Administration and Business Management. The majority of professions and careers will require an appreciation of business techniques and management expertise making Business A Level a valuable qualification for any chosen career path.



Questions matter

A Level Chemistry attempts to answer the big question ‘what is the world made of?’ and it’s the search for this answer that makes this subject so fascinating. From investigating how one substance can be changed drastically into another, to researching a new wonder drug to save millions of lives, the opportunities that chemistry provides are endless.

Possible degree options

According to bestcourse4me.com, the top five degree courses taken by students who have an A Level in Chemistry are:

- Chemistry
- Biology
- Pre-clinical medicine
- Mathematics
- Pharmacology

Practicals

Chemistry, like all sciences, is a practical subject.

Throughout the course you will carry out practical activities including:

- measuring energy changes in chemical reactions
- tests for identifying different types of compound
- different methods for measuring rates of reaction
- studying electrochemical cells
- preparation of organic solids and liquids

Exams

There is no coursework on this course. However, your performance during practical's will be assessed against a range of standards. When you have demonstrated all these skills you will be awarded the Practical Endorsement qualification. There are three exams at the end of the two years for A Level. At least 15% of the marks for A Level Chemistry are based on what you learned in your practical's.

Entry requirements

A Level Chemistry builds on the work done in GCSE Science and Maths, so you'll need good GCSE results from both, ideally grades 7-9. 20% of the marks for A Level Chemistry assess your mathematical skills and understanding. Written communication is also important and you'll need to be a strong writer.

CHEMISTRY

Possible career options

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

- Analytical chemist
- Chemical engineer
- Clinical biochemist
- Pharmacologist
- Doctor, Nurse, Midwife
- Research scientist (physical sciences)
- Toxicologist
- Environmental consultant
- Higher education lecturer
- Patent attorney
- Science writer
- Secondary school teacher
- Physiotherapist and Sports Science
- Nursing and Midwifery



DRAMA

EDUQAS

Why choose A Level Drama and Theatre?

We want students to have an inspiring experience of A-level Drama and Theatre. This qualification emphasises practical creativity alongside research and theoretical understanding. Students will learn through experience, seeing theatre and making theatre for themselves. They will be introduced to a wide range of theatrical styles and contexts as they explore plays practically along with working on their own performances.

Whichever option they choose, students will gain many invaluable skills, both theatrical and transferable, to expand their horizons.

Students of Drama and Theatre develop skills that are not just essential for drama but applicable to a wide range of higher education subjects and in the workplace. This course refines students' collaborative skills, their analytical thinking and their approach to research. They will grow in confidence and maturity as they successfully realise their own ideas. They will learn to evaluate objectively and develop a sound appreciation of the influences that cultural and social contexts can have on decision making.

Whatever the future holds, students of A-level Drama and Theatre emerge with a toolkit of transferable skills preparing them for their next steps.

Assessments:

Component 1- Drama and Theatre

A written exam where the students will analyse and evaluate live theatre along with two set texts studied throughout the course.

Component 2- Creating original drama

A practical unit where the students will create and perform their own original piece of theatre.

Component 3- Making Theatre

A practical unit where the students will perform 3 extracts from their chosen plays in front of a visiting examiner.



edexcel



ECONOMICS B

Thinking about studying Economics?

These students did...

"Studying Economics has enabled me to gain an inside knowledge about the global world market and dynamic economy."

"Studying Economics has enabled me to gain an insight into the economy as a whole and how globalisation has impacted on all countries, especially Kenya because if this country became more global, their poverty would be eradicated completely."

"Economics is current; it's about real world issues that matter."

"Studying Economics explores the world around us and allows interaction between economies of different levels; enabling students to feel like they are contributing to society."

"Interesting, refreshing and eye-opening."

What will I learn?

A Level Economics is structured around four themes assessed by three external exams. Students begin by considering how core microeconomic and macroeconomic concepts (demand and supply, resource scarcity, etc.) are applied in everyday life. Using these concepts, you will investigate the causes and effects of inflation, unemployment, globalisation, poverty, etc. along with the negative ways that economic activity can impact on the environment (and the ways in which these can be lessened). Breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding of more complex concepts and models are developed in year 13. In both years, students develop an awareness of current economic events and government policies.

Learning involves games, quizzes, etc. to help build basic subject knowledge plus in-class assessments, real-life case studies, private research and discussions to develop a deeper understanding and strong exam technique. Private study of at least four hours per week is expected, this increasing in Year 13.

How can I use it?

A Level Economics is used by students progressing to undergraduate studies such as international relations, finance, history, politics, philosophy, social anthropology, as well as economics itself.

Economics students can follow a wide range of careers in accounting, banking, industry, law, civil service, etc.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Year 12 - Aspects of Comedy

We study texts in year 12 with the unifying genre of comedy. All texts contain a love interest for the protagonist and marriage is a focal point. In all cases society itself (as represented in the texts), and the behaviour of men and women in it, are ridiculed.

We examine: The significance of human folly, trickery and gullibility • the inclusion of clowns, exaggeration, stereotypes, pompous attitudes and posturing • the use of disguise, escapes and discovery, elements of the supernatural • the structural patterning of the text as it moves from disorder to order, incorporating rule and misrule, how competition between characters is set up and resolved, how opposites are contrasted and reconciled, leading to comic resolutions • the use of complex plotting and sub-plots • the way that language is used to heighten the comedy, particularly wit and linguistic play • the way that comedy draws attention to itself • ultimately how the comedy affects the audience, inviting laughter at the ridiculous behaviour of human beings and a sense of joy that positive resolutions are possible.

Texts studied:

Twelfth Night – Shakespeare
The Importance of Being Earnest – Oscar Wilde
Selection of Poetry – AQA Poetry Anthology

Theory and independence – Non Exam Assessment

This component is designed to allow students to read widely, to choose their own texts (if appropriate) and to apply different theoretical and critical methods to their chosen text. This could include writing creatively through the re-create option: The theories include:

- Narrative theory
- Feminist theory
- Marxist theory
- Eco-critical theory
- Post-colonial theory
- The Literary Canon



Year 13 - Elements of crime writing

In Year 13 we study texts with the unifying genre of crime. All set texts focus on transgressions against established order and the specific breaking of either national, social, religious or moral laws.

We investigate: • the type of the crime text itself, whether it is detective fiction, a post-modern novel, a revenge tragedy, an account of a life lost to crime • the settings that are created as backdrops for criminal action and for the pursuit of the perpetrators of crime: both places and times will be significant here • the nature of the crimes and the criminals, the criminals' motives and actions • the inclusion of violence, murder, theft, betrayal • the detection of the criminal and the investigation that leads to his or her capture or punishment • ultimately, how crime stories affect audiences and readers, creating suspense, repugnance, excitement and relief.

Texts Studied

Oliver Twist – Charles Dickens
Atonement – Ian McEwan
AQA Poetry Anthology



A Level Geography is all about getting a better understanding of how the world we live in works. It's a great general subject to take, giving you a background to key issues of today related to the environment and sustainability, poverty, the economic state of the world, the relationship between politics and current social and economic challenges.

Possible Careers

Taken further it can lead to careers with a geographical background such as planning, environmental management, renewable energy, teaching, business, the caring professions, law and retailing. It is one of the few subjects that can be taken as a science or arts subject at University.

Course Content

Dynamic Landscapes

Tectonic Processes and Hazards
Coastal Landscapes and Change

Physical Systems and Sustainability

The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity
The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security

Globalisation

Shaping Places – including optional sub-topics from which students choose one from: 4A Regenerating Places or 4B Diverse Places
Superpowers
Global Development and Connections – including optional sub-topics from which students choose one from: 8A Health, Human Rights and Intervention or 8B Migration, Identity and Sovereignty

Fieldwork

Students complete an individual investigation which must include data collected in the field. The individual investigation must be based on a question or issue defined and developed by the student relating to any part of the specification content. 3,000–4,000 words.



GEOGRAPHY

HISTORY A



History is very popular and highly regarded subject, going well with a wide range of other subjects, enabling students to add breadth to their Sixth Form studies.

What will I study and how will I be assessed?

We follow the OCR History A (H505) Specification. The following units will be studied:

Unit 1: British Period Study and Enquiry

Y113: Britain 1930 – 1997

Assessed through a 1 hour and 30 minute paper and is worth 25% of the total A Level.

Unit 2: Non-British Period Study

Y21: Democracy and Dictatorships in Germany 1919 – 1963

Assessed through a 1 hour paper and is worth 15% of the total A Level.

Unit 3: Thematic Study and Historical Interpretations

Y312: Popular Culture and Witchcraze of the 16th and 17th centuries

Assessed through a 2 hour and 30 minute paper which is worth 40% of the total A Level.

Unit 4: Topic Based Essay

Y100: Topic based essay

A 3000-4000 word essay on a topic of your own choice (some restrictions apply). It is worth 20% of the total A Level. This is started towards the end of Year 12 and then completed and handed in during the Spring Term prior to the examinations.

All units are examined at the end of the two-year course.

Why study History?

It is an extremely interesting course enabling you to develop your knowledge on a wide range of topics. The skills developed in A Level History can be transferred to other subjects such as English Literature, Psychology and Sociology. History is an excellent subject to study for A Level to keep your options open when choosing a degree and is beneficial to a wide range of careers.



Can I do this course?

Mathematics is full of beauty and elegance. Mathematical patterns are everywhere from the seeds in a sunflower to the spots on a dog. In Advanced Mathematics you will begin to learn the powerful techniques that allow you to model and understand a wide variety of natural and man-made processes. The Pure Mathematics strands will build on your GCSE work to develop the necessary foundation skills, and the Applied Mathematics strands look at a wide variety of applications. In addition to enjoying maths and wanting to do the subject, you will be expected to have achieved at least a grade 7 in your GCSE, at Higher Level.

What will I learn?

Pure maths will build on your work at GCSE and bring more depth to your understanding of algebra and trigonometry, as well as introducing the exciting new topic of calculus.

Mechanics looks at physical problems such as “Why does a spinning top sometimes flip over?” and “How can snooker players pot a ball off the cushion?” Complex problems are turned into simple ones with modelling techniques and all your pure maths has a chance to come to life.

Statistics is all about making sense of lots of numbers and drawing conclusions from surveys and experiments. You can improve your skill at card games by studying probability and then lie about your success rate with statistics.

MATHEMATICS

Who needs maths anyway?

With an A Level in mathematics, the world is your oyster. Degree courses in science, engineering and economics will require maths. Computing, architecture, geography, psychology, sociology and medicine will all use maths to a greater or lesser extent. Universities and employers see maths as a strong A Level to have, and of course, could studying anything else be this much fun?

Course Structure - OCR Mathematics A – H240

3 x 2 hour papers

Paper 1 – Pure Mathematics

Paper 2 – Pure Mathematics and Statistics

Paper 3 – Pure Mathematics and Mechanics



MATHEMATICS: FURTHER



Who is it for?

OCR's A Level in Further Mathematic is designed for students who wish to study beyond an A Level in Mathematics, and provides a solid foundation for progression into further study particularly in mathematics, engineering, computer science, the sciences and economics. If you wish to study Further Mathematics then you will have achieved at least grade 7, preferably grade 8 or 9 at GCSE Mathematics.

What will I learn?

The subject content consists of a mandatory Pure Core and four optional areas: Statistics, Mechanics, Discrete Mathematics and Additional Pure Mathematics.

In **Pure Core** learners will extend and deepen their knowledge of proof, algebra, functions, calculus, vectors and differential equations studied in A Level Mathematics. They will also broaden their knowledge into other areas of pure mathematics that underpin the further study of mathematics and other numerate subjects with complex numbers, matrices, polar coordinates and hyperbolic functions.

In **Statistics** learners will explore the theory which underlies the statistics content in A Level Mathematics, as well as extending their tool box of statistical concepts and techniques.

In **Mechanics** learners extend their knowledge of particles, kinematics and forces from A Level Mathematics, using their extended pure mathematical knowledge to explore more complex physical systems.

Discrete Mathematics is the part of mathematics dedicated to the study of discrete objects. Learners will study both pure mathematical structures and techniques and their application to solving real-world problems of existence, construction, enumeration and optimisation.

In **Additional Pure Mathematics** learners will broaden and deepen their knowledge of pure mathematics, studying both discrete and continuous topics which form the foundation of undergraduate study in mathematics and mathematical disciplines.

Course Structure - OCR Mathematics

4 x 1.5 hour papers

Compulsory units are Pure Core 1 and Pure Core 2.

Then two units chosen from Statistics, Mechanics, Discrete Mathematics and Additional Mathematics.



Why choose A Level Music?

Music is constantly evolving, inspiring creativity and expression in a way that no other subject can. It is very much a relevant and contemporary A Level qualification that offers pupils the chance to study a wide range of musical genres, with opportunities for practical learning.

A Level Music brings theory, listening and composition to life in new and engaging ways, and links to the world around us like never before.

The subject content is divided into three components:

Understanding music - Performing music - Composing music

1. Understanding music

There are seven areas of study:

1. Western classical tradition 1650–1910 (compulsory)
2. Pop music
3. Music for media
4. Music for theatre
5. Jazz
6. Contemporary traditional music
7. Art music since 1910.

MUSIC

Students must study Area of study 1 and choose two from Areas of study 2–7.

How it's assessed: Exam paper with listening exercises, written questions and an essay.

The exam is 2 hours and 30 minutes. This component is worth 40 % of the course.

2. Performing music

How it's assessed: As an instrumentalist and/ or vocalist and/or via technology.

A minimum of ten minutes of performance in total is required. This component is 35% of the course.

3. Composing music

How it's assessed: Composition 1: Composition to a brief - Composition 2: Free composition

A minimum of four and a half minutes of music in total is required. This component is 25% of the course.



PHYSICS

Physicists explore the fundamental nature of almost everything we know of. They probe the furthest reaches of the earth to study the smallest pieces of matter. Join them to enter a world deep beneath the surface of normal human experience.

Possible career options

Studying an A Level Physics related degree at university gives you all sorts of exciting career options, including:

- Geophysicist/field seismologist
- Healthcare scientist, medical physics
- Higher education lecturer
- Radiation protection practitioner
- Research scientist (physical sciences)
- Scientific laboratory technician
- Secondary school teacher
- Meteorologist
- Structural engineer
- Acoustic engineer
- Product/process development scientist
- Actuary
- Systems developer
- Technical author.

Practicals

Physics, like all sciences, is a practical subject. Throughout the course you will carry out 12 assessed practical activities including: investigating interference and diffraction of laser light

- measuring acceleration due to gravity
- investigating systems that oscillate
- investigation of the links between temperature, volume and pressure
- safe use of ionising radiation
- investigating magnetic fields

Entry Requirements

A Level Physics builds on the work done in GCSE Physics and Maths, so you'll need a minimum of grade 6 in from both. Written communication is also important and you'll need to be a strong writer.



You can also move into engineering, astrophysics, chemical physics, nanotechnology, renewable energy and more, the opportunities are endless.

Topics Covered

A Level Physics lasts two years, with exams at the end of the second year. The table below shows the topics covered in each year.

AS and first year of A Level

- Measurements and their errors
- Particles and radiation
- Waves
- Mechanics and energy
- Electricity

Second year of A Level

- Further mechanics
- Thermal physics
- Fields
- Nuclear physics
- Plus one option from the following;
 - Astrophysics
 - Medical physics
 - Engineering physics
 - Turning points in physics
 - Electronics



Ever wondered...

- ...if prison does really change criminal behaviour ?
- ...why some people conform?
- ...if the experiences you had before the age of five really do shape the person you are today?
- ...why some people suffer from stress or mental health?

Psychology represents our efforts to understand the thinking and behaviour of human beings. A Level Psychology provides an introduction to this complex and diverse field of enquiry across a range of areas. The course develops students' ability to understand, apply, and criticise scientific research within a range of cultures and populations. Furthermore, it will develop a critical awareness of the strengths and limitations of different methods of scientific investigation, as well as how findings are interpreted and presented within this ever-progressing field.

In Year 1, we cover the following topics:

Paper 1 – 2 hr exam

Social influence – Conformity, Obedience, Resistance to Social Influence, Minority Influence and Social Change.

Memory – Memory Models, Forgetting, Eyewitness Testimony.

Attachment – Childhood Attachments, Animal studies, Effects of Institutionalisation and Deprivation.

Psychopathology – Definitions of Abnormality and Introduction to Mental Illnesses (Depression, Phobias and OCD).

PSYCHOLOGY

Paper 2 – 2 hr exam

Approaches – Learning approach, Cognitive approach, Biological approach, Psychodynamic approach and Humanistic Psychology.

Research Methods - Experimental Design, Sampling, Descriptive Statistics, Correlations and Self-reporting Techniques

Biopsychology – Nervous and Endocrine System, Localisation of Brain Function, Ways of Studying the Brain and Biological Rhythms. This topic is completed in Year 2.

Paper 3 – 2 hr exam

Issues and Debates

Gender – Biological, Cognitive, Psychodynamic and the Learning theory approach to Gender identity, and Atypical Gender Identity.

Schizophrenia – Classification of Schizophrenia, the Biological and Psychosocial explanations of Schizophrenia, Drug Therapy and Cognitive Behavioural Therapy.

Forensic Psychology – Defining Crime, Offender Profiles, Dealing with Offending Behaviour and the Biological and Psychosocial explanations of Offending Behaviour.

SPANISH



What do I need to know, or be able to do, before taking this course?

This is an advanced level course in Spanish, so you will be expected to have already undertaken some study of the language you have chosen. Most students who take this course will have a GCSE or an equivalent qualification. You will be interested in different cultures and keen to use a different language to understand and to communicate your own ideas and opinions to others on different topics and issues. You will enjoy reading, speaking, writing and listening.

What will I learn?

During this course you will develop your linguistic skills alongside your understanding of the culture and society of the countries where Spanish is spoken.

You will study:

- technological and social change, looking at the multicultural nature of Hispanic society.
- highlights of Hispanic artistic culture, including a focus on Spanish regional identity and the cultural heritage of past civilisations.
- aspects of the diverse political landscape of the Hispanic world.
- the influence of the past on present-day Hispanic communities.

Throughout your studies, you learn the language in the context of Hispanic countries and issues and influences which have shaped them. You will study texts and film and will have the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of your choice.

Assessment tasks will be varied and cover listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.

Course structure and assessment:

The AQA A Level in Spanish comprises three units, which test you in the four skills at the end of the second year.

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing (50% of A Level, 2 hours 30 mins)- listening and responding to spoken passages from a range of contexts and sources covering different registers and adapted as necessary. Material will include complex factual and abstract content and questions will target main points, gist and detail. Studio recordings will be used and students will have individual control of the recording.

Paper 2: Writing (20% of A Level, 2 hours) -essays on one text and one film or two texts from the list set in the specification

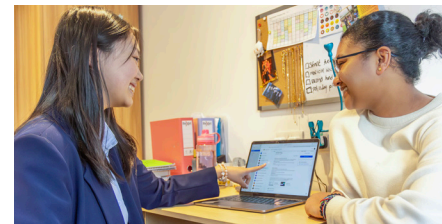
Paper 3: Speaking (30% of A Level, 21-23 mins) - presentation and discussion of your individual research project, discussion of a sub-theme with the discussion based on a stimulus card.

What can I do after I have completed the course?

With an A level in Spanish you can apply to university to study the language, study this language and take up a second language ab initio at university, combine a language with another subject (e.g. business) at university, communicate with people from other countries, work abroad, work for a company with international links, improve your UCAS application for any subject, have more fun on foreign holidays!



COMMUNAL AREAS



ALTERNATIVE SUBJECTS



Questions matter

What is the award?

The Extended Project Qualification is a wonderful opportunity for students, they can develop a focused research project based on a passionate interest of their own choosing, or a deeper investigation into an aspect of one of their A Level subjects.

The project is assessed at AS Level and carries half the UCAS points for a full A Level.

What does the award involve?

It might be a long written research project of 5000 words or an artefact, which could be a performance, a film or a piece of art that has been informed by research, detailed in 1500 words. Each project is unique. Students keep a logbook of the process and make a presentation to a non-specialist audience upon completion of their project.

Working within a small group, you will meet your teacher for 2 hours a week to develop relevant skills, receive guidance and discuss your progress. However, this is a piece of independent research, so you will also need to do extended work on your own. You are required to:

- choose a topic to study, and draft a title
- complete a production log to document the project process
- plan, research and carry out the project
- prepare and deliver a presentation on the outcome

EPO

Examples of Projects

- Global Warming – Is the threat real?
- All in the mind? – An exploration of the perceptions of mental health & learning disability disorders
- Cystic Fibrosis – Is gene therapy the answer?
- Is it possible to create a piece of Verbatim Theatre, articulating the experiences of offenders with mental health problems?
- Maths and its everyday uses
- Somali piracy and the west's response

What are the entry requirements?

The EPQ Award is open to Level 3 students who are able to learn independently, ideally have good time-management skills and are motivated to stretch and extend themselves.



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