



# BRIDGNORTH SIXTH FORM

The only Bridgnorth Sixth Form provider



Prospectus 2023



# Welcome

## to Bridgnorth Sixth Form

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# Welcome to Bridgnorth Sixth Form



Welcome to Bridgnorth Sixth Form. We are a thriving community built on firm foundations for the success of our students; their learning and progress are at the heart of all we do.

## **Broad Curriculum Offer**

At Bridgnorth Sixth Form we offer a broad curriculum; students can choose to study A Levels, or a combination of A Levels and BTECs or Cambridge Technicals. We offer all the Humanities and Science 'facilitating' A Levels, Creative Arts courses plus Sports, Health Care and Social Sciences.

## **Individual Approach**

We take an individual approach and meet the needs of each student by ensuring they are correctly placed on courses to maximise their successes. This individual approach ensures that all students are well supported and able to successfully navigate through their studies and have clear plans regarding the next steps in their personal and academic development.

We make sure we get to know our students well, whether they come from our main school or another secondary school. This means that we offer the right support and can give detailed feedback to support progress. All students are allocated a tutor who is their first point of contact and provides a wealth of experience to offer the right type of advice and guidance.

Tutors will recognise an individual's strengths and ensure these are developed further, while identifying any area of focus to safeguard good progress. This personal approach is acknowledged by all our students as a significant part of why our sixth form meets their needs.

We have good class sizes which means that throughout our curriculum we can deliver the very best provision and that all students get to develop good working relationships with their peers. We recognise that throughout a student's sixth form experience, social interaction with others plays an important part in their success.

### **After Sixth Form**

We support students of all abilities within Bridgnorth Sixth Form – some students go on to study at Oxbridge and Russell Group universities, whilst others successfully take up places on Level 4 apprenticeships. The vast majority of our students gain places at their first choice university as a result of the great working relationships between students and staff which help to safeguard success.

We are very successful as a sixth form; hence individuals are also very successful. In 2021, over 80% of our students successfully gained a place at their first choice university. In 2020 and 2021, our students achieved a significantly positive 'Value Added' score.

We are delighted to invite you to find out more about how we can support the next steps of your educational journey.

#### **Lee Tristham**

Headteacher  
Oldbury Wells School

#### **Tom Williams**

Director  
Bridgnorth Sixth Form



# Dear Students and Parents

As Head of Bridgnorth Sixth Form, I would like to warmly welcome you to our vibrant, friendly community. We strive to create a lively, stimulating learning environment where students feel both supported pastorally, and challenged academically.

We have a strong, experienced team of teachers and support staff guiding our students in Sixth Form. If you decide to study here, you will have a Sixth Form tutor who will perform an important role in your Induction Programme. They will see you daily and will be your first point of contact should you need any help settling in. Both myself and Mrs Fyfe, our Student Support Worker, are available throughout the day to offer individualised support and guidance.

We are a diverse and welcoming community who look to cater to young people from a range of backgrounds and academic abilities. We can offer access to the post 16-19 Bursary Funding and look to provide students with financial support for things like trips, revision materials and transport where they qualify.

We want Sixth Form to be an enjoyable, social experience for you and support the success of the Sixth Form committee in organising social and charity events. We also run reward trips at Christmas and a residential London trip in the Summer Term. Our students organise charity events and get involved with school fundraising; last year included Macmillan Coffee mornings, Odd Socks Day and Children in Need.

We offer post-18 support through our CORE programme where we will offer you an insight into the opportunities that your Sixth Form qualifications will create. We will provide you, through guest speakers and activities, with information on university courses, apprenticeships, and careers as well as developing your employability skills and knowledge on PSHE related issues. Annually, we visit the UCAS Higher Education Fair, hold parents' evenings and organise visits to Post 18 information events.

Many of our students leave us to go on to university, some to the most prestigious institutions and some to highly competitive courses. Some students go on to secure higher level apprenticeships or take up employment opportunities. What is important to us, is that our students are equipped to make informed decisions about their own future and make choices that allow them to reach their potential and fulfil their career goals.

I truly hope you find that Bridgnorth Sixth Form has something to offer you, and I look forward to meeting you in person sometime in the near future.

**April Bishell**  
Head of Bridgnorth Sixth Form





**IN 2020 & 2021  
OUR STUDENTS  
ACHIEVED A  
SIGNIFICANTLY  
POSITIVE “VALUE  
ADDED” SCORE.**

# What our students study

We require students to study three subjects. This can either be three A Levels, or a mixture of A Levels and 'vocational' courses. We also offer the Extended Project Qualification, as an addition to your three chosen courses, which is the equivalent of an AS level. We also support students who need to resit their English or Maths GCSE.

## A Levels

If you want to apply to university, your choice of subjects are important in deciding the university courses you can apply for.

Most universities expect students to study three A Levels or Level 3 equivalent courses. UCAS guidance in subject requirements will assist you in making an informed choice about your A Level subjects, in alignment with the course you may wish to study at university.

The most important factor, however, is ensuring all students study courses that match their ability and interests.

At Bridgnorth Sixth Form for 2023 we are offering:

- Art & Design
- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Drama & Theatre
- English Literature
- French
- Geography
- History
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Product Design
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Spanish

In addition, some students may opt to study the AQA Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), and some of our most able Mathematics students take the Further Mathematics qualification.

## BTEC/Cambridge Technical Qualifications

We offer a mixture of BTEC Qualifications and Cambridge Technical Awards. All vocational courses have an external examination worth up to 50% of the overall grade awarded - this can vary slightly between the courses. At Bridgnorth Sixth Form for 2023, we will offer the latest of the reformed BTECs, which are recognised by universities.

At Bridgnorth Sixth Form for 2023 we are offering:

- BTEC Diploma in Health & Social Care
- BTEC National Extended Certificate in Health and Social Care.
- Cambridge Technical Level 3 Extended Certificate in Sport and Physical Activity
- Cambridge Technical Level 3 Extended Certificate in ICT.

These are all robust qualifications, suited to different students' learning styles.

## Level 2 Course English GCSE and Mathematics GCSE

We support students who need to improve their GCSE grades in either English or Mathematics. You will have the opportunity to retake GCSE English and / or Mathematics. Revision lessons are timetabled, and you are expected to attend these.

As with any Post 16 establishment, we may have to adjust courses depending on interest on an annual basis. Of course, you are kept very closely informed on an individual basis should we need to make any adjustments to our offer.

**Some advice:** If you are thinking about taking a vocational course, there are important points to consider when it comes to university applications. Some universities will not accept vocational qualifications as part of their entry requirements. Always check using university websites or UCAS before you apply.



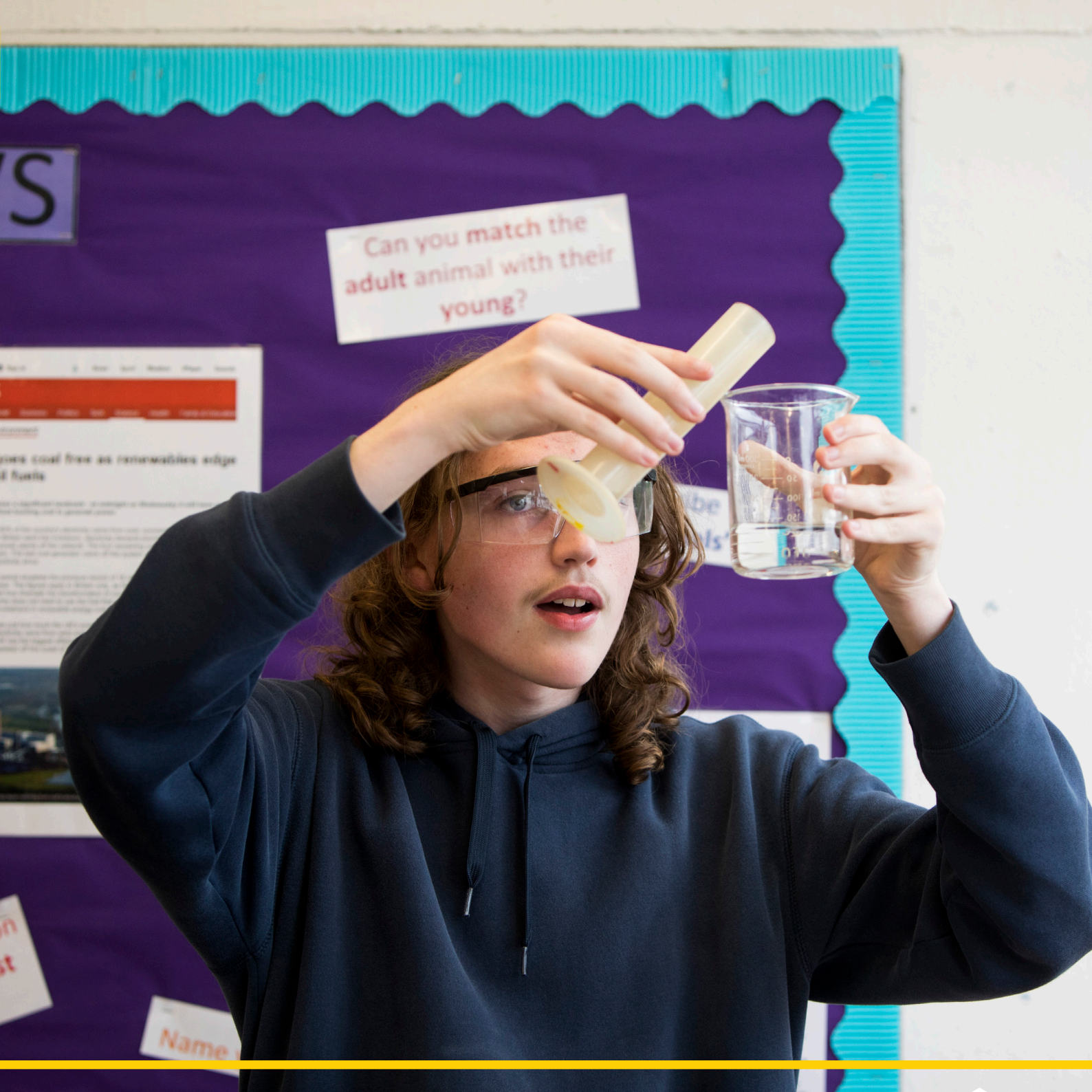
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Can you match the adult animal with their young?

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Name



# Making the right decisions...

## So which qualifications and courses would suit you?

We have put together some guidance to help students find the most appropriate programme for their strengths, abilities, interests and of course their aspirations. Remember, at Bridgnorth Sixth Form we provide you with: an offer that is increasingly personalised to students' interests and needs with success in mind; an inclusive curriculum; strong guidance and support that gives students the best chances of success; a comprehensive and exciting range of enrichment activities; and high aspirations where we have expectations of the highest standards of attainment.

## Study Programmes

All post-16 students nationally have to have their own Study Programme. The students at Bridgnorth Sixth Form follow study programmes consisting of A Levels or other substantial Level-3 qualifications. Some also include English or Mathematics at Level 2. All Study Programmes have elements of Tutor Time, Private Study and Work Experience.

## A Level Study Programme

This could comprise some of the most challenging A Levels including all of the subjects classed as facilitating subjects by the Russell Group universities. It includes: Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, History, Geography and English Literature. It could also comprise a mix of these A Levels together with other popular A Levels such as Psychology, Product Design, Drama & Theatre, Sociology or Art & Design.

Many leading universities like you to have taken three of the subjects from the list. It is therefore important that you look at individual university department admission policies, which are published on their department websites.

As a student studying any of these subjects you would probably be looking to progress onto a Higher Education Degree course. You should have the confidence to apply to a leading or Russell Group university. You will need to conduct some thorough research to ensure you make the right subject choices for your chosen university. A good place to start is the website: [www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk](http://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk).

The Russell Group represents 24 of the leading universities which are committed to maintaining the very best research and outstanding teaching and learning for students. There are also several other universities such as Leicester, Lancaster and Loughborough that appear in the Top 20 of the university rankings.

A good place to start some research is to read a booklet published by the Russell Group called 'Informed Choices' ([www.russellgroup.org/informedchoices-latest.pdf](http://www.russellgroup.org/informedchoices-latest.pdf)), or Cambridge University's 'The Subject

Matters' ([www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/events/subjectmatters](http://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/events/subjectmatters)).

### Prior Attainment

- A minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grades 9-5 including English and Mathematics

### Learning Style

- Strong writing and listening skills. You will need to be able to work independently.
- You will also need to be capable of completing research and you need to enjoy reading.
- There will be an expectation for you to broaden your own knowledge by 'reading around' your subjects.

### Expected Courses

- 3 Level 3 subjects

### Enrichment Opportunities

- Sport, Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Involvement with lower school, literacy and numeracy KS3 paired programme
- The Extended Project Qualification
- (You might do) Further Mathematics

### Our Subjects

Art & Design, Biology, Business, Chemistry, Computer Science, Drama & Theatre, English Literature, French, Geography, History, Mathematics, Physics, Product Design, Psychology, Sociology, Spanish, Further Mathematics, EPQ.

## BTEC/Cambridge Technical Study Programme

The BTECs and Cambridge Technical qualifications in this programme are offered as single or double awards. By following subjects like these it would be possible to resit your English and/or Mathematics. However, it is much better if you can get these the first time round. You would need to attend resit lessons in these subjects if you do not have the Level 4.

This Study Programme is suitable for a student who wishes to go to a university, into a higher-level apprenticeship or employment.

### Prior Attainment

- 5 GCSEs or equivalent at Levels 9-4 including one in either English and/or Mathematics, or L2 BTEC Merit/Distinction.

### Learning Style

- Good concentration, numeracy, writing and listening skills.
- Work well in a classroom setting but like to have experience outside of the classroom too.
- Motivated and able to work independently but also enjoy working as part of a team. Capable of completing research and 'reading around' topics.

### Expected Courses

- A mixture of BTEC/Cambridge National courses or BTEC/Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate courses only.

### Enrichment Opportunities

- Sport, Duke of Edinburgh Award, involvement with lower school, community projects, creative arts projects, etc.

### Our Subjects

- Health and Social Care, ICT, Sport & Physical Activity.

It is important to consider your strengths when selecting courses for these pathways. If you perform better in coursework, a vocational route may be more suited to your style of learning and allow you to achieve higher outcomes.

## A Levels, BTECs, Cambridge Technicals Combined Study Programme

Many of our students study a mixed programme. This involves a combination of A Levels and/or other Level 3 qualifications, such as BTECs and Cambridge Technicals. The A Levels such as Product Design and Sociology, for example, are found to be more accessible for students who have achieved mainly Grade 5's at GCSE. The BTECs and Cambridge Technical qualifications in this programme are offered as single awards and some as double awards. Single awards are the Extended Certificate, the double awards are the National Diplomas.

This Study Programme is suitable for a student who wishes to go to a university, into a higher-level Apprenticeship or employment.

### Prior Attainment

- 5 GCSEs or equivalent at Levels 9-4 including one in either English and/or Mathematics (most being Level 5 and above)

### Learning Style

- Good concentration, numeracy, writing and listening skills.
- Works well in a classroom setting but likes to have experience outside of the classroom too.
- Motivated and able to work independently but also enjoys working as part of a team. Capable of completing research and 'reading around' their topics.

### Expected Courses

- 3 A Levels or a mixture of A Level and BTEC/OCR National courses.
- You could possibly do Further Maths at Level 3, depending on your choice of subjects.
- You could do the Extended Project Qualification.

### Enrichment Opportunities

Sports, Duke of Edinburgh Award, involvement in lower school, and creative arts projects.



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TRIP ONLY INTO THE SKYLINE FOR THE GLOBE

GLOBAL WINGS  
2021-2022



## Activities and Trips

Most subject areas arrange for enrichment activities and trips for students. Past examples have included a residential cultural trip to a World War One battlefield in Belgium, a visit to London, a skiing trip to the Italian Alps, a trip to Alton Towers, The Clothes Show Live, a Biology residential, and several visits to local universities, the annual UCAS Conference, and Careers Fairs. We are also licensed to run the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme at Bronze, Silver and Gold level, which many of our students have undertaken. This list is not exhaustive!

We also offer sports and games through regular timetabled slots and offer extra-curricular opportunities, which include tag rugby, dodgeball tournaments and various other sporting activities.

Last year, students painted a banner for the project Thiers, Ville Haute en Couleurs.

## Student Organised Events

Students organise social events for themselves. In the past, this has included St. Patrick's Day celebrations, a Christmas Ball and an end of year party. Last year, students organised a fancy dress day to mark the end of their sixth form journey.

We have a student committee which organises events and charity fundraising activities. They are also the advocates and spokespeople for Sixth Form issues.

## Work Experience

We encourage all Year 12 students to undertake a week of work experience. Placements are often linked to Level 3 studies and/or future career plans.

For example, students studying the Sciences may organise placements within a university laboratory setting, whilst students considering Sport can get experience in local health and fitness sports clubs. Students have also benefitted from

placements at the outdoor centre at Arthog in Wales, and nearer to home, local businesses are always very supportive.

## Charity Work and Volunteering

Charity work is an important part of our Sixth Form community, and we are proud of our fundraising record.

Each year, Sixth Form students select charities to support. Various activities take place throughout the year, including concerts, sponsored walks, non-uniform days and many other events! These activities provide both a challenge and an enjoyable experience for all involved.

They also take part in whole school charity events such as Children in Need, Odd Socks Day, and Food Bank collections.

Volunteering includes supporting the lower school as a reading or numeracy mentor. Students can also arrange some community work experience: i.e. volunteering at a local Primary School, in care homes or in charity shops.

This year, our students organised Macmillan Coffee mornings and raised over £150, as well as recently taking part in the 'Up the Steps' walk with Bridgnorth Rotary Club, raising over £100 for Teenage Cancer Trust.

# Facilities



Situated in historic Bridgnorth

Our centre is staffed with a dedicated Sixth Form support worker, Mrs Fyfe, who is on hand throughout the day to offer you help, guidance and support with managing your studies. This is particularly useful when completing UCAS and job applications. We have a variety of post-18 information and printed material, to support you throughout your next steps.

Within our 1950s Grade II listed building, we have a wealth of modern teaching facilities. We are well-equipped to support your Sixth Form studies, with a Sixth Form Centre with wireless laptop access.

Our Sixth Form students enjoy their own catering facilities where they can purchase hot food, and kitchen facilities. The town centre is a 10 minute walk away, and hosts a variety of cafes, restaurants and shops. We also have ample parking space for when students pass their driving test!



Large sports fields



State-of-the-art Sports Hall

Bridgnorth Sixth Form benefits from a large open green campus with multiple football, cricket and rugby pitches plus tennis courts. There is also a small fitness room, along with two halls, and a state-of-the-art Sports Hall. We have Science labs, a drama studio, a music recording studio, a dedicated Sixth Form art studio, product design workshop, and IT suites equipped with the latest software.



Science Labs

# Where are we?

Bridgnorth Sixth Form is part of Oldbury Wells Secondary School. We are located in historic Bridgnorth, South Shropshire.

We are the only Bridgnorth Sixth Form provider, with easy access from the surrounding areas: Alveley, Claverley, Cleobury Mortimer, Ditton Priors, Highley, Morville, Perton, Pattingham, and Worfield to name a few.

There are regular bus routes from the Wolverhampton area and we can provide minibus transport from areas around Ditton Priors and Cleobury Mortimer. We are a secure large site with ample parking for Sixth Form students.

To discuss transport, please phone Sixth Form on 01746 760505.







**“Teaching in Sixth Form is highly effective in ensuring students make good progress. Teachers question students thoroughly to ensure they understand topics in depth”.  
- Ofsted 2013**



## A LEVEL

Art & Design	22
Biology	23
Business	24
Chemistry	25
Computer Science	26
Drama and Theatre	27
English Literature	28
French	30
Geography	31
History	32
Mathematics	33
Physics	34
Product Design	35
Psychology	36
Sociology	37
Spanish	39

## ALSO

Further Mathematics	40
Extended Project Qualification	41

## BTEC

44	BTEC National Extended Certificate in Health & Social Care
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## CAMBRIDGE TECHNICALS

48	OCR Cambridge Technical Introductory Diploma in Information Technology
49	OCR Cambridge Technical Award in Sports & Physical Activity



# A Levels

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Advanced Level Qualification

## What are A Levels?

GCE A-Levels are Level 3 courses. A Levels can be taken in a wide range of traditional academic subject areas such as Mathematics, Chemistry, Geography and History, as well as some that are more focused on creative subjects such as Art & Design, Product Design and Drama.

All A Levels are predominantly examination based with linear assessments at the end of Year 13. Some of these subjects also contain an independent piece of work set by the examination board called an NEA (Non-Examination Assessment); this is usually teacher assessed, exam board moderated, and will make up a smaller percentage of the final grade for the student.



***“The Sixth Form is good. Students make good progress as a result of teaching that is sharply focused on individual needs and effectively develops independent learning skills.” - OFSTED 2013***

# Art & Design

## Why study Art & Design?

Study A Level Art & Design to develop creative thinking, experiment with media, explore your imagination and express yourself. Students are instructed on higher level practical, contextual and technical skills. They then develop their own personal projects linked to a theme. The course covers different areas of Art & Design so students can specialise in Fine Art or Art & Design.

## What skills are required?

- Students need to have a good understanding of Art & Design techniques, media and processes, hence the grade 6 requirement at GCSE.
- They need to be able to study independently and develop their own creative ideas.
- Students will be expected to carry out background reading for the artist personal study and a range of primary research methods for imagery and contextual studies. This supports and strengthens their understanding of material covered in the specification.

## Course Content

### Year 12:

Students study a foundation course where they are initially introduced to A Level techniques, processes, contextual studies and experimental work. They then respond to a variety of themes in a personal way, producing artist research, ideas and a final piece. They develop a mock practical exam piece to give them experience of responding to an A Level exam paper.

### Unit 1: Personal practical study

Students start the A Level major project in May.

### Year 13:

Students continue with their Unit 1 practical personal study. To accompany this they develop a written essay that supports their practical work. They have lessons to develop their writing and a support booklet with tasks to structure the essay. They produce a personal final piece, or pieces, in response to their theme.

### Unit 2: Externally set assignment

This is an exam paper with set starting points from which students develop their own ideas with inspiration from artists. They create a final design board with a full plan of their final idea. They then produce a final 15 hour practical piece, in exam conditions.

## QUALIFICATION

Advanced Level  
Exam Board: OCR

## REQUIREMENTS

GCSE grade 6 or above in Art and Design and/or D&T

## How will it be assessed?

### Unit 1: Personal Study

- Continually assessed
- Feedback and development targets set in support booklet.
- 60% of A Level

### Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment

- Externally set exam paper with creative starting points.
- Exam preparation lessons structured to meet assessment criteria.
- 15 hour practical exam
- 40% of A Level

## Progression

A Level Art & Design can lead onto a foundation course or direct entry onto Degree courses. In the past students have gained entry onto Degree courses in Fine Art, Graphics and Illustration, Fashion, Textiles, Jewellery Making, Film Studies, Art History, Photography and Primary School Teaching.

## Staff Contacts

emma.wycherley@oldburywells.com  
liz.bell@oldburywells.com

# Biology

## Why study Biology?

The aims of the course are to encourage you to develop a deeper understanding of different areas of Biology and how they relate to each other. It will also encourage you to develop your interest and enthusiasm for Biology to prepare you for further study and possible careers in many different fields. As with the other sciences, Biology helps you to build up research, problem solving, organisation and analytical skills. If you study Biology, you will likely find yourself working on group projects, which will help you build your teamwork and communication skills. You will also appreciate how society makes decisions about scientific issues and how the sciences contribute to the success of the economy.

## What skills are required?

Biology requires a wide range of skills which you will develop over the course. This includes the ability to plan practical work, carry out practical tasks according to precise instructions and evaluate secondary sources of data. However, in order to do well you must already have a good background in all GCSE sciences. There is no requirement to have done Triple Science. You need GCSE Grade 6 Maths, due to the level of mathematical difficulty. You must be able to work independently and be self-motivated.

## Course Content

### In the first year students will study:

- Biological molecules
- Cells
- How organisms exchange substances with their environment
- Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms

During the first year, there are six required practical experiments that must be taken in class, which will provide evidence towards a practical endorsement.

### In the second year students will build on Year 1 knowledge and study:

- Energy transfers in and between organisms
- How organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
- Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
- The control of gene expression

During the second year a further six required practical experiments must be undertaken to complete the practical endorsement.

### QUALIFICATION

Advanced Level  
Exam Board: AQA

### REQUIREMENTS

Either GCSE Biology Grade 6 or Combined Science 6–6 (from Trilogy) Also a Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics (High Grade 5 considered).

## How will it be assessed?

### Paper One - Topics 1-4 including relevant practical skills

- 1½ hours
- 91 marks
- 35% of A Level
- 

### Paper Two - Topics 5-8 including relevant practical skills

- 1½ hours
- 91 marks
- 35% of A Level

### Paper 3 - Any content from topics 1-8 including relevant practical skills, critical analysis & synoptic essay

- 1½ hours
- 78 marks
- 30% of A Level

## Progression

Biology is a facilitating A Level. Students who have taken an AQA A Level in Biology have gone on to study for degrees and careers in: Biology, Biochemistry, Environmental Science, Forensic Science, Journalism, Medicine, Midwifery, Nursing, Paramedic Science, Sports Science, Zoology, Neuroscience, Pharmacy.

### Staff Contacts

Alice.Waldron@oldburywells.com  
Daniel.Cox@oldburywells.com

## Why study Business?

The world of Business is fast-paced and dynamic. It helps shape the society we live in and impacts of people's lives in many ways.

Through the study of A-Level Business you will develop a critical understanding of organisations and their ability to meet society's needs and wants. You will investigate business behaviour and how it can be studied from a range of perspectives.

Through activities in lessons and the study of case study businesses you will be encouraged to generate enterprising and creative approaches to business opportunities, problems and issues. The world of Business does not happen in isolation from other factors. You will become aware of the ethical dilemmas and responsibilities faced by organisations and individuals.

## What skills are required?

Through the study of Business students will be encouraged to:

- Acquire a range of relevant business and generic skills, including decision making, problem solving, the challenging of assumptions and critical analysis
- Apply numerical skills in a range of business contexts.

## Course Content

Theme 1: Marketing and people

Theme 2: Managing business activities

Theme 3: Business decisions and strategy

Theme 4: Global business

**QUALIFICATION**  
Advanced Level  
Exam Board: Edexcel

**REQUIREMENTS**  
General Sixth Form entry requirements apply

## How will it be assessed?

External assessments in the summer series exam window of Year 13:

### Paper 1:

- Marketing, People and Global Businesses
- 35% of A Level
- 2-hour exam

### Paper 2:

- Business activities, decisions and strategy
- 35% of A Level
- 2-hour exam

### Paper 3:

- Investigating business in a competitive environment
- 30% of A Level
- 2-hour exam

## Progression

You will develop transferable skills that support higher education study and the transition to employment, including numeracy, communication, an understanding of the business environment and commercial awareness.

Students can progress from this qualification to higher education courses such as Business Management, Business Administration, Accountancy and Finance, Human Resource Management, Marketing, Retail Management, Tourism Management and International Business.

A wide range of careers ranging from Banking, Sales, Product Management and General Management to working in public sector organisations or charities.

## Staff Contacts

rachel.chapman2@oldburywells.com  
april.bishell@oldburywells.com



# Chemistry

## Why study Chemistry?

An A Level in Chemistry will provide you with a deeper understanding of the mechanisms of chemical reactions. You will develop knowledge in how substances interact and carry out detailed calculations to enable preparation of formulations for use in medical and industrial applications. You will become confident in a range of analytical and practical skills to prepare you fully for future scientific study or a variety of careers in many fields.

## What skills are required?

Students studying Chemistry should be logical thinkers with an interest in explaining how things work. You will be required to have, and be able to develop, good mathematical skills, hence the need for a good GCSE pass in Mathematics.

Students will be expected to carry out background reading and develop research skills to extract relevant information from a variety of sources.

You will be confident in practical work and become skilled in the use of a wide range of apparatus. Observation skills will be enhanced in order to add full explanations of results linked to relevant scientific theory.

## Course Content

### In the first year of the course students will study:

- Physical Chemistry, including advanced structure, bonding and kinetics
- Inorganic Chemistry, including patterns and trends (periodicity)
- Organic Chemistry, including nomenclature, isomerism and mechanisms

During the first year there are six required practical experiments that must be taken in class which will provide evidence towards the practical endorsement.

### In the second year students will build on Year 1 knowledge and study:

- Physical Chemistry, including Thermodynamics and Electrochemistry
- Inorganic Chemistry, including Period 3 Elements and Transition Metals
- Organic Chemistry, including Aromatic Chemistry and Organic Synthesis

During the second year a further six required practical experiments must be undertaken to complete the practical endorsement.

## QUALIFICATION

Advanced Level  
Exam Board: AQA

## REQUIREMENTS

Either GCSE Chemistry Grade 6 or Combined Science 6–6 (from Trilogy)  
Also a Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics (high Grade 5 considered).

## How will it be assessed?

### Paper One - Inorganic and Physical Chemistry topics

- 2 hours
- 105 marks
- 35% of A Level

### Paper Two - Organic and Physical Chemistry topics

- 2 hours
- 105 marks
- 35% of A Level

### Paper Three - Practical skills and all topics, plus multiple choice section

- 2 hours
- 90 marks
- 30% of A Level

## Progression

A Level Chemistry is a long established and well respected qualification. The course will provide opportunities to study Chemistry or related Chemical Sciences at university or enter careers in a wide range of scientific fields, including Medicine, Pharmacy, Pharmaceutical Research, Forensics, Chemical Engineering and Biochemistry. It also enables work in Food and Environmental Sciences.

## Staff Contacts

Alice.Waldron@oldburywells.com  
Daniel.Cox@oldburywells.com

# Computer Science

## Why study Computer Science?

Computer Science is at the forefront of the modern and changing world of computing. It is a theoretical and practical subject where students can apply the academic principles learned in class to real world systems. It is also a creative subject that combines invention and excitement and can look at the natural world through a digital prism. In addition, the course enables you to learn to program using programming languages that are sought after in industry.

## What skills are required?

Computer Science is an innovative subject and skills such as problem solving and being able to apply computational thinking to solve complex problems are advantageous. Computational thinking is an important part of A Level Computer Science as the course will require you to identify and break down problems, extract key information, and develop a workable solution which is then tested and evaluated. Students opting for this course will build upon, refine, and explore these skills further as they progress through the course.

## Course Content

The A Level Computer Science qualification splits learning into three units:

### 01 Computer Systems

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

### 02 Algorithms and Programming

- Elements of computational thinking
- Problem solving and programming
- Algorithms to solve problems and standard algorithms

### 03 Programming Project.

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

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

## QUALIFICATION

Advanced Level  
Exam Board: OCR

## REQUIREMENTS

A grade 6 in GCSE Computer Science and GCSE Mathematics or Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics

## How will it be assessed?

### 01 Computer Systems

- No calculator allowed
- 2 hour 30 minutes written paper exam
- 140 marks
- 40% of total A Level

### 02 Programming Techniques and Logical Methods

- No calculator allowed
- 2 hour 30 minutes written paper exam
- 140 marks
- 40% of total A Level

### 03 A Programming Project.

- Non-exam Assessment
- 20% of total A Level

## Progression

There are many opportunities to study Computer Science or related courses at University following an A Level in Computer Science. Examples include Artificial Intelligence, Software Engineering, Cyber Security, Computer Networks and Games Programming.

Following an A Level in Computer Science there are also opportunities to apply for an Apprenticeship in a related field such as Computer Networks and Cyber Security.

Seeking industry certification is another path to a career within the industry. An example of this is the Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA).

## Staff Contacts

Edward.Cherrington@oldburywells.com  
Rachel.Chapman2@oldburywells.com

## Why study Drama and Theatre?

Drama and Theatre Studies provides opportunities for students to express themselves, explore live performance and enhance analytical and contextual knowledge. You may have an interest in performance due to studying Drama at GCSE level, or have extra-curricular involvement in theatrical productions, and by taking the course you will expand your knowledge and explore performance further.

## What skills are required?

Whatever your previous experience, being an A Level Drama and Theatre Studies student will be thought provoking, challenging and exciting. Creative thinking is integral to success. You must be prepared to put in your own time, whether seeing theatre performances, carrying out research, learning lines, acquiring props or rehearsing for performance.

Much of your time will be spent working practically with others. A lot of enjoyment and achievement depends on your commitment to working as a member of a team. Regular attendance and punctuality is essential.

## Course Content

### Year 12:

- Study of a set text from List A
- Response to Live Theatre
- Practitioner Workshops
- Applying practitioner methods to scripted work

### Year 13:

- Study of a set text from List B
- Devising a performance and a working notebook
- Practical development of a scripted extract, including a reflective report
- Final exam and performances

### QUALIFICATION

Advanced Level  
Exam Board: AQA

### REQUIREMENTS

GCSE Drama  
Grade 5, if studied. English Grade 5.

## How will it be assessed?

### Component 1: Drama and Theatre

- 3 hours
- 80 marks
- 40% of A Level

### Component 2: Devising Drama

- Practical and Written
- 60 marks
- 30% of A Level
- 

### Component 3: Creating Original Drama

- Practical and Written
- 60 marks
- 30% of A Level

## Progression

Students who have continued with studying Theatre in Higher Education have gone on to gain a Theatre degree with honours. There is also the opportunity to pursue courses at drama schools, as well as developing work in Drama Therapy, Teaching and Journalism.

### Staff Contacts

catherine.morgan@oldburywells.com  
kurt.cook@oldburywells.com

# English Literature

## Why study English?

English Literature develops a range of skills. These include transferable skills, such as the ability to formulate an argument, using supporting evidence, writing a coherent and structured essay and promoting a point of view through verbal discussion. More than this, English Literature gives students access to a wealth of wonderful texts and encourages creative and critical thinking skills.

## What skills are required?

A love of reading is essential. Students will be required to read widely and independently to support their learning and their understanding of the core texts.

They should also be keen to contribute ideas during class discussion.

In addition, students should be able to write fluently and accurately, organising their ideas in a logical and sequenced way.

An open mind, with the ability to listen to and build on the ideas of others is also an asset.

## Course Content

### Unit 1: Tragedy

Students will study 3 tragedy texts. These are likely to include Othello (William Shakespeare); Death of a Salesman (Arthur Miller) and a range of poetry by John Keats.

### Unit 2: Crime Fiction

Students will probably study; Atonement; The Rime of the Ancient Mariner and The Murder of Roger Ackroyd

### Unit 3: Coursework

Two pieces in response to a critical anthology, which will introduce students to a range of critical and theoretical approaches, such as feminism, Marxism and eco-critical theory.

## QUALIFICATION

Advanced Level  
Exam Board: AQA

## REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 in either English Language or English Literature GCSE and at least a 4 in the other English subject.

## How will it be assessed?

### Unit 1 Aspects of Tragedy

- 2 ½ hour exam paper at the end of Y13
- 75 marks
- 40% of A Level

### Unit 2 Crime Fiction

- 3 hour exam paper at the end of Y13
- 75 marks
- 40% of A Level

### Unit 3 Coursework

- 2 x 1500 word essays on topics of the students' choice
- 50 marks
- 20% of A Level

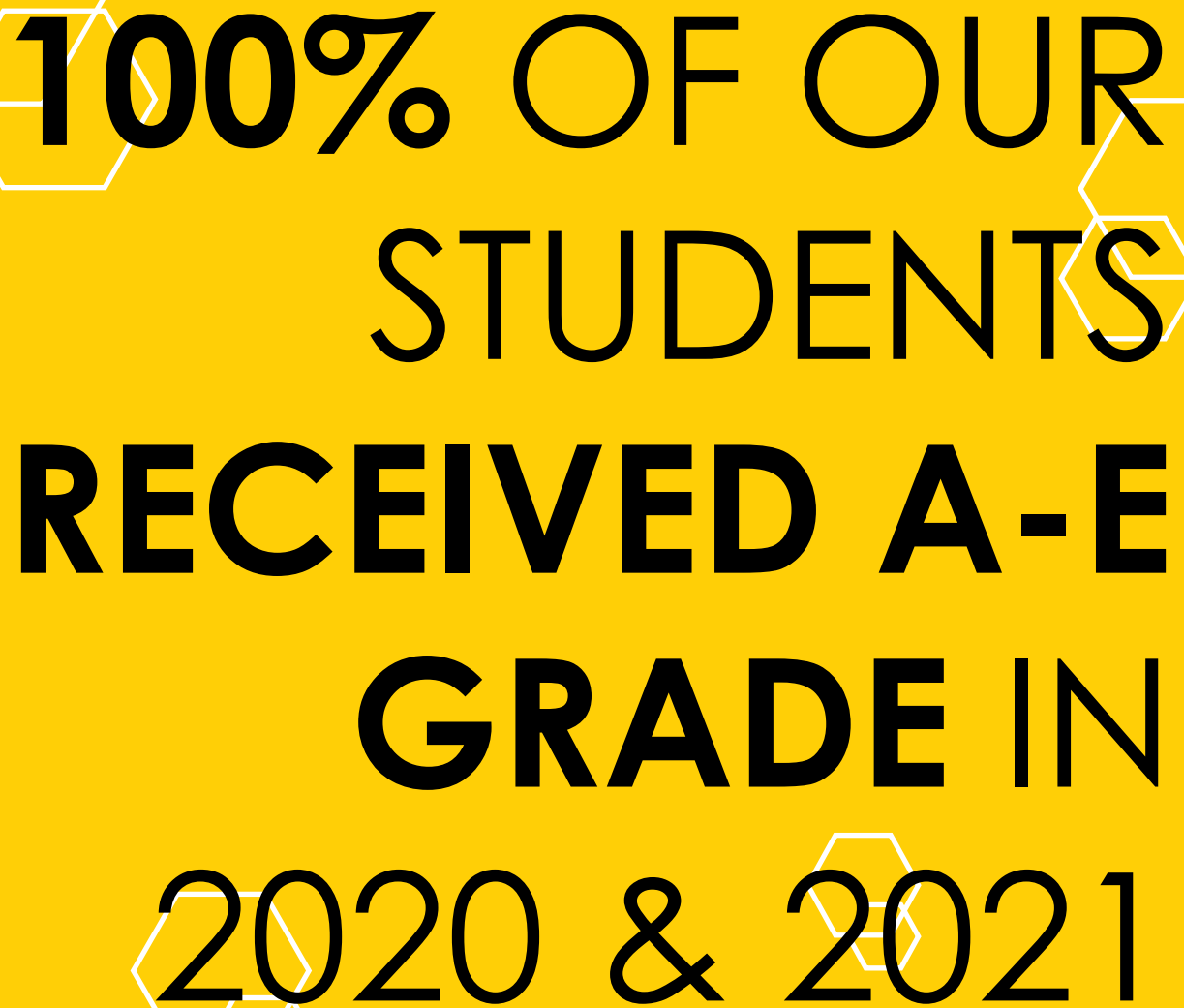
## Progression

Popular future career paths include Journalism, Law and Education, but the study of A Level English Literature opens many diverse avenues.

The subject is enormously well respected by universities and other Higher Education institutions.

## Staff Contact

sally.lawson@oldburywells.com



**100% OF OUR  
STUDENTS  
RECEIVED A-E  
GRADE IN  
2020 & 2021**

## Why study French?

Studying A-level French will provide students with an understanding of cultural, political, and social contexts of the French-speaking world. While exploring a rich literary, artistic and historic heritage, they will gain a greater level of fluency in the language in order to debate and articulate ideas in French.

## What skills are required?

Students need to have performed evenly across listening, reading, writing and speaking at GCSE. They need to have a wide range of vocabulary already present in order to build on it and access the resources.

Good linguists must be resilient and committed to work regularly at home on their vocabulary. They must show an interest in French or francophone culture and be open-minded.

## Course Content

### Year 12:

To start with, students study an intensive grammar programme linked to the thematic content of current trends in French society and artistic culture in the French speaking-world. They then develop all skills while studying the topics previously mentioned as well as a film in French, for which they will practise essay-writing. Before the summer, students will familiarise themselves with the study skills necessary for independent research and will write up an action plan setting targets and milestones for their research project.

### Year 13:

Students will study the current issues of French-speaking societies, as well as aspects of the francophone political life. They will also study a book in French and practise essay writing about the work chosen.

Independently, students will be expected to carry out their research project and prepare for their presentation and discussion about it.

## How will it be assessed?

### Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing

- 50% of A-level, 2 hours 30 minutes

Questions and translations about:

- Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends
- Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues
- Artistic culture in the French-speaking world
- Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world
- Grammar

### Paper 2: Writing

- 20% of A level, 2 hours

2x 300 words essay:

- 1 question on a text studied in class
- 1 question on a film studied in class

### Paper 3: Speaking

- 30% of A level, 23 minutes
- Discussion of a sub-theme based on a stimulus card (5-6 minutes).
- Presentation (2 minutes) and discussion of an individual research project (9-10 minutes).

## Progression

A Level French will give access to many dual degrees where studying French can be combined with History, Business, Politics, Literature and plenty of other options. It opens doors to many work opportunities abroad, University exchanges and prestigious institutions. French can be linked to many sectors of employment, from diplomatic services to law and business. If you would like further information, please do speak to a member of the MFL department.

# Geography

## Why study Geography?

The Geography department have a shared aim to develop students to think independently and be able to justify their ideas and opinions; skills that are valued by future employers. Students will hone these skills through:

- Studying contemporary issues
- Studying in a well-resourced department
- Learning through a variety of teaching styles
- The opportunity for fieldwork

## What skills are required?

Students studying Geography are required to be inquisitive about the world around them, possessing the ability to ask geographical questions and a desire to investigate real world issues to find the answers.

A Level Geography demands the ability to process large amounts of information, analyse, form conclusions, and evaluate the reliability of the information. Good written communication skills will be valuable and a good grasp of the skills developed in GCSE Maths are also vital. The ability to work independently is extremely important.

## Course Content

The course contains a variety of human and physical geography themes. These are:

### Dynamic Landscapes

- Tectonic Processes and Hazards
- Coastal Landscape Processes, Systems and Change.

### Places

- Globalisation
- Shaping Places

### Physical Systems and Sustainability

- Water Cycle and Water Insecurity
- Carbon Cycle and Energy Insecurity
- Climate Change Futures

### Human Systems and Geopolitics

- Superpowers
- Global Development – Migration, Identity and Sovereignty

**QUALIFICATION**  
Advanced Level  
Exam Board: Edexcel

**REQUIREMENTS**  
Minimum entry requirements: GCSE Geography Grade 5+ and GCSE Maths & English Grade 4+

## How will it be assessed?

### Paper 1 - Physical Geography

- 2:15 Hours
- 30% of A Level

### Paper 2 - Human Geography

- 2:15 Hours
- 30% of A Level

### Paper 3 - Geographical Issues

- 2:15 Hours
- 20% of A Level
- Based on a booklet

### Unit 4 - NEA

- Student independent fieldwork and research project – Internally Assessed/Externally Moderated
- 20% of A Level

## Progression

There are lots of possible options! Geography students and graduates are some of the most employable in the job market. Geography is considered a facilitating A Level and is looked upon favourably by universities and employers alike because of the excellent range of skills it helps develop in students.

### Staff Contacts

tom.williams3@oldburywells.com  
sam.farrington@oldburywells.com

## Why study History?

If you enjoy the study of the past both for its own sake and also the light it throws on the present, then an A Level in History is for you. The skills most developed by History are those of critical analysis and the ability to express ideas, knowledge and interpretations clearly. History also provides students with a good grounding in transferable research skills.

As a well-respected academic discipline, History is considered an excellent A Level subject for entry to almost all degree courses. The History course will furthermore provide those applying for predominantly scientific courses with academic breadth. History is one of the facilitating A Levels.

The study of History is a study of us as an international and global society. We study History to try to see things as other people saw them and interpret things in our own way.

## What skills are required?

Students who study History are enthusiastic independent learners who enjoy the challenge of investigating key themes, individuals, and events, from the past. Students will be required to read widely to build a thorough understanding of different interpretations of History. The ability to research independently is an essential skill required for the coursework component.

Students will also gain experience of evaluating contemporary sources and analysing historical interpretations. A willingness to participate in class discussion and debate is beneficial. Clear communication of understanding through essays and extended writing tasks will also be required.

## Course Content

### Unit Group 1: British period study and enquiry:

The Later Tudors, together with a focus on the Mid-Tudor crises.

### Unit Group 2: Non-British period study:

The Cold War in Europe 1945-1991

### Unit Group 3: Thematic study and historical interpretations:

Civil Rights in the USA 1865-1992

### Coursework:

Internally assessed independent study chosen by the student and externally moderated by OCR.

### QUALIFICATION

Advanced Level  
Exam Board: OCR

### REQUIREMENTS

GCSE History grade 5, English grade 5

## How will it be assessed?

### Paper 1 - The Later Tudors and the Mid-Tudor crises

- 1 hour 30 minutes
- 25% of A Level

### Paper 2 - The Cold War in Europe 1945-1991

- 1 hour paper
- 15% of A level

### Paper 3 - Civil Rights in the USA 1865-1992

- 2 hours 30 minutes
- 40% of total A Level.

### Independent Study

- 20% of total A level.

## Progression

Many employers regard A Level History as an excellent training in communication and in decision-making.

In the fields of Management, Law, Administration, Accountancy, Journalism and Marketing, this is a highly valued asset. It is certainly an ideal grounding for Law, involving, as both do, the deployment of argument based evidence.

### Staff Contacts

ben.grainger@oldburywells.com  
katharine.warner@oldburywells.com



# Mathematics

## Why study Mathematics?

Mathematics is a versatile subject, respected by employers and universities. Mathematics students become better at thinking logically and analytically, and through problem solving develop resilience and are able to think creatively and strategically. Mathematics is a requirement for most Science and Engineering degree courses and the skills you learn in Mathematics are of great benefit in a range of other subjects such as Sciences, Computing and Business Studies.

## What skills are required?

A Level Mathematics requires students not only to extend their range of Mathematical skills and techniques, but also to be able to develop a greater understanding of how different fields of Mathematics are connected, to be able to apply Mathematics to other areas of study, to solve Mathematical problems in a variety of contexts and to construct Mathematical proofs. In order to do this, students need to have a secure and in-depth understanding of all areas of Mathematics from GCSE, which is why we ask for a grade 7 or above. It is also useful for A Level Mathematics students to have well developed problem solving skills.

## Course Content

Over the two year course students will cover the following content:

### Pure Mathematics

Topic 1 - Proof

Topic 2 - Algebra and functions

Topic 3 - Coordinate geometry in the  $(x,y)$  plane

Topic 4 - Sequences and series

Topic 5 - Trigonometry

Topic 6 - Exponentials and algorithms

Topic 7 - Differentiation

Topic 8 - Integration

Topic 9 - Numerical methods

Topic 10 - Vectors

### Applied Mathematics

#### Section A: Statistics

Topic 1 - Statistical sampling

Topic 2 - Data presentations and interpretation

Topic 3 - Probability

Topic 4 - Statistical distributions

Topic 5 - Statistical hypothesis testing

#### Section B: Mechanics

Topic 6 - Quantities and units in mechanics

Topic 7 - Kinematics

Topic 8 - Forces and Newton's laws

Topic 9 - Moments

## QUALIFICATION

Advanced Level  
Exam Board: Edexcel

## REQUIREMENTS

GCSE Mathematics Grade 7

## How will it be assessed?

### Paper 1 - Pure Mathematics 1

#### Covering all Pure Mathematics topics

- Calculator allowed
- 2 hours
- 100 marks
- 33.3% of A Level

### Paper 2 - Pure Mathematics 2

#### Covering all Pure Mathematics topics

- Calculator allowed
- 2 hours
- 100 marks
- 33.3% of A Level

### Paper 3 - Statistics and Mechanics

#### Covering Statistics topics in Sec A and Mechanics in Sec B

- Calculator allowed
- 2 hours
- 100 marks
- 33.3% of A Level

## Progression

Mathematical skills underpin a huge range of disciplines from ICT to Medicine and from Architecture to Banking. A Level Mathematics provides you with those skills needed to solve problems in these disciplines as well as creating students who are logical thinkers and problem solvers. In many cases, having a Mathematics A Level will exempt you from having to take Foundation Mathematics courses as part of your first year degree study.

## Staff Contacts

katy.barlow@oldburywells.com  
john.kiapene@oldburywells.com

# Physics

## Why study Physics?

Students studying Physics require an enquiring mind with an interest in explaining how things interact, from the small scale (Nuclear Physics) to the large scale (Astrophysics).

Physics also helps you to develop your reasoning and problem solving skills, equipping you for a wide range of future careers.

## What skills are required?

In order to do well in an A Level Physics course students will be required to have and develop good mathematical skills, hence the minimum requirement of a GCSE Grade 6 in Mathematics. Students will be expected to carry out background reading for course content, both from available texts and internet research. This is essential to support and strengthen their understanding of material covered in the specification.

## Course Content

### In the first year students will study:

- Measurements and their errors
- Particles and Radiation
- Waves
- Mechanics and Energy
- Electricity

During the first year there are six required practical experiments that must be taken in class which will provide evidence towards a practical endorsement.

### In the second year students will build on Year 1 knowledge and study:

- Further Mechanics and Thermal Physics
- Fields
- Nuclear Physics
- Turning Points

During the second year a further six required practical experiments must be undertaken to complete the practical endorsement.

## QUALIFICATION

Advanced Level  
Exam Board: AQA

## REQUIREMENTS

Either GCSE Physics Grade 6 or Combined Science 6–6 from Triple Science.  
Also a Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics.

## How will it be assessed?

### Paper 1 - Topics 1-5 and simple harmonic motion

- 2 hours
- 85 marks
- 34% of A level

### Paper 2 - Topics 6-8

- 2 hours
- 85 marks
- 34% of A level

### Paper 3 - Practical skills and topic 9

- 2 hours
- 80 marks
- 32% of A level

## Progression

Physics is one of the facilitating A levels and is highly regarded. It is an essential A level for most Physics and Engineering degree courses. The skills developed in A Level Physics, open up a wealth of career opportunities such as in Mathematics, Science and Computing, Business and Finance.

## Staff Contacts

mal.johnson@oldburywells.com  
Daniel.Cox@oldburywells.com

# Product Design

## Why study Product Design?

This is a creative and thought provoking qualification, which gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers.

Students investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design technology whilst also developing their practical skills through design and making.

This is a linear course with examinations and practical pieces completed in Year 13.

## What skills are required?

- A real interest and enthusiasm for Product Design (Resistant Materials at GCSE)
- Drawing ability
- A keen interest in developing modelling and making skills.

## Course Content

Students have lessons which are divided into theory knowledge: Technical Principles and Designing & Making Principles. There is also coursework (NEA), which is 50% of the overall qualification.

Throughout the course students study key design styles and movements, including Art Deco, Bauhaus and Post Modernism, together with key influential designers such as Phillippe Starck, James Dyson, Margaret Calvert, Dieter Rams and Charles & Ray Eames.

### The NEA (Non Examined Assessment)

In Year 12 students will do the NEA project which is to design and make a product to a given brief.

In Year 13 the choice of topic for the NEA project is the student's own choice. This opens up a wealth of possibilities for students and allows them to become totally immersed in solving a design problem and the production of a 3D solution for a client of their own choosing.

### QUALIFICATION

Advanced Level  
Exam Board: AQA

### REQUIREMENTS

Minimum Entry Requirements: GCSE Product Design Grade 5 or above or another similar Design Technology based subject and a Grade 5 in Mathematics.

## How will it be assessed?

### Theory Paper One - Technical Principles

- Questions are a mixture of short, multiple choice and extended response.
- 2 hours
- 100 Marks
- 25% of A Level

### Theory Paper Two - Designing and Making Principles

- Questions are a mixture of short, multiple choice and extended response.
- 2 hours
- 25% of A Level

## Progression

Product Design leads to a range of exciting and versatile careers and prepares students for the specialist areas of:

Product Design: Three Dimensional Design, Furniture, Industrial Design and Interior Design.

Engineering: For this route a combination of Mathematics and Physics might be required.

Students can go on to University to study Product Design, Industrial Design or Three Dimensional Design. Product Design leads to a range of versatile careers such as Product Designer, Architect or Engineer.

### Staff Contacts

liz.bell@oldburywells.com  
john.winwood@oldburywells.com

# Psychology

## Why study Psychology?

Psychology involves the scientific study of human/animal mental functions and behaviour. Psychologists attempt to understand the role of mental functions in individual and social behaviour while also exploring physiological and neurological processes.

There are many types and ways of researching in Psychology to help us understand: relationships, personality, brain functioning, memory, behaviour, phobias and much more.

## What skills are required?

Psychology requires a wide range of skills which you will develop during your time on the course. You will be required to read and analyse scientific material, select important points from documents and draw valid conclusions about each topic you study.

There is a topic which requires mathematical skills, such as analysing and interpreting statistical data.

There is also a lot of written content, so communication, discussion and essay writing skills are essential and will be hugely developed throughout the course.

Psychology is an Applied Science which relates to many of our everyday experiences; you will be combining skills from both Science and Arts based subjects.

## Course Content

### Paper 1:

- Social Influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Psychopathology

### Paper 2:

- Research Methods
- Approaches in Psychology
- Biopsychology

### Paper 3:

- Issues and Debates in Psychology
- Gender
- Schizophrenia
- Forensics

All papers are sat at the end of two years to achieve an A Level.

### QUALIFICATION

Advanced Level  
Exam Board: AQA

### REQUIREMENTS

GCSE Maths Grade 4  
GCSE English Grade 5  
5 grade 5s or higher

## How will it be assessed?

### Paper One - Introductory topics in Psychology

- Written exam
- 2 hours
- 96 marks in total
- 33.3% of A Level

### Paper Two - Psychology in Context

- Written exam
- 2 hours
- 96 marks in total
- 33.3% of A Level

### Paper 3 - Issues and Options in Psychology

- Written exam
- 2 hours
- 96 marks in total
- 33.3% of A Level

## Progression

Psychology incorporates research from Social Sciences, Humanities and Natural Sciences.

Studying Psychology allows further progression into many different careers and academic routes. For example many students go on to study: Counselling, Sports, Clinical, Educational and Business Psychology, Teaching and Midwifery.

There are also many other routes to go down such as age development, working in the media or with legal and forensic companies.

### Staff Contact

samantha.warner@oldburywells.com

## Why study Sociology?

If you are fascinated by the behaviour of others and why we act the way we do, then Sociology is for you. In today's rapidly changing world, different cultures collide and combine in ways that create new social structures. Sociology seeks to understand all aspects of human social behaviour and social dynamics from small groups of people to large organisations and communities, from institutions to whole societies.

Sociologists are motivated by a desire to better understand the fundamental principles of social life, believing that an understanding of these principles will help improve people's lives.

Through the study of Sociology you will discover how to investigate these kinds of questions and begin to understand more about your motivations and behaviours, gaining a wide range of valuable skills that can be applied to almost any career.

## What skills are required?

As a social science, Sociology draws upon a wide range of skills:

- The ability to analyse and evaluate information, and draw conclusions.
- Having an enquiring mind and an enthusiastic interest in people
- Having a desire to understand people's motivations.
- Being an independent learner who enjoys extending their knowledge and understanding by researching the main themes and reading around the subject.
- Having an interest in how decisions are made by different people.
- Communication skills are important for participation in class discussion and debate.
- The ability to produce clear written work.

## Course Content

In Year One students study the Sociology of Education, Families and Households, and also a grounding in Sociology Theory and Methods.

In Year Two the study of Theory and Methods is extended, and the main topics of study are Crime & Deviance and Beliefs in Society.

## How will it be assessed?

### Paper 1 - Education with Theory and Methods

- 2 Hour exam
- 80 marks
- 33.3% of A Level

### Paper 2 - Sociology Options 'Beliefs in Society' and 'Families and Households'

- 2 Hour exam
- 80 marks
- 33.3% of A Level

### Paper 3 - Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

- 2 hour exam
- 80 marks
- 33.3% of A Level

## Progression

Traditional occupations for Sociology graduates have been in Social Work, Welfare Work, Government Agencies and the Police Force. In practice Sociology graduates learn transferable skills that make them ideally suited to a wide range of jobs. In industry, for instance, Human Resource Management is one application of key skills. Additionally aspects of business and marketing draw upon sociological skills as well. Media, Game Design and I.T. companies make use of sociological knowledge and large retail firms employ sociologists as Sociology research methods can have an enlightening effect upon market research.

### Staff Contacts

james.perfect@oldburywells.com  
becky.lawson@oldburywells.com

The background is a solid yellow color with several white hexagonal outlines scattered across it. Some hexagons are partially cut off by the edges of the image. The text is centered and reads:

**IN 2020 NEARLY  
10% OF OUR  
COHORT**

**SUCCESSFULLY  
GAINED PLACES  
AT OXFORD OR  
CAMBRIDGE**

## Why study Spanish?

Studying A-level Spanish will provide students with an understanding of cultural, political, and social contexts of the Spanish-speaking world. While exploring a varied literary, artistic and historic heritage, they will gain a greater level of fluency in the language in order to debate and articulate ideas in Spanish.

## What skills are required?

Students need to have performed evenly across listening, reading, writing and speaking at GCSE. They need to have a wide range of vocabulary already present in order to build on it and access the resources.

Good linguists must be resilient and committed to work regularly at home on their vocabulary. They must show an interest in Spanish or hispanophone culture and be open-minded.

## Course Content

### Year 12:

To start with, students study an intensive grammar programme linked to the thematic content of social issues and trends in Spanish society and artistic culture in the Spanish speaking world. They then develop all skills while studying the topics previously mentioned as well as a film in Spanish, for which they will practise essay-writing. Before the summer, students will familiarise themselves with the study skills necessary for independent research and will write up an action plan setting targets and milestones for their research project.

### Year 13:

Students will pursue their studies of social issues and trends of Spanish-speaking societies, as well as tackle the aspects of political life in the Spanish speaking world. They will also study a book in Spanish and practise essay writing about the work chosen.

Independently, students will be expected to carry out their research project and prepare for their presentation and discussion about it.

### QUALIFICATION

Advanced Level  
Exam Board: AQA

### REQUIREMENTS

GCSE Spanish grade 6 or above

## How will it be assessed?

### Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing

- 50% of A-level, 2 hours 30

Questions and translations about:

- Aspects of Spanish-speaking society.
- Multiculturalism in Hispanic society.
- Artistic culture in the Spanish-speaking world
- Aspects of political life in the Spanish-speaking world.
- Grammar.

### Paper 2: Writing

- 20% of A level, 2 hours

2x 300 words essay:

- 1 question on a text studied in class
- 1 question on a film studied in class

### Paper 3: Speaking

- 30% of A level, 23 minutes
- Discussion of a sub-theme based on a stimulus card (5-6 minutes).
- Presentation (2 minutes) and discussion of an individual research project (9-10 minutes).

## Progression

A Level Spanish will give access to many dual degrees where studying Spanish can be combined with History, Business, Politics, Literature and plenty of other options. It opens doors to many work opportunities abroad, university exchanges and prestigious institutions. Spanish can be linked to many sectors of employment, from diplomatic services to law and business. If you would like further information, please do speak to a member of the MFL department.

### Staff Contacts

daniel.cowley@oldburywells.com  
solene.dijoux@oldburywells.com

# Further Mathematics

## Why study Further Mathematics?

Mathematics is a versatile subject, respected by employers and universities. Mathematics students become better at thinking logically and analytically and through problem solving, develop resilience and are able to think creatively and strategically. Mathematics is a requirement for most Science and Engineering degree courses and the skills you learn in Mathematics are of great benefit in a range of other subjects such as Sciences, Computing and Business Studies.

## What skills are required?

We offer A Level Further Mathematics as an additional qualification for gifted mathematicians who are excelling at A Level Mathematics. Students are expected to maintain high standards in their 3 main A Levels in order to be able to continue with this course.

## Course Content

Over the two year course students will cover the following content. All students must study this core content:

1. Proof
2. Complex numbers
3. Matrices
4. Further algebra and functions
5. Further calculus
6. Further vectors
7. Polar coordinates
8. Hyperbolic functions
9. Differential equations
10. Numerical methods

Students must also study two of these options:

- Optional application 1 – Mechanics
- Optional application 2 – Statistics
- Optional application 3 – Discrete Mathematics

### QUALIFICATION

Advanced Level  
Exam Board: Edexcel

### REQUIREMENTS

Must be taking A Level Mathematics

## How will it be assessed?

### Paper 1 - Covering compulsory pure Mathematics content.

- 2 hours
- Calculator allowed
- 100 marks
- 33.3% of A Level

### Paper 2 - Covering compulsory pure Mathematics content.

- 2 hours
- Calculator allowed
- 100 marks
- 33.3% of A Level

### Paper 3 - One booklet on each of the two optional applied topics

- 2 hours
- Calculator allowed
- 100 marks
- 33.3% of A Level

## Progression

Further Mathematics is a very highly regarded A Level qualification. Increasingly it is required for degree level Mathematics courses but would also be beneficial for a wide range of disciplines including Engineering and Medicine.

### Staff Contacts

katy.barlow@oldburywells.com  
john.kiapene@oldburywells.com



This is equivalent to an AS qualification.

## What is an Extended Project?

The EPQ is a project based qualification worth around half an A Level, and also contributes to UCAS points. Students select their own project, based around either something they are passionate about, or something they are studying. The submission could be either a report, essay, creative artefact or an event or performance. This is a highly rated qualification by universities as it recognises a student's ability to work independently on a topic of their choice.

## What skills are required?

Students who undertake the Extended Project will need to be able to identify, design, plan and complete an individual project.

You will need to be able to use a range of skills to solve problems, make decisions and be creative and flexible to achieve the planned outcomes. You will also need a good range of communication skills.

## Course Content

Students are required to:

- Choose an area of interest
- Draft a title and the aims of the project for formal approval
- Plan, research and carry out the project
- Deliver a presentation
- Provide evidence of all stages of project development and production for assessment

### The areas of the project are:

- **Manage** - Identify, design, plan and carry out a project, applying a range of skills, strategies and methods to achieve its objectives.
- **Use Resources** - Research, critically select, organise & use information and select and use a range of resources. Analyse data and apply relevantly and demonstrate understanding of any links, connections and complexities of the topic.
- **Develop and Realise** - Select and use a range of skills including, where appropriate, new technologies and problem-solving, to take decisions critically and achieve planned outcomes.
- **Review** - Evaluate all aspects of the extended project, including outcomes in relation to stated objectives and own learning and performance. Select and use a range of communication skills and media to present evidenced project outcomes and conclusions in an appropriate format.

## How will it be assessed?

### A01

- Manage
- 20%

### A02

- Use Resources
- 20%

### A03

- Develop and Realise
- 40%

### A04

- Review
- 20%

## Progression

The EPQ links well with all subjects and can be used as an additional qualification to access Russell Group universities in particular.

### Staff Contact

Kelsie.Silverstone@oldburywells.com

April.Bishell@oldburywells.com



# BTEC

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate

## What are BTEC's?

BTEC stands for Business Technician Education Council. BTECs are designed to prepare students for the workplace. They are equivalent to other qualifications, including A Level. BTECs are recognised by a large number of universities and companies across a wide range of industries. If you are not fond of taking exams and find the pressure causes you to underperform, a BTEC will allow you to undertake a number of Units for which you will present evidence, based on real-life work studies. BTEC Nationals are all Level 3 qualifications and are equivalent to A levels.

# Health & Social Care

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate

## Why study Health & Social Care?

This inspirational and inclusive course addresses the National Occupational Standards in Health and Social Care. With a supportive and creative approach to independent learning it enhances current working practices regarding broad social and health concerns in a professional context.

## What skills are required?

Today's BTEC Nationals are demanding, students will need to be organised, have good time management and be committed.

Students will be expected to carry out background reading for course content, both from available texts and internet research. Students should also be able to demonstrate practical and technical skills using appropriate workplace values and practices. This is essential to support and strengthen their understanding of material covered in the specification.

## Course Content

Students taking this qualification will study three mandatory units:

- Human Lifespan Development
- Working in Health and Social Care
- Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs

Optional units: Students select one optional unit alongside the mandatory units. Optional units include:

- Sociological Perspectives
- Psychological Perspectives
- Caring for Individuals with Additional Needs
- Physiological Disorders and their Care

These units help to develop a better understanding of the demands of working in the sector and to demonstrate their commitment and interest in the sector when applying for further study.

## QUALIFICATION

Level 3

Exam Board: Pearson

## REQUIREMENTS

Either: Minimum GCSE Grade 4 English and Maths plus 2 other GCSEs at Grade 4 or Level 2 Merit in Health & Social Care

## How will it be assessed?

### Unit 1 & 2

- External Assessment
- Written Exam
- 1 1/2 hours
- 90/80 marks respectively

### Unit 5 & 14

- Internal Assessment
- Assignments

## Progression

This qualification is usually taken alongside other qualifications such as Biology, Psychology or Sport. The university, apprenticeship or employment links are: Nursing or Midwifery, Social Work, Physiotherapy, Pastoral Support/Youth Worker, Teacher, Teaching Assistant, Nursery Nurse and Childminder.

## Staff Contacts

Danielle.Siviter@oldburywells.com

Rachel.Chapman2@oldburywells.com





# Cambridge Technicals

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OCR Cambridge Technicals Level 3

## What is an OCR Cambridge Technical?

An OCR Cambridge Technical is a practical, work-related course. It is assessed in two ways: coursework and two written exams.

Where units are assessed internally, you learn by completing projects and assignments that are based on realistic workplace situations, activities and demands.

Where units are assessed externally, you will learn in both a theoretical and practical setting throughout the unit and then be assessed via an exam or at the end of the unit.





## Why study IT?

We live in the 21st century and today everything is about technology. Information is paramount and Information Technology (IT) influences all kinds of activity. Employers are calling out for people who can help them develop their systems or systems for their customers, and use IT as a tool to analyse data and develop applications. This qualification is designed to give students a range of specialist knowledge and transferable skills in context of Applied IT.

## What skills are required?

Normally, a student would choose an OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Introductory Extended Certificate in IT because they have successfully gained Level 2 qualifications in a similar or related subject, but there are no formal entry or prior learning requirements for this qualification. Students studying IT benefit from having the following skills: problem solving, planning, organisation, communication and team work. It is important that you also have a keen interest in IT and developments in IT.

## Course Content

In the first year you will study the following units:

- Unit 1: Fundamentals of IT
- Unit 2: Global Information

During this year you will prepare for 2 examinations. Prior to your unit 2 exam you will be provided with a case study from the examination board. This is used to prepare for section A of the unit 2 examination.

In the second year of study you will study for one external examination and complete two pieces of coursework.

### Exam

- Unit 3: Cyber Security

Similar to unit 2, prior to your unit 3 exam you will be provided with a case study from the examination board. This is used to prepare for section A of the unit 3 examination.

### Coursework

- Unit 8: Project Management
- Unit 9: Product Development

For your coursework you will study the theoretical aspects of each unit as well as the practical skills required to complete your coursework. The coursework will be based around a client brief. Your solution will need to meet both client and user requirements.

## QUALIFICATION

Level 3

Exam Board: OCR

## REQUIREMENTS

5 GCSEs at Grade 5 or equivalent.

## How will it be assessed?

### Unit 1

- Fundamentals of IT - Exam

### Unit 2

- Global Information - Exam

### Unit 3

- Cyber Security - Exam

(Units 1, 2, 3 - 66.7%)

### Unit 8

- Project Management - Coursework

### Unit 9

- Product Development - Coursework

(Units 8 & 9 worth 33.3%)

## Progression

Students could progress onto a related Higher Education (HE) course, a Level 4 apprenticeship such as Software Developer or into employment in the IT sector in areas such as technical support, digital technologies or application development.

Typical job roles are; Web Application Developer, Application Developer, Web or Application Designer, Software Analyst, Network Manager or technical support such as an IT Technician.

### Staff Contact

Edward.Cherrington@oldburywells.com

Rachel.Chapman2@oldburywells.com



# Sport & Physical Activity

## Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate

### Why study Sport and Physical Activity?

While the sport industry continues to grow there are a vast range of opportunities for career development in this area. Studying Sport and Physical Activity gives an insight into these areas and provides in depth knowledge that would be required for anyone seeking employment or further education in sport. The topics covered are diverse and directly relevant to sporting careers and college or university courses.

### What skills are required?

Students studying an Extended Certificate in Sport will need to be able to adapt to a mature working atmosphere, where they take responsibility for their learning and development. They will need to be organised in bringing equipment to the lesson, as sessions can quickly change between practical and theory elements. They need to be able to meet and stick to deadlines that are given by members of staff for coursework and home learning. Students will need to be prepared to monitor and drive their own learning, remembering that they control their own grade and the overall qualification that they achieve.

### Course Content

#### The course is made up of the following mandatory units:

- Unit 1 – Body Systems and the Effects of Physical Activity (externally assessed via an exam)
- Unit 2 – Sports Coaching and Leadership (internally assessed via coursework)
- Unit 3 – Sports Organisation and Development (externally assessed via an exam)

#### Then the following internally assessed units:

- Unit 8 - Organisation of Sports Events
- Unit 18 - Practical Skills in Sport and Physical Activity

#### QUALIFICATION

Level 3  
Exam Board: OCR

#### REQUIREMENTS

5 GCSE 9-6 including English and Maths, Level 6 or higher in GCSE Biology or Double Science, GCSE PE Grade 6.

### How will it be assessed?

#### Unit 1 - Body Systems and the effects of physical activity

- 1.5 hours
- 70 marks
- 25%

#### Unit 2 - Sports Coaching and Leadership

- Coursework
- Pass/Merit/Distinction
- 25%

#### Unit 3 - Sports Organisation and Development

- 1 hour
- 60 marks
- 17%

#### Unit 8 - Organisation of Sports Events

- Coursework
- Pass/Merit/Distinction
- 17%

#### Unit 18 - Practical skills in sport and physical activities

- Coursework
- Pass/Merit/Distinction
- 17%

### Progression

OCR Cambridge Technicals are valued by employers and higher education (universities and colleges). It could lead straight into employment in: Sports Centres, Leisure Centres and Fitness Centres.

Or college or university courses such as: Sports Studies, Leisure Management, Recreation Management and Teacher Training.

#### Staff Contact

stuart.farish@oldburywells.com  
claire.joiner@oldburywells.com

# Where do our students go?

Our students leave us to go onto a wide variety of Universities, Apprenticeships and workplaces. Most of our year 13 students do tend to follow an academic route and progress into Higher Education or specific subject routes such as Art and Design courses. They have also been successful in securing Higher Level Apprenticeships at places such as Grainger and Worrall, Jaguar Landrover, Ricoh and the BBC.

For years 2020, 2021, and 2022, here is a small flavour of our student destinations:

- Mia Clement - Geography at Oxford University
  - Annabel Martin - Physics at Oxford
- Paddy Russell - Engineering at Cambridge University
- Jessica Robins – Fashion, Branding and Communication at University of Bournemouth
- Lottie Pattison – Degree Level Apprenticeship with Balfour Beatty at University of Wolverhampton
- George Pommells – British Sign Language, Deaf Studies and Linguistics at York Saint John University
- Jacob Carr-Simms – Masters in Mechatronic and Robotic Engineering at University of Birmingham
  - Will Dower – Motorsport Engineering at University of Wolverhampton
  - Jess Grantham – Apprenticeship at Stanton Ralph Accountants, Bridgnorth
    - Toby Large – English Literature at Bath Spa University
    - Georgia Prately – Medicine at University of Birmingham
- Callum Ward – Football coaching apprenticeship at Cross bar Coaching, Lilleshall

The background is a solid yellow color with several white hexagonal outlines scattered across it. Some hexagons are larger and more prominent, while others are smaller and partially obscured. The text is centered and reads: 

IN 2021 **OVER 80%**  
OF OUR STUDENTS  
**SUCCESSFULLY**  
GAINED A  
PLACE AT THEIR  
**FIRST CHOICE**  
**UNIVERSITY.**



Bridgnorth Sixth Form  
Oldbury Wells School  
Oldbury Wells  
Bridgnorth  
Shropshire  
WV16 5JD

**Tel:** 01746 760505

**Web:** [www.bridgnorthsixthform.com](http://www.bridgnorthsixthform.com)

**Director of Sixth Form:** Mr Tom Williams

**Head of Sixth Form:** Mrs April Bishell

**Sixth Form Support:** Mrs Tracy Fyfe