THE KINGSLEY SCHOOL

DESTINATION ANYWHERE

A guide to *The Kingsley Sixth Form* and the courses on offer

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INTRODUCTION

Starting Sixth Form is an exhilarating and life changing step that can also seem daunting. By choosing The Kingsley Sixth Form you will be making a decision that will ensure safe passage to higher education and successful employment.

In the Sixth Form we work hard to promote a balance between the structure you will have been used to in Senior School and greater independence. While supporting you with outstanding academic and pastoral care, we equip you with the practical and emotional tools to cope with increased decision making and responsibility. There are many opportunities for developing your skills and interests. Students are encouraged to help with the organisation of activities and clubs and we have a very active Sixth Form Leadership Team.

Sixth Form life will give you the chance to acquire and practise the life skills you will need in the adult world, whilst still having the vital support of your friends and teachers. With our expertise, your willingness and the support of your parents or guardians, you can maximise and fulfil your potential. For those of you applying to join Kingsley for the first time, you will be warmly welcomed into our small and friendly community so that you can focus on the important work ahead.

You will have more privileges and freedom in the Sixth Form, but also additional responsibilities. Greater academic rigour and independent learning requires that you use your study time wisely. Furthermore, as the oldest in the school, you will be expected to set high standards of appearance, behaviour and courtesy.

By choosing Kingsley you will benefit from thorough preparation for higher education and our excellent track record in placing students at their first choice universities or in the growing apprenticeship marketplace. This guide outlines all the subjects we offer and we hope it will enable you to begin the process of choosing what to study. Questions and visits are always welcome so please do not hesitate to ask for advice.

Dawn Morgan
Director of Sixth Form

CAREERS AND HIGHER EDUCATION

In the Sixth Form students are required to make important decisions regarding higher education, apprenticeships and their future careers. Fortnightly sessions offer information and guidance on the many opportunities available. Throughout the two years of Sixth Form, students are offered individual careers counselling sessions to discuss routes and choices.

YEAR 12

In Year 12 group sessions explore post-18 options. This is reinforced when students attend higher education conventions, one in the autumn term as they begin to consider future options and one in the summer term. Students are permitted to attend university open days during term, but are encouraged to do so in their own time so as not to disrupt their studies. Work experience is an increasingly important factor in gaining admission to university or apprenticeship places and students are encouraged to find relevant placements in the summer between Years 12 and 13. In the spring term, students and parents are invited to attend an evening devoted to higher education and next steps; application procedures are explained and post-18 options discussed.

YEAR 13

Year 13 group sessions focus on general and individual advice about university courses, apprenticeship programmes and a range of applications. Mock interviews are held during the autumn term with the participation of outside specialists. Considerable help is given with completing the UCAS form and advising students on next steps choices and decisions. Sessions also focus on a variety of subjects including student finance, accommodation and university survival skills. For those not pursuing a university place, advice is given on apprenticeships and other aspirational routes to employment.

ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT AND EXTENSION

All Sixth Formers enjoy daily enrichment activities from Monday to Thursday (with an extended enrichment afternoon each Wednesday), providing opportunities beyond the constraints of the academic curriculum.

Amongst other things, students enjoy fitness and dance, creative mindfulness, volunteering in the local community and study skills sessions. We also welcome visiting speakers and organise trips such as to the Houses of Parliament and London museums. Students are encouraged to take part in Young Enterprise, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and World Challenge.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

A DofE programme is a real adventure from beginning to end. It doesn't matter who you are or where you're from; you just need to be aged between 14 and 24 and realise there's more to life than sitting on a sofa watching life pass you by. You can embark on programmes at three levels which, when completed, lead to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award. You achieve your Award by completing a personal programme of activities in four sections (five if you're going for Gold) – Volunteering, Physical, Skills, Expedition and, for Gold, a Residential.

You'll find yourself helping people or the community, getting fitter, developing skills, going on an expedition and taking part in a residential activity (Gold only). The best bit is – you get to choose what you do! Your programme can be filled with activities and projects that get you buzzing. Along the way you'll pick up experiences, friends and talents that will stay with you for the rest of your life. For further information, please speak to our DofE Manager, Ms Jorgensen.

THE EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

The Extended Project is a Level 3 qualification equivalent to an AS-level. It provides an opportunity for students to extend their abilities beyond the A-level specification, stand out and prepare for university or their future career. It can also be used to earn extra UCAS points. In addition, it allows students to develop skills such as critical and analytical thinking, independent learning, research and project management.

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) will develop and extend from one or more of the student's study areas and/or from an area of personal interest or activity outside their main programme of study. It will be based on a topic chosen by the student and agreed by Kingsley staff.

With appropriate supervision students are required to:

- choose an area of interest;
- draft a title and aims of the project for formal approval by the centre;
- plan, research and carry out the project;
- deliver a presentation to a specified audience and often a 5000 word piece of research;
- provide evidence of all stages of project development and production for assessment.

Assessment of progress is carried out by our experienced staff.

The EPQ is gaining in popularity with universities and some will lower their offer grades if an applicant is studying towards an EPQ. This is illustrated by the following quotes from online prospectuses:

University of Southampton
'Students could use their project at interview stage and / or in their UCAS personal statement. Certain courses at the University will count 'A' grades achieved in the extended project towards their entry criteria.'

University of Manchester
'The skills that students develop through the Extended Project are excellent preparation for university-level study.'

University of Liverpool:
'We encourage candidates to draw upon their experience of undertaking the project when writing their personal statement.'

Previous Kingsley students' EPQ titles have included:

'What can be found out from our solar system about the habitability of extra-solar planetary systems with specific focus on Gliese 581?'

'A comparison of Holisticity in Pre and Post Hippocratic medicine and contemporary medicine.'

'Exploring the role of speech therapy in the rehabilitation of a stroke patient.'

FACILITIES

The Sixth Form boasts a homely feel with pleasant and sociable facilities that enhance students' day-to-day experiences. The large common room provides ample space for students to relax and spend time together in between lessons, as well as space to eat and store their work. Students benefit from weekly periodicals in the common room.

We have a range of private study areas including two ICT suites, ensuring that all students have a suitable place to work during designated study periods. There are four other ICT areas in the main school which Sixth Form students can also use for quiet study.

When the weather is kind, students appreciate our beautiful walled garden where they can relax or study at a table in the sunshine. Having an oasis of calm in the middle of a bustling town centre is a rare treat. Originally a memorial garden, this space benefits from recent updates that maximise the space and add areas of interest.

Looking out onto the garden is our Sixth Form Hub, a sociable space that provides further study potential or a place to relax quietly with friends. The Hub has its own kitchen where students can make or buy hot drinks and snacks. Students also benefit from close access to the town centre facilities when they have some free time.

When they are feeling more energetic, students can use the facilities in the excellent fitness suite. Housing state of the art equipment, the fitness suite is available to all members of the school with Sixth Form students having their own exclusive access.

When thoughts turn to next steps, we have a well-stocked careers library where students can access a huge range of information on universities, higher education choices, apprenticeships and employment. We can offer many additional online courses and resources to stretch and challenge students. In times of uncertainty, our designated Sixth Form Learning Mentor can provide advice on study skills and time management as well as offering general support.

The Sixth Form Centre contains all that an aspiring student needs to give them a positive, happy and enriching experience as they manage the demands of academic rigour.

ONWARD DESTINATIONS

At Kingsley there is a strong emphasis on careers guidance. Our priority is to prepare students for the responsibilities and freedoms of adult life. For many of our students this means continuing their education at university. They choose from a wide range of courses and establishments. Opposite are some examples of recent destinations.

Bath	*Sport, Accounting and Finance*
Birmingham	*Mathematics, Modern Languages, Ancient and Medieval History*
Birmingham City	*Digital Film Production*
Boots PLC	*Pharmaceutical Apprenticeship*
Bristol	*Biochemistry, Medicine, Dentistry, Politics*
Cambridge	*Modern and Medieval Languages, Music*
Cardiff	*Psychology, Economics, English, Law*
Chelsea School of Art and Design	*Art*
Durham	*History, Languages, Music, Psychology*
East Anglia	*Medicine, International Development*
Edinburgh	*History, Music, Philosophy and Economics*
Exeter	*Geography, Classics, Law*
King's College	*Adult Nursing*
Kingston	*Environmental Science*
Leeds	*Law, Geography*
Lincoln	*Music*
Liverpool	*Law, Mathematics*
Manchester Met	*Psychology, Sociology*
Newcastle	*Economics, Marine Zoology, Psychology, Mechanical Engineering*
Norland College	*Early Years Development*
Nottingham	*Early Childhood Studies*
Oxford Brookes	*Interior Architecture, Business, Sociology*
Reading	*English Language, Geography, Nutrition*
Royal Veterinary College	*Veterinary Science*
Salford	*Sport Rehabilitation*
Sheffield Hallam	*Business Management, Geography*
Sussex	*Neuroscience*
Trinity Laban Conservatoire	*Vocal Studies with Opera, Dance*
Warwick	*Liberal Arts and Sciences*
Winchester	*Creative Writing*

APPLIED SCIENCE

Cambridge Technical Level 3 Extended Certificate

This qualification is aimed at 16 to 18 year old students who are in full-time Sixth Form education and wish to progress to higher education and/or pursue a career in the applied science sector.

What will you study and learn?

The Certificate in Applied Science in Year 12 is made up of two mandatory units:

1) Science fundamentals
2) Laboratory techniques

For the Extended Certificate in Year 13, students study three further units:

1) Control of Hazards in the laboratory
2) Microbiology
3) Product testing techniques

Course content and examinations

In this Cambridge Technical Award you will:

- practise experimental scientific techniques and explore how they are applied in industry;
- develop your knowledge and understanding of concepts in biology, chemistry and physics;
- plan and carry out a scientific investigation of your own choosing;
- explore ways in which topical scientific issues are presented in the media;
- investigate the role of scientists and the different career pathways open to you;
- use the optional unit to decide which scientific pathway to follow.

You will need to have a good work ethic in order to meet the demands of a course assessed by examination in the first year and coursework in the second year.

Where could the subject take you?

This qualification is supported by a range of universities, and taken alongside other qualifications it can fulfil the entry requirements for a number of science-related higher education courses, including biomedical, forensic and sports science, as well as nursing. In addition, the qualification is eligible for UCAS points.

BIOLOGY

Students taking this subject will have an interest in the science of living organisms. This may be general, or concern one specific aspect such as nutrition, the evolution of man from simple origins or developments in medicine. They will enjoy carrying out practical work and be able to think logically and analytically. They may currently be studying either GCSE Double Science or the three separate sciences, but are likely to achieve at least grade 6 in their science GCSEs.

What will you study and learn?

Biology is the study of life. Many people think that biology is about the human body and human diseases. This is certainly true in part: several areas of the specification look at physiology (the workings of the body), often concentrating on humans. However, there are many other important aspects. An understanding of the chemicals of life is an essential basis of biology. Ecology is the part of biology that considers animals, plants and other living organisms together as part of an ecosystem. Genetics is the most rapidly-developing area of biology, with the potential to change all of our lives. The causes and consequences of disease will also be studied.

Many different practical techniques are used. The sixth form centre has compound microscopes for the study of cell biology, histology (the study of tissues) and microbiology. Various chemical techniques are used to study biochemistry. Pupils in Year 13 will carry out fieldwork in order to study A2 ecology in natural environments.

Course content and examinations

We are following the AQA biology specification for the new A-level courses. Both AS and A2 are divided into four sections.

AS sections:

1) Biological Molecules – the structure of carbohydrates, proteins, fats and DNA and how these structures relate to the functions of the molecules.
2) Cells – the structures of animal, plant and bacterial cells and how to study these using microscopes. Cell division and the immune system are also studied.
3) Organisms Exchange Substances with their Environment – how shape and size of cells and organisms affect exchange; digestion and absorption; transport in plants and animals.
4) Genetic Information, Variation and Relationships between Organisms – the structure of DNA; protein synthesis; genetic diversity and adaptation; taxonomy; diversity.

AS level can be taken as a stand-alone qualification. Assessment will consist of two examinations of one and a half hours each, with some short answer questions and some longer answer and extended response questions.

A2 sections:

5) Energy Transfers between Organisms – photosynthesis; respiration; energy transfer in food chains; nutrient cycles.
6) Organisms Respond to Internal and External Environments – stimulus and response; nervous coordination; the control of heart rate; muscle action; homeostasis.

7) Genetics, Populations, Evolution and Ecosystems – genetic inheritance; population genetics; evolution and speciation; population dynamics.
8) The Control of Gene Expression – gene expression; the effect of mutations; the genetic causes of cancer; gene technology; genetic fingerprinting; diagnosis of genetic diseases and genetic counselling.

A-level assessment will consist of three two-hour papers:

Paper one in which material from sections one to four tested by a mixture of short and longer answer questions and a fifteen-mark extended response question.

Paper two in which material from sections five to eight will be tested by a mixture of short and longer answer questions and a fifteen-mark comprehension question.

Paper three in which material from sections one to eight will be tested by structured questions, data analysis questions and an essay.

There is no coursework or controlled assessment in A-level sciences. Examinations will contain questions relating to practical work and these will contribute to the A-level grade. In addition to this grade, certificates will indicate whether candidates have passed or failed a teacher assessment practical work: this certificate of practical competency will be given separately from the AS or A-level grade.

Where could the subject take you?

Many people who study biology have an interest in medicine. Biology A-level is not a course requirement for taking a medicine degree, but is studied by most people who have this intention. Biology is also useful for nursing and physiotherapy courses.

Biological sciences are themselves an area for study at higher education level. Courses include general biology and human biology degrees as well as more specialised areas such as biochemistry, physiology and genetics. Biology A-level also contributes useful background knowledge for courses in sports studies and nutrition.

Other A-level subjects that tie in well with biology include chemistry and geography as well as sport and physical education, food science and psychology.

BUSINESS

Business is an exciting and dynamic subject. Whatever your future career choice, it will provide you with a sound basis upon which to build your future in the workplace. The A-level aims to help you to develop an understanding of business organisations and the markets they serve. You will develop skills in marketing, finance, operations and human resource management and gain an understanding of the external business environment and its impact on businesses.

The main requirement for success is that you have an enquiring mind and are interested in businesses, how they work and why some are more successful than others. The ability to write accurate English is important. You will need a good level of numeracy and be comfortable working with numbers. You should be aiming for a minimum of grade 5 in mathematics and English at GCSE.

Business combines extremely well with all A-level subjects.

What will you study and learn?

The specification is divided into four themes and themes 1 and 2 are studied in Year 12. Theme 1 considers the business functions of marketing and people, considering elements such as the marketing mix, the way in which markets work and elements of HR such as recruitment, organisational design and motivation. Theme 2, managing business activities, covers both finance and production. Students will learn to use techniques such as calculating different types of profit, break-even analysis, budgeting and variance analysis and calculating profitability and liquidity. They will learn about production techniques such as capacity utilisation, stock control and quality management. By the end of the course, students will have developed knowledge, understanding and skills in all of the four main business functions.

Course content and examinations

Kingsley business students study the Edexcel GCE business specification. Linear A-level examinations are taken at the end of the course. In addition, AS examinations will be taken in the summer of Year 12. These may be 'stand alone' qualifications for those who do not wish to continue with the subject beyond Year 12, but also provide useful examination practice and will help with university applications in Year 13.

Where could the subject take you?

Studying A-level business will help you to develop the skills that both employers and universities are looking for. These include business skills, working as a member of a team, the ability to analyse and evaluate data, numerical skills and thinking creatively as well as gaining an excellent understanding of how businesses work.

CHEMISTRY

The Chemistry A-level course is aimed at students who are interested in how substances interact, what they are made of and what role they play in living things and in the world at large. Chemistry is an essential part of many science based courses at university and you may be considering moving in that general direction. You may have a definite career or course in mind that demands chemistry as an essential entry requirement. Perhaps you want to use chemistry to gain the skills which the subject develops and use them in another area of study at a later stage or you may simply like chemistry and want to extend your knowledge and broaden your understanding.

You need to be scientifically orientated, show ability in chemistry and expect to obtain at least a grade 6 in GCSE chemistry or in both GCSE science and additional science. A strong background in GCSE mathematics is also recommended. Practical work is an essential part of the course so you need to enjoy this aspect of the subject.

What will you study and learn?

Chemistry is the study of all materials and you will already have had some experience of basic chemical ideas during your GCSE course. You will learn new concepts and develop the ones you have met before.

At A-level, a much more accurate approach is used and you will discover that topics such as atomic structure and bonding involve far greater detail than you had thought. You will also realise that chemistry is particularly concerned with quantities of substances and a lot of practical work is directed towards this area. By the end of the course you will have encountered many methods of analysis including sophisticated instrumental techniques which have important uses in a wide range of applications in industry and particularly medicine. But chemistry isn't just about scientific facts and ideas. You will develop many new skills which are transferable to other areas of study.

You will learn to:

- present arguments and ideas clearly and logically;
- select suitable methods for communicating information;
- assess the validity of information;
- bring together information from different areas in order to solve a problem or support an argument;
- interpret and translate data from one form to another;
- apply principles and concepts to unfamiliar situations;
- plan and select suitable techniques for a particular purpose;
- be continually aware of scale, accuracy and precision.

Course content and examinations

Examination Board: AQA

The AS course is assessed by two papers, which test topics that are studied throughout the course of the year.

Paper 1: relevant physical chemistry topics, inorganic chemistry and practical skills, 1hr 30min exam, 50% of the A-level.

Paper 2: relevant physical chemistry topics, organic chemistry and practical skills, 1hr 30min exam, 50% of the A-level.

The A-level course is assessed by three papers, which test topics that are studied throughout the course of the two years.

Paper 1: relevant physical chemistry topics, inorganic chemistry and practical skills, 2 hour exam, 35% of the A-level.

Paper 2: relevant physical chemistry topics, organic chemistry and practical skills, 2 hour exam, 35% of the A-level.

Paper 3: any content and practical skills, 2 hour exam, 30% of the A-level.

There are twelve required practical tasks and students will be assigned a practical endorsement at the end of the course, having shown evidence of meeting the 5 common practical assessment criteria (CPAC).

Where could the subject take you?

A-level chemistry is an essential entry requirement for medicine and dentistry. It is either essential or highly desirable for entry to most paramedical and related degree courses, veterinary science, food science and many environmental/earth science/biological science courses.

Chemistry combines well with a language and/or a business subject and such joint courses are popular at degree level and offer good career prospects after university. Many employers recognise the value of the training in logical thought, problem solving, numerical and communication skills and the general science education that are an integral part of all chemistry courses.

A chemistry qualification isn't just an end in itself, it's a beginning.

CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

To study this subject at A-level, you will be interested in the culture, history and literature of the ancient world, and want to broaden your horizons further. You may also be interested in the roots of your own society and want to see how they have developed from the ancient Greeks and Romans. You will be writing essays and answering detailed comprehension questions. You will need to be able to communicate ideas effectively in class discussions and express ideas coherently on paper.

It is not necessary to have studied this subject at GCSE and you do not need to know Greek or Latin.

What will you study and learn?
You will study a range of literary, historical and cultural topics, reading primary sources in translation and modern secondary sources.

Course content and examinations
Examination board: OCR

AS-level (H008)

There is a compulsory unit, 'the world of the hero', focusing on Homer's Odyssey. The examination lasts for 1 hour and 30 minutes and this unit is worth 50% of the final qualification. Candidates then study one topic from Greek theatre or imperial image (looking on the image of the first emperor of Rome, Augustus). The examination lasts for 1 hour and 30 minutes and this unit is worth 50% of the final qualification. Candidates will answer a series of source based questions and write essays.

A-level (H408)

Candidates have to write essays and answer a series of source based questions. There is a compulsory unit, 'the world of the hero', focusing on Homer's Odyssey and Virgil's Aeneid. The examination lasts for 2 hours and 20 minutes. This unit is worth 40% of the final qualification. Candidates then study one topic from each of these two units, 'culture and the arts' (topics are the Greek theatre, Greek Art, invention of the barbarian and imperial image) and 'beliefs and ideas' (topics are love and relationships, politics of the late republic, Greek religion and democracy and the Athenians).

Candidates sit an examination for each unit of 2 hours and 45 minutes each. Each of these 2 units is worth 30% of the final qualification.

Where could the subject take you?
Classical Civilisation is a subject well respected by universities and can lead to a degree course in its own right or in combination with subjects such as Latin, English Literature, modern languages, art, archaeology or philosophy. Careers open to Classical Civilisation graduates include positions in museums and heritage management, teaching, publishing, law, government and the media.

DIGITAL MEDIA

Cambridge Technical Level 3 Extended Certificate

The Cambridge Technical in Digital is a great accompaniment to any combination of A-level and Cambridge Technical courses. It is an opportunity to improve your digital media talents using a combination of creativity and technical skills.

What will you study and learn?

Digital Media will help you develop the knowledge and practical skills required in the digital media industry. You will gain hands-on experience of the production process, developing your ideas from planning, through editing and post-production, to final presentation.

Course content and examinations

The course contains a range of centre assessed units with both practical and wider project-based assessments, as well as examined units on Media products and audiences and Pre-production and planning.

This course will complement your sixth form study programme alongside other A-levels/Cambridge Technicals and you will gain an understanding of how different businesses and organisations in the media sector work.

There are 3 mandatory units:

1) Media products and audiences (examination)
2) Pre-production and planning (examination)
3) Create a media product (coursework)

In addition, you will study two optional units which range from social media, journalism and advertising media through to cross media awareness and planning and delivering pitch for a media product.

Where could the subject take you?

This qualification will help you in a wide range of different career paths and further study options regardless of the route you choose to take. In addition, there are a number of media related degree courses and career paths open to you, including media, film making and production, the communications industry, IT, journalism and product design.

DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES

To study this subject at A-level, you will either be a GCSE drama student or you may be new to the course. However, a passion and genuine love of the theatre is essential. You will need either a 6 or above in GCSE drama or a 6 in GCSE English or English Literature. Past or present participation in school productions or activities will further increase your suitability for this course, however performance experience is not essential. Drama and Theatre Studies is a course that requires commitment and proactivity; you will be expected to undertake independent learning from the very start of the course.

What will you study and learn?

You will study a range of texts and practitioners as well as learning to work and think as actors, directors and designers. You will be expected to perform to an examiner and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the process of practical preparation for a performance. The course is both practical and theoretical; you will undertake written tasks including theatrical reviews, detailed analysis of your own work, detailed study of a set text and social, cultural and historical knowledge of texts studied during the course.

Course content and examinations

Exam Board – AQA

Component One (40%) Written Exam: Drama and Theatre

This unit requires students to hone and develop their knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre. Students will be assessed on the study of two published plays. They will develop an in depth understanding of these plays and understand and develop creative ideas about how these plays could be performed and directed today. Students will also be assessed on a review of a piece of theatre they see.

Component Two (30%) Practical: Creating Original Drama

This is a practical component in which students create their own original piece of drama, also known as devising. Students are assessed on their ability to create and develop ideas to communicate meaning as part of the theatre making process making connections between dramatic theory and practice and apply theatrical skills to realise artistic intentions in live performance. Students can choose to be assessed as either:

- performer
- lighting designer
- sound designer
- set designer
- costume designer
- puppet designer
- director.

Component Three (30%) Practical: Making Theatre

Students will explore and rehearse three extracts from published plays and will apply the understanding from a key practitioner to the extracts. Students will formally perform one extract to an external AQA examiner. This is a practical component in which students are assessed on their ability to apply theatrical skills to realise artistic intentions in live performance and analyse and evaluate their own work. An accompanying reflective report is written by the students to show their analysis and evaluation of their performance.

Where could the subject take you?

Degrees in theatre studies, English or literature, media studies as well as psychology, social studies and law are available as a result of taking drama and theatre studies. Any career requiring management, personnel, or social skills is also possible. You could ultimately choose to specialise in the field of theatre and many of our students have gone on to study drama, dance and/or performing arts at a range of specialist performing arts schools.

Drama and Theatre studies gives you confidence in your ability to listen, to make decisions, to understand other people and to maintain a positive and creative way of working whilst constantly keeping your ideas fresh and innovative.

ECONOMICS

Economics is about the impact of decisions made by individuals, households, firms and governments on the economy. It is a very highly regarded subject by both higher education institutions and employers and can lead to a wide range of careers as well as further study of economics, business, management or related subjects. It will help you to develop your capacity to think logically and you will learn how to use a set of analytical tools to understand how different people, firms and economies operate.

Economics requires a good level of numeracy (a minimum of Grade 5 in GCSE mathematics) but does not require a study of mathematics at A-level. The main skill that an economist needs is the ability to think clearly. You will learn how to analyse and interpret data accurately and to explain the data using economic concepts and theories. An ability to see how different aspects might interrelate is very important as is the ability to communicate logically in written and oral work. It combines well with a wide variety of subjects and the logical thinking required by the subject will stand you in good stead regardless of your ultimate career choice. The most important pre-requisite for success is being interested in the world around you.

What will you study and learn?

The course is divided into four themes. During each year of the course, you will study a macroeconomic and a microeconomic theme. You will learn how to use a set of analytical tools and models – an economist's tool-kit – to understand how individuals, households, firms and whole economies respond to what is going on around them. Many issues of national and global importance are discussed and analysed using the tools you will build in your economist's tool-kit.

Course content and examinations

Kingsley economics students study the Edexcel GCE Economics A specification. Linear A-level examinations are taken at the end of the course. In addition, AS examinations will be taken in the summer of Year 12. These may be 'stand alone' qualifications for those who do not wish to continue with the subject beyond Year 12, but also provide useful examination practice and help with university applications in Year 13.

Where could the subject take you?

The skills you develop as a result of studying economics are very highly valued by employers and universities. Economics is a rewarding subject to study and is excellent preparation for those students intending to pursue further study in many subject disciplines but particularly those related to economics, maths, business, management, finance, accountancy or law.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

This is a good subject if you who enjoy the combination of language and literature work at GCSE, and would like to continue studying a mixture of literary and non-literary texts, as well as continuing to develop your own writing skills. Just as with English Literature, you must enjoy reading.

What will you study and learn?

This course combines the study of some major texts by writers like Shakespeare, Carol-Ann Duffy and Scott Fitzgerald. You will study modern authors, poets and dramatists as well as all kinds of non-fiction writing from newspaper and magazine journalism to transcripts of speech. You will learn about the social and historical context of the set texts and how to construct well organised, detailed essays. Lessons will be spent in discussion of the texts and thorough analysis of extracts. You will also learn about linguistics and how to apply language terminology to literature.

Course content and examinations

We follow the AQA English Language and Literature Specification A which encourages students to develop integrated literary and linguistic analysis. Set texts will be analysed using appropriate terminology. Students will develop their writing skills and be able to write fluently and coherently on themes and ideas suggested by the set texts.

A-level units:

Paper 1: Telling Stories
Students will study the work of modern and traditional poets such as John Donne and Carol Ann Duffy as well as prose texts ranging from Mary Shelley to Margaret Atwood. There is also an anthology of non-fiction writing focussing on a range of texts about Paris.

Paper 2: Exploring Conflict
In this unit students study the role of the individual in society using fiction and drama texts. The choice ranges from Shakespeare to Khaled Hosseini.

Paper 3: Making Connections
This is a coursework unit which allows free choice of question on a range of studied texts, linked by a theme and covering both Literature and Language texts

Where could the subject take you?

English Language and Literature teaches you to analyse a wide variety of writing in detail; it also helps you to develop a range of mature styles in your own writing. It is a useful subject for students going on to study many different subjects at university. English Language and Literature provides a good background for any arts degree and can provide a wider perspective for those planning to study for science and technology degrees. English degrees can lead to many different careers, including work in education, journalism, advertising, entertainment and business.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

This is a subject for people who like reading and talking about books and the ways in which writers get us involved in their imagined worlds. It encourages you to think for yourself and also develops your ability to analyse what you read and to understand the ways in which writers try to manipulate your thinking. It trains you to express your answers clearly and fully and teaches you to put together persuasive and convincing arguments. A grade 6 in English and/or English Literature will make it easier for you to make the change from GCSE to A-level study.

What will you study and learn?
You will study a number of texts, some of them in detail in class, some of them more independently. Many lessons will be spent discussing extracts from texts to help you develop a close knowledge and understanding of them. You will learn about the social and historical contexts in which these texts were written, and study a range of authors and genres, both modern and traditional, as well as some critical opinions of them. You will also learn how to write structured, organised, and thorough essays.

Course content and examinations
We follow the AQA A English Literature specification, which particularly encourages students to become confident independent readers. This specification requires students to study a range of drama, poetry and prose texts.

A-level units:

Paper 1: Love Through The Ages
Students study a Shakespeare play, one prose text and a selection of poetry. These might include such texts as 'Atonement', 'The Great Gatsby' and 'Othello'.

Paper 2: Texts in Shared Contexts
This unit requires students to study a range of texts across the three genres, prose, poetry and drama, linked by a common theme. Currently the texts are related to the First World War and its aftermath and the chosen texts are 'Life Class' by Pat Barker and 'Journey's End' by R.C. Sherriff.

Paper 3: Non-examination assessment
This is a coursework unit in which students select two contrasting texts of their own choice, one of which is pre-1900. They work independently with tutorial support from teaching staff, on a task that particularly appeals to each individual student. The final essay should be 2500 words.

Where could the subject take you?
English Literature is useful for students going on to study a wide range of subjects at university, as well as a variety of English degrees. It provides a good background for any arts degree, and can provide a wider perspective for those planning to study for science or technology degrees. English degrees can lead to many different careers, including those in education, journalism, business and entertainment.

FASHION AND TEXTILES

To study this subject at A-level you will enjoy generating imaginative and original fashion design work. You will have the patience and commitment to produce accurate and creative practical work. You will develop intellectual curiosity about the design and manufacture of products, exploring, designing and creating innovative solutions in response to realistic design contexts.

What will you study and learn?

The government has introduced major changes to AS/A-level textiles, it is now called fashion and textiles with greater focus on fashion, making it more appealing and relevant for higher education and a career in fashion.

Students will develop knowledge and understanding of the core technical, designing and making principles for fashion and textiles. Students will have the opportunity to study and work with a wide variety of fabrics and components used in the design and making of textile products. You will work in both two and three dimensional forms, gaining an understanding of industrial and commercial practices within the area of design and manufacture. Designing at this level will engender skills such as; thinking, creating, inventing, predicting, experimenting, decision making, constant evaluation and modification.

Course content and examinations

Technical principles
Designing and making principles
Specialist knowledge

Paper 1 – written examination: 2 hours
100 marks (25% of A-level)
Mixture of short answer, multiple choice and extended response questions.

Paper 2 – written examination: 2 hours
100 marks (25% of A-level)
Section A – Product Analysis: up to six short answer questions based on visual stimulus of product(s)
Section B – Commercial Manufacture: two extended response questions

Practical application:
Single substantial design and make task: 100 marks (50% of A-level – approximately 40 hours)
Portfolio plus models, test pieces and final outcome, assessment criteria to include: exploration, designing, making, analysis and evaluation.

Where could the subject take you?

A-level Design and Technology: Fashion and Textiles serves as a basis for further study and higher education, leading to a wide range of career opportunities. These include fashion, theatre and interior design; marketing and retail management; research; development and manufacture; fashion journalism; conservation and preservation of textiles. As an A-level option textiles complements art, theatre studies, business studies, chemistry and history.

FINE ART

The Art Department aims to foster talent and encourage independent learning through nurturing creativity and imagination. We hope to help you acquire the skills and vision to enable you to achieve your highest potential at A-level and beyond.

The subject is based around an intensive improvement of technical skills and the encouragement of individual interests. Your ideas are structured and supported through private tutorials.

You will need to have completed a GCSE in the subject. The most important requirements are that you have an interest in the subject and will apply yourself with enthusiasm, effort and commitment.

What will you study and learn?

The course is structured to build on and improve the skills you have already gained at GCSE. By completing research and visiting galleries, we aim to develop your understanding of aesthetic qualities and an awareness of the importance of art and design in our own culture and others. We hope to foster your ability to articulate ideas, feelings and opinions about personal work and that of others to assist with your own self-expression. By developing your powers of visual perception and the exploration of elements in the visual world, we will enable you to manipulate these with a growing ability. Firstly, we aim to impart a genuine enjoyment of the subject and a growing sense of self-confidence and self-esteem.

Course content and examinations

The course that you will follow at A-level is endorsed Art & Design (Fine Art) as specified by the examination board, AQA. The A-level specification is comprised of some initial experiments, one component of practical coursework (personal investigation) supported by a written element of no less than 1000 and no more than 3000 words, and an externally set assignment, which concludes with a 15-hour examination. The personal investigation unit counts for 60% and the externally set task unit makes up the remaining 40% of the final grade.

Where could the subject take you?

Further study can be followed in a wide variety of disciplines. For many routes into art and design, it is often advisable to attend a foundation course before applying to university. This will inform your decision about choosing a specialist area at degree level. Fine Art at A-level can lead on to a career in many different areas, such as becoming an artist, animator, art therapist, designer (including graphics, product, fashion, exhibitions, furniture, jewellery, web or gaming), architect, conservator/ restorer, or printmaker, photographer or illustrator.

FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION

Level 3 Diploma

Food and drink is the largest manufacturing sector in the UK. Many employment opportunities within this field are available including Sports Science, Food Technology, Food Marketing, Dietetics and Environmental Health to name a few. You need to enjoy making as well as the science behind food and nutrition.

What will you study and learn?

The qualification allows students to gain a wealth of knowledge about the food and nutrition industry. Students will have an opportunity to learn about the relationship between the human body and food as well as practical skills for cookery and preparing food.

Course content and examinations

The examination board is WJEC.

Unit 1: Meeting the Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups (mandatory)
This is assessed with an examination and a Controlled Assessment in Year 12. The unit will enable students to demonstrate an understanding of the science of food safety, nutrition and nutritional needs in a wide range of contexts, and through on-going practical work to gain high level making skills to produce quality food items to meet the needs of individuals. The purpose of this unit is for students to develop an understanding of the nutritional needs of specific target groups and plan and cook complex dishes to meet these needs.

Unit 2: Ensuring Food is Safe to Eat (mandatory)
This is the Controlled Assessment in Year 13. This unit allows the student to develop their understanding of the science of food safety and hygiene; essential knowledge for anyone involved in food production or wishing to work in the food industry. Practical sessions support the gaining of theoretical knowledge. There will be a development in the understanding of hazards and risks in relation to the storage, preparation and cooking of food in different environments, and the control measures needed to minimise these risks. From this understanding, students will be able to recommend the control measures that need to be in place, in different environments, to ensure food safety. Students then choose either Unit 3 or Unit 4, both of which are Controlled Assessment. There is no examination at the end of Year 13.

Unit 3: Experimenting to Solve Food Production
The aim of this unit is for students to use their understanding of the properties of food in order to plan and carry out experiments. The results of the experiments would be used to propose options to solve food production problems.

Unit 4: Current Issues in Food Science and Nutrition
Through this unit, students develop the skills needed to plan, carry out and present a research project on current issues linked to issues related to food science and nutrition. This could be from the perspective of a consumer, food manufacturer, caterer and/or policy-making perspective.

Where could the subject take you?
This qualification will help you in a wide range of different career paths and further study options regardless of the route you choose to take. In addition, there are a number of media related degree courses and career paths open to you, including media, film making and production, the communications industry, IT, journalism and product design.

FRENCH AND SPANISH

Want to broaden your horizons, learn more about yourself and improve your career opportunities? Do you expect to gain at least a grade 7 in GCSE French or Spanish? Then studying a modern foreign language is ideal for you!

Sixth Form language studies are rather different from those at GCSE – in a good way, of course! The small class size, informal and relaxed atmosphere with an emphasis on independent learning, speaking as much French or Spanish as possible... it's a great way to improve your skills.

What will you study and learn?

The exciting French or Spanish courses you will embark on are highly relevant to your interests and concerns. We focus on discovering how French, Spanish and South American people talk at a personal level, what they think, how they live, how their cultures work. As you develop and build on skills you learned at GCSE, you will also learn more about the mechanics of the language, like grammar and vocabulary.

We use the AQA course books, as recommended by the examination board, but much of the course is taught through a linked online resource, Kerboodle. You will be able to access Kerboodle at home, to do reading, writing, listening and interactive activities. You will watch video and film clips, read online articles and news, research topics on the Internet and in books, prepare presentations... there's never a dull moment!

Course content and examinations

Our examination board is AQA (for more information, go to www.aqa.org.uk)

The A-level is a linear course, so students will sit their examinations at the end of the course. The topics covered are Social Issues and Trends, Political and Artistic Culture and Literary Texts and Films whilst undertaking an individual research project.

The examinations are weighted such that the listening, reading and writing paper (Paper 1) is worth 40%, the writing paper (Paper 2) is worth 30% and the speaking paper (Paper 3) is also worth 30% of the total mark.

Where could the subject take you?

You have probably heard that fewer and fewer British people study languages these days: the European Commission is currently facing a severe shortage of native English speaking interpreters and translators. Officials in Brussels say the situation is becoming so serious that they will have to resort to using more interpreters from other countries or reduce the number of meetings they can hold every day.

Whatever career path you choose, if you are able to communicate effectively in another language you will certainly be in demand when you start looking for a job. In all sorts of fields, from the travel and tourism industry to engineering, proficiency in a modern foreign language is a real advantage.

GEOGRAPHY

If you enjoyed GCSE geography and want to investigate a wider range of geographical issues, then the A2 course is for you. Ideally you should attain a grade 6 or above in your GCSE examination. You should be keen, well-motivated and interested in keeping up-to-date with topical issues. Alternatively, if you feel you missed out on the opportunity at GCSE to learn about the world around us, how it changes and is continuing to change, and have done well in associated subjects, then geography could also be for you!

What will you study and learn?

Geography is the study of the human and physical forces of change affecting the earth. It is about the relationship between people and their environment. As well as investigating important topical issues, you will acquire and develop a wide range of cross-curricular skills such as problem solving and decision making, ICT and statistical analysis.

Fieldwork plays an essential role in geographical study and research into elements of both physical and human geography. Fieldwork is likely to be undertaken in collaboration with King's High at the Cranedale centre in Yorkshire. For many students, the chance to study the environment at first-hand is the highlight of the A-level course, and this is continued into Year 13 when students get to investigate a geographical enquiry of their own choice.

Course content and examinations

We follow the OCR A-level Geography course.

In Year 12 we study:

Landscape Systems
This topic introduces learners to the integrated study of earth surface processes, landforms and resultant landscapes within the conceptual framework of a systems approach. An understanding of earth surface processes, together with their associated transfers of energy and movements of materials underpins the landscape systems topic. You will learn about coastal systems, physical processes and the impact on the human environment.

Changing Spaces, Making Places
Places are connected to other places and there are few left untouched from the forces of globalisation. This unit allows learners to look through a local lens to understand global issues, such as economic and social inequality, redevelopment of areas as well as the impact of globalisation in different parts of the world.

Geographical Debates: Hazardous Earth
Movement of the Earth's land masses, from Pangaea to present-day are evidence that forces beneath our feet are at work. Seismic and volcanic activity creates hazards as populations have grown and inhabited more of the Earth.

Further units are studied to prepare for A2:

Earth's Life Support Systems focuses on both water and carbon cycling at global and local scales and Global Connections in which students investigate global migration as well as global variations in human rights.

Disease Dilemmas introduces students into the health inequalities both globally and regionally. We investigate the social, economic, political and environmental causes of different health outcomes to different diseases. This is an especially relevant topic given the current pandemic crises, with fantastic synoptic learning to impacts on places as a result.

Two further, smaller units are also studied which investigate the impact of global migration and the different attitudes to Human Rights around the world. In addition, students at A-level, in Year 13, complete an independent investigation worth 20% of the final A-level.

Assessment:
There are three examinations at the end of the two year course. The first covers all the physical topics and the second, the human topics. There are structured as well as essay type questions. The third covers both Geographical Debates and consists of structured, synoptic as well as longer, more developed essay questions.

In addition, students in Year 13 complete an independent investigation worth 20% of the final A-level.

Where could the subject take you?

Geography has been described as one of the most exciting and important academic disciplines. It is highly relevant for students today because it promotes an understanding of the interactions between people and environments and focuses on the study of places. It provides an opportunity to integrate ideas from the humanities, social sciences and physical sciences and as such it can be studied in conjunction with a range of other subjects. The study of geography rarely leads to a specific area of employment and geography graduates go into a very wide range of jobs. These range from business fields such as administration, management and financial work, to sales, marketing and buying. Information and communications technology and organisational skills, acquired on a geography degree course can be very useful for the civil service, local government, commerce and industry. Some of the most popular opportunities for geographers are cartography, environmental and ecological work, marketing and logistics, meteorology or oceanography, planning, surveying, teaching, development work and work in the business / financial sector.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Cambridge Technical Certificate Introductory Diploma

Health and social care will appeal to you if you are interested in working with people within a health care setting or a social care setting. Although no prior knowledge of the subject is required, you will need to have a good work ethic in order to meet the demands of a course assessed by a high proportion of coursework. You will also benefit from organising your own work placement in a health or social care setting alongside your timetabled hours of study.

What will you study and learn?

You will apply communication and relationship building skills in a practical way, considering how different factors, including context, can impact on the building of positive relationships. Students will also be introduced to the concept of the person-centred approach which will help with their relationship building skills. Students will begin to understand the implications of diversity in practice and also the effects of discriminatory practice on individuals who require care or support. Throughout the variety of modules you will develop an understanding of different theories and be able to explain them through the use of case studies and real life experiences from your work placement. Students will also learn how to analyse the benefits and weaknesses of these theories which can be applied to context such as health, education and child care.

Course content and examinations

OCR LEVEL 3 Cambridge Technical Certificate in Health and Social Care:

This qualification can be achieved through a one year course and can be taught alongside other AS-level options. To achieve the certificate three modules will need to be completed;

Unit One: Building Positive Relationships in Health and Social Care (Coursework)
Unit Two: Equality, Diversity and Rights in Health and Social Care (Externally assessed)
Unit Three: Health, Safety and Security in Health and Social Care (Externally assessed)

OCR Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate:

This qualification can be achieved through a two year course which can be taught alongside other A-level options. To achieve the extended certificate a further three modules would need to be completed during Year 13. One compulsory module includes Anatomy and Physiology for Health and Social Care. Other module choices can be flexible. Some examples of modules include: supporting people with learning difficulties, infection control and psychology for health and social care.

Where could the subject take you?

This qualification will support further study in Further Education or higher education, such as degrees or foundation degrees. The qualification will also support progression into any type of care service such as child care or specialist support workers in any health or social care settings.

HISTORY

Are you studying history at GCSE and looking forward to gaining a good grade? Are you someone who has an enquiring mind, enjoys finding out about the past and can think analytically and independently in order to argue a point of view? Do you enjoy discussing and debating current affairs and drawing parallels between past and present?

What will you study and learn?

You will have the opportunity to study a range of periods from history in a variety of ways – with both national and international perspectives. This will include learning about significant events and individuals who have changed and shaped the course of history. At Kingsley we will study a combination of 16th century and 20th century history covering a total of 200 years.

Course content and examinations

Examination board: AQA

Component 1: Breadth Study
The Breadth Study analyses significant historical developments over a period of around 100 years and associated interpretations. We will study The Tudors: England 1485 – 1603. This will include investigating the social, economic, religious, political and foreign changes which occurred through the Tudor period. The breadth study is worth 40%.

Component 2: Depth Study
This is the study in depth of a period of major historical change or development and associated primary evidence. The Depth Study will be Italy and Fascism: 1900-1945. This will include an analysis of the rise and fall of Mussolini and the changes brought about by his dictatorship. The Depth Study is worth 40%.

Component 3: Historical Investigation (only at A2)
The coursework topic is of the student's own choice. This should provide flexibility and enable a student partly to pursue their own historical interest. For example, past coursework topics have included the Arab-Israeli Conflict and China 1875-1976. The coursework is worth 20%.

A-level exams will be taken at the end of the course – a linear system of assessment. In addition, AS exams may be taken in the summer of Year 12. These may be "stand alone" qualifications for those who do not wish to continue the subject, but more likely will provide useful examination practice and guidelines for university applications in Year 13.

Where could the subject take you?

An A-level in history integrates well with other academic subjects, is highly regarded by universities and will allow you to develop skills needed for a wide choice of careers, including law, academia, administration, civil service, management, marketing and work in the media.

LATIN

This subject is for students who enjoy translating Latin and are keen to develop greater fluency in the language. You should have an interest in reading Latin literature and analysing literary techniques used by Roman authors. You need to be able to show a sound foundation of grammar and vocabulary through GCSE Latin and be prepared to discuss your ideas in class.

What will you study and learn?

For the new AS and A-level Latin qualifications, there is a focus on analytical and evaluative skills. Students will acquire the confidence to approach language sensitively and critically. They will hone their analytical skills and be intellectually challenged by covering a range of disciplines such as history, philosophy, religion and politics as well as literature. There is now greater choice of literature texts covered so students can read more widely and gain a deeper understanding of the life and culture of the ancient world.

Course content and examinations

Examination board: OCR

AS-level (H043):

Language: you will translate an unseen passage into English and either answer comprehension questions or translate sentences from English to Latin. There is a set vocabulary list. Tested by a 1 hour 30 minutes examination worth 50% of the qualification.

Verse and Prose Literature: you will answer questions requiring knowledge of the text and discussion of the literary features used by the writers. Tested by a 2 hour examination worth 50% of the qualification.

A-level (H443):

This is a linear qualification so all assessment will be at the end of the two year course.

Latin language:

Unseen translation: you will translate an unseen prose and verse passage into English. There is no defined vocabulary list. Tested by a 1 hour and 45 minute examination worth 33% of the qualification.

Prose composition or comprehension: you will either complete a short translation and answer comprehension questions or translate a passage from English to Latin. Tested by a 1 hour and 15 minute examination worth 17% of the qualification.

Latin literature:

Verse Literature: you will study two Roman poets. The examination will be translating and answering questions requiring knowledge of the text and discussion of the literary features used by the writer. You will also write an essay in English. Tested by a 2 hour examination worth 25% of the qualification.

Prose Literature: you will study two Roman writers. The examination will be translating and answering questions requiring knowledge of the text and discussion of the literary features used by the writer. You will also write an essay in English. Tested by a 2 hour examination worth 25% of the qualification.

Where could the subject take you?

If you wanted to continue your study of Latin after A-levels you could follow a course in Classics at degree level and have the option to combine this with ancient Greek. Latin is an academic subject which is highly regarded by universities and prospective employers as it shows that you have an analytical mind and are capable of paying attention to detail. Latin is a superb choice if you are thinking of a career in law, medicine or veterinary science because as well as helping you with Latin terms, it will help to make your qualification stand out in these very competitive fields. Latin is also useful for a variety of career paths including languages, accountancy, archaeology, teaching and computer science as it trains your brain in a rigorous way.

MATHEMATICS

You must enjoy mathematics, particularly algebra, trigonometry and problem solving. You will be able to think logically and analytically. You will be expected to have achieved at least a grade 6 in your IGCSE or GCSE. If you wish to take A-level Further Mathematics, you will need to achieve a grade 8 or 9.

What will you study and learn?

Mathematics at A-level is a course worth studying in its own right. It is challenging but interesting. It builds on work you will have met at GCSE level, but also involves new ideas that some of the greatest minds of the last millennium have produced. It serves as a very useful support for many other qualifications as well as being a sought after qualification for the workplace and courses in higher education.

While studying mathematics you will be expected to:

- use mathematical skills and knowledge to solve problems
- solve quite complicated problems by using mathematical arguments and logic
- understand and demonstrate what is meant by proof in mathematics
- simplify real life situations so that you can use mathematics to show what is happening and what might happen in different circumstances
- use the mathematics that you learn to solve problems that are given to you in a real-life context
- use calculator technology and other resources (such as formulae booklets) effectively and appropriately; understand when not to use such technology and its limitations

At Kingsley, we study mathematics at A-level in the following branches:

1. Pure mathematics – When studying pure mathematics at AS and A-level, you will be extending your knowledge of such topics as algebra and trigonometry as well as learning some brand new ideas such as calculus. If you enjoyed the challenge of problem-solving at GCSE level using such techniques then you should find the prospect of this course very appealing. Although many of the ideas you will meet in pure mathematics are interesting in their own right, they also serve as an important foundation for other branches of mathematics, especially mechanics and statistics.

2. Mechanics – When you study mechanics, you will learn how to describe mathematically the motion of objects and how they respond to forces acting upon them, from cars in the street to satellites revolving around a planet. You will learn the technique of mathematical modelling; that is, of turning a complicated physical problem into a simpler one that can be analysed and solved using mathematical methods. Many of the ideas you will meet in the course form an almost essential introduction to such important modern fields of study as cybernetics, robotics, biomechanics and sports science, as well as the more traditional ideas of engineering and physics.

3. Statistics – When you study statistics, you will learn how to analyse and summarise numerical data in order to arrive at conclusions about it. You will extend the range of probability problems that you started for GCSE by using the

new mathematical techniques studied on the pure mathematics course. Many of the ideas you will meet in this course have applications in a wide area of other fields – from assessing what your car insurance is going to cost to how likely it is that the earth is going to be hit by a comet in the next few years.

Students studying A-level Further Mathematics are able to study a fourth branch of mathematics:

*4. Decision mathematic*s – When you study decision mathematics, you will learn how to create and apply algorithms and use linear programming to solve problems. You will learn how to apply methods of optimization to real-life problems in order to improve profit and efficiency. Many of the ideas you will meet in the course are very strongly linked to computer technology and programming and form an almost essential introduction to business, finance, project planning and management.

Course content and examinations

The examination board is Edexcel.

AS level units – lead to an AS-level in mathematics:

1. Pure Mathematics 1 (62.5%) 2 hours
2. Statistics & Mechanics (37.5%) 1 hour 15 minutes

A-level units – leads to a GCE in mathematics:

1. Pure Mathematics 1 (33.3%) 2 hours
2. Pure Mathematics 2 (33.3%) 2 hours
3. Statistics & Mechanics (33.3%) 2 hours

Further mathematics students will take all the units:

- Further Mathematics AS-level – Further Pure 1 (50%) 1 hour 40 minutes, Further Option 1 (50%) 1 hour 40 minutes
- Further Mathematics A-level – Further Pure 1 (25%), Further Pure 2 (25%), Further Option 1 (25%), Further Option 2 (25%)

Each unit has a 1 hour 30 minute examination at the end of Year 13.

Where could the subject take you?

A-level Mathematics is a much sought-after qualification for entry to a wide variety of full-time courses in higher education. There are many areas of employment that see A-level Mathematics as an important qualification and it is often a requirement for the vocation qualifications related to these areas.

Higher education courses or careers that either require A-level Mathematics or are strongly related include economics, medicine, architecture, engineering, accountancy, teaching, psychology, computing and information technology.

If you wanted to continue your study of mathematics after A-levels, you could follow a course in mathematics at degree level or even continue further as a postgraduate and get involved in mathematical research.

MUSIC

This course is for individuals who play an instrument or sing to a high standard. You will need to be creative, reflective and energetic and willing to solve problems. You will enjoy practical music making and have an interest in a wide variety of music. You do not need to have taken GCSE music, or to have done any grades on an instrument or voice, but you will need to be able to demonstrate that your practical and theoretical knowledge is of the required standard.

What will you study and learn?

The OCR AS-level in Music requires learners to develop an in-depth knowledge and understanding of musical elements, musical contexts and musical language, and allow students to apply these, where appropriate, to their own work when performing and composing. We study in depth some cornerstones of Western Music, as well some more avant garde work, from a variety of traditions and genres.

Areas of Study

1. Instrumental music of Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven
2. Popular song: Blues, jazz, swing and big band
3. Instrumental jazz from 1910 to the present day
4. Religious music of Bach, Purcell and Handel
5. Programme music 1820-1910
6. Innovations in music from 1900 to the present day

Course content and examinations

The OCR Specification is followed. The A-level Specification allows for room to specialise as either a performer or a composer. You will study EITHER Pathway A or Pathway B, according to your strengths as a musician, and a listening exam based on the areas of study from the course.

Performing A (25%)
Recital Explanation/commentary of piece(s)
A video recorded recital accompanied by a verbal or written explanation of the pieces chosen. Learners will make use of musical elements, techniques and resources to interpret and communicate musical ideas with technical and expressive control and an understanding of style and context. This will be achieved through playing or singing solo or in an ensemble, improvising, or realising music through music technology.

Composing A (35%)
Composition of at least three separate pieces of music

- One to a brief set by OCR
- One to a brief written by the learner
- A specialist study in composition techniques
- Combined duration at least 6 minutes.

Performing B (35%)
Recital (10-12 Minutes) Explanation/ commentary of piece(s)
A video recorded recital accompanied by a verbal or written explanation of the pieces chosen. Learners will make use of musical elements, techniques and resources to interpret and communicate musical ideas with technical and expressive control and an understanding of style and context. This will be achieved through playing or singing solo or in an ensemble, improvising, or realising music through music technology.

Composing B (25%)
Composition of at least two separate pieces of music
- One to a brief set by OCR
- One to a brief written by the learner
- Combined duration at least 4 minutes.

Listening and Appraising
Written exam responding to extracts on a CD and contextual study of prescribed works and Areas of Study
- Aural recognition and context
- Unheard/unfamiliar music
- Analysing and evaluating prescribed music
- Reflecting on music written for a purpose.

Where could the subject take you?

Many subjects go well with music from a wide range of humanities and languages as well as mathematics and science. With a qualification in music you could go on to higher education and job possibilities include work in the music industry, teaching, and other related areas. However, past students have also gone on to study subjects as diverse as medicine, English Literature, philosophy and psychology. Many universities value music as an A-level because it teaches such a huge range of skills.

PHILOSOPHY, ETHICS AND RELIGION (PER)

To study this subject at A-level, you will be a person who is interested in and thinks deeply about the fundamental questions people ask about life. For example, why are we here? How should we live our lives? What happens to us when we die?

You will have a keen interest in moral and ethical issues such as abortion, euthanasia, environmental and business ethics, and how these issues affect people in their everyday lives and how we should make moral decisions.

Many other subjects go well with Philosophy and Ethics: for example English, history, psychology and politics. It can also be a useful complement to science subjects particularly for those thinking of following a career in medicine.

You will want to develop your abilities in critical thinking and skills in argument and analysis, as well as consider a variety of opinions and views about such fundamental questions.

It would be helpful if you have done GCSE Religious Studies, Philosophy and Ethics and have achieved a good grade, however it is not an essential requirement of the course. You do not have to be religious to succeed in this subject, but you need to have a critical mind and a love of discussion.

What will you study and learn?

In PER you will be introduced to philosophy, ethics and Christianity as explored by some of the great thinkers of our time. You will learn some of the basic concepts and information that you will need as you progress through the course and you will begin to develop skills in argument and analysis. We will use set texts but also refer to video and news information as it relates to these issues.

AS and A2 units

Course content and examinations: you will study OCR Religious Studies, which will be available as a one year AS course or two year A-level.

The course is divided into three sections; Philosophy of Religion, Religious Ethics and Developments in Christian thought. Within these topics you will look at the following:

AS-level

Philosophy of Religion
Ancient philosophical influences
Mind body and soul
Arguments for the existence of God based on observation
Arguments for the existence of God based on reason
Religious experience
Problem of evil

Religious Ethics
Natural Law
Situation Ethics
Utilitarianism
Categorical Imperative
Euthanasia
Business ethics

Developments in Christian thought
Augustine's teaching on human nature
Death and the afterlife
Knowledge of God
The person of Jesus Christ
Christian moral principles
Christian moral actions

A-level

Philosophy of religion
The nature of attributes of God
Religious language: Negative, Analogical or Symbolic
Religious Language: Twentieth Century Perspectives

Religious Ethics
Ethical Language: Meta-ethics
Conscience
Sexual Ethics

Developments in Christian thought
Religious pluralism and theology
Religious pluralism and society
Gender and society
Gender and theology
The challenge of secularism
Liberation theology and Marx

There will be 3 papers in Year 12 for AS-level. Each will be 1 hour 15 minutes and will make up 50% of the final A-level grade. In Year 13, the three papers will be 2 hours each. There is no coursework for religious studies.

Course content and examinations

Philosophy and Ethics in Religious Studies is a highly respected qualification. This could lead to higher education, at college or university. The skills developed and subjects covered in philosophy and ethics are particularly useful for careers in law, education, social work, politics, medicine, administration and the media.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography at The Kingsley School will give you access to state of the art digital editing facilities equipped with Adobe Photoshop® and use of professional studio lighting equipment, allowing you to work at an industry standard with your digital photography.

To embark on A-level Photography, a GCSE in Art & Design is recommended, but not essential. The most important requirements are that you have a real interest in the subject and will apply yourself with enthusiasm, effort and commitment.

All candidates will be required to submit a small portfolio of work to assess their suitability for the subject.

What will you study and learn?

A-level Photography will allow you to develop your skills in picture-taking and provide you with advanced Photoshop skills. Alongside the development of these technical skills you will study essential elements such as lighting, studio techniques and composition, underpinned by critical and contextual studies.

The course will also give you the opportunity to develop your own identity as a photographer, through the close study of other photographers and their influence in your work.

Course content and examinations

The photography course that you will follow at A-level is endorsed Art & Design (Photography: lens-based and light-based media) as specified by the examination board, AQA.

The A-level specification is comprised of some initial experiments, one component of practical coursework (personal investigation) supported by a written element of no less than 1000 and no more than 3000 words, and an externally set assignment, which concludes with a 15 hour examination. The personal investigation unit counts for 60% and the externally set task unit makes up the remaining 40% of the final grade.

Where could the subject take you?

Photography skills can support applications for further qualifications and careers in many creative fields including film, graphic design, advertising, fine art, illustration and web design. Specific careers in photography could involve photojournalism, portrait, scientific, fashion or sports photography, publicity and freelance work.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

To study this subject, you will ideally have a good scientific background, having achieved a grade A or B at GCSE. Studying PE at GCSE is an advantage but not essential. It is vital that you are regularly involved in at least one sporting activity at club, county or regional level; this can be as a performer, coach or official.

What will you study and learn?

There are four units in the whole course, two at AS and two at A2. One at each level is practically based. You will study:

- Analysis of Performance and complete an oral presentation on your own or another student's performance.
- Psychology of Sport: You will learn to appreciate how we are motivated to take part in sport. What gives us the will to win? Why do some sports players crumble under pressure whilst others become 'psyched-up'?
- Exercise Physiology and Biomechanics: By studying the body, you will learn how it works and how it can be trained to operate efficiently and effectively in sporting activities.
- Comparative studies in sport and culture: Here you will study the development of Physical Education in the UK, the USA and Australia in order to understand how different cultures have influenced the way in which various sports and activities have been adopted and organised by each country.

Course content and examinations

Examination board: OCR

AS Units:

UNIT 1: An introduction to Physical Education (60% of the total grade)

This Unit is divided into three sections:

- Section A: Anatomy and Physiology. Students will gain an understanding of how the body and its various systems influence performance in different physical activities.
- Section B: Acquiring movement skills. In this section students will develop an insight into how we learn particular physical skills and the influence that different practice methods have on our performance.
- Section C: Socio-cultural studies relating to participation in physical activity. Here, students will learn about different types of physical activity which have developed and their benefits to both the individual and society. Students will also look at past and present influences on participation in physical activity e.g. the Olympic Games Movement, sponsorship and the media.

UNIT 2: Acquiring, developing and evaluating practical skills in physical education as a performer, and/or in an adopted role. (40% of the total grade)

The Unit is divided into two sections:

- Section A will involve a practical assessment in one activity – please note this can be as a performer, coach or official
- Section B involves the observation of a live performance by another candidate in one of their own assessed performance activities. They must then critically evaluate the skills shown and consider the factors that make for an effective and efficient performance. Knowledge of the health and fitness benefits of the activity should also be explained.

AS Examination: 1 written paper x 2 hours. There will also be an assessment of practical work in one different activities which will be externally moderated.

A2 Units:

UNIT 3: Principles and concepts across different areas of Physical Education

This unit is divided into two sections:
- Section A: Historical studies and Comparative studies.
- Section B: Sports Psychology, Biomechanics and Exercise and Sport Physiology.

Candidates will have the choice of studying three of the five possible options with at least one from Section A.

UNIT 4: The improvement of effective performance and the critical evaluation of practical activities in Physical Education

Candidates will select one practical activity to be assessed in as a performer, coach or official.

In addition, candidates will observe a live performance and analyse the quality of performance with a view to improving it using particular strategies and action plans.

A2 Examination: 1 written paper x 2 hours. There will also be an assessment in one practical which will be externally moderated.

Where could the subject take you?

A-level Physical Education is a versatile and exciting qualification. Previous students have gone on to study physiotherapy, teaching, sports management, sports science and outdoor education at university. Career paths could also include nursing, midwifery, paramedic, nutritionist, sports psychologist and sportswear design.

PHYSICS

Physics AS and A2 courses are aimed at students who enjoy finding out how things work and like to question the nature of the Universe. You are likely to want to further your interests in science at university level or to demonstrate that you have excellent problem solving skills.

You need to be good at both physics and mathematics, expecting to achieve at least a B grade in separate science: physics or in the physics components of GCSE science and additional science as well as at least a grade 6 from the GCSE mathematics course. If you plan to study physics or engineering at university you must take mathematics at A-level. You will also be competent in the use of ICT and have good practical skills.

What will you study and learn?

You will study various concepts in physics, extending your knowledge of the topics covered at GCSE and meeting new, current ideas which are at the forefront of physics research.

In studying physics you will gain many skills, including:

- The ability to relate physics to the wider world
- The application of your knowledge to solving problems
- The ability to use mathematics as a tool
- The ability to use ICT to model concepts
- Practical skills including the planning of investigations and the analysis and evaluation of your results
- The ability to discuss the purpose of new physics research and its relationship to society
- Independent learning

Course content and examinations

AS and A2 Units
Examination board: AQA

This qualification is linear, this means that students will sit all the AS exams at the end of their AS course and all the A-level exams at the end of their A-level course.

Core content
1: Measurements and their errors
2: Particles and radiation
3: Waves
4: Mechanics and materials
5: Electricity
6: Further mechanics and thermal physics
7: Fields and their consequences
8: Nuclear physics
9: Medical physics option
AS-level

At AS-level, sections 1 to 5 are assessed in two papers each worth 50% of the AS.

Paper 1 is a written exam of 1 hour and 30 minutes. It is comprised of 70 marks of short and long answer questions split by topic.

Paper 2 is a written exam of 1 hour and 30 minutes. It is also worth 70 marks in a total of three Sections:
Section A: 20 marks of short and long answer questions on practical skills and data analysis
Section B: 20 marks of short and long answer questions from across all areas of
Section C: 30 multiple choice questions

At A-level, there are two written exams:

Paper 1 is a written exam of two hours, it assesses knowledge of sections 1 to 5 and 6.1 periodic motion. It is comprised of 85 marks: 60 marks of short and long answer questions split by topic and 25 marks of multiple choice questions. It is worth 34% of the A-level.

Paper 2 is a written exam of two hours. It assesses knowledge of sections 6.2 to 8. It is comprised of 85 marks: 60 marks of short and long answer questions split by topic and 25 marks of multiple choice questions. It is worth 34% of the A-level.

Paper 3 is a practical skills and data analysis exam of two hours. There are 80 marks available and it is worth 32% of the A-level.

Where could the subject take you?
Physics is useful in a wide variety of careers and shows universities and employers that you are a logical thinker.

Physics is essential if you want to pursue a career in physics related subjects, including astronomy or engineering.

Physics is useful if you want to follow a career in medicine, dentistry, physiotherapy, optometry, audiology or any other medical related studies. It is also a preferred subject for some architecture courses.

Physics might be useful if you want to demonstrate that you have good problem solving skills. It complements economics, business studies, law, mathematics and environmental sciences.

POLITICS

This subject provides the opportunity to study something new, something you have not been able to do at GCSE. There are no specific qualifications necessary to study Politics. It complements subjects like English, Economics, History, Geography and PER and it also makes an interesting addition to sciences courses.

You will enjoy this subject if you like a good argument, are interested in what happens in the world, would like to know how decisions are made that affect our lives and if you would like to improve your analytical skills.

What will you study and learn?

You will develop a critical awareness of politics and study the main aspects of the UK political system. We look at the ideas behind politics, like power, and then see how they work in reality. In Year 13 we study American politics.

Course content and examinations

We study 3 units in Year 12:

- Politics of the UK: democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems and voting behaviour and the media
- Government of the UK: the British constitution, the structure and role of Parliament, the Prime Minister and the executive, the Supreme Court and the relations between the three branches of government
- Non-core ideology: Feminism.

There are two examination papers with a combination of short response, extract-based and essay-style questions.

We study 2 units in Year 13:

- US government and politics: the constitution, Congress, presidency, Supreme Court and civil rights, democracy and participation
- Core ideologies: Conservatism, Socialism and Liberalism.

At A-level all units are assessed through a mixture of medium length 'explain' and essay-style questions.

Where could the subject take you?

This is a highly regarded academic course which should encourage you to be a clear thinker and a confident participant in discussion. This is one of the more unusual subjects so it can help you to stand out from the crowd on an application form. It is particularly useful if you are thinking of studying law, history, geography, business, economics, international relations and journalism but it is also very useful for the rest of your life!

PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology will appeal to you if you are interested in people and why they behave in the way they do. You should enjoy debating alternative explanations; if you require definite answers, psychology is not for you. You are not expected to have any prior knowledge of psychology but a good standard of English and mathematics is important.

What will you study and learn?

You will learn about different explanations for human behaviour and the various methods used by psychologists to study behaviour and attitudes. You will be encouraged to reflect on your experiences in the light of psychological theory and to apply psychological knowledge to the world around you. You will learn how psychologists design investigations, collect and interpret data, and how psychological theory and research findings are applied in various contexts including the law, health, child care and education and social policy. Psychology teaches you to think independently and critically.

Course content and examinations

Psychology students will follow the AQA specification. In Year 12 students will focus on the following topic areas:

- approaches in psychology: the different theoretical views on human behaviour
- research methods used to study human behaviour, for example, observations and experiments
- social psychology: the study of how behaviour is affected by the presence and behaviour of other people around us
- cognitive psychology: the study of internal mental process such as memory and perception
- biological psychology: the influence of genes, biological structures and neurochemistry on human behaviour
- psychopathology: characteristics, explanations and treatments of various mental disorders.

In Year 13 students studying A-level psychology will focus on the following topic areas:

- cognition and development in childhood
- schizophrenia, including causes and treatments
- forensic psychology, including explanations for offending behaviour and the role of psychologists in treating offending behaviour
- perspectives and debates in psychology, including issues like the influence of nature and nurture on behaviour and the role of free will
- research methods and statistics.

Where could the subject take you?

Psychology combines well with a wide variety of A-level subjects and is useful for many career paths. It may be studied in higher education as a subject in its own right or combined with other subjects. It is possible to specialise in clinical, child, occupational, educational or criminal psychology, but knowledge of psychology is also useful for a variety of careers, especially those which involve working with people such as teaching, health, business and management.

SOCIOLOGY

Sociology is the first step on a journey of discovery, where things might not be quite what they seem!

It is the study of how society is organised and how we experience life. It is about people living together.

It is a stimulating and exciting subject and it will be the A-Level for you if you are curious to find out more about the way society has developed and you want to understand the society we live in today. Studying of sociology will cause you to question things you take for granted, for example:

- Are men or women more likely to commit a crime?
- Why are some people powerful and others powerless?
- How does the way you see yourself determine the way people identify you?
- Why are some people rich and others living in poverty?
- Why has society developed the way it has?

It is an academically stimulating subject and it will cause you to look at the world around you in a more critical way.

What will you study and learn?

Sociology will help you to develop an understanding of issues around culture, identity, religion, crime, poverty, social power and the media. The skills you develop will be of benefit to you regardless of whether you decide to go on to further study or the working world, including:

- Using evidence to support your arguments
- Investigating facts and using deduction
- Critical thinking
- Making reasoned arguments
- Developing opinions and new ideas on societal issues
- Developing a better understanding of societal issues

To succeed you will need a good level of literacy and be curious to find out more!

Course content and examinations

The course consists of core and optional content. The content covers topics such as education, crime and deviance, culture and identity, families and households, health, work poverty and welfare, global development, the media and stratification and differentiation.

It is assessed by three written papers taken at the end of year 13. Paper 1 covers education and sociological methods in context. Paper 2 covers the options, which are likely to be work, poverty and welfare, and the media. Paper 3 covers crime and deviance and sociological theories.

Where could the subject take you?

Sociology provides a springboard to a wide range of careers. Examples include:

- Social work
- Policing
- Marketing
- Journalism
- Law
- Teaching
- Human resources
- Nursing
- Medicine

SPORT

Cambridge Technical Certificate Introductory Diploma

The Cambridge Technical Certificate in Sport can be combined with a wide range of subjects at A-level. It will appeal to you if you have a strong interest in sport or are preparing for a career in sport. The UCAS points that this qualification attracts are comparable with an A-level and will support further study in higher education in sport.

What will you study and learn?

The qualification is divided into a wide range of theoretical and practical units such as practical performance analysis, sports coaching and leadership, body systems, human movement and organisation of sporting events.

Course content and examinations

The units studied can be adapted to suit the individual group members every year.

For example the following four units could be studied during Year 12:

Unit 1 – Principles of Anatomy and Physiology in Sport
Unit 2 – Sports Coaching
Unit 3 – Current Issues in Sport
Unit 4 – The Physiology of Fitness

Selection of three additional units (from over 20) in Year 13 will result in the achievement of a full A-level equivalent qualification and attract the same UCAS points. All units are assessed through practical and written assignments which are completed throughout the year and are externally moderated by an OCR Moderator.

Where could the subject take you?

This qualification provides an excellent progression route to a wide range of degree courses in sport, nutrition, healthcare and exercise. You will also have developed the practical skill to gain further qualifications in sports coaching and working within the leisure industry.

KEY DATES

Sixth Form Open Evening	*September*
Sixth Form Taster Day	*October*
Working Open Afternoon	*November*
Deadline for Applications Including Scholarship Applications	*January*
Applicant and Scholarship Interviews	*January*

Application forms and scholarship information can be found on our website (thekingsleyschool.co.uk). Alternatively, please contact the Admissions Registrar (admissions@kingsleyschool.co.uk).

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