



# PROSPECTUS 2024

PETER  
SYMONDS  
COLLEGE





**Bria Bone**  
Test Valley School

**Subjects**  
Biology  
Chemistry  
Maths  
Psychology

**Enrichment**  
Netball  
Gym

“ I have enjoyed how much the teachers care and want us to do our best, and the amount of effort they put in to our learning. ”  
Bria Bone

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All level 3 courses are A Level, apart from those marked:

1. BTEC courses
2. Cambridge Technical courses
3. EDUQAS Diploma courses
4. T Level course
5. VTCT Diploma course

# WELCOME

TO PETER SYMONDS



“A brilliant mix of motivated students, dedicated staff and fantastic facilities makes Peter Symonds a vibrant and positive place to study.”

Sara Russell, Principal

#### FROM SARA RUSSELL, PRINCIPAL

Peter Symonds College is a fantastic place to learn and study, where you will enjoy being part of a vibrant, thriving community. We are proud of our traditional academic roots, but as you will see we are also a modern, dynamic and forward-thinking college, offering a wide range of subjects with a clear focus on individuality. Our motto has long been ‘Counting in Ones’.

Peter Symonds is one of the country’s most successful colleges and our vision is to help you achieve the best possible future. You will have access to an unrivalled programme of subjects, enrichment opportunities and specialist support to ensure you will be successful in preparing for your next steps. Whilst this means supporting you to excel in your academic achievements, it also means providing you with opportunities to learn outside of the classroom, develop new skills, make new friends and realise your ambitions.

You will no doubt have aims and objectives for the next stage in your education, and as a friendly and supportive college with high aspirations for all, we look forward to supporting you to achieve those dreams. With an inspirational approach to teaching and learning and a proven track record in sixth form education, we are proud of our outstanding reputation and eager to share our expertise with you.

I very much look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to the College in September 2024.

#### FROM ZAC HUSSAIN, STUDENT UNION

May I be the first to tell you that Peter Symonds is truly brilliant. With excellent support from both the teachers and students, you’ll be sure to cherish your time here.

The support offered at Symonds is second to none, with someone always there to help whether it’s at Student Services, your tutor, or your subject teacher. Whatever you need, you’re guaranteed a supportive answer in return.

One thing I particularly love about Symonds is the amount of student-led activities that take place throughout the year. You’ll see countless enrichment, or even independent, groups host events – allowing all of us to get involved. It’s a great part of student life and something that connects us all together. During your time here, you’ll be able to pick from over 170 different enrichment activities. I guarantee that there will be something you’ll love and the biggest advantage – you’ll meet even more new people and make some great friendships.

Another way you can get involved and be proactive in the College is through the Student Union. It’s a really worthwhile activity and allows all students to express their ideas that will positively impact and grow the College.

These are some of the things that make Peter Symonds a truly incredible place to learn and study. I’m sure your time here will be as good as mine.

**FACT:**  
PSC HAS BEEN RANKED AS OUTSTANDING BY OFSTED FOR 18 YEARS



# PETER SYMONDS IN 10

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Governors have worked with senior leaders to maintain an inclusive curriculum and supportive ethos, while still maintaining expectations about high standards.

Ofsted 2020



## 1. THE PERFECT PLACE FOR AMBITION

Our students achieve great things. They get better grades than would be expected from their starting points, they progress to competitive universities in huge numbers, and once there, our students get better degree results than students from elsewhere. The College remains the perfect place for ambition.

## 2. FANTASTIC FACILITIES

The College campus has a university feel with high-quality, specialist teaching facilities, extensive space for independent learning, and social spaces for taking a break.



## 3. INSPIRATIONAL TEACHING

Our subjects are delivered by dedicated expert teams, who are passionate about helping you to be inspired by your studies and achieve outstanding outcomes.

## 4. COURSES TO SUIT YOU

Our wide range of subjects allows you to choose a set of courses suited to your strengths, needs and ambitions. You can also take the Extended Project in which you can study a topic in greater detail and earn extra UCAS points.



## 5. AWARD-WINNING SUPPORT

Lunchtime workshops, a personal tutor, dedicated tutor time and one-to-one sessions ensure you get the support you need. We pride ourselves on the award-winning support that we offer all students. This includes our counselling services, study support and the drop-in services of The Hub.



## 6. UNRIVALLED ENRICHMENT

Peter Symonds has one of the biggest programmes of enrichment activities among UK colleges. With over 170 activities from debating societies, dance team and self-defence to PSC community volunteers, we have something for everyone.

## 7. CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

We have a national reputation for excellence in music and competitive sport. Our passion for performance spans every course and activity.

## 8. OUTSTANDING FOR A GENERATION

Our most recent Ofsted inspection in January 2020 once again rated Peter Symonds as 'outstanding', a grade we have now maintained for an amazing 18 years.



## 9. LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

Peter Symonds is situated in the beautiful cathedral city of Winchester. The College is four minutes' walk from the train station, and a short walk from the shops and restaurants of the bustling city centre.

## 10. OUR STUDENTS

The most important ingredient that contributes to making Peter Symonds special is our students, who are confident, mature, highly motivated and have high aspirations. Come and join our diverse, vibrant, exciting community, and form friendships that last a lifetime.



# HOW TO APPLY

TO PETER SYMONDS

SOME OF THESE DATES MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

Applying for a place at Peter Symonds is very straightforward. Your application is via our online system and you'll be able to check/edit the information you've entered before you hit the submit button!

Our friendly Admissions team is here to ensure your journey from application to enrolment is easy, informative and stress-free. We're here, at the end of the telephone or email, to answer any queries you may have throughout the process.

If you submit your application within our deadline, you'll be invited to attend a guidance chat with one of our team. This is an informal one-to-one, designed to give you more information about what to expect at College, as well as to discuss your course choices.

The timing of your guidance chat will not affect your chance of being offered a place at the College. However, in order to be considered for an offer of a place, you must attend your guidance chat.

Following your one-to-one, you will receive an email to inform you of one of three outcomes:

1. You will be offered a place.
2. Your application will be put on a reserve list, which means that we are unable to guarantee a place.
3. No offer will be made.

Our offer criteria are set out in our Admissions Policy (available at [www.psc.ac.uk/applying](http://www.psc.ac.uk/applying)).



Application enquiries received after the deadline should be made via the Admissions office. Late applications are generally added to a waiting list and are not considered until Easter.

**18 SEP 2023**  
Applications open for 2024 entry  
[www.psc.ac.uk/apply](http://www.psc.ac.uk/apply)

**3-4 OCT 2023**  
Open Evenings  
5.30pm-8.30pm

**6 NOV 2023**  
Boarding application deadline  
4.00pm

**11 DEC 2023**  
Application deadline

**27-28 JUN 2024**  
Welcome Days

**27-29 AUG 2024**  
Enrolment

01962 857555  
ADMISSIONS@PSC.AC.UK

SCAN THE CODE TO SEE THE FULL APPLICATION DIARY

PSC.AC.UK/APPLY

# EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

AT PETER SYMONDS

Being a student at Peter Symonds means being part of an inclusive, diverse and welcoming community. We value your individuality and encourage all students to play an active role in shaping the College. Your unique voice helps to reflect the needs and priorities of the student body.

Through a team of dedicated EDI Ambassadors, students and staff work together to celebrate, recognise and represent the diversity of our College community. Our ambassadors help to organise events, run training sessions and coordinate the College's EDI policy.

CELEBRATION  
RECOGNITION AND  
REPRESENTATION

**GET INVOLVED**

There are many ways in which you can actively help drive forward equality, diversity and inclusion at Peter Symonds. You can run for office in the Student Union, which provides a bridge between students and the Senior Management Team to discuss relevant issues.

You can take part in the Student Parliament and put yourself forward as a Tutor Group Representative, acting as a contact point for students to raise issues.

You could join one of our student societies or become involved in the student equality, diversity and inclusion forum. Or, you might like to support the Hub through a role as a Wellbeing Ambassador.

**FEEL SUPPORTED**

We have a number of groups and forums throughout the College which aim to promote awareness and provide support to students. Here are just a few examples of some of the current societies:

- Afro-Caribbean Society
- Christian Union
- Gender & Sexuality Alliance
- Global Awareness
- Islamic Society
- Jewish Society
- PSC Homeless Alliance
- PSC Volunteers
- South Asian Society
- Voices for Change
- Women's Empowerment

If you don't find the society or the support group that you'd like to see, tell us and we can work together to make it happen. Visit our Instagram page @edi.psc



# OUR FACILITIES

In the heart of Winchester and within acres of green space, Peter Symonds College is a vibrant and friendly place, with great opportunities to expand your learning, explore new experiences and build long-lasting friendships. The campus has a university feel, where buildings, both old and new, house state-of-the-art studios, science laboratories, a learning resource centre, media suites, classrooms and IT rooms.

## STUDY AND LEARNING SPACE

Our Learning Resource Centre (LRC) provides an open, light and spacious environment in which you can find the resources you will need to support your learning. We provide approximately 600 individual study spaces in silent and quiet study areas, as well as seminar rooms for group work. We have a large collection of non-fiction and fiction books, journals, magazines, DVDs and newspapers that help support your studies as well as your wider interests. In this area alone, you will have access to over 250 PCs and laptops, which you can use for your studies. The College is fully wifi-enabled, so you are also able to use your own laptop or mobile device.

There are more study spaces available in the Hopkins Study Centre, on the ground floor of the Hopkins building. An outstanding online resources collection is also available to you at College and at home, and significantly enhances the information accessible to you for your studies and research projects.



LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE



RECITAL ROOM



MERCERS' SPORTS HALL

## SOCIAL SPACE

You will find plenty of places to eat and socialise. In Paul Woodhouse Centre, you'll find a large refectory on the ground floor, offering a wide range of delicious hot and cold food options, with a lot of table seating. On the first floor, in the Student Common Room, you will find yet more seating with a cafe offering sandwiches and snacks. PW2 Café, in the centre of the campus, provides another space to relax, with a good range of food and plentiful seating too.

## RECREATIONAL SPACE

We have fantastic sports facilities; a well-equipped free gym, ample pitches (including a rugby pitch), tennis courts, the Mercers' Sports Hall, and the Nicholls Pavilion on the outer fields.



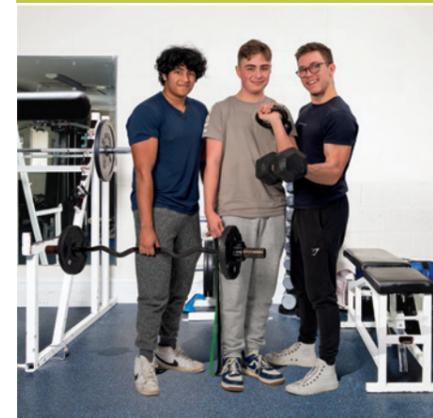
INDEPENDENT STUDY SPACES



SPORTS PITCHES



SCIENCE LABS



FREE GYM



LANGUAGE LAB



PW2 CAFE



CAREERS LIBRARY



LECTURE THEATRE



ASTROTURF PITCH

# CHALLENGE YOURSELF

AT PETER SYMONDS



Peter Symonds offers many opportunities for students to stretch themselves intellectually. Providing greater insights and experience in your chosen field, you'll be able to demonstrate your ambition to achieve as you progress to university or employment.

**FACT:**  
42 STUDENTS  
RECEIVED OXBRIDGE  
OFFERS IN 2023

## MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE

Ensembles, orchestras, choirs and jazz and rock bands provide a wide variety of opportunities for talented musicians. Peter Symonds also hosts the Hampshire Specialist Music Course; whilst dance and drama productions showcase performing arts and other talents. Specific help is available to support applications for further study, including audition preparation.

## TALENTED SPORTS PERFORMERS

This scheme is aimed at supporting gifted students by helping them to manage their time and balance sporting, personal and academic demands. Our Talented Sports Mentors meet with these students regularly.



## OXBRIDGE SUPPORT

Early in the lower sixth year, our Oxbridge Tutor invites students to enrol on our preparation programme. This includes a series of group sessions working with other like-minded students to develop the skills needed in order to make a competitive application. Support is offered throughout the application process as students perfect their personal statements, prepare for entrance tests and practise answering challenging interview questions.

## SUPPORT FOR ENTRY TO COMPETITIVE DEGREE COURSES

Students wanting to apply for Medicine, Veterinary Medicine and Dentistry can access careers talks and specific help with completing their applications and preparing for interviews.

## HE+ AND THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The University of Cambridge has nominated Peter Symonds as the hub college for its HE+ Project in Hampshire. The HE+ Project is designed to encourage lower sixth students studying in state schools and colleges to apply to Cambridge and other top universities, as well as providing them with academic and application support.

The project sees over 500 sixth form students from a range of schools and colleges converge on Peter Symonds College for a series of enrichment sessions. The programme includes high level input from the College's own teachers and academics from the University of Cambridge, and offers students a real insight into university-style learning and the options available to them once they have completed their A Level studies.

# EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

AT PETER SYMONDS

## THE COURSE

The EPQ is worth up to 28 UCAS points. This is the equivalent of half a full A Level and is highly valued by universities. Some universities include it in their offers. For example, they might accept ABB plus an A in EPQ, instead of AAB. Even if it doesn't appear in offers, universities like to see it on application forms. Doing an EPQ can make you stand out as an applicant.

If you are interviewed by a university or employer, you can talk about your EPQ and sometimes your work. You will be the expert on your EPQ topic and will be able to talk about it with confidence.

## THE WORK

Once you have had a chance to settle in to sixth form life, you will be offered the opportunity to undertake an EPQ as an additional qualification. All Peter Symonds College students are offered this opportunity. More and more students say that undertaking a project on a topic of their choice is one of the highlights of their time at the College.

If you choose an EPQ, you will be timetabled with a supervisor who will guide you through your project journey. Learning Resource Centre staff offer specialist advice on research skills. Our own subject specialists are available to help with tricky questions.

## THE ASSESSMENT

You will be assessed on your planning, project management, report-writing, presentations, ability to find and analyse research sources and to reference appropriately. If you complete a dissertation, you will have experience of producing a well-structured, extended piece of writing in response to a research question; something you will often be asked to do at university. If you create an artefact, you will have experience of evidencing the research and development of an object or design in response to a particular brief; a skill set highly valued by employers.



Abi Abosejo  
EPQ student

Boshan Jiang  
EPQ student



## WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

The EPQ prepares you for university, employment and life! You will learn skills in planning, project management, report-writing and presentation. You can choose the type of project you undertake.



SCAN THE CODE  
TO READ MORE  
ABOUT THIS  
COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/  
COURSES/C/  
EXTPROJ

# SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE

AT PETER SYMONDS



### 'COUNTING IN ONES'

At Peter Symonds College we take student support and guidance seriously. For us, counting in ones is a simple idea: that whenever we have contact with you, be it at an open evening, in an admissions chat, in a lesson, or in a discussion after exam results day, we treat you as an individual and respond to your individual needs. This is at the heart of how we support you along your journey from the moment of application through to university, employment and beyond.

### PERSONAL TUTORS

Your Personal Tutor plays a key role in your life at college. Through both group and one-to-one tutorials, your Tutor will get to know you well, monitor your progress, guide you through your time here and help you to decide on your future plans. Students with complex problems or issues, which take time to resolve, will also have the support of a Senior Tutor.

### GENDER IDENTITY

College staff will use the name and pronouns you feel best reflect your gender identity. You can talk to us in your one-to-one or when you start College, to ensure we get things right for you.



### SUBJECT WORKSHOPS

All subjects operate lunchtime workshops, which are available to all students. It might be that you are stuck and need some individual help with a piece of work, or you might want to join a revision session or investigate a topic in more depth.



### STUDENT SERVICES

Our dedicated team provides a range of information, advice and support to ensure the wellbeing of students. This includes information about student finance and transport, as well as individual help to guide students through their time at college.



High levels of individual support contribute to the very low number of students leaving their courses early and the high proportion who achieve better-than-expected grades in their subjects.

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### SAFEGUARDING

We recognise that we play a key role in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our students. Where we have concerns about an individual's safety or wellbeing, we will do our best to help and support, but there might be situations where we may need to pass our concerns onto the local Children's Services Department or the police or health services. As students are below the age of 18 when they join us we have a particular duty to make sure they feel and are safe while in our care.

The College also has a duty to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being radicalised and drawn into extremism, which is also treated as a safeguarding matter.

### EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The College is fully committed, in all of its functions and activities, to eliminating unfair discrimination, to promoting equality of opportunity and fostering good relations between people of different groups, including groups characterised by age, disability (physical and mental health), gender re-assignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

We take active steps to promote equality of opportunity and celebrate diversity and will take action to prevent racial or sexual harassment, sexist or racist jokes and insults, bullying and any other form of intimidation or discrimination.

We are committed to ensuring that disabled people (including those with medical conditions) are treated fairly. We will make reasonable adjustments to provision to ensure that anyone with a disability is not disadvantaged.

The College expects all students to show consideration and respect for others, in keeping with fundamental British values: democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. These are also values shared by many throughout the world.

### THE HUB

The Hub promotes wellbeing and resilience, and supports students with a range of emotional difficulties. This is via drop-in sessions as well as group and one-to-one support focusing on specific issues like anxiety and stress. Our therapy dogs visit The Hub regularly during the year and are very popular.



Alice Orman  
Hub Ambassador with Henry, therapy dog.

### COUNSELLING SERVICE

Our experienced Counsellors are available to support you if you have a complex problem, whether related to college life or not. Appointments are treated in the strictest confidence.

### LOOKED-AFTER CHILDREN AND CARE LEAVERS

If you are a looked-after child or care leaver, support is available to help you financially and personally. Please let us know on your application and we will discuss this support further with you in your admissions one-to-one.

### YOUNG CARERS

If you have caring responsibilities for a member of your family, please let us know in your application and we will discuss the support available to you in college via Student Services.

### 16-19 BURSARY FUND

Students from a low-income household (under £33,000 approx), who have difficulty meeting the specific financial costs of attending college may be eligible for financial help from the 16-19 Bursary. This is a cash-limited fund, so payments will be targeted at supporting travel costs, books and equipment. Free college meals are also available for those who meet the eligibility criteria.

### CAREERS EDUCATION AND GUIDANCE

We have our own careers department with fully qualified, professional Careers Advisers. The College holds the Investor in Careers' 'Quality in Careers Standard', demonstrating the priority given to delivering high-quality careers education, information, advice and guidance. Our Careers Advisers are on hand to provide one-to-one interviews, drop-in advice and job-seeking support.

### VULNERABLE STUDENT BURSARY

If you are a looked-after child, a care leaver or a student claiming Universal Credit in your own name, you will be eligible for the Vulnerable Student Bursary. This fund can help with college costs not already covered by other agencies. Please speak to Student Services staff if you think you are eligible.

### CHAPLAINCY

The chaplaincy service is open to students of all faiths or none. We have a chaplain who regularly calls into the College to offer the opportunity for an informal chat and encourage inter-faith dialogue. There are also student-led groups and a quiet room for personal thought and reflection.

We have an extensive range of information including online careers platforms, information resources and a job vacancy system. Special events run by the department include employment and higher education events, a Careers Day and a Progression Fair.

With over 85% of students progressing on to higher or further education, great emphasis is placed on supporting and guiding students with their applications.



PSC.AC.UK/  
STUDENT-SERVICES



PSC.AC.UK/  
CAREERS

# STUDY SUPPORT

AT PETER SYMONDS

**FACT:**  
THE PETER SYMONDS MOTTO IS 'COUNTING IN ONES'

The department supports students with learning differences, physical and sensory impairments and medical conditions.

Ofsted 2020

We have a team of experienced staff who can individually discuss your specific needs and are available to support you during your time at college. If you have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), please share this information with us when completing your online application form.

## STUDY SUPPORT TEAM

The department supports students with learning differences (SpLD), physical and sensory impairments and medical conditions. We have an experienced team of Learning Support Assistants who provide in and out-of-class support, based on identified need. In addition, we have Specialist SpLD teachers/assessors who provide assessments for exam arrangements and students may be offered tailored support.

Although situated on a hilly campus, adaptations have made the College more accessible, ensuring all students can participate fully in college life.

The department provides quiet study space, in addition to the provision of specific equipment and specialist resources. Should you require temporary support, for example having broken a leg or arm, arrangements can be made for short-term provision of helpful equipment. Our College Nurse is also available during college hours for medical advice and emergency first aid.

It is important that you tell us on your application form whether you will require any additional support, or whether you have had any access arrangements for exams at school; for example, extra time or the use of a word processor. It is also important that you keep the College updated should there be any changes in your needs.

## ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE (EAL)

If English is not your first language you may be offered one-to-one teaching by an EAL teacher to improve your spoken and written English in your chosen subjects.

## ACADEMIC SKILLS

Learning Advisers are available to help you develop your learning strategies. You are welcome to come along to daily academic skills workshops or to make an individual appointment if you would like help with organising your work, managing your time, essay writing or revision.

Students with high needs develop the confidence and resilience to enable them to become more independent. As a result, they are as well prepared for progression to university or work as their peers.

Ofsted 2020



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT SUPPORT

PSC.AC.UK/STUDY-SUPPORT

**Molly Guilford**  
Test Valley School

**Subjects**  
Education and Early Years (T Level)  
English (GCSE)



“Study support listens to what help you would like to receive and they do their very best to make sure those needs are met.”

Molly Guilford

# SPORT

AT PETER SYMONDS

SPORTS TEAMS TRIALS FOR 2024: 27-30 AUGUST

Sport is a key part of life at Peter Symonds. As a college, we have a long sporting history and regularly achieve success in league, cup, county and national competitions. Our broad range of sports, both competitive and recreational, provides opportunities to a huge number of our students.

**FACT:**  
92 STUDENTS QUALIFIED FOR THE 2023 AOC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, AND 70 ACHIEVED MEDAL POSITIONS

Our competitive opportunities vary from sport to sport. Some squads have fixtures every week, whilst other teams are only involved in the AoC regional and national events.

With 38 sports teams covering 21 different sports, we have a phenomenal list of sporting achievements.

Follow our sports teams on:

-  @psc\_sportsteams
-  @psc\_sportsteams
-  Peter Symonds College Sports Teams

Alex Stratford  
Hockey



Sam Cousins  
Karting



Flavia Zamfir  
Tennis



## OUR TEAMS

Athletics and Cross Country

Badminton

Basketball: Men's and Women's

Cheerleading

Cricket

Dance

Football: Men's and Women's

Futsal

Golf

Hockey: Men's, Women's and Mixed

Karting

Netball

Rugby: Men's and Women's

Ski

Squash

Swim

Table Tennis

Tennis

Volleyball: Men's, Women's and Mixed

Effie Church  
Kings' School

### Subjects

Geography

Law

Sociology

### Enrichment

Women's Basketball Team



“I'd like to continue playing when I'm older for Winchester Royals but I also plan to go to uni to study and eventually become a police officer.”

Effie Church

# ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

AT PETER SYMONDS

**FACT:**  
WE HAVE OVER  
170 ENRICHMENT  
ACTIVITIES ON  
OFFER

The College provides an exciting enrichment programme, which is additional to your academic studies. Whether you want to further explore a current interest or are keen to challenge yourself with a new activity, there is something for everyone at Peter Symonds.

Some of the courses on offer are accredited and lead to a certificate, while others are purely for fun. Whatever you choose to do, you will gain a tremendous amount from getting involved and taking part. When you interview for higher education, training schemes or employment, you will need to demonstrate your wider achievements outside of your academic studies and exam results. Our enrichment programme provides an excellent opportunity to acquire those sought-after attributes such as leadership skills, breadth of experience, self-motivation and enthusiasm.

Accredited courses include:

- Duke of Edinburgh's Award: Silver and Gold
- Emergency First Aid at Work
- ICM Level 2 Award in Psychology (RQF)
- LAMDA Speaking in Public
- Music Theory: Grade 5
- Sports Leaders Award: Level 3

The enrichment programme is a compulsory requirement and an enrichment slot is added to every student's timetable. All enrichment courses are subject to a minimum number of students enrolling.

Further details of the enrichment programme can be found in our Enrichment magazine. Alternatively, please see the college website [www.psc.ac.uk/ec-activities](http://www.psc.ac.uk/ec-activities).



Managers and teachers provide students with a wide range of enrichment activities that broaden the knowledge and skills they acquire in the classroom.  
Ofsted 2020

Chakrika, Chenille and Katie  
LAMDA Public Speaking Award

Gab Domantay  
Future Medics

Katie Walker  
Archery

Benji Preston  
Kardashian Klub

Freya Latham  
Symonds Radio

Nevin Biju Joseph  
Social Media and Journalism for Enrichment

Grace and Gervene  
Duke of Edinburgh Award

Benjamin Newton  
Nintendo Switch

Juliette Boxall  
Afro-Caribbean Society

Samuel Clarke  
Team 19 5-a-side Football

Lucy Wiltshire  
Equestrian Team



SCAN THE  
CODE TO READ  
MORE ABOUT  
ENRICHMENT

PSC.AC.UK/LIFE

# BOARDING

AT PETER SYMONDS

INTERESTED IN  
APPLYING FOR  
BOARDING?  
[WWW.PSC.AC.UK/  
APPLY](http://WWW.PSC.AC.UK/APPLY)

Peter Symonds is one of very few state sixth form colleges in the UK to provide boarding accommodation and we aim to offer a unique and valuable experience. While providing a safe and supportive environment, we create a culture of high expectation in which all staff strive to motivate students to achieve to the best of their abilities.

FACT:  
THERE ARE  
79 BOARDING  
PLACES AT PETER  
SYMONDS



**WELCOMING**  
Our two boarding houses offer a warm, friendly environment on which our focus is preparing students for university or the workplace.  
  
Our boarders are encouraged to be independent and resilient, whether it be managing their own study time, doing their own laundry or participating in the wider community.

**HOME FROM HOME**  
Our two co-ed boarding houses take up to 79 boarders, and each has a fully-equipped kitchen, laundry, HDMI TVs and Wi-Fi. In addition to the dedicated computer and work rooms, boarders can use the LRC and IT Suite until 7.30pm on Mon–Thu (4.30pm on Fri). The multi-gym and sports hall are available exclusively to boarders three nights a week, with courses running throughout the year. ‘Quiet time’ is scheduled every weekday, when boarders are encouraged to study.

We have a dedicated catering team that provide nutritious and varied meals for our boarders. At the weekends, boarders can enjoy brunch, and various themed nights are organised throughout the year.  
  
Both houses are run by Residential House Parents and Day House Parents, as well as a dedicated team of Assistant House Parents. All are first-aid trained and committed to providing an appropriate level of assistance and guidance to boarders in order for them to succeed and develop new skills.

**LOCATION**  
Situated within walking distance of Winchester, providing access to a local leisure centre, shops, cafés and rail station, boarders at Peter Symonds are able to take advantage of excellent direct transport links to London and the beaches of the south coast.  
  
Entertainment including bowling, ice skating, cinemas and shopping in Eastleigh, Southampton or Basingstoke are just 10 and 20 minutes away.



**INCLUSIVE**  
In 2023, an Ofsted inspection rated our boarding provision as ‘Good’ and highlighted that our boarding houses provide ‘welcoming and inclusive environments’ for our boarders. Adding that ‘Young people enjoy attending the boarding provision and benefit from making new friends and meeting people from a diverse range of backgrounds.’

SCAN THE  
CODE TO READ  
MORE ABOUT  
BOARDING

[PSC.AC.UK/  
BOARDING](http://PSC.AC.UK/BOARDING)

# YOUR COLLEGE DAY

AT PETER SYMONDS

FACT:  
THERE ARE UP  
TO 2 LESSONS OF  
TUTOR SUPPORT  
PER WEEK



Jasmine Clarke  
Testbourne  
Community School

Life at Peter Symonds is rich and diverse and your success will depend on how you manage your time. We will work with you to help you become an independent learner and to make the most of your time at college.

The college day is very different from the school day you may have experienced. You are unlikely to be in class all day, every day. In fact, you will have a number of study periods built into your timetable, and how you spend this time is up to you. But remember, your management of these study periods will be key to your success. You are only required to be on campus for timetabled sessions, and regular independent study will be set in each subject. Your timetable doesn't show the amount of work you will be expected to do outside of lessons. To be successful, we recommend that you spend at least as much time in private study as you spend in the classroom.



“The most enjoyable part of being at Symonds is interacting with new people. In my classes, everybody is enthusiastic to learn which makes the discussions really rewarding.”  
Jasmine Clarke

**CLASSROOM LESSONS**  
Typically you will have approximately 4–5 hours of lessons each week for each of the subjects you are studying. Each subject also holds a weekly optional lunchtime workshop session.

**INDEPENDENT STUDY**  
It is crucial that you take responsibility for your own learning outside the classroom. Typically, the equivalent of 4–5 lessons per week of private study per subject will be needed.

**TUTORIAL GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT**  
With your Personal Tutor, your whole-group tutor sessions are timetabled once a week and in addition tutors will see students individually for one-to-one tutorials on a regular basis.

**THE TUTORIAL AND LECTURE PROGRAMME**  
The programme covers relevant, contemporary issues, with the aim of broadening your educational experience. It also provides careers education, including employment options and the UCAS application process.

**ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES**  
You will typically have one enrichment activity session per week. This is your chance to do something that you love, pursue a new interest, be active or extend your learning in one of your subjects.

# CHOOSING COURSES

AT PETER SYMONDS



Making the right course choices can be the key to your success and progression to university, apprenticeship or employment. You will receive lots of advice and guidance, tailored to you as an individual, to help you. There are also things you can do for yourself to help you make informed choices, such as visiting our Open Evenings, carrying out research using our website and prospectus, and looking into careers you might be interested in pursuing in the future.

As specialists in sixth form education we are able to offer you a wide range of Level 3 courses – in almost any combination you can think of. You will get plenty of advice about choosing your courses from our excellent team of interviewers; and when you come to enrol with us following your GCSE results, you will have another opportunity to discuss your choices with experienced staff and subject experts.

## A LEVEL STUDY PROGRAMME

Example course combination:

**English Language:** A Level

**Chemistry:** A Level

**Geography:** A Level

## VOCATIONAL STUDY PROGRAMME

Example course combination 1:

**Sport:** BTEC Extended Diploma

Example course combination 2:

**Criminology:** Level 3 Diploma

**Business:** BTEC Extended Certificate

**Applied Law:** BTEC Extended Certificate

## MIXED STUDY PROGRAMME

Example course combination 1:

**Psychology:** A Level

**Mathematics:** A Level

**Criminology:** Level 3 Diploma

Example course combination 2:

**Psychology:** A Level

**Health and Social Care:** Cambridge Technical Diploma

## UCAS TARIFF POINTS

A Level	BTEC/Cambridge Technical	T Level
A* = 56 points	Distinction* = 56 points	Distinction* = 168 points
A = 48 points	Distinction = 48 points	Distinction = 144 points
B = 40 points	Merit = 32 points	Merit = 120 points
C = 32 points	Pass = 16 points	Pass = 96 points
D = 24 points		Pass = 72 points
E = 16 points		



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT COURSES

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES

Nevin Biju Joseph  
St George Catholic College

**FACT:**  
1,645 SYMONDS STUDENTS ACCEPTED UNIVERSITY PLACES LAST YEAR

# A LEVEL COURSES

LEVEL 3

With over 40 subjects at A Level, you have a wide choice of study options available and in almost any combination you can think of. Use the QR codes in this prospectus to view course information in more detail and remember, our Open Evenings are a great way to find out more – direct from the teachers and our current students.



## WHAT ARE A LEVELS?

Advanced level qualifications (known as A Levels) are subject-based qualifications that can lead to university, further study, training, or work.

## HOW MANY A LEVELS WILL I HAVE TO STUDY?

Most students following an advanced level programme will take three subjects during the two years they are with us. For motivated, well-qualified students, AS Level courses are available for French, Spanish and Further Mathematics.

## CAN I COMBINE A LEVELS WITH OTHER QUALIFICATIONS?

Yes. At Peter Symonds, you can choose A Levels alongside vocational courses such as BTECs or Level 3 Diplomas and we have a wide choice of combinations available. As long as your final choice of subjects is the equivalent to three A Levels, you can choose different courses for a programme of study that suits you.



Shivleen Juneja  
Winton Community Academy

Edie Towns  
The Mountbatten School

Students are highly motivated and keen to learn.

Ofsted 2020

# T LEVEL COURSES

LEVEL 3

The T Level is a full-time course which has been designed in collaboration with employers and the needs of industry. An alternative to A Levels or apprenticeships, the T Level provides you with a technical qualification that is ideal if you want to progress into skilled employment, higher education or an apprenticeship.

## WHAT IS A T LEVEL COURSE?

This is a two-year course and is equivalent to three A Levels. Based on the same high industry standards as apprenticeships, the T Level is perfect for those who wish to gain an advanced level qualification alongside the practical work experience employers want.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT T LEVELS

PSC.AC.UK/T\_LEVEL

## COURSES

For September 2024 we offer the following T Level courses:

Education and Early Years: See page 50  
Hairdressing and Barbering, or Beauty Therapy: See page 70

Amy, Molly, Sarah, Lucy and Eleanor  
Education and Early Years



# GENERAL VOCATIONAL COURSES

LEVEL 3

If you're looking for a more hands-on, real-world approach for your subjects, our wide range of general vocational courses offer a great alternative to A Levels. Valued and well-regarded by employers, vocational courses such as BTEC, Cambridge Technical and EDUQAS, allow you to gauge your own performance as you go, taking away some of the pressure of exams.

## WHAT IS A VOCATIONAL COURSE?

With a strong focus on practical skills, a vocational course offers a mainly coursework-based learning programme. Taught by experienced, professional practitioners, vocational courses can also include work placements.

## CAN I STUDY A VOCATIONAL SUBJECT WITH A LEVELS?

Yes. Vocational courses complement A Levels really well, giving you a varied learning programme. Our vocational courses attract UCAS tariff points for university entrance in a similar way to A Levels, although the grading system is different.

Will Sinclair  
Criminology



	Equivalent to 1 A Level	Equivalent to 2 A Levels	Equivalent to 3 A Levels
Business	BTEC Extended Certificate	BTEC Diploma	–
Criminology	EDUQAS Level 3 Diploma	–	–
Digital Media	–	Cambridge Technical Diploma	–
Fashion, Theatre and Media Hair and Make-Up Studies	VTCT Level 3 Diploma	–	–
Health and Social Care	Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate	Cambridge Technical Diploma	Cambridge Technical Extended Diploma
Human Biology: Applied	BTEC Extended Certificate	–	–
Information Technology	BTEC Extended Certificate	BTEC Diploma	–
Law: Applied	BTEC Extended Certificate	–	–
Music: Digital Music Production	BTEC Extended Certificate	–	–
Music: Popular Music Performance	BTEC Extended Certificate	–	–
Performance: Acting	BTEC Extended Certificate	–	–
Sport	BTEC Extended Certificate	BTEC Diploma	BTEC Extended Diploma

# ART: FINE ART

A LEVEL

## SEE ALSO

Photography  
Graphic  
Communication  
Product Design  
Textile Design  
Three Dimensional  
Design

## THE COURSE

Fine Art provides you with the opportunity to refine your skills in a range of 2D media, primarily drawing and painting, but also through printmaking, collage, digital drawing, photography and animation. Year 1 is experimental and diagnostic. You will try a range of approaches and techniques that help you discover your strengths and interests as an artist alongside learning how to create a high-quality A Level project. In Year 2, you apply your learning to create your chosen portfolio project. An exam component in May of Year 2 completes the A Level.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Component 1: Personal portfolio (60%)  
Component 2: Externally-set exam (40%)  
Major assessment, marking and feedback points are in November and January.  
Ongoing assessment and feedback is via one-to-ones with teachers throughout the course on a regular basis, along with peer group assessment and via whole-college progress review days.  
All work is internally marked and standardised, then externally moderated.

## SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

A creatively trained person has a range of transferable and desirable skills that will be useful within a variety of sectors, not just in the arts: independent creative problem-solving, self-discipline, analytical skills, self-reflection, collaboration, project management, and an ability to accept constructive criticism.

Hannah Edmonds  
The Henry Beaufort School

Sophia Grove  
Osborne School

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Students progress on to creative degrees across the UK, or go on to Art Foundation courses to build their portfolios ready for HE. Careers in the creative industries are in advertising and marketing, architecture, visual arts, crafts, design and fashion, film, TV and photography, IT and games design, music, publishing, museums, galleries and libraries.



SCAN THE CODE  
TO READ MORE  
ABOUT THIS  
COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/  
COURSES/C/ART

Amelie Lawrence  
Perins School

Subjects  
Fine Art  
Geography  
Product Design

Enrichment  
Duke of Edinburgh

“It has been a great place to explore and learn within subjects without any boundaries; and to make new friends and grow bonds with existing friends.”

Amelie Lawrence

# ART: PHOTOGRAPHY

A LEVEL

SEE ALSO

- [Fine Art](#)
- [Graphic Communication](#)
- [Product Design](#)
- [Textile Design](#)
- [Three Dimensional Design](#)

## THE COURSE

Photography will help you develop the skills to observe and scrutinise your surroundings, producing photographs that help you to visualise the way you see the world. In an active, hands-on course you will learn about fine art photography, how we communicate ideas through the photographic image and how to produce projects that are personal to you and your interests. You will gain skills in using camera equipment, computer software and manual techniques to manipulate your images. You will also look at a broad range of photographers, both classical and contemporary.

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Component 1: Personal portfolio (60%)  
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 All work is internally marked and standardised, then externally moderated.

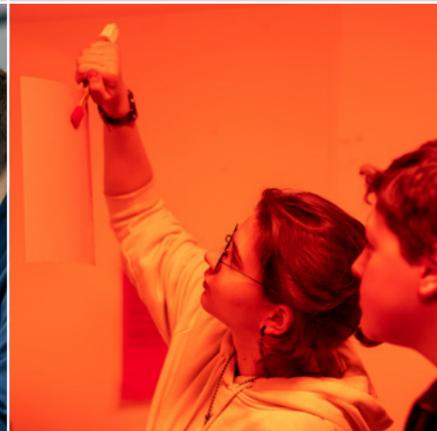
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Sunny Hemsted  
 YMCA of Hong Kong  
 Christian College



Milo Euling  
 The Westgate School



## WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Students progress on to creative degrees across the UK, or go on to Art Foundation courses to build their portfolios ready for HE. Careers in the creative industries are in advertising and marketing, architecture, visual arts, crafts, design and fashion, film, TV and photography, IT and games design, music, publishing, museums, galleries and libraries.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/PHOTOGRAPHY

# ART: TEXTILE DESIGN

A LEVEL

SEE ALSO

- [Fine Art](#)
- [Graphic Communication](#)
- [Photography](#)
- [Product Design](#)
- [Three Dimensional Design](#)

## THE COURSE

Textile Design is for those of you with a love of art, fashion and textiles and want to explore your creativity.  
 Year 1: You will work on a set project that encourages exploration and experimentation with techniques, media and materials such as surface pattern, print design and free machine embroidery. Critical and analytical study will form part of your work.  
 Year 2: You will develop self-chosen interest through your own bespoke project, creating more ambitious garments or textile artworks.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Component 1: Personal portfolio (60%)  
 Component 2: Externally-set exam (40%)  
 Major assessment, marking and feedback points are in November and January.  
 Ongoing assessment and feedback is via one-to-ones with teachers throughout the course on a regular basis, along with peer group assessment and via whole-college progress review days.  
 All work is internally marked and standardised, then externally moderated.

## SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

A creatively trained person has a range of transferable and desirable skills that will be useful within a variety of sectors, not just in the arts: independent creative problem-solving, self-discipline, analytical skills, self-reflection, collaboration, project management, and an ability to accept constructive criticism.

Dotty Buntkowska-Lopacka  
 St Joseph's Catholic School



Nex Gibbs  
 Thornden School



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SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/TEXTILES

# ART: THREE-DIMENSIONAL DESIGN

A LEVEL

## SEE ALSO

- Fine Art
- Graphic Communication
- Photography
- Product Design
- Textile Design

## THE COURSE

3D Design is a practical course requiring enthusiasm and commitment. You will explore images, artefacts and resources relating to a range of art and design from the past to the present, including European and non-European examples. You will respond to these through practical and critical activities that demonstrate your understanding of 3D-making and use of materials. In the second year, you will specialise in one or more of the practical areas covered in your first year, and develop your own interests and individual expertise.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Component 1: Personal portfolio (60%)  
 Component 2: Externally-set exam (40%)  
 Major assessment, marking and feedback points are in November and January.  
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Alex Tyrrell  
 St Edmund's Catholic School



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SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/SCULPTURE



Lucy Davies  
 Kings' School

## Subjects

- Three-dimensional Design
- Geography
- Psychology

## Enrichment

- First Aid
- Dance
- Architecture and Spatial Design

“I have enjoyed going into more depth with some of my favourite subjects including having class discussions and debates.”

Lucy Davies

# BIOLOGY

## A LEVEL

### SEE ALSO

- Chemistry
- Health and Social Care
- Human Biology: Applied
- Physics

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grades 6,6,5 or above in any combination of Maths and Science GCSEs, one of which must be Biology.

### THE COURSE

This course includes the study of all major human body systems, comparing them to a range of other organisms. You will study the structure and function of cells and biological molecules, and you'll carry out a detailed investigation of the human circulation, including digestive and nervous systems, and excretion. A five-week programme will be on one of the following: Immunology and Disease, Human Musculoskeletal Anatomy, Neurobiology and Behaviour. The course also studies ecology and conservation, reproductive systems (human and plant), evolution, and the application of genetics.

### THE ASSESSMENT

There are three two-hour exams worth 33% each. You will study four different components over the two years. The first is Core Principles which teaches you the key fundamental principles of Biology. This content is examined within the following three component exams:

Component 1: Energy for life

Component 2: Continuity of life

Component 3: Requirements for life

There is also a practical endorsement which is continually assessed throughout the two years of study.

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Studying Biology at PSC will provide you with an in-depth knowledge of the biological world. As a biologist, you will also develop analytical, investigative and research skills. The course also enables you to develop your skills in decision-making and problem-solving, maths, and written and oral communication.

Bria Bone  
Test Valley School



Boshan Jiang  
Thornden School



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Biology opens up a range of opportunities, both in terms of university degrees and future careers. Areas of progression are: biological sciences, medicine, veterinary science, dentistry, physiotherapy, biomedical sciences, marine biology, environmental science, nursing, paramedic science, biochemical engineering, food and diet science, and occupational therapy.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/BIOLOGY

# HUMAN BIOLOGY: APPLIED

## BTEC EXTENDED CERTIFICATE

### SEE ALSO

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Health and Social Care

### THE COURSE

Gain the knowledge and practical skills to pursue careers in healthcare and medical research. The course is divided into four units: Principles of Applied Human Biology, Practical Microbiology and Infectious Disease, Human Biology and Health Issues, and Functional Physiology.

**Year 1:** Study theory and practical skills related to antimicrobial agents on the growth of microorganisms.

**Year 2:** Further develop your understanding of human biology and skills in researching and evaluating the impact of health issues, initiatives and scientific reporting.

### THE ASSESSMENT

#### Year 1

Unit 1: Principles of applied human biology. Externally assessed via 90-minute exam which will include a range of question types.

Unit 2: Practical microbiology and infectious diseases. Internally assessed via coursework.

#### Year 2

Unit 3: Human biology and health issues. A three-hour supervised assessment task is synoptic and can assess knowledge all units.

Unit 4: Functional physiology. Internally assessed via coursework.

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Analyse, interpret and evaluate scientific information, and learn how to assess the reliability of sources of published scientific information for a given health issue. Students will explore science reporting and how the defined audience, medium and purpose affect the way information is conveyed. Students will also learn to evaluate and interpret qualitative and quantitative evidence and justify judgements.



Prapti Gurung  
The Costello School



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Careers in healthcare and NHS or medical research: nursing, midwifery, paramedic science, occupational therapist, laboratory technician, sport science, health and social care, carer.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/HUMBIO

# BUSINESS

A LEVEL

SEE ALSO

- Economics
- Mathematics
- Mathematics: Statistics

# BUSINESS

BTEC EXTENDED CERTIFICATE  
BTEC DIPLOMA

SEE ALSO

- Economics
- Mathematics
- Mathematics: Statistics

## THE COURSE

Business enables you to learn about the world around you. Topics such as current affairs, globalisation and innovation will engage and inspire you. Evaluations show that 91% of our students find the course stimulating, and 95% are glad they chose it.

**Year 1:** Management, leadership and decision-making; improving marketing, financial, operational and human resource performance.

**Year 2:** Analysing a business's strategic position; choosing strategic direction; pursuing strategies and managing strategic change.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: Marketing, people and global businesses (35%). Duration: 2 hours.

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

Paper 3: Investigating business in a competitive environment (30%). Written exam. Duration: 2 hours.

## SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Understanding of how companies and organisations are run:

- Improving adaptability
- Improve decision-making
- Improve organisational skills
- Improve problem-solving ability
- Helping with presentation skills
- Building a proficiency with numbers

## THE COURSE

There are two routes of study: The Extended Certificate (equivalent to one A Level) and the Diploma (equivalent to two A Levels). Depending on which course you choose, the units will be selected from mandatory and optional units. The Extended Certificate consists of four units: three mandatory and one optional. The Diploma comprises eight units: six mandatory and two optional. The Diploma will include the mandatory units of the Extended Certificate but will also include: managing an event, international business, and principles of management.

## THE ASSESSMENT

The Extended Certificate is equivalent to one A Level. There are four units: Exploring Business, Developing a Marketing Campaign, Personal and Business Finance, Recruitment and Selection Process.

The Diploma is equivalent to two A Levels. There are eight units: Exploring Business, Developing a Marketing Campaign, Personal and Business Finance, Managing an Event, International Business, Principles of Management, Recruitment and Selection Process, Work Experience.

## SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

All BTEC Nationals provide transferable knowledge and skills that prepare learners for progression to university. The transferable skills that universities value include: the ability to learn independently and to research actively and methodically; being able to give presentations and be active group members.

Abi Tigwell  
Testbourne Community School



Mathilda Cottrell  
Eggar's School



## WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

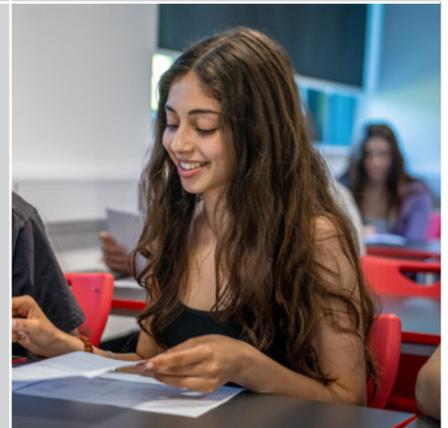
- Higher education
- Apprenticeships



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/BUSINESS

Zac Hussain  
Dove House School



Louis Stark  
Swanmore College of Technology



## WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

- Higher education
- Apprenticeships



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/EXT-CERT-BUSINESS

# CHEMISTRY

## A LEVEL

### SEE ALSO

Biology  
Health and Social Care  
Mathematics  
Physics

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grades 7,6,6 or above in Maths and two single sciences including Chemistry; or Maths and Combined Science.

### THE COURSE

Chemistry is the study of substances: how they react and what they are made of. Everything you see around you involves chemistry in some way!

**Year 1:** Atomic structure, electron configurations, bonding and reaction rates. Calculate energy changes in reactions, and concentration of solutions in titrations. Carry out organic synthesis and use infrared spectroscopy and mass spectrometry to analyse unknown chemicals.

**Year 2:** Study weak acids, buffers and calculate the pH of solutions. The concept of entropy is introduced as well as an in-depth study of redox. Transition metal properties and reactions are also explained. You will also learn analytical techniques are used to detect 'drugs cheats' in sport and to identify unknown organic compounds.

### THE ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: Periodic table, elements and physical chemistry (2hr 15) 37%

Paper 2: Synthesis and analytical techniques (2hr 15) 37%

Paper 3: Unified chemistry (1hr 30) 26%

Practical endorsement in chemistry (non-exam assessment)

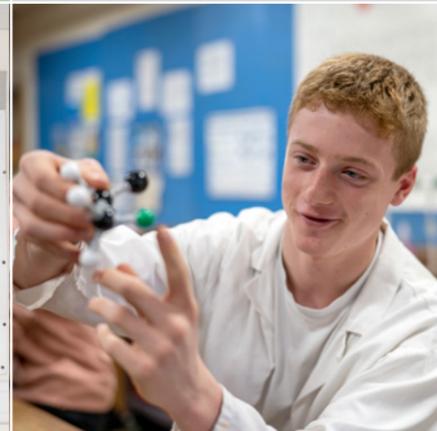
### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Numeracy, critical thinking, problem-solving, technical skills, research, independent working, communication, organisation.



Hiruka De Costa  
The Romsey School

Jasmine Ogbuehi  
The Henry Beaufort School



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Research scientist, pharmacy, pharmacology, medicine, veterinary science, dentistry, accounting and finance, chemical engineering.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/CHEMISTRY

# CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

## A LEVEL

### SEE ALSO

English Literature  
History  
Latin

### THE COURSE

Classics: All in translation, topics from ancient Greece and Rome – Homer's Odyssey, a magical tale of intrepid travel and gruesome revenge. Greek Art: sculptors who first breathed life into marble and bronze, painters who adorned pots with scenes from mythology and everyday life. Virgil's Aeneid: another ripping adventure where our hero leads survivors of Troy to their promised land, to set in motion what would one day become Rome. Plus, the devious politics of the Roman Republic, the story of how a guy called Julius Caesar didn't quite become Rome's first emperor. In short, the best kept secret at PSC.

### THE ASSESSMENT

Three exams, all taken at the end of the course – one for Greek Art (essays, analyses and short answer questions), one for the politics and one which tests both the Odyssey and the Aeneid (LitCrits and essays).

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

The ability to read a text critically, to be able to construct coherent arguments and to evaluate them effectively, to have the courage to state the obvious with confidence and to defend your own opinions.

Gracie Murphy  
The Henry Beaufort School



Tom Osborne  
Perins School



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

There are many careers for which the skills covered would be invaluable. Classical Civilisation is a highly regarded A Level which would appeal to university admissions tutors and employers alike.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/CLASSICS

# COMPUTER SCIENCE

## A LEVEL

### SEE ALSO

Information  
Technology

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 or above in Maths GCSE. If grade 5 is achieved in Maths then grade 5 or above in Computer Science will also be required.

### THE COURSE

Want to be part of an exciting future? Computer Science is a problem-solving subject, in which you are taught the fundamentals of programming, data structures, algorithms and their efficiency, and the limits of computation. Learn about computing devices; how data is represented and communicated between devices; and the logic circuits that enable computing devices to perform operations and to store information. Other areas studied include networking, databases, Big Data and the moral, legal, social and ethical consequences of uses of computing.

### THE ASSESSMENT

40% programming exam  
40% theoretical exam  
20% non-examined assessment (programming project)

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Computer science, networking, software engineering, games design, artificial intelligence, engineering, business, management, information technology.

Polina Kiriei  
Maryinska Gymnasium  
(Ukraine)



Knea Warrington  
Testbourne Community  
School



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Software website developer, games design and development, programmer, systems analyst, engineering, medical research and analytics, legal research and analytics, artificial intelligence developer, neural networking, multimedia.



SCAN THE CODE  
TO READ MORE  
ABOUT THIS  
COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/  
COURSES/C/  
COMPSCI

Toby Taylor  
Eggar's School

Subjects  
Computer Science  
Maths  
Geography

Enrichment  
Cricket Squad



“The teachers always make the subjects interesting and there are plenty of support mechanisms such as workshops if you feel you need to top up your learning.”

Toby Taylor

# CRIMINOLOGY

EDUQAS DIPLOMA

## SEE ALSO

Psychology

Sociology

## THE COURSE

Criminology includes elements of psychology, law and sociology. Develop knowledge and understanding of the criminal justice system and the different types of crime, exploring criminal behaviour and theories suggesting why people commit crime.

### Year 1

Unit 1. Changing Awareness of Crime: Building your understanding of the different types of crime, and how we perceive crime.

Unit 2. Criminological Theories: How we define crime and what constitutes criminal behaviour.

### Year 2

Unit 3. Crime Scene to Courtroom: Learn more about the criminal justice system.

Unit 4. Crime and Punishment: You will address questions such as: How and why do we punish people?

## THE ASSESSMENT

Unit 1: 8hr internal exam

Unit 2: 1hr 30 external exam

Unit 3: 8hr internal exam

Unit 4: 1hr 30 external exam

## SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Research skills, presentation skills, teamwork skills, IT skills (media design), data interpretation, organisation and time management, contemporary issues in criminal justice.



Kush Patel  
Testbourne  
Community School



## WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Police, prison or probation service, social worker/youth worker, crime analyst/local government/housing officer, solicitor and other legal professions, charity sector professions, CSI and forensic scientist (if taken with a natural science, such as Biology or Chemistry).



SCAN THE CODE  
TO READ MORE  
ABOUT THIS  
COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/  
COURSES/C/  
CRIMINOLOGY

### Matt Wright

The Henry Beaufort  
School

### Subjects

Criminology

History

Statistics

### Enrichment

Basketball



“ I have gained knowledge from my study programme and friends from my activities. I'd recommend Peter Symonds because it has great support. ”

Matt Wright

# DANCE

## A LEVEL

### SEE ALSO

Drama and Theatre  
Performance:  
Acting

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Prior experience in Ballet or Contemporary Dance.

### THE COURSE

Dance actively engages students in a variety of genres and styles. Through development of physical, technical and expressive skills, you will be able to communicate choreographic intention and develop your individual qualities as a performer. You will be encouraged to become independent learners as well as critical and reflective thinkers in all your areas of study. You will develop a critical appreciation of dance in physical, artistic, aesthetic and cultural contexts, while improving your resilience within our high-specification dance studio. You will have opportunities to work with professional companies and choreographers.

### THE ASSESSMENT

Component 1: Performance and choreography, practical exam (50%). Solo performance. Performance in a quartet. Group choreography.

Component 2: Critical engagement, 2.5-hour written exam (50%). Knowledge, understanding and critical appreciation of a compulsory set work. Knowledge, understanding and critical appreciation of one optional set work.

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

You will develop skills in communication, critical and reflective thinking and expression. Many of our students go on to study Dance in vocational conservatoires, such as Trinity Laban, Laines, London Studio Centre, Northern School of Contemporary Dance, as well as universities including Roehampton, Chichester and Arts University Bournemouth.

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Dance, theatre, choreography, yoga/pilates, physiotherapy, performing arts, teaching, physical therapy.



SCAN THE CODE  
TO READ MORE  
ABOUT THIS  
COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/  
COURSES/C/  
DANCE

Phoebe Mufushwa  
King Edward VI  
School

### Subjects

Dance  
Economics  
Geography



“The thing I enjoy most about Dance is the sense of community; plus, the advice and help available is tailored to each student.”

Phoebe Mufushwa

# DRAMA AND THEATRE

## A LEVEL

### SEE ALSO

Dance  
Performance:  
Acting

### THE COURSE

This course provides an opportunity to study drama and theatre as a single subject, extending individual acting and design skills and developing the ability to analyse all aspects of theatre. You will work in specialist facilities, be involved in a wide range of tasks and take part in a variety of workshops, developing expressive skills. Using a range of texts from different periods, you will explore plays from an academic and a practical perspective.

### THE ASSESSMENT

Three practical exams (60%) and one written exam (40%) studying texts such as *Accidental Death of an Anarchist* and *Hedda Gabler*. In Year 1, there is a reinterpretation practical exam and in Year 2, two practical exams, one a scripted piece and one devised.

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Presentation and communication skills  
Invention and imagination  
Creative collaboration

Emma Reed  
Kings' School



Emily Anthes  
Wildern School

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Professional acting, lecturing, teaching and journalism plus many more.



SCAN THE CODE  
TO READ MORE  
ABOUT THIS  
COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/  
COURSES/C/  
DRAMA

Amelie Bolam  
Rookwood School

### Subjects

Drama and Theatre  
Studies  
English Language/  
Literature  
Film Studies



“Drama and Theatre at A Level is taken much more seriously than at GCSE. I have such a sociable class and amazing teachers who make the subject all the more enjoyable.”

Amelie Bolam

# ECONOMICS

## A LEVEL

### SEE ALSO

Mathematics  
 Further Mathematics  
 Mathematics: Statistics

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 or above in Maths GCSE.

### THE COURSE

Students will study both Microeconomics and Macroeconomics. Microeconomics is the study of individual markets and the behaviour of consumers and producers. In Microeconomics, students will consider questions such as: How do firms set prices to maximise profits? Why have food prices risen? Macroeconomics is the study of the economy as a whole, including inflation, economic growth and international trade. This will include topics such as: What are the economic effects of leaving the EU? Should there be free trade? Why is Africa less developed than China?

### THE ASSESSMENT

The course is assessed by a combination of:  
 Short answer and multiple choice questions.  
 Data response questions where students are asked to answer questions based on the evidence provided.  
 Essay questions.

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Economics is a subject that is well-respected by both employers and top universities. You will develop your skills of data analysis and you will improve your ability to explain and evaluate your arguments. You will learn about the economic environment in which businesses operate.

Matilda Cooper  
 South Wilts Grammar School



Sam Perkins  
 Priestlands School



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

A high proportion of Economics students go on to study at university. Many achieve places at top institutions such as Oxford and Cambridge and other Russell Group universities. They choose a wide variety of courses, but many choose Economics as part of their degree. Economics at degree level can lead on to careers in business, finance and politics.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/ECONOMICS

Tianna Risse  
 The Costello School

### Subjects

Economics  
 Maths  
 French

### Enrichment

PSC rugby team



“My study programme and rugby have given me self-confidence, persistence and drive. I really enjoy this subject and the materials we use are engaging.”

Tianna Risse

# EDUCATION AND EARLY YEARS

T LEVEL

SEE ALSO

Health and Social Care

## THE COURSE

This two-year course is designed for students wanting to work with babies and children aged up to 16 years, depending on the occupational specialism you choose: Early Years (0–5 years old) or Assisting Teachers (5–16 years old). This qualification carries UCAS points and is ideal for students wanting to become Primary School Teachers or Early Years Practitioners. This qualification provides a 'licence to practice' for those who choose to specialise in Early Years, increasing your value to employers.

## THE ASSESSMENT

External assessments:

Year 1: Employer set project, paper A and B.

Year 2: Three assignments. Two external exams and observations in the work place.

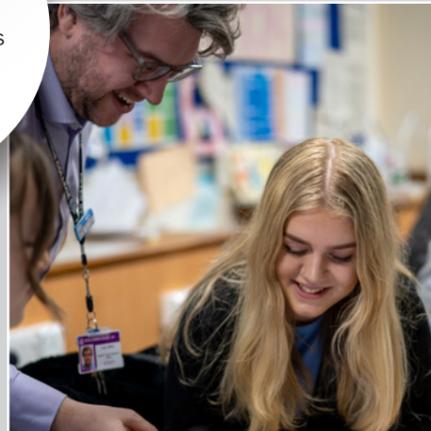
Within the classroom there will be various assessments such as presentations, assignments, group discussions and debates.

## SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Communication skills with adults and children, working as part of a team, problem-solving, able to use own initiative, organisation skills, time keeping, how to maintain confidentiality, professionalism in the work place, supporting diversity and differences, meeting deadlines.

This course is taught in College three days per week, with two days per week spent in a placement setting.

Eleanor Griffiths  
The Westgate School



## WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Higher education, early years practitioner, teaching assistant.

Molly Guilford, Test Valley School  
Amy Knock, The Henry Beaufort School



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/EDUCATION

Lucy Hankins  
Wyvern St Edmund's

Subjects  
Education and Early Years (T Level)



“At Symonds, I have learnt to take responsibility for my own learning to help me pursue what I want in life. I've made some great friends and have had some amazing opportunities.”

Lucy Hankins

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE

A LEVEL

SEE ALSO

English Language and Literature  
English Literature

<h3>THE COURSE</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Language and representation</li> <li>Child language acquisition</li> <li>Language and gender</li> <li>Language and region</li> <li>Language and social groups</li> <li>Language and ethnicity</li> <li>Language change</li> <li>World English</li> </ul>	<h3>THE ASSESSMENT</h3> <p>Paper 1: Representation and Child Language (2hr 30)</p> <p>Paper 2: Diversity and Change (2hr 30)</p> <p>NEA: Original writing (750 words) and commentary (750 words), language investigation (2000 words).</p>	<h3>SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY</h3> <p>Adapting language for different contexts, communication, creativity, comparison, diversity appreciation, data analysis, evaluation, independence, IT skills, logical argument, organisation, persuasion, presentation skills, recall, research skills, self-reflection, speed reading, written accuracy.</p>
	<p>Lucy Stanley The Mountbatten School</p> 	
		<h3>WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?</h3> <p>Advertising, creative writing, journalism, law, management, marketing, public relations, publishing, social media, speech therapy, teaching.</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div> <p>SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE</p> <p>PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/LANGUAGE</p> </div> </div>

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

A LEVEL

SEE ALSO

English Language  
English Literature

<h3>THE COURSE</h3> <p>This course is designed for students who love close analysis, reading and creative writing. Through deep textual analysis of a range of different types of text, you will learn how to write like a reader and read like a writer. You will explore exactly how it is that writers and speakers are able to create their own distinctive voices, and you will add your own voice with your own creative writing.</p>	<p>The writers you will study include novelists, poets, playwrights, journalists and speechmakers, from Shakespeare to Donald Trump. You will also explore how writing and speech are influenced by the views about race, gender, sexuality and politics of the time in which they are written and published.</p> <p>Whilst creative writing is a part of the assessment, the majority of your writing will be analytical essays, in which you will develop the ability to construct sophisticated and convincing arguments and to support them with detailed evidence.</p>	<h3>THE ASSESSMENT</h3> <p>Three exams of two hours each (80%) and a coursework folder (20%).</p> <h3>SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY</h3> <p>A Level English Language and Literature enables you to express yourself elegantly and concisely, to formulate arguments convincingly, and to interpret any kind of verbal or written communication accurately and insightfully.</p>
<p>Felix Thomson The Westgate School</p> 		
 <p>Renesa Barua St Anne's Catholic School</p>		<h3>WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?</h3> <p>The course is an excellent preparation for any English degree, but also for humanities degrees. It could also be an excellent choice as a third A Level to complement a STEM university and career pathway, as it gives you an important set of interpersonal and interpretative skills.</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div> <p>SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE</p> <p>PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/LANGLIT</p> </div> </div>

# ENGLISH LITERATURE

## A LEVEL

### SEE ALSO

English Language  
English Language  
and Literature

### THE COURSE

English Literature is an inspiring, challenging and rewarding subject, which enables you to study a range of novels, plays and poetry from the 17th to the 21st centuries. We explore the historical and literary contexts in which texts are written as well as looking at the different ways in which they have been interpreted over time.

### THE ASSESSMENT

80% of the mark will be assessed through two final exams:

Pre-1900 poetry and drama.

Comparative and contextual study.

20% of the mark will be assessed through internal coursework.

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

The ability to write in a structured, logical way, strong analytical skills, critical thinking, emotional intelligence.

Victoria Spring  
Perins School



Patrick Page  
Eggar's School



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

The skills gained through this subject can take you anywhere, including: law, business, the sciences, journalism, drama, advertising, writing, education.



SCAN THE CODE  
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ABOUT THIS  
COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/  
COURSES/C/  
LITERATURE

### Amy Henry

Test Valley School

### Subjects

Classical Civilisation

English Literature

Religious Studies

### Enrichment

Women's

Empowerment

GSA

Dead Poet's Society

First Aid



“Peter Symonds always puts students first, offering new and exciting opportunities, as well as being a great environment for learning.”

Amy Henry

# ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

A LEVEL

**SEE ALSO**

Geography

**ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS**  
 Grades 6,5,5 or above in any combination of Maths and Science GCSEs.

## THE COURSE

**Year 1:** There are two main areas of study:  
 1. The living environment: wildlife conservation, the importance of biodiversity, habitat conservation, and captive breeding and release programmes.  
 2. The physical environment: environmental issues such as melting ice sheets, coral reef decline and the discovery of new water sources.

**Year 2:** There are four main areas of study: energy resources, pollution, biological resources and sustainability. The applied nature of the subject means that there are many opportunities to relate topics to everyday issues and current affairs.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Two 3-hour written exams at the end of the course:  
 Paper 1: The physical environment, energy resources, pollution, research methods. Written exam: 3 hours (50%).  
 Paper 2: The living environment, biological resources, sustainability, research methods. Written exam: 3 hours (50%).

## SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Environmental awareness and sustainability is one of the fastest growing fields in employment. Throughout the course you will learn the key scientific skills that actual environmental scientist use, from laboratory techniques to ecological data collection in natural areas. We will build your scientific and critical thinking skills, so that you are able to analyse and present data to draw conclusions.



Emma Shedden  
Kings' School



## WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Environmental management, conservation research, fisheries, energy resources development, architecture, engineering, petrochemicals, sustainability management.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/ENVSCIENCE

Mairead Cooney  
Amery Hill School

## Subjects

Business  
 Law  
 Environmental Science

## Enrichment

Hockey



“The tutors are very helpful and supportive and there is a wide range of subjects and enrichment activities on offer.”

Mairead Cooney

# FASHION, THEATRE AND MEDIA HAIR & MAKE-UP STUDIES

## VTCT DIPLOMA

### SEE ALSO

Hairstyling and Barbering, or Beauty Therapy

### THE COURSE

This qualification is ideal for those seeking a career as a make-up artist working with performers to a high level of occupational ability, providing hair and make-up services in the media, theatre, performing arts, fashion and photographic industries. You will be taught by industry-trained tutors through theory and practical sessions. You will develop your understanding of the industry and the skills you need to be a session stylist. In practical sessions you will experience live shoots and practise your skills for exhibiting your work.

### THE ASSESSMENT

Mandatory units may include: health and safety practice; client care and communication; airbrush make-up to the face; camouflage make-up; media make-up; fashion and photographic make-up; style and fit postiche and the application of prosthetic pieces and bald caps. You will be assessed in a real or realistic working environment. You will be expected to provide some of your own clients and complete tasks to commercial timescales. Assessments include: practical client assessments, portfolio of evidence, practical tasks, oral questioning, written tests, assignments and online tests.

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Learners who complete this qualification are eligible to become a member of the British Association of Beauty Therapy and Cosmetology (BABTAC).

The primary purpose of this course is to prepare you for employment as a professional theatrical media make-up artist.

Honey Strange  
Wildern School



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Career opportunities exist in a variety of contexts including: self-employed or employed professional make-up artistry, theatre, film, print media, photographic studios, beauty and/or hair salons, product manufacturing and training, and hospitals/care homes.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/HAIRMEDIA MAKEUP

### Emily Nicholls

Testbourne Community School

### Subjects

Film Studies  
Performance: Acting  
Fashion, Theatre and Media Hair & Make-up Studies



“I have always been interested in the ‘behind-the-scenes’ of special effect make-up and wanted to learn more about it and how to do it myself. I love learning how to create realistic injuries and scars and learning new techniques every lesson.”

Emily Nicholls

# FILM STUDIES

A LEVEL

## SEE ALSO

- [Digital Media Production](#)
- [English Literature](#)
- [Media Studies](#)

## THE COURSE

Film Studies teaches you to 'read' films through analysing their meaning and by understanding how they are made. You will learn about the stylistic and thematic differences between mainstream Hollywood productions and independent films, British and European films and world cinema. The course will teach you how narratives are constructed and the ways that spectators and audiences interact with films.

In Year 1 you will study British and American films. Year 2 will focus on other national film movements that might challenge the average film-goer. You will apply a range of critical approaches to your study of these films, including ideology, auteur and spectatorship. You will also produce your own short film, supported by qualified film technicians.

No prior film making experience is required for this course. Please note that some films studied will carry an 18 certificate.

## THE ASSESSMENT

1. Varieties of film and film-making
  2. Global film-making perspectives
  3. Practical film-making
- Components 1 and 2 are assessed via two exam papers (70%). Component 3 is assessed using practical coursework (30%). You will study and write about 11 films.

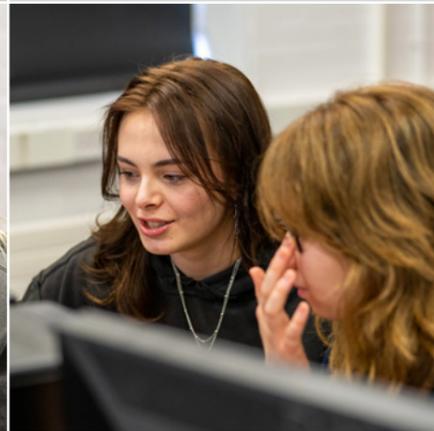
## SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

The combination of rigorous theoretical understanding with technical and creative knowledge means that you will develop your own knowledge and enjoyment of film-making, grounded in an academic context.

Travis Hulbert  
The Mountbatten School



Tess Archer  
Home Education



## WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

The study of Film is well regarded and offered at Oxbridge and Russell Group universities. It fits very well alongside a range of other humanities, creative and technical subjects to give you a strong basis for university study.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/FILM

## Joy Obieli

Bishop Challoner Catholic Secondary School

## Subjects

- Film Studies
- Media Studies
- English Literature



“I find my lessons so engaging, I’m never bored. It’s meant a good rapport with my teachers has developed naturally because I am choosing to learn.”

Joy Obieli

# FRENCH

AS LEVEL: 1 YEAR  
A LEVEL: 2 YEARS

## SEE ALSO

German  
Italian  
Latin  
Spanish

## ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 or above in  
French GCSE.

## THE COURSE

This course covers the four key skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. You will gain a greater knowledge of grammatical structures and so develop accuracy in the language. Teaching uses a thematic approach and the language is taught through a variety of contemporary issues, using authentic resources. The following themes will be studied: aspects of French-speaking society; artistic culture in the French-speaking world; further aspects of French-speaking society; aspects of political life in the French speaking world.

## THE ASSESSMENT

All four skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing) will be assessed, with cultural content forming a key part of the assessment. Assessment methods will include translation, research, presenting and speaking, writing, and listening/reading comprehension.

## SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Develops flexibility, adaptability, maturity, and awareness of other cultures.

Enhances the ability to multitask.

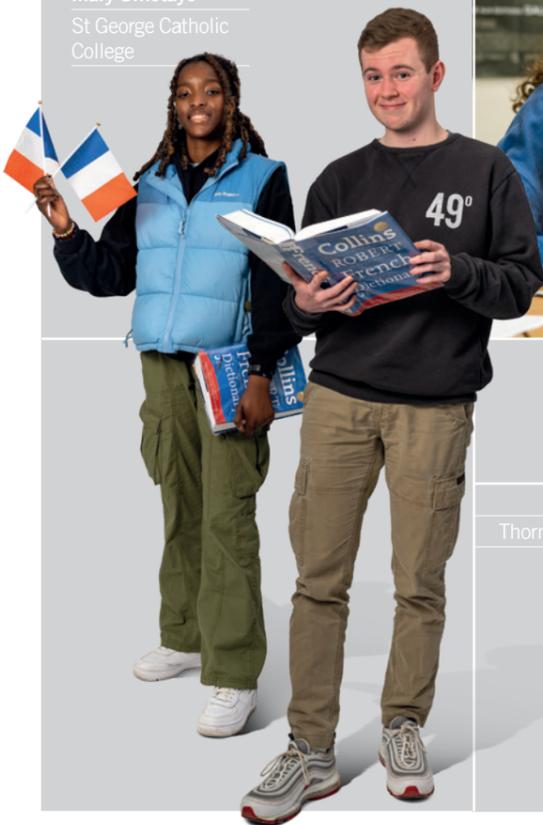
Expands earning potential and multiplies the places you can work/travel.

Furtheres the ability to work collaboratively with people from a range of backgrounds.

Makes you stand out from the crowd.

Transferable skills: empathy, ability to absorb and understand complex information, problem-solving, public speaking, resilience, risk-taking, attention to detail, good communicator.

Mary Omotayo  
St George Catholic  
College



Ben Hunter  
Thornden School

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Interpreter/translator, international finance, teacher, journalist, diplomat, international aid, marketing, logistics and distribution.



SCAN THE CODE  
TO READ MORE  
ABOUT THIS  
COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/  
COURSES/C/  
FRENCH

Finn Sears  
The Costello School

## Subjects

French  
Maths  
Economics

## Enrichment

Model UN  
Economics Film Club



“ I enjoy French because it is fun and engaging and has some great trips on offer. Since being at Symonds, I’ve made new friends from different places and backgrounds. ”

Finn Sears

# GEOGRAPHY

A LEVEL

## SEE ALSO

Environmental Studies

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 4 in Geography and a science. If Geography not taken, Grade 4 in any two single sciences or Combined Science.

## THE COURSE

Students explore the world through space, place and scale, giving rich insights into the natural and human environment, and processes of change such as global warming, globalisation and geopolitics. Geography is a broad subject, drawing on the humanities and the sciences as well as cutting-edge technologies.

**Year 1:** Hazards, including their origin and nature, impacts and management strategies; Water and carbon cycles, study the magnitude and significance of these cycles at a variety of scales; Changing places to understand the dynamic relationships and connections between the economy, society and the environment.

**Year 2:** Hot Desert Landscapes, Global Systems and Governance, and Resource Security. You will also conduct an independent fieldwork investigation into a geographical issue of your choice.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Two externally assessed exams.  
Duration: 2.5hrs (80%).

Independent fieldwork and research investigation (20%).

## SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

You will develop skills in: Research and analysis, communication, decision-making, and critical thinking.

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

A Level Geography is highly valued by universities and employers for its transferable knowledge and skills. With growing interest in climate change, energy security, migration, environmental degradation and social cohesion, it is one of today's most relevant degree courses, making graduates highly employable in a wide range of careers.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/GEOGRAPHY

**Will Wallace**  
Wildern School

**Subjects**  
Physical Education  
Geography  
English Language

**Enrichment**  
Football team



“Peter Symonds gives me freedom, whilst also teaching me what adult life is like, helping to prepare for later life. I've learnt how to handle workload, meet deadlines and study in an effective way.”

Will Wallace



**Matthew Gorby**  
Bishop Challoner Catholic Secondary School



# GERMAN

## A LEVEL

### SEE ALSO

French  
Italian  
Latin  
Spanish

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 or above in  
German GCSE.

### THE COURSE

This course takes an interactive and communicative approach to the study of the language and the contemporary, cultural topics and issues in German-speaking countries. Our weekly support workshops, as well as the course itself, are designed to further develop the skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. We have an allocated languages IT suite and each week you will practise speaking with our Language Assistant. You will gain a greater knowledge of grammatical structures and so develop accuracy. There is an option of a visit to a German-speaking country, which may include work experience.

### THE ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: Listening, reading and translation (40%)

Paper 2: Written response to works and translation (30%)

Paper 3: Speaking, oral exam (30%)

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Develops flexibility, adaptability, maturity, and awareness of other cultures.

Enhances the ability to multitask.

Expands earning potential and multiplies the places you can work/travel, and the people you can communicate with.

Ability to work collaboratively with people from a range of backgrounds.

Makes you stand out from the crowd.

Transferable skills: Empathy, problem-solving, public speaking, resilience, risk-taking, attention to detail, good communicator.



“The incredible range of extra-curricular activities give variety to my timetable and the extra workshops and learning opportunities have really helped me improve.”

Rose Sinclair

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Working for international companies, journalism, engineering, management, programming, advertising, finance, technology and science, diplomatic services, education, translation, tourism, retail, the arts. At university, German can be studied in combination with any other course.



SCAN THE CODE  
TO READ MORE  
ABOUT THIS  
COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/  
COURSES/C/  
GERMAN

### Rose Sinclair

Haberdashers'  
Monmouth School  
for Girls

### Subjects

History  
Classical Civilisation  
German

### Enrichment

German Conversation  
Archery  
HE+



“I’ve gained more academic skills from all my subjects, the humanities providing more analytical skills while the languages have improved my ability to think on the spot.”

Rose Sinclair

# GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION

A LEVEL

## SEE ALSO

- Fine Art
- Photography
- Product Design
- Textile Design
- Three-Dimensional Design

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Previous study of a Design and Technology or an Art and Design subject is desirable.

## THE COURSE

Think of Graphic Communication as Commercial Art; it is about exploring ideas visually and creating beautiful outcomes that communicate a message and which usually have a commercial application. We always work to a brief and tight deadlines to prepare you for higher education and the design industry.

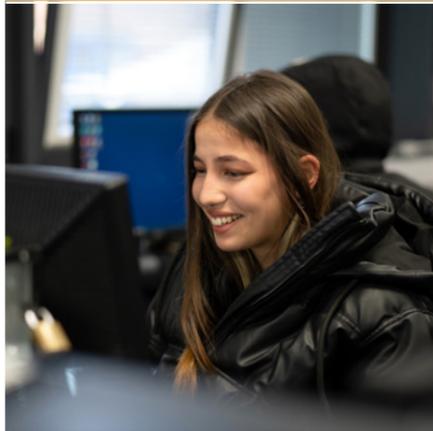
It is beneficial if you have studied an Art and Design or Product Design course at GCSE; but having studied any coursework-based subject would be advantageous. Drawing skills are not essential, but enthusiasm and a creative approach are. This course focuses on the specialist aspects of Graphic Design, which is usually in the form of a 2D (flat) outcome.

## THE ASSESSMENT

- 60% Personal investigation
- 40% Externally-set assignment

## SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Adobe software, traditional printmaking and illustration, typography, design principals, idea generation, branding, portfolio management, reflective practice, working to a design brief, teamwork, communication, problem-solving, planning and organising, self management, time management, critical thinking, project management.



Emma Popa  
The Costello School



Vishnu Prasanna  
Wyvern College



## WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

A Level Graphic Communication enables access to further study, through a portfolio of work on to Art foundation courses and courses at BA Honours degree level. Relevant degree courses include: Graphic Design, Visual Communication, Illustration, Digital Media, Animation, Architecture.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/GRAPHIC-COMMUNICATION

Phoenix Ng  
Good Hope School

- ## Subjects
- Fine Art
  - Classic Civilisation
  - Graphic Communication



“My favourite part about Graphics is the creative freedom we get. We can choose our own direction in a series of short projects that help us build our graphic design knowledge and skill set. We get constant feedback and guidance from our teachers, which really helps us understand where we can improve.”

Phoenix Ng

# HAIRDRESSING AND BARBERING, OR BEAUTY THERAPY

## T LEVEL

### SEE ALSO

Fashion, Theatre and Media Hair & Make-Up studies

### THE COURSE

T Levels are a revolution in vocational and technical study, bringing a new, high-quality, work-focused alternative to A Levels for 16–18 year-olds. You will develop an understanding of a broad range of issues relevant to your chosen sector, including: business context, including how the sector operates, health and safety regulations, safe working practices, an understanding of the client journey, client consultation, sales and marketing.

### THE ASSESSMENT

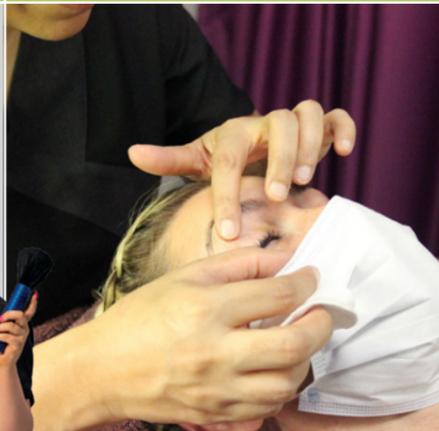
Classroom-based: 80%

Industry placement: 20%

Industry placement is for a minimum of 315 hours and allows students the opportunity to gain valuable work experience in a real-world, business setting.

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

The T Level supports progression into skilled work and entry to higher degree level apprenticeships or technical study, including university.



Aymee Mansbridge, Leila Suleyman, and Raya Mason

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Hair salon, cruise ship, working abroad, barber salon, mobile hairdresser, freelance hairdresser.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/BH

Amelia Haines  
Aldworth School

Subjects  
Beauty Therapy  
Diploma



“Everyone is really friendly and the course is interesting – I’m learning so much. I’ve enjoyed field trips to London and I’m planning to go on to uni when I complete the course.”

Amelia Haines

# HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

CTEC EXTENDED CERTIFICATE  
CTEC DIPLOMA  
CTEC EXTENDED DIPLOMA

## SEE ALSO

Education and Early Years  
Human Biology: Applied

### THE COURSE

These qualifications are designed to equip you with varying skills, knowledge and understanding in the areas of health, social care and working with children and young people. There are three choices:

The Extended Certificate: six units are studied, equivalent to one A Level.

The Diploma: 12 units are studied, equivalent to two A Levels.

The Extended Diploma: 18 units are studied, equivalent to three A Levels. This is a full-time course so you will need to be confident that you want to follow a career related to health care, social care or early years.

### THE ASSESSMENT

Health and Social Care is assessed through coursework (50%) and an external exam (50%). All units may be awarded Pass, Merit or Distinction. Successful achievement in each unit will be combined, leading to a final grade(s) for the whole qualification.

Mandatory units for each programme include: Equality, Diversity and Rights, Anatomy and Physiology, Psychology, Person-Centred Care, Public Health and Health, Safety and Security. Students on the Diploma and Extended Diploma will study additional units.

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Studying Health and Social Care provides a pathway to a range of careers related to health care, social care or early years. The coursework develops skills in communication, teamworking, planning and organisation, and includes opportunities for independent and collaborative work, as well as work experience. Completion of the course also leads to recognised qualifications, providing a strong foundation for further study or employment.



Emre Gurtekin  
The Westgate School

Trinity Jones  
Perins School



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Health and Social Care qualifications are recognised by universities. They will enable you to apply to study a degree in a wide range of subject areas. The qualification is also valuable as a route into higher apprenticeships or direct employment.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/HSCXTCERT

Emma Glasspool  
The Westgate School

### Subjects

Health and Social Care  
Human Biology: Applied

### Enrichment

Duke of Edinburgh Award



“ I really enjoy the biological side of subjects and learning different functions of the body, I'd like to go to university and the support at Peter Symonds is very easy to receive and inclusive.”

Emma Glasspool

# HISTORY

## A LEVEL

### SEE ALSO

Classical  
Civilisation  
Law  
Politics

# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

### SEE ALSO

Computer Science

## BTEC EXTENDED CERTIFICATE BTEC DIPLOMA

### THE COURSE

We offer three distinct routes, all of which lead to A Level History.

**Route A:** The Crusades 1095–1204, Henry II 1154–1189 and Lancastrians and Yorkists 1399–1509.

**Route B:** Stuart Britain 1625–1704, the French Revolution 1774–1799 and Germany 1871–1990.

**Route C:** The USSR 1917–1991, Mao's China 1949–1976 and Lancastrians and Yorkists 1399–1509.

Plus a choice of: The Cold War, the Abolition of the Slave Trade, or the Tudor Rebellion of the Pilgrimage of Grace.

### THE ASSESSMENT

History is made up of four units:

Coursework: This is a 4,000 word essay considering a historical debate (20%).

Plus three externally assessed exams, one for each topic you study.

Unit 1: Crusades, Stuarts, USSR (30%)

Unit 2: Henry II, French Revolution, Mao's China (20%)

Unit 3: Lancastrians and Yorkists, Germany (30%)

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Highly developed written communication skills, research, presentation skills, forming arguments, analysis, ability to use a wide range of sources of information, critical thinking, attention to detail, independent thinking, team work, time management and organisation, pattern recognition, IT skills.

### THE COURSE

There are two routes of study for Information Technology – the Extended Certificate (equivalent to one A Level) and the Diploma (equivalent to two A Levels). Within the Extended Certificate you will study an Information Technology Systems unit, where you will explore the relationships between hardware and software that form an IT system. You will implement social media strategies for a business in Using Social Media in Business; create and test relational database systems in Creating Systems to Manage Information; and design a website to meet a client's requirements in the Website Development unit.

### THE ASSESSMENT

50% external exams

50% internal coursework

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Cyber security and incident management, information technology, computer science, web technologies, engineering, IT and business, management, digital media and animation, game design, eSports.

Charlie Emsley  
The Henry Beaufort School



Zoe Semeha  
Harrow Way Community School



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

The world is your oyster with A Level History. Historians can find their careers in: marketing, public relations, advertising, project management, journalism, foreign office, accountancy, civil service, law, heritage, teaching, banking, political researcher, intelligence.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/HISTORY

Jack Burrows  
Rookwood School



Grace Miller  
Admiral Lord Nelson School



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Cyber security and incident management, software engineer, information systems, IT manager, project manager, game developer, app developer, IT systems engineer, multi-media developer, eSports.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/BTECITXTCRT

# ITALIAN POST-GCSE A LEVEL

## SEE ALSO

French  
German  
Latin  
Spanish

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 or above in  
Italian GCSE.

## THE COURSE

A Level Italian takes an interactive and communicative approach to the study of the language and the contemporary, cultural topics and issues in Italy. Our weekly support workshops, as well as the course itself, are designed to further develop the skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. We have an allocated languages IT suite and each week you will practise speaking with our Language Assistant. The study trip to Italy offers students the opportunity to experience Italian culture and society.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: Listening, reading and translation (40%)

Paper 2: Written response to works and translation (30%)

Paper 3: Speaking – oral exam (30%)

## SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Transferable skills: cultural agility, empathy, ability to absorb and understand complex information, problem-solving, public speaking, resilience, risk-taking, attention to detail, adaptability, good listener and communicator.

Develops flexibility, adaptability, maturity, and awareness of other cultures.

Increases brain capacity and memory.

Expands earning potential and multiplies the places where you can work and travel.

Furthers the ability to work collaboratively with people from a range of backgrounds.

Benicio Rios Cranham  
Perins School



Maylis Reira  
Winton Community Academy



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

University, working for international companies, journalism, engineering, management, programming, advertising, finance, technology and science, diplomatic services, education, translation, tourism, retail, the arts. Living or working abroad.



SCAN THE CODE  
TO READ MORE  
ABOUT THIS  
COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/  
COURSES/C/  
ITALIAN

# ITALIAN FROM SCRATCH A LEVEL

## SEE ALSO

French  
German  
Latin  
Spanish

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 7 or above in another  
foreign language GCSE.

## THE COURSE

Italian from scratch is an accelerated course and leads to the GCSE qualification at the end of year one. Students may progress on to A Level in the second year. The course takes an interactive and communicative approach to the study of the language. Our weekly support workshops, as well as the course itself, are designed to further develop the skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. We have a languages IT suite and each week you will practise speaking with our Language Assistant. The study trip to Italy offers students the opportunity to experience Italian culture and society.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: Listening (25%)

Paper 2: Speaking – oral exam (25%)

Paper 3: Reading (25%)

Paper 4: Writing (25%)

## SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Transferable skills: cultural agility, empathy, ability to absorb and understand complex information, problem-solving, public speaking, resilience, risk-taking, attention to detail, adaptability, good listener and communicator.

Develops flexibility, adaptability, maturity, and awareness of other cultures.

Increases brain capacity and memory.

Expands earning potential and multiplies the places where you can work and travel.

Furthers the ability to work collaboratively with people from a range of backgrounds.

Madeleine Lakeland  
The Henry Beaufort School



Scarlett Biffen-Lodge  
The Westgate School

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

University, working for international companies, journalism, engineering, management, programming, advertising, finance, technology and science, diplomatic services, education, translation, tourism, retail, the arts. Living or working abroad.



SCAN THE CODE  
TO READ MORE  
ABOUT THIS  
COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/  
COURSES/C/  
ABINITIO

# LATIN

## A LEVEL

### SEE ALSO

Classical  
Civilisation

French

German

Italian

Spanish

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 or above in  
Latin GCSE.

### THE COURSE

Improve your Latin translation skills while developing a critical appreciation of the language. You'll study a diverse range of literature, including excerpts from Cicero's *pro Caelio* defending his young friend against charges like attempting to poison his former mistress. You'll explore Tacitus' vivid account of Nero's unconventional relationship with his mother, Agrippina the Younger; and delve into Virgil's *Aeneid*, examining the final hours of Troy and its destruction by that Wooden Horse.

### THE ASSESSMENT

Four exams, all taken at the end of the course. An unseen translation paper (prose and verse, with a little bit of scansion thrown in); a set of comprehension questions based on a prose author; and two papers testing your understanding and critical appreciation of the literature, prose and verse respectively.

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

You'll develop strong skills of analysis and problem-solving, together with an ability to eliminate the unlikely before arriving at the right answer. You will come to face challenges full on and learn to persevere. It is worth noting that many universities say that their Classics graduates are amongst their most employable.



Subject to their taking place, students of Latin will be invited to join the Classic Civilisation trips to Italy or Greece – these would be of particular interest to students looking to take a Classics-oriented course at university.

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Whilst there probably aren't that many careers which require Latin (outside the upper echelons of the Catholic Church), the skills needed to succeed in it are highly admired by both university admissions tutors and employers. Even those unfamiliar with what the subject entails appreciate it can be a tough gig that attracts the more able students.



SCAN THE CODE  
TO READ MORE  
ABOUT THIS  
COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/  
COURSES/C/  
LATIN

Jacob Caldwell  
The Westgate School

### Subjects

Biology

Chemistry

Latin



“ I have a strong interest in the ancient world alongside myths and legends. I find Latin extremely engaging and often lose track of time translating passages. I enjoy being able to apply my knowledge to reading Latin inscriptions in locations like cathedrals and museums. ”

Jacob Caldwell

# LAW

## A LEVEL

### SEE ALSO

- History
- Law: Applied
- Politics

# LAW: APPLIED

## BTEC EXTENDED CERTIFICATE

### SEE ALSO

- History
- Law
- Politics

### THE COURSE

Have you ever wondered: Why do we need law? How are laws made? How do judges make decisions? How do people become solicitors or barristers? Do you want to know about offences such as murder and theft? Do you want to understand negligence and contracts? A Level Law provides an introduction to a fascinating subject, one which covers many aspects of life. You will develop an understanding of law and how it works, learning more about society from a legal perspective – both contemporary and historical. You will look at different areas of law – criminal, tort and contract.

### THE ASSESSMENT

A Level Law is assessed by three written examinations, each two hours long and each worth 33% of the marks.

Paper 1: Legal system and criminal law

Paper 2: Law-making and the law of tort

Paper 3: Nature of law and law of contract

There are a variety of exam questions including essay questions and legal scenario questions.

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Law helps students develop a range of transferable skills: analytical skills, attention to detail, logical thinking, research skills, essay writing skills and the ability to produce a balanced argument.



Allia Mesa  
Regents Park  
Community College

Jules Pearce  
Amery Hill School

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

A university degree or work-based apprenticeship. Both can lead to the qualifications required to become a solicitor, barrister or legal executive. Other popular careers include the police, teaching, social work, business and accounting.



SCAN THE CODE  
TO READ MORE  
ABOUT THIS  
COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/  
COURSES/C/LAW

### THE COURSE

The Extended Certificate is a two-year course and consists of four units: three mandatory and one optional, and is equivalent to one A Level. The mandatory units include: Negligence and the Civil Courts, Non-Fatal Offences and the Criminal Courts, Criminal Law and Police Powers, Tort Law.

### THE ASSESSMENT

#### Year 1

Unit 1: Negligence and the Civil Courts (exam based)

Unit 2: Law-Making, Non-Fatal Offences and the Criminal Courts (coursework)

#### Year 2

Unit 3: Criminal Law and Police Powers (exam based).

Unit 4: Tort Law (coursework)

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Provides a foundation knowledge, develops time management skills, develops research skills, develops academic and professional writing skills.



Alex Clarke, The Westgate  
School and Millie Taylor,  
Harrow Way Community  
School



Kieran Evans  
St John's School  
(Cyprus)



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

BTEC Applied Law is good preparation for law-related subjects at university such as Law or Criminology. It forms a solid foundation for a range of law-based apprenticeships where you can train to become a solicitor or police officer.



SCAN THE CODE  
TO READ MORE  
ABOUT THIS  
COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/  
COURSES/C/  
BTEC-LAW

# MATHEMATICS

## A LEVEL

### SEE ALSO

Further Mathematics  
Statistics

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 7 or above in Maths GCSE.

### THE COURSE

The main focus of this is on pure Mathematics, algebra and graphs. We extend familiar ideas from GCSE, as well as meeting powerful new theories such as differentiation and integration. We start to model the physical world in mechanics and understand the power of data in statistics. We need to be curious and search for the connections rather than just remember results. There is a significant component of modelling across pure and applied. This requires us to think about the limitations and meaning of the sums we do. We also make extensive use of the graphical calculator.

### THE ASSESSMENT

The course is externally assessed by three, two-hour exams at the end of the course: pure and mechanics, pure and statistics, and pure with a comprehension component. We have internal assessments to help review learning. Common weekly home works and revision tasks are set across all classes.

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

The course will further develop your problem-solving skills, analytical thinking and ability to interpret data. While we may enjoy just getting to an answer, the communication of our ideas is also a vital part of the course and assessment. The ability to see and understand connections, to make reasoned arguments are the basis of A Level Mathematics and are highly desirable to many employers.

Julian Holyoake

Bishop Wordsworth's School



Samah Jabir

Upper Shirley High School



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Mathematics is typically a requirement for most engineering courses at university and many science courses. Certain universities will require Mathematics for a range of courses such as Computer Science and Economics. While people may go into careers directly based on these subjects, many will go into financial careers or similar that require a strong analytical approach.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/MATHS

Joseph Codemard  
Wyvern College

### Subjects

Mathematics  
Further Mathematics  
Physics  
Chemistry

### Enrichment

HE+



“At college, I've gained independence and a greater depth of knowledge in the subjects I enjoy. I hope my experience here will bring me an offer from a top university and new opportunities.”

Joseph Codemard

# FURTHER MATHEMATICS

AS LEVEL: 1 YEAR  
A LEVEL: 2 YEARS

## SEE ALSO

- Economics
- Mathematics
- Statistics

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 7 or above in Maths GCSE.

## THE COURSE

In Year 1, students will explore exciting new areas of pure mathematics, algorithms and mechanics. Improving their ability to solve multi-stage problems, students will experience a wide variety of scenarios in the MEI syllabus to develop their skills. Students may choose to study AS Mathematics, which is a one-year course. In Year 2, students continue to study Core Pure and they have a choice of a final unit to complete their A Level – either Extra Pure, Statistics Minor or Mechanics Major.

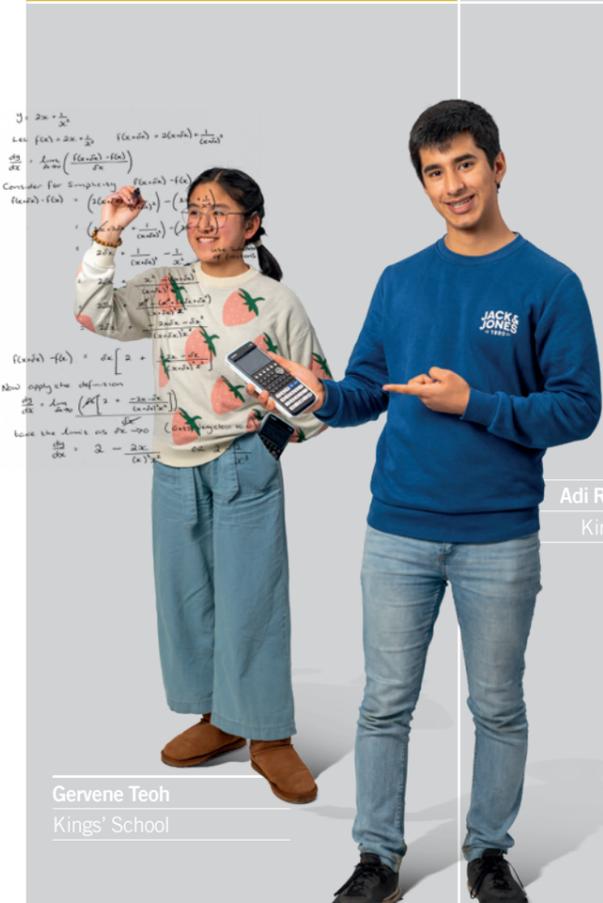
## THE ASSESSMENT

**AS Level, Year 1:** Students are tested regularly through the year, using end of topic tests in each unit. There are mock exams in February/March to help prepare for either the AS Level qualification or the end of year exams.

**A Level, Year 2:** Students continue to be tested regularly on all aspects of the course, including topics learnt in Year 1. There are mock exams in two units in March.

## SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Successful students will be hard working, dedicated and motivated to study higher level complex mathematical problems. During the course, they will enhance their ability to solve problems and work independently. Students with an A Level in Further Mathematics are highly desirable applicants for STEM degrees and to employers.



Adi Ramrakhani  
Kings' School

Gervene Teoh  
Kings' School



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Our A Level students are well-prepared for degrees and apprenticeships where the mathematical content is significant. Degrees in Mathematics, Physics, Engineering, Computer Science and other science courses are common. Some universities may ask for an A Level in Further Mathematics. At the very least, it will give applicants a distinct advantage over those without.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/FMATHS

# STATISTICS

A LEVEL

## SEE ALSO

- Economics
- Mathematics
- Further Mathematics

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 or above in Maths GCSE.

## THE COURSE

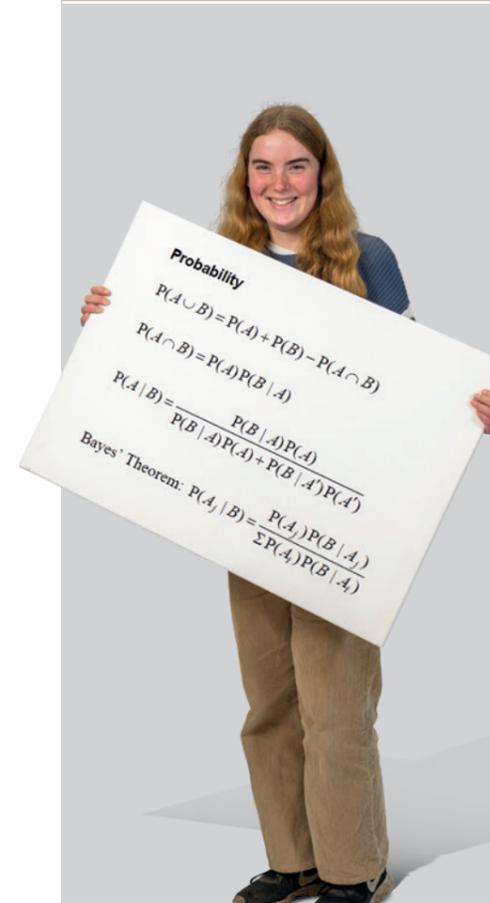
Many subjects at degree level require the ability to work confidently with data: A Level Statistics will give you that ability. The course offers students, who have a good understanding of Mathematics at GCSE, to study how statistical methods are applied to make sense of the world around us.

## THE ASSESSMENT

There are regular tests throughout the two years to check your progress. This course allows for revision to begin after February half-term in Year 2. Final assessment will be by means of three two-hour exams at the end of the two years.

## SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

The fundamental statistical and lateral thinking skills you develop over the two years will be invaluable across all kinds of disciplines and careers. The ability to understand and analyse data is an increasingly important skill in a world of constant change.



Bethany Cooper  
The Gregg School



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Accountancy, finance, insurance, law, pharmacy, management, civil service.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/STATISTICS

# MEDIA STUDIES

A LEVEL

## SEE ALSO

Digital Media

Film Studies

## THE COURSE

The media is a dynamic and vital part of contemporary culture. On this course you'll explore a wide range of media, from television programmes, music videos and magazines to video games, vlogs and social media. Develop an understanding of key critical debates and explore the role that the media plays in shaping our understanding of events, issues and groups, as well as looking at the cultural and institutional contexts in which media production and media studies consumption take place. You will also have the opportunity to put theory into practice through planning and producing a range of media products.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Component 1: Media Products, Industries and Audiences (written examination, 35%)

Component 2: Media Forms and Products in Depth (written examination, 35%)

Component 3: Cross-media Production (non-examined assessment, 30%)

## SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Gain skills of enquiry, critical thinking, decision-making, analysis, and a critical approach to media issues.

Gain an appreciation and critical understanding of the media and its role both historically and currently in society.

Apply theoretical knowledge and specialist terminology to analyse and compare.

Make informed arguments, reach substantiated judgements, and draw conclusions about media issues.

Appreciate how theoretical understanding supports practice and vice versa.



Willa Madel  
Bruton School for Girls

## WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Any industry that requires critical thinking, but also more obvious pathways into: journalism, PR/marketing, film and TV production, creative advertising, video game design, animation/graphics, creative writing, politics, literary/film criticism, social work.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/MEDIA

Chantelle Dube  
St Anne's Catholic School

## Subjects

Media

Criminology

Psychology

## Enrichment

Afro-Caribbean Society

LAMDA Public Speaking

Recreational Volleyball



“ I love how engaged class is and having the time to actually get to know each other; the class is lively and entertaining to be in. ”

Chantelle Dube

# MEDIA: DIGITAL MEDIA

CTEC DIPLOMA

SEE ALSO

Film Studies

Media Studies

## THE COURSE

This two-year practical media course focuses on moving image and audio production, leading to a Diploma, which is equivalent to two A Levels. You will have extensive training and will develop technical skills in cinematography, sound and editing. You will manage industry-style practical projects from research to post-production stages (in music video, short film, TV, digital marketing and radio) building a substantial portfolio across a range of media forms.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Ongoing assessment and feedback is via one-to-ones with teachers throughout the course on a regular basis, along with peer group assessment and via whole-college progress review days.

Practical work accounts for 70% and is internally marked and standardised, then externally moderated.

Theoretical work accounts for 30% (exam assessment).

## SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

This course is designed with input from experts, the course meets the skills, knowledge, and understanding demanded by universities and employers. You will gain practical and theoretical knowledge that will support you in your career's next steps.

Benjamin Newton  
The Henry Beaufort School



## WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

This course provides an excellent foundation for a wide variety of careers in the creative media sector, from social media marketing to camera assistant or editor, and also serves as useful preparation for higher education, where you will be well-qualified for a degree in a media related field such as film or TV production. The course will also give you access to higher apprenticeships.



SCAN THE CODE  
TO READ MORE  
ABOUT THIS  
COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/  
COURSES/C/DM

Daisy Millward  
Wildern School

## Subjects

Digital Media

Media Studies

Spanish



“The course has not only been fun, but has helped me work out that I’d like a career in TV production. The support has been great, the units have been really enjoyable and I’ve had a brilliant time.”

Daisy Millward

# MUSIC

## A LEVEL

### SEE ALSO

- Music HSMC
- Digital Music Production
- Popular Music Performance

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 in Performance, or the equivalent standard if exams not taken. Grade 5 in Theory recommended.

### THE COURSE

Symonds is the place for musical ambition! A Level Music students develop a range of skills in performing, composing, listening to, and writing about set works. We provide free instrumental tuition, brilliant weekly music activities and concerts in some great venues. Many take ABRSM/Trinity exams and diplomas. Our department includes a professional accompanist and recording engineer, and amazing Steinway pianos. Students can choose their favourite style in performing and free composition, and the written paper includes set works selected from film scores, classical, pop, jazz and world music.

### THE ASSESSMENT

A level Music is a two-year course. At the end of the first year, students take assessments in performance and composition, plus a written paper, which are all marked internally. At the end of the second year, students perform a solo, recorded recital and complete two compositions, both assessed by the board, and take a two-hour written exam in June.

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Music A Level is highly regarded by universities and employers, as it covers a wide skill set, whether you want to work in music or enter another profession. Employers are looking for candidates who are creative, with imagination and flexibility. Musicians are good at working in a team. Musicians have superb independent study skills and are good at time-keeping. Skilled performers have also developed confidence in presentation skills.

Jacob Clay  
Perins School



Leihaana Amonoo-Kuofi  
Kings' School



### THE COURSE

Taken alongside A Level Music, the Hampshire Specialist Music Course is for musically-gifted young people pursuing a career in music. You'll develop skills, confidence, and musical maturity for conservatoire or university entry. The college provides excellent teaching from experienced teachers and free individual tuition on two instruments per week, including piano. You'll participate in music activities and have extra music rehearsals in small groups each week. Solo performances and professional masterclasses are available, and you'll attend live music events.

### THE ASSESSMENT

A Level Music is a two-year course. At the end of the first year you will take assessments in performance and composition, plus a written paper, which are all marked internally. At the end of the second year you will perform a solo recorded recital and complete two compositions, both assessed by the board, and take a two-hour written exam in June.

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Music A Level is highly regarded by universities and employers, as it covers a wide skill set, whether you want to work in music or enter another profession. Employers are looking for candidates who are creative, with imagination and flexibility. Musicians are good at working in a team. Musicians have superb independent study skills and are good at time-keeping. Skilled performers have also developed confidence in presentation skills.

Rose Gosney  
Hounslow School



Marcus Zheng  
St George Catholic College



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Progression to competitive universities, conservatoires and contemporary academies from Symonds is outstanding. Students receive advice on higher education options, and are prepared for auditions with our professional accompanist and recording engineer. Career choices include performing, composing, conducting, teaching, recording, arranging and management.

**FACT:**  
PSC MUSIC STUDENTS  
HAVE OUTSTANDING  
PROGRESSION TO  
CONSERVATOIRES AND  
TOP UNIVERSITIES



SCAN THE CODE  
TO READ MORE  
ABOUT THIS  
COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/  
COURSES/C/  
MUSIC



SCAN THE CODE  
TO READ MORE  
ABOUT THIS  
COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/  
COURSES/C/  
HSMC

### SEE ALSO

- Music
- Digital Music Production
- Popular Music Performance

### ADDITIONAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Auditions in February 2024 will include two pieces on your first study instrument/voice (grade 7/8 standard) and one piece on your second. Auditions include sight reading and a short interview. See our website for details.

# MUSIC: DIGITAL MUSIC PRODUCTION

**BTEC EXTENDED CERTIFICATE**

**SEE ALSO**

- Music
- Music HSMC
- Popular Music Performance

**THE COURSE**

This course takes a practical look at popular music through the use of music technology. You will study, in detail, music production, sequencing software and studio techniques, and music and sound for media.

It's essential that you have a genuine and keen interest both in playing music and music technology. The course makes extensive use of music production software and studio equipment. You will develop an in-depth understanding of Apple's Logic music production software and will learn how to analyse typical technical features found in popular music production.

**THE ASSESSMENT**

Four internally-assessed units (coursework) and an exam. Coursework: music and sound for media, creative synthesis and sampling, mixing and mastering, and creating a musical product. Exam is practical involving music production with software.

**SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY**

Develop an understanding of how music production software can be used to write and produce music. Gain skills in mixing and mastering music, and in sound design.

Chloé Tait  
Priestlands School



Tom Mouat  
Test Valley School

**WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?**

Careers in the music industry in a variety of areas including technical and production. Further study at university or specialist music college.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/DMP

Sophie Dalton  
Thornden School

**Subjects**

- Mathematics
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Digital Music Production

**Enrichment**

- Astrophysics
- Quantum Mechanics



“I have gained a wider understanding and more insight into my subject. Whilst they can be challenging, they are overall worth the effort.”

Sophie Dalton

# MUSIC: POPULAR MUSIC PERFORMANCE

## BTEC EXTENDED CERTIFICATE

### SEE ALSO

Music  
Music HSMC  
Digital Music  
Production

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Applicants will be required to audition to show competency on guitar, bass, keyboard, drums or vocals.

### THE COURSE

This course aims to equip students with the skills they need to succeed as a performer. The focus is on developing a practical understanding of popular music and other related styles, through individual and ensemble rehearsal and performance. The course is suited to committed performers who may be thinking about further study or a career in the music industry, and to keen musicians who wish to continue developing their performance skills.

### THE ASSESSMENT

Internally-assessed (coursework) units include: music performance session styles, practical music theory and harmony.

Externally assessed (exam) units include: ensemble music performance, professional practice in the music industry.

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Develop musicianship skills and those as a performer. Understanding of how to work as part of a music ensemble and develop and rehearse musical ideas. Understanding of how the popular music industry functions.



Iris Roffey  
The Westgate  
School

Aaron Gardner  
The Mountbatten School



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

A variety of roles in the music industry including performance in a range of settings. Further study at a university or specialist music college.



SCAN THE CODE  
TO READ MORE  
ABOUT THIS  
COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/  
COURSES/C/  
BTECMUSICPERF

# PERFORMANCE: ACTING

## BTEC EXTENDED CERTIFICATE

### SEE ALSO

Dance  
Drama and Theatre

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

GCSE in Drama or  
Dance, Performing Arts  
Diploma or equivalent  
recommended.

### THE COURSE

You will develop and extend all your performance skills in acting with a view to broadening your skills and developing into a versatile and experienced performer. You will perform from established scripts and also develop your own ideas through group work. Every unit is practical and contains performance. As well as being taught by our highly qualified staff, you will at times be working with industry professionals. There are numerous opportunities to go to live theatre in London and beyond, even New York.

**Year 1:** Developing skills and techniques.

Acting styles. Storytelling.

**Year 2:** Acting for screen. Group performance workshop.

### THE ASSESSMENT

The course is assessed through a range of assignments. In the final year there is an externally-assessed unit which will be set by the exam board. This will involve a five-week exam period culminating in a final assessment. There are no written exams.

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

This course develops your creativity, teamwork, communication, and time management skills. A BTEC in Performance: Acting can lead to careers in acting, directing, producing, or technical theatre.



Oliva Kemp  
Noadswood School

Tyler Cropp  
Aldworth College



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Acting, directing, drama therapy, stage management, teaching, singing, dance, musician.



SCAN THE CODE  
TO READ MORE  
ABOUT THIS  
COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/  
COURSES/C/  
BTECPERFAC

# PHILOSOPHY

A LEVEL

## SEE ALSO

Politics  
Psychology  
Religious Studies  
Sociology

## ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 5 or above in Maths and English or Humanities

## THE COURSE

A Level Philosophy will enable you to gain a thorough grounding in key philosophical concepts and methods. You will have the opportunity to engage with some of the biggest questions there are, such as: What is knowledge? Where does our knowledge come from? Can we trust the evidence of our senses? How do I make moral decisions? Does the idea of God make sense? Are there any arguments that prove that God exists? Do we have a mind? Can neuroscience explain why we do what we do? Strong skills in written communication and logic are required to do well on this course.

## THE ASSESSMENT

There are two three-hour exams at the end of the second year. All questions on the exam papers are compulsory. The exams will measure how students have achieved the following assessment objectives.

AO1: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the core concepts and methods of philosophy, including through the use of philosophical analysis.

AO2: Analyse and evaluate philosophical arguments to form reasoned judgements.

## SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

A Level Philosophy develops your skills of analysis, interpretation, evaluation, and communication. You will learn to write precisely and to argue logically, assessing the strengths and weaknesses of philosophical positions. It teaches you how to think clearly, analytically and logically. It teaches you lateral thinking, problem-solving, and creative thinking. These skills are highly transferable and desirable.

Zac Blackburn  
Kings' School



Isobel Oates  
Portsmouth High School



## WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Philosophy is a subject that complements many other areas of study including Law, Politics, History, Sociology, English, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Maths and Music. It is a highly regarded and rigorous academic subject that will be of use to a wide range of careers including journalism, law, medicine, veterinary science, police work, teaching and public relations.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/PHILOSOPHY

Izzi Fearnley  
Perins School

## Subjects

Mathematics  
English Language and Literature  
Philosophy  
Business

## Enrichment

Gym  
Yoga



“Philosophy is a subject which allows for such insightful discussions and expanding my knowledge. It allows me to broaden my skills, listen to everyone’s opinions and make informed decisions on philosophical matters.”

Izzi Fearnley

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## A LEVEL

SEE ALSO

Sport

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

At least GCSE grade 5 in two single sciences or Combined Science.

### THE COURSE

The A Level PE course expands on many of the ideas and concepts you will have already encountered in school PE lessons. You will study contemporary topics in sport to further your knowledge and understanding of the importance of exercise and activity to personal, social and mental health and wellbeing. The wide variety of teaching styles used will encourage you to develop a capacity for critical thinking and appreciate the relationship between the diverse aspects of physical education and sport.

### THE ASSESSMENT

70% written exams: Two two-hour exams, exploring and evaluating concepts in Physical Education.

30% non-examined assessment: 15% practical performance in one activity as a player/performer or coach and 15% coursework analysing and evaluating personal performance in that role.

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Organisation, communication, time management, analytical and evaluative skills, ICT skills, working as an individual and as part of a team, leadership skills, interpersonal skills, literacy and numeracy skills, adaptability, resilience.



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

A Level PE is normally accepted as a science subject by most universities. Career options include sports psychologist, sports nutritionist, sports scientist, sports medic, sports development officer, sports retail, sports law, sports biomechanist, exercise physiologist, sports technology, coach, sports journalism, sports analyst, sports therapist.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/PE



Immie Nichols  
The Westgate School



Steven Liu  
Perins School

# SPORT

## BTEC EXTENDED CERTIFICATE BTEC DIPLOMA BTEC EXTENDED DIPLOMA

SEE ALSO

Physical Education

### THE COURSE

There are three routes of study for Sport:

**Extended Certificate** is equivalent to one A Level

**Diploma** is equivalent to two A Levels

**Extended Diploma** is equivalent to three A Levels

Depending on which qualification pathway is chosen, units will be selected from core and specialist units taught over a two-year period. Extended Certificate: across all pathways, the following core units will be studied: Anatomy and Physiology; Professional Development in the Sports Industry; and

Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Wellbeing. Both Diploma and Extended Diploma courses consist of: Application of Fitness Testing, Skill Acquisition in Sport, Investigating Business in Sport and the Active Leisure Industry, Coaching for Performance, and Practical Sports Performance. You will also study units in Leadership in Sport, Sports Coaching, and Sports Injuries, Development and Provision of Sport and Physical Activity. The Extended Diploma includes: Rules, Regulations and Officiating in Sport, Research Methods in Sport, Sports Injury Management, Development and Provision of Sport, and Sports Massage.

### THE ASSESSMENT

Internal assessment (assignments, practical, presentations) and external assessment (one exam, two scenario-based assignments). All internal assessments are continuously assessed throughout the course, across the two years, with external assessment balanced across Year 1 and 2.

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Leadership, teamwork, communication, independence, applied research, interpersonal skills, practical performance.



Lou Hattemore  
The Romsey School

Toby Parkins  
Eggar's School



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Sport-related degrees including Sport Science, Physiotherapy, Sports Business and Management, Sports Coaching, Sports Development, PE Teaching, Sports Therapy. Sport-related careers including personal training.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/SPORT

# PHYSICS

A LEVEL

## SEE ALSO

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Mathematics

### ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 7,6,6 or above in any combination of Maths and Science GCSEs, to include Physics.

## THE COURSE

Physics is the science of the very large, such as galaxies, down to the very small quantum phenomena that occur at subatomic scales, and everything in between. Through observation and experimentation, physicists lead the search to understand the inner workings of the universe. Study at this level covers topics including particles, waves, quantum phenomena, mechanics, materials, electricity, fields, radioactivity and relativistic effects. You will begin to see the interconnections between these areas and start to understand the universal principles that apply to them.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Three exams: you will be tested on your ability to carry out mathematical calculations and written explanations through a range of multiple-choice, structured and longer questions.

There is no coursework, but the examination papers include questions on practical skills. The award of a separate practical endorsement at A Level depends on successful completion of the experimental tasks set during the course.

## SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Physics is essential (with Mathematics) for entry to Physics or Engineering degree level courses. Even if you don't end up working in a physics-related industry, Physics develops skills that provide an excellent basis for a wide range of careers and higher education courses.



Lily Parry  
Rookwood School

Ryan Shino  
Bishop Wordsworth's School



Edie Towns  
The Mountbatten School

Xander Peace,  
Thornden School,  
and Haya Tayab,  
Dubai College

### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Possible careers include computing, economics, business, seismology, healthcare scientist, higher education lecturer, radiation protection practitioner, secondary school teacher, meteorologist, patent attorney, technical author. The opportunities are endless and Physics gives access to other industries and careers as a recognised academic subject.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/PHYSICS

# POLITICS

A LEVEL

## SEE ALSO

- History
- Law

## THE COURSE

Politics A Level gives you the chance to study both UK and global politics as well as political ideologies: socialism, liberalism conservatism and anarchism. The course is framed around key questions that are genuine debates in the real world: Should we change our voting system? How effective is Parliament? Does the PM have too much power? Is China overtaking the US as the most powerful country in the world? How effective is global governance at managing conflict? Such questions are currently being discussed in the news so keeping up with current events is also a key aspect of the course!

## THE ASSESSMENT

Three two-hour exams at the end of the course:

1. UK politics and core political ideas
2. UK government and non-core political ideas
3. Global politics

## SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Research skills, thinking critically, analysing information, presenting well-balanced arguments, writing well-structured essays, debating and presenting.



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Civil service, law, journalism, public relations, teaching, banking, marketing, politics researcher, local government, NGO work.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/POLITICS

# PRODUCT DESIGN

A LEVEL

**SEE ALSO**

- Fine Art
- Graphic Communication
- Photography
- Textiles
- Three Dimensional Design

**ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS**

Ideally achieved GCSE Design and Technology: Product Design.

**THE COURSE**

Product Design is a proactive and creative course. You will need to enjoy experimenting, testing and modelling with a wide range of materials, machines, tools and CAD software to get the most from this course.

**THE ASSESSMENT**

- 50% non-examined assessment
- 50% theory (exam)

**SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY**

Creative design skills, sketching skills, workshop skills to use production methods and materials creatively, modelling and prototyping skills, presentation skills, user research, CAD skills, idea generation, analytical skills, working to a design brief, teamwork, communication, problem-solving, planning and organising, self management, time management, critical thinking, project management, understanding the theory of industrial practices, workshop processes and materials.



Lucy Sworder  
Perins School

**WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?**

Our students have gone on to study a wide range of subjects for different career pathways which include: product design, mechanical engineering, product design engineering, product design CAD, furniture design, automotive design and architecture.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/PRODUCT

Kai James  
Frensham Heights School

- Subjects**
- Dance
  - Religious Studies
  - Product Design

- Enrichment**
- Symonds News
  - Uganda 2023 Trip



“The fact that Symonds has such a large choice of subjects available has ensured I am taking subjects I love, rather than subjects I ‘have to do’. I love that all of my teachers explain things and are always eager to help us.”

Kai James

# PSYCHOLOGY

A LEVEL

SEE ALSO

Criminology

Sociology

## ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grades 6,5,5 or above in any combination of Maths and Science GCSEs

### THE COURSE

Psychology involves the scientific study of mental processes and behaviour. Helping you understand more about yourself and your relationships with others. It also examines the roles of our brain, hormones and unconscious on our behaviour. You will learn to analyse patterns of data from research, write structured essays, argue psychological debates, learn about the structure of our brain, and design and conduct practical investigations. You will study topics on memory, attachment, social influence, psychopathology, biopsychology, research methods, approaches, relationships, issues and debates, schizophrenia and aggression.

### THE ASSESSMENT

Three two-hour exams at the end of Year 2. Short and long answer questions (16 marks max). 96 marks per exam.

Paper 1: Social influence, memory, attachment, psychopathology.

Paper 2: Approaches, biopsychology, research methods.

Paper 3: Issues and debates, relationships, aggression, schizophrenia.

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Seen as a science, this course will develop your skills in: critical thinking, abstract reasoning, communication, leadership and teamwork, problem-solving, creativity and research analysis. Psychology lies at the academic heart of work and organisational behaviour including around recruitment, aptitude and selection. It informs human resource management, careers guidance, coaching and consultancy. Our subject addresses the individual and is concerned with self-awareness, growth and development, social behaviour and cognition.

Suraya Hughes  
King Edward VI School



Josh Cardy  
Carns Hill School



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Careers in teaching and research, psychologist (educational, forensic, health, sports, counselling, etc), wellbeing practitioner, social worker, art therapist, mental health nurse, or police. A degree is useful for advertising, admissions, careers adviser, detective, human resources officer, lawyer, market researcher, media, play therapist, psychotherapist.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/PSYCHOLOGY

# RELIGIOUS STUDIES

A LEVEL

SEE ALSO

Philosophy

### THE COURSE

Religious Studies at A Level requires students to discover the role religion plays in human history and culture. You will be introduced to the philosophical world of Buddhism and some of the major philosophical ideas concerning the existence of God, and ethical theories that question issues of right and wrong, good and bad.

### THE ASSESSMENT

Three two-hour papers, one on each area of study (Buddhism, Philosophy of Religion and Ethics). Each paper is in the same format, with five compulsory questions.

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Studying A Level Religious Studies can provide students with skills that are highly sought after by employers, such as critical thinking, research, communication, and cultural awareness. It can also deepen their understanding of different cultures and beliefs, which is particularly useful in fields like law, politics, social work, and education.

Daniel Younger  
The Henry Beaufort School



Pippa Read  
Hounslow School



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Charity, travel, civil service, journalism, social work, public relations, teaching, medicine.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/RELIGIOUS

# SOCIOLOGY

## A LEVEL

### SEE ALSO

Criminology

Psychology

### THE COURSE

Sociology is the study of society and social change. We use research evidence and a range of theories to understand the impact of society and social change on the individual, social relationships and key institutions. You will analyse the role of socialisation, power relationships in society and the impact of globalisation on our society and culture through the study of families and households, education, beliefs in society and crime and deviance. You will develop the skills to evaluate sociological research and theories, analyse data and present your arguments in a clear, structured manner.

### THE ASSESSMENT

Three two-hour exams

### SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Analysis and evaluation of data  
 Organisation of time and planning  
 Understanding and analysing social change

Sophie Ellis

Testbourne Community School



Rainy Sukhavatchana  
 Perins School



### WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

Social work, teaching, social research, marketing, police/criminal justice, human resources.



SCAN THE CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT THIS COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/COURSES/C/SOCIOLOGY

Katie Aves

Bishop Challoner Catholic Secondary School

### Subjects

Religious Studies  
 Sociology  
 Geography

### Enrichment

LAMDA Public Speaking  
 Christian Union



“At Peter Symonds my goal is to increase my academic abilities and make the most of the opportunity to successfully access higher education.”

Katie Aves

# SPANISH

AS LEVEL: 1 YEAR  
A LEVEL: 2 YEARS

## SEE ALSO

French  
German  
Italian  
Latin

## ADDITIONAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Grade 6 or above in  
Spanish GCSE.

## THE COURSE

Spanish A and AS Level is an exciting study of Hispanic society and culture, through our engaging and interactive lessons to help you to speak and write idiomatic and increasingly complex, accurate Spanish. Our weekly support and conversation workshops will help you to hone your linguistic skills. You will listen to and research authentic material in the Languages IT suite, and work towards fluency with our Language Assistants every week. We also offer everyone the opportunity to join our study visit to Spain, and enrich our cultural studies with trips to the BFI and to the Cervantes Theatre.

## THE ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: Listening, reading and translation (40%)

Paper 2: Written response to works and translation (30%)

Paper 3: Speaking – oral exam (30%)

## SKILLS/EMPLOYABILITY

Transferable skills: Cultural agility, empathy, ability to absorb and understand complex information, problem-solving, public speaking, resilience, risk-taking, attention to detail, adaptability, good listener and communicator.

Expands earning potential and multiplies the places you can work.

Further the ability to work collaboratively with people from a range of backgrounds.

Develops flexibility, adaptability, maturity, and awareness of other cultures.

Increase brain capacity and memory.

Henry Batchelor  
Radley College



Abi Abosejo  
St Anne's Catholic School



## WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

University, working for international companies, journalism, engineering, management, programming, advertising, finance, technology and science, diplomatic services, education, translation, tourism, retail, the arts. Living or working abroad.



SCAN THE CODE  
TO READ MORE  
ABOUT THIS  
COURSE

PSC.AC.UK/  
COURSES/C/  
SPANISH

George Day  
Wildern School

Subjects  
Mathematics  
Business  
Spanish

Enrichment  
Tennis



“Through studying Spanish I have enjoyed gaining many new skills as well as working on existing ones. I’ve enjoyed meeting new people and furthering my knowledge on each subject.”

George Day

# LEVEL 2 COURSES

GCSE AND CTEC

This one-year programme of study is a pathway for students who narrowly miss achieving the entry requirements for Level 3 study, or students that have not had the opportunity to study a GCSE programme or equivalent. Students who successfully complete this course can apply to study Level 3 courses with us the following year.



In addition to classroom teaching and visits, work experience is included in this programme. All of our courses will seek to develop useful transferable skills such as presentation, communication and IT skills.

We offer a range of subjects for you to choose from. You will be expected to study two or three of these.

## GRADE REQUIREMENTS

At least two GCSEs at grade 4 or equivalent.

## GCSE MATHS & ENGLISH

All students taking a Level 2 programme will be expected to take a GCSE in English and Maths if not previously achieved. You will be taught in small classes enabling teachers to focus on your individual needs and to give you the best possible chance of passing resit examinations.

## BUSINESS

This Cambridge Technical qualification in Business offers you an exciting opportunity to actively explore the world of business, and equips you with invaluable employability skills.

It provides a great foundation for you to progress to the more demanding Level 3 BTEC or A Level Business courses, or enter the workplace, providing you with a theoretical background reinforced with practical skills that transfer into the modern workplace. The course is exam-free so is ideal for a wide range of learning styles.

## INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

This Cambridge Technical qualification in Information and Communication Technology will equip you with sound IT skills for everyday use and provide opportunities to develop in context those desirable, transferable skills such as planning, research and analysis, working with others and communicating technical concepts effectively. Teaching is in dedicated IT classrooms.

The course consists of four units: Communicating in the IT Industry, Working in the IT Industry, Digital Graphics, and Developing Computer Games.

This qualification is particularly attractive because of the real-world relevance and close alignment with industrial practice. It allows you to achieve a real understanding of the subject that is a true fit with the needs of the workplace or further studies in similar subject areas.

## MEDIA STUDIES

This Cambridge Technical qualification in Media Studies offers an understanding of media industries by empowering you to work with media products, production processes and technologies. This leads to practical and creative skills that are transferable to the workplace or to production-related HE courses. Unit choices provide opportunities to study areas which could lead to work in a range of media including print, web, television and film. The course has been developed in partnership with practising tutors and teachers, as well as industry specialists and leading employers in media industries.

The course consists of three units: Media Institutions, Audio-Visual Media Skills, and Print Media Production.

All learning takes place within a dedicated PC editing/DTP suite where a media instructor or technician is on hand to offer extra support. Creative media teachers and practitioners will deliver this course with an emphasis on facilitating independent learning skills and industry-based scenarios.

## EXAMPLES OF LEVEL 2 STUDY PROGRAMMES

STUDENT 1	STUDENT 2
Business	Media
ICT	Business
Media	Mathematics GCSE
English GCSE	English GCSE
+ Activity	+ Activity
+ Tutorial	+ Tutorial
+ Workshops	+ Workshops
+ Work experience	+ Work experience

# VOCATIONAL COURSES

AT STONEY LANE CAMPUS  
LEVEL 2 AND LEVEL 3

Peter Symonds College offers a selection of vocational courses at our campus on Stoney Lane in Weeke, Winchester, which are open to 16–19 year-old students.



Attendance patterns for our vocational courses can vary. Please refer to the relevant course outline at [www.psc.ac.uk/ahed](http://www.psc.ac.uk/ahed) for further details.

There is a mixture of students on the Stoney Lane campus studying a range of courses. Some are studying the vocational courses detailed, others are studying access to higher education courses and degree programmes, so there is a different atmosphere to the sixth form campus. The Stoney Lane Campus is approximately a 15-minute walk from the main campus.

You can apply for our vocational courses from September and we can accept applications up until the course start date (subject to availability of places).

## BEAUTY THERAPY

This Level 2 qualification is full time, for one year, studying practical skills in facials, skincare, eyelash and brow treatments, hair removal, manicures and pedicures. On completion students can progress to a Level 3 Diploma course in Beauty Therapy the following year.

## COMPLEMENTARY THERAPIES

A comprehensive and practical course, ideal for students who want to gain a qualification in this thriving industry. The course is made up of a number of diplomas including; Body Massage, Reflexology, Aromatherapy, and Anatomy and Physiology.

## FASHION, THEATRE AND MEDIA HAIR AND MAKE-UP STUDIES

This course can be taken alongside A Levels over two years. See page 58 for full details. Alternatively, this can be studied as a one-year full-time course.

## HAIRDRESSING

This course has been designed to develop your practical skills in the art of cutting and styling hair. You will study at Level 2 in your first year and upon successful completion progress on to the Level 3 course.

## HOW TO APPLY

Please visit the AHED website at [www.psc.ac.uk/ahed](http://www.psc.ac.uk/ahed) and submit an online application form or contact Reception (01962 886166) to have a hard copy application posted to you.

Please return to the Stoney Lane Campus: Peter Symonds College, Adult & Higher Education Division, Stoney Lane, Winchester, SO22 6DR

01962 886166  
[ahed@psc.ac.uk](mailto:ahed@psc.ac.uk)

Raya Mason  
Aldworth School

Subjects  
Beauty Therapy  
Diploma



Students can engage in practical sessions at our industry-standard facilities, immersing themselves in various hands-on experiences to develop their skills.

## TRAVELLING TO COLLEGE BY TRAIN

Many students choose to travel to college by train. Winchester station is a 4-minute walk away.

### DISCOUNTED RAIL TRAVEL FOR STUDENTS

Students can purchase a 16–17 Saver card, which gives students a 50% discount on all rail fares, including season tickets. The cost is £30 and is valid for one year or until your 18th birthday, whichever comes first. You can then choose whether you buy any length of ticket. Tickets are then purchased direct from the train companies.

Once students turn 18, Scholar Season tickets are available to purchase from College. These represent a 34% discount on the price of a normal season ticket.

## TRAVELLING TO COLLEGE BY BUS

For routes, timetables, student tickets and further information:

For most routes to Peter Symonds:  
www.stagecoach.com

For bus routes from Southampton, via Chandlers Ford: www.bluestarbus.co.uk

### BUS FARE CAP SCHEME

At the time of writing, there is a Government-funded price cap on bus fares of £2 per journey until 31 October 2023. The cap then increases to £2.50 per journey until November 2024. Therefore, a bus pass may not prove best value for money. Please consider this before purchasing: www.gov.uk/guidance/2-bus-fare-cap

FOLLOW US:   

## GOT A QUESTION?

Head over to our FAQs at psc.ac.uk/faq. From 'what to wear' or 'how long is the college day' to travel discounts and catering, we've got the answers to your queries.



SCAN THE CODE TO SEE OUR FAQs

psc.ac.uk/faq

## TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR

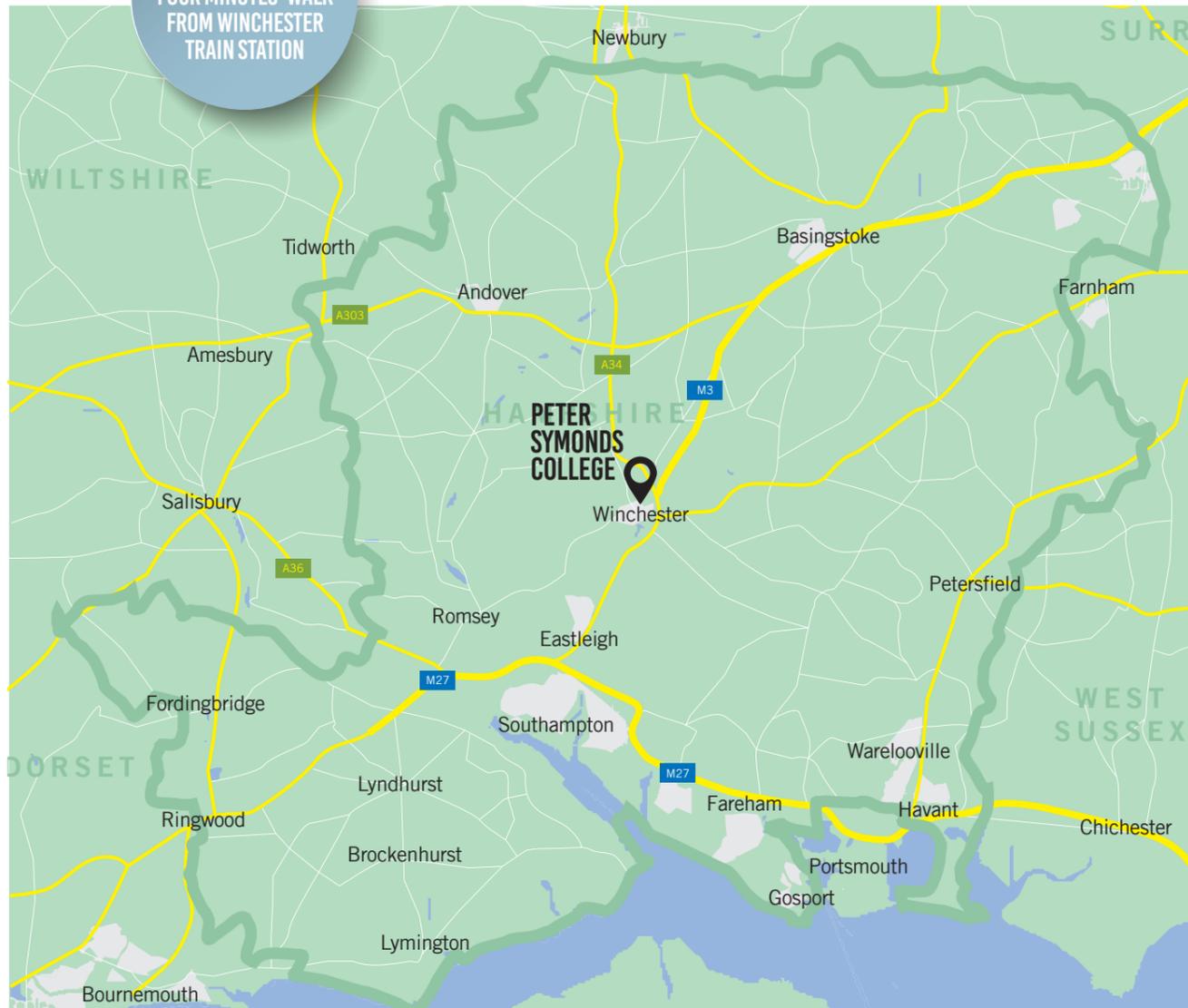
Come and take a look at our campus and explore our fantastic facilities at www.psc.ac.uk/videos



SCAN THE CODE TO TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR

psc.ac.uk/videos

**FACT:**  
THE COLLEGE IS JUST FOUR MINUTES' WALK FROM WINCHESTER TRAIN STATION



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All level 3 courses are A Level, apart from those marked:

1. BTEC courses
2. Cambridge Technical courses
3. EDUQAS Diploma courses
4. T Level course
5. VTCT Diploma course (32 UCAS points)

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“ Peter Symonds has made me feel safe and welcomed and the teaching staff are friendly and approachable if you have any concerns whatsoever. The care the College has for its students and staff is really shown throughout. ”

Haya Tayab

“ The independence provided by teachers to be able to fully comprehend and apply the curriculum has allowed me to grow academically. My classes bring enriching and engaging opportunities to debate – making the subjects come to life! ”

Dmitrijs Meiksans



Peter Symonds College  
Owens Road, Winchester,  
Hampshire. SO22 6RX

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www.psc.ac.uk