HELSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

POST 16 PROSPECTUS

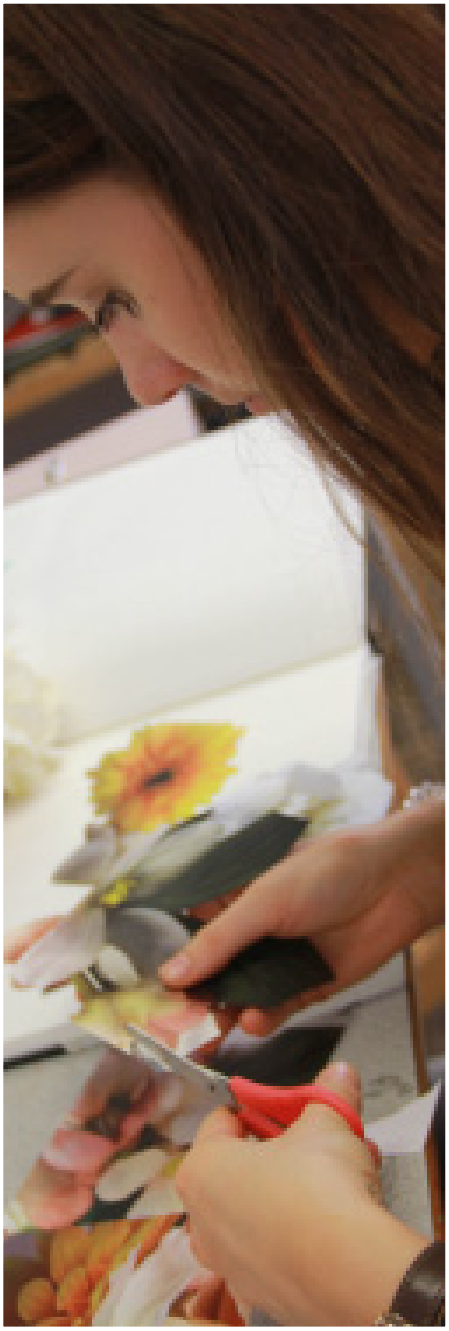

Illustration by
Julia Cockerham

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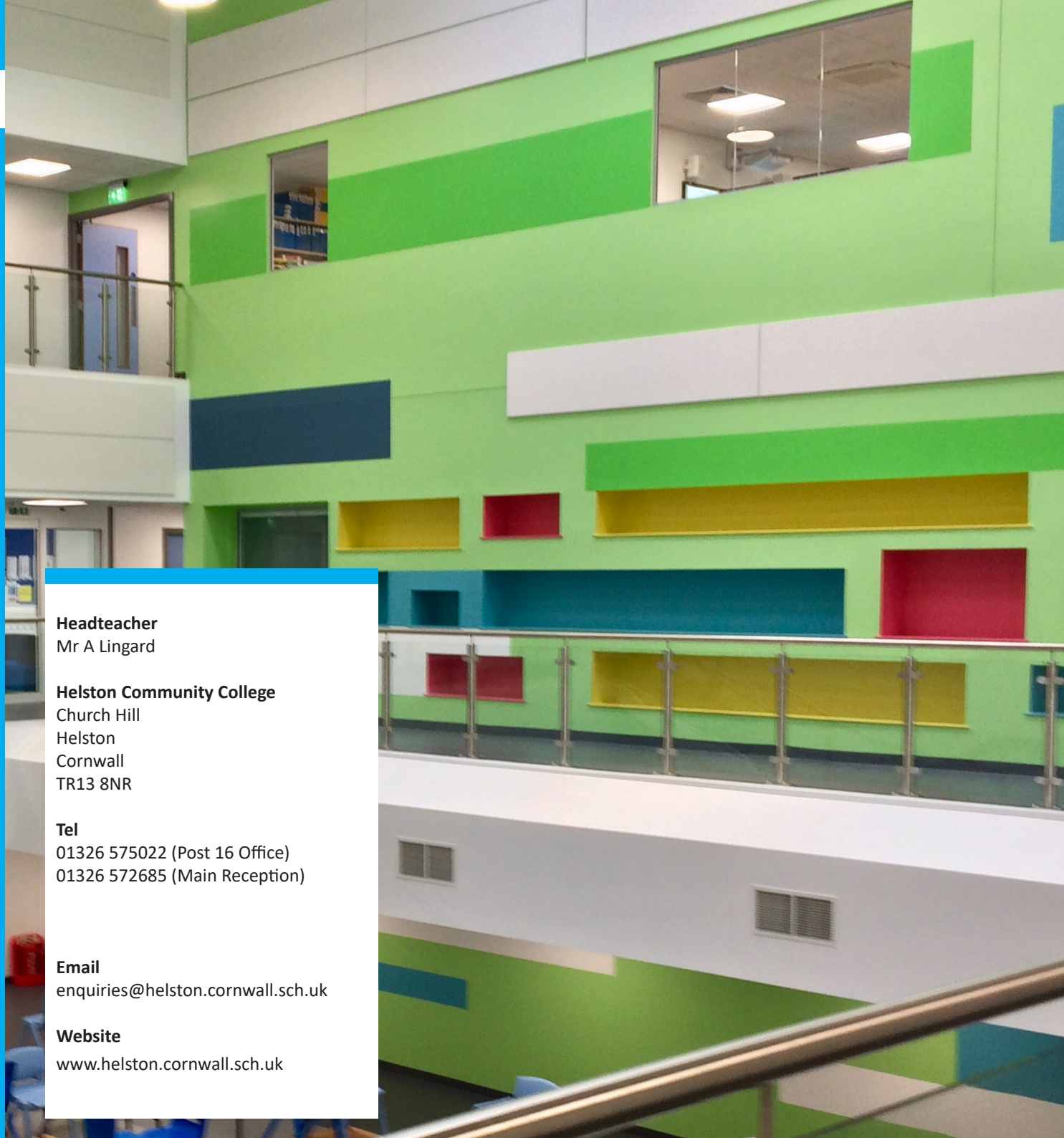

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WELCOME

At Helston Community College Post 16, we strive to deliver high quality education and training to all our students irrespective of ability and background, so that all students maximise their potential and realise their goals. The aim of a Post 16 education is to prepare and provide students with the necessary qualifications, so that they can progress successfully on to the next stage of their career, whether in Higher Education, further training or employment. The College aspires to provide new opportunities to broaden minds and inspire so that students can develop as leaders and valued members of the community.

The Post 16 team is ambitious for all of its students and expectations are high; students are given aspirational targets where the best is expected. At the same time, each student is viewed as unique and is provided with personalised opportunities within a supportive environment to ensure success. The Post 16 staff are specialists in 16-19 teaching; tutors, supported by the Post 16 leadership team, are experienced coaches and dedicated mentors who are responsible for the progress of each student, as well as guiding them towards the next steps.

The College promotes a sense of community in a vibrant atmosphere where students are encouraged to engage with opportunities outside of their academic studies, through a comprehensive enrichment and leadership programme.

We are very proud of our recent results, with students receiving excellent grades on both their A-level and BTEC courses. In the summer of 2022 average student attainment increased, continuing the upward trend and building on the success of previous years. This was achieved despite the challenges and disruption caused by the pandemic.

Our Year 13 students regularly move on to a diverse range of higher education courses, employment, further vocational training and apprenticeships. In recent years students progressed on to study at many universities, including the Universities of Oxford, Loughborough, Cardiff, Bristol, Exeter, Birmingham, Brighton, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Reading, King's College London, the Royal Agricultural College, and London School of Economics, to name a few. They secured places on a variety of courses, including Medicine, Experimental Psychology, Aeronautical Engineering, Accountancy, Geology, Illustration, Photography, Chiropractic Studies, Journalism, Architecture, and Sport and Exercise Science.

Apprenticeships are increasing in popularity and students have secured excellent placements at destinations such as Goonhilly, SERCO and Francis Clark accountants. We have an ever-growing network of potential future apprenticeship providers, and look forward to hosting our annual apprenticeship fair in January 2023.

We have also been recognised by the Royal Navy for the support and guidance we offer prospective Armed Forces candidates, and are always delighted to hear back from previous students once they have completed their basic training.

Over the next 2 years, we aim to provide an exciting and challenging experience which will develop you both as a learner and a young adult, but most importantly will prepare you for the next step in your career. This prospectus has been designed to give you an insight into the various courses we offer ranging from A-levels to Diplomas and Vocational qualifications.

SEEK PROFESSIONAL ADVICE

The staff in charge of subjects are always willing to discuss the details and suitability of their courses. Dr Ryan and Mr Gillman are also available to discuss courses more generally and provide guidance on careers, apprenticeships and university. An independent careers adviser is also available to provide relevant and useful information.

Head of Post 16
Dr K Ryan

Director of KS5
Mr D Gillman

Post 16 Administrator

Mrs J Rowe

P16 Attendance & Student Welfare Officer
Mrs N Williams

Study support and EPQ Mentor

Mrs S Rogers

Dedicated Post 16 TA

Mrs L Carrick Dugan

WELCOME FROM THE STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

Being part of Helston sixth form is a rewarding experience which gives you a sense of pride and belonging in the college community. Not only are the teachers experts in their fields, but they also take an active interest in your welfare and achievements. You'll be given a tutor mentor who will lead weekly tutor sessions and give you the opportunity to schedule independent progression and support meetings. They're also keen to support you in making decisions about the future, offering careers advice, guiding you through applications to university and connecting you with apprenticeships. The timetable is flexible to your subject interests and commitments, with the chance for you to decide when to schedule studies and which environment suits you best. The Post 16 Centre has a relaxed atmosphere and is also where we hold lunchtime events, such as charity bake sales and pool tournaments, whilst the Study Centre and Library have a quiet focus along with computers and other resources to aid your learning. Alongside studying, there's also a great team spirit in sports competitions, music concerts and drama performances which take place throughout the year.

At the end of each year, we hold a Summer Ball for the whole of Post 16 to attend, allowing us to unwind and celebrate together.

Our student ambassadors will happily answer any of your questions and we look forward to welcoming you to Helston!

CHOOSING THE RIGHT COURSES

WHICH LEVEL SHOULD I FOLLOW?

Level 2

If you are a more practical person and like a more hands-on experience, then this work-based curriculum course sounds right for you and will lead to a suite of qualifications recognised by local businesses.

Level 3

If you want a more academic challenge and are considering Higher Education, then the A Level or Applied Level 3 route will be the one for you to follow.

These courses are designed to push your knowledge, skills and understanding to a higher level.

HOW DO I DECIDE WHAT IS BEST FOR ME?

> Think about your future career.
> Chat with your subject teachers.
> Every student will have a 1:1 interview where you can discuss your options.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A-LEVELS AND BTECS?

The main difference between the two types of qualification is how they are assessed. A levels are all assessed via terminal examinations taken at the end of the two years of study. Some A levels include coursework components, for example in Art, Music and Engineering. A levels are graded on the following scale: A*,A,B,C,D,E,U. All grades above a U are considered a pass.

Our BTEC, Medical Science, and Cambridge Technical courses consist of a greater proportion of coursework. All of these courses will have at least one exam, but this does not need to be taken at the end of the two years. The exams usually examine one unit in contrast to the A level exams which cover a greater proportion of the subject. There is also the possibility to retake these unit exams if needed. These courses are graded on the following scale: Distinction*, Distinction, Merit, Pass, Fail.

Some of our courses at Helston are larger in size, and equivalent to two A levels. These take twice the time and students can achieve double grades following the same trend above.

For university applications all our level 3 courses are seen as equivalent to each other. Most universities use what is called the UCAS tariff which illustrates the equivalence of the courses:

A level	BTEC etc
A*	Distinction *
A	Distinction
B	
C	Merit
D	
E	Pass
U	Fail

Students considering Medicine, Veterinary Science, Dentistry, and Oxbridge applications should focus on A level courses.

WHAT ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

> Level 2: Students choosing to study these courses will have an interview

> Level 3 - A Level: Students studying this qualification must have at least a grade 4 in both Maths and English and a further three GCSEs at a minimum grade 4, especially if you are planning to go on to higher education. Please see course guidelines for further information. (N.B. Some subjects require higher grades)

> Level 3 - Applied: Four GCSEs at a minimum grade 4 including English or Maths

HOW MANY COURSES DO I CHOOSE?

It is the policy of the college for those students doing Level 3 courses to select three or four courses in the first year. This can be either four A-levels or equivalents or three A-levels plus either core maths or the EPQ. The minimum number of courses must be equivalent to three A levels.

IS THERE A MAXIMUM NUMBER OF COURSES I CAN CHOOSE?

The College will allow some students to study up to five subjects, but only under special circumstances.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I START A COURSE THEN WANT TO CHANGE OR DROP IT?

There is some flexibility to enable students to change course choice during the suitability period at the start of the year. After this period, it is expected that students commit to the courses they have chosen.

CAN I CHOOSE A NEW COURSE AT THE END OF YEAR 12?

Whilst most students will have decided upon a two year programme at the start of Year 12, some will need to review their options at the end of Year 12.

WILL I NEED TO ATTEND AN INTERVIEW?

All students will be required to attend an interview. The purpose of the interview is to assist you in selecting your courses, and to answer any questions.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I DO NOT GET THE GRADES TO STUDY THE COURSES I SELECTED?

In August, when the GCSE examination results are published, we will review your grades. If there is any concern at that time, we will meet with you to review alternative courses.

"The classes at Helston are smaller so you can have 1 to 1 teaching."

Tegen

"P16 is a chilled out environment were you can express yourself with support and encourgament."

Charlotte

"I know the teachers well and don't have to waste travel time."

Kyle

"The largest class that I have is of 12 people. This allows you to have a great relationship with your fellow classmates."

Scarlett

"We are always treated as adults and individuals and the support staff are always their for a laugh when you need them"

Amy

"Post 16 is a fun friendly environment in which I know I'll flourish. It's good that the staff treat you with respect and as people not students."

Ben

"I like Helston because it has a family feel and we all mix in together."

Kane

"Joining from Humprhy Davy, Helston wasn't intimidating to me and I feel at ease being here"

Charlotte

"I chose Helston because of the smaller class sizes and I often get 1:1 support"

Hannah

"I have been really well supported to research, and apply for, a very competitive course at university."

Elisha

"Class sizes are small therefore the teachers have time for everyone and are really supportive."

Aiste

"On my first day, people welcomed me and I made friends really easily. Because it tends to be a smaller year too, you really get to know pretty much everyone!"

Lauren

High Achiever's programme

The College offers a range of opportunities to help engage students in higher level ideas and thinking, to develop self-confidence and belief and to promote a thirst for learning. It aims to build a culture where students believe that anything is possible, developing character in order to achieve your goals, be it applying to the most competitive universities or apprenticeships, or simply enhancing your opportunities for life after Post 16 study.

Through a series of meetings, discussions and promoting university visits, students will learn about the different universities, and what is involved in applying to the Universities of Oxford or Cambridge. They will be supported in applications to summer schools and preparation for the additional demands that applications to the top universities present.

Students will be strongly encouraged to broaden their reading around their subjects and complete the EPQ alongside their chosen A Levels.

Support for students making applications to medical school

Making an application to medical school takes careful preparation, hard work and organisation. The College will provide a range of help to support you in making the strongest application possible. This support is arranged through school based sessions and in conjunction with local universities.

The sessions will help students find out more about studying medicine at University, the requirements needed for a successful application, as well as personalised advice and guidance to help prepare a great personal statement for the application.

Towards the end of Year 12, there are further sessions to increase awareness of the entrance exams (UCAT & BMAT) and we also offer a series of mock interviews.

Students wishing to apply to study medicine are also strongly encouraged to complete the EPQ alongside their chosen A Level subjects.

Work Experience

Work experience provides you with a range of skills, understanding and appreciation of the commercial world and can potentially inspire your future career direction. All students in Year 12 have the opportunity to take part in work experience towards the end of the academic year.

Some placements secured by Helston students include:

Goonhilly, the Williams Formula One team, Grazia magazine in London, the Royal Navy, Aeronautical Engineering placements, work shadowing a high court judge, MI5 in London, Lab work in the University of Exeter and working in the Finance department of a local Hospital. Students have also worked abroad for their placements in the past.

Support for students making applications to the Armed Forces

Making an application to the Armed Forces takes careful preparation. It should be decided by you and not your parents. Whether you are considering the Army, Navy / Marines or RAF we can help you prepare for the application process.

At Helston we offer…

> A range of enrichment opportunities to develop team work, leadership and communication.

Gaining direct experience through:
> The Annual Royal Marines activity day at RM Stonehouse in Plymouth.
> Events hosted at Helston involving Tri-Service recruitment days.
> Support from a serving member of the Forces.
> One to one mentoring from a member of the Post 16 Team.

GUIDE TO COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Each course description should contain the following sections:

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?
Tells you which GCSEs are needed to start the course.

EXAM BOARD
A description of the type of course and the awarding body.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?
The type of work you will be expected to do on the course.

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?
The method of assessment with details of final examinations and coursework details.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?
An indication of where the course might lead you; either directly into employment or Higher Education.

Level 3
A Level Courses

Art & Design Fine Art
Biology
Chemistry
Core Mathematics
Drama and Theatre Studies
Engineering
English Language and Literature
English Literature
Further Mathematics
Geography
Geology
History
Mathematics
Media Studies
Music
Philosophy
Photography
Physics
Sociology
Spanish

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ART & DESIGN FINE ART

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

A career in art and design will lead towards a lifetime of experimentation, invention and discovery. If you have a strong feeling for a particular discipline, be it fine art, film, fashion or textiles, or know that you long to work with colour, line, form, shape and pattern and that you love to explore and experiment then a career in art and design could be for you.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

It is desirable to have studied some form of Art, Design or Technology subjects to a grade 5/6 at KS4. However, if you are keen and committed we can teach you missing elements during Yr12. You will need to bring a portfolio of your creative work showing your levels of confidence and skill to a member of the Art team and we will then advise you about your ability to access the course successfully.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

Year 1

Three units of practical work:
Core skills are covered through a range of disciplines including drawing, painting, printmaking and three dimensional studies. Themes such as abstraction, identity, structure and landscape are studied whilst making links to contextual sources through artist studies and presentations preparing for the second year.

Year 2

Specialist project exploring a specific genre and style which students become very involved with, personalising their progress to their interest areas. You will also need to complete a progressive journal where you clearly articulate verbally your investigation, demonstrating clear understanding and analysis of your own work. You finally take a controlled test that results in a 15 hour final piece that brings all your research and understanding together.

There may be considerably more options open to you than you first think:
Skills developed on your course, such as research, negotiation, problem solving and teamwork can put you in direct competition with more traditional graduates giving you an even greater pool of opportunities to consider. It may surprise you to learn that 40% of graduate opportunities advertised are open to graduates of any discipline!

Even within art design & media, there is still flexibility. Graphic designers may chose to use their design skills in gardens or interiors, and fine artists have been known to become well-established film makers. It may be that you will choose to practice in several different areas - what is known as a portfolio career. We are not trying to confuse matters here, just encourage you to consider all the options!

BIOLOGY

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

Biology A level will give you the skills to make connections and associations with all the living things around you. Biology literally means the study of life and if that's not important, what is? Being such a broad topic, you're bound to find a specific area of interest, plus it opens the door to a fantastic range of careers.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

You will need at least 5 GCSEs grade 4 or above, including English and maths, with grade 6 or above in science and preferably at least a grade 6 in Maths. It is also advisable to study mathematics at A level or the Core Maths qualification.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

The A level qualification consists of 8 topics:

1. Biological molecules
2. Cells
3. Organisms exchange substances with their environment
4. Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms
5. Energy transfers in and between organisms
6. Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
7. Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
8. The control of gene expression

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

Paper 1

Content

- Any content from topics 1-4, including relevant practical skills

Assessment

- Written exam: 2 hours
- 91 marks
- 35% of A level

Questions

- 76 marks: a mixture of short and long answer questions
- 15 marks: extended response questions

Paper 2

Content

- Any content from topics 5-8, including relevant practical skills

Assessment

- Written exam: 2 hours
- 91 marks
- 35% of A- level

Questions

- 76 marks: a mixture of short and long answer questions
- 15 marks: comprehension question

Paper 3

Content

- Any content from topics 1-8, including relevant practical skills

Assessment

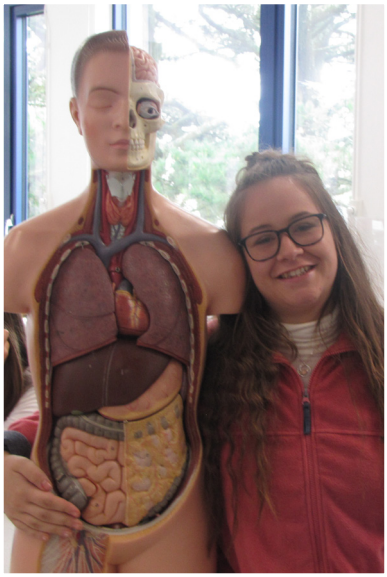
- Written exam: 2 hours
- 78 marks
- 30% of A- level

Questions

- 38 marks: structured questions, including practical techniques
- 15 marks: critical analysis of given experimental data
- 25 marks: one essay from a choice of two titles

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

A level biology is an excellent pathway to higher education in any scientific, medical or sport related discipline.



CHEMISTRY

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

Are you keen, self-motivated and interested in finding out more about today's fast-moving, technologically oriented industry? Do you enjoy applying your knowledge through practical work and have an analytical mind? If you have answered yes to both questions, A level chemistry is for you! Chemistry is a basis for many higher education courses. Furthermore, by taking chemistry you also develop useful skills that can be applied outside of the subject discipline; these include problem solving, numeracy, practical skills as well as developing a broad scientific background. As a result, chemistry is a highly respected and useful qualification for most higher education courses and areas of employment.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

You will need the general college requirements as well as a grade 6 or higher in GCSE Science and GCSE Maths. It is also advisable to study mathematics at A level or the Core Maths qualification.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

This course is uniquely different from other A level chemistry courses because it studies chemistry in the context of everyday applications. It introduces a chemical topic in one unit and then re-visits the same topic later in the course, developing theories further and allowing student learning to mature. Students will develop their practical expertise in all areas of chemistry which includes making polymers and aspirin.

Year 1

- Elements for life
- Developing fuels
- Elements from the sea
- The ozone story
- What's in a medicine?

Year 2

- The chemical industry
- Polymers and life
- Oceans
- Developing metals
- Colour by design

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

A level – OCR B H433

Paper 1 – Fundamentals of chemistry - 2hrs 15 mins written exam (41%)

Paper 2 – Scientific literacy in chemistry - 2hrs 15 mins written exam (37%)

Paper 3 – Practical skills in chemistry - 1hr 30 mins written exam (22%)
Practical endorsement for chemistry - internally assessed non-examinable (0%)

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

Chemistry A level is important for anyone thinking of studying degree courses in science subjects such as chemistry, biological sciences, chemical engineering, medicine, veterinary science, dentistry, geology, healthcare, sports science, nutrition, pharmacy and teaching. Other opportunities are considerable since chemistry is so well regarded by universities and employers. Students graduating from university with a chemistry related degree can also find employment in areas as diverse as law and management consultancy.

CORE MATHS

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

Core Maths is a one year qualification which is equivalent to an AS-level. It is aimed at students who wish to continue studying mathematics beyond GCSE level but who do not want to study A-level Mathematics. The course places emphasis on mathematical and statistical problem solving and is designed to support students who are on academic, mixed or vocational programmes of study, to prepare them for higher education, employment and their everyday lives.

Core Maths is aimed at students who are considering careers in a variety of technical and professional roles, and those who wish to develop their use of mathematics and statistics to support the work they will do in a wide range of other subjects including Business, Computing, IT, Biology, Chemistry, Sociology, Psychology and Geography.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

The basic requirement is 5 or more Grade 4's at GCSE including GCSE Mathematics at grade 5 or above.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

This course involves learning about and using a mathematical modelling cycle, a statistical problem solving cycle and a financial problem solving cycle. Students will work with numerical information, statistics, graphs, geometry and measures to solve problems relating to everyday contexts including finance, costing and risk. Students will develop the skills needed to work on problems with limited guidance given about suitable methods to use or how to solve the problem; the ability to work independently, select relevant information and apply existing knowledge is essential. Students will also develop the ability to interpret, evaluate and communicate their solutions to others.

The use of technology – in particular, spreadsheets – is an integral part of the course. As a result of digital technology the scale of data collection has increased significantly in the workplace and in most areas of study. This qualification enables students to understand and process large sets of data by introducing a set of more sophisticated statistical techniques for solving problems, set in the context of the statistical problem solving cycle. Students follow this cycle, and in doing so, learn a powerful approach for solving a wide variety of problems.

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

Students studying Core Maths will take two examinations:

> Introduction to Quantitative Reasoning (50%)

> Statistical Problem Solving (50%)

Each examination consists of a 2 hour written paper. Both papers contain questions based on pre-release material. In Introduction to Quantitative Reasoning the pre-release material is published 3 months before the examination to enable students to become familiar with the contexts prior to the examination. In Statistical Problem Solving the pre-release material is a much larger data set which is published at the start of the year and which is used extensively throughout the year. 50% of the Statistical Problem Solving examination is based on the pre-release data.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

This qualification gives students the mathematical skills to tackle problems in a variety of situations. It enables them to strengthen the mathematical knowledge and skills which they have learnt at GCSE so that they can apply them to the problems which they will encounter in further study, life and employment. It is also intended for students who need to continue with some mathematics because they intend at some stage to enter a teacher training or health professional training course.

DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

Are you keen, enthusiastic and committed to creating effective and original drama as well as interpreting existing published work for performance? Are you a co-operative person, willing to contribute to planning and developing ideas, supportive of others and are aware of the extra time out of lessons that practical performance exams require? Are you able to work towards exploring texts and performance of your own ideas and those of others, and be able to interpret published plays for exam performance? Do you have the drive and inspiration to be creative, think on your feet, tackle all aspects of theatre and practitioners, different eras and cultures? If so, this is the course for you!

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

You will need the college entry requirements including GCSE English at grade 5 and GCSE Drama grade 4 or above. Experience in theatre, whether as a performer, director or designer would be helpful too.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

Students will:

- Create, perform and respond to drama and theatre
- Develop the creativity and independence to become effective theatre makers
- Explore the relationships between theory and practice in a range of theatrical styles and periods and historical cultural and social contexts
- Learn how relevant research, independent thought and analysis of live theatre production can inform decision making in their practical work and put this understanding into practice
- Experience ways in which theatre makers collaborate to create theatre performances.

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

Component 1: Drama and theatre

What's assessed?

- Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre
- Study of two set plays
- Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 3 hours
- Open book
- 80 marks - 40% of A Level

Component 2: Creating original drama

What's assessed?

- Process of creating devised drama
- Performance of devised drama (as a performer, designer or director) that is influenced by the work and methodologies of one prescribed practitioner

How it's assessed

- Working Notebook (40 marks)
- Devised performance (20 marks)
- 30% of A Level – marked by teachers and moderated by AQA

Component 3: Making theatre

What's assessed?

- Practical exploration and interpretation of three extracts each taken from a different play (methodology of a prescribed practitioner must be applied to Extract 3) Extract 3 is to be performed as a final assessed piece
- Reflective report analysing and evaluating theatrical interpretation of all three extracts

How it's assessed

- Performance of extract (40marks)
- Reflective report (20 marks)
- 30% of A Level – marked by AQA

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

Students successfully completing the course will have a thorough understanding of drama and theatre, highly developed analytical and creative skills and an ability to communicate effectively with others. Studying Drama and Theatre Studies at this level can open doors to many options of further/higher education or employment such as directing and producing, performing and acting, administration and technical personnel and teaching.

ENGINEERING

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

Engineering Design strengthens learners' critical thinking and problem solving skills within a creative environment, enabling them to develop and make prototypes/ products that solve real-world problems, considering their own and others' needs, wants, aspirations and values.

This qualification require learners to identify market needs and opportunities for new products, initiate and develop design solutions, and make and test prototypes/ products. Learners should acquire subject knowledge in design and technology, including how a product can be developed through the stages of prototyping, realisation and commercial manufacture.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

The basic requirement is 5 or more Grade 4s at GCSE but ideally students will have achieved a 6 or above in GCSE Maths and GCSE engineering or D&T and GCSE science. An interest in art, and graphic design is a positive.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

Students will study three units:

Unit 1 Principals of design and technology

- analyse existing products.
- demonstrate applied mathematical skills.
- demonstrate their technical knowledge of materials, product functionality, manufacturing processes and techniques.
- demonstrate their understanding of wider social, moral and environmental issues that impact on the design and manufacturing industries.

Unit 2 Problem solving

- apply their knowledge, understanding and skills of designing and manufacturing prototypes and products.
- demonstrate their higher thinking skills to solve problems and evaluate situations and suitability of design solutions.

Unit 3 The 'Iterative Design Project'

Learners will undertake a substantial design, make and evaluate project centred on the iterative processes of explore, create and evaluate.

Learners also identify a design opportunity or problem from a context of their own choice, and create a portfolio of evidence in real time through the project to demonstrate their competence.

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

Principles of Design and Technology – written paper 26.7% of total A Level

Problem Solving – written paper 23.3% of total A Level

Interactive Design Project – non-examined assessment 50% of total A Level.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

Students completing this course can, with further study, move into careers in aerospace engineering, chemical engineering, electrical engineering, manufacturing, materials science, civil, mechanical and marine engineering.
Apprenticeships related to engineering or manufacturing are also possible.

A keen engineering mind is also sought after by financial institutions, insurance brokers and law firms as the key skill in engineering is problem solving in innovative ways.

Competent and enthusiastic engineers are highly sought after. Engineering is a subject in demand in the UK and abroad. A career in engineering forms an occupational short list for a number of countries such as Canada and Australia and allows easier access to visas and exiting work opportunities in other countries and on amazing engineering projects around the world.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

If you have enjoyed English at GCSE and want to build on and develop the skills you have gained, and you enjoy reading and exploring the way the English language works, this may be the course for you. This is the only course where you can combine all the aspects of the study of English in both its written and spoken forms. This course will make you think, so you will be a person who enjoys exploring and sharing ideas!

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

You will need to have gained a grade 6 in English Language or Literature. You will also need the basic requirements of 5 or more Grade 4s (or equivalent) at GCSE.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

Unit 1: Voices in Speech and Writing

Students study:
- > Voices in Speech and Writing: An Anthology
- > One Drama text: A Streetcar Named Desire

Assessment:
- > Written exam – 2 hours 30 minutes
- > 50 marks
- > 40% of A level

Unit 2: Varieties in Language and Literature

Students study:
- > A wide range of non-fiction texts on the theme of Encounters
- > A Room With a View – EM Forster
- > The Bloody Chamber – Angela Carter

Assessment:
- > Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
- > 50 marks
- > 40% of A level

Unit 3: Coursework: Investigating and Creating Texts

Students study:
- > A chosen topic (free choice)
- > Two texts relating to their chosen topic: one fiction and one non-fiction

Students produce two assignments:
- > Two pieces of original writing: one piece of fiction and one piece of creative non-fiction
- > One analytical commentary reflecting on their studied texts and the pieces of writing they have produced
- > Advisory word count is 2500 – 3000 words in total
- > 20% of A level

It is assessed by teachers and moderated by Edexcel

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

Many of our students each year opt to continue their studies by taking up an English degree at University. In addition, English A level is very highly regarded as a key qualification for a very wide range of careers and other University courses.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

If you love reading and have enjoyed studying texts in depth for GCSE and you want to learn more about the process of writing, how different texts 'work' and how writers from different eras develop their themes and styles, then this may be the course for you. You will also have the commitment to read widely and explore the authors and their work in detail, and you enjoy discussing issues and can write well.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

You will need to have gained a GCSE grade 7 or above in English Language or Literature. It is not essential to have studied Literature. You will also need the basic requirements of 5 or more Grade 4s (or equivalent) at GCSE.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

Four units:

1. Drama
2. Prose
3. Poetry
4. Coursework

Drama

1. Shakespeare play – Hamlet
2. "Other" drama – The Importance of Being Earnest
3. Critical Anthology about Shakespeare's Tragedy

Assessment:

- Written exam (2 hours 15 minutes)
- Open book
- 60 marks
- 30% of A level

Prose

Two texts on a chosen theme: Childhood:

1 Hard Times – Charles Dickens
2. The Colour Purple – Alice Walker

Assessment:

- Written exam: one hour
- Open book
- 40 marks
- 20% of A level

Poetry

Study of two texts:

1. The Poems of the Decade: Anthology of Poetry published post 2000
2. Modernist poetry

Assessment:

- Written exam – 2 hours 15 minutes
- Open book
- 60 marks
- 30% of A level

Coursework

Students have free choice of two texts to study and will need to write one comparative essay referring to their two texts. There is an advisory word count 2500-3000 words. It is 20% of the final A level.

It is assessed by teachers and moderated by Edexcel

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

In addition to leading to undergraduate courses in English and English Literature, English A level is very highly regarded as a key qualification for a very wide range of careers and other University courses. If you are considering applying to do any course at one of the Russell Group universities, you would be best advised to take English Literature rather than English Language and Literature.

FURTHER MATHEMATICS

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

If you have a great interest in Mathematics, and you have already opted to take A-level Mathematics, then you may also choose to study A-level Further Mathematics. Further Mathematics is particularly suited to those of you who have a keen interest and ability in Mathematics and perhaps intend to proceed to Higher Education on a course that demands a high level of Mathematics. Many universities prefer students to have studied Mathematics and Further Mathematics (to at least AS-level) if they wish to proceed onto a degree course in Mathematics. It is also for those of you who enjoy and can meet the challenge that Mathematics at this level can provide!

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

GCSE Mathematics at grade 7 or above. You must also have opted to study A-level Mathematics.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

As its name implies, the mathematics studied in this course is beyond that needed for A-level Mathematics. New topics are introduced such as Complex Numbers, Polar Co-ordinates, Co-ordinate Systems, Hyperbolic Functions, Matrices and topics already met in the single A-level Mathematics course (such as Calculus and its applications, Vectors and Proof) are extended. It involves construction and interpretation of mathematical models and will consolidate, practise and extend algebraic skills and other mathematical skills, together with developing the skills to solve complex problems.

Throughout the course there will be opportunities to use ICT such as graphical calculators and computer software, together with the wide range of resources and material provided by Integral online. Students have the opportunity to enter national competitions and attend talks and workshops.

The units in AS Further Mathematics are:
> Pure Core
> Further Mechanics
> Further Statistics

The units in A-level Further Mathematics are:
> Pure Core 1
> Pure Core 2
> Further Mechanics
> Further Statistics

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

Examinations take place in May/June during Years 12 and 13. There is no coursework. If you take the AS exams at the end of Year 12 and then chose to carry on to do the full A-level, your Year 12 results will not count towards your A-level grade, only the Year 13 exams will count, however your Year 12 results will be used on University application forms.

Some students might choose to start AS Further Mathematics at the start of Year 13 as an additional AS once they have completed their AS in Mathematics.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

Mathematical ability is very highly regarded by both universities and employers. An AS or A-level qualification in Further Mathematics provides an invaluable background for university courses which contain a substantial amount of Mathematics, such as Physics or Engineering. Students who go on to study Mathematics at university find Further Mathematics highly beneficial as it allows them to commence their University course having studied a broader range of Mathematical skills. Many universities state that they recommend that students intending to study Mathematics at university should study Further Mathematics; indeed at some universities Further Mathematics is part of the entry requirement for a Mathematics degree. Along with A-level Mathematics, Further Mathematics is recognised as excellent preparation for almost any career.

GEOGRAPHY

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

If you are interested in the state of the world, global environmental issues, political and economic changes and local geographical problems; if you want to make a difference in world management and sustainability, A level geography is for you! This course is your initial step towards a wide range of relevant career choices. The geography course also dovetails with the majority of other subject areas. Students often find links with science useful. The skills developed enhance your ability for success in humanities and arts-based subjects

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

The basic requirement is 5 or more Grade 4s at GCSE including a 6 or above in GCSE Geography. In some cases, individual circumstances will be taken into account. It is also advisable to study the Core Maths qualification alongside this subject.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

This course explores the key principles, concepts and processes that explain geographical phenomena and landscapes. It maintains the balance between physical and human geography whilst ensuring relevance to the modern world. The modules are as follows

Component 1 – Physical Geography

> Water and Carbon Cycles
> Coastal Systems and Landscapes
> Glacial Systems and Landscapes
> Hot Desert Systems and Landscapes
> Hazards
> Ecosystems Under Stress

Component 2 – Human Geography

> Changing Places
> Contemporary Urban Environments
> Global Systems and Global Governance
> Population and the Environment
> Resource Security

Component 3 – Geography Fieldwork Investigation and Geographical Skills

> Individual Investigation 4,000 words
> Generic Geographical Skills

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

Two exam papers of 2 hours 30 minutes each and a 3000-4000-word investigation

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

Geography opens the doors to a wide range of relevant and interesting careers of the future For example: Cartographer, Climatologist, Conservationist, Earth Scientist, Environmental Planner, Geographic Information Specialist, Geologist, Geomorphologist, Hydrologist, Land Use Planner, Meteorologist, Natural Resource Manager, Police, Regional Planner, Remote-Sensing Analyst, Soil Scientist, Teacher, Tourism Development, Traffic Manager, Transportation Planner, Travel Agent, Urban/City Planner, Water Resource Manager.

GEOLOGY

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

The unique geological processes that occur on Earth make it possible for life to originate, evolve and survive and if you would like to know how our planet works and unravel its history, this is the course for you. Geology goes well with chemistry, physics, geography and biology and there are opportunities to learn new skills which will impress future employers and for you to participate in theory sessions, practical coursework and hands-on fieldwork. You will need to be willing to join in with group work and to communicate with others, but have the self-discipline to complete guided research individually.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

The normal College requirements, plus you will need to have gained a minimum of a grade 5 in science, maths and English. It is also advisable to study the Core Maths qualification alongside this subject.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

Units throughout the two years will build your geological skills to prepare you for the examinations and coursework. The course context will be covered to develop a comprehensive understanding of geological processes and to build a practical skill base. A variety of methods will be used including practical investigations, fieldwork, ICT simulations, group presentations, problem solving, class discussion, practical questions, quizzes, individual research and lectures. You will be expected to attend a minimum of 2 days local fieldwork in Year 12 and 4 days fieldwork at A Level. This is a broad-based science course with many transferable skills.

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

Throughout the two-year course your work will be continuously assessed. Final grades are determined by:

Component 1: Geological Investigations
Stimulus response questions requiring short and structured answers and an investigation of the geology of an area. (2 hours 15 minutes, written paper, 35% of qualification)

Component 2: Geological Principles and Processes
Stimulus response questions requiring short, structured and extended answers. (1 hour 45 minutes, written paper, 30% of qualification)

Component 3: Geological Applications
Stimulus response questions, a geological investigation and extended answers. (2 hours, written paper, 35% of qualification).

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

This course builds upon GCSE Science and GCSE Geography and is an excellent pathway to higher education in scientific, geological, environmental or engineering related disciplines. Suitable careers such as Environmental Scientist, Geologist, Mining Engineer, Surveyor, Oceanographer, Palaeontologist plus many jobs in the mineral and petroleum industries. We have good links with the University of Exeter (Tremough Campus) through regular trips and visits, and this gives students a useful insight into possible degree courses that are available. Students with Degrees in Geology are highly employable, and students often find well paid employment, both home and abroad before they complete their degree.

HANDS ON EXPERIENCE

Cornwall is blessed with world class geology, particularly around the Lizard coastline. All geology students will experience many field trips around Cornwall which will strengthen their understanding of the theory taught in class. Field trip activities range from studying sedimentary deposits at Godrevy, exploring a tin mine shaft at Troon to visiting Cornwall's only landfill! Each year we also aim to organise an overseas trip, and in past years, students have enjoyed the once in a lifetime trip to the 'land of fire and ice', this being Iceland!

HISTORY

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

If you have enjoyed studying history and are interested in understanding key developments in British and European History this is a worthwhile course for you. The aim is for you to gain a deep knowledge of the topics studied in order to develop your own interpretations of the past. Within the course you will also have the opportunity to write your own piece of history about a topic of your choice, and to develop skills of research, analysis and communication.

A range of teaching methods are used including:

> Individual research
> Pair and group work
> Extended original writing and thought
> Evaluation of evidence
> Evaluation of historical interpretations
> Pictorial presentations
> Background reading
> Discussion of key themes and topics
> Debates and mock trials
> Seminar style presentations
> Note taking and essay writing
> Study of film clips and videos

During the course we plan to organise a visit to a relevant historical location abroad such as Berlin and Krakow, and closer to home we visit English Civil War sites in Cornwall.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

The basic requirement is 5 or more Grade 4s at GCSE but ideally students will have achieved a 6 or above in GCSE History and English language.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

- Unit 1 Y108: The Early Stuarts and the Origins of the Civil War 1603-1660
- (Enquiry Topic – The execution of Charles 1 and the Interregnum 1646-1660)
- Unit 2 Y221: Democracy and Dictatorship in Germany 1919-1963
- Unit 3 Y318: Russia and its Rulers 1855-1964
- Unit 4 Y100: Topic based Essay (3000-4000 words)

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

Unit 1: Students will answer one source-based question related to the Enquiry Topic and one essay question, from a choice of two, related to the Period Study (25% A Level total)

Unit 2: Students will answer one two-part question from a choice of two, including the first which will be a comparison of two factors with an overall judgement, plus an essay related to the Period Study (15% A Level total)

Unit 3: Students will answer questions from two sections (40% A Level total):

- Section A - one essay question based on two extracts from historians about one of the three depth studies
- Section B - two essay questions from a choice of three drawn from the historical themes section

Unit 4: Students will complete one essay (3000-4000 words) arising from an independent study on a topic of their choice (20%)

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

Having completed this course you will have gained an interest and understanding of the modern world. You will have become highly skilled in the analysis and judgment of complex evidence and ideas as well as proving yourself capable of sustained original thought. Also your communication skills will be greatly enhanced. This is an excellent qualification for university entry, law, journalism, media, publishing, politics, the civil service, teaching, research, social work administration and many other careers.

Employers rate history highly as it helps develop “transferable skills” which are useful in most professional jobs.

MATHEMATICS

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

Mathematics is one of the most general, and one of the most fundamental subjects that you can study. It gives you an excellent grounding for any subject and is itself a prerequisite for many. If you enjoy Mathematics (particularly algebra) and feel confident with the work you have met so far at GCSE, then you should consider Mathematics A-level. It is a demanding and challenging subject but it can be an extremely rewarding one if you are prepared to put in time and effort.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

GCSE Mathematics at grade 6 or above.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

The focus of A-level Mathematics is on algebra and problem solving. The work you will study will consist of Pure Mathematics and Applied Mathematics. Pure Mathematics provides methods involving algebra, trigonometry, coordinate geometry and calculus which can be used to solve problems in other branches of Mathematics. Applied Mathematics is divided into Mechanics and Statistics. Mechanics is about forces and motion of objects, Statistics is about data analysis and real world applications.

Throughout the course there will be opportunities to use ICT such as graphical calculators and computer software, together with the wide range of resources and material provided by Integral online. Students have the opportunity to enter national competitions and attend talks and workshops.

Students studying A-level Mathematics will take three modules which will be examined at the end of Year 13.

The units in AS Mathematics are:
> Pure and Mechanics
> Pure and Statistics

The units in A-level Mathematics are:
> Pure Mathematics and Comprehension
> Pure and Mechanics
> Pure and Statistics

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

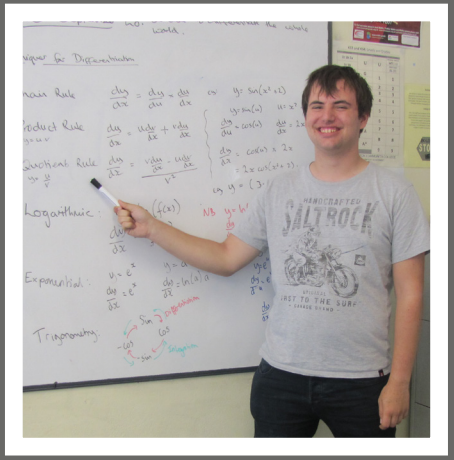
Examinations take place in May/June during Year 13. There is no coursework.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

Mathematical ability is very highly regarded by both universities and employers. An A-Level in Mathematics is essential for many degree courses (such as physics, engineering and, of course, mathematics itself!), and is highly desirable in a wide range of subjects such as chemistry, natural sciences, architecture, computing, accounting, economics, business and psychology to name but a few.

Mathematics can provide you with the problem solving and analytical skills that are useful in almost every career path and it is highly regarded by many employers. If you are thinking of looking for a job straight after A-levels, Mathematics is a great "core" subject - in fact, it is one of the most important subjects you can take. This is because the ability to understand and manipulate numbers and mathematical concepts is extremely useful for almost any job. There is a national shortage of mathematicians, and employment prospects are good.

There is always a demand for employees who can think logically and process information accurately - skills which an A-level in Mathematics will teach you.



MEDIA STUDIES

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

You'll need to be a keen consumer of a range of media throughout the course, and be prepared to learn interesting new and established frameworks for understanding issues relating to the mass media. Creative-minded students also tend to really enjoy media production work. This means being prepared to study and engage with many media texts, some of which will be outside your usual consumption. One week you may need to follow the news in both print and broadcast formats, listen to the radio, or explore websites in your study of the digital media. There is a Non Examined Assessment involving practical production – you'll need to be prepared to learn new technical skills, to be self-reliant, well-organised and motivated to succeed.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

You will need to have attained a Grade 5 in English Language. This is due to the level of writing as well as critical thinking required on the course. There is no need to have studied GCSE Media Studies, as the course is taught from scratch and does not assume any prior knowledge of the subject.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

The AQA specification has put a heavy emphasis on the importance of media in a changing world and at the fore of the digital revolution. It also provides you with the opportunity to stretch your experience of the media by looking at some texts which are historical, and some which are made for audiences in other parts of the world. You can choose to learn some web design, digital video editing in Adobe Premiere, or to use Photoshop to produce really professional-looking print products. You'll develop a good understanding of who media audiences are and why they consume what they do. You'll learn about the media industry, who controls it, and how.

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

There will be two exam papers. These are worth 35% each - 70% of your A Level, and contain a mixture of shorter questions and longer, higher value responses. The first paper is focused around an identified theme and the theoretical framework. The practical NEA (30% of the A level) also will be linked to this theme, although students will have a great deal of flexibility in what they choose to make. The second paper has a similar question format, but focuses instead on questions relating to the twenty-four close study texts.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

Media Studies develops you as a person. It gives you new skills and improves the ones you may already have. You'll become a better critical thinker, able to spot flaws in arguments and understand different perspectives. You'll become a more skilled writer, able to order ideas in a thoughtful and confident way. You'll learn new technical skills. Many of our media students enjoy the subjects so much they go on to study further at university. There are a huge number of related courses available at HE, such as those with a vocational heart such as Television and Film Production, Broadcast Journalism or Advertising and PR to more traditionally academic courses such as Media and Cultural Studies. If university isn't your thing, you'll still find you have plenty of skills which are attractive to employers.

MUSIC

IS THIS THE COURSE FOR ME?

If you have a keen interest in creating and listening to different styles of music, and if you wish to further your appreciation and understanding of music, then this is the course for you. There is a strong emphasis on performing and you can perform in any style, whether it's jazz, classical, folk or heavy metal.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

College entry requirements plus GCSE English grade 5 or above. You will also need a grade 6 or above in GCSE music. However, if you have not studied GCSE Music and are interested in the course, it is essential that you contact the course tutor before signing up.

WHAT DOES IT INVOLVE?

A level Music is a two-year course comprising of three components.

Component 1: Appraising (40%)
This part of the course is designed to further develop your listening and appraising skills. At the end of the second year there is an exam where you listen to familiar and unfamiliar music and answer questions relating to the extracts. You are also expected to demonstrate a contextual awareness of what you have studied. Area of Study 1 is compulsory. Two more are chosen from areas of study 2 – 7.

AOS 1: Western classical Music (1650 – 1910)
AOS 2: Pop Music
AOS 3: Music for Media and Film
AOS 4: Music for Theatre
AOS 5: Jazz
AOS 6: Contemporary Traditional Music
AOS 7: Art Music since 1910

Component 2: Performing (35%)
This component involves creating a programme of music lasting for at least 10 minutes. The performance can be on any instrument and of any style and can involve any combination of:

- Solo performing
- Ensemble performing
- Production via music technology

For solo and ensemble performing the level of difficulty is expected to be equivalent to between grade 5 and 8.

Component 3: Composition (25%)
Students will learn how to develop musical ideas, including extending and manipulating musical ideas, and learn to compose music that is musically convincing through two compositions. One must be in response to an externally set brief by the exam board (AQA) and the other a free composition which can be in any style. The combined duration of the compositions should be a minimum of four and a half minutes.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

After completing Music A level, many students from Helston Community College have gone on to study music at conservatoires, universities and music colleges. It is also an excellent route if you are interested in a career as a musician in the armed forces.

PHILOSOPHY

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

The study of philosophy develops an inquiring mind, the ability to analyse a point of view, the ability to develop and think through an argument and to reach a logical and justified conclusion. The emphasis is upon 'why'. This is a new course that focuses on 4 major themes in philosophy. We begin with an introduction to epistemology – what is knowledge? How do we perceive things? Am I hallucinating? Is this a dream? What is reality? This is to introduce one to philosophical language, arguments and ideas.

The course is then structured around 'Themes' and 'Philosophers', the aim being to introduce you to some of civilisations' great thinkers and their 'ideas'. Your understanding and philosophical development will be assessed both orally and through essay writing.

Philosophical training provides the skills needed to think independently and question what others may take for granted, and fortify your courage when making a moral stand.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

5 GCSEs at Grade 5 or above including a grade 6 or above in either English, history or religious studies

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

AQA A Level Philosophy is divided into 4 subjects two of which are taken in the first year and two in the second year.

> Epistemology – What is knowledge? The nature of impressions and ideas. Are there limits to what we can know?
> Moral Philosophy – The meaning of good and bad. Looking at Aristotle, Kant and Bentham
> The Metaphysics of God – The concept and nature of God and 'The Problem of Evil and Suffering'
> The Metaphysics of Mind – Mind/brain identity theory, what do we mean by mind?

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

External Assessment of Units:
Paper 1: Epistemology and Moral philosophy (Written exam: 3 hours 100 marks, 50% of A level)

Paper 2: The Metaphysics of God and the metaphysics of mind (Written exam: 3 hours, 100 marks, 50% of A level)

Internal Assessments will be used to monitor students' progress leading up to examinations. Assessments in the form of essays and practice exam questions and class presentations will be collected for every 12 hours of learning to determine progression and to assist in setting targets.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

You may choose philosophy to broaden science, business or humanities studies. Philosophical skills are recognised by employers, universities and colleges. Philosophy is an excellent foundation for a number of careers including Politics, Scientific Research, Medicine, Journalism, Law, Business and Teaching.

PHOTOGRAPHY

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

Are you excited about learning a brand new skill?
For nearly every student starting this course it will be the first time they have worked in a darkroom or taken photographs in a studio with a film camera. You will discover a new medium to create fantastic permanent and original images. Alongside this you will be able to develop your digital skills in colour photography, become visually and critically aware and learn about the history of photography. Good subject combinations are Art, Technology, Media Studies, English, IT, Geography. Photography is fun and will provide a breath of fresh air to any subject combination.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

No previous knowledge of photography is required.
Grade 4 or above in Art and Design or Design Technology and grade 5 in English is strongly advised.
The most important requirement is enthusiasm for the subject.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

The course is divided into the following three areas.

Practical investigation: Understanding and use of equipment and processes. Camera, light meter, studio lighting, film processing, darkroom, enlarger and chemical processes. Use of digital cameras, Photoshop and InDesign. Health and safety.

Personal study: This involves an extended essay offering an opportunity to study your favourite genre of photography in depth. This may include gathering information from a practising photographer as well as from written sources.

Externally set task: A practical test, 15 hours at the end of the second year. A chance to demonstrate your planning, critical, technical and creative skills.

This is essentially a practical course and students will be expected to become skilled in all aspects of the techniques of photography, including the processing of black and white images traditionally and in the manipulation of digital images using Photoshop.

Students will develop visual and critical skills, study the history of photography and become familiar with the work of established photographers.

The main emphasis of this course is **CREATIVITY**.

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

Component 1
Personal Investigation

Element 1:Practical Portfolio
A practical research project investigating many aspects and genres of black and white and colour photography, mostly darkroom based in year one.

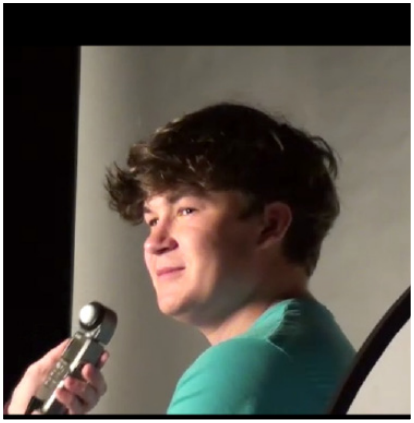
Contextual studies and history, including the illustrated study of a well-known photographer.

Element 2: Related Study
Undertaken in year 2 involving a greater depth of study and lead by the student's particular area of interest.
Introduction of digital skills, Photoshop, InDesign, Studio flash with digital SLR cameras, leading to an illustrated essay about photographers/artists working in a style or genre that inspires the student. You will create a great set of your own images informed by the study.

Component 2:
Externally set task:
A 15 hour practical task.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

- Become a professional photographer
- Students may wish to continue their education in Photography, Media Studies or Art and Design.
- This qualification would further a career in film making, television, journalism, and any media-based employment.



PHYSICS

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

Are you interested in how the universe works? Physics is the basis of our understanding of the universe and can reveal the fundamental physical processes within it. If you have an enquiring mind with good mathematical skills then physics will provide you with a basis for further study and employment in many modern technological and engineering-based subjects.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

You need a minimum of 5 GCSEs at grade 4 or higher, including a grade 6 or above in GCSE Science or Physics and grade 6 in Mathematics. It is also preferable to study mathematics at A level or the Core Maths qualification.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

Nine modules are studied.

1 Measurements and their errors
2 Particles and radiation
3 Waves
4 Mechanics and materials
5 Electricity
6 Further mechanics and thermal physics
7 Fields and their consequences
8 Nuclear physics
9 Turning Points in Physics

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

Paper 1: 120 min written exam
(34% of A level)
Paper 2: 120 min written exam
(34% of A level)
Paper 3: 120 min written exam
(32% of A level)

Practical knowledge skills will be assessed on the papers above

The Practical Endorsement: Students will perform 12 required practical tasks as part of their learning on the course.

Successful completion of these experiments will result in students being awarded the Practical Endorsement on their final A2 qualification.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

Physics is highly regarded for entry into many higher education courses. Also, the career opportunities are as vast as the subject itself due, in part, to the transferable skills gained whilst studying physics. Physicists work in some of the highest paid sectors of industry, including finance, telecommunications and the electrical industry. Physicists are also found working in many diverse areas such as research and development, medicine, astronomy, meteorology, geology and particle physics.

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SOCIOLOGY

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

If you are the type of person who likes to question why things happen as they do, then sociology is the subject for you.

Sociology is the scientific study of human society, social behaviour and the social forces that shape our identity, culture and behaviour. Sociologists examine the world around us and try and make sense of why we behave as we do; by studying patterns of behaviour we become to understand ourselves and those around us a little better.

The A level course focuses upon the various social institutions that we all belong to, such as the family, education and the criminal justice system. You will examine some of the common-sense beliefs surrounding our views of these institutions, and develop a critical view of our stereotypical assumptions.

If you find human behaviour and social issues interesting, then you will enjoy this course as it deals with fundamental questions about how much we do is "natural" or instinctive and how much is taught to us and learned. You will be surprised by the answers. The subject is a social science whose aim is to explain how society works, what causes social problems and inequalities and why we interact with others in the ways which we do. It will change how you view the world.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

5 Grade 4s and above including a grade 6 in English. A willingness to read, watch & listen to contemporary news.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

COMPULSORY CONTENT:

- Education with Theory and Methods
- Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

TOPIC OPTIONS:

Option 1

- Families and Households

Option 2

- Stratification in society

WORK INVOLVED

> Discussion and debate.
> Analyse social issues and personal experience.
> Evaluate evidence and arguments.
> Research social issues
> Role play and presentations
> Present explanations, ideas and arguments in a coherent and logical form.
> Use IT to collect and analyse data.
> Complete regular written assignments.

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

Paper One

- Two hour written exam, 80 marks, (33.3% of the A level)

Paper Two

- Two hour written exam, 80 marks, (33.3% of the A level)

Paper Three

- Two hour written exam, 80 marks, (33.3% of the A level)

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

A level sociology is a useful subject should you wish to take a career in the following:

> Criminology
> Teaching
> Politics
> Nursing/caring occupations.
> The Police
> Central or Local Government

Sociology is a useful and highly regarded degree option at University.

SPANISH

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

Are you keen to learn more about other cultures and to communicate confidently with other people? Do you have the drive to discover more about the language of the country and its grammar? Do you wish to travel widely and to gain experience of the world? Are you happy to work with others and discuss your progress with your tutors and fellow course students? If so, A Level Spanish could be the course for you! You will also be able to work independently when necessary.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

Normally GCSE grade 6 or higher in the language. When necessary, decisions will be based on attitude and commitment in Years 10 and 11 and in discussion with your tutors.

WHAT DOES IT INVOLVE?

The AQA A level in Spanish helps students develop confident, effective communication skills in Spanish and a thorough understanding of the culture of countries and communities where Spanish is spoken. It develops an interest in, and enthusiasm for, language learning and encourages students to consider their study of the language in a broader context. The study of literature and film will allow you to undertake a deeper analysis of language structures and increase your cultural awareness as part of an integrated approach to language learning.

The requirement to research an area of personal interest related to the country/ communities where Spanish is spoken will also enhance your cultural appreciation and enable you to gain a greater awareness of intercultural differences. You will study:

- Aspects of Hispanic society
- Artistic culture in the Hispanic world
- Multiculturalism in Hispanic society
- Aspects of political life in Hispanic society

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Paper 1:
Listening, Reading and Writing - 2 hours 30 minutes – 50% of A level
including translations from Spanish to English, and English to Spanish.

Paper 2:
Writing -2 hours – 20% of A level
including two essays one on the film and one on the novel studied.

Paper 3:
Speaking – 21-23 minutes – 30% of A level
including discussion of a stimulus card and presentation and discussion of individual research project.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

With a qualification in languages you could go on to Higher Education or directly into employment. There are numerous possible career paths and employment amongst languages graduates is very high compared to other subjects. Did you know that languages graduates have one of the highest employment rates, more than any other graduates after medicine and dentistry? However, you don't have to do a degree in languages for it to be useful. Here are just some of the areas in which languages can help: Accountancy, Advertising, Banking, Civil Service, Diplomatic Service, Export marketing, purchasing and selling, Hotels and catering, Insurance, Journalism, Librarianship, Management Consultancy, Museums, Publishing, Secretarial work, Shipping services, Teaching, Television and Radio, and Travel and Tourism.

Level 3
Applied Pathways

Art Diploma

Business Extended Certificate

Food Science and Nutrition Diploma

Health and Social Care Diploma

Technical Level IT

RSL Music Technology

Psychology Extended Certificate

Sport Diploma

Travel and Tourism Extended Certificate

Diploma in Medical Science

ART DIPLOMA

WHAT ARE ART DIPLOMAS?

These qualifications have been designed by further education experts from institutions across England and the UK to provide young people with the knowledge, skills and understanding necessary to progress to degree level study in art and design, or into employment. Intentionally designed to cultivate conditions where an interest in the visual arts can be explored, developed and creativity tested; while remaining stimulating, demanding and supportive, they help students in the transition from further to higher education and employment.

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

A career in art and design will lead towards a lifetime of experimentation, invention and discovery. If you have a strong feeling for a particular discipline, be it fine art, film, fashion or textiles, or know that you long to work with colour, line, form, shape and pattern and that you love to explore and experiment then a career in art and design could be for you.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

Students should have a minimum of 4 GCSEs at grade 4 or above, at least one of which should be in an art and design subject at a grade 6 or above (or the equivalent level 2 qualification in an appropriate subject). A grade 5 in English is also recommended.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

This broad-based course is designed to help you develop a range of creative skills. The first year Diploma course includes drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, graphic design, fashion and textiles and sculpture. You will be encouraged to experiment with a variety of materials and techniques, and you will develop your skills in communicating your ideas and opinions, whilst you will learn about other artists and designers

The Art Diploma is a very practical course that allows you to experience a range of art and design activities before choosing the field you wish to specialise in. As the course progresses you will concentrate on the skills for your chosen area and develop confidence in your own ideas and creativity.

You will cover a range of skills and projects all based on actual creative and design scenarios through 8 units of study developing your knowledge and understanding for art and design in all specialist areas, ending in an externally moderated Major Final Project.

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

Units 1, 2 and 7 are externally set and marked. There is a set time under exam conditions for evaluative writing and completion of the brief set. Units 3, 4 and 5 are mandatory but internally assessed.

2 further units of study are made in Yr13 to reflect your own specialist area and assessed internally.

In year 1 units 1,3,4, are fully assessed and completed.
In year 2 units 2,5 and 7 plus 2 optional units are fully assessed and completed.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

There may be considerably more options open to you than you first think: skills developed on your course, such as research, negotiation, problem solving and teamwork can put you in direct competition with more traditional graduates giving you an even greater pool of opportunities to consider. It may surprise you to learn that 40% of graduate opportunities advertised are open to graduates of any discipline!

Even within art design & media, there is still flexibility. Graphic designers may choose to use their design skills in gardens or interiors, and fine artists have been known to become well-established film makers. It may be that you will choose to practice in several different areas - what is known as a portfolio career. We are not trying to confuse matters here, just encourage you to consider all the options!

There **are over 70** art-related subjects. They all relate directly to the creative industry. The creative industry is the largest industry in Britain – and growing!

Nearly 20% of jobs in Cornwall are part of the creative industry.

A few examples of careers & courses in Art & Design include: Architecture, Graphics, Advertising, Illustration, Fashion, Fashion marketing, Textiles, Education, Television, Product Design, Stage Design, Ceramics, Photography, Film, Admin/ Curation, Art Therapy, Art History and Art Restoration. Games Design, Concept Design, Environmental Design, Landscape and Interior Design, Furniture and 3D design. Animation and Media.

BUSINESS EXTENDED CERTIFICATE

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

If you have a keen interest in developing the skills required to be successful in Business in the 21st century, this course is for you. This Level 3 Business course is practical and uses a combination of assessment styles to give you confidence that you can apply your knowledge to succeed in the workplace. It is designed to equip you with the knowledge, understanding, skills, techniques, attributes and personal qualities essential for successful performance in the Business sector.

This is a two year course which will provide a strong academic background whilst allowing you to develop skills that will prepare you for both the world of work and the demands of Higher Education courses.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

Students will need 4 grade 4s or equivalent GCSE qualifications, including grade 4 in both English and maths.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

You will be involved in a range of practical activities, including group and paired work, individual research, preparing and giving presentations and discussing case studies. You will have the opportunity to interact with visiting speakers and to experience external visits to local and national businesses. Throughout the course you will gain knowledge and understanding of how businesses operate, while developing the practical, technical and personal skills required in the Business environment.

The Edexcel Level 3 Extended Certificate (equivalent to 1 A Level) consists of 3 mandatory units plus 1 optional unit.

You will study the following three mandatory units:

> Exploring Business
> Developing a Marketing Campaign
> Personal and Business Finance

You will also study one unit from the following options:

> Recruitment and Selection Process
> Investigating Customer Service
> Market Research
> The English Legal System
> Work Experience in Business

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

This Level 3 Business course is practical and uses a combination of assessment styles over the 2 years, including:

- Practical reports
- Portfolio of work
- Presentations
- 1 x Controlled Task (externally set and marked)
- 1 x written exam (externally set and marked)

There will be several opportunities for organised college trips as part of the course

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

Upon successful completion, this qualification can lead you to apply for a degree course in various disciplines at University. You can also use the skills and knowledge acquired during this course to embark upon a career in the Business sector. Business qualifications can lead straight into employment in a variety of roles from junior / middle management upwards and some entrepreneurial students may set up and run their own businesses.

FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION DIPLOMA

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

Are you eager to continue with your knowledge, understanding and cooking of food and have a desire to continue in your food studies? The level 3 course is suitable for those students who have the drive and passion to progress in their food education and are keen to take it to the next level. The course is the equivalent to one A level.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

It is preferred that you have taken the Food Preparation and Nutrition course at GCSE level and have achieved a grade 4 along with 3 other GCSEs at grade 4 or above.

WHAT DOES IT INVOLVE?

The course structure for year 12 is based on one overall mandatory unit 'Meeting Nutritional Needs of Specific Groups'. This has an applied purpose which acts as a focus for the learning in the unit. There are subsections within the unit to complete as assignments these include:

- Understanding the importance of food safety
- Understanding the properties of nutrients
- Understanding the relationship between nutrients and the human body
- Being able to plan nutritional requirements
- Being able to plan complex dishes
- Being able to cook complex dishes

The diploma is a continuation of the certificate. It is equivalent to one GCE A Level. It consists of a mandatory unit and one optional unit. The mandatory unit is 'Ensuring Food is Safe to Eat', and our current optional unit is 'Current Issues in Food Science and Nutrition'. Both units are completed within College hours and are externally assessed.

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

Work for the level 3 certificate and diploma will be both internally and externally assessed.

The internal assessment will comprise of a selection of mandatory summative controlled assessments for the unit.

The external assessment will comprise of a 90 minute examination with 15 minutes prior reading time. The examination will include short answer questions, long answer questions and questions which relate to a case study. The examination takes place in the summer term of year 12.

All work including the written exam will be graded Level 3 Pass, Level 3 Merit or Level 3 Distinction. A Distinction* can be awarded for those aspiring learners who fulfil the exam boards criteria.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

By studying for this certificate learners will acquire the knowledge to pursue careers or learning in the food industry. The qualification will support entry to higher education courses such as:
BSc Human Nutrition
BSc (Hons) Public Health Nutrition
BSc (Hons) Food Science and Technology

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE DIPLOMA

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

This is a work-related qualification designed to make you aware of employers' needs as well as allowing progression to university and employment. This qualification has been designed for learners who are intending to go onto further study in a related sector or plan to go in at entry level employment or Apprenticeship within health and social care. It supports access to a range of higher education courses if taken as part of a programme of study that includes another BTEC or A Level alongside it.

It provides you with the opportunity to study Health and Social care at level 3, as a double A level equivalent allowing you to keep your options open and choose up to two other A level subjects. You can plan these additional subjects to meet the admissions criteria for certain professions.

You will study 8 units over 2 years - 6 are mandatory and 2 additional units.

During the first year 4 units are studied:

- **Human Life span Development**
- **Working in Health and Social Care**
- **Meeting Individual Care and Support Needs**
- **Physiological Disorders and their Care**

During the second year 4 units are studied:

- **Enquiries into Current Research in Health and Social Care**
- **Principles of Safe Practice in Health and Social Care**
- **Promoting Public Health**
- **Nutritional Health**

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

There are three main forms of assessment that you need to be aware of: external, internal and synoptic.

Five Units are assessed through assignments - set and marked internally.

One unit is assessed through a task - set and marked by the awarding body and two units are assessed through written exams - set and marked by the awarding body.

These assessments enable you to attain a grade of either:

- Pass
- Merit
- Distinction
- Distinction*

A final cumulative grade is awarded at the end of the course.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

The Diploma can gain progression to Higher education, entry level employment or Apprenticeship within health and social care. Many students progress onto university to follow related courses and plan to take their additional A levels to fit the admissions criteria for their chosen subject/s. Students who have chosen science and social sciences as additional A levels are more likely to be accepted on health related degrees for example nursing, physiotherapy, occupational health. Students can also use the qualification to apply for other degrees and related degrees in teaching, social work, childhood and youth studies and early years.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

You will need the general college requirements of 4 grade 4s or equivalent GCSE qualifications.

TECHNICAL LEVEL IT

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

Do you like learning about cybersecurity, emerging technologies, social media and data analysis software?

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

You will need the general college requirements of 4 grade 4's or equivalent GCSE qualifications. It is also advisable to study the Core Maths qualification alongside this subject.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

The Technical Level in IT will allow learners the opportunity to learn and understand the core principles and technologies that underpin modern Information Technology. This course is equivalent to one A level. There are five units that need to be completed for the course:

Unit 1 - Fundamentals of IT
Unit 2 - Global Information
Unit 3 - Cybersecurity
Unit 5 - VR & AR Technology
Unit 12 - Mobile Technology
Unit 13 - Social Media

Please note that students will complete the first four units and then either unit 12 or 13.

Unit 1 involves learning a sound understanding of IT technologies and practices which are essential for IT professionals. Information learnt in this unit will create a solid foundation in the fundamentals of hardware, networks, software, the ethical use of computers and how businesses use IT.

Unit 2 provides students with a greater understanding of how organisations use information sources both internally and externally and the types of information they will encounter. The skills gained by completing this unit will give you knowledge of the functionality of information and how data is stored and processed by organisations.

Unit 3 will enable you to gain knowledge and understanding of the range of threats, vulnerabilities and risks that impact on both individuals and organisations. You will learn about the solutions that can be used to prevent or deal with cyber security incidents resulting from these challenges.

Unit 5 involves learning about both AR and VR technologies and how they are used. Students will research both technologies and design both a Virtual and an Augmented Reality resource. Finally, you will use their research skills learnt whilst designing and creating resources to suggest future applications of Virtual and Augmented Reality.

Unit 12 Students may come to this unit as a proficient user of a mobile phone, but you may be less familiar with other mobile technologies and their operating systems. The aim of this unit is to broaden your knowledge and understanding of the wider potential of mobile technologies and its consequences to people and businesses.

Unit 13 Digital marketing is part of the overall process of marketing as is the use of digital media to increase awareness of a product or service. As social media offers such a wealth of data and the ability to contact potential customers in their own homes across a range of media channels, it is only natural that digital marketing seeks to use social media as part of the marketing mix for goods and services.

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

The first three units are assessed via examination.

The remaining units are assessed internally via coursework style assignments.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

Students completing this course can, with further study, move into careers in IT or move onto to study IT at university.

Apprenticeships related to IT are also possible.

RSL SUBSIDIARY DIPLOMA IN MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

If you have an interest in the technology side of music – such as the recording studio, live sound and creating music on computers – then this is the course for you. There are no formal exams on this course. There are elements of performing music on the course, however, the emphasis is on using technology to capture, create, edit and manipulate sounds. There is also a unit of work that's sole purpose is to inform you of careers in the music industry and how to further your skillset to enable you to have a career in the industry.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

The College entry requirements plus a grade 5 or above in GCSE music. However, if you have not done GCSE Music and are interested in the course, it is essential that you contact the course tutor before signing up.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

Digital Recording and Production

This unit has two aims:

- To develop skills in effectively planning the recording process and recording instruments and voices.
- To edit audio samples for future use.

The purpose of this unit is to enable the students to record instruments and or vocals in the studio, and manipulate and edit them to be sample patches for future projects. This involves learning the controls and functions of the recording studio as well as computer software. The unit also focuses on the ability to plan and manage the recording process.

Music Sequencing and Production

The aim of this unit is to develop skills in using music sequencing software. The digital Audio Workstation Cubase gives ultimate control to users to create synthesized sounds as well as programming pre-recorded samples. MIDI editing and functions are also a large part of this unit.

The purpose of this unit is to enhance the learner's ability to utilise the advanced functions of a sequencing package (Cubase) and put them into practice.

Live Music Performance

The aim of this unit is to refine live performance skills and to develop the students' capacity to take ownership of the entire performance process, in context, from a personal perspective. This will involve planning and executing rehearsals and performance opportunities, as well as gaining an understanding of image, stage persona and communication with both audience and band members.

The purpose of this unit is to provide students with a range of opportunities to refine their performance skills through performance to a live audience. This in turn will enable them to elicit constructive feedback to inform their ongoing development as performers.

Planning For a Career in Music

The aim of this unit is to provide opportunities to align/link their overarching career aims with how their course can help, defining the way the learner engages with their learning.

The purpose of this unit is to familiarise students with the processes associated with effective career planning. This is done through researching careers in the industry, highlighting personal strengths and areas for improvement, and identifying career pathways.

Live Sound Recording and Sound Reinforcement

(Externally Assessed Unit)
Exact details of this unit of work are released by the exam board shortly before delivery, however, from previous briefs set by RSL, the purpose of the unit is to enable students to:

- Plan a live recording of a piece of music.
- Set up a performance-level PA system for a live music event.
- Create a live recording of a piece of music.
- Evaluate the success of the installation of sound reinforcement equipment and the completed recording.

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

There are no formal exams on this course. Units of work are marked by the subject teachers, with the opportunity for students to re-submit work after receiving feedback from teachers. There is an exception of one unit which is sent to RSL (the exam board) to mark. This unit has a set amount of time dedicated to it in the school calendar, and the brief is released by RSL shortly before delivery.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

This is a very rewarding course that would lead on to further studies down the music technology route. An entire unit of work is dedicated to getting work in the industry and this may help inform your career choice and your chosen pathway to succeed.

PSYCHOLOGY EXTENDED CERTIFICATE

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

If you enjoy thinking about why people behave in the way that they do or if you want to understand yourself better, then this course will be of interest. You will learn about your memory, stress, psychological disorders, obedience and conformity and will study a range of other topics. Since all jobs involve dealing with people, having some understanding of human behaviour is going to be an advantage. Psychology is a well established course at Helston Community College and has remained a consistently popular choice for Post 16 students because they find the course interesting, challenging, satisfying and fun.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

You will need at least 4 grade 4s in GCSE subjects (not equivalents); successful students tend to have at least 2 grade 6s from English, Maths or Science. It is also advisable to study the Core Maths qualification alongside this subject.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

A wide range of teaching methods alternating between teacher-centred and student-centred lessons. Students will find out about the different ways of understanding and explaining human behaviour, including the behavioural, cognitive, biological and social approaches. These are then applied to areas such as gender, aggression and consumer behaviour. In the first year, there is also a coursework unit where students learn about ways of conducting psychological investigations and then conduct their own. In the second year students learn about the psychology of health, including explanations and treatments for addiction and stress related illnesses. There is also a coursework unit in which students can focus on criminal and forensic psychology.

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

For the complete course there are four units:

Unit 1: Psychological Approaches and Applications (Exam)
Unit 2: Conducting Psychological Research (Coursework)
Unit 3: Health Psychology (Exam)
Unit 4: Criminal and Forensic Psychology (Coursework)

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

If you think you will end-up working with people or animals then this is a relevant course! Psychology has grown to be one of the most popular subjects taken in Post 16. Part of the reason for this is the subject's engaging content, but it is also due to both universities and employers recognising the value of the course and the skills it develops.

Students with degrees in Psychology can enter a whole range of graduate professions and after additional training can become clinical psychologists, diagnosing and treating those with mental illness.

OCR TECHNICAL SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

This qualification is not just about being able to play sport or deal with elite athletes; employers need people who are able to lead sports and physical activities safely, work with the general public in providing sport and physical activity opportunities and help to promote physically active lifestyles. Therefore, this qualification will provide learners with the skills, knowledge and understanding to progress into employment in the sport and physical activity sector either through an apprenticeship or directly into work.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

The basic requirement is a Merit in BTEC Level 2 Sport or a 6 in GCSE PE and a minimum of a 4 in English.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

Learners will take 11 units, made up of mandatory and optional units across two years.

Everybody will study the following mandatory units:

- Body systems and the effects of physical activity
- Sports coaching and activity leadership
- Sports organisation and development
- Working safely in sport, exercise, health and leisure
- Physical activity for specific groups

These units will give learners the skills, knowledge and understanding related to key aspects which underpin how sport and physical activity is delivered and organised, such as anatomy and physiology in relation to physical performance, coaching skills, the structure of sport in the UK and the organisations involved, the target groups that would most benefit from participation in physical activity and safe practice in sport and leisure. Learners will also develop transferable skills that employers are looking for such as planning, communication, adaptability and leadership.

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

Externally Assessed- These units are available as timetabled examinations. We set the dates.

Internally Assessed- These units are assessed through coursework, presentations and observations.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

This qualification can lead to Advanced Level apprenticeships in Coaching, Leisure Management and Exercise and Fitness or to job roles such as Fitness Instructor, Activity Leader or a Leisure/Recreation Assistant. It could also provide a route into Higher Education on a sport-related programme such as Sport and Physical Education, Sport Science, Sport Coaching and Development or Sport and Leisure Management.

TRAVEL AND TOURISM EXTENDED CERTIFICATE

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

This course will appeal to you if you have an interest in working in the Travel industry in a number of different areas including Cabin Crew, Overseas Rep and as a Tour Operator. It is a 2 year course and carries the equivalent UCAS points of an A level.

This is an applied Level 3 course which will provide a strong academic background whilst allowing you to develop skills that will prepare you for both the world of work, and the demands of Higher Education courses.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

You will need the general college requirements of 4 grade 4s or equivalent GCSE qualifications.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

The course is broken into 4 units of work across the two years of study.

Units

> The World of Travel & Tourism
> Global Destinations
> Principle of Marketing in Travel & Tourism
> Visitor Attractions

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

There will be some examination elements to the assessment of this course. Students will also be assessed through the following:

- Practical reports
- Portfolio of work
- Presentations

There will be several opportunities for organised college trips as part of the course to destinations such as the Eden Project, Plymouth and London.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

The practical nature of this course allows you to pursue a career in the Travel and Tourism or customer based industries. The course is also excellent preparation for one of the many Higher Education courses available in this subject. Students who study Travel and Tourism go on to work in many areas including Travel and Tourism management, retail, tour operations and the transport industries.

NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN MEDICAL SCIENCE

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

The Level 3 Diploma in Medical Science is ideal for post-16 students who are interested in careers related to healthcare and medical research. It is an Applied General qualification and is a 2 year course that carries the equivalent UCAS points of one A level. Medical scientists are at the forefront of healthcare services, they are vital in the diagnosis of disease, determining the effectiveness of treatments and searching for new cures.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

You will need the general college requirements of 4 grade 4s or equivalent including science, maths and English.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

The qualification covers the key topic areas of health, physiology and disease, as well as providing the opportunity to study the areas of pharmacology, physiological measurement, clinical testing and medical research. In order to achieve the Level 3 Diploma in Medical Science learners are required to complete 6 units:

1. Human health and disease
2. Physiological measurement techniques
3. Medical Science research methods
4. Medicines and treatment of disease
5. Clinical laboratory techniques
6. Medical case study

Each unit has a clear medical science purpose which focuses the learning of scientific knowledge, understanding and skills into a meaningful context.

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Medical Science is assessed using a combination of internal and external assessment. There are a range of assessment activities involving traditional examinations, task based activities and controlled assignment based assessments.

Unit	Detail
Human health and disease	2 hour synoptic written examination on Units 1-3
Physiological measurement techniques	Assignment based
Medical Science research methods	Assignment based
Medicines and treatment of disease	Assignment based
Clinical laboratory techniques	Task based assessment
Medical case study	2 hour synoptic written examination on Units 1-6

WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS COULD I STUDY ALONGSIDE?

Studying the level 3 Diploma in Medical Science allows time in the curriculum for other qualifications to be studied alongside it, as the course only fills one option block. These would typically be A levels such as psychology or chemistry or another applied general qualification in an area such as health and social care.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

A significant proportion of career opportunities in this sector are at degree level. When supported by other appropriate qualifications, the Level 3 Diploma in Medical Science will enable progression to higher education to a range of Applied Science programmes, such as biomedical science, life sciences, and physiology.

The level 3 Diploma in Medical Science is supported by a number of Higher Education Institutions including:

- Bangor University
- Bristol University of the West of England
- Cardiff Metropolitan University
- Swansea University
- University of Chester

This qualification also equips learners with scientific knowledge and understanding, as well as practical skills that would support progression to a range of job roles within health care. Job roles such as those within the areas of life sciences, i.e. carrying out a range of laboratory and scientific tests to support the diagnosis and treatment of disease. Alternatively, there would also be opportunities to progress to job roles within the physiological sciences, working directly with patients, measuring and evaluating particular organ and systems.

Level 1 & 2 Courses

The Level 1 and 2 courses are designed to equip students who follow a vocational programme with the skills and qualifications to progress to an apprenticeship or employment. It has been developed in partnership with local employers and training providers with the aim of providing students with the qualifications needed and experience valued to ensure that they have the best possible opportunities to secure the next step in their careers.

Students will need to take a range of courses including:

- **A Vocational Qualification which is specific to the option pathway**
- **A Numeracy and Literacy qualification (if needed)**
- **Employability Skills**
- **Work experience placement**

Students who take the level 1 and 2 route will also be prepared for when they progress to employment / apprenticeships through the college Apprenticeship day, CV writing workshops, and personal effectiveness.

CONSTRUCTION DIPLOMA

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

The Diploma has been specifically developed for delivery in a training environment using simulated conditions. The award is broken into separate routes eg:

- **Building Technology and Sustainability**
- **Health and Safety**
- **Bricklaying**
- **Floor covering**
- **Plastering**
- **Roofing**
- **Setting Out**
- **Blocklaying**

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

No qualifications are required but candidates are expected to be enthusiastic about training for this skill shortage area.

A certain amount of fitness is necessary.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

Each Diploma route comprises:

- Core units
- Occupation specific units
- Work experience and Key Skills

The occupation specific units are based on skills and are tested by observation.

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

To gain the award candidates have to be successful in all units, but each unit is accredited on a separate basis.

Candidates will also pass a health and safety test. Work based evidence from work experience (witness statements and work diaries).

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

An important feature of the Diploma is that it provides a progression route towards achieving a National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) at Level 2 and Level 3 or employment in this skill shortage area.

ENGLISH GCSE RESIT

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

If you have not obtained a Grade 4 in GCSE English, then you will need to follow a GCSE re-sit or Literacy course as part of your Post 16 studies. English is considered essential by universities, most employers and apprenticeship providers. New legislation requires post-16 students to keep taking GCSE English and maths until you get a grade 4. If you do not have the grade, you will find a lot of course and career opportunities closed to you.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

You should, ideally, have a 3 at GCSE and be willing to work hard.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

Preparation and practice for two examinations:

Paper 1: Explorations in creative reading and writing.
- **Section A: Reading and responding to a fiction extract**
- **Section B: Writing to narrate or describe**

Paper 2:Writers' view points and perspectives
- **Section A: Reading and responding to two non-fiction extracts**
- **Section B: Writing to argue or persuade**

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

The GCSE is assessed externally by examinations. There is no coursework element.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

A grade 4 in English is an essential requirement for entry to a great number of jobs, as well as Higher Education courses and apprenticeship providers.

MATHS GCSE RESIT

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

Apprenticeship providers and most employers require a good grade in GCSE mathematics (4 and above) or equivalent. Therefore, if you have not already gained your maths at GCSE grade 4, you will need to take either the Functional Skills or GCSE Maths option.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

GCSE mathematics grade 2. If you have a grade 1 in GCSE Maths, then you would be advised to take the Functional Skills in Numeracy as an alternative to the GCSE.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

This is a one-year course, involving class lessons supported by a significant amount of individual learning.

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

There are three final written exam papers, each lasting 1 hour 30 minutes (a non-calculator and two calculator papers).

While this course is designed to be a one-year improvement course, if ready, students are encouraged to take the examinations at the earliest opportunity in November.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

A good grade in GCSE Mathematics will enable you to apply for apprenticeships and strengthen your CV for future employment.

Enrichment Programme

The enrichment programme is strongly encouraged for all students joining post 16. It is an opportunity for students to participate in activities in and beyond the classroom. Enrichment is for 75 minutes each week, with students choosing from different activities across the year. We encourage students to take risks and choose an activity which is out of their comfort zone. The programme is designed to prepare students for what is to come at university, employment and beyond, to give them life skills, as well as academic ones.

There are a range of activities that students can choose from including the Sports Academy and Duke of Edinburgh Silver or Gold Award. The college also works closely with Falmouth University if students wish to further their interest in the creative arts. Alternatively, for those who wish to try something new, there are options such as acadmic coaching. Aspiring teachers can become Student Leaders and help out in classes lower in the college, or students can take an extended work placement in the local area to develop work related skills or perhaps experience a specific career. Also available is a selection of sports, including the opportunity to play for some of the successful college teams.

The choice of activities differs slightly each year with students given the opportunity to suggest what they would like as part of the programme. The skills students will develop from participating in the enrichment programme include communication, independent learning, teamwork and problem solving, all of which are vital in applying for further studies or the world of work.

EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

IS THIS COURSE FOR ME?

The Level 3 Extended Project aims to support learners with the transition to Higher Education or into the world of work. It provides opportunities for the development of critical, reflective, problem-solving and independent learning skills through the planning,research and evaluation of a self-selected project. Students who study the EPQ would normally do so in addition to their A level subjects.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

Students studying this qualification must have a 4 or above in Maths and English and a further 3 GCSEs at a minimum grade 4, especially if you are planning to go on to higher education.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

Throughout their in-depth study, learners will develop and apply skills creatively, resulting in one of the four following project outcomes:

> An extended project
> An investigation report
> A performance
> An artefact

Learners have the opportunity to choose their own field of study and will be guided by a Project Supervisor.

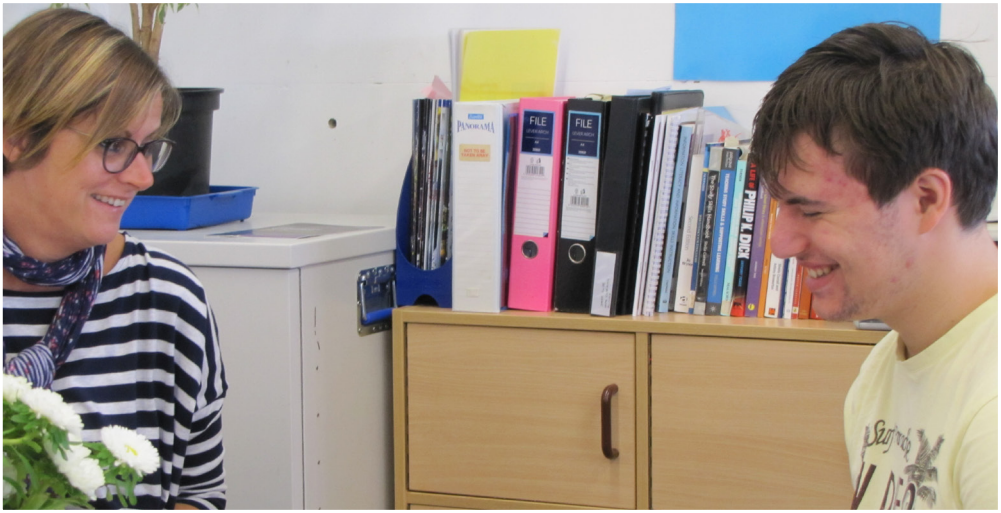
The skills required to complete the project will be taught through the study skills programme and through tailored lessons throughout the project. The Extended Project is equivalent to an Advanced Subsidiary (AS) qualification and is graded A* to E and requires 120 Guided Learning Hours. It attracts the UCAS points ranging from 8 to 28, depending on the grade of the final project.

HOW WILL MY WORK BE ASSESSED?

The EPQ is internally assessed, followed by external moderation. The assessment includes a log book and a presentation of the final work.

WHAT CAN I DO AFTERWARDS?

The EPQ is valued highly by both universities and employers.



SPORTS ACADEMY

IS THIS ACTIVITY FOR ME?

You enjoy sport and PE. You are keen to develop your performance individually or as part of a team. You would like to take part in competition in your sport against local colleges. You are keen to develop your leadership and coaching skills.

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS DO I NEED?

There are no specific qualifications needed to access this activity just an enthusiasm for sport.

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

There are two parts to the activity. Through both years, students train in their chosen sport twice a week with a qualified coach and compete in College fixtures. There is fitness development and a personal training programme and our own training facility which students can use throughout the College week. Video analysis is used to enhance performance.

HELSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE
POST 16
APPLICATION FORM

This form should be completed by the student and returned to Mrs Jane Rowe, our Post 16 administrator. An electronic copy of this form is also available on the College website. If you would prefer to use email, the relevant address is JRowe@helston.cornwall.sch.uk

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

.....

.....

Date of Birth .....

Current School .....

PTO

Please write below up to 5 courses which you would like to follow in September:

1.……

2.……

3.……

4.……

5.……

Student Signature: …… Date: ……

Please return to:
Mrs Jane Rowe,
Helston Community College
Church Hill
Helston
TR13 8NR
Email:JRowe@helston.cornwall.sch.uk

HOW TO FIND US

ROAD

Approaching Helston from Truro/Falmouth
Arriving on the A394, turn right onto the Redruth Road; then take the second left into the Water-ma-Trout industrial park; then take the first left onto Church Hill.

Approaching Helston from Redruth
Arriving on the B3297, turn right into the Water-ma-Trout Industrial Park; then take the first left on to Church Hill.

Approaching Helston from Penzance
Follow the one way system through town; at the end, turn left into Station Road;turn right into Church Hill for the North Site reception.

RAIL

The nearest rail/bus link is via Redruth Station.

BUS ROUTES

There are frequent bus services from Penzance, Falmouth and Redruth.

AIR

The nearest airport is Newquay.

Post 16
Helston Community College
Church Hill
Helston
Cornwall
TR13 8NR

Tel: 01326 575022
enquiries@helston.cornwall.sch.uk
www.helston.cornwall.sch.uk

HELSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ASPIRATION · AMBITION · ACHIEVEMENT