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## **PATHWAYS IN 6<sup>th</sup> FORM @ SWAKELEYS**

### **Choosing your courses at sixth form level for further study or employment beyond 18**

Just as we have pathways to meet the range of learning needs at Key Stage 4 there are pathways in the Sixth Form. These are to ensure that you achieve the very best of which you are capable.

**Pathway 1** - 4 AS Levels (Year 12)  
3 A Levels (Year 13) & the option of an EPQ  
**At least two facilitating subjects. Please see overleaf.**

**This pathway requires a minimum of five 9 - 6 grades in academic subjects.**

**Pathway 2** - 4 AS Levels (Year 12)  
3 A Levels (Year 13) & the option of an EPQ

**This pathway requires a minimum of five 9 - 5 GCSE grades in academic subjects and meeting subject requirements.**

**Pathway 3** - 4 subjects consisting of AS Levels & BTECs\* (Year 12)  
3 subjects consisting of A Levels & BTECs\* (Year 13) & the option of an EPQ in exceptional circumstances  
*\*Please note that students must study BTEC subjects for two years to receive a qualification.*

**This pathway requires a minimum of five 9 - 5 GCSE grades and meeting subject requirements.**

**Pathway 4** – 3 BTECs to be completed over two years  
GCSE English/maths (if a grade 9-4 has not already been achieved)

**This pathway requires a minimum of four 9 – 4 grades and meeting subject requirements but those who do not achieve this will be considered on an individual basis.**

#### **General Requirements**

**All pathways require 95% attendance in Year 11 (excluding known medical conditions/ exceptional circumstances) and an excellent behaviour record.**

If you do not have the qualifications for a specific pathway due to exceptional circumstances you will need to mention this in your 6<sup>th</sup> Form interview.

**All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers. We reserve the right to cancel courses. Courses will require sufficient numbers to continue into the second year of study.**

## Facilitating Subjects

### What are facilitating subjects?

The Russell Group Universities, which are the country's top universities, have identified subjects that they feel will help applicants to gain university places.

Many courses at university level build on knowledge which you will gain while still at school. Where this is the case, universities need to make sure that all the students they admit have prepared themselves in the best way to cope with their chosen course. For this reason, some university courses may require you to have studied a specific subject prior to entry, others may not. However, there are some subjects that are required more often than others. These subjects are sometimes referred to as 'facilitating' subjects. Subjects that can be viewed as 'facilitating' subjects are:

- **Mathematics and Further Mathematics**
- **English**
- **Physics**
- **Biology**
- **Chemistry**
- **Geography**
- **History**
- **Languages**

There are some A Level subjects which provide suitable preparation for entry to university generally, but which we do not include within the 'facilitating' subjects, because there are relatively few degree programmes where an A Level qualification in these subjects would be a requirement for entry. Examples of such subjects include economics and religious studies.

### What does the Director of the Russell Group say?

*"Our consistent advice is that taking two 'facilitating' subjects will keep a wide range of degree courses and career options open to you. This is because these are the subjects most commonly required by our universities and hundreds of courses require one or more facilitating subjects"*

**It is important that you consider 'facilitating' subjects, but also crucial that you choose subjects that you are good at and that you enjoy.**

## HOW TO CHOOSE WHAT TO STUDY

### **Choose subjects you will enjoy**

A Levels are hard enough without having to knuckle down to a subject you only chose because it will look good on a university application form.

### **Choose subjects you will be good at**

For many careers or courses, grades matter more than subjects. In addition, it is difficult to stay motivated if you are continually failing, no matter how hard you work.

### **Check your combination of subjects**

Ensure that the combination of subjects you choose meets the requirements of any careers or courses that you are considering. You can do this and still keep your options open – very few careers or courses specify more than one or two subjects within their overall requirements.

### **What is essential? What is preferred? What is useful?**

Bear in mind that some careers and courses need particular A levels.

Engineering and technology require maths and physics.

Medicine requires chemistry, plus at least one other science – preferably biology.

Computer sciences needs maths.

Health care professions such as physiotherapy look for biology.

For many degrees such as English, history, French and maths you will normally need an A level in this subject.

For others like law, psychology, or economics for example, no prior knowledge is required, though it is useful to study a similar subject to show your aptitude and interest.

For many careers or courses, no subjects are specifically required but there are a number that could be useful.

Vocationally linked A levels in subjects like business studies are not required for careers or courses in that area, but can be a useful way of testing out and demonstrating an interest without totally committing yourself to one occupational area.

## WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF COURSES?

All courses offered in 6th Form @ Swakeleys are Level 3 courses—BTEC, AS or A2. If you have not achieved a grade 4 or higher in your GCSE maths and/or English GCSE you will also be required to re-sit these (**this is now a requirement in all sixth forms**).

**So what are the different Level 3 Courses we offer?**

### **WHAT IS A LEVEL 3 VOCATIONAL COURSE?**

There are two different types of vocational courses:

- **The BTEC Single Award (Extended Certificate)**
- **The BTEC Double Award (Diploma)**

These are courses which provide a specialist work-related qualification that covers the key knowledge and practical skills required in the vocational sector and also offer different emphasis through the choice of specialist units. They are given a single or double grade, for example, PP, MP, DD. and carry single or double UCAS points weighting. (P=Pass, M=Merit, D=Distinction)

**We offer Level 3 BTECs in:**

- Childcare
- Health and Social Care

### **WHAT ARE AS AND A2 LEVELS?**

These are academic qualifications, the majority of which are assessed through examinations. Currently the examinations are offered in modules, meaning that they can be taken in June.

An AS can be a stand-alone qualification with points for university - and as such will be taken in Year 12.

Students on Pathways 1 and 2 will choose **4** AS subjects to study in Year 12 and will drop to 3 A2 subjects in Year 13.

## **SUBJECTS FOR ENTRY SEPTEMBER 2019**

You may select from the A level/BTEC subjects depending on your Pathway.

You can choose from the subjects listed below.

### **A Level Subjects**

Art and Design  
Biology  
Business  
Chemistry  
Computer Science  
Dance  
Drama and Theatre Studies  
Economics  
English Language and Literature  
English Literature  
Extended Project Qualification  
Film Studies  
Geography  
Government and Politics  
History  
Mathematics and Further Mathematics  
Media Studies  
Modern Languages: French & German  
Photography  
Physics  
Psychology  
Religious Studies: Philosophy and Ethics  
Sociology

### **Level 3 BTEC**

BTEC Childcare (single or double)  
BTEC Health and Social Care (single or double)

### **Extra-Curricular Activity**

Enrichment and leadership

If numbers are too low and courses are not viable they will not run.

**In addition:** The Extended Project (EPQ) is desirable for many students on Pathway 1 and 2. GCSE retakes in English or maths are compulsory for those students who have not achieved a grade 4 or higher.

## Entry requirements for September 2020

### **Art and Design**

Students should have studied Art at GCSE level and gained a grade 5 or higher.

### **Biology**

All students will need to obtain a minimum of 7-6 in Science, a grade 9-6 in Maths and a grade 9-5 in English.

### **Business**

All students must have at least a grade 9-5 in GCSE Maths and English.

### **Chemistry**

All students will need to obtain a minimum of 7-6 in Science, a grade 9-6 in Maths and a grade 9-5 in English.

### **Computer Science**

A grade 9-6 in Maths and a grade 9-5 in English are essential. A 9-5 grade in GCSE Computer Science is essential if the subject has been studied

### **Dance**

A GCSE in Dance (grade 9-5) is preferable although not essential. Students wishing to take dance who have done GCSE PE or are heavily involved in dance performance outside school may be considered but must speak directly with the course leader.

### **Drama and Theatre Studies**

A 9-5 in Drama and/or a related arts subject is desirable.

### **Economics**

Students must have at least a grade 6 in GCSE Maths and a grade 9-5 in English is also a minimum requirement.

### **English Literature and Language**

Students must achieve a grade 9-6 in either English Language or English Literature and a grade 9-5 in the other corresponding subject.

### **English Literature**

Students must achieve a grade 9-6 in either English Language or English Literature and a grade 9-5 in the other corresponding subject.

### **Film Studies**

Students with an interest in film and the media will perform better in this subject. A grade 9-4 in English GCSE is essential.

### **Geography**

A GCSE in Geography (grade 9-5) is essential.

### **Government and Politics**

A grade 9-5 in English is essential and the study of History at GCSE is recommended. An interest in general political affairs is essential.

### **History**

A 9-5 grade in History is essential if the subject has been studied; a grade 9-5 in English is required.

### **Maths and Further Maths**

Grade 7 in maths GCSE (in certain circumstances a grade 6 and a recommendation from the Head of Maths may be sufficient to be eligible for the course). Students must also pass an algebra entrance examination based on algebra content from the GCSE course. A grade 8 or 9 in maths GCSE is required to study Further Maths.

### **Media Studies**

Students with an interest in the media and innovative ideas will succeed on this course. A grade 9-4 in English GCSE is essential.

### **MFL**

All students will need to obtain a 9-6 grade at GCSE in their chosen language in order to continue with this subject at Sixth Form level, or have the language as part of their culture.

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## **Photography**

It is desirable, but not essential that students have studied Art at GCSE level and gained a grade 5 or higher.

## **Physics**

All students will need to obtain a minimum of 7-6 in Science, a grade 9-6 in Maths and a grade 9-5 in English.

## **Psychology**

As well as an interest in the subject, it is essential to have grade 9-5 in Maths, 9-5 in English and at least a grade 5-4 in science as it requires an understanding of basic statistics, learning scientific terminology and research and the skills involved in evaluation, analysis and essay writing skills.

## **RE**

A grade 9-5 in English is essential and a GCSE in RE (grade 9-5) is preferable although not essential.

## **Sociology**

A grade 9-5 in English is essential. Students with GCSE Sociology should have at least a grade 5, but GCSE Sociology is not essential to take the subject at A level.

## **Level 3 BTEC courses**

### **Child Care**

It is desirable for students to have 4 GCSEs at 9-4

### **Health and Social Care**

It is desirable for students to have 4 GCSEs at 9-4



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## **ART AND DESIGN AQA**

### **Course Outline:**

The duration of the course is either one year to gain an AS award or two years for the full A level qualification.

### **Skills:**

Students will be introduced to a variety of experiences exploring a range of two-and three-dimensional media, processes and techniques. They will explore both traditional and new technologies, relevant images, artifacts and resources relating to a range of art, craft and design, from the past and from recent times, including European and non-European examples. This will be integral to the investigating and making process. Their responses to these examples will be shown through practical and critical activities, which demonstrate their understanding of different styles, genres and traditions. Students will become aware of the four assessment objectives and will explore drawing using a variety of methods and media on a variety of scales. Students will use sketchbooks/workbooks/ journals to underpin their work where appropriate.

### **Entry Requirements:**

Students should have studied art at GCSE level and gained a grade 5 or higher.

### **Study Areas:**

<b>AS modules: 1st year of study</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
<b>Unit 1</b> — Art and Design Portfolio	60% of AS level mark
<b>Unit 2</b> — Art and Design Externally Set Assignment	40% of total AS level mark 10 hour timed examination

<b>A2 modules: 2nd year of study</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
<b>Unit 3</b> — Personal Investigation	60% of total A level mark
<b>Unit 4</b> — Art and Design Externally Set Assignment	40% of total A level mark 15 hour timed examination

### **Future progressions from this course:**

The course can lead into an Arts foundation course, leading into a degree in Fine Art; Fashion, Textiles and Design. Careers include the media industries, design, education, galleries, architecture and fashion design.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

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## BIOLOGY OCR

### Course Outline:

The duration of the course is either one year to gain an AS award or two years for the full A level qualification.

### Skills:

There will be opportunities for students to attend external lectures, workshops and conferences, often provided by the examining board for specific aspects of the course. There will also be the possibility of a Field Trip which provides opportunities to develop research and data handling skills plus gives students the ability to study ecology in the 'outdoor classroom'.

### Entry Requirements:

All students will need to obtain a minimum of 7-6 in Science, a grade 9-6 in Maths and a grade 9-5 in English.

Students will need to buy two textbooks at £22.43 each.

### Study Areas:

Modules covered	Extra Information	Assessment
<b>Module 1 – Development of practical skills in biology</b>	<b>Module 1:</b> Development of practical skills – this module underpins the whole of the specification, and covers the practical skills that students should develop throughout the course. The practical skills in this module can be assessed within written examinations and (for A Level only) within the Practical Endorsement. <b>Module 2:</b> Foundations in biology – covering concepts required throughout the remaining modules. <b>Modules 3 and 4:</b> AS topics. <b>Modules 5 and 6:</b> A Level topics	<b>At AS Level:</b> AS Papers 1 and 2 can assess any content from Modules 1 to 4. This is a 'stand alone' qualification.  <b>At A Level:</b> A Level Paper 1 assesses the content from Modules 1, 2, 3 and 5 A Level Paper 2 assesses the content from Modules 1, 2, 4 and 6 A Level Paper 3 assesses the content from Modules 1 to 6.
<b>Module 2 – Foundations in biology</b>		
<b>Module 3 – Exchange and transport</b>		
<b>Module 4 – Biodiversity, evolution and disease</b>		
<b>Module 5 – Communications, homeostasis and energy</b>		
<b>Module 6 – Genetics, evolution and ecosystems</b>		

### Future progressions from this course:

Gaining a qualification in Biology at this level can lead into Higher Education in areas such as, Biological Sciences, Medicine, Pharmacology, Dentistry, Veterinary, Dietetics, Nursing, Forensics, Sports Science, Psychology, Teaching and more. Students of Biology have also progressed into other less related areas such as Business and Law.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

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## **BUSINESS EDEXCEL**

### **Course Outline:**

The duration of the course is either one year to gain an AS award or two years for the full A level qualification.

### **Skills:**

AS and A level specifications in Business encourages students to: develop an enthusiasm for studying business, gain a holistic understanding of business in a range of contexts, develop a critical understanding of organisations and their ability to meet society's needs and wants, understand that business behaviour can be studied from a range of perspectives, generate enterprising and creative approaches to business opportunities, be aware of the ethical dilemmas and responsibilities faced by organisations and individuals, acquire a range of relevant business and generic skills, including decision making, problem solving, critical analysis, apply numerical skills in a range of business contexts.

### **Entry Requirements:**

All students must have at least a grade 9-5 in GCSE maths and English.

### **Study Areas:**

<b>AS modules: 1st year of study</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
<b>Theme 1-</b> Marketing and People	Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes 80 marks in total 50% of AS
<b>Theme 2-</b> Managing Business Activity	Written exam: 1 hour 30 minutes 80 marks in total 50% of AS

<b>A2 modules: 2nd year of study</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
<b>Paper 1 : Marketing People and Global Business</b> Themes 1&4 assessed	Written exam: 2 hours 100 marks in total 35% of A-level
<b>Paper 2: Business activity and decision strategy</b> Themes 1&3 assessed	Written exam: 2 hours 100 marks in total 35% of A-level
<b>Paper 3: Investigating a business in a competitive environment</b> All themes	Written exam: 2 hours 100 marks in total 30% of A-level

### **Future progressions from this course:**

AS and A2 levels are recognised qualifications for a wide range of courses in Higher Education. Business Studies can also be a useful choice for a wide range of careers and can be combined with a wide range of subjects for example; accounting, economics, environment, international development, law, French or Spanish.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

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## CHEMISTRY OCR

### Course Outline:

The duration of the course is either one year to gain an AS award or two years for the full A level qualification.

### Skills:

There will be opportunities for students to attend external lectures, workshops and conferences, often provided by the examining board, for specific aspects of the course. There will also be ample opportunity to develop practical skills as practical investigations are an integral part of this AS/A level course.

### Entry Requirements:

All students will need to obtain a minimum of 7-6 in Science, a grade 9-6 in Maths and a grade 9-5 in English.

### Study Areas:

Modules covered	Extra Information	Assessment
<b>Module 1 – Development of practical skills in chemistry</b>	<p><b>Module 1:</b> Development of practical skills – this module underpins the whole of the specification, and covers the practical skills that students should develop throughout the course. The practical skills in this module can be assessed within written examinations and (for A Level only) within the Practical Endorsement.</p> <p><b>Module 2:</b> Foundations in chemistry covering concepts required throughout the remaining modules.</p> <p><b>Modules 3 and 4:</b> AS topics.</p> <p><b>Modules 5 and 6:</b> A Level topics.</p>	<p><b>At AS Level:</b> Papers 1 and 2 can assess any content from Modules 1 to 4.</p> <p><b>At A Level:</b>  Paper 1 assesses the content from Modules 1, 2, 3 and 5 Paper 2 assesses the content from Modules 1, 2, 4 and 6 Paper 3 assesses the content from Modules 1 to 6.</p>
<b>Module 2 – Foundations in chemistry</b>		
<b>Module 3 – Periodic table and energy</b>		
<b>Module 4 – Core organic chemistry</b>		
<b>Module 5 – Physical chemistry and transition elements</b>		
<b>Module 6 – Organic chemistry and analysis</b>		

### Future progressions from this course:

Gaining a qualification in Chemistry at this level can lead into Higher Education in areas such as Medicine, Pharmacology, Dentistry, Veterinary, Dietetics, Nursing, Forensics, Sports Science, Psychology, Teaching and more. Students of Chemistry have also progressed into other less related areas such as Business and Law.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

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## COMPUTER SCIENCE AQA

### Course Outline:

The Computer Science A Level has been developed for learners to succeed in the field of computing. The duration of the course is 1 year for an AS qualification and 2 years to gain an A Level qualification.

### Skills:

You must have a real interest and enthusiasm for Computing but equally important is the willingness to involve yourself in understanding the theory that underpins practical work.

### Entry Requirements:

A grade 9-6 in Maths and a grade 9-5 in English are essential. A 9-5 grade in GCSE Computer Science is essential if the subject has been studied.

### Study Areas:

Year 1 – AS modules	Assessment
<b>Paper 1 Content:</b> Fundamentals of programming and data structure Systematic approach to problem solving and theory of computation	<b>50% of AS level mark</b>  On screen 1 hour 45 minutes
<b>Paper 2 Content:</b> Fundamentals of data representation and computer systems Fundamentals of computer organisation and architecture Consequences of uses of computing Fundamentals of communication and networking	<b>50% of AS level mark</b>  Written exam 1 hour 30 minutes

Year 2 – A2 modules	Assessment
<b>Paper 1 Content:</b> Fundamentals of programming and data structure Fundamentals of algorithms Theory of computation	<b>40% of A level mark</b>  On screen 2 hour 30 minutes
<b>Paper 2 Content:</b> Fundamentals of data representation and computer systems Fundamentals of computer organisation and architecture Consequences of uses of computing Fundamentals of communication, networking and databases Big data and fundamentals of functional programming	<b>40% of A level mark</b>  Written exam 2 hour 30 minutes
<b>Paper 3:</b> Computational practical project	<b>20% of A Level</b> Non exam assessment

These units will be both internally and externally assessed.

### Future Progression from this course:

This course enables students to progress to university. The rapidly changing roles, job titles and career opportunities within the computing industry.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

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## DANCE AQA

### Course Outline:

The duration of the course is either one year to gain an AS award or two years for the full A level qualification.

### Skills:

Dance is a performance course so enthusiasm and commitment are vital qualities. Students must be prepared to practise outside lesson time and to work very closely with others on the course to meet the course requirements. An imaginative approach to choreography, alongside a love of dance and challenges is also essential.

### Entry Requirements:

A GCSE in dance (grade 9-5) is preferable although not essential. Students wishing to take dance who have not done GCSE or are heavily involved in dance performance outside school may be considered but must speak directly with the course leader.

### Study Areas:

AS modules: 1st year of study	Assessment
<b>Component 1:</b> Choreography & performance of a solo Performance in a duo/trio	50% of total AS level mark Practical exam 80 Marks
<b>Component 2:</b> Knowledge, understanding and critical appreciation of <b>two</b> areas of study: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>One compulsory</b> area of study</li> <li>• <b>One optional</b> area of study, from a choice of four</li> </ul> The reflection and understanding of own choreographic and performance practice.	50% of total AS level mark 2 hour written exam 80 Marks

A2 modules: 2nd year of study	Assessment
<b>Component:</b> Solo performance linked to a set practitioner Performance in a quartet Group Choreography	50% of total A-Level Practical exam 80 Marks
<b>Component 2:</b> Knowledge, understanding and critical appreciation of <b>two</b> set works. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>One compulsory</b> set work within the compulsory area of study</li> <li>• <b>One optional</b> set work within the corresponding area of study, from a choice of four.</li> </ul>	50% of total A level mark 2 hours 30 minutes written exam. 100 Marks

### Future progressions from this course:

It allows students to continue onto university to study dance/performing arts, art administration, dance therapy, teaching, community worker, performing and choreographing and many more.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

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## DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES EDEXCEL

### Course Outline:

The duration of the course is two years for the full A level qualification. **Students will not receive an AS level at the end of Year 12.**

### Skills:

It is not essential to have taken Drama GCSE. However, it is important that students are interested in gaining greater understanding of how theatre works. Students need to be enthusiastic about practical work and keen to be involved in performances. Students also have to be willing to give time up outside of school to see theatre performances and to prepare for performances in the presence of a paying audience.

### Text Book:

A student guide to A Level Drama and Theatre Studies Edexcel

### Entry Requirements:

A 9-5 in drama and/or a related arts subject is desirable.

### Study Areas:

Modules (studied over two years)	Assessment
<b>Component 1:</b> Devising a performance with supported written evidence.	40% of total A level mark – Internally assessed performance
<b>Component 2:</b> Text in performance-monologue/duologue and a scripted performance.	20% of total A level mark – Externally assessed with a visiting examiner
<b>Component 3:</b> Theatre Makers in Practise <i>Section A:</i> Live theatre evaluation <i>Section B:</i> Page to stage; performance text <i>Section C:</i> Interpreting a performance text	40% of total A level mark Written examination: 2 hours and 30 minutes

### Future progressions from this course:

Colleges, universities and employers alike, appreciate young people with a background in Drama. They offer creative thinking, advanced lateral thinking and problem-solving skills, developed emotional intelligence, a deepened empathic understanding, an enhanced ability to work with others, confidence, public speaking and performance experience.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

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## ECONOMICS EDEXCEL

### Course Outline:

The duration of the course is either one year to gain an AS award or two years for the full A level qualification.

### Skills:

Economics is about money: how people earn, spend and save it; how do businesses make money; why does the government take so much from us in taxes but never seem to have enough to spend on hospitals? Economics describes and analyses the situations above and provides answers to problems. It focuses on the world economy not just Britain, and looks at current problems facing governments, businesses and individuals.

It is important to be interested and aware of current affairs. We expect you to read a quality newspaper. The examination requires you to be competent at handling figures, statistics and also able to use and respond to economic data.

### Entry Requirements:

Students must have at least a grade 6 in GCSE maths and a grade 9-5 in English is also a minimum requirement.

### Study Areas:

AS & A2 Themes: 1st year of study	Assessment
<b>Theme 1</b> – Introduction to markets and market failure	50% of total AS level mark Written examination: 1.30hrs 80 marks in total
<b>Theme 2</b> – The UK economy- performance and policies	50% of total AS level mark Written examination: 1.30hrs 80 marks in total

A2 modules: 2nd year of study	Assessment
<b>Paper 1 : Markets and Business Behaviour</b> Themes 1&3 assessed	Written exam: 2 hours 100 marks in total 35% of A-level
<b>Paper 2: The National and Global Economy</b> Themes 2&4 assessed	Written exam: 2 hours 100 marks in total 35% of A-level
<b>Paper 3: Microeconomics and Macroeconomics</b> All themes	Written exam: 2 hours 100 marks in total 30% of A-level

### Future progressions from this course:

Economics fits well with maths, sciences, geography and language combinations. Many students take the subject further to degree level at university and then follow a career in accountancy, business, management, finance, law or even teaching.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers



# 6th form @ Swakeleys

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## ENGLISH LITERATURE EDEXCEL

### Course Outline:

The duration of the course is either one year to gain an AS award or two years for the full A level qualification.

### Skills:

It is essential to enjoy reading, as students study a number of texts in the first year including modern fiction, drama and poetry. In the second year, students will study texts from a wide range of classic and modern poetry, prose and drama, including Shakespeare. The ability to critically analyse texts, alongside an openness to a range of approaches and views, is very important. The course also requires candidates to explore literature through their own wider reading. There may also be the opportunity to attend theatre trips.

### Entry Requirements:

Students must achieve a grade 9-6 in either English Language or English Literature and a grade 9-5 in the other corresponding subject.

Component 1: Drama	Component 2: Prose
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Externally assessed</li> <li>• Availability: May/June</li> </ul> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; margin-left: 20px;">30% of the total qualification</div> <p><b>Overview of content</b></p> <p><i>Students study:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One Shakespeare play and one other drama from either tragedy or comedy – both texts may be selected from one or both of these categories.</li> <li>• Critical essays related to their selected Shakespeare play. Students' preparation is supported by Shakespeare: A Critical Anthology – Tragedy or Shakespeare: A Critical Anthology - Comedy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Overview of assessment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written examination, lasting 2 hours and 15 minutes.</li> <li>• Open book – clean copies of the drama texts can be taken into the examination. The Critical Anthology must not be taken into the examination.</li> <li>• Total of 60 marks available – 35 marks for Section A and 25 marks for Section B.</li> <li>• Two sections: students answer one question from a choice of two on their studied text for both Section A and B.</li> <li>• Section A – Shakespeare: one essay question, incorporating ideas from wider critical reading (AO1, AO2, AO3, AO5 assessed)</li> <li>• Section B – Other Drama: one essay question (AO1, AO2, AO3 assessed)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Externally assessed</li> <li>• Availability: May/June</li> <li>• First assessment: 2017</li> </ul> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; margin-left: 20px;">20% of the total qualification</div> <p><b>Overview of content</b></p> <p><i>Students study:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two prose texts from a chosen theme. At least one of the prose texts must be pre-1900.</li> </ul> <p><b>Overview of assessment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written examination, lasting 1 hour and 15 minutes.</li> <li>• Open book – clean copies of the prose texts can be taken into examination.</li> <li>• Total of 40 marks available.</li> <li>• Students answer one comparative essay question from a choice of two on their studied theme (AO1, AO2, AO3, AO4 assessed)</li> </ul>

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Component 3: Poetry	Coursework
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Externally assessed</li> <li>Availability: May/June</li> </ul> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;">30% of the total qualification</div> <p><b>Overview of content</b></p> <p><i>Students study:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Poetic form, meaning and language</li> <li>A selection of post-2000 specified poetry <i>and</i></li> <li>A specific range of poetry from: <i>either</i></li> <li>A literary period ( either pre- or post- 1900) <i>or</i></li> <li>A named poet from within a literary period.</li> </ul> <p><b>Overview of assessment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Written examination, lasting 2 hours and 15 minutes.</li> <li>Open book – clean copies of the poetry texts can be taken into the examination.</li> <li>Total of 60 marks available – 30 marks for section A and 30 marks for section B.</li> <li>Two sections: students answer one question from a choice of two on their studied movement/poet.</li> <li>Section A – Post-2000 specified poetry: one comparative essay question on an unseen modern poem written post-2000 and one names poem from the studied contemporary text (AO1,AO2,AO4 assessed)</li> <li>Section B – Specified poetry pre- or post-1900: one essay question (AO1,AO2,AO3 assessed)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internally assessed, externally moderated</li> <li>Availability: May/June</li> <li>First moderation: 2017</li> </ul> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;">20% of the total qualification</div> <p><b>Overview of content</b></p> <p><i>Students have a free choice of two texts to study.</i></p> <p><b>Chosen texts:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must be different from those studied in Components 1, 2 and 3</li> <li>Must be complete texts and may be linked by theme, movement, author or period.</li> <li>May be selected from poetry, drama, prose or literary non-fiction.</li> </ul> <p><b>Overview of assessment</b></p> <p><i>Students produce one assignment:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One extended comparative essay referring to two texts (AO1,AO2,AO3,AO4,AO5 assessed)</li> <li>Advisory total word count is 2500-3000 words.</li> <li>Total of 60 marks available.</li> </ul>

### Future progressions from this course:

The full A-level in English Literature offers a foundation for entry to degree courses in a variety of humanities and arts subjects. It is directly relevant to careers in media, education and publishing.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

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## ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE EDEXCEL

### Course Outline:

The duration of the course is either one year to gain an AS award or two years for the full A level qualification.

### Skills:

Study of this subject encourages you to extend your interests in both Language and Literature. Students have the chance to develop as confident and reflective readers and writers. In the two-year course you will study a number of literary texts and a wide variety of non-literary material which will often be linked thematically to the literature.

It is expected that, as well as reading, students have an enthusiasm for creative writing. The course may also include a theatre trip and attendance at literary events.

### Entry Requirements:

Students must achieve a grade 9-6 in either English Language or English Literature and a grade 9-5 in the other corresponding subject.

### Study Areas:

A Level modules: 1st year of study	Assessment
<b>Paper 1</b> — Voices in speech and writing	40% of total A level (50% of AS Level) Written examination 2hr 30 (AS – 1hr 30)
<b>Paper 2</b> – Varieties in Language and Literature	40% of total A level mark (50% of AS Level) 1 hr 30 Written examination 2hr 30

Coursework	Assessment
Investigating and creating texts.	Assignment 1 – Two pieces of creative writing  Assignment 2 – One Analytical Commentary.

### Future progressions from this course:

This is a good foundation for degree courses in linguistics, literature or a variety of arts and humanities courses. It is relevant for careers in communication, education and media and develops transferable skills of analysis and written communication.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

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## **EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION EDEXCEL**

### **Course Outline:**

This is a one year course, focused around completing an extended project, designed to 'stretch and challenge' students. It is worth half an A level and as such offers an A\* grade.

### **Skills:**

Students will have a significant input into the choice and design of their project. They will develop their own learning and performance as critical, reflective and independent learners. The project will require the use of higher order skills such as critical thinking, planning, analysis, synthesis, reflection and evaluation as well as effective project management.

### **Entry Requirements:**

This course has restricted entrance, students will be invited to participate.

### **Study Areas:**

<b>Contents</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
Select a project topic	20% Identify, design, plan and carry out a project
Develop a project proposal	20% Research, critically select, organise and use the information
Develop and realise the project	40% Select and use a range of skills
Present the outcome, including an evaluation of the project and own learning	20% Evaluate all aspects of the course

### **Future progressions from this course:**

Students will have developed a toolkit of useful skills that will enable them to prepare for independent learning in higher education or provide experience for project based work in employment.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

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## FILM STUDIES WJEC EDUQAS

### Course Outline:

The duration of the course is either one year to gain an AS award or two years for the full A level qualification.

### Skills:

Film Studies is designed to deepen students' understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of film, the major art form of the twentieth century. They will study a variety of films from a variety of production contexts and become experienced in a variety of viewing situations. They will also engage with a wide range of film genres, developing skills of observation, critical analysis and personal reflection, as well as developing their creativity and practical skills, either in audio-visual or written form.

### Entry Requirements:

Students with an interest in film and the media will perform better in this subject. A grade 9-4 in English GCSE is essential.

### Study Areas:

AS modules	Assessment
Component 1 – America film Section A: Hollywood since the 1930s Section B: Contemporary America independent film	35% of AS mark Written exam 1 ½ hours
Component 2 – European film Section A: British film Section B: Non-English language European film	35% of AS mark Written exam 1 ½ hr
Component 3 – Production Creative production (film extract or screenplay)	30% of AS mark Non-exam assessment

A level Modules	Assessment
Component 1 – Varieties of film and filmmaking Section A: Classic Hollywood Section B: American Film since 2005 Section C: British film since 1995	35% of A level mark Written exam 2 1/2 hours
Component 2 – Global filmmaking perspectives Section A: Global Film Section B: Documentary film Section C: Silent Cinema Section D: Experimental Film (1960-2000)	35% of A level mark Written exam 2 1/2 hours
Component 3 – Production Creative production (film extract or digital storyboard and screenplay)	30% of A level mark Non-exam assessment

### Future progressions from this course:

This AS or A2 could lead you on to study film studies, media arts, media or communication at degree level. It is also a good route to careers in any type of practical film/media studies. This course works well with English and Sociology/Psychology. Any career or course requiring communication skills would value this qualification.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

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## GEOGRAPHY EDEXCEL

### Course Outline:

The duration of the course is one year for the AS, and two years for the A level qualification.

Geography is a naturally diverse and dynamic subject, changing to meet the needs of modern day society. This syllabus is an exciting course allowing students the chance to investigate shifting global patterns and current world views for themselves. Geography at A level offers the chance for students to learn about the links between people and their place in the natural world, so equipping them with the knowledge and skills to make their own choices towards a sustainable future.

### Skills:

Geography encompasses a wide range of physical, human and environmental concepts. It is important for students to have a broad interest in these topics. The ability to work independently and collaboratively, both in class, and on home based research as well as in the field, is important. Good data handling skills are essential and students must be prepared to undertake both two days (for AS) and four days (for A2) residential field trips.

### Entry Requirements:

A GCSE in Geography (grade 9-5) is essential.

### Study Areas:

AS modules of study: Year 12	Assessment
Topic 1 – Tectonic processes & hazards Topic 2 – Landscape systems processes & change	Written examinations: 1 hour and 45 minutes 50% of the qualification 90 marks
Topic 3 – Globalisation Topic 4 – Shaping places	Written examination: 1 hour and 45 minutes 50% of the qualification 90 marks

A2 modules of study: Year 13	Assessment
Topic 1 – Tectonic processes & hazards Topic 2 – Landscape systems processes & change Topic 5 – The water cycle and water insecurity Topic 6 – The carbon cycle and energy insecurity	Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes 30% of the qualification 105 marks Independent Investigation Coursework: 20% of the qualification
Topic 3 – Globalisation Topic 4 – Shaping places Topic 7 – Superpowers Topic 8 – Global development and connections	Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes 30% of the qualification 105 marks Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes 20% of the qualification 70 marks

### Future progressions from this course:

Geography is useful for careers in environmental science, political sciences, economics, politics, town planning, meteorology and population studies.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

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## **GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS EDEXCEL**

### **Course Outline:**

The duration of the course is either one year to gain an AS award or two years for the full A level qualification.

Government and Politics will enable students to develop a wide range of skills including the ability to comprehend, synthesise and interpret political information; analyse and evaluate political knowledge; identify connections, similarities and differences between the areas studied; select relevant material and construct and communicate arguments clearly and coherently using appropriate political vocabulary.

### **Skills:**

If you are interested in the news and keeping abreast of current affairs then this course is for you, an interest in (and commitment to) keeping up-to-date with the news is essential.

### **Entry Requirements:**

A grade 9-5 in English is essential and the study of history at GCSE is recommended. An interest in general political affairs is essential.

### **Study Areas:**

<b>AS modules: 1st year of study</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
Unit 1 – People and Politics	50% of AS (33.3% of A2) 1 hour & 20 minutes written examination
Unit 2 – Governing the UK	50% of AS 33.3% of A2) 1 hour & 20 minutes written examination

<b>A level: 2nd year of study</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
For Unit 1 & 2 we study the AS course with ideologies – Conservatism, Socialism, Liberalism & Feminism. Unit 3 – US Government and Politics.	Each is worth 33.3% of the course  33.3% of A2 1 ½ hour written examination

### **Future progressions from this course:**

A qualification in Government and Politics can lead to Higher Education in areas such as Politics, History, Law, Journalism and Teaching. It is widely accepted for most university courses and employers.

For AS 'Edexcel GCE Politics' by Dr David Goodland & DR Andrew Mitchell.

For A2 'US Government & Politics for A-Level' by A.J. Bennett

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## HISTORY EDEXCEL

### Course Outline:

The duration of the course is either one year to gain an AS award or two years for the full A level qualification.

### Skills:

History covers a wide range of concepts in a variety of countries. It is important for students to have a range of interests in historical events. Good research skills are crucial, alongside the ability to construct well researched essays.

### Entry Requirements:

A 9-5 grade in History is essential: if the subject has been studied; a grade 9-5 in English is required.

### Study Areas:

AS modules: 1st year of study	Assessment
Unit 1 – Germany and West Germany 1918 – 89	60% of AS qualification Written examination at the end of year 12 2hr 15
Unit 2 – The rise and fall of fascism in Italy 1911- 46	40% of AS qualification Written examination at the end of year 12 1hr 30

A level modules: 2nd year of study	Assessment
Unit 1 – Germany and West Germany 1918 – 89	30% of A level qualification Written examination at the end of year 13 2hr 15
Unit 2 – The rise and fall of fascism in Italy 1911- 46	20% of A level qualification Written examination at the end of year 13 1hr 30
Unit 3 – The British Experience of Warfare 1790 - 1918	30% of A2 qualification Written examination at the end of year 13 2hr 15
Unit 4 – Coursework on the causes of World War One	20% of A2 qualification Coursework

### Future progressions from this course:

History is a much respected A level and is widely accepted for most university courses and sought by employers. It can lead to many different careers in journalism, education, law, management and politics.

The main textbooks for year 12 are provided by the department. A2 is 'Paper 3: Ireland and the Union c1774-1923' by Adam Kidson.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers



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## MATHEMATICS and FURTHER MATHEMATICS

### MATHEMATICS

#### Course Outline:

The assessment of this course is via 3, 2 hours papers, each worth 100 marks. The papers are evenly weighted to award the final grade. All students will study pure, statistics and mechanics. (Note: This is a change for the new A level. Previously a choice could be made between mechanics and statistics.)

#### Skills:

It is essential to have covered the grades 9-7 content GCSE level, particularly in topics such as Algebra and Trigonometry, since students will need to build upon this knowledge and take it to a much higher level.

#### Entry Requirements:

Grade 7 in maths GCSE (in certain circumstances a grade 6 and a recommendation from the Head of Maths may be sufficient to be eligible for the course). We also require all students to pass an algebra entrance examination based on algebra content from the GCSE course.

Specification at a Glance
<b>Pure</b> Algebra and functions; coordinate geometry; sequences and series; differentiation; integration; exponential and logarithmic functions; trigonometry; numerical methods
<b>Mechanics</b> Vectors; kinematics; Newton's Laws of Motion; forces; moments
<b>Statistics</b> Mathematical models in probability and statistics; representation and summary of data; probability; statistical distributions; hypothesis testing  A pre-released data set will be provided by the exam board for students to analyse. The data set will have examination questions based on this so time will be spent in lessons familiarising students with it.

The A level will be assessed using the following objectives:

- Using and applying standard techniques 50%
- Reason, interpret and communicate mathematically 25%
- Problem solving 25%

The use of suitable technology is to be encouraged. This includes graph plotting packages as well as tools to represent and interpret large data sets.

A calculator is required for all assessments in this specification. The calculator must have the ability to compute summary statistics and have an iterative function.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

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## **MATHEMATICS (CONTINUED)**

### **Further progression from this course:**

Mathematics is a world of pattern and order, where you take what you know and apply it to solve new problems, developing higher order thinking skills. It opens the door into many careers and has been proven to increase earning potential in the future. Mathematics is a facilitating subject that is desirable for many subjects at a degree level. Mathematics A level is regarded as an entry requirement qualification to Scientific, Engineering, Information Technology, Architecture, Accountancy and many other degree subjects and careers.

There are 2 textbooks for this course all costing around £30.00.  
It is necessary to purchase a statistical calculator costing around £20.00 from the school.

## **FURTHER MATHEMATICS**

This qualification is very useful, particularly to those wishing to go on to degree courses in Mathematics or Engineering. For many Maths degree courses, Further Mathematics to A level is now an entry requirement. You are strongly advised to check entry requirements for mathematics degree courses, particularly if you already have a university in mind.

This course further develops pure mathematics skills including complex numbers, matrices polar co-ordinates and hyperbolic functions. It also takes a more in depth look at mechanics and statistics.

### **Entry Requirements:**

You must do this alongside AS/A2 level Mathematics.  
Grade 8 or 9 in maths GCSE.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

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## MEDIA STUDIES

### WJEC EDUQAS

#### Course Outline:

The duration of the course is either one year to gain an AS award or two years for the full A level qualification.

#### Skills:

This exciting course offers the opportunity to study a range of areas within the media industry. It is an extremely contemporary subject and allows students to combine practical production elements with the theoretical study of a wide range of media topics. The nature of this course provides an opportunity for individual interpretation of current media within the assessment parameters, thus permitting a dynamic and accessible course of study covering this rapidly growing subject area.

#### Entry Requirements:

Students with an interest in the media and innovative ideas will succeed on this course. A grade 9-4 in English GCSE is essential.

#### Study Areas:

AS modules: 1 <sup>st</sup> year of study	Assessment
<b>Component 1</b> – Investigation the Media <b>Section A:</b> Investigating Media Language and Representation <b>Section B:</b> Investigating Media Industries and Audiences	35% of total AS mark Written exam 1 hour 45 minutes
<b>Component 2</b> – Investigating Media Forms and Products <b>Section A:</b> Television <b>Section B:</b> Magazine <b>Section C:</b> Online Media	35% of total AS mark Written exam 2 hours
<b>Component 3</b> – Production Creative production (individual media product created in response to brief by exam board)	30% of AS mark Non-exam assessment

A2 modules: 2 <sup>nd</sup> year of study	Assessment
<b>Component 1</b> – Media Products, Industries and Audiences <b>Section A:</b> Analysing Media Language and Representation <b>Section B:</b> Understanding Media Industries and Audiences	35% of total A level mark Written exam 2 hours 15 minutes

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<b>Component 2</b> – Media Forms and Products in Depth <b>Section A:</b> Television in the Global Age <b>Section B:</b> Magazines, Mainstream and Alternative Media <b>Section C:</b> Media in the Online Age	35% of total A level mark Written exam 2 hours 30 minutes
<b>Component 3</b> – Production Creative production (individual cross media product created in response to brief by exam board)	30% of A Level mark Non-exam assessment

## **Future progressions from this course:**

A good route to careers in any type of media, including journalism and television. Any career or course requiring communication skills would value this qualification. This AS or A2 could lead you on to study Media or Communication at degree level. This course works well with English and sociology/psychology.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

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## MODERN LANGUAGES: FRENCH & GERMAN AQA

### Course Outline:

The duration of the course is either one year to gain an AS award or two years for the full A level qualification.

Under exceptional circumstances it may be possible to do a full A level in one year (e.g. if you have lived in the country).

### Skills:

Students will need to feel confident in the four language skills: reading, listening, writing and speaking. Knowledge and understanding of the culture and way of life in the target language country is also important, alongside an interest in developing and understanding this in much greater detail.

### Entry Requirements:

All students will need to obtain a 9-6 grade at GCSE in their chosen language in order to continue with this subject at Sixth Form level, or have the language as part of their culture.

### Study Areas:

AS: Stand-alone qualification	Assessment
Listening/reading/writing	Listening, reading, translation into English 1 hour 45 minutes – 45% AS
Writing	Translation into French/German, guided essay on film 1 hour 30 minutes – 25% AS
Speaking	Discussion of 2 sub-themes based on a stimulus card 12-14 minutes – 30% AS

A Level	Assessment
Listening/reading/writing	Listening, reading, translation into English and translation into French/German 2 hours 30 minutes – 50% A Level
Writing	Essay on film and essay on a novel 2 hours – 20% A Level
Speaking	Discussion of a sub-theme based on a stimulus card, presentation and discussion of individual research projects 21-23 minutes – 30% A Level

**Books:** Students will need to purchase the AQA textbook (£25) and a copy of the novel to be studied (cost varies – approx £7). It is also advisable to purchase the study guides which accompany the film and the novel (£12 each)

### Future progressions from this course:

A range of opportunities arise from studying this A level. Some students choose to do degree courses in languages, others pursue a higher education course in another subject, and may have a language option with it. It greatly improves your employability, especially in companies with international markets.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

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## **PHOTOGRAPHY AQA**

### **Course Outline:**

The duration of the course is either one year to gain an AS award or two years for the full A level qualification.

Students will be introduced to a variety of experiences exploring a range of photographic media, techniques and processes. They will explore relevant images, artifacts and resources relating to Photography and a wider range of digital media and art. This will be integral to the investigating and making process. The responses to these examples will be shown through practical and critical activities, which demonstrate the understanding of different styles, genres and traditions.

Students will become aware of the four assessment objectives to be demonstrated in the context of the content and skills presented and of the importance of process as well as product. They will use sketchbooks/workbooks/journals to underpin the work where appropriate. Students will use digital techniques to produce images.

### **Entry Requirements:**

It is desirable, but not essential that students have studied Art at GCSE level and gained a grade 5 or higher.

### **Study Areas:**

<b>AS modules: 1st year of study</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
<b>Unit 1</b> - Photography Portfolio	60% of AS level mark
<b>Unit 2</b> - Photography Externally Set Assignment	40% of Total As level mark 10 hour timed examination

<b>A2 modules: 1st year of study</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
<b>Unit 3</b> - Personal Investigation	60% of A level mark
<b>Unit 4</b> - Photographic Externally Set Assignment	40% of Total A level mark 15 hour timed examination

### **Future progressions from this course:**

The course can lead into an Arts foundation course, leading into a degree in Photography, lens based media courses etc. Careers include the media industries, design, education, galleries and fashion design.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

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## PHYSICS AQA

### Course Outline:

The duration of the course is either one year to gain an AS award or two years for the full A level qualification.

### Skills:

The ability to grasp theoretical concepts is crucial, alongside an interest in designing and conducting practical experiments. Data handling skills and a sound level of mathematical competency is also key.

### Entry Requirements:

All students will need to obtain a minimum of 7-6 in Science, a grade 9-6 in Maths and a grade 9-5 in English.

### Study Areas:

This course is under review but topics that will be included are detailed below

AS modules: 1st year of study	Extra Information	Assessment
<b>Module 1</b> <b>Measurement &amp; their errors</b>	Module 1  Development of practical skills and data analysis. This module underpins the whole specification and covers the practical skills students should develop throughout the course. These practical skills can be assessed within written examinations and at A level within the practical endorsement.  Modules 2-5 are AS Topics  Modules 6-8 are A Level topics	At AS level:  Paper 1 & 2 can assess any content from modules 1-5  This is a standalone qualification
<b>Module 2</b> <b>Particles and radiation</b>		
<b>Module 3</b> <b>Waves</b>		
<b>Module 4</b> <b>Mechanics &amp; materials</b>		
<b>Module 5</b> <b>Electricity</b>		

A2 modules: 2nd year of study	Extra Information	Assessment
<b>Module 6</b> <b>Further mechanics &amp; thermal physics</b>	Options at A level  One of the following:  Astrophysics Medical Physics Turning points in Physics Engineering Physics Electronics	At A Level: Paper 1 assesses content from modules 1 – 6.1 (periodic motion)  Paper 2 assesses content from modules 6.2-8 and assumed knowledge from module 1-6.1  Paper 3 Practical skills and data analysis and Optional topic.
<b>Module 7</b> <b>Fields &amp; their consequences</b>		
<b>Module 8</b> <b>Nuclear Physics</b>		

### Future progressions from this course:

The course is a sound preparation for degree level courses in Physics and related science, engineering and medicine as well as chemical engineering and related programmes. A level Physics is a recognised entry qualification for a wide range of Higher Education courses. AS and A level Physics are also recognised as suitable qualifications for a wide range of employment in the science sector.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

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## PSYCHOLOGY AQA

### Course Outline:

The duration of the course is either one year to gain an AS award or two years for the full A level qualification.

### Skills:

Psychology is a fascinating and exciting subject which focuses on understanding and explaining human behaviour in a scientific way. As well as developing knowledge about the main areas of the subject, students of psychology will acquire valuable skills in critical thinking, analysis, evaluation and communication. Do you often wonder why people do the things they do? Are you interested in finding out about how people think and how our past can influence decisions we make now? If so, this course is for you.

### Entry Requirements:

As well as an interest in the subject, it is essential to have grade 9-5 in maths, 9-5 in English and at least a grade 5-4 in science as it requires an understanding of basic statistics, learning scientific terminology and research and the skills involved in evaluation, analysis and essay writing skills.

### Study Areas:

AS Specification	Assessment
<b>Unit 1</b> - Introductory Topics in Psychology: Social Influence, Memory, Attachment.	50% of total AS Level mark. 1 hour 30 minutes written Examination
<b>Unit 2</b> - Psychology in context: Psychopathology, Approaches with Biopsychology, Research Methods.	50% of total AS Level mark. 1 hour 30 minutes written Examination

A Level Specification	Assessment
Unit 1 - Introductory Topics in Psychology: Social Influence, Memory, Attachment & Psychopathology.	33.3% of total A2 Level mark. 2 hour written examination
Unit 2 - Psychology in context: Approaches, Biopsychology, Research Methods.	33.3% of total A2 Level mark. 2 hour written examination
Unit 3 – Issues and Options in Psychology: Issues and Debates, Relationships, Schizophrenia, Eating Disorders, Aggression and Addiction.	33.3% of total A2 Level mark. 2 hour written examination

### Future progressions from this course:

Students taking Psychology at A level often go on to study the subject or a related subject at university. Knowledge of this field would be useful in careers such as social work, law, nursing, media, forensics, physiotherapy, etc. The subject can be combined equally well with science, humanities or arts subjects to provide a balanced A level profile. Books for the course will cost AS £22.53, A2 £26.49.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers



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## RELIGIOUS STUDIES: (PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS)

### AQA

#### Course Outline:

The duration of the course is either one year to gain an AS award or two years for the full A level qualification.

#### Skills:

Whilst it is not essential to have studied GCSE RE, it is essential that you enjoy the subject. Philosophy asks us to analyse our existence and as such explores the nature and existence of God, religious experience and religious language. Ethics examines how we should behave in certain situations and right and wrong actions. The religion element of the course explores the beliefs and practices of Christianity. You will have to learn different theories be able to apply them to various situations and evaluate their relevance.

#### Entry Requirements:

A grade 9-5 in English is essential and a GCSE in RE (grade 9-5) is preferable although not essential.

#### Study Areas:

AS modules: 1st year of study	Assessment
<b>Paper 1</b> — Philosophy of Religion and religious ethics	67% of AS mark Written examination 2hr
<b>Paper 2</b> – Study of religion	33% of AS mark Written examination 1hr

A2 modules: 2nd year of study	Assessment
<b>Paper 1</b> – Philosophy of Religion and religious ethics	50% of A level mark Written examination 3 hr
<b>Paper 2</b> – Study of religion and religious dialogues	50% of total A level mark Written examination 3 hr

#### Future progressions from this course:

This course will allow you the opportunity to develop your skills in analysing philosophical and ethical values, beliefs and ideas. It will also enable you to further your own perspective on ultimate issues concerning life and the world. It is a recognised qualification for entrance to university and can lead to a number of varied career paths, including: banking, media, journalism, law, teaching, social work, and more.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

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## **SOCIOLOGY AQA**

### **Course Outline:**

The duration of the course is either one year to gain an AS award or two years for the full A level qualification.

### **Skills:**

Sociology is the study of society and human behaviour. Sociologists construct theories (general explanations) of social patterns based on research and evidence. Each topic covered involves consideration of the common themes of gender, ethnicity, age and class. Lessons involve discussion, debates and research. Students should have an interest in social processes and be able to write essays. You do need to be competent at reading lengthy texts and be prepared to keep up to date with national and world events. By the end of the first term students should be able to compare and contrast different theoretical perspectives such as Functionalists and Post Modernists.

### **Entry Requirements:**

A grade 9-5 in English is essential. Students with GCSE Sociology should have at least a grade 5, but GCSE sociology is not essential to take the subject at A level.

### **Study Areas:**

<b>AS modules: 1st year of study</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
<b>Unit 1</b> – Education with Methods in context.	50% of total AS level mark Written examination 1 hour 30 minutes
<b>Unit 2</b> – Research Methods and Families and Households.	50% of total AS level mark Written examination 1 hour 30 minutes

<b>A Level Specification</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
Unit 1- Education with Theory and Methods.	33.3% of total A2 Level mark. 2 hour written examination
Unit 2- Topics in Sociology: Families and Households and Beliefs in society.	33.3% of total A2 Level mark. 2 hour written examination
Unit 3 – Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods.	33.3% of total A2 Level mark. 2 hour written examination

### **Future progressions from this course:**

Sociology can combine with all the humanities and it makes an excellent combination with subjects such as History, Psychology and Economics. Students who take Sociology A level often go on to study the subject or a related subject at degree level at university. Knowledge of the subject is useful for entry into all the caring occupations and related fields such as law, media, personnel work, and more.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

## **BTEC LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA IN CHILDREN'S PLAY, LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT EDEXCEL**

### **Course Outline:**

**This is a level 3 course which can be selected as a single or a double.**

Level 3 single (Extended Certificate): 2 coursework units including 2 externally set exams - equivalent to 1 A Level.

Level 3 double (Diploma): 10 units including an externally set exam - equivalent to 2 A Levels.

The course has been created to enable students to develop skills, knowledge and understanding of the childcare industry.

Areas of study could include topics such as:

- Supporting Children's Speech, Communication and Language
- Development of Children's Communication, literacy and Numeracy Skills Play in Early Years Settings
- Play and Learning
- Meeting Children's Physical Development, Physical Care and Health Needs
- Health and Safety Practice in Early Years Settings
- Collaboration with Parents, Colleagues and Other Professionals in Early Years
- Keeping Children Safe
- Child Development (externally set exam)
- The Early Years Foundation Stage

### **Skills:**

An interest in learning how to gain a broad understanding and knowledge of the early years and to develop essential skills (in the Edexcel BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Children's Play, Learning and Development), such as observation, assessment skills and reflective practice skills prized by employers and higher education institutions.

### **Entry Requirements:**

It is desirable for students to have 4 GCSEs at 9-4.

### **Assessment:**

Work is assessed on a pass, merit, distinction, distinction\* grading. The **BTEC Extended Certificate** is the equivalent to 1 A level and will be delivered over two years; students must complete 4 units for this; 2 exams and 2 pieces of coursework. The **BTEC Diploma** is the equivalent to 2 A levels and will be delivered over two years; students must complete 10 units. 4 of these include the same units as the single course.

Unit 1 and 2 are externally assessed exams and all other units are internally assessed through coursework.

The course requires learners to undertake a minimum of 50 hours and a maximum of 750 hours of work placement in an Early Years setting to ensure they develop their practical skills and have experience of working with children. Books required Btec National; 'Childrens Play Learning and Development' Cost is circa £28.00.

### **Future progressions from this course:**

Learners who successfully complete the BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Children's Play, Learning and Development (Early Years Educator) (VRQ) will be able to practise as early years educators. The course also provides opportunities for learners to progress to either academic or more specialised vocational pathways such as the Extended Diploma in Children's Play Learning and Development.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

## **BTEC LEVEL 3 DIPLOMA IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE EDEXCEL**

### **Course Outline:**

**This is a level 3 course which is selected as a single or double option.**

Btec Level 3 National Diploma (Double) – 8 units to complete over 2 years = 2 A Levels

Btec Level 3 National Extended Certificate (Single) – 4 units to complete over 2 years = 1 A Level

The course has been created to enable students to develop skills, knowledge and understanding of the health and social care sector.

Areas of study include topics such as:

- Human life span development (**exam**)
- Working in Health & Social Care (**exam**)
- Enquiries into current research (**exam**)
- Meeting Individual Care and Support
- Work Experience in Health & Social Care
- Principles of Safe Practice in Health & Social Care
- Promoting Public Health
- Sociological perspectives in Health & Social Care

### **Skills:**

An interest in learning how to care for a range of different ages is important, alongside an interest in gaining practical skills which enable you to help people. You may want to complete your work experience in a health care setting which involves either voluntary work, a nursery, a school with special needs or a residential home.

### **Entry Requirements:**

It is desirable for students to have 4 GCSEs at grade 9-4.

### **Assessment:**

Work is assessed on a pass, merit, distinction, distinction\* grading. The **National diploma** is the equivalent to 2 A levels and will be delivered over two years; students must complete 8 units over 2 years; 6 are mandatory and 2 are optional. 3 of these 8 units are external exam elements. The **National Extended Certificate** is the equivalent to 1 A level and will be delivered over two years; 4 units to be completed over 2 years; 3 are mandatory and 2 are optional. 2 units are external exam elements.

### **Future progressions from this course:**

A level 3 course enables the student to progress onto university. The course could also lead in to employment within the health and social care sectors due to already gaining work experience in health and social care environments.

All offers on courses will be subject to necessary student numbers

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## **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY**

### **ENRICHMENT AND LEADERSHIP**

In addition to the subjects studied by all students, an important part of being a Sixth Form student is to take part in enrichment activities.

Participating in enrichment opportunities enables students to develop skills beyond the classroom: skills which would make them stand above the crowd to either an employer or to the universities they apply to.

All students are encouraged to complete some of the following activities.

- Enrol in a university outreach scheme
- Attend public lectures held at universities
- Sign up for and attend university open days
- Complete a short period of work experience
- Help at a KS3 or 4 Club
- Support the school production
- Provide maths support
- Provide English support
- Provide bilingual support
- Office administration
- Mentoring
- Debating/Running a Society
- Taking part in First Aid training
- Fund raising for a charity
- General lesson support
- Taking part in the Student Council
- Sports coaching
- Completing the Duke of Edinburgh Award

### **Leadership Opportunities**

At 6<sup>th</sup> Form@Swakeleys there are lots of other opportunities to take on leadership roles. Here are a few of the opportunities we offer:

- Prefects
- Head Prefects
- Deputy Head Prefects
- School Council Chair
- School Council Vice-Chair
- Secretary in School Council