



Hethersett Old Hall School



Sixth Form Information 2017-19

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Welcome to the Sixth Form

Our sixth form offers you a friendly, supportive and challenging environment in which you will be able to really do well in the subjects you choose.

Academic life

When you start out in the lower sixth, you will enjoy a special partnership with your teachers; working relationships are relaxed and friendly. We know your potential and how to develop effectively your innate skills and talents. With small teaching groups, we are able to tailor our courses and our teaching style to match your needs as a learner. If you are joining us from elsewhere, we will quickly get to know you and help you to settle in. We are a very friendly community.



Grow and develop as a person

As well as your academic work, there are many opportunities for you to develop and grow as a person. The possibility of achieving the gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award, learning skills to support living away from home during the sixth form enrichment project, and working with fellow students organising school events, all provide enjoyable and challenging experiences that also help prepare you for the world beyond school.

In short, we have high expectations of you and we encourage you to develop:

- A sense of purpose and direction, especially regarding the next stage of your education
- A commitment to your academic studies
- A desire to participate fully in the extra-curricular life of the school
- Self-discipline and the maturity to organise yourself within the more relaxed guidelines of the Sixth Form
- The willingness to give generously of your time and energy to enrich both the school community and the wider community
- Maturity, self-confidence and an enthusiasm for life-long learning based on the excellent foundation of your education at Hethersett Old Hall School.

This handbook gives an insight into the opportunities which are available to you in our sixth form. We look forward to welcoming you in September 2017.

Careers and Higher Education

Those of you who know what you want to be and have already mapped out the years following school are fortunate - and in a minority. For most, the way ahead may look daunting! Even if you have no idea of what you want to do in the future, by the time you are in the lower sixth you will have already made two important decisions which will affect the range of careers open to you:

- your choice of GCSEs,
- your choice of A Levels and other courses (certain careers or university courses require particular combinations of subjects).



Throughout your time in the sixth form you will benefit from personal counselling from sixth form tutors with an up-to-date, working knowledge of how to apply to universities here and abroad, enriched by visiting speakers, study days and university visits that will all help to guide your choice of course, institution or career.

Our sixth form PHSE programme, co-ordinated by your tutor, will help you identify your own personal goals by giving you balanced information, guidance towards self-knowledge, support with study skills and encouragement to make the most of your own abilities. The actual choices and decisions will be your own but support is offered every step of the way.

When applying for university or for a job, an interview is often the deciding factor. We will coach you in interview technique and mock interviews will be arranged for you. Some students find interviews a very daunting experience, but past students all emphasise how the preparation they received at HOHS gave them confidence to succeed in the real thing.

At every stage of your decision-making, you will be reassured by the individual attention you receive from the staff at HOHS.

“Year on year our girls gain places at their first choice courses at home and abroad, with recent choices including law, architecture, English, veterinary science, geography, oceanography and fashion management.”

The Sixth Form curriculum

Recent government changes have reformed A Levels into two-year courses assessed at the end of the second year.

Most pupils at HOHS choose three subjects to study for A Level. In addition, we recommend that you complete the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) to further enrich your sixth form experience and enhance your university applications.



Subjects available for 2017-19 *

Art	MFL – French or Spanish
Biology	Music
Business	Photography
Chemistry	Physical education
Drama and theatre studies	Physics
English literature	Psychology
Geography	Religious studies & philosophy and ethics
History	Textiles
Health and social care	Travel and tourism
Mathematics	

Other qualifications and Sixth Form activities

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award - gold level

The Enrichment Project

Sports Leaders' Award / Level 3 Certificate in Higher Sports Leadership

Working with younger pupils in the Preparatory School

Working with younger pupils in the swimming pool

* Please note that not all subjects run every year. Pupil choices will decide the actual pattern of courses and combinations in any one year.

Art

Study option

Exam board

Specification code

A Level two-year course

AQA

7202

Why choose art?

We have a strong track record of success in art and excellent facilities including dedicated art, textiles and photography studios and a dark room.

Art is a visual language and the aim of this course is to encourage personal expression, imagination, conceptual thinking and observation through the study of artists and cultures and the development of practical skills. The emphasis is on individual creative work and personal investigation which engender a sense of adventure, confidence and achievement.



Where can it lead?

If you want to make a career in this field, your next step is likely to be to art school for foundation studies and then a specialist degree course. Possible careers include architecture, art history, broadcasting, fashion and textile design, fine art, graphic design/animation, illustration, interior and public space design, museum and gallery organisation, teaching and theatre design. A Level art is also welcomed for other disciplines in combination with your other chosen A Level subjects.

What and how will I study?

- Painting and drawing
- Printmaking - screen printing, relief printing, monoprinting, collgraph, drypoint and etching
- Sculpture – clay, assemblage, wire, plaster, papier mache, casting, card and combined materials
- Alternative media - collage, montage and fibre arts
- Lens-based media – photographs, photocopying, digital, computer-generated art
- Mixed media – combinations of the above.



How will I be assessed?

Assessment of your work is through a mix of portfolio and externally set assignment:

Level	Name	Duration	Weighting
A Level	Personal investigation	Continuous	60%
A Level	Externally set assignment	15 hours plus preparatory period	40%

Personal Investigation

You are required to conduct a practical investigation into an idea, issue, concept or theme, supported by written material. The focus of the investigation must be identified independently by you and must lead to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes.

The investigation should be a coherent, in-depth study that demonstrates your ability to construct and develop a sustained line of reasoning from an initial starting point to a final realisation.

The investigation must be informed by an aspect of contemporary or past practice of artists, photographers, designers or craftspeople.

Externally set assignment

You will produce **personal work** in response to one of eight exciting starting points and the supervised time is **15 hours**.

Are there any specific entry requirements?

You do not need to have taken art at GCSE; to study art to A Level all you need is enthusiasm and commitment.

Biology

Study option

A Level two-year course

Exam board

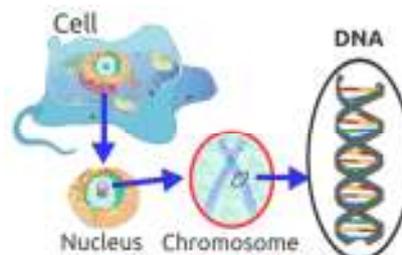
AQA

Specification code

7402

Why choose biology?

Studying biology will provide a unique appreciation of the world around you. Although a complex subject, here at HOHS small groups are taken at their own pace through modules covering structures of the human body, genetics, adaptation, disease and plant science. The course draws links with other sciences like chemistry but also complements a range of other subjects including the arts, where nature often rivals the best designers.



Studying biology at A Level is challenging. It is really important that you work steadily throughout the year, complete all assignments set and heed the advice you get as feedback from your teacher. However, you will enjoy the lessons (ask previous pupils). The atmosphere is relaxed yet purposeful, and you will grow in confidence as you acquire new skills. The emphasis is very much on a teacher/pupil partnership. We look forward to working with you.

Where can it lead?

Currently science is at the forefront of the media's attention and, whilst biology is a requirement of a number of university degrees including those related to medicine, agriculture and animals science, it will support a number of other less science-focused careers.

What and how will I study?

You will cover a variety of interesting and challenging topics within your units, as follows:

The first year of A Level:

1. Biological molecules
2. Cells
3. Organisms exchange substances with their environment
4. Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms

The second year of A Level:

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 I be assessed?

Assessment is by three two-hour examinations. The kind of questions and weighting of marks varies from paper to paper and they include short- and long-answer questions, extended response, essay, comprehension and structured questions, including practical techniques.

Are there any specific entry requirements?

It is preferable that you have achieved at least a B in GCSE science and C in mathematics in order to study biology at A Level.

Business studies

Study option

A Level two-year course

Exam board

Edexcel

Specification code

9BS0

Why choose business?

Are you fascinated by 'The Apprentice' and 'Dragon's Den'? Have you seen how firms like Blockbuster Video, Comet and HMV were unable to adapt to the changing global business world, while LoveFilm, Apple and Aldi have flourished? Business is front page news and is a dynamic subject that will engage you with the world of work and the world around you. You will learn to critically appreciate business behaviour and understand how a business operates and what can influence its success. This subject combines well with all other subjects due to its relevance to so many careers and everyday life.

Where can it lead?

As many higher education courses relate to the business world, it is no surprise that many A Level business pupils continue to take business-related courses at university. If you wish to pursue a specialist career in any aspect of business - finance, marketing, customer relations or business strategies, for example - you will find this course provides a valuable foundation. Equally, if you have an interest in how businesses actually work or want to go on to study business, management, finance, accounting, marketing or economics individually or in combination at degree level, this is an ideal subject to choose for A Level.



Many pupils use A Level business as a stepping stone into another field, perhaps a totally unrelated course like physical education or the arts. These students have chosen A Level business studies because it provides an interesting and alternative subject to contrast with science and creative-based choices.

What and how will I study?

You will build knowledge of core business concepts and applications and be encouraged to use an enquiring, critical and thoughtful approach to the study of business, through the study of a range of themes, outlined on the next page. You will also be expected to read extensively around the subject using a variety of sources such as textbooks, newspapers, industry journal articles and case studies as well as following relevant posts on professional social media.

Theme 1: Marketing and people

Develop your understanding of meeting customer needs, the market, marketing mix and strategy, managing people, entrepreneurs and leaders.

Theme 2: Managing business activities

Learn about raising finance, financial planning and managing finance and resources and the external influenced affecting business finance.

Theme 3: Business decisions and strategies

Gain deeper knowledge of business objectives and strategy, business growth, decision-making, influences on business decisions and assessing competitiveness.

Theme 4: Global business

Develop an understanding of globalisation, global markets and business, expansion and multinational businesses.

How will I be assessed?

You will have three exams of two hours each. Paper 1 will assess marketing, people and global businesses. Questions will be drawn from themes 1 and 4. Paper 2 will assess business finance and operations, business decisions and strategy. Questions will be drawn from themes 2 and 3. Paper 3 will be pre-released research context and will assess content across all four themes.

Are there any specific entry requirements?

You do not need to have taken business GCSE to study this A Level; however, it is recommended that you have at least a Grade C in English and in mathematics.

Business (applied)

Study options

**Extended Certificate (equivalent to A Level)
Diploma (equivalent to 1.5 A Levels)**

Exam board

OCR

Specification code

05835

Why choose applied business?

This Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate provides you with an opportunity to develop an understanding of the business environment and to focus on specific aspects of a business through the application of concepts to real life examples. The course has up to date, engaging and exciting content.

It is a very well structured, practical course, which, allows for a variety of pathways to cater for your interests. The qualification will develop your knowledge of how businesses operate in the real world, an understanding of the business sector and build transferable skills for further and higher education. This qualification would also complement any other A Levels you might be interested in such as PE, psychology and health and social care.



Where can it lead?

Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate will prepare you for a career in business and business related fields. It could lead to other vocational or academic courses in marketing or accounting. You could also move on to an apprenticeship programme in business.

What will I study?

You will sometimes work on your own and sometimes in small groups. We will teach you the research and study skills you will need for success. As well as using ICT for presenting your work, you will also be encouraged to use it for research. You will learn to manage projects, do research, understand how to reference and prepare for presentations and examinations.

You will benefit from extensive support and guidance throughout your time on the course. We pride ourselves on taking a personal interest in your success.

This qualification allows you to take units at the end of Year 12 and other units at the end of Year 13.

If you are able, you can complete extra units which will help you gain a diploma in this qualification which is equivalent to 1.5 A Levels.

Units studied include:

- Unit 1: The business environment
- Unit 2: Working in business
- Unit 3: Business decisions
- Unit 4: Customers and communication
- Unit 5: Marketing and market research

How will I be assessed?

Your work will be assessed through assignments and examination.

Units 1, 2 and 3 are externally assessed through examinations. Units 4 and 5 are internally assessed. There will be regular assignments that will get you prepared for both the internal and external assessments.

In the assignments clear objective criteria are used to assess competency in all the key areas and you will be able to see how your achievements build up as the course proceeds. There will be plenty of opportunity to show progress.

Are there any specific entry requirements?

There are no formal entry requirements, but it would be at an advantage if you have achieved at least a C grade in English and mathematics.

Chemistry

Study option

A Level two-year course

Exam board

AQA

Specification code

7405

Why choose chemistry?

Chemistry is suitable for entry into a wide range of professions and success in this subject demonstrates strong intellectual and analytical ability.

Where can it lead?

Studying chemistry will help if you are intending to study sciences at university. It is essential for medicine, pharmacy and environmental science.

Chemistry at this level can be demanding but we are proud of our 100% success rate. It is preferable that you have achieved at least B in GCSE science and C in mathematics in order to study chemistry at A Level.



What and how will I study?

With a mix of laboratory practical and theoretical teaching, the course covers a range of fascinating and challenging topics within the following units:

The first year of A Level:

- **Physical chemistry**
You will learn about the structure of the atom, the importance of atomic masses, formulae and equations, chemical calculations, chemical bonding and structure, energetics, redox, equilibria and kinetics.
- **Inorganic chemistry**
You will learn about periodicity and the trends and patterns in the periodic table, the elements in group 2 and the elements in group 7.
- **Organic chemistry**
You will learn about the properties and reactions of alkanes, halogenoalkanes, alkenes, alcohols and the analysis of organic compounds.

The second year of A Level:

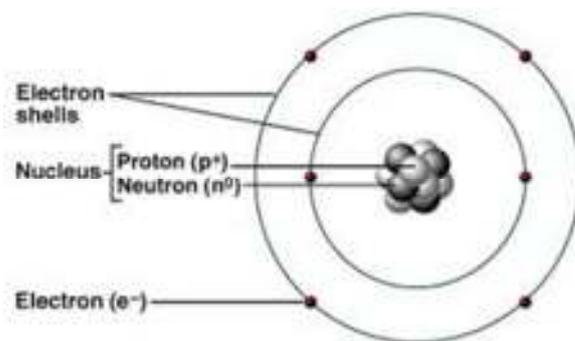
- **Physical chemistry**
You will study thermodynamics, rate equations, equilibrium constants for homogeneous systems, electrode potentials, electrochemical cells, acids and bases.
- **Inorganic chemistry**
You will study the properties of the period 3 elements and their oxides, transition metal chemistry and the reactions of ions in aqueous solution.
- **Organic chemistry**
You will study optical isomerism, aldehydes, ketones, carboxylic acids and their derivatives, aromatic chemistry, amines, polymers, amino acids, proteins and DNA, organic synthesis and nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy.

How will I be assessed?

There will be six hours of examinations in May/June in your second year to assess the A Level (three two-hour papers). Your practical skills will be assessed through questions on the examination papers. The material assessed will be the content from the two years of A Level study.

Are there any specific entry requirements?

It is preferable that you have achieved at least a B in GCSE science and a C in mathematics in order to study this subject at A Level.



Drama

There are many different exciting syllabuses on offer for this subject from the varying examination boards. At HOHS we like to find the right course for our pupils and so, as yet, no decision has been taken as to which syllabus we will start in the forthcoming year.

It is likely, however, that the emphasis will be on the practical and performance side of drama, which has always been the case.

Why choose drama and theatre studies?

You do not have to aspire to be an actress to study drama and theatre studies! Drama pupils develop a strong sense of commitment and an excellent work ethic. It is a subject that involves hard work, but it is also fun and rewarding.

It will give you a wealth of skills to take into the next exciting stages of your studies or the workplace:

- confidence
- the ability to work harmoniously with others
- group skills
- critical thinking skills
- creative writing
- a greater enjoyment of the arts, that will remain with you into your adult life

Historically, the results in A Level drama have been excellent, with not one girl failing to achieve the A Level over the past fifteen years.



What and how will I study?

The practical work usually includes working on a chosen studied text, exploring it both physically and academically, and a devised piece of theatre where pupils create a piece of theatre themselves, using a variety of studied disciplines.

Drama requires the study of different styles of theatre, which might include *physical theatre*, *surrealist theatre*, *verbatim theatre* and many others.

It will almost certainly include the study of a famous theatre practitioner such as *Stanislavski*, *Peter Brook* or *Katie Mitchell*.

Plays and practitioners are selected that always suit the styles and interests of the pupils in any one year.

Alongside the practical and exploitative work you will also have regular theatre trips to see drama in action. This is a vital element of the course, helping you to understand theatre and the practical and technical elements involved in staging a production, as well as reviewing theatre - recognising whether a production works and the reasons why. This then enables you to apply this knowledge to your own work.

The arts are still one of this country's most important exports.

"It is in Apple's DNA that technology alone is not enough—it's technology married with liberal arts, married with the humanities, that yields us the results that make our heart sing."

—Steve Jobs, in introducing the iPad 2 in 2011

How will I be assessed?

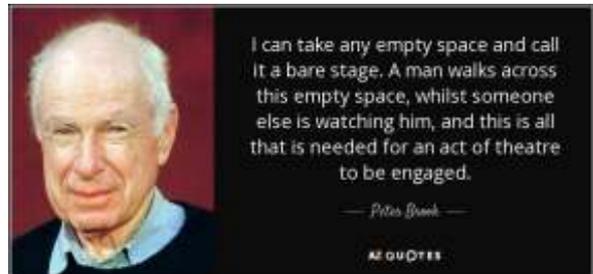
The examination is usually marked on a 60% /40% split:

- 60% practical work
- 40% written examination and coursework content.

To think of it in an easier way:

Drama: practical exploration and creation.

Theatre: studied texts and plays and relevant practitioners.



Are there any specific entry requirements?

GCSE drama and/or English literature are useful but not essential if you have a love of theatre and performance.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

Why choose this award?



People do the award for lots of different reasons but the most important reason to get involved is because you will enjoy it. The flexible programme and the wide range of options means you can try something different without having to do anything you don't want to do. Everyone gets different things out of the award but in taking part, you'll develop self-belief, self-confidence, independence - of thought and action, a sense of responsibility, an awareness of your potential, new talents and abilities, the ability to plan and use time, the ability to learn from and give to others in the community, skills including problem solving, presentation and communication and the ability to lead and to work as part of a team.

What and how will I study?

The gold section of this award includes five areas:

- **Volunteering** (helping other people in the local community)
- **Expeditions** (training for, planning and completing a journey on foot or horseback, by boat or cycle)
- **Skills** (covering almost any hobby or interest)
- **Physical recreation** (sport, dance and fitness)
- **Residential project**



Training occurs during school lunchtimes on a weekly basis in thirty-minute sessions. The practice expeditions take place in Norfolk during a weekend and in the Peak District for four days. The gold expedition takes place in wild country in the Black Mountains of South Wales during the summer holidays between the lower and upper sixth year.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is continuous and at the end of the allotted time your record book is signed and you will receive your award and certificate. Should you achieve your gold award, you will receive your certificate from His Royal Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, at St. James' Palace.

Are there any specific entry requirements?

The gold section takes twelve months to complete, providing you hold a silver award. If, however, you are a 'direct entrant' it takes an extra six months. It is possible to enter the Sixth Form with no previous experience and complete your gold award before you leave the school. However, if the award is not completed, you have until you are twenty-five to finish.

English literature

Study option

A Level two-year course

Exam board

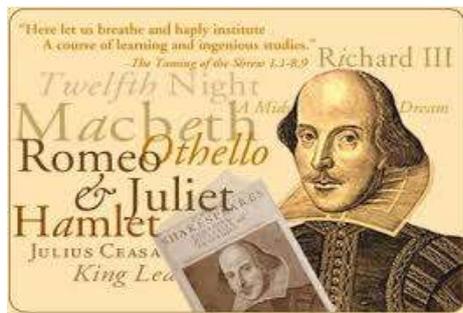
Edexcel

Specification code

9ETO

Why choose English literature?

This course is designed to enable you to read, understand and enjoy texts of different kinds from different periods of history.



We look at texts in their literary, cultural and historical context as well as studying individual works of prose, poetry and drama in considerable detail. Throughout the course you will develop the skills of close reading and learn how to express your ideas clearly and logically in essays and written analyses. Lessons include discussion and debate, making the subject a lively and interactive experience at this level. In literary interpretation there is often no right or wrong answer!

Where can it lead?

English literature goes well with any other arts subject at A Level. It develops the skills of writing clearly and accurately, researching and analysing evidence, expressing views and opinions and evaluating the views of others – all relevant to university study and to careers such as law, journalism, marketing or management.

What will I study and how will I be assessed?

The structure of this A Level is based on a linear two-year course with all assessments in the second year of the course.

The Edexcel course has four units of study; three examined components based on literary genres and a fourth coursework component.

Component 1: Drama

- One Shakespeare play (either comedy or tragedy)
- One other play (comedy or tragedy) from a list of set texts
- Two questions, one on each play – 2 hours 15 minutes, 30% weighting

Component 2: Prose

- Two prose texts from a chosen theme, including at least one pre-1900 text
- The current theme chosen is 'Women in Society' and the texts studied are 'Tess of the D'Urbervilles' by Thomas Hardy and 'Mrs Dalloway' by Virginia Woolf.
- Themes and texts may change from year to year.
- One comparative essay question on the texts studied – one hour, 20% weighting



Component 3: Poetry

- A selection of poetry from a post-2000 collection
- A range of poetry from a literary period OR
- A range of poetry by a named poet from within a literary period
- Two questions, one on each text - 2 hours 15 minutes, 30% weighting

Component 4: Coursework

- One extended comparative essay on two linked texts, from a free choice across all literary genres and periods
- 2500 – 3000 words, 20% weighting

Are there any specific entry requirements?

You should have at least a B grade in IGCSE (or GCSE) English literature.

Enrichment

Why study enrichment?

The Enrichment Project is designed to enhance the sixth form experience at Hethersett Old Hall School. All sixth form students take part in the project which promotes study skills alongside the essential life skills needed for independent living. The enrichment project also has opportunities for organising events, a skill required in many careers.

What and how will I study?

Sessions on study skills and university applications are held at strategic points throughout the school year. The sessions provide you with the advice and guidance that you need to fulfil your academic potential and achieve your best possible university offers. Particular attention is paid to the writing of personal statements, curriculum vitae and interview technique.



Most sixth form students complete their studies and then progress to university or college. This often includes moving away from home and living independently. In order to prepare you for this experience, the enrichment project contains sessions on a variety of practical skills which could include: cooking on a budget (aka University Masterchef), car maintenance, road safety for new drivers, putting together flat pack furniture, putting up a shelf, electricity in the home and first aid, to name just a few. This preparation can help relieve some of the natural anxiety caused by leaving home and allow you to focus on your studies right from the start of your first term As a university undergraduate.

How will I be assessed?

Due to the nature of the studies, there is no assessment for enrichment. Advice and guidance are offered on various topics throughout the school year.

Extended project qualification

Study option

Exam board

Specification code

Equivalent to half an A Level

AQA

7993

Why choose the extended project qualification (EPQ)?

The EPQ is a highly enjoyable and fulfilling experience because you will explore an area that you are interested in. You will develop core study skills which will benefit you when you enter higher education or employment.

Results for the EPQ examinations over the last few years have been consistently high. The UCAS points gained from a successful EPQ can form a significant factor in gaining access to the university course of your choice. Being successful in the project is likely to enhance your application to higher education or for a job.

What is the EPQ?

The extended project qualification (EPQ) is a process-based qualification. You will choose a topic, then plan, execute and report on the work. You must gather and submit evidence of your journey from idea to artefact. This involves independent research and learning and you will be taught relevant study skills to help you. These will include time management, organisational skills, critical analysis, research methodology, library skills, referencing and presentation skills. Your research is overseen and assessed by a project supervisor who will support you. However, the EPQ is **your** project and the supervisor will not tell you what to do but offer suggestions and advice throughout. Problem-solving and decision-making skills are part of the marking criteria.

What and how will I study?

You will choose a topic or area of interest to form an individual project and:

- Identify and draft the main aims and objectives of this project.
- Plan, research and carry out your project. During this research phase, you will apply certain organisational skills and strategies to fulfil your project objectives. You need to obtain and select information from a number of different sources, analyse data and show that you understand the complexities of the topic you have chosen. In some cases you will need to research and develop new skills and techniques.
- Provide evidence of all stages of your project.
- Reflect on your learning from completing the project.

How will I be assessed?

You will:

- Produce a written report between 1000 and 5000 words.
- Carry out a presentation about your project suitable for a non-specialist audience.

Are there any specific entry requirements?

No special entry requirements are required.



Geography

Study option

A Level two-year course

Exam board

AQA

Specification code

7037

Why choose geography?

Geography will develop an interest in local and global issues and in practical work outside the classroom. It encourages the development of a wide range of cartographic, graphical, statistical and research skills. It offers opportunities to develop and collect evidence from many sources and contains many skills that employers consider important.

Where can it lead?

The extensive range of skills and knowledge gained in AS and A Level Geography will prepare you for a variety of careers or further education courses. Geographical information is now used in many businesses – geographical information systems are an exciting interface between geography and information and communications technology. As a subject it combines well with a number of other A Level courses including mathematics, sciences, English, languages, history, religious studies, psychology, business studies and art.



What and how will I study?

Your classroom studies will be enhanced by opportunities to take part in exciting field trips lasting up to four days.

This qualification is linear, which means you will sit your exams and submit all your non-exam assessment at the end of the course.

The first year of A Level:

1. Water and the carbon cycle, or Coastal systems and landscapes
2. Hazards
3. Changing Places
4. Geography fieldwork

The second year of A Level:

5. Coastal systems and landscapes, or Water and the carbon cycle
6. Global systems and global governance
7. Contemporary urban environments, or Population and the environment
8. Geographical investigation



How will I be assessed?

Unit 1	Physical geography
Time	2 hours 30 minutes
Marks	120
Weighting	40%
Types of question	Multiple choice, short answers and extended prose
Unit 2	Human geography
Time	2 hours 30 minutes
Marks	120
Weighting	40%
Types of question	Multiple choice, short answers and extended prose
Unit 3	Geographical investigation
Weighting	20%
Type	3000-4000 words, marked internally

Are there any specific entry requirements?

It is preferable if you have gained at least a grade C in GCSE geography.

Health and social care

Study options

Extended Certificate (equivalent to A Level)
Diploma (equivalent to 1.5 A Levels)

Exam board

OCR

Specification code

05831

Why choose health and social care?

Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate encourages students to appreciate an understanding of health and social care in different environments and settings. The course has up to date, engaging and exciting content.

It is a very well structured, practical course, which allows for a variety of pathways to cater for your interests. The qualification will develop your knowledge of effective communication, legislation and how to deliver a person-centred approach to care. You will therefore gain not only a valuable qualification but also a greater insight into 'real life' situations as well as develop professional and personal skills. In addition, you will consider the real impacts to people living with conditions or illnesses such as the social, financial and psychological impacts, not just the signs, symptoms and treatment of faceless conditions or illnesses.



Where can it lead?

Level 3 Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate will prepare you for a career in health and social care. It is also ideal if you are interested in other careers for which it is important such as primary teaching, childcare, nursing, community work or the voluntary sector. Many health and social care students progress to university to study a wide range of subjects including nursing, childhood studies, psychology, sociology, early years/primary teaching, occupational therapy, criminology and radiography. Alternatively you could choose to follow an apprenticeship in health and social care in adult care, or health care.

What will I study?

You will sometimes work on your own and sometimes in small groups. We will teach you the research and study skills you will need for success. There will also be opportunities to visit workplaces to learn how sections of the health and social care course are used professionally. Such visits will allow you to gain ideas about career opportunities. As well as using ICT for presenting your work, you will also be encouraged to use it for research.

You will benefit from extensive support and guidance throughout your time on the course. We pride ourselves on taking a personal interest in your success.

This qualification allows you to take units at the end of Year 12 and other units at the end of Year 13.

If you are able to complete extra units you will gain a diploma in this qualification which is equivalent to 1.5 A Levels.

Units studied include:

Unit 1: Building positive relationships in health and social care

Unit 2: Equality, diversity and rights in health and social care

Unit 3: Health, safety and security in health and social care

Unit 4: Anatomy and physiology for health and social care

Unit 5: Infection Control

Unit 10: Nutrition for health

How will I be assessed?

Your work will be assessed through assignments and examination.

	Assignments	Examination
	Unit 1: Building positive relationships in health and social care	Unit 2: Equality, diversity and rights in health and social care
Time	n/a	1 hour 30 minutes
Marks	Pass, Merit and Distinction	60
Weighting	16.6% (60 credits)	16.6% (60 credits)
Assessed	Internally marked and externally moderated	External examination
Types of question	Assignments	Five questions made up of multiple choice, structured questions, short and extended answers.
	Unit 5: Infection Control	Unit 3: Health, safety and security in health and social care
Marks	Pass, Merit and Distinction	60
Time	n/a	1 hour 30 minutes
Weighting	16.6% (60 credits)	16.6% (60 credits)
Assessed	Internally marked and externally moderated	External examination
Types of question	Assignments	Three structured questions
	Unit 10: Nutrition for health	Unit 4: Anatomy and physiology for health and social care
Marks	Pass, Merit and Distinction	100
Time	n/a	2 hours
Weighting	8.4% (30 credits)	25% (90 credits)
Assessed	Internally marked and externally moderated	External examination
Types of question	Assignments	Five structured questions

In the assignments clear objective criteria are used to assess competency in all the key areas and you will be able to see how your achievements build up as the course proceeds. There will be plenty of opportunity to show progress.

Are there any specific entry requirements?

There are no special GCSE requirements for this course.

History

Study option

Exam board

Specification code

A Level two-year course

Edexcel

9H10

Why choose history?



History is one of the most fascinating subjects a person can study. It is the story of mankind and all that has come before us to shape how we live today. History is a subject that encourages and supports pupils using the skills of analysis, evaluation and explanation in a concise and cohesive style.

If you enjoy reading stories, exploring castles, debating or asking “why?” then this is the subject for you. Where else can you link in the childhood fairy tales you know so well with popular fiction and current debate to work out why witches were seen as a problem and why some castles are round but others are square? Did Richard III *really* kill the Princes in the Tower? Why did King John sign the Magna Carta? How did France come to be a leader in revolution?

And what do jelly babies have to do with world peace? If you study A Level history you could find out!

Where can it lead?

History underpins and adds fresh insights to all other subject domains. After two absorbing years of study you will have acquired empathetic, organisational and evaluative skills vital for the next step towards a career in journalism, politics, the law, teaching, human resources, engineering and languages to name a few – the list is endless!

What will I study?

The A Level course requires you to take three examined papers and write one extended essay that is marked in school. The examined papers cover many periods but current popular choices are The Crusades, Anglo Saxon England, and Henry V’s empire. For the 4000 word essay taken at the end of the course you can write on a subject of your choice that could cover anything from the Wars of the Roses to sixteenth century witch hunting, or from modern Russia or China to the effects of social media.



How will I be assessed?

The exams are all 2 hours and 15 minutes long but carry different weightings.

Are there any specific entry requirements?

There is no requirement to have GCSE history. Good passes in (I)GCSE English are useful.

Mathematics

Study option

A Level two-year course

Exam board

OCR

Specification code

H240

Why choose mathematics?

Mathematics is a subject to be studied and enjoyed in its own right and it can also assist the study of other subjects (for example physics, chemistry and biology). Mathematics has many applications. It provides training in logical argument and it is an intellectually stimulating subject which can give immense satisfaction. Part of the attraction of this subject is knowing that a combination of flair and hard work can lead to great success. This course provides continuity from GCSE to the further study of mathematics. Some of the GCSE higher course syllabus has been included in the AS section of the modular course.

Where can it lead?

Choosing mathematics could lead you to a career in accountancy, banking, business, management or science. In addition, mathematics is regarded by many employers as a good grounding for management.

What and how will I study?

A Level mathematics is a two-year course. The A Level modular syllabus comprises three units.

There are three examination papers, each 2 hours in length, and each is 33⅓% of total A Level.

- Paper 1 – pure mathematics
- Paper 2 – pure mathematics and statistics
- Paper 3 – pure mathematics and mechanics



How will I be assessed?

There are three examination papers for A Level. Some units involve the use of a scientific calculator or a graphical calculator. Girls are encouraged to buy their own graphical calculator. Pupils will sit the examination papers during the Summer Term, at the end of the two years.

There is no coursework involved. Mathematics is fun, exciting and challenging.

Are there any specific entry requirements?

At least a B grade in mathematics at GCSE is preferred for study to A Level.

Modern foreign language (MFL) – French or Spanish

Study option

A Level two-year course

Exam board

AQA

Specification code

7651 / 7652

Why choose a foreign language?

The ability to communicate in French or Spanish is extremely useful in today's global and multilingual workplace, where international business transactions and cultural interchanges with nationals of other countries are continually increasing.

Learning a foreign language not only enables you to bridge social barriers but also allows you to see the world from a different perspective.



Where can it lead?

As well as language careers such as translating, interpreting and teaching, a multitude of other careers require the knowledge of languages. Some examples include: secretarial work, travel and tourism, export marketing and sales, finance, law and media. You might also consider teaching English as a foreign language or working for the civil and diplomatic services or international organisations. In addition many universities offer combined degrees, e.g. in business studies, law, computing and a language. Non-degree courses can include language study too.

What and how will I study?

Reading and listening material will relate to the target language culture. The topics for A Level include the following areas:

- social issues & trends
- political & artistic culture
- grammar
- literary texts & films

The components include speaking, reading, writing and listening.

How will I be assessed?

Your work will be assessed through a mix of oral and written exams.

Are there any specific entry requirements?

Pupils will need a grade A or B at GCSE in the chosen language.

Music

Study option

Exam board

Specification code

A Level two-year course

AQA

7272

Why choose music?

Music A Level offers a logical progression from GCSE and an opportunity to develop your knowledge and musical ability through the study, creation and performance of music from a wide range of styles and genres.



Where can it lead?

This specification provides a sound preparation for the study of music in higher education, as well as providing opportunities to develop strengths and interests leading to music-related and other careers. It enables you to develop a wide range of transferable skills such as critical thinking, research, communication and team-work.

What and how will I study?

There is a mix of practical and theoretical work.

The A Level assessments are:

Appraising music (40% of A Level)

Examination paper with listening and written questions using excerpts of music testing listening, analysis and contextual understanding. A second set work from the Western Classical tradition is also studied, along with a second topic.

Performance (35% of A Level)

Solo and/or ensemble performance as an instrumentalist, or vocalist and/or music production (via technology).

A minimum of ten minutes' performance in total is required (no more than twelve minutes).

Composition (25% of A Level)

Composition 1: Composition to a brief

Composition 2: Free composition

A minimum of four and a half minutes of music in total is required.

Are there any specific entry requirements?

There are no specific entry requirements for this course, but it would help if you have studied music at GCSE or passed a grade 5 theory examination. You will be expected to play an instrument or sing at grade 5 level or above.

Photography

Study option

A Level two-year course

Exam board

AQA

Specification code

7206

Why choose photography?

Visual images engage the viewer more directly and convey information more quickly than the printed word. Photography and film have surrounded us with images generated in part by the information explosion of the twenty-first century.

As an A Level photography student you will benefit from enthusiastic, expert teaching and excellent facilities including our own studio and darkroom.



Where can it lead?

Many careers exist for qualified and experienced photographers in the media. Degree courses and BTEC/HND courses in photography are offered by colleges and universities.

What and how will I study?

The ability to understand, reproduce and manipulate images forms the basis of the course. Computers and digital photography are important areas of study and form an integral part of the course.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment of your work is through a mix of coursework and externally set assignment:

Level	Name	Duration	Weighting
A Level	Personal investigation	Continuous	60%
A Level	Externally set assignment	15 hours plus preparatory period	40%

Are there any specific entry requirements?

There are no special entry requirements, but an interest in photography or art would help. If you have completed a GCSE photography course, you will be able to start on your project immediately. If you are new to photography you will have the opportunity to build up your skills before embarking on projects for assessment.

Having your own camera would enable you to take more images outside school.

Physical education

Study option

A Level two-year course

Exam board

AQA

Specification code

7582

Why choose physical education?

If you are keen on PE and good at sports, A Level PE is a good option. The course gives you opportunities to experience activities from across different activity profiles in the roles of performer or coach. It also:

- offers a rounded integrated course of study providing opportunity for individual development and improvement.
- helps you develop analytical and study skills which will enable you to progress to higher education
- provides opportunities for a broad range of study within areas of applied anatomy and physiology, skill acquisition, sports psychology, sport and society and technology in sport.

Where can it lead?

Apart from improving your individual sports performance, this course is an excellent preparation for degree-level study within sports science, physiotherapy, leisure and sports studies, teaching, sports marketing, dance and medicine or health-related studies. It also combines well with other subjects, whatever your ultimate goals.

What and how will I study?

There are three components to the course. Components 1 and 2 form the theory section of the course and each equates to 35% of the A Level. Component 3, the practical assessment, forms the remaining 30% of the A Level.

Component 1: Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport

2-hour paper, 105 marks (35%)

- Section A: Applied anatomy and physiology
- Section B: Skill acquisition and sports psychology
- Section C: Sport and society and technology in sport

Component 2: Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport

2-hour paper, 105 marks (35%)

- Section A: Exercise physiology and biomechanics
- Section B: Sport psychology
- Section C: Sport and society and technology in sport

Component 3: NEA (non-exam assessment) 30% of the course

- One practical assessment in the role of the performer or coach (45 marks)
- Analysis and evaluation task (45 marks)



Are there any specific entry requirements?

This course provides continuity with the GCSE syllabuses in its approach to the assessment of physical education. It is recommended that candidates have obtained a B grade or above in GCSE PE.

Physical education

Study option

BTEC Sport Level 3 (equivalent to 1 A Level)

Exam board

Pearson

Specification code

National Extended Certificate

Why choose BTEC sport?

BTECs embody a fundamentally learner-centred approach to the curriculum, with a flexible, unit-based structure and knowledge applied in project-based assessments. They focus on the holistic development of the practical, interpersonal and thinking skills required to be able to succeed in employment and higher education.

Where can it lead?

Apart from improving your individual sports performance, these courses are excellent preparation for degree level study within sports science, physiotherapy, leisure and sports studies, teaching, sports marketing, dance and medicine or health-related studies. They also combine well with other subjects, whatever your ultimate goals.

What will I study and how will I be assessed?

COMPULSORY UNITS

Unit 1: Anatomy and physiology

A written examination, 1 hour 30 minutes and is worth 90 marks. It contributes up to 32 marks towards the BTEC.

Unit 2: Fitness training

A written task set and marked by the exam board under supervised conditions and is worth 60 marks. It contributes up to 32 marks towards the BTEC.

Unit 3: Professional development in the sports industry

Portfolio based tasks that are marked by the teacher and in combination are worth up to 16 points towards the BTEC.

OPTIONAL UNIT

Unit 4: To be chosen from sports leadership, application of fitness testing and sports psychology.

Portfolio-based tasks that are marked by the teacher and in combination are worth up to 16 points towards the BTEC.

Extended Certificate	
360 GLH	
Grade	Points threshold
U	0
Pass	36
Merit	52
Distinction	74
Distinction*	90

Are there any specific entry requirements?

This qualification provides continuity with the GCSE syllabuses in its approach to the assessment of physical education. It is recommended that candidates have obtained a B grade or above in GCSE PE.

Physics

Study option

A Level two-year course

Exam board

AQA

Specification code

7408

Why choose physics?

Physics is an all-encompassing subject raising the “how?” and “why?” questions about the physical world in which we live. It ranges from the particles that are smaller than the atomic nucleus to the whole universe. Physics is an evolving subject, as new truths are revealed and old ideas are shaken up. The new A Level specification reflects this diversity and includes many up-to-date topics. It is an ideal choice whatever your abilities and interests.

Physics has always been regarded as a natural associate of mathematics but it can also complement a wide range of other subject combinations.

Where can it lead?

Physics opens the doors to many careers including the obvious areas of medicine, engineering, astronomy and oil exploration but also leisure, business, broadcasting and teaching.

What and how will I study?

There is a good mix of practical and theoretical work involved with the topics covered as follows:

The first year of A Level:

- Measurements and their errors
- Particles and radiation
- Waves
- Mechanics and energy
- Electricity

The second year of A Level:

- Further mechanics and thermal physics
- Fields
- Nuclear physics

You can also choose one option from:

- Astrophysics
- Medical physics
- Engineering physics
- Turning points in physics
- Electronics

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is by three 2-hour papers for A Level. The kind of questions and weighting of marks varies from paper to paper; they include short- and long-answer questions, extended response, essay, comprehension and structured questions, including practical techniques.

Are there any specific entry requirements?

It is preferable that you have achieved at least B in GCSE science and C in mathematics in order to study this subject at A Level.



Psychology

Study option

A Level two-year course

Exam board

OCR

Specification code

H567

Why choose psychology?

Psychology focuses on the science of the mind, behaviour and experience. It looks at how individuals think, what they do and the way they are affected by their biological make up and their wider social environment. You will explore the five key areas of psychology through studying classic and contemporary studies based around ten key psychological themes. You will also learn the importance of psychological research methods and explore the areas of mental health, child psychology and criminal psychology.

Where can it lead?

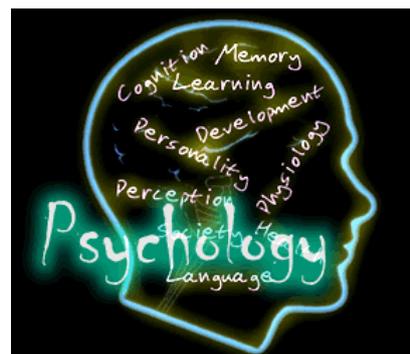
Psychology sits very well with other A Level subjects and is widely welcomed by universities because the analytical and interpretive skills you learn are so useful for studying almost any subject. You could also opt to pursue the subject further and ultimately forge a career in a psychology-related setting.

What and how will I study?

The first year of A Level:

Research methods:

- Research methods and techniques
- Planning and conducting research
- Data recording, analysis and presentation
- Report writing
- Practical activities
- How science works



Psychological themes through core studies:

- **Cognitive psychology: memory** – the reliability of eyewitness testimony and the importance of context in retrieving memories.
- **Developmental psychology: external influences on children's behaviour** – the transmission of aggression and the influence of operant conditioning on children's behaviour.
- **Social psychology: obedience** – the extent to which people will obey a negative authority and the occurrence of disobedience and whistleblowing.
- **Biological psychology: regions of the brain** – split-brain patients and the neural correlates of delayed gratification.

Individual differences: understanding disorders – analysing Freud's case study of 'little Hans', the boy with a phobia of horses, and understanding autism in adults.

The second year of A Level:

Applied psychology:

- **Issues in mental health** – the historical context, the medical model and alternative models.
- **Child psychology** – intelligence, pre-adult brain development, perceptual development, cognitive development and education, development of attachment and the impact of advertising on children.
- **Criminal psychology** – what makes a criminal, the collection and processing of forensic evidence, collection of evidence, psychology and the courtroom, crime prevention and the effects of imprisonment?

Psychological themes through core studies:

- **Cognitive psychology: attention** – visual inattention and auditory attention.
- **Developmental psychology: moral development** – the stages of moral development and evaluating lying and truth-telling.
- **Social psychology: responses to people in need** – the factors affecting the likelihood of helping a person in need and cross-cultural altruism.
- **Biological psychology: brain plasticity** – the impact of early visual experience and the adaptable brains of taxi drivers.
- **Individual differences: understanding disorders** – IQ testing and the language of psychopaths.

How will I be assessed?

The assessment for the A Level consists of three two-hour examinations.

Are there any specific entry requirements?

You will need to have achieved at least a grade B in English language and a grade C or higher in GCSE mathematics. You will also need to be able to learn and memorise terminologies, analyse and evaluate scenarios as well as apply the knowledge gained to various aspects of life.

The second year of A Level:

Philosophy of religion:

- Ideas about the nature of God
- Issues in religious language

Religion and ethics:

- Ethical language and thought
- Debates surrounding the significant idea of conscience
- Sexual ethics and the influence on ethical thought of developments in religious beliefs

Developments in religious thought:

- Significant social and historical developments in theology and religious thought
- Key themes related to the relationship between religion and society

How will I be assessed?

There are three examinations at the end of the course, one for each of the three sections (all weighted equally), that combine to give you an A Level in this subject.

A Level exams are 2 hours in length.

Are there any specific entry requirements?

There is no requirement to have taken religious studies for GCSE although you do have to be capable of coping with the demands of an academic subject at this level. Religious belief is not a requirement either (and you will not be pressurised to become religious). You do need to be open-minded and prepared to have your preconceptions challenged!

Skills you will have learned during your GCSE courses will be used at A Level and there is a much greater emphasis on class discussion and debate.

Textiles

Study option

A Level two-year course

Exam board

AQA

Specification code

7204/C/X

Why choose art and design: textiles?

"You can find inspiration in anything, and if you can't, look again." Paul Smith

The study of textiles encourages you to develop your intellectual, imaginative, creative and intuitive powers. It encourages investigative, analytical, experimental, practical and expressive skills, aesthetic understanding and critical judgement. It encourages an understanding of the inter-relationship between art/craft and design.

Where can it lead?

The course can lead to a foundation course in art and design and degree courses in fashion design/textile design and interior design, or fashion foundation and illustration, museum and gallery display or textile conservation. Other leads include fashion promotion/ merchandising, footwear design, textile science and technology.

What and how will I study?

Areas of study include:

- Constructed and installed textiles
- Printed and/or dyed fabric and materials
- Domestic textiles, wallpaper and interior design
- Fashion



The course consists of two units of work which will be examined. This involves one personal investigation and a controlled test or exam of fifteen hours.

How will I be assessed?

Level	Name	Duration	Weighting
A Level	Personal investigation	Continuous	60%
A Level	Externally set assignment	15 hours plus preparatory period	40%

Personal investigation

You are required to conduct a practical investigation into an idea, issue, concept or theme, supported by written material. The focus of the investigation must be identified independently by you and must lead to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes.

The investigation should be a coherent, in-depth study that demonstrates your ability to construct and develop a sustained line of reasoning from an initial starting point to a final realisation.

The investigation must be informed by an aspect of contemporary or past practice of artists, photographers, designers or craftspeople.

Externally set assignment

You will produce **personal work** in response to one of eight exciting starting points and the supervised time is **15 hours**.

Are there any specific entry requirements?

You do not need to have taken textiles at GCSE; to study textiles to A Level all you need is enthusiasm, commitment, hard work and a sense of humour!

Travel and tourism

Study option

A Level two-year course

Exam board

CIE

Specification code

9395

Why choose travel and tourism?

This A Level encourages you to appreciate the scale and importance of the travel and tourism industry in the world and recognise the positive and negative impacts the industry may have on people, environments and economies.

We have a strong tradition of successful travel and tourism teaching at HOHS, over many years. This qualification will introduce you to the fastest-growing industry in the world and is particularly relevant to the local economy of Norwich and the Norfolk Broads. You will therefore gain not only a valuable qualification but also a greater insight into the city and area around you. It is a very well-structured course, which allows you to develop practical and technical skills relevant to the industry, enabling you to deal with a range of complex situations and problems. You can also organise an event.



Where does it lead?

A Level travel and tourism will prepare you for a career in many industries and organisations as the skills gained are important for the real world. As well as the travel and leisure industries themselves, you could go into areas as diverse as primary teaching, childcare or estate management. Many travel and tourism students have progressed to university and studied a wide range of subjects including early childhood studies, travel and leisure, business and marketing, sport studies, and management.

What and how will I study?

You will sometimes work on your own and sometimes in small groups. We will teach you the research and study skills you will need for success. There will also be opportunities to visit workplaces to learn how sections of the travel and tourism course are used professionally. Such visits will allow you to gain ideas about career opportunities. As well as using ICT for presenting your work, you will also be encouraged to use it for research.

You will benefit from extensive support and guidance throughout your time on the course. We pride ourselves on taking a personal interest in your success.

The first year of A Level:

Paper 1: The industry

Paper 2: Planning and managing a travel and tourism event (coursework project)

The second year of A Level:

Paper 3: Destination marketing

Paper 4: Destination management

How will I be assessed?

The table below shows gives details of the examinations and coursework requirements for the course:

	Year 1	Year 2
	Examination	Examination
Paper number and title	Paper 1: The industry	Paper 3: Destination marketing
Time	2 hours 30 minutes	1 hour 30 minutes
Marks	100	100
Weighting	35%	25% of A2
Assessment	External examination	External examination
Types of question	Four structured questions, short and extended answers based on stimulus material	Four structured questions, short and extended answers based on stimulus material
	Coursework	Examination
Paper number and title	Paper 2: Planning and managing a travel and tourism event	Paper 4: Destination management
Marks	50	50
Time		1 hour 30 minutes
Weighting	15%	25%
Assessment	Internally marked and externally moderated	External examination
Types of question	n/a	Two structured data response questions based on stimulus material

In the coursework paper clear objective criteria are used to assess competency in all the key areas and you will be able to see how your achievements build up as the course proceeds. There will be plenty of opportunity to show progress.

Are there any specific entry requirements?

There are no special GCSE requirements for this course.

Notes

This booklet is for information only
and does not form part of any contract between parents and Hethersett Old Hall School.
Information is correct at time of going to print but may change over time.



Hethersett
Old Hall School

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