



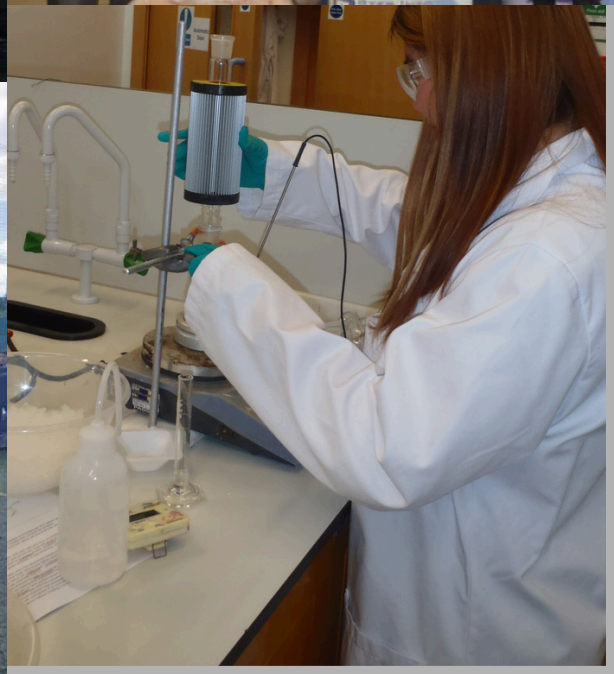
SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS



The South Wolds Academy
& Sixth Form



@Southwoldsacademy





WELCOME

Thank you for your interest in the South Wolds' Sixth Form. We are a small Post-16 centre offering an academic curriculum of around 26 different A Level subjects including an Arts Pathway. We are small in size but big in terms of the opportunities, experiences and personal support that we offer to our students. As a Post-16 team we feel very privileged and proud to be working with students at this key stage of their education and supporting them on their journey through A Level study on to university or the world of work.

During Year 11, you may feel under great pressure to make a decision about your plans for Post 16 Education. It is important that you make the right choice for you. Choosing to continue your education at The South Wolds Academy Sixth Form is a positive choice. Selecting the right programme of study or combination of courses can be extremely difficult, especially if you do not have any clear ideas about your future aspirations, but there is still much for you to consider at this stage to make your final choice of courses well informed.



Jo Capewell

Head of Sixth Form
KS5 Senior Performance
Leader and Psychology Lead



Susan Aston

Head of Year 12 Faculty
Performance Leader: Art, Design
& Technology

COURSES

As a general rule, students will be expected to undertake three A Level courses in Year 12, continuing these A Level courses in to Year 13. Core Maths AS Level or Further Maths A Level may be studied in addition to this. The selection of four subjects may be considered for some students.

At the head of each subject entry you will find guidance about the qualifications necessary to gain entry to each course. These may vary from subject to subject but due consideration will be given to all students on individual merit.

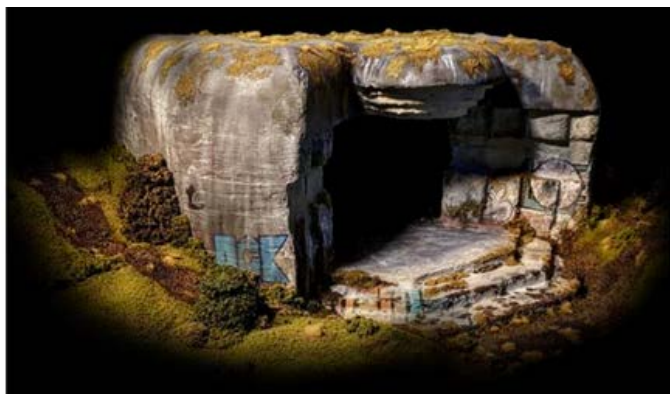
Students entering The South Wolds Academy Sixth Form from other institutions must provide proof of their GCSE or GCE Applied qualifications before embarking on the courses.

Please note that the availability of these subjects are dependant on the uptake for the year.

- **Art and Design**
 - The Art & Design Pathway
 - Fine Art
 - Graphic Communication
 - Photography
 - Textiles
 - 3D Art
- **Business**
- **Chemistry**
- **Computer Science**
- **Drama and Theatre**
- **Economics**
- **English Language**
- **English Literature**
- **Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)**
- **French**
- **Geography**

- **History**
- **Maths**
- **Core Maths**
- **Further Maths**
- **Music**
 - A Level
 - BTEC Level 3
- **Philosophy**
- **Physical Education**
- **Physics**
- **Politics**
- **Product Design (3D)**
- **Psychology**
- **Spanish**
- **Sports Leaders**

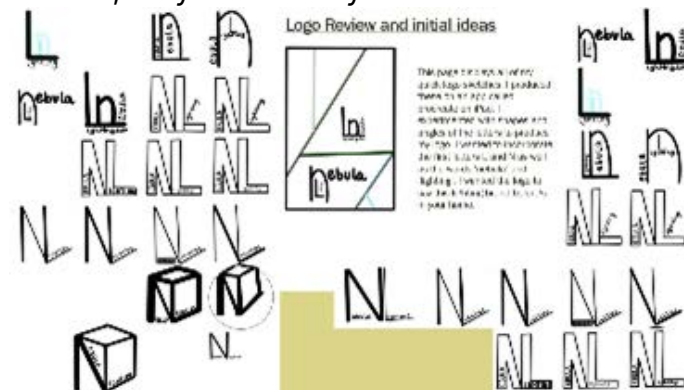
ART & DESIGN: THE ART & DESIGN PATHWAY



The Art and Design Pathway is a perfect course for anyone who is creative and looking to study an Art and Design based subject at university (graphic design, illustration, photography, textile design, interior design, fashion etc.)

We are able to offer students a mini art foundation, by allowing them to study 3 (or 4) Art and Design based A Levels.

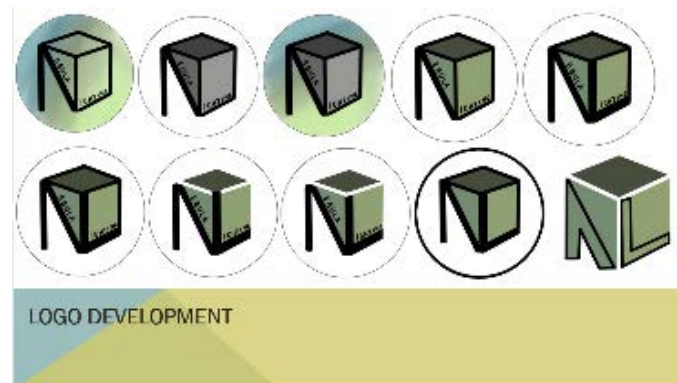
If you know what you'd like to do in the future, research some degrees to see what qualifications you may need. If you just love doing creative subjects, choose our A Levels and then let them lead you to your future pathway! All of our Art and Design subjects consistently achieve outstanding results, so you are very safe in our hands!



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The entry criteria for this pathway is different to our usual sixth form entry requirements. We ask for a Grade 6 or above in an Arts subject and 5 further GCSE passes at Grade 4 and above, including English and Maths.

It is worth noting that you are also able to study one or two of our Art and Design subjects alongside our other A Level subjects if you would like to, so for example you may like to combine Computer Science and Maths with an Art and Design subject in order to pursue a Computer Games Design degree.



ART & DESIGN: FINE ART

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: At least a Grade 6 in GCSE Art is desirable

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

What will I study?

Year 1

You will spend the year developing key skills in a range of media (painting, drawing, printmaking, mixed media and digital work). You will then develop your preferred media into small focused projects. You will learn how to make relevant connections to the work of others. Essentially this is the development year in preparation for the A Level in year 2.

Year 2

Component 1: Personal investigation This is a practical investigation supported by written material. The investigation will be a coherent, in depth study developing a sustained investigation from an initial starting point to a final realisation. The written element is a structured response of between 1000 and 3000 words. Component 2: Externally set assignment You will choose one of the exam board's externally set questions and develop this into a body of work. Following the preparatory period you will complete a fifteen hour exam.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is marked against AQA's marking criteria. Portfolio is 60% and the externally set assignment 40% of your final grade.

Areas of study within Fine Art:

- Drawing and painting
- Mixed-media, including collage and assemblage
- Sculpture
- Ceramics
- Installation
- Printmaking
- Moving image and photography

You will have your own studio space in the Sixth Form Art Studio. You will work in your studio during lessons. It will also be available for your use during personal study.

ART & DESIGN: GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Grade 6 or above in GCSE Art or a D&T subject is desirable

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

What will I study?

Year 1 - We believe that the most important quality you need to develop is your creativity. The course covers a broad range of traditional techniques including drawing and visualising, painting and mixed media. The use of typography is integral to all projects, either hand rendered or computer generated. Professional graphics packages are used throughout the course, with a focus on Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop on this course. There will be opportunities to develop animation and Web Design skills. The course is carefully structured to develop the skills you need and then gives you more freedom to develop your strengths and interests. Students produce work ranging from mixed media illustration, even using 3D elements, to web design. The meaning and message of the work and the way that it communicates distinguishes this subject from other specialisms in art and design.

Year 2 - Component 1: Personal investigation This is a practical investigation supported by written material. The investigation will be a coherent, in-depth study developing a sustained investigation from an initial starting point to a final realisation. The written element is a structured response of between 1000 and 3000 words. Component 2: Externally set assignment You will choose one of the exam board's externally set questions and develop this into a body of work. Following the preparatory period you will complete a fifteen hour exam.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is marked against AQA's marking criteria. Portfolio is 60% and the externally set assignment 40% of your final grade.

Areas of study within Graphic Communication:

- Digital Design
- Mixed-media, including collage
- Drawing and Painting
- Typography
- Packaging Design
- Web Design/Animation/Photography
- Printmaking

ART & DESIGN: PHOTOGRAPHY

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Grade 6 or above in GCSE Art or a similar subject is desirable

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

What will I study?

Year 1 - You will spend the year learning how to use an SLR camera and develop your images through Photo-shop. You will learn how to make relevant connections to the work of others. Essentially this is the development year in preparation for Year 2.

Year 2 - Component 1: Personal investigation This is a practical investigation supported by written material. The investigation will be a coherent, in-depth study developing a sustained investigation from an initial starting point to a final realisation. The written element is a structured response of between 1000 and 3000 words. Component 2: Externally set assignment You will choose one of the exam board's externally set questions and develop this into a body of work. Following the preparatory period you will complete a fifteen hour exam.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is marked against AQA's marking criteria. Portfolio is 60% and the externally set assignment 40% of your final grade.

Areas of study within Graphic Communication:

You will develop one or more of the following:

- Portraiture
- Landscape photography
- Still life
- Documentary photography
- Fashion photography
- Experimental photography
- Multimedia
- Photographic installation
- Moving image (video, film, animation)

The Art Department does have some cameras that can be provided but it is advised if at all possible to acquire your own SLR camera. This does not have to be an expensive camera; refurbished SLR cameras are an affordable alternative.

ART & DESIGN: TEXTILES

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Grade 6 or above in GCSE Art or a similar subject is desirable

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

What will I study?

The qualification consists of two units.

One of the units is set from a starting point of your choosing (this is essentially your coursework), you will study a range of artists and designers to inform your work. You will be introduced to a wide range of experimental processes and techniques to enable you to develop your work. You will work in a sketchbook and produce a final product; this could be anything from garments to sculpture.

The second unit is essentially your exam. You will choose from one of five themes, starting themes given by the exam board.

You will have your own studio space in the Sixth Form Art Studio. Throughout the course you will have the opportunity to work with Artists and Designers during workshops as well as participate on exciting trips.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed on your ability to develop ideas, experiment with media and processes, record your ideas in your sketch book and produce final pieces. You will be given written and verbal feedback weekly. During unit two you will attend one to one weekly meetings with your tutor to help review your work and plan what to do next.

Areas of study within Graphic Communication:

- Fashion design
- Fashion textiles
- Costume design
- Digital textiles
- Printed and/or dyed fabric and materials
- Domestic textiles and wallpaper
- Interior design
- Constructed textiles
- Installed textiles

ART & DESIGN: 3D ART

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: At least a Grade 6 in Product Design, Graphics, Textiles or Fine Art

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

What will I study?

Year 1

You will spend the year developing key skills in a range of materials (traditional workshop skills, CAD/CAM-3D printing, laser cutting, Styrofoam and card modelling and other multimedia techniques.) You will then develop your preferred manufacturing technique(s) into small focused projects. You will learn how to make relevant connections to the work of others. Essentially this is the development year in preparation for the A Level in year 2.

Year 2

Component 1: Personal investigation This is a practical investigation supported by written material. The investigation will be a coherent, in depth study developing a sustained investigation from an initial starting point to a final realisation. The written element is a structured response of between 1000 and 3000 words. Component 2: Externally set assignment. You will choose one of the exam board's externally set questions and develop this into a body of work. Following the preparatory period you will complete a fifteen hour exam.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is marked against AQA's marking criteria. Portfolio is 60% and the externally set assignment 40% of your final grade.

Areas of study within 3D Art:

- Architecture
- Exhibition design
- Design for theatre, television and film
- Interior design
- Product design
- Environmental and architectural design
- Jewellery/body ornament

You will have your own studio space in the Sixth Form Art Studio. You will work in your studio during lessons. It will also be available for your use during personal study.

BIOLOGY

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Minimum of a Grade 6 in either GCSE Science Trilogy or GCSE Biology, plus a minimum of a Grade 6 in GCSE Maths

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

What will I study?

Year 1

- Biological Molecules
- Cells
- Organisms exchange substances with their environment
- Genetic information

Year 2

- Energy transfer
- Changes in internal and external environments
- Genetics, Populations, Evolution and Ecosystems
- The control of gene expression

How will I be assessed?

Three examined units at the end of Year 2, including questions on relevant practical skills. Working towards passing the Practical Endorsement Award, a separate qualification to Biology A Level, in which your teacher will assess you over the two year course.



BUSINESS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: You do not need to have studied Business Studies at GCSE and you will not be disadvantageded in the slightest if you have not. On a number of occasions, the highest attaining students have been those who have not studied Business at GCSE. Students require at least a Grade 5 in Maths GCSE as the course contains a great deal of number work.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: Edexcel

What will I study?

During the first year you will be introduced to the market, which will enable you to understand how businesses identify opportunities and to explore how businesses focus on developing a competitive advantage through interacting with customers. You will also consider 'people', exploring how businesses recruit, train, organise and motivate employees, as well as the role of enterprising individuals and leaders. You will then go on to explore the finance and operations functions and investigate external influences on business.

How will I be assessed?

At the end of year 2 you will be required to sit three exams:

- Paper 1: Marketing, people and global businesses (35% of total award)
- Paper 2: Business activities, decisions and strategy (35% of total award)
- Paper 3: Investigating business in a competitive environment (30% of total award)

Each of the three papers are two hours long. Each paper comprises of two sections each containing one data response question broken down into a number of parts, including one extended open-response question. Paper 3 is synoptic, so will therefore assess content across all themes of the A Level course. Paper 3 is based on a pre-released context. The context will focus on a broad area, such as an industry or market in which businesses operate. A new context document will be issued to the school each year. Students will be able to research the context prior to the exam, but will not be allowed to take any of their research data into the examination.

CHEMISTRY

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Minimum of a Grade 6 in either GCSE Science Trilogy or GCSE Chemistry, plus a minimum of a Grade 6 in GCSE Maths.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

What will I study?

The work covered not only builds on the GCSE content you have already studied but also adds on a significant step up in both content and theoretical understanding. Topics covered include: Atomic structure, Amount of substance, Bonding, Energetics, Kinetics, Chemical equilibria, Le Châtelier's principle and K_c , Oxidation, Reduction and Redox equations, Thermodynamics, Rate equations, Equilibrium constant K_p for homogeneous systems, Electrode potentials and Electrochemical cells, Acids and bases, Periodicity, Group 2, The alkaline earth metals, Group 7(17), The halogens, Properties of Period 3 elements and their oxides, Transition metals, Reactions of ions in aqueous solution, Introduction to organic chemistry, Alkanes, Halogenoalkanes, Alkenes, Alcohols, Organic analysis, Optical isomerism, Aldehydes and ketones, Carboxylic acids and derivatives, Aromatic chemistry, Amines, Polymers, Amino acids, proteins and DNA, Organic synthesis, Nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy, Chromatography.

How will I be assessed?

Three exams at the end of year 2: Paper 1 covers inorganic chemistry; Paper 2 covers organic chemistry; Paper 3 is a mixed exam covering all topics with a multiple choice section. Also a separate practical endorsement based upon practical work done in class, and assessed by the teacher. Full details can be found at: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-level/chemistry-7404-7405/specification>

Or, you can use the QR Code below.



COMPUTER SCIENCE

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Recommended for those who have studied GCSE Computer Science, and are strong candidates in Maths and the Sciences. Computer Science complements Maths and Science A Level options.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

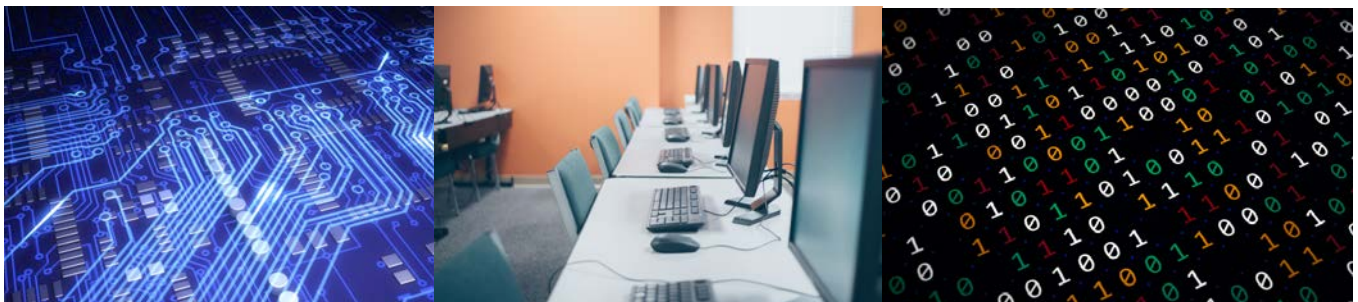
EXAMINING BODY: OCR

What will I study?

- Computer Systems
- Characteristics of processors, IPOS devices
- Software and software development
- Exchanging data
- Data types, data structures and algorithms
- Legal, moral, cultural and ethical issues
- Algorithms and Programming
- Elements of Computational Thinking
- Problem solving and programming
- Algorithms to solve problems and standard algorithms
- Programming Project
- Analysis, Design, Development and Evaluation

How will I be assessed?

Assessed via two examinations (both 2.5 hours each) and a computing project.



DRAMA & THEATRE

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: GCSE Drama is helpful (Grade 6 or higher) but by no means essential. At least a Grade 6 in English would also be a good indicator of suitability for the written elements of the course. Most important is an enthusiasm for performance.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: Edexcel

What will I study?

Component 1 - Devising (40% of the qualification)

In this component you will devise and perform an original piece of theatre. You will use a piece of text and a theatre practitioner as your stimulus. There is a free choice on both text and practitioner. You can work as a performer or a designer.

Component 2 - Text in Performance (20% of the qualification)

In this component you will perform a key extract from a text. You will also perform a monologue/duologue from another text. Design options are available for this component. You have a free choice of text.

Component 3 - Theatre Makers in Practice (40% of the qualification)

In this component you will study two complete texts and a variety of live theatre. Texts will be studied practically in lessons.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Internally assessed and externally moderated. You will be assessed on your performance in the final piece (or your design realisation) and a portfolio that documents the process you went through. This can be written, verbal (recorded) or a combination of the two.

Component 2: You will be assessed on your performance and the completion of a written performance/design realisation. This component is assessed externally by a visiting examiner.

Component 3: This component is assessed through a written exam. In the exam you will answer questions on the staging and interpretation of the text from the point of view of director, performer and designer. There is also a question that requires you to evaluate a piece of live theatre that you have seen during the course.

ECONOMICS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: 15% of the assessment for A Level Economics is mathematical so a firm grasp of Maths is helpful and at least a Grade 5 at GCSE is desirable.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: Edexcel

What will I study?

Economics is the study of the issues caused by infinite human desires in a world of scarce and diminishing resources. How do we decide who gets what and when? Who are the winners and who the inevitable losers? This course will enable students to interpret for themselves the events, issues, and policies seen in the news every day.

Theme 1: Markets, consumers and firms

Students will develop an understanding of enterprise, business and the economy.

Theme 2: The wider economic environment

Students will develop an understanding of business growth and competitive advantage and life in a global economy

Theme 3: The global economy

Students will develop an understanding of globalisation and the impact of globalisation on global companies.

Theme 4: Making markets work

Students will develop an understanding of competition and market power including risk and the financial sector.

How will I be assessed?

- Paper 1 - Assessing theme 1 and 4, a 2 hour paper which is 35% of final grade
- Paper 2 - Assessing theme 2 and 3, a 2 hour paper which is 35% of final grade
- Paper 3 – Assessing all themes, 30% of final grade



ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: At least a Grade 6 in GCSE English Language. A keen interest in words and language. A willingness to undertake independent study and research. An enjoyment of writing. A positive work ethos and commitment to learning.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

What will I study?

- Textual variations and representations
- Children's language development
- Language diversity
- Language discourses
- Writing skills
- Language investigation
- Original writing

How will I be assessed?

2 x 2 ½ hour examinations (each one is 40% of the A Level). Language in Action - coursework: language investigation and original writing (3500 words: 20% of A Level).



ENGLISH LITERATURE

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: At least a Grade 6 in GCSE English Language and Literature. A passion and enthusiasm for reading literature across the genres of prose, poetry, drama and non fiction. A willingness to discuss ideas about texts and explore interpretations of texts with others. An interest in the influences on writers throughout time. A positive work ethos and commitment to learning.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

What will I study?

Love through the ages: One Shakespearean play, one prose text and a collection of poetry. Texts in shared contexts: study of texts from modern times across prose, poetry and drama. Independent critical study: texts across time, coursework essay exploring two texts of own choice.

How will I be assessed?

- A 3 hour examination (40% of A Level)
- A 2 ½ hour examination (40%) of A Level)
- Independent critical study - coursework essay (2500 words: 20% of A Level)



EPQ

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: At least a Grade 6 in GCSE English Language is desirable. The Extended Project Qualification is an A-Level standard qualification designed to extend and enhance your abilities beyond the A-Level syllabuses, and prepare for university, an apprenticeship or in your chosen career. The Extended Project Qualification is a greatly beneficial but demanding course, therefore a good level of literacy is required. An enthusiasm to research widely and independently alongside an ability to complete an extended piece of writing is essential.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: Level 3 (equivalent to half an A Level)

LENGTH OF COURSE: One year

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

What will I study?

The EPQ allows you to lead your own project. You get to plan and carry out research on a topic that you have chosen. You can take inspiration from something touched on in class or something personal and unrelated to your studies.

How will I be assessed?

Using your research, you will produce a 5,000 word written report and deliver a 7 minute presentation to peers and your supervisor.

What skills will I develop?

You will develop your ability to:

- Think critically, and be a reflective and independent learner
- Make decisions and improve your problem solving skills
- Plan, research, analyse, synthesise and evaluate information
- Deliver presentations to your peers and supervisor
- Demonstrate your creativity, initiative and enterprise
- Write academically and reference correctly

Undertaking an EPQ can also deliver other benefits for students, such as:

- Improved overall A Level performance
- Receiving lower entry offers from some universities
- Provide something to discuss in university interviews, writing personal statements, and during apprenticeship interviews

FRENCH

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: You need to be predicted at least a Grade 6 in French.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

What will I study?

Year 1

- Aspects of French speaking society – family, cyber society, voluntary work
- Artistic culture in the French speaking world – music and cinema
- Study of a film
- Grammar and vocabulary

Year 2

- Aspects of French speaking society – diversity, the marginalised, criminals
- Political life in the French speaking world – teenagers, strikes, immigration
- Study of a book or play
- Research on a topic of your own choice
- Grammar and vocabulary

How will I be assessed?

Exams are at the end of the second year.

- **Paper 1:** Listening, reading and translation (50% of marks)
- **Paper 2:** Essay each on the film and book/play (20% of marks)
- **Oral:** Discussion of one of the above themes and your research topic (30% of marks)



GEOGRAPHY

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: A minimum of Grade 6 in GCSE Geography is desirable. Please note students are expected by the exam board to attend 4 days of fieldwork; this is an advance notice that the course fieldtrip charge will total approximately £250 across the two years. This will involve a three day residential trip (to explore coastal landscapes) and a 1 day trip to a city; these trips will form 20% of the final assessed grade.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

What will I study?

You will study a range of contemporary human and physical topics and explore the complex inter-relationships between them. Topics include atmospheric and tectonic hazards, changing coasts, population and migration issues, global governance, water and carbon cycles and finally the concept of changing places and spaces. Two compulsory fieldtrips will be run to prepare students for their exams and their assessed written project, develop their analytical skills and to develop their ability to work as part of a team.

How will I be assessed?

- Exam 1: (40%) 2 hours and 30 minutes. 120 marks. Topics: Coasts, Water and carbon cycle and Natural Hazards.
- Exam 2: (40%) 2 hours and 30 minutes. 120 marks. Topics: Global systems and Global Governance, Changing places, Population and Environment
- Fieldwork Project: (20%). 60 marks. 3000-4000 words marked by teacher and moderated by AQA.



HISTORY

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: At least a Grade 6 in GCSE History is desirable or, if History has not been studied at GCSE Level, at least a Grade 6 in English is desirable. A Level History is a great but demanding course. A good level of literacy is required alongside an ability to write at length and an enthusiasm to read widely and independently.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

What will I study?

Year 1 Topics:

- The Russian Revolution and the Rise of Stalin 1917 - 1929. This topic looks at the February and October Revolutions in 1917, the establishment of the Communist state and how Stalin rose to power.
- Consolidation of the Tudor Dynasty: England 1485 - 1547. This topic looks at the reigns of Henry VII and Henry VIII and the issues of power, authority and society.

Year 2 Topics:

- Stalin's Rule, 1929 - 1953. This topic looks at economy and society, 1929-41 (industrialisation, collectivisation and the cult of Stalin; Stalinism, politics and control 1929 - 41 and the Great Patriotic War and Stalin's dictatorship, 1941 -53.
- England: Turmoil and Triumph 1547 - 1603. This topic looks at instability and consolidation and if there was a mid-Tudor crisis during the reigns of Edward VI and Mary Tudor before looking at the triumph of Elizabeth I.

Coursework: Civil Rights in the USA. Students complete a 3500 word essay looking at change over a 100-year period; e.g. how the social, legal, political or economic status of African Americans changed between 1860 and 1970. There will be a short taught course followed by an independent investigation task.

How will I be assessed?

- Russia exam (40%) - All Year 1 and Year 2 topics are assessed in this exam. Students answer one source based question and two essay questions.
- Tudor exam (40%) - All Year 1 and Year 2 topics are assessed in this exam. Students answer one source based question and two essay questions.
- Coursework (20%) - Students complete a 3500 word essay

MATHS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: A Grade 6 in GCSE Maths is the minimum requirement, however a Grade 7 is desirable. Students will also need to pass a baseline assessment at the start of the course which covers key skills in algebra and trigonometry needed for the A Level Maths course.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: Edexcel

What will I study?

All students will study topics from Pure mathematics, Mechanics and Statistics and there will also be links within the topics which are assessed through problem solving questions.

The course is made up of:

- Algebra and Functions
- Proof
- Coordinate Geometry
- Trigonometry
- Exponentials and Logarithms
- Differentiation and Integration
- Numerical Methods
- Vectors
- Statistical sampling
- Use of data in statistics
- Probability
- Statistical distributions and hypothesis testing
- Quantities and units in Mechanics
- Kinematics
- Forces and Newton's laws
- Moments

How will I be assessed?

In total there will be 3 exams of 2 hours each in Year 2:

- 66.6% Pure mathematics - this will be assessed by 2 exams of 2 hours each
- 16.6% Mechanics -this will be assessed by 1 exam of 1 hour
- 16.6% Statistics -this will be assessed by 1 exam of 1 hour

CORE MATHS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: At least a Grade 4 in GCSE Maths

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: AS Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: One year

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

What will I study?

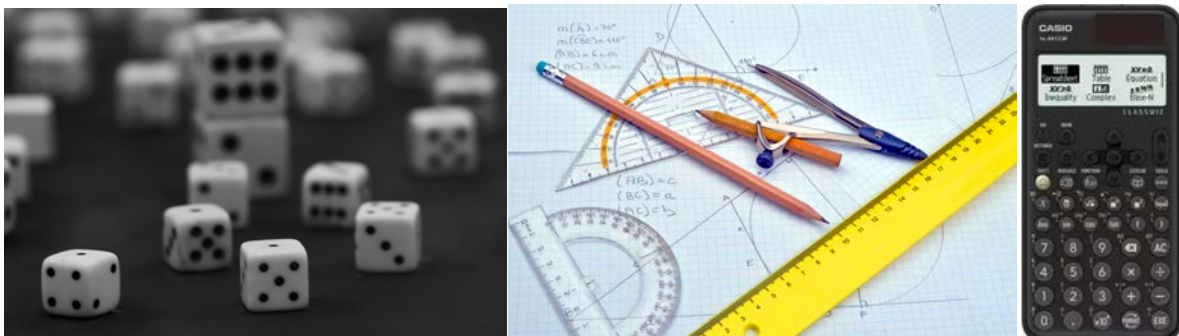
You will study problem solving in the context of statistics and finance. Core Maths has been designed to maintain and develop real-life skills. What you study is not purely theoretical or abstract; it can be applied on a day to day basis in work, study or life and the course includes a financial Maths element. Core Maths will also help with other A Level subjects in particular with Science, Geography, Business Studies, Psychology and Economics.

The skills developed in the study of Maths are increasingly important in the workplace and in higher education; studying Core Maths will help you keep up these essential skills. On average, students who study Maths after GCSE improve their career choices and increase their earning prospects.

The course is made up of: Analysis of data Maths for personal finance Estimation Critical analysis of given data and models (including spreadsheets and tabular data) The normal distribution Probabilities and estimation Correlation and regression.

How will I be assessed?

At the end of the year there will be two papers each 1.5 hours long and worth 60 marks. You will require a scientific or graphical calculator.



FURTHER MATHS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: A Grade 7 in GCSE Maths is the minimum requirement, however a Grade 8 is highly desirable. Students will also need to pass a baseline assessment at the start of the course which covers key skills in algebra and trigonometry needed for the A Level Further Maths course.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: Edexcel

What will I study?

All students will study topics from Pure mathematics, Mechanics and Decision Mathematics and there will also be links within the topics which are assessed through problem solving questions.

The course is made up of: 50% of the content is compulsory and covers the following topic areas: Matrices Proof Complex Numbers Further algebra and functions Further calculus Further vectors Polar coordinates Hyperbolic functions Differential Equations The remaining 50% will come from topics within Further Pure Mathematics, Mechanics and Decision maths.

How will I be assessed?

In total there will be 3 exams of 2 hours each in Year 2.

- 50% Further Core Pure mathematics - this will be assessed by 2 exams of 1.5 hours each
- 50% chosen from 2 modules on Further Pure mathematics, Decision Maths or Mechanics - this will be assessed by 2 exams of 1.5 hours each

MUSIC (A LEVEL)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: A GCSE or BTEC Level 2 in Music. Applications from students without these qualifications will be considered if students have a good level of musical ability on an instrument or voice.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: WJEC

What will I study and how will I be assessed?

Learners must choose either Option A in Components 1 and 2, or Option B in both Components 1 and 2.

Component 1: Performing – Options A or B

Non-exam assessment: externally assessed by a visiting examiner.

Option A (35%) Total performance duration: 10–12 minutes.

Option B (25%) Total performance duration: 6–8 minutes.

Component 2: Composing – Options A or B

Non-exam assessment: externally assessed by WJEC Eduqas.

Option A (25%) Total duration of compositions: 8 – 10 minutes.

Option B (35%) Total duration of compositions: 4 – 6 minutes.

The written examination (40%) focuses on three areas of study.

Area of study A: The Western Classical Tradition covering The Development of the Symphony, 1750 – 1900.

The second area of study is selected from: Area of study B: Rock and Pop (1960–2000)
Area of study C: Musical Theatre (Rodgers, Bernstein, Sondheim, Schonberg, Lloyd Webber and Schwartz)
Area of study D: Jazz (1920–1960).

The third area of study is selected from Area of study E: Into the 20th Century
Area of study F: Into the 21st Century.

MUSIC

(BTEC LEVEL 3)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: A GCSE or BTEC Level 2 in Music. Applications from students without these qualifications will be considered if students have a good level of musical ability on an instrument or voice.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: Music - BTEC Level 3

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: Edexcel

What will I study?

There are different courses in this qualification depending on your interests. These are performing, composing, music technology (events support), music technology (DJ technology) and music technology (production). There are a range of units to choose from which you can tailor to your abilities and interests.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is entirely through coursework. Six units will be completed over two years.



PHILOSOPHY

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: A Grade 6 or higher in Philosophy and Ethics at GCSE or at least a grade 6 in English.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: OCR

What will I study?

The course is split into 3 sections:

Philosophy: You will study the views of a range of philosophers such as Plato, Aristotle, Thomas Aquinas, William Paley, Immanuel Kant and Ludwig Wittgenstein. We will look at their arguments which relate to the nature of reality, the soul, mind and body, the existence of God, the problem of evil and the meaning of religious language.

Ethics: Where you will study key ethical theories including Kantian Ethics and Utilitarianism. You will also get to explore contemporary moral issues including sexual ethics, medical ethics and business ethics. We will also look at the origins and the role of conscience and so Philosophy and Ethics works well in combination with other subjects such as Psychology, Business and Biology.

Religious developments: The religion we focus on is Christianity and we will focus on the philosophies of Augustine, Aquinas, Hick, Calvin and Mary Daly. We will discuss human nature and whether humans are broken, whether belief in the afterlife can be defended, whether Christian theology is fundamentally sexist and whether it is morally acceptable for Christians to disobey unjust authorities.

How will I be assessed?

There will be three 2 hour exams at the end of Year 13, each paper is worth 33.3%



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: A Grade 6 or above in GCSE Physical Education and/or a 6 or above in GCSE Science is desirable to follow this course.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: OCR

What will I study?

Component 01: Physiological factors affecting performance

- 1.1 Applied anatomy and physiology
- 1.2 Exercise physiology
- 1.3 Biomechanics

Component 02: Psychological factors affecting performance

- 2.1 Skill acquisition
- 2.2 Sports psychology

Component 03: Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport

- 3.1 Sport and Society
- 3.2 Contemporary issues in physical activity and sport

Component 04: Performance in physical education (NEA)

- 4.1 Performance or coaching of an activity taken from the approved lists
- 4.2 The Evaluation and Analysis of Performance for Improvement (EAPI)

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1 Physiological factors affecting performance, two hours written paper; Applied anatomy and physiology, Exercise physiology, Biomechanics

Paper 2 Psychological factors affecting performance, one hour written paper; Skill acquisition, sports psychology

Paper 3 Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport, one hour written paper; Sport and society, Contemporary issues in physical activity and sport.

Performance in Physical Education Non-exam assessment (NEA) Performance or Coaching in one chosen activity and an Evaluation and Analysis of Performance for Improvement (EAPI).

PHYSICS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: A minimum of a Grade 6 in either GCSE Science Trilogy or GCSE Physics, plus a minimum of a Grade 6 in GCSE Maths.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

What will I study?

Year 1

- Measurements and their errors
- Particles and Radiation
- Waves
- Mechanics and Materials
- Electricity

Year 2

- Further Mechanics and Thermal Physics
- Fields and their consequences
- Nuclear Physics
- Astrophysics (option)

How will I be assessed?

At the end of year 2, you will be required to sit three exams (two hours long):

Paper 1: Sections 1-5 and 6.1 (Periodic motion)

Paper 2: Section 6.2 (Thermal physics), 7 and 8 (Assumed knowledge from sections 1-6.1)

Paper 3: Section A: Compulsory section: Practical skills and data analysis and Section B: Students enter for one of sections 9, 10, 11, 12 or 13

There is also a Practical Endorsement Award, a separate qualification to Physics A Level, in which your teacher will assess you over the two year course.

POLITICS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: A minimum of a Grade 6 in English or a Humanities subject is desirable. A willingness to be involved in discussion is a must.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: Edexcel

What will I study?

A-Level Politics enables students to develop their critical thinking skills and enhance their ability to interpret, evaluate and comment on the nature of politics.

- **UK politics:** Students will investigate in detail how people and politics interact. They will explore the emergence and development of the UK's democratic system and the similarities, differences, connections and parallels between direct and indirect democracy. They will focus on the role and scope of political parties that are so central to contemporary politics, including the significance of the manifestos they publish at election time and their relevance to the mandate of the resulting government.
- **UK Government:** This component is fundamental to understanding the nature of the UK government, since it enables students to understand where, how and by whom political decisions are made. The component also gives students a base of comparison to other political systems. It further introduces students to the specific roles and powers of the different major branches of the government – legislative, executive and judiciary – as well as the relationships and balance of power between them, and considers where sovereignty now lies within this system.
- **Core and Non-core Ideologies:** Students will also look at the three core ideologies of liberalism, conservatism and socialism and the non-core ideology of Nationalism. In this unit students will study the historical backgrounds of these ideologies and how they became the dominant ideologies in politics today.
- **US Politics:** Students will complete a comparative module on the US political system comparing how things are done in America with the UK. We study the Electoral systems, the power of the President and how laws are made and challenged.

How will I be assessed?

3 x 2 hour exam papers which are equally weighted (33.3%)

PRODUCT DESIGN

(3D)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: GCSE in Product Design or Textiles at Grade 5 or above. An interest in Art and/or ICT is also beneficial.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: Edexcel

What will I study?

We live in a consumer society and the design and manufacture of products is a multi billion pound industry. People use hundreds of different products everyday from a toothbrush when you wake up, a toaster for breakfast, microwave for lunch, sofa to flop out on and mobile phone to contact friends; the list is never ending.

The course focuses on developing an understanding of: Why products look the way they do? What makes people want to buy products? How do products effect the environment? What are products made from and why has this material been selected? How have products been made and why have they been made that way?

How will I be assessed?

The course is 50% coursework and 50% examination.

In year 1, you will complete several short projects using a variety of materials to help build your subject knowledge and practical skills.

In year 2, you will complete one coursework project on a subject of your choice. Practical outcomes for the year 2 project have included: architectural models, prosthetic limbs, gym training aid, children's educational computer (prototype), football shin pads and furniture. Your final product can be made from virtually any material including: plastics, card, wood, metal, fabric, resin block or whatever is most suitable for the product that you design.

PSYCHOLOGY

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: It is desirable that students have at least a Grade 5 in Maths, because of the statistical content in the course, and at least a Grade 6 in another humanities course to prepare them for the essay writing and critical debate. At least a Grade 6 in a Science would also be helpful for the research and experimental aspects of the course.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: Edexcel

What will I study?

In the first year students study four approaches (Social, Cognitive, Biological and Learning) to gain a foundation in psychology. Topics include obedience, prejudice, memory and the brain. In the second year students then go on to do Clinical Psychology, which is the study of mental health disorders and treatments, and Criminal Psychology, which is the study of criminality, courtroom psychology and treatment programmes.

How will I be assessed?

There is no coursework or controlled assessment in psychology, it is 100% exam.

There are three exams (two hours long). All are in June. Assessment comes in the form of short and medium answer questions and one essay per topic.

SPANISH

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: You need to be predicted at least a Grade 6 in Spanish.

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: A Level

LENGTH OF COURSE: Two years

EXAMINING BODY: AQA

What will I study?

Year 1

- Aspects of Spanish speaking society – modern and traditional values, cyber society, equal rights
- Artistic culture in the Spanish speaking world – idols, regions, cultural heritage
- Study of a film
- Grammar and vocabulary

Year 2

- Multiculturalism in Spanish speaking society – immigration, integration, racism
- Political life in the Spanish speaking world – youth, monarchy and republic, popular movements
- Study of a book or play
- Research on a topic of your own choice
- Grammar and vocabulary

How will I be assessed?

Exams are at the end of the second year.

Paper 1: Listening, reading and translation (50% of marks)

Paper 2: Essay each on the film and book/ play (20% of marks)

Oral: discussion of one of the above themes and your research topic (30% of marks)



SPORTS LEADERS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: There are no particular entry requirements but some experience in sports is preferred

QUALIFICATION STUDIED FOR: SLQ Level 2

LENGTH OF COURSE: One year

EXAMINING BODY: Sports Leaders UK

What will I study?

There are four units:

- Unit 1: Building leadership skills
- Unit 2: Plan, lead and evaluate sport/physical activity sessions
- Unit 3: Assist in planning and leading a sports/physical activity event
- Unit 4: Lead sport/physical activity sessions in your community – 10 hours

How will I be assessed?

- Two assessed sessions
- Observation of a role within a sporting event
- Completion of the sports leaders booklet



EXTRA CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

The Enrichment Programme is designed to offer students the opportunity to develop their interests, experiences, achievements and qualifications, allowing the students to broaden their educational base.

The courses within the programme allows students to gain wider experiences in addition to gaining a formal qualification which in the main, can be used to support their entry into university courses or enhance employment applications.

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)	Community Sports Leadership Award (CSLA)	 Certificate in Applied Computing
Volunteering		Sixth Form Sports Teams
Duke of Edinburgh	Charity Fund Raising Events	
	Work Experience	
First Aid training		Teaching English as a foreign language (TEFL)

Our Sixth Form volunteering programme encourages all Year 12 students to give at least one hour a week to support our school community. With a wide range of opportunities available, students can choose roles that reflect their interests or support their future university and career aspirations. Options include helping in the library, mentoring younger students, supporting language learning, creating school displays, or working with those experiencing school anxiety. Volunteering not only strengthens our community but also helps students build valuable skills, gain experience, and enhance their personal development and CVs.



ALUMNI

Yasmin H

I was a Sixth form student 2021-2023 and am currently studying Medicine at the University of Manchester. I achieved AAA in Biology, Chemistry and Maths. In lessons I found all of my teachers to be very helpful, especially due to the small class sizes, they could help each person one on one while also getting through the course efficiently. My tutor gave me a lot of support with my application to University and helped me to prepare for my UCAT and the admissions interview. Studying for A levels is stressful but the teachers do all that they can to help you, whether that's putting on extra revision sessions in their spare time or having a chat with you about any concerns.



Lexi B

I originally went to another local academy; however, I chose to come to South Wolds for sixth form because the teachers I spoke to on the open day were very passionate about their subjects, because of this I knew that my education would be in great hands. I study biology, chemistry and psychology A levels as I aspire to attend medical school, my teachers have been very supportive with my decision and have given me advice and guidance whenever I need it. I love the sixth form learning environment. I feel we get a lot of freedom around how we want to do specific pieces of work, whilst still having a lot of teacher support. And we all love dressing up at Halloween!

Alex B

South Wolds Academy Sixth Form offered me so much, specifically the option to do three art A-levels through the Arts Pathway. Compared to options at other settings, South Wolds had a much more approachable and friendly learning environment. I currently study Graphic Design, Fine Art and Photography and I can study and progress my learning with in the study room or the sixth form art room that have so many resources to offer. In the future, I hope to continue to study Graphic Design and grow as a person.



STUDENT SUPPORT

Wellbeing

At South Wolds Sixth Form, we understand that good mental health is vital to every student's success and well-being. Research shows that young people with strong mental health not only perform better academically but also build healthier relationships with friends and family, and develop the resilience needed to navigate life's challenges—both now and in the future.

Our goal is to support every student's emotional health and wellbeing throughout their time here. Your personal tutor is always available to listen, provide guidance, offer mentorship, or connect you with specialist agencies if additional support is needed.

Additionally, students can access support from a Tier 2 mentor trained specifically in mental health, as well as our dedicated school counsellor. To further promote wellbeing, we offer Life Lessons every fortnight, focusing on Positive Psychology, strategies for managing negative thoughts, and maintaining good physical health.

At South Wolds Sixth Form, your mental and emotional health matters, and we're here to help you thrive.

Financial Support

Eligible students can access The 16-19 Bursary Fund: a scheme to help young people facing financial hardship whilst in full-time education. There are two packages of help available, The Vulnerable Bursary of £1200 per year for students who for example have been or are in care or are in receipt of Disability Allowance and The Discretionary Bursary available for those in need of finance to help meet specific costs to enable them to stay in education and complete their courses, e.g. transport, equipment, fieldwork costs, specialist clothing. More information is available on the school website.



HOW TO APPLY

We are delighted that you are considering joining our Sixth Form. Applying is simple, and we are here to support you at every step of the process. We welcome applications from both internal and external students. If you have any questions at any stage, please don't hesitate to contact our Sixth Form team.

Step 1: Explore Your Options

Take time to read through our prospectus, attend our Sixth Form Open Evening, and speak to staff and current students. This will help you make informed decisions about the courses that suit your interests, strengths, and future ambitions.

Step 2: Complete an Application Form

Application forms can be completed online via our website or in person. You'll be asked to provide your subject choices and some information about your current studies.

Step 3: Attend an Interview

Once we've received your application, we will invite you to an informal interview. This is an opportunity to discuss your subject choices, career aspirations, and how we can support your success at Sixth Form.

Step 4: Conditional Offer

Following your interview, you may be given a conditional offer based on your predicted GCSE grades and suitability for your chosen subjects.

Step 5: Enrolment

After receiving your GCSE results in August, you'll be invited to an enrolment meeting to confirm your place and finalise your subject choices.



Scan the QR code to
apply for your place
here

www.southwolds.uk

0115 937 3506

sixthform@southwolds.uk

The South Wolds Academy Sixth Form
Church Drive
Keyworth
Nottingham
NG12 5FF

