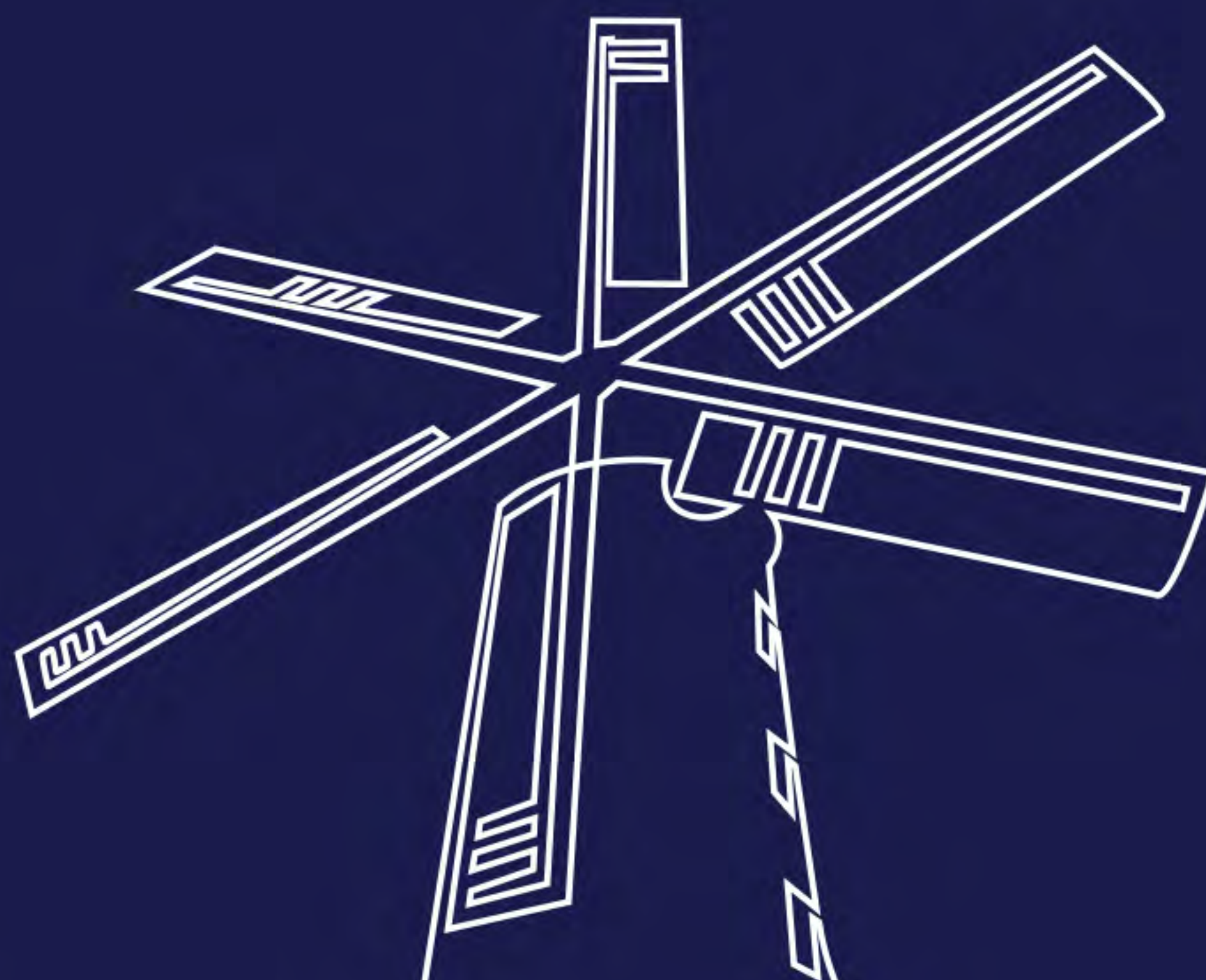




TOLL BAR
SIXTH FORM

Course Guide

2025 / 2026



A welcome from your Sixth Form Team

Our mission at Toll Bar Sixth Form is to ensure that all students leave us equipped with the knowledge and skills that will allow them to successfully navigate a rapidly changing world.

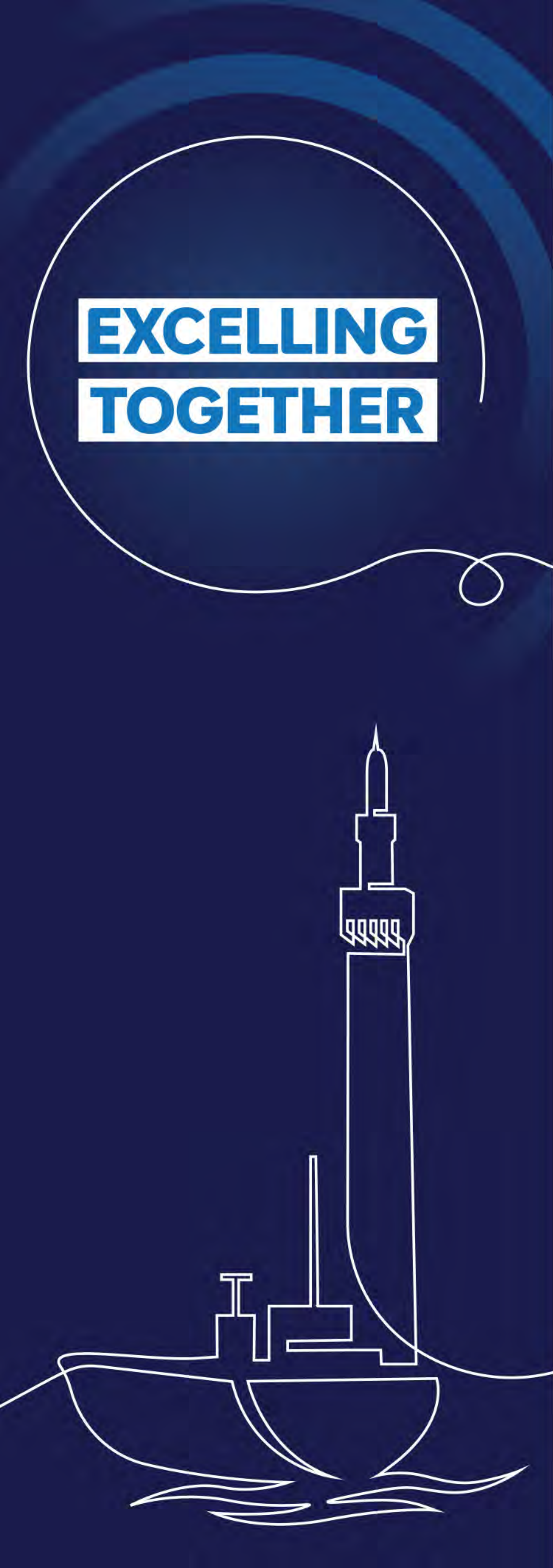
Through exceptional levels of support, guidance and challenge, our students are encouraged to maximise their potential, enabling them to access the most prestigious and sought-after university courses, higher apprenticeships and employment opportunities.

Our success is underpinned by a belief in the core values of Aspiration, Responsibility and Compassion.

We are immensely proud of the Sixth Form community that we have created, and welcome you to be part of our success story.

A decorative graphic consisting of several concentric circles in shades of red and white, with a white swirl line extending from the bottom right.

**ASPIRATION
RESPONSIBILITY
COMPASSION**



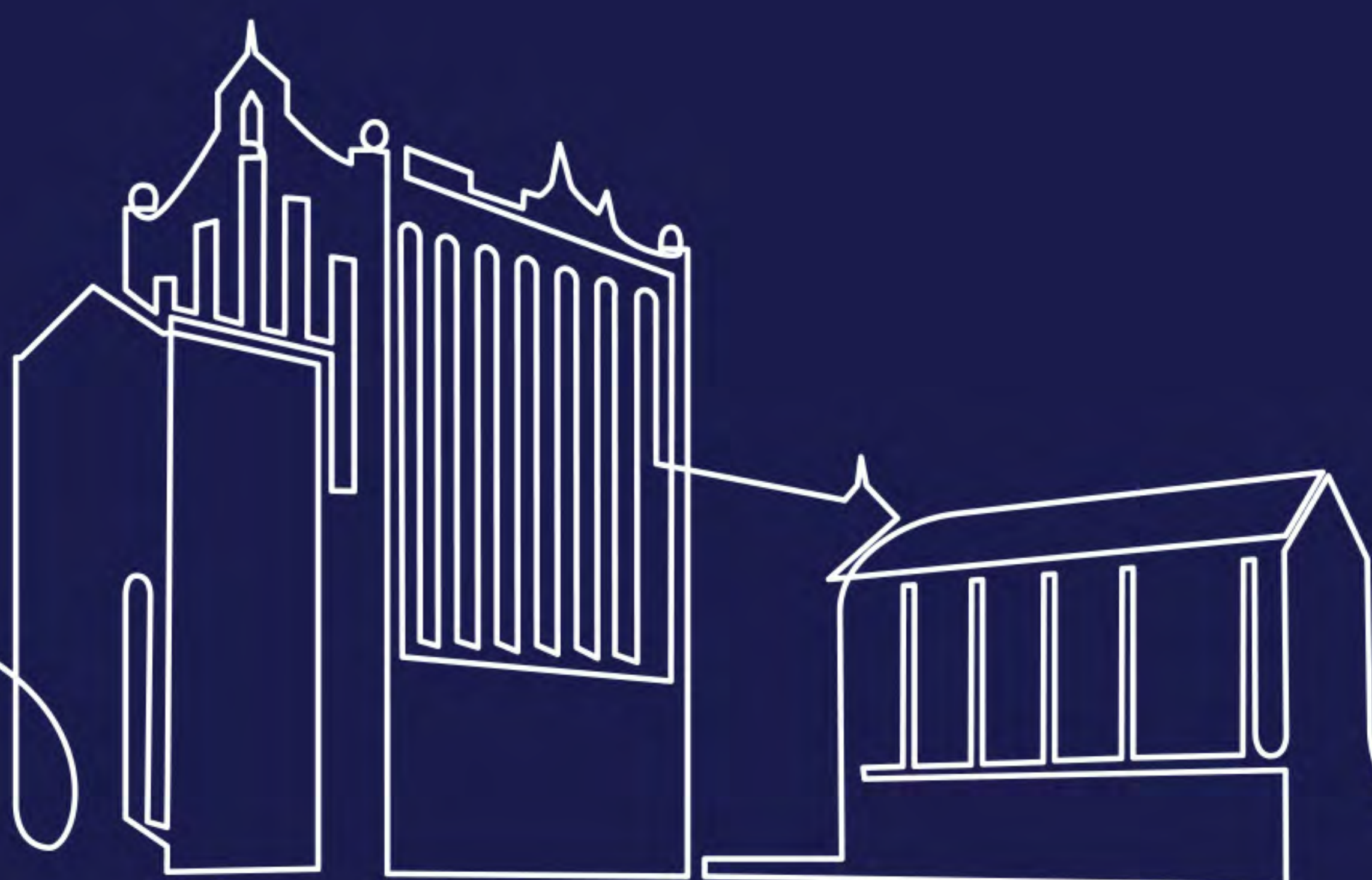
EXCELLING TOGETHER

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Sixth Form Life

At Toll Bar Sixth Form, we are proud to support a community where students can confidently learn, develop life skills and enjoy their time with us. Our students benefit from outstanding teaching, excellent facilities, a supportive pastoral system and a wide portfolio of enrichment opportunities. Together with our personalised approach, our students are truly enabled to maximise their potential.





Our Facilities

Our immaculately maintained site provides everything our students need to feel safe, comfortable and confident. Facilities include: specialist classrooms, quiet study areas, a games room, pleasant communal spaces, a reflection room, library and our own café. With our independent Sixth Form campus sitting alongside our sister Academy, students also benefit from the opportunity to share sporting and music facilities.

Educational Visits

Our students benefit from a range of trips designed to enhance subject knowledge or better prepare them for life beyond the classroom. Recent visits have included: the Houses of Parliament and Supreme Court of Justice; Malham Tarn, the Lake District and Yorkshire Moors; Amazon's Doncaster Fulfilment Centre; Rome's historic sites.

Pastoral Support

Our students are supported by a pastoral network consisting of a personal tutor, specialist careers advisors, a student council, and the wider Sixth Form Leadership Team. Students can also access Academy-wide SEND, counselling and wellbeing services.

Tutorial Programme

Our comprehensive tutorial programme ensures our students are well-informed and addresses a whole range of issues relevant to their age group, including university options, career choices, mental health awareness, alcohol and drug use, personal finance, and online safety.

Enrichment

We provide dedicated enrichment time to enable our students to participate in a variety of enrichment activities, including volunteering, peer mentoring, sports coaching and fundraising, as invaluable experience preparing them for life beyond Sixth Form. Our aim is not only to prepare our students for A-level success, but also to enable them to make better decisions in all aspects of their lives.

Our Story of Success

Toll Bar Sixth Form has a long track record of supporting students to maximise their potential and achieve outstanding outcomes. Through dedication and commitment, our students consistently achieve excellent results that enable them to progress to their chosen destinations, including elite universities and competitive higher apprenticeships.

We are tremendously proud of every one of our alumni, and feature just a few here to provide a flavour of where studying with us could take you.



Paulina Maziarska

Paulina left us in 2019 to study at the University of Oxford. She is now studying for an MPhil in Modern Middle Eastern Studies at Oxford.

“Throughout my time at Sixth Form I felt nothing but support from the amazing teachers there who pushed me and were invested in my success. The confidence I was able to develop during my A-levels helped me believe that I could apply to and thrive at a place like Oxford.”



Malakai Hammond

Mal left us in 2023 and is now enjoying studying History and Politics at the University of Warwick.

“The Sixth Form Team put so much time and effort into every student. The support I received, both from teachers and the wider sixth form community, made my experience incredibly special and is something I will always cherish”



Carima Salameh

Carima left us in 2021 and is now studying Accounting, Business Finance and Management at University of York.

“My teachers were always by my side every step of the journey through Sixth Form, giving me the belief that I could achieve my goals. This confidence has helped me attain a prestigious industry placement next year with Siemens Energy. I am very excited.”



Isaac Lonsdale

Isaac left us in 2024 to pursue a career in commercial law, succeeding in securing a highly prestigious apprenticeship with leading international law firm Weil, Gotshal & Manges in central London.

“The recruitment process for commercial law is very challenging. The work experience, extracurricular opportunities and alumni guidance offered by Sixth Form provided me with a real competitive advantage and certainly helped me secure my apprenticeship.”



Helping You Choose

Most students choose to study three subjects. We recognise that, for some of you, choosing which subjects to study is difficult. This simple guidance tool will help you to identify which courses are suited to certain career sectors.

If you have a specific career or university course in mind, we encourage you to conduct further research into entry requirements.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any advice or guidance on subject options and future pathways.



Accountancy, Banking and Finance

- Business
- Economics
- Law
- Maths
- Media Studies
- Politics

Computing and IT

- Business
- Economics
- IT
- Maths
- Media Studies
- Photography
- Physics

Healthcare and Therapy

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Maths
- PE
- Philosophy
- Psychology

Business, Management and Marketing

- Business
- Economics
- English Language
- IT
- Law
- Maths
- Media Studies
- Politics
- Photography
- Psychology

Creative Industries

- Art and Design
- Business
- Dance
- English Language
- IT
- Media Studies
- Music
- Performing Arts
- Photography

Engineering and Manufacturing

- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Economics
- Maths
- Physics

Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Maths
- PE
- Philosophy
- Psychology

Law, Criminology and Politics

- Business
- Criminology
- Economics
- Law
- Politics
- History
- Philosophy
- Psychology
- Sociology

Retail and Sales

- Business
- Economics
- IT
- Maths
- Media Studies
- Photography
- Psychology

Leisure, Sport and Tourism

- Business
- French
- Dance
- Geography
- Media Studies
- PE
- Performing Arts
- Psychology
- Spanish

Science and Research

- Biology
- Business
- Chemistry
- Economics
- Geography
- Maths
- Physics
- Psychology

Digital Industries

- Art and Design
- Business
- English Language
- IT
- Media Studies
- Music
- Photography
- Sociology

Writing and Linguistics

- English Language
- English Literature
- French
- History
- Media Studies
- Philosophy
- Spanish



Art and Design

Course overview

A-level Art and Design is intended to deepen your understanding of art practice and extend the creative skills developed at GCSE. Students have the opportunity to work with a wide variety of media and will be encouraged to be adventurous in expressing their own thoughts, observations and ideas. Observational drawing is fundamental to art practice and will form the keystone for each project. Students will work to set themes and be expected to explore, analyse and investigate the work of other artists, craft persons and designers to develop personal final outcomes, whilst developing personal skills and knowledge such as originality and fluency of ideas.

Assessment:

- **Unit 1: Personal Investigation**
A practical unit with written elements – 60% of the grade.
- **Unit 2: External Set Assignment**
A controlled test in two parts:
 - Preparatory period
 - Fifteen-hour exam – 40% of the grade.



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level Art and Design include:

- Web design
- Digital illustration
- Architecture
- Interior design
- Artist / Illustrator
- Curating

Course specification

Course name: A-level Art and Design

Exam board: AQA

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“Studying Art at Toll Bar Sixth Form has helped me discover things about myself and the world around me, all whilst developing my own creativity and personal style of practice. The friendly community environment in the studio is ideal for informed analytical discussion and sharing of ideas, interpretation and inspiration!”



Biology

Course overview

A-level Biology enables students to develop relevant practical skills alongside essential knowledge of a range of biological concepts and scientific methods. Students explore key concepts in biology including: genetics, evolution and ecosystems; biodiversity, evolution and disease; communication, homeostasis and energy and exchange and transport. The practical endorsement allows students to develop a good set of skills in the laboratory through experimental activities that support the teaching of each topic.

Assessment:

Three exams and a practical endorsement:

- **Paper 1: Biological Processes**
(2 hours, 15 minutes) – 37% of the grade
- **Paper 2: Biological Diversity**
(2 hours, 15 minutes) – 37% of the grade
- **Paper 3: Unified Biology**
(1 hour, 30 minutes) – 26% of the grade
- **Practical endorsement:**
A set of practical experiments are covered during the course. A pass/fail grade is achieved and is reported separately from the final A-level grade.



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level Biology include:

- Biomedical Science
- Medicine
- Dentistry
- Environmental Science
- Marine Biologist

Course specification

Course name: A-level Biology A

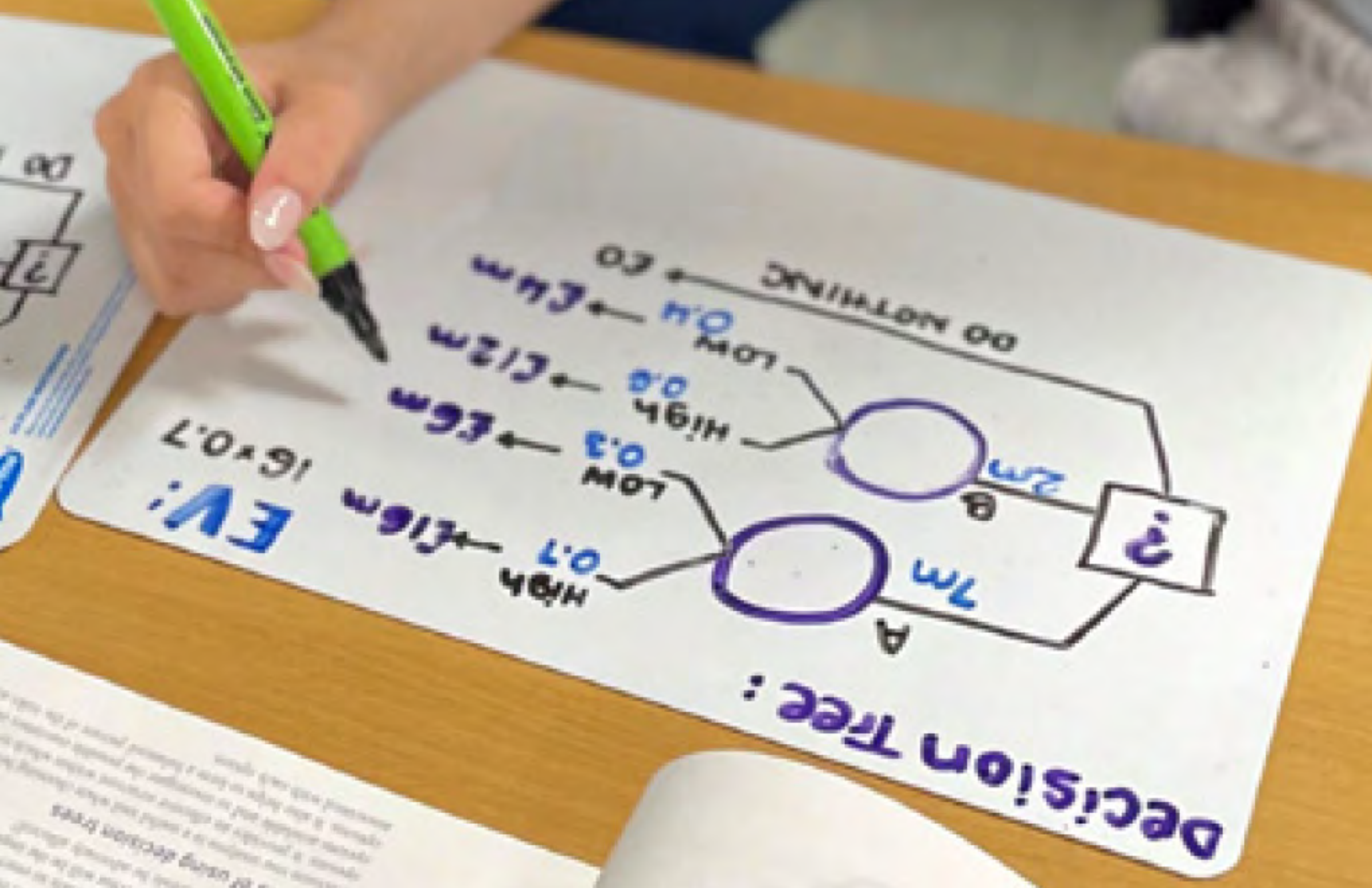
Exam board: OCR

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“Studying A-level Biology has provided a fascinating insight into our living planet, and given me a solid grounding in key biological concepts from biodiversity to molecular interactions, expanding my knowledge from GCSE. My practical skills have also really developed and I look forward to applying them in a future career.”



benefits of using decision trees

• A decision tree is a model that shows the possible outcomes of a decision and the expected value of each outcome. It is a useful tool for making decisions in situations where there is uncertainty about the future.

• The expected value of a decision is the sum of the probabilities of each outcome multiplied by the value of that outcome. For example, if there is a 50% chance of winning £100 and a 50% chance of winning £200, the expected value is $0.5 \times 100 + 0.5 \times 200 = 150$.

• Decision trees can be used to compare different options and to choose the option with the highest expected value. They can also be used to calculate the expected value of a decision if you choose to wait for more information before making a decision.

Business

Course overview

A-level Business helps students to develop a critical understanding of the functional and strategic decision-making within a wide variety of business contexts. The initial focus explores the purpose and nature of business and goes on to examine managing the four functional areas of marketing, finance, operations and human resources. A more strategic perspective follows, with students analysing how businesses evaluate their position to plan appropriate strategies for pursuing aims and objectives. Throughout, students are encouraged to link theory to contemporary business issues and case studies.

Assessment:

Three exams:

- **Paper 1: Marketing and Finance**
(2 hours) – 33% of the grade
- **Paper 2: Operations and People**
(2 hours) – 33% of the grade
- **Paper 3: Business Strategy**
(2 hours) – 33% of the grade.



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level Business include:

- Business and management
- Accountancy
- Marketing
- Civil service
- Data analyst
- Economic consultancy

Course specification

Course name: A-level Business

Exam board: AQA

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“Business A-level provides a fascinating insight into so many of the contemporary issues that shape our lives, like digital technology, globalisation and ethics. It gives me great confidence in my ability to pursue a whole range of career options.”



Chemistry

Course overview

OCR Chemistry is a 'context-led' approach to chemical concepts based on contemporary issues in chemistry. Ideas explored include the development of fuels, industrial processes and the environmental impact of obtaining and using chemicals. These ideas are fundamental in understanding the ways that society makes decisions about scientific issues. The practical endorsement aspect of the course will allow you to develop competence in the laboratory, through experimental activities that support the teaching of each topic.

Assessment:

Three exams and a practical endorsement:

- **Paper 1: Fundamentals of Chemistry** (2 hours, 15 minutes) – 41% of the grade
- **Paper 2: Scientific Literacy in Science** (2 hours, 15 minutes) – 37% of the grade
- **Paper 3: Practical Skills in Chemistry** (1 hour, 30 minutes) – 22% of the grade
- **Practical Endorsement:** A set of practical experiments are covered during the course. A pass/fail grade is achieved and is reported separately from the final A-level grade.



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level Chemistry include:

- Chemical Engineer
- Medicine
- Dentistry
- Biochemistry
- Analytical Chemistry
- Pharmacology

Course specification

Course name: A-level Chemistry B (Salters)

Exam board: OCR

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“I have enjoyed developing my practical skills in Chemistry this year. It is challenging yet rewarding to have to apply my knowledge to interpret results, carry out multi-step calculations and write conclusions.”



Criminology

Course overview

The Applied Certificate in Criminology explores a range of units to better understand why people commit crime and the role of the court system.

In year one, students study the reporting of crimes and how campaigns are used to elicit change. Students also explore a number of theories that have been developed to explain criminal behaviour. In year two, students study the process of criminal investigations in addition to learning about how the criminal justice system operates.

Assessment:

Two exams and two controlled assessments::

- **Unit 1: Changing awareness of crime** (Coursework) - 25% of the grade
- **Unit 2: Criminological theories** (Examination) - 25% of the grade
- **Unit 3: Crime Scene to Court Room** (Coursework) - 25% of the grade
- **Unit 4: Crime and Punishment** (Examination) - 25% of the grade.



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by Applied Criminology include:

- The police force
- Detective work
- The prison system
- Crown Prosecution Service
- Law work
- Teaching

Course specification

Course name: Level 3 Applied Certificate in Criminology

Exam board: WJEC

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“Criminology is really exciting. I now have a much better understanding of the reasons why people commit crime, the difference between criminal behaviour and deviance, and how we can control and punish criminality. I hope to go on to pursue a career in the criminal justice sector or other public service.”



Dance

Course overview

A-level Dance is a dynamic qualification which encourages students to develop their creative and intellectual capacity, alongside transferable skills such as team working, communication and problem solving. The main aim of the Dance A-level course is to give students a broad knowledge of Dance which they can articulate through the study of choreography, performance and appreciation. Over the course students will study the following: composition; performance; dance practitioners; two dance time periods; dance health and safety and an analysis of two set works

Assessment:

One exam and one practical examination to a visiting examiner:

- **Paper:** Two study periods and two set dance works – (2 hours) – 50% of the grade
- **Practical:** Solo Performance, Quartet Performance and Group Choreography – 50% of the grade.



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by Dance include:

- Dancer
- Choreographer
- Dance journalist
- Movement therapist
- Dance teacher
- Dance project coordinator

Course specification

Course name: A-level Dance

Exam board: AQA

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“I love to dance, and my A-level studies have really enhanced my understanding of performance and choreography. I’ve enjoyed learning about the evolution of dance and the work of performers, directors and choreographers across different genres.”



Drama and Theatre

Course overview

The main aim of the A-level Drama and Theatre course, is to develop the student's ability to recognise and understand the inter-relationship between performer, designer and director. Students will learn how performance texts can be interpreted and performed and that texts may represent a range of social, historical and cultural contexts. The course encourages students to develop skills to become effective theatre makers, alongside transferable skills such as team working, confidence, communication and problem solving.

Assessment:

One exam and two practical examinations:

- **Component 1** – (Non-Exam Assessment) – Devising a performance – 40% of the grade
- **Component 2** – (Non-Exam Assessment) – Group performance and monologue (2 hours, 30 minutes) – 20% of the grade
- **Component 3** – (Examination) Theatre Makers in Practice (2 hours, 30 minutes) – 40% of the grade.



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level Drama and Theatre include:

- Actor
- Theatre Director
- Producer
- Script writer
- Publicist
- Stage manager

Course specification

Course name: A-level Drama and Theatre

Exam board: Edexcel

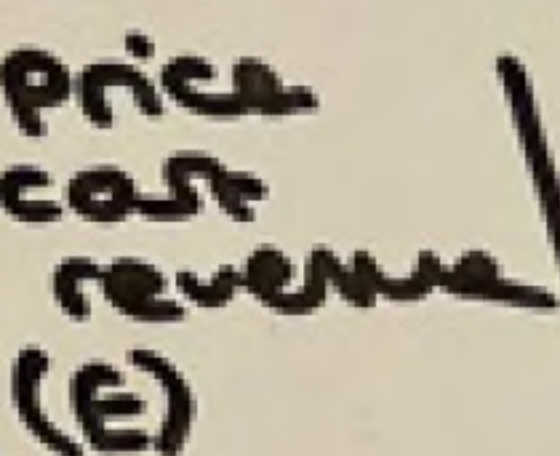
Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“A-level Drama is an exceptional course that I believe provides students with excellent opportunities to explore live performance. Students are able to take inspiration from practitioners and explore their own performance style. It is wonderful to watch students grow in confidence and take on more sophisticated acting roles.”

DIRECTOR OF ARTS,
WALTHAM TOLL BAR ACADEMY

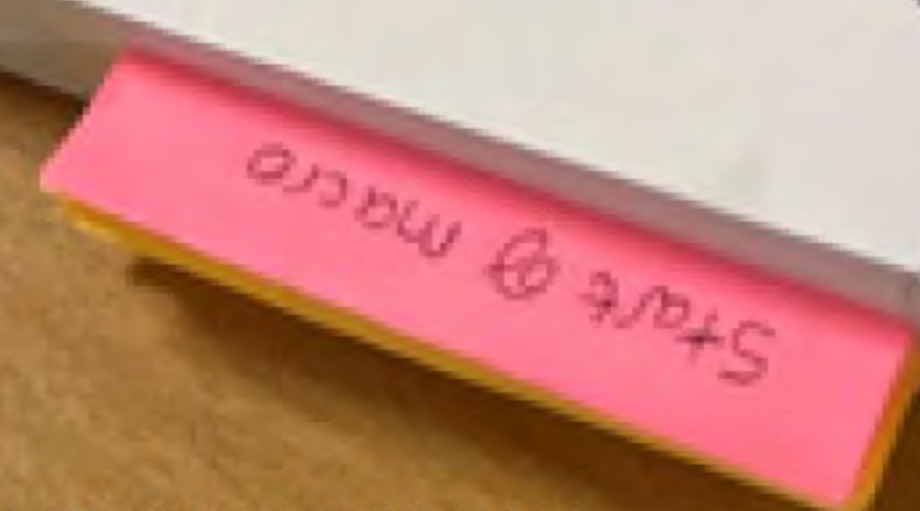


MC

ATC

AR

Quantity



Economics

Course overview

The A-level Economics course explores the key principles and theories of micro- and macroeconomics. It brings to life the fundamental economic problem of scarcity and explores how decision makers, including ourselves, influence the allocation of increasingly scarce resources to try and maximise welfare within society. In this context, students of economics are increasingly in demand, with a skillset that is well suited to supporting solutions to some of the biggest challenges facing humankind.

Assessment:

Three exams:

- **Paper 1: Markets and market failure**
(2 hours) – 33% of the grade
- **Paper 2: National and international economy**
(2 hours) – 33% of the grade
- **Paper 3: Economic principles and issues**
(2 hours) – 33% of the grade.



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level Economics include:

- Accountancy
- Banking and financial services
- Business
- Civil service
- Data analyst
- Economic consultancy

Course specification

Course name: A-level Economics

Exam board: AQA

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“My studies have helped me better understand the current economic problems and issues we face at a local, national and global level. It’s really rewarding to apply economic theory and perspectives to the challenges facing our generation. I also recognise the value so many employers see in an Economics A-level.”



English Language

Course overview

Studying English Language at A-level enables students to develop their writing skills. Students explore a variety of texts produced for different purposes across different time periods. They study how contextual factors shape and influence text production and how a range of linguistic frameworks are used to meet the function and purpose of a text. Additionally, students explore how children acquire and develop their skills as communicators, how language has changed over time and a range of issues relating to sociolect, dialect and attitudes towards language use.

Assessment:

Two exams and coursework:

- **Paper 1: Language, the Individual and Society** – (2 hours, 30 minutes) – 40% of the grade
- **Paper 2: Language, Diversity and Change** (2 hours, 30 minutes) – 40% of the grade
- **Coursework: Non-exam assessment** – A language investigation of 2000 words and a piece of original writing and commentary of 1500 words – 20% of the grade



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level English Language include:

- Writer
- Journalism
- Speech and language therapy
- Education
- Web and social media content
- Researcher

Course specification

Course name: A-level English Language

Exam board: AQA

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“A-level English Language has really helped me to understand and appreciate how people use language to communicate and interact with one another. I’ve developed my own skills as a writer and communicator, and I now recognise just how powerful a tool our language system is.”



Tennessee Williams

A Streetcar Named Desire

MODERN CLASSIC

English Literature

Course overview

A-level English Literature students explore canonical and modern works, including Shakespeare's Othello and a range of drama, poetry and prose texts. The subject allows students to develop their love of reading, engage with established critics and sharpen critical perspectives on literary concerns. Students will consider the interplay between text and context, and will learn to express themselves logically and coherently in their analysis. Through their coursework, students will learn to progress their thinking skills, write academically and produce an essay based on their own independent critical study.

Assessment:

Two exams and coursework:

- **Paper 1: Love Through the Ages—Shakespeare play, poetry and prose** (3 hours) – 40% of the grade
- **Paper 2: Modern Times—modern poetry, prose and drama** (2 hours, 30 minutes) – 40% of the grade
- **Coursework: Non-Exam Assessment on a choice of texts**, (2,500 words) – 20% of the grade



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level English Literature include:

- Writing
- Journalism
- Teaching
- Human Resources
- Marketing and Public Relations
- Editing

Course specification

Course name: A-level English Literature

Exam board: AQA

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“English Literature A-level has encouraged me to engage with texts I usually wouldn’t have read and broadened my understanding of the techniques and methods used by different writers from different generations. This has really added to my enjoyment of everyday reading.”



French

Course overview

This exciting, dynamic course allows students with a flair for languages to indulge their passion by taking their skills to the next level. Over the two years, they study a variety of topics including Francophone music and cinema, cultural heritage, and immigration, while honing their skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. Students also read two literary texts, learning to discuss and analyse these in essays. The speaking exam, as well as featuring the topics studied, also includes a presentation by the student on a Francophone topic of their choice. They start their research at the end of Year 12, aiming to demonstrate in-depth knowledge of their subject.

Assessment:

Three exams:

- **Paper 1:** Listening - Reading and Writing (2 hours, 30 minutes) - 50% of the grade.
- **Paper 2:** Writing - questions on two texts studied, (2 hours) - 20% of the grade.
- **Paper 3:** Speaking - themed discussion and presentation/discussion based on an individual research project - 30% of the grade.



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level French include:

- Education
- Journalism
- Travel and tourism
- Civil service
- Translating/Interpreting
- Working overseas

Course specification

Course name: A-level French

Exam board: AQA

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“Studying French has allowed me to not only enhance my language skills, but also to learn more about the French speaking world. The Independent Research Project has involved exploring aspects of France and French culture in detail. It’s such a rewarding course if you have a passion for languages.”



Geography

Course overview

This course explores the dynamics of both human and physical geography and how they interact over space and time. In physical geography, students study Earth's atmospheric and land-related systems of water and carbon, the dynamic nature of coastal systems and landscapes and tectonic and climatic hazards. In human geography, students study the growth of key urban areas and environmental challenges posed to ensure cities are as sustainable as possible. There is a focus on changing places and how people's experiences shape their lives, behaviours and consequent geographies.

Assessment:

Two exams and a geographical investigation:

- **Paper 1: Physical Geography**
(2 hours, 30 minutes) – 40% of the grade.
- **Paper 2: Human Geography**
(2 hours, 30 minutes) – 40% of the grade.
- **Geographical investigation:** a 4,000 word submitted fieldwork investigation – 20% of the grade.



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level Geography include:

- Data analyst
- Renewables
- Coastal management
- Digital mapping
- Tourism
- Transport and logistics

Course specification

Course name: A-level Geography

Exam board: AQA

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“Geography is such a dynamic and relevant subject. It has helped me to understand a range of current issues that have both local and global impact. In doing so I feel I am able to make much better-informed choices and decisions that hopefully will make a difference to our futures.”



History

Course overview

The A-level History course allows students to examine a broad period of time, from the rise and rule of the early Tudor Monarchs to the development of civil rights in the USA. Students will further develop their skills by evaluating contemporary historical sources through the use of both provenance and contextual knowledge. They will also be introduced to a range of historians' views which they will test to form complex, substantiated judgements. These represent key transferable skills, essential for other professions and courses of study.

Assessment:

Three exams and coursework:

- **Paper 1: International Relations 1890–1941** (1 hour) – 15% of the grade
- **Paper 2: The Early Tudors, 1485 – 1558** (1 hour, 30 minutes) – 25% of the grade
- **Paper 3: Civil Rights in the USA, 1865 – 1992** (2 hours, 30 minutes) – 40% of the grade
- **Coursework:** 20% of the grade



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level History include:

- Law
- Business
- Politics
- Broadcast journalist
- Human resources officer
- Marketing executive

Course specification

Course name: A-level History

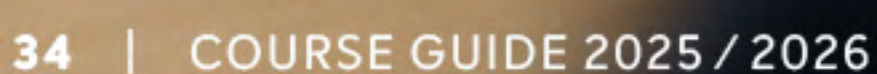
Exam board: OCR

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“A-level History has allowed me to see some of the parallels between our past and the present day. From the comparison of Henry VIII’s Break with Rome and Brexit to the actions of previous Presidents of the USA, studying history has given me sharper insights into the modern world.”



Course overview

This course provides students with the opportunity to develop the core specialist knowledge, skills and understanding required in the IT sector. Two mandatory units provide learners with an insight into the IT sector, as they study the pace of technological change, IT infrastructure, the flow of information on a global scale, and important legal and security considerations. Through their coursework, students explore how different technologies are repurposed to extend their scope to be used in the world today.

Assessment:

Three exams and 2 units of coursework:

- **Paper 1: Fundamentals of IT**
(1 hour, 30 minutes)
- **Paper 2: Global Information**
(1 hour, 30 minutes)
- **Paper 3: Cyber Security**
(1 hour)
Final weighting of this qualification will involve examinations being valued at 65%.
- **Coursework:** Two units of coursework that are internally assessed and moderated by OCR worth the final 35%.



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by Level 3 IT include:

- Games design
- Computer science
- Digital media
- Software engineering
- Data analysis
- Cyber security

Course specification

Course name: Information Technology – Cambridge Technical Level 3

Exam board: OCR

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“IT at Toll Bar Sixth Form has surpassed my expectations. I have learnt so much, ranging from time management, computing fundamentals, networking and information management. I’ve made good friends through class discussion and presentation, and this has really boosted my confidence”



Law

Course overview

A-level Law encourages students to develop their knowledge and understanding of the English legal system and areas of both private and public law within the law of England and Wales. They will develop and apply the techniques of legal method and reasoning to analyse and offer answers to problems, based on legal principles, legislation and case law. Students will further be able to demonstrate critical awareness of the influence and operation of the law in society.

Assessment:

Three exams:

- **Paper 1:** The Legal System and Criminal Law (2 hours) – 33% of the grade
- **Paper 2:** Law Making and the Law of Tort (2 hours) – 33% of the grade
- **Paper 3:** The Nature of Law and Human Rights (2 hours) – 33% of the grade.



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level Law include:

- Solicitor
- Barrister
- Paralegal
- Management consultancy
- Journalism
- The Civil Service

Course specification

Course name: A-level Law

Exam board: OCR

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“My study of Law has presented real opportunities to learn new skills and techniques in analytical thinking. I thoroughly enjoy learning about different areas of law and how these are applied within the UK. Learning how to apply law to realistic scenarios.”



Mathematics

Course overview

A-level Mathematics builds on prior knowledge of algebraic, numerical and geometrical processes, further applying them in areas of statistics and mechanics. Students learn how to apply these techniques in context, and develop an appreciation of the fundamental importance of maths in the world around us. The pure maths element of the course covers mostly algebraic techniques, including trigonometry and calculus. The statistics element of the course covers data collection, processing, interpretation and representation of results. The mechanics element is the study of the geometry of movement, known as kinematics.

Assessment:

Three exams:

- **Paper 1: Pure Mathematics**
(2 hours) – 33% of the grade
- **Paper 2: Pure Mathematics**
(2 hours) – 33% of the grade
- **Paper 3: Applied – Statistics and Mechanics**
(2 hours) – 33% of the grade.



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level Mathematics include:

- Business
- Economics
- Accountancy
- Sciences

Course specification

Course name: A-level Mathematics

Exam board: Edexcel

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“Maths A-level has helped me to better understand how mathematical rules influence our lives and how solutions can help solve some of our biggest challenges. I particularly find that Maths helps in my science studies where the cross-curricular content provides a solid foundation for my learning.”



Media Studies

Course overview

The A-level Media course explores four key strands of the media: the use of media language, the representations of key groups, the wider media industries and how audiences interact with the media. Key areas of study include music videos, advertising, the film and television industry, the video game industry, the magazine industry and online media. Students will engage in robust analysis, discussion and dissection of the media in many forms to better understand the role it plays in our modern world.

Assessment:

Two exams and coursework:

- **Paper 1: Media Products, Industries and Audiences** (2 hours, 15 minutes)
– 35% of the grade
- **Paper 2: Media Forms and Products in Depth** (2 hours, 30 minutes)
– 35% of the grade
- **Coursework: Cross Media Production**
– 30% of the grade.



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level Media Studies include:

- Media Studies
- Film Studies
- Journalism
- Marketing and Advertising
- Social Media

Course specification

Course name: A-level Media Studies

Exam board: Eduqas

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“Media Studies is actively helping me to prepare me for a career in industry. We explore key aspects of the creative industries from both a practical and theoretical perspective, and are taught with a hands-on approach, using industry standard equipment and software.”



Music

Course overview

The Music A-level covers the four main disciplines of performance, composition/technical skills, listening and analysis. Students explore the core genres of Baroque Solo Concerti, Mozart Operas, The Marriage of Figaro and Romantic Piano Works. They also choose to study two genres from: Popular Music (inc. Joni Mitchell, Beyonce and Daft Punk); Music for Media (inc. Bernard Hermann, Hans Zimmer and Michael Giacchino); Music for Theatre (inc. Kurt Weill, Richard Rodgers and Stephen Sondheim); Jazz (inc. Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington and Charlie Parker); Contemporary Traditional Music (inc. Astor Piazzolla, Anoushka Shankar and Bellowhead); Art music since 1910 (inc. Dmitri Shostakovich, Olivier Messiaen and Steve Reich).

Assessment:

Three different components are assessed:

- **Appraising Music** – written examination (2 hours, 30 minutes) – 40% of the grade.
- **Performance** – at least ten minutes of repertoire with expected standard of approximately Grade 7 – 35% of the grade.
- **Composition** – one free composition, and one based on a brief, (of at least 4 minutes, 30 seconds)– 25% of the grade.



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level Music include:

- Musician
- Sound engineer
- Music producer
- Special effects technician
- Music therapist
- Broadcast engineer

Course specification

Course name: A-level Music

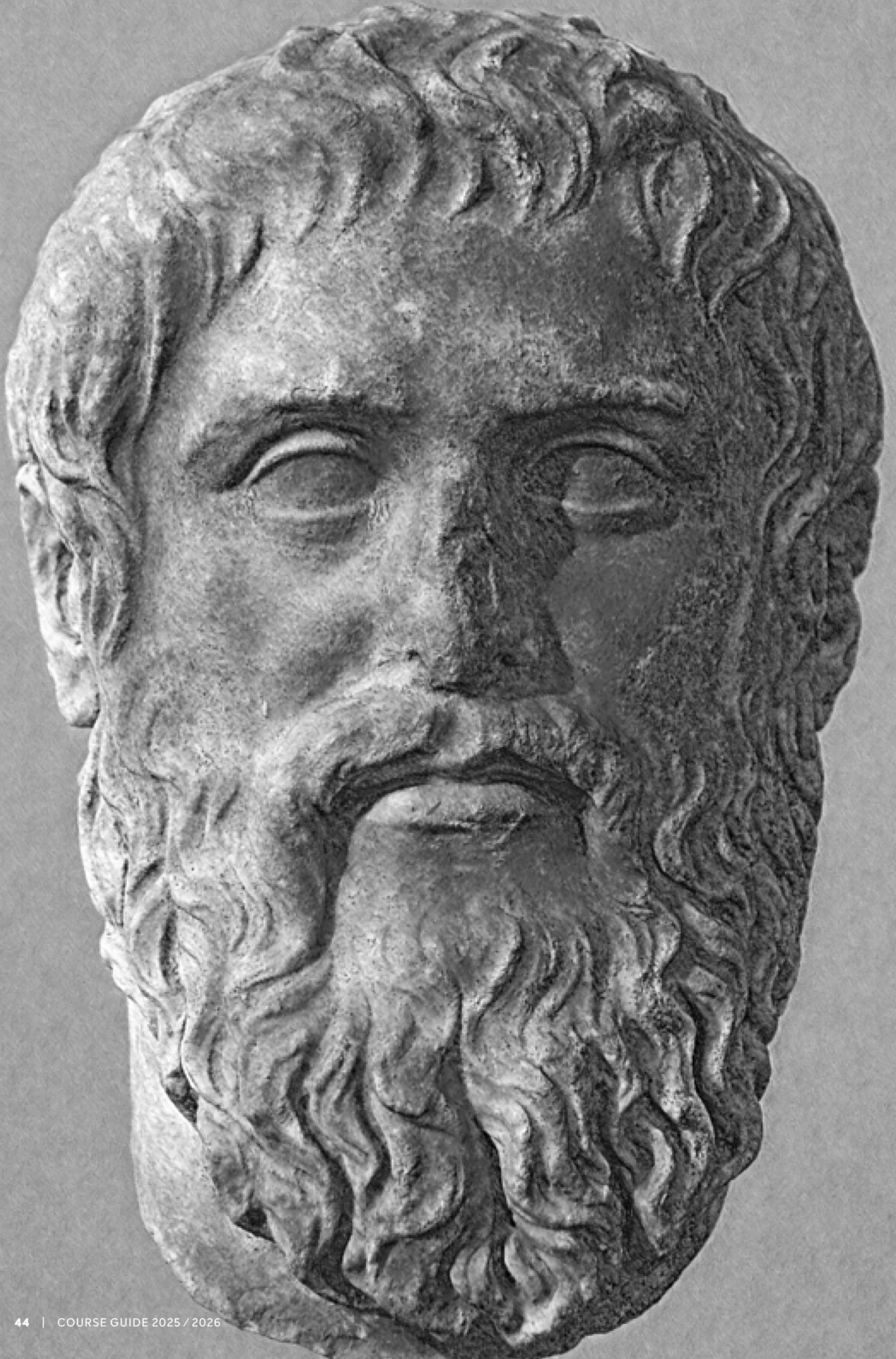
Exam board: AQA

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“The Music A-Level course has helped to develop my practical skills in performing and composing and enhanced my deeper understanding of music history, theory and analysis. I have been exposed to music as early as the Baroque period right up to current Popular music and I now feel a much more accomplished musician.”



Philosophy, Theology and Ethics

Course overview

The Philosophy course enables you to develop a broad spectrum of knowledge, understanding and skills, through the exploration of ethics, the philosophy of religion and Christian beliefs and teachings. The course aims to engage learners thoroughly, developing an interest which extends beyond the classroom and into the wider world. You will enhance your academic skills of critical analysis, evaluation and extended written argument, all crucial for anyone seeking to enter into higher education, as well as those wishing to pursue alternative career pathways.

Assessment:

Three exams:

- **Paper 1: Philosophy**
(2 hour) – 33% of the grade
- **Paper 2: Ethics**
(2 hour) – 33% of the grade
- **Paper 3: Theology**
(2 hour) – 33% of the grade



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level Religious Studies include:

- Law
- Education
- Politics
- History
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Journalism

Course specification

Course name: A-level Religious Studies

Exam board: OCR

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“Studying Philosophy A-level has provided me with new and interesting ways of looking at the world. By challenging a lot of what I believe, it has broadened my perspective in many areas, particularly in relation to complex modern-day issues, such as gender roles, globalisation and secularisation.”



Photography

Course overview

A-level Photography is intended to deepen students' understanding and application of a range of photographic media, techniques and processes and extend the creative skills developed at GCSE. Students will have the opportunity to explore relevant images and resources relating to their work and will be encouraged to be adventurous in expressing their own thoughts, observations and ideas. Audience awareness is fundamental to the practice and will form the keystone for each project. Students will work to set themes and be expected to explore, analyse and investigate the work of other artists, craft persons and designers to develop personal final outcomes.

Assessment:

- **Unit 1: Personal Investigation**
A practical unit with written elements
– 60% of the grade.
- **Unit 2: External Set Assignment**
A controlled test in two parts:
 - Preparatory period
 - Fifteen-hour exam – 40% of the grade.



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level Photography include:

- Web design
- Digital illustration
- Advertising
- Fashion direction
- Media and leisure industries
- Photojournalism

Course specification

Course name: A-level Photography

Exam board: AQA

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“Studying photography will change the way students see things, creating whole new perspectives on light, shapes, colours and textures. The course will enable the students to share their view of the world with others, using a newly discovered visual language to create their own lens-based artworks.”

CURRICULUM LEADER, CREATIVE ARTS



Physical Education

Course overview

A-level PE explores a range of key topics that affect participation and performance in sport. This course is ideal for students who have a genuine interest in all aspects of the sporting world. Students taking A-level PE must be playing competitively in at least one sport on the A-level specification, which will be used for video evidence. Students competitive performance will form the basis of the written coursework.

Assessment:

Two exams and a practical assessment:

- **Paper 1:** Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport (2 hour) – 35% of the grade
- **Paper 2:** Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport (2 hour) – 35% of the grade
- **Practical performance in physical activity and sport** – 30% of the grade.

Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level Physical Education include:

- Teaching
- Sports Science
- Physiotherapy
- Personal training
- Sports Development and Management
- Sports Psychology

Course specification

Course name: A-level Physical Education

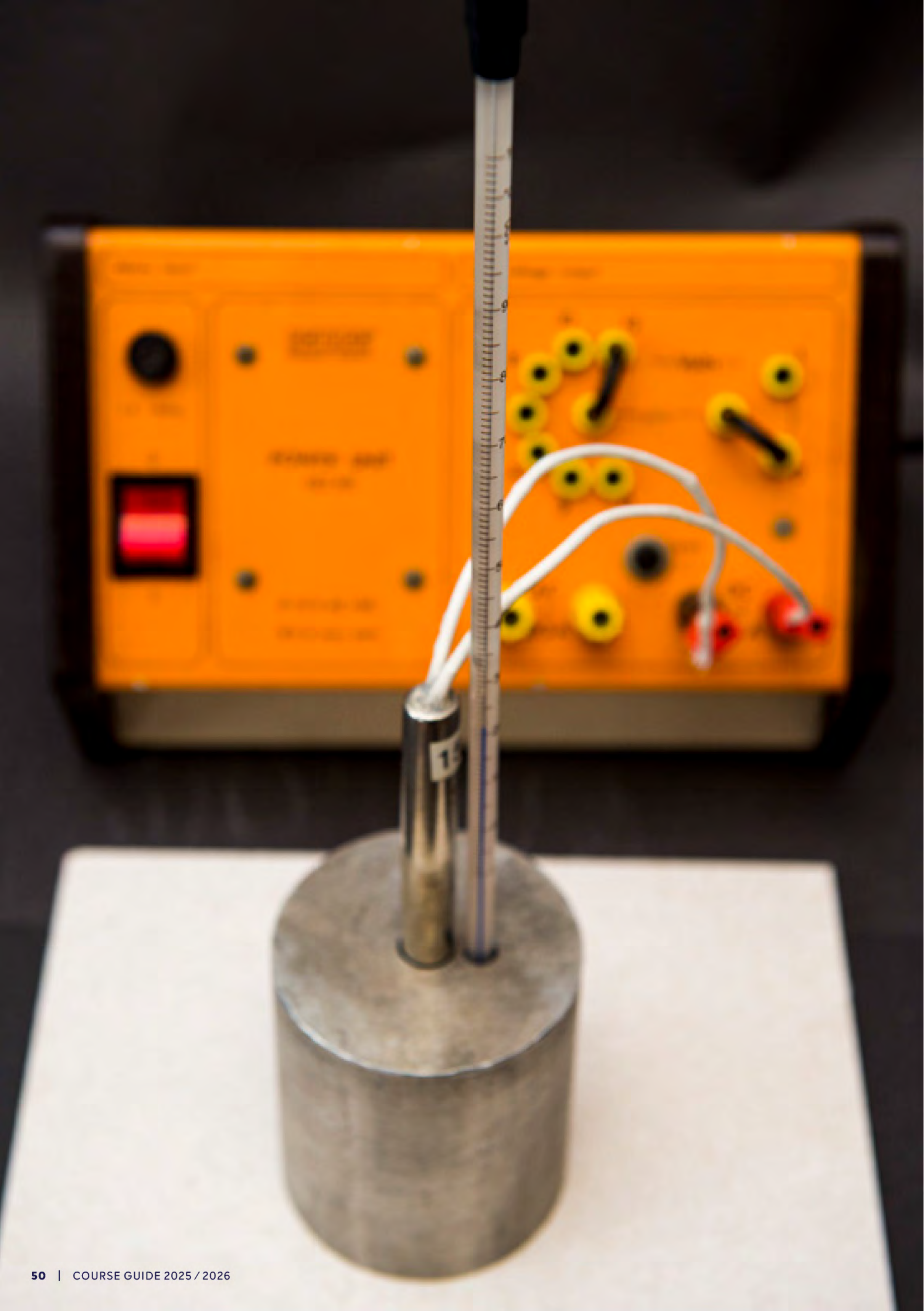
Exam board: AQA

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“Studying Physical Education at A-level has helped me to apply an understanding of Anatomy and Physiology to my own training, making it more specific and optimal for my performance in sport.”



Physics

Course overview

The A-level in Physics B (Advancing Physics) takes a structured context-led approach to learning about physics in everyday and technological settings. Areas studied include the mechanical properties of materials, communication and signalling, waves, electric, magnetic and gravitational fields, quantum behaviour and fundamental particles. Practical skills are embedded throughout the course, and you are expected to carry out practical work in preparation for a written examination that will specifically test these skills.

Assessment:

Three exams and a practical endorsement:

- **Paper 1: Fundamentals of Physics** (2 hours, 15 minutes) – 41% of the grade
- **Paper 2: Scientific Literacy in Physics** (2 hours, 15 minutes) – 37% of the grade
- **Paper 3: Practical Skills in Physics** (1 hour, 30 minutes) – 22% of the grade
- **Practical Endorsement:** A set of practical experiments are covered during the course. A pass/fail grade is achieved and is reported separately from the final A-level grade.



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level Physics include:

- Engineering
- STEM related industries
- Aeronautical Engineering
- Nuclear Engineer
- Renewable Sector

Course specification

Course name: A-level Physics B (Advancing Physics)

Exam board: OCR

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“Studying Physics at A-level has allowed me to gain a deeper understanding of the science involved in everyday life. From the study of quantum theories to forces and mechanics, Physics is a highly varied and engaging subject that is applicable to a multitude of careers.”



Politics

Course overview

The Politics A-level course allows students to explore three key topics. The 'Politics in the UK' module sees students study a range of structural aspects of British politics, such as the way in which parliament works, as well as practical politics such as the importance of pressure groups. In 'Politics in the USA' students study the structure of politics in the USA, such as the power of the president, as well as practical politics such as the importance of decisions made by the Supreme Court. In the Political Ideas module students study political ideologies including: conservatism, socialism and feminism.

Assessment:

Three exams:

- **Paper 1: Politics of the UK**
(2 hours) - 33% of the grade
- **Paper 2: Politics of the USA**
(2 hours) - 33% of the grade
- **Paper 3: Political Ideas**
(2 hours) - 33% of the grade.

Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level Politics include:

- Politics
- Journalism
- Public service
- Civil service
- Media
- Marketing

Course specification

Course name: A-level Politics

Exam board: AQA

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“My study of politics has helped me to better appreciate both the challenges facing today’s society and the difficulties facing leaders and governments seeking solutions. I now feel more confident in expressing my opinion and making informed contributions to discussions about a whole range of contemporary and political issues.”



Cerebellum

Stem

Chapter 2

Brain is split into 2 hemispheres of Cerebrum + left + right Cerebrum is split into Cerebrum + the brain stem

MC MSC Location of function

- key
- Occipital lobe
 - Parietal lobe
 - Temporal lobe
 - Frontal lobe
 - Brain stem

Psychology

Course overview

A-level Psychology explores a variety of topics in order to better understand human behaviour. In year one, you will study topics including social influence, memory, attachment, psychopathology and biopsychology. In year two, you will study topics including forensics, relationships and eating behaviour. Your mathematical skills will be tested throughout your studies and you will develop skills of critical analysis, independent thinking and research.

Assessment:

Three exams:

- **Paper 1:** Introductory Topics in Psychology (2 hours) – 33% of the grade
- **Paper 2:** Psychology in Context (2 hours) – 33% of the grade
- **Paper 3:** Issues and Options in Psychology (2 hours) – 33% of the grade.

Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level Psychology include:

- Counselling
- Criminal/forensic psychology
- Educational psychology
- Clinical psychology
- Sports psychology
- Neurology

Course specification

Course name: A-level Psychology

Exam board: AQA

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“Psychology A-level has provided me with an amazing insight into human behaviour and the complexity of the human mind. The combination of disciplines, like essay writing, scientific theory, research and data gathering, makes me confident I am prepared for lots of different careers.”



Sociology

Course overview

In A-level Sociology students explore a variety of topics in order for you to understand how we developed into the society we are today, including: the role of the education system and its relationship to social class, gender and ethnicity; the causes of crime and the role of the criminal justice system; the relationship between ownership and control of the media and the different ways minority groups are represented in the media.

Assessment:

Three exams:

- **Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods** - (2 hours) - 33% of the grade
- **Paper 2: Topics in Sociology** - (2 hours) - 33% of the grade
- **Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods** - (2 hours) - 33% of the grade.

Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level Sociology include:

- Law
- Social work
- Human resources
- Policing
- Education
- Politics

Course specification

Course name: A-level Sociology

Exam board: AQA

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“Studying Sociology will provide you with an understanding of social relationships and institutions. The study of culture, crime, education and the role of the media will enable you to understand the influence of society on human behaviour.”



Spanish

Course overview

A-level Spanish enables students to enhance their language skills and broaden their Spanish knowledge to be able to communicate effectively in different contexts. Topics studied include: Hispanic family values, regional identity within Spain, cultural heritage, racism, immigration, and dictatorships in the Spanish-speaking world. Students read two literary texts; a novel and a play, learning to discuss and analyse these in essays. The speaking exam, as well as featuring the topics studied, also includes a presentation by the student on a Hispanic topic of their choice.

Assessment:

Three exams:

- **Paper 1:** Listening - Reading and Writing (2 hours, 30 minutes) - 50% of the grade.
- **Paper 2:** Writing - questions on two texts studied, (2 hours) - 20% of the grade.
- **Paper 3:** Speaking - themed discussion and presentation/discussion based on an individual research project - 30% of the grade.



Pathways:

Higher education and career pathways supported by A-level Spanish include:

- Education
- Journalism
- Travel and tourism
- Civil service
- Translating/Interpreting
- Working overseas

Course specification

Course name: A-level Spanish

Exam board: AQA

Find out more >

Full details of the course, its aims, objectives and methods of assessment can be accessed via the QR code:



“Studying Spanish allowed me to develop my fluency and range of vocabulary, becoming more aware of the history of Spain in the process and opening my eyes further to the issues challenging the Hispanic world. My new language skills have proven invaluable in my onward studies and I hope very much to be able to use my Spanish more as I travel in the future.”

YEAR 13 LEAVER

The Application Journey

We very much welcome applications from any student committed to achieving their full academic potential.

Our entry requirements are as follows:

5 GCSEs at minimum Grade 4

GCSE Grade 4 in English and Mathematics

GCSE Grade 5 in an academically relevant qualification to the chosen A-level subject

Details of all courses offered, including entry requirements, can be found in the course section of this booklet and on our website.

If you have any questions about the application process, subject options, entry requirements or A-level study in general, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Sixth Form team on:

If you have any questions about the application process, subject options, entry requirements or A-level study in general, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Sixth Form team on:

01472 500 505 (Option 3)
enquiries@tollbaracademy.co.uk

How to apply ›

You may submit an application to us by post, e-mail or directly to the Sixth Form. You can also apply through the Lincs2 portal and via the link on our website or this QR Code:



Consider

Carefully consider all subject options.
Take on as much information, advice
and guidance as you can.



Choose

Select three subject options that will
help you to access your preferred
destination after Sixth Form.

Apply

Submit your application
directly or via Lincs2.
We will confirm its arrival and
arrange to speak with you.

Discuss

We will meet, or speak,
with you to provide further
guidance on your options and
answer any of your questions.

Focus

With your choices made, you can now
focus on preparing for your GCSE exams.
Prepare for success.

Familiarise

You will be invited to join us for
a taster day at which you will
experience Sixth Form life.

Enrol

On results day, simply contact us.
You can enrol in person or remotely.
We are always available to help.



TOLL BAR
SIXTH FORM

Toll Bar Sixth Form

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