Lady Manners School

Sixth Form Prospectus



2027

Welcome to Lady Manners School Sixth Form



We are delighted that you are interested in studying with us and we hope that this prospectus gives you a sense of all that we can offer.

Our aim is to provide you with a first-class learning experience. We are proud to offer a wide range of A Level and vocational qualifications, a broad selection of extra-curricular opportunities and the care and guidance to enable you to thrive and achieve your aspirations.

We look forward to working with you and enabling you to fulfil your potential in our excellent Sixth Form.

Gary Peat
Headteacher



Life in the Sixth Form



Mark Evans,
Head of Sixth Form

At Lady Manners Sixth Form, we offer an outstanding educational experience that prepares students for success beyond school. We combine excellent teaching in all curriculum areas with strong pastoral care, and this leads to our sustained record of excellent student progress.

Choosing what and where to study post-16 is an important choice and we are committed to ensuring all our students are treated as individuals and able to thrive in a supportive environment that provides them with the range of skills needed to become successful adults.

Our range of over 25 A Level and Cambridge Technical subjects allows students to select courses that fulfil their interests, whilst also meeting potential requirements for post-18 study. Our team of experienced tutors work with students from the start of Year 12 during personal development lessons, supporting them as they adapt to post-16 study. The personal development programme then expands to include dedicated post-18 progression support for a wide range of potential destinations including university applications, apprenticeships, employment or gap years.

Students studying three subjects are also expected to pick an option from our extended curriculum, which aims to broaden their transferable skills and allows them to pick an option tailored towards their future ambitions and career aspirations. In addition, all students will have dedicated independent study sessions on their timetable. These allow students freedom to decide how and what to study, enabling them to develop the skills that will be so important in Sixth Form and beyond.



The Sixth Form provides a wide range of extra and supra-curricular opportunities for students, and we wholeheartedly encourage all students to take advantage of the myriad activities on offer. More information about all of the opportunities on offer in our Sixth Form can be found in the following pages.

We know how important making the right choices are and we are more than happy to offer advice on subject combinations and any other general questions you may have regarding sixth form life at Lady Manners.



Hi, I'm Lan and currently reading Mathematics at Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge. I personally really enjoyed my time at Sixth Form, because I felt the support I needed to apply to university was readily available, as well as the academic support needed to do well in my A Levels.

Aside from academic studies, I was also president of LMS Eco-Council, and helped organise events and fundraisers, which helped raise awareness for the school's re-wilding initiatives in the Lennard Wetland. In addition, music played a big part in my time at Sixth Form, as I was part of senior wind band, orchestra and choir, as well as an a cappella choir.

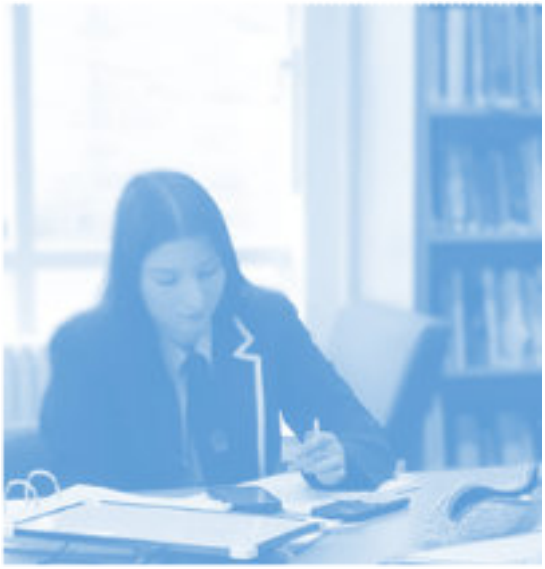
Lady Manners School Alumni

I'm Charlotte, and I am now doing a Business Management Degree Apprenticeship with Rolls-Royce, where I work four days a week while studying towards a fully funded degree.

With the incredible support of my teachers, I was able to achieve excellent grades in my A Levels.

Opportunities such as being Managing Director of a Young Enterprise team and serving as a Deputy School Officer really helped me to grow as a young adult.











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Facilities

The Sixth Form has its own dedicated centre with work and social space for students in Years 12 and 13. There is a large room for quiet study, equipped with computers, and a more social area 'The Drum', with a snack bar serving hot and cold food to supplement that available elsewhere in school. You will have the opportunity to rent a locker and there is also parking available for students.

The school is well equipped with specialist teaching areas for subjects such as science, sports studies and technology, and there is a large well-resourced school library where students can work independently, complete research and use the computing and photocopying facilities. Lady Manners School has superb sports facilities both indoors and outside. Students can make the most of the fitness suite and the huge range of sports teams that are on offer.

The Head of Sixth Form and the Sixth Form Team have offices in the Sixth Form Centre and are on hand if you have any concerns, problems or queries.



Library

Sixth Formers have access to the library during the school day. They can book computers and are encouraged to work independently using the resources available.

Students are given online access to the 15,000 resources held in the library, both physical and online, using the 30 computers.



This online access enables items to be reserved, renewed and searched both at school and home.



Resources have been carefully selected to support Sixth Form independent learning in preparation for further education.

Our Learning Resources Manager is available to help students make the most of the materials on offer.

Form Time and Personal Development

When you join the Sixth Form, you will be allocated a Form Tutor to support you through your two years of study. You will meet with your tutor during daily registration and for a tutorial period once per week, this is called **Personal Development**, and is a regular timetabled session in both Year 12 and 13. This is delivered by your Form Tutor, the Head of Year, Head of Sixth Form and a range of visiting external speakers on topics including the following:

Year 12

- Extended Curriculum choices
- Success in the Sixth Form
- Independent study / Time management
- Work management skills
- Black History month
- Work experience and Morrisby
- External speaker - Drugs & Alcohol
- Consent & harassment
- Prejudice & Tolerance
- Personal safety
- Driving safety
- Christmas Quiz
- Citizenship and British Values
- Introduction to Post 18 options
- External speaker – Why go to university?
- External speaker - Introduction to Apprenticeships
- External speaker – Applying to competitive courses
- External speaker: University of Oxford – Applying to Oxford and Cambridge
- Revision techniques
- Visit to UCAS Convention, Sheffield
- How to write a Personal Statement

Year 13

- External speaker: Lancaster University – How to write your Personal Statement
- Post 18 applications
- Support for early applicants
- External speaker: Rolls Royce – How to apply for Apprenticeships
- Black History Month
- External speaker – Careers in NHS Public Health
- Perseverance and exam related resilience
- External speaker: University of Sheffield – Making the most of university life
- External speaker: University of Leeds – Applying for competitive courses
- CV Workshop
- Driving safety
- Christmas Quiz
- Post 18 information
- External speaker – Thinking of taking a Gap year?
- Chinese New Year
- Mock examination results day & target setting
- Revision workshops & dealing with work pressure
- External speaker: Manchester Met University – Student Finance and budgeting

Part of your tutor's role is to monitor your attendance and progress over the two years and to support you in building a personal profile for your post-18 application. Your tutor will be a source of advice for you and will help you to settle into Year 12 and prepare you for your transition to university, an apprenticeship, employment, gap year or further education.

Opportunities in Sixth Form

Extra-Curricular

We offer a wide range of fantastic extra-curricular activities and we encourage students in both Years 12 and 13 to involve themselves from the start of Sixth Form. These are great opportunities to further new interests, develop personal skills such as leadership and communication, meet new people, and to strengthen post 18 applications.

Sport:

For those with sporting interests, there is the opportunity to compete either within a team representing the school, or just for fun. A wide range of sports are available, subject to demand, including:

- volleyball, basketball, tennis, athletics
- netball, rugby, football, exercise in the gym





Music:

We offer many opportunities for students to continue their interests in music including individual instrumental lessons, as well as a range of exciting ensembles, such as:

- Senior Choir, Orchestra, Clarinet Choir, Flute Choir, Senior Strings
- Senior Wind Band, Brass Band, Rock Band, Jazz Band

There are also opportunities to support younger students with their music in junior ensembles.

Drama:

Sixth Form students are encouraged to get involved in our annual major productions; from stage performance to backstage technical work. The school performs one main, whole school production each year. Recent examples are 'Annie', 'Chicago', and 'The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe'.



Aslan, from The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe

Debating Club:

This is an opportunity to learn and practise debating skills, thereby increasing self confidence. We aim to have speakers in to coach students, offering tips and tricks for speaking in front of others.

"I love debating club because it's a way to gain confidence and make new friends whilst exploring all sides of every argument. Every week, we debate a topic that we have researched and discuss it between us. This allows us to learn vital communication skills in a fun and engaging way, further preparing us for adult life."
Izzie, Sixth Form Student who attends Debating Club



The Lennard Wetland

Eco Council:
Working towards our second Eco Schools Green Flag award, we have made amazing progress in improving the sustainability and biodiversity of the school site. The school has been showcased as part of the National Education Nature Park because of our use of school grounds to connect with nature.
We welcome students from all year groups to be part of a dynamic team.

Read on:

This is available during Year 12 and 13, working in the library helping younger students to improve their reading skills.

As well as being beneficial to the younger students, this also provides valuable mentoring experience to Sixth Form students, which is an asset on any application form.





IRIS DNA Origami project:

Students learn how to fold DNA to create new and unusual shapes using computer software.

This is an emerging area of research in the nanotechnology field and introduces students to Material Science where they see DNA as not just an important biological molecule.

Clubs and Activities: There are plenty more clubs on offer, further details are available at www.ladymanners.derbyshire.sch.uk/personal-development/clubs-and-activities/

If you have an idea for a club that isn't on offer, as a Sixth Former you can speak to your Form Tutor or Head of Year about starting a new club.



Creative Ambassadors

Sixth Form Leadership Opportunities



One of the advantages of being a Sixth Form student at Lady Manners School is the opportunity to be involved in the wider life of the school. School Officers are elected in Year 13 and are an integral part of the running of both Sixth Form and whole school activities.

Sixth Form students may also have leadership roles in other areas in school, such as House Captains, Prefects, Creative Ambassadors, Language Ambassadors and Sports Leaders.

School Officers 2026-27

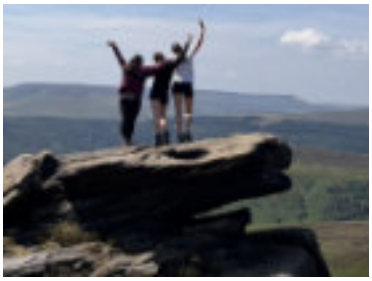
Opportunities for you in the Sixth Form: Extended Curriculum

Our extended curriculum offers students an opportunity to broaden their studies and develop a wide range of transferable skills. All students studying three subjects are required to choose one of these options.



2026

Gold Expedition in the Peak District



Duke of Edinburgh's Award

We offer the Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award to students in the Sixth Form. The award is nationally recognised and comprises activities under the following headings: Volunteering, physical, skills, expedition and a residential activity (see www.dofe.org for more information). The school offers a walking expedition. The practice usually takes place in April of Year 12, before completion of a qualifying expedition in July of Year 12. It is possible to do the gold expedition in Year 13, if required.

All other programmes within DofE are overseen by the school DofE team. For more details please email: dofe@ladymanners.derbyshire.sch.uk

Higher Sports Leaders Award (HSLA)

The Higher Sports Leaders Award (HSLA) aims to provide skills and experience in delivering sport and recreational activities to a range of groups. It helps to develop an understanding of sports leadership, leading sessions to improve fitness and gives experience of planning and delivering a sporting event.

The course provides a good opportunity for students wishing to gain experience working with younger children, or those who wish to demonstrate leadership and organisational skills. This is a two year course.



Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) Level 3 Awarding Body: AQA

This qualification allows students to embark on a largely self-directed project. Students take responsibility for the design of an individual project. Assessment is via portfolio work and a student evidence log.

This is an excellent opportunity to delve deeper into an area of interest and it is highly recognised by universities and employers.

Young Enterprise

Young Enterprise runs throughout one academic year (Year 12). A business meeting is held one lunchtime per week, and students also work on their projects/business in their independent study time. Students make all the decisions about their enterprise, from deciding the name and product, to creating a business plan, managing the student company finances, and selling to the public at trade fairs. They organise their own roles and are responsible for all aspects of the business.

Students are supported by a link teacher and a volunteer Business Advisor who brings a wealth of business knowledge and expertise. A range of resources are provided to help manage the company. Teams track their progress using self-assessment tools and even compete against other schools in local, regional and national competitions.



Stall run by a Young Enterprise team, selling aprons, tea towels and table cloths.

Other Extended Curriculum Opportunities include:

- **Lesson support** - assisting a teacher with a class of younger students. This could include helping to set up the lesson, working one to one or with a small group of students or demonstrating techniques (where applicable). This is good general experience and highly valued by both teachers and students. It is excellent for those students considering a career in education, as well as a range of other professions.

- **MOOCs** - these are Massive Open Online Courses. There are lots of short courses available for further study online, many of which are free to join. They are a good opportunity to learn more about something you are really interested in. If you study MOOCs related to a subject you intend to take further in the future, they are excellent to include in your Personal Statements or post 18 application forms. MOOCs can also provide a good foundation for a potential EPQ project in Year 13.

Work Experience

Work experience is a requirement for an increasing number of post-18 courses and careers, and is looked upon favourably by employers; some students who left school in 2026 are now undergoing apprenticeships with employers with whom they completed their Year 12 work experience placement.

All students are supported as they organise work experience placements in a broad range of career areas. This is in addition to the ongoing work experience chosen by some students as their extended curriculum option.

This can either be arranged through the school Careers Department or by students themselves (subject to adequate risk assessment). Experience of the workplace is useful for students intending to apply for apprenticeships post-18, or those intending to apply for university courses with a work experience pre-requisite.

Previous students have had placements in sectors including education, design, finance, engineering, administration, marketing, law, architecture, leisure and tourism, medical, veterinary, farming, construction, among many others.



Year 12 Students; placement at Rolls Royce. 2026



We have a wide range of contacts. Below are some of the companies used recently by students during their work experience placement in Year 12.

CARBOLITE GERO 30-3000°C
thornbridge outdoors
CODEL A Forbes Marshall Company
NHS Sheffield Teaching Hospitals
PEAK RAIL
PEAK ENGINEERS
PRP Architects
The University Of Sheffield.
Steelworks STUDIOS
PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK
CHATSWORTH
peakecology
BUXTON OPERA HOUSE & PAVILION ARTS CENTRE
LONGBOW VENUES
Ashgate Hospice
ROLLS ROYCE
BAKEWELL METHODIST ACADEMY
NHS
zink for life & work
IM irwinmitchell

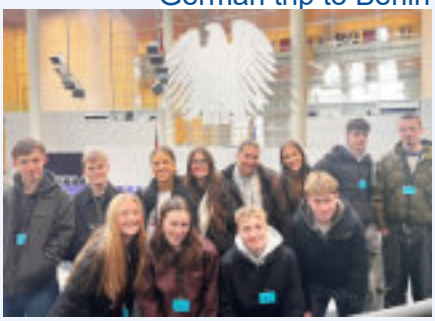
Trips and Visits

In the Sixth Form there are a range of field trips and day trips to enrich the academic studies in the classroom. These are valuable experiences that give students an understanding of their subject in practice, as well as creating fantastic memories. Here are just a selection of some of the visits for students in Year 12 and 13 to support the learning in the classroom.

History trip to London



German trip to Berlin



Spanish trip to Murcia

Geography trip to Liverpool





Psychology trip to Vienna

New for 2027 ... Business & Computer Science trip to Disneyland, Paris

Art and Textiles trip to Paris



Drama trip to London



Student's voice; past

"You get given a lot of opportunities and help with the next steps in your life, and are supported by all staff"

Oskar, Sixth Form student 2024-26

"I studied Physics, Geography and Sport during Sixth Form, I took part in higher sports leaders and was 1st team Rugby captain. I have just finished a gap year where I worked for a friend doing car detailing 2-3 times a week and restaurant work once a week to earn the money to go travelling in the second part of my gap year. I visited Nepal, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Philippines, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand and some of the south Pacific Islands. During this time I had the opportunity to play rugby for teams in the various countries. I am applying to join as a Royal Marine Officer after my gap year."

Archie, Sixth Form student 2023-25

During my time in the Sixth Form, I had many exciting opportunities presented to me. This includes Young Enterprise in which I was a part of "Homely Hippo", a business idea brought to life by a group of us, allowing me to pursue my interest in Business, in which I now work. Furthermore, I studied Economics, Business and Geography, which I enjoyed thoroughly, especially the geography trips.

I had an amazing time throughout my 2 years at school, enjoying the level of maturity you are treated with compared to lower school, and the external events, such as Spring, Summer and Winter balls which were very fun. After my time in the Sixth Form, I would not regret a single thing, you are supported constantly by members of staff, and have the chance to grasp amazing opportunities. Whilst there are times that you need to lock in coursework and revision, I'm so glad I chose to join Sixth Form.

Spencer, Sixth Form student 2023-25

The work experience week in Year 12 helped me gain the apprenticeship I will be doing next year, which is why I valued it so much. The careers guidance along with assemblies gave me lots of information regarding post 18 options.

Lucy, Sixth Form student 2024-26

My friends made my experience in Sixth Form unforgettable, I have many great memories from this two year period that I will carry for life.

Rose, Sixth Form student 2024-26

...and present

I decided to stay at LMS for Sixth Form. I've always felt supported and knew I'd get the help I need to do well. It also just felt right to stay somewhere I was comfortable and happy.

I've really enjoyed having more freedom and being treated more like an adult. It's also nice being in smaller classes where everyone's focused and wants to do well.

Bea, Sixth Form Student, 2025 - 27

I am currently applying to do fashion design at university. My A' Level textiles work was exhibited in the School and Colleges Show at Sheffield Hallam University, from where it went on to be selected by the judges to be part of an exhibition at the Millenium Galleries, Sheffield.This was an amazing opportunity for my work to be on public view which I never would have had without the help and support of my teachers at Lady Manners School.

Daisy, Sixth Form Student, 2025 - 27

What do our students think about their options?

I studied Health & Social Care, Business and English Language.
I enjoyed the sense of independence that Sixth Form provided through Independent Study, where you could choose how best to use your time. I also liked the smaller classes, which meant I had more time one to one with my teachers.
I am having a gap year now, after finishing school, and plan to volunteer for projects in different countries, as this is something I have always been interested in. I would then like to start an apprenticeship in the Care sector.

Charlotte, Year 13 student 2025-26

I studied History, English Literature and Art. I chose these subjects as I have a passion for academic subjects and enjoy analysing and understanding differing sources.
In English and History I particularly enjoyed the discussions we had in class surrounding the choice of words, or actions of an individual. I found Art to be the perfect space for creativity and representing ideas physically.
I am now reading Politics and Modern History at University of Manchester .

Oskar, Year 13 student, 2025-26

I study Sports Studies, Health and Social Care and Business Studies. I picked a wide variety of subjects and interesting topics which will be useful for my post 18 options. I have an interest in joining the Royal Navy and believe a range of real life knowledge and skills from my subjects will make me a well rounded and qualified person for this career.

Choosing Lady Manners for Sixth Form was fantastic. I've felt really welcomed and included by all the teachers and students, giving me a good state of mind to help focus on my studies.

Archie, Year 13 student 2026-27

I studied Mathematics, Biology, English Literature and Drama at A Level. I chose these subjects because I wanted to keep my options open for a range of potential career paths. I enjoyed the different structure to A Level lessons and felt that the lessons were adapted to students' curiosity about the subject. My teachers were highly specialised and passionate about their subject. I really enjoyed the interaction with my teachers and found them encouraging of class discussions and questioning.

Izaak, Year 13 student, 2025-26

I am studying Psychology, Textile Design and Health & Social Care. I really enjoy the diversity of topics in Psychology, as well as using my essay writing and mathematical skills. Textile Design is a subject where I can express my creativity, making something that is unique that I can be proud of. Health & Social Care gives a nice balance to my subjects, with the combination of coursework and exams.
Through all of my studies I enjoy having my teachers' help and support. Additionally the teachers I have are all passionate about their subject, making the learning more enjoyable and fun.
After I finish Year 13 I would like to go to university to study primary education, I hope to qualify as a teacher one day, then I will inspire the next generation of young minds.

Will, Year 13 student, 2026-27

I am studying History, English Literature and Maths. After Sixth Form I intend to study Law at university, and when choosing my options for Sixth Form, I felt that English and History were both good subjects for that degree.

Neve, Sixth Form Student, 2025 - 27

Choosing Your A Level and Vocational Subjects

We offer a wide range of Level 3, A Level and Vocational courses in the Sixth Form. Each subject typically has five hours of teaching per week in Year 12 and Year 13 and for most subjects you will have two teachers. We do not pre-publish option blocks because we build our timetable around your choices. This gives us the most flexibility to offer you your first choices of subject and, whilst we cannot guarantee that we can make every combination fit, we will certainly do our best!

Choosing options:

When you are considering your subject choice, you should aim to **choose subjects where you have strengths and those that you enjoy.**

If you have a particular career in mind, or a pathway (for example a particular university you want to attend), you should consider whether there are any specific subjects that you will need to study. Thorough research is key – some subjects in the Sixth Form have very different content to those you are studying now. If you're not sure what to choose, here are some ways you could get help:

- Read the information in the prospectus and visit the school on the **Sixth Form Open Evening, Tuesday 17 November 2026.**
- Talk to subject teachers, especially those who teach in the Sixth Form.
- If you know you want to study a particular course at university, have a look on the UCAS website to check entry requirements.



Students elect to study either three or four A Level or Vocational subjects. Only students with **all grades of 7 or above are able to choose to study four subjects**. We will discuss this with you, if this is your preferred route.

Most students will start Year 12 studying three A Level or Vocational subjects, and alongside this they will pick other options from the **extended curriculum**. Further information about what is available through the extended curriculum is available at the start of the prospectus.

Vocational subjects or A Levels?

We offer a number of Vocational subjects which are Level 3 qualifications equivalent to an A Level. These subjects are: Business, Health & Social Care and Sport & Physical Activity. If choosing a Vocational subject, we would recommend you do this alongside at least one A Level option for better workload balance.

Vocational subjects generally concentrate on more practical skills relating to careers, with an emphasis on coursework. They have continuous assessment throughout the two years, with external exams spread out at different times throughout the course.

A Level subjects may have coursework, however there is an emphasis on the academic knowledge and understanding of the subject which is assessed with final exams at the end of the two years.
A Level and Vocational qualifications are highly valued at most universities, and by employers. If you have particular universities or courses in mind for the future, please speak to one of the teachers or have a look at the university's website to clarify entry requirements ahead of selecting subject choices. There are some courses which require a minimum of 2 A Levels.



Art (Fine Art)

A Level Art develops independence in your creative decision-making through exposure to diverse materials, processes, enriching trips and artist experiences.

Take advantage of dedicated art spaces where you can develop ideas in your own time, alingside access to excellent clay and textile facilities and the use of iPads for digital work. You will work with experienced, motivated and ambitious teachers who are committed to helping you pursue your passions whilst achieving your very best.

"I really like the freedom I have to create and explore my own ideas"

Course Content

Component 1: Personal Investigation (Coursework)

You'll develop a sustained project exploring themes and ideas that genuinely interest you, culminating in a practical outcome and a written personal study of 1,000-3,000 words.

Component 2: Externally set assignment (Examination)

You will respond to a chosen starting point through a preparatory period, leading to 15 hours of supervised time to create your final piece.

We nurture students to think independently and respond authentically to the world around them. Students develop deeply personal and reflective work that excites them, whilst discovering a unique creative voice through exploration of diverse art forms, techniques and processes.

Students have ownership of their creative space and have dedicated work bays where they can leave projects in progress, work independently, and engage in meaningful dialogue around their evolving practice. Students will have the opportunity to extend their learning beyond the studio walls with experiences out of school that will broaden artistic horizons.

A Level Art is transformative. It cultivates not just artistic ability, but essential life skills that will serve you in any future path you choose.

Qualification
A Level Art and Design: Fine Art

Course Leader
Miss L Ridgeway

Entry Requirements
GCSE grade 5 in an Art discipline

Awarding Body
AQA

Assessment
Component 1: Personal Investigation (Coursework):
60% of A Level,

Component 2: Externally set assignment (Examination):
40% of A Level,

All work is assessed by the centre and moderated by AQA.

Progression
Art A Level can lead onto so many different pathways. The skills you develop are sought after across every sector. From architecture to medicine, marketing to engineering, employers and universities value the creative intelligence that art students bring. A Level Art opens the door to a range of careers including:

Fine Art, Illustration, Animation, Graphic Design, Architecture, Interior Design, Product Design, Games Design, Fashion Design, Textiles, Costume Design, Photography, Film and Media Production, Marketing, Advertising, Public Relations, Medical illustration, Law, Business, Teaching, journalism, Publishing and Communications.



Biology

Biology is the study of life, from the molecular level, through cells and organisms, to populations and ecosystems. A Level Biology allows students to develop their skills and understanding of the living world. It is a combination of theory and practical work, and will allow you to develop practical, analytical and evaluative skills required for further education. This is a course which is highly regarded by universities and employers alike, and it is key for lots of STEM careers.

"The understanding of anatomy, genetics and plant mechanisms I have gained has inspired me to study biology further at university"

Course Content

The course is made up of a series of eight topics:

- **Biological molecules-** Monomers and Polymers, Inorganic molecules, ATP, Nucelic acids
- **Cells** – Cell Ultrastructure, Prokaryotic and viral cells, Cell recognition and the immune system.
- **Organisms exchange substances with their environment-** Sa:Vol, Gas Exchange, Digestions, Mass Transport.
- **Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms-** DNA, Genes and chromosomes, Protein Sysnthesis and Genetic diversity.
- **Energy transfers in and between organisms-** Photosynthesis, Respiration and Energy in food chains.
- **Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments-** Survival and response, Synaptic transmission, Skeletal muscle contraction, Homeostasis
- **Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems-** Inheritance, Evolution, Variation and Speciation
- **The control of gene expression-** Regulation of gene expression, Gene technology, Genetic fingerprinting.

Qualification

A Level Biology

Course Leader

Miss V Henderson

Entry Requirements

GCSE grade 6 in Biology or GCSE grade 6-6 in Combined Science
GCSE grade 5 in Mathematics

Awarding Body

AQA

Assessment

The examination in Year 13 consists of three papers covering topics 1-8 and the relevant practical skills. Two exams are 2 hours in length, the final exam is 1hr 30mins this final exam includes a 25 mark synoptic essay style question.
A separate endorsement of practical skills will be taken alongside the A Level. This will be assessed by teachers and will be based on direct observation of students' competency in a range of skills that are not assessable in written exams.

Progression

Biology students can use their qualification directly and go on to be; doctors, psychotherapists, nurses, research scientists, lecturers and teachers, forensic scientists, paramedics, food scientists, public health officers, environmental officers and ecologists to name a few. It is highly regarded by universities and can allow access to many other courses.



Business (Level 3 Extended Certificate)

Business is a Cambridge Technical and equivalent to one A Level. This will give you the opportunity to learn and understand a broad range of business and entrepreneurial knowledge and skills associated with working within a business enterprise. You will understand the way in which any venture in business (big or small) is a function of the relationship between its people, marketing, finance and ability to deliver operationally upon its commitments.

"The link between topics and the real world makes this course interesting. The coursework element is great as it removes the pressure of exams"

Course Content

The Vocational focus of this qualification encourages students to develop an understanding of how business works in the real world. An emphasis is placed on realistic business contexts throughout. Students develop an understanding of how various business functions, such as marketing, finance, human and physical resources, work together as part of a cohesive business. Students will be encouraged to take part in practical activities.

This course provides students with the opportunity to apply their business knowledge to realistic business problems in a practical way. This course is most suited to students who have an interest in exploring the practical world of business.

The OCR Cambridge Technical in Business is designed for all learners who wish to develop a career in Business. The course has been designed specifically to cater for both learners wishing to study Business at university, and to equip students with the skills required for full time apprenticeships and employment in the business sector.

Qualification

Cambridge Technical: Extended Certificate in Business

Course Leader

Mr A Russell

Entry Requirements

GCSE grade 4 in English and
GCSE grade 4 in Mathematics

If students have studied Business at KS4, a grade 4 or L2 pass is required.

Awarding Body

OCR

Assessment

50% examination, 50% coursework

Year 12	The Business Environment - external examination
	Working in Business
Year 13	Marketing - internal assessment
	Human Resources - internal assessment
	Customers and Communication - internal assessment

Progression

This course gives students a wide choice of progression options into further study, training or relevant employment in the business sector. Students who successfully complete the qualification will be well equipped to move on to degrees, BTEC Higher National Diplomas, or Modern Apprenticeships in related subjects.



Chemistry

It is hard to describe how important chemistry is to our lives. From the latest mobile phones and better fuels, to life saving drugs and understanding climate change. People with chemistry qualifications are involved at all levels of society, and work to improve the lives of people across the planet, and potentially beyond.

"A challenging and rewarding course, supported by knowledgeable teachers"

Course Content

The course comprises 5 teaching modules all of which are assessed by external examination. In addition, students complete a practical endorsement, with practical aspects examined within the main external examinations.

Examined Units

In Year 12, the foundations of organic, inorganic and physical chemistry are laid out and explored in detail. Topics such as chemical structure and bonding, chemical kinetics, equilibria, the chemistry of the elements and analytical techniques, amongst others, are developed through a variety of learning activities including regular practical work. In Year 13, the course develops a deeper understanding of the chemical processes that shape our world. Advanced thermodynamics, spectroscopy and organic synthesis are some of the topics studied.

Internal Assessment

Practical work will be assessed internally as part of the practical endorsement. It is important for students to understand that practical based questions will be examined in the external examination papers and that practical work will take place on a regular basis to cover the specification requirements.

Qualification
A Level Chemistry

Course Leader
Dr I Nash

Entry Requirements
GCSE grade 6 in Chemistry or
GCSE grade 6-6 in Combined Science
GCSE grade 5 in Mathematics

Awarding Body
OCR

Assessment
Assessment is through 3 written papers:

- Periodic table, elements and physical chemistry: 37%
- Synthesis and analytical techniques: 37%
- Unified chemistry: 26%

Practical endorsement in chemistry – non examination assessment (pass or fail)

Progression
Chemistry is extremely highly regarded by universities and employers as a qualification which requires hard work, problem solving skills, creativity and imagination.



Computer Science

Advances in computing are transforming the way we work. The course focuses on the knowledge, understanding and skills students need to progress to higher education and thrive in the work place. Computer Science enables students to acquire subject knowledge, programming skills and soft skills in computational thinking and problem solving.

"I'm finding the course enjoyable and I chose the course because I enjoy the coding. I think knowing computer science will help me in the future because technology is becoming more widely used"

Course Content

We study the following topics:

Component 1

- The characteristics of contemporary processors, input, output and storage devices
- Types of software and the different methodologies used to develop software
- Data exchange between different systems
- Data types, data structures and algorithms
- Legal, moral, cultural and ethical issues

Component 2

- What is meant by computational thinking (thinking abstractly, thinking ahead, thinking procedurally etc)
- Problem solving and programming - how computers and programs can be used to solve problems
- Algorithms and how they can be used to describe and solve problems

In Year 12, students split their time equally between Component 1 and 2 topics. They develop their problem solving and programming skills, in order to complete the Non Examined Programming Assessment in Year 13. Students will use the Python language in school. Students will need access to a web-enabled computer to complete homework writing computer programs.

In Year 13, students devote 40 hours to the development of their NEA programming project, as well as Components 1 and 2.

Qualification

A Level Computer Science

Course Leader

Mr C Patel

Entry Requirements

GCSE grade 6 in Mathematics
GCSE grade 6 in Computer Science

Students who haven't taken GCSE Computer Science should consult the Course Leader

Awarding Body

OCR

Assessment

Assessment is through two terminal exams and a coursework element (20%).

In Year 13, students complete a project of their choice. They will produce a computer program that solves a complex programming task.

Progression

Computer Science is a feature of many degree courses across a range of subjects. The course should be viewed as useful progression towards a Computer Science related degree; or as a valuable additional study in preparation for courses in management, science, engineering and technology; or as a preparation for employment in computing.



Drama & Theatre

This is a lively and practical course that will suit those enthusiastic about theatre. However, essay writing practice is required, as assessment by examination makes up 40% of the marks.

This is an excellent course for building on transferable skills which are valuable in any future career, for example: - communication and presentation, teamwork and collaboration, creativity and problem-solving, confidence and self-awareness, time management and organisation.

"The teachers are supportive and inspire you to improve yourself"

Course Content

Component 1: Drama and Theatre

- Study two set plays
- Analyse and evaluate the work of live theatre makers

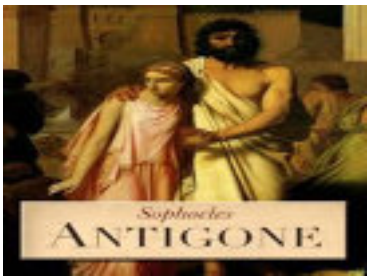
Component 2: Creating Original Drama

Perform a piece of devised drama which must be influenced by the work and methodologies of one prescribed practitioner.

Component 3: Making Theatre

- Exploration of the methodology of prescribed practitioners
- Perform scripted extracts





Qualification
A Level Drama & Theatre

Course Leader
Miss J Bower

Entry Requirements
GCSE grade 5 in Drama. Students who did not study Drama at GCSE must have a GCSE grade 5 in English.

Awarding Body
AQA

Assessment

- Component 1: Written examination, 3 hours, 40% of A level
- Component 2: Working notebook (40 marks) and devised performance (20 marks), 30% of A Level
- Component 3: Performance (40 marks) & reflective report (20 marks), 30% of A Level

Progression
The excellent communication and leadership skills developed by drama students are highly valued in many career areas and university courses. This course is also good preparation for studying Drama at University and/or for a career in theatre or media.

Higher Education
Drama/Theatre Studies degrees, Performing Arts, Musical Theatre, English Literature, Education/Teaching, Media and Communications, Film Studies, Arts Management.

Career Pathways
Performance (acting, directing), Technical theatre (lighting, sound, stage), Teaching, Arts administration & management, Media & broadcasting, Marketing & communications, Events management, Therapy & wellbeing roles.



Economics

This course will develop your analytical and quantitative skills, together with qualities and attitudes that will equip you for the challenges, opportunities and responsibilities of adult and working life. It will also develop your understanding of a range of economic concepts and an ability to use those concepts in a variety of different contexts. You will appreciate how Economics contributes to wider social and political issues.

"Economics is relatable; it is about real issues that matter"

Course Content

This course is most suited to students who have an enquiring mind about current economic issues and who are interested in studying economic theory.

It doesn't matter if you haven't studied economics before. You might have an interest in economics and want to know more about the impact economics has on the world around you. You might want to investigate some of the stories you hear in the news – Why do some economies grow and others don't? Why didn't economists predict the Global Financial Crisis? What impact does the economy have on the business world? This course will help you to understand all this and more.

Students will be introduced to economics through building knowledge of core microeconomic and macroeconomic concepts, and by investigating economic theory through real-world businesses and the environments in which they operate. Students will engage with economics through wider reading and an awareness of the current issues impacting on the subject. Students will develop an understanding of current global issues which impact on economies and businesses operating within them.

All of the assessments are based on real businesses, real data, and real issues. This helps provide stimulating assessment materials to cover a wide range of economic issues and business contexts for students to engage with.

Qualification

A Level Economics

Course Leader

Mr A Russell

Entry Requirements

GCSE grade 5 in English and
GCSE grade 5 in Mathematics

Awarding Body

Edexcel (Pearson)

Assessment

Assessment is three external examinations at the end of the course, covering: markets, consumers, and firms; the wider economic environment; the global economy; making markets work.

Progression

Studying economics will help you develop transferable skills that will prepare you for studying at university or moving into the world of work. Economics students can follow a wide range of careers in industry, commerce, finance and the civil service. You might choose a career in banking, sales, product management or general management.



English Language

Language permeates every aspect of our lives in a myriad of different forms and contexts. This is the subject for you if you want to understand how people communicate and you are curious about how meaning is assigned to words.

This A Level will teach you invaluable skills for life. You will consider how the English language is affected by factors such as gender and sexuality, how it is constantly evolving and how it is used around the world.

"I have found this subject challenging and very interesting, especially the unit on dialect "

Course Content

This course is made up of three components:

Paper One: Language, the individual and society

- Textual variations and representations (text analysis and comparison)
- Children's language development (language acquisition and social development of children from 0 – 11 years)

Paper Two: Language diversity and change

- Historical and contemporary changes in our language from 1600 to the present day
- Language discourses – attitudes to language

Non-Examination Assessment

- A 2000 word investigation into a personal language topic choice
- A 1500 word piece of original writing and an accompanying commentary

Qualification

A Level English Language

Course Leader

Mrs K Mortimer

Entry Requirements

GCSE grade 5 in English Language and

GCSE grade 5 in English Literature

Awarding Body

AQA (7702)

Assessment

Paper One: 2 hours 30 minutes, 40% of A Level

Paper Two: 2 hours 30 minutes, 40% of A Level

Non-Examination Assessment: 20% of A Level

Progression

English Language is a highly respected course which provides a good foundation for not only English and Linguistic courses at university, but also for other subjects within humanities. It is a course which prepares students effectively for careers in education, law, journalism and the media, amongst others.



English Literature

English Literature is an academic A Level which is highly valued by both universities and employers. You will develop sophisticated essay writing, discussion and critical thinking. You will explore character and theme and develop an awareness of how literature shapes and is shaped by culture and context.

This is the subject for you if you love reading, but also have an enquiring mind, and a desire to learn more about the world through the lens of literature.

"An interesting course that opens your mind to texts that you're unlikely to read otherwise"

Course Content

The course is a two year qualification. Assessment will be at the end of Year 13. There are three components:

Paper One: Aspects of Tragedy

Three texts:

- Shakespeare: Othello or King Lear
- Drama Text: Death of a Salesman
- Pre 1900 Text: Tess of the D'Urbervilles

Paper Two: Texts and Genres

Elements of Crime Writing or Political and Social Protest Writing

Three texts:

- Post 2000 prose e.g. Atonement
- Poetry e.g. Browning or Coleridge
- One further text e.g. Brighton Rock or The Murder of Roger Ackroyd

Non-Examination Assessment

Two essays of 1500 words each, based on the study of two separate texts:

- One poetry
- One prose

and informed by the study of a critical anthology

Qualification

A Level English Literature

Course Leader

Mrs J Johnson

Entry Requirements

GCSE grade 6 in English Literature

Awarding Body

AQA (B 7717)

Assessment

Paper One: closed book, 2 hours 30 minutes, 40% of A Level

Paper Two: open book, 3 hours, 40% of A Level

Non-Examination Assessment: 20% of A Level

Progression

English Literature is a highly respected course which provides a good foundation for not only English courses at university, but also for other subjects within humanities. It is a course which prepares students effectively for careers in education, law, journalism and the media, amongst others.



Film Studies

Studying film is valuable because it develops critical thinking, cultural understanding, and creative skills applicable to many careers. It provides a deep dive into how films are made and how they influence and reflect society, history, and culture. It moves beyond simply watching movies for entertainment to a deep analysis of film as an art form, a business, and a cultural text.

You will enjoy Film Studies if you have strong analytical and creative skills, as well as if you enjoy engaging with a broad range of films.

Course Content

Students will study film through 11 feature length films across 7 different areas study.

Paper 1 – Varieties & Filmmaking

• Hollywood Film (1930-1990)

• American Film (since 2005/2012)

• British Film (since 1995)

Paper 2 – Global Filmmaking Perspectives

- Global Film
- Documentary Film
- Silent Cinema
- Experimental Film

Non Examination Assessment

Students have the opportunity to produce either a short film (4-5 minutes) or a screenplay for a short film along with a digitally photographed storyboard of a key section from the screenplay.

"Now more than ever we need to talk to each other, to listen to each other and understand how we see the world, and cinema is the best medium for doing this".
Martin Scorsese

Qualification

A Level Film Studies

Course Leader

Mr K Mulholland

Entry Requirements

GCSE grade 5 in English and English Literature OR
GSCE Grade 5 in Film Studies

Awarding Body

WJEC Eduqas

Assessment

Paper One: written examination 2½ hours 35% of A Level
Paper Two: written examination 2½ hours 35% of A Level
Non-Examination Assessment: 30% of A Level

Progression

A Level Film Studies can lead toeducation courses such as film production, media studies, and cultural studies, or directly into careers in the film and media industries and there is a thriving film industry in the region. It equips students with transferable skills such as critical analysis, visual communication, and research, which are valuable for a wide range of jobs beyond the creative sector, including journalism, marketing, and even teaching.



French

French at A Level builds on and extends vocabulary and grammatical knowledge from GCSE. It is an integrated course focusing not only on linguistic and grammatical study, but also on culture, history and society in France. Through their own studies, students are able to develop skills in research, critical thinking and analysis, enabling them to understand how French-speaking society has been shaped and continues to change.

"I chose A Level French because I love languages and it's really useful for travel and job opportunities."

Course Content

Year 12

- One theme of social issues and trends:
  - Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends
- One theme of Political and/or intellectual and/or artistic culture:
  - Artistic culture in the French-speaking world
- One text or one film
- Grammar

Year 13

- A further theme from social issues and trends:
  - Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues / multi-culturalism in the French-speaking world
- A further theme from political and/or intellectual and/or artistic culture:
  - Aspects of political life in French-speaking world
- One text and one film or two texts
- Grammar
- IRP (individual research project)

Qualification
A Level French

Course Leader
Mrs J Pritzlaff

Entry Requirements
GCSE grade 5 in French

Awarding Body
AQA

Assessment

Paper 1: written examination	2 hours 30 mins	40% of A level
Paper 2: written examination	2 hours	30% of A level
Paper 3: speaking test	16-17 mins*	30% of A level

(*plus 5 mins preparation time)

Progression
Language study at A Level opens paths into many career avenues and can be a positively influential factor for students going into law, banking, business, tourism, medicine and other science-based careers.



Geography

Geography provides students with a critical understanding of the world's people, places and environments in the 21st century. We support students to become independent learners who monitor their own learning and, through a variety of fieldwork experiences including their independent investigation, become confident in planning and executing their own research.

We aim to equip learners with transferable skills, enabling them to progress to higher education and a range of employment opportunities that draw on their wide ranging geographical expertise.

Course Content

Component 1:

- Changing landscapes (coasts)
- Changing places (urban and rural)

Component 2:

- Global systems and global governance, water and carbon cycles, processes and patterns of global migration and global governance of the Earth's oceans

Component 3:

- Contemporary themes in geography, Tectonic hazards, along with our two chosen themes of:
  - Ecosystems
  - Economic growth & challenge (India)

Component 4 (Non-examination assessment):

- Independent investigation

"Geography teachers are enthusiastic about the course and teach in an entertaining and structured way"

Qualification

A Level Geography

Course Leader

Mr P Miller

Entry Requirements

GCSE grade 5 in Geography and
GCSE grade 5 in English

Applications will be considered from students who have not studied GCSE Geography if they have a grade 5 in a related subject.

Awarding Body

Eduqas (WJEC)

Assessment

Component 1:	written examination	2 hours 15 mins	80% of
Component 2:	written examination	2 hours 15 mins	A level
Component 3:	written examination	2 hours	
Component 4:	non-examination assessment		20%

Progression

Geography is a very popular A Level as it allows entry to a wide range of university courses and careers, whilst developing our understanding of the world as global citizens. Geographers usually have a wide knowledge base in various fields such as science, environment, sociology and business. They have a balance of literacy and numeracy skills developed within a practical and theoretical approach.



German

A Level German builds on and extends vocabulary and grammatical knowledge from GCSE. Themes are studied in greater depth and the breadth of linguistic knowledge gained through the course enables students to take part confidently in sophisticated discussions on a variety of topics from history to modern life, from social media to literature. Students are encouraged to develop their ability to work independently and critically analyse not only the language they study, but also the content conveyed.

"A Level German is a gateway into the world of business and opportunities in the future"

Course Content

Year 12

- One theme of social issues and trends:
  - Aspects of German-speaking society
- One theme of Political and/or intellectual and/or artistic culture:
  - Artistic culture in the German-speaking world
- One text or one film
- Grammar

Year 13

- A further theme from social issues and trends:
  - Aspects of German-speaking society: current issues / multi-culturalism in the German-speaking world
- A further theme from political and/or intellectual and/or artistic culture:
  - Aspects of political life in German-speaking world
- One text and one film or two texts
- Grammar
- IRP (individual research project)

Qualification
A Level German

Course Leader
Mrs J Pritzlaff

Entry Requirements
GCSE grade 5 in German

Awarding Body
AQA

Assessment

Paper 1: written examination	2 hours 30 mins	40% of A level
Paper 2: written examination	2 hours	30% of A level
Paper 3: speaking test	16-17 mins*	30% of A level

(*plus 5 mins preparation time)

Progression
Language study at A Level opens paths into many career avenues and can be a positively influential factor for students going into law, banking, business, tourism, engineering, pharmaceutical, medicine and other science-based careers.



Health & Social Care

Health and Social Care is a Cambridge Advanced National and is equivalent to one A Level. It is recognised by university admission criteria in the same way as a standard A level. It allows you to study many components of the sector, from promoting health and wellbeing, supporting those with health conditions and person-centred care. The subject looks at hospital, social and child care environments. It allows students to move into nursing, midwifery, social care and child care careers.

"Health and Social Care is a great subject with helpful teachers, and will be invaluable for future jobs in childcare or healthcare settings"

Course Content

Unit 1: Principles of health and social care: This exam covers the fundamental principles and values of the sector, such as dignity, respect, and safeguarding. It assesses your ability to apply these principles to different scenarios (examination).

Unit 2: Anatomy and physiology for health and social care: This external assessment will test your understanding of the structure and function of the human body's systems. Questions may be scenario-based, requiring you to explain how a disease or disorder affects different body systems (examination).

Unit 3: Person-centered approach to care: You will demonstrate how to apply person-centered values in practice. Coursework might involve creating or adapting a care plan for an individual, explaining your decisions, and reflecting on how your actions impacted the service user (NEA).

Unit 4: Supporting people with mental health conditions: Your assignments will focus on the different types of mental health conditions, how they impact individuals, and person-centered strategies for supporting them. You will explore practical guidance and tools for promoting mental well-being (NEA).

Unit 5: Supporting people in relation to sexual health, pregnancy, and postnatal care: This unit requires you to demonstrate knowledge of topics related to reproductive health. Coursework will cover contemporary issues, legal and ethical considerations, and how to provide accurate and sensitive support (NEA).

Unit 6: Investigating public health: This unit requires you to develop skills in public health analysis. Coursework will likely involve researching and presenting information on real-world health problems, and you will learn to evaluate research evidence and its link to policy (NEA).

Qualification

Cambridge Advanced National in Health and Social Care (Extended Certificate)

Course Leader

Mr R Lee

Entry Requirements

GCSE grade 4 in English and
GCSE grade 4 in Science

If students have studied Cambridge National Health & Social Care, a P2 is required.

Awarding Body

OCR

Assessment

Mixture of two external examinations and four internally and externally assessed pieces of coursework.

Progression

The course will provide a strong base for progression to university courses such as BSc (Hons) in Nursing. We have also had a number of students go on to university to study paramedic science. The course will also provide students with the starting skills required to go into the health and social care work sector.



History

A Level History is a challenging, but interesting course. It offers plenty of opportunity for discussion and debate, giving an insight into present day problems. For instance, from the perspective of the political divisions during the French Revolution, and by studying Britain's place in the world from the historical basis of the British Empire.

This fascinating subject encourages you to consider historical concepts rather than just remembering facts.

"History is interesting with lots of opportunities to develop transferable skills such as communication and debating"

Course Content

The course is divided into three components, studied over two years.

Component 1 - Breadth Study: a study of an extended period of History, enabling students to understand the process of change over time. We study The British Empire 1857-1967. Students will develop knowledge and understanding of a range of themes, including the scramble for Africa, the Boer War, India under British rule and the end of Empire.

Component 2 - Depth Study: a focus on a significant period of historical change, developing detailed knowledge and understanding of political developments and the roles of individuals. We will study France in Revolution 1774-1815, taking us from absolute monarchy under Louis XVI through the Revolution and on to Napoleon and Empire. Specific events such as the Battle of Austerlitz will also be studied.

Component 3 - Historical Investigation: We will study England and its rulers 1066-1307, following which, students will choose a specific question for investigation which they will pursue under the supervision of their teachers. Themes will include the Norman Conquest, the development of royal power and rebellion, and the extent to which women could exert power during the period.

Qualification
A Level History

Course Leader
Mr W Woodward

Entry Requirements
GCSE grade 5 in History and GCSE grade 5 in English

Applications will be considered from students who have not studied GCSE History if they have a grade 5 in a related subject such as English Literature, Geography or RE.

Awarding Body
AQA

Assessment
Component 1 - 40% of A level: written examination (one compulsory question, two chosen essay questions)
Component 2 - 40% of A level: written examination (one compulsory question, two chosen essay questions)
Component 3 - 20% of A level: extended writing 4,500 words

Progression
A History qualification provides a highly marketable A Level for entry both into Higher Education and employment. It is valued widely for its development of the skills of research, analysis, synthesis and communication of different information and arguments. A Level History is particularly well-regarded by Medicine, Accountancy, Law and Humanities.



Mathematics & Further Maths

The Mathematics Curriculum Area at Lady Manners School has always been extremely successful and has a proven track record of teaching at A Level. A high proportion of our students have also gone on to study mathematics or a mathematics related subject at a range of high profile universities.

"A very fulfilling subject as you can feel problems getting easier as you improve and, with hard work, questions become satisfying to solve"

Course Content

The content is made up of a range of mathematical disciplines, as follows:

- Pure Mathematics: elements from calculus, algebra and functions, trigonometry, sequences and series.
- Further Pure Mathematics: elements from further calculus, hyperbolic functions, differential equations, vectors, matrices and polar coordinates.
- Mechanics: elements from kinematics, forces and Newton's laws, moments, work/energy and power and centres of mass.
- Statistics: elements from statistical sampling, data presentation, probability and hypothesis testing.

Each single A Level class will usually be taught by two teachers with five lessons per week. In comparison, the Further Mathematics course will be taken by two or three teachers and is allocated eight lessons per week. We will further support all abilities of Year 12 and 13 students through a programme of additional lunchtime drop-in sessions, maths challenge enrichment, plus support sessions for students interested in applying for university entrance examinations.

Students will require a calculator with additional functions for the A Level course,which can be purchased from the school in September.

Qualification

A Level Mathematics /
A Level Further Mathematics

Course Leader

Mr K Byrne

Entry Requirements

Mathematics: GCSE grade 6 in Mathematics
Further Mathematics: GCSE grade 7 in Mathematics

Awarding Body

AQA

Assessment

A Level Mathematics: 3 written papers covering core mathematics, mechanics and statistics.

A Level Further Mathematics: 3 written papers with 2 examinations covering core mathematics and further pure mathematics, with the third being made up of two options out of mechanics, statistics and decision mathematics. Students studying further maths will receive two A-level qualifications: Maths and Further Maths.

Progression

A Level Mathematics and Further Mathematics students will often go on to study mathematics itself or related degrees at university, such as sciences, engineering, finance and move into careers related to these fields.A strong A Level in mathematics is evidence of an excellent ability to reason, problem solve and work logically, which are highly sought after skills across a wide range of careers.



Media Studies

Media is a growing industry; there continue to be employment opportunities and a range of interesting and popular degree courses. A Level Media Studies encourages you to question the validity of the information you receive on a daily basis and to be aware of bias within the media, to help you develop a better understanding of the world we live in.

You will enjoy Media Studies if you have an enquiring mind and are open to debate and exploration of media products.

"I enjoy studying media as it allows me to be creative in ways that other courses don't and because we explore such a broad range of media"

Course Content

Students will study the media through 17 close study products across 8 different areas of the industry.

Paper 1

- Advertising and marketing
- Music videos
- Newspapers
- Radio

Paper 2

- Television
- Magazines
- Online and social media
- Video games

Non Examination Assessment

Students have the opportunity to create media products for a specified audience from a given choice of topics.

Qualification
A Level Media Studies

Course Leader
Mr K Mulholland

Entry Requirements
GCSE grade 5 in English

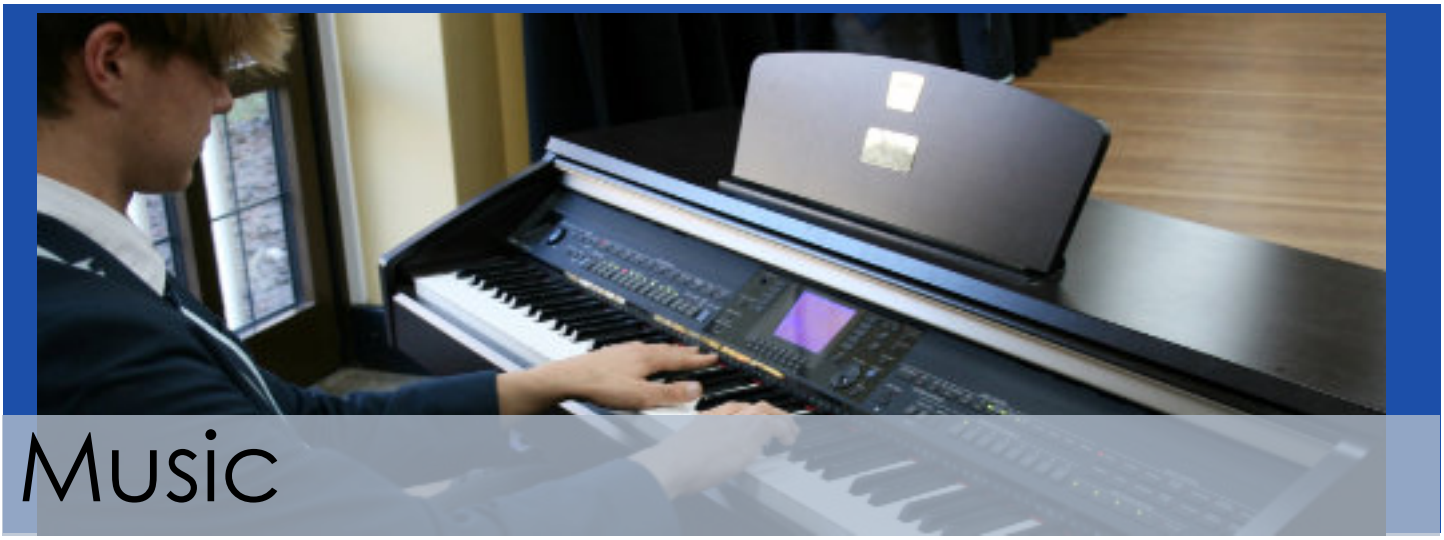
Awarding Body
AQA (7572)

Assessment

Paper One: written examination	2 hours	35% of A Level
Paper Two: written examination	2 hours	35% of A Level
Non-Examination Assessment:		30% of A Level

Progression

Many Further Education and Higher Education institutions offer specialist courses in Media Studies. Media Studies is also a popular combination with other degree courses. There are many opportunities in careers such as journalism, broadcast media, television, radio, internet, and advertising and marketing.



Music

A Level Music at Lady Manners School is a practical and engaging course where you study a range of set works from various styles and genres, develop your performing skills and explore composition.

We study the Edexcel scheme of work. If you have taken GCSE Edexcel music you will notice that they have a similar course structure which allows you to follow and track your progress in a linear way.

It is a superb course to study if you wish to study music at higher education, work in the industry or simply want to explore your interest in music further.

Course Content

Component 1 - Performing: Total performance time of eight minutes solo and/or ensemble

Component 2 - Composing: 2 compositions

- 1 free or free choice brief - minimum 4 minutes
- 1 brief assessing technique - minimum 1 minute
- Combined total - minimum of 6 minutes

Component 3 - Appraising: six areas of study with two set works in each, apart from Popular Music and Jazz, which has three set works

- Vocal Music
- Popular Music and Jazz
- Instrumental Music
- Fusions
- Music for Film
- New Directions

"I enjoy studying music. The course builds on the GCSE course and is enabling me to develop my musical knowledge and skills further. The teachers are very supportive."

Qualification
A Level Music

Course Leader
Mr T Atkins

Entry Requirements
GCSE grade 5 in Music or Grade 5 theory is required.
Performing skills are also essential, ideally at the equivalent of Grade 5 or above.

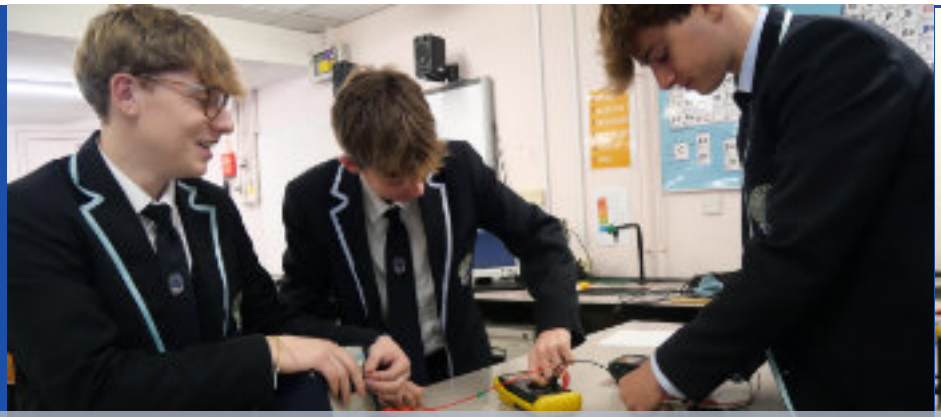
Awarding Body
Edexcel (Pearson)

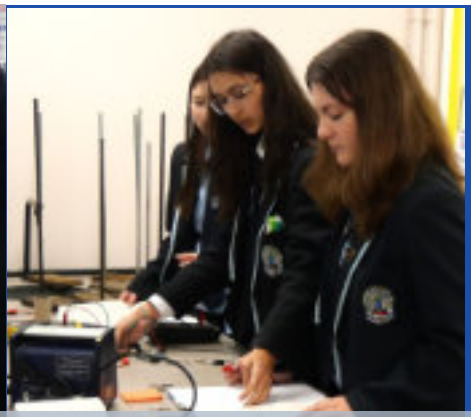
Assessment
Component 1: externally assessed, 60 marks, 12 marks available for difficulty of pieces, 30% of A Level

Component 2: externally assessed, 60 marks (40 marks free/free choice brief; 20 marks brief assessing technique), 30% of A Level

Component 3: Examination, 2 hours, 100 marks, 40% of A Level

Progression
A wide range of career opportunities in music, including recording and broadcasting and performing, require A Level Music. It is a valuable asset for those wishing to go into teaching at all age levels and provides a firm basis for music as a lifelong interest.





Physics

The AQA Physics A Level is an exciting course that builds on the knowledge and skills gained at GCSE. It explores the key concepts that allow scientists to explain phenomena ranging from the structure of the nucleus up to the evolution of the universe. It also develops excellent problem solving, analytic, team working and communication skills that prepare students for a diverse range of university courses and future careers.

"Applying theoretical ideas to real life scenarios presents a different kind of challenge, which is interesting and eye opening. A good grasp of maths helps no end!"

Course Content

First year of A Level content:

- Measurements and their errors.
- Particles and radiation: constituents of the atom, particle interactions, collisions of electrons with atoms.
- Waves: progressive waves, interference and diffraction.
- Mechanics and energy: projectile motion, Newton's laws of motion.
- Electricity: current/voltage characteristics, circuits, electromotive force and internal resistance.

Second year of A Level content:

- Further mechanics and thermal physics: periodic motion, thermal energy transfer, molecular kinetic theory model.
- Fields: Newton's law of gravitation, orbits of planets and satellites, magnetic flux density.
- Nuclear physics: evidence for the nucleus, radioactive decay, nuclear instability.

Plus one option from:

- Astrophysics: classification of stars by luminosity, Doppler effect, detection of exoplanets.
- Medical physics: physics of vision, ECG machines, X-ray imaging.
- Engineering physics: rotational dynamics, thermodynamics and engines.
- Turning points in physics: discovery of the electron, wave-particle duality, scanning electron microscopy, Einstein's theory of special relativity.

Qualification

A Level Physics

Course Leader

Dr A Ebbens

Entry Requirements

GCSE grade 6 in Physics or
GCSE grade 6-6 in Combined Science
GCSE grade 6 in Mathematics

Awarding Body

AQA

Assessment

There are three examinations of 2 hours duration each, including long and short answer written questions, calculations, and multiple choice. Most of the practical questions are in paper 3. Practical skills are teacher-assessed over 12 practicals (set by AQA). Students' knowledge and understanding of these practicals is assessed in examination papers which will make up 15% of their examination mark. There is no assessed coursework.

Progression

Physics demonstrates to a potential employer that you can think logically and work hard. It allows you to follow a wide range of career paths including astronomer, geophysicist, engineer, climate scientist, biophysicist, sound engineer, data analysist, patent attorney and health physicist. The course will help prepare students for a wide range of possible university courses including physics, astronomy, medicine, engineering, mathematics and electronics.





Product Design

If it were not for the designers and engineers who push the boundaries of what can be made, our world would be very dull. Nothing new: no new products, no development of things we all need and use, no solutions to global issues.

Design and Technology is the one subject that truly integrates everything that you learn - writing, drawing, mathematical problem solving, communication and best of all, making things. What other subject does all that and can help you access, better things at university and beyond? D&T Product Design welcomes anyone with the right mind-set.

Course Content

An exciting, progressive development from GCSE/Level 2. Students will undertake a wide range of design, make and product analysis activities whilst learning how to work with and manipulate a variety of resistant, compliant and smart materials. The practical content underpins traditional and contemporary applied theory that needs to be learnt in preparation for two final examinations.

The non-examination element of the assessment of this course is a major piece of project work and is the part that students really enjoy, as it allows them to showcase their skills in the realisation of a functional or conceptual product along with a portfolio of design work.

"I chose product design as I wanted to increase my knowledge of resistant materials. The 1 to 1 time with teaching staff has really helped me develop my coursework"

Qualification

A Level Design & Technology: Product Design

Course Leader

Mr W Bagshawe

Entry Requirements

GCSE grade 4 in Design & Technology or Merit grade in CAMNAT Engineering Level 2
GCSE grade 4 in Mathematics

Individual cases from other design and technology courses will be considered

Awarding Body

AQA

Assessment

Paper 1: written examination (2 hours) 30% of A level
Paper 2: written examination (1 hour 30 mins) 20% of A level
Non-examination assessment: 45 hours guided teaching time 50% of A level

Progression

The qualification is accepted for general admission to colleges and universities as well as Art and Design Foundation and related Design degree courses. Career and other links include: Product Design, Industrial Design, Architecture, Advertising, Design History. Other areas may include technical training in carpentry, engineering, or electrical work, together with design disciplines such as photography, media and conservation.



Psychology

Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour. It is a very popular subject which is part of the science curriculum. It allows students to move into a wide variety of fields of work. From the police force and social work, to forensic, clinical and occupational psychology. It also creates a pathway into all components of business management including sales, marketing and finance.

"It is really interesting to find out and understand how people behave, and why"

Course Content

Unit 1 - Introductory Topics in Psychology (social influence, memory, attachments and psychopathology): Conformity, minority influence, obedience to authority, causes of and resistance to social influence, explanations of attachments, deprivation and privation, cultural variations in attachments, definitions of abnormality, explanations and treatments for phobias, depression and obsessive compulsive disorder.

Unit 2 - Psychology in Context (approaches in psychology, biopsychology and research methods): Understanding different approaches to psychology and gaining a biological understanding of human behaviour. Learn about the different methodologies that are applied in psychological research. You will have the opportunity to conduct and analyse your own study.

Unit 3 - Issues and options in psychology (issues and debates, schizophrenia, relationships and forensic psychology): Debates in psychology, for example 'free will versus determinism'. Gain an understanding of the diagnosis, explanations for and treatments for schizophrenia and the psychology behind relationships. Theories of romantic relationships such as social exchange theory and equity theory. Look at virtual relationships in social media and parasocial relationships.

Qualification
A Level Psychology

Course Leader
Mr R Lee

Entry Requirements
GCSE grade 5 in English

GCSE grade 5 in Mathematics

GCSE grade 5 in Science

Awarding Body
AQA

Assessment
Question forms in all examinations include short answer, applied questions and essays. Ten percent of all questions are mathematically based.

Unit 1: written examination (2 hours)	33.3% of A Level
Unit 2: written examination (2 hours)	33.3% of A Level
Unit 3: written examination (2 hours)	33.3% of A Level

Progression
Psychology prepares students for a variety of work, including business, education and health services. Many psychology graduates continue further training to become, for example, clinical, educational, occupational and criminal psychologists. In addition, a psychological insight may prove useful in our everyday lives.



Religious Studies

The course covers three components: Philosophy, Ethics and Developments in Religious Thought. By taking a philosophical approach, students are able to understand how society has changed with the influence of Christianity and what the future could look like in a secular world.

Many students enjoy the intellectual challenge of abstract thought and ethical debate. Multiple opportunities to study and discuss secular views and approaches to the big questions in life are also provided.

"This is a course which is enjoyable as well as being incredibly thought provoking and challenging."

Course Content

Philosophy:

Ancient Greek influences on religious philosophy, arguments for and against the existence of God, the challenge to religious belief posed by the problem of evil, religious experience, the attributes of God, and discussions about the meaningfulness of religious language.

Ethics:

Religious and secular normative ethical theories and their application to euthanasia, sex and business. Students will study the implications for ethics of debates about the conscience and ethical language.

Developments in Religious Thought:

The way beliefs, practices and values have changed over time and how they are reflected in the world of today. Students will also study the relationship between beliefs, identity, sources of authority and their impact on contemporary society.

There is some overlap and compatibility with courses like Psychology and Business. The course will necessitate wider reading, regular preparation and submission of essays based on past examination papers according to a strict essay timetable and independent study (one hour expected for every hour of taught lessons). There will be ample opportunity for lively debate and Socratic discussion.

Qualification

A Level Religious Studies

Course Leader

Mr M Bawden

Entry Requirements

GCSE grade 5 in Religious Studies

GCSE grade 5 in English

Applications will be considered from students who have not studied GCSE Religious Studies if they have a GCSE grade 5 in a related subject such as History or Geography or Citizenship.

Awarding Body

OCR

Assessment

Students will sit three examinations at the end of Year 13 which count for 100% of their A Level grade. The three A Level examinations are equally weighted, each counting towards the final grade. Examinations are two hours each.

Progression

This course will develop students' skills of research, essay writing, interpretation and critical thinking. These skills are recognised and valued by employers and higher education. The course has grown in popularity in recent years as university admissions tutors increasingly look for breadth in A Level studies. Degree courses are available in Theology, Religious Studies and Philosophy.





Spanish

Spanish at A Level builds on and extends vocabulary and grammatical knowledge from GCSE.
It is an integrated course focusing not only on linguistic and grammatical study, but also on culture, history and society in Spain and the Spanish speaking world.
Through their own studies, students are able to develop skills in research, critical thinking and analysis, enabling them to understand how Spanish-speaking society has been shaped and continues to change.

"I chose A Level Spanish because I love languages and it's really useful for travel and job opportunities."

Course Content

Year 12

• One theme of social issues and trends:
Aspects of Spanish-speaking society: modern and traditional values towards family, cyberspace, equal rights.

• One theme of Political and/or intellectual and/or artistic culture:
Artistic culture in the Spanish-speaking world: modern day idols, Spanish regional identity, cultural heritage.

• One text or one film

• Grammar

Year 13

• A further theme from social issues and trends:
Multiculturalism in Spanish-speaking society: immigration, racism and integration.

• A further theme from political and/or intellectual and/or artistic culture:
Aspects of political life in Spanish-speaking world: today's youth, tomorrow's citizens, monarchies and dictatorships, popular movements.

• One text and one film

• Grammar

Qualification
A Level Spanish

Course Leader
Mrs J Pritzlaff

Entry Requirements
GCSE grade 5 in Spanish

Awarding Body
AQA

Assessment

Paper 1: listening, reading and writing .	2 hours 30 mins.	50%
Paper 2: written examination.	2 hours	20%
Paper 3: speaking test.	16-17 mins*	30%

(*plus 5 mins preparation time)

Progression
Language study at A Level opens paths into many career avenues and can be a positively influential factor for students going into law, banking, business, tourism, medicine and other science-based careers.





Sport & Physical Activity

This course is equivalent to one A Level in terms of size and teaching hours.

It will provide learners with the opportunity, through applied learning, to develop the core specialist knowledge, skills and understanding required in the sport and physical activity sector.

"I love the course because it helps me develop my coaching skills and I enjoy working with the younger students. It is helping to develop my skills to work in the sporting sector."

Course Content

Compulsory Units:

- Unit 1: Body systems and the effects of physical activity
- Unit 2: Sports coaching and activity leadership
- Unit 3: Sports organisation and development

Optional units

- Unit 5: Performance analysis in sport and exercise
- Unit 8: Organisation of sports events
- Unit 10: Biomechanics and movement analysis
- Unit 11: Physical activity for specific groups
- Unit 12: Nutrition and diet for sport and exercise
- Unit 17: Sports injuries and rehabilitation
- Unit 18: Practical skills in sport and physical activities
- Unit 19: Sport and exercise psychology
- Unit 20: Sport and exercise sociology

Qualification

Cambridge Technical Level 3 Extended Certificate in Sport and Physical Activity

Course Leader

Mr T Sanigar

Entry Requirements

GCSE grade 4 in Physical Education or P2 in Cambridge National in PE.

GCSE grade 4 in Biology or Combined Science

Applications will be considered from students who have not studied GCSE Physical Education if they have a GCSE grade 4 in Combined Science or a GCSE grade 4 in Biology.

Awarding Body

OCR

Assessment

Unit 1: examination, 1 hour 30 mins
Unit 2: internal coursework, 90 guided learning hours
Unit 3: examination, 1 hour
Optional units: internal coursework: units 5, 8, 10, 17, 18, 19, 20 require 60 guided learning; units 11 and 12 require 30 guided learning; a minimum of 120 total guided learning hours required.

Learners can resit an examined unit twice. The qualification is graded Pass, Merit, Distinction, Distinction*

Progression

This course prepares students for further study in Further Education or Higher Education in sports and physical activity. Students may also use this qualification to support further study at university or to progress into a sport-related apprenticeship.





Textile Design

A Level Textiles offers an exciting and creative environment where students develop advanced skills in design, innovation, and practical techniques. You'll explore a wide range of textile processes, from printmaking and embroidery to garment construction and surface embellishment. Our course encourages you to express your individual style whilst building a strong foundation in research, critical analysis, and professional presentation.

You will embrace experimentation, whilst developing your technical excellence and conceptual thinking.

"Textile Design allows independent thinking and creativity, letting you explore all kinds of topics. It requires a lot of motivation and independent learning."

Course Content

Students in year 12 start the course with a series of workshops running until Spring. They then move onto Component 1 and will work on this until February in year 13.

Component 1: Personal Investigation (coursework)
You'll develop a sustained project exploring themes and ideas that genuinely interest you, culminating in a practical outcome and a written personal study of 1,000-3,000 words.

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment (Examination)

This component runs from February until May. You will respond to a chosen starting point through a preparatory period, leading to 15 hours of supervised time to create your final piece.

We foster a studio culture where creativity thrives - you'll have a dedicated sixth form studio space, regular one-to-one tutorials, and the freedom to develop your own artistic direction with expert guidance.

A highlight of the course is our annual visit to the Harrogate Knitting and Stitching Show, where students gain first-hand inspiration from contemporary textile artists and recent university graduates. This unique experience broadens your understanding of current trends and provides valuable insight into the diverse opportunities within the textiles industry.

Qualification
A Level Art and Design: Textile Design

Course Leader
Miss L Ridgeway

Entry Requirements
GCSE grade 5 (or equivalent) in an Art/Design discipline (or a strong portfolio if you haven't studied Textiles or Art at GCSE).

Awarding Body
AQA

Assessment
Personal Investigation: 60% of the A Level

Externally Set Assignment: 40% of the A Level

Progression
Textiles A Level is highly valued by universities across all disciplines - it demonstrates creativity, independent thinking, research skills, and the ability to develop and communicate complex ideas visually.Typical progression routes include:

- Foundation Diploma courses in Art and Design,
- Degrees at leading universities and specialist art schools in Textile Design, Interior Design, Fashion, Architecture, and Costume Design.
- Creative industry careers in advertising, publishing, film, and digital media, teaching, business, marketing and arts education.

Entry Requirements

The specification details contained in this prospectus are, to the best of our knowledge, correct at the time of printing.

All courses are offered subject to sufficient demand. We reserve the right to withdraw courses due to lack of demand. Where this is the case, we will inform students at the earliest possible stage and allow them priority in making an alternative choice.

Students must meet the overall minimum entry requirements of five GCSEs at grade 4 (or equivalent), to include English and Mathematics, as well as individual subject entry requirements before they will be accepted on a course.

Please note, any future GCSE or Level 2 re-sits will not be counted.

The subject entry requirements are listed below and on the next two pages.

Fine Art	GCSE grade 5 in an Art discipline
Biology	GCSE grade 6 in Biology or 6-6 in Combined Science GCSE grade 5 in Mathematics
Business (Cambridge Technical Level 3 Extended Certificate)	GCSE grade 4 in English GCSE grade 4 in Mathematics If students have studied Business at KS4, a grade 4 or L2 pass is required
Chemistry	GCSE grade 6 in Chemistry or 6-6 in Combined Science GCSE grade 5 in Mathematics
Computer Science	GCSE grade 6 in Computer Science GCSE grade 6 in Mathematics
Drama and Theatre	GCSE grade 5 in Drama Students who did not study Drama at GCSE must have a GCSE grade 5 in English
Economics	GCSE grade 5 in English GCSE grade 5 in Mathematics
English Language	GCSE grade 5 in English Language GCSE grade 5 in English Literature

Entry Requirements

English Literature	GCSE grade 6 in English Literature
Film Studies	GCSE grade 5 in English Language and English Language **OR** GCSE grade 5 in Film Studies
French	GCSE grade 5 in French
Further Mathematics	GCSE grade 7 in Mathematics
Geography	GCSE grade 5 in Geography Applications will be considered from students who have not studied GCSE Geography if they have a grade 5 in a related subject such as History or RE GCSE grade 5 in English
German	GCSE grade 5 in German
Health and Social Care (Level 3 Cambridge Advanced National Extended Certificate)	GCSE grade 4 in English GCSE grade 4 in Mathematics If students have studied Cambridge National Health and Social Care, P2 is required
History	GCSE grade 5 in History Applications will be considered from students who have not studied GCSE History if they have a grade 5 in a related subject such as English Literature, Geography or RE GCSE grade 5 in English
Mathematics	GCSE grade 6 in Mathematics

Entry Requirements

Media Studies	GCSE grade 5 in English
Music	GCSE grade 5 in Music **OR** Grade 5 Theory with Performing Skills at the equivalent of grade 5
Physics	GCSE grade 6 in Physics or 6-6 in Combined Science GCSE grade 6 in Mathematics
Product Design	GCSE grade 4 in Design Technology or merit grade (at level 2) in Engineering GCSE grade 4 in Mathematics
Psychology	GCSE grade 5 in English GCSE grade 5 in Science GCSE grade 4 in Mathematics
Religious Studies	GCSE grade 5 in Religious Studies GCSE grade 5 in a related subject, such as Geography, History or Citizenship, will be required if Religious Studies has not been studied at GCSE GCSE grade 5 in English
Spanish	GCSE grade 5 in Spanish
Sport and Physical Activity (Cambridge Technical Level 3 Extended Certificate)	GCSE grade 4 in Physical Education or P2 in Cambridge National in PE GCSE grade 4 in Combined Sciene or Biology Applications will be considered from students who have not studied GCSE Physical Education if they have a GCSE grade 4 in Combined Science or a GCSE grade 4 in Biology
Textile Design	GCSE grade 5 in either Art or Textiles (or a strong portfolio if students have not studied Art or Textiles at GCSE)

Making Your Application

The transition to post-16 education is one which requires considerable thought. You are making important decisions which will affect the next two years of your life and, possibly, the route that you follow beyond school. We encourage you to think about this very seriously and research all the possibilities before making a decision. If you follow the guidelines listed below, you stand a better chance of choosing the right course for you - one that you enjoy, is within your capabilities, and which will equip you with the necessary qualifications for the next step on your chosen career route.

Research

There are many different courses on offer at Lady Manners School, which will allow you to continue your education following a variety of pathways, opening up different opportunities after two years. Read the course description carefully to see if the style of learning will suit you. For instance, Vocational courses offer a more continuous form of assessment, whereas A Level courses are more examination-focused.

Seek Advice

There are several sources of advice both in and out of school, to help you reach a decision:

- Subject teachers - will you achieve the necessary GCSE grade and will you cope with the demands of post-16 study in their subject?
- Form tutors will be in a position to offer individual advice.
- School Careers Department - use the wealth of information that you have in school.
- Sixth Form staff - feel free to seek advice from the Head of Sixth Form and the Sixth Form Team.

Students not currently studying at Lady Manners School are welcome to call or email us to discuss their options.

If you feel you might have difficulty meeting our entry requirements, please get in contact to discuss





Application Timeline

Sixth Form admissions information and prospectus available at www.ladymanners.derbyshire.sch.uk/sixth-form/admissions-sixth-form/

Friday 18 December 2026

Application deadline for students already studying in Year 11 at Lady Manners School.

Friday 29 January 2027

Application deadline for external students.

Applications submitted after the deadline will be dealt with in date order. Students will be placed on a waiting list in the event of a subject being full.

Spring 2027

Notification of option blocks and conditional offer of places.

Offer: A conditional offer is subject to you meeting the Sixth Form entry requirements and subject grade requirements.

Students to confirm acceptance of offer.

Monday 21 June 2027

Sixth Form Induction

Thursday 19 August 2027

GCSE results day.

All students will be asked, on receipt of their GCSE results, to confirm their place in the Sixth Form. We will do our utmost to accommodate late requests for subject changes, subject to capacity in subjects.

If you have not met the recommended minimum grade requirement in a subject, but have achieved the general 5 GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including English and Mathematics, you will be asked to choose an alternative subject.

Students not meeting the basic entry criteria of 5 GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including English and Mathematics, will not be permitted entry to the Sixth Form.

Bursary Scheme

The government has made available a bursary to support post-16 students. To apply, you will need to meet the criteria below:

- Young people who are on income support, in care, or are disabled (receiving Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance) will be entitled to receive a Bursary of up to £1,200 per academic year. These payments will be made directly into students' bank accounts by the school and will be subject to them satisfying attendance and behaviour criteria.
- In addition, a further discretionary bursary is available for students who may face financial barriers to continued participation in education.
- Further details will be available from the Sixth Form Team in September.

In the meantime, if you are part of a low income household, you may wish to enquire about your eligibility for a range of other benefits, such as Free School Meals, which may help us in assessing eligibility under the bursary scheme. Free School Meals are administered by Derbyshire County Council.

Further information is available from the Sixth Form Team.



Progression

Our students progress onto a wide range of post-18 destinations. The majority opt for further study at university, including Oxbridge and Russell Group institutions. A growing number of students opt for apprenticeships, either with large national and international companies such as Rolls Royce, Environment Agency, DB ESG and JCB, or with a broad range of locally based employers.

2026 University Destinations



Newcastle University

University of York

University of Manchester

Manchester Met University

University of Liverpool

Durham University

University of Oxford

University of Cambridge

Keele University

University of Plymouth

Brighton University

University of Edinburgh

University of Sheffield

Sheffield Hallam University

Nottingham Trent University

University of Leeds

Leeds Beckett University

Lancaster University

University of Derby

Northumbria University

Loughborough University

Swansea University

Cardiff University

University of Warwick

University of Surrey

University of Birmingham

Liverpool John Moores University

University of Bristol



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