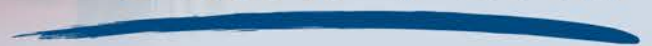




The  
Sittingbourne School  
Sixth Form







Aspirational programme of study for every student

Opportunities for both academic and vocational pathways

Highly experienced sixth form teachers who strive for every student's success

Carefully tailored academic support

Vocational opportunities and exciting and relevant work experience

Comprehensive Higher Education programme to prepare individuals for university

Personalised mentoring to support individuals in their next steps

Strong student leadership programme

Diverse cultural visits and experiences

APPLIED SCIENCE  
FINE ART  
BEAUTY THERAPY  
BUSINESS  
PROFESSIONAL COOKERY  
COMPUTING  
CRIMINOLOGY  
DANCE  
DRAMA  
ENGLISH LITERATURE  
FINANCE  
FRENCH  
HAIRDRESSING  
HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE  
HISTORY  
MATHEMATICS  
MUSIC  
PHOTOGRAPHY  
PSYCHOLOGY  
SOCIOLOGY  
SPORT



The  
Sittingbourne School  
Sixth Form

# Course Guide

2021



**W**elcome to The Sittingbourne School Sixth Form, where we offer a wide and challenging programme to all our students, whether you are looking for an academic, vocational or work ready pathway to your future.

We have a dedicated sixth form area for our students, including their own snack shop, tea/coffee and microwave facilities. We also offer extensive IT facilities, performing and recording studios, sports facilities, gym and professional catering and salon facilities at our Skills Centre.

Alongside our curriculum and facilities, students also have a range of opportunities to select from to develop their character, confidence and employability skills. These options are personalised, are there to support your personal development and are flexible to work around your chosen pathway.

We are proud to offer a thriving ambassador programme and an exciting range of trips each year – for example last year included a day trip to Barcelona, various London trips, including the Shard and the Tower of London, along with a four day trip to New York City (which included visits to the New York stock exchange, Empire State Building, Times Square, Ground Zero site, Statue of Liberty, Madison Square Gardens to watch an NBA basketball game, the Brooklyn Bridge, a Broadway show, a bike ride through Central Park and a shopping trip to Macy's).

Students are extremely well supported through their studies in sixth form and also offered a range of events and activities to support their progression plans into higher education, apprenticeships or employment, as well as support for their general wellbeing. Much of this is covered within our Skills4Life programme, which every student will engage in.

When considering which courses you will apply for, make sure you are looking at the right level of study for you. Our general entry requirements are:-

- A Levels – advanced courses, 2 year study programme, with an average entry requirement of at least 5 grade 5+ qualifications, including English and mathematics. Some subjects may have additional entry requirements.
- BTEC Level 3 – advanced courses, 2 year study programme, with an average entry requirement at least five grade 4+ qualifications, including English and mathematics. Some subjects may have additional entry requirements.
- BTEC Level 2/City and Guilds – 1 year programme, which could lead on to further studies, with an average entry requirements of a range of grade 1 or above, including English and mathematics.

Speak to the students and staff about our sixth form opportunities and read about our courses.



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# Our Curriculum

## How do I use the blocking sheet to guide my choices?

We offer three pathways within our Sixth Form, and you need to ask yourself these key questions before starting to consider your subject choices:

### What grades am I currently being predicted in my subjects?

If the majority of your grades are grade 5 or above, then you should focus on our A Level and Level 3 BTEC courses - these are shown on the top Level 3 pathway on the blocking sheet.

If the majority of your grades are grade 4 or 5, then you should focus on our Level 3 BTEC courses - these are shown in the middle section of the Level 3 pathway on the blocking sheet.

If the majority of your grades are below grade 4, then you should focus on our Level 2 pathways - these are shown in the bottom section of the block sheet.

**Entry requirements** - the grades you need to be accepted onto our courses - are clearly shown at the bottom of the sheet.

You can see the importance of your mathematics, English and all of your GCSE grades, to secure a place on any Sixth Form course.

The final piece of guidance is that you can only choose one subject from either block A, B, C, D or E on the sheet.

If you are applying for a Level 3 pathway, you need to select 3 single subjects, or a double and a single subject or a triple subject combination.

You cannot mix Level 3 and Level 2 subjects, but you can mix A Levels and Level 3 BTEC subjects.

	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>
<b>Level 3 Pathways</b>	History <i>A Level</i>	Art <i>A Level</i>		English Literature <i>A level</i>	French <i>A Level</i>
	Maths <i>A Level</i>	Psychology <i>A Level</i>	Sociology <i>A Level</i>	Photography <i>A Level</i>	Applied Science <i>A Level</i>
	HSC <i>Triple (1)</i>		HSC <i>Triple (2)</i>	HSC <i>Triple (3)</i>	
	Criminology <i>Diploma</i>	Dance <i>Single</i>	Music Rock School	Drama <i>Double</i>	Drama <i>Double</i>
	Finance	Business <i>Single</i>	Business <i>Double</i>	Business <i>Double</i>	
	Computing <i>Single</i>		Sport <i>Double</i>	Sport <i>Double</i>	
<b>Level 2 Pathways</b>	L2 Health and Social Care plus Finance qualification				
	L2 Sport and Activity Leaders plus Finance qualification				
	L2 Hairdressing				
	L2 Beauty				
	L1 Catering				

\*Please note our courses are subject to change

# Applying for Sixth Form @ Sittingbourne

Our courses are open to applicants from our own year 11 students, as well as external applicants from other Secondary Schools. All students are required to apply through the Kent Choices online application process. This can be found at: [www.kentprospectus.co.uk](http://www.kentprospectus.co.uk)

All of our year 11 students have had an application guidance session during the week beginning 19 October 2020 in their lessons. They will then need to develop the details and choices in their online application at home. Ideally, we would like students to complete and send their application to us by the end of Term 2 (18 December 2020).

To support students applying from our year 11, we have created a Year 11 Careers class on Google Classroom which contains presentations and videos to support completing your application and writing a personal statement.

## Remember - login and apply through Kent Choices

The screenshot shows the Kent Choices website interface. At the top left is the Kent Choices logo (kentchoices.co.uk). The navigation bar includes links for Home, Favourites, Getting started, Get in touch, Courses, Help & Guidance, Events, and Login. A yellow banner displays '\*\*\* Coronavirus (COVID-19) Updates \*\*\*'. Below this is a purple header 'Kentchoices - Your Online Careers Gateway'. The main content area features four course category cards, each with an image of students writing and a red arrow pointing right. The categories are: 'e Courses' (and college courses), 'Short Courses' (Helping you develop), 'Full Time Courses' (Sixth form and college courses), and 'Short Courses' (Helping you develop). Below the cards is a search bar with 'Course name or subject' and a dropdown menu set to 'Full Time Courses', with a 'Find a course' button. At the bottom, there are three promotional banners: 'Discover new exciting features' (We're adding new stuff all the time. Why not sign up for free and give it a go?), 'Help & Guidance' (We can help you prepare and to make choices about your future.), and 'Online Open Day - Gravesend Campus' (North Kent College, OCT 22).

If you are an external candidate and cannot access Kent Choices, please email [amanda.seymour@swale.at](mailto:amanda.seymour@swale.at) and request an electronic copy of our application form.

# Careers Guidance

At The Sittingbourne School, we offer an exciting range of opportunities, which can guide you towards taking the right steps for your future pathway and career.

We recognise the significance and positive impact of quality Careers, Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) for all students. In addition, enterprise education is also essential to the preparation of young people for transition to adulthood, equipping them with the skills, knowledge and confidence, to make appropriate choices about their future pathways.

Our **careers programme** offers activities, opportunities and engagement with employers, to support you making informed decisions about your next steps.

Our **careers web pages**, [www.thesittingbourneschool.org.uk](http://www.thesittingbourneschool.org.uk), contain a wide range of information and guidance for you, whichever stage of your education you are in.

Please take the time to browse through, use the links to access key external websites, but use the contact information on the Advice and Guidance page, if you wish to email us directly.





# Enrichment opportunities in Sixth Form @ Sittingbourne

We offer an exciting range of opportunities to our Sixth Form students throughout their studies with us. You could train to be a Student Mentor, or a Wellbeing Mentor and gain an ASDAN qualification to recognise that training and commitment. Or you could commit to be part of our Ambassador programme, where you can take up a number of Ambassador positions within our school community - such as an events ambassador, a classroom support ambassador or a charity ambassador, to name a few.



Our ambassadors and other students with strong attendance, also get a range of opportunities offered to them each year, to go on day trips. Previous trips have included The Shard, a London boat trip, the Tower of London, Trafalgar Square. We have then travelled further afield to European destinations, such as Barcelona and Rome. Our big trip every two years is to New York, where the itinerary included: the NY stock

exchange, the Empire State building, a 42nd Street Broadway show, an NBA game at Madison Square Gardens and a bike ride round Central Park. A life changing experience for all those who went on this action packed 4 day adventure.

Towards the end of Year 12, our Level 3 students who are showing good progress, are also offered the opportunity to work on the EPQ. This is an Extended Project Qualification, where students work independently on a research project which they shape themselves. This qualification is worth half an A Level, and is looked upon favourably by those wishing to apply for University. The project is usually completed before the students start their examinations in Year 13.



So, plenty of exciting opportunities waiting for our Sixth Form students at The Sittingbourne School.

# Applied Science

## AQA Level 3 Extended Certificate

### Course aims

The level 3 extended certificate in applied science provides students with a fundamental understanding of key scientific concepts in biology, chemistry and physics. The course will enhance the students' understanding from GCSE and develop their knowledge to a higher level.

### Course content

The course provides a variety of assessment methods, including a written examination on scientific theory (Unit 1), a portfolio based on scientific practical work completed at the centre (Unit 2) the examination on pre-release material (unit 3). During year 2 students will complete two mandatory units: The Human body system (unit 4) and Investigating Science (unit 5). Human body systems will be assessed by exam whilst Investigating Science is through collection of evidence of practical work in a portfolio format. One unit from the optional units must be chosen to fulfil the qualification; options include: Microbiology (unit 6a), Medical Physics (6b) and Organic Chemistry (6c). Through the different styles of assessment pupils will develop a range of skills and will be required to independently take responsibility for their own development.

### Assessment

This course is assessed through 66% written examinations in the first year (Key scientific concepts and Science in the modern world), along with 33% portfolio work (Applied scientific techniques). In the second year there is a further examination (The Human body system), plus an optional unit of portfolio work (Investigating science, microbiology, medical physics or organic chemistry).



### Additional course entry requirements

Students need to achieve grade 6 in GCSE science, plus a grade 5 in mathematics.

### Progression and career opportunities

Pupils will be able to study an array of scientific degree courses at university and have gained both practical skills and academic understanding that will aid them in undertaking apprenticeships or employment.

# Fine Art

## AQA A Level

### Course aims

Students will develop a wide range of skills in both two and three dimensions, exploring; drawing, painting, print-making, photography, textiles and sculpture. In addition to this, students will be taught how to develop their critical analysis skills by deconstructing the work of other artists, whilst evaluating their own work.

### Course content

The course comprises of:

Component 1: This comprises of a personal study which takes the form of a portfolio of work, produced in response to a theme, chosen by the student. This is also accompanied by a written essay of at least 1000 words, which supports the work produced, explains the concepts investigated, whilst demonstrating how the project has developed in response to the chosen artists. This component is worth 60% of the final grade.

Component 2: This is an externally set examination question which is issued at the start of February in the final year. Students are required to build a portfolio of work, in response to their chosen question and produce a final outcome in a timed 15 hour controlled, practical examination. This component is worth 40% of the final grade.

### Assessment

Students' work is assessed against these four assessment objectives:

AO1: Develop ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding

AO2: Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops

AO3: Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress.



AO4: Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and, where appropriate, makes connections between visual and other elements.

### Additional course entry requirements

Grade 5 in Art & Design GCSE.

### Progression and career opportunities

Most students are expected to apply to join a Foundation Diploma course at UCA in Canterbury or Rochester – a 1 year course which acts as the springboard into a wide range of degree options. From fashion to film, graphics to jewellery the choice is highly individual. Final employment is likely to be within the creative industries, which is a thriving sector of the economy.



# Beauty Therapy

## VRQ Progression Pathway to

### Course aims

Students will gain a wide range of skills whilst studying this course, such as communication, time management, team work, social skills, literacy and numeracy, objectivity, work experience, patience, resilience, compassion, enthusiasm, building positive relationships and promoting independence in themselves.

### Course content

During this course you will look at the beauty industry, promoting a professional image, health and safety, communication, consultation and salon based learning.

### Assessment

Assessment will take place through a range of online examination. Practical assessments will be completed within a commercial working beauty salon.

### Additional Course Entry Requirements

Students will need to display competence in all areas of theory and practical lessons. Creativity and flair are beneficial within this qualification.

### Progression and career opportunities

Level 3 courses. Career opportunities leading to salon/spa work, retail, theatre and television and cruise ships.

### Work based learning

Students will be expected to attend salon based learning at local salons throughout the course.



# Business

## Pearson BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate or Diploma

### Course aims

Students will develop practical skills and theoretical understanding of the world of business and complete projects investigating topics such as; preparing a marketing campaign, managing an event and business finance. During the course students will develop through their group work, IT and presentation skills. Students who study Business will gain an insight into the short, medium and long term running of small to global businesses. Critical thinking of real life examples gives students the skills to understand how businesses operate and compete in various industries.



### Course content

Students will study a range of key areas in Business these are topics such as Exploring Business where students will learn about the purposes of different businesses, their structure, the effect of the external environment, and how they need to be dynamic and innovative to survive.

Other units covered are Marketing, Finance and Recruitment in the business world.

If studying for the Diploma in business other areas of study include Business Management, Event Planning, Globalisation in Business and Customer Services.

By the time you have completed the course you will have a good knowledge of the wide world of business and a practical skill set that will prepare you for the next stage in your business career.

### Assessment

The Extended Certificate qualification is assessed through 58% examination consisting of two external exams. (One exam is sat per year.) The non-examined assessment (coursework element) is marked by the teacher and is worth 42% of the final grade.

The Diploma qualification is assessed through 45% external examination, two external examination sittings take place in the first year of the course and the third examination takes place in the second year. The non-examined assessment is marked by the teacher and is worth 55% of the final grade and consists of five coursework tasks.

### Additional Course Entry Requirements

Previous Business knowledge is useful, but not essential.

### Progression and career opportunities

This course is all about preparing you for employment and/or entry to university. Future careers include accounting, banking, insurance, human resources, marketing and sales. Business is a broad subject that can mix with a combination of any other vocational or academic courses.

# Professional Cookery

## City and Guilds Level 1 Diploma

### Course aims

Become a professional chef by completing these industry standard qualifications. Allow students to learn, develop and practise the skills required for employment and/or career progression in the hospitality and catering sector whilst also learning other workplace essentials like menu design.

The Diploma in Professional Cookery is for anyone who wants to work as a chef in the catering and hospitality sector. It is perfect for learners coming straight from school who wish to seek a career in this industry.

### Course content

During the course, students will study: food safety, health and safety in catering, healthier foods, costs and menu planning, and preparing and cooking foods for our many paying customers.

### Assessment

As well as completing written assignments, students will be assessed in practical tests. Some will be a single dish while others will comprise of a number of dishes. The tutor will explain these between one and three weeks before the date of each test so that students have an adequate chance to prepare.

### Additional Course Entry Requirements

You will need to show competence in all areas of study, practical skills with flair and creativity are an added bonus.

### Progression and career opportunities

The Diploma in Professional Cookery can : commis working in a kitchen; progressing to CDP, Sous Chef & Head Chef.

Go on to university for food science, hotel management etc.



After taking the Level 1 qualification you should move on to:

*Level 2 Professional Cookery (7100)*

After taking the Level 2 qualification you could move on to:

*Level 3 Professional Cookery (7100; A level equivalent)*



# Computing

## Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate

### Course aims

Students study a wide range of computing skills ranging from understanding basic computer hardware to identifying and troubleshooting complex hardware problems. They learn to write computer programs to create websites, games and bespoke software. Students will cover a range of practical content where they will develop employability skills like teamwork, communication, project work, research and assessment skills. They will become reflective practitioners, working to deadlines.

### Course content

A range of topics will be covered within this qualification, such as principles of computer science (software development), computer games development, fundamentals of computer systems (computer hardware) and IT security systems.

### Assessment

This course is assessed through 50% examination. There are two equally weighted examination papers at the end of the first and second year. The non-examined assessment (coursework element) is marked by the teacher and is worth 50% of the final grade.

### Additional course entry requirements

Students will need to have very good logical and problem solving skills.

### Progression and career opportunities

This course prepares students for employment in many areas of IT, as well as qualifying them to study for an HNC/D or Degree like: Computing (Foundation Degree), Computer Science (Artificial Intelligence) - BSc, Computer Science (Networks) - BSc, Computer Science with Games Technology - Bsc, Business Computing (BSc), Forensic Computing (BSc), and Internet



Computing (BSc), Software and Web Development Apprentices.

# Criminology

## WJEC Level 3 Applied Diploma

### Course aims

Criminology is an exciting new addition to our social sciences department. It is the scientific study of criminal behaviour, on individual, social and natural levels, and how it can be managed, controlled and prevented. In particular, the course explores what crime is, how it is socially constructed, who commits crimes and the criminal justice process, once a crime has been committed. This course will enable students to develop their critical analysis and judgement. It will enable them to articulate arguments effectively in class discussions and written assessments.

### Course content

Students will study how crime reporting affects the public perception of criminality. They will then explore how campaigns are used to elicit change and then plan a campaign for change relating to crime. Students will study social constructions, theories and causes of criminality. This will then lead to a knowledge of the causes of policy change. Students will investigate the process of criminal investigations and review criminal case studies. They will learn about the different processes of the criminal justice system and the role of punishment and social control measures in England and Wales.

### Assessment

This is an Extended Diploma equivalent to one A level.

The WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Criminology is assessed through a combination of two written examinations, set and marked by the exam board, and two controlled assessments marked by the teacher. All assignments are worth 25% of the final grade.

### Additional course entry requirements

In addition to the general requirements for access onto WJEC courses, students will require a minimum of grade 4 in English.



### Progression and career opportunities

Criminology is directly relevant to careers in the probation, police or prison services, social work, the legal profession, community development work and youth work. Students may go on to study criminology at degree level or move into a related field of social work, sociology, psychology or law.

# Dance

## Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate

### Course Aims

This course will allow students to develop a broad practical and theoretical understanding of dance and performance, from the development of contemporary dance through history, to the specific set of skills required to perform in a jazz style. Students will broaden their understanding while learning to critically analyse the factors that led to the creation of world renowned dance works. The course also aims to develop many interpersonal, personal management and creative skills so that, regardless of students' future aspirations, they will be fully prepared for higher education or the workplace.

### Course Content

Students will follow a variety of units that include developing skills and techniques for performance, investigating practitioners' work, studying varied dance techniques, and understanding employment opportunities in performing arts. The course culminates with an opportunity for students to apply their learning to the creation of their own collaborative dance work. To support students' understanding and development we provide opportunities to see live dance performances by renowned dance companies, as well as master classes from visiting professionals.

### Assessment

Students will complete 4 units across the 2 year course. The vast majority of assessment takes place through the completion of coursework, which will include practical activities and performances alongside research and reflection tasks. There is one written examination, which is based on a pre-released paper, allowing students the time to fully prepare. Around 60% of the course is externally assessed.



### Additional Course Entry Requirements

A minimum of grade 5 at GCSE or Pass at BTEC dance is useful but not essential. Equivalent experience gained outside school will also be considered. Students will need to take part in an audition to gain a place on this course.

### Progression and career opportunities

The course will provide students with the skills and understanding to continue their dance training at a higher level or apply for a variety of roles in the dance sector including performing or teaching. If students decide that a career in dance is not for them then the creative, research, idea development and reflection elements of the course will provide excellent transferable skills for progression onto a variety of degree courses, apprenticeships or into the workplace in fields such as events management or tourism.



# Drama

## Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Diploma

### Course Aims

It is important to note that performing arts is not just studied by people wanting to be actors, singers or dancers. We provide training that will allow you to work professionally in the theatre, the skills learnt on the course are transferable to many employment sectors, preparing you for work in the entertainment industry, on stage, in television or as a teacher. The course will provide a direct route into further training at University level or into your first job via the use of an agent. The course provides a strong foundation in acting as well as directing, devising and television and film work. You do not need to be fully experienced in every area but you do need to be ready to develop your creative flair and technical proficiency. You are treated as professional performers and you are expected to take the work seriously. Some of the skills gained by studying this course include creative thinking, team work, communication, imagination, organisation and leadership.

### Course Content

Diploma (2 A Level equivalent) – Students will study eight different aspects of performer training and the course covers topics on areas such as Improvisation, Developing skills for live performance, Investigating practitioners, Group performance workshop, Performing Arts Commission, Final live performance to an audience and Musical Theatre.

### Assessment

Assessment is mostly coursework based and this includes practical rehearsal material, performance work and supporting written files. We also have three externally assessed examination units over the two years.

### Additional Course Entry Requirements

A pass at BTEC performing arts or a 4 at GCSE drama or other performing arts qualification is



preferable but not essential. Equivalent experience outside school will also be considered. Audition will be required.

### Progression and career opportunities

Many students will want to take up a degree level qualification at the end of this course to continue their training. There are, however, many possibilities open to you, including youth work and production roles, writing, holiday entertainer in the UK or abroad and working on screen in film and TV. Our ex students have been very successful, working in TV and award winning films, theatre work and entertainment staff.

# English Literature

## AQA A Level

### Course aims

The skills gained through the study of English Literature are immeasurable. Students are able to broaden their knowledge, not only of a wide range of texts, but also of human relationships, history and different views of the world.

Throughout the two year course, students are trained to become more independent and perceptive in their reading skills, developing their powers of analytical and evaluative thinking. They also learn to become more proficient and sophisticated in their writing and to carry out research with discrimination and a critical eye. Most importantly, their knowledge and horizons are expanded through being introduced to a wealth of novels, plays and poetry ranging through many genres and eras.

### Course content

Students will study a range of texts from the literary canon with a particular emphasis on tragedy and crime writing. Over two years, students will study a selection of drama, prose and poetry texts, including works by William Shakespeare, John Keats, Arthur Miller, Graham Greene and Ian McEwan. The course also includes a non-exam assessment in which students are able to select texts of their own choosing from any genre and era and respond to them from a critical viewpoint, allowing scope to cater for all interests.

### Assessment

This course is assessed by 80% examination. There are two equally weighted examination papers at the end of the second year. The NEA (non-exam assessment) is initially marked by teachers and is worth 20% of the final grade.



### Additional Course Entry Requirements

Students will need to achieve a minimum of grade 6 in either English Literature or Language GCSE.

### Progression and career opportunities

All universities see an A-level in English Literature as a major asset to any course, as it exhibits that students are academically able, well-read, and capable writers. Specific careers which are benefited by this subject are publishing, journalism, law, broadcasting, media, acting, teaching and advertising, among many others. An A-level in English Literature will open many doors to a successful future.

# Finance

## LIBF Diploma

### Course aims

Students who study finance will look at the immediate, short term and long term elements of the financial world. Students will first understand key criteria such as saving, borrowing, budgeting and financial providers such as banks and building societies before they critically analyse and evaluate how as a society, we can become more sustainable and secure with our money. Students should leave at the end of Year 13 with a well-rounded knowledge of how to manage their own money and how to choose an appropriate financial product to meet their needs. Past students have commented on how they were in a much better position to look after themselves financially, whether budgeting whilst at University, saving up to move out of home, or just knowing how best to save money, due to what they had learnt on this course.

### Course content

The purpose of money, budgeting, saving, borrowing, sustainability, ethics and globalisation are some of the key topics included in the subject. Short term and long term financial sustainability for individuals and businesses are the key units included. During the course, students visit the LIBF University in London and The Bank of England. Where pupils are interested in finding out more about working in retail banking, work experience placements are set up in conjunction with Barclays Bank.

### Assessment

The course is 100% examination based. All units have a multiple-choice test, worth 35%, and a case study written examination, worth 65%. Within the written examination, marks are also awarded for spelling and grammar which ensures students' literacy levels are improved upon. There are 4 exam periods during each year of the course (this includes resits). Students are supplied with examination dates at the start of the course.



### Additional course entry requirements

In addition to the general requirements for entry onto the course, students will require a grade 4 in English.

### Progression and career opportunities

Finance opens up an exciting world of opportunities for students. Students can go on to study accounting and finance at University or seek an opportunity with a financial company through an apprenticeship scheme. The LIBF University offer scholarships to students who have excelled on the Finance course. Fields of employment include accountancy, financial/mortgage advisors, and estate agency amongst many other areas.



# French

## AQA A Level

### Course aims

In an increasingly inter-connected and globalised world, knowledge of another language is more important than ever. Those who study languages open themselves up to a range of unique experiences through close engagement with linguistic and cultural difference. French is spoken by around 275 million people worldwide, notably in France but also across Western, Northern and Central Africa, parts of the Middle East, North America, Asia and the Pacific. With a projected 750 million speakers by 2050, being able to speak the French language is a powerful skill to have. The course enables students to develop and elevate their communication skills whilst also providing an opportunity to delve into the cultural, political and social fabric of the Francophone world. French A Level is ideal for students who are interested in exploring other cultures, who enjoy learning about and expressing their views on a range of subjects and is especially relevant for students who believe that as global citizens we have the right – and the responsibility – to build and share strong relationships across borders and continents.

### Course content

Throughout the 2-year course, students of French A Level will have a chance to explore and analyse social issues and trends that shape and influence the French-speaking world, with topics such as poverty, criminality and diversity being covered. Students will also learn about aspects of political and artistic culture, including film, literature and music, but also looking at topics such as immigration and political protests. It is a far-reaching course that is bound to engage and enthuse learners who take an interest in the issues shaping and influencing our world.



### Assessment

This course is wholly assessed through examination. There are three papers: Paper 1: Reading, Writing and Listening; Paper 2: Writing; and Paper 3: Speaking.

### Additional course entry requirements:

In addition to the general requirements for access onto A Level courses pupils would be expected to achieve a grade 6 in French.

### Progression and career opportunities:

Language skills are highly transferable and will facilitate entry into a variety of employment sectors, such as travel and tourism, international diplomacy, education, law, international business and economics and many more. According to the British Council Report 'Languages for the Future', 49% of UK businesses look for employees who can speak French, meaning studying the language will be a huge asset to your career. Furthermore, those who speak a foreign language often earn more than their monolingual counterparts.



# Hairdressing

## City and Guilds - Progression Pathway to Level 3

### Course aims

Students will gain a wide range of skills whilst studying this course, such as communication, time management, teamwork, social skills, literacy and numeracy, objectivity, work experience, patience, resilience, compassion, enthusiasm, building positive relationships and promoting independence in themselves.

### Course content

During this course you will look at the hair industry, promoting a professional image, health and safety, communication, consultation and salon based learning. Practical skills will cover shampooing and conditioning hair, styling and finishing, plaiting and twisting, colouring and cutting.

### Assessment

Assessment will take place through a range of online open and closed book exams. Practical assessments will be completed within a commercial working salon.

### Additional course entry requirements

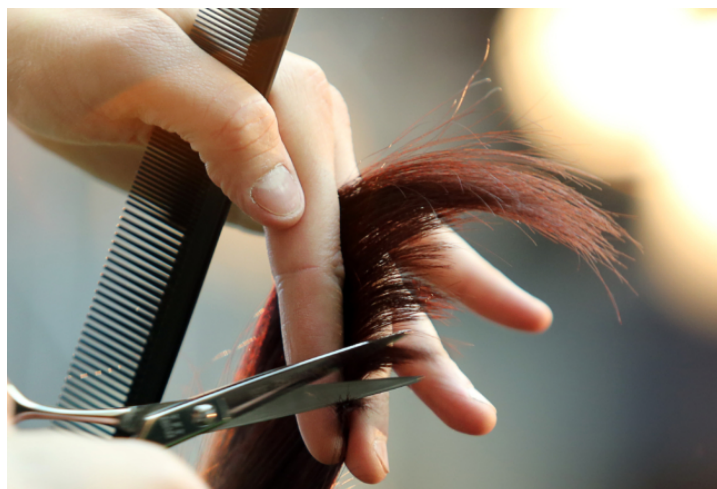
Students will need to display competence in all areas of theory and practical lessons. Creativity and flair are a benefit within this qualification.

### Progression and career opportunities

Level 2 courses will be able to progress onto the Level 3 (VRQ)+ hairdressing. Students can progress to a wide variety of job roles: Career opportunities include salon work, retail, theatre and television and cruise ships.

### Work based learning

Students will be expected to attend salon based learning at local salons within either hairdressing or beauty.



# Health and Social Care

## CACHE Level 2 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care

### Course aims

Students completing this course will develop a wide range of skills including communication, empathy, and organisation. There will be opportunities to partake in team work and group projects, enabling the development of social and interpersonal skills. Strong literacy and numeracy skills are also important.

### Course content

Students will cover a variety of topics including human lifespan development, nutrition, health and wellbeing, human body systems, promoting health and equality and diversity in health and social care. The units include important working practices such as promoting rights, care principles and safeguarding alongside optional units such as creative activities and mental health.

### Assessment

Students will complete several units of work, all of which are internally assessed through the completion of assignments. These may be compiled through written reports, projects or information booklets.

### Additional Course Entry Requirements

There are no additional course entry requirements.

### Progression and career opportunities

Students following this course may progress into a Level 3 course or an apprenticeship. It may also lead to higher education in a variety of degree subjects such as childcare, midwifery, nursing, social work, occupational therapy, mental health nursing, counselling and teaching.



# Health and Social Care

## CACHE Technical Level 3 Extended Diploma

### Course aims

Students completing this course will develop a wide range of skills including communication, organisation, empathy, and time management. There will be opportunities to partake in team work and work placements, enabling the development of social and interpersonal skills. Strong literacy and numeracy skills are also important.

### Course content

Students will cover a wide range of topics including human lifespan development, safe practice in health and social care, psychological and sociological perspectives, nutrition and physiological disorders. Optional units include a focus on mental health, health education and family issues. 175 placement hours are also completed during the course which provide practical hands on experience as well as the opportunity for personal and professional reflection and development, vital aspects of any role within health and social care.

### Assessment

Assessment takes place in a variety of ways including written assignments, report writing, presentations, projects and externally assessed exam board tasks. Of the 17 units studied by learners, 14 are internally assessed, 2 are externally assessed synoptic tasks and 1 is an externally assessed short answer examination.

### Additional Course Entry Requirements

All candidates will be required to complete an enhanced DBS (police check).

### Progression and career opportunities

Students following this course may progress into higher education into a variety of degree subjects, midwifery, policing, nursing, social



work, occupational therapy, mental health nursing, counselling and teaching.

There may be opportunities to progress onto apprenticeships at Level 4 and above, or gain employment within the sector.

# History

## AQA A Level

### Course aims

Students will develop a wide range of skills, a broad range of historical knowledge and understanding, including a sense of development over time, and an appreciation of the culture and attitudes of societies other than our own. Students will critically evaluate a large body of material, including evidence from contemporary sources and the opinions of more recent historians. Students will engage directly with questions and present independent opinions in arguments that are well-written, clearly expressed, coherently organised and effectively supported by relevant evidence.

### Course content

The course comprises of:

Component 1: this is a study in breadth on the Crusader era (1074-1204) which focuses on change, continuity, cause and consequence. Students will evaluate the role of key figures, groups and religion in Western Europe and Outremer.

Component 2: this option provides for the study in depth of the challenges faced by those in authority in the years before, during and after the English Civil War. It explores concepts such as Divine Right; arbitrary government, Arminianism, and political and religious radicalism. It also encourages an in-depth understanding of how government works, arbitrary government and consensus, authority and opposition and issues of settlement.

Component 3: The purpose of the Historical Investigation is to enable students to develop the skills, knowledge and historical understanding acquired through the study of the examined components of the specification. Through undertaking the Historical Investigation students will develop an enhanced understanding of the nature and purpose of history as a discipline and how historians work.



### Assessment

Component 1: a 2 hour 30 minute exam comprising of interpretation evaluation and two essays. (40% of the grade)

Component 2: a 2 hour 30 minute exam comprising of source evaluation and two essays. (40% of the grade)

Component 3: an independent historical enquiry which is researched and written by the students. This will be around 4,500 words long. (20% of the grade)

### Additional Course Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in history GCSE.

### Progression and career opportunities

Skills acquired through a history course are well sought after by a variety of employers due to the critical thinking, analytical nature and independence the subject teaches you.

Possible career opportunities include being a teacher, museum curator, excavator, researcher, barrister, various television roles, author, journalist and many more.

You will also need a history A Level in order to study the subject at university.



# Mathematics

## Edexcel A Level

### Course aims

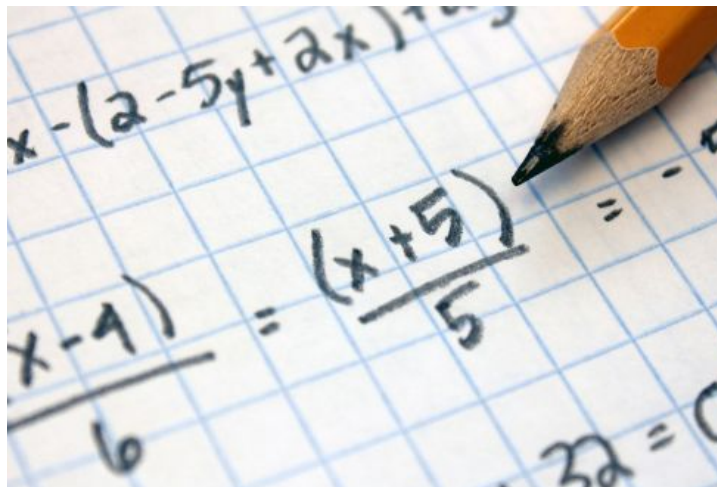
The course enables students to understand mathematics and mathematical processes in a way that promotes confidence, fosters enjoyment and provides a strong foundation for those who opt to study the subject further. Students will extend their range of mathematical skills and techniques and understand how different areas of mathematics are connected. Learners will be encouraged to use their mathematical knowledge to make logical and reasoned decisions in solving challenging problems. They will draw diagrams and sketch graphs to help explore mathematical situations and interpret solutions. Learners will be expected to take increasing responsibility for their own learning and the evaluation of their own mathematical development.

### Course content

The course covers three main areas of mathematics; pure mathematics, statistics and mechanics. Students will develop an enhanced understanding of a range of topics that they will already be familiar with from the higher tier GCSE in mathematics. These include algebra, trigonometry, geometry, statistics and sequences. They will apply their knowledge of these topics to solve a range of problems. Students will also cover a variety of new topics including differentiation, integration, exponentials, logarithms, mechanics, probability and hypotheses testing. Students will need to draw on a range of skills from across all topics to solve problems and interpret questions focused on different contexts.

### Assessment

This is a linear course, which is examined via three 2 hour written examination papers. Two of the papers examine pure mathematics,



whilst the third paper assesses pupils knowledge and understanding of the statistics and mechanics elements of the course. The three papers carry equal weighting. Calculators are allowed in the examinations. Pupils will also be entered for the AS examination at the end of Year 12.

### Additional course entry requirements

In addition to the general requirements for access onto A Level courses, students would be expected to achieve a grade 7 in mathematics GCSE and at least grade 5 in statistics GCSE.

### Progression and career opportunities

Whilst some of our students opt to continue their mathematical studies at university, many also take this course to prepare for higher education in related areas such as engineering, economics, physics, teacher training or more general courses. Many employers offer apprenticeships to candidates with an A level mathematics qualification. In addition, this qualification will help you to pursue a career in accountancy, engineering, insurance and the financial sector. Transferable skills such as problem solving and analytical, logical approaches are also welcomed by a range of employers.

# Music Rock School

## RSL LEVEL 3 Subsidiary Diploma for Music

### Course Aims

The course is designed to prepare students to either launch a career in the music industry (as either a performer or sound engineer) or to pursue further study. Students will develop both their musical skills as well as their awareness of what it takes to succeed in music today.

### Course Content

Students will focus on one of two strands: Performance or Technology. The course is modular, with each strand having 3 mandatory modules, and several options. Each strand includes a module on establishing a career in music, as well as topics ranging from creative collaboration to recording to developing a more musical ear.

### Assessment

The course is entirely coursework based. 33% of the coursework is Externally Assessed, the remainder is Internally Assessed, with portions sent to External Moderation. *There is no sat examination.*

### Additional Course Entry Requirements

Students must have a Pass at Level 2 Rock School Music or equivalent, or receive approval from the Head of Music.

### Progression and Career Opportunities

It is an exciting time to be a practising musician. The traditional system of studios supporting a small number of superstars is fading, being replaced by a more DIY approach to music careers. Students will learn about how current musicians are making a living, from doing media-related work, to promoting themselves on social media, to marketing goods and services outside of the usual album/single format. Students can also choose to deepen their knowledge by going



to university to study a course in music performance or technology.

# Photography

## AQA A Level

### Course aims

Students develop a wide range of practical photographic skills using traditional film and digital cameras. Processing and post production techniques are taught using a darkroom and Photoshop software. Analytical and evaluative skills are developed through annotations and more in depth writing to build technical and contextual understanding and inform practical progress. Students will also gain an understanding of how to use an SLR camera. Contextual understanding of photographers and styles of photography will also be explored.

### Course content

Topics provide a structure within which a student learns technical skills and creatively develops and explores their potential. Contextual studies range from early pioneers of photography to contemporary practice. Field trips and gallery visits are an essential component of the course.

### Assessment

Students' work is assessed against these four assessment objectives:

AO1: Develop ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding

AO2: Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops

AO3: Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress.

AO4: Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and, where appropriate, makes connections between visual and other elements.



The coursework is worth 60% of the final outcome and then there is a final examination over 3 days, worth 40% of the final outcome.

### Additional Course Entry Requirements

A grade 5 at GCSE in Photography or an Art & Design course. Grade 4 will be considered through interview, supported by previous teacher references and a photography portfolio.

### Progression and career opportunities

High achievement can enable direct access to degree courses in photography or lens based media. Due to its balance between visual and academic skills, photography is valued by many career paths within the creative industries, in the media and wider economy. Other career opportunities may include photojournalism, fashion photography, advertising and police evidence photography.

# Psychology

## AQA A Level

### Course aims

Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind and behaviour. Students will be exploring a fascinating and useful subject in which employability, research skills, practical application and personal development are embedded. The course covers an array of interesting topics from why people might commit evil acts to what might lead to the development of an eating disorder. It emphasises the use of psychology in the real world and involves school trips to see these topics brought to life. Students will study all of the core areas of this diverse subject and then have the opportunity to look at more specialist areas of psychology such as gender, eating behaviour and forensic psychology.

### Course content

Introductory topics in psychology

- *Social influence*
- *Memory*
- *Attachment*
- *Psychopathology*

Psychology in context

- *Approaches in psychology*
- *Biopsychology*
- *Research methods*

Issues and options in psychology

- *Issues and debates in psychology*
- *Gender*
- *Eating behaviour*
- *Forensic psychology*

### Assessment

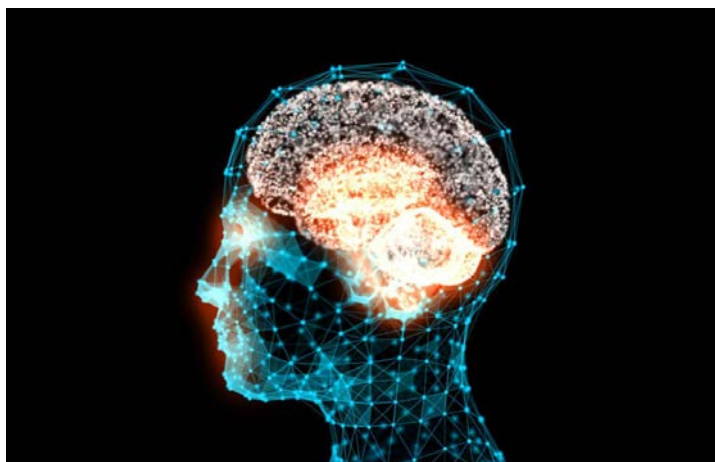
This course is wholly assessed through examination. There will be three two hour papers at the end of the course (each worth 33.3% of the A level).

### Additional course entry requirements

Students need to achieve 5 GCSEs at grade 5 and above, including mathematics and English, as well as a grade 6 or higher in science (or biology specifically).

### Progression and career opportunities

Psychology A Level is relevant to many jobs, particularly those dealing with people. These include health and social care, childcare, customer service, the police and other emergency services, armed forces, advertising,



sales, market research, personnel management and many others.

Many choose to study psychology at university, with opportunities for further professional training in clinical, educational, forensic, organisational and counselling psychology.



# Sociology

## AQA A Level

### Course aims

Ever wondered how we developed into the society we are today? How the way you see yourself determines the way people identify you? Whether men or women are more likely to commit a crime? A-level Sociology will help you to make sense of the society we live in and understand the cultural and identity issues which affect us all. You will learn a number of skills including the use of evidence to support your arguments, how to investigate facts, and critical thinking. It is relevant to the society you live in so you are bound to enjoy learning about topics that are relevant to everyday life; plus it opens the door to a fantastic range of interesting careers.

### Course content

During the course you will look at different aspects of the social world. Topics can include:

- Social media – *'What impact does the internet have on social relations?'*
- Crime and deviance – *'Why are some people more likely to commit crime than others?'*
- The family – *'How diverse are modern families?'*
- Religion and beliefs – *'What role does religion play in our society?'*
- Research methods – *'What is the most useful way to research social interactions?'*
- Education – *'Why does money determine the quality of education you receive?'*



### Assessment

The course is assessed solely through examinations which you take at the end of year 13:

- Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods (2h) 33.3% of total A level
- Paper 2: Topics in Sociology (2h) 33.3% of total A level
- Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods (2h) 33.3% of total A level

### Additional Course Entry Requirements

Students need to achieve a grade 6 or higher in English.

### Progression and career opportunities

Many of our students go on to study at University level. Possible career opportunities include: social work, teaching, community development work, social policy making, law and justice, human resources officer, public relations officer, social researcher, writer, journalism.

# Sport & Activity Leaders

## Edexcel BTEC Level 2

### Course Aims

The students will acquire technical skills through vocational contexts by studying how to plan individual and team sporting activities. The qualification will provide the opportunity to improve organisational skills, leadership, management of people, understanding of the sporting sector and professionalism in a working environment. The qualification will also broaden the student's experience and understanding of the varied progression options available to them.

### Course Content

Students will learn about the following:

- Development of the skills required to lead sports activities
- Processes that show effective ways of working in sports leadership such as planning and leading an individual or team sporting activity session
- Attitudes that are considered most important in sports leadership, including personal management, communication and problem-solving skills
- Knowledge that underpins effective use of skills, process and attitudes in sports leadership

### Assessment

This course will be assessed through the completion of two internally marked units of work and one externally marked units of work. The internal units are completed through the form of assignments and the external unit is based on a set task that learners have to complete.



### Additional Course Entry Requirements

A passion for sport and exercise is desirable.

### Progression and career opportunities

This course can lead to careers in the sporting industry, including sports coaching, gym instructors, lifeguard, personal trainer and teaching assistant.

# Sport Studies

## Edexcel BTEC Level 3 Diploma

### Course aims

Students will develop their subject knowledge of the sporting world, covering every aspect of sport, health and fitness. Students will also use practical skills, developing confidence through officiating and coaching younger children, as well as taking part in a variety of fitness tests and training methods.

### Course content

Students will study a range of topics including anatomy and physiology, sports injuries, sports nutrition, fitness training, sports psychology, biomechanics, fitness testing and many more.

### Assessment

On the BTEC course assessment takes place in a variety of ways including assignments, externally assessed exam board tasks, as well as written examinations. Students knowledge of anatomy and physiology will be tested by a hand-written examination whilst their knowledge of health, nutrition and fitness will be tested by an externally assessed controlled assessment. The rest of the course is assessed through project based assignments.

### Additional Course Entry Requirements

Students will require a 5 grade in GCSE physical education or a merit in Level 2 BTEC sport studies.

### Progression and career opportunities

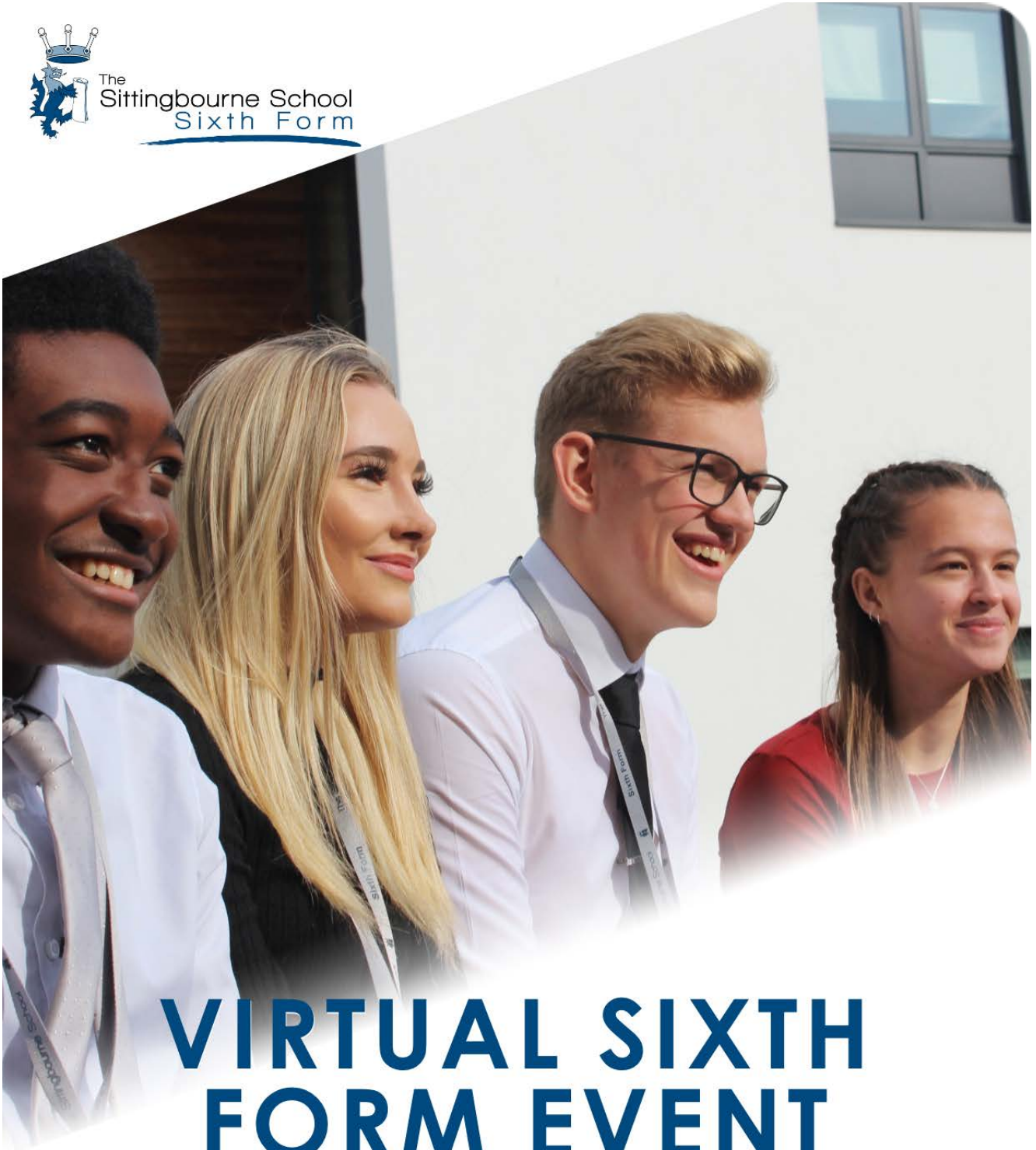
Students will be able to progress into a range of job opportunities such as a fitness instructor, personal trainer, physiotherapist, sports scientist, sports therapist, sports psychologist, PE teacher and sports coach.







The  
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Sixth Form



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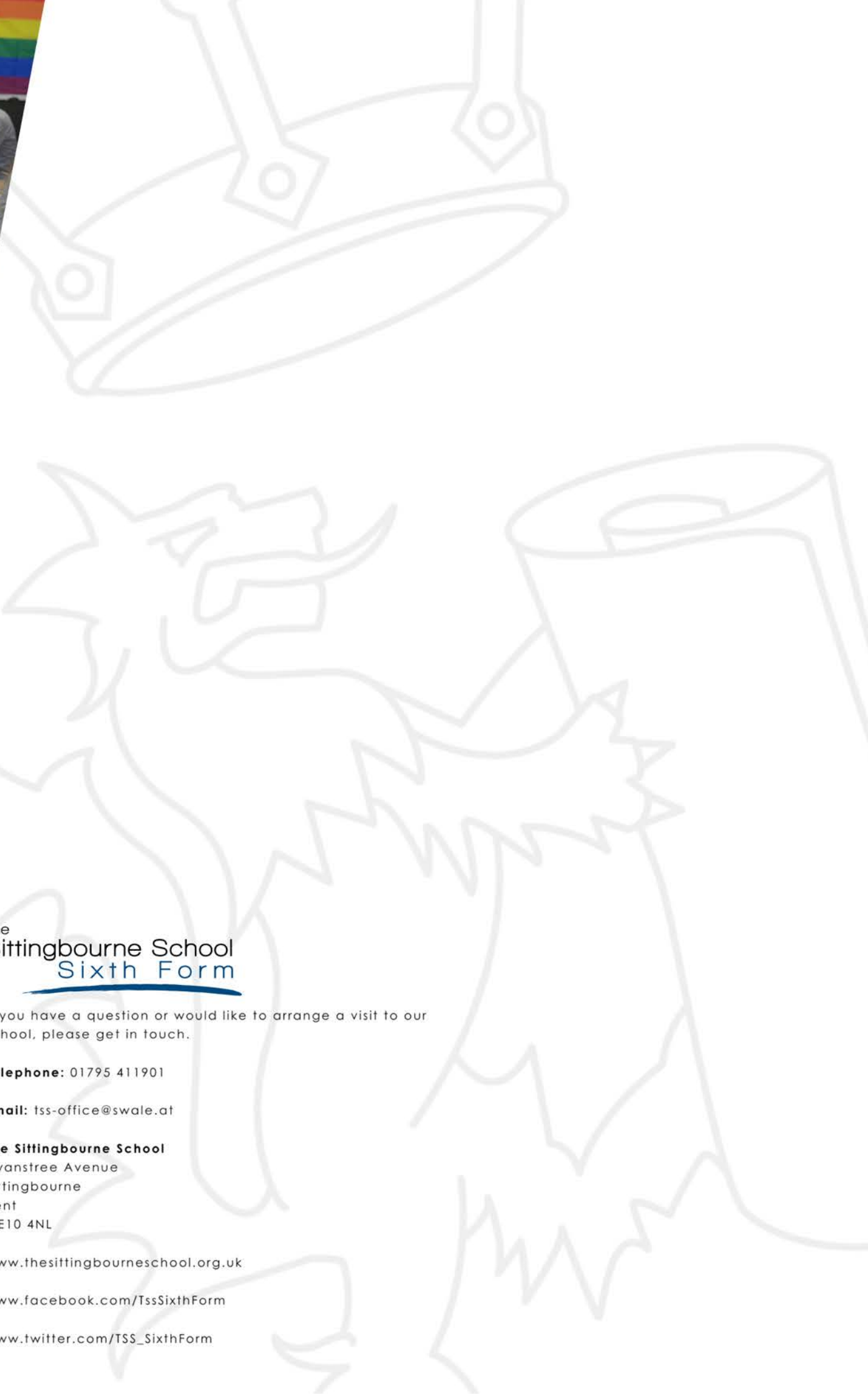




Students are well supported by the strong and competent team of sixth-form leaders, tutors and teachers.



OFSTED



The  
**Sittingbourne School**  
**Sixth Form**

If you have a question or would like to arrange a visit to our school, please get in touch.

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