

ST. MARY MAGDALENE
C OF E SIXTH FORM

Sixth Form Prospectus

Excellence through innovation, founded in faith since 1840.



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Welcome to the Sixth Form

We are very proud to be able to offer you as families and the students of Greenwich the opportunity to study at our Sixth Form provision. We have spent many years working on our All-Through School vision and it is with great pleasure that we are able to offer high quality provision for 16-19 year olds.

You will have the opportunity to study a range of A levels and BTECs as you prepare for your future. In addition, as an All - Through Federation we are able to give you the opportunity to take on many leadership roles which will enhance your interpersonal skills and confidence as well as giving you the opportunity to serve others. We are confident that our modern, well-resourced building and highly competent and skilled staff will successfully support you as young adults as you take the next step in your education career.

We aim to develop you as an individual who can go out into the world happy, courageous, resilient, motivated with a lifelong love of learning, fully equipped to make a positive contribution to society.

We look forward to working with you as you prepare for your future either in Higher Education or a professional career.

Mrs Claire Harrison and Mrs Victoria Wainwright
Federation Executive Co- Headteachers

C Harrison *V Wainwright*

Mr Razwan Hussain
Principal

R Hussain



It gives us great pleasure to welcome you to St Mary Magdalene C of E Sixth Form (SMM6). As the only All-Through School and Church of England Sixth Form provision in the Royal Borough of Greenwich, SMM6 is an exciting, challenging and stimulating environment to achieve your full potential.

Our broad and balanced curriculum at SMM6 will give you access to tailored study programmes depending on your desired destination after sixth form. Our robust extended curriculum will also provide you with opportunities to serve the community and take part in various enrichment activities.

Our highly skilled and committed staff will work collaboratively to deliver high quality teaching and learning during your time at SMM6 and will offer you the support needed to ensure that you gain not only the qualifications but the qualities required to succeed in your adult life and the career to which you aspire.

Located in the heart of the Greenwich Peninsula in our innovative building with state-of-the-art facilities and excellent transport links, SMM6 will provide you with a unique sixth form experience.

With all this to offer and more, we are the ideal post 16 provision for a wide range of students who want to develop and flourish in their talents.

We look forward to welcoming you to our sixth form and working with you over the next two years.

The 6th Form Team



Values and Ethos

The Koinonia Federation consists of two schools over three campuses: our original school – St Mary Magdalene C of E Primary Campus in Woolwich, our All-Through St Mary Magdalene C of E Campus on the Greenwich Peninsula

and Christ Church C of E Primary in Greenwich. Leaders have created a clear vision and direction for our schools. The school's values of 'Family, Faith and Fellowship' are rooted in the shared ethos across the school campuses.

In the Koinonia Federation we strive for excellence and high standards through:



A Koinonia student will go out into the world happy, courageous, resilient, motivated with a lifelong love of learning, fully equipped to make a positive contribution to society.

'Do unto others what you would have them do unto you', our school motto, is firmly and deeply embedded in every aspect of school life. Taken from the words of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, it has been referred to as the Golden Rule since the 16th century. It is certainly the Golden Rule at St. Mary Magdalene All-Through School and is lived out by all members of the school community. St Mary Magdalene is more than a school, it is a learning family where you are valued and part of the Koinonia Federation of schools that have the shared aim:

TO GROW IN FAITH, LIVE AS FAMILY AND BE UNITED IN FELLOWSHIP

To grow in faith: the school is fully inclusive and welcomes students and staff from all faiths and no faith. We will journey with you from where you are by strengthening, challenging, supporting and nourishing you. Collective worship is a key part of each day where you will come together either as a family group or year group to spend time in reflection allowing you to grow in your spirituality. Led by senior leaders, the school chaplain or you as our students, collective worship is a creative and responsive time that follows the Anglican calendar and also acknowledges key dates in other faiths.

To live as family: as a student joining St. Mary Magdalene you belong to the school as family. In and outside of the classrooms, you will learn to be a friend to all and to trust each other at all times. Our pastoral structure ensures that you will be known individually. Students enjoy coming to our school and feel safe and secure.

To be united in fellowship: our all-through school celebrates and embraces the diversity of the communities from which you are from. We work hard to create unity through fellowship. You will flourish in companionship with others through mutual trust and sharing of experiences, interests and activities. St. Mary Magdalene is an outward looking school and works hard to serve its local community, such as through foodbank collections and responding to natural disasters in areas of the world where you may have family connections.



Curriculum Offer

At St Mary Magdalene C of E Sixth Form, we have very high expectations of our students. In return we offer a dynamic and inclusive curriculum which includes a wide range of A Level and Vocational courses. Our team of highly qualified and experienced subject specialists will make every effort to challenge you academically and ensure you know how to improve and reach your potential.

We have a state-of-the-art building with subject specific facilities to enhance your learning and support your studies. Our Sixth Form Hub is fully equipped with its own IT facilities, silent study area and quiet work area which are open throughout the school day.

Entry Requirements

In order to study at our sixth form, students must achieve a minimum of 5 GCSEs at grades 9-4 including English Language and Maths. Subject specific entry requirements must also be achieved in order to study certain subjects. In some cases, students may be able to study courses having not achieved either their English Language or Maths GCSE. More information about GCSE English Language and Maths retakes can be found further on in this section.

GCSE English Language and Maths Retake:

In some cases, it may be possible for you to enroll onto a study programme having not achieved a grade 4 in your English Language or Maths GCSE*. If this is the case, you will be automatically enrolled on to the relevant GCSE retake class. Please note that you are only able to retake either Maths or English Language and a minimum of a grade 3 must have previously been achieved.

*This will be decided on a case-by-case basis and discussed on enrolment day.



We offer the following types of qualifications:

A Levels
Art & Design: Fine Art
Biology
Chemistry
Design & Technology: Product Design
Economics
English Literature
French
Geography
Graphic Communication
History
Maths
Media Studies
Philosophy, Religion & Ethics
Physics
Politics
Psychology
Sociology
Spanish

BTEC National Extended Certificate*
Applied Science
Business
Computing
Sport

BTEC National Diploma*
Applied Science
Business

*BTEC National Extended Certificates are equivalent to 1 A Level and BTEC National Diplomas are equivalent to 2 A Levels.

All students must choose to study a minimum of 3 A Levels or equivalent. Any student who would like to study 4 A Levels must have English Language and Maths GCSE at a grade 5 or above.

How to Choose Your Courses

We are delighted that you are considering St Mary Magdalene C of E Sixth Form as the school to guide you through the next steps of your education. The subjects you choose to study will be based on your individual strengths and interests. You should choose a combination of subjects that will enable you to develop your strengths and support your future career aspirations. Whichever subjects you choose to study, we recommend that you choose a combination of subjects which complement each other.

We understand that these decisions are some of the most important educational choices you will make – our dedicated sixth form team, teachers and support staff are here to guide and advise you to ensure that you enroll on a course that is best suited to you and allow you to fulfil your full potential.



The following subject pages have been put together to inform you of what is on offer during your time at SMM6. Subject entry requirements exist to help you assess if the course is best suited to your strengths and potential. This information should be used to help you choose the right courses for you.



**All subjects need a certain number of students to be viable to run. If, on the rare occasion there is not enough interest we reserve the right to withdraw a subject or make changes to the curriculum offer.*

Art and Design: Fine Art

A Level

Exam Board: **Edexcel**

What is Fine Art?

The Edexcel Fine Art course will enable you to develop your understanding of the creative process and learn to communicate visually. Areas of study include using observational skills to draw from life. Experimenting with a range of different material types including oil pastels, watercolour paints, acrylic paints, chalk and charcoal, pencils, Photoshop, collage, lino printing and pen and ink drawings to establish a style that suits you best to artistically express yourself and your ideas in the personal investigation project and the exam project. Alongside the practical skills you'll also learn to use analytical thinking, creative problem solving, working independently, researching images and sources to communicate effectively with visual images.

What will I study?

Component 1: Personal Investigation (Coursework- 60% of the total qualification)

- Includes evidence in developing ideas, exploring media, developing and applying skills, researching, recording, analysing, reviewing, creating and presenting outcomes from different personal starting points.
- The portfolio is made up of supportive studies, practical work and a minimum 1000 words personal study (critical written communication).

Component 2: Externally set Assignment (Examination- 40% of the total qualification)

- Again, as above but the theme is externally set by the exam board.

What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements, you will need to achieve a grade 5 or higher at GCSE in this subject or a similar one such as Art and Design or Photography.

How will I be taught?

Most teaching will be on a one-to-one basis to develop personal themes, responses, interests and outcomes.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Your Personal Investigation will be assessed mainly on your Practical Work and on your Personal Study, an essay of no less than 1000 words and no more than 3000 words.

Component 2: Your preparatory studies will be a creative response to a broad-based theme released on 1st February of the second year, concluding with a final response realised in exam conditions over a period of 15 hours.

What career opportunities does this open up?

Students have gone on to study and work in many disciplines such as Graphics, Photography, Architecture, Fashion and textiles Design, Fine Art, History of Art, Game design, Film and Media Studies. The manual dexterity and problem-solving skills developed in art are highly valued in many careers.

A Level Courses

Art and Design: Fine Art

Biology

Chemistry

Design Technology: Product Design

Economics

English Literature

French

Geography

Graphic Communication

History

Maths

Media Studies

Philosophy, Religion and Ethics (Religious Studies)

Physics

Politics

Psychology

Sociology

Spanish

Biology

A Level

Exam Board: **OCR**



What is Biology?

Biology is a popular choice for students who wish to study sciences or who wish to include a science to complement their other subjects. The course we offer provides a broad range of topics and we believe in providing as many practical opportunities as we can. Biology at A Level provides an excellent grounding for all biological university courses.

What will I study?

Module 1: Development of practical skills
 Module 2: Foundations in Biology; cell structure, biological molecules, enzymes, cell division.
 Module 3: Exchange and transport: gaseous exchange, transport in animals and plants.
 Module 4: Biodiversity, evolution and disease; diseases, preventing and the immune system.
 Module 5: Communication, homeostasis and energy; excretion, neurons and hormone communication, animal and plant responses. Photosynthesis and respiration.
 Module 6: Genetics, evolution and ecosystems; cellular control, inheritance, genetic engineering, cloning and biotechnology, ecosystems, populations and sustainability.

What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements, you will need a grade 6 in Biology or grade 6/6 in Combined Science.

How will I be taught?

- 5hrs contact time plus 5hrs private study per week.
- No assessed coursework.
- Core practical activities (PAGs) that make up a practical endorsement.
- Regular assessment.

How will I be assessed?

Paper	Weighting	Marks and duration
Biological Processes (Modules 1, 2, 3 and 5)	37%	100 marks 2hrs 15mins
Biological diversity (Modules 1, 2, 4 and 6)	37%	100 marks 2hrs 15mins
Unified Biology (All Modules)	26%	70 marks 1hr 30 mins

What career opportunities does this open up?

Anything to do with medical or veterinary science, environmental science, neuroscience, agriculture, marine biology, forestry, genetics, conservation, industry, teaching, chiropractor and lots of others.

Chemistry

A Level

Exam Board: **OCR**



What is Chemistry?

Chemistry is involved in all of our lives from the materials around us to the medicines we take to keep us healthy. Chemists work in research and analysis in a wide range of industries including fuels, fashion and pharmaceuticals. Studying Chemistry will give you the opportunity to advance your GCSE Science skills by completing challenging practical and theoretical problems.

What will I study?

Module 1: Development of Practical Skills in Chemistry
 Module 2: Foundations in Chemistry
 Module 3: Periodic Table and Energy
 Module 4: Core Organic Chemistry
 Module 5: Physical Chemistry and Transition Elements
 Module 6: Organic Chemistry and Analysis

What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements, you will need a grade 6 in Chemistry or grade 6/6 in Combined Science.

How will I be taught?

- 5hrs contact time plus 5hrs private study per week.
- No assessed coursework.
- Core practical activities (PAGs) that make up a practical endorsement.
- Regular assessment.

How will I be assessed?

Paper	Weighting	Marks and duration
Periodic table, Elements and Physical Chemistry (Modules 1, 2, 3 and 5)	37%	100 marks 2hrs 15mins
Synthesis and Analytical Techniques (Modules 1, 2, 4 and 6)	37%	100 marks 2hrs 15mins
Unified Chemistry (All Modules)	26%	70 marks 1hr 30 mins

What career opportunities does this open up?

A wide range of degree courses and careers including medicine and veterinary science, agriculture, biology, forensic science, engineering, pharmacology and food science. The logic and problem-solving skills developed are also ideal for careers not directly linked to chemistry.

Design Technology: Product Design

A Level

Exam Board: **AQA**



What is Design & Technology?

Design & Technology is the engagement of people with the designed and made world around us, and the ability to harness the benefits of technology. It is the knowledge of how products and systems are designed and manufactured, how to be innovative and creatively use resources to improve the world around us.

What will I study?

Component 1: Principles of Design and Technology (Theory)
 Component 2: Independent Design and Make Project (Design Portfolio and 3D Product)

What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements, you will need a grade 5 in Maths and Science.

How will I be taught?

Students will learn through a variety of short, focused tasks as well as longer design and make tasks. Students will be expected to research further their subject knowledge, through investigating the work of designers past and present.

How will I be assessed?

You will carry out a personal Investigation (60% of final grade) which begins in term 3 of year 12 and continues into the first term of year 13 – into an idea, issue, concept or theme, supported by written material. The focus of the investigation must be identified independently by the student and must lead to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes.

The second unit (40% of final grade) Separate question papers will be provided for each title. Each question paper will consist of a choice of eight questions to be used as starting points. Students are required to select one

15-hour exam

What career opportunities does this open up?

Design & Technology opens up many diverse career paths in the arts and creative industries and is the ideal first step into a career in engineering. Other careers include: product design, industrial design, construction, surveying and architecture.

Economics

A Level

Exam Board: **Edexcel**

What is Economics?

The A Level in Economics is intended to give students an understanding of economic theories and concepts. It enables students to develop a critical consideration of current economic issues, problems and institutions that affect everyday life. The course invites students to apply their economic knowledge in a range of real-world contexts.

What will I study?

Theme 1: Introduction to markets and market failure
 • This theme will focus on microeconomic concepts. Students will develop an understanding of: nature of economics, how markets work, market failure and government intervention.
 Theme 2: The UK economy – performance and policies
 • This theme focuses on macroeconomic concepts. Students will develop an understanding of: measures of economic performance, aggregate demand, aggregate supply, national income and economic growth.
 Theme 3: Business behaviour and the labour market
 • This theme develops the microeconomic concepts introduced in theme 1 and focuses on business economics.
 Theme 4: A global perspective
 • This theme develops the macroeconomic concepts introduced in theme 2 and applies these concepts in a global context.

What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements, you will need a grade 6 or above in Maths.

How will I be taught?

A variety of teaching and learning styles are adopted to enable students to acquire the full range of key skills and to encourage participation in problem solving and decision-making activities.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: 2 hours written paper (worth 35% of the A Level)
 Paper 2: 2 hours written paper (worth 35% of the A Level)
 Paper 3: 2 hours written paper (worth 30% of the A Level)

What career opportunities does this open up?

Economics is highly thought of by employers due to its wide skill base and challenging nature. It can lead to a wide variety of business and finance careers as well as government service.

English Literature

A Level

Exam Board: **AQA**



What is English Literature?

English Literature at SMM6 will provide you with a mix of literary analysis, contextual thinking, wider reading and independent learning. This course will offer a clear progression from secured skills from GCSE to a deeper development at A-Level English.

After two years of studying A Level English Literature you will develop a discipline and enjoyment of reading through a variety of texts. You will also analyse, evaluate and undertake independent research which are valuable for both further study and future employment.

What will I study?

Paper 1: Love through the ages

- Study of three texts: one poetry and one prose text, of which one must be written pre-1900, and one Shakespeare play.

- Examination will include two unseen poems

Paper 2: Texts in shared context

- Modern times: literature from 1945 to the present day
- Study of three texts: one prose, one poetry, and one drama, of which one must be written post-2000
- Examination will include an unseen prose extract

What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements, you will need a grade 6 minimum in English Language and Literature.

How will I be taught?

Students will learn through a variety of different methods such as group discussions, pair work and independent learning. Where possible students will also be encouraged to watch live performances of plays.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: 3 hours written paper (worth 40% of the A-Level)

Paper 2: 2 hours 30 minutes written paper (worth 40% of the A-Level)

NEA (Coursework): 1 comparative essay (worth 20% of the A-Level)

What career opportunities does this open up?

Students of English Literature can go on to study Law, History, Politics, Journalism, Advertising and Media, as well as literature-based degree courses.

French

A Level

Exam Board: **AQA**

What is A Level French?

The A Level French course has been designed to be studied over two years. The approach will be a focus on technological and social change, looking at diversity and the benefits it brings. Students will study highlights of French-speaking artistic culture and learn about political engagement and who wields political power in the French-speaking world. They will also explore the influence of the past on present-day French-speaking communities. Throughout their studies, they will learn the language in the context of French-speaking countries and the issues and influences which have shaped them. Students will study texts and film and have the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of their choice.

What will I study?

Paper 1 – Listening, reading and writing

- Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues and trends

- Artistic culture in the French-speaking world

- Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world

- Grammar

Paper 2 – Writing

- One text and one film or two texts from a specified list

- Grammar

Paper 3 – Speaking

- Presentation and discussion of individual research project

- One of four themes: Aspects of French-speaking society: current trends, Aspects of French-speaking society: current issues, Artistic culture in the French-speaking world, Aspects of political life in the French-speaking world

What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements, you will need a grade 6 in French.

How will I be taught?

You will, through integrated study, focus on language, culture and society. The course will foster a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity, which are valuable to the individual and society.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: 2 hour and 30 minutes written paper response to listening and reading texts (50% of A Level)

Paper 2: 2 hour written paper (20% of the A Level)

Paper 3: 21–23 minutes oral exam – including 5 minutes preparation time (30% of the A Level)

What career opportunities does this open up?

The A Level French qualification is suitable for students who wish to go on to further study, including a modern languages degree, or for those who wish to progress to employment. As companies expand their reach internationally, due to the rapid advancement of technology, the demand for French-speaking employees is ever-increasing.



Our sixth form hub where students have the opportunity to do study in groups or independently using Macbooks.

**TO GROW IN FAITH,
LIVE AS FAMILY AND
BE UNITED IN
FELLOWSHIP**

Geography

A Level

Exam Board: **AQA**



What is Geography?

The world in which we live is likely to change more in the next 50 years than it has ever done before and our role in that change is more important than ever. Geography is concerned with the world around us: what shapes it, what sustains it and what influence we have upon it. Geography is therefore highly relevant to some of the most topical issues of the day, from earthquakes and climate change, to the exploitation of finite natural resources and our changing urban environments. Geography is about what is happening to us, now.

What Will I Study?

Paper 1- Physical Geography:

- Water and carbon cycles
- Coastal systems and landscapes
- Hazards

Paper 2- Human Geography:

- Global systems and global governance
- Changing places
- Contemporary urban environments

Paper 3- Geography fieldwork investigation:

- Students complete an individual investigation which includes a fieldwork day where data is collected.

What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements, it is preferable to have a grade 6 in Geography.

How will I be taught?

Students will be taught through a variety of methods, including; class based written activities, group work, group and individual investigations, decision making exercises, practicals and fieldwork work enquiries. Students are also expected to carry out individual and group independent study to consolidate knowledge that has been taught in lessons.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: 2 hours 30 minutes written exam (worth 40% of the A-level).

Paper 2: 2 hours 30 minutes written exam (worth 40% of the A-level).

Paper 3: 3,000-4,000-word report (worth 20% of the A-level).

What career opportunities does this open up?

Geography is highly valued by universities, as it combines both arts and science it opens up many options for future study. Due to the extensive and contemporary issues studied, as well as the multitude of skills and practical experience Geography includes, there are many careers pathways you can follow. Some of these include: environmental management, emergency management and planner, urban planning developer, cartography, real estate, land surveyor, educational roles, government advisor and many more.

Graphic Communication

A Level

Exam Board: **WJEC**

What is Graphic Communication?

If you are creative, artistic and love design preferring to create for a purpose you will enjoy graphic communication. Graphic communication combines image and typography to create meaningful designs and messages; it may be defined as the process by which ideas are communicated through the use of symbols, drawings, photographs and typography to convey concepts and/or emotions.

What will I study?

You will incorporate a variety of related disciplines and utilise traditional skills, such as calligraphy and hand-formed lettering, alongside cutting-edge digital technologies. You will learn how to manipulate images as well as text and work frequently with layout design and usability. We will work with the Adobe suite – mainly Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign. You will become an expert in illustration, typography, packaging design and branding. You will become a creative thinker and a problem solver where design is concerned, understanding visual designers and their work whilst learning new techniques to a high standard.

What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements, you should have studied at least one of the following subjects at GCSE: graphic design; art and design; or design and technology. A portfolio of your work will be assessed for suitability before your acceptance on the course.

How will I be taught?

You will be taught through theory and practical sessions over two years of study.

How will I be assessed?

You will carry out a personal creative inquiry (60% of final grade) which begins in term 2 of year 12 and continues into the first term of year 13 – an extended, exploratory project and outcomes based on themes which are personal and meaningful to the learner; through this enquiry you will be refining person skills and producing a professional portfolio. The second unit (40% of final grade) is an externally set assessment where learners are required to develop a personal response to one of a varied range of stimuli within specified time constraints. Learners must therefore bring together the best of their understanding, knowledge and skills built up over their course of study and demonstrate their highest achievement. Unit two is finalised with a 15-hour exam.

What career opportunities does this open up?

Graphic communication can lead to a wide range of careers including: Graphic Designer, Animator, Interior Designer, Architect, Digital Designer, Web Designer and an Illustrator.

History

A Level

Exam Board: **OCR**

What is History?

History is about time and the evidence that has survived. Historians need to work with this evidence and ask questions in order to develop substantive knowledge. In doing so they construct meaning through identifying change and continuity, causes and consequences, and the significance of past events. This process is on-going and dynamic and results in the continued evolution and emergence of interpretations of the past.

What Will I Study?

Unit 1: British Period Study and Enquiry:

- Britain 1930-1997

Unit 2: Non-British Period Study:

- African Kingdoms

Unit 3: Thematic study and historical interpretations:

- Civil Rights in the USA 1865–1992

Unit 4: Topic Based Essay: 3000-4000 words.

- An essay on a topic of the student's choice which explains and analyses different perspectives of a historical issue.

What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements, it is preferable to have a grade 5 or above in History.

How will I be taught?

Students will learn through a variety of methods including discussion and group work. Students will be expected to carry out reading and note-taking in order to consolidate and extend lesson content outside of their timetabled lesson time.

How will I be assessed?

Unit 1: 1 hour 30 minutes written paper (worth 25% of the A Level)

Unit 2: 1 hour written paper (worth 15% of the A Level)

Unit 3: 2 hour 30 minutes written paper (worth 40% of the A Level)

NEA (Coursework): Topic based essay (worth 20% of the A Level)

What career opportunities does this open up?

History students have forged careers in academia, research, civil service, politics, journalism, consultancy, banking, business, PR, marketing, retail, accountancy and more. An A Level in History offers transferable skills which can lead to the most varied career paths.

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/history>

Maths

A Level

Exam Board: **Edexcel**



What is Maths?

A level Mathematics gives students the opportunity to study topics such as geometry, calculus and trigonometry (pure mathematics) and to use these ideas within the 'applied' topics such as mechanics and statistics. The subject requires students to extend their range of mathematical skills and techniques.

What will I study?

Paper 1 & Paper 2 - Pure Mathematics:

Proof, Algebra and functions, Coordinate geometry in the (x, y) plane, Sequences and series, Trigonometry, Exponentials and logarithms, Differentiation, Integration, Numerical methods and Vectors

Paper 3 - Statistics and Mechanics:

Statistics: Statistical sampling, Data presentation and interpretation, Probability, Statistical distributions and Statistical hypothesis testing

Mechanics: Quantities and units in mechanics, Kinematics, Forces and Newton's laws and Moments

What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements, you will need a grade 7 or above in Maths.

How will I be taught?

Students will learn through a variety of methods including independently working, discussion and group work. Students will be encouraged to take increasing responsibility for their own learning and the evaluation of their own mathematical development. They will be taught to use their mathematical knowledge to make logical and reasoned decisions in solving problems both within pure mathematics and in a variety of contexts and communicate the mathematical rationale for these decisions clearly.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: Pure Mathematics 1 - 2 hour written paper (worth 33.3% of the A Level)

Paper 2: Pure Mathematics 2 - 2 hour written paper (worth 33.3% of the A Level)

Paper 3: Statistics and Mechanics - 2 hour written paper (worth 33.3% of the A Level)

What career opportunities does this open up?

Mathematics plays an integral part of many careers, and can provide numerous opportunities, both academically and career-wise. In particular those that study it can go into careers in: accounting, medicine, engineering, forensic pathology, finance, business, consultancy, education, IT, games development, scientific research, programming, the civil service, design, construction and astrophysics to name a few. Specific job roles include actuary, business analyst, software engineer, technology analyst, information engineer, speech technology researcher, and maths teacher.

Media Studies

A Level

Exam Board: **AQA**

What is Media Studies?

Choosing Media Studies at SMM6 will give you the opportunity to develop a range of technical skills required for both constructing and deconstructing media products. A level Media Studies centres around applying an analytical framework (media terminology, audience, representation and context) which you learn through discussion, analysis, debating and creating.

What will I study?

Media Language and Media Representations:

- Advertising and Marketing
- Music Video

Media Industries and Media Audiences:

- Radio
- Newspapers
- Film (Industries only)

In-depth Media Forms:

- Television
- Magazines and online
- Social and participatory media/video games

What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements, you will need a grade 5 or above in English Literature or English Language

How will I be taught?

Students will learn through a variety of different methods such as group discussions, pair work and independent learning. Students will be also able to take advantage of the high specification technology that SMM offers to its students. Where possible students will enhance learning by visiting a range of different organisations such as Sky Studio, BBC and BBFC.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: 2 hours written paper (worth 35% of the A Level)
Paper 2: 2 hours written paper (worth 35% of the A Level)
NEA (Non-Examination Assessment): (worth 30% of the A Level)

What career opportunities does this open up?

Media studies will equip you for a wide range of jobs including but not limited to: presenting, copywriter, social media manager and editorial assistant.

Philosophy, Religion and Ethics (Religious Studies)

A Level

Exam Board: **OCR**

What is PRE?

At A-level religious studies is broken down into three topics; Philosophy, Ethics and Theology. All of these subjects' appeal to students who enjoy arguing over ideas and ideals. In this A-level, students will develop their understanding and appreciation of religious beliefs and teachings, as well as the disciplines of ethics and the philosophy of religion.

What will I study?

In philosophy you will examine the many thinkers who have tried to explain thought, the world and society. This will range from Ancient Greeks to 21st century idealists.

In ethics you will learn how to evaluate what is morality and how that morality or ethical rules might be applied to different situations. We will also look at specific applications of these moral arguments, such as the moral rules that guide business and politics or fail to guide them as the case may be.

In theology we will look at the ideas that people have arrived at as they attempt to understand the nature of God. We will also look at how people have responded to these ideas including looking at Dietrich Bonhoeffer who responded to the situation in the world around him and his beliefs about God by trying to kill Hitler.

What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements, it is preferable to have a grade 6 in Religious Studies.

How will I be taught?

Most lessons will be broken down into teacher lead learning, seminar style discussion and group examination of different topics. There will also be developmental writing workshops to ensure excellence in final grades and support pupils who are looking to develop the verbal reasoning skills needed for further higher education.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed with three end of year exam papers; one for each subject. Each exam is two hours and worth a third of your overall A Level grade.

What career opportunities does this open up?

The skills and knowledge gained by studying religious studies support anyone who is looking for careers in journalism, entertainment and television, game development and politics.

Physics

A Level

Exam Board: **AQA**

What is Physics?

Physics is a fascinating, challenging, practical, creative and thought-provoking subject. We look at all aspects of our universe from distant galaxies to sub-atomic particles. If you have ever wondered 'How do they do that?' then Physics can provide the answers – which often lead to deeper questions.

What will I study?

Unit 1: Measurements and their errors

Unit 2: Particles and radiation

Unit 3: Waves

Unit 4: Mechanics and materials

Unit 5: Electricity

Unit 6: Further mechanics and thermal physics

Unit 7: Fields and their consequences

Unit 8: Nuclear physics

and one of these options...

Astrophysics, Medical physics, Engineering physics, Turning points in physics, Electronics.

What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements, you will need a grade 6 in Physics or grade 6/6 in Combined Science.

How will I be taught?

- 5hrs contact time plus 5hrs private study per week.
- No assessed coursework.
- Core practical activities (PAGs) that make up a practical endorsement.
- Regular assessment.

How will I be assessed?

Paper	Weighting	Marks and duration
Paper 1 (Units 1-5)	34%	85 marks 2hrs
Paper 2 (Units 6-8)	34%	85 marks 2hrs
Unified Chemistry (Practical Physics and optional unit)	32%	80 marks 2hrs

What career opportunities does this open up?

Employers today actively seek out people who can prove their ability to think logically, understand complex ideas and apply them to the real world. Physics can give you the edge in science, the media, education, business or a host of other fields. Physics is a highly valued A Level by universities and employers. It is essential for most engineering degrees.

Politics

A Level

Exam Board: **Edexcel**

What is Politics?

In its broadest sense, Politics is concerned with power and the way in which, for better or worse, it is distributed and exercised in society. It is also concerned with people: how they interact, make decisions and settle disputes. The study of Politics provides a developed understanding of the British and American political environment, as well as the political ideas which have shaped western government and society. This A Level will encourage interest in and enthusiasm for the study of Government and Politics and will enable students to develop an insight into political beliefs central to an understanding of the modern world, with an emphasis on contemporary political issues.

What will I study?

Component 1: UK Politics

- *Political Participation*: democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media.
 - *Core Political Ideas*: conservatism, liberalism, socialism.
- Component 2: UK Government
- The constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between them
 - *Political Ideas*: one idea from the following: anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism, Nationalism
- Component 3: Comparative Politics
- *US Politics*: The US Constitution and federalism, US Congress, US Presidency, US Supreme Court, civil rights and democracy and participation.

What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements an interest in Politics is required.

How will I be taught?

Students participate in seminars; lectures; group work and undertake original research, give presentations and use ICT extensively as part of the course. Students augment their wider learning through a range of essay competitions, conferences and excursions, including a biennial trip to Washington DC with the History Department.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1: 2 hour written paper (worth 33.3% of the A Level)
Component 2: 2 hour written paper (worth 33.3% of the A Level)
Component 3: 2 hour written paper (worth 33.3% of the A Level)

What career opportunities does this open up?

Students of Government & Politics have forged careers in academia, research, civil service, politics, journalism, consultancy, banking, business, PR, marketing, retail, accountancy and more.

Psychology

A Level

Exam Board: **AQA**

What is Psychology?

Psychology can be described as a scientific approach to understanding the mind and human behaviour. The subject requires the close analysis and evaluation of a range of complex psychological theories and studies. Over your two years studying A Level Psychology you will gain an insight into the causes of a wide variety of human behaviours, their impact on daily lives and the science that has evolved around them.

What Will I Study?

Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology:

- Social influence
- Memory
- Attachment
- Psychopathology

Paper 2: Psychology in Context:

- Approaches in Psychology
- Biopsychology
- Research methods

Paper 3: Issues and Options in Psychology:

- Issues and debates in Psychology
- Relationships
- Schizophrenia
- Forensic Psychology

What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements, you will need a grade 5 in Maths and a grade 6 in Biology or grade 6/6 in Combined Science.

How will I be taught?

Students will learn through a variety of methods including practical investigations, discussion and group work. Students will be expected to carry out reading and note-taking in order to consolidate and extend lesson content outside of their timetabled lesson time.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: 2 hour written paper (worth 33.3% of the A Level)

Paper 2: 2 hour written paper (worth 33.3% of the A Level)

Paper 3: 2 hour written paper (worth 33.3% of the A Level)

What career opportunities does this open up?

Psychology can be useful to almost any career but particularly those involving working directly with people. A Psychology Undergraduate degree plus further postgraduate study could lead to work as a psychologist, for instance in a clinical or educational setting.

For more information see the British Psychological Society website: www.bps.org.uk

Sociology

A Level

Exam Board: **AQA**



What is Sociology?

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? Studying sociology offers insights into social and cultural issues. It helps you develop a multi-perspective and critical approach to understanding issues around culture, identity, religion, crime, families and social power. More than once during the course you're bound to ask yourself the question, "why has society developed like this? With poverty, ignorance, crime and injustice."

What will I Study?

Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods

Paper 2: Topics in Sociology

- Families and Households
- Beliefs in Society

Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements, you will need a grade 5 in English Language.

How will I be taught?

In mostly seminar style lessons with the expectation of note taking and pre-reading to be undertaken outside the timetabled lessons. In our timetabled lessons, we aim to develop your ability to:

- use evidence to support your arguments
- investigate facts and use deduction
- develop your critical thinking
- develop opinions and new ideas on societal issues
- analyse and better understand societal issues.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: 2 hour written paper (worth 33.3% of the A Level)

Paper 2: 2 hour written paper (worth 33.3% of the A Level)

Paper 3: 2 hour written paper (worth 33.3% of the A Level)

What career opportunities does this open up?

Studying sociology can give you a whole host of exciting career options, including: Social work, Human resources, Journalism and Law.

Spanish

A Level

Exam Board: **AQA**

What is A Level Spanish?

The A Level Spanish course has been designed to be studied over two years. The approach is a focus on how Spanish-speaking society has been shaped socially and culturally and how it continues to change. In the first year, aspects of the social context are studied, together with aspects of the artistic life of Spanish-speaking countries. In the second year, further aspects of the social background are covered, this time focusing on matters associated with multiculturalism. Students also study aspects of the political landscape including the future of political life in the Hispanic world by focusing on young people and their political engagement.

What will I study?

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing

- Artistic culture in the Hispanic world
- Multiculturalism in Hispanic society
- Aspects of political life in Hispanic society
- Grammar

Paper 2: Writing

- One text and one film or two texts from a specified list
- Grammar

Paper 3: Speaking

- Presentation and discussion of individual research project
- One of four themes: aspects of Hispanic society, artistic culture in the Hispanic world, multiculturalism in Hispanic society or aspects of political life in Hispanic society

What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements, you will need a grade 6 in Spanish.

How will I be taught?

You will, through integrated study, focus on language, culture and society. The course will foster a range of transferable skills including communication, critical thinking, research skills and creativity, which are valuable to the individual and society.

How will I be assessed?

Paper 1: 2 hour and 30 minutes written paper response to listening and reading texts (50% of A Level)

Paper 2: 2 hour written paper (20% of the A Level)

Paper 3: 21–23 minutes oral exam – including 5 minutes preparation time (30% of the A Level)

What career opportunities does this open up?

The A Level Spanish qualification is suitable for students who wish to go on to further study, including a modern languages degree, or for those who wish to progress to employment. As companies expand their reach internationally, due to the rapid advancement of technology, the demand for Spanish-speaking employees is ever-increasing.



BTEC Level 3 Courses

Applied Science

Business

Computing

Performing Arts

Sport

Applied Science

BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate or National Diploma

Exam Board: **Pearson**

What is Applied Science?

The course is designed for students wishing to progress to higher education courses in the applied science and healthcare sector before entering employment. Students will study Biology, Chemistry, Physics and contemporary issues in science. This particular qualification is equivalent in size to 1 A Level (*Extended Certificate*) or 2 A Levels (*National Diploma*).

What will I study?

Mandatory units:

Unit 1: Principles and Application of Science I

Unit 2: Practical Scientific Procedures and Techniques

Unit 3: Science Investigation Skills

Unit 4: Laboratory Techniques and their application (*National diploma only*)

Unit 5: Principles and Applications of Science II (*National Diploma only*)

Unit 6: Investigative Project (*National Diploma only*)

Optional Units:

Extended certificate students will take 1 further optional unit whereas national diploma students will take 2 further optional units.

What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements, you will need a grade 4/4 in Combined Science or grade 4's in Separate Science.

How will I be taught?

- National Diploma: 10hrs contact time plus 5hrs private study per week.
- Extended Certificate: 5hrs contact time plus 5hrs private study per week.
- Range of external (exam) and Internal (Coursework) assessments
- Regular assessment.

How will I be assessed?

Units	External/Internal
National Diploma: Units 1, 3 & 5 Extended Certificate: Units 1 & 3	External (exam)- 46% External (exam)- 58%
National Diploma: Units 2, 4 & 6 + optional units Extended Certificate: Units 2 + optional unit	Internal (Coursework) – 54% Internal (Coursework) – 42%

What career opportunities does this open up?

The BTEC in Applied Science is an excellent base for university studies in health care, such as biomedical science, pharmacy and pharmaceutical science*, pharmacology, physiotherapy, audiology, nursing, radiography and optometry*. (*selected universities only)

Business

BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate or National Diploma

Exam Board: **Pearson**

What is Business?

BTEC Business will give learners the opportunity to learn and understand the fundamental business and entrepreneurial knowledge and skills associated with working within a business enterprise. For learners who wish their learning to be practical and active, making use of their own business imagination, BTEC Business is a highly relevant qualification. This particular qualification is equivalent in size to 1 A Level (*Extended Certificate*) or 2 A Levels (*National Diploma*).

What will I study?

Mandatory Units:

- Exploring Business
- Developing a Marketing Campaign
- Personal and Business Finance
- Managing an Event (*National diploma only*)
- International Business (*National diploma only*)
- Principles of Management (*National diploma only*)

Optional Units:

Extended certificate students will take 1 further optional unit whereas national diploma students will take 2 further optional units.

What entry requirements will I need?

General entry requirements of entry to the sixth form apply. No prior study of business is required to study this course.

How will I be taught?

Students will be taught through a variety of teaching techniques with a combination of practical and theoretical lessons.

How will I be assessed?

The course incorporates different types of assessment in the form of coursework and examinations set and marked by Pearson. Students will develop their business knowledge and skills in preparation for further study or employment.

What career opportunities does this open up?

Studying business can lead to a number of careers in Management, Accounting, Human Resources, Marketing, Teaching, Retailing and many more.

Computing

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate

Exam Board: **Pearson**



What is Computing?

The Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Computing is equivalent in size to one A Level. It is aimed at post 16 learners who are interested in an initial introduction to study of the ICT sector at Level 3 alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, but not necessarily in computing. It allows learners to gain fundamental knowledge and skills in computing from which they can progress to broader or more specialist study at Level 3. The qualification can be taken in combination with A Levels or other vocational qualifications to meet progression requirements.

What will I study?

There are three mandatory units, one internal and two external.

Mandatory Units:

Unit 1: Principles of Computer Science

Unit 2: Fundamentals of Computer Systems

Unit 7: IT Systems Security and Encryption.

Optional Unit:

Learners must also complete one optional unit.

What entry requirements will I need?

In addition to the general entry requirements, it is preferable to have a grade 5 in GCSE IT or BTEC Level 2 IT at grade merit.

How will I be taught?

Students will be taught through a variety of teaching techniques with a combination of practical and theoretical lessons.

How will I be assessed?

The external units will be assessed through written examinations set and marked by Pearson. During these supervised assessment periods, learners will be assessed on their ability to apply their computational-thinking skills to solve problems, how computer systems work and the way components of a system work together and data used. Internal assessments will be assessed through controlled assessments in class.

What career opportunities does this open up?

The BCS, the Chartered Institute for IT, have confirmed that this qualification supports progression towards a professional career in IT, such as a Registered IT Technician and much more.

Sport

BTEC Level 3 National
Extended Certificate

Exam Board: **Pearson**



What is Sport?

BTEC Sport Level 3 is a continuation from GCSE PE or BTEC Sport Level 2. Students who study Sport will have the opportunity to develop skills across a variety of sporting industries, including business, coaching and leadership. This particular qualification is equivalent in size to one A Level.

What will I study?

Mandatory Units:

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being
- Professional Development in the Sports Industry
- Sports Leadership
- Investigating Business in Sport and the Active Leisure Industry
- Skill Acquisition in Sport

What entry requirements will I need?

BTEC Sport Level 2: Merit or higher

GCSE PE: 5 or higher

GCSE Science (Double or Triple): 4 or higher

How will I be taught?

Students will be taught through a variety of teaching techniques with a combination of practical and theoretical lessons.

How will I be assessed?

A combination of written examination, coursework and tasks set by Pearson in exam conditions with time constraints.

What career opportunities does this open up?

Physiotherapist, Sports Psychologist, PE Teacher, Sports Scientist, Strength Coach.



Our BTEC students have custom designed sports kit



Our 6th form Basketball Programme



Our sports facilities allow for a wide variety of different sports



Our state of the art, purpose built lecture theatre



The Extended Curriculum

St Mary Magdalene C of E All-Through School prides itself on balancing academic success with wide ranging enrichment opportunities which will allow you to develop your interests and support the community. At SMM6 we want to offer you as many different life experiences as possible to help you find out what is right for you and give you a well-rounded education. These opportunities have been built into the timetable and are part of your day-to-day life as a sixth former, to ensure that your sixth form experience is unique.

Trips and Visits

As well as many subject-related visits to museums, galleries, university lectures, concerts, plays, residentials and field excursions there will also be opportunities for you to travel abroad for some of the A Level courses.

Leadership and Volunteering

The Sixth Form Leadership and Volunteering programme builds upon previous traditional leadership roles (such as Head Students and Prefects) and combines them with volunteering schemes such as paired reading with students in our primary phase and mentoring schemes with our younger students. The school has an excellent reputation for its involvement in the wider community and has developed some successful links with local organisations (e.g. the local homeless shelter and the local foodbank) giving you the opportunity to volunteer and serve others.

Sports Programme

It is our expectation that all sixth formers will participate in our wide-ranging sports programme. You will take part in one hour of sport every week with a variety of different sports to choose from including: football, basketball, netball, yoga, street dance, personal training and many more.

Clubs and Societies

You will be given the opportunity to further explore your passions and broaden your subject knowledge by joining and leading various clubs and societies. Many of these sessions will be student led and may include but are not limited to: Debating, Choir, Drama Club, Mental Health Society, Mindfulness Club and many more. You will also have the opportunity to complete the Silver or Gold Duke of Edinburgh award.

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Year 12 students who have the required prior attainment will be given the opportunity to complete the EPQ on a research question of their choosing. You will be allocated a member of staff as a supervisor, devise your own question and complete independent research to produce an extended essay or piece in response. Once submitted and assessed, you will receive a grade for your EPQ which will be worth up to 28 UCAS points.



Student Support

At St Mary Magdalene C of E All-Through School, we pride ourselves on being a very supportive and inclusive school. We are aware that Post 16 study can be intense and therefore have a variety of ways to support you academically, pastorally, spiritually and financially to ensure that you reach your full potential.

Academic Support

Many students comment on the increased workload and independent study required to succeed in sixth form. To help you meet this demand, we will provide you with supervised study sessions, which gives you time to complete your independent work in our dedicated study room. Study support assistants are also available to offer guidance with any of your subject work. You will also receive tailored study skills sessions depending on your programme of study, this will provide you with a range of strategies to help you develop your independent study skills. Drop-in and intervention sessions are also available across all of our academic departments to offer you extra help if you need it.

Learning Support

Our dedicated learning support team have a wealth of knowledge and experience to respond to and support a wide range of individual student's needs. Individual needs are recognised and if you require bespoke support, we will make adaptations to support your needs.

Pastoral Support

As well as ensuring that you are achieving academically, we do everything we can to ensure that you are supported emotionally too. Tutors are fully committed to offering informed and impartial advice and will support you whether it be for the process of applying to universities or apprenticeships. You will belong to a family group where time is set aside every week so that you can have 1:1 sessions, a number of these family group sessions will focus on student wellbeing. Alongside this our federation chaplain is always on hand to support and guide you through your own personal spiritual journey (A number of family group sessions will also focus on your spiritual development).

Career Support

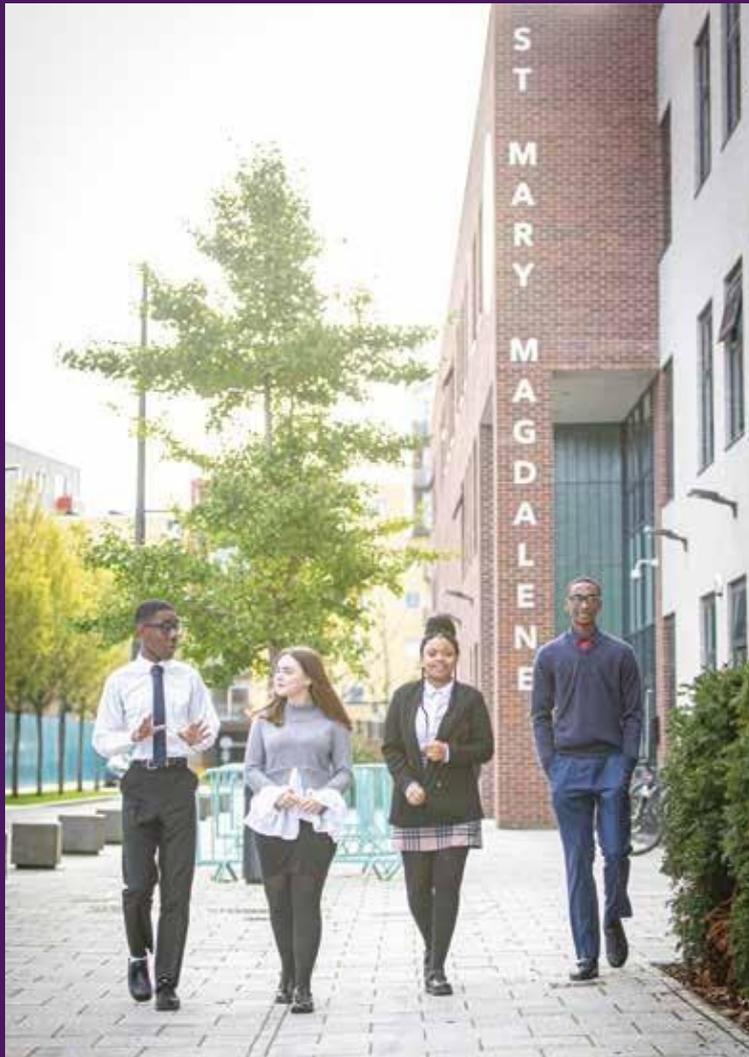
As a student of SMM6, you will have access to an effective and impartial programme of careers education, information, guidance and advice. We will support you in making choices that will enhance your life chances and guide you in choosing career paths that suit your interests and abilities. Our careers programme will develop the values, skills and behaviours as a young person you will need to flourish in the future. Sessions will take place inside the classroom and within professional contexts in order to develop the character attributes which underpin success in employment.

University Support

We are aware that gaining entry to university requires more than just exceptional academic ability. You will need to stand out from the crowd and demonstrate a genuine interest in the subject you wish to study. Your tutor will give you specialist advice and support on the process of making a successful UCAS application and prepare you not only for entry to your chosen degree course but how to be successful as an undergraduate student. Our lecture programme gives you the opportunity to hear from a variety of speakers and influential people and gauge their perspective on different social issues.

Financial Support

We are committed to ensure that all students in our care, regardless of their socio-economic background achieve the highest possible outcomes and can take full advantage of all the amazing opportunities that we have on offer. The 16-19 Bursary Scheme enables the school to allocate funds directly to students who face financial circumstances that may prevent them from participating in post 16 education. You will be given full details of the criteria and process for applications at the start of the academic year should you need to access it.



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