



**ASPIRE**  
**INTERNATIONAL**

**Year 12**

**AS/A-level Options Booklet**



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# Introduction

**Welcome to your AS / A-level Options Booklet. Congratulations on reaching Year 12! At this stage in your school career, you are now able to focus on the subjects that you really want to do for the next two years.**

Choosing subjects for Year 12 allows you to:

- Choose courses and subjects that match your interests, abilities and talents
- Choose courses that will help you prepare for further education at university or for your chosen career
- Take brand new subjects

If you are unfamiliar with A-levels, you may not know that they are the qualification studied in the UK curriculum by students aged 16 to 18. They are recognised by higher education institutions all over the world. Students have left AIS and gone to the UK, USA, Ireland, and other countries throughout Europe and further afield.

Most students study three subjects at A-level. However, we are happy to be flexible so please let us know if you would like to study more or fewer subjects.

A-level is often quite different to GCSE. The subjects are often more challenging, and you will be expected to work independently and on your own initiative much more than you have been previously. There is a lot more responsibility on your shoulders to ensure that you go above and beyond what is taught in the classroom and continue learning in your spare time.

There will also be opportunities for you to volunteer to help your school community and to take part in the wider life of the school. This is because you need to build a strong profile of yourselves that will appeal to university admissions officers or potential employers.

You will also follow a Careers programme that will help you to write your CV and guide you through the process of applying for university, if you decide that this is what you want to do. Please try to engage fully with this programme, as it is often very helpful in preparing pupils for the world beyond school.



## Who can help me decide?

Your parents, your teachers and Year 13 students who have opted for these courses are all people who can offer good advice. We also offer transition materials to be completed over the summer to help you prepare and so that you can experience some of the content. We welcome anyone in Year 11 who, in June, after their GCSE exams are finished, would like to sit in on some A-level lessons with Year 12.

### What should I consider?

Don't do subjects just because the teachers or your parents (or even your friends) say you should. Of course, you should listen to the advice of people that you respect, but make your own decisions. After all, you will be the one who has to do the work!

Choose options that you know that you will enjoy or that you feel passionate about; you are more likely to succeed if you enjoy what you're doing.

Please let us know the subjects that you intend to do. You may also let us know if there are alternative subjects that you might consider if not all of our subjects are available.

Subjects might be unavailable either because there is not enough take up of that subject (we need at least three students to run the course) or because there are unavoidable clashes.

### Note:

You will see in the description of the courses that follow that some courses are modular and some courses are linear.

Most IAL (International A-level) courses are modular. This means that external exams can be sat at various points during the course (October/January/June). The results of these exams contribute towards the final result at the end of Year 13. The modular nature of the course also means that individual modules can be re-sat in order to improve grades where necessary.

If the subject is not offered by Pearson Edexcel as an IAL it is offered as an A-level. Most A-levels are linear. This means that all examinations are sat at the end of the two years of study. Pupils can usually study these subjects as an AS-level and sit exams at the end of the first year. However, if the student then decides to continue studying the course in Year 13, any grades achieved in Year 12 will not count towards the final A-level grade in Year 13.

We also have some subjects offered by Cambridge, e.g. Sociology and Travel and Tourism. Unlike with Pearson Edexcel, in these cases the AS exams taken at the end of Year 12 count towards the final grades in Year 13.

If you would like more guidance on this, please feel free to contact Kathryn for a chat.

# MATHEMATICS

Modular | Linear

## Course Outline / Method of Assessment:

All students will complete 4 units of Pure Mathematics (2 for the AS) covering the following topics:

- algebra and functions
- coordinate geometry in the  $(x, y)$
- trigonometry
- differentiation
- integration
- sequences and series
- exponentials and logarithms
- numerical methods
- binomial expansion
- vectors


Pupils will then complete two further units (one for the AS) from a choice of Mechanical Mathematics, Statistics or Decision Mathematics.

## Why study Mathematics?

Along with mathematical skills, studying Maths at A-level will provide you with a range of other skills valuable in both higher education and employment. Problem solving is a key skill of Mathematics and highly prized by employers. Other valuable skills you will gain include perseverance, independent study skills, organisation, logical and creative thinking.

## Possible careers for Mathematicians:

Acoustic Consultant	Data Analyst
Actuarial Analyst	Data Scientist
Actuary	Investment Analyst
Astronomer	Research Scientist
Chartered Accountant	Software Engineer
Chartered Certified Accountant	Sound Engineer
	Statistician

A silhouette of a person wearing glasses, looking through a telescope mounted on a tripod. The background is a vast field of stars, with the Milky Way galaxy visible as a bright, colorful band of light stretching across the sky. The person is positioned on the right side of the frame, looking towards the left. The telescope is in the foreground, and the tripod is visible at the bottom. The overall scene is set against a dark night sky filled with stars.

Because light from distant stars and galaxies takes time to reach us, astronomers are literally looking back in time when they observe the universe—some telescopes can capture light that originated billions of years ago!

# BIOLOGY

Modular | Linear

## Course Outline / Method of Assessment:

### Year 12 (AS-level)

Unit 1 – Molecules, Diet, Transport and Health

Unit 2 – Cells, Development, Biodiversity and Conservation

Unit 3 – Practical Skills in Biology 1

### Year 13 (A-level)

Unit 4 – Energy, Environment, Microbiology and Immunity

Unit 5 – Respiration, Internal Environment, Coordination and Gene Technology

Unit 6 – Practical Skills in Biology 2

## Why study Biology?

The course includes up to date developments in topics such as genetic screening and stem cell technology as well as traditional topics such as cell structure and genetics. The transferable skills a Biology student learns are the importance of precise and concise writing, data analysis and interpretation, applied numeracy and a love and appreciation of the complexity and diverse awesomeness of life.

## Possible careers for Biologists:

Biotechnologist	Technologist
Marine Biologist	Animal Physiotherapist
Microbiologist	Clinical Scientist, Cardiac Sciences
Nanotechnologist	Dentist
Nature Conservation Officer	Genetic Counsellor
Scientific Laboratory Technician	Medical Science Liaison
Pharmacologist	Neuroscientist
Research Scientist (Life Sciences)	Prosthetist / Orthotist
Soil Scientist	Zoologist
Anatomical Pathology	Sustainability Consultant
	Veterinary Nurse

# CHEMISTRY

Modular | Linear

## Course Outline / Method of Assessment:

### Year 12 (AS-level)

Unit 1 – Structure, Bonding and Introduction to Organic Chemistry

Unit 2 – Energetics, Group Chemistry, Halogenoalkanes and Alcohols

Unit 3 – Practical Skills in Chemistry 1

### Year 13 (A-level)

Unit 4 – Rates, Equilibria and Further Organic Chemistry

Unit 5 – Transition Metals and Organic Nitrogen Chemistry

Unit 6 – Practical Skills in Chemistry 2

## Why study Chemistry?

Chemistry students develop and refine their problem solving skills, especially critical thinking and analytical thinking, while learning about real-life practical applications such as the development of new medicines and materials, environmental issues like climate change, and energy production. They also strengthen their technical abilities and learn to be detail oriented.

## Possible careers for Chemists:

Analytical Chemist

Biotechnologist

Chemical Engineer

Clinical Scientist,  
Biochemistry

Forensic Scientist

Nanotechnologist

Pharmacologist

Research Scientist

Toxicologist

Environmental Consultant

Management Consultant

Nuclear Engineer

# PHYSICS

Modular | Linear

## Course Outline / Method of Assessment:

### Year 12 (AS-level)

Unit 1 – Mechanics and Materials

Unit 2 – Waves and Electricity

Unit 3 – Practical Skills in Physics 1

### Year 13 (A-level)

Unit 4 – Further Mechanics, Fields and Particles

Unit 5 – Thermodynamics, Radiation, Oscillations and Cosmology

Unit 6 – Practical Skills in Physics 2

## Why study Physics A-level?

Alongside the obvious development of mathematical acumen, practical skills and experimentation that come with the study of Physics A-level, you will also be working on the development of a wide range of soft skills, useful in all sorts of fields. Skills such as problem solving; critical thinking and analytical skills; collaboration and communication skills as well as giving you a global and environmental perspective.

## Possible careers for Physicists:

Astronomer	Nanotechnologist
Clinical Scientist, Medical Physics	Sound Engineer
Geophysicist	Clinical Technologist
Metallurgist	Data Analyst
Meteorologist	Nuclear Engineer

Sound engineers need to master the physics of sound—including acoustics, waveforms, and signal processing—while also developing an artistic ear for mixing, mastering, and audio production.



# HISTORY

Modular | Linear

## Course Outline / Method of Assessment:

### Unit 1 – Depth Study with Interpretations

Options:

France in Revolution, 1774–99

Russia in Revolution, 1881–1917

Germany, 1918–45

Britain, 1964–90

### Unit 2 – Breadth Study with Source Evaluation

Options:

India, 1857–1948: The Raj to Partition

China, 1900–76

Russia, 1917–91: From Lenin to Yeltsin

South Africa, 1948–2014.

### Unit 3 – Thematic Study with Source Evaluation

Options:

USA, Independence to Civil War

The British Experience of Warfare

Germany: United, Divided and Reunited

Civil Rights & Race Relations in the USA

### Unit 4 – International Study with Historical Interpretations

Options:

The Making of Modern Europe

World in Crisis 1879–1945

World Divided: Superpower Relations

The Cold War and Hot War in Asia

## Why study History A-level?

A-level History isn't just about memorising dates; it's a rigorous journey that hones your critical thinking abilities. Engaging with complex historical events cultivates your analytical prowess, allowing you to dissect information, draw connections, and form well-reasoned conclusions.

These skills extend beyond the classroom, shaping you into a sharp-minded individual ready to navigate challenges in any field.

## Possible careers for Historians:

Archivist	Museum / Gallery Exhibitions Officer
Policy Officer	Editorial Assistant
Historic Buildings Inspector	Broadcast Journalist
Museum / Gallery Curator	Human Resources Officer
Conservation Officer	Marketing Executive
Archaeologist	Political Aide

# GEOGRAPHY

Modular | Linear

## Course Outline / Method of Assessment:

### Year 12 (AS-level)

#### Unit 1 – Global challenges

Topic 1: World at Risk

Topic 2: Going Global

#### Unit 2 – Geographical Investigations

Topic 1: Crowded Coasts

Topic 2: Urban Problems, Planning and Regeneration

### Year 13 (A-level)

#### Unit 3 – Contested Planet

Compulsory topics:

Atmosphere and Weather

Biodiversity Under Threat

Optional Topics:

Energy Security or Water Conflicts

Superpower Geographies or Bridging the Development Gap

#### Unit 4 – Researching Geography

Option 1: Tectonic Activity and Hazards

Option 2: Feeding the World's People

Option 3: Cultural Diversity: People and Landscapes

Option 4: Human Health and Disease

## Why study Geography A-level?

Researching, presenting, referencing, critical thinking, map-reading and scientific reasoning skills will all be honed along with the ability to work both independently and collaboratively.

The versatility of A-level Geography equips students with critical thinking, analytical, and problem-solving skills that are highly transferable and sought after in the job market. So, A-level Geography is respected with regard to the prospects that students have after studying it.

## Possible careers for Geographers:

Cartographer	International Aid / Development Worker
Commercial / Residential Surveyor	Town Planner
Environmental Consultant	Landscape Architect
Market Researcher	Tourism Officer
Planning and Development Surveyor	Logistics and Distribution Manager
Social Researcher	Nature Conservation Officer
Geographical Information Systems Officer	Political Risk Analyst
Astronomer	Sustainability Consultant

Good town planning can increase life expectancy—cities with well-designed public spaces, green areas, and efficient transport systems contribute to healthier lifestyles by reducing pollution, encouraging walking and cycling, and improving overall well-being.



# POLITICS

Modular | **Linear**

## Course Outline / Method of Assessment:

### Component 1:

1. Political Participation: democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media.
2. Core Political Ideas: conservatism, liberalism, socialism.

### Component 2:

1. UK Government: the constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches.
2. Non-core political ideas: one idea from the following: anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism, nationalism.

### Component 3:

Comparative Politics: the US Constitution and federalism, US Congress, US presidency, US Supreme Court and civil rights, democracy and participation, comparative theories.

## Why study Politics A-level?

A-level Politics enhances critical thinking skills. Students learn to analyse complex political issues, evaluate arguments, and develop their own perspectives. This ability to think critically is valuable in any profession that requires problem-solving and decision-making.

## Careers for which the study of Politics is useful:

Civil Service	Public Relations Officer
Government Social Research Officer	Diplomatic Service Officer
Policy Officer	Forensic Accountant
Political Risk Analyst	Human Resources Officer
Politician's Assistant	Local Government Officer
Public Affairs Consultant	Market Researcher
Social Researcher	Marketing Executive
Charity Officer	Newspaper Journalist

# SOCIOLOGY

Modular | Linear

## Course Outline / Method of Assessment:

### Year 1

#### Paper 1 – Socialisation, identity and methods of research

Socialisation and the creation of social identity

The process of learning and socialisation

#### Paper 2 – The Family

Theories of the family and social change

Family roles and changing relationships

### Year 2

#### Paper 3 – Education

Education and society

Education and inequality

#### Paper 4 – Globalisation, Media and Religion

Globalisation: key debates, concepts and perspectives

Media ownership and control of the media

Media representation and effects

Religion and society

The influence of religion

## Why study Sociology A-level?

A-level Sociology develops key transferable skills for various careers. Cross-cultural understanding fosters appreciation of diverse perspectives and social structures. While analysis and critical thinking aid in evaluating theoretical approaches and identifying patterns. Strong writing and research skills support constructing arguments and interpreting data. Problem-solving enhances the ability to assess social issues and propose informed solutions, while communication improves through discussions and writing. Time management is crucial for balancing independent study and exams.

## Possible careers for Sociology students:

Human Resources Manager

Journalist

Market Researcher

Public Relations Specialist

Social Worker

Counsellor

Human Rights Officer

Police officer

Youth Worker

Probation Officer

Survey Researcher

Criminology researcher

Lawyer

Census researcher

Charity Director

Consultant

Legislative Aide

Media Planner

Policy Analyst

# PSYCHOLOGY

Modular | Linear

## Course Outline / Method of Assessment:

### Year 12 (AS-level)

#### Unit 1 – Social and Cognitive Psychology

How does social influence affect our levels of obedience and conformity? How does memory work?

#### Unit 2 – Biological Psychology, learning theories and development

How does our biology influence our behaviour?  
How do we learn?

We will conduct mini psychological investigations for each unit during the AS year.

### Year 13 (A-level)

#### Unit 3 – Applications of Psychology Topics

Developmental Psychology – How do our early attachments affect us and how we develop?

Either Criminological Psychology – Why do some people become criminals?

Or Health Psychology – How does stress affect us?

#### Unit 4 – Clinical Psychology and Psychological Skills

How do mental health issues affect us? How do we conduct & evaluate psychological research?

## Why study Psychology?

A-level Psychology equips students with a range of transferable skills that are valuable across various academic and professional fields. Through evaluation, students learn to assess theories and studies, weighing their strengths and limitations. Analysis and critical thinking enable them to interpret psychological concepts, question assumptions, and draw logical conclusions. Strong writing and communication skills help in constructing clear arguments, while research and numeracy skills aid in interpreting data. The subject also strengthens reasoning and problem-solving by applying psychological concepts to real-world scenarios. Additionally, prioritising and time management are essential for balancing independent study and exam preparation.

## Possible careers for Psychology students:

Clinical Psychologist	Sport and Exercise Psychologist
Counselling Psychologist	Educational Psychologist
Psychological Wellbeing Practitioner	Health Psychologist
Education Mental Health Practitioner	Researcher in Psychology (within a specialist area)
Occupational Psychologist	Neuropsychologist
Forensic Psychologist	Teacher or Lecturer in Psychology

## Careers where Psychology is useful:

Counsellor or Psychotherapist	Market or Social Researcher	Lawyer / Solicitor
Advertising or Marketing	Teacher (all ages)	Prison / Law Enforcement
Dance / Play / Art therapist	Consultant	Journalist / Writer
Life Coach	Human Resources Officer	Social Worker

# LAW

Modular | **Linear**

## Course Outline / Method of Assessment:

### Paper 1 Underlying Principles of Law and the English Legal System

#### Topics:

- The nature, purpose of and the liability in law
- The role, function and benefits of law in society
- Legal theories of law and justice
- The relationship between law and morality
- The sources of English law
- Legislation
- Delegated legislation
- Judicial law making
- EU law and its institutions
- Methods of civil dispute resolution
- Role, selection and appointment of people in law
- The cost of going to court

### Paper 2 The Law in Action

#### Topics:


- The law of contract
- Liability in negligence as an alternative to contract
- The nature of criminal liability
- Property offences
- General defences
- Sanctions and sentencing
- Freedom of speech and defamation
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Right to privacy
- Occupiers' liability

## Why study Law at A-level?

There are many benefits of studying A-level Law. It links all aspects of society. It helps students develop a range of transferable skills: analytical skills, attention to detail, logical, lateral and critical thinking, research skills, essay writing skills and the ability to produce a balanced argument.

## Possible careers for Law students:

Arbitrator	Civil Service Administrator
Barrister	Human Resources Officer
Company Secretary	Local Government Officer
Licensed Conveyancer	Mediator
Paralegal	Political Risk Analyst
Solicitor	Trading Standards Officer
Trademark Attorney	



In many legal systems, precedent (past court decisions) plays a crucial role, meaning that law students must learn to interpret and apply historical cases to new situations, shaping how justice evolves over time.

# ENGLISH LITERATURE

Modular | Linear

## Course Outline / Method of Assessment:

### Year 12 (AS-level)

Unit 1 –

1. Post 2000 Poetry
2. Post 2000 Novel

Unit 2 –

1. Pre-1900 Drama
2. Post-1900 Drama

### Year 13 (A-level)

Unit 3 –

1. Unseen Poetry
2. Comparison of two novels

Unit 2 –

1. Shakespearean Drama
2. Poetry (choice of either Metaphysical, Romantic or Victorian poetry movements)

## Why study English Literature?

Apart from gaining a better knowledge and understanding of human behaviour, society and cultures and the world around you, the study of Literature will also equip you with a range of useful skills such as:

- Critical thinking
- Research skills
- Analytical skills
- An attention to detail
- Crafting arguments
- Communication skills – both orally and in writing

## Possible careers for English Literature students:

Digital Copywriter	Writer
Editorial Assistant	Advertising Copywriter
Journalist	Marketing Executive
Publishing Copy Editor / Proofreader	Media Researcher
Web Content Manager	Public Relations Officer
	Social Media Manager

# FRENCH

Modular | Linear

## Course Outline / Method of Assessment:

### Topics:

- Youth matters
- Lifestyle, health and fitness
- Environment and travel
- Education and employment
- Technology in the French-speaking world
- Society in the French-speaking world
- Ethics in the French-speaking world

### Year 12 (AS-level)

Unit 1 – Spoken expression and response

Unit 2 – Understanding and written response

### Year 13 (A-level)

Unit 3 – Understanding and spoken response

Unit 4 – Research, understanding and written response

## Why study French?

Learning a language opens up a cultural awareness of the country, the ability to appreciate cultural differences and an insight into different ways of life

## Possible careers for Linguists:

English as a Foreign Language Teacher	Academic Researcher
Lexicographer	Civil Service Fast Streamer
Marketing Executive	Digital Copywriter
Public Relations Officer	Editorial Assistant
Publishing Copy Editor / Proofreader	Information Officer
Speech and Language Therapist	Public Librarian
Talent Agent	Social Researcher
	Translator

# GERMAN

Modular | Linear

## Course Outline / Method of Assessment:

### Topics:

- Youth matters
- Lifestyle, health and fitness
- Environment and travel
- Education and employment
- Technology in the German-speaking world
- Society in the German-speaking world
- Ethics in the German-speaking world

### Year 12 (AS-level)

Unit 1 – Spoken expression and response

Unit 2 – Understanding and written response

### Year 13 (A-level)

Unit 3 – Understanding and spoken response

Unit 4 – Research, understanding and written response

## Why study German?

Learning a language opens up a cultural awareness of the country, the ability to appreciate cultural differences and an insight into different ways of life

## Possible careers for Linguists:

English as a Foreign Language Teacher	Academic Researcher
Lexicographer	Civil Service Fast Streamer
Marketing Executive	Digital Copywriter
Public Relations Officer	Editorial Assistant
Publishing Copy Editor / Proofreader	Information Officer
Speech and Language Therapist	Public Librarian
Talent Agent	Social Researcher
	Translator

# PORTUGUESE

Modular | **Linear**

## Course Outline / Method of Assessment:

Paper 1: Translation into English, reading comprehension and writing (research question) in Portuguese

Paper 2: Translation into Portuguese and written response to works (one literary text and one film)

Paper 3: Listening, reading and writing in Portuguese

## Themes:

Tema 1: Mudanças na sociedade contemporânea.

Tema de pesquisa – A importância da educação após o ensino secundário em Portugal

Tema 2: Cultura política e artística nos países de língua portuguesa

Tema de pesquisa – Lusofonia no mundo atual

Tema 3: Movimentos migratórios

Tema de pesquisa – Movimento migratório em Portugal

Tema 4: Como a História moldou a Política

Tema de pesquisa – Os Descobrimentos: a viagem de Vasco da Gama à Índia

## Why study Portuguese?

Learning a language opens up a cultural awareness of the country, the ability to appreciate cultural differences and an insight into different ways of life

## Possible careers for Linguists:

English as a foreign language teacher

Lexicographer

Marketing executive

Public relations officer

Publishing copy-editor / proofreader

Speech and language therapist

Talent agent

Academic researcher

Civil Service fast streamer

Digital copywriter

Editorial assistant

Information officer

Public librarian

Social researcher

Translator

# SPANISH

Modular | Linear

## Course Outline / Method of Assessment:

### Topics:

- Youth matters
- Lifestyle, health and fitness
- Environment and travel
- Education and employment
- Technology in the Spanish-speaking world
- Society in the Spanish-speaking world
- Ethics in the Spanish-speaking world

### Year 12 (AS-level)

Unit 1 – Spoken expression and response

Unit 2 – Understanding and written response

### Year 13 (A-level)

Unit 3 – Understanding and spoken response

Unit 4 – Research, understanding and written response

## Why study Spanish?

Learning a language opens up a cultural awareness of the country, the ability to appreciate cultural differences and an insight into different ways of life

## Possible careers for Linguists:

English as a Foreign Language Teacher	Academic Researcher
Lexicographer	Civil Service Fast Streamer
Marketing Executive	Digital Copywriter
Public Relations Officer	Editorial Assistant
Publishing Copy Editor / Proofreader	Information Officer
Speech and Language Therapist	Public Librarian
Talent Agent	Social Researcher
	Translator

# ART & DESIGN

Modular | **Linear** \*

\* There is no AS available for Art and Design, only a full A-level

## Course Outline / Method of Assessment:

### Component 1: Personal Investigation

Develop a portfolio of practical work and a minimum 1000 words of continuous prose that shows critical understanding in relation to the practical portfolio

### Component 2: Externally Set Assignment

Preparatory studies from February of the final year culminating in the final 15-hour period of sustained focus under examination conditions

Students may work within any one of the following titles:

- Art
- Craft and Design
- Fine Art
- Graphic Communication
- Textile Design
- Three-dimensional Design (e.g. sculpture)
- Photography.

## Why study A-level Art?

You will develop many skills in the course of your A-level in Art. It may seem obvious, but creativity is one of the most essential transferable skills that artists develop. A creative mindset helps you to have imaginative ideas, make interesting connections between things, and challenge the way things are normally done.

This is useful for employers who want to gain fresh insight on how things can be improved in their organisation or company.

In addition, you will learn valuable time management and independent learning. You will manage your own project and so will develop the ability to be self-motivated to get the work done.

Other skills you will develop are attention to detail and research skills.

## Possible careers for Artists and Designers:

Advertising	Museum / Gallery Exhibitions Officer
Art Director	Printmaker
Art Therapist	Animator
Community Arts Worker	Arts Administrator
Conservator	Interior and Spatial Designer
Exhibition Designer	Multimedia Programmer
Fine Artist	VFX Artist
Graphic Designer	
Illustrator	



Good design influences human behavior—from the colors and typography that evoke emotions to layouts that guide user attention, graphic designers play a crucial role in shaping branding, marketing, and user experience in everyday life.

# BUSINESS

Modular | Linear

## Course Outline / Method of Assessment:

### Year 12 (AS-level)

#### Unit 1 – Business and People

Meeting customer needs

The market

Marketing mix and strategy

Managing people

Entrepreneurs and leaders

#### Unit 2 – Managing Business Activities

Planning a business and raising finance

Financial planning

Managing finance

Resource management

External influences

### Year 13 (A-level)

#### Unit 3 – Business Decisions and Strategy

Business objectives and strategy

Business growth

Decision-making techniques

Influences on business decisions

Assessing competitiveness

Managing change

#### Unit 4 – Global Business

Globalisation

Global markets and business expansion

Global marketing

Global industries and companies  
(multinational corporations)

## Why study Business?

Students will develop thinking skills by applying business theory to real world case studies. Debating skills are developed along with critical thinking to provide possible solutions to topical business dilemmas using theory combined with practical knowledge. Quantitative and qualitative aspects are studied, assessed using essay writing plus mathematical applications.

The course provides a holistic understanding of business and enterprise with practical information useful for future entrepreneurs and business leaders.

## Careers for which the study of Business is useful:

Arbitrator	Supply Chain Manager
Corporate Investment Banker	Costs Lawyer
Forensic Accountant	Marketing Executive
Management Consultant	Human Resources Officer
Project Manager	Logistics and Distribution Manager
Stockbroker	

# ECONOMICS

Modular | Linear

## Course Outline / Method of Assessment:

### Year 12 (AS-level)

#### Unit 1 – Markets in Action

Introductory concepts

Consumer behaviour and demand

Supply

Price determination

Market failure

Government intervention in markets

#### Unit 2 – Macroeconomic performance and policy

Measures of economic performance

Aggregate demand (AD)

Aggregate supply (AS)

National income

Economic growth

Macroeconomic objectives and policies

### Year 13 (A-level)

#### Unit 3 – Business Behaviour

Types and sizes of businesses

Revenue, costs and profits

Market structures and contestability

Labour markets

Government intervention

## Why study Economics?

Through studying microeconomics and macroeconomics, students will be able to develop their critical thinking skills, assess arguments and apply economic theory to current real-world economic issues. Logical thinking and communication skills during class discussion are a key feature of this course. Students will look at key economic issues from many different perspectives and therefore build skills in creating balanced arguments, both spoken and written. Essay-writing skills will be developed with a focus on clarity of structure.

## Possible careers for Economists:

Compliance Officer	Business Development Manager
Financial Risk Analyst	Civil Service
Political Risk Analyst	Management Consultant
Statistician	Policy Officer
Diplomatic Service Officer	

#### Unit 4 – Developments in the Global Economy

Causes and effects of globalisation

Trade and the global economy

Balance of payments, exchange rates and international competitiveness

Poverty and inequality

The role of the state in the macroeconomy

Growth and development in developing, emerging and developed economies

# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Modular | Linear

## Course Outline / Method of Assessment:

### Year 12 (AS-level)

#### Unit 1:

Topic 1: Hardware and software

Topic 2: Networks

Topic 3: The online environment

Topic 4: IT systems

Topic 5: Data and databases

Topic 6: Wider issues

#### Unit 2:

Topic 7: Understanding the functionality of HTML

Topic 8: Understanding the functionality of CSS

Topic 9: Understanding the functions of Javascript

Topic 10: Designing web pages

Topic 11: The semantic web

### Year 13 (A-level)

#### Unit 3:

Topic 12: Manipulating data

Topic 13: Enabling technologies

Topic 14: Using IT systems in organisations

Topic 15: Systems development Topic 16: Emerging technologies

## Why study IT?

From smartphones and wifi, to hashtags and instant messaging: over the last 20 years, technology has dramatically changed the way in which we live and communicate. Does your interest in technology extend beyond the hardware? Are you curious about how digital information is spread? Maybe you just want to know more about computers and how, when and why people use them? If so, ICT could be for you.

## Possible careers for IT specialists:

There are plenty of career paths for IT specialists, from working for Google to creating your own start up. However, almost any career will benefit from a good working knowledge of IT.

#### Unit 4:

Topic 12: Manipulating data

Topic 13: Enabling technologies

Topic 14: Using IT systems in organisations

Topic 15: Systems development

Topic 16: Emerging technologies.

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Modular | **Linear**

**\*There is no AS available for Physical education, only the full A-level**

## Course Outline / Method of Assessment:

### Component 1: Scientific Principles of Physical Education

Topic 1: Applied anatomy and physiology

Topic 2: Exercise physiology and applied movement analysis

### Component 2: Psychological and Social Principles of Physical Education

Topic 3: Skill acquisition

Topic 4: Sport Psychology

Topic 5: Sport and society

### Component 3: Practical Performance

Skills performed in one physical activity as a player / performer / coach

### Component 4: Performance Analysis and Performance Development Programme

1. In the role of player / performer or coach analyse two components of a physical activity (one physiological component and either a tactical or technical component).

2. In the role of player / performer or coach analyse, implement and evaluate a Performance Development Programme.

## Why study Physical Education?

While studying A-level PE you will develop your knowledge and understanding of anatomy and physiology, biomechanics, nutrition, exercise and fitness, sport psychology, the acquisition of skills and the role of sport in society. In addition you will learn the transferable skills of investigation, analysis and the creation of thesis, as well as the personable skills of communication, cooperation and the ability to lead and motivate others. It's an excellent choice!

## Careers for which the study of Physical Education is useful:

Exercise Physiologist	Event Manager
Sports Coach	Nutritionist
Sports Development Officer	Outdoor Activities / Education Manager
Sports Therapist	Sport and Exercise Psychologist
Choreographer	
Clinical Scientist	

Nutritionists can help prevent and manage diseases—proper diet and nutrition play a crucial role in reducing the risk of conditions like diabetes, heart disease, and obesity, making nutrition a vital part of healthcare and well-being.



# TRAVEL & TOURISM

Modular | **Linear**

## Course Outline / Method of Assessment:

### Paper 1: Themes and Concepts

Questions are based on topics 1–4 of the subject content.

### Paper 2: Planning and Managing a Travel and Tourism Event

Coursework based on topic 5

### Paper 3: Destination Marketing

Questions based on topic 6

### Paper 4: Destination Development and Management

Questions based on topic 7

## Topics:

- The changing nature of travel
- Travel and Tourism destinations
- Trends in Travel and Tourism
- Customer service in Travel and Tourism
- Planning and managing a Travel and Tourism event
- Destination marketing
- Destination development and management

## Why study Travel & Tourism?

The course equips you with a range of transferable skills that can be used with many employers, including: leadership, teamworking, problem solving, communication skills, with a strong customer focus, IT skills, the ability to research, presentation skills and the ability to work to deadlines.

Unit 2 is coursework-based, requiring you to work as part of a group to organise a real-life travel and tourism event, providing you with relevant and necessary work experience and real-world skills.

## Possible careers in Travel and Tourism:

Travel agent	Bar Owner
Hotel Manager	Restaurant Manager
Tour guide	Spa Manager
Cabin Crew	Tourism Officer
Tour Manager	Airfield operator
Housekeeper	Event Manager
Customer service	Influencer marketer
Chef	Sommelier
Event Specialist	Catering Manager
Concierge	Sailing Instructor
Holiday representative	Sales
Airline Pilot	Tourist guide

# GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES AND RESEARCH

Modular | **Linear**

## How it is Examined:

### AS Level Components

(Component 1 is an exam, while Components 2 and 3 are externally assessed coursework)

#### Written Exam (1 hour 30 minutes)

Students analyse, evaluate and compare arguments on global issues using a range of sources.

#### Team Project (Presentation + Reflective Paper)

Students work collaboratively to investigate a local issue with global relevance and present possible responses.

#### Essay (approx. 1750–2000 words)

Students research and write an essay exploring a global issue of their choice.

### A Level Component

(Includes all AS Level components)

#### Independent Research Report (approx. 5000 words)

Students design and carry out an independent research project on a topic of interest, developing advanced research, analysis and academic writing skills.

## Student Profile / Course Snapshot (Box)

- Global Perspectives and Research is a dynamic A Level course for curious students who want to understand the world and think critically about issues shaping our future.
- Students explore global topics such as sustainability, technology, culture, ethics and development. They learn to evaluate evidence, question assumptions and consider different perspectives.
- The course encourages independent thinking, helping students analyse complex problems and construct well-supported arguments. It provides strong preparation for university and careers requiring research, analytical and communication skills.

## Why study Global Perspectives and Research?

Cambridge International AS & A Level Global Perspectives and Research (9239) is a skills-based qualification that develops critical thinking, research and analysis of global issues. Rather than focusing on memorising content, students learn how to evaluate arguments, investigate complex topics and consider different perspectives.

The course emphasises independent research, collaboration and communication. It is widely recognised by UK universities and provides excellent preparation for higher education.

## Skills you will develop:

### Critical Thinking

analysing and evaluating arguments from different perspectives

### Research Skills

planning investigations and using a wide range of academic sources

### Independent Learning

managing long-term research projects and meeting deadlines

### Collaboration

working effectively in teams to investigate real-world issues

### Communication

presenting ideas clearly through presentations and academic writing

### Global Awareness

understanding complex global challenges and cultural perspectives

