

**BARNSELY  
SIXTH FORM  
COLLEGE**

*Prospectus | 2019*



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## WELCOME

I am pleased that you're thinking of joining Barnsley Sixth Form College's learning community.

The move from school to college is a big step and we will support you in achieving the very best you can. We offer a wide choice of subjects, all taught by A Level specialists, and are dedicated to making your life as a student enjoyable and rewarding. We have an impressive range of enrichment and enhancement activities. Each of our departments provide an enriched offer to ensure you excel during your time with us.

Barnsley Sixth Form College is a wonderful place to study and make friends, with first class facilities, inspirational open learning zones and great social spaces. We love being here. A Levels remain the key qualification to prepare you for Higher Education and we will work hard with you to make sure that you get to the best university possible. It is always a joy to see our students heading off to further academic success.

If you are choosing A Level study to support your progression into Higher Apprenticeships or employment we provide opportunities for work experience and developing your employability skills. We will encourage and support you to achieve success and we will help you make the move from GCSE and fully realise your potential.

It's no wonder that Barnsley Sixth Form College is a great choice for school leavers in the region!

I am truly proud to be the Principal of Barnsley Sixth Form College. Whatever courses you choose to study, I wish you every success.

**Denise Jelly**  
Principal

# YOUR FUTURE IS BRIGHT

## Subjects we offer:

Art and Design  
Biology  
Business  
Chemistry  
Computer Science  
Drama and Theatre Studies  
Economics  
English Language  
English Language and Literature  
English Literature  
Film Studies  
French  
Geography  
Health and Social Care  
History  
Information Technology (IT)  
Law  
Mathematics  
Further Mathematics  
Media Studies  
Physical Education (PE)  
Physics  
Politics  
Psychology  
Religion, Philosophy and Ethics  
Sociology  
Spanish

### We also offer the following additional qualifications:

- Core Maths
- Extended Project Qualification

\*2018 results

## Open Days

18 October 2018  
1 December 2018  
30 January 2019

98% overall  
pass rate.\*

100% pass rate in  
18 subjects, including  
Computer Science,  
English, History,  
Mathematics,  
Physics, Politics  
and Psychology.\*

9 out of 10  
students achieved  
three or more  
A Levels.\*

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

As an inclusive Sixth Form College we are confident that we have a range of A Level courses suited to students of all abilities.

We generally ask for an Attainment 8 score of 5.5 or above (including a 5 or above in English and maths) for our two-year A Level programme and a score of 4.8 to 5.4 for our three-year programme.

Some subjects have their own additional entry requirements; please see the relevant subject pages for details.

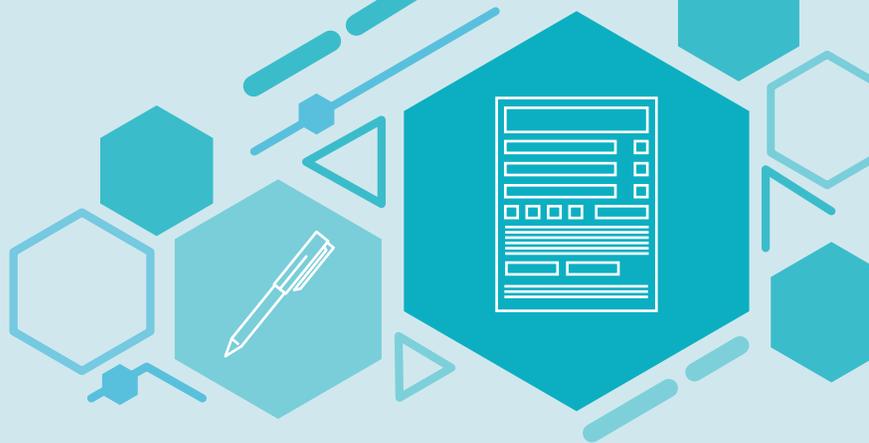
We will discuss entry requirements with you at interview so please come and talk to us!

**You can see details of how we work out your Attainment 8 score on page 83.**

Students who do not initially meet the entry requirements for their chosen courses on leaving school can enrol to Access to A Levels, our three-year A Levels programme.

**See page 83 for more information on Access to A Levels.**

# THE YEAR 11 APPLICATION PROCESS



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## Step 1 - Search

Look for a course in this prospectus or online at [www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk](http://www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk) or [www.ucasprogress.com](http://www.ucasprogress.com)

2

## Step 2 - Visit

Come along to one of our Open Days to find out more about the courses, meet tutors and take a tour of our building. You can apply to study with us without coming to an Open Day but we would recommend visiting us if you can. The dates for our 2018/19 events are **Thursday 18 October, Saturday 1 December and Wednesday 30 January.**

3

## Step 3 - Apply

You can apply from the beginning of October 2018 by completing the application form in the back of this prospectus, via the Barnsley Sixth Form College website or UCAS Progress. Your careers adviser at school will be able to help with your application should you need it.

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## Step 4 - Interview

After you've applied you will be invited in to College to attend an interview with a tutor. Interviews happen on Wednesday afternoons and you will receive a letter advising you of the date and time that yours will take place. We work closely with schools and they are aware of our interview process so there should be no problem in taking time out of classes. The interview is nothing to worry about; it's very informal and is a great chance for you to ask any questions you might have about your choice of A Levels.

5

## Step 5 - Your offer

After your interview you will be offered a place on your chosen programme, usually conditional depending on your GCSE results, or referred to a more appropriate course.

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## Step 6 - Summer School

All A Level applicants will be invited to our Step up to Sixth Form taster day in June 2019. This full-day session will give you a chance to meet some of your fellow students and tutors and get a taste of life at Barnsley Sixth Form College.

7

## Step 7 - Enrolment

An invitation and enrolment pack will be sent to you in early August 2019 giving you all the information you need ready to enrol at the end of August.

**If you have any questions about the application process, our Admissions Team is here to help.**

You can reach the team on  
☎ **01226 216 106** or  
✉ **interviews@barnsley.ac.uk**

# SIXTH FORM COLLEGE LIFE

Being a student at Barnsley Sixth Form College is about much more than just your classes. Studying here is different to school; there are no bells, no uniforms and you'll call your tutors by their first names. You'll be treated as an adult and really start to develop your own learning style.

You will also have the opportunity to get involved in a range of activities, from the Students' Union and Enterprise to Learner Voice and Enrichment.

## Tutorials

When you start your A Levels you will be allocated a designated Personal Progress Mentor (PPM) to guide you through your time with us and help you reach your potential. Your PPM will monitor your progress against your target grades in all subjects, give pastoral and careers guidance and help you with study skills and UCAS applications.

## Student Voice

Do you want to represent the opinions of your fellow classmates? You can become a student representative and attend forums to voice student opinions and potentially make changes to your course and College if necessary.

## Studying

As a Barnsley Sixth Form College student you can access a wide range of books and journals as well as computers, printing and photocopying in the Nucleus. You will get a chance to see these facilities when you visit us on our Open Days.

## After A Levels – university and careers

We want all our students to continue achieving their potential after leaving Barnsley Sixth Form College so we provide guidance and research opportunities on career options and university applications. We arrange a programme of information sessions each year, including talks from different universities, advice on student finance and completing UCAS applications and visits to universities and UCAS conventions. We also provide career advice on higher apprenticeships for students choosing this route.

## Equality and Diversity

We celebrate the diversity of people who learn and work in the College. We are opposed to any harassment or discrimination arising from: race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, age, disability, religion, faith or class. We will challenge any inappropriate attitudes or behaviour.



MEET THE  
PPM

## LISA NORMAN

Lisa Norman has been a Personal Progress Mentor (PPM) for eight years. She has a first class degree in Occupational Therapy and a Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector (PTLLS) qualification.

Lisa said: *"I am one of a team of PPMs who provide holistic pastoral and academic support in order for students to achieve their full potential. We also work closely with parents and carers to ensure they are kept up-to-date about their son or daughter's progress. Our aim is to help all Barnsley Sixth Form College students to be successful and realise their career and education aspirations whilst enjoying their time here."*

## Students' Union

The Students' Union (SU) is here to represent, support and advise you on all aspects of student life. When you enrol you'll automatically become a member of the SU which is led by a group of students – the Students' Union Committee – who are elected by you and supported by the SU staff.

There are lots of volunteering opportunities available in the SU and a chance to be part of the student council as well as elected positions on the Committee. Being a part of the SU will help you develop some valuable skills and it looks great on UCAS applications and your CV. The SU is located in the Atrium in the lower ground floor at the Old Mill Lane campus.

## Enterprise

If you are interested in setting up your own business, we can offer support and guidance. There are opportunities to get involved in a number of different programmes and projects whilst building your skills in communication, team work, problem solving and creativity.

**You can contact the Enterprise team on**

☎ **01226 216 840**

✉ **enterprise@barnsley.ac.uk**

## Timetable

Your own timetable will depend on the subjects you choose to study and will include time for Tutorials and independent study which we call 'Prep'. Below you can see an example of the kind of format your timetable will take.

### Open Days

18 October 2018  
1 December 2018  
30 January 2019



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Maths 9.00am - 10.00am	Economics 9.00am - 10.10am	English Language 9.00am - 10.10am	Business 9.00am - 10.10am	Prep 9.00am - 10.10am
Break 10.00am - 10.15am	Break 10.10am - 10.25am			
English Language 10.15am - 11.15am	Prep 10.25am - 11.35am	Prep 10.25am - 11.35am	Maths 10.25am - 11.35am	Business 10.25am - 11.35am
Business 11.20am - 12.20pm	Business 11.40am-12.50pm	Economics 11.40am - 12.50pm	English Language 11.40am-12.50pm	Maths 11.40am - 12.50pm
Lunch 12.20pm - 1.00pm	Lunch 12.50pm - 1.30pm	Enrichment, sport activities, subject seminars and activities	Lunch 12.50pm - 1.30pm	
Economics 1.00pm - 2.00pm	Prep 1.30pm - 2.40pm		Tutorial 1.30pm - 2.40pm	English Language 1.30pm - 2.40pm
Prep 2.00pm - 3.00pm	Prep 2.45pm - 3.55pm		Prep 2.45pm - 3.55pm	Economics 2.45pm - 3.55pm
Tutorial 3.00pm - 4.00pm				

# ENRICHMENT

Alongside your studies you'll get lots of opportunities to get involved in extra-curricular activities, known as Enrichment. This does just what it promises; it enriches your time at Barnsley Sixth Form College, helps you develop new skills and can really boost your UCAS application and CV. Enrichment usually runs every Wednesday afternoon and is built into your timetable.

## Subject specific

Regardless of which A Levels you're studying you can get involved in exciting options including Philosophy Club, the Musical Theatre Society, Running Club or the Debating Society.

Our Debating Society have reached the Yorkshire Regional Final of Debating Matters, a national debating competition held at The Hepworth Art Gallery in Wakefield. Our students have also won individual awards at the competition.

Support is available to apply to schemes such as National Citizen Service and university access schemes to help students interested in studying for careers in medicine or dentistry.

## Trips, visits and talks

Previous trips have seen our Geography students inspired on a trip to Iceland where they swam in the Blue Lagoon geothermal pool and embarked on the classic Golden Circle tour. This included seeing a geyser, Gulfoss waterfall, the Kerid volcanic crater and Pingvellir – the continental divide between Europe and North America.

English students saw many of the landmarks they wrote about in their Paris anthologies and Film and Media students traced the development of media technology at the National Science and Media Museum. Art students took in the Design Museum, National Gallery, National Portrait Gallery, Tate Britain and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London.

Politics students visited Parliament and the Supreme Court in Westminster and Psychology students observed attachment behaviour in animals at Chester Zoo.



Geography students on their visit to Iceland.



# BARNLSLEY SPORTS ACADEMY

**If you are a talented athlete with the passion to develop your skills, then Barnsley College Sports Academy could be your ideal destination.**

The state-of-the-art sports facilities at Honeywell Sports campus include a 3G pitch, a multi-use games area, indoor sports arenas, two gyms, a fitness studio, a physiology laboratory and a spin studio.

Sports Performance Academies include Football, Rugby, Netball, Basketball, Aesthetics, Refereeing and an Individual Athlete Academy.

**Our Sports Academy has an excellent sporting reputation:**

- Our male footballers won the South Yorkshire Schools and Colleges FA Cup and were third in the Komm Mit Copa Maresme Football Tournament.
- For the last two years, our female footballers were crowned Category 2 Champions, National Cup winners, Category 1 runners up and played in two quarter finals this year.
- Our female rugby players and a male hockey player have represented Yorkshire and Humber in the Association of Colleges (AoC) National Championships.

**We have supported a range of individual athletes to compete in the very highest level sporting competitions:**

- Brogan Wilson is setting his sights on defending his International Combat Organisation World kickboxing title in Canada.
- Jordan Barnett has signed a one-year contract with League One outfit Barnsley Football Club.
- Brittany Sanderson was selected to represent the English Colleges Football Association national squad.

**For more information on Barnsley Sports Academy visit**

🔗 [www.barnsley.ac.uk/bsa](http://www.barnsley.ac.uk/bsa)



**All students  
are welcome  
at the Sports  
Academy.**



# SUPPORTING YOU

## Additional Learning Support (ALS)

We want every student to get the best out of their time with us. If you need any extra help, our ALS team can provide you with a range of support. The team work with students who have:

- Dyslexia
- Dyspraxia
- Autism or Asperger Syndrome
- ADHD/ADD
- Learning difficulties/disabilities
- Emotional or mental health support needs
- Sensory impairment
- Physical difficulties
- Medical conditions
- Temporary disabilities

The College has more details of the specific support you are entitled to in its local offer:

- 🌐 [www.barnsley.ac.uk/als](http://www.barnsley.ac.uk/als)
- ☎ 01226 216 769
- ✉ [als@barnsley.ac.uk](mailto:als@barnsley.ac.uk)

## Health and wellbeing

Making sure you lead a healthy lifestyle will help you do your best in your studies. We offer confidential advice and a range of health services at our Wellbeing Centre in the Old Mill Lane campus including:

- Contraception and sexual health advice
- Full STI screening
- Access to psychological therapies to deal with stress, depression and anxiety (IAPT)
- Counselling
- Referrals to Barnsley Stop Smoking Service
- Qualified Health Trainer
- Midwife
- Advice around drug and alcohol issues

You can contact an adviser on:

☎ 01226 216 233

## Safeguarding and e-safety

We have dedicated staff to help keep you safe at College, outside of College and online. If you would like to discuss any welfare, safeguarding, child or adult protection issues, please contact:

☎ 01226 216 142

✉ [safeguarding@barnsley.ac.uk](mailto:safeguarding@barnsley.ac.uk)

**For e-safety information and advice visit:**

🌐 [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)



## GAINSpace mindfulness zone

You can take a well-earned break from your studies to recharge your batteries in our dedicated mindfulness zone, GAINSpace.

GAINSpace is a student-led initiative with a planned programme of activities such as stress busting at exam time, chill and chat sessions, meditation, guitar playing, reading for pleasure, colouring and art activities.

# MONEY MATTERS

You won't have to pay tuition or exams fees to study A Levels with us if you are aged 16 to 18 on 31 August 2019, if you are 19 or older and looking to study your first full Level 3 qualification or if you receive certain benefits.\* To find out more about tuition fees, call our Information Team on:

☎ **01226 216 123.**

We know being a student can be an expensive time so we offer a range of options to help all our students.

## Financial support

### Learner Support Fund for students aged 16-18 and 19+.\*

If your household income is less than £20,000 you could be eligible for support with travel, food and study programme essentials\*. If you have a household income between £20,001 and £35,000 you could be eligible for travel funding.\*

You don't have to pay this money back. You can pick up a Learner Support Fund application form from the Student Services area based in the Nucleus learning area.

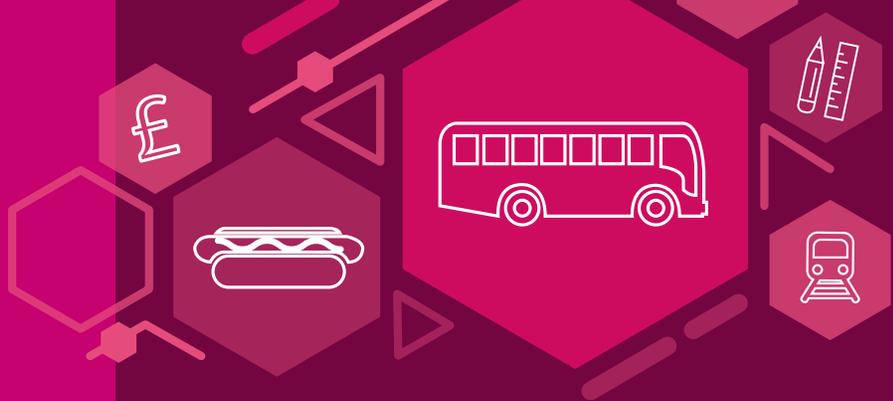
## Guaranteed bursaries

If you are aged between 16 and 18 and in receipt of Income Support or Universal Credit in place of Income Support, in care or leaving care, you could be eligible for a non-repayable bursary of up to £1,200 per year.\*

## Food

You can get FREE meals at College if your household income is less than £20,000. Speak to Student Services to find out more on: ☎ 01226 216 322

\*A capped amount of funding is applied



## FREE BUS SERVICES!

We realise that getting to and from College might not be very easy for everyone so we have funded four free return bus services for our students. They go to and from the Old Mill Lane campus which is just a few minutes' walk from our Sixth Form College campus.

We run the following free bus routes:

- **Rotherham via Ecclesfield and Chapeltown > Old Mill Lane campus**
- **Shelley > Old Mill Lane campus**
- **South Elmsall > Old Mill Lane campus via Hemsworth, Fitzwilliam, Havercroft and Ryhill**
- **Stocksbridge via Penistone > Old Mill Lane campus**

These bus routes are completely free for our students and operate on a first come, first served basis. Each route operates to ensure students get to College before lessons start and a return service is provided after lessons finish. Please visit our website for details of pick-up points and times:

🌐 [www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk/student-travel](http://www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk/student-travel)

## Open Days

18 October 2018  
1 December 2018  
30 January 2019

# ADVICE FROM OUR STUDENTS



## Lewis Fish

*“Enjoy yourself and knuckle down when you need to.”*

Former Penistone Grammar School pupil.



## Ella Auchterlounie

*“Be prepared but have fun because it is one of the best experiences ever.”*

Former St Pius XI High School pupil.



## Megan Tinker

*“Revise hard, don’t procrastinate and do subjects you enjoy.”*

Former Ridgewood School pupil.



## Miles Kaye

*“Study independently and read widely outside classes.”*

Former Carlton Community College pupil.



## Shae Ogley

*“Never give up.”*

Former Kettlethorpe High School pupil.



## Ryan Lewis

*“Start revising as early as possible.”*

Former Dearne ALC pupil.

## PARENT FEEDBACK

### Milly Johnson | Author

“My son attended Barnsley Sixth Form College to give him options as he had no definite idea of what he wanted to do for a career. It’s difficult to remain focused when you have no clear direction and he might have given up at any other college but the backing he received at the Sixth Form College was second to none.

“I cannot thank his academic and personal tutors enough for keeping him on track, and informing him of his progress as we needed help to help him. We received support both in and out of the classroom. He completed his course and his sense of achievement at doing that was pretty special. A college is only as good as its staff and we are incredibly lucky in Barnsley because we really do have the best.”



# Student Awards 2018

We hold an annual awards ceremony to celebrate our students' excellent achievements.

In 2018, the awards were held in conjunction with Barnsley College. A number of our A Level students were honoured at the ceremony. Imogen Holmes was the winner of the Barnsley Sixth Form College Achievement Award and was described as an 'outstanding student'. Nathan Padgett was Highly Commended in this category for being a high achiever.

Mitchell Hodson scooped the Societies Award for his dedication to our Musical Theatre Society, which he also founded. Shanesse Groves was presented with the Student of the Year Award for her commitment to getting the utmost from her studies.

Stephen Hawcroft was the winner of the Tutorial Award after progressing through our Access to A Levels programme and developing into an excellent student. Stephen also received the Principal's Award, given to students selected from all the award winners.



Mitchell Hodson



Stephen Hawcroft



Imogen Holmes



Shanesse Groves



Nathan Padgett

# KEEPING YOU AND YOUR PARENTS/ CARERS INFORMED



Giving you and your parents or guardians regular feedback helps to ensure you stay on track to achieve your goals both at Barnsley Sixth Form College and beyond. You'll get weekly feedback from your tutors and we will involve parents and guardians at specific times throughout the year.

## Autumn term

In October each year we hold a welcome event for the parents and guardians of our new first year students which is a good opportunity to ask any questions about the initial few weeks at College.

We also hold a seminar designed to ensure that parents can support their high flying young people.

In November, parents and guardians of second year students are invited in for our UCAS Progress event. This gives them information on how to best support students with UCAS applications.

Progress results will be posted onto our Parents' Portal. We will then arrange to meet parents.



## Spring term

The second Parents' Monitoring Event is held in March and second reports will be distributed at this event.

We also begin careers and information talks to support our first year students. This includes guest speakers and visits to UCAS fairs.

## Summer term

Exams for first year students start in April and exams for second year students start in mid-May.

The academic year continues until the end of June and students are required to attend until that time.

We also hold a UCAS Information Evening for parents or guardians of our first year students who will be thinking about applying to university from November. This will provide information on the UCAS application process as well as talks from universities on the benefits of a university education and student finance.

## Parents' Portal

Parents and carers can use the Parents' Portal to access and track information on students' progress and attendance.

For more information visit

[www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk/portal](http://www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk/portal)

# HIGH FLYERS PROGRAMME

At Barnsley Sixth Form College, we want all of our students to fulfil and exceed their potential. For our most able students, this means achieving A\* grades and progressing onto a prestigious university to further develop their passion for learning and their chosen subjects.

Our High Flyers Programme is open to students who arrive at our Sixth Form with strong GCSEs or those who flourish in A Level subjects and are identified by our team as being a high achiever.

As part of this pathway, you will receive the same first-class support and teaching as all of our students do, along with targeted opportunities which promote academic ambition and will encourage and guide you to your aspirational goal.

We will identify any appropriate Access to University schemes; organise specialist speakers from popular fields such as medicine, dentistry, English and law; assist in securing work experience to strengthen your application; and offer weekly one-to-one coaching to sustain your motivation and oversee your achievement.

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is highly regarded by universities and carries additional UCAS points. Under the care of an academic supervisor, you will research, analyse and produce a report or product on a topic of your choice. See page 80 for more information on the EPQ.

In addition we highly recommend that students who are not studying A Level maths should undertake Core Maths in their first year. Having a Level 3 maths qualification alongside three A Levels will support your application to study undergraduate courses in Business, Economics, Geography, Psychology, Biology and Chemistry. To find out more about Core Maths see page 78.

Find out more about the High Flyers Programme at Barnsley Sixth Form College by calling  
☎ **01226 216 256**



## Open Days

18 October 2018  
1 December 2018  
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# WHY CHOOSE BARNSELEY SIXTH FORM COLLEGE?

## Five great reasons to study at Barnsley Sixth Form College:

- 1** | We are recognised outstanding by Ofsted.
- 2** | The pass rate for our 2017/18 cohort was 98% which is above the national average.
- 3** | We have a range of 27 A Levels to choose from.
- 4** | In 2018, our students went on to study at some of the country's top universities including Cambridge, Oxford, Durham, Lancaster, Manchester, Sheffield and York.
- 5** | Our town centre building provides a first-class learning environment for our students.



### Open Days

18 October 2018  
1 December 2018  
30 January 2019



\*Department for Education Learner Satisfaction Survey 2017

# OUR COURSES

19  
20





MEET THE  
A LEVEL  
EXPERT

## RICHARD KITSON

Richard is a practising artist with experience of exhibiting, working in art galleries and with arts professionals including curators and fellow artists. He is a Fine Art graduate of the University of Leeds and has been teaching for six years after gaining his PGCE from the University of Huddersfield.

Richard said: *“Studying Art and Design will teach you how to be a creative practitioner and develop your creative thinking skills. This will extend your experience from GCSE and introduce new techniques whilst giving you the freedom to express your own ideas in a variety of different artistic disciplines.”*

# ART AND DESIGN

A Level Art and Design is a two-year course which provides candidates with a range of opportunities to develop personal responses to ideas, observations, experiences, environments and cultures in practical, critical and contextual forms.

This experience lays a foundation for further study of Art and Design or related subjects in Higher Education. It is suitable for you if you want to develop your interest and enjoyment of art and design.

## Subject content

Art and Design encompasses a wide range of techniques and processes with a particular emphasis on drawing.

Candidates are required to enrol to one of the following specialisms:

- Fine Art
- Graphic Communication

## Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 4 or above in Art and Design (Fine Art or Graphic Communication) or Graphic Design (Graphic Communication only) and a portfolio of work.

## Learning methods

In the first year of study, both Fine Art and Graphic Communication students study a skills-based foundation year preparing them for the first major project (Personal Investigation), worth 60% of the total A Level mark. The Personal Investigation begins towards the end of the first year of study and continues up until January of the second year to give each candidate the time

needed to create individual, ambitious work with an in-depth exploration of a personal theme. This project is then followed by an externally set assignment worth 40% of the total A Level mark and encompasses a 15-hour formal exam at the end of the project.

## Assessment

You will be assessed via portfolio work, assignments and examinations.

## Progression opportunities

You can progress to Higher Education to study a variety of art-related courses such as fine art, graphics and advertising. The portfolio of practical work produced on this course will also be useful for interviews, employment and further study. Potential career routes include: fine art, graphic design, animation, illustration, product design, media, marketing and advertising.

MEET THE  
A LEVEL  
EXPERT



## TRACY ROWLAND

Tracy has a BSc (Hons) degree in Applied Science, a PGCE from the University of Sheffield and has been teaching for 29 years.

Tracy said: *“Biology has such diversity of topics, there is always something new and exciting to be discovered and it provides an excellent grounding for learning as it is very factual. Students will learn a variety of transferable skills, including analysis, evaluation and how to apply knowledge.”*



# BIOLOGY

If you are fascinated by how your body works and curious to know more about the interactions of living organisms then this is the course for you.

Biology is an experimental subject which provides opportunities to use practical activities to link theory to real life situations.

It combines well with other science subjects as well as Mathematics, Psychology and PE.

## Subject content

The topics studied will build on prior learning at GCSE level and will cover a whole range of fundamental biological concepts applied to different situations to make the content interesting, relevant and current.

The main topic areas studied are: biological molecules, cells, exchange of substances between organisms and their environment, genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms, energy transfers in and between organisms, how organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments, genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems, DNA Technology and the control of gene expression.

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## Specific entry requirements

You need GCSE Grade 6 or above in Biology and another science or two Grade 6s or above in Combined Science. Plus GCSE Grade 5 or above in Mathematics.

## Assessment

Assessment is by examination.  
The Practical Endorsement is teacher-assessed.

## Progression opportunities

This A Level lays the groundwork for further study in a range of courses across the biology spectrum, including zoology, ecology, genetics, nursing, biomedical sciences and medicine and it is accepted as an appropriate A Level for many other degree level courses.



MEET THE  
A LEVEL  
EXPERT



## JILL BARRACLOUGH

Jill has a BA (Hons) degree in Sociology from the University of Leeds, a Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply Level 6 qualification, and a PGCE in Business from the University of Huddersfield. She has a substantial amount of teaching experience and before moving into education held senior roles in procurement and supply chain management.

Jill said: *“A Level Business provides commercial knowledge and the skills required for analytical or management roles in the private, public or voluntary sectors at a local, national or international level.”*

# BUSINESS

A Level Business will provide an exciting insight into the dynamic world of business, and will allow you to examine topical news stories and case studies, developing your skills in data analysis, making calculations, group activities, discussions and debating, as well as encouraging creativity, enterprise, initiative and problem-solving techniques.

## Subject content

Businesses of all size and types are studied from sole traders to multi-national conglomerates, such as TATA, and the influences on their decision making processes. The internal influences are marketing, human resource management and finance. The external influences are Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Legislation, Ethics and Competition. The content is designed to engage students through topics and issues that are relevant in today's society, such as e-commerce and globalisation.

You will learn about a range of business techniques, including using calculations to assess the viability of a business, the importance of marketing to satisfy customer requirements, how to motivate employees to maximise their output and how every business decision has financial implications. The course also provides a focus on the contemporary business world that allows students to examine current news stories and case studies in relation to the theoretical knowledge and skills that they are developing.

## Learning methods

You will learn through a variety of methods such as case studies, activities, group work, lectures, debates, focus groups, multimedia, virtual learning environments and individual study.

## Assessment

A Level Business is assessed at the end of the second year by examination over three papers.

## Progression opportunities

Higher Education courses are available in many universities. Degree level programmes include: business management, business and finance, logistics and supply chain, personnel management, events management and enterprise.

Higher level apprenticeships are also available, leading to business or business administration careers.

Opportunities for graduates include business ownership, sales and marketing executive positions, chartered accountancy, human resource management, logistics and supply chain management, systems analyst positions, retail management, insurance underwriter positions, public relations, teaching and events management.



MEET THE  
A LEVEL  
EXPERT

## STEPHEN SHAW

Stephen has a degree in Chemistry with Chemical Engineering from the University of Huddersfield and is an experienced A Level teacher.

Stephen said: *"By taking Chemistry you will develop some very useful skills that can be applied well outside of the subject discipline. These include problem solving, numeracy and practical skills as well as a broad scientific background. As a result, Chemistry is a highly respected and useful qualification for Higher Education and employment in a wide range of areas such as medicine, pharmacy and forensics."*

# CHEMISTRY

A Level Chemistry is a highly regarded and useful qualification for Higher Education and employment in a wide range of areas, particularly for those who wish to pursue a career in science or medicine. The course will allow you to develop a greater understanding of the world around us by an in-depth study of the composition of substances, the investigation of their properties and reactions, and the use of such reactions to form new substances.

## Subject content

The course is split into six modules. You will study a variety of topics including: the development of practical skills, foundations in chemistry, periodic table and energy, core organic chemistry, physical chemistry, transition elements, and organic chemistry and analysis.

## Specific entry requirements

You need GCSE Grade 6 or above in Chemistry and another science or two Grade 6s or above in Combined Science. Plus GCSE Grade 5 or above in Mathematics.

## Learning methods

Our Sixth Form campus includes purpose-built laboratories where you will be taught through a mixture of teacher-led sessions, group activities, independent study and practical-based learning.

## Assessment

Assessment is by examination. The Practical Endorsement is teacher-assessed.

## Progression opportunities

Studying A Level Chemistry can lead to many exciting careers in healthcare, such as medicine, pharmacy, dentistry and veterinary medicine. It can also be extremely useful for careers in the biological sciences, physics, mathematics, engineering, pharmacology and analytical chemistry. For students who wish to go straight into employment, there may be opportunities in laboratory work, the food industry, the health service and the chemical industry.



## AMY RICHARDSON

**Studying A Levels in Biology, Chemistry,  
Maths and Further Maths.**

*“I live close to Barnsley Sixth Form College and, although I looked around other colleges whilst at school, I have everything I need here and the travelling time is much shorter. Many other former Horizon Community College pupils study here which has helped make my progression from school to College easier.”*

Former Horizon Community College pupil



## OLIVER DYSON

**News Reporter**

*“I think the increased independence of Sixth Form helped prepare me for the step up to university, where independent living joined the study element. The tutors deserve a big shout out for motivating us.”*

After A Levels in Drama and Theatre Studies, English Language and English Literature, Oliver studied English and Journalism at the University of Lincoln. He is now a news reporter.

Former Royston High School pupil  
(now Carlton Community College)





## NATHAN PHIPP - MACINTYRE

**Achieved A\*s in Business, Politics and Sociology and progressed to the University of Manchester to study Politics and International Relations.**

*"I chose to study at Barnsley Sixth Form College because of the variety of subjects and opportunities on offer. I would recommend it to others as the tutors are very passionate about their subjects."*

Former Penistone Grammar School pupil



## IMOGEN HOLMES

**Achieved A\*s in Biology and Chemistry and an A in Mathematics and progressed to the University of Cambridge to study Natural Sciences.**

*"I got a good feeling about Barnsley Sixth Form College when I came to an Open Day and would recommend it to others. My exams went well and I enjoyed meeting new people and having lots of independence."*

Former Horizon Community College pupil





# COMPUTER SCIENCE

A Level Computer Science encourages students to develop the broad range of knowledge, understanding and skills needed to progress to higher education or the workplace. This is a technical subject; you will need mathematical ability, a logical mind and a genuine interest in how computers work. You will learn to design and code C# computer programs; this is a creative activity, satisfying when successful, which requires resilience.

## Subject content

Students will develop:

- An understanding of the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science.
- The ability to analyse and solve problems, including by writing original program code.
- The capacity for thinking creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically.
- Mathematical skills in Boolean algebra, complex algorithms and data representation.
- An awareness of the moral, social, legal and cultural consequences of digital technology.

## Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in Mathematics is essential. There will also be an induction test for programming aptitude. It is recommended that A Level Computer Science is taken alongside other science subjects and/or Mathematics. GCSE Computer Science is not compulsory, but experience of coding is very helpful, especially for non-science students.

## Learning methods

You will be taught using a variety of methods, including presentations, lectures and group work. There will be regular programming sessions where you will learn and practice independent coding skills. Weekly assessments include worksheets and online quizzes.

## Assessment

At the end of the course, there are two formal examinations:

### *Paper 1. Practical – on-screen programming*

Tests a student's ability to write code, as well as theoretical knowledge, covering: fundamentals of programming, data structures, algorithms and computation theory.

### *Paper 2. Theory - written*

Tests a student's ability to answer questions covering: data representation, computer systems, architecture, effects of use of computers, communication and networking, databases, Big Data and functional programming.

### *Non-exam assessment – coursework*

During the second year, students will produce an individual project which demonstrates their problem-solving and coding ability. They will use the knowledge and skills gained throughout the course to create software on a subject of personal interest. Students will work independently over an extended period and present their results as a programmed solution and accompanying formal technical report.

## Progression opportunities

Computer Science will prepare you for a range of specialist degrees including Computing and Software Engineering. It also provides transferable skills for a range of other scientific and technical subjects. Career pathways could include: network administrator, database analyst/designer, website developer, technical support and programmer.

MEET THE  
A LEVEL  
EXPERT



## JO DAVIES

Jo has over 20 years' teaching experience and studied a BA (Hons) degree in Dance and Drama at Bretton Hall followed by a PGCE at Sheffield Hallam University.

Jo said: *"Drama and Theatre Studies is a creative subject which offers a lot of transferable skills which will help at university and in any future career. The course offers the opportunity to develop knowledge, skills and confidence in various elements of theatre. You will take part in practical classes to create performances, view a range of live theatre and learn about plays, practitioners and performance styles through research and discussion."*



# DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES

Over two years you will have the opportunity to study and research a range of published plays, learning how to approach these from both a director's and performer's perspective. You will learn about acting skills and apply these in scripted and devised work, creating group performances in preparation for a practical performance exam. Regular visits to the theatre will be expected to draw inspiration for both your practical and written work.

## Subject content

The course is comprised of three components. Component One includes the study of two set plays and the analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers. Component Two involves creating and performing devised drama. Component Three involves practical exploration and interpretation of three script extracts from different plays, one of which is performed as a final assessed piece.

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## Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 4 or above in Drama or equivalent performance-based qualification or experience.

## Learning methods

You will learn through discussions, independent research, group work, practical performance and audience feedback.

## Assessment

Assessment is by a written paper for Component One, performance and working notebook for Component Two and a performance and written report for Component Three.

## Progression opportunities

A Level Drama and Theatre Studies will train you from both a practical performance and an academic point of view. Students have gone on to study a range of Higher Education courses, including English, sociology, teaching and degree courses in drama or acting. Many students also enter the professional industry of performing arts.



# ECONOMICS

Economics is about choice and the impact of choices made. It relates to every aspect of our lives, from the decisions we make as individuals or collectives to the structures created by governments and firms.

The credit crunch, international trade, global warming, sustainable development and inequalities between countries – these are all issues to which economics can be applied to provide solutions to global problems.

## Subject content

You will develop a critical approach to economic models and methods of enquiry. The course will focus on the economic problem of too many wants and too few resources, the operation of markets (demand and supply) and market failure, as well as looking at how price is determined in competitive and concentrated markets.

You will discuss government intervention into the market, for example to reduce the consumption of demerit goods such as alcohol. You will analyse the macroeconomic performance of national economy by measures such as: GDP, inflation, unemployment and the balance of payments (international trade) in a global context. You will gain a good knowledge of developments in the UK economy and government policies over the past 15 years.

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## Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in Mathematics.

## Learning methods

You will learn through a variety of methods such as: case studies, activities, group work, lectures, debates, focus groups, multimedia, virtual learning environments and individual study. Question papers use a variety of assessment styles including real-life case studies and data exercises.

## Assessment

A Level Economics is assessed at the end of the second year by examination over three two-hour papers.

## Progression opportunities

Higher Education courses are available in many universities.

A degree in Economics provides a wide array of both subject-specific and transferable skills, all of which are highly sought after by employers. Jobs directly related to an Economics degree include: stock market trader, chartered certified accountant, chartered public finance accountant, economist, financial risk analyst, investment analyst, statistician, actuary, civil service fast streamer, diplomatic services operational officer, local government officer, management consultant and quantity surveyor.



# ENGLISH LANGUAGE

This course has relevant, engaging and up-to-date content that reflects contemporary language study. With exciting text and data-based sources of language, the specification introduces the study of English in its various forms and contexts, with the learning of methods for analysing language underpinning all elements of the course.

## Subject content

One component of the course involves the study of language in relation to the individual and society. This includes analysing and comparing a wide variety of texts, and studying children's spoken and written language development from 0-11 years. Another component focuses on wider themes of language diversity and change, with essay-writing about these topics and analysis of texts presenting ideas, attitudes and opinions about them.

There are also opportunities to produce your own writing about language topics and ideas. In addition there is a more individual element where you will produce your own data-based language investigation, based on independent research, and a piece of original writing with a commentary.

## Assessment

This subject will be assessed by external examination and coursework (the language investigation).

## Progression opportunities

An A Level in English Language is valued by both Higher Education establishments and employers, since it shows a high level of communication skills and the ability to think analytically. Popular career choices include teacher (primary/secondary/ further education or teacher of English as a Foreign Language), speech therapist, lawyer, librarian, journalist or roles in media and communications.



MEET THE  
A LEVEL  
EXPERT

### KAREN SCOTT

University of Sheffield Politics and English graduate Karen has been teaching English since 2001. She completed her PGCE at the University of Huddersfield and has a Master's degree in Literature.

Karen said: *“English Language and Literature is an excellent core subject to study at A Level. It provides a great grounding for many progression routes at university and in employment, including law, history, psychology, journalism, media and teaching. As well as skills in reading and research you’ll also develop social skills through analysis of speech.”*

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

This course brings together aspects of two English A Levels: A Level English Language and A Level English Literature, which you have probably studied as separate GCSE subjects at school. There are real advantages in continuing your English studies on an integrated course. If you are as interested in non-fiction and non-literary texts as you are in poetry, plays and novels then this may well be the best choice for you if you do not want to take two full and separate English A Levels.

## Subject content

In the first year you will study the anthology 'Paris' and a selection of poems by Carol Ann Duffy alongside 'The Lovely Bones', a literary text. You will develop your skills in adapting and shaping original material, evaluating your own writing and integrating language analysis into your studies.

In the second year the focus is on 'Telling Stories' and 'Exploring Conflict', in addition you will produce a personal investigation exploring a specific theme using a favourite book as your starting point. If you cannot make up your mind about a text you will be directed to 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' by John Boyne. When analysing conflict you will explore the role of the individual in society and relationships with others and produce some re-creative writing based upon your set text 'The Great Gatsby'. There are two examinations at the end of your second year.

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## Assessment

The course contains regular assignments, with deadlines agreed by your tutor. Final assessment is by examination and coursework.

## Progression opportunities

An A Level in English Language and Literature is valued by both Higher Education establishments and employers, since it is evidence of both a high level of literacy and the ability to think analytically. Future careers and professions include: teacher, author, publisher, librarian, lawyer, journalist and media-related roles.



**MEET THE  
A LEVEL  
EXPERT**

## **GRAEME STABLES**

After studying a BA (Hons) degree in English Studies, Graeme completed an MA in Contemporary Writers and a PGCE. He has 25 years' teaching experience.

Graeme said: *"A Level English Literature students will gain valuable skills in research, analysis using the appropriate terminology, structured arguments, speaking and listening in debate, accurate writing, critical thinking and a knowledge and understanding of a variety of literary texts in their historical and cultural contexts."*

# ENGLISH LITERATURE

The study of A Level English Literature will focus on reading and analysing texts within a shared context.

You will be encouraged to explore the relationships between various texts and the specific contexts within which they are written, received and understood. Studying these poetry, prose and drama works enables you to investigate and connect them, drawing out patterns of similarity and difference using a variety of reading strategies and perspectives.

## Subject content

The first topic area, Love Through the Ages, leads to an exam on poetry, prose and Shakespeare set texts as well as unseen items. The Texts in Shared Contexts topic area gives you the opportunity to explore aspects of literature connected through a period of time. Again the exam here includes set texts of all three genres as well as unseen material.

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## Assessment

This subject will be assessed by external examination and coursework (a 2,500 word independent critical study based on a thematic comparison of two texts across time).

## Progression opportunities

An A Level in English Literature is highly regarded by universities and so provides a pathway to a wide range of Higher Education programmes. Research shows there are a huge variety of jobs on offer for those with an academic background in English Literature. Career options could include copywriting, public relations, journalism, animation, teaching, design and TV production.



# FILM STUDIES

This course is designed to deepen your understanding and appreciation of film. We study 11 different films looking at their social, cultural, political and historical contexts. Their narrative structures, critical debates, filmmakers' theories and ideologies behind the films are also explored, along with how filmmaking techniques can create different meanings for viewers. Lessons will typically consist of film screenings, lectures, discussions, essay writing and creative coursework.

## Subject content

In your first year you will study two Hollywood films, one from a Classical Hollywood period, *Vertigo* (1958), and one from the New Hollywood period, *Blade Runner* (1982). You will then study two contemporary American films, *Selma* (2014), which is a mainstream film, and *Beasts of the Southern Wild* (2012), an independent film.

You will then study two global films, *Pan's Labyrinth* (2006) and *City of God* (2002) to broaden your film knowledge and understanding of foreign language film.

In the second year, British Film and Documentary Film will be studied alongside film movements such as Silent Cinema and Experimental Film looking at their stylistic developments in film history.

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## Learning methods

The coursework component allows you to create a screenplay for a short film (1,600-1,800 words) plus a digitally photographed storyboard of a key section from the screenplay. An evaluative analysis is to be written, reflecting on your finished product.

## Assessment

Assessment is 70% examination, 30% coursework. You will also be assessed by written essays, homework, creative projects, group work, individual work and presentations.

## Progression opportunities

Film Studies is an excellent complement to Media, English Literature, Psychology, Sociology, Politics, Law, History, and Art and Design.

Students on the Film Studies course can progress onto a variety of film or media-related careers such as a producer, director, cinematographer, editor, set designer, audio engineer, Foley artist, teacher or screenplay writer as well as having the chance to study Film Studies/Film and Media Production at Higher Education level.



## MAXIM FOWLER

**Studying A Levels in Drama and Theatre Studies, English Language and Literature, and History.**

*“The independent environment and friendliness make coming to Barnsley Sixth Form College a pleasure. The tutors give you information and allow you to interpret it to suit your working style.”*

Former Penistone Grammar School pupil



## RICHARD KEYS

**Technical Director**

*“I’d definitely recommend studying at Barnsley Sixth Form College. The facilities available are second to none and the College has a lot to offer students, no matter what kind of course or subject they’re interested in pursuing.”*

After A Levels in Classical Civilisation, Psychology and Law, Richard went to the University of Leeds to study Computing. He then worked at a digital marketing agency for three years before moving back to Barnsley to start his own design agency business, Genius Division, with two of his friends.

Former Priory School pupil  
(now Outwood Academy Shafton)





## CHARLOTTE MARTIN

**Achieved an A\* in Sociology, an A in Law, and a B in English Language and progressed to the University of Sheffield to study Law.**

*"I enjoyed the friendly atmosphere and environment whilst I was studying my A Levels. I was encouraged and motivated by all my teachers to achieve the best possible grades and there was a high standard of quality teaching."*

Former Darton College pupil



## RONG CHEN

**Achieved an A in Economics and Bs in Chemistry and Mathematics and progressed to Durham University to study Accounting and Finance.**

*"I enjoyed the environment at Barnsley Sixth Form College, including the facilities. The staff and students are inspirational and I would recommend the College to potential students as it is a place where they will succeed."*

Former Horizon Community College pupil





# FRENCH

This course will help you develop your knowledge of the French language and your understanding of French culture and society through the study of authentic and current articles, modern literary texts and films. The study of French at A Level will enable you to develop excellent communication and critical thinking skills, explore a wide range of topics about French contemporary society and give you the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of your choice.

## Subject content

In year one you will focus on technological and social change within French society such as the changing nature of family or the 'cyber society'. You will also study either a modern literary text or a film and learn about highlights of French artistic culture including music and cinema. Throughout the two-year course you will build on your knowledge of the grammar learnt for GCSE and study the grammatical system and structures of the language.

In year two you will cover further aspects of French society such as multiculturalism and diversity, life for the marginalised and how criminals are treated. You will also look at aspects of political life in France including how young people engage with politics. You will also study a second literary text or a film. You will be given the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of your choice. The study of grammar will continue.

To really help you develop your speaking skills and increase your confidence, you will be asked to attend a 30-minute speaking session each week, either on an individual basis or in a small group.

## Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in French.

## Learning methods

You will experience a wide variety of methods of learning, such as paired work and group work on a particular topic, traditional lessons, individual work such as listening activities, research work on a topic of your choice and literary analysis on a novel or a film. You will practise different skills every lesson, such as speaking, listening, reading and writing.

You will be expected to use websites such as Kerboodle, Languages Online, YouTube and others to support your learning. You will also use the AQA-endorsed textbook which will be supplemented by the Elan grammar book.

## Assessment

Assessment is by examination.

Paper 1 is a listening, reading and translation paper which will assess the topics covered during the course.

Paper 2 is a writing paper which will assess the texts and/or film studied during the course.

Paper 3 is the speaking exam which assesses the individual research project and some of the topics studied.

## Progression opportunities

This course is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or on to Higher Education. There are many courses at university where you can combine languages with another subject, for example business, law, teaching or travel and tourism.

Knowledge of a foreign language will definitely improve your job prospects and career opportunities. Employers value language skills highly and language graduates are always sought-after.



# GEOGRAPHY

Geography is a far reaching and all-encompassing subject that focuses on diverse issues relating to the human and physical world in the past, present and future. It is relevant to all aspects of our lives and explores largely contemporary issues with reference to a range of scales including local, national and global.

Consequently, it is an extremely exciting and dynamic subject, which combines approaches from both social and physical sciences.

## Subject content

At A Level you will study a balance of human and physical geography topics over the two years. In physical geography you will study tectonic processes and hazards, coastal landscapes and change, the water cycle and water insecurity, and the carbon cycle and energy security. In human geography you will study globalisation, urban regeneration, superpowers, migration, identity and sovereignty. You will also complete an individual investigation which must include completion of four compulsory days of fieldwork, including a residential field trip.

## Fieldwork costs

There will be a cost implication for the residential field trip, which will be in the region of £240 (2018 cost) and can be paid in instalments. The cost covers transport, tuition, accommodation and meals. There will also be a smaller additional payment required for a Holderness Coast field trip, in the vicinity of £15 (2018 estimate).

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## Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in Geography and in English Language and Maths.

## Learning methods

The course includes a mixture of teacher-led and student-led strategies including group work, presentations, independent research, fieldwork and the use of ICT and GIS (Geographical Information Systems).

Geography is a subject that demands hands on, practical approaches, as well as the academic rigour that makes it such a high status subject.

## Assessment

The A Level is assessed by three exams, one physical (30%), one human (30%) and one based on a geographical issue linking the course content (20%). The remaining 20% will be assessed through coursework.

## Progression opportunities

Geography combines equally well with both arts and science subjects, so our students go on to study a number of Higher Education courses including geography, biology, environmental sciences, law, philosophy, sociology, business, medicine and architecture. Geography students are in great demand by employers due to the wide range of transferable skills that they acquire. Career areas could include sustainability, energy supply, retail location, urban regeneration and urban design, managing hazards, climate change, marine biology, global economics, teaching, human rights, construction and conservation. The course allows students to gain a wide skill base which is in demand by academic institutions and employers alike and, as such, presents a diverse range of job and Higher Education possibilities.



# HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Health and Social Care provides an opportunity to explore how health affects individuals in society. Students will investigate areas including building positive relationships, equality and diversity and health and safety. The Cambridge Extended Technical Certificate in Health and Social Care focuses on developing the skills, knowledge and understanding needed to work in the health and social care sector.

## Subject content

In the first year students will explore building positive relationships, which will enhance their understanding of the importance of relationships in the delivery of safe and effective care. Students will consider how equality, diversity and rights can be promoted in health and social care settings. Students will also explore what it means to be safe and how to maintain a safe working environment.

In the second year students will develop their understanding of anatomy and physiology, where they will learn about the structure and function of the different bodily systems. In the second year students may also look at nutrition and mental health.

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## Assessment

Assessment is by examination and portfolio.

## Progression opportunities

This course has a wide range of progression opportunities, which can lead to Higher Education in social work, nursing and social science degrees. It complements other A Level subjects and will equip you with the skills needed for Higher Education and the world of work. In combination with other subjects, you could go on to pursue a career in nursing, midwifery, physiotherapy, occupational therapy or teaching.



MEET THE  
A LEVEL  
EXPERT



## SHERRIDAN COCKER

Sherridan has an Honours degree in Combined Humanities from the University of Sheffield, a PGCE from Sheffield Hallam University and has been lecturing at degree level and teaching A Levels since 2003.

Sherridan said: *"History is a core subject that fits in really well with other A Levels. It will give you the desirable skills you need for progression onto university or work, including research, extended writing and an understanding of topical and historical issues."*

# HISTORY

We study history in order to learn about the past but often what is most evident is how powerfully the past and present are connected.

To be a good historian at A Level you will need to be able to explore both sides of an argument and see alternative points of view before developing your own evaluation of the facts and documents of the time. This is a highly interpretative subject and class activities encourage independent thinking, very high level reading skills and a thirst for synthesising information from a range of sources, before attempting to evaluate them and reach conclusions of your own.

## Subject content

You will study European and British history, covering a period of 200 years. The main focus will be on the 17th, 19th and 20th centuries. In the first year you will study 17th century British History, focusing on the Civil War and the progression towards a constitutional monarchy during the reigns of Charles I, Charles II, James II and William and Mary. During this module you will be given the opportunity to assess and evaluate historical interpretations of this period. You will also study in-depth the history of Russia from 1894 to 1924, focusing on the end of the Tsarist regime, the Russian revolutions of 1917 and the beginning of the world's first communist country.

In addition, you will develop your analytical, evaluative and research skills through the coursework enquiry you will undertake which focuses on the historical controversy of Germany's responsibility for the outbreak of war in 1914.

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## Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in History and Grade 5 in an essay-based subject.

## Assessment

Assessment is by examination and coursework.

## Progression opportunities

A Level History is a highly valued subject at university and beyond. The development of your skills as a historian may enable progression into careers as diverse as law, journalism, media, marketing, management and teaching. More specialist careers might include museum curator, archaeologist, archivist or researcher.



## ALEX MELHUIISH

After completing a degree in Software Engineering at Sheffield Hallam University, Alex did a PGCE before starting his teaching career seven years ago.



Alex said: *"Whatever job you hope to do in the future you'll likely be interacting with technology and this course will teach you how to be a competent user of IT. It looks at the impact and issues which arise from the use of technology for individuals, society and organisations as well as investigating future technologies."*



# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)

Almost 90% of new jobs require digital skills to some degree. The relentless pace of emerging digital technologies has already transformed the way we communicate and work. As a result of emerging technologies, there is a growing demand for high level digital skills in areas such as cyber-security, cloud and mobile computing and data analytics.

The Cambridge Extended Technical Certificate in IT allows students to learn and be assessed in ways that are practical and relevant to the IT sector. This course is not just about being able to use computers. Employers need people who are able to help them develop their systems or systems for their customers and use IT as a tool to analyse data and develop applications.

## Subject content

In the first year you will study the following two mandatory units: Fundamentals of IT and Global Information. These units provide an insight into the IT sector, as they investigate the pace of technological change, IT infrastructure, and the flow of information on a global scale, as well as the important legal and security considerations.

In the second year you will explore application design and develop a prototype to meet a user requirement. You will then take two optional units. The optional units could include: cyber security, product development, mobile technology, social media and digital marketing, games design and prototyping, internet of everything or web design and prototyping.

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## Assessment

Assessment is by examination and coursework.

## Progression opportunities

This qualification will give students a range of specialist knowledge and transferable skills in the field context of applied IT, providing them with the opportunity to progress to a related HE course, enter an apprenticeship or move directly into employment.

Students may go on and study relevant IT Higher Education programmes such as: computing and IT, computing science, software development, software engineering, ICT and computer networks, business information systems or digital media.

Past students have progressed into a variety of career paths, from system developers, web designers and IT support, to teachers and digital marketers. An IT qualification will prove valuable regardless of your chosen career path.



MEET THE  
A LEVEL  
EXPERT



## DEBORAH DARIAN

Deborah graduated with a LL.B (Hons) degree in Law from the University of Leeds and completed her PGCE at the University of Huddersfield. She has been teaching A Level Law for 21 years.

Deborah said: *"Law is relevant to everyone as it affects every area of all our lives, from your rights when buying something in a shop to legalities around relationships with others. You will develop excellent problem solving skills, learn how to devise and present a strong argument and increase your confidence in dealing with a range of people and situations."*

# LAW

A Level Law is interesting and informative for students who would like to enter a career in law or want to study a subject that will give enormous insight into the legal framework that underpins our society. This is a course that deals with complex key principles and requires an ability to understand highly detailed cases and apply this knowledge to examination questions.

## Subject content

In the first year you will learn about the nature of law, including the sources of law and the differences between criminal and civil law. You will also explore the English legal system, for example the courts, how law is made and reformed, and how you can qualify as a lawyer. You will be introduced to two areas of law, criminal law and tort law, and will learn to apply legal principles and cases to hypothetical scenarios.

In the second year you will focus on problem solving in criminal law, tort law and either human rights or contract law. You will also explore the role of law in society, study the relationship between law and morality and consider whether the law always achieves justice.

During the course you will have the opportunity to visit the Magistrates' Court and Crown Court, attend talks from visiting speakers and visit university law departments.

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## Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language.

## Learning methods

You will learn through a variety of methods including lectures, group work and individual research.

## Assessment

There will be regular tests and exam question practice. Assessment is by examination.

## Progression opportunities

Most students progress on to Higher Education to study a wide range of degree courses, including Law. After successful completion of a qualifying Law degree, you can then decide to continue training to become a solicitor or a barrister. Other career options could include the civil service, police, accountancy, the probation service and qualifying as a legal executive through the CILEX route.



MEET THE  
A LEVEL  
EXPERT

## GAVIN STEWART

Gavin has a Master's degree in Mathematics as well as a PGCE from the University of York.

Gavin said: *"This is the A Level to choose if you are interested in maths and performed well at GCSE level. The course allows you to deepen your mathematical understanding whilst profiting on its desirability in other career areas, from medicine to computing."*

# MATHEMATICS

Mathematics should be studied for its fascinating sophistication and its inherent elegance as a way of viewing the world around us. Over two years, you will study and investigate a wide range of mathematical concepts. If you enjoyed the challenge of problem solving in your Maths GCSE, you will definitely find A Level Mathematics an appealing choice.

## Subject content

The content of A Level Mathematics splits broadly into the two strands of Pure Maths and Applied Maths (Mechanics and Statistics).

Pure Maths extends work covered at GCSE on algebra, trigonometry and graphs, as well as introducing brand new topics such as logarithms, calculus and vectors.

Applied Maths helps us to understand how modelling can turn a complicated real-world problem into a simpler one that can be analysed and solved using mathematical methods.

Mechanics describes the motion of objects and how they respond to forces, from cars in the street to satellites revolving around a planet.

Statistics allows us to investigate real-world data. From this we are able to make predictions and assess the validity of certain statistical models used to analyse the ever-changing world around us.

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## Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Mathematics. Students are also required to pass an entrance test.

Students will need to purchase a specific calculator for the course: Casio FX991ex.

## Learning methods

You will discover and explore maths by discussion and group work as well as independent research and practical work.

## Assessment

The course will be linear with all exams at the end of the two years of study. At A Level there are three exams: two Pure papers and one Applied (Mechanics and Statistics). The content from both years of study are examined in these three papers.

## Progression opportunities

Mathematics is a versatile A Level choice and is highly regarded by Higher Education establishments. Maths is a key component of many degree courses, including computer science, engineering, natural sciences, economics, medicine, geography, architecture and of course, mathematics itself.

Graduates go on to have a wide range of careers in any job where logical thought and problem solving are required such as business, accountancy or computing.

MEET THE  
A LEVEL  
EXPERT



## LANE STEPHENSON

After graduating with a first-class Master's degree in Maths and Statistics from Newcastle University, Lane worked in finance before completing a PGCE at the University of York.

Lane said: *"Maths is a fantastic core subject which provides you with the ability to solve complex problems in a systematic and logical way. It is a great foundation for a number of undergraduate degree courses and is highly regarded by universities."*

# FURTHER MATHEMATICS

This course is an additional A Level in Mathematics, expanding upon the many areas of study met in A Level Mathematics.

A genuine love of maths and an enquiring mind are essential for students wishing to take this course. You must be confident with the algebra studied at higher level GCSE and show an enthusiasm to overcome the challenges that A Level Further Mathematics provides.

## Subject content

This course can be studied as either an AS Level or A Level qualification. The content of A Level Further Mathematics splits broadly into the two strands of compulsory (Core) Pure Maths and Further Applied Maths.

**Core Pure Maths:** This builds on the knowledge and understanding of algebra from GCSE and extends the content introduced in A Level Mathematics. You will meet new topics such as complex numbers, matrices, proof, hyperbolic functions, polar coordinates and further calculus.

The Further Applied content will be chosen from additional Mechanics and Statistics options as well as a relatively modern branch of maths known as Decision Maths.

**Decision Maths:** You will learn how to solve problems involving networks, graph theory, linear programming and a range of algorithms which enable particular problems in science, business and industry to be tackled using a very modern approach.

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## Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 8 or above in Mathematics (plus a maths entry test).

Since A Level Further Mathematics is a second A Level in maths, you must also be studying A Level Mathematics alongside this course.

In most cases we would expect A Level (or AS Level) Further Mathematics to be taken as a fourth A Level course.

Students will need to purchase a specific calculator for the course: Casio FX991ex.

## Learning methods

You will deepen your understanding of maths by discussion and group work as well as independent research and practical work.

## Assessment

For AS Level there are two exams: Core Pure Maths and Further Applied Maths. All candidates will sit these exams at the end of the first year to assess their suitability to progress onto the A Level course.

For A Level there are three exams: two Core Pure papers and one Further Applied paper. The content from both years of study are examined in these three papers.

## Progression opportunities

A Level Further Mathematics is a highly regarded and prestigious subject. Many Higher Education programmes in maths, physics and engineering now ask specifically for Further Mathematics to at least AS Level. Graduates go on to have a range of careers from accountancy and computing to scientific research and medicine.



# MEDIA STUDIES

Media Studies looks at a broad range of texts from different media areas such as magazines, newspapers, TV programmes and music videos. We investigate issues such as representation in the media and how media industries use language to sell products to specific audiences.

## Subject content

Media Studies is split into the following areas:

*Component 1: Media Products, Industries and Audiences (35% of course content).*

*Component 2: Media Forms and Products in Depth (35% of course content).*

*Component 3: Cross-Media Production (30% of course content).*

## *Component 1: Media Products, Industries and Audiences*

You will study media language and representation in relation to two of the following media forms: advertising, marketing, music video, film, video games or newspapers.

## *Component 2: Media Forms and Products In-Depth*

For this topic you will study media industries, audiences and media contexts, looking at areas such as Television in the Global Age and Media in the Online Age, how the internet has influenced the influx of social media and blogging sites and how the increasing shift online has changed the way traditional media industries operate. For this module you will also study the print industry in contrast, looking at mainstream and alternative magazine productions.

## *Component 3: Cross-Media Production*

Here you will produce an individual piece of coursework across two forms of media, applying theory learned in class and demonstrating knowledge of digital convergence.

Potential options for coursework are: filming a sequence from a new television programme and creating related print or online products to market this, making a music video or creating posters for a new film.

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## Learning methods

You will learn through creative projects, debates, group work, lectures and the practical application of the skills you have acquired.

## Assessment

Assessment is 70% examination and 30% coursework.

## Progression opportunities

Students can progress to Higher Education to study a variety of media-related courses, such as film and media production, photography, advertising, marketing, PR and media studies.

Possible careers include broadcaster, camera operator, computer animator, film producer, film editor, journalist, presenter, production designer, scriptwriter and sound operator.



**MEET THE  
A LEVEL  
EXPERT**



### **JOE PALMER**

After completing a Level 3 course in Development, Coaching and Fitness at Barnsley College, Joe secured a football scholarship at New York's Genesee College where he obtained an Associate Degree in PE before undertaking his BSc (Hons) degree in Sports Coaching at Leeds Beckett University. He also has a PGCE from Sheffield Hallam University.

Joe said: *"You will be assessed through practical sessions and exams and really develop your passion for sport. PE complements other A Levels very well and particularly works with Biology and Psychology. You may also have the chance to complete officiating and coaching qualifications alongside your A Levels."*

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PE)

A Level Physical Education will build on your experience at GCSE to enhance your knowledge and increase understanding of the factors that affect performance and participation in physical education.

The qualification aims to equip you with the skills and knowledge required for Higher Education or the world of work. The content of this course addresses topics such as: anatomy and physiology, sports psychology and the use of technology in sport to enhance performance.

## Subject content

A Level PE offers a holistic and in-depth insight into a wide range of important and interesting topics. Section A is the Sports Science-based content. Section B looks at Sports Psychology and Section C looks at how Sport has influenced and changed society.

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## Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in Biology or Combined Science.

Additionally, success in A Level PE is heavily reliant on students playing competitively or coaching regularly in sport.

## Assessment

You will be assessed at the end of the A Level course by examinations. Paper 1 covers Applied Anatomy and Physiology, Skill Acquisition, and Sport and Society. Paper 2 covers Exercise Physiology and Biomechanics, Sport Psychology, and Technology in Sport. You will also be assessed practically in your chosen sport.

## Progression opportunities

You will develop the skills, knowledge and understanding to prepare you for sports-related courses in Higher Education. Alternatively, you may wish to progress into employment within the sports industry.



MEET THE  
A LEVEL  
EXPERT

## JONATHAN ISON

Jonathan has a BEng degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from the University of Leeds and has been teaching for 25 years. He also has a PGCE (Science) from Bangor University.

Jonathan said: *“Physics is a vital course for the future of innovation in the UK. It covers challenging ideas from researching the beginning of time through to designing electronics, transport and green energy. The skills you will develop can open doors to a wide range of careers, particularly in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) companies.”*

# PHYSICS

A Level Physics is a challenging course but, if you possess a deep interest in how things work, then it is also immensely rewarding.

You will study the physics of the smallest particle, the galaxies and the universe itself. A Levels simply do not get bigger in scope than this one.

## Subject content

In the first year you will learn about particles, quantum phenomena and electricity, as well as fundamental

particles, from protons to photons. This is always an exciting part for new students and underpins what you do next. The next topic is quantum phenomena where you will enter the world of the small and the weird! We will explore electricity where you will learn about circuits, how we use electricity, explore electrons and ions, and consider how we have been making electricity work for us since 1887.

Topics in the second year include fields and further mechanics, looking at imaginary lines of force that apply across the entire universe, how they work and why they are so important, and explaining all types of motion. You will also study nuclear, thermal and cosmological physics.

As part of the course you will visit the particle research centre at CERN in Geneva.

## Specific entry requirements

You need GCSE Grade 6 or above in Physics and another science or two Grade 6s or above in Combined Science. Plus GCSE Grade 6 or above in Mathematics.

Given the fundamental underpinning of maths, you will need to take A Level Mathematics alongside Physics.

## Assessment

Assessment is by examination. The Practical Endorsement is teacher- assessed.

## Progression opportunities

Studying Physics can be a springboard to a number of careers and you could progress into Higher Education to study astronomy, dentistry, engineering, forensic science, medicine, sound recording, veterinary science or finance.

Career possibilities include architect, biotechnologist, communications worker, computer technician, electrician, energy sector worker, engineer, medical physicist, patent lawyer, science journalist or teacher.

A Level Physics shows a university admissions tutor, or an employer, that you have a keen logical mind and are mathematically very capable, skills that are highly sought after.



## LUKE LLOYD

**Achieved A\*s in Biology, Mathematics and Physics and progressed to the University of Leeds to study Aerospace Engineering.**

*"I would recommend Barnsley Sixth Form College as the teaching is good, delivered in small groups and in new facilities. The most enjoyable aspect of studying here was having more freedom and independence."*

Former Carlton Community College pupil



## EMILY WILCOCK

**Achieved As in Biology and Chemistry, a B in Mathematics and progressed to the University of Sheffield to study Medicine.**

*"I enjoyed everything about Barnsley Sixth Form College! I came to an Open Day and it drew me in. The teaching was brilliant, the tutors did everything they could to help me which included assistance with my application to study medicine at university."*

Former Holy Trinity School pupil





## RACHAEL RABSON

**Achieved As in Psychology and Sociology, a C in Biology and progressed to Sheffield Hallam University to study Midwifery.**

*"I liked the fact that every day was different. I always felt engaged and the tutors made me excited about learning. I chose to study at Barnsley Sixth Form College as it had good reviews and a welcoming atmosphere."*

Former Holy Trinity School pupil



## MORGAN BOSTOCK

**Achieved A\*s in Business and Information Technology, an A in Economics and progressed to the University of Manchester to study Economics.**

*"At Barnsley Sixth Form College you become more independent and are not heavily reliant on routines, as you may be at other sixth forms. I gained confidence to aim high because I saw that the A Level results in previous years were strong."*

Former De Warenne Academy pupil



# Hung Parliament:



# POLITICS

We don't always like politicians and the things that governments do, but the business of politics touches every aspect of our lives. Whilst we might criticise governments for some of their policies, it has to be better than having no government at all. But no matter whether a government makes you feel angry or reassured, it's worth having knowledge of how the whole process of an elected government works and an understanding of the theories that inform the processes and institutions that govern us. A Level Politics enables you to develop critical thinking skills and enhance your ability to interpret, evaluate and comment on the nature of politics.

## Subject content

In the first year of Politics, students study three main themes. The first theme is UK Politics which covers issues such as how voting behaviour is changing in elections and what the purpose of political parties are in the UK. The second theme of study is UK Government. This covers issues such as what parliament's role is in the UK political system and whether we have an increasingly presidential style of government. The third theme is Political Ideas where we study Socialism, Liberalism, Conservatism and an optional ideology such as Feminism or Nationalism. In this topic, students study the ideas that inform political parties and institutions with a particular focus on the key thinkers.

The second year focuses on one main topic – Global Politics. This exciting and relevant subject will place British politics in a global context and enable students to better understand political institutions in a globalised world and the implications of recent issues such as Brexit. Students will develop their understanding of existing world powers like the USA and emerging world powers such as China and their role in shaping global politics.

If you want to learn about people power, how government works and how ideas inform actions then this A Level is for you.

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## Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in English, History or another Humanities subject.

A keen interest in politics and current affairs.

## Learning methods

You will learn through a variety of methods such as lectures, activities, multimedia, discussion and debate, reading texts which develop political vocabulary, participating in group projects and writing essays in response to stimulus material. Classroom debate is perhaps the most appealing part of this course; informed and independently minded students make this one of the most interesting subjects available, provided that you are keen to learn about the political world.

## Assessment

Politics is a linear A Level. This means you will be assessed by examination on all content at the end of two years of study.

## Progression opportunities

Students who have taken A Level Politics often go on to study a range of subjects in Higher Education including politics, philosophy, sociology, economics, PPE, journalism, history, geography and business.

Politics provides a range of transferable skills which are desirable to many employers. Students may look forward to a career in politics, research, social policy, local government, the civil service, think tanks, education, journalism, business, international development, the police and the charity sector.

MEET THE  
A LEVEL  
EXPERT



## HANNAH PATERSON

Hannah studied a BSc in Psychology at the University of Leicester and a PGCE at Sheffield Hallam University.

Hannah said: *"Most students haven't studied Psychology before they come to College so it's an exciting new subject that can strengthen skills in a range of areas, including analysis, essay writing, maths and science."*



# PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology is the study of human behaviour and human experience. A Level Psychology offers an engaging and effective introduction to the field. On this course you will find out about the methods used by psychologists and the theories that underpin their explanations of human behaviour and human interactions with the world. Psychologists apply their theories and explanations to understand different areas of everyday life and this is also a focus for students of A Level Psychology.

## Subject content

The content of the course includes approaches and methods related to the core areas of psychology: cognitive, social, biological, developmental, individual differences and research methods, as well as explanations from different theories, along with psychological issues and debates.

In addition, there is the opportunity to see how psychology is applied in real life when we study forensic psychology, stress and relationships.

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## Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in Mathematics plus GCSE Grade 5 or above in Science.

## Assessment

Assessments employ a variety of types of question such as multiple choices, short answer and extended writing/essays which test the skills of knowledge and understanding, application and evaluation.

## Progression opportunities

This course develops skills that are useful in a number of jobs and professions including law, business, medicine, journalism, marketing, advertising, personnel work, management and many more. A Level Psychology also enables progression into further study of a wide range of other subjects in Higher Education, such as health, education and social work.



## LIAM SMALL

Liam has a degree in Theology and Religious Studies from York St John University and a PGCE from Teesside University. He has been teaching for six years.

Liam said: *"As well as giving you the analytical and evaluative skills to produce advanced level writing, Religion, Philosophy and Ethics will give you the opportunity to tackle some of the most important questions in life, unpacking the beliefs you hold and being challenged by the beliefs of others. You will also gain the skills needed to address moral dilemmas sensitively and the confidence to put forward a strong argument. The course will give you an insight into the ideas which have shaped Western culture and an understanding of the role of religion in contemporary society and politics."*



# RELIGION, PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS

In Religion, Philosophy and Ethics you will explore life's 'big questions'.

Philosophers and theologians throughout history have asked questions which still challenge minds today. In this subject you will critically study the nature of reality and explore ethical dilemmas.

## Subject content

In the religious strand of the course you will study Christian theology. You will take an academic approach to studying the origins of the Christian tradition and the development of Christian belief. You will study how contemporary Christianity has engaged with modern society, including its responses to feminism, pluralism and secularism.

In philosophy you will study metaphysical questions, such as: Is there a God? Can we trust our senses? Is there an ultimate reality? What is the nature of evil?

In ethics you will study ethical theories and inquire into the nature of human morality. Is there such thing as an objective source of morality? Are we free to make moral decisions? Does the end always justify the means? Are any actions always wrong?

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## Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in either English Language or a Humanities subject (e.g. History, Geography, Sociology).

## Assessment

This is an OCR Religious Studies qualification with three examinations at the end of two years.

## Progression opportunities

Students studying this subject at A Level often go on to study history, theology, philosophy and other related humanities subjects in Higher Education.

Students may go onto careers in teaching, journalism, medicine, ministry, social work, politics and many more.

Famous students of Religion, Philosophy and Ethics include Martin Luther King, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Ricky Gervais, David Cameron and Ed Miliband.



# SOCIOLOGY

A Level Sociology provides an exciting opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the world around you and reflect on social issues that are often relevant to your own experiences. It opens up opportunities for frequent and fascinating discussions, considering questions like: What impact do digital forms of communication have on social relationships? How do sociologists investigate inequality in society? And what are the patterns and trends of crime in relation to social class?

## Course content

You will acquire detailed theoretical knowledge and a critical understanding of social processes and changes. You will be able to develop a broad set of essential academic skills that are valued by universities and employers, including the ability to analyse and formulate clear logical arguments and evaluate using a range of theoretical perspectives.

In the first year you will study Culture and Identity and the Sociology of Education. You will explore how culture has traditionally shaped our identity and how in a globalised world we increasingly construct our own identities through consumer choices. You will then deepen your sociological understanding through in-depth study of the role of education in society and how inequalities of class, gender and ethnicity affect educational achievement. You will also learn how to carry out sociological research and how to apply those skills in the context of education.

In the second year you will deepen your theoretical understanding of sociology and research skills, alongside the study of Crime and Deviance and Beliefs in Society. This will engage you in debates about which social groups commit more crime and why, as well as ways of tackling the problem of crime in society. You will then explore the role of religion in society and how it contributes to social change. This will include the debate between science and religion and the changing levels of participation in religious practice in modern society.

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## Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in English, History or another Humanities subject.

## Assessment

This course uses the AQA exam board and is a linear A Level. You will be assessed by examination on all content at the end of your two years of study.

## Progression opportunities

The skills acquired whilst studying A Level Sociology are highly relevant and transferable to a wide number of Higher Education programmes such as history, geography, english, law, politics, business, philosophy, media studies, journalism, social work, nursing and criminology.

Sociology students often go on to careers in teaching, law, research, politics, police and probation services, counselling, events management and business.

New  
for  
2019



# SPANISH

This course will help you develop your knowledge of the Spanish language and your understanding of Spanish culture and society through the study of authentic and current articles, modern literary texts and films. The study of Spanish at A Level will enable you to develop excellent communication and critical thinking skills, explore a wide range of topics about Spanish contemporary society and give you the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of your choice.

## Course content

Year one aims to develop grammatical structures to a high level of accuracy and complexity. It will cover three topics in which you will develop a wealth of useful vocabulary and fluent phrases, and the confidence to speak, write, read and listen to Spanish. Theme one will be Changes in Spanish Society and theme two will be Artistic and Political Culture in Spanish-speaking countries. You will also conduct a literary study of a film or novel.

In year two you will develop your critical thinking in spoken and written Spanish. You will also undertake an independent research project on an issue of your choice. You will continue to study themes one and two and also study two more central themes, together with a further literary text or film. Theme three is Immigration and Multicultural Society in Spain and theme four is The Period of Franco's Dictatorship and Democratic Transition.

## Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in Spanish.

## Learning Methods

You will experience a wide variety of methods of learning, such as paired work and group work on a particular topic, traditional lessons, and individual work such as listening activities, research work on a topic of your choice and literary analysis on a novel or a film. You will practise different skills every lesson, such as speaking, listening, reading and writing.

You will be expected to use websites such as Kerboodle, Languages Online, YouTube and others to support your learning.

To really help you develop your speaking skills and increase your confidence, you will be asked to attend a 30-minute speaking session each week, either on an individual basis or in a small group.

## Assessment

Assessment is by examination.

Paper 1 is a listening, reading and translation paper which will assess the topics covered during the course (40% of qualification).

Paper 2 is a writing paper which will assess the texts and/or film studied during the course (30% of qualification).

Paper 3 is the speaking exam which assesses the individual research project and one of the four topics studied (30% of qualification).

## Progression opportunities

This course is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or further study in Higher Education. There are many courses at university where you can combine languages with another subject, for example business, law, teaching or travel and tourism. Knowledge of a foreign language will definitely improve your job prospects and career opportunities. Employers value language skills highly and language graduates are always sought-after.



# CORE MATHS

Core Maths could be for you if you are planning a career in business, social sciences or humanities but haven't chosen Mathematics A Level and have at least grade 5 or above in GCSE Maths.

Core Maths is a new one-year Level 3 qualification, with the same number of UCAS points as an AS Level. It is designed for students who want to keep up their valuable maths skills for their chosen university course, but are not planning to take A Level Mathematics.

### Subject content

The course has been designed to maintain and develop real-life maths skills. What you study is not purely theoretical or abstract; it can be applied on a day-to-day basis in work, study or life and most courses will include a financial maths element. It will also help with other A Level subjects – in particular with Science, Geography, Business, Psychology and Economics.

The skills developed in the study of mathematics are increasingly important in the workplace and in higher education; studying Core Maths will help you keep up these essential skills. Most students who study maths after GCSE improve their career choices and increase their earning potential.

### Assessment

The qualification is assessed by two exams at the end of the year. There is no coursework.



# EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION - LEVEL 3

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) provides students with the opportunity to explore a topic that interests them. The EPQ has no exams, just coursework, and you'll need to be self-motivated and enjoy working independently.

You will learn skills that are highly valued in Higher Education, such as research, developing arguments, and organisation and presentation skills.

The EPQ carries UCAS points and is highly regarded by many universities. It can't be used against a grade offer (such as AAA) but some universities may offer an alternative for candidates studying the EPQ (such as ABB instead of AAB).

### Subject content

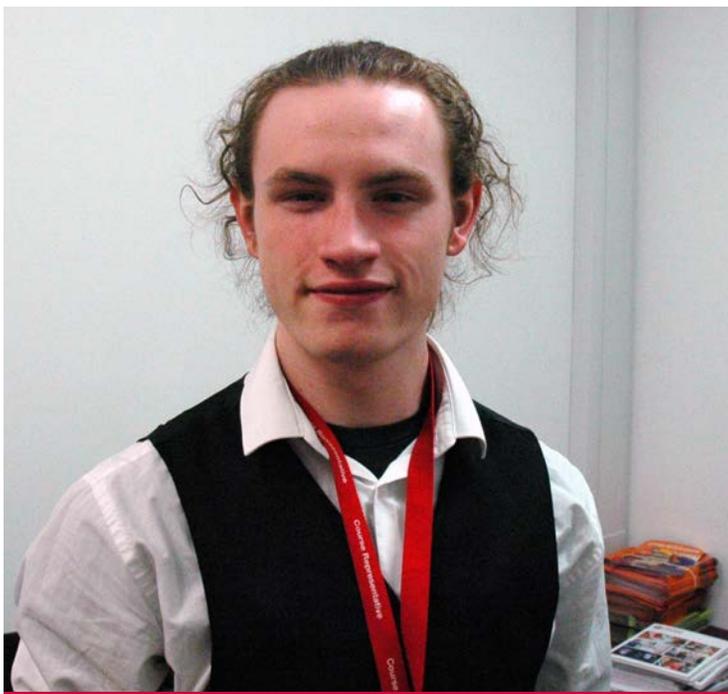
You can decide what you want to study. With the help of teachers, you'll choose a topic to explore - it is recommended the topic is one you might like to study in Higher Education, or pursue as a career.

There are four types of project to pick from:

- Write a dissertation.
- Produce an artefact, like a sculpture, model or DVD.
- Develop and showcase a performance (sport, drama or music).
- Conduct an investigation/field study.

*Examples of previous projects:*

- Do violent computer games contribute to anti-social behaviour?
- What are the effects of terrorism on society?
- Is climate change everyone's responsibility?
- Is it ethical to genetically engineer babies for designer purposes?



CURRENT  
STUDENT

## SAMUEL WHITTAKER - COUKHAM

**Studying A Levels in Drama and Theatre Studies,  
English Language and Literature,  
Politics and Sociology.**

*"The facilities at Barnsley Sixth Form College are fantastic and it is great to have tutors who are so passionate about their subject. They empower students to think freely and write in our own style."*

Former Rossington All Saints Academy pupil

ALUMNI

## LAURA FARRELL

**Solicitor**

*"Barnsley Sixth Form College opened a lot of doors for me. When applying to college I had three A Level subjects in mind and the staff helped me choose Law as the fourth. I loved the course; it was by far my favourite subject and that's where my journey to becoming a Solicitor started."*

After A Levels in Law, Media and Sociology at Barnsley Sixth Form College, Laura achieved a 2:1 LLB (Hons) Law degree at Nottingham Trent University and completed a Legal Practice Course at Nottingham Law School. She is now a Medical Negligence Solicitor.

Former Ecclesfield School pupil



# ATTAINMENT 8 AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

We generally ask for an Attainment 8 score of 5.5 or above (including a 5 or above in English and maths) for our two-year A Level programme and a score of 4.8 to 5.4 for our three-year programme.

Some subjects have their own additional entry requirements; please see the relevant subject pages for details.

We are confident that we have a range of A Level courses that will get you to university. We will discuss entry requirements with you at interview so please come and talk to us!

To work out entry requirements we use a score called Attainment 8.

## How to work out your Attainment 8 score:

- Take your English Language or English Literature grade (the highest of the two) and count it twice (e.g. a grade 6 will be counted as 12).
- Take your maths grade and count it twice (e.g. a grade 7 will be counted as 14).
- Take three subjects from sciences, computer science, geography, history or languages and add your scores together.
- Add the scores from three other GCSE subjects.

The scores for all eight subjects are added together (with English and maths counting twice), then divided by 10.

## For example:

Isabelle's GCSE grades

Subject	Grade
English Language	$6 \times 2 = 12$
Maths	$7 \times 2 = 14$
Biology	6
Chemistry	6
Physics	6
History	6
French	4
ICT	5
Total: 59	

Isabelle then divides 59 by 10, giving her an Attainment 8 score of 5.9. Isabelle would also need to check the specific entry requirements on the pages of the subjects she would like to study to ensure she meets these.

## ACCESS TO A LEVELS

Our Access to A Levels programme is aimed at students who do not initially meet the entry requirements for their chosen courses on leaving school.

The programme gives you the chance to improve your English and/or maths grade and take additional GCSEs, in order to bring your Attainment 8 score up to the required level.

For more information on Access to A Levels, visit [www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk/access](http://www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk/access)

# APPLICATION FAQs

You can apply online at [www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk/how-to-apply](http://www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk/how-to-apply)  
or [www.ucasprogress.com](http://www.ucasprogress.com)

Alternatively, you can complete the attached application form by filling in ALL relevant sections clearly in black ink and return to:

**FE Admissions**  
**Barnsley Sixth Form College**  
**PO Box 266**  
**Church Street**  
**Barnsley**  
**South Yorkshire**  
**S70 2YW**

## IMPORTANT

It is important that you provide a telephone number so we can contact you about your application form if we need to.

## REMEMBER

If your details change after you have completed the form you need to tell us. Contact the Admissions team on [01226 216 106](tel:01226216106) or email [interviews@barnsley.ac.uk](mailto:interviews@barnsley.ac.uk)

## When should I apply?

You can apply for the courses of your choice from the beginning of October 2018. The earlier you apply, the better, as it gives you the opportunity of an early interview.

## What happens next?

Your application will be acknowledged. You will then be sent an interview date and will receive important information by post, including financial support and travel information.

## What happens at interview?

The interview is a meeting between yourself and a tutor. It's an opportunity to get more detailed course information and help you decide if A Levels are the right choice for you.

## Can I change my mind?

Yes, there is no formal commitment at this stage. If you'd like to change your choice of A Levels just call us on the number below.

## Open Days

18 October 2018  
1 December 2018  
30 January 2019

## Can I apply for a vocational course as well as A Levels?

You are welcome to apply for both A Levels and vocational courses and make your decision later about what to study. You'll just need to complete a vocational application form which can be found in the Barnsley College vocational course guide or online at [www.barnsley.ac.uk/apply](http://www.barnsley.ac.uk/apply)

## What happens if I don't get the right grades?

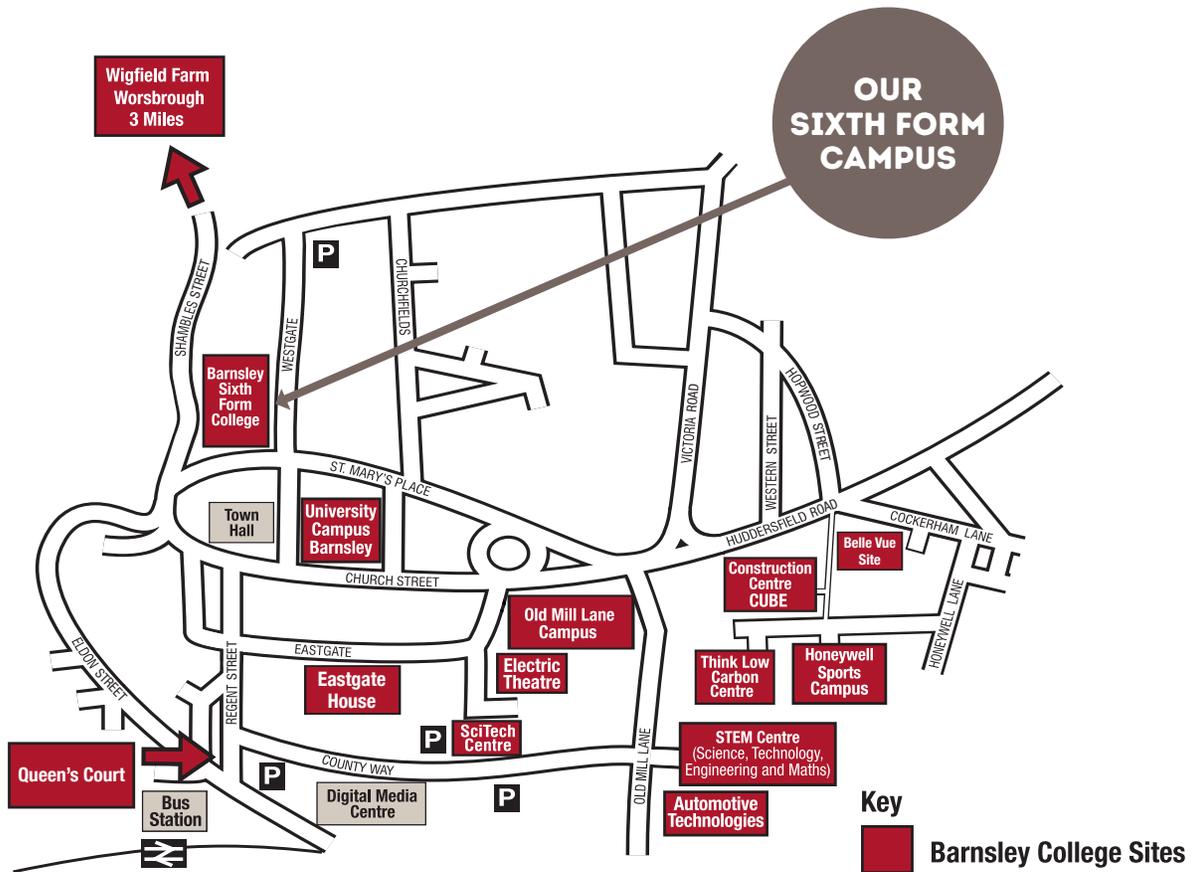
Don't panic! We have a place for you. Contact our Information Team on the number below and they will advise you on what to do.

## Want some more information?

Come along to one of our Open Days, speak to an Information Adviser in school, come into College and see our Information Team on the ground floor at the Old Mill Lane campus or call them on the number below. You can visit or contact us as many times as you need to.

**Information Team** [01226 216 123](tel:01226216123) [info@barnsley.ac.uk](mailto:info@barnsley.ac.uk)

# HOW TO FIND US



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