

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL
SIXTH FORM



Prospectus 2010

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THE LCS SIXTH FORM

Welcome to the LCS Sixth Form. LCS has a long history of educational excellence and our students can be proud of their academic achievements and successes in music, sport and other activities.

This is an incredibly important year for us as we expand our School into Years 12 and 13, thereby fulfilling a five year plan to offer the full range of primary and secondary education from ages 3 to 18.

The Sixth Form has been designed with the close involvement of our students, from the subjects included in the curriculum, the support provided for careers and higher education, to the uniform and code of conduct.

The following information will provide you with an overview of the LCS Sixth Form, so we encourage you to visit us, meet our students and see the School for yourself. Simply call 01543 306168 to arrange a tour and introduction to LCS.

Entry into the Sixth Form

Mentoring and Careers advice are provided during Year 11 for all potential Sixth Formers and applications are considered from all students who wish to continue their Post-16 education in a familiar, stable environment. Experience shows the existing relationships between the student and the School provide valuable support during the transition from Year 11. Applications are also welcomed from students who do not attend Lichfield Cathedral School.

Initial applications for the Sixth Form are accepted during the autumn and early spring Terms of Year 11. Students complete a simple application form indicating a preliminary list of their 'A' Level subject requests. The minimum entry requirement for Advanced Level courses is usually five GCSEs at grade C or above.

Most Year 12 students will follow four AS subjects. We will make every effort to ensure that your A Level requirements can be accommodated: we have a wide network of part-time tutors who can teach very small groups. An initial timetable will be assembled in March and students will be consulted where necessary.

All applicants will have an informal discussion with the Deputy Head or a Senior Teacher about their application. Any external applicants will need to provide a referee at their present or most recent educational establishment.

After the informal discussion and consultation procedures have taken place, applicants may be offered a conditional place in the Sixth Form. Students will then need to work hard to achieve the course requirement grades.

The Tutorial System

On entering the Sixth Form, students will be allocated to a tutor group. The Sixth Form Team provides support for the student during his or her time in the Sixth Form. Tutor Periods and Assemblies provide valuable contact time between the students and the Sixth Form Team. Students are encouraged to organise and participate in a range of activities to support their academic studies.

The ethos of the Sixth Form encourages the development of confidence, responsible attitudes and self-discipline. This enables the Sixth Form, and the Senior School, to operate as a community, and to prepare students for adult life.

Private Study

There will be periods during the day when students are not timetabled for lessons; these periods are for private study on the School site, in the study room, the library, or in faculty areas. Students will be supported by staff as they manage their own learning and develop lifelong learning strategies.

Private study at school does not replace homework. Students following any Post 16 course will find that the demands are such that they must be prepared to spend several hours studying each evening and at weekends, in order to keep up with set assignments and relevant reading. The time spent outside lessons will no doubt increase as students approach their examinations. Every student is strongly advised to take account of the course demands when considering part-time employment. National research has indicated that chances of academic success are considerably reduced when more than eight or nine hours per week are committed to part-time employment. The problems associated with excessive part-time work have been identified by Sixth Form teachers in the same survey, as the most significant barrier to students' achievement.

Accommodation

The Sixth Form is located in St. Chad's House, near to the Cathedral Close, which houses the Senior School. It consists of four suites, each containing teaching and resource rooms, plus a large Common Room, a Careers and Higher Education Learning Centre, an ICT suite, a Sixth Form Library and a kitchen. Students will use specialist teaching facilities for Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Art & Design and Drama located in the main School buildings.

Sixth Form Committee

This elected body assumes responsibility for the organisation of extra-curricular activities and discusses current issues which concern the Sixth Form. The committee consists of elected officers and invited staff and students.

COURSE INFORMATION

TWO-YEAR COURSES

The choice of Advanced Level subjects is made from the following list of courses:

Biology
Business Studies
Chemistry
Critical Thinking
Drama and Theatre Studies
English Literature
Geography
History
Information & Communication Technology
Mathematics
Music
Music Technology
Physics
Spanish

From September 2011
Philosophy and Ethics

If you are interested in studying a subject which is not currently listed, please speak to Mrs Hannam, the Deputy Head. We have a large network of part-time tutors who are able to deliver additional subjects to small groups.

Most Year 12 students study four 'AS' Levels in the first year of 'A' Level, or their equivalent, along with Critical Thinking. In Year 13, most students continue with three of their four subjects, working towards full A Levels.

SUPPORT PROGRAMME FOR UCAS

There is a specialised support programme for UCAS applications, delivered by experienced tutors.

EXAMINATION BOARDS

The Examination Boards used by LCS are: AQA, OCR and EDEXCEL.

The School holds the right to amend course information, as appropriate. All information is correct at the date of print: November 2009.

BIOLOGY

COURSE TITLE: Biology

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

ACCREDITATION: GCE A/AS Level

Duration: Two years for A Level / One year for AS Level.

Required Qualifications:

Students are required to have gained grade A*A*- CC in GCSE Science.

Higher Education and Career Opportunities:

A and AS Level Biology provides a sound base for any degree course in the Biological Sciences as well as many more non-science degree and H.N.D. courses. The subject itself provides career opportunities in environmental work, medicine, nursing as well as many other related areas such as Sports Science and Physiotherapy. It lays the foundations for future studies, yet provides a satisfying and relevant modern course for those who will take Science no further.

Course Content:

For the AS you will study Biology and its relationship to Disease, focusing on Cancer, Heart Disease, Cholera and TB as well as the impact of Genetics and Variation on both plants and animals. If you continue with Biology to A2, you will build on the first year's work looking at Ecosystems and how animals and plants survive feed and grow, the interplay between the organism and its environment and more detailed work on genetic fingerprinting and medical diagnosis.

AS Modules:

- Unit 1: *Biology and Disease*
[40% of total AS Level marks, 20% of total A Level marks].
- Unit 2: *The Variety of Living Organisms*
[40% of total AS Level marks, 20% of total A Level marks].
- Unit 3: *Investigative and Practical Skills in AS Biology*
[20% of total AS Level marks, 10% of total A Level marks].

A2 Modules:

- Unit 4: *Population and the Environment*
[20% of total A Level marks].
- Unit 5: *Control in Cells and Organisms*
[20% of total A Level marks].
- Unit 6: *Investigative and Practical Skills in A2 Biology*
[10% of total A Level marks].

Course Assessment:

Modular examination papers will be taken in January and June of the first year and January and June of the second year. In addition, there are internally assessed investigative and practical skills throughout the year.

For further information please see: Mrs A Carter, Biology Teacher

BUSINESS STUDIES

COURSE TITLE: Business Studies
EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA
ACCREDITATION: GCE A/AS Level

Duration: Two years for A Level / One year for AS Level

Required Qualification:

Entry onto the course will be directly from Key Stage Four, with standard Sixth Form entry grades required. GCSE Business is not a requirement.

Higher Education Prospects and Career Opportunities:

It is acknowledged as a qualification for students who wish to follow careers in one of the many areas of business or progress to higher education courses. The AQA specification has been designed to provide students with opportunities to develop important skills such as data skills, using relevant tools to solve business problems, and research skills.

Course Content:

Students will study two units during Year 12 and two in Year 13.

The units currently being studied during the two year course are:

Year 12:

1. Planning and Financing a Business: (examination – short answer questions and extended responses based on a mini case study);
2. Managing a Business: (examination - compulsory, multi-part data response questions).

Year 13:

3. Strategies for Business Success: (examination - questions requiring extended answers based on an unseen case study drawing upon knowledge from AS units);
4. The Business Environment and Managing Change (examination - pre-release research tasks leading to the first section of a two section examination. Second section will consist of choice of essays. All questions will be essay style and synoptic therefore drawing upon knowledge from all four units).

Summary

This specification is designed to:

- enable students to focus on the dynamic nature of the contemporary business world;
- provide opportunities for research into topical business issues;
- offer opportunities for the development and application of a full range of academic skills;
- explore real business situations;
- be practical in the application of business concepts;
- enable students to understand the role of the entrepreneur and business in society.

For further information please see: Mrs R Hodgkiss, Head of ICT & Business Studies

CHEMISTRY

COURSE TITLE: Chemistry
EXAMINATION BOARD: OCR
ACCREDITATION: GCE A/AS Level

Duration: Two years for A Level / One year for AS Level.

Required Qualifications:

Students are required to have gained grades A*A* - CC in GCSE Science.

Higher Education Prospects and Career Opportunities:

A Level Chemistry is a very valuable subject for students preparing for a range of higher education courses and future careers; as well as being essential for those entering the scientific, engineering, geological, medical and pharmaceutical professions. Due to the logical thought required to study Chemistry, many chemists go into accountancy and patent law.

The AS Level course provides a sound basis for further study of Chemistry, as well as supporting work in other subjects such as Biology, Geography, Physics and Technology.

Course Content:

Chemistry is essentially an experimental subject and so the A Level course is firmly based on practical work which is closely integrated with theory. The place of Chemistry in modern society is emphasised and the technological applications of Chemistry are considered throughout the course. We aim to cultivate the ability to reason clearly; to discuss and to communicate ideas, facts and principles; and to solve problems. A Level Chemistry provides a rigorous treatment of Chemistry that will stimulate and challenge a wide range of students. It lays the foundations for future studies, yet provides a satisfying course for those who will take their study of Chemistry no further. This course offers many opportunities to develop Key Skills.

The course consists of the following modules:

AS Modules:

- Unit 1: *Atom Bonds and Groups*
[30% of total AS Level marks, 15% of total A Level marks].
- Unit 2: *Chains, Energy and Resources*
[50% of total AS Level marks. 25% of total A Level marks].
- Unit 3: *Practical Skills in Chemistry*
[20% of AS Level marks. 10% of total A Level marks].

A2 Modules:

- Unit 4: *Rings, Polymers and Analysis* [15% of total A Level marks].
- Unit 5: *Equilibria, Energetics and Elements* [25% of total A Level marks].
- Unit 6: *Practical Skills in Chemistry 2* [10% of total A Level marks].

For further information please see: Mrs S Hannam, Deputy Head

CRITICAL THINKING

COURSE TITLE: Critical Thinking
EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA
ACCREDITATION: GCE A/AS Level

Duration: Two years for A Level / One year for AS Level.

Required Qualifications:

The Critical Thinking course is an examination course designed for those students who wish to add to their A Level examination commitments. Students are taught for examination in Critical Thinking lessons. This course is appropriate for all A Level candidates. It is expected and is necessary that the students should spend significant time outside lessons in developing both knowledge and skills. This course develops skills and encourages attitudes which complement other studies across the curriculum. It prepares candidates for the academic and intellectual demands of higher education and employment.

Course Content:

The syllabus is wide-ranging with regard to a variety of valuable skills and encourages candidates to analyse and evaluate critically their own and others' beliefs and knowledge. In addition it encourages recognition and evaluation of assumptions, the making of connections, synthesis of information and argument.

Course Assessment:

Assessment is in two stages: AS and the A2 examination. The course consists of the following modules:

AS Modules:

- Unit 1: *Foundation Unit*. One 1½ hour written examination.
[50% of total AS Level marks, 25% of total A Level marks].
- Unit 2: *Information, Inference and Explanation*. One 1½ hour written examination.
[50% of total AS Level marks. 25% of total A Level marks].

A2 Modules:

- Unit 3: *Beliefs, Claims and Arguments*. One 1½ hour written examination.
[25% of total A Level marks].
- Unit 4: *Reasoning and Decision Making*. One 1½ hour written examination.
[25% of total A Level marks].

For further information please see: Mrs S Hannam, Deputy Head

DRAMA & THEATRE STUDIES

COURSE TITLE: Drama and Theatre Studies

EXAMINATION BOARD: EDEXCEL

ACCREDITATION: GCE A/AS Level

Duration: Two years for A Level / One year for AS Level.

Required Qualifications:

It is not compulsory to have taken the GCSE course in Drama and Theatre Arts, however, those students who have should have attained at least a C grade or above. It is desirable that all students have attained a C grade or above in English GCSE.

Career Opportunities:

Media work, journalism, acting, theatre design or direction, community drama, teaching, sales or presentation work are all possible career paths with A Level Drama.

Course Content:

The units of study are as follows:

- Unit 1: *Live production seen and study of one prescribed play.*
Written paper [1½ hours; 60% of AS Level marks, 30% of A Level marks]
Section A – Response to live theatre seen during the course.
Section B – Study of one set play, from a choice of six.
- Unit 2: *Presentation of an extract from a play.*
Practical [40% of AS Level marks, 20% of A Level marks]
Group performance of an extract from a published play.
- Unit 3: *Two further prescribed plays, including pre-20th century.*
Written paper [2 hours] [30% of A Level marks]
Section A – Choice of one pre-20th century play from a choice of six.
Section B – Choice of one 20th or 21st century play from a choice of six.
- Unit 4: *Performance of Devised Drama*
Practical [20% of A Level marks].
A group performance of a Devised Drama.

For further information please see: Mrs B Dunne, Head of Drama

ENGLISH LITERATURE

COURSE TITLE: English Literature

EXAMINATION BOARD: OCR

ACCREDITATION: GCE A/AS Level

Duration: Two years for A Level / One year for AS Level.

Required Qualifications:

Higher grades [C or above] at GCSE level in English and English Literature. An interest in and enthusiasm for reading, use of language, critical evaluation and energetic discussion are essential.

Higher Education Prospects and Career Opportunities:

A qualification in English Literature is recognised and accepted by all establishments of higher education. The range of good career prospects for which a qualification in English Literature is useful, is considerable. Both specific and more general career intentions will be enhanced by the serious study of English Literature.

Course Content:

AS Units

Unit F661: *Poetry and Prose 1800-1945* (closed text)

Section A: Poetry – study of one poet

Section B: Prose – study of a prose text

[60% of total AS Level Marks, 30% of total A Level Marks]

Unit F662: *Literature post 1900*

Coursework to cover three post-1900 texts

[40% of total AS Level Marks, 20% of total A Level Marks]

A2 Units:

Unit F663: *Drama and Poetry pre-1800* (closed text)

Section A: Shakespeare – study of one Shakespeare play.

Section B: Drama and Poetry pre-1800 – study of one drama text and one poetry text

[30% of total A Level Marks]

Unit F664: *Texts in time*

Coursework to cover three tests, at least one prose, one poetry and one from any genre

[20% of total A Level Marks]

In each of the units for AS and A2 there are a number of choices of texts to study. The final decision of which texts are to be studied will rest with the group's teacher, who will take into consideration the group's aptitude and ability. We always aim to provide a balanced and interesting range of texts to study.

This is a demanding course but we believe it offers candidates valuable and beneficial experiences with a great deal of scope for personal satisfaction, interest and improvement. If you enjoy reading and like discussing what you have read and seen, then this may well be a course you will wish to consider doing.

For further information please see: Mrs J Sedgley, Head of English

GEOGRAPHY

COURSE TITLE: Geography
EXAMINATION BOARD: EDEXCEL
ACCREDITATION: GCE A/AS Level

Duration: Two years for A Level / One year for AS Level.

Required Qualification:

Although this course progresses naturally from GCSE it would be possible for students to study this subject without previous geographical experience in Years 10 and 11. Commitment to the subject is important in all cases.

Higher Education Prospects and Career Opportunities:

Geography is a well established and highly regarded A Level accepted by all higher education establishments. It is a recognised academic qualification which can lead to a wide range of career opportunities, e.g. town planning, conservation and leisure management.

Course Content:

This four-unit A Level specification offers units that allow a balance between students' own particular physical, human and/or environmental interests and key geographical topics that provides students with the knowledge, understanding and skills for further study at higher education or for employment.

Course Assessment:

- Unit 1: *Global Challenges* (60% of AS and 30% of A Level). .
One 1½ hour examination in two sections, externally assessed.
Section A: objective items, data response and short-answer questions.
Section B: choice of Going Global or World at Risk longer/guided essay questions.
- Unit 2: *Geographical Investigations* (40% of AS and 20% of A Level). One 1 hour examination in two sections, externally assessed. Students choose two topics from the four offered in this unit; there must be one physical and one human topic:
Physical topics:
Topic 1: Extreme Weather, with its increasing ferocity and frequency, fascinates some people and threatens many others.
Topic 2: Crowded Coasts reveals how increasing development is testing our ability to manage these valued environments.
Human topics:
Topic 3: Unequal Spaces explores the causes and consequences of rural and urban disparities and how to manage them.
Topic 4: Re-branding Places focuses on how we need to re-image and regenerate rural and urban places, using appropriate strategies.
- Unit 3: *Contested Planet* (60% of A2 and 30% of A Level).
One 2½ hour examination in two sections, externally assessed.
- Unit 4: *Geographical Research* (40% of A2 and 20% of A Level).
One 1½ hour examination, externally assessed.

For further information please see: Mrs S Hannam, Deputy Head

HISTORY

COURSE TITLE: History

EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

ACCREDITATION: GCE A/AS Level

Duration: Two years for A Level / One year for AS Level.

Required Qualification:

Normally students with good GCSE grades (A*- C) will follow the AS/A Level course. It is not essential to have studied History at GCSE but a minimum of grade C in another Humanity or English is required.

Why study A-Level History?

Studying History equips you with knowledge, understanding and skills which will prove invaluable in later life. It develops your understanding of the contemporary world and the forces which have shaped the society in which we live. Students choose History because they possess a genuine interest in the past and the desire to analyse it in great detail. We hope that you will enjoy the cut and thrust of historical debate, challenging accepted views and developing a real expertise in your specialist subject. You will also develop a wide variety of transferable skills such as the use of initiative and the ability to assess a number of options before making a balanced decision. Through the pursuit of History students learn to communicate, enlighten and to take responsibility for the management of their own learning.

Higher Education Prospects and Career Opportunities:

History is a respected academic discipline which is highly regarded by all higher education establishments. Its emphasis on analytical thinking, the use of evidence in the construction of hypotheses and the critical interpretation of this evidence provide a variety of transferable skills that will be extremely useful irrespective of your chosen career path. A Level History is a recommended qualification for a wide range of graduate occupations and will help to provide the intellectual foundation for virtually any professional career. Among the most popular careers chosen by historians are law, accountancy, banking, journalism, the heritage industry, the armed forces, academia and teaching.

Course Content:

The syllabus involves the study of modern British history and international relations with a special focus at AS level on Britain's relationship with the dictators. At A2, pupils will continue with their study of British history, examining the relationship between the state and people in the first half of the twentieth century. They will also have the exciting opportunity to research and write an extended coursework essay on a topic of personal interest.

Course Assessment:

AS Modules:

Unit 1: *Totalitarian Ideology in Theory and in Practice, c1848-c1941*
[50% of total AS Level marks, 25% of total A Level marks]

Unit 2: *Britain and Appeasement, 1919-1940*
[50% of total AS Level marks, 25% of total A Level marks].

A2 Modules:

Unit 3: *The State and People: Britain, 1918-1964* [30% of total A Level marks].

Unit 4: *Historical Enquiry (Personal Study)* [20% of total A Level marks].

For further information, please contact Mr B Smith, Head of History

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

COURSE TITLE: AS/A2 Information and Communication Technology

EXAMINATION BOARD: OCR

ACCREDITATION: GCE A/AS Level

Duration: Two years for A Level / One year for AS Level.

Required Qualification:

Entry to the course will be directly from Key Stage Four with standard Sixth Form entry grades required.

Higher Education Prospects and Career Opportunities:

GCE ICT encourages students to become discerning users of ICT. It allows them to develop a broad range of ICT skills, knowledge and understanding. This could form a basis for progression into further learning, including progression from AS to A2, and/or employment.

Course Content:

The Advanced GCE is made up of two mandatory units at AS and two further units at A2.

AS Unit 1 - Information, Systems and Applications (Externally Assessed)

- Data, information, knowledge and processing
- Software and hardware components of an information system
- Characteristics of standard applications software and application areas
- Spreadsheet concepts
- Relational database concepts
- Applications software used for presentation and communication of data
- The role and impact of ICT – legal, moral and social issues

AS Unit 2 - Structured Task (Internally Assessed)

- Design
- Software development
- Testing
- Documentation

A2 Unit 1 - ICT Systems, Applications and Implications (Externally Assessed)

- The systems cycle
- Designing computer-based information systems
- Networks and communications
- Applications of ICT
- Implementing computer-based information systems
- Implications of ICT

A2 Unit 2 – Coursework: ICT Project (Internally Assessed)

- Definition, investigation and analysis
- Design
- Software development, testing and installation
- Documentation
- Evaluation

Course Assessment:

Coursework [Portfolio] 40% (20% AS, 20% A2)

Examination [Practical Test] 60% (30% AS, 30% A2)

For further information please see: Mrs R Hodgkiss, Head of ICT & Business Studies

MATHEMATICS

COURSE TITLE: Mathematics
EXAMINATION BOARD: EDEXCEL
ACCREDITATION: GCE A/AS Level

Duration: Two years for A Level / One year for AS Level.

Required Qualification:

A traditional A level course will be offered to students who will have followed the Higher Level GCSE course. Students should have a good grade A*, A or B at GCSE level.

Higher Education Prospects and Career Opportunities:

Mathematics is a well established and highly regarded A Level accepted by all higher education establishments. Mathematics provides entry into employment as an economist, stockbroker, accountant or banker as well as being a pure academic discipline leading to a range of broader career options such as teaching or managerial posts.

Course Content:

At A level, the modules include four units of Pure Mathematics plus two applied units (Mechanics, Decision Mathematics or Statistics, to be decided by the Head of Mathematics). All units are equally weighted.

Candidates wishing to study for an AS Level qualification only in Year 12 will need to study three units. These will include two units of Pure Mathematics and one in an applications unit.

Topic Areas/Areas of Study:

The modules fall into four categories:

Pure Mathematics

In Pure Mathematics, the work is mostly of an abstract nature. The course extends the knowledge gained at GCSE level in algebra, geometry and trigonometry. New branches of mathematics are introduced including the study of sequences and series, natural logarithms, complex numbers and, most importantly, calculus, which is fundamental to many parts of the 'A' level course.

Mechanics

Mechanics is the study of the physical behaviour of objects. There are two main branches: Dynamics and Statics. Dynamics is concerned with moving objects and is mostly based on Newton's laws of motion. Statics is the study of the behaviour of stationary objects and the forces required to maintain equilibrium.

Statistics

This course is concerned with the mathematics of risk taking and decision making. Further work is done on data handling and probability theory. This is extended to the study of special probability distributions, such as the Normal, Binomial and Poisson.

Decision Mathematics

This course consists mainly of applying various algorithms to real world optimisation problems such as finding the minimum length of cable necessary to connect a network of towns or finding the maximum traffic flow through a network of streets. The course title comes literally from the need to keep making decisions in applying the procedures.

For further information please see: Mrs H Ghazireh, Head of Mathematics

MUSIC

COURSE TITLE: Music

EXAMINATION BOARD: EDEXCEL

ACCREDITATION: GCE A/AS Level

Duration: Two years for A Level / One year for AS Level.

Required Qualifications:

GCSE Music grade (A*-C) is required and students should have passed at least Grade 4 on their chosen instrument.

Higher Education Prospects and Career Opportunities:

From A Level, students could progress by studying Music at degree level. Careers in Music which could be considered are: professional musicians, TV and radio, journalism, arts administration, teaching, music therapy, promotion and marketing, theatre productions or as a librarian.

Course Content:

AS Level consists of 3 units:

Unit 1: *Performing Music*

Students perform as soloists and/or as part of an ensemble (5-6 minutes)
[30% of AS Level, 15% of total A Level].

Unit 2: *Composing*

Students create a 3 minute piece and write a CD sleeve note to describe their composition and explain their musical influences.
[30% of AS Level, 15% of total A Level].

Unit 3: *Developing Musical Understanding*

Students learn to identify important musical features and social and historical context, as well as harmonic and tonal features, in order to complete a short passage for SATB.
[40% of AS Level, 20% of total A Level].

A2 Level consists of 3 further units:

Unit 4: *Extended Performance*

Students perform as soloists and/or as part of an ensemble (12-15 minutes)
[15% of total A Level marks].

Unit 5: *Composition and Technical Study*

Further development of students' composition skills, leading to the creation of a final 3 minute piece.
[15% of total A Level marks]

Unit 6: *Further Musical Understanding*

Students focus on listening to music, familiar and unfamiliar, and understanding how it works.
[20% of total A Level marks]

For further information please see: Mr N Parrans-Smith, Director of Music

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

COURSE TITLE: Music

EXAMINATION BOARD: EDEXCEL

ACCREDITATION: GCE A/AS Level

Duration: Two years for A Level / One year for AS Level.

Required Qualifications:

Students should have an understanding and appreciation of music.

Higher Education Prospects and Career Opportunities:

From A Level, students could progress by studying Music Technology at degree level. Careers in Music which could be considered are: professional technician, TV and radio, journalism, arts administration, teaching, promotion and marketing.

Course Content:

AS Level consists of 2 units:

Unit 1: *Music Technology Portfolio 1*

Students create an audio CD containing 3 tracks of work: Sequenced Realised Performance, Multi-track Recording and Creative Sequenced Arrangement.
[70% of AS Level, 35% of total A Level].

Unit 2: *Listening and Analysing*

Students study the styles most common in popular music from 1910 to the present day. Two special focus styles are selected for more in-depth study.
[30% of AS Level, 15% of total A Level].

A2 Level consists of 23 further units:

Unit 3: *Music Technology Portfolio 2*

Builds on Unit 1, and extends to a composition task.
[30% of total A Level marks].

Unit 4: *Analysing and Producing*

Students expected to demonstrate their knowledge of music and the principles of music technology through a series of written commentaries, manipulations and production tasks using material provided.
[20% of total A Level marks]

For further information please see: Mr N Parrans-Smith, Director of Music

PHYSICS

COURSE TITLE: Physics

EXAMINATION BOARD: OCR - B

ACCREDITATION: GCE A/AS Level

Duration: Two years for A Level / One year for AS Level.

Required Qualifications:

Students are required to have gained grades A*A* - BB in GCSE Science and grade B in Mathematics.

Higher Education Prospects and Career Opportunities:

Physics is recognised and accepted in all higher education establishments. The study of Physics gives an essential foundation to many branches of engineering including: civil, mechanical, electronic and automotive, and is a valuable complement to other sciences for those wishing to specialise in medical and biological fields. Due to the practical application of mathematical techniques involved many physicists progress to careers in accountancy and management.

Course Content:

The A Level course meets the requirements of the most recent national criteria. It contains assessment units, each examined separately at the end of each year's study. Physics can be studied at AS Level over a one-year duration by choosing the relevant modules, as shown below.

Course Assessment:

The modules for AS Level are:

Unit 1: *PHYSICS IN ACTION*

[Module 1 Communication; Module 2 Designer Materials]

[30% of total AS Level marks; 15% of A2 Level marks].

Unit 2: *UNDERSTANDING PROCESSES AND EXPERIMENTATION, DATA HANDLING.*

[Module 1 Waves and Quantum behaviour; Module 2 Space Time and Motion]

[50% of total AS Level marks; 25% of total A2 Level marks].

Unit 3: *PHYSICS IN PRACTICE.*

[Module 1 Quality of Measurement; Module 2 Physics in Use]

[20% of total AS Level marks; 10% of total A2 Level marks].

The modules for A2 Level are:

Unit 4: *RISE AND FALL OF THE CLOCKWORK UNIVERSE.*

[Module 1 Models and Rules; Module 2 Matter in Extremes]

[15% of total A Level marks].

Unit 5: *FIELD AND PARTICLE PHYSICS*

[Module 1 Fields; Module 2 Fundamental Particles]

[25% of total A Level marks].

Unit 6: *RESEARCHING PHYSICS*

[Module 1 Practical Investigation; Module 2 Research Briefing]

[Route x 10% of total A Level marks].

For further information please see: Mr T Hunt, Physics Teacher

SPANISH

COURSE TITLE: Spanish

EXAMINATION BOARD: WJEC

ACCREDITATION: GCE A/AS Level

Duration: Two years for A Level / One year for AS Level.

Required Qualification:

Students will need to have obtained an A* - B grade at GCSE to follow an A Level course.

Higher Education Prospects and Career Opportunities:

A foreign language can be studied at degree level either as a single subject or as part of a combined subject, especially useful for students who may wish to study a four-year sandwich course with one-year abroad. A degree in Spanish will allow students to enter a wide range of professions, e.g. teaching (including teaching English as a Foreign Language abroad); airline and tourism; hotel and reception; the Armed Forces; journalism; librarian; Civil Service; bilingual secretary; translator/interpreter; international telephone operator or market research.

Course Content:

Students studying Spanish in the Sixth Form will normally be aiming to take an A Level course leading to an external examination set by WJEC. A Level Spanish aims to encourage students to:

- Develop an interest in, and enthusiasm for, language learning.
- Develop understanding of the language in a variety of contexts and genres.
- Communicate confidently, clearly and effectively in the language for a range of purposes.
- Develop awareness and understanding of the contemporary society, cultural background and heritage of countries or communities where the language is spoken.
- Consider their study of the language in a broader context.

A Level Spanish enables students to:

- Derive enjoyment and benefit from language learning.
- Acquire knowledge, skills and understanding for practical use, further study and/or employment.
- Communicate with speakers of the language.
- Take their place in a multilingual global society.

Course Assessment:

AS: Oral: 20% (12-15 minutes)

Listening, Reading and Writing: 30% (2 ½ hours)

A2: Oral: 20% (15-20 minutes)

Listening, Reading and Writing: 30% (3 hours)

For further information please see: Mrs C Farrell, Head of Modern Languages

RELIGIOUS STUDIES / PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS

(Sep 2011)

COURSE TITLE: Philosophy
EXAMINATION BOARD: OCR
ACCREDITATION: GCE A/AS Level

Duration: Two years for A Level / One year for AS Level.

Required Qualification:

This course builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills that students may have developed through the study of GCSE Religious Studies. It does not, however, assume or require any previous study of the subject. It is designed to support a course of study which is suitable for students from any religious background (or none).

Higher Education Prospects and Career Opportunities:

This subject would be helpful for those aiming to study a subject in higher education in which abstract concepts and the precise use of words are important. Career opportunities are similar to those afforded by Humanities subjects or English.

Course Assessment:

This course covers a number of options within Religious Studies, including Philosophy of Religion and Ethics. Students are encouraged to adopt an enquiring critical and reflective approach to the study of religion. Assessment is in two stages: AS and the A2 examination.

AS Modules:

- Unit 1: *Philosophy of Religion* (25% of total marks)
- Ancient Greek influences on philosophy of religion
 - Judaeo-Christian influences on philosophy of religion
 - Traditional arguments for the existence of God
 - Challenges to religious belief
- Unit 2: *Religious Ethics* (25% of total marks)
- Ethical theories
 - Applied ethics topics

A2 Modules:

- Unit 3: *Philosophy of Religion* (25% of total marks)
- Religious language
 - Experience and religion
 - Nature of God
 - Life and death
 - Miracle
- Unit 4: *Religious Ethics* (25% of total marks)
- Meta-Ethics
 - Free will and determinism
 - Conscience
 - Virtue ethics
 - Applied ethics topics

For further information please see: Fr T Whitwell or Mr B Smith

MONITORING PROGRESS

Students' progress is carefully monitored throughout their time in the Sixth Form and takes the form of reviews, interim tests, examinations, reports and Parents' Consultation Evenings. The programme for Sixth Form students is as follows:

YEAR 12

Christmas Term

August/September:
Enrolment Interview.

December:
Internal Progress Review – based on student discussion with staff.

Easter Term

January:
In-Class Assessment.

February:
Subject/Parents' Evening.

March:
Internal Progress Review.

Summer Term

May:
Report to Parents.

June:
External AS Modules.

End of June:
Return to commence A2 Level courses

YEAR 13

Christmas Term

September:
Year 13 Enrolment Interview.
Subject/Parents' Evening.

October:
Reference requests completed by subject staff.

December:
Report to Parents.

Easter Term

January:
Internal and External Examinations.

February:
Subject/Parents' Evening.

March:
Internal Progress Review.

Summer Term

June:
Final Examinations.

CAREERS & HIGHER EDUCATION GUIDANCE

During Year 12, A Level students will be encouraged to explore the routes open to them at the end of their courses. Post-16 work placements may be organised for students whose choice of study after Sixth Form requires vocational experience. Students are provided with all the relevant information they need to make informed choices about employment, further and higher education. All Sixth Form students have access to the Sixth Form Careers Library.

FUTUREWISE

LCS has teamed with ISCO, the independent schools' careers service, to provide the Futurewise scheme. Futurewise is a comprehensive one-to-one careers and higher education guidance scheme offering a personalised service to 16-23 year old students. It provides guidance, information and resources to help young people make informed decisions about a number of areas including:

- Choosing A Levels or other routes into higher education
- Selecting a course or university
- Researching potential careers
- Researching and planning a gap year
- Preparing for employment

Futurewise enables students, parents and LCS to work together. The scheme is an integrated and progressive careers and higher education planning service which provides:

- A psychometric profile report which gives an in-depth analysis of the student's vocational aptitudes and abilities
- A feedback session on the profile
- A one-to-one careers guidance interview
- A personal webspace with interactive tools to research higher education, university courses, finance and gap year planning
- A free Penguin Careers Guide
- Unlimited access to an email and telephone information helpline for students and parents
- Careers and higher education research resources
- Discounts on insight and skills development courses delivered by employers and universities
- A second one-to-one interview if required
- Regular email newsletters and Careerscope online magazine

UCAS APPLICATIONS

Students will benefit from extensive support when making UCAS applications. Visitors from Universities, in particular Admissions Co-ordinators, are invited to address students regarding specialist areas and skill development sessions will focus on key areas such as interview techniques. The Sixth Form's Higher Education and Employment Event at the end of Year 12, including visits to higher education institutions, prepares and motivates students to consider their future.

GENERAL INFORMATION

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

Enrichment activities are an important part of Sixth Form life. They include: a wide range of sporting activities, Holiday Spanish, Public Speaking and an In-class Support Scheme with younger children. The emphasis is on the individual student to take advantage of all available opportunities.

Music is a specialty of LCS – we have nine choirs, a Concert Orchestra, a Jazz Group, Brass, Strings and Recorder Ensembles, a Wind Band, a Trombone Choir and a Drum Corps. Specialist music tuition is available from 25 dedicated music teachers and we perform more than 60 concerts a year. There is ample opportunity to get involved, whatever your instrument or level of ability.

Sixth Formers are encouraged to participate in the St. Chad's Youth Lecture Series – a programme of multi-disciplinary seminars delivered by nationally and internationally renowned expert speakers.

The LCS Duke of Edinburgh scheme is thriving and Sixth Formers are encouraged to take part. In addition, the School has an annual ski trip, as well as a regular programme of language exchanges.

We have established a Wine Tasting Club for Sixth Formers to encourage responsible drinking. We aim to introduce students to good wines and their complexity, and so blend history, culture and geography with an appreciation of the process of making wine.

Each term the School Council chooses a charity to support through a variety of lively fundraising activities that both raise awareness and generate much-needed funds.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR POTENTIAL SIXTH FORMERS

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1 October 2009 - 6 February 2010: | Initial applications for Sixth Form |
| 7-10 December 2009: | Year 11 Mock Examinations |
| 19 January 2010: | Year 11 Parents' Consultation Evening |
| 14, 18 and 20 January 2010: | GCSE Science Exams Unit 1, 2 and 3 |
| 26, 28 and 30 January 2010: | Sixth Form Open Days |
| 6 February: | Choral Auditions & Admissions Day |
| 16 February: | GCSE Music Composition Day |
| 10 and 11 March: | GCSE Art Exams |
| May: | Formal Examinations period begin |
| June: | Formal Examinations period ends |
| Mid June – Mid July 2010: | Sixth Form Skills Development & Induction Programme |
| 26 August 2010: | GCSE Results Day |
| 26 August 2010: | Year 12 Enrolment Day |
| 6 September 2010: | Beginning of 2010-2011 Academic Year |



Junior School

Ages 3 to 7

Middle School

Ages 8 to 13

Senior School

Ages 14 to 18

An exceptional
educational experience

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