Art and Design
(AQA)

Artists and designers have a huge impact on the way people think, feel and live. Whilst studying this course you will have the opportunity to work and develop skills in a multi-disciplinary way, exploring the connections between areas of art, craft and design and gaining knowledge of the scope and variety of disciplines and approaches. With the emphasis on exploration and experimentation, students will use a wide variety of materials and processes including drawing, painting, print making, mixed-media, sculpture, photography and textiles, building on existing strengths and artistic ability. Creativity is key in all that we do and critical reference to artists and designers underpins and enriches all of the students' work.

Previous students who studied Art & Design went on to Foundation Art Courses and to degrees in Graphic Design, Film Making, Printing, Fashion, Textiles, 3D and 2D Art & Design.

A Level

Component 1 - Skills Development Workshops and Personal Investigation
During the first three terms of this two-year linear course, you will take part in workshops and develop your skills in observational drawing using a variety of media (e.g. graphite, biro, ink, painting, textiles, sculpture and a range of printing and photography techniques). If you have a preference for 3D, there is also the opportunity to explore this medium. You will critically analyse your work and others' to help inspire your projects. You will have the opportunity to take part in enriching your projects through visiting galleries and exhibitions.

From June of Year 12 you will begin your personal investigation extending your own development workshops, on a theme of your choice. You will also create a written element between 1500-3000 words to accompany your personal investigation portfolio.

Assessment
Internally assessed and externally moderated in May/ June of Year 13. 60% of total A Level qualification.

Component 2 - Externally Set Assignment
From February of Year 13, you will undertake a shorter project, but this theme will be set by the examination board.

Assessment
Internally assessed and externally moderated in May/ June of Year 13. 40% of total A Level qualification.

Minimum Entry Requirements: Five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above, including Grade 5 in GCSE Art, Photography or Design Technology or be able to demonstrate a serious commitment to the Visual Arts through a portfolio submission.

Biology
(OCR A)

Everyone has an interest in Biology, whether it be related to how life began, what are living things are made up of, how do they work and how do they interact with the environment, health and fitness, diseases, concern for the environment or views on genetic engineering, the list could go on and on!

For a lot of people the human species is of particular interest, in terms of how the human body works and the harmful and beneficial effects that we have on the Earth. The A level biology course encourages students to explore and seek answers to these questions whilst developing their own critical scientific thought process and a wide range of practical scientific skills.

Biology is the broadest of the three sciences and has links with many other subjects including Chemistry, Physical Education and Geography. The A level equips students with wide ranging skills that can be used in a variety of settings beyond A level, whether that be further education, studying degrees such as Biomedical Sciences, Environmental Science, Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy, or in an employment setting.

A Level

Content:
Module 1 – Development of practical skills in biology
Module 2 – Foundations in biology
Module 3 – Exchange and transport
Module 4 – Biodiversity, evolution and disease
Module 5 – Communication, homeostasis and energy
Module 6 – Genetics, evolution and ecosystems

Assessment:
The A Level is composed of three exams and a practical endorsement.
1: Biological processes: Written exam covering modules 1, 2, 3 & 5, 2 hours 15 mins, 37% of A Level
2: Biological diversity: Written exam covering modules 1, 2, 4 & 6, 2 hours 15 mins, 37% of A Level
3: Unified Biology: Written exam covering all modules 1-6, 1 hour 30 mins, 26% of A Level
Practical endorsement: non-exam assessment that is reported separately to the A Level grade.

Minimum Entry Requirements: Five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above, including Grade 6/6 in Double Science or Grade 6 in two separate sciences including Biology. Due to the mathematical emphasis of the course we also require GCSE Mathematics Grade 6 as well as GCSE English Grade 6.

Business Studies
(Edexcel)

Business Studies is a broad and varied subject, which will give you an understanding of how businesses operate, succeed and how others fail. You will analyse the reasons behind the decisions businesses make and how they develop strategy.

One of the things which makes this such an interesting subject is that the whole of society is impacted by the decisions that businesses make so the course covers highly topical areas such as marketing, pricing decisions, business ethics, globalisation, international trade, digital technology and the economic environment not to mention political developments such as Brexit or the sugar tax. In this way, studying Business Studies gives you a greater understanding of our society. You will also develop transferable skills such as numeracy, interpreting and analysing data and applying knowledge and understanding to different contexts to make judgements.

Students who study Business Studies go on to read a wide range of subjects at university, begin employment or take apprenticeships in areas such as accountancy, HR, operations, sales or even junior management.

What will I study?

Year 1 is an introduction to business and an examination of the key functional areas: Marketing and Human Resource Management. Finance and Operations. Year 2 is an investigation of the strategic (longer-term) decisions that all businesses have to make.

Topics include:

• What is business? nature and purpose of businesses, forms of ownership
• Management, leadership and decision making
• Marketing – understanding markets; segmentation, targeting and positioning and the marketing mix
• Operations – efficiency, productivity, quality, managing inventory and supply chains
• Finance – budgeting, cash-flow, break-even analysis and sources of finance
• Human Resources – organisational design, motivation, employer-employee relations.
• Analysing the strategic position of a business - assessing business performance using financial and non-financial measures; an in-depth look at the external environment
• Choosing strategic direction, strategic methods and managing strategic change.

Assessment

Paper 1: Marketing, people and global businesses. Each question is drawn from topics across Themes 1 and 4, and from one or more of the following contexts: local, national or global. Sections A and B each comprise one data response question broken down into a number of parts, including one extended open-response question.

Paper 2: Business activities, decisions and strategy. Each question is drawn from topics across Themes 2 and 3, and from one or more of the following contexts: local, national or global. Sections A and B each comprise one data response question broken down into a number of parts, including one extended open-response question.

Paper 3: Investigating business in a competitive environment. Each question is drawn from one or more of the following contexts: local, national or global. Section A will focus on the broad context provided in the pre-released document. Section B will focus on at least one strand within the context provided. Each section will contain unseen stimulus materials comprising quantitative and qualitative evidence. Students are required to apply their knowledge and understanding from all topic areas. Questions in Sections A and

B each comprise one data response question broken down into a number of parts, including one extended open-response question.

Minimum Entry Requirements: Five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above, including Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics and English.

Chemistry
(OCR A)

Everything around us is made up of chemicals, including ourselves.

Chemistry is about making and designing new molecules, analysing substances and working out how and why chemical reactions happen. The search for new substances is never ending and by studying Chemistry you can be part of this. It is considered the central science and hence is a key requirement for veterinary and medically related courses.

Here at Sexey's we follow the OCR A specification which is developed in conjunction with The Royal Society of Chemistry, GlaxoSmithKline and leading teachers. The course equips students with many transferable skills vital to success in the future such as data handling, problem solving ad critical analysis. This is why chemistry is often a desirable subject choice on further education and employment applications and allows students to enter a wide range of careers from the more obvious science based careers to the less obvious areas of accountancy and management consultancy.

A Level

Content:
Module 1 - Development of practical skills in Chemistry
Module 2 - Foundations in Chemistry
Module 3 - Periodic table and energy
Module 4 - Core organic Chemistry
Module 5 - Physical Chemistry and transition elements
Module 6 - Organic Chemistry and analysis

Assessment:
The A Level is composed of three exams and a practical endorsement.
1: Periodic Table, Elements and Physical Chemistry: Written exam covering modules 1, 2, 3 & 5, 2 hours 15 mins, 37% of A Level
2: Synthesis and Analytical Techniques: Written exam covering modules 1, 2, 4 & 6, 2 hours 15 mins, 37% of A Level
3: Unified Chemistry: Written exam covering all modules 1 to 6, 1 hour 30 mins, 26% of A Level
Practical endorsement: non-exam assessment that is reported separately to the A Level grade.

Minimum Entry Requirements: Five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above, including Grade 6/6 in Double Science or Grade 6 in two separate sciences including Chemistry. Due to the increased mathematical emphasis of the course we also require GCSE Mathematics Grade 6.

Drama
(AQA, Drama and Theatre Studies)

Studying drama will not only increase understanding of one of the most demanding and exciting art forms, it will also improve interpersonal skills and help develop self-confidence.

Employers recognise the value of this qualification because those who succeed on the course possess many of the assets that enable workplace success including initiative, creativity, communication and collaborative skills.

We have a studio equipped with sound and lighting, so study theatrical design as well as acting. Students may wish to submit theatrical design, directing or acting for practical examination. Regular theatre visits are arranged and theatre companies visit the school.

The AQA A-Level specification has 60% practical assessment (devised performance, extract performance, working notebook and reflective report) and 40% written examination. Students study five performance texts plus devised drama as outlined below:

Component 1: Drama and Theatre
This unit is focused on the interpretation of TWO plays from a performance perspective as well as the analysis of live theatre. You will undertake practical study of a play from a significant period of theatrical history, developing a theatrical overview that will allow you to respond as an actor, director or designer. You will also study a play from 20th or 21st Century Drama, responding as a director, actor and designer to communicate your interpretation of a given extract.

Assessment: 40% of A-Level. 3 Hour written paper.

Component 2: Creating Original Drama
Devising, Working Notebook & Performance. This unit builds on skills acquired throughout the course by giving you the opportunity to create an original devised drama for an audience. Your work will be influenced by the work and methodologies of one prescribed theatrical practitioner. You will then demonstrate your acting, directing or design skills as you devise, rehearse and perform your work in your selected style.

Assessment: 30% or A-Level. Internally assessed and externally moderated by postal moderator.

Component 3: Making Theatre
Practical Exploration Reflective Report & Theatrical Interpretation**.** This unit gives you an opportunity to demonstrate your acting, directing or design skills as you practically explore and theatrically interpret THREE extracts from THREE different published plays. The third extract should be heavily influenced in terms of theatrical aims, rehearsal methods and performance/ production style by the work of a theatre practitioner who has made a significant contribution to theatre practice and will be performed as a final assessed piece. You may be assessed as actor, director or designer for this unit.

Assessment: 30% of A-Level. Externally assessed by visiting examiner.

Entry Requirements: Five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above, including Grade 5 in English and/or Drama. An interest in the performing and creative arts would be beneficial.

English Literature
(Edexcel)

Studying English Literature at A Level will give you immense pleasure, inspire your curiosity, improve your writing skills and develop your proficiency as an informed and critical reader.

The A Level in English Literature is designed to build and go beyond the skills that you will have developed at GCSE, progressing to close textual analysis, contextual awareness and critical appreciation. Throughout your A Level study, you will explore a range of texts, all taken from the literary canon. You will also learn how to write critically about a wide range of plays, prose and poetry; you will be encouraged to question critical views, to read widely and to take part in presentations and discussions.

A Level English Literature is an academic qualification that is highly valued by universities and employers and will particularly suit students wishing to study all forms of English, humanities subjects or law at degree level. The course can lead to careers in PR and marketing, journalism, teaching, law, publishing and many others.

Component 1: Drama
For this unit students will study two plays based on the theme of tragedy, which will require an understanding of the genre and context, as well as the text itself. This is an open book exam where students will need to use critical views and theories to enhance their study and exploration of Shakespeare.

Assessment: Written exam, 2 hours 15 mins. 30% of A Level

Component 2: Prose
This is an open book examination. Students will be required to write one comparative essay based on two prose texts from the chosen theme of 'Science and Society', at least one must be pre-1900.
Assessment: Written exam, 1 hour, 20% of A Level

Component 3: Poetry
In this unit, students will study one named poet or poetic movement, a range of poems from a 21st Century anthology (Poems of the Decade) and a selection of unseen poems. This is an open book exam where students will compare the poems they have studied.
Assessment: Written exam, 2 hours 15 mins- 30% of A Level

Component 4: Coursework
A highlight of the A level course is that students are able to write one extended comparative essay as coursework, where they are given a choice to choose their own text to accompany a chosen text.
Assessment: An essay comprising 2500-3000 words on two texts (one of which is the student's choice) which equates to 20% of the overall grade.

Minimum Entry Requirements: Five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above, including Grade 6 in GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature.

Please note that the texts referenced above may change depending on teacher choice.

Extended Project Qualification
(AQA)

The Extended Project Qualification is a single piece of work, chosen by the student, that requires evidence of planning, preparation, research and independent working. It is an ideal opportunity to develop knowledge and expertise in an area of interest or for a future career. The extended project is a freestanding qualification. It is graded A*- E and worth half an A Level. It is highly valued by universities and higher education institutions.

Students have the choice of format for their project. It can be a 5000 word written project or a 1000 word written project accompanied by an artefact, design, creation or performance. In addition, students produce a logbook that reflects on all stages of the project, from initial ideas to completion.

Examples of written projects:

- Should the Monarchy be abolished in favour of a Republican state?
- How did the development of the British Motor Company Mini influence subsequent automotive design and engineering developments?
- How are the metaphysical poets' relationships with God represented?
- To what extent is 'virtual mirror box therapy' effective in treating stroke patients?

Examples of practical projects:

- An exploration into the similarities and differences between various Sacred Christmas songs (recording and performance)
- Comparison of two methods to extract sulphide components from garlic to determine which has the greater antimicrobial activity (science experiment)
- What challenges do both horse and rider face when performing the 'perfect dressage test? (Creation and performance of a dressage test)

The project starts in the summer term of Year 12 and should be completed and submitted by February of Year 13 (deadlines will be published). Students work with a supervisor who supports them through the research process, although the emphasis of this project is on independent research.

The skills, knowledge and understanding developed through the investigation are highly valued by universities and students might use this project in their UCAS personal statement, at interview stage for higher education and to support their personal aspirations and career development.

There are no formal entry requirements for this course. Students cannot apply for this qualification until the summer term of Year 12, when they will be invited to submit a proposal form for consideration.

Food Science and Nutrition (Level 3 Diploma)
(Eduqas WJEC)

This qualification provides an in-depth understanding of food science, nutrition, and their application in real-world contexts. You will explore the relationship between diet and health, food safety, and the development of innovative food products. The course combines academic theory with practical skills, preparing you for higher education or careers in areas such as dietetics, food science, public health, and product development.

Content:

- Nutritional needs across the life stages
- Practical food production skills
- Principles of food hygiene and food safety

- Optional units on food experimentation or current issues in food science and nutrition

Assessment:

Assessment is a combination of written examinations and non-examined assessments (coursework):

In Year 12:

- Unit 1: Nutritional needs across the life stages – Written exam (1 hr 30 mins) – 25%
- Unit 2: Developing practical food production skills – Internal assessment – 25%

In Year 13:

- Unit 3: Principles of food hygiene and food safety – Written exam (1 hr 30 mins) – 25%
- Plus one optional unit (Unit 4: Experimenting to solve food production problems OR Unit 5: Current issues in food science and nutrition) – Internal assessment – 25%

The course is taught through a mix of classroom-based theory, practical sessions in a fully equipped kitchen, and independent research. You will develop advanced cooking techniques, understand food safety legislation, and apply scientific principles to food production.

What can I do after this course?

This qualification supports progression to higher education courses and careers such as:

- BSc Food and Nutrition
- BSc Human Nutrition
- BSc Public Health Nutrition
- BSc Food Science and Technology
- Dietetics and nutrition consultancy
- Food product development
- Public health and food policy
- Catering and hospitality management

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above including English, in addition to a Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics. Prior study of a food related subject would be preferable but not as essential as a passion for food, science and nutrition.

French
(Edexcel)

Studying a language at A Level opens a wealth of opportunities in employment. International and multi-national companies are always seeking linguists who can grow their client base, developing new and exciting markets. From Engineering to Tourism and Leisure, Construction to Web Design, Architecture to Medicine, Journalism and Sports Coaching – linguists are sought after in every industry as our world becomes ever smaller in the face of Globalisation. Studying A level language will make you the desired candidate in any setting.

Teaching and learning in the Sixth Form is a different experience to that of lower school. Lessons are conducted in French with the 4 skills woven throughout each as you study engaging and relevant topics such as: Evolving society in France; Political / intellectual / artistic culture in Francophone countries; Immigration and the French multicultural society; The Occupation and Resistance to help you gain a better understanding of the social, political and historical context for modern French-Speaking society around the globe. To further immerse yourself in the language we will study literature and film in detail, analysing not only the texts themselves, but the context in which they were created and the thought-provoking themes they highlight. It is a challenging and highly rewarding course designed to ensure linguistic competence and a deepening cultural awareness.

A Level

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Translation
- Section A: Listening (30 marks)
- Section B: Reading (30 marks)
- Section C: Translation into English (20 marks)

Assessment: Written exam, 2 hours, 40% of A Level

Paper 2: Written Response to Works and Translation
- Section A: Translation from English into French (20 marks)
- Section B: Written response to literary texts (50 marks)
- Section C: Written response to films (50 marks)

Assessment: Written exam, 2 hour 40 mins, 30% of A Level

Paper 3: Speaking
Students complete two tasks:
- Task 1: Discussion on a Theme (30 marks)
- Task 2: Independent research presentation and discussion on that research (42 marks)

Assessment: Spoken exam (internally conducted and externally assessed), 21-23 mins (including 5 mins prep), 30% of A Level

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above, including Grade 6 in GCSE French.

Geography
(OCR)

Geography teaches about the Earth's places, people, environments and societies. At its core lies the understanding of the relationships and impacts between people and the environment. The A Level Geography course at Sexey's aims to encourage learners to develop a range of essential skills for Higher Education and the world of work through content which is relevant to any citizen of the planet in the 21st century. Through exciting topics, learners will understand the nature of physical and human geography whilst unpicking the debates surrounding contemporary challenges facing the world today.

Previous students that have studied Geography at A Level have gone on to study a range of degree courses including geography, marine biology, environmental science and engineering.

A Level

Component 1: Physical Systems
This incorporates *Landscapes Systems* (Coasts) and *Earth's Life Support Systems* (investigating the need for solutions to protect the Earth's water and carbon cycle systems).
Assessment: Written paper, 1 hour 30 mins, 22% of A Level qualification

Component 2: Human Interactions
This covers *Global Connections* (including Global Migration and Human Rights) and *Changing Spaces; Making Places*.
Assessment: Written paper, 1 hour 30 mins, 22% of A Level qualification

Component 3: Geographical Debates
This takes some of the most dynamic issues the planet faces and encourages learners to engage with, reflect on and think critically about them. Specifically, A Level students will gain a deep understanding of the *Hazardous Earth* and *Exploring Oceans.*
Assessment: Written paper, 2 hours 30 mins, 36% of A Level qualification

Component 4: Investigative Geography
Independent investigation related to the specification.
Assessment: Coursework, 20% of A Level qualification

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above, including Grade 5 in GCSE Geography (if taken as a GSCE option).

Geology
(OCR)

Geology is the study of the Earth and all of its processes. It will allow you to understand the structure of the planet, the hazards caused by our dynamic planet, the rocks and minerals that compose it, the history of life and how to harness the natural resources it provides. Geology is a field science and there is a strong focus on the application of field skills throughout the course. As a result there is a minimum requirement of four days fieldwork to be carried out to help develop the skills and techniques common in a geological setting.

The course is designed to assume no prior background geological knowledge and develops on concepts and ideas from GCSE Science, making it appealing to those with an interest in the Sciences or Physical Geography. Geology has many transferrable skills and has good links with A Level Biology, Chemistry, Physics and aspects of Geography. Historically many students that have taken Geology at A Level have gone on to either study it further as part of a Geology or Geoscience degree, or chosen to study degrees in the Sciences or Engineering.

This is a unique opportunity to study a truly fascinating subject as there are very few centres that can offer to run the course.

The course is composed of 7 modules:

Module 1 - Development of practical skills in Geology
Module 2 - Foundations in Geology
Module 3 - Global tectonics
Module 4 - Interpreting the past
Module 5 - Petrology and economic geology
Module 6 - Geohazards
Module 7 - Basin analysis

Assessment:
All papers cover content from modules 1-7:

- Paper 1: Fundamentals of Geology, 2 hours 15 minutes, 41% of A Level
- Paper 2: Scientific literacy in Geology, 2 hours 15 minutes, 37% of A Level
- Paper 3: Practical skills in Geology, 1 hour 30 minutes, 22% of A Level

Practical endorsement: non-exam assessment that is reported separately to the A Level grade, as either pass or fail. It consists of 12 practical activity groups that are completed during the course in line with taught content.

Fieldwork
As Geology is a field science it is important to get experience of the techniques used in the field. The course requires a minimum of 4 days field experience as the practical skills used will be indirectly assessed in the exams (with a 15% weighting) and many of the skills are required for parts of the practical endorsement.

To meet this requirement we spend a week in Pembrokeshire at the end of year 12 looking at the geological structures, features and rock types found there, to help us build up geological histories of the places we have visited. You will carry out fieldwork tasks which will contribute towards your practical activity groups, including fossil identification, geochronology (working out the sequence of events that took place millions of years ago), graphic logging, rock identification, taking geological measurements and mapping.

Minimum Entry Requirements: Five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above, including Grade 5/5 in Double Science or a Grade 5 in either Chemistry or Physics as a separate science. As 10% of the course marks will require the knowledge of a minimum of a Level 2 mathematical skills, we also require a Mathematics GCSE Grade 5.

History
(OCR)

Studying History is stimulating, challenging and invaluable and at Sexey's we are passionate about our subject. From the bloodshed of the Wars of the Roses to the controversy of German motivations in the lead up to WW1, History teaches you to be critical of the information you are fed and helps you to develop a better understanding of the world around you. Importantly, it is also an extremely well regarded subject by top universities and employers.

In recent years, students who studied History went on to undergraduate courses in: History, Law, Journalism, Drama, International Relations, War Studies, and Politics, Philosophy & Economics (PPE).

A Level

Component 1 (Y105): England 1445-1509
(Specific enquiry topic: Wars of the Roses)
One essay from a choice of two on the reigns of Edward IV, Richard III and Henry VII, 1461-1509 and the critical assessment of contemporary source material on the Wars of the Roses.
Assessment: Written exam, 1 hour 30 mins, 25% of A Level

Component 2 (Y221): Democracy & Dictatorships in Germany 1919-1963
One two-part question including a 'period study' style essay question and a shorter answer on the relative significance of two events.
Assessment: Written exam, 1 hour, 15% of A Level

Component 3 (Y318):
A thematic study that involves writing two essays on events over a 100-year period and one critical evaluation of historians' interpretations of named events.
Assessment: Written exam, 2 hours 30 mins, 40% of A Level

Component 4: Independent Topic Essay on the causes of WWI (source analysis)
Assessment: A single 3,000 – 4,000 word research essay (internally assessed), 20% of A Level

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above, including Grade 5 in GCSE History (if taken as a GSCE option).

Law
(OCR)

Have you ever wondered why we need laws, or how laws are made? Have you ever wondered how judges make decisions or how people become solicitors or barristers? Do you want to know about offences such as murder and theft, negligence, contracts or your rights? There are so many benefits to studying A Level Law, it links to all aspects of society! A Level Law helps students develop a range of transferable skills: analytical skills, attention to detail, logical thinking, research skills, essay writing skills and the ability to produce a balanced argument. Students will learn about the legal system, law making, the nature of law, criminal law, the law of tort and human rights law. Students also develop a range of subject specific skills including the application of legal rules and principles to present an argument, analysis and evaluation of the law, legal issues and concepts.

Paper 1: The Legal System and Criminal Law:
Section A focuses on the civil and criminal courts, the legal professions and access to justice. Students will develop knowledge and understanding of the processes and people involved in the law and the changing nature of the legal system.
Section B focuses on the rules and general elements of criminal law and provides an introduction to criminal liability through the study of offences against the person and offences against property. Students will develop their knowledge and understanding of criminal law and the skills to apply their legal knowledge to scenario-based situations and gain a critical awareness of the present state of criminal law.

Paper 2: Law Making and the Law of Tort:
Section A focuses on law making in England and Wales as well as the European Union. Students will study law making methods and their underpinning concepts. They will develop an understanding of legal method and reasoning as used by lawyers and the judiciary.
Section B focuses on the rules of tort, liability in negligence, occupiers' liability and remedies. Students will be able to apply their legal knowledge to scenario-based situations and gain a critical awareness of the present state of the law of tort.

Paper 3: The Nature of Law and Human Rights
Section A focuses on the nature of law. Students will explore the nature of law in a wider context and develop their understanding of how the law interacts with morality, justice, society and technology.
Section B focuses on human rights, including their nature, protection and constitutional position under UK law. Specific rights are explored in detail as are the restrictions on upon them and the process of enforcement through the courts. Students will be able to apply their legal knowledge to scenario-based situations and gain a critical awareness of the present state of human rights law.

Assessment:
Students will have three, two hour written exams at the end of the two years:

Paper 1: The Legal System and Criminal Law (33.3% of the A Level)
Paper 2: Law Making and the Law of Tort (33.3% of the A Level)
Paper 3: The Nature of Law and Human Rights (33.3% of the A Level)

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:
Five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above, including Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or GCSE English Literature.

Mathematics
(AQA)

Mathematics is a science based on the logic of quantity, order, arrangement, 3D space, structure and change. Mathematics is all around us and has been studied for thousands of years. With the technology of the modern age we are more reliant on it than ever before. Human knowledge of mathematics enables our stock exchanges and economies to run smoothly, facilitates us to communicate with each other from almost anywhere in the world and permits us to travel large distances safely in a relatively small amount of time.

Mathematics is a "facilitating subject", which gives students that study it a large choice of university courses, apprenticeships and careers. Someone who wants to study medicine will benefit by understanding how bacteria population will grow, and then decay when treated, and will also be able to understand the statistical analysis demonstrating the effectiveness of a new drug. A future pilot will develop an understanding of how their plane remains stable in the air despite changes in air pressure and wind speed, and can remain on course around a spherical planet over a 6000km journey.

Mathematics complements the arts and humanities, enabling students to acquire a broad range of skills during their time in the sixth form, developing their ability to think strategically and creatively, and also their aptitude for reasoning thoroughly and concisely. Mathematics supports the study of other subjects. For example students studying Mathematics alongside Geography or Psychology will be much more proficient in the statistical areas of these subjects.

A Level

Paper 1 assesses:
- Pure Maths: proof, algebra and functions, coordinate geometry, sequences and series, trigonometry, exponentials and logarithms, differentiation, integration and numerical methods.
Assessment: Written exam, 2 hours, 1/3 of A Level

Paper 2 assesses:
- Pure Maths content from Paper 1 and
- Mechanics: vectors, quantities and units, kinematics, forces, Newton's laws and moments.
Assessment: Written exam in two sections, 2 hours, 1/3 of A Level

Paper 3 assesses:
- Pure Maths content from Paper 1 and
- Statistics: statistical sampling, data presentation and interpretation, probability, statistical distributions and statistical hypothesis testing.
Assessment: Written exam, 2 hours, 1/3 of A Level

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above, including Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics.

Further Mathematics
(AQA)

Further Mathematics builds on many ideas studied in the A level Mathematics course, whilst also introducing some completely separate concepts; consequently this course must be studied alongside the A level Mathematics. Further mathematics introduces students to powerful and interesting concepts such as matrices and complex numbers. It is currently the only way for students to study discrete ("decision") maths, which gives an insight into the logic used in computers to order and process information.

Further Mathematics is an excellent course choice for someone who wishes to study a course at university with a high mathematical content, for example Mathematics, the Sciences, or any form of Engineering. The course can be studied as either a third or fourth A level, however if you plan to study it as one of three A levels, it is important that you are well informed on the entry requirements of the university courses that you are considering.

A Level

Paper 1 assesses:
- Pure Maths: proof, complex numbers, matrices, algebra and functions, calculus, vectors, polar coordinates, hyperbolic functions, differential equations, trigonometry and numerical methods
Assessment: Written exam, 2 hours, 1/3 of A Level

Paper 2 assesses the same content as Paper 1.
Assessment: Written exam in two sections, 2 hours, 1/3 of A Level

Paper 3 assesses:
- Discrete: Graphs, networks, network flows, linear programming, critical path analysis, game theory (zero-sum games) and binary operations.
- Mechanics: Dimensional analysis, momentum and collisions, work, energy and power, circular motion, centre of mass and moments.
Assessment: Written exam, 2 hours, 1/3 of A Level

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above, including Grade 8 in GCSE Mathematics.

Music Technology
(Edexcel)

The Music Technology A Level encompasses a wide range of industry-standard skills, techniques, and knowledge to create a fantastic springboard for anyone interested in entering the dynamic and exciting world of the Music industry, as well as creative and technical audio pathways within the Gaming, IT, and Film industries. Combining recording, creative composition, sound design, production, and elements of audio engineering, we 'look under the hood' of music and audio to see what makes it tick and how we can manipulate it to provide an unlimited sonic palette from which to create!

Course content:

Component 1 - Recording (coursework - 20%): Plan, arrange, and engineer your own recording sessions and edit, mix, and master your tracks to create a final multi-track recording.

Component 2 – Technology-based Composition (coursework - 20%): Let your creativity run wild in a commission-style production task whereby you use recording, synthesis, sampling and creative FX to build a musical composition to meet your chosen brief.

Component 3 – Listening and Appraising (exam - 25%): A listening exam with a focus on identifying, describing and analysing production features in popular music from ~1940-present day.

Component 4 – Producing and Analysing (exam – 35%): A primarily practical exam; tracks and stems are provided by the exam board to which correction techniques and other production processes are applied as dictated by the questions. Written questions in this paper are generally of a more technical nature, focussing on industry-standard approaches to production.

Entry requirements: Five GCSEs at 5 or higher. Strong maths/science is beneficial but not essential.

Please note this course DOES NOT require a GCSE in Music or any supplementary instrumental tuition. Whilst these are very beneficial to the course, pupils instead should display a passion for popular music and creative confidence. They should also have a willingness to devote time and practice to learning some challenging new software!

This course would suit anyone interested in careers in the music, gaming, or film industry, such as: producers; artists; mixing and mastering engineers; A&R; management; podcasting; video game/film composition and soundtracking; Music supervision; library management etc. It would also suit aspiring musicians who want to increase their technical knowledge alongside their traditional musical education.

Photography
(AQA)

The course aims to develop an understanding of a range of photographic approaches and techniques related to the developing, printing and manipulation of photographic images. This will involve both darkroom work and computer-based work (Photoshop) combined with investigations into the work of established photographers. The emphasis is on research and experimentation, and you will have the chance to go beyond the traditional flat print using a variety of techniques. Photography is important because all sectors of the job market require creative thinkers who can innovate, see and make connections, solve problems and make informed decisions and judgements.

This course will help to develop many transferrable skills you can use in the future. Students who studied Photography went on to study Broadcast Media, Journalism, Graphic design, Film making, Animation and Art & Design.

A Level

Component 1 - Personal Investigation and Skills Development
During the first term, you will develop your camera-based skills, learning how to shoot outside in various settings and genres. You will spend a term learning Photoshop techniques, including basic image enhancement and manipulation. You will integrate critical analysis and contextual research of photographers past and present with your practical outcomes.

From April of Year 12, you will begin your first major project extending from your skills development workshops, on a theme set by the student. This project forms a substantial piece of work in both written and practical content. You will also undertake a critical essay analysing your chosen topic for component 1.

Assessment
Internally assessed and externally moderated in Jan/Feb of Year 13. 60% of total A Level qualification. This is assessed by the teacher and externally moderated in Year 13.

Component 2: Exam

From February of Year 13, you will undertake a shorter project, but this theme will be set by the examination board.

Assessment
The exam accounts for 40% of the total A Level qualification. This is assessed by the teacher and externally moderated in Year 13.

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above, including Grade 5 or equivalent in GCSE Art and Design, Photography or Media or be able to demonstrate a serious commitment to the Visual Arts through a portfolio submission.

Physics
(OCR)

``A philosopher once said, `It is necessary for the very existence of science that the same conditions always produce the same results.' Well, they don't!'' (1965) Richard P. Feynman

Physics really is the most exciting and interesting of all the sciences. If you want to know the answer to questions starting "How?" Or "Why?", Physics can probably help you find the answers. An enquiring mind and an interest in the world around you are key attributes for prospective Physicists. At Sexey's School we encourage students to broaden their minds and stretch their thinking to the limits. Whilst we, of course, are working hard towards good exam grades, we encourage students to read widely and enjoy the subject.

A Level

Year12

Module 1: Development of Practical Skills in Physics
Module 2: Foundations of Physics
Module 3: Forces and Motion
- Motion
- Forces in Action
- Work, Energy and Power
- Materials
- Momentum

Module 4: Electrons, Waves and Photons
- Charge and Current
- Energy, Power and Resistance
- Electrical Circuits
- Waves
- Quantum Physics

Year 13

Module 5: Newtonian World and Astrophysics
- Thermal Physics and Ideal Gases
- Circular Motion and Oscillations
- Gravitational Fields
- Stars and Cosmology (the Big Bang)

Module 6: Field and Particle Physics
- Capacitance and Electric Fields
- Magnetic Fields
- Particle Physics
- Radioactivity and Nuclear Physics
- Medical Imaging

Assessment:
Paper 1: Written exam: Modelling Physics, 2 hours 15 mins, 37% of A Level, covering modules 1, 2, 3 & 5
Paper 2: Written exam: Exploring Physics, 2 hours 15 mins, 37% of A Level, covering modules 1, 2, 4 & 6
Paper 3: Written exam: Unified Physics, 1 hour 30 mins, 26% of A Level, covering all modules
Practical endorsement: non-exam assessment that is reported separately to the A Level grade.

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above, including Grade 6/6 in Double Science or Grade 6 in Physics as a separate science. Due to the increased mathematical emphasis of the course we also require GCSE Mathematics Grade 6 and strongly suggest taking Mathematics A-level as an additional option.

Politics
(Edexcel)

Politics exists because people disagree. They disagree about how they should live (moral questions), about who should get what (resource questions) and about who should make decisions (power questions). People with different ideas, values, opinions and interests attempt to find a way of living together within the same society. As such, politics is the most basic and necessary of social activities - the creation of an orderly existence. Politics will suit students who:

- Have an interest in the world around them and who want to know more about the society they live in, how it works and how it could work
- Enjoy debate, discussion and argument and who are comfortable with the fact that in politics there are no simple 'rights' or wrongs'
- Take an interest in news and current affairs and like to think for themselves, developing their own views rather than just accepting the views of others

THIS IS A TWO-YEAR LINEAR A LEVEL COURSE: The syllabus will be assessed by a terminal exam, consisting of 3 component papers.

A Level

Component 1: UK Politics, comprising:
- Political Participation in the UK: focusing on the mechanisms that link people to government. Its core themes are political participation, democracy, political parties, and the electoral system.
- Core Political Ideas: students will study the core political ideas of conservatism, liberalism and socialism.
Assessment: Written examination, 2 hours, 33 1/3% of A Level qualification

Component 2 UK Government, comprising:
- UK Government: focusing on the main institutions of the central UK government. Its core themes are the distribution of policy-making power and the effectiveness of the key bodies in carrying out their roles or functions. Topics include the British Constitution, Parliament, prime minister and executive and the relationship between the branches.
- Non-Core Political Ideas: students will study either anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multi-culturalism or nationalism.
Assessment: Written examination, 2 hours, 33 1/3% of A Level qualification

Component 3: Global Politics, comprising:
We live in a complex world with significant challenges, including global terrorism, poverty, economic instability, weapons proliferation, failing states and environmental degradation. These challenges require global co-operation if they are to be resolved.

Global politics gives students an opportunity to develop an understanding of the local, national, international and global dimensions of political activity. It also gives students the opportunity to explore the political issues that affect all of us.

Assessment: Written examination, 2 hours, 33 1/3% of A Level qualification

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above, including Grade 5 in GCSE History or Grade 5 in English Language if History is not taken at GCSE.

Psychology
(AQA)

Psychology is the study of human behaviour: why we act the way we do, and why some people act differently to others. The course looks at famous psychologists and their research studies in order to understand things like how other people shape our personality, how our brain works, or even what happens when our mental health doesn't go to plan, for example with depression or schizophrenia.

A Level Psychology takes a scientific approach to studying human behaviour, and a large section of the course covers experimental method and scientific analysis. Psychology will increase students' evaluative skills and therefore help them to become better learners and communicators, whatever the future holds for them.

An interest in people is very important, alongside a curiosity to find things out and understand yourself and the people around you. You will need a scientific mind-set and good analytical and evaluative skills, to be able to think about experiments critically and apply your knowledge of psychology to everyday examples. The exams use a variety of scientific, shorter questions, as well as longer essay style questions up to 16 marks.

A Level

Unit 1 - Introductory topics in Psychology
- Social Influence – Why are people swayed by what other people think or say?
- Memory – How does our memory work, and can we rely on eyewitness accounts of crimes?
- Attachment – Why are our relationships to other people so important, how do our early relationships shape us?
- Psychopathology – How are disorders, such as depression, OCD or phobias, explained and treated?

Assessment: Written exam, 2 hours, 1/3rd of A Level

Unit 2 - Psychology in context
- Approaches – How do we explain human behaviour?
- Biopsychology – How do our brain, nervous system and hormones control our behaviour?
- Research methods – How do we run effective experiments in psychology and what makes an experiment good or bad when studying people? This section of the exam is a double section and runs throughout all the exam papers, accounting for 25% of total marks across all three papers.

Assessment: Written exam, 2 hours, 1/3rd of A Level

Unit 3 Issues and options in Psychology
- Issues and debates in psychology
- Relationships – What makes someone attractive? What makes some relationships successful and others not?
- Schizophrenia – Why do people hear voices, see things that aren't there or believe things that aren't real? How can we help them?
- Addiction – How do people become addicted to alcohol, smoking, gambling or drugs and what can we do to help?

Assessment: Written exam, 2 hours, 1/3rd of A Level

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above, including Grade 5/5 in Double Science or at least 2 Grade 5s in Triple Science.

Religious Studies
(Pearson Edexcel)

Religious Studies addresses challenging and topical issues central to philosophy, religion and ethics. You will have the opportunity to explore ethical theories, contemporary moral problems, arguments for and against the existence of God, a study of the Problem of Evil and whether religious language can have any meaning. You will also consider ethical theories such as Utilitarianism, Situation Ethics, Kantian Ethics and how these can be applied in the real world. In addition, you will have the opportunity to investigate and critique the works of a range of modern and classical philosophers and theologians.

You will gain independent thinking skills, the ability to debate, construct arguments, evaluate evidence, and understand the views of others. It is a subject of great diversity and you will be expected to keep an open mind to consider both the adherent's and sceptic's point of view. Useful skills are developed such as questioning sources and considering bias and active participation in debates is encouraged. Religious Studies is well regarded by universities and employers as it provides students with the skills to question, evaluate, analyse and interpret the world around them. Possible career choices include the civil service, law, politics, charities, NGO's, journalism, business, teaching and social services.

A Level

Paper 1: Philosophy of Religion

Philosophical issues and questions; The nature and influence of religious experience; Problems of evil and suffering; Philosophical language; Works of scholars; Influences of developments in religious belief which includes study of life after death, the idea of the soul and religion and science debates.

Paper 2: Religion and Ethics

Significant concepts in issues or debates in religion and ethics; A study of three ethical theories to include Utilitarianism, Situation Ethics and Natural Moral Law; Application of ethical theories to issues of importance, including sexual ethics and war and peace; Ethical language; Deontology, Virtue Ethics and the works of scholars; Medical ethics: beginning and end of life issues.

Paper 4: Study of Religion – Christianity

Religious beliefs, values and teachings; Sources of wisdom and authority; Practices that shape and express religious identity; Social and historical developments; Works of scholars; Religion and society including Christianity and science, secularisation of society, Liberation, Feminist and Black Theologies; Primary texts.

Paper 1: Philosophy of Religion
Paper 2: Religion and Ethics
Paper 4: Study of Religion: Christianity

Assessment:
This is a linear course. All three papers are externally assessed written examinations. Each paper lasts 2 hours and contributes 33.3% of the A Level.

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above, including a Grade 5 in Religious Studies or Grade 5 in English Language if Religious Studies not taken at GCSE.

Sociology
(AQA)

This will be a new subject for most students. Sociology studies the way people behave and the way social groupings can affect their behaviour. Sociology will allow you to step back from your own interpretation of the world and develop an insight and understanding of the society in which we live and the interactions between individuals and society. Students are encouraged to develop their own sociological awareness through an active engagement with the contemporary world. At the end of this course, students will ask questions like “Why did this happen”? “How did this happen”? and “For who’s benefit did this happen”?

Students completing the course have entered university to study a wide range of subjects ranging from law, media and business studies to nursing, education and medicine.

The skills and knowledge developed in the first year of the course will be utilised and embedded within the second year of the A Level course.

Introduction to Sociology: students examine key concepts and theories associated with the study of Sociology.
Topic 1: Education with Methods in Context. Includes: the role and functions of the education system; differential educational achievement of social groups; relationships and processes within school; educational policies.
Topic 2: Research Methods and The Family. Research Methods includes: practical, ethical and theoretical issues influencing choice of topic and research methods. The Family includes contemporary family structures; gender roles and power relationships; relationship of the family to social structures and state policies; the nature of childhood; demographic trends.
Topic 3: Beliefs in Society: This topic studies religious organisations, the relationship between different social groups and religious organisations and the significance of religiosity in a contemporary world.
Topic 4: Crime and Deviance: This topic includes the study of the social distribution of crime; crime and social order; globalisation and crime and crime control.
Topic 5: Sociological Theory

Assessment:
Students who complete the full A Level will have three written exams at the end of the two years:
• Paper 1: Education and Theory and Methods, 2 hours, 80 marks, 1/3rd of A Level
• Paper 2: Topics in Sociology (The Family and Religion), 2 hours, 80 marks, 1/3rd of A Level
• Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods, 2 hours, 80 marks, 1/3rd of A Level

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Five GCSEs at Grade 5 or above, including Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or GCSE English Literature.

Spanish
(Edexcel)

Studying a language at A Level opens a wealth of opportunities in employment. International and multi-national companies are always seeking linguists who can grow their client base, developing new and exciting markets. From Engineering to Tourism and Leisure, Construction to Web Design, Architecture to Medicine, Journalism and Sports Coaching – linguists are sought after in every industry as our world becomes ever smaller in the face of Globalisation. Studying A level language will make you the desired candidate in any setting.

Teaching and learning in the Sixth Form is a different experience to that of lower school. Lessons are conducted in Spanish with the 4 skills woven throughout each as you study engaging and relevant topics such as: How the society (Family, Education, the world of work) has evolved in Spain; The trends in political/intellectual/artistic culture in Spanish speaking countries; Social issues and trends in immigration; The Civil War, Franco and how democracy was restored. This will help you gain a better understanding of the social, political and historical context for modern Spanish-Speaking society around the globe. To further immerse yourself in the language we will study literature and film in detail, analysing not only the texts themselves, but the context in which they were created and the thought-provoking themes they highlight.

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Translation

- Section A: Listening (30 marks)
- Section B: Reading (30 marks)
- Section C: Translation into English (20 marks)

Assessment: Written exam, 2 hours, 40% of A Level

Paper 2: Written Response to Works and Translation

- Section A: Translation from English into Spanish (20 marks)
- Section B: Written response to literary texts (50 marks)
- Section C: Written response to films (50 marks)

Assessment: Written exam, 2 hour 40 mins, 30% of A Level

Paper 3: Speaking

Students complete two tasks:

- Task 1: Discussion on a Theme (30 marks)
- Task 2: Independent research presentation and discussion on that research (42 marks)

Assessment: Spoken exam (internally conducted and externally assessed), 21-23 mins (including 5 mins prep), 30% of A Level

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Five GCSEs at Grade 4 or above, including Grade 5 in GCSE Spanish.

Sport and Exercise Science
BTEC Diploma and Extended Diploma (Pearson)

The BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate in Sport and Exercise Science is a vocational qualification that is consists externally and internally assessed units.
Externally assessed units are Units 2 & 3.
These are written and marked by Pearson.
Internally assessed units are written and marked by teaching staff.

The BTEC course complements the work undertaken in Biology, Psychology, Maths and Sociology. Students can expect a good progression to higher education when taken alongside other A levels.

BTEC accreditation can also be used for employment in the sporting industry and gives students a firm base to start their career in Personal Training, Coaching or Leisure Management.

Unlike A Level Physical Education most of the units you will cover are not an assessment of your physical ability, but some units do require you to take part in activities such as fitness testing, coaching and different types of training and exercise.

Example Units for Year 12 study on the Diploma
Students must complete all units:
Unit 2: Functional Anatomy: External
Unit 3: Applied Sport and Exercise Psychology: External

Example Units for Year 13 study on the Diploma
Unit 6: Coaching for Performance and Fitness: Internal
Unit 8: Specialised Fitness training: Internal
OR
Unit 10: Physical Activity for Individual and Group-based Exercise: Internal

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Grade 5 in Double Science or Biology, Grade 4 in English and Maths.

Enthusiasm and interests in sport and fitness are essential. However, the ability to perform a sport or sports to a high level is not a prerequisite. Studying GCSE PE or another Sport based Level 2 qualification would be advantageous.