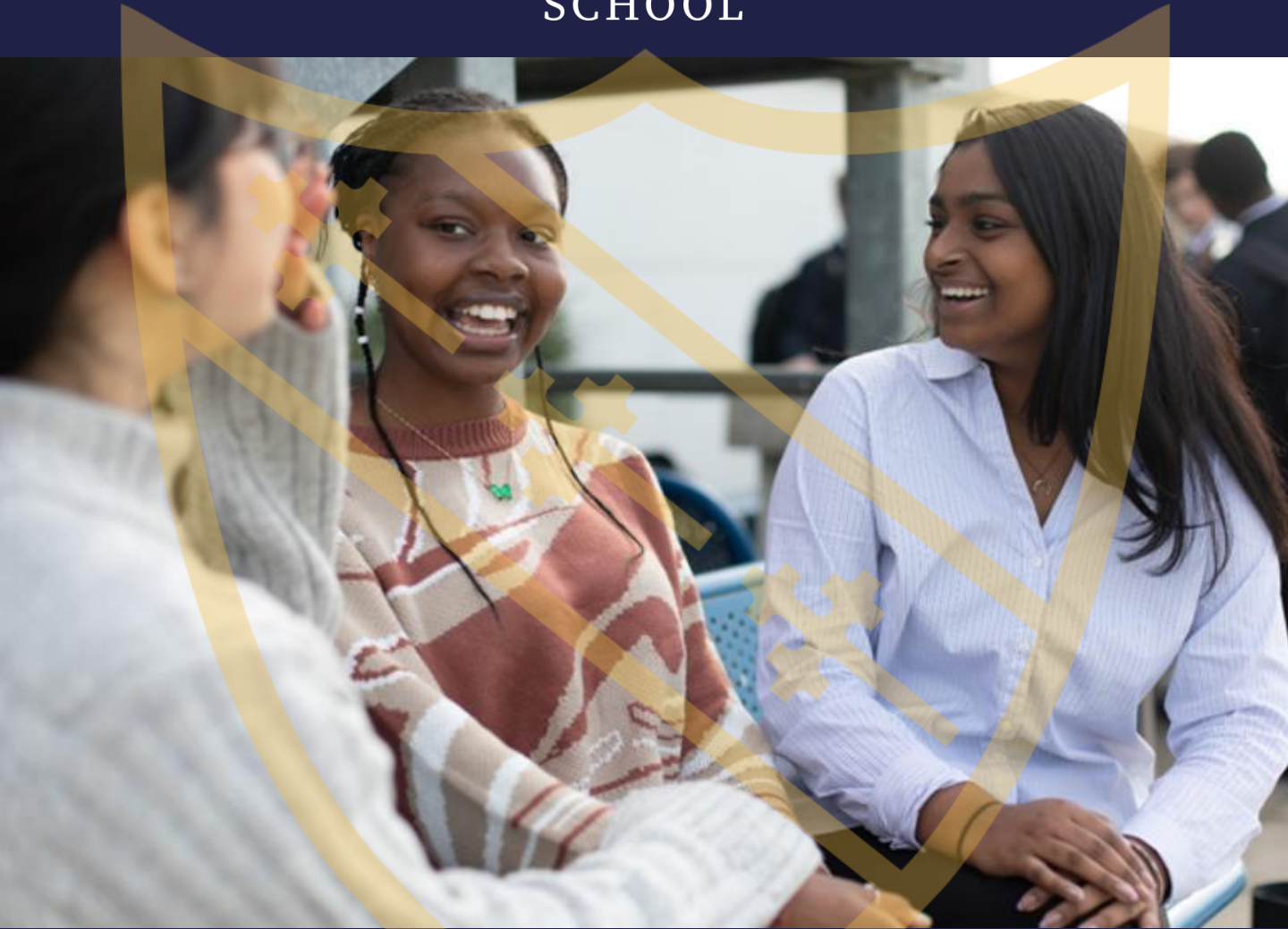




THE NORTON KNATCHBULL SCHOOL



SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS

Headteacher's Welcome

Thank you for showing an interest in The Norton Knatchbull School Sixth Form. I hope as you find out more about us that you will see that our approach is not a case of one size fits all. Just as you discover more about us, we want to know and learn about your interests, passions and aspirations - to ensure that you are able to follow a programme which reflects your achievements at GCSE but is also consistent with your ambitions.

Our approach is underpinned by the Knatchbull Baccalaureate, which comprises 4 key elements:

- Academic Study
- Enrichment
- Community and Leadership
- Extension and Excellence

Our Sixth Form provides opportunities in each of these areas, and colleagues will work with you in these to support, challenge and push you to achieve the best possible outcomes.

This includes your A Level grades, but also more holistically in developing the qualities, skills and experiences necessary for life in the 21st Century.

Alongside this there is one other commitment we will make – which is to care for you. Our staff – teaching and support - will get to know you. On average our class sizes are smaller than other Sixth Forms. These smaller classes mean you will experience a richer more in-depth relationship with teachers as you explore subjects more deeply.

If you are joining us from another school, it means you will get to know us, and we will get to know you more quickly and better than you might imagine. This matters in teaching, and it also underpins our pastoral care.

I very much hope to meet and welcome you to the school in person in the New Year. In the meantime, best wishes for the rest of Year 11 – and please do not hesitate to contact us to find out more about how we can support your Sixth Form plans.

Headteachers Welcome

Mission Statement

At The Norton Knatchbull School we are proud of our history, tradition and achievements, at the same time as looking to the future for fresh challenges.



We value each individual for whom they are and their ability to improve and grow.



We share mutual respect based on care, integrity and trust.



We are inspired by a passion for creative and demanding learning experiences.



We work with the wider community to make a positive difference.



We celebrate our achievements, both in the classroom and beyond.

The Mission Statement was written by our student leaders in 2019 and reflects the values and qualities which inspire them as young people in the 21st Century – linking with and resonating with the motto of the school - Benefactorum Recordatio Jucundissima Est,

"Things done well make the best memories" – the words of the school's founder, Sir Norton Knatchbull in 1637.

-Mr MacLean





*"Benefactorum Recordatio
Iucundissima Est"*

*Things done well, make the
best memories*





Student Leadership Team

2026-2027

Students in the Sixth Form have well-embedded and positive study habits. They routinely model exemplary manners and demonstrate high levels of independence

OFSTED 2023



The Sixth Form Team



Sixth Form is an exciting time. Choosing the right path at post-16 level is one of the most important decisions you will make in your school career. The options you decide to follow now will determine the avenues open to you later. We are here to help you make the right choices and to ensure that you are successful. We pride ourselves on our friendly, supportive, welcoming community and we are confident that our Sixth Form will provide you with a vibrant and challenging environment in which you can flourish as an individual.

We offer a multitude of ways in which to build on GCSE successes and specialise in curriculum areas that inspire lifelong interest, learning and careers. There is an expectation that you will aim high and take advantage of the many and varied opportunities in the school to further develop the key qualities of reasoning, reflection and resilience.

As a member of our Sixth Form, you will act as a role model for our younger students, leading, inspiring and supporting them, whilst also pursuing your own academic and personal goals. We strongly believe that the experience in The Norton Knatchbull Sixth Form will enable you to take the next steps in your career with confidence, initiative and maturity.

Our dedicated Sixth Form team have a wealth of experience between them in academic, pastoral and study support and also offer guidance in post-18 options.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Sixth Form at The Norton Knatchbull School.



“The academic and pastoral support available at NKS is phenomenal – the teachers are very supportive and informative. If there is anything wrong or you feel you are struggling there is ALWAYS someone that you can talk to”

Year 12 student



The Sixth Form Curriculum

Our Entry
Criteria Page
07

Drama &
Theatre
Studies Page
17

History Page
26

Product
Design Page
35

Art Page
09

Economics Page
18

Law Page
27

Psychology Page
36

Biology Page
10

English
Language &
Literature Page
19

Mathematics Page
28

Sociology Page
37

Business
Studies Page
11

English
Literature Page
20

Music Page
29

Spanish Page
38

Chemistry Page
12

Enrichment Page
21

Music
Technology Page
30

Beyond our
taught
curriculum Page
39

Classical
Civilisation Page
13

Extended
Project
Qualification Page
22

Philosophy Page
31

Computer
Science Page
14

French Page
23

Physical
Education Page
32

Core
Mathematics Page
15

Further
Mathematics Page
24

Physics Page
33

Digital
Art/Graphic
Communications Page
16

Geography Page
25

Politics Page
34



Entry Criteria

Entry requirements:

- A minimum of six separately identifiable GCSE subjects at grade 6 or above, OR an average of grade 6 in the best six GCSE subjects achieved. (Your six best results should add up to 36 or more)
- At least a grade 5 in both English and Mathematics.
- For most subjects at A Level, a grade 6 in the subject at GCSE is required.
- However, for A Level Mathematics a grade 7 is required, and for Further Mathematics a grade 8 is necessary.
- There are also specific requirements for the sciences, please see these sections for further details.

Internal & External applicants:

The application window is between Monday 10th November 2025 to Friday 3rd April 2025 and should be completed through Kent Choices www.kentprospectus.co.uk.

Any late applications or queries should be sent via email to SixthFormRecruitment@nks.kent.sch.uk.

For Internal Students discussions about options are planned to begin in January 2025.

Parent/Student Personal Consultations will be from January; available every Tuesday from 15:15- 17:00 and can be booked via the link on our website.

We are happy to offer students the opportunity of bespoke tours of the school and its facilities.





“The atmosphere here is also amazing, there is always somewhere I can go and someone I can talk to, where I can cry and laugh, and I’m always understood. If you are feeling nervous or need a general chat the staff are absolutely fabulous“.

Year 13 student



Fine Art (Edexcel)

Course overview:

This Fine Art course provides students with the opportunity to develop creative, technical and conceptual skills through the exploration of traditional and digital art practices.

Students will investigate how art can communicate ideas about personal and cultural identity, society, the environment and contemporary life, while developing their ability to research, experiment, record and refine ideas from initial sketches through to final outcomes.

The course encourages engagement with a wide range of artistic influences, including historical and contemporary artists, exhibitions, architecture, film, music, literature and nature, while developing an understanding of concepts such as representation, abstraction, visual language, materials, sustainability and audience response.

Students can work across four key disciplines: painting and drawing, printmaking, sculpture, and lens-based image making, developing practical skills in areas such as painting, drawing, printmaking, three-dimensional construction, photography, film, animation and digital media. Through experimentation with diverse materials, processes, tools and technologies, students will develop an individual artistic practice that combines research, critical thinking, technical ability and personal expression to create imaginative, considered and original artwork.

Exam format:

Component 1: Personal Investigation (60%)

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment (40%)

Entry requirements:

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Subject.

Courses and career ideas:

Successful completion of the Fine Art course can provide progression into a wide range of creative vocational pathways, including professional art practice, illustration, graphic design, photography, animation, film, sculpture, printmaking and other creative industries. Students may progress to apprenticeships, specialist creative courses or employment within arts, design, media and cultural organisations

Biology (Edexcel/ SNAB)

Course overview:

Developed in conjunction with leading subject experts from the University of York Science Education Group in collaboration with schools, universities and biological scientists, the SNAB course offers a context-led approach to A Level Biology designed to stimulate scientific interest and enquiry.

Topic 1: Lifestyle, Health and Risk

Topic 2: Genes and Health

Topic 3: Voice of the Genome

Topic 4: Biodiversity and Natural Resources

Topic 5: On the Wild Side

Topic 6: Immunity, Infection and Forensics

Topic 7: Run for Your Life

Topic 8: Grey Matter

Further information on the content of these topics can be found in the specification which can be download from the Edexcel examination board website.

[Edexcel AS and A level Biology A 2015 | Pearson qualifications](#)

Exam format:

Paper 1: The Natural Environment and Species Survival – a 2-hour paper examining Topics 1-6. The paper may include multiple-choice, short open, open response, calculations and extended writing questions.

Paper 2: Energy, Exercise and Co-ordination – a 2-hour paper examining Topics 1-4 and 7-8. The question format is the same as in Paper 1.

Paper 3: General and Practical Applications in Biology – a 2-hour paper examining Topics 1-8. The paper will include synoptic questions which may be based on two or more topics.

A pre-release article will underpin one exam question. All three papers will be taken at the end of the course for first assessment in summer 2020. They each have the same weighting.

Science Practical Endorsement – specific competency in a range of practical skills will be assessed internally by the teacher and a pass or fail awarded. The Endorsement will not contribute to the overall grade for this qualification.

Entry requirements:

GCSE Biology grade 6 or GCSE Combined Science grades 7-7. (A grade 6 in English and Mathematics is essential.)

Courses and career ideas:

Agriculture, Animal Behaviour, Biochemistry, Biology, Biosciences, Biotechnology, Dentistry, Dietetics, Ecology, Environmental Science, Genetics, Horticulture, Marine Biology, Medicine, Midwifery, Nursing, Physiotherapy, Sports Science, Agriculture, Veterinary Science, Wildlife Conservation.

Business Studies (AQA)

Course overview:

We study 10 different aspects of business.

- 1: What is business?
- 2: Managers, leadership and decision making
- 3: Decision making to improve marketing performance
- 4: Decision making to improve operational performance
- 5: Decision making to improve financial performance
- 6: Decision making to improve human resource performance
- 7: Analysing the strategic position of a business
- 8: Choosing strategic direction
- 9: Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies
- 10: Managing strategic change

Exam format:

Paper 1: This is a written 2-hour examination worth 100 marks in total. This paper is worth 33.3% of the A Level weighting. There are 3 compulsory sections:

Section A has 15 multiple choice questions worth 15 marks

Section B has short answer questions worth 35 marks

Sections C and D have 2 essay questions worth 25 marks each (there is a choice of one from two on both sections)

Paper 2: This is a written 2-hour examination worth 100 marks in total. This paper is worth 33.3% of the A Level weighting. There are 3 data response compulsory questions worth approximately 33 marks each and made up of 3 or 4 part questions.

Paper 3: This is a written 2-hour examination worth 100 marks in total. This paper is worth 33.3% of the A Level weighting. There is one compulsory case study followed by approximately 6 questions.

Entry requirements:

GCSE grade 6 in Business Studies OR, for those who have not studied Business Studies previously, GCSE grade 6 in English. (A grade 6 in Mathematics is desirable.)

Courses and career ideas:

Accountancy, Banking and Finance, Business Management, Business Studies, Economics, Financial Services, Human Resource Management, Logistics and Supply Chain Management, Marketing, Retail Management.

Chemistry (OCR)

Course overview:

OCR A provides a flexible approach where the specification is divided into topics, each covering different key concepts of chemistry. Chemists will study:

- Foundations in Chemistry
- Periodic Table and Energy
- Core Organic Chemistry
- Physical Chemistry
- Transition Elements
- Organic Chemistry and Analysis

Teaching of practical skills is integrated with the theoretical topics and they are assessed both through written papers and the Practical Endorsement. This is a minimum of 12 practical activities to demonstrate practical competence.

Further information on the specification can be found
[OCR A Chemistry](#)

Exam format:

- Paper 1: Periodic table, elements and physical chemistry (37% of grade)
- Paper 2: Synthesis and analytical techniques (37% of grade)
- Paper 3: Unified Chemistry (26% of grade)
- Non-exam assessment: Practical Endorsement (Reported separately)

Entry requirements:

GCSE Chemistry grade 6 or GCSE Combined grades Science 7-7. (A grade 6 in Mathematics is essential.)

Courses and career ideas:

Applied Chemistry, Biochemistry, Chemical Engineering, Chemistry, Earth Sciences, Environmental Chemistry, Forensic Science, Geology, Materials Science, Nanotechnology, Petroleum Engineering, Pharmacology, Pharmacy.

Classical Civilisation (OCR)

Course overview:

Over the two-year course, candidates will engage with the ancient worlds of Athens and Rome through a broad, coherent and rewarding series of study units. Students will study:

- **The World of the Hero** In this compulsory component students will study Homer's *Odyssey*, as well as Virgil's *Aeneid*. Learners will develop an increasingly sophisticated level of knowledge and understanding of the epics themselves, the way in which they were composed, and the religious, cultural and social values and beliefs of its society. These texts are highly popular, giving opportunities to study the wonderful stories from Greek and Roman mythology.
- **Imperial Image** The idea of a politician 'spinning' their public image is one which is very familiar from our contemporary media; and so, this exploration of a Roman politician and his successful propaganda campaign is both highly relevant and engaging for learners. Augustus Caesar was, through careful management of public opinion, able to convince a society that was fundamentally anti-monarchical to turn away from its republican values and to accept one-man rule. Through an examination of the literature and visual/ material culture of the period, students will assess the effectiveness of each strand of his self-presentation, as well as the effectiveness of his public image as a whole.
- **Politics of The Late Republic** looks at a period of upheaval and conflicting views on how the Roman state should function. These conflicts saw the Republic develop, change and ultimately fall, leading to the rise of the Roman Emperors. Students will study the political thought of the period through examining Marcus Porcius Cato ('Cato the Younger'), Gaius Julius Caesar, and Marcus Tullius Cicero whose very different ideas bring this tumultuous period to life for students. Our studies move beyond simply studying ideals and abstracts, into discussion of the practical difficulties familiar to states throughout history to the discussions around populist politics being played out in the UK and the wider world today.

Exam format:

There is NO COURSEWORK attached to this course. Assessment will be through examinable components only.

Entry requirements:

No prior knowledge of Classical Civilisation is required. Minimum GCSE grade 5 in English/English Literature. No knowledge of other languages, including Latin and ancient Greek is necessary. All texts are in English.

Combines well with:

English Literature, History, Law, Sociology, Psychology, Politics, Philosophy, Science and Languages, Drama.

Computer Science (OCR)

Course overview:

Computer Science focuses on how computers and information systems work, how their components interact, and on learning the planning, writing and testing of algorithms and programs using logical and mathematical skills.

Unit 1: focusing on processors, input/output and storage devices, software and software development, exchange of data, data types, data structures, legal aspects of computer science.

Unit:2: focusing on computational thinking, problem solving, programming and algorithms.

Unit 1 (2nd year): focusing on software and software development, exchange of data, data types, data structures, legal aspects of computer science at a more advanced level than Year 12.

Unit 2 (2nd year): focusing on computational thinking, problem solving, programming and algorithms at a more advanced level than Year 12.

Unit 3 (Term 2 Y12 to Term 3 Y13) - Substantial individually-designed programming project, creating a solution for an end user.

Exam format:

Unit 1: Written Examination 2 hr 30 minutes (40%)

Unit 2: Written Examination 2 hr 30 minutes (40%)

Unit 3: Coursework project (20%)

Entry requirements:

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Computer Science.

For applicants who have not studied Computer Science, GCSE Maths at Grade 7+*

Courses and career ideas:

Business information systems, Business Computing, Business Studies, Computer Science, Cyber Security, Engineering, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics, Philosophy, Sciences

**For students intending to study the subject without GCSE Computer Science, the department should be contacted to provide catch-up / preparation work to be completed before the start of Year 12.*

Core Mathematics

(Edexcel)

Course overview:

The course runs for one year and has the same UCAS points as an AS level qualification. The Core Maths qualification supports a wide range of level 3 study areas. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Biology
- Business and Economics
- Geography
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Sports Science and PE

This course focusses on real-world application of mathematics, particularly with statistics and statistical representations. The lessons focus on context-based problem-solving tasks, which support mathematical and critical thinking skills. Students will also build on their communication skills whether that is mathematically, verbally or written. Students will explore a wide range of study areas including:

- Applications of statistics
- Probability
- Linear programming
- Sequences and growth

Core maths is an excellent choice for students to study alongside their other A level choices.

Exam format:

The final examinations is entirely exam-based at the end of the one-year course.

Paper 1: Comprehension 40% of the qualification

Paper 2: Applications 60% of the qualification

Entry requirements:

GCSE grade 5 in mathematics (must be with higher tier).

Courses and career ideas:

Core maths is an excellent way to support maths content in other A level subjects. Students excelling in core maths may go on to study psychology, business, geography and more.

Digital Art / Graphic Communications

(Edexcel)

Course overview:

This Graphic Communication course develops contemporary creative and digital skills, with a particular focus on animation, digital illustration and product branding. Students learn how to communicate ideas effectively through the combination of images, typography, colour, moving image and digital media, while considering the needs of different audiences and commercial contexts.

Through practical projects and design briefs, students develop skills in digital illustration using industry-relevant software, creating visual narratives, characters, promotional artwork and interactive content, alongside animation techniques including storyboarding, moving image, sound and time-based design. The course also introduces product branding and packaging, enabling students to explore brand identity, logo development, packaging design, sustainable materials and the creation of three-dimensional prototypes.

Students will develop an understanding of advertising, marketing, typography, information design and digital presentation, while learning to balance creativity with client requirements, audience expectations and commercial objectives. The course provides a contemporary foundation in visual communication, encouraging students to experiment with emerging technologies and develop a professional portfolio that reflects the skills and practices of the modern creative industries.

Exam format:

Component 1: Personal Investigation (60%)

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment (40%)

Entry requirements:

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Subject.

Courses and career ideas:

Students completing this course can progress into a wide range of vocational roles within the creative and digital industries, including **animation, digital illustration, graphic design, branding, advertising, packaging design, social media content creation and digital marketing**. Opportunities may include apprenticeships, junior designer roles, freelance creative work and employment within design agencies, marketing teams, publishing, media and animation studios. The practical and portfolio-based nature of the course also provides a strong foundation for developing specialist skills and progressing into industry-focused training or employment.

Drama & Theatre Studies (Edexcel)

Course overview:

This course is an examination of Drama and Theatre throughout history and requires students to develop their skills as a director, designer and/or performer.

The course is broken down into 3 components:

Component 1: Devising

This unit requires students to perform an original and unique piece of theatre from a play extract and a recognised theatre practitioner. Students are marked on their performance and design as well as a portfolio that they create during the process of developing their piece.

Component 2: Text in Performance

Students will be required to perform either a monologue or a duologue from a key extract of one play, along with the performance of a key extract from another play as a group piece. There is also the option to design the lighting, set, costume or sound for the two pieces instead.

Component 3: Theatre Makers in Practice

Students will be assessed on: a theatre evaluation of a live performance; the practical exploration and study of a complete text; the practical exploration and study of another complete text in the light of a chosen theatre practitioner, focusing on how this text could be reimagined for a modern audience.

Exam format:

Component 1 is worth 40% of the overall A Level and is marked out of 80. The devised piece can either be a written or recorded document.

Component 2 is worth 20% of the overall A Level and is marked out of 60. This piece is marked by a visiting external examiner.

Component 3 is worth 40% of the overall A Level and is marked out of 80. This paper takes the form of a 2 and a half hour written examination

Entry requirements:

Grade 6 or above in GCSE Drama is an advantage but not essential. Students should have at least a grade 6 in GCSE English in order to cope with the written coursework and examination demands of the course.

Courses and career ideas:

Actor or Theatre Technician, Film Production, Event's Organiser, Barrister, Teacher/Lecturer, Education Officer, indeed any line of work that requires presentation skills.

Combines well with:

Drama pairs particularly well with subjects such as Music, Art, English Literature, Psychology and Sociology because they all develop analytical, communication and creative skills.

Economics

(Edexcel)

Course overview:

Microeconomics

- 1.1 The nature of economics
- 1.2 How markets work
- 1.3 Market failure
- 1.4 Government intervention
- 3.1 Business growth
- 3.2 Business objectives
- 3.3 Revenues, costs and profit
- 3.4 Market structures
- 3.5 The labour market
- 3.6 Government intervention

Macroeconomics

- 2.1 Measuring economic performance
- 2.2 Aggregate demand and supply
- 2.3 National income
- 2.4 Economic growth
- 2.5 Macroeconomic objectives and policy
- 4.1 International economics
- 4.2 Poverty and inequality
- 4.3 Emerging and developing economies
- 4.4 The financial sector
- 4.5 Role of the state in macroeconomy

Exam format:

- Paper 1: Markets and Business Behaviour
2 hour written exam worth 100 marks. Comprises 35% of the total A Level
- Paper 2: The National and Global Economy
2 hour written exam worth 100 marks. Comprises 35% of the total A Level
- Paper 3: Microeconomics and Macroeconomics
2 hour written exam worth 100 marks. Comprises 30% of the total A Level

Entry requirements:

GCSE grade 6 in Economics OR, for those who have not studied Economics previously, GCSE grade 6 in Mathematics.

Courses and career ideas:

Accountancy, Banking, Business Finance, Economics, International Business Economics, Mathematics, Politics, Statistics.

English Language & Literature (Combined Edexcel)

Course overview:

Studying English Language and Literature together is a great combination and one which will equip students with a variety of transferable skills such as; writing, analysis, applying context and reading for meaning.

The course is perfect if you enjoy not only the creative aspects of the written word, but also if you're interested in how literature and language reflect society. It will complement your other studies and prepare you well for university and your future career.

Students will combine the skills developed in the separate qualifications of GCSE English Literature and GCSE English Language and learn to apply these to texts in an integrated approach.

Learners will be required to study a range of literature texts including Shakespeare and modern texts. These texts will be explored through the prism of language analysis.

The content of A level English Language and Literature is broader than that of other English A levels because, in addition to the study of novels, poetry and plays, it includes the study of non-fiction and spoken texts as well as providing exciting opportunities for creative writing.

Exam format:

At Norton Knatchbull we teach Edexcel's English Language and Literature specification which covers six set texts and is made up of three components:

- 1 – Voices in Speech and Writing Examined component worth 40%
- 2 – Varieties in Language and Literature also examined and worth 40%
- 3 – Investigating and Creating Texts and is the Coursework component worth 20%

Entry requirements:

GCSE grade 6 in English Language and English Literature.

Students can progress from A level language and literature to higher education courses such as degrees in English, English literature, creative writing or in related subjects such as journalism, media, teaching, drama, and history amongst others

Courses and career ideas:

There are also a wide range of careers which are directly related to English language or literature, such as teacher, editor, writer, or in areas such as publishing, journalism, the media, advertising, marketing, public relations, arts administration, record offices, libraries, national and local government and the civil service

English Literature

(AQA)

Course overview:

Studying English Literature will equip students with a variety of transferable skills such as; writing, analysis, applying context and reading for meaning. It will allow students to study a variety of texts in depth and explore the texts in their historical period and their importance to today's world

Paper 1: Love through the Ages

You will focus on the theme of love and study a Shakespeare play, an anthology of poetry from Tudor times to the modern day and a novel

Paper 2: World War One and its aftermath

You will study three texts linked by the theme of war. These will be in the form of poetry, drama and prose and come from a range of writers and perspectives from WW1 poets to contemporary writers such as Ben Elton and Pat Barker.

NEA: Coursework

You will produce an essay of 2,500 words based on a study of two texts of your choice linked by theme. These can be prose, drama or poetry ranging from themes such as gothic, race, identity and dystopia.

Exam format:

Paper 1: Love through the Ages

3 hours written exam, comprises 40% of the A Level

Focuses on texts links through the theme of love including a Shakespeare play, modern prose and poetry

Paper 2: World War One and its aftermath

2 hours 30 mins written exam. Comprises 40% of the A Level

Study of three texts: one prose, one poetry, and one drama, of which one must be written post-2000

NEA: Course work, comprises 20% of the A Level.

Comparative critical study of two texts, at least one of which must have been written pre-1900

Entry requirements:

GCSE grade 6 in English Literature and English Language.

Courses and career ideas:

Communication Studies, Creative Writing, English Language, English Literature, Journalism, Media Studies, Theatre Studies.

Teacher, lecturer, writer, actor, theatre critic, journalist, lawyer, librarian, editor, publisher and many more.

Enrichment

Sixth form enrichment here at NKS is compulsory for all students. It is an opportunity for our students to explore any interests they may have beyond their examined curriculums.

Our enrichment courses/activities provide our students with the necessary skills which help to prepare them for their next steps. A catalogue of transferrable skills will be taught, learnt and improved on aiding them in their transition in life after NKS.

The enrichment programme is delivered every Wednesday period 5. Having a dedicated period, which is consistent and regular, ensures students are actively participating with the opportunities provided to them. Those who are proactive and engage the most, benefit hugely from the programme.

Enrichment activities on offer include:

- Level 3 Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) – A recognised qualification which is equivalent to half an A Level
- Sports
- Student Leadership
- Young Enterprise Initiative
- Learning to drive support
- Eco- society
- MOOCS (Massive Open Online Courses) – A flexible way to learn new skills and prepare for working careers
- Work experience
- Community volunteering
- Student Mentoring
- First aid
- CAD CAM
- Sign Language
- Sixth Form Debating Society
- Bar Mock Trial Competition

Alternative enrichment activities

Students can also use their enrichment time to attend any clubs/societies that are on offer in the school, such as the Debating or Journalism Societies.



Extended Project Qualification (EPQ- AQA)

Course overview:

The EPQ is an additional qualification worth half an A Level which allows students to demonstrate their passions and interests to universities and employers. The course is self-directed with students deciding on the area of study. They must plan, research and develop their idea to realise their finished product which takes the form of:

1. A 5,000 word report, or an artefact (such as a computer programme, an architectural model or a piece of art) plus a 1,000 word report.
2. A Production Log detailing the development of the project.
3. A short presentation of their findings.

Students are supported by individual supervisors and the Centre Coordinator, who delivers a programme of taught skills to aid successful completion of the project. These skills include:

- Developing a suitable title;
- Project management to facilitate independent working;
- Research techniques to enable the selection and evaluation of appropriate resources;
- Ethical research and the collection and analysis of data;
- Formatting and structuring research reports to accepted academic standards;
- Referencing and avoiding plagiarism;
- Presentation techniques.

AQA guidance states that EPQ students can expect to spend 120 hours over an academic year including the 30 hours of taught skills. Project content must not directly overlap with other subjects being studied.

Exam format:

Centre assessed on completion of essay/artefact, log and presentation.

Entry requirements:

Open to all students at the discretion of the Sixth Form Team.

Courses and career ideas:

The EPQ is recognised by universities as evidence of independent research skills and is relevant to all courses.

French (AQA)

Course overview:

Nearly 400 million people in the world speak French as a first or second language. French is, alongside English, the only language spoken across the five inhabited continents. It is also the 4th most used language on the internet.

The A Level French course at NKS will allow you to explore the language not only from a purely linguistic perspective, but also to enhance your problem-solving skills while you become a true critical thinker.

The course covers a wide range of cultural, sociological, political and contemporaneous topics centred on France and French-speaking countries, such as the evolution of the family structure, the cyber society, the importance of heritage and political issues.

Alongside these topics, you will learn how to analyse in depth a French film during your first year; while in year 13, you will take a closer look at a French novel.

Exam format:

The final examinations consist of three units at the end of the two-year course.

These units test students in the skills of speaking, listening, writing, reading and translation.

Paper 1= Listening, Reading and written translation 50% of the qualification (2h30 -100 marks)

Paper 2= Written response to work on the film and the book 20% of the qualification (2h – 80 marks)

Paper 3= Speaking 30% of the qualification (21-23 mns including 5 mn preparation time, 60 marks)

Entry requirements:

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Subject.

Courses and career ideas:

A huge range of modern foreign languages are available – studied on their own or combined with another subject, such as European Studies, Linguistics, Journalism, Politics, International Relations.

Further Mathematics (Edexcel)

Course overview:

Students who choose Further Maths follow a two-year course. In their first year, they complete A level Maths. In their second year, they complete A Level Further Maths. For A level Maths content, please refer to page 26.

For Further Maths, students cover the following core content: complex numbers, proof, matrices, further algebra and functions, further calculus, further Vectors, polar co-ordinates, hyperbolic functions and differential equations. In addition, students cover two additional options from the following: Further Pure, Further Statistics, Further Mechanics and Decision Maths. These options are chosen by the relevant teacher and students on the course, and all students study the same chosen options

Exam format:

All content is assessed at the end of the course. Further Maths A Level is 100% examination based. Alongside these exams, students will also sit the A Level Mathematics examinations.

Paper 1: Further Pure Maths covering the core pure content - 75 marks. Duration 1 hour 30 minutes.

Paper 2: Further Pure Maths covering the core pure content - 75 marks. Duration 1 hour 30 minutes.

Paper 3: Further Maths Option 1 - 75 marks. Duration 1 hour 30 minutes.

Paper 4: Further maths Option 2 - 75 marks. Duration 1 hour 30 minutes.

Entry requirements:

GCSE grade 8 in Mathematics.

Courses and career ideas:

Actuarial Science, Accountancy, Business Studies, Computer Science, Economics, Engineering, Financial Services, Mathematics, Software Engineering, Statistics.

Geography (AQA)

Course overview:

A. Physical Geography

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

B. Human Geography

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

C. Geography investigation

D. Geographical skills

Exam format:

Component 1 Physical Geography: Written exam of 2 hours 30 minutes, 96 marks - 40% of A-Level

Section A: Water and carbon cycles

Section B: Coastal systems and landscapes

Section C: Hazards

Component 2 Human Geography:

Written exam of 2 hours 30 minutes, 96 marks - 40% of A-Level

Section A: Global systems and global governance

Section B: Changing places

Section C: Contemporary urban environments

Component 3: Geographical investigation

Students complete an individual investigation which must include data collected in the field. The individual investigation must be based on a question or issue defined and developed by the student relating to any part of the specification content: 3,000–4,000 words/35 marks - 20% of A Level.

Entry requirements:

GCSE grade 6 in Geography.

Courses and career ideas:

Those who have studied Geography have gone on to work in the following sectors: law, science, sales, business, environment, information technology, management, finance, banking, marketing, research, manufacturing, teaching, childcare, engineering and building, arts, design and media, town planning, working abroad and many (many) more.

History (AQA)

Course overview:

War, revolution, romance, communism, medieval warfare, nuclear bombs, optimism and despair are some of the more dramatic elements that students will study in Route A. There are 3 components in this linear A-Level: two examined topics and one coursework topic.

Component 1 covers the arc of Russian history from Tsarism, through the Revolution and up to the peak of the Cold War (1855–1964). This topic also teaches students how to pass judgement on numerous historians' interpretations on Russian history, from left and right. Component 2 is a classic study of fear, dysfunctional families, lust and vicious battles in early modern England: the Wars of the Roses (1450–99). This topic also enables students to find value in contemporary historical writings, despite the bias, distortion and propaganda of Lancastrian, Yorkist and Tudor sources. The coursework will cover the evolution of US foreign policy 1890–2000 from sleeping giant to world superpower.

Exam format:

Component 1: Russia 1855–1964 (40%, examination end of Y13: 2 hours 30 minutes)

Component 2: Wars of the Roses (40%, examination end of Y13: 2 hours 30 minutes)

Component 3: U.S. Foreign Policy (20%, coursework)

Entry requirements:

GCSE grade 6 in History. History students require a keen interest in events which have shaped the politics and society of the world. You will need to be willing to discuss the topics in lesson and work/read independently in order to strengthen the work done in lesson. Students should also be prepared to present, occasionally, their findings. You should also have an interest in developing your understanding of the historian's craft: analysing and evaluating the value of sources and the validity of various interpretations.

Courses and career ideas:

History, Law, Journalism, Sociology, Business, Politics, International Relations, Archaeology, Media, English, Education, American Studies, Heritage Studies, Ancient History, Medieval Studies, Social History.

Please Note: For Route B – PTO. Students who would like to study History A-level have two options: our long-running Route A, and a new Route B. Route A will run next year, as usual. Route B will only run if there is enough demand for both routes. Applicants to the History A-level should apply to study History A-level at NKS, only if they are prepared to study either route. Please note that the school will do everything it can to ensure students' preferences are met.

Combines well with:

Politics, Classical Civilisations, English Literature, Geography, Law, Sociology, Psychology, Philosophy.

Law (AQA)

Course overview:

Studying Law gives students an understanding of the role of Law in today's society and raises their awareness of the rights and responsibilities of individuals. By learning about legal rules and how and why they apply to real life, students also develop their analytical ability, decision making, critical thinking and problem-solving skills. All these skills are highly sought after by higher education and employers.

Topics are clearly structured and include:

- The nature of law and the English legal system
- Private law
- Public law
- Legal skills

Assessment involves a mixture of question types including multiple choice, short answer and extended response questions. Assessment is 100% exam-based.

Exam format:

The exam will comprise of 3 written 2-hour exam papers each worth 33.3% of the A Level weighting. Each paper will include a combination of multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions.

Paper 1: Written 2-hour examination worth 100 marks in total worth 33% of A Level.

- The nature of law and the English legal system (25 marks out of 100).
- Criminal law (75 marks out of 100).

Paper 2: Written 2-hour examination worth 100 marks in total worth 33% of A Level.

- The nature of law and the English legal system (25 marks out of 100).
- Tort (75 marks out of 100).

Paper 3: Written 2-hour examination worth 100 marks in total worth 33% of A Level.

- Law of contract (75 marks out of 100).
- The nature of law and the English legal system (25 marks out of 100).

OR

- Human rights (75 marks out of 100).
- The nature of law and the English legal system (25 marks out of 100).

Entry requirements:

GCSE grade 6 in English, History, OR Sociology.

Courses and career ideas:

Corporate Law, Legal Practice (Solicitor/Barrister), Law Enforcement, Education

Mathematics (Edexcel)

Course overview:

This is a challenging and popular course. It covers two main elements: Pure Mathematics and Applications.

Pure elements:

These elements provide students with the tools and techniques required to solve problems in other areas of mathematics, for example science and engineering.

The course starts by developing algebra skills before moving into:

- Proof
- Algebra and functions
- Coordinate geometry
- Sequences and series
- Trigonometry
- Calculus
- Numerical methods

Applications – Students study two areas:

- Statistics
- Mechanics

Exam format:

Assessment is linear with examinations at the end of the two-year course. The course is 100% examination based.

Paper 1: Pure Maths 1 (100 marks). 2-hour duration.

Paper 2: Pure Maths 2 (100 marks). 2-hour duration.

Paper 3: Section A: Statistics (50 marks). Section B: Mechanics (50 marks). 2-hour duration.

Entry requirements:

GCSE grade 7 in Mathematics.

Courses and career ideas:

Actuarial Science, Accountancy, Business Studies, Computer Science, Economics, Engineering, Financial Services, Mathematics, Software Engineering, Statistics

Music (Eduqas/WJEC)

Course overview:

Music A-level allows students to pursue their own interests in terms of performance, developing their skills as musicians and performers. Both solo and ensemble performances are permitted, the choice being that of the students. Complementing this practical element are composition and appraising skills.

Having one of the two compositions from a brief, the other being free choice echoes the format of the GCSE, forming a smooth transition between the two qualifications. Similarly, the Appraising paper echoes that taken at GCSE, requiring a more in-depth analysis at A Level.

All the skills acquired and used to study music at A-level; teamwork, analysis, communication, resilience make music an excellent supporting and contrasting subject choice.

Performing: 10-12 minutes of performance of a minimum of 3 pieces. This can be as a soloist, part of an ensemble or both. (35% of exam total)

Composing: 2 compositions lasting between 4-6 mins. One must be from a set brief given in Sept of Year 13, the other is a free choice. (25% of exam total)

Appraising: 3 areas from the list below.

Area A: (compulsory) The development of the symphony 1750-1900

One of:

Area B: Rock and Pop OR

Area C: Musical Theatre OR

Area D: Jazz

Either: Area E: Into the 20th Century OR

Area F: Into the 21st Century

Exam format:

Performing: 10-12 mins performance non-exam assessment.

Composing: 4-6 mins submission to board non exam assessment.

Appraising Exam : 2hr 15mins (40% of exam total)

Entry requirements:

GCSE grade 6 in Music. Students should have a grade 5 in a musical instrument or the equivalent aptitude with a sound knowledge of the theory, a grade 5 in theory or willing to work towards this in year 12.

Courses and career ideas:

Radio, Film and TV, Music Production, Performing, Music Therapy, Teaching, Sound engineering, Music performance, BIMM, Royal Academy. RCM, Guildhall, Huddersfield, Manchester, Durham

Music Technology (Edexcel)

Course overview:

Clear emphasis on music technology, without the emphasis on music theory – Edexcel have retained the practical and theoretical elements of music technology which motivate students more and reduced the emphasis on music theory which we know some students don't enjoy as much.

Equipping students with skills for higher education and beyond – The content of this course is designed to develop a broad range of skills including project management, appraising and analysis, creativity and imagination. Students will be able to progress to undergraduate study in Music Technology, Sound Production, Sound Engineering and many other courses requiring a similar skill set.

Component	Overview	Assessment
Component 1 Recording  20% NEA	One recording, chosen from a list of 10 songs consisting of a minimum of five compulsory instruments and two additional instruments.  Keyboard tracks may be sequenced.  Total time must be between 3 minutes and 3½ minutes.  Logbook and authentication form must be supplied.	1 recording Total of 60 marks
Component 2 Technology-based composition  20% NEA	One technology-based composition.  Synthesis and sampling/audio manipulation and creative effects use must be included.  Total time must be 3 minutes.  Logbook and authentication form must be supplied.	1 recording of composition Total of 60 marks
Component 3 Listening and analysing  25% Exam	Comprises two sections: A and B, all questions are compulsory.  One audio CD with the unfamiliar commercial recordings to accompany questions on the paper will be provided per student.	Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes  Section A: Listening and analysing (40 marks)  Section B: Extended written responses (35 marks) Total of 75 marks
Component 4 Producing and analysing  35% Exam/practical	Comprises two sections: A and B and all questions are compulsory.  Students will correct and then combine audio and MIDI materials (provided) to form a completed mix, which may include creating new tracks or parts from the materials provided.	Written/practical examination: 2 hours 15 minutes (plus 10 minutes setting-up time)  Section A: Producing and analysing (85 marks) responses and practical tasks.  Section B: Extended written response (20 marks) Total of 105 marks

Courses and career ideas:

This course could lead you onto university Music Technology and Production courses, leading to roles in the music industry such as;

Recording engineer, Record producer, live sound engineer, composer, A and R, record companies, sound production for TV and Film, mixing engineer, mastering engineer.

Philosophy

(AQA)

Course overview:

Philosophy gives you the tools to explore fundamental questions about the human condition: What is the meaning of life? What does it mean to be morally good? What is love? Does God exist? Over the course of two years, you will be introduced to philosophical reasoning and argument and be shown how apply this to your own experiences and real-life scenarios. You will be introduced to a rigorous selection of philosophical arguments and concepts, which you will be encouraged to explore by constructing and deconstructing powerful arguments.

Over the two years we will cover four main areas of philosophy:

- **Epistemology:** you will explore the origins and limits of human knowledge. Can we truly ever *know* anything? Is all knowledge equal or is our concept of knowledge flawed? Set texts include those written by Plato, Descartes and Hume.
- **Moral Philosophy:** you will apply ethical frameworks to scenarios such as stealing, simulated violence in video games and eating meat to debate the concepts of good and bad; right and wrong. You will study the work of philosophers such as Kant, Bentham and Aristotle.
- **Metaphysics of God:** your reading will lead you into enquiries regarding the nature of evil, the existence of God and religious language. You will study a range of theories such as Anselm's ontological argument and Swinburne's design argument.
- **Metaphysics of Mind:** you will examine the nature of body and mind, considering where body and mind diverge and exploring concepts such as functionalism and dualism.

Exam format:

- Paper 1 – Epistemology and moral philosophy
 - Paper 2 – The metaphysics of God and the metaphysics of mind
- 2 written examinations (100 marks in each paper), each 3 hours long

Entry requirements:

GCSE grade 6 in English. Students should have a genuine interest in the philosophical concepts offered and be prepared to be part of a culture of collaboration where debate and classroom discussion are a significant part of the learning experience. Philosophy is a rigorous but rewarding subject and we expect our students to engage with the set texts with curiosity and interest.

Courses and career ideas:

Philosophy is recognised by universities as being one of the most academically challenging and therefore prestigious degrees in higher education. Philosophy provides ideal preparation for careers in law, journalism, politics, teaching and marketing to name a few.

Combines well with:

Psychology, Politics, History, Sociology, Media Studies, English Language & Literature, Art.

Physical Education (AQA)

Course overview:

Physical Education at A Level Is designed to be run over a two-year linear programme, with students sitting examinations at the end of the two-year course. During the course of the two years, students will be engaged in the following material that naturally links into a degree level programme of study for Sports Science:

- Applied anatomy and physiology
- Skill acquisition
- Sport and society
- Exercise physiology
- Biomechanical movement
- Sport psychology
- Sport and society and the role of technology on physical activity and sport

Exam format:

The course is assessed both academically and practically, and is split as follows:

Paper 1: Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport - worth 35% of the A Level

- Section A: Applied anatomy and physiology
- Section B: skill acquisition
- Section C: Sport and society

Paper 2: Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport - worth 35% of the A Level

- Section A: Exercise physiology and biomechanics
- Section B: Sport psychology
- Section C: Sport and society and technology in sport

Practical assessment (NEA): Practical performance in physical activity and sport - worth 30% of the A Level • Students are assessed as a performer or coach in the full sided version of one activity • Students also have to do a written analysis of performance

Entry requirements:

GCSE grade 6 in Physical Education (**written examination**) OR, for those who have not studied PE previously, a GCSE grade 6 in Biology or Additional Science. Students should be actively participating in a recognised sport to a good club or low-level county standard and representing their school in at least one other sport.

Courses and career ideas:

Health Studies, Nutrition, Physiotherapy, Sport and Exercise Science, Sports Marketing, Sports Science.

Physics (OCR A)

Course overview:

In the first year Physics students will study: Development of Practical Skills in Physics; Foundations of Physics; Forces and Motion and Electrons; Waves and Photons.

In the second year, students will study the aforementioned topics as well as the Newtonian World, Astrophysics, Fields, Particles, Radioactivity Nuclear and Medical Physics.

The teaching of practical skills is integrated with the theoretical topics and they are assessed both through written papers and the Practical Endorsement.

Exam format:

Paper Content	% of Grade Examined
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1 Modelling Physics	37%
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2 Exploring Physics.	37%
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3 Unified Physics	26%
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Non-exam assessment: Practical Endorsement Reported separately (on-going)

Entry requirements:

GCSE Physics grade 7 or GCSE Combined grades Science 7-7. (A grade 6 in Mathematics is essential.)

Courses and career ideas:

Acoustics, Applied Physics, Astrophysics, Electronics, Engineering – from Aerospace and Civil to Mechanical and Marine Engineering, Geophysics, Optometry, Physics, Radiography, Astrobiology, Astrochemistry, solid state physics, banking and financial sector.

Politics (AQA)

Course overview:

It's time to re-write the Politics textbooks...again. UK and US politics have been through a lot in the last few years. The premierships of Johnson and...Truss. The Presidency of Trump...will there be another...?

Lively, relevant and controversial...there are many ways to describe A-level Politics but there is no denying that it is one of the most interesting and engaging qualifications you can choose.

This course will introduce you to the British and US political systems, the theories (such as Marxism, conservatism and anarchism) which underpin, or seek to challenge them. Politics is taught through a lively, investigative approach and offers challenge to all abilities.

A wide range of methods and techniques is employed, including research, presentation, debate, role-play, drama, AV and ICT. All help to stimulate deeper understanding and sharpen analytical skills

Exam format:

Paper 1

Government and politics of the UK

Written exam: 2 hours

33⅓ % of A-level

Questions: a mixture of medium length 'explain' and essay style questions.

Paper 2

The government and politics of the USA

Comparative politics

Written exam: 2 hours

33⅓ % of A-level

Questions: a mixture of medium length 'explain' and essay style questions.

Paper 3

Political ideas

Written exam: 2 hours

33⅓ % of A-level

Questions: a mixture of medium length 'explain' and essay style questions.

Entry requirements:

GCSE grade 5 or above in a humanities subject such as History, Geography. Politics students need to be comfortable with plenty of extended reading and writing.

Courses and career ideas:

Politics, History, Law, International Relations, Social Policy, Peace Studies, Social Sciences.

Combines well with:

History, Classical Civilisations, English Literature, Geography, Law, Sociology, Psychology, Philosophy.

Product Design

Design & Technology

(AQA)

Course overview:

This specification is designed to encourage candidates to:

- develop a broad view of design and technology
- develop their capacity to design and make products
- appreciate the complex relations between design, materials, manufacture and marketing.

Year 12 outline

In year 12, students develop an understanding of core technical principals, core designing and making principles and additional specialist knowledge. Students build on their previous knowledge by undertaking a variety of projects designed to broaden their knowledge and skills across the key areas including:

Communication, Investigation, analysis, designing, developing, problem solving, planning, realisation and evaluation.

Year 13 outline

In year 13, students build on their subject knowledge, technical understanding in preparation for the examinations.; They undertake one large projects to design and prototype a product. The product is client-based and relies on client testing and feedback throughout the project, combined with in-depth knowledge of materials, processes and production techniques to produce a commercially viable product.

Exam format:

Paper 1: Technical principles –

30% of A-level. 2.5 hour written paper. 120 marks.

Mixture of short answer and extended response

Paper 2: Designing and making principles–

20% of A-level. 1.5 hour written paper. 80 marks.

Mixture of short answer and extended response questions

Section A (30 marks)

Product Analysis -up to 6 short answer questions based on visual stimulus of products

Section B (50 marks)

Commercial Manufacture- short and extended response questions

Non-Exam Assessment –

50% of A-level. 45 hours. 100 marks

Substantial design and make task - evidenced by a design portfolio and final prototype

Entry requirements:

GCSE grade 6 in Product Design.

Course and Career ideas:

Architecture, Building Studies, Engineering, Food Technology, Industrial Design, Model-making, Product Design.

Psychology (AQA)

Course overview:

Compulsory content:

- 1 Social influence
- 2 Memory
- 3 Attachment
- 4 Psychopathology
- 5 Approaches in Psychology
- 6 Biopsychology
- 7 Research methods
- 8 Issues and debates in Psychology

Optional:

- Option 1 9 Relationships 10 Gender 11 Cognition and development
Option 2 12 Schizophrenia 13 Eating behaviour 14 Stress
Option 3 15 Aggression 16 Forensic Psychology 17 Addiction

Exam format:

Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology

Compulsory content 1–4 above assessed in written exam: 2 hours, 96 marks in total
33.3% of A-level

Paper 2: Psychology in Context

Compulsory content 5–7 above assessed in written exam: 2 hours
96 marks in total
33.3% of A-level

Paper 3: Issues and Options in Psychology

Compulsory content 8 above plus optional content, one from option 1, 9–11, one from option 2, 12–14, one from option 3, 15–17 above assessed in written exam: 2 hours
96 marks in total
33.3% of A-level

Entry requirements:

GCSE grade 6 in English. (A grade 6 in Mathematics & Biology is desirable.)

Courses and career ideas:

As a Psychology graduate, you could either work as a psychologist or pursue a wide range of other careers. Becoming a psychologist typically requires lots of additional study and experience after you've finished your degree. At the other end of the scale, there are careers in areas such as finance that you could start straight after you graduate.

Sociology

(AQA)

Course overview:

Sociology is sometimes difficult to easily define. According to the textbook definition, it is 'the study of society and people and their behaviour', but this is only a small part of what you will learn and discover by taking Sociology.

Broadly, the subject considers different relationships that we form; whether this be through education, the family or the wider world. It also focuses on questions concerning our identity: How do you become *you*? How do social factors – such as class, age, gender, ethnicity, and sexuality – influence those around you? How are our lives changed by new social, political, technological, and cultural events and movements like COVID-19 and Black Lives Matter?

A Level Sociology provides you with a training in how to answer these enormously important and wide-ranging questions. It will give you a wider understanding of important aspects of society, and of how sociologists study and explain people's behaviour.

In developing a 'sociological imagination', you will receive a practical and theoretical training in how to answer the 'what', 'how' and 'why' questions about human societies, giving you a competitive edge in the job market and providing a strong intellectual background for students considering careers in the public sector, or business. It is a fascinating and ever-changing topic that can lead to many different career paths.

Exam format:

- Paper 1 - Education with Theory and Methods
- Paper 2 - Topics in Sociology – Families and Households, followed by Beliefs in Society.
- Paper 3 - Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods

3 written examinations (80 Marks in each paper), each 2 hours long

Entry requirements:

GCSE grade 6 in English. Students should also have a genuine interest in exploring topics related to culture and identity, power and politics. Students are encouraged to speak from personal experience, but should be prepared to question their assumptions and common-sense ideas.

Courses and career ideas:

Criminology, Law, Policing, Criminal Justice, International Relations, Psychology, Social Policy, Social Research, the Civil Service, Public Relations, Marketing

Sociology is a wide-ranging subject. As an A Level student, you will receive a training in how to 'think sociologically'. This critical capacity is highly valued by employers and universities and will support you in a range of subjects.

Combines well with:

Psychology, Politics, History, Philosophy, Business Studies, Media Studies, English Language & Literature, Geography, Art

Spanish (AQA)

Course overview:

Over 400 million people speak Spanish as their mother tongue, making it one of the most widely spoken languages in the world and an extremely valuable skill in an increasingly globalised society.

The A Level Spanish course at NKS will allow you to develop your confidence and fluency in Spanish while exploring the culture, society and history of Spain and the wider Spanish-speaking world. You will also develop valuable skills in communication, research, analysis and critical thinking.

The course covers a wide range of cultural, social and political topics, including modern and traditional values, cyberspace, equal rights, immigration, multiculturalism, artistic culture and political life in the Hispanic world. You will explore how Spanish-speaking societies have developed and how they continue to change.

Alongside these topics, you will study a Spanish-language film and a literary text, developing your ability to analyse them critically in Spanish. You will also complete an Individual Research Project on an aspect of the Spanish-speaking world that interests you, which forms part of your speaking examination.

Exam format:

The final examinations consist of three units at the end of the two-year course.

These units test students in the skills of speaking, listening, writing, reading and translation.

Paper 1= Listening, Reading and written translation 50% of the qualification (2h30 -100 marks)

Paper 2= Written response to work on the film and the book 20% of the qualification (2h – 80 marks)

Paper 3= Speaking 30% of the qualification (21-23 min including 5 min preparation time, 60 marks)

Entry requirements:

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Subject.

Courses and career ideas:

A Level Spanish can lead to a wide range of university courses and careers. Spanish can be studied on its own or combined with another subject, such as European Studies, Linguistics, Journalism, Politics, International Relations, Business, Law or History.

Language skills are particularly valuable in careers involving international business, diplomacy, education, tourism, translation and interpreting, journalism, marketing and international organisations.

Beyond the Taught Curriculum

Your academic achievements are important but we want your time at NKS to be about more than a good set of grades. Therefore, we offer much more than just the taught curriculum. We do this by offering a wide range of extracurricular activities and societies. Some of these include:

LiNKS

Ladies in Norton Knatchbull School (LiNKS) Society was formed by the female sixth form students several years ago as an additional support mechanism to give the female students a platform to discuss any concerns and put forward ideas to help facilitate the transition into NKS sixth form. The society has undertaken a wide variety of ventures including coffee mornings, monthly meetings, assemblies on sexism, dress policy reviews, female only gym slots, netball games and sexual health meetings. Our year 13 female students take over the running of the society and students are trained in peer mentoring to provide help if needed. The atmosphere is relaxed and inclusive and the meetings are a sociable and enjoyable event.

Peer Mentoring/ Academic Mentoring

In addition to the peer mentoring offered by sixth formers we also encourage academic mentoring and students that volunteer are regularly used as mentors to both the lower school students and other sixth formers. This is an invaluable resource to students who may be in need of additional academic support and is also an effective revision tool for the mentors who use the sessions to re-visit material from previous years and test their knowledge. This support is delivered in a variety of ways whether it be face to face, by phone, email or on-line. The feedback from both mentors and mentees is extremely positive and we are proud that so many of our students take part in this excellent scheme and of the sense of community it breeds.

Med Soc

The society is aimed at those with a passion for medicine and veterinary medicine and those looking to pursue these fields. At Med Soc we ensure all med students are well prepared for their future and informed of different areas and aspects of medicine.

Most predominantly we discuss medical schools and application as well as many talks and discussions around areas of the medical field. We also welcome those with any sort of interest in biology and the sciences. Over the time we had the Medical Society running, we have held many events including:

- Various talks from specialists and doctors, as well as ex-students who have progressed to university
- First aid training from Ambulance Cadets
- Presentations held by students on areas of medicine that interested them
- Suture practice taught by a junior doctor
- Assistance with BMAT and UCAT, university applications

Knatchbull Baccalaureate

The school's **Knatchbull Baccalaureate** programme provides a series of *core* and *elective* opportunities from Year 7 onwards that develop NKS students' Academic, Extra-curricular, Leadership experience. This continues into our Sixth Form with enrichment through a bespoke TED Talk and lecture programme alongside specific Wednesday afternoon activities and EPQ provision. This is further supported through Form time, Clubs and Student Leadership opportunities.



The Key Stage 5 Knatchbull Baccalaureate

Academic

- A Levels - 30 subjects offered
- UCAS & Careers Guidance/Fairs
- 6th Form Taster Days
- PPE Exams
- Revision Sessions
- Focus Days
- Senior Prizegiving events and rewards
- Monitoring grades
- Subject interventions and support
- Parents' Evenings
- Homework Club/Library resources
- Student Mentors

Community

- Student Senior Leadership Team
- House Captains & Subject Prefects
- Form Representatives
- LINKS (Ladies in NKS)
- Peer mentoring
- Student Council
- Culture Days
- Charity events & Non-Uniform Days
- Tour Guides for visitors
- House competitions
- Remembrance Assemblies
- Student panels for interviews & Governor Days
- Eco Group

Enrichment

- Residential Trips
- Subject trips
- 6th Form Enrichment Sessions
- Duke of Edinburgh Gold
- Range of school clubs & societies
- Weekly enrichment sessions timetabled
- School pantomime
- Music groups
- House Competitions
- Wide range of extra-curricular sport

Excel

- Extended Project Qualification
- Med Society
- Oxbridge Group
- Representing the District, County or Country in Sports fixtures
- Visiting speakers
- Celebration Assemblies & Rewards trips
- National & Regional competitions across many subjects
- Programme of TED Talks
- Additional resources in all subjects to stretch and extend



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