WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Wolgarston Sixth Form

PROSPECTUS 2027

Welcome to Wolgarston



Choosing a sixth form is one of the most important decisions you will make as you begin to shape your future. At Wolgarston High School Sixth Form, we are committed to providing an inspiring, supportive and ambitious environment where every student is encouraged to achieve their full potential. Our dedicated staff work closely with students to deliver outstanding academic guidance, whilst also helping them develop the confidence, independence and resilience needed for success in higher education, apprenticeships and employment.

We are proud of the strong sense of community that defines our sixth form. Students benefit from excellent teaching, extensive enrichment opportunities and leadership experiences that enable them to grow both personally and academically. Whether your ambition is university, a professional career or an apprenticeship, we will challenge and support you every step of the way. We look forward to welcoming you to Wolgarston Sixth Form and helping you take the next exciting step in your educational journey.

Mr. Dan Boden

Headteacher

Achieving Academic



I am delighted that you are considering Wolgarston Sixth Form as your next destination following Year 11 and warmly welcome you to find out more about our highly successful and supportive learning environment.

Our Sixth Form achieves results that consistently surpass local and national benchmarks. Our commitment to Visible Learning has helped establish Wolgarston as one of the leading schools in Staffordshire and one of the UK's most successful Visible Learning schools. Combined with a wide range of courses taught by experienced specialist teachers, this enables students to achieve excellent academic outcomes and secure ambitious next steps.

Our ambition is to help every student progress to a university, apprenticeship, or career pathway of their choice. We recognise that each student has individual aspirations and goals, so our tailored support programme provides personalised guidance on academic success, wellbeing, careers, and progression. Through the Elephant Access Programme, our highest-achieving students receive additional support when applying to leading universities.

This support is delivered through a comprehensive two-year tutorial programme, including regular personal development sessions, guest speakers, educational visits, and careers guidance. Students benefit from opportunities to explore university and career pathways, undertake a week of work experience in Year 12, and gain valuable real-world insight through vocational and academic study.

Students also attend a Higher Education Convention and careers-focused events covering topics such as personal statements, aptitude tests, interview skills, post-18 opportunities, and personal finance. Together, these experiences help students make informed decisions, develop confidence, and fulfil their potential as they prepare for life beyond Wolgarston.

I am delighted to be part of such a thriving Sixth Form community and look forward to welcoming you to Wolgarston. Together, we will help you make the most of every opportunity and prepare for a successful future.

Miss Turner - Assistant Headteacher – Post 16

Thriving Beyond the Classroom

At Wolgarston Sixth Form, personal development and student wellbeing are at the heart of everything we do. Our pastoral support network is exceptional, ensuring every student feels valued, supported, and empowered to thrive throughout their sixth form journey.

From the very beginning of Year 12, students benefit from a varied and engaging enrichment programme designed to foster confidence, independence, and new experiences. The year starts with our Year 12 Residential, providing an excellent opportunity for students to build relationships with their peers and staff. Throughout their time with us, students also have access to a range of educational trips, visits and experiences.

Student voice and leadership are central to life in our Sixth Form. Our Senior Student Team, consisting of the Head Boy, Head Girl, Deputy Head Boy, and Deputy Head Girl, work closely with staff to lead initiatives that enhance the student experience. They play a key role in organising charity events, supporting school functions, representing the Sixth Form at community events, and leading important initiatives such as our food bank collection and Senior Citizens' Christmas Party.

Other roles available for our students are Reading Mentors, Mental Health Ambassadors, or Subject Ambassadors, making a meaningful contribution to both the Sixth Form and the wider school community. These opportunities enable students to develop leadership, communication, and teamwork skills while supporting others.

Our dedicated tutor team are highly experienced post-16 specialists who provide expert guidance, encouragement, and pastoral care throughout your time in the Sixth Form. They build strong relationships with students, helping them navigate the challenges and opportunities of sixth form life while ensuring every individual receives the support they need to succeed and achieve their aspirations.

We are proud of the supportive, inclusive, and ambitious environment we have created at Wolgarston and we look forward to welcoming students who will contribute to its continued success.

Mrs.. Simmonds-Vaughan - *Head of Sixth Form*

Our Head Students

Head Girl - Arabella Sutton Dunn



Hello, my name is Arabella and I am proud to be Head Girl at Wolgarston High School. I study A-level Maths, English Literature and Politics, and having joined Wolgarston in Year 9, I am so glad I made the decision to come here. Throughout my time at school, I have enjoyed a wide range of opportunities, including completing my Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Awards, attending a ski trip to Austria and taking part in the Sixth Form Debate Club. I have also benefited from the Elephant Group programme, which provides valuable support and guidance for students considering university.

As Head Girl, my aim is to strengthen our Sixth Form community and ensure every student feels welcome, valued and included. We are already doing this through a variety of social activities and events that bring students together. I am also keen to strengthen links between the Sixth Form and lower school by creating opportunities for students across all year groups to work together and contribute to school life. I strive to be approachable, friendly and enthusiastic, and I am committed to helping every student feel seen, heard and supported during their time at Wolgarston.

Head Boy - Daniel Harris



I am incredibly proud to be Head Boy of Wolgarston High School, something my younger self would never have imagined. I study A-level Maths, History and Politics, and I aspire to be the first person in my family to attend university. When I joined Wolgarston in Year 9, I saw school as simply attending lessons each day. However, becoming involved in wider school life transformed my experience. From serving as a House Captain to taking part in Debate Club and working as a Reading Mentor, I have discovered that some of the most valuable learning happens beyond the classroom.

These opportunities helped me grow from a quiet, reserved student into someone with the confidence to apply for, and achieve, the role of Head Boy. I applied because I wanted to give back to a school community that has given me so much. This year, I am working to increase access to academic support for Sixth Form students, strengthen student voice across the school and create more opportunities for pupils to connect and participate in school life. Although the role is a significant responsibility, I am determined to make a positive impact and leave a legacy that helps future students gain even more from their time at Wolgarston than I have.

Our Deputy Head Students



Deputy Head Girl - Allissia Hunter

Hi, I'm Allissia Hunter, and I am proud to be Wolgarston's Deputy Head Girl. Having joined the school in Year 9, I am now studying English Literature, History and Sociology. I applied for this role because I enjoy being involved in school life and wanted the opportunity to make a positive contribution to our school community. Throughout my time at Wolgarston, I have embraced a range of opportunities that have helped me build confidence, develop my communication skills and meet many wonderful people. One of my favourite roles was serving as Sports Captain for Alps House, where I helped organise events and encourage students to get involved.

What I value most about Wolgarston is its strong sense of community. The supportive relationships between staff and students, alongside the many opportunities available beyond the classroom, make it a fantastic place to learn and grow. As Deputy Head Girl, one of my key goals is to improve the outdoor space for Sixth Form students by helping to create a welcoming area where students can relax, socialise and take a break from their studies. Being Deputy Head Girl gives me the chance to give back to a school that has given me so much. I want every student to feel included, supported and proud to be part of Wolgarston.

Deputy Head Boy - Jack Hunneyball-Prince

My name is Jack, and I am proud to be Deputy Head Boy at Wolgarston School. I study English Literature, History and Politics, and enjoy spending time outdoors and playing music outside of school. Although I joined Wolgarston for Sixth Form, I quickly discovered a welcoming and supportive community where I felt able to flourish. While I enjoy my subjects, it is the opportunities beyond the classroom that I value most. These experiences help you develop confidence, build friendships and become part of the wider school community.



I applied for the Student Leadership Team because I wanted to give something back to a school that has given me so many opportunities. I am passionate about helping to enhance student life and ensuring that every student feels heard, supported and encouraged to succeed. As Deputy Head Boy, I aim to strengthen student voice, contribute to a positive Sixth Form environment and encourage students to make the most of every opportunity available to them. I enjoy supporting others to develop their confidence, explore new interests and achieve their full potential. It is a privilege to serve as Deputy Head Boy, and I look forward to working with students and staff to help ensure Wolgarston remains a place where everyone feels valued, supported and inspired to succeed.

Our Enrichment Programme

We offer a broad range of enrichment opportunities ranging from fun clubs to accreditations to really help your CV stand out from the crowd.

At Wolgarston you can expect to get involved in:

- Literature Circle
- Debating Society
- Medicine Society
- Leading School Council
- Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme
- Mentoring of students in Years 9-11
- Music Lessons
- Sports clubs
- Subject Ambassador Programme
- Educational Visits
- Fundraising
- Tutorial sessions
- UCAS application support
- Visiting lectures
- Work Experience week

And what's more, if what you are looking for isn't on our list, just tell us and we will do our best to offer it.

Practicalities

You may have other questions on your mind before making the decision to study with us. Just ask and we will be more than happy to provide detailed information on the following.

- Sixth Form dress code and equipment
- Transport
- Catering facilities
- Pastoral support
- Bursaries for studying whilst at Wolgarston
- Sixth form centre facilities



The Debating Society discussing the issues surrounding immigration.

Your course choices

- Art & Design A Level
- Art & Design BTEC SINGLE OR DOUBLE
- Biology A Level
- Business BTEC SINGLE OR DOUBLE
- Chemistry A Level
- English Literature A Level
- Extended Project Qualification
- French A Level
- Further Maths A Level
- Geography A Level
- Health & Social Care BTEC SINGLE
- History A Level
- Maths A Level
- Media A Level
- Politics A Level
- Physics A Level
- Psychology A Level
- Sociology A Level
- Sport BTEC SINGLE OR DOUBLE

A	B	C	D	E
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Maths or Further Maths	Maths
Sociology	English Literature	History	Psychology	Geography
Business single	Health and Social Care single	Sport single	Art single	Media
Business double	Business double	Art and Design double	Art and Design double	Politics
French	Sport double	Sport double		

Art and Design

Course outline

Students can specialise in Fine Art, Graphics or Photography. They will choose a theme for their Personal Investigation and will explore the theme in a variety of ways to meet the set assessment objectives. Students can choose their own ways of working and the Artists and Designers who inspire them.

How you will study and be assessed

The 'Personal Investigation' unit has 5 assessment objectives. Students will be assessed on their ability to record their ideas and observations, how well they can experiment and refine their ideas, how well they can relate their ideas to the work of others and their ability to create a professional final outcome. In addition to their practical portfolio, students will complete a research based essay in response to a question that they devise. Students also complete an externally set unit based on a word or theme set by the exam board in Year 13.

Who would suit the course?

The A Level course is suited to creative and motivated students who already have a sense of their own artistic or creative style. Students who enjoy exploring a single theme in great depth would be better suited to this course.

Possible career pathways

Students who study an Art and Design course can either use it to add variety and depth to any university application, or it can be used to allow entry into a range of creative career paths. Examples of these are Games Design, Illustration, Graphic Design, Animation, Fashion Design, Photography, Curation, Architecture or Interior Design.

For further information see

https://ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-and-a-level/art-and-design-h200-h600-from-2015/

Awarding body: OCR
Level of Course: A Level

WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Art and Design

Course outline

During the course of the two years, students will either complete 4 or 8 units. These units are primarily practical skills based and students will be set a variety of Design Briefs to respond to. The briefs will be open to interpretation to allow students to work creatively and introduce their own interests and ideas. Students will have the opportunity to explore and develop their practical skills in specialisms such as Photography, Fine Art, Graphic Design, Illustration and Textiles.

How you will study and be assessed

Each unit will have set criteria which students will be guided to meet. Students will work on study sheets, in research sketchbooks and on larger scale development and final pieces. Lessons will consist of a range of workshop based sessions and a large amount of independent studio work. Your teacher will advise you and give you advice and inspiration to allow you to meet your potential.

Students will also sit two externally set tasks which will be devised and assessed by the exam board.

Who would suit the course?

Any student who enjoys working in a creative and practical way could consider the course. Whilst it is beneficial for students to have studied Art and Design in KS4, any student who has a flair for, or an interest in, one or more art specialisms would be suited. Students need to be self-motivated and independent in their approach to their projects and their own research.

Possible career pathways

Students who study an Art and Design course can either use it to add variety and depth to any university application, or it can be used to allow entry into a range of creative career paths. Examples of these are Games Design, Illustration, Graphic Design, Animation, Fashion Design, Photography, Architecture or Interior Design.

For further information see

http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/art-and-design-2016

Awarding body: Edexcel

Level of Course: Level 3 (single or Double Award)

WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Biology

Course outline

During the course eight topics in Biology are studied ranging from the structure of the cell and cell components to how genetic information is produced and passed on through individuals and populations.

Students are assessed on twelve key practicals and must be able to demonstrate not only scientific but practical, mathematical and literacy skills through their studies.

How you will study and be assessed

Lessons will consist of theory or practical-based sessions generally within a science laboratory and you will be taught by experienced teachers. In support of the teaching and learning in class you will be expected to complete study pack tasks and follow Royal Society of Biology conventions for all of the 8 topics. Each topic will be assessed by an end of unit test and you will receive feedback for key pieces of work.

The final examination consists of 3 separate papers assessing knowledge from the whole course and culminates in a 25-mark synoptic essay question.

Who would suit the course?

Students who are interested in the detail of how living organisms work and who are willing to learn new vocabulary and principles quickly.

Students who enjoy carrying out investigations in the lab or as field work.

Possible career pathways

Students may pursue careers in biological or scientific fields, such as Medicine, Dentistry, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Physiotherapy, Nursing and Sports Science.

For further information see

http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/biology/specifications/AQA-7401-7402-SP-2015.PDF on the AQA web site

Awarding body - AQA
Level of course - A Level

WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Business

Course outline

For students studying the Extended Certificate (single): this course is the equivalent of one A-Level and consists of the following units:

- Exploring Business
- Developing a Marketing Campaign
- Personal and Business Finance
- Business Interviews and Recruitment Processes

For students studying the Diploma (double): this course is the equivalent of two A-Levels and consists of the above units in addition to the following:

- Managing an Event
- International Business
- Principles of Management
- Work Experience with the Business Industry

How you will study and be assessed

Lessons will consist of theory based sessions which will then be applied to real world businesses through a variety of different assessment methods. These consist of:

- Internal assessments – as set and assessed by subject teachers
- External assessments – as set and assessed by the exam board
- An external exam – as set and assessed by the exam board

Who would suit the course?

Students who are interested in the business sector and wish to continue their education through applied learning.

Possible career pathways

Students may pursue careers in marketing, administration, finance, events management, HR and other related areas in the business sector, including higher apprenticeships.

For further information see

http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/business-2016.html

Awarding body - EDEXCEL

Level of course - Level 3 (SINGLE OR DOUBLE)

WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Chemistry

Course outline

During the course students will study inorganic, organic and physical chemistry. Inorganic chemistry is the study of the periodic table and organic chemistry is the in-depth study of carbon compounds and mechanisms. Whereas physical chemistry is the study of how matter behaves on a molecular and atomic level and how chemical reactions occur.

Students are assessed on twelve key practicals and must be able to demonstrate not only scientific but practical, mathematical and literacy skills through their studies.

How you will study and be assessed

Lessons will consist of theory and practical-based sessions generally within a science laboratory and you will be taught by experienced teachers. In support of the teaching and learning in class you will be expected to complete study pack tasks which includes exam style questions. Each topic will be assessed by learning checks during the course of the topic and an end of unit test. Feedback will be given for key pieces of work.

The final examination consists of 3 separate papers assessing knowledge from the whole course and the 12 required practicals.

Who would suit the course?

Students who are able learn new principles quickly and enjoy solving complex problems. As well as carrying out investigations in the lab.

Possible career pathways

Students may pursue careers in Chemistry, Medicine, Dentistry, Biochemistry, Pharmacy, Veterinary Science or Chemical Engineering, or work in science-based industry, the medical field or agriculture and the food industry.

For further information see

http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/specifications/AQA-7405-SP-2015.PDF

on the AQA web site

Awarding body - AQA

LEVEL OF COURSE – A LEVEL

WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

English Literature

Course outline

Through the study of literature, you will become a more perceptive analyst and a confident and sophisticated writer.

You will study a variety of texts, including Othello by William Shakespeare, The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini, Death of a Salesman by Arthur Miller, A Doll's House by Henrik Ibsen, poetry by John Keats, Tony Harrison and assorted other poets. You will also have the opportunity to select your own texts for your NEA, tailoring the course towards your own interests in literature.

A Level English Literature is assessed on the quality of insight you have about writers' messages and methods and how you engage with critical ideas.

How you will study and be assessed

You will study your prose, poetry and drama texts alongside experienced teachers. Learning Checks will be set and feedback provided on the strengths and weaknesses of your analysis. You will have focused work on how to structure essays and the types of analysis that allow you access higher mark bands. 20% of the qualification is assessed through coursework.

Who would suit the course?

Students who enjoy reading and have a genuine interest in how literature has shaped our society and values. Students must enjoy thinking critically about texts and be committed to improving writing structure and precision.

Possible career pathways

Students may pursue careers in many fields as English Literature is a highly regarded facilitating subject. Many students move on to study law, journalism, linguistics, creative writing, educational studies and teaching, marketing, human resources, social work or to further study literature at a higher education institution.

For further information see

see https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/as-and-a-level/english-literature-b-7716-7717 on the AQA website

Awarding body - AQA

LEVEL OF COURSE – A LEVEL

WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Extended Project Qualification

Course outline

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) offers students the opportunity to undertake a research project of their own choice. Students choose their topic, set their own question and complete a dissertation or investigation independently. The project requires students to plan and organise their research plan, keep a detailed diary (log) of the research journey, conduct background research for their literature review, fully reference sources, discuss and evaluate their findings and the process. Students write up their project in the format of an academic report of around 6,000 words. When the project is complete students deliver a presentation on their research.

How you will study and be assessed

The majority of the work for the project is independent research, but the project co-ordinator will also provide a programme of lessons on research skills, report writing, referencing and presentation skills. You will also be offered one-to-one appointments with the project co-ordinator and relevant subject specific teachers.

You will be assessed on your ability to manage, use resources, develop and realise and review your project. These skills will be evidenced in the project activity log, the written report and the presentation. The project is internally assessed by the project co-ordinator and externally moderated by the exam board. The Extended Project is graded A* to E and is equivalent to half an A level.

Who would suit the course?

The extended project is an excellent choice for those who enjoy independent work and researching topics of their own choice. It is also useful for those who wish to develop their research skills, develop critical awareness and improve their analytical skills. Undertaking the project qualification can allow students to demonstrate their commitment when applying for competitive courses and careers, such as medicine, dentistry, physiotherapy and law and it can also help to boost a student's grade profile to enhance their applications to university and apprenticeships. It is therefore suitable for all ability levels.

Possible career pathways

Any careers that value originality of thought, independent decision making, research, commitment, analysis, reflection. The project qualification has been designed specifically to enhance the skills required for higher level study at university and in the workplace.

For further information see

https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-project-qualification/level-3.html

Awarding body - EDEXCEL

LEVEL OF COURSE – EQUIVALENT TO HALF AN A LEVEL

WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

French

Course outline

During your study, the key skills of speaking, listening, reading, writing and translation will be practised within a range of contexts surrounding French culture.

End of course examination will be in the form of two papers which will cover aspects of listening, reading, writing and translation skills, and a final speaking exam

How you will study and be assessed

During the course you will be provided with materials to help develop your knowledge, understanding and skills of the French language.

Throughout the course your will be assessed regularly through conversations in French, and regular TMAs (Tutor Marked Assessments). You will receive regular feedback on how your work can be improved further.

Who would suit the course?

If you are interested in the French language and have an appetite for knowing more about the French culture, then this course is for you! You will need to be very self motivated in order to complete all tasks and do further research yourself out of lesson time.

Possible career pathways

With an A Level in French, you could go onto a career in any of the following areas; teaching, translating, interpreting, finance, food and drink, law, sales and marketing, travel and tourism, working for international organisations.

For further information see

https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/french-2016.coursematerials.html#filterQuery=category:Pearson-UK:Category%2FSpecification-and-sample-assessments on the Edexcel website.

Awarding body - EDEXCEL

WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Further Maths

Course outline

The new A-Level is a 2 year course, with all exams taken at the end of the second year. There are 11 compulsory pure mathematics topics alongside two areas of applied mathematics. Discrete mathematics and mechanics will be the chosen options for all students.

How you will study and be assessed

The pure content in Further Mathematics will enable you to build on your knowledge from A-level Mathematics and explore new areas of study (complex numbers, matrices, polar coordinates and hyperbolic functions). The mechanics unit will provide a much more extensive knowledge of this area of mathematics than in the standard A-level and you will have the opportunity to experience a completely new area of mathematics in the discrete mathematics unit. You will learn to use a wide range of calculator functions for work as diverse as matrices and complex numbers.

To support of the teaching and learning in class, you will be expected to complete work outside of lessons. You will be guided in this through tasks set and the use of online resources. Throughout the course, you will receive feedback on your progress in lessons and on specific key pieces of work. In addition, each main topic will be assessed by a written test.

The final examination consists of three separate papers assessing knowledge from the whole course. Paper 1 and Paper 2 will both just contain pure mathematics; Paper 3 has 2 sections, one for each of the chosen applied units, discrete mathematics and mechanics.

Who would suit the course?

Students who are wishing to extend their mathematical knowledge beyond A Level Mathematics. Students who are interested in complex algebraic proof and understanding.

Possible career pathways

Students may pursue careers in engineering, science, teaching, business, computing, industry, finance and research.

For further information see

http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/mathematics/as-and-a-level/further-mathematics-7367 on the AQA web site.

Awarding body - AQA

LEVEL OF COURSE – A LEVEL

WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Geography

Course outline

During the course three topics in Physical and three topics in Human Geography will be examined. Students will also complete a geographical investigation written report (non-examined) that is based on data collected in the field from fieldwork undertaken on at least four occasions, giving students the opportunity to apply their mathematical, analytical and literacy skills through their studies.

How you will study and be assessed

Lessons will be based on theory and case studies which illustrate key themes and theories. Some lessons towards the end of year 12 will be dedicated to support you in your geographical investigations. You will be taught by experienced teachers. In support of the teaching and learning in class you will be expected to complete homework and additional reading around the topic. Each topic will be assessed by an end of unit key assessment.

The final examination consists of 1 paper for Physical Geography and 1 paper for Human Geography assessing knowledge from the whole course, each examination is worth 40% of the overall grade. The Geographical Investigation report is worth 20% of the overall grade which is internally marked (non-examined).

Who would suit the course?

- Students who are interested in the world around them and how the world is changing and responding to changes.
- Students who enjoy carrying out fieldwork, handling data and solving problems.

Possible career pathways

Cartographer, Commercial/residential surveyor, Environmental consultant, Geographical information systems officer, Planning and development surveyor, Secondary school teacher, Town planner, International aid/ development worker, Landscape architect, Logistics and distribution manager, Market researcher, Nature conservation officer, Sustainability consultant, Tourism officer, Transport planner

For further information see

http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/as-and-a-level/geography-7037 on the AQA web site.

Awarding body - AQA

LEVEL OF COURSE – A LEVEL

WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Health and Social Care

Course outline

The course is designed for students interested in health and social care and aims to develop applied knowledge and professional skills.

The units covered in this qualification are:

- **Human Lifespan and Development**: Understanding growth, development, and life stages.
- **Human Biology and Health**: Biological principles underpinning health and disease.
- **Health and Social Care Practice**: Core principles, values, legislation, and the impact of social determinants on health.
- **Promoting Health Education**: Purpose and methods of health education, including models to achieve positive outcomes.

How you will study and be assessed

The qualification includes both internal and external assessments, with 50% of the total guided learning hours (GLH) assessed externally.

Who would suit the course?

This course provides a broad basis of study for the health and social care sector. It is designed to support progression to higher education when taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A Levels.

Possible career pathways

Students may pursue careers in the health and social care sector such as Nursing, Paramedics, Primary Education, Social Work, Occupational therapy and Counselling to name but a few!

For further information see

Awarding body - PEARSON

LEVEL OF COURSE – LEVEL 3

WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL



History

Course outline

Three different units are studied. The American Dream: Reality and Illusion, 1945-1980; The Tudors: England, 1485-1603 and a Historical Enquiry (NEA) on Witch-hunting 1560-1660. Students will cover both breadth and depth issues of change, continuity, cause and consequence and focus on key ideas, events and developments over time. Students must study the value of historian interpretations and the accuracy of sources as well as reach substantiated judgements on key issues. Strong literacy skills will be valuable for this essay-based subject.

How you will study and be assessed

You will be taught by specialist teachers for each unit. Lessons will involve teacher presentations, class discussion, written tasks, evaluative tasks, use of media as well as group/paired work. You will use a range of primary and secondary sources to reach judgements. You will be assessed in class through regular timed essays and source/historian evaluations as well as through home-learning essays and practice exams.

The final examination consists of two separate two-and-a-half hour exams, each containing four questions of which three must be answered. You will also be internally assessed through a non-examined assessment (NEA) of 4,500 words on a topic of your choosing relating to witch-hunting.

Who would suit the course?

History is ideal for students who enjoy research, analysis, investigation and debating an issue. It is suitable for those who have a strong grasp of literacy, an ability to work well independently and those who can express themselves in an analytical manner.

Possible career pathways

History leads to a variety of potential careers. It is particularly suited to Education, Journalism, Law, Museum and Archivist work, Police, Public Relations, Social Work and Business Management.

For further information see

http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/history/as-and-a-level/history-7041-7042 on the AQA web site

Awarding body - AQA

LEVEL OF COURSE – A LEVEL

WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL



Maths

Course outline

The new A-Level is a 2 year course, with all exams taken at the end of the second year. The content is 100% prescribed, containing a mix of pure mathematics, statistics and mechanics. There are 9 pure mathematics topics and 5 topics each for statistics and mechanics.

How you will study and be assessed

Lessons will consist of theory sessions in which you will be taught key mathematical skills. You will also be encouraged to develop the ability to explore mathematical concepts and establish reasoned arguments and ultimately proofs for some mathematical results. The use of technology plays an important part in this new A-level, you will learn how to use calculator functions efficiently and in the statistics work you will be required to explore a large data set using statistical packages on a computer.

To support of the teaching and learning in class, you will be expected to complete work outside of lessons. You will be guided in this through tasks set and be given access to a wide range of resources to help your independent study. Throughout the course, you will receive feedback on your progress in lessons and on specific key pieces of work. In addition each main topic will be assessed by a written test.

The final examination consists of three separate papers assessing knowledge from the whole course.
Paper 1 will just contain pure mathematics; Paper 2, both pure and mechanics; and Paper 3 will have another two sections covering pure and statistics.

Who would suit the course?

Students who enjoy working with algebra and solving problems, as this forms the basis of much of the pure mathematics. Students who are willing to work hard and learn new topics thoroughly.

Possible career pathways

Students may pursue careers in engineering, science, teaching, business, computing, industry, finance and research.

For further information see

http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/mathematics/as-and-a-level/mathematics-7357 on the AQA web site.

Awarding body - AQA
LEVEL OF COURSE – A LEVEL

WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Media

Course outline

You will study how the media is a highly powerful force in society. You'll find contemporary, diverse topics, helping you to develop researching and problem-solving skills as well as your creativity. You will both study and create media products.

There are 4 key areas of subject content:

1. Media language (narratology and semiotics)
2. Media representation (analysing how different groups of people or places are shown in the media and how these representations are formed.)
3. Media industries (examining the institutions that create media products such as the BBC, Sky, independent producers, their ethical values, how this affects production and regulation)
4. Media audiences (analysing how audiences respond to media texts and typical audience behaviours)

How you will study and be assessed

You will be taught by experienced teachers and you will be assessed through Key Pieces, where feedback will be given on the accuracy of your knowledge of terminology and theories. You will also complete production work guided by a set brief from AQA.

Who would suit the course?

Students who enjoy watching television, using social media and are interested in learning more about how media representations are formed. Students must be prepared to learn terminology and theories and be able to apply these to a wide variety of media texts.

Possible career pathways

After studying Media, some students move into practical aspects of the media industries such as camerawork, editing and sound engineering. Many students also move on to study sociology, education and teaching, marketing, journalism, creative writing, social work, art and design or photography. Most career pathways are open due to the analytical nature of the course.

For further information see

http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/media-studies/as-and-a-level/media-studies-7572 on the AQA website

Awarding body - AQA

LEVEL OF COURSE – A LEVEL

WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Physics

Course outline

In the first year, students cover familiar subjects in more depth like mechanics, materials, electricity and waves, and also new exciting topics like particle physics and quantum phenomena.

In the second year, students are introduced to new topics including thermal physics, nuclear physics, fields in physics and further mechanics. There is also an options topic in astrophysics, with other options available if appropriate, including medical and engineering physics.

Throughout the course practical skills and investigations are integrated into the topics.

How you will study and be assessed

Experienced teachers will support you during theory and practical based work, most taking place in our well equipped science laboratories. The teaching and learning will be supported by a course textbook, and various other resources including packs of past questions and online materials. Key assessments will take place every half-term, feedback will be given and students are expected to act on feedback and plan their next steps to improve.

The final examination consists of three separate papers, the first two examining the compulsory components taught over the two years, and the final examining the option topic, practical skills and data analysis.

Who would suit the course?

Students who are interested in how the universe works, from the largest cluster of galaxies to the smallest subatomic particles like quarks and neutrinos. They should have good problem solving skills and an enjoyment in using maths and logic to reach solutions.

Possible career pathways

Students may pursue many varied careers, including engineering (general mechanical, aeronautical, civil, electrical, etc.), research science, medical physics and medicine, and any career that values problem solving skills such as commerce and banking.

For further information see

http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/as-and-a-level/physics-7407-7408 on the AQA website.

Awarding body - AQA

LEVEL OF COURSE – A LEVEL

WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL



Politics

Course outline

You will study political participation focusing on issues such as political parties, voting behaviour and the media. You will also study a range of political ideas such as socialism and feminism and assess the interrelationship between the different branches of government in the UK. In addition, you will study issues in the politics of the USA drawing comparisons with the UK and using examples from the 2020 election.

How you will study and be assessed

Specialist teachers for each unit will teach you. Lessons will involve teacher presentations, class discussion, written tasks, evaluative tasks and use of media as well as group/paired work.

You will use a range of resources and be expected to keep up with current affairs. You will be assessed in class through regular timed questions and practice exams. The final exam consists of three two hour exams with a choice of extended answer questions, some of which contain sources.

Who would suit the course?

Anyone who is fascinated by current affairs, ideologies and the changing global political landscape. An interest in sharing ideas through debate is also essential, as is the ability to work independently to understand a range of intellectually challenging concepts. Strong literacy skills will be valuable for this course.

Possible career pathways

Research, journalism and media, law, social work, local government, international organisations and the civil service.

For further information see

https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/politics-2017.html

Awarding body - EDEXCEL

WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Psychology

Course outline

During the course eleven topic areas are studied including approaches in psychology, biopsychology, social influence, memory and forgetting, attachment, psychopathology, gender development, schizophrenia, forensic, issues and debates and research methods.

Students must be able to demonstrate literacy, science and mathematics skills.

How you will study and be assessed

Lessons will involve teacher presentations of core theories and research combined with written tasks and small group activities, such as poster presentation and peer teaching. Discussions and debates are also a regular feature.

End of topic assessments are conducted in timed conditions in the classroom and you will be expected to plan and revise for the written assessments during private study. You will be taught and assessed by an experienced teacher and examiner and will receive feedback for key pieces of work.

The final examination consists of three separate two-hour papers assessing knowledge from the entire course. There is no coursework element.

Who would suit the course?

Students who are interested in how the human mind works and why people behave the way they do, and who also like the idea of learning a wide range of new and fascinating topic areas, should enjoy studying psychology. It is also suitable for those who enjoy designing their own research and carrying out practical investigations.

Possible career pathways

Psychology is relevant to any profession which involves working directly with people. Specific psychology careers include, amongst others, Clinical Psychologist, Educational Psychologist and Forensic Psychologist, but is also useful for a number of related areas including: Police, Social Work, Nursing, Teaching, Public Relations, Customer Services, Business Management, Physiotherapy and Medicine.

For further information see

http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/psychology/as-and-a-level/psychology-7181-7182 on the AQA web site

Awarding body - AQA

LEVEL OF COURSE – A LEVEL

WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Sociology

Course outline

During the course four core topic areas are studied, which are Education, Families & Households, Media and Crime & Deviance. You will also learn about sociological methods.

Students must be able to demonstrate strong literacy skills for extended essay writing.

How you will study and be assessed

Lessons will involve teacher presentations of core theories and research combined with written tasks and small group activities, such as poster presentation and peer teaching. Discussions and debates are also a regular feature.

End of topic assessments are conducted in timed conditions in the classroom and you will be expected to plan and revise for the written assessments during private study. You will be taught and assessed by an experienced teacher and examiner and will receive feedback for key pieces of work.

The final examination consists of three separate two-hour papers assessing knowledge from the entire course. There is no coursework element.

Who would suit the course?

Students who are interested in social issues and inequalities, who enjoy discussing and debating current issues in society and hold an interest in recent social history. For example, examining reasons for differential achievement, according to gender, class and ethnicity, in education. Students interested in criminology will enjoy learning about different explanations for offending. Generally, those who have achieved in subjects such as English, History, Geography and RE are likely to engage and achieve in Sociology.

Possible career pathways

Sociology is relevant to careers such as the police, probation service, law, nursing, midwifery, journalism, the prison service, social work and teaching.

For further information see

http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/sociology/as-and-a-level/sociology-7191-7192/subject-content-a-level on the AQA web site.

Awarding body - AQA

LEVEL OF COURSE – A LEVEL

WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL



Spanish

Course outline

The majority of this course will be delivered online by Oxford Open Learning (www.ool.co.uk). Speaking elements of the course will be delivered at Wolgarston to ensure you receive regular practice in this key area. During your study the key skills of speaking, listening, reading, writing and translation will be practised within a range of contexts surrounding Spanish culture.

End of course examination will be in the form of two papers which will cover aspects of listening, reading, writing and translation skills, and a final speaking exam.

How you will study and be assessed

During the course you will be provided with materials to help develop your knowledge, understanding and skills of the Spanish language. You will also be assigned a tutor who will be at hand to support you throughout your studies. Your Wolgarston Spanish teacher will also be at hand to provide you with support, although this is likely to lean more towards support of speaking development.

Throughout the course your will be assessed regularly through conversations in Spanish, and regular TMAs (Tutor Marked Assessments), set by your Oxford Open Learning tutor. You will receive regular feedback on how your work can be improved further.

The final examination consists of three separate two-hour papers assessing knowledge from the entire course. There is no coursework element.

Who would suit the course?

If you are interested in the Spanish language and have an appetite for knowing more about the Spanish culture, then this course is for you! You will need to be very self motivated in order to complete all the on-line tasks and do further research yourself out of lesson time.

Possible career pathways

With an A Level in Spanish, you could go onto a career in any of the following areas; teaching, translating, interpreting, finance, food and drink, law, sales and marketing, travel and tourism, working for international organisations.

For further information see

https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/spanish-2016.html#tab-1 on the Edexcel website.

Awarding body - EDEXCEL

WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Sport

Course outline

During the course students will study a wide range of units. Students who opt for the Single Award will study 4 units, which will include Anatomy & Physiology and Fitness Training. Students who study for the Double Award will undertake a further 5 units (9 in total) with extra units including topics such as Sports Leadership.

Students are assessed internally through assignment based work, but also externally through written exams and timed set tasks which take place under exam conditions and are marked by the exam board.

How you will study and be assessed

This course contains a heavy practical participation requirement as well as a large degree of theoretical understanding and therefore lessons will be both practical and classroom based. In support of the teaching and learning in class you will be expected to complete homework and independent revision in anticipation of the written exams. You will need to complete coursework tasks throughout the course and meet set deadlines.

Who would suit the course?

This course would suit students with a passion for sport. Students would need to be thoroughly committed to sport and exercise and keen to participate in any activity. A keen interest in the whole subject area will be required due to the vast range of units studied. Students would also need to be willing to volunteer to assist in a range of events in order to broaden their experience.

Possible career pathways

Students may pursue careers in Sports Development, Sports Business Management, Sports Science, Exercise and Fitness, Sports Psychology, and Physical Education.

For further information see

http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/btec-nationals/sport-2016.html#tab-5 on the Pearson website

Awarding body - PEARSON

LEVEL OF COURSE –LEVEL 3 (SINGLE OR DOUBLE)

WOLGARSTON HIGH SCHOOL