

Sixth Form Centre



**GO
FURTHER
WITH...**

**St Christopher's
Sixth Form, Accrington**

PROSPECTUS 2022 ENTRY

Established in 2010, St Christopher's is a Church of England Sixth Form based in Accrington, in which the person of Jesus Christ and the message of the gospels lie at the heart of everything we do. We welcome warmly students of all faiths and none, and value the contribution that each and every student, from whatever background, makes to our community. Relationships, respect for each other and mutual support are part and parcel of St Christopher's 'Way'. It is this environment, with the emphasis on the nurturing of each person's well-being as a whole, that provides the ground for academic success.

over
86%
top grades

Ofsted
Outstanding

100%
A-level
pass rate





A Warm Welcome

Celebrating over 10 years of success

The choice of where to study after compulsory schooling can be daunting. Since opening in 2010, St Christopher's Sixth Form has already established itself as a leading force in the delivery of A-level and you can be confident that our well qualified and experienced staff are well placed to get the very best from every student. Our 99% pass rate and excellent results for grades A*- C already place us in the top 100 schools nationally, and as a top five provider in Lancashire. Ninety per cent of our university-bound sixth formers gained a place at their first choice university, with a significant proportion now studying at Russell Group institutions, including Oxbridge. These achievements have already opened doors to a brighter future for hundreds of students.

We believe that well-supported, happy and fulfilled students not only perform better in examinations but are also better served by their school and so we place a great emphasis on supporting you culturally, spiritually, physically, and, of course, academically. Ensuring the development of every individual helps to make St Christopher's "An outstanding" Sixth Form Centre (Ofsted 2016). Each person is cared for by our committed pastoral leaders, our form tutors, our Chaplaincy Team, and our Learning Support Department. We work to ensure that every student has high self-esteem, a commitment to others and an awareness of the deeper issues of life. Young people thrive in the supportive ethos of our Church school.

Should you choose to study with us you will be taught in one of the most modern and complete school sixth forms in the country. The many social spaces - a vibrant student hub, all-day café, and roof garden - are complemented by excellent IT facilities, purpose built specialist classrooms and a dedicated library.

We welcome students of all faiths, as well as those of none, who embrace our values and who wish to join us in our anniversary year.

Canon R D Jones
Headteacher

Welcome to the exciting, wide range of A-level courses on offer at St Christopher's, Accrington.



We are pleased that you are considering St Christopher's Sixth Form, and hope you will enjoy reading our prospectus.

Our Sixth Form has now been open for eleven years, during which time we have been proud to have many students pass through our community and go on to be successful in great universities, high level apprenticeships and good careers. Former students of St Christopher's Sixth Form now work and live throughout the UK and abroad, and it is wonderful that they keep in touch so we can follow their exciting and diverse careers.

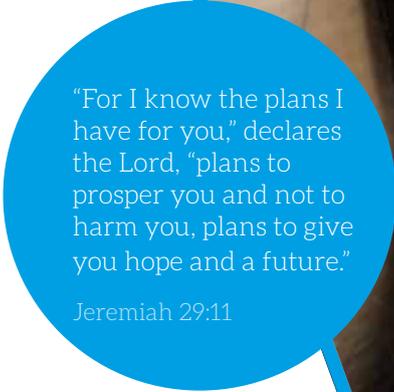
After the last very challenging 18 months, we are all very glad to be back and having lessons as normal and supporting our students as they start the A-level journey or as they look to future Universities, Apprenticeships or work. Despite the difficulties they faced, our students this year have received fantastic results and are now off to their chosen destinations, with exciting times ahead.

At St Christopher's we strive to put the Gospel at the heart of all we do. This has been even more evident over recent months as our Sixth Form community has pulled together to support one another. As we said goodbye to our Year 13s in August and wished them well for the future we look forward to welcoming all the students who will follow them.

Come and see us at Open Evening, arrange a visit or look at our virtual Open Evening on our website and discover how St Christopher's can be part of your success story.

Helen Davies

Director of Sixth Form



"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Jeremiah 29:11



Jenson Wintle
Now reading Computer
Science and Mathematics
at the University of Bath

A-levels:
A*A*A*

Give me ten good reasons...

There are many reasons for choosing to study at St Christopher's, a sixth form which offers the best in teaching, support, facilities and preparation.

Outstanding track record of academic success with achievement and high grades at A-level with a 100% pass rate.

Outstanding choice of nearly thirty A-level courses ranging from the traditional to the more vocational and practical.

Outstanding information, advice and guidance on higher education, apprenticeships and work.

Outstanding record of securing places for students at Oxbridge and top universities.

Outstanding teaching from our enthusiastic and qualified teaching staff who make a real effort to respect you as an individual.

Outstanding support from your personal tutor who will help you to set targets and monitor your progress.

Outstanding programme of enrichment activities which will help you to prepare a strong application for university.

Outstanding opportunities for leadership across many areas from sports to music, ecology to spirituality.

Outstanding IT facilities and a dedicated library offering a range of materials to support research and learning.

Outstanding programme of induction which allows you to feel part of St Christopher's from the moment that you join us.

How to apply

Admission to the Sixth Form is for those students who wish to study within the ethos of a Church School, whose school record shows an aptitude for study, and who fulfil the academic criteria specified for the courses for which they apply.

The admissions number for the Lower Sixth, subject to student course choices, is 135.

Entry Requirements

All A-level courses require a minimum of 4 GCSE grade 5 or above, plus at least a grade 4 in English and Maths. Some subjects have additional requirements and these are set out under the subject heading.

All applicants will be invited to attend a short informal interview. School records will be considered in order to inform the requirement that all students show an aptitude for study.

Our Sixth Form Open Evening is to be held on the 12th October 2021 and will be an opportunity to find out more detailed information about the courses that are available. St Christopher's will also be present at the post-16 opportunities events to be held at local high schools.

In the event of oversubscription, the following criteria will be applied in order.

1. Students who studied throughout Key Stage 4 at St Christopher's
2. Students who live in Hyndburn and for whom there are vacancies on the courses chosen.
3. Other students for whom there are vacancies on the courses chosen.

Further details of the admissions procedure, including information on appeals are available from the school.

The deadline for the receipt of applications is Friday 7th January 2022, but we welcome applications throughout the year via our Sixth Form website.

'Students are well supported to keep themselves safe'

Ofsted



Meet our senior team

What makes our Sixth Form so special is the welcoming atmosphere you receive when you come here.

I came for an open evening in September, having it as one of my first options and I left not wanting to go anywhere else. I have had a different experience from those of you who will have come here from main school, but I can tell you that it has been lovely meeting so many new people and forming new friendship groups.

The teachers here are so attentive, and the care and support shown by all staff at the Sixth Form really is a unique quality that St Christopher's has. The lecturers are one of the key assets of the Sixth Form; all of them are so passionate about the subjects they teach. I have acquired a real passion for the subjects I have studied as a direct result of the teaching I have received.

Lessons are so enjoyable, and the enrichment opportunities on offer have given me opportunities to expand my knowledge in both creative and academic ways.

I hope this has given you just a small insight into what being part of the St Christopher's Sixth Form community is all about and that you take the opportunity to discover more at one of our up-and-coming open evenings.

Lois Cox

Head Girl, St Christopher's Sixth Form (Formerly Bowland)



Lois Cox
Head Girl



Owen Geary
Head Boy



Aimee Krupinski
Deputy Head Girl



Adam Brierley
Deputy Head Boy

Isabel Hope
Now reading Mathematics at
the University of St Andrew's

A-levels:
A*A*A*

'Students
make excellent
progress in the
Sixth Form'

Ofsted

Tutorial system

St Christopher's enjoys an outstanding reputation for the quality of pastoral care offered to students.

You will be part of a tutor group of about twenty students with your own personal tutor whom you will meet on a daily basis. Your tutor will be there to offer support, guidance and encouragement, organising one-to-one reviews to make sure that you are on track to achieve your target grades. If you need additional support or assistance then our Learning Support team and qualified counsellor will be on hand to intervene and help. Their expertise will help you identify how problems and difficulties can be overcome. Your parents will be kept informed of your progress on a regular basis with written reports, information evenings and an annual Parents' Evening.

All students have access to our Chaplaincy Team. They are here to offer additional support and guidance. You will be invited to participate in various services throughout the year, including Holy Communion. A Chapel is situated in the Crossland Building.

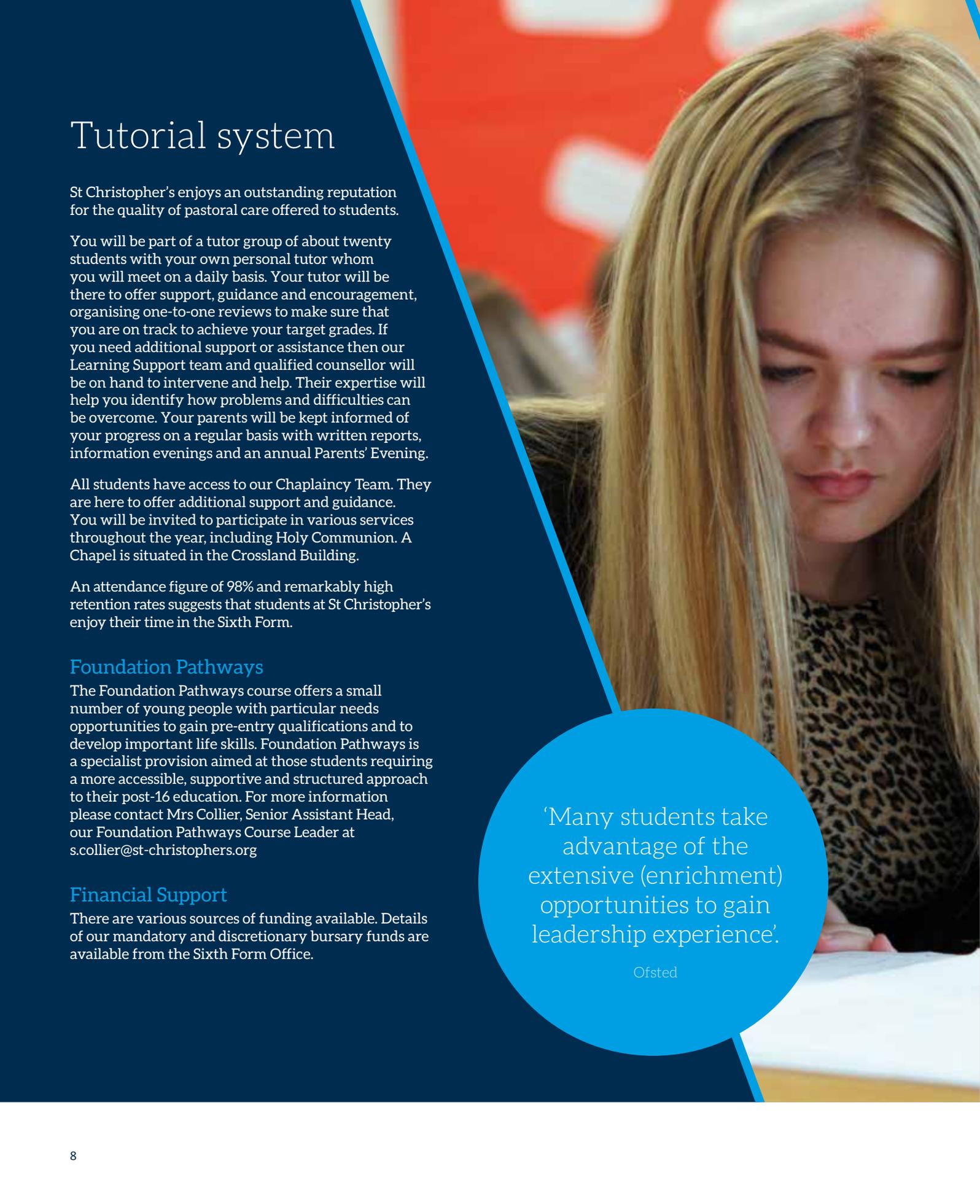
An attendance figure of 98% and remarkably high retention rates suggests that students at St Christopher's enjoy their time in the Sixth Form.

Foundation Pathways

The Foundation Pathways course offers a small number of young people with particular needs opportunities to gain pre-entry qualifications and to develop important life skills. Foundation Pathways is a specialist provision aimed at those students requiring a more accessible, supportive and structured approach to their post-16 education. For more information please contact Mrs Collier, Senior Assistant Head, our Foundation Pathways Course Leader at s.collier@st-christophers.org

Financial Support

There are various sources of funding available. Details of our mandatory and discretionary bursary funds are available from the Sixth Form Office.



'Many students take advantage of the extensive (enrichment) opportunities to gain leadership experience.'

Ofsted

Enrichment

Fred Farnworth

Now reading Mathematics
and Physics at the
University of Warwick

A-levels:

A*A*A*

At St Christopher's, we see students as individuals, and work together with you to grow and develop skills and experiences during your time with us. We provide opportunities to learn new skills, develop existing skills, and share these skills with our St Christopher's community and future employers. It is using our St Christopher's Way that we support each other as a community and work together to be a part of a larger team.

Within the enrichment on offer at St Christopher's, you will find courses and clubs to improve your future prospects, networking and team-working events, and you will find a caring and fun community ready to support you and help you achieve your dreams. It is the way we do enrichment that makes St Christopher's so special.

Here is a sample of some of the enrichment opportunities on offer at St Christopher's:

Programmes and Qualifications

These are 1-year enrichment courses that lead to accredited AS level qualifications, or develop essential skills for specific university courses or employment. Some programmes and qualifications we provide are:

- AS level Core Maths
- Extended Project Qualification (equivalent to an AS course)
- Professional Pathway to Medicine
- Professional Pathway to Teaching
- Work Experience.

Enrichment Certificate

A student taking this enrichment option follows a one year course leading to the award of an in-house certificate as evidence that a student has gained particular skills and experiences in various activities. This year, the courses on offer include:

- Mindfulness
- Applied Psychology
- Dance
- Recreational Sport
- Judo

- Charity Committee
- British Sign Language
- Essential First Aid

Extra Curricular Activities

Our extra-curricular clubs give students the freedom and creativity to pursue their passions, or experience something new. Students are welcomed and encouraged to take the lead and establish their own clubs based on their personal interests. Supported by the Director of Sixth Form, guidance is offered to these keen individuals. Some extra-curricular clubs on offer are:

- Bridge and Chess Clubs
- 'Cantores' - SATB Chamber Choir
- Charity Committee
- Christian union
- Film and Music Societies
- Jazz band and Orchestra
- Pride Youth Network (PYN)

Improving culture

We want students to experience the world around them and improve their cultural capital. During your time at St Christopher's, trips offered include New York, theatre shows, musicals, and museums.

We invite future employers to talk about apprenticeships and job opportunities in industries including accounting, manufacturing, and retail.

We visit universities to encourage uptake at prestigious universities for specialist subjects.

We host our Pride Youth Network (PYN) weekly for LGBTQ+ students to discuss ideas, current issues, and LGBTQ+ history in the UK.

We are keen on student voice, and want students to feel their opinions are heard and valued, improving our community and the positive experiences at St Christopher's that make our Way unique.

University Advice & Guidance

Most of our students progress to university. You will have the support of staff, outside agencies and a dedicated careers library containing up-to-date information on all universities and courses as well as opportunities in employment. All students will attend UCAS Conventions and have the opportunity to attend university open days - campus and city.

Oxford and Cambridge

We are committed to academic excellence and part of this involves supporting and guiding students who have the necessary ambition and ability to apply to Oxford or Cambridge.

Students considering Oxbridge entrance receive a lengthy programme of support including tutorials, mock interviews and residential visits to our link colleges. A similar programme is offered to those who wish to apply to one of the Russell Group of universities.

Pre-Professional

Students who wish to enter one of the professions - medicine, veterinary science, dentistry, law, teaching - are offered support from one of our pre-professional programmes. This includes a sustained period of work experience, presentations by experts, and individual coaching for university applications and interviews. This is a comprehensive package which puts students in a strong position when they apply for highly competitive courses.

Aspirations Programme

Students are offered a monthly programme of talks and lectures from visiting academics and employers. These sessions offer a valuable insight into topics beyond the exam specification as well as providing information about new careers and courses.

'Preparation for higher education is extensive and the vast majority of students move on to places at their chosen universities'.

Ofsted

Molly Graham
Now reading Music at the
University of Cardiff

A-levels:
A A A

University Destinations 2021



Where Are They Now?

Over 10 Years of Success

Our students are our greatest asset, so what do former St Christopher's sixth formers remember about their two years with us? Great results but so much more.



Dominic Newman

University of Manchester - Medicine

Doctor at a District General Hospital in Manchester

Why would you recommend St Christopher's Sixth Form?

Such supportive and helpful members of staff who really try to understand and help achieve what you want.

How did St Christopher's Sixth Form help you?

Formed MAD society which was tailored to help get students into Medicine and Dentistry. Through this had one to one personal statement reviews, had talks about medical careers, and helped navigate through a complication and difficult medical school admission process. At the same time support during classes to help achieve the grades need.

Lucy Glynn

**Service Delivery Co-Ordinator,
Royal Blackburn Hospital**

Why would you recommend St Christopher's Sixth Form?

The transition from School to College can be daunting and St Christopher's made this as easy as possible. St Christopher's

provides excellent teaching, support and opportunities to develop.

How did St Christopher's Sixth Form help you?

St Christopher's pushed me to achieve and helped me to realise what I wanted to do with my future. I really started to enjoy learning from my time here and have continued with this approach in my working life.



Andrew Wightman

University of Chester - Geography & Business

University of Cumbria - PGCE

Primary teacher

Why would you recommend St Christopher's Sixth Form?

A very welcoming and friendly environment

with brilliant teachers who are passionate about what they teach.

How did St Christopher's Sixth Form help you?

St Christopher's built a great foundation for me to flourish both whilst at St Christopher's and beyond. I made friends for life and developed as a young adult thanks to their exceptional teaching and fantastic extra-curricular activities.

Cameron Stewart

Royal Air Force Pilot

Why would you recommend St Christopher's Sixth Form?

For those of the intellectual positioning to question the perceived facts, the

sixth form can provide a place for lively discussion and debate.

How did St Christopher's Sixth Form help you?

D of E Gold. Not only is it a useful experience, it's seen as a qualification outside of the normal academia that gives you an advantage in applications and interviews.



Eleanor Tomlinson

Royal Birmingham Conservatoire

Recently graduated with a First in Music from The Royal Birmingham Conservatoire. Concerts are a regular event at many churches and cathedrals in the local area, including the Town Hall and Symphony Hall. Being in a city was quite a change, but I have also enjoyed working outside of

the conservatoire and I feel very lucky to call my work being a choral scholar at the cathedral, and tutoring two fabulous recorder ensembles with the music department at Services for Education. I have enjoyed taking part in several recordings, including two CD's with the Chamber Choir at the conservatoire, a selection of pieces with an octet of upper voices, a few tracks with my recorder duo, and a student led folk CD.

Gareth Hill

Edge Hill University - PE & School Sport

Assistant Head of PE and Innovation Lead across a multi academy trust

Why would you recommend St Christopher's Sixth Form?

Being part of the first group of students at St Christopher's Sixth Form was an honour.

The building and facilities are outstanding and it is a really great learning environment.

How did St Christopher's Sixth Form help you?

St Christopher's helped me to secure the required grades to be accepted to one of the most prestigious universities for teaching in the country. Aside from academic success, St Christopher's School and Sixth Form also helped to shape me into the individual I am today.



Tasha McSherry

The Hammond, University of Chester

Recently graduated with a First in Musical Theatre

Why would you recommend St Christopher's Sixth Form?

St Christopher's is a friendly community

with fantastic teachers. The support system is amazing and whenever I had any problems I always knew who to go to.

How did St Christopher's Sixth Form help you?

I was always pushed academically and was given advice about what university life was like. Thank you Miss Davies! This made settling down into university life a breeze.

Choosing your A-levels

In the following pages you will find the subjects on offer at St Christopher's, which includes quite a variety of A-level courses ranging from the more academic to the more practical subjects. It is not always easy choosing your subjects and it can be quite a daunting process! The first thing to remember is that you must achieve the required GCSE grade required by that particular subject. Our recommendation is that you choose four subjects to study in the first year and then drop one of these subjects - either after Christmas or at the end of the summer term - and take your best three through. Taking four subjects in your first year will provide some flexibility and will allow you to experience a broad range of subjects before specialising for your final year of study.

You may decide to choose your subjects because they interest you, or you may feel that you already have an idea about your future career or university course, so you decide

on subjects that will allow you to take this path. In the following pages we outline the career paths that some of our former students have taken and recommend possible A-level subject combinations for different careers. We hope these examples will help you as you decide which subjects you wish to study.

Core A-Level Subjects:

Universities will normally expect students to have studied at least one of these subjects.

Recommended A-Level Subjects:

It is desirable to study these subjects.

Helpful A-Level Subjects:

A background in these subjects may be useful for some elements of the degree course.

Business	Core Subjects	Recommended	Helpful
A-Level subjects:	Business, Economics, Maths	Geography, Law, Politics	Computing, Modern Foreign Languages
For a degree in: Business Management, Finance, Economics, Entrepreneurship, Analytics and Consultancy			
Leading to careers as: Digital Specialist, Market Researcher, Accountant, Marketing Executive, HR Manager			

Creative Arts	Core Subjects	Recommended	Helpful
A-Level subjects:	Art & Design, Music, Performing Arts, Product Design, Textiles	English Literature, History, Modern Foreign Languages	Psychology, Classics, English Language
For a degree in: Textile Design, Drama, Theatre Studies, Graphics, Spacial Design			
Leading to careers as: Fashion Designer, Visual Merchandiser, A & R Music Talent Scout, Animator, Studio Photographer			

Earth Sciences	Core Subjects	Recommended	Helpful
A-Level subjects:	Geography, Maths	Biology, Further Maths, Physics	Chemistry, Computing
For a degree in: Environmental Science, Physical Geography, Ocean Sciences, Geochemistry, Archaeology, Meteorology and Climate Science			
Leading to careers as: Marine Biologist, Environmental Health Officer, Cartographer, Meteorologist, Agricultural Surveyor, Planning Officer			

English and Media	Core Subjects	Recommended	Helpful
A-Level subjects:	English Literature and/or Language	Classics, History, Modern Foreign Languages	Psychology, Sociology, Religious Studies
For a degree in: Creative Writing, Media Studies, Linguistics, Classical Studies, Comparative Literature			
Leading to careers as: Magazine Journalist, Advertising Copywriter, Author, Translator, Radio Broadcast Assistant, Librarian			

Humanities	Core Subjects	Recommended	Helpful
A-Level subjects:	History, Politics, Religious Studies	Geography, Law, Modern Foreign Languages	Biology, English Literature, Sociology
For a degree in: Archaeology, Theology, Ancient History, Middle Eastern Politics			
Leading to careers as: Archivist, Art Gallery Curator, Politician, Palaeontologist, Research Associate			
Legal	Core Subjects	Recommended	Helpful
A-Level subjects:	History	Economics, English Literature, Law, Politics	Classics, Modern Foreign Languages, Psychology, Sociology, Religious Studies
For a degree in: International Law, Maritime Economics, Legal Practice, Criminology, Law with Human Rights			
Leading to careers as: Barrister, Probation Officer, Licensing Officer, Paralegal, Court Clerk, Tax Inspector			
Material and Natural Sciences	Core Subjects	Recommended	Helpful
A-Level subjects:	Biology, Chemistry	Maths, Physics	History, Psychology, Sociology
For a degree in: Natural Science, Bio-Chemistry, Bio-Medical Science, Animal Behaviour, Midwifery, Speech & Language Therapy			
Leading to careers as: Landscape Architect, Pharmacist, Nurse, Midwife, Arboricultural Officer			
Maths, Physics & Computer Science	Core Subjects	Recommended	Helpful
A-Level subjects:	Maths, Further Maths, Physics	Biology, Chemistry, Computing, Product Design	Economics, Geography, Geology
For a degree in: Engineering, Building Surveying, Computer Science, Architecture, Virtual Reality Systems Design			
Leading to careers as: Accountant, Architect, Acoustic Engineer, Data Programmer, Nuclear Physicist, Humanitarian Explosive Ordnance Disposal			
Medical	Core Subjects	Recommended	Helpful
A-Level subjects:	Biology, Chemistry	Maths, Further Maths, Physics	Psychology
For a degree in: Dentistry, Medicine, Physiotherapy, Veterinary Medicine			
Leading to careers as: GP, Dentist, Vet, Surgeon, Radiographer, Optometrist			
Social Sciences	Core Subjects	Recommended	Helpful
A-Level subjects:	Economics, Psychology, Sociology, Religious Studies	Biology, English Literature, History, Maths	Classics, Law, Politics
For a degree in: Philosophy, Politics & Economics, Social Policy, International Relations, Primary Education, Business Management			
Leading to careers as: Social Worker, Police Officer, Clinical Psychologist, Education Welfare Officer, Art Therapist			
Sport	Core Subjects	Recommended	Helpful
A-Level subjects:	Biology, Physical Education	Business, Maths, Psychology	Geography, Law, Physics
For a degree in: Sport Studies, Exercise Science, Psychology, Business & Management			
Leading to careers as: Nutritionist, Sports Coach, Personal Trainer, Healthy Lifestyles Officer			

These are just a few suggestions and recommendations to help you consider which subjects might work well together and where they might lead in the future. It is essential that you undertake individual research on GCSE and A-Level subject requirements for specific degree courses, which can vary between universities.

Key dates

This year promises to be both exciting and challenging. Keep a note of the key dates and developments listed below. These may be subject to change due to the continuing Covid-19 pandemic.

2021

12th October (6-8pm) - Open Evening

This is a chance for students and parents to find out more about the Sixth Form. Please keep checking our website and social media channels for more details and any other events we may host in person or online.

18th November (6-8pm) - Student Led Open Evening

This event is entirely run by our students and is a chance for you to find out more about life at St Christopher's from those that matter and know.

2022

7th January - First round of applications considered

Applications received by this date will be considered first.

Late January/Early February - Interviews

Applicants will be invited to attend a short interview to discuss their course selection and options.

March - offer of provisional places to first round of applicants

Successful applicants will be notified that a provisional place has been offered, usually dependent on GCSE grades.

1st July - New Intake Day [TBC]

Meeting staff and fellow new students.

18th - 19th August - GCSE Results Day & Enrolment [TBC]

Students confirm the formal acceptance of their place at St Christopher's after obtaining their GCSE results.

6th September - Term starts

‘Students are well supported with their career planning. The careers advisor knows all students extremely well, providing valuable personalised guidance to each of them.’

Ofsted

Curriculum Overview

A wide range of A-level courses are offered at St Christopher's. Most students study four subjects in the Lower Sixth (Year 12) and continue with three of these in the Upper Sixth (Year 13).

Teaching groups at St Christopher's are small and a range of teaching styles adopted, partly to prepare students for the less structured teaching approach they will meet at university. Sixth formers are encouraged to acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to make well-informed and realistic choices about their future

Our aim is to challenge each student, helping them to fulfil their potential and to appreciate the satisfaction gained from academic study. Sixth formers are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning and to develop independent thought and self-discipline.

All A-level courses will require a minimum of 4 GCSE Grade 5, plus at least a Grade 4 in English Language and Mathematics.

The A-level courses offered are as follows:

Art & Design	20	Law	33
Biology	21	Mathematics	34
Business	22	Modern Foreign Languages	35
Chemistry	23	Music	36
Classical Civilisation	24	Performing Arts (BTEC)	37
Computing	25	Physical Education	38
Economics	26	Physics	39
English Language	27	Politics	40
English Literature & Language	28	Product Design	41
English Literature	29	Psychology	42
Further Mathematics	30	Theology, Philosophy & Ethics (Religious Studies)	43
Geography	31	Sociology	44
History	32	Textiles	45

Isaac Routh
Now reading Medicine at
Edge Hill University

A-levels:
A* A* A*

In addition to the general entry requirements of 4 GCSE grades at grade 5, plus a grade 4 in English Language and Mathematics, there are also some specific requirements for the subjects listed below.

Subject specific GCSE requirements:

Art & Design	Grade 5 in GCSE Art or equivalent and a portfolio.
Biology	Grade 6 or above in Biology plus one other from Chemistry or Physics. If studying Combined Sciences at GCSE, grade 7 or above preferred. Maths at grade 6.
Business	Grade 5 in Maths.
Chemistry	Grade 6 or above in Chemistry plus one other from Chemistry or Physics. If studying Combined Sciences at GCSE, grade 7 or above. Maths at grade 6.
Classical Civilisation	Grade 5 in Eng. Lit and/or History is desirable.
Computing	Grade 5 in Mathematics.
Economics	Grade 5 in Mathematics.
English Language	Grade 5/6 in English.
English Language & Literature	Grade 5 in both Language and Literature.
English Literature	Grade 6/7 in English.
Further Mathematics	Grade 8 in Maths.
Geography	Grade 5/6 in Geography.
History	Grade 6 in History is desirable.
Mathematics	Grade 7 in the full GCSE higher course.
Modern Foreign Languages	Grade 5 in the chosen language.
Music	Grade 5 in chosen instrument.
Physical Education	Grade 5 in each of combined Sciences or 2 grade 5 from Biology, Chemistry, Physics or PE.
Physics	Grade 6 or above in Physics plus one other from Chemistry or Biology. If studying Combined Sciences at GCSE, grade 7 or above. Maths at grade 6, higher paper. Other AS subjects should include Maths.
Psychology	Grade 5 in English and Maths.
Sociology	Grade 6 in English Language is desirable.
Textiles	Grade 6 in Art or Textiles.



Abbie Jopson
Now reading Economics at
Kings College London

A-levels:
A* A* A*

GO FURTHER WITH...

Art & Design

Introduction

Creative skills are vital to British industry. A-level Art and Design will enable you to develop your artistic ability across an exciting range of techniques, experimenting with effects and concepts. This course is hands-on, with the emphasis on creating imaginative individual work. Students will visit galleries and take part in Art workshops to extend specialist skills and knowledge.

Why Art & Design?

- You will be well prepared for a future career in a creative industry
- Many students go on to further study leading to careers in graphic design, fashion, illustration, architecture, painting, sculpture and photography
- You will build a portfolio to use in university interviews
- You will have an opportunity to further develop your artistic skills
- Studying a practical subject can offer a contrast to more traditionally academic A-levels.

Any special requirements?

Entry will be determined by interviews, at which students must present a portfolio of work.

Art GCSE grade 6 or equivalent is also required for course entry.

For more information

To learn more about this course, what you will study and how you will be assessed please visit www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/courses

To apply for this course visit <https://www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/online-application-form>



"I think A-level Art is uniquely beneficial to explore subjects I am interested in as well as teaching me to study independently in a way which my other A levels don't. It also provides a creative outlet to my otherwise solely academic subjects."

Wesley Davitt
(formerly QEGs)

GO FURTHER WITH...

Biology

Introduction

Biology is the scientific exploration of the vast and diverse world of living organisms. This exploration has expanded enormously over the past four decades, revealing a wealth of knowledge about ourselves and the millions of other organisms with whom we share the planet. Today, biological research spans an almost infinite spectrum, from molecules to landscapes.

Why Biology?

The study of Biology has an immediate relevance to our daily lives. It is important for everyone to develop a sense of how we fit into the complex ecology of our planet without wreaking horrendous destruction. Some of our greatest engineering feats of the future are likely to involve bio-engineering projects, particularly concerning the disposal of municipal and industrial waste, and the development of renewable resources. A-level Biology can lead to a university education in medicine, veterinary science, dentistry, physiotherapy, pharmacology, environmental science, forensic science, microbiology, genetics and a range of other science courses.

Any special requirements?

If students have taken Separate Sciences at GCSE, they must have achieved grade 6 or above in Biology plus one other from Chemistry or Physics. If students have taken Combined Science at GCSE, it is desirable that students have achieved grade 7 or above. As the maths content of the new A-level course is quite substantial, students should also have at least a grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics.

For more information

To learn more about this course, what you will study and how you will be assessed please visit www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/courses

To apply for this course visit <https://www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/online-application-form>

“There is so much to explore whilst studying Biology. From ecosystems and natural habitats to the structure and replication of DNA, the topics are varied and exciting. As well as the student-peer support, we have the support and dedication of a passionate and knowledgeable team of teachers, who push us to think logically and creatively.”

Rhiannon Murphy
(formerly St Christopher's)

GO FURTHER WITH...

Business

Introduction

"If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door." - Milton Berle

Business is a popular subject to study at A-level, providing a valuable academic and work-related qualification whilst also developing useful life skills. It combines well with any other subject and it is held in high regard by many universities and employers. Business students will learn not only about business behaviour but also about how businesses adapt to dynamic markets and competition.

Why Business?

- If you want to learn about the issues involved in managing a business, the Business course will provide you with a stimulating insight into the marketing and business management
- Learn about financial literacy and problem-solving, working as a team, and managing day-to-day operations of a business
- The global factors affecting businesses including Brexit, joint enterprises, and global tax evasion
- Study new, existing, and international business by analysing, interpreting and evaluating complex business information

For Paper 3, students undertake investigations in a specific market to become fluent in its structure, marketing, and opportunities and threats to businesses within the industry. For 2020/21, the topic was the Restaurant & Fast Food market.

We run a trip to a business within the chosen industry to enrich students with the knowledge on how the business works in the industry. This gives application points to use within Paper 3. For 2019/2020, we visited the Manchester Opera House to give students insight into the Entertainment market.

Any special requirements?

Candidates should have a keen interest in the current business environment, as they will write about real-life businesses in context during their examination.

A minimum of a grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics is required because of the data interpretation and financial calculation part of the course. A grade 4 in GCSE Mathematics may be accepted with a passing grade in the Business Baseline Test, completed in the first week of Year 12.

For more information

To learn more about this course, what you will study and how you will be assessed please visit www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/courses

To apply for this course visit <https://www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/online-application-form>



"Business can't hide from us, it always there's at Every Corner we Turn. I really enjoy the Challenges that Business Studies brings as they make me think to New depths to Further Explore the world of Business Around Us to hopefully one day to be an Entrepreneur of the Future."

Alvi Islam
(formerly The Hollins)

GO FURTHER WITH...

Chemistry

Introduction

Chemistry is the science which bridges the gaps between most other sciences, be they physical or biological.

It answers questions such as: "How do chemicals react?" and "Why when combined, do some chemicals go 'Bang!' while others largely ignore one another?" Without chemistry, there would be no new drug developments, indeed no new materials of any kind, whether for fashion or for stopping a speeding bullet. In short: Chemistry = Essential Science.

Why Chemistry?

Chemistry helps us to understand the world in which we live, from the way our bodies work to the effects on our environment of human activity. It is an interesting subject even if you don't intend to use it as a stepping-stone, and it complements many other subjects, particularly Biology and Physics but also Maths, Geography and Geology. Chemistry is an essential A-level for a host of degree courses, including Medicine, Veterinary Sciences, Pharmacy and Dentistry.

Any special requirements?

If students have taken Separate Sciences at GCSE, they must have achieved grade 6 or above in Chemistry plus one other from Biology or Physics. If students have taken Combined Science at GCSE, it is desirable that students have achieved grade 7 or above. As the maths content of the new A-level course is quite substantial, students should also have at least a grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics.

For more information

To learn more about this course, what you will study and how you will be assessed please visit www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/courses

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"Chemistry provides a link between maths and the more applied sciences such as biology, this makes it a useful subject for a wide range of career pathways. I particularly enjoy using what I've learned in a practical scenario, then linking it back to how we might use it in industry."

Emily Hall
(formerly St Christopher's)

GO FURTHER WITH...

Classical Civilisation

Introduction

Studying the classical civilisations of Ancient Rome and Greece is fascinating.

We cover a wide range of themes from this period, including philosophy, religion, comedy, and tragedy. The course intends to expand students' knowledge of the ancient world in order to gain a better understanding of the modern.

If you are looking to combine an interest in History and English Literature, this could be the subject for you.

Why Classical Civilisation?

- A highly regarded A-Level which combines academic rigour with fascinating subject content, including insights into a different world of gods, heroes, empires and government.
- Supported by trips to museums, universities and theatres and an optional place on the departments' biennial overseas residential trip.
- The opportunity to study diverse topics and sources, including both literature and visual/material culture, which will inspire and motivate learners to engage further with the classical world.
- The course covers the foundations of Western culture - The study of the oldest surviving works of western literature; the origins of democracy; the birth of theatre; art and artistry.

Any special requirements?

The study of Latin and Ancient Greek is all completed in English translation so no prior knowledge is required. However, a grade B/5 in English Literature and/or History is desirable.

For more information

To learn more about this course, what you will study and how you will be assessed please visit www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/courses

To apply for this course visit <https://www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/online-application-form>

"Classical Civilisation is a challenging yet rewarding experience. The world of the hero, accompanied by the study of the ancient civilisation, provides a nice balance between learning of the remarkable literature of Homer and Virgil, and the incredible history of the Ancient World, which has helped to shape and structure a lot of things in our modern lives. Personally, I find classics truly fascinating and thoroughly enjoy studying the subject here."

James O'Doherty
(formerly Bowland High)



GO FURTHER WITH...

Computing

Introduction

An interesting and varied subject with emphasis on abstract thinking.

In today's computer age, it is essential that there are highly skilled people that have great computing knowledge, which is where the A-level Computing qualification comes into relevance. The A-level in Computing is varied, interesting and challenging and will appeal to students with most learning styles. You will need to have a logical mind and be good at maths because computing involves programming which is a logical and a mathematical discipline. The course has an emphasis on abstract thinking, problem-solving, programming, algorithmic and mathematical reasoning and provides wide-ranging options for progression to University.

Why Choose Computing?

- A qualification in A-level Computing is highly regarded when you venture into employment as there are so many careers where A-level Computing is essential.
- This course will prepare you for many of the courses at university, including computing, software engineering and business or computer graphics, amongst others.
- You will develop the capacity to think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically.
- You will acquire the ability to apply skills, knowledge and understanding of computing, in a range of contexts to solve problems.

Any special requirements?

The previous study of IT or Computing is not a pre-requisite for this A-level. Students should have an interest in computers and be prepared to work independently in order to complete the practical project in Year Two. Students must have achieved a minimum of a Grade 5 in Mathematics.

For more information

To learn more about this course, what you will study and how you will be assessed please visit www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/courses

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"I came in with no programming knowledge and halfway in, I'm quite confident of what I can achieve. Coding is the language of the future, and everyone should learn it. There is no gender bias when your code is successful."

Khula Ijaz
(formerly Mount Carmel)

GO FURTHER WITH...

Economics

Introduction

“Economics is everywhere, and understanding economics can help you make better decisions and lead a happier life.” - Tyler Cowen

Why are banks ‘too big to fail’? What’s inflation, and does it affect me? I hear a lot about interest rates and payday loans, but I want to know what it means... Economics is where you find this out, and a lot more.

Why Economics?

- How to make better choices in life, breaking down complicated real-life problems into easy decisions
- What governments do to improve society by fixing problems, and how this can sometimes go badly wrong
- Why we trade with distant countries like Kenya rather than neighbouring EU countries - is this good for Kenya?
- Why petrol prices are so high despite oil prices falling, and how we stop this.

Any special requirements?

Candidates should have a keen interest in current affairs and world events, as they will be expected to write about recent affairs in their examination.

A minimum of a grade B/5 in GCSE Mathematics is required because of the data interpretation part of the course. A grade C/4 in GCSE Mathematics can be accepted with a passing grade in the Economics Baseline Test, completed in the 1st week of Year 12.

Studying A-Level Mathematics alongside A-Level Economics is encouraged for studying Economics at a higher level.

For more information

To learn more about this course, what you will study and how you will be assessed please visit www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/courses

To apply for this course visit <https://www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/online-application-form>

“The A-level economics course is definitely not what I expected. Ever since I embarked upon my Economics journey at St Christopher’s I have found a new passion for the subject which has left me intrigued, confused, and fascinated. Every lesson is a new adventure and brings me a step closer to understanding the plethora of facts and theories which make a vital part of the Economics A-level.”

Adam Brierley
(formerly Unity College)

GO FURTHER WITH...

English Language

Introduction

The study of English Language is the study of all the significant aspects of human communication from the language choices of teenage tweets to the language choices of celebrated playwrights. This course encompasses this range. For anyone interested in human communication, English Language will prove a fascinating and rewarding subject.

The course seeks to provide answers to the following questions:

- How do children acquire language?
- Is one way of speaking superior to another?
- How does advertising work?
- Do men and women speak differently?
- How and why is English changing?

Why English Language?

This is a demanding course that provides a great deal of enjoyment. It enables students to develop and apply their understanding of linguistic concepts to the analysis and appreciation of the English Language. It provides a course of study for students wishing to develop research skills and investigative work related to the English Language.

Any special requirements?

Students must be self-disciplined and have an interest in the technical side of the English Language. They must be prepared to conduct their own investigations into different aspects of the English Language. Students must be able to express their ideas clearly and elegantly and be able to frame their ideas in the form of incisive and systematic arguments. Students should have achieved at least a grade 6 in English GCSE.

For more information

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To apply for this course visit <https://www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/online-application-form>

"During the course I received an opportunity to study various aspects of the English Language, which I found thoroughly interesting. I found Standard English and language change over time exceptionally interesting, where I was able to discover how the English language developed since the 16th century and how mutable it is. This was fascinating for me as a prospective history undergraduate. I would certainly recommend English Language to anyone willing to explore new things in their A-level course."

Mateusz Matuszewski
(formerly St Christopher's)



GO FURTHER WITH...

English Literature & Language

Introduction

This is a most enjoyable course which enables students who enjoy both the linguistic and literary aspects of English study, to continue to develop their interests. Students will study a number of great literary texts, and through this develop their skills in language analysis.

Why English Literature and Language?

It provides a course of study for those who do not yet wish to specialise in the study of either language or literature and allows them to maintain their broad interest. English is useful for innumerable careers and the foundation of academic study.

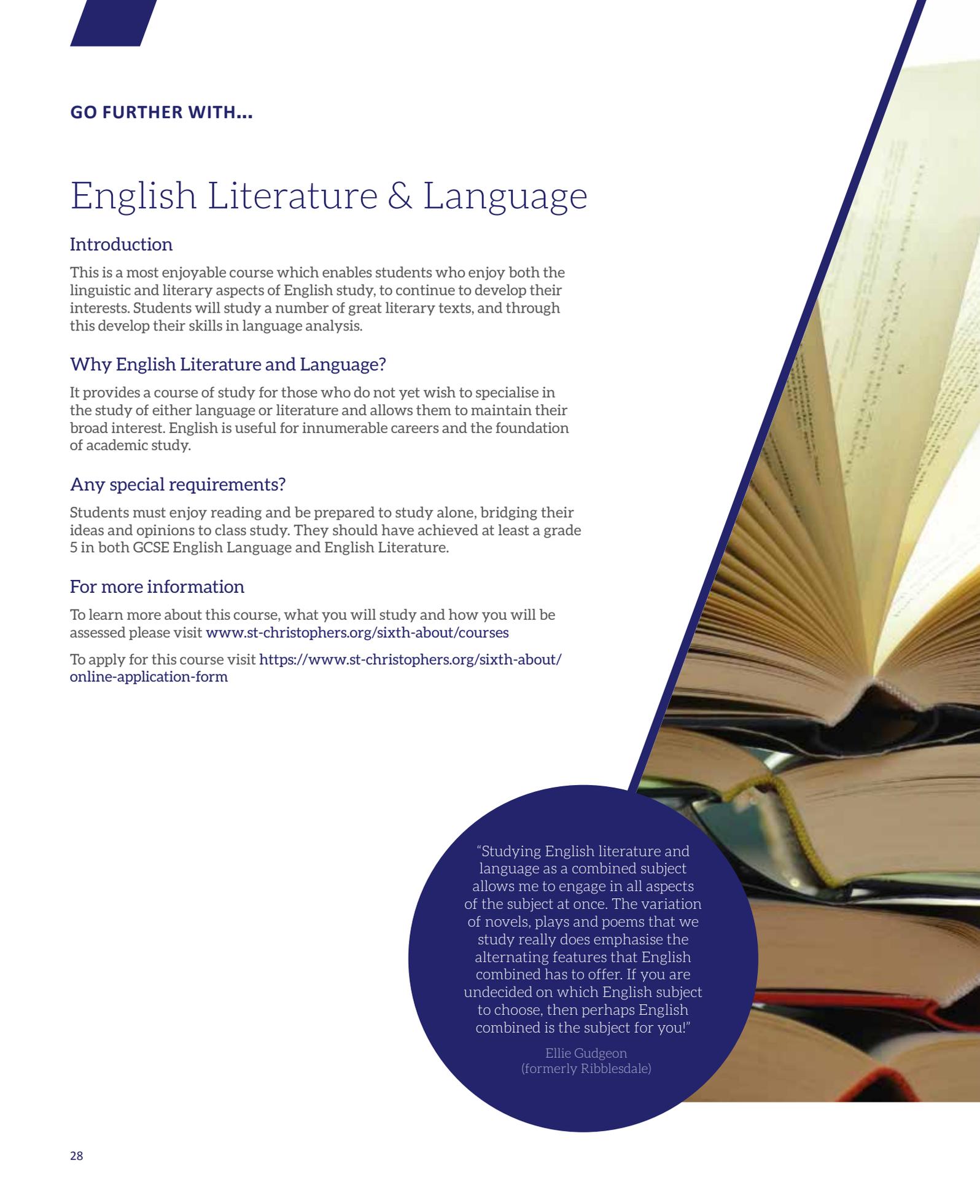
Any special requirements?

Students must enjoy reading and be prepared to study alone, bridging their ideas and opinions to class study. They should have achieved at least a grade 5 in both GCSE English Language and English Literature.

For more information

To learn more about this course, what you will study and how you will be assessed please visit www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/courses

To apply for this course visit <https://www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/online-application-form>



"Studying English literature and language as a combined subject allows me to engage in all aspects of the subject at once. The variation of novels, plays and poems that we study really does emphasise the alternating features that English combined has to offer. If you are undecided on which English subject to choose, then perhaps English combined is the subject for you!"

Ellie Gudgeon
(formerly Ribblesdale)

GO FURTHER WITH...

English Literature

Introduction

The course builds upon the work you have done for GCSE and introduces you to a more formal academic study of a wide range of fascinating, relevant and challenging texts.

Throughout the course you will study poetry, drama and novels.

Why English Literature?

English Literature allows its students to develop their learning in a wide variety of academic subjects, including philosophy, theology, history, and foreign and classical languages. To understand a society it is essential to understand its literature, and this course provides an excellent opportunity to do that. Literature also offers us a profound insight into the human condition.

Any special requirements?

The course involves a significant amount of reading. Students must be independent learners who are willing to read in their own time and be prepared to discuss in class their ideas about what they have read. Students must be able to construct systematic and incisive argument and express their ideas with elegance and clarity. Students should have achieved at least a grade 6 in English GCSE.

For more information

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To apply for this course visit <https://www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/online-application-form>

"I enjoyed studying English Literature at A level; it's a fascinating course which complements many other subjects. I particularly enjoyed the novels *Atonement* and *The Great Gatsby*. I'd recommend English to anyone who enjoys reading and wants to better understand the nature of society and literature and how they impact upon one another."

Erin Archer
(formerly St Christopher's)

GO FURTHER WITH...

Further Mathematics

Introduction

Further Mathematics is an A-level qualification which both broadens and deepens the mathematics covered in A-level Maths. Any student considering a degree in a maths rich subject such as engineering, sciences, computing, finance or economics should seriously consider Further Maths.

Further Mathematics is taught alongside A Level Maths

Why Further Mathematics?

There are many reasons - a few are:

- Students taking Further Mathematics overwhelmingly find it to be an enjoyable, rewarding, stimulating and empowering experience.
- For someone who enjoys Mathematics, it provides a challenge and a chance to explore new and more sophisticated mathematical concepts.
- It enables students to distinguish themselves as able mathematicians in the university and employment market.
- Some prestigious university courses will only accept students with Further Mathematics on Maths-based degrees.
- Studying Further Maths boosts students' performance in A-level Mathematics.
- 33% of all universities mention Further Maths as desirable or essential for a Mathematics degree and for those universities in the Russell Group, this proportion is 65% (May 2012).
- Many universities are now encouraging students to take Further Maths if they wish to study Maths-related subjects such as engineering, sciences, computing or technology.

Any special requirements?

To study Further Mathematics you need to have obtained at least a grade 8 at GCSE.

For more information

To learn more about this course, what you will study and how you will be assessed please visit www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/courses

To apply for this course visit <https://www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/online-application-form>

"Further Maths will teach you how to overcome seemingly unworkable questions and to never surrender to obstacles. It will push your intellect to the very limits which may hurt your brain a little but at the end you will be proud of your attainments."

Ahmed Yusuf
(formerly St Christopher's)

GO FURTHER WITH...

Geography

Introduction

Relationship between human populations and physical environment.

Geography is a 21st-century subject, for students who are interested in the dynamics of the modern world and how the people within are changing it. Recent current events have again highlighted the importance of the subject on a global scale. Geographers are taught to combine the study of natural processes and human interactions, and the subject can provide the vital bridge between 'humanities' and 'sciences'. Descriptive, analytical and evaluative skills are also taught. There are opportunities to experience the subject both in the classroom and through fieldwork as well.

Why Geography?

Geography will appeal to those students who:

- Are interested in current affairs
- Have a concern for the environment and the people within
- Enjoy travel and exploring new places, people, landscapes and events
- Enjoy their learning with a passion

Geography is classed as a key 'facilitating subject' by top Russell Group universities.

Any special requirements?

Students should have achieved at least a grade 5 in GCSE Geography.

For more information

To learn more about this course, what you will study and how you will be assessed please visit www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/courses

To apply for this course visit <https://www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/online-application-form>

"A-Level Geography is a diverse and enriching subject that has been fundamental to developing my understanding of the world. Topics such as "Population and the Environment" allow me to apply the theory I have learnt to current, real life events. The skills I have gained are invaluable and will continue to benefit me in my further education."

Eden Chew
(formerly Blesses Trinity RC College)

GO FURTHER WITH...

History

Introduction

“History is the only laboratory we have in which to test the consequences of thought.” - Etienne Gilson

History isn't a subject that's stuck in the past. Far from it. Historical events have shaped society into what it is today. History helps you to understand the value and significance of world events in the past. In the process, you'll gain a deeper understanding of social, cultural, religious and ethnic diversity. Knowing how people lived in the past helps us to understand why people act as they do today. Your A-level in History gives you knowledge and skills which will prepare you for higher education, and which are also useful in any career.

Why History?

Employers and universities value History very highly. The skills which are taught within the subject are very useful in work, study and life. Students who specialize in History can go on to become historical researchers, work in heritage organisations or become teachers. But History also supports other career paths, such as journalism, politics, law, social work and public services.

When studying History you will:

- Use information effectively by weighing conflicting factors carefully before taking critical decisions
- Be analytical and critical when considering information presented to you
- Understand how and why humans behaved as they did
- Learn the arts of oral debate and expressing a clear personal point of view

Any special requirements?

GCSE History is not essential, but a grade 6 or above in GCSE History would be an advantage.

For more information

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“People often get History wrong: it isn't just learning about old Kings or the rise and fall of Nazi Germany through textbooks; it is an evaluation of the ideas and beliefs that have come and gone and how they have left an impact on modern society today. I prefer the more modern History because of how remnants still exist today and how it shapes my own personal beliefs and opinions.”

James McConnell
(formerly St Augustine's)

GO FURTHER WITH...

Law

Introduction

Is a robust legal system the foundation of a fair and civilised society?

Can a society be judged by the way it treats criminals? How can I sue someone who has been negligent towards me? Regardless of whether you see yourself as a Barrister or Solicitor in the future, studying law will help you to develop valuable transferable skills such as logic, problem solving, analysing and evaluating. It enhances your ability to communicate opinions and come to conclusions clearly and succinctly, it will also help you substantiate arguments and develop a critical and enquiring mind. As such it provides an excellent background for many University courses and careers.

Why Law?

Law plays a vital role in society and affects virtually all aspects of our lives from driving a car, purchasing goods or negotiating a business contract. A-Level Law is an interesting, stimulating, entertaining and testing subject. We bring the subject alive using a wide range of teaching methods, mock trials, visits to the local courts to watch trials and a visit to London where we go to the Houses of Parliament to see where laws are made and the Supreme Court to see where they are practically applied.

Any special requirements?

No previous knowledge of Law is required. The course involves a great deal of listening, reading, note-taking and extended writing so you must feel confident with these skills. An enquiring mind, commitment and a determination to work hard are essential.

For more information

To learn more about this course, what you will study and how you will be assessed please visit www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/courses

To apply for this course visit <https://www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/online-application-form>

"A-level Law is a challenging but rewarding subject. It engages students into current affairs and encourages us to analyse both sides of complex situations, whilst devising the best solution based on strong reasoning and critical thinking. Due to my interest in Law combined with the dynamic and supportive teaching at St Christopher's I want to continue on to do a Law LLB at Nottingham University and eventually have a successful career as a Barrister in the future."

Ellysia Ainsworth-Cookson
(formerly Unity College)

GO FURTHER WITH...

Mathematics

Introduction

If you enjoy mathematics, get a kick out of problem-solving, enjoy the sheer power of mathematics and the elegance of its methods, and want a qualification which is widely respected by universities and employers alike, then Mathematics is the subject for you!

If you have a natural ability and love of the subject then you may also consider Further Mathematics, especially if you wish to take a maths-based subject at university. Many universities require or encourage students to take further maths for entry to some of their courses including Science, Technology, Engineering and Finance.

Why Mathematics?

Mathematics is essential for a wide range of students, from those wishing to read Mathematics at university to those who need it to complement their chosen course. Courses such as engineering, computing, various areas of science, medicine, economics, business and psychology are but a few courses which require the understanding of mathematics beyond GCSE. You will learn skills specific to the subject as well as transferable ones such as problem-solving, communication and organisation.

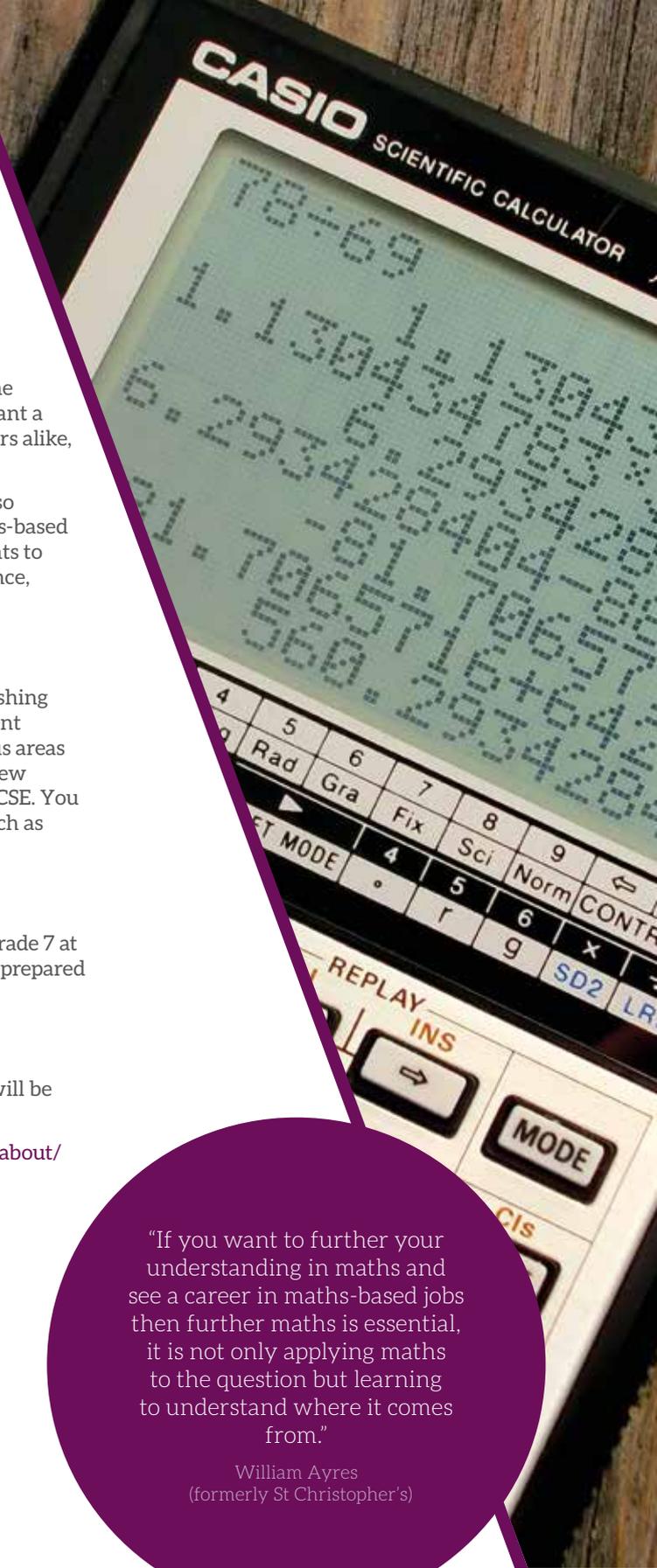
Any special requirements?

In order to be successful at A-level Mathematics, you really need a grade 7 at GCSE. You must have completed the full GCSE higher course and be prepared to complete the bridging unit during the summer holidays.

For more information

To learn more about this course, what you will study and how you will be assessed please visit www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/courses

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“If you want to further your understanding in maths and see a career in maths-based jobs then further maths is essential, it is not only applying maths to the question but learning to understand where it comes from.”

William Ayres
(formerly St Christopher's)

GO FURTHER WITH...

Modern Foreign Languages

Introduction

“Choosing an A Level language is a really smart move if you want a fascinating subject that offers you a range of career possibilities at the end and are a lot of fun along the way.” - Routes into Languages

We are an experienced team of enthusiastic, specialist linguists in French and German, who are committed to motivating and supporting students so they achieve their potential. You would benefit from our small group teaching and our wide range of up-to-date authentic resources. With a strong emphasis on oral skills during class time, you will develop into a confident speaker of your chosen language with a robust understanding of grammar.

Why Modern Foreign Languages?

- For further study - Universities really value language A levels as they understand the skills you learn on the course. Having French A level will definitely make you stand out from the crowd!
- For increased career opportunities - As well as traditional occupations such as translating, interpreting or language teaching, linguists can pursue careers in business services, government, contact centres, engineering, event management, financial services, marketing, media, public services, travel and tourism or voluntary and charitable work.
- For increased earning potential - People who learn a foreign language earn an extra £3000 a year - a total of £145 000 over their lifetime.

Any special requirements?

Students must have achieved at least a grade 5 in the language they wish to study.

For more information

To learn more about our French and German A Levels please visit www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/courses

To apply for these courses visit <https://www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/online-application-form>

“The topics we have studied have been very interesting and have enabled us to develop our cultural knowledge and vocabulary. I enjoyed developing my French writing skills, and I am now looking forward to writing essays.”

Lily Fox
(formerly Blessed Trinity RC College)

GO FURTHER WITH...

Music

Introduction

This course is for or keen musicians from all musical backgrounds, ranging from the classical to the more popular.

The course involves performing, composing, and history and analysis of music from the 1600s to the present day, including jazz, big band, blues and popular music. It will be demanding both practically and academically and is well respected by all universities for entry to many different courses. If you are a keen and able musician this would be an excellent course to study.

Why Music?

- Music skills are well respected and highly regarded by the academic profession
- The qualifications demonstrate that you have good self-discipline and application to a demanding course
- Music can be studied at university or at a Music Conservatoire. Many colleges and universities also offer music as a subsidiary study
- Music is an exciting and enjoyable subject with a lot of practical work and the opportunity to take part in many musical activities with others

Any special requirements?

You do not need to have a GCSE in music to study this course although that would certainly be a good basis from which to start. You should be a competent player on your chosen instrument of about grade 5 in standard and be able to read music, even if only to a very basic level. It is expected that you will have some knowledge of basic composition.

For more information

To learn more about this course, what you will study and how you will be assessed please visit www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/courses

To apply for this course visit <https://www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/online-application-form>

“A level music at St Christopher’s has not only nurtured my passion of music but has vastly expanded my knowledge of the inner workings of the subject. From practical to theory, there’s been plentiful guidance and encouragement every step of the way. St Christopher’s music department has given me the confidence to be the best musician I can be and many opportunities to further explore the subject post St Christopher’s.”

Chloe Gallagher
(formerly St Augustine’s)

GO FURTHER WITH...

Performing Arts (BTEC)

Introduction

This is an exciting and innovative new course, equivalent to one A-level.

It gives a broad introduction to the Performing Arts Sector in Drama, Dance, Music and Musical Theatre with emphasis on core knowledge and fundamental, transferable skills. This is part of a programme of study allowing you to undertake 2/3 other A-level subjects keeping a broad academic range of subjects. It offers a vocational perspective on performing arts industries and is designed to provide a progression route to higher education and further training in the performing arts sector.

Why Performing Arts?

- Performing Arts is a fantastic course if you are considering a career in the performing arts industry or wish to study a subject with a really practical approach.
- Performing Arts is an exciting and enjoyable course with a lot of practical work, in-depth study of scripts and theatre practitioners and the opportunity to take part in many performances throughout the course.
- The course caters for all abilities and all disciplines within the performing arts industry and will prepare you well for further study at a specialist performing arts college, dance school, drama school, music conservatoire or university.

Any special requirements?

Some previous study in either drama, dance, performing arts or music is essential. You should be a competent performer in your chosen medium and you should have some experience of what is required for this kind of course.

For more information

To learn more about this course, what you will study and how you will be assessed please visit www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/courses

To apply for this course visit <https://www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/online-application-form>

"There is not only a very creative environment to learn in, but a fun one too! At St Christopher's, performing arts not only allows me to explore a world of new opportunities, but let's me express myself in new ways. It creates a community of like-minded students who share ideas and help to build each other up."

Emelia Geldard
(formerly St Christopher's)

GO FURTHER WITH...

Physical Education

Introduction

A-level Physical Education draws on the disciplines of Human Biology and Psychology

The course also requires an understanding of the cultural context and historical development of sport.

The course involves both practical and theoretical work and these are linked. However, it is important that you are participating at a high competitive standard outside of school in one sport. The academic elements of the subject are the focus during curriculum time.

Why Physical Education?

This specification builds on the student's experience from Key Stage 4 and GCSE to enhance knowledge and increase understanding of the factors that affect performance and participation in physical education. The qualification looks to equip students with skills and knowledge required for higher education or the world of work.

Any special requirements?

At least a grade 5 in each of GCSE Science, and Additional or Applied Science, or a minimum of two grades 5 from GCSE Biology, Chemistry, Physics or Physical Education. Although useful, a GCSE in PE is not a requirement for students wishing to follow the course.

In addition, you will be required to be at a highly competent level as a performer in at least one sport.

For more information

To learn more about this course, what you will study and how you will be assessed please visit www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/courses

To apply for this course visit <https://www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/online-application-form>

"Initially I chose PE as a 4th subject, not thinking that I would continue with it through to a second year of study. This changed as there is far more to PE than I expected, and I found it very interesting. I have really enjoyed the science and psychology side as it has helped me with my own understanding of my sport outside of school. I didn't take GCSE PE and have found it an easy subject to pick up due to my sport interests."

David Clare
(formerly Blessed Trinity)

GO FURTHER WITH...

Physics

Introduction

Physics is about unravelling the universe to try and find out how it works.

Discoveries in Physics have been at the heart of most advances in technology. It is an exciting and challenging subject to study, requiring an enquiring mind and clear thinking. The range of ideas in Physics could not be greater - from observing the furthest reaches of the universe to experiments on the inner secrets of the nucleus. The rewards of Physics include a deeper understanding of the universe and the development of skills that are highly sought after by both universities and employers.

Why Physics?

The skills gained through studying Physics are in high demand in the world. It is a well-respected academic and scientific subject. Degree courses that may be open to students of Physics include Engineering, Medicine, Mathematics and Computing, as well as Physics, Astrophysics and Electronics.

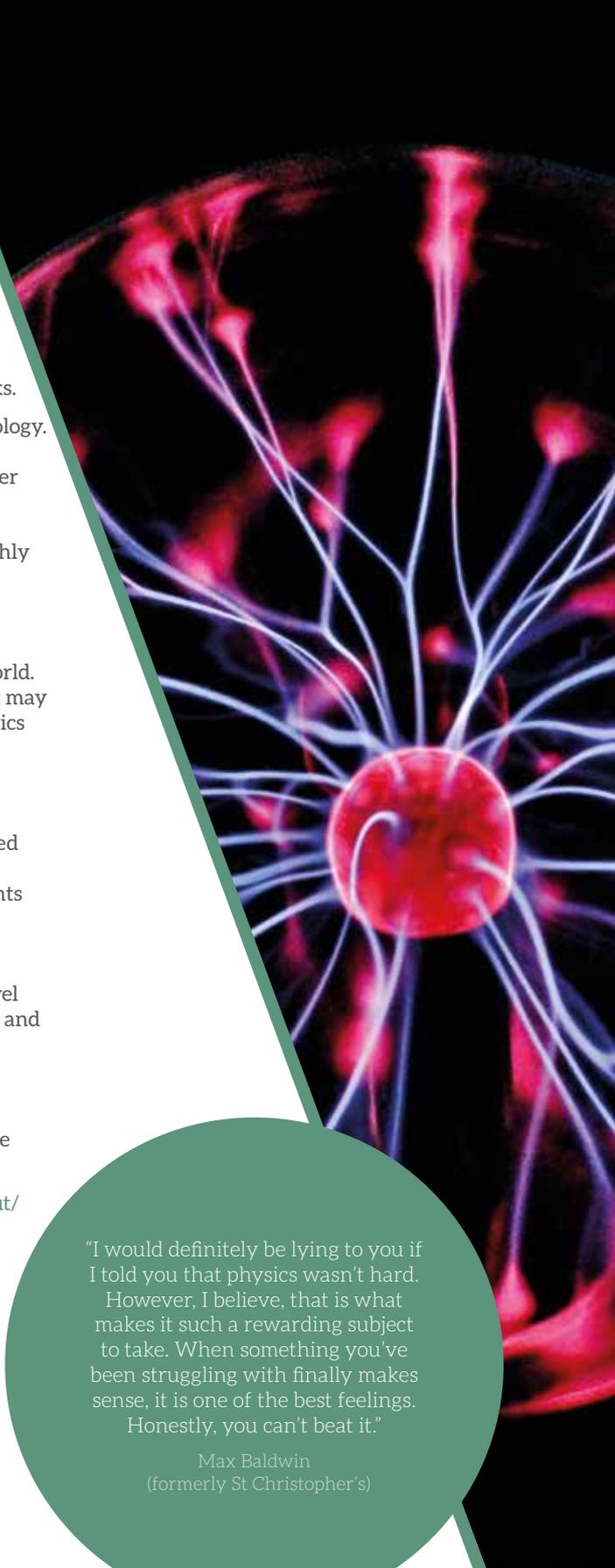
Any special requirements?

If students have taken Separate Sciences at GCSE, they must have achieved grade 6 or above in Physics plus one other from Chemistry or Biology. If students have taken Combined Science at GCSE, it is desirable that students have achieved grade 7 or above. As the maths content of the course is substantial, we would prefer at least a grade 6 in the mathematics higher paper. It is also recommended that one of your other AS subjects be mathematics, particularly if you are planning to continue on to the A-level course. You should be aware though that nearly all Engineering, Physics and related degree courses require you to have A-level Mathematics.

For more information

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To apply for this course visit <https://www.st-christophers.org/sixth-about/online-application-form>



"I would definitely be lying to you if I told you that physics wasn't hard. However, I believe, that is what makes it such a rewarding subject to take. When something you've been struggling with finally makes sense, it is one of the best feelings. Honestly, you can't beat it."

Max Baldwin
(formerly St Christopher's)

GO FURTHER WITH...

Politics

Introduction

As Harold Wilson famously said; “A week is a long time in Politics”, which makes it a fantastic subject to study to A-level.

It is fast paced, exciting and there are no right or wrong answers only what you are able to argue convincingly! If you enjoy engaging with current affairs and political issues and are interested in who wields power and influence in our modern world then Politics is the subject for you.

Why Politics?

Politics will be a new subject to the majority of you and is, therefore, an opportunity to study something fresh and new. Studying Government and Politics will give you an insight into the way the world around you works at local national and international levels. You will be encouraged to debate and discuss, critically analyse and present arguments both orally and through essay writing, these skills are essential whether you decide to go into Higher Education or a career after A-Levels. As part of the Government and Politics course, we visit Parliament for a tour and to meet with our local MP and visit the UK Supreme Court. The Government and Politics Department has also led the enrichment visit to Washington and New York where students visited UN Headquarters, The White House, Congress, the Library of Congress and the US Supreme Court.

Any special requirements?

The course involves a great deal of reading, note-taking and essay writing so you must feel confident in these skills. An enquiring mind and a determination to work hard are essential, as is an interest in current affairs in order to appreciate the broad impact of politics.

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“Politics can be found in many forms in many different areas of life, from the everyday to the international level; as such, an understanding of these forms, such as the one provided at our Sixth Form, can be a great help in making sense of the world and society in which we live and is an essential skill to possess.”

Harry Sharples
(formerly St Christopher's)

GO FURTHER WITH...

Product Design

Introduction

This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, technical ability, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers, especially those in the creative design and engineering industries. You will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying hands on opportunities to put your learning into practice by designing and producing prototypes of your choice, which could range from jewellery work to architectural projects to domestic or industrial designs. You will be combining aesthetic tastes, functionality and financial considerations in a way that few other courses teach you to do. Students will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers, such as presentation skills and communication skills.

Why Product Design?

Students will work to deadlines and industry standards; experiment with new technologies; communicate their ideas using a full range of IT and presentation packages; think laterally and use analytical skill. Study is undertaken in a collaborative studio and workshop fully equipped with rapid prototyping, laser cutting, CAD modelling and traditional prototyping machinery. Product design students will generate creative, practical and marketable solutions to real-life problems.

Any special requirements?

You must have an enthusiasm and fair for creative design work and be well motivated to work independently to meet deadlines. Whilst a good GCSE in Design Technology would be an invaluable start and prove this, we recognise that not all students suitable for this courses always have this opportunity.

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“Product design is a great subject to develop and show off practical making skills while testing knowledge on all aspects of design. It is also fun to have the freedom to choose your final project, whatever that may be.”

Molly Pate
(formerly St Christopher's)

GO FURTHER WITH...

Psychology

Introduction

Psychology offers students an engaging and stimulating course to discover insights into the reasons behind human behaviour, helping them to gain not only a better understanding of their own behaviour but of those around them too. Psychology has a big impact on all areas of life, particularly in informing education and teaching, directing medical and health support services with issues like depression and phobias, shaping businesses and advertising, and engaging with efforts to reduce and reform criminal behaviour.

Psychologists help by applying scientific methods to obtain a better understanding of behaviour. This includes observing, measuring, testing and carrying out statistical analysis with individuals and groups to gain relevant information to support different situations. This enables psychologists to find solutions to problems in various settings.

Why Psychology?

- A-level Psychology offers a science with cutting-edge research that has real-world implications for issues in everyday life, all within a course that has academic integrity and skills that Higher Education and employers value.
- Studying Psychology develops a range of valuable skills including critical analysis, independent thinking and research, as well as a deeper understanding of the dynamics of human interaction and communication.
- Psychology will give you a relevant qualification appropriate to a range of occupations including teaching, management, nursing, marketing, counselling and a number of professional fields such as clinical, forensic and educational psychology.
- With the far-reaching implications of Psychology, it works very well with other A-level subjects such as Sociology, English, Biology, Law, and Religious Education to name a few, however, the skills learned on the course equip and support students in many other subjects too.

Any special requirements?

No prior knowledge of the subject is necessary. Students should be aware of the heavy essay demands of the subject as well as being very clear about the statistical component of the course involved in Research Methods and data analysis.

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“You should study Psychology at St Christopher’s because it provides a great opportunity to learn about a developing area of science. I want to study Psychology further because I am finding the content, we are learning so interesting, and I am excited to be able to learn about this further.”

Stanley Jones
(formerly St Christopher’s)

GO FURTHER WITH...

Theology, Philosophy & Ethics (Religious Studies)

Introduction

Theology, Philosophy & Ethics represent some of the oldest academic disciplines and have their origins in antiquity.

The subjects first studied at some of the country's earliest universities, such as Oxford and Cambridge, included theology and philosophy. This academic A-level course traces through the thinkers' history; from the giants of Greek philosophical thought, such as Plato and Aristotle, to some of today's leading and contemporary theologians. As such, the course offers an unprecedented depth to scholarly research and a fascinating richness of thought on any given topic. We would love to help you to formulate your own thoughts to contribute to the debate.

Why Religious Studies?

- The study of Religion is more relevant to life in 21st Century UK than ever before in history.
- It is useful for any job that involves working with people. (Apart from a Lighthouse Keeper, try thinking of a job that does not involve working with people.)
- A-level Religious Studies equips the student to make informed choices about questions of destiny, origins and ultimate meaning to life, with reference to some of the most significant religious traditions in the world.
- It is really, really interesting! Understanding what is at the core of shared human experience, and what it is that makes people tick is a fascinating pursuit. Welcome to the world of A-level Religious Studies!

Any special requirements?

An open mind, a willing spirit and a teachable heart. There are no specific requirements in addition to the requirements for admission set by St Christopher's. GCSE RS is not an essential pre-requisite.

For more information

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"The Religious Studies course offers so much more than you may have previously learnt at GCSE. With the combination of Philosophy, Ethics and Christianity, you gain a wide variety of knowledge. Along the course, you dive into many of life's big questions in a very captivating and contemplative way. Overall, I would recommend taking this course if you want to take a deeper look into why we do what we do, where the world came from and if a God exists."

Grace Hands
(formerly St Christopher's)

GO FURTHER WITH...

Sociology

Introduction

In terms of our existence on Earth, it was only yesterday since mankind was living in caves and the day before when we were swinging from branch to branch with other creatures. Yet we have developed into an extremely complex society, with issues and problems. So how do we as human beings live and work daily within this complicated system and structures, as individuals, tribes, communities and families?

Throughout the next two years, you will take a fascinating and exciting journey to discover some of the answers. Sociology will allow you to understand, make sense of and challenge the globalised world we live in. It will enable you to draw upon contemporary issues, for example, the 'Black Lives Matters Movement', 'Me Too Movement', cyber-crimes, the Capital riots in Washington, global gender and racial inequality, and LGBTQ+ issues. To help you develop an understanding of these complex social and global issues we will use a variety of sources such as, the BBC, the Guardian, Discover Sociology, films (during lessons and enrichment 'Film Society'), music (during lessons and enrichment 'Music Society') and other platforms such as Ted lectures, as well as tailor-made subject specific workbooks and online support material through Microsoft One Drive.

Why Sociology?

- A-level Sociology is a highly respected academic discipline and is widely accepted by many universities and employers.
- Sociology is a subject for people who would like a career in the police, probation service, law, criminology, social work, journalism, PR, management and education, for example.
- Sociology works extremely well with other A-level subjects, such as Psychology, Law, Politics and English for example.

Any special requirements?

It is important that students have an interest in why people act in certain ways and are aware of current affairs and social issues. At least a grade 5 or 6 at GCSE English Language and or Literature. Some students may have studied sociology at GCSE, but this isn't necessary to study it at A-level. However, if students have studied GCSE Sociology, then they should have achieved at least a grade C/4.

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"It's an enjoyable subject that helps understand the workings of society in relation to everyday aspects of life such as family and education."

Lily Wharton
(formerly St Augustine's)

GO FURTHER WITH...

Textiles

Introduction

In Textiles, students will be introduced to a variety of experiences, exploring a range of textile media, techniques and processes.

Both traditional and new technologies will be covered, and students will produce practical/contextual work in one or more areas, including fashion, printed and/or dyed fabrics and materials, domestic textiles, wallpaper, interior design, constructed textiles and installed textiles.

Why Textiles?

This course is not only an enjoyable and creative one but also provides a strong foundation for a degree course. It will give students the knowledge and skills needed to go on to further studies or to jobs in a variety of textile-based industries.

Any special requirements?

You must have enthusiasm for creativity and be motivated to study outside of the lessons. Textiles or Art GCSE grade 6, or equivalent is also required for course entry.

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"Studying Textiles, you become immersed in a creative, enthusiastic and practical haven... encouraged to design innovative fashion garments or interior pieces whilst exploring new, contemporary and traditional techniques, media and skills, with a curious, imaginative and inventive mindset. The course is a perfect enhancement to help develop a portfolio ready for degree level art and design-based courses."

Olivia Shearon
(formerly St Christopher's)

How to find us



There are regular sixth form buses to most surrounding areas.





James Sutterby
Now Intergrated Pilot
ATPL (Airline Transport
Pilot Licence)

A-levels:
AAB

‘The progress that
students make...in
relation to their GCSE
grades is impressive and
has been well above the
national averages for a
number of years.’

Ofsted



40%
of students
progress to
top universities and
apprenticeships

100%
A-level
pass rate



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Ofsted
Outstanding

over
86%
top grades