



**GO  
FURTHER  
WITH...**

St Christopher's  
Sixth Form

PROSPECTUS 2021 ENTRY

Established in 2010, St Christopher's is a Church of England Sixth Form 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  
**92%**  
top grades

Ofsted  
**Outstanding**

**100%**  
A-level  
pass rate





## A Warm Welcome Celebrating 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.





## Just another year?

2020 marks the 10th anniversary of the opening of St Christopher's Sixth Form.

Over the last ten years, numerous students have passed through our community, progressing to great universities and careers, with many now settled with families and children. Yet none of these lived through and experienced the unforeseen and dramatic national events that led to the lockdown of the Sixth Form last March. It certainly has been a challenging year for everyone! But characteristically, when faced with adversity, our Sixth Form community pulled together; its members supporting each other in a time of crisis, trusting in each other and in the message of the Gospel which remains at the heart of our Sixth Form family. And, though a bumpy ride at times, our students this year have progressed to their chosen destinations with some fantastic results! We wish them well and we look forward to welcoming you who will follow them.

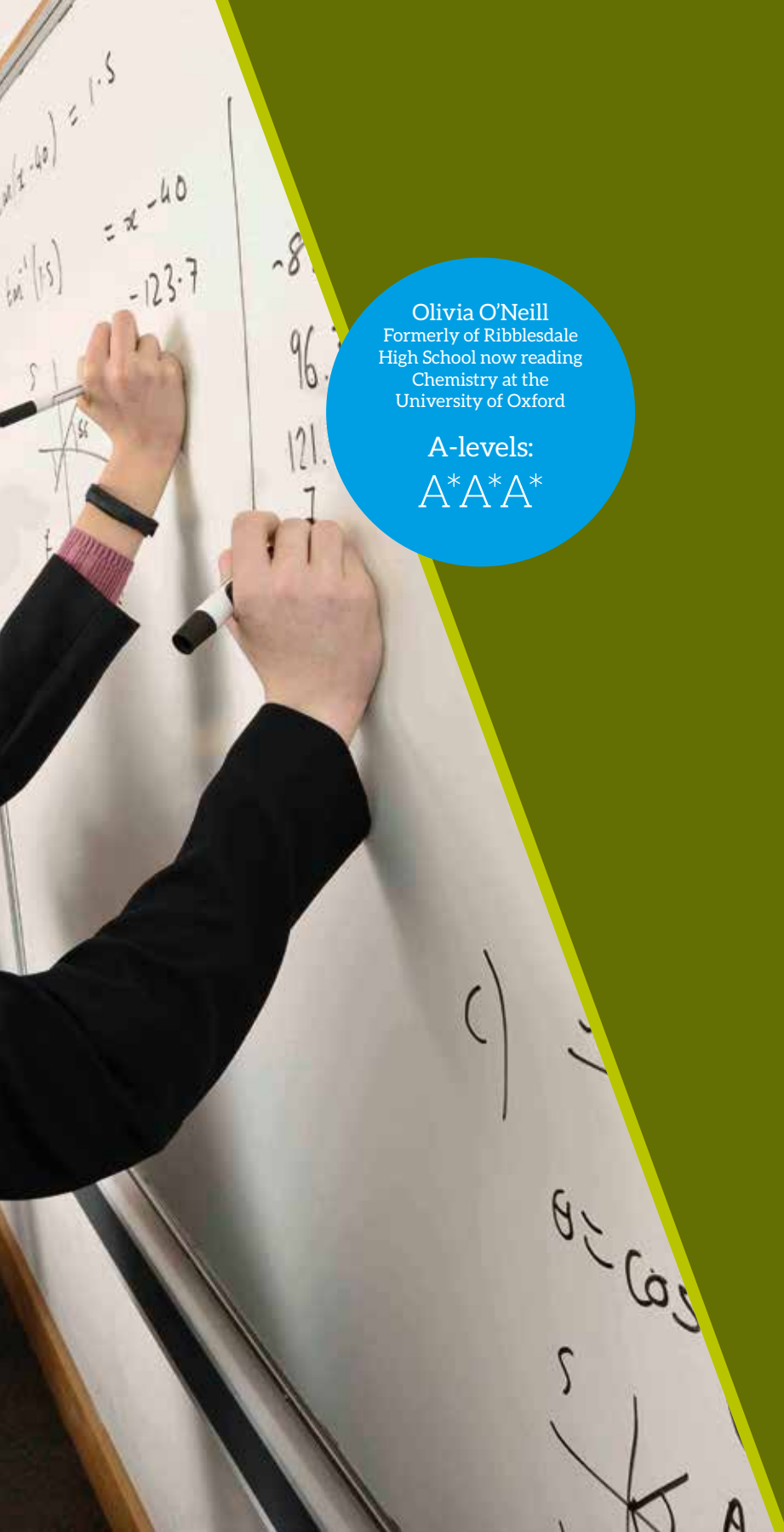
**Just another year?...as if!**

Paul F Cuff

Deputy Headteacher/Head of Sixth Form

"Don't let your hearts be troubled, Trust in God, and also trust in me."

John 14



Olivia O'Neill  
Formerly of Ribblesdale  
High School now reading  
Chemistry at the  
University of Oxford

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 top universities, including Oxbridge.

**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 Virtual Open Evening on 15th October 2020 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 first deadline for the receipt of applications is Friday 8th January 2021, 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

James Shuker  
Now reading Architecture at  
Loughborough University

A-levels:  
A\*AA

‘Students  
make excellent  
progress in the  
Sixth Form’

Ofsted

The thing that makes our sixth form stand out is the overwhelming sense of family and belonging; it is an ethos which surrounds all that attend the school. St Christopher's is not only a place of education in which we strive for academic excellence but it is a place of growth and nurture in which each person's needs and wants are taken into account to enable them to flourish and propel themselves into the adult world

The support found at St Christopher's sixth form truly goes above and beyond what any of us could have hoped for. This support can be found in the brilliant foundation pathways courses and with the teachers that give up their own time in order to organise extra curricular and support classes to help us all achieve the very best grades possible.

The sixth form offers not only a great education for achieving the best possible grades but it also provides a comfortable stable environment in which we can perfect skills that will prepare us for the years ahead, this includes enrichment classes extracurricular activities and the opportunity to contribute to many areas of school life. The inspiring and passionate teaching style in each of the classes enables the students to become excited at the thought of many opportunities that lay beyond the sixth form.

The information available at the sixth form enables all students to find their niche in life whether it is taking an apprenticeship or going to a Russell group University such as Oxford or Cambridge. We hope after reading this prospectus you'll be able to see the wide range of subjects available and how St Christopher's helps us to prepare students for their future. The sixth form enables students to perform to the highest of their ability in a place that supports them as a person and not just a grade.

## St Christopher's Senior Student team



Amy Taylor  
Head Girl



Harry Sutton  
Head Boy



Jemima Greenwood  
Deputy Head Girl



Isaac Routh  
Deputy Head Boy



# 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](mailto:s.collier@st-christophers.org)

## Financial Support

There are various sources of funding available. Details of our compulsory 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

As a student at St Christopher's, as well as improving your academic skills, you will also have the opportunity to take part in a huge variety of experiences that will enhance and enrich your studies, and equip you for further success. Making the most of these 'Enrichment' activities will provide evidence for a prospective university or employer that you are positive, determined and committed to team work. Enrichment also provides the opportunity to obtain further qualifications, some of which attract extra UCAS points for university study.

At Christopher's you will be able to choose from two types of Enrichment:

- Programmes and Qualifications
- St Christopher's Enrichment Certificate

## Programmes and Qualifications

These are one or two year enrichment activities and will lead either to accredited AS level qualifications, or will be professional courses that help develop essential skills for specific university courses or employment. This year the options available include:

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

Evie Brass

Now reading Physics at  
Imperial College London

A-levels:  
A\*A\*A\*

## St Christopher's 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

Students are also encouraged to take full advantage of the range of extra curricular activities on offer. A number of these clubs and societies were established by students, an initiative which we encourage.

- Charity fund raising activities
- Debating society
- Drama productions
- Chess club
- Christian Union
- 'Cantores' - SATB Chamber Choir
- Jazz band
- Orchestra
- Chamber ensembles

Many subjects enhance the delivery of their course with trips to local theatres, galleries and museums and wider travel to Europe and the USA. During the last year students have had the opportunity to visit Austria, Germany, Poland, Italy, Iceland, Borneo, India and the USA.

## Extended Project Qualification

More able students are invited to complete the EPQ as part of their enrichment programme. This AS-level equivalent qualification requires students to complete an extended piece of work based on extensive research and covering an area outside of their A-level studies. Many universities look favourably on the EPQ valuing the way in which it develops skills of independent research and analysis.

# 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

Urfan Daud  
Now reading Mechanical  
Engineering at Imperial  
College London

A-levels:  
A\* A A\*

# University Destinations 2020



A map of the United Kingdom with various university destinations marked by dots and labeled. The locations are distributed across the country, from the north to the south and west to east.

- Dundee
- Edinburgh
- Newcastle
- Durham
- York
- Leeds
- Hull
- Lancaster
- Myerscough
- UCLan
- Huddersfield
- Edge Hill
- Salford
- Liverpool
- Manchester
- Chester
- Sheffield
- Keele
- Nottingham
- Birmingham
- Coventry
- Loughborough
- Aberystwyth
- Warwick
- Cambridge
- Oxford
- London
- Cardiff
- Bristol
- Bath
- Plymouth



# 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

### A-Level subjects:

### Core Subjects

Business, Economics, Maths

### Recommended

Geography, Law, Politics

### Helpful

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

### A-Level subjects:

### Core Subjects

Art & Design, Music, Performing Arts, Product Design, Textiles

### Recommended

English Literature, History, Modern Foreign Languages

### Helpful

Psychology, Classics, English Language

**For a degree in:** Textile Design, Drama, Theatre Studies, Graphics, Spatial Design

**Leading to careers as:** Fashion Designer, Visual Merchandiser, A & R Music Talent Scout, Animator, Studio Photographer

## Earth Sciences

### A-Level subjects:

### Core Subjects

Geography, Maths

### Recommended

Biology, Further Maths, Physics

### Helpful

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

### A-Level subjects:

### Core Subjects

English Literature and/or Language

### Recommended

Classics, History, Modern Foreign Languages

### Helpful

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



<b>Humanities</b>	<b>Core Subjects</b>	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>Helpful</b>
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			
<b>Legal</b>	<b>Core Subjects</b>	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>Helpful</b>
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			
<b>Material and Natural Sciences</b>	<b>Core Subjects</b>	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>Helpful</b>
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			
<b>Maths, Physics &amp; Computer Science</b>	<b>Core Subjects</b>	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>Helpful</b>
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			
<b>Medical</b>	<b>Core Subjects</b>	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>Helpful</b>
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			
<b>Social Sciences</b>	<b>Core Subjects</b>	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>Helpful</b>
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			
<b>Sport</b>	<b>Core Subjects</b>	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>Helpful</b>
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.

## 2020

### 15th October (6-8pm) - Virtual Open Evening

Our Open Evening this year will be hosted online. 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 online events we may host.

## 2021

### 8th January - First round of applications considered

Applications received by this date will be considered first.

### Late January - 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.

### 25th June - New Intake Day

Meeting staff and fellow new students.

### 26th - 27th August - GCSE Results Day & Enrolment [TBC]

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

### 2nd 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

Daniel Jackson  
Now reading Mathematics  
with Economics at  
Loughborough 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.

A photograph of three students in a classroom. Two girls and one boy are looking at a large map spread out on a desk. The boy, on the right, is wearing glasses and a suit. The girls are also smiling. In the background, there is a world map on the wall and a poster that says 'GEO'.

Olivia Shearon  
Now reading Fashion  
at the University of  
Edinburgh

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 5, or equivalent is also required for course entry.

scan for more details...



"Art and design has been beneficial to me as it has allowed me to develop my creative and analytical skills. This course gives me the opportunity to challenge myself and explore areas and media that interest me."

Mia Helps  
(formerly St Christopher's)

[www.st-christophers.org/sixth](http://www.st-christophers.org/sixth)



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.

scan for more details...



"Doing Biology at has been such an insightful experience! The course is extremely interesting and everyone receives PowerPoints on all the different topics, this means that I can revise whenever I want to and can delve deeper into my learning. The teachers are more than helpful in answering any questions I have, and overall, I am so pleased with how the course is going."

Peter Sutton  
(formerly Mount Carmel)

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GO FURTHER WITH...

# Business

## Introduction

"Quality is the best business plan." - John Lasseter, Pixar

"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 2018/19, the topic was the Holiday 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 2017/18, we visited Cadbury World to give students insight into the Chocolate Confectionary 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 preferred because of the data interpretation and financial calculation part of the course. A grade 4 in GCSE Mathematics will be acceptable with a passing grade in the Business Baseline Test, completed in the first week of Year 12.

Studying A-Level Mathematics, Economics, Geography, and/or Computer Science alongside Business is useful for studying Business and Management at a higher level.

Scan for more details...



"I enjoy the challenge business studies brings, it makes me think outside the box and then allows me to relate my knowledge to the outside world."

Eve Cartmell  
(formerly St Christopher's)

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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 and change 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.

Chemistry is a highly thought of A-level course. It encourages your thinking skills and shows that you are a logical thinker who can solve problems and apply knowledge to new situations. For this reason, employers and universities have a high opinion of people who have taken Chemistry A-level.

## 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.

Scan for more details...



"There is a huge misconception that chemistry is an extremely difficult subject, but with perseverance it is actually very doable. I also like the balance between the application of scientific and mathematical knowledge and, of course, the practicals which, in my opinion, are the best of all three sciences."

Isaac Routh  
(formerly St Christopher's)

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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.

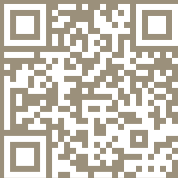
## Why Classical Civilisation?

- 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 department's 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 texts are all completed in English translation so no prior knowledge is required. However, a grade 5 in English Literature and/or History is desirable.

scan for more details...



"Classics offers a wide variety of topics, there is something for everyone. I particularly enjoy studying the heroes of Greek mythology."

Elizabeth Fielding  
(formerly St Christopher's)

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GO FURTHER WITH...

# Computing

## Introduction

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?

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 to complete the practical project in Year 2. Students must have achieved a minimum of a Grade 5 in Mathematics..

Scan for more details...



"Understanding of Computer Science will provide many opportunities for your future. The course provides practical and theoretical knowledge of Computer Science, and the demand for that knowledge in today's society is continuing to grow."

Joseph Waite  
(formerly St Christopher's)

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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 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.

Scan for more details...



"Economics is a great subject and has been very fun to learn. It is very insightful and has a range of topics which can be applied to real life. The teachers are incredibly supportive and have helped me to deepen my learning."

George Bancroft  
(formerly St Christopher's)

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GO FURTHER WITH...

# English Language

## Introduction

Language, more than any other attribute, defines us as human beings. The study of English Language encompasses an impressive range of linguistic communication. You will learn, for example, how children acquire language; how advertisers use language to manipulate consumers and how men and women use language differently. You will also be given the opportunity to undertake creative writing of your own.

## 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 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 should have achieved at least a Level 5, preferably Level 6, in English GCSE.

*Please be aware that English Language is studied as a two year A-level. It is not entered as an AS subject.*

Scan for more details...



"English language is a brilliant subject to study at A Level. There are so many different aspects of the English Language that are really interesting to learn about in great detail. Studying English language has been thoroughly enjoyable."

Kate Dudley  
(formerly St Christopher's)

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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 independently, bringing their ideas and opinions to class study. They should have achieved at least a grade 5 in both GCSE English Language and English Literature.

scan for more details...



"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)

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GO FURTHER WITH...

# English Literature

## Introduction

Literature is essentially a contemplation of the human condition. A level English Literature is a most rewarding subject for those who enjoy reading and analysing provocative texts. The course builds upon work you have done for GCSE and introduces you to a more formal academic study of literature.

## 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.

## 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 would be expected to have achieved at least level 6/7 in their GCSE Literature exam.

*Please be aware that English Literature is studied as a two year A-level. It is not entered as an AS subject.*

scan for more details...



"A Level English Literature allows me to grasp an insightful perspective of the past and present society through the medium of poetry and novels. Due to the diverse range of literature within the course, there is certainly something for everyone to enjoy."

Jemima Greenwood  
(formerly Colne Park High)

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Pride

and

Prejudice

Jane



GO FURTHER WITH...

# Further Mathematics

## Introduction

Further Mathematics is an AS/A-level qualification which both broadens and deepens the mathematics covered in AS/A-level Maths. Any student who knows that they want to study for a degree in a maths rich subject such as engineering, sciences, computing, finance or economics should seriously consider Further 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 and science (Chemistry and Physics) based degrees.
- Studying Further Maths boosts students' performance in AS/A-level Mathematics.
- "When students begin an engineering course with a further maths qualification, whether at A-level or AS, we find they are significantly better prepared to manage their studies."

John Morton, Chief executive: Engineering and Technology Board

- "ECUK strongly supports the work of the Further Mathematics Network. By offering increased opportunities to students to take Further Maths at AS and A2 levels, it will help make them better prepared to enter degree courses in engineering. Furthermore by offering high quality professional development for teachers it will enhance the totality of learning and teaching in Mathematics."

Andrew Ramsay, Executive Director: Engineering Council UK

33% of all universities mention Further Maths as desirable 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 obtain at least a grade 8 at GCSE.

"I chose further maths for the challenge and because of how useful it is for university courses. It's been hard work but rewarding, and the teachers are more than happy to spend time with you going through topics you find more challenging. Studying further maths has made me more passionate about pursuing a maths-based career."

Eleanor Latham  
(formerly Blessed Trinity)



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GO FURTHER WITH...

# Geography

## Introduction

*"Geography is a subject which holds the key to our future."*

Michael Palin, Former President of the RGS

*"Everything has to do with Geography."*

Judy Marty, Former Governor of Montana

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 Russell Group universities.

## Any special requirements?

The course requires students to have attained a Grade 5/6 at GCSE level.

Scan for more details...



"Geography is a really interesting subject that covers a range of human and physical aspects. It builds on your understanding of how the natural world is interlinked within itself as well as the impacts human development can have, making you more aware of your surroundings and actions. Although there's a lot of content the teachers are really supportive and are specialised in their specific side of geography."

Lily Townley  
(formerly St Christopher's)

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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 specialise in History could go on to become historical researchers, work in heritage organisations or become teachers. But History also supports numerous 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

**YOU ARE TAUGHT TO THINK AND THEN MAKE UP YOUR OWN MIND!**

## Any special requirements?

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

scan for more details...



"I choose history because it really enjoyed it at GCSE. With the help of the Sixth Form's passionate teachers, I can explore why our world is shaped how it is today."

Chloe Whittle  
(formerly Accrington Academy)

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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.

scan for more details...



"Studying law has allowed me to understand the law and how it drastically impacts our society, each case we study and topic we cover is challenging, interesting and exciting. The teachers here always make sure the course is fun and engaging."

Ethan McAuley  
(formerly St Christopher's)

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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.

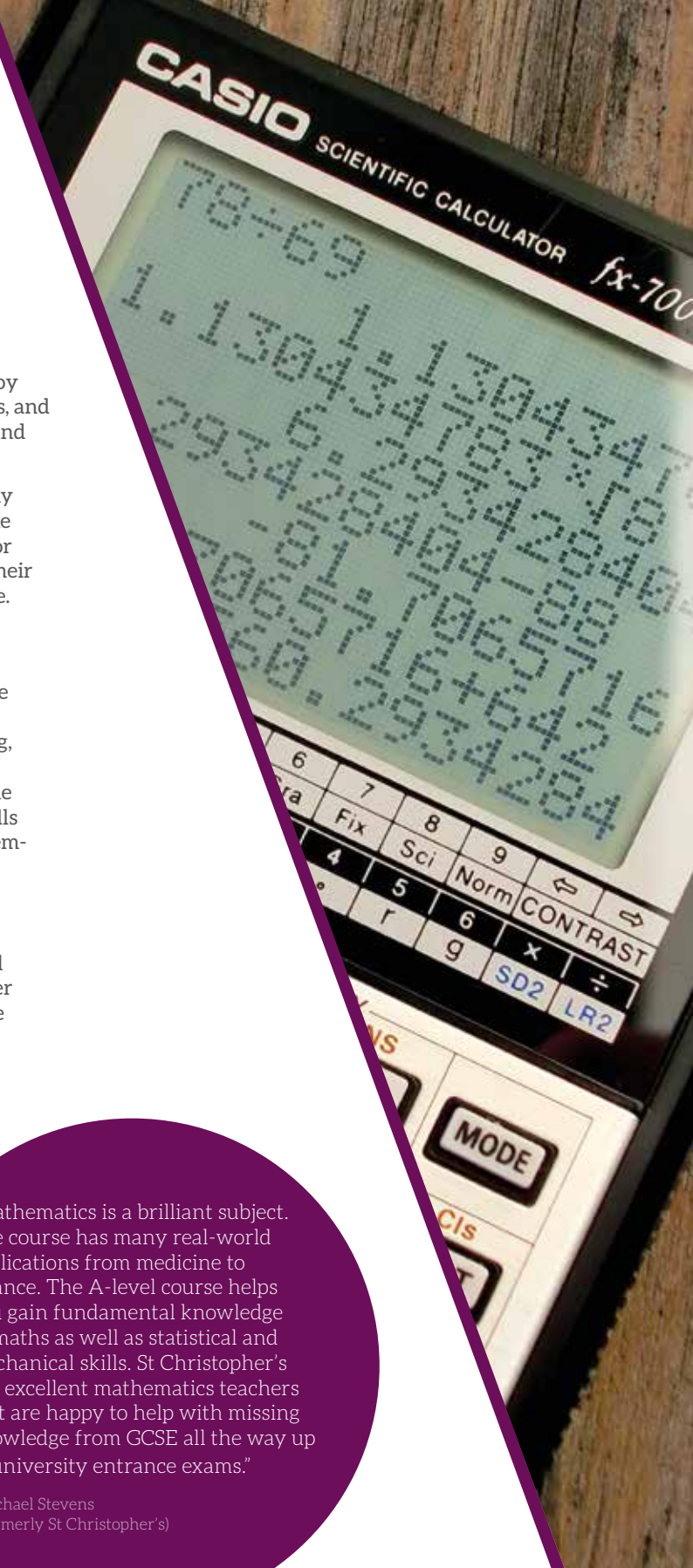
Scan for more details...



"Mathematics is a brilliant subject. The course has many real-world applications from medicine to finance. The A-level course helps you gain fundamental knowledge in maths as well as statistical and mechanical skills. St Christopher's has excellent mathematics teachers that are happy to help with missing knowledge from GCSE all the way up to university entrance exams."

Michael Stevens  
(formerly St Christopher's)

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GO FURTHER WITH...

# Modern Foreign Languages French, German & Spanish

## Introduction

Modern Foreign Languages are important in many jobs and areas of life today. Increasing communication and trade between countries means that there are more and more opportunities for linguists to use their skills.

## Why Modern Foreign Languages?

- Increased opportunities for university - Universities today value knowledge of more than one language very highly. Having a second or even a third language could give you the edge over other candidates
- Increased Career Opportunities - As well as occupations such as interpreting, translating and 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
- Increased earning potential - People who learn a foreign language earn an extra £3,000 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.

Scan for more details...



"A Level Spanish has allowed me to develop a further understanding and love for the language, as well as learning about the cultures and history of Hispanic countries. Despite learning another language having its challenges, St Christopher's offers excellent support for all aspects of the course."

Emily Larkin  
(formerly Bowland)

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## GO FURTHER WITH...

# Music

### Introduction

This course is for 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 film and television music 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.

scan for more details...



"Music A level is an engaging and interesting course with lots of hands on, interactive elements, including composing your own music and being able to perform your own piece of music. You will also learn lifelong skills to benefit your performances, and opportunities to join in with the excellent school bands and Cantores choir, and participate in the annual concert tour, which has visited various places around Europe."

James Sutterby  
(formerly Oakhill)

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GO FURTHER WITH...

## Performing Arts (BTEC)

### Introduction

This is an exciting and innovative new course, equivalent to one A-level and 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 desirable but not 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.

scan for more details...



"I have always loved to dance and the Performing Arts BTEC has allowed me to develop my skills both in a studio and on the stage and has taken my performance skills to another level. It has also allowed me to experience Drama and Musical Theatre, which until attending St. Christopher's Sixth Form I hadn't had much experience in, but with the incredible support from the teachers I felt confident and comfortable to explore these areas."

Rebecca Marshall  
(formerly St Christopher's)

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GO FURTHER WITH...

# Physical Education

## Introduction

A-level Physical Education draws on the disciplines of Human Biology and Psychology as well as requiring an understanding of the cultural context and historical development of sport.

The course involves both practical and theoretical work and these are linked wherever possible. You will participate in a range of sports and experiments, as well as studying the academic elements of the subject. It will be an advantage to be an above average performer in at least one sport.

## Why Physical Education?

This specification builds on the student's experience from Key Stage 4 and GCSE to enhance their knowledge and increase their 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 of the world of work.

### Careers & Higher Education Opportunities:

- Leisure Centre Management
- Fitness Industry
- Personal Trainer
- Sports Therapy
- Sports Development
- Professional Sport
- Teaching
- Physiotherapy
- Sports Researcher
- Sports Studies
- Leisure and Recreation Management
- Dance Studies
- Sport and Exercise Science
- Educational Studies and PE
- Secondary PE Teaching
- Leisure and Tourism Management
- Leisure Marketing
- Physiotherapy
- Sports Rehabilitation

## 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 coach or a performer in at least one sport. It is essential that you compete in one of the sports listed on the AQA specification; this needs to be at a club standard.



"Physical education is a fascinating subject, not only do you get to learn about the physical aspects like the anatomy of the body but also the psychological aspects and how they also greatly contribute to the efficiency of performance."

Annabelle Uttley  
(formerly Blessed Trinity)

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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 .

Scan for more details...



"Physics is a brilliant A-Level subject that offers a different outlook on the world. I really enjoy taking part in fun practical work that applies the interesting knowledge we learn. It has encouraged my passion for physics and I am eager to continue it at university!"

Megan Westerell  
(formerly St Christopher's)

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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 Government and 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 European 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 Supreme Court. The Government and Politics Department has also led an enrichment visit to Washington and New York where students visit UN Headquarters, The White House, Congress, the Library of Congress and the 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.

scan for more details...



"Studying Politics at St Christopher's has given me a comprehensive understanding of modern, western politics and has equipped me with a vital tool that I can use in later life."

Harry Sutton  
(formerly Mount Carmel)

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# Product Design

## Introduction

This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers. Especially those in the creative industries. You will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put your learning into practice by producing prototypes of your choice. 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.

## 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.

The qualification is linear and students will sit all their exams and submit all their non-exam assessment at the end of the course.

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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)

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# Psychology

## Introduction

Why do we sometimes forget things the moment we walk out of a room? Can we make stress our friend rather than it being such a negative experience? And how do we explain why people develop behaviours like phobias or OCD?

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 Biology, English, Law, Sociology and Religious Studies 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 psychology is necessary. A minimum of a grade 5 in English, as well as a grade 5 in Mathematics is necessary in order to complete the Research Methods and Statistical components of the course. Students need to be aware of the scientific nature of psychology in terms of biological explanations and data analysis.

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"I chose to do psychology at A Level as I was really interested in finding out how the mind works and why certain people exhibit certain behaviours. The course allows me to learn new things, while also allowing me to do my own research to help better my understanding. The teachers are incredibly supportive and are always more than happy to answer any questions."

Amy Taylor  
(formerly St Christopher's)

GO FURTHER WITH...

# Theology, Philosophy & Ethics (Religious Studies)

## Introduction

This is a rigorous, academic and traditional A-level course. Theology, Philosophy & Ethics (Religious Studies) 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 A-level course races 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 Theology, Philosophy and Ethics (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, seeking to find answers to the 'big questions' in life and trying to understand 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 general admission set by St. Christopher's Sixth Form. GCSE RS is not an essential pre-requisite.

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"I chose Religious Studies because a friend of mine told me it was her favourite A Level, I can now see what she meant. The course is packed with interesting topics, class debates, and the constant support from the amazing teachers is why it is my favourite A Level too."

Sam Raw  
(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 and make sense of the globalised world we live in. It will enable you to draw upon contemporary issues, for example the summer riots in 2011, ASBO's and youth subcultures when studying crime and deviance or when studying beliefs, to investigate the growing numbers of cults, sects and new religious movements, such as the Moonies and Scientology.

## Why Sociology?

- A-level Sociology is a highly respected academic discipline and is widely accepted for many university degree courses and amongst 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 teaching, for example.
- Sociology works extremely well with other A-level subjects, such as Psychology, Law, Government and Politics, Economics 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. Grade 6 at GCSE English Language is an advantage. 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.

Scan for more details...



"Sociology is a great A-Level subject as it gives the students a chance to learn about their own society. It is a very beneficial A-Level for those wanting to learn more about feminism, racism and other factors that are affecting our society and other people's societies on a daily basis. Miss Newton is also a great teacher and always provides us with help, great resources and fun and engaging lessons."

Lauren Moore  
(formerly The Hollins)

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# 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, wall-paper, 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 a advantage for entry onto the course.

scan for more details...



"I'd definitely recommend choosing textiles - there's so many opportunities to be creative and choose where you want your work to go, alongside really in depth, supportive guidance from our teachers. It's a great environment to learn in and compliments most subjects really well!"

Lauren Gervaise  
(formerly St Christopher's)

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# How to find us





Joseph Philbrook  
Now reading Architecture  
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