The Sandon School

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Sixth Form Course Information

AIMING HIGHER TOGETHER

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ART & DESIGN: FINE ART A LEVEL (EDUQAS)

Art and Design: Fine Art A Level is assessed in 2 ways: 40% exams, 60% controlled assessment. Subjects you will learn about include:

- Contextual research and analysis
- Traditional and contemporary sources
- Media experimentation
- Photographic editing
- Recording from observation
- Technical development and refinement
- Presentation of resources

"critical, practical & theoretical study in Art & Design"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- ANALYTICAL SKILLS
- COMMUNICATION
- VISUAL & CONTEXTUAL AWARENESS

CLICK FOR LINK

ART & DESIGN: PHOTOGRAPHY A LEVEL (EDUQAS)

Art and Design: Photography A Level is assessed in 2 ways: 40% exams, 60% controlled assessment. Subjects you will learn about include:

- Contextual research and analysis
- Photographic practice
- Traditional and contemporary sources
- Media experimentation
- Photographic editing
- Recording from observation
- Technical development and refinement
- Presentation of resources

"critical, practical & theoretical study in Photography"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- ANALYTICAL SKILLS
- COMMUNICATION
- VISUAL & CONTEXTUAL AWARENESS

CLICK FOR LINK

BIOLOGY A LEVEL (AQA)

Biology A Level is assessed via examination only.
Subjects you will learn about include:

- Biological molecules
- Cells
- Exchange surfaces
- Genetic information and variation
- Energy transfers in organisms
- Responses to changes in internal and external environment
- Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
- Gene expression

"the study of Life & Living organisms, their Life cycles, adaptations & environment"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- LOGICAL & ABSTRACT THINKING
- PROBLEM SOLVING
- MATHEMATICS
- COMMUNICATION

CLICK FOR LINK

BUSINESS BTEC (PEARSON)

Business BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate is assessed in 2 ways: 58% exams, 42% coursework. Subjects you will learn about include:

- The business environment
- Organisational structures, aims and objectives
- Innovation and enterprise
- Developing a marketing campaign
- Role of and influences on marketing
- Managing and exploring personal finance
- Accounting
- Evaluating business performance through financial statements
- Effective recruitment and selection processes
- Undertaking and reflecting on recruitment activities

a study of management, HR, finance, marketing & business information management

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- COGNITIVE & PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS
- INTERPERSONAL SKILLS
- INTRAPERSONAL SKILLS
- REFLECTIVE

CLICK FOR LINK

BTEC NATIONAL DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS

BTEC National Diploma in Business provides an overview of all aspects of business and offers the opportunity to gain practical business experience. It is assessed by 3 exams and 5 units of coursework. Students undertaking the diploma should select one additional subject at A level or BTEC. You will study 8 units across 2 years covering a range of areas including the following:

- Exploring Business
- Developing a Marketing Campaign
- Managing and exploring Personal and Business Finance
- Accounting
- Managing an Event
- International Business
- Principles of Management
- Recruitment and Selection
- Work experience

"a study of management, HR, finance, marketing & business information management"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

COGNITIVE & PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS

INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

INTRAPERSONAL SKILLS

EQUIVALENT TO 2 A LEVELS

CLICK FOR LINK

CHEMISTRY A LEVEL (AQA)

Chemistry A Level is assessed via examination only.
Subjects you will learn about include:

- Atomic structure
- Chemical bonding
- The Periodic Table
- Chemical equilibria
- Electrochemical cells
- Acids and bases
- Redox reactions

"the science of everything around us; it allows us to understand the universe by studying atoms & their activity"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- LOGICAL & ABSTRACT THINKING
- PROBLEM SOLVING
- MATHEMATICS
- COMMUNICATION

CLICK FOR LINK

COMPUTER SCIENCE A LEVEL (AQA)

Computer Science A Level is assessed in 2 ways: 80% examination, 20% non-examined assessment. Subjects you will learn about include:

- Programming
- Data structures
- Algorithms
- Data representation
- Computer systems
- Networking
- Databases
- Big data
- Consequences of uses of computing

"a study of how computer systems work, developing your own object oriented program"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- LOGICAL & ABSTRACT THINKING
- PROBLEM SOLVING
- COMMUNICATION
- SELF-MANAGEMENT

CLICK FOR LINK

CRIMINOLOGY APPLIED DIPLOMA (WJEC)

Criminology Level 3 Applied Diploma
is assessed in 2 ways:
50% examination, 50% controlled assessment.
Subjects you will learn about include:

- Changing awareness of crime
- Criminological theories
- Crime scene to court room
- Crime and punishment

"a study of why people commit crime"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- ANALYSIS
- COMMUNICATION
- CRITICAL THINKING

CLICK FOR LINK

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY: PRODUCT DESIGN A LEVEL (OCR)

Product Design A Level is assessed in 2 ways:
50% examination, 50% non-examined assessment.
Subjects you will learn about include:

- Identifying needs
- Product analysis
- Implications of issues
- Design thinking
- Communication skills
- Materials
- Manufacturing
- Viability of design
- Health and safety

"a creative and thought-provoking study of design, including history, CAD, materials, sustainability, manufacturing and engineering"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- LOGICAL & ABSTRACT THINKING
- PROBLEM SOLVING
- COMMUNICATION
- TIME MANAGEMENT

CLICK FOR LINK

DIGITAL MEDIA LEVEL 3 (OCR)

Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate

Digital Media is equivalent in size to one A level and combines practical creative projects with media theory and production skills.

Assessment: A combination of external examinations and internally assessed coursework.

Subjects you will learn about include:

- Understanding media products, audiences and how the media industry operates.
- Planning and developing creative media products for specific audiences.
- Creating digital media products using professional software and techniques.
- Advertising, promotional campaigns and communicating ideas creatively.
- Researching client requirements, developing ideas and producing pre-production documents.

"An exciting, creative and practical qualification that develops skills for the digital media industry."

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- DIGITAL CONTENT CREATION
- CREATIVITY AND DESIGN
- PROJECT PLANNING
- COMMUNICATION
- PROBLEM-SOLVING

CLICK FOR LINK

ECONOMICS A LEVEL (EDEXCEL)

Economics A Level is assessed by examination only
Subjects you will learn about include:

- Scarcity and choice
- Enterprise, business and the economy
- Market failure and government intervention
- Revenues, costs, profits and cash
- Firms, consumers and elasticities of demand
- Productive efficiency
- Impact of globalisation on global, local and national companies
- Global labour markets
- Inequality and redistribution
- Competition and market power
- Risk and the financial sector

"a study of how individuals, governments, firms & nations make choices on allocating scarce resources"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

ANALYTICAL & QUANTITATIVE SKILLS

CRITICAL THINKING

APPRECIATING A RANGE OF PERSPECTIVES

CLICK FOR LINK

ENGLISH LITERATURE A LEVEL (AQA)

English Literature A Level is assessed in 2 ways:
80% exams, 20% non-examined assessment.
Subjects you will learn about include:

- How the theme of love (and when it goes wrong) is presented across the ages
- How texts can be connected
- That no text exists in isolation
- How to formulate a line of argument and produce a personal response.
- Literature from 1945 to present day

"a historicist approach to a wide range of texts"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- CRITICAL THINKING
- COMMUNICATION
- WRITING

CLICK FOR LINK

FRENCH A LEVEL (EDEXCEL)

French A Level is assessed via examination only
Subjects you will learn about include:

- French society
- The media
- Education and work
- Politics
- France during WW2
- Film study
- Literature

"a study of language, culture and history to broaden horizons"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- LOGICAL & LATERAL THINKING
- ANALYTICAL & PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS
- COMMUNICATION
- ABSORBING & RETAINING COMPLEX INFORMATION

CLICK FOR LINK

GEOGRAPHY A LEVEL (AQA)

Geography A Level is assessed in 2 ways: 80% exams, 20% non-examined assessment. Subjects you will learn about include:

- Water and carbon cycles
- Coastal systems and landscapes
- Hazards
- Global systems and governance
- Changing places
- Population and the environment

"the subject that explains the past, illuminates the present & holds the key to our future; a living breathing subject, constantly adapting to change"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- COMMUNICATION
- LITERACY
- PROBLEM SOLVING
- NUMERACY
- MULTI-TASKING

CLICK FOR LINK

HISTORY A LEVEL (EDEXCEL)

History A Level is assessed in 2 ways: 70% exams, 30% coursework. Subjects you will learn about include:

- America 1917 - 1996
- South Africa 1948 - 1994
- British experience of warfare 1795 - 1918

"an in depth study of the past, looking at causes, consequences & significance of events"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- ANALYSIS
- CRITICAL THINKING
- COMMUNICATION
- MAKING INFORMED JUDGEMENTS

CLICK FOR LINK

LAW A LEVEL (OCR)

Law A level is assessed via examination only.
Subjects you will learn about include:

- Substantive areas of contract, criminal and tort law
- Process of law making
- How the legal system works
- Law in society, reflected in morality and justice

"a study of compulsory rules created by society"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- ANALYSIS & REACHING OBJECTIVE CONCLUSIONS
- CRITICAL THINKING
- APPLICATION SKILLS
- PROBLEM SOLVING
- COMMUNICATION

CLICK FOR LINK

MATHEMATICS A LEVEL (EDEXCEL)

Mathematics A Level is assessed via examination only.
Subjects you will learn about include:

- Pure maths: algebra
- Pure maths: geometry
- Pure maths: trigonometry
- Pure maths: calculus
- Statistics: presentation of data
- Statistics: hypothesis testing
- Statistics: probability
- Statistics: statistical distributions
- Mechanics: Newton's Laws
- Mechanics: dynamics
- Mechanics: statics

"a way of understanding, describing & solving problems about the world around us, as well as introducing logic & abstract analysis"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- LOGICAL THOUGHT & REASONED ARGUMENT
- MODELLING PROBLEMS & PROBLEM SOLVING
- ANALYSIS
- COMMUNICATION

CLICK FOR LINK

MATHEMATICS (FURTHER) A LEVEL (EDEXCEL)

Mathematics (Further) A Level is assessed via examination only. Subjects you will learn about include:

- Imaginary numbers, parabolic and hyperbolic equations
- Matrices and proof by induction
- First and second order differential equations
- Optional courses such as decision mathematics and further mechanics

"a great choice for those considering a future in mathematics, science or engineering"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- LOGICAL THOUGHT & REASONED ARGUMENT
- COMMUNICATION
- MODELLING PROBLEMS & PROBLEM SOLVING
- ANALYSIS

CLICK FOR LINK

MEDIA STUDIES A LEVEL (OCR)

Media A Level is assessed in 2 ways:
70% exams & 30% non-examined assessment.
Subjects you will learn about include:

- Media language and representation in magazines, advertising and music videos
- Media industries and audience in video games, the radio and the film industry
- TV drama
- Newspaper and online news
- Shooting and editing short films, including creating a music video or a TV programme extract with an online promotional campaign
- Media contexts and theoretical perspectives

"a creative, practical & theoretical study of global & historical media"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- PRACTICAL MOVING IMAGE & ONLINE PRODUCTION SKILLS
- COMMUNICATION
- PRESENTATION SKILLS
- CREATIVITY

CLICK FOR LINK

MUSIC PERFORMANCE BTEC (PEARSON)

Music Performance BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate is assessed in 2 ways: 25% exams & 75% non-examined assessment. Subjects you will learn about include:

- Practical music theory and harmony (composition & arrangement exercises)
- Professional practice in the music industry (responding to an offer of work with a proposal)
- Ensemble music performance (rehearsal and performance technique)
- A choice between Solo Performance, Composition, or Improvisation

"an exciting & practical course to engage you actively in the process of music study"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- CREATIVITY
- REFLECTION
- BOTH INDEPENDENCE AND COLLABORATION
- MULTI-TASKING
- TIME-MANAGEMENT

CLICK FOR LINK

PERFORMING ARTS - BTEC LEVEL 3 NATIONAL EXTENDED CERTIFICATE/NATIONAL DIPLOMA (PEARSON)

Performing Arts is offered as a Single Award (equivalent to one A Level) or a Double Award (equivalent to two A Levels). Both courses combine internally and externally assessed units, with external assessments accounting for 58% of the Single Award and 46% of the Double Award.

Single Award

- Investigating Practitioners' Work
- Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance
- Group Performance Workshop
- Musical Theatre

Double Award

Including the modules above, but will additionally include:

- Performing in the Community
- Individual Performance Commission
- Final Live Performance
- Improvisation

"Where creativity meets performance: a practical course for the next generation of performers"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- PERFORMANCE
- COMMUNICATION
- CONFIDENCE
- DISCIPLINE
- CREATIVITY

CLICK FOR LINK

PHILOSOPHY A LEVEL (AQA)

Philosophy A Level is assessed via examination only.
Subjects you will learn about include:

- The theories of knowledge and how we can know what is real
- The meaning of good, bad, right and wrong
- Applying ethical theories to cases such as stealing, simulated killing (within computer games plays, films etc), eating animals and telling lies
- Arguments about the existence of God
- Arguments about the existence of souls

"a study of ideas on the important questions of our world & morality."

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- CRITICAL THINKING
- EVALUATION
- INTERPRETATION OF EVIDENCE
- LOGICAL THINKING
- FORMING REASONED ARGUMENT

CLICK FOR LINK

PHYSICS A LEVEL (AQA)

Physics A Level is assesed via examination only
Subjects you will learn about include:

- Particle physics and quantum mechanics
- Classical mechanics
- Material physics
- Waves
- Field theory
- Capacitors
- Nuclear physics
- Thermal physics
- Astrophysics

"a study of the physical world from subatomic particles to the mechanics of our universe"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

LOGICAL & ABSTRACT THINKING

PROBLEM SOLVING

MATHEMATICS

CLICK FOR LINK

PHYSICAL EDUCATION A LEVEL (AQA)

Physical Education A Level is assessed in 2 ways:
70% exams, 30% non examined assessment
Subjects you will learn about include:

- Applied physiology
- Biomechanics
- Skill acquisition
- Sports psychology
- Sport and society
- Technology in sport

Students are assessed practically in a sport of their choice (within the AQA specification) which is worth 15% of the A Level qualification.

"a practical & theoretical syllabus, covering anatomy & physiology, movement skills & contemporary studies in sport"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- DECISION MAKING
- PSYCHOLOGICAL UNDERSTANDING OF PEOPLE
- INDEPENDENT THINKING
- PROBLEM SOLVING
- ANALYSIS

CLICK FOR LINK

POLITICS A LEVEL (AQA)

Politics A Level is assesed via examination only
Subjects you will learn about include:

- Government and politics of the UK (role of the Prime Minister & Parliament, Constitution & the EU)
- Government and politics of the USA (role of the President, Congress, the Supreme Court & the Constitution)
- Political ideas such as Socialism, Feminism, Anarchism, Liberalism and Nationalism
- Comparative study of the UK & US governments

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

ANALYSIS

RESEARCH

SUSTAINED DEBATE

"an in depth insight into UK & US politics & political ideas; it is a deeply relevant course"

CLICK FOR LINK

PSYCHOLOGY A LEVEL (OCR)

Psychology A Level is assessed via examination only
Subjects you will learn about include:

- Does the brain control us?
- Is aggression learned?
- Do psychopaths think differently?
- Why do we always do as we're told? (Or not!)
- How does the media influence us?
- Why can't adolescents resist temptation?
- Is schizophrenia inherited?

"the study of the ways (& the reasons why) people think, react & interect"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- PROBLEM SOLVING
- ANALYSIS
- EVALUATION
- PRACTICAL RESEARCH DESIGN
- TIME MANAGEMENT

CLICK FOR LINK

SOCIOLOGY A LEVEL (AQA)

Sociology A Level is assessed via examination only
Subjects you will learn about include:

- The role & functions of the education system
- Research methods in Sociology
- Gender roles, domestic labour & power relationships within the family in contemporary society
- Crime, deviance, social order & social control

"the study of the development, structure & functioning of human society"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

CRITICAL ANALYSIS

RESEARCH

INDEPENDENT THINKING

CLICK FOR LINK

SPANISH A LEVEL (AQA)

Spanish A Level is assessed via examination only
Subjects you will learn about include:

- Hispanic society
- Artistic culture in the Hispanic world
- Multiculturalism in the Hispanic world
- Aspects of the political life in the Hispanic society
- A film study
- A book study (Literature)
- Individual research project about one of the main themes: Hispanic society, culture, multiculturalism or political life.

"Diving into a whole new way of seeing the world. Understanding cultures and nuances that will make you a more effective communicator"

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

- PROBLEM SOLVING
- ANALYSIS
- CRITICAL THINKING
- COMMUNICATION
- ORAL EXPRESSION

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