

ST JOHN PAYNE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS

2027 ENTRY

Find your place

Choosing where to study after GCSEs is an important decision, and we are delighted to introduce you to the Sixth Form at St John Payne.

Our Sixth Form is a vibrant community with an outstanding record of academic achievement. Students progress to university, apprenticeships and employment, including places at competitive universities such as Oxford and Cambridge. Many of our students also receive contextualised offers for competitive courses.

Our curriculum is academic in focus, with a broad range of subjects to suit different interests and ambitions. Alongside A Levels, including Film Studies, we offer Level 3 qualifications in subjects such as Business and Sport. Students benefit from high-quality teaching and a dedicated, purpose-built Sixth Form building.

The move from GCSE study brings greater responsibility for learning. We support students as they develop the independent study and time management skills needed to meet the demands of their courses. They gain more autonomy as they prepare for life beyond Sixth Form.

Pastoral care and extracurricular opportunities are equally important. Students take an active role in school life and are encouraged to lead through service, as Jesus did. They can mentor younger students, join the student leadership team or help on the HCPT trip to Lourdes. These experiences help them grow as individuals and contribute to the wider community.

Thank you for your interest in our school. Whether you are currently studying with us or elsewhere, we look forward to working with you to find the right curriculum that enables you to achieve your potential.



Mr T. Coen
Headteacher

Mr D. Hewlett
Head of Sixth Form

Sixth Form Life

LEARNING INDEPENDENTLY

Sixth Form brings greater independence and greater responsibility. In Year 12, students use time outside lessons for supervised private study in Bosco Hall. In Year 13, they have more freedom to work in spaces across the school, including a dedicated Sixth Form study room.

Students are expected to spend at least 15 hours a week studying outside lessons. This helps them manage their time and meet the demands of their chosen courses.

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

Sixth Form students play an active part in school life. They can apply for student leadership roles, mentor younger pupils and volunteer at Columbus College and School, supporting students with additional needs. Students also have the opportunity to help on the annual HCPT trip to Lourdes.

These experiences give students the chance to develop their confidence, take on responsibility and serve the wider community.

PROGRESS AND SUPPORT

Teachers and tutors monitor students' progress throughout their courses. Each term, students meet with their form tutor to discuss how they are doing and set targets. Progress is tracked three times a year and shared with parents, so that students receive support when they need it.

BEYOND 18

Our Beyond 18 programme helps every student plan their next step, whether that is university, an apprenticeship, a gap year or employment. Students considering university receive guidance throughout the application process, beginning in the summer of Year 12. Tutors and subject teachers help them explore courses, strengthen their applications and prepare for what they hope to study next. Students are encouraged to attend university open days and higher education fairs.

Independent careers advice is also available for students exploring apprenticeships or employment. Whatever route they choose, our aim is for students to leave Sixth Form ready for the next stage of their lives.



How to apply

Six steps to joining Sixth Form

1

OPEN EVENING

14 OCTOBER 2026

Explore Sixth Form at St John Payne Catholic School and find out about the courses we offer.

2

SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

EXTERNAL DEADLINE: 31 JANUARY 2027

Current St John Payne Students: Follow your email invitation to register your interest and select your subjects.

External applicants: complete your application through Applicaa by 31 January 2027.

3

INFORMAL MEETINGS

FEBRUARY - MARCH 2027

Meet the School Leadership Team to discuss your plans and suitable courses. External applicants will receive an offer letter if successful and must confirm acceptance. Current SJP students are offered a place subject to meeting entry requirements and demonstrating good behaviour for learning throughout Key Stage 4.

4

SIXTH FORM TASTER DAY

WEDNESDAY 23 JUNE 2027

Applicants are encouraged to attend our Sixth Form taster day, which will be held on **Wednesday 23rd June 2027**. We welcome and encourage both internal and external applicants to attend this day.

5

GCSE RESULTS DAY

DEADLINE: MIDDAY ON GCSE RESULTS DAY

Confirm you intend to join Sixth Form by completing the final stage of your online application by midday on GCSE results day.

6

ENROLMENT

FIRST DAY OF TERM, SEPTEMBER 2027

All students who have accepted a provisional offer will enrol for their chosen courses on the first day of term.

APPLY ONLINE

SJP.APPLICAA.COM/YEAR12NEW

Choose your route

The programme is built around three pathways. Subject requirements also apply.

	Programme of Study	Minimum Entry Requirements
Pathway 1	3 or 4 A Levels	• 38 points or above including subject entry requirements
Pathway 2	A combination of A Levels and vocational courses	• 34 points or above including subject entry requirements
Pathway 3	Combination of selected or vocational courses	• 30 points or above • *G4 in maths or English

GCSE points are calculated from a student's best eight subjects.
Individual courses have their own entry requirements.



A Levels

Subject	Minimum Entry Requirements	GCSE English and Maths Requirements
Art & Design	Grade 5 in GCSE Art	
Biology	Grade 6 in GCSE Biology or Grade 7 in GCSE Combined Science	Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics
Business	Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Literature and Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics	
Chemistry	Grade 6 in GCSE Chemistry or Grade 7 in GCSE Combined Science	Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics
Computer Science	Grade 6 in GCSE Computer Science	Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics
Drama & Theatre	Grade 6 in GCSE Drama	
Economics	Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Literature and Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics	
English Language	Grade 6 in GCSE English Language	
English Literature	Grade 6 in GCSE English Literature	
Film Studies	Grade 5 in GCSE English Language and Literature	

A Levels

Subject	Minimum Entry Requirements	GCSE English and Maths Requirements
French	Grade 6 in GCSE French	
Geography	Grade 6 in GCSE Geography Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics	
German	Grade 6 in GCSE German	
History	Grade 6 in GCSE History	
Mathematics (A Level)	Grade 6 in GCSE Mathematics	
Further Mathematics	Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics	
Physics	Grade 6 in GCSE Physics or Grade 7-7 in GCSE Combined Science	
PE	Grade 5 in GCSE PE Theory and a Grade 5 in GCSE Combined Science	
Psychology	Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Literature	
Religious Studies - Philosophy & Ethics	Grade 6 in GCSE RS	Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Literature
Sociology	Grade 5 in GCSE English Language or Literature	

Vocational Courses

Subject	Minimum Entry Requirements	GCSE English and Maths Requirements
BTEC National Level 3 Diploma in Business (Equivalent to 2 A Levels)		8 GCSEs at Grade 4+ including Maths and English Language or Literature at Grade 4+
WJEC Level 3 Applied Certificate in Criminology		Grade 4 in GCSE English Language or Literature
AAQ Level 3 in Health & Social Care	Grade 4+ in Science	Grade 4+ in GCSE Maths or English
AAQ Level 3 Medical Science	Grade 5+ in Combined Science	Grade 4+ in GCSE Maths or English
AAQ IT - Data Analytics Extended Certificate	P2 in iMedia or similar IT course	

PLEASE NOTE

We will not include a GCSE grade in a modern foreign language as part of the total points score if the language is a student's native tongue.

For students who have studied with us in Year 11, if you do not achieve the minimum entry requirement but wish to apply for special consideration for entry into our Sixth Form then you must contact the Headteacher in writing for your case to be considered.

The school reserves the right to decline an application, even where entry requirements are met, if a student's conduct, behaviour for learning or attitude has caused concern in Years 10 and 11.

V-Level



What are V-Levels?

V Levels will be a high-quality vocational alternative to A-levels. They're intended for learners who prefer applied learning but are not ready to focus their studies on a single occupation.

V Levels will:

- simplify a complex vocational landscape
- give learners flexibility to combine academic and vocational study
- make future pathways clearer for learners, including progression to higher education or training, apprenticeships or skilled employment
- be the same size as one A-level

Subject	Minimum Entry Requirements	GCSE English and Maths Requirements
Accounting and Finance	Grade 4+ in GCSE Maths or English	
Digital Systems and Data	P2 in iMedia or similar IT course	Grade 4+ in GCSE Maths or English
Education Level 3	Grade 4+ in GCSE Maths or English	

V LEVEL

Accounting and Finance

Synopsis of content

This subject content is grounded in internationally recognised accounting concepts as the conceptual foundation for applied financial understanding. Students will develop the ability to interpret, analyse and evaluate financial and accounting information responsibly within UK organisational contexts.
Finance is positioned as the applied use of accounting information rather than as a standalone technical or occupational discipline.

Content Overview

Area	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Accounting Concepts	Understand key accounting concepts including accruals, prudence, consistency and materiality, and how they support financial reporting and decision-making.	Assessment details to be confirmed.
Financial Performance	Explore liquidity, profitability, cost behaviour and return on investment to evaluate organisational performance and financial position.	Assessment details to be confirmed.
Accounting Principles & Record Keeping	Develop an understanding of the principles, concepts and conventions underpinning accounting and record keeping, including judgement, consistency and control.	Assessment details to be confirmed.
Ethics, Governance & Risk	Examine ethical responsibilities, governance frameworks and risk considerations associated with the use and communication of financial information.	Practical and analytical assessment tasks.

Teaching & Learning The course combines theoretical understanding with applied learning activities. Students will analyse financial information, investigate organisational performance and explore real-world business scenarios. Learning activities will develop analytical, evaluative and decision-making skills while encouraging an understanding of ethical and professional responsibilities within accounting and finance.

Subject Combination Accounting and Finance complements a wide range of V Level and A Level subjects, particularly Business, Economics, Mathematics and Law. It provides valuable analytical and numerical skills which support progression across both commercial and professional pathways.

University/Vocational destinations and careers This qualification provides a strong foundation for progression to higher education, higher-level apprenticeships and employment. Students may progress to courses or careers in:

- Accounting
- Finance
- Banking
- Business Management
- Economics
- Financial Services
- Auditing
- Taxation
- Investment Analysis
- Management Accounting
- Business Consultancy

The qualification also supports progression to university degree programmes and professional accounting pathways such as AAT, ACCA and CIMA.

V LEVEL

Education Level 3

Synopsis of content
Education is grounded in the key principles that underpin effective educational practice. Students will develop the knowledge, understanding and practical skills required to plan and adapt learning sessions, evaluate assessment information, carry out risk assessments and make evidence-based recommendations to support learning.

The course also develops a strong understanding of health, safety and safeguarding, pedagogical approaches, reflective practice, positive relationships and the effective use of technology within educational settings.

Content Overview

Area	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Pedagogical Approaches	Explore a range of teaching and learning approaches and the theories that underpin effective educational practice.	Assessment details to be confirmed.
Planning for Learning	Understand how to set specific learning goals and success criteria, and plan inclusive learning sessions that meet learners' needs.	Practical and theoretical assessment activities.
Communication & Inclusion	Develop effective communication skills and understand the principles of inclusion within education and early years settings.	Applied assessment tasks and case studies.
Assessment & Feedback	Learn how to evaluate assessment information and provide effective feedback that supports learner progress and achievement.	Analytical and evaluative assessment activities.
Reflective Practice	Explore the importance of reflective practice and continuous improvement in educational environments.	Ongoing reflective activities and coursework.
Health, Safety & Safeguarding	Understand legislation, guidance and procedures that support the health, safety and wellbeing of learners.	Scenario-based and written assessments.

Teaching & Learning The course combines theoretical knowledge with practical application. Students will plan and evaluate learning activities, analyse assessment information and consider how educational theories influence classroom practice. Learning will focus on developing communication, organisation, problem-solving and reflective skills that are essential for success within education and related sectors.

Subject Combination Education complements a wide range of V Level and A Level subjects, particularly Psychology, Health and Social Care, Sociology, English, Child Development and Sport. The course develops valuable communication, leadership and organisational skills that support progression into a variety of professional pathways.

University/Vocational destinations and careers This qualification provides a strong foundation for progression to higher education, apprenticeships and employment within education and related sectors.

V LEVEL

Digital Systems and Data

Synopsis of content

Digital Systems and Data is for students who are interested in how technology, data and digital systems are used to solve problems and support organisations. You will develop applied skills in working with data, understanding digital systems, recognising cyber security risks, and designing or configuring digital solutions in realistic contexts.

Content Overview

Area	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Digital Systems	Understand hardware, software and networks, secure access, system security, testing and technical support.	60% non-exam assessment
Data	Collect, prepare and analyse data. Identify trends and insights and present information to support effective decision making.	40% examination
Cyber Security	Explore common cyber security threats and risks, system monitoring and measures used to protect systems and information.	Practical and applied learning is a key part of the course.
Digital Solutions & Systems	Understand user needs and design, configure, test and refine digital solutions. Develop problem-solving, communication and collaboration skills.	Equivalent in size to an A Level, with 360 guided learning hours.

Teaching & Learning The course combines practical, applied learning with theoretical knowledge. Students will work with data, explore cyber security, configure and test digital systems and develop solutions to meet user needs. Problem-solving, teamwork, communication and the responsible use of technology are developed throughout the course, providing skills relevant to modern digital workplaces.

Subject Combination Digital Systems and Data can be combined with other Level 3 qualifications, including A Levels. It provides a strong complement to subjects involving Mathematics, Business, Science and other technology-related areas, while allowing students to maintain a broad programme of study.

University/Vocational destinations and careers Students can progress to university courses including Computer Science, Data Science, Cyber Security, Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Business Information Systems and Digital Technology Solutions. Apprenticeship routes include Data Analysis, Software Development, Business Analysis, Cyber Security and Data Engineering. Career opportunities include data analysis, cyber security, software development, IT support, digital systems and business analysis.

Explore a subject



A LEVEL

Art & Design

Synopsis of content

The course consists of a Personal Investigation which is worth 60% of the final grade. This incorporates a portfolio of development work and outcomes based on themes and ideas developed from personal starting points. Students are also expected to produce a personal study which is evidenced through critical written communication showing contextual research and understanding in a minimum of 1000 words of continuous prose, which may contain integrated images.

The final component is the Externally Set Assignment (ESA) which is worth 40% of the final grade. This allows students opportunities to generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas towards producing personal resolved outcome(s) in response to an externally set theme.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Personal Investigation	Three major elements: • Supporting studies • Practical work • Personal study	• 60% of total grade. • Internally assessed. • Externally moderated
Externally Set Assignment	Supporting studies leading to a 15-hour timed practical examination.	• 40% of total grade. • Internally assessed. • Externally moderated.

A LEVEL

Biology

Synopsis of content
The A Level Biology syllabus builds upon the concepts and skills that have been developed in the new GCSE science specifications. The course is split into eight sections which provide an insight into the working of the human body and how organisms interact with their environment.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Paper 1	Any content from topics 1-4 including relevant practical skills. 1. Biological molecules. 2. Cells. 3. Organisms exchange substances with their environment. 4. Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms.	• Written examination • 91 marks • 2 hours • 35% of the qualification •
Paper 2	Any content from topics 5-8 including relevant practical skills. 1. Energy transfer in and between organisms. 2. Organisms respond to change in their internal and external environment 3. Genetics, population, evolution and ecosystems. 4. The control of gene expression.	• Written examination • 91 marks • 2 hours • 35% of the qualification
Paper 3	Any content from topics 1-8 including relevant practical skills	• Written examination • 78 marks • 2 hours • 30% of the qualification

Teaching & Learning A variety of teaching and learning strategies are employed throughout the course. Students will carry out the required practical work throughout the course to develop their laboratory skills. Students have the opportunity to work independently or in groups.

Subject Combination The Biology course complements the other Sciences offered in the Sixth Form, especially Chemistry. In addition, Biology is often chosen by those students taking Mathematics, PE, Geography and Psychology.

University/Vocational destinations and careers Many past students have gone on to use the skills acquired on their Biology course to study medicine, veterinary science, environmental science, biochemistry, nursing and other science
related courses.

A LEVEL

Business

Synopsis of content
The course aims to develop a critical understanding of organisations, the markets they serve and the process of adding value. This involves consideration of the internal workings and management of organisations and, in particular, the process of decision making in a dynamic external environment.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Theme 1: Marketing and people	• Meeting customer needs • The market • Marketing mix and strategy • Managing people • Entrepreneurs and leaders	3 x Written exams. Paper 1 2 Hour exam - 35% of final grade. Paper 2 2 Hour exam - 35% of final grade. Paper 3 2 Hour exam - 30% of final grade.
Theme 2: Managing business activities	• Raising finance • Financial planning • Managing finance • Resource management • External influences	
Theme 3: Business decisions and strategy	• Business objectives and strategy • Business growth • Decision-making techniques • Influences on business decisions • Assessing competitiveness • Managing change	
Theme 4: Global business	• Globalisation • Global markets and business expansion Global marketing • Global industries and companies (multinational corporations)	

Teaching & Learning A variety of teaching and learning approaches are used to help the students develop skills such as data analysis, problem solving and essay writing. These include independent research, group work, presentations, debate and discussion.

Subject Combination This subject combines well with virtually all courses on offer in the Sixth Form but is particularly well matched with Law and ICT. Students are advised to seek advice if they are considering taking Business Studies and Economics.

University/Vocational destinations and careers These transferable skills can be used within any subsequent course of study. The subject is particularly useful for anyone considering a career in management, accounting, financial services, banking, marketing or human resources, and for learners progressing into managerial roles within an organisation.

National Level 3 Diploma in Business

Synopsis of content

The qualification gives learners the knowledge, understanding and skills that underpin the business sector that will prepare them for further study or training. This includes the opportunity for learners to choose two units from a selection of options to supplement the mandatory units which reflect the key topics in business: marketing, business environments, international business, management and finance.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	GLH	Type	Assessment Details
Mandatory Units - learners complete and achieve all units			
Developing a Marketing Campaign	90	Mandatory & Synoptic	External
Personal and Business Finance	120	Mandatory	External
Principles of Management	120	Mandatory	External
Mandatory Internal Units - learners complete all units and achieve at least 2			
Exploring Business	90	Mandatory	Internal
Managing an Event	90	Mandatory & Synoptic	Internal
International Business	90	Mandatory & Synoptic	Internal
Optional Units - Learners complete 2 units			
Recruitment and Selection Process	60	Optional	Internal
Team Building in Business	60	Optional	Internal
Recording Financial Transactions	60	Optional	Internal
Final Accounts for Public Limited Companies	60	Optional	Internal
Financial Statements for Specific Businesses	60	Optional	Internal
Cost and Management Accounting	60	Optional	Internal
Investigating Retail Business	60	Optional	Internal
Investigating Customer Service	60	Optional	Internal
Visual Merchandising	60	Optional	Internal
Digital Marketing	60	Optional	Internal
Creative Promotion	60	Optional	Internal
Pitching for a New Business	60	Optional	Internal
Investigating Corporate Social Responsibility	60	Optional	Internal
Training and Development	60	Optional	Internal
Market Research	60	Optional	Internal
The English Legal System	60	Optional	Internal

Chemistry

Synopsis of content
The Chemistry syllabus will appeal to those students who enjoyed the subject in Years 10 and 11 and want to find out more about how Chemistry affects all of our lives. Chemistry is based on experiment and a proportion of the course is devoted to practical work. Chemistry is an exciting but very demanding subject that requires logical thought processes and the ability to apply knowledge to new situations. Students wanting a career in medicine, forensics or pharmacology are usually required to have Chemistry at A Level.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Paper 1	Relevant physical chemistry topics plus inorganic chemistry and the relevant practical skills.	• 2 hour written examination. • 105 marks. • 35% of A Level. • Short and long answer questions
Paper 2	Relevant physical chemistry topics plus inorganic chemistry and the relevant practical skills.	• 2 hour written examination • 105 marks • 35% of A Level. • Short and long answer questions.
Paper 3	All content and practical skills	• 2 hour written examination 90 marks • 30% of the A Level. • Questions on practical techniques and data analysis and content from across the specification. Some questions will be multiple choice.

Teaching & Learning Chemistry is fundamentally an experimental subject. Within this specification there are numerous opportunities to use practical experiences to link theory to reality, and equip students with the essential practical skills they need. During the course students will complete 12 required practicals as part of the assessment. There are also numerous opportunities for independent learning and working out concepts using logic and problem solving skills.

Subject Combination The Chemistry course complements the other sciences well, especially Biology as it can explain some of the processes that happen in living things. There is a significant mathematical content in the course and students ought to be competent in the handling of algebraic equations and graphs.

University/Vocational destinations and careers Many past students have gone on to use the skills acquired in their chemistry A Level at university studying chemistry, biochemistry, medicine, veterinary science, pharmacology, forensics, and other science courses.

A LEVEL

Computer Science

Synopsis of content
The course consists of a programming paper that is assessed online where students extend a predefined piece of code; paper 2 is a theoretical paper that assesses students' understanding of computer science concepts. The non-exam element is a programming project undertaken by the student in a language of their choice.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Paper 1	• Fundamentals of programming. • Data structures. • Algorithms. • Theory of computation. • Systematic approaches to problem solving.	• On-screen examination. • 2 hours 30 minutes. • 40% of the qualification. Preliminary material will be issued (a skeleton program available in each of the programming languages) and, where appropriate, test data for use in the examination.
Paper 2	• Computer systems. • Computer organisations and architecture. Consequences of the uses of computing. Communication networks. • Fundamentals of databases. • Big data and functional programming.	• Written examination. • 2 hours 30 minutes. • 40% of the qualification.
Non – examined assessment	The non-exam assessment assesses a student's ability to use the knowledge and skills gained through the course to solve or investigate a practical problem	• Practical task undertaken in class. 75 marks. • 20% of the qualification.

Teaching & Learning A variety of teaching and learning approaches will be used, including independent learning and programming, group work, peer programming, use of IT, decision making, abstraction and decomposition of problems.

Subject Combination This subject combines well with Mathematics, ICT and the Sciences.

University/Vocational destinations and careers Computer Science prepares students for many of the courses available at university including computing, software engineering, business and computing or computing graphics/ animation, amongst others.

Career possibilities include computing, analysis, computer programming, animation, medicine, law, business and many more.

Criminology

Synopsis of content
The first mandatory unit will enable the learner to demonstrate understanding of different types of crime, influences on perceptions of crime and why some crimes are unreported.

The second mandatory unit will allow learners to gain an understanding of why people commit crime, drawing on what they have learned in Unit 1.

The third mandatory unit will provide an understanding of the criminal justice system from the moment a crime has been identified to the verdict. Learners will develop the understanding and skills needed to examine information in order to review the justice of verdicts in criminal cases.

In the final mandatory unit, learners will apply their understanding of the awareness of criminality, criminological theories and the process of bringing an accused to court in order to evaluate the effectiveness of social control to deliver criminal justice policy.

You will be expected to stay up-to-date with current events, in order to participate in discussions relating to the content taught in class. If you have commitment and enthusiasm then you will easily be able to manage the challenging workload both in and outside of the classroom. You will be assessed by a controlled assessment in each year, as well as an external timed exam.

Teaching & Learning There will be a variety of approaches to teaching and learning including group work, independent study, use of IT, decision-making, and investigative/practical/fieldwork. Learners are assessed through coursework and examinations. Each assessment is worth 25% of the qualification.

Subject Combination There are a number of subjects that work well alongside Criminology. Sociology, Psychology, English and the Humanities help with essay writing in this subject.

University/Vocational destinations and careers The qualification supports progression to higher education courses such as: BSc Criminology / BA Criminology / BA Criminology and Criminal Justice / BSc (Hons) Criminology and Psychology / LLB (Hons) Law with Criminology / BA (Hons) Criminology and Sociology / BA (Hons) Criminology / BSc (Hons) Psychology and Sociology / BSc Criminology with Law.

Alternatively, the qualification allows learners to gain the required understanding and skills to be able to consider employment within some aspects of the criminal justice system, e.g. the National Probation Service, the Courts and Tribunals Service or the National Offender Management Service.



A LEVEL

Drama & Theatre

Synopsis of content

The course is broken down into four components - two non-exam assessments and two exam assessments. For the non-exam assessments students will research and practically explore practitioners and the work of others. Students will explore one performance text that will be performed as a piece of live theatre. For the two written exam assessments students will explore two performance texts on a chosen theme and evaluate and analyse a live theatre performance. Students will also interpret and explore practically a performance text considering how to create, develop and direct a performance for an audience.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Practitioners in Practice Component 11/12	Learners will: • Research and practically explore practitioners and the work of others. • Create, devise and perform original theatre. • Supported by written coursework.	• 120 marks • Non-exam assessment • Research Report & Portfolio: 80 marks • Performance: 40 marks • 40% of total A level
Exploring and Performing Texts Component 21	Learners will: • Explore one performance text. • Perform live theatre.	• 60 marks • Non-exam assessment (Visiting examination) • Concept Proforma: 10 marks • Performance: 50 marks • 20% of total A level
Analysing Performance	Learners will: • Explore practically two performance texts on a chosen theme. • Analyse and evaluate a live theatre performance	• 60 marks • 2 hours 15 minutes • Written paper • 20% of total A level
Deconstructing Texts for Performance	Learners will: • Interpret and explore practically a performance text considering how to create, develop and direct a performance for an audience.	• 60 marks 1 hour 45 minutes • Written paper • 20% of total A level

Teaching & Learning Practical lessons and workshops run throughout the course alongside theory work. Performing in front of peers, a live audience and a visiting examiner are key elements of the course. There will be a number of opportunities to experience live theatre that will not only provide ideas and stimulus for practical work but are an essential requirement to the written exam. Students are required to be exceptional independent learners and are required to rehearse in their own time throughout the two years.

Subject Combination A Level Drama and Theatre combines well with any other subject offered within the Sixth Form. However, the course draws upon elements of Literature, Media Studies, History, Psychology and Design.

University/Vocational destinations and careers Any student considering a career that requires high level communication skills will benefit from studying this course. It will also prepare learners for the further study of Drama or Performing Arts courses in Higher Education as well as developing transferable skills desired by all sectors of the industry.

Economics

Synopsis of content
The study of Economics emphasises the importance of economic issues in a modern industrial society and seeks to encourage the development of a basic economic competence which will help to prepare the student to play a full part in society.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Component 1	Microeconomic theory including the theoretical workings of the free market, imperfections and market failures and government intervention.	• Written examination • 2 hour written paper • 80 marks • 33.3% of total A Level
Component 2	Macro economy functions on both the domestic and global level including policy approaches and the changes in macroeconomics over time.	• Written examination • 2 hour written paper • 80 marks • 33.3% of total A Level
Component 3 - Themes in economics	A synoptic component looking at themes in economics. The assessment will draw on content from both the microeconomics and macroeconomics components, applied to particular themes.	• Written examination • 2 hour written paper • 80 marks • 33.3% of total A Level

Teaching & Learning A variety of teaching and learning approaches are used to help the students develop skills such as data analysis, problem solving and essay writing. Students should expect to undertake independent research, make presentations and work collaboratively to debate and discuss a variety of economic theories.

Subject Combination This subject combines well with virtually all courses on offer in the Sixth Form. It is an excellent bridge between the arts and sciences and complements Geography, History and Mathematics. Students are advised to seek advice if they are considering taking Business Studies and Economics.

University/Vocational destinations and careers Economics is a well-regarded A Level and prepares students for further study or a career in finance, banking, insurance, accounting and other City-based occupations.

A LEVEL

English Language

Synopsis of content
Students will develop their skills of analysis of spoken, written and multi-modal texts through the study of key linguistic frameworks. The course covers the study of child language development and language change, as well as language diversity topics such as language and gender, language and occupation and regional and national variation.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Component 1 Section A - Textual Variations and Representations Section B - Children's Language Development	Analysis of two texts (one contemporary and one older text) linked by topic or theme. A discursive essay on children's language development.	• Written Examination. • 2 hours 30 minutes. • 100 marks. • 40% of total A Level.
Component 2 Section A - Diversity and Change Section B - Language Discourses	An evaluative essay on language diversity or language change. Analysis of two texts about a topic linked to the study of diversity and change. Directed writing task.	• Written Examination. • 2 hours 30 minutes. • 100 marks. • 40% of total A Level.
Component 3	A language investigation (2,000 words excluding data) and a piece of original writing and commentary (1,500 words total) based on a personal interest.	• Non-exam Assessment • 100 marks • 20% of total A Level

Teaching & Learning Students will be expected to read widely and research the relevant language topics and theories in preparation for the examination and coursework components. Students are also expected to offer ideas and opinions through class discussion and debate.

Subject Combination This subject is commonly combined with Philosophy and Ethics, English Literature, Sociology, Psychology, Law and History.

University/Vocational destinations and careers Students who study English Language at A Level often go on to study English Language or Literature, Linguistics, Law, Philosophy and Ethics, and other Arts/Humanities related subjects at University. Possible career choices linking to this subject include teaching, linguistics/lexicography, speech therapy, journalism, publishing, advertising/marketing and law.

A LEVEL

English Literature

Synopsis of content
Students will study a variety of texts, ranging from Shakespeare to contemporary writers. Study encompasses all genres and gives students ample opportunity to read widely.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Component 1	• Shakespeare • Drama and poetry pre 1900	• 2 hours 30 minutes written examination • Closed text • 60 marks • 40% of total A level
Component 2	• Close reading in chosen topic area Comparative and contextual study from chosen topic area	• 2 hours 30 minutes written examination • Closed text • 60 marks • 40% of total A level
Component 3	• Critical essay • Linked texts essay • Literature post 1900 • Novel, drama and poetry to be covered	• Non-examined coursework • 40 marks • 20% of total A level

Teaching & Learning Students will be expected to read and research the examination and coursework texts independently so that lessons can focus on discussion and essay writing skills. They are regularly assessed and encouraged to reflect upon the feedback they are given, in order to develop their skills as analytical writers. The coursework allows students to select their own texts. When the opportunity arises, theatre and lecture visits are arranged through the school.

Subject Combination This subject is commonly combined with Philosophy and Ethics, English Language, History, Sociology and Psychology.

University/Vocational destinations and careers English Literature is a highly regarded A Level. Students who study this subject in the Sixth Form often go on to study English Literature or Language, History, Law, Philosophy and Ethics, Sociology, Psychology and other Arts/Humanities related subjects at university.

Possible career choices linking to this subject include teaching, journalism, publishing/editing and work in the field of the Arts.

A LEVEL

Film Studies

Synopsis of content
Students will study a variety of different films, ranging from classic Hollywood to Experimental film. Study will focus on the construction of meanings and the impacts of social contexts on film-making through time.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Component 1	• Hollywood 1930-1990 • American film since 2012 • British film since 1995	• 2 hours 30 minutes written examination • 35% of total marks
Component 2	• Global film • Documentary film • Film movements • Silent cinema • Film movements • Experimental film (1960-2001)	• 2 hours 30 minutes written examination • 35% of total marks
Component 3	Production piece: • either a short film (4-5 minutes) or a screenplay for a short film (1600-1800 words) plus a digitally photographed storyboard of a key section from the screenplay • an evaluative analysis (1600 - 1800 words)	• Non-examined coursework • 60 marks • 30% of total A level

Teaching & Learning Students will be expected to read widely in the area of film and access a diverse range of films independently. A variety of teaching and learning approaches will be used, including research, discussion and essay writing, to develop students' critical and aesthetic skills.

Subject Combination This subject can be combined with a range of subjects such as English, Art, Philosophy, History and Sociology to demonstrate a breadth of study and an understanding of contemporary issues.

University/Vocational destinations and careers Many universities provide undergraduate and/or postgraduate courses in Film Studies. Pupils studying Film at A Level may go on to choose a wide range of courses and careers including (but not limited to) Media Studies, PR, Advertising, Journalism, Art, Drama and English.

French

Synopsis of content
The A Level specification builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills gained at GCSE, focusing on language, culture and society. Students will develop their knowledge and understanding of themes relating to the culture and society of countries where French is spoken, and their language skills. They will do this by using authentic spoken and written sources in the target language. Students will study technological and social change, looking at diversity and the benefits it brings. For example, students studying French will consider French-speaking artistic culture, including francophone music and cinema, and learn about political engagement and who wields political power in the French-speaking world.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Paper 1: Listening, reading and translation both ways	Social issues, trends and political and artistic culture.	• Written exam (40% of marks) • 2 hours 30 minutes • Students have individual control of CD
Paper 2: Essay	Students must study either one text and one film or two texts from a list provided by the exam board.	• Written exam (30% of marks) • 2 hours
Paper 3: Oral	Conversation on one topic-based stimulus card, a two-minute presentation on a research-based topic with follow-up discussion	• Speaking exam (30% of marks) • 21-23 minutes • Conducted by class teacher in May of Year 13

Teaching & Learning Students will be encouraged to enhance their linguistic skills and promote and develop their capacity for critical thinking on the basis of their knowledge and understanding of the language, culture and society of the country or countries where the language is spoken. They will be taught to develop language learning skills and strategies, including communication strategies, in order to sustain communication and build fluency and confidence. At the same time they will equip themselves with transferable skills such as autonomy, resourcefulness, creativity and linguistic, cultural and cognitive flexibility that will enable them to proceed to further study or to employment.

Subject Combination French combines well with any subject offered in the Sixth Form.

University/Vocational destinations and careers The A Level course is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or further study, including a modern languages degree. Popular career choices include translating, international business and teaching.

A LEVEL

Geography

Synopsis of content
The course encourages learners to apply geographical knowledge, theory and skills to the world around them. In turn, this will enable learners to develop a critical understanding of the world's people, places and environments in the 21st century. This specification draws on both physical and human geography, explores people-environment interactions and encourages development of fieldwork at the local level.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Exam Paper 1 - Physical systems	• Landscape systems • Earth's life support systems • Geographical skills	• 1 hour and 30 minutes written paper • 66 marks • 22% of total A-Level
Exam Paper 2 - Human Interactions	• Changing Spaces; Making Places • Global Connections • Geographical skills	• 1 hour and 30 minutes written paper • 66 marks • 22% of total A-Level
Exam Paper 3 – Geographical Debates	Optionality – study 2 of 5 • Climate Change • Disease Dilemmas • Exploring Oceans • Future of Food • Hazardous Earth • Geographical skills	• 2 hours and 30 minutes written paper • 108 marks • 36% of total A-Level
Unit 4 - Investigative Geography	NEA (Non-Examination Assessment) Independent fieldwork project	• 60 marks • 20% of total A-Level

Teaching & Learning Fieldwork is considered an essential part of the course and, in order to maximise fieldwork experiences, all students are expected to participate in organised fieldwork activities and also carry out independent fieldwork tasks for Unit 4.

Subject Combination Geography complements both Arts and Science subjects and therefore is often studied with a diverse range of subjects including Economics, Biology, History and Modern Foreign Languages.

University/Vocational destinations and careers The interdisciplinary nature of this subject means that it helps students access an Arts, Social Science or Science Degree. The subject can also create opportunities in a wide range of careers including environmental science, planning, City-based occupations, marketing, education and leisure and tourism.

German

Synopsis of content
Languages are an invaluable asset in today's multicultural world and the course aims to enable students to express themselves proficiently in conversation and in writing on a variety of topical issues, as well as developing research skills. It will develop their ability to extract information from a range of spoken and written texts, to recognise points of view and opinions and develop their awareness of other cultures, including their literary heritage. This is a two-year linear course, during which time students will study topics under the following three themes: Aspects of German-speaking society (family, technology and the role of voluntary work), Artistic culture in the German-speaking world (music, cinema, heritage), Aspects of political life in the German-speaking world (teenagers, politics and immigration). There will be a focus on knowledge and understanding of the target language culture.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Paper 1: Listening, reading and translation both ways	Social issues, trends and political and artistic culture	Written exam (50% of marks) covering the skills of listening, reading and translation
Paper 2: Essay	Students must study either one text and one film or two texts from a list provided by the exam board	Written exam (20% of marks)
Paper 3: Oral	Conversation on one topic-based stimulus card, a two-minute presentation on a research-based topic with follow-up discussion	Speaking exam (30% of marks) Conducted by class teacher in May of Year 13

Teaching & Learning Students will be encouraged to enhance their linguistic skills and promote and develop their capacity for critical thinking on the basis of their knowledge and understanding of the language, culture and society of the country or countries where the language is spoken. They will be taught to develop language learning skills and strategies, including communication strategies, in order to sustain communication and build fluency and confidence. At the same time they will equip themselves with transferable skills such as autonomy, resourcefulness, creativity and linguistic, cultural and cognitive flexibility that will enable them to proceed to further study or to employment.

Subject Combination German combines well with any subject offered in the Sixth Form.

University/Vocational destinations and careers The A Level course is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or further study, including a modern languages degree. Popular career choices include translating, international business and teaching.



AAQ LEVEL 3

Health & Social Care

Synopsis of content
The Pearson Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification BTEC National in Health and Social Care (Extended Certificate) is an Alternative Academic Qualification (AAQ) designed for post-16 students with an interest in health and social care and aiming to progress to higher education as a route to graduate level employment. Equivalent to one A Level in size, it is suitable for students looking to develop their applied knowledge and skills in health and social care alongside two A Levels.

Teaching & Learning
The qualification has three mandatory units covering the following topics:

- Human Lifespan and Development – PIES and factors affecting growth and development, interventions and the different professionals providing care and treatment
- Human Biology and Health – Human body structure and systems, normal physiological functioning and the impact of common disorders
- Health and Social Care Practice – Core principles, values and legislation that underpin and influence health and social care, and the effect of social determinants on an individual's health status.

Students have a choice from four optional units covering the following topics:

- Health, Social Policy and Wellbeing – Public health policy and its influences, including health-related organisations/ groups and a range of strategic factors
- Promoting Health Education – Health education, its purpose and use of different approaches and models to achieve positive health outcomes
- Safe Environments in Health and Social Care – Appropriate provisions in services relevant to different needs; governance relating to safe environments
- Health Science – Types of infections and their potential impact on a local, national and international scale.

Subject Combination The following subjects are a popular combination with this BTEC: A-level Biology, Psychology, Sociology, English and Geography.

University/Vocational destinations and careers Many students go on to study higher education degree courses such as BA Health and Social Care / BSc Public Health and Wellbeing / BSc Healthcare and Health Science / BSc Health Sciences / BSc Nursing and many more.

A LEVEL

History

Synopsis of content
This qualification is designed to foster the development of critical and reflective thinking with an understanding of historical topics and issues, and to encourage an awareness of the importance of historical awareness in explaining contemporary issues. It offers a range of topics covering events from the Early Modern Period to the late 20th Century. We look at British History as well as World History.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
1C The Tudors: England, 1485–1603	Students will study the Reign of the Tudor dynasty in England, covering Henry VII, Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary I and Elizabeth I	2 Hour 30 Minute exam at the end of Year 13 where students answer one 30-mark interpretation question and two 25-mark essay questions. This exam forms 40% of the students' final mark.
2R The Cold War, 1945-1991	Students will study the evolving course of international relations during an era of tension between communist and capitalist powers which threatened nuclear Armageddon. It explores concepts such as communism and anticommunism, aggression and détente	2 Hour 30 Minutes exam at the end of Year 13 where students answer one 30-mark source question and two 25-mark essay questions. This exam forms 40% of the student's final mark.
3 Historical Investigation NEA	Students will be required to submit a Historical Investigation based on a development or issue which has been subject to different historical interpretations. This will likely be based on the History of Civil Rights in the USA during the late 19th and 20th Centuries.	One 4000-word essay to be completed by students between the Summer Term of Year 12 and Spring Term of Year 13. This will be internally marked and moderated. This essay forms 20% of their final A-Level mark.

Teaching & Learning A variety of teaching and learning approaches are used to help the students develop skills such as source analysis and essay writing. These include independent research, group work, debate and discussion.

Subject Combination This subject combines well with English Language or Literature, Law, Philosophy and Ethics and other Humanities subjects.

University/Vocational destinations and careers Students studying A Level History go on to study for a variety of degrees including History, Law, Economics, Politics, International Relations, Journalism, Museum studies and Archaeology. This can lead to a variety of careers including teaching/lecturing, law, journalism, politics, publishing, museum work and the police.

Mathematics

Synopsis of content
The Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Mathematics consists of three externally-examined papers. All the examinations listed below must be sat in the same examination year.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Paper 1: Pure Mathematics 1	• Proof • Algebra and functions • Coordinate geometry in the (x, y) plane Sequences and series • Trigonometry • Exponentials and logarithms Differentiation • Integration • Numerical methods • Vectors	• Written Examination • 2 hours • 33.33% of the qualification • Paper 1 and Paper 2 may contain questions on any topics from the Pure Mathematics content. • Calculators can be used in the assessment.
Paper 2: Pure Mathematics 2	All of the topics listed above	• Written Examination • 2 hours • 33.33% of the qualification • Paper 1 and Paper 2 may contain questions on any topics from the Pure Mathematics content. • Calculators can be used in the assessment.
Paper 3: Statistics and Mechanics	**Section A**: • Statistics Statistical sampling • Data presentation and interpretation Probability • Statistical distributions • Statistical hypothesis testing **Section B**: • Mechanics Quantities and units in mechanics • Kinematics • Forces and Newton's laws Moments	• Written Examination • 2 hours • 33.33% of the qualification • Paper 3 will contain questions on topics from the Statistics content in Section A and Mechanics content in Section B. • Calculators can be used in the assessment.

Teaching & Learning Students will be exposed to a variety of approaches to teaching and learning including learning formulae from first principles alongside mathematical proofs. There will be some opportunities for group study although the majority of the course requires a great deal of independent study. Students will need to use the Casio CLASSWIZ calculator.

Subject Combination The study of Mathematics is usually combined with Physics, Computer Science and Economics but is also studied with a broad range of subjects offered in the Sixth Form.

University/Vocational destinations and careers As a highly regarded A Level, studying Mathematics can support any application to University and is sought after by employers.

Further Mathematics

Synopsis of content

The Pearson Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Further Mathematics consists of externally-examined papers. All the examinations listed below must be sat in the same examination year.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Core Pure Mathematics 1	• Proof Complex numbers • Matrices Further algebra and functions Further calculus • Further vectors • Polar coordinates • Hyperbolic functions • Differential equations	• 1 hour and 30 minutes • Written examination • 25% of the qualification. • Paper 1 and Paper 2 may contain questions on any topics from the Pure Mathematics content • Calculators can be used in the assessment.
Core Pure Mathematics 2	• Proof Complex numbers • Matrices Further algebra and functions Further calculus • Further vectors • Polar coordinates • Hyperbolic functions • Differential equations	• 1 hour and 30 minutes • Written examination • 25% of the qualification. • Paper 1 and Paper 2 may contain questions on any topics from the Pure Mathematics content • Calculators can be used in the assessment.
Paper 3: Further Mathematics Option 1	Students take one of the following four options: • A: Further Pure Mathematics 1 • B: Further Statistics 1 • C: Further Mechanics 1 • D: Decision Mathematics 1	• 1 hour and 30 minutes • Written examination • 25% of the qualification. • Calculators can be used in the assessment.
Paper 4: Further Mathematics Option 2	Students take one of the following options: • A: Further Pure Mathematics 2 • B: Further Statistics 1 • C: Further Mechanics 1 • D: Decision Mathematics 1 • E: Further Statistics 2 • F: Further Mechanics 2 • G: Decision Mathematics 2	

Teaching & Learning Students will be exposed to a variety of approaches to teaching and learning including learning formulae from first principles alongside mathematical proofs. There will be opportunities for group study although the majority of the course requires a great deal of independent study. Students will need to use the Casio CLASSWIZ calculator.

Subject Combination The study of Further Mathematics is usually combined with Physics, Computer Science and Economics but is also studied with a broad range of subjects offered in the Sixth Form.

University/Vocational destinations and careers As a highly regarded A Level, studying Further Mathematics can support any application to University and is sought after by employers.

AAQ

Medical Science - Level 3

Synopsis of content
Pearson Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification BTEC National in Medical Science (Extended Certificate). Students must complete 3 mandatory units and 1 optional unit.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Unit 1: Principles of Human Physiology, Anatomy and Pathology	Students will explore the biological principles that underpin medical science.	• Equivalent in size to one A Level. • 4 units of which 3 are mandatory and 2 are external. • Mandatory content (83%). External assessment (58%).
Unit 2: Health Issues and Scientific Reporting	Students develop their understanding of medical science through learning about contemporary health issues, alongside developing knowledge about scientific analysis, evaluation and reporting	
Unit 3: Practical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases	Students will investigate the effect of antimicrobial agents on the growth of microorganisms, by selecting and applying knowledge of microorganisms and infectious diseases. They will draw on their wider scientific understanding and skills to plan and carry out a range of practical techniques	
The optional units provide an opportunity for students to choose one of the following specialist areas	• Diseases, disorders, treatments and therapies • Biomedical science • Human reproduction and fertility.	

Teaching & Learning There will be a variety of approaches to teaching and learning including group work, independent study, use of IT, decision-making, and investigative/practical work. Learners are assessed through coursework as well as exams at the end of each academic year.

Subject Combination This subject works well with most courses apart from the Science A Levels, but especially Health & Social Care and Sport.

University/Vocational destinations and careers A variety of science-related jobs or degrees such as: Forensic Science, Pharmacy, Biomedical Science, Midwifery, Sports Science, Physiotherapy, Nursing, Clinical Sciences/Medicine Foundation, Occupational Therapy, Biological Sciences, Chemical Sciences.

Physics

Synopsis of content

The A Level Physics course develops the skills that enable students to adopt a flexible approach to problems, think logically and critically and to use mathematics efficiently and confidently. These analytical and mathematical skills have many applications both academically and in the workplace.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Paper 1	• Measurement & error • Particles & radiation • Waves Mechanics & materials • Electricity • Further mechanics & thermal physics Fields and consequences • Nuclear physics	• Written examination. • 85 marks. • Combination of short and long answer questions along with multiple choice. • 34% of the A Level.
Paper 2	• Further mechanics & thermal physics Fields and Consequences	• Written examination • 85 marks. • Combination of short and long answer questions along with multiple choice. • 34% of the A Level.
Paper 3	Practical skills and analysis plus one optional topic from the list below: • Astrophysics • Medical physics • Engineering physics • Turning points in physics • Electronics	• Written examination • 80 marks • Combination of short and long answer questions. • 32% of A Level

Teaching & Learning Practical work is an important aspect of the course. The purpose of this is to reinforce and test theoretical principles as well as ensuring students are adequately prepared for conducting experimental work when they leave St John Payne. This component of the course is assessed in the written examinations. Additionally, subject teachers have to verify that students have completed a portfolio of practical work during the course and award students 'pass' or 'fail'

Subject Combination Although Mathematics at A Level is not required for the study of A Level Physics, students tend to find that the two subjects go well together and some of the course content is common to both subjects. Physics is also a popular choice with the other Sciences along with Geography and Design and Technology.

University/Vocational destinations and careers In the past students who have studied this A Level have gone on to study physics, astrophysics, medicine, natural sciences, IT, meteorology and engineering.

A LEVEL

Physical Education

Synopsis of content
At least a Grade 5 in the theory component of GCSE PE along with a Grade 5 in Additional Science.
In addition, students must be playing sport outside of school. This means participating at club level and competing at regular intervals (video evidence will be required).

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Paper 1: Factors affecting participation in physical activity and sport.	• **Section A**: Applied anatomy and physiology • **Section B:** Skill acquisition • **Section C**: Sport and society	• 2 hours • Each section is worth 35 marks. • Multiple-choice questions, short answers and extended writing. • Written exam: 2 hours • 105 marks • 35% of A-Level
Paper 2: Factors affecting optimal performance in physical activity and sport	• **Section A**: Exercise physiology and biomechanics • **Section B**: Sport psychology • **Section C**: Sport and society and technology in sport	• 2 hours • Each section is worth 35 marks. Multiple-choice questions, short answers and extended writing. • Written exam: 2 hours • 105 marks • 35% of A-Level
Non-exam assessment: Practical performance in physical activity and sport.	• Students assessed as a performer or coach in the full sided version of one activity. Plus: written/verbal analysis of performance.	• Internal assessment. • External moderation • 90 marks • 30% of A-level

Teaching & Learning A variety of teaching methods will be used when studying this course. Lessons will include classroom-based theoretical work along with some practical lessons where appropriate. The content will be delivered through a combination of group work and independent study, and students should be prepared to use ICT to research information to consolidate the knowledge and understanding they will develop in the lessons.

Subject Combination This subject combines well with a variety of humanities and sciences in the Sixth Form and is particularly popular with Biology, History, Psychology and Sociology.

University/Vocational destinations and careers Studying A Level PE could lead to undergraduate study in Sports Science, Physical Education Teaching, Sports Coaching and Sports Management with a subsequent career in coaching, sports nutrition, sports psychology, sports journalism and the leisure industry including personal training.

A LEVEL

Psychology

Synopsis of content
Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and human behaviour. Psychologists observe and conduct experiments to find out more about the way people act and interact. They try to understand what motivates, challenges or changes us and use this understanding to help us tackle personal and social problems.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Paper 1: Introductory Topics in Psychology	• Social influence • Memory • Attachment • Psychopathology	• Written Examination • 2 hours • 33.3% of the qualification
Paper 2: Psychology in Context	• Approaches • Biopsychology • Research Methods	• Written Examination • 2 hours • 33.3% of the qualification
Paper 3: Issues and Options in Psychology	• Issues and Debates • Relationships • Schizophrenia • Aggression	• Written Examination • 2 hours • 33.3% of the qualification

Teaching & Learning There will be a variety of approaches to teaching and learning including group work, independent study, use of IT, decision-making, and investigative/practical/fieldwork. Students will also have the opportunity to conduct their own psychological research while studying this A Level.

Subject Combination There are a number of subjects that work well alongside Psychology. Sociology, English and the Humanities help with essay writing and it is also beneficial to study Mathematics as 25% of the new A Level involves mathematical skills.

University/Vocational destinations and careers While studying Psychology, students will master a range of different skills that will be beneficial for their academic development and will lead to a strong application onto any undergraduate level degree course. It can also open up a number of doors with regards to your career and future employment. People with skills in Psychology are sought after in business, management, teaching, research, social work and careers in medicine and healthcare.

A LEVEL

Religious Studies – Philosophy & Ethics

Synopsis of content

A Level Religious Studies is split into 3 areas or themes: Theme 1 - Philosophy of Religion, Theme 2 - Religion and Ethics and Theme 3 - The systematic study of one religion: Christianity. The course is designed to ensure students have a thorough understanding of diverse philosophical and ethical viewpoints.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Component 1 - Philosophy of Religion and Ethics	**Section A**: Philosophy of religion Arguments for the existence of God, Evil and suffering, Religious experience, Religious language, Miracles, Self and life after death. **Section B**: Ethics and religion Ethical theories, Issues of human life and death Issues of animal life and death, Introduction to meta ethics, Free will and moral responsibility, Conscience, Bentham and Kant	• Written exam • 3 hours • 100 marks • 50% of the A Level • Sections A and B: Compulsory two-part questions, each worth 10 marks and 15 marks. • In both sections, questions may span more than one topic.
Component 2 - Study of Religion and Dialogues	**Section A**: Study of religion - Christianity Sources of wisdom and authority, God/gods/ultimate reality Self, death and the afterlife, Good conduct and key moral principles, Expression of religious identity Religion, gender and sexuality, Religion and science, Religion and secularisation, Religion and religious pluralism. **Section B**: The dialogue between philosophy of religion and religion. How religion is influenced by, and has an influence on philosophy of religion in relation to the issues studied. **Section C**: The dialogue between ethical studies and religion. How religion is influenced by, and has an influence on ethical studies in relation to the issues studied	• Written exam • 3 hours • 100 marks • 50% of A-level **Section A**: Compulsory two-part questions, each worth 10 marks and 15 marks relating to the religion chosen. Questions may be set that span more than one topic. **Section B**: One unstructured synoptic question from a choice of two (25 marks). Section C: One unstructured synoptic question from a choice of two (25 marks)

Teaching & Learning Students can expect a variety of teaching methods such as group work, research and independent study, use of IT, presentations, debate and investigation.

Subject Combination This subject combines well with English Literature, Law, Sociology, Geography, History and Psychology.

University/Vocational destinations and careers Religious Studies students find that the range of degree courses and professions open to them are many and varied: management, stockbroking, the media, journalism, nursing, retailing, social work, law, education, medicine, environmental studies, politics and the media. Students gain critical and evaluative skills sought by higher education and employers.

A LEVEL

Sociology

Synopsis of content
Sociology is the study of how society is organised and how we experience life. The course consists of studying human behaviours and the interaction between human groups and institutions. Sociologists take an in-depth look at social inequalities (including race, gender, and class); the environment; cultural traditions; family relations; health care; globalisation; politics and social movements; and crime and justice.

Content Overview

Component/Unit/ Examination	Content Overview	Assessment Details
Paper 1: Education with Theory and Methods	• Education • Methods in Context • Theory and Methods	• Written Examination • 2 hours • 33.3% of the qualification
Paper 2: Topics in Sociology	• Family and Households • Beliefs in Society	• Written Examination • 2 hours • 33.3% of the qualification
Paper 3: Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods	• Crime and Deviance • Theory and Methods	• Written Examination • 2 hours • 33.3% of the qualification

Teaching & Learning There will be a variety of approaches to teaching and learning including group work, independent study, use of IT, decision-making, and investigative/practical/fieldwork. Students will also have the opportunity to conduct their own research while studying this A Level.

Subject Combination There are a number of subjects that work well alongside Sociology. Psychology, English and the Humanities help with essay writing in this subject.

University/Vocational destinations and careers People who study Sociology go on into a wide variety of jobs. The new course now includes exercises in teamwork, so you will learn to work in collaboration with others, but also how to work effectively without close supervision. Sociology gifts each student with an array of transferable skills that can be used in the workplace, for example being analytical, conducting research, conducting interviews, using statistics and presentation skills. Popular career destinations include civil service, charity work, HR, public relations, communications and teaching.

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

At St John Payne we offer the AQA Extended Project Qualification in Year 13 which allows students to:

- Develop essential skills for higher education and the workplace, in a subject area of their own choice.
- Develop greater ownership over their studies than ever before. They have free choice of project topic so can choose to explore an aspect of a subject they are studying, or another subject, or choose a topic in which they have a personal interest.

This level of choice and flexibility means students are engaged and motivated, and gain valuable research and project management skills along the way.

Sixth Form Religious Studies Non-examination Course

The general Religious Studies programme aims to treat each student as an individual with unique experiences. The course content varies each year to incorporate current moral issues, with other areas including attitudes to faith, worship, the liturgical year, CAFOD initiatives, sex and relationships, coping with stress, drug-related issues and opportunities to share in the experiences of Holocaust survivors.

The programme aims to encourage a deeper knowledge of Catholic and Christian traditions, through a flexible and adaptable programme. It encourages young adults to look into faith, morality and religion from their own perspective.

The course challenges students to study and evaluate the attitudes and opinions of others and aims to provide each student with the skills necessary to articulate how they feel about faith and moral issues in an ever-changing world. We engage in a variety of learning strategies including creative practical activities such as making icons for prayer, junk modelling, preparing and presenting assemblies, small group discussions, retreats and other activities. A number of outside speakers give personal witness accounts relating to issues such as addiction, vocation, and the Holocaust experience. Year 12 students are invited to volunteer for leadership experience in assisting with Year 7 retreats, and both year groups have the opportunity to support people with disabilities on a pilgrimage to Lourdes each Easter. Overall the course offers opportunities to learn from and to share in personal experiences, gaining a broader insight into human nature, thus enhancing personal development.



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