

Cookstown High School

Combined Grammar & Secondary



Sixth Form Prospectus 2024

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For further information about all aspects of Cookstown High School
visit our website at www.cookstownhighschool.org



Miss G Evans (Principal)

Thank you for taking the time to read our Sixth Form Prospectus. Cookstown High School is a school with a proud history and a secure future. We are very proud of what we can offer at Post 16, and of what our Sixth Form Students have achieved over the years. The majority of them, having completed their A-Levels, will go on to access some of the best courses in the best universities in the British Isles. Our school is keen to welcome any aspirational young person who demonstrates a commitment to hard work and the drive to succeed. At Cookstown High School we believe that we can provide an extensive and tailored A-Level pathway to suit any student, which offers a range of both academic and vocational qualifications. On entering our Sixth Form, you will benefit from quality teaching from subject specialists in well resourced rooms, an excellent careers advice service and a wide range of extra-curricular activities. This brochure, combined with our Subject Fair, will provide you with the opportunity to explore the options that are open to you Post 16 and hopefully will assure you that Cookstown High School is the school for you. We look forward to welcoming you into our Sixth Form in September. Excellence, Opportunity, Support: three of the ingredients that make us, in the words of the Inspectorate, “a very good school”.

Mrs L Johnston (Head of Sixth Form)

I hope that this booklet will prove beneficial and indeed useful to all potential Sixth Formers at Cookstown High School or in other neighbouring schools. Entering into Sixth Form is an important step for any student. It is an opportunity for students to develop, not only academically, but also personally, as they embark on new challenges within their chosen pathway. In this booklet you will find a wealth of information regarding our entry criteria, the subjects we offer and what they entail in terms of content and assessment procedures. We have an exciting mix of academic disciplines and vocational subjects which can be accessed at different entry points. It is important to spend some time thinking about and researching your subject choices. Some university courses require specific subjects at A-level whereas others are dependent on the attainment of specific grades. At a time of increasing competition, it is imperative that young people have the necessary information to make informed choices. I therefore look forward to speaking to you at our Subject Fair and at our Year 12 subject choice interviews.



Mr C WILSON (Entitlement Framework Co-ordinator)

Entitlement Framework legislation requires all post-primary schools in Northern Ireland to expand their offer of courses and to ensure that options include both general and applied courses. To achieve this goal we, like all schools, collaborate with our neighbours, Holy Trinity College.

As EF Co-ordinator, I am responsible for liaising with these other educational providers who work in partnership with Cookstown High School to help deliver the menu of more vocational courses for the young people in our district.

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Introduction

This booklet allows you to examine the subjects offered at post-16 level at Cookstown High School. You should carefully read the contents for each subject, the assessment arrangements and the potential career pathways accessible through studying each particular subject.

Students who gain admission to Sixth Form are expected to take 3 or 4 subjects to AS level (the equivalent to 40% of the full A level) and will sit externally set examinations at the end of Year 13. They will then proceed with the study of at least 3 subjects to A2 level and will again be externally assessed at the end of Year 14.

It is expected that those students with a GCSE score of between 16 and 21 points will choose 3 subjects in Year 13, those students with 22 or more points will have the option to study 4 subjects to AS level.

Universities vary concerning the number of AS subjects they require. However, high demand courses such as Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Dentistry and Law specify 4 AS subjects in Year 13, as do high demand universities such as Cambridge and Oxford. Students should carry out their own research on specific requirements for their chosen courses. Additionally, guidance can be provided by careers staff.

Sixth Form (Year 13) Entry Requirements

Sixth Form (Year 13) Entry Requirements Admission will be given to those who fulfil **all** of the following criteria:

1. Clearly demonstrate an unambiguous commitment to the ethos, philosophy, aims, policies and regulations of the school;
2. Clearly demonstrate previous good attitudes to learning commensurate with the high standards at Cookstown High School. This includes a high attendance record, a record of good behaviour and a good academic work ethic. The Principal, on behalf of the Board of Governors, will determine the standards expected;
3. A total of 16 points or more will allow students to make a free choice of subjects (subject groups permitting). Students are also expected to have achieved at least a grade B in the relevant subject to progress to A level study.
4. A total of 12 points enables entry into 1 or more BTEC subject. A levels that are selected must have at least a grade B at GCSE or Merit at BTEC Level 2;
5. A total of 12 points is required for a combined BTEC Double Award course in Health and Social Care along with an additional course. A Merit at BTEC level 2 is required in Health and Social Care, along with a grade B in the GCSE or Merit at BTEC level 2 of the additional course to be followed;
6. Students require at least a grade C in GCSE English Language OR GCSE Mathematics. These subjects must be repeated in Sixth Form if a grade C or higher has not been achieved in Year 12.

Points:

Grade A* = 5 points	Distinction* = 5 points
Grade A = 4 points	Distinction = 4 points
Grade B = 3 points	Merit = 3 points
Grade C* = 2 points	
Grade C = 1 point	Pass = 1 point

PLEASE NOTE: where a course is not viable, the School reserves the right not to run that particular course.

Choosing Sixth Form (Year 13) Subjects

In addition to this post-16 prospectus (which should be read carefully) guidance is offered in Year 12 Careers classes and all students have access to relevant I.T. programmes. Northern Ireland Careers Service personnel interview each student during Year 12. Since this is a crucial time in a student's school career, parents/guardians will be invited to attend a focused Careers interview with their son/daughter. This interview (conducted by experienced Careers teachers) will occur on the week beginning the 22nd January 2024. Further details of precise dates and times will follow in due course.

In relation to a future career, these points are also worthy of consideration:

1. Have you a clear career in mind? Does it have special subject requirements? These subjects will therefore have priority.
2. If you are unsure of your career route, choose subjects which you like best and which can yield good 'A' level-grades.
3. It is generally agreed that certain combinations offer wider job prospects, e.g. Mathematics/Science, Mathematics/I.T., Business Studies/Modern Languages, Art and Design or Technology/Science. These are only some examples of desirable subject combinations.
4. Note that over 40% of university graduates take up employment in fields that are not directly related to the subjects studied.

Publication of G.C.S.E. results:

The date for the publication of GCSE results is confirmed as: **Thursday 22nd August 2024**

Anyone who cannot come personally to the school to collect results should leave a stamped addressed envelope in the main office as results cannot be given by phone.

Students from other schools who wish to transfer to Cookstown High School can be interviewed in January at normal subject choice time. If the decision to transfer is a later one, they are advised to contact the school at that time. All transferring students should come to the school as soon as they receive their examination results in August.

Re-Interview to confirm subject choice

A second interview with ALL prospective Sixth Formers will take place on **Thursday 22nd August between 1pm - 4pm and Friday 23rd August 10am - 1pm** in the Careers Suite (Morrison Building). You are strongly advised, in your own interest, not to plan holidays at that time, but if you cannot attend for re-interview, you must contact the school before the new school term starts in order to confirm your subject choices based on the block structure created.

Continuation and Progress in Sixth Form:

Sixth Form is optional and students who choose to enter Sixth Form at Cookstown High School accept a number of obligations upon doing so. Progress and commitment at Sixth Form are regularly monitored and students may be asked to leave if their behaviour or attitude is deemed to be detrimental to effective learning and teaching in school.

Sixth Form students are expected to be model students in the corridor and the classroom. The requirements of continuing in Sixth form are that:

- Where required Prefects, Mentors and students generally carry out all duties required of them including corridor duties and assisting at school events including Open Events.
- Sixth Form students commit to full attendance throughout each day and arrive at class, study or enrichment on time and with the right attitude. Attendance which falls below 90% will result in a review meeting.
- Ordinarily Sixth Form students study at least three A Levels or equivalent. The only exceptions to this will be based on pastoral need and must be agreed by the Vice Principals and Head of Sixth Form. Students who choose to study fewer than three subjects (or equivalent) may not continue in Sixth Form.
- Sixth Form students who attain less than an E grade at AS will not be able to proceed with that subject at A Level. This may result in them not being able to continue into Year 14.

Subject Choices September 2024

(N.B. These are subject to viable class size)

Most students study 3 subjects at A level. We offer **29 courses of which 14 are General and 15 are Applied**. We are working with our neighbouring school, Holy Trinity College, to provide a curriculum in line with the Entitlement Framework.

AS/A2 level Subjects we currently offer are:

Art, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Creative Media Studies, Design and Technology, Nutrition and Food Science, English Literature, French, Further Mathematics, Geography, History, IT, Mathematics, Music, Physics, Religious Studies, Sociology, Spanish.

BTEC Courses:

Single and Double Award Health and Social care, Single Award Sport, Single Award Engineering, Single Award ICT, and Single Award Agriculture.



Additional Subject Guidance

Art	Pupils must have studied Art at GCSE level and achieved at least a B Grade.
Applied ICT	Pupils must have a Level 2 in BTEC ICT (Level 1 not sufficient) or a C Grade in GCSE Digital Technology. A Grade C or above in GCSE English will be required.
Biology	Biology must have been studied at GCSE. Pupils should have achieved a grade B or above at GCSE (Grade AB if Double Award Science was studied).
Business Studies	Although GCSE Business Studies is not required to study the subject at A Level, a good standard of GCSE English (grade B) and Maths (grade C) is essential.
Chemistry	Pupils must have achieved a Grade B or better at GCSE or a Grade AB if Double Award Science was taken at GCSE. A Grade B is also essential in Mathematics GCSE.
Design & Technology	Pupils must have achieved a Grade C in GCSE or MM in Engineering and Grade C in Maths.
English Literature	Pupils must have received a B or above in English Language. There is no requirement to have studied English Literature at GCSE.
Engineering	Pupils must have a Level 2 MP in Engineering or GCSE Technology and Design Grade C and at least a C* in Maths.
Fast track Maths	An A Grade in both Mathematics and Further Mathematics is required.
Modern Languages	Pupils must take all papers at higher level and attain a minimum of a B Grade overall in each skill assessed. An A Grade overall is strongly advised in both GCSE French and Spanish.
Geography	Pupils should have achieved a grade B or above at GCSE. For those who have not studied Geography at GCSE, a grade B or above in an equivalent science subject is essential.
Health & Social Care	Pupils must achieve a MP grade at Level 2, including a grade C or above in GCSE English.
History	Pupils should have achieved a grade B or above at GCSE. For those who have not studied History at GCSE, a grade B or above in English is essential.
ICT – Digital Technology	Pupils must have achieved a B grade in GCSE Digital Technology and achieved a C grade in Mathematics.
Mathematics	Pupils must have achieved a B Grade and undertaken M4 and M8 modules.
Music	Pupils should have achieved a Grade B or higher at GCSE. Pupils who have not studied GCSE Music must have a minimum of Grade 5 in their instrument/voice and Grade 5 theory.
Nutrition and Food Science	Pupils should have attained a minimum of Grade B in GCSE Home Economics Food and Nutrition. Sound literacy skills are required; pupils should have at least a C Grade in GCSE English Language. Also recommended to have gained at least a C Grade in GCSE Biology or GCSE Chemistry.
Physics	Pupils must have achieved a Grade B or above in GCSE Physics (grade AB if Double Award Science was studied, where the Physics component mark will be looked at). It is preferable that GCE Maths is also studied alongside Physics, but not essential.
Physical Education	No need to have studied at GCSE level
Religious Studies	Pupils need to have achieved a grade B at GCSE. For those who have not studied RS at GCSE, a Grade B or above in English is essential.
Sport	No need to have studied GCSE PE. An interest in sport would be advantageous.
Sociology	Sound literacy skills essential. It is strongly recommended that you have GCSE English Language to at least Grade B and minimum C* in GCSE Mathematics.
Agriculture	Sound literacy skills essential.

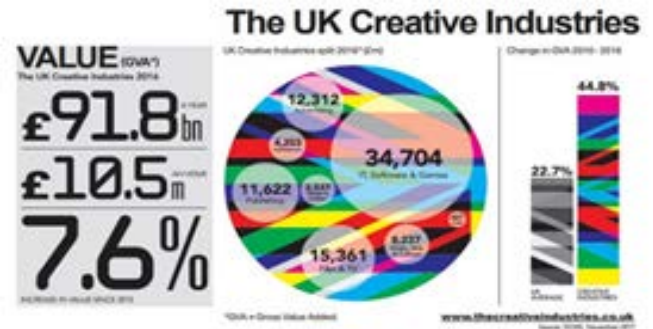
Art and Design

Exam board: CCEA

Studying A-Level Art and Design helps develop key transferable skills and qualities which are highly sought after by employers. These include creativity, problem-solving, resilience, imagination, empathy and innovation. It also promotes:

- independent learning;
- personal development and motivation;
- the ability to find alternative approaches;
- take risks taking in creative pursuits;
- aesthetic and intellectual capacities.

Higher order thinking skills such as researching, analysing and reflecting are fundamental to this qualification. It provides students with opportunities to develop key skills needed for the world of work, Further and Higher Education and provides a pathway to a future career in a creative or cultural industries related field.



Content	Content Summary
AS1: Experimental Portfolio 20% of A-level	Theme based: students explore, experiment develop and record knowledge, understanding skills and ideas
AS 2: Personal Response 20% of A-Level	Theme based: students produce a final outcome/ outcomes.
A2 1: Personal and Critical Investigation 36% of A-Level	Theme based: students research, explore and produce 1000–2000 word written investigation combined with practical development.
A2 2: Thematic Outcome 24% of A-Level	Themed based: students produce a final outcome

Career pathways in Art and Design

Art Critic, Advertising, Architecture, Art teacher, Art Dealer, Art Consultant, Graphic Designer, Set Design, Interior Design, Fine Artist, Product designer, Make-up Artist, Hairdresser, Sculptor, Ceramic Designer, Photographer, Web Design, Fashion Designer, Museum Director, Film and Media Studies, Occupational Therapist, Print-Makers, Landscape Gardener, Freelance Artist.



Image from Degree show

A-level Art allows you more freedom in your artistic decisions. Up until that point you've spent your time learning basic skills and trying a bit of everything. A-level Art and Design allows you to create something different and to express your style more boldly.

I went on to the Belfast School of Art and completed a Foundation Degree in Art and Design as I hadn't decided what I wanted to specialise in yet. This was the perfect decision for me as I ended up studying Jewellery and Silversmithing, which prior to my foundation year I hadn't even considered an option. After my 2nd year I decided I enjoyed the more business side of Art and worked alongside Craft NI for different exhibitions. I ended up living in America for a year as part of the Study USA programme to combine my Art with business modules.

Since graduation I've been working in a specialist jewellers where alongside selling and fixing jewellery, my main job is online promotion through social media. Expanding our customer base through videos and images. In the future I plan to continue to combine design and business, and hopefully use it to travel more. Whatever I end up doing I hope it still involves being creative.

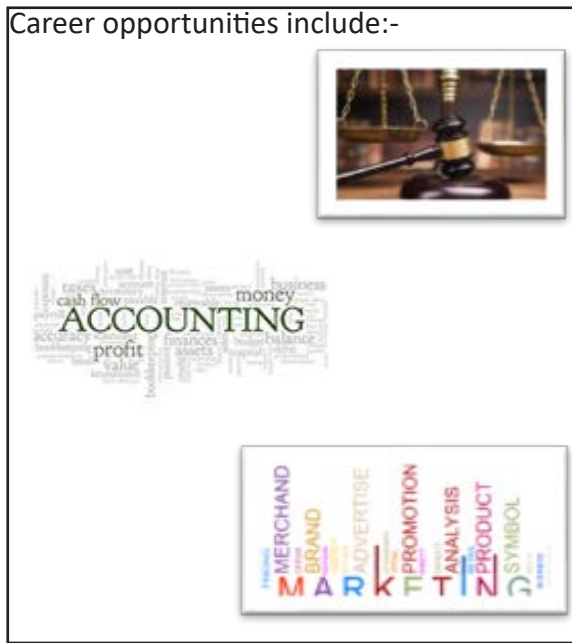
Business Studies A Level

In the AS units, students are introduced to the business world. They will develop an understanding of the importance of quality to businesses, and gain an appreciation of growing a business through marketing activities and E-Business. They also learn about the importance of financial information and its use in decision making.

Students who continue to A2 will explore business planning and the need to manage risk when developing business strategies. They will develop an appreciation of the role of accounting and financial information in making strategic business decisions, and an understanding of the macroeconomic and global framework within which organisations operate. They will also develop an appreciation of the impact of ethics and sustainability on business decision making and organisational culture.

Content	Assessment	Weightings
AS 1: Introduction to Business	External written examination 1 hour 30 minutes Two compulsory structured data responses. (80 Marks)	50% of AS 20% of A Level
AS 2: Growing the Business	External written examination 1 hour 30 minutes Two compulsory structured data responses. (80 Marks)	50% of AS 20% of A Level
A2 1: Strategic decision making	External written examination 2 hours Five compulsory structured data responses (90 Marks)	30% of A level
A2 2: the Competitive Business Environment	External written examination 2 hours Six compulsory structured data responses (90 Marks)	30% of A level

Career opportunities include:-



Students do not need a qualification in GCSE Business Studies in order to study A Level. They should, however, have adequate levels of literacy and numeracy (A*-C Maths and English at GCSE). The examinations consist of two ninety-minute papers at AS featuring data response questions. At A2, there are also two examinations each lasting two hours based featuring a data response question and a report based on an unseen case study.

TOP 5 UNIVERSITIES FOR BUSINESS & MANAGEMENT	BUSINESS DEGREE COURSES AVAILABLE AT QUEENS
St. Andrews Kings College London Warwick Bath Loughborough	International Business with a language Actuarial Science and Risk management Management Studies Marketing Accounting



Past Pupil Profile: Olivia

Choosing Business Studies was one of the best decisions I have ever made. Business Studies really prepared me for University by balancing lots of topics within one larger theme, which is what you'll have to do within a degree.

Business Studies is relevant, you'll be able to actually see what you're learning reflected in real life, which makes it much less boring and easier to understand! I would advise anyone to consider Business Studies; I never thought I would end up with a Management degree and be working for an international company. If I hadn't chosen Business Studies at CHS, I wouldn't be living in Spain – it offers so many opportunities not just at home, but anywhere!

Why Study Chemistry?

Chemistry is the study of substances: what they are made of and how they interact with each other and the role they play in living things. From research in space, to the depths of the oceans, Chemistry helps you understand the world around you and offers many career opportunities.

An A Level in Chemistry allows you to develop a range of generic skills requested by both employers and Universities. For instance, a successful A Level chemist will be an effective problem-solver and be able to communicate efficiently both orally and with the written word. Handling data will be a key part of your work, allowing you to demonstrate information-retrieval skills as well as use of numeracy and ICT. You will build a range of practical skills which require creativity and accuracy as well as developing a firm understanding of health and safety issues.

AS LEVEL

AS 1: Basic concepts in Physical and Inorganic Chemistry
(1 hr 30 min exam- 40% of AS/16% of GCE)

AS 2: Further Physical and Inorganic Chemistry and introduction to Organic Chemistry
(1 hr 30 min exam- 40% of AS/16% of GCE)

AS 3: Practical Chemistry

Practical Booklet A consists of practical tasks carried out in the laboratory
(1 hour 15 mins)

Practical Booklet B consists of testing knowledge of practical techniques, observations and calculations
(1 hour 15 mins)

(20% of AS and 8% of A level)

A 2 LEVEL

A2 1: Further Physical and Organic Chemistry
(2 hr exam- 40% of A2 and 24% of GCE)

A2 2: Analytical, Transition metals, Electrochemistry and Organic Nitrogen Chemistry
(2 hr exam- 40% of A2 and 20% of GCE)

A2 3: Practical Chemistry

Practical booklet A consists of practical tasks in the laboratory
(1 hour 15 mins)

Practical booklet B consists of testing practical techniques, observations and calculations.

(1 hour 15 mins)

(20% of A2 and 12% of A level)

Past Pupil Profile: Callum

What am I studying currently?

I have graduated with a 1st class MEng in Aerospace Engineering at QUB.

Why did I choose Chemistry for A-level?

Throughout junior school and into GCSE I always enjoyed Chemistry, both the practical and theoretical sides. I knew Chemistry would be more challenging at A-Level but at the end of Year 12 I still was unsure exactly what I would do after school, so choosing Chemistry enabled me to keep a lot more doors open. Chemistry is a great subject and has been needed lots of times in my course here at Queens already.



Where have I used my Chemistry Knowledge?

I have found Chemistry to be useful in modules such as Strength of Materials, Thermodynamics and Fluids – molecular structures, electronic configurations and bonding have all been large parts of my modules so far. If you are thinking of taking chemistry for A-Level I would definitely recommend it – if I can do it, so can you.

Career pathway

Chemistry, Environmental Law, Patent Law, Pharmaceuticals, Software design, Space Exploration, Forensic Science, Military Systems, Dentistry, Medicine, Chemical Engineering, Teaching etc.

BTEC Extended Certificate in Engineering

Equivalent to one GCE A Level

The BTEC level 3 National Engineering qualification is a great decision; it will help you build a foundation of knowledge in the following areas from electrical and computer engineering, to environmental and biomedical engineering. An engineering course offers a wide range of career possibilities. The majority of today's engineers will have more than one career during their work life, and this can provide a strong foundation for almost any one of them:

- CAD. Using solid works and a range of essential drawing packages;
- CAM. Develop practical understanding of machine use;
- Mathematics necessary for all areas;
- Practical skills and uses of materials.

This will give you the opportunity to gain specific knowledge, understanding and skills relevant in a future career in many areas of Engineering:

- Electronic and Electrical,
- Manufacturing,
- Mechanical,
- Operations and Maintenance.

The course is covered using a range of mandatory and optional units which will be externally assessed.

Mandatory Units	Guided Learning Hours
1 Engineering Principles	120
2 Delivery of Engineering Processes Safely as a Team	60
3 Engineering Product Design and Manufacture	120
Optional units	
Computer Aided Manufacturing and Planning	20



Past Pupil Profile: Jordan

I completed my A-Levels at Cookstown High School and studied Technology and Design, Information Communication Technology and BTEC Level 3 Engineering. While completing my A-Levels I realised university wasn't going to be for me and decided to search for an engineering apprenticeship instead, following a range of industrial visits to local companies as part of the engineering course. One of these was to Moyola Precision Engineering, Castledawson. CHS really helped and supported me with this decision and gave me the skills I needed to apply for these apprenticeship programmes including preparing me for interviews and aptitude tests. CHS also gave me the skills, that in the end secured me a place in my first choice and one of the best and dedicated apprenticeship programmes about within Moyola.

Since starting my apprenticeship I have learned a range of skills after spending the first 6 months in Moyola's dedicated apprentice area where I learnt a wide range of hand fitting, turning and milling skills which I was first introduced to during my engineering and technology courses in CHS. Following this I then moved out to the shop floor completing customer work on a MAZAK CNC lathe on my way to becoming a skilled mechanical engineer. Without the help of the teachers in CHS, particularly in the Technology and Design department, I would not have realised the potential for me to succeed in my apprenticeship. CHS also helped me to realise what I want to do after completing my apprenticeship with the possibility of becoming a CAD/CAM engineer within Moyola, after completing a module using SolidWorks during my Engineering BTEC.

It is essential that students have completed a BTEC level 2 in Engineering or a GCSE grade C in Maths

English Literature

Exam Board: CCEA

Course Description

A level English Literature is an engaging subject which gives you the opportunity to study a range of texts written by Irish writers, literature from outside the UK and literature in translation. As a subject, it is highly regarded by university courses as it enables students to develop their critical thinking and communication skills, consequently producing students who are discerning readers and are capable of independent, critical research.

English Literature is not merely for those hoping to study the discipline at degree level. The scriptwriter Maz Cherry, newsreader Donna Traynor, publicist Max Clifford, songwriter Linda Perry, lawyer Robert Kardashian, and actress Jennifer Aniston, all have qualifications in English Literature.

As one of the main subjects of the Arts and Humanities family, a qualification in GCE English Literature could lead you to a degree in Arts, Humanities and Communication courses but could equally prepare the way for careers in journalism, the media, law or even enable you to progress directly into employment.

English Literature has a successful history at Cookstown High School. We enjoy excellent GCSE and A level grades, which can greatly assist students with accessing their chosen universities.

If you enjoy reading and analysing topics in a critical way then A-level English Literature is certainly an option which you should consider.

Content Assessment Weightings :

AS 1: The Study of Poetry 1900–Present and Drama 1900–Present

External written examination - 2 hours

Students answer two questions, one from Section A and one from Section B. Section A is open book. Section B is closed book. 60% of AS 24% of A level

AS 2: The Study of Prose Pre 1900

External written examination - 1 hour

Students answer one question. Closed book. 40% of AS 16% of A level

A2 1: Shakespearean Genres

External written examination - 1 hour 30 mins

Students answer one question. Closed book 20% of A level

A2 2: The Study of Poetry Pre 1900 and Unseen Poetry

External written examination - 2 hours

Students answer two questions, one from Section A and the question set in Section B. Closed book. 20% of A level

A2 3: Internal Assessment Internal assessment

Students complete a 2500 word essay. 20% of A level



Past Pupil Profile: Grace

“Studying English Literature at A-Level has supported me in developing a range of skills with universal importance.

The chosen texts studied at A-Level have enabled me to strengthen my analytical skills and interpret meanings on a wider level. In addition to this, it is my belief that English Literature can add further dimensions to a person’s life and how they view world affairs, and therefore significantly shape an individual as they make their way into adulthood.

My use of effective language and my literary flair have been of significant use to me during my last year of secondary education, in particular when applying to universities and expressing myself coherently during interviews.

English Literature can provide an individual with important life skills and a refreshingly creative outlook, which helps them to become a well-rounded person.”

Geography

Exam Board: CCEA

Course Description

The CCEA GCE Geography specification gives students a broad knowledge and understanding of the processes and challenges facing our world.

At AS level students investigate physical and human geography themes. They explore the processes that shape weather, the relationships between population and resources or how to protect the countryside. They undertake fieldwork and develop their ability to gather, evaluate and present information.

Students who continue to A2 can explore plate tectonic and dynamic coastal environments, tourism and sustainable settlements. They also develop decision-making skills and apply these in a real world scenario.

The Geography Department at CHS is innovative, engaging and aims to challenge students to think about the world around us. The department uses Magilligan Field Centre to aid the development of fieldwork techniques and skills. Geographical enquiry is an essential component of the A-level course, and our classes complete fieldwork on coastal processes and sand dune ecosystems as part of their AS and A2 courses.

Geography is a subject that helps young people into work. Many employers prize the knowledge and transferable skills that studying Geography can provide and Geography in higher education is thriving.

AS 1:Physical Geography	Rivers, Ecosystems and Weather & Climate 1 hour 15 minute exam (16%)
AS 2:Human Geography	Population, Settlement and Development 1 hour 15 minute exam (16%)
AS 3:Fieldwork Skills & Techniques in Geography	Collection of data through fieldwork, using statistical and graphical techniques and applying geographical skills. 1 hour (8%)
A2 1:Physical Processes, Landforms and Management	Plate tectonics, ecosystems, coasts and climate change (study two out of the four options) 1 hour 30 minute exam (24%)
A2 2: Processes and Issues in Human Geography	Cultural geography, sustainable settlements, ethnic diversity and tourism (study two out of four options). 1 hour 30 minute exam (24%)
A2 3: Decision Making in Geography	Skills and techniques developed throughout the course are assessed using a case study set within a real world context.1 hour 30 minute exam (12%)

Past Pupil Profile: Olivia



I chose Geography as an A-Level subject due to how dynamic it is. I was unsure of what I wanted to study at university when picking my subjects so by choosing Geography I was able to expand my options of future careers. I also

really enjoyed it at GCSE and wanted to pick subjects that I knew would make the transition to 6th form less stressful. I went onto study at Ulster University where I achieved a 1st Class BSc (Hons) degree in Geography with Education. The course was engaging and I was able to travel to new places, like Cyprus and Barcelona on field trips. I gained a wide variety of useful skills that include, improved communication, ICT and GIS mapping. These skills can be applied to almost every career field which helped to broaden my options for post university life.

Career Pathways

Popular careers for students with Geography qualifications include surveying, conservation, sustainability, town or transport planning, waste and water management, environmental planning, tourism and climate issues. The army, government, research organisations, law and business world also recognise the practical research skills that geographers develop. Students also study Chemistry, Pharmacy, Veterinary Medicine, Nursing, Sports Science, Chemical Engineering and Dentistry.

Geography is a living, breathing subject, constantly adapting to change. It is dynamic and relevant to many of the world's current issues which geographers will help to solve.

Health and Social Care

Awarding Body: Pearson

Course Structures

National Extended Certificate qualification = 1 A Level grade over 2 years,

National Diploma qualification = 2 A Level grades over 2 years

National Extended Certificate = 3 mandatory and 1 optional unit = A total of 4 units over two years- Exam 58%

National Diploma = 6 mandatory and 2 optional units = A total of 8 units over two years -Exam 46%

What will I learn?	
<p>Year 1</p> <p>Unit 1-Human Lifespan Development (Exam)</p> <p>Unit 2- Working in Health and Social Care (Exam)</p> <p>Unit 7- Principles of Safe Practice in Health and Social Care (Coursework)</p> <p>Unit 19- Nutritional Health (Coursework)</p>	<p>Year 2</p> <p>Unit 4-Enquiries into Current research in Health and Social Care (Exam)</p> <p>Unit 5- Meeting individual care and Support Needs (Coursework)</p> <p>Unit 8- Promoting Public Health (Coursework)</p> <p>Unit 10- Sociological Perspectives (Coursework)</p>

Career Pathways

Nursing, Social Work, Teaching, Child Care, Psychology, Nursery Education, Counselling, Charity work, Youth & Community Work, Welfare & Social Services, Administration in Health & Social Services and Research and Health Promotion.



What can BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Health and Social care do for you?

These courses will appeal to students who,

Enjoy studying a subject that is relevant to their own lives and experience;

Want the opportunity to carry out practical work as well as classwork;

Enjoy discovering about themselves in practical situations;

Want to find out more about the subject through personal investigation;

Are interested in developing an understanding of caring organisations and the clients they serve;

Want to study a course that is active and enjoyable;

Want to move onto a related career or higher education course;

Want to move onto a related career or higher education course.



Past Pupil Profile: Leah

My name is Leah and I studied Double Award Health and Social Care. I really enjoyed this subject as it helped me to develop my organisational, communication and research skills by participating in class presentations, health promotion campaigns etc. I also gained knowledge and understanding of the various health and social care sectors which helped me gain entry onto the Nursing degree in Queens University Belfast.

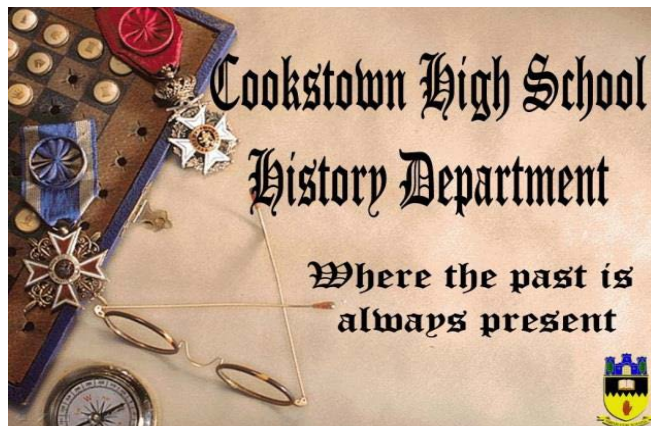
History

Exam Board: CCEA

The study of History is about more than simply memorising dates and the deeds of famous figures. History is a chronicle of human behaviour - a real-life drama full of villains and heroes! It examines the circumstances that moved its players to transform people and places and it holds the answers to how and why our lives are fashioned the way they are today.

Through studying this course, students will explore key events that have helped shape today's institutions, governments and societies. The course guides students towards becoming critical and reflective thinkers who are able to communicate effectively and make reasoned judgments based on evidence. They will also finish the course with a strong set of transferable analytical and written skills which are very appealing to a wide range of employers.

The History Department at CHS is a dynamic learning environment, offering students the opportunity to participate in a two-day visit to Dublin. Through this real life investigation, students are able to bring their studies to life as they visit the sights and attractions that feature in the Partition Of Ireland Module. Students also attend annual conferences on their different modules of study and these events are an opportunity to engage with experts in the various fields of History as well as in examination techniques.



Unit	Topic	Assessment	% Of A Level
AS1: Historical Investigations and Interpretations	Germany, 1918-1945	External written examination 1 hour 30 mins	20% of A Level
AS 2: Historical Conflict And Change	Conflict and Change in Russia, 1914-1941	External written examination 1 hour 30 mins	20% of A Level
A2 1: Change Over Time	Clash of Ideologies in Europe, 1900-2000	External written examination 1 hour 15 mins	20% of A Level
A2 2: Historical Investigations and Interpretations	Partition of Ireland, 1900-1925	External written examination 2 hours 30 mins	40% of A Level

Career Opportunities

The study of History is not restrictive – in fact, it is quite the opposite! There are historians in a wide range of careers including:

- Politics
- The Civil Service
- Journalism
- Law
- Accountancy
- Bank
- Army & Police
- Board of Directors of major Companies
- Broadcasting
- Publishers
- Teaching
- Museum Curator
- Heritage Management
- Archivist
- Archeology

Past Pupil Profile

Zoe Seymour

I thoroughly enjoyed studying History at school and the broad range of areas we were able to cover, such as Russian History. This was an area in which I continued to broaden my knowledge during the course of my undergraduate degree in History and Philosophy at QUB. I am now currently studying an MA in Social Work at the University of Manchester alongside working with SEFF as a Welfare Officer, where I support and assist those applying to the 'Troubles Pension Scheme'.

In both my work and my studies, I constantly find myself using the skills that I was able to develop during my time studying History. These include the ability to pay attention to detail, to critically analyse and reflect, as well as my ability to communicate effectively. This shows how many transferrable skills studying History offers, and how many doors it can open for your future career.



Home Economics: Nutrition & Food Science

Exam board: CCEA

Course Description

Nutrition is a fast-moving discipline that focuses on understanding the role of diet in maintaining a healthy human body and preventing disease. A genuine interest in nutrition, science, social and consumer issues and an enthusiasm for learning will help you in this course.

AS LEVEL

- AS 1: Principles of Nutrition (1 hour 30 minute exam – 50% of AS/20% of GCE)
Micro and macro-nutrients and other dietary constituents.
Nutritional requirements and current dietary considerations across the life span.
- AS 2: Diet, Lifestyle & Health (1 hour 30 minute exam - 50% of AS/20% of GCE)
Current research in relation to diet, lifestyle and health.

A2 LEVEL

- A2 1: Option 1: Food Security & Sustainability
(2 hour 30 minute exam – 30% of GCE)
Consumer behaviour in relation to food purchasing decisions and a consideration of the issues and implications of consumer food choice; OR
- A2 1: Option 2: Food Safety and Quality (2 hour 30 minute exam – 30% of GCE)
Securing a safe food supply from the primary producer to the consumer.
- A2 2: Research Project (30% of the GCE)
Students choose their own topic to research. It must be related to AS or A2 Nutrition and Food Science.



Career Pathways

- Environmental health
- Consumer studies
- Food management and marketing
- Food production
- Food technology
- Food science
- Food management and supply
- Hotel and catering
- Leisure and tourism
- Health promotion
- Human nutrition
- Dietetics
- Social work
- Hospitality
- Nursing
- Food design and nutrition

Past Pupil profile: Gillian, dietician

After A-Levels at Cookstown High, I went to Queen Margaret's University, Edinburgh to study a four year Dietetics BSc (Hons) Degree. This course focused on the clinical management of disease and prevention of nutrition-related disorders in both acute and community settings, incorporating 28 weeks of vital practical experience in managing diseases through dietary changes. I also completed an individual research based honours project. After graduating I worked in a rotational post as a Clinical Dietician in a hospital setting before focusing on weight management/bariatric surgery. I currently work as a Paediatric Dietician in Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Belfast, specialising in renal disease, critical care, food allergies, and ketogenic diets which I find very rewarding.



A-level Home Economics gave me a great introduction of dietary vitamins and minerals and their role within the diet, as well as developing my knowledge of the functions of protein, fat and carbohydrates throughout the lifespan. It covered clinical diseases related to diet and lifestyle, including diabetes and obesity, a huge part of my clinical role as a Dietician. Also completing 'A' level coursework on a research project gave me the opportunity to use the Harvard referencing system which was of great benefit at University.



ICT - Digital Technology

Course Description :

Digital Technology is an exciting and challenging course in which you will get the opportunity to develop in depth knowledge of approaches to software development and learn the fundamentals of dealing with digital technologies in the AS year. Your A2 year builds on the AS and includes study of networks, databases, application and implication of information systems. The A2 year also provides the opportunity for completion of a database development project based on a business situation. Software skills are developed through the production of a comprehensive piece of coursework at A2 level which forms 20% of the complete course and forms an essential component of a high A-Level grade.



The coursework module will be completed by following structured teacher-produced guidance materials along with support from highly-skilled teaching staff. The theory involved in the course includes the topics of computer hardware, software and networks. Through the theory an insight is gained into how software solutions are developed and the implications.

In the past few years, ICT has been one of the most successful subjects at A-Level in Cookstown High School. If you have an interest in modern technology and a willingness to work hard both in and outside school hours, A-Level Digital Technology is a qualification that will be recognised by both employers and universities.

AS 1	Approaches to System Development	1hr 30min Exam (20% of A-Level)
AS 2	Fundamentals of Digital Technology	1hr 30min Exam (20% of A-Level)
A2 1	Information Systems	2hr 30min Exam (40% of A-Level)
A2 "	Application Development	Coursework (20% of A-Level)

Career Pathways:

Take a step towards a career in Computing, Programming, Web Design, Electronic Engineering, Game Development or Teaching. Or simply gain skills and knowledge to support your study in any other field.

"The number of computing jobs in Northern Ireland has continued to grow offering secure, rewarding and stimulating roles for students well into the future." *Bring IT on*



Past Pupil Profile: Keith

Achieved an A in A-Level ICT in 2012.

Graduated with an MEng (1st class honors) in Computer Games Development from Queen's University Belfast in 2017. Working at Rare Ltd making games for Xbox and PC as a Software Engineer. Currently working on Sea of Thieves. Worked on a wide variety of systems such as water simulation, particle simulation, and audio, to name a few. I mainly spend my time writing C++ and HLSL code to make the game run faster in one way or another. Loved games since I played Crash Bandicoot 2 when I was 4/5. Decided I wanted to make games when I was 15. It all started with the google search, "How are games made" and the rest is history.

BTEC Information Technology (Applied IT)

Level 3—Pearson BTEC Level 3 Extended Certificate

1 A-Level Equivalent

What does BTEC 'Information Technology' include?

A BTEC Extended Certificate is a 2-year vocational course that would normally be studied alongside a range of traditional A level programs or BTEC Subsidiary Diplomas. The full Extended Certificate is equivalent to one A Level, and carries a maximum of 120 UCAS points.

The BTEC Certificate, awarded after successful completion of one year, is equivalent to an AS Level and carries a maximum of 60 UCAS points.

In the BTEC Extended Certificate in Information Technology you will study 4 units, including 2 examinations and 2 coursework assignments.

Breakdown	Units of Study
Mandatory Units: Unit 1— Information Technology Systems (2hr Exam 120GLH) Unit 2—Creating systems to Manage Information (10hr practical computer based examination 90GLH) Unit 3—Using Social Media (Coursework assignments 90GLH)	
Optional Units (1 selected by the school):	- Data Modelling (Spreadsheet assignments 60GLH) - Website Development (60GLH)
33% Theory Exam + 25% Practical Exam + 42% Coursework Assignments	

How will I learn?

Assignments will be based on realistic workplace situations. You will have two exams, one of which is computer based and the other is a two hour theory exam, which is worth a third of the full course.

How will I be assessed?

Projects are submitted for marking on a regular basis throughout the course. They are assessed internally by your teachers and then moderated by the examination board. The BTEC Certificate, awarded after successful completion of one year, is equivalent to an AS Level and carries a maximum of 60 UCAS points. If students successfully pass the first year of the course, they will be awarded the BTEC Certificate and a maximum of 60 UCAS points. Successful completion of year two will reward students with the full BTEC Extended Certificate and a maximum of 120 UCAS points.



Is a BTEC Extended Certificate in Information Technology suitable for me?

The award is suitable for students who enjoy computers and ICT but do not want to specialise totally in one area. This course does provide a practical “hands-on” approach to modern day Information Technology. You will need to have (or develop) strong organisational and time management skills, as well as being able to express yourself clearly in written reports. This course will suited to those who are willing to dedicate time to learning new skills and generating detailed reports based on their work.

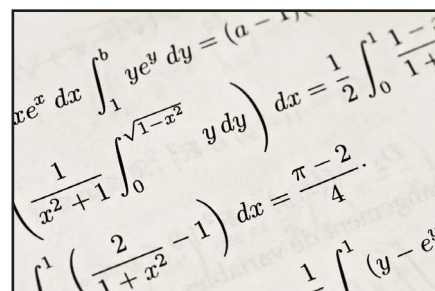
BTEC Information Technology is not recognised by Queens University Belfast for entry into their Computer Science courses.

Mathematics and Further Mathematics

Exam Board: CCEA

Course Description

A-level Mathematics is a subject which will allow access to numerous career paths and job opportunities. It is one of the most popular subjects chosen in N Ireland at A-level. Many of our past A level students have progressed to study, for example, Dentistry, Accountancy, Actuarial Science and Engineering.



If you have studied Further Mathematics at GCSE you will already have an idea of the type of topics to be covered. (This subject is only a requirement for fast-track Maths.) You will be given notes and worked examples of problems to guide you through the specification.

We aim to build on your range of mathematical skills and techniques and use them in more difficult unstructured problems. Studying Mathematics also develops life-essential skills in problem-solving, logic and reasoning – skills which any future employer will be keen to find.

For those who want to further deepen their understanding of Mathematics, we offer a ‘fast-track’ level which is completed in one year, followed (currently) by the study of Further Mathematics in Year 14. This is of benefit to those wishing to study Engineering at level three, as well as those wanting to continue their studies in Mathematics itself.

AS	Pure	Algebra & Functions Sequences & Series Exam 1hr 45 24% of A level
	Applied	Mechanics - Forces, Friction & Moments Statistics –Sampling, Probability, Statistical Distributions Exam 1 hr 15 16% of A Level
A2	Pure	Algebra, Functions, Sequence, Series, Trigonometry, Differentiation, Integration Exam 2hr 30 3 6% of A level
	Applied	Mechanics – Kinematics & Moments Statistics - Distributions & Hypothesis Testing Exam 1 hr 30 24% of A Level

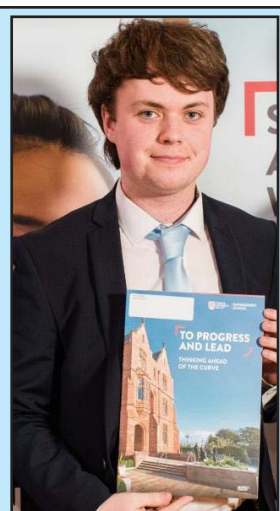
Career Pathways...

Finance, Business, IT, Teaching, Statistics, Medicine, Dentistry, Engineering, Accountancy, Computer Programming, Actuary

Course Outline

The study of Mathematics covers the main areas of Pure Mathematics, Mechanics and Statistics. There are two modules at AS which contribute to 40% of your final grade. Topics introduced at AS are continued and further developed at A2.

“Maths – the only place where someone can buy 46 watermelons, and no one asks why.”
It’s one of those subjects that has a right way of doing things - being able to learn and understand a topic and then knowing that there is a correct way to answer a question. I also love the challenge behind it – there’s no greater feeling than spending ages on a difficult integral and finally getting it!
So, because of this I decided to take Maths and Further Maths for A level and this is when my love for Maths really kicked off.



I had always intended to study Maths at University but before I submitted my UCAS I found out about how Queen’s had a degree program in Actuarial Science. The degree focuses primarily on statistics but also requires a lot of the skills obtained from Pure Maths and whilst the teaching for these is very good – this would have been virtually impossible without having done A level Maths. I’m currently half way through my placement year with an actuarial company in Belfast called Kerr Henderson. I use my Maths skills every day at work and so am very happy with the degree choice that I made.
I highly advise people to take Maths at A level because it can open so many doors and lead down so many different paths. Because it requires so many skills – Maths is so highly sought after by both Universities and employers.

Modern Languages

What options are available after GCSE?

Following successful completion of GCSE, you can continue further study of French or Spanish at A-level or higher education. Many career pathways exist, and a language can be combined with a Science, History, Politics, Business Studies, Economics, Accountancy and Law.



So, if the world of Finance, Consultancy, ICT, Business and Leisure, Journalism or Teaching is of interest to you, then a language can make a difference to your career opportunities in a vast array of sectors.

Three good reasons to choose a language:

1. Enjoy developing your understanding of the language and culture in a variety of contexts and genres;
2. Practise using confidently, clearly and effectively the language; and
3. Acquire knowledge and advanced skills that will help you stand out and progress to further study, higher education or employment.



Brief summary of the course

A-level French or Spanish will give you a fascinating insight into the language and culture. Whilst developing the ability to communicate confidently and effectively in both speaking and writing, you will also learn about the contemporary society, cultural background and heritage of countries and communities where the language is spoken.

What you will be studying (course content structure / modules / assessments)

At AS level, there are 3 units of assessment.

Unit 1 Speaking with a Presentation (3 mins) and a conversation (8 mins)

Unit 2 Listening, Reading, Translation and Use of Language

Unit 3 An essay in TL on a set literary text (5 paragraphs)

At A2 level, there are also 3 units.

Unit 1 Speaking with a Discussion (6 mins) and conversation (9 mins)

Unit 2 Listening, Reading and Prose

Unit 3 An essay in TL on a set literary text (5 paragraphs)

What career can I pursue with a language at A Level?

The AS course can be taken on its own without progressing to the full A-Level qualification; however, it would be beneficial to complete the A2 units and obtain a full A Level qualification. At Queen's University Belfast, the study of a language at degree level can be combined with a wide range of subjects. You can study a language with Science, History, Politics, Business Studies, Economics, Accounting, Law and International Studies



AS LEVEL
2021
SPANISH
100.0%
of pupils achieved
an A
in Cookstown High



Modern Languages (continued)



Our students' past experiences

Our students have pursued various opportunities and careers to-date. Some students enjoyed studying in Queen's University Belfast, Heriot Watt in Edinburgh, Peterhouse in Cambridge. Their placement year abroad has taken our students to Colombia, Chile, Spain and France. They have secured graduate positions at home, with The Irish Times in London, in various consultancy firms in London and as far afield as Brussels with the European Commission. Most recently, one student joined the graduate recruitment programme with Imperial Tobacco Brand in Madrid.



What do our Students think of the course?

Past Pupil Profile: James

Bonjour à tous! My name is James Marks and I am currently studying Common and Civil Law with French, or simply put: Law with French at Queens University Belfast. For A Level I studied English Literature, Music and French. What really enticed me about having a second language were the prospects of employability. Having a language to GCSE can set you apart from other candidates when applying for jobs, as it shows an understanding of another language and culture and allows you to communicate effectively. Thanks to my studies in French, I have more opportunities than many of my peers in terms of careers, I'm more employable and highly sought after for my skillset, and all the while I'm doing something I love and feel passionate about! French is a beautiful language. You are in the privileged position of having a department of committed, knowledgeable and thorough teachers. My advice? Use their knowledge... they really do know best!



Past Pupil Profile: Jade

My name is Jade, and I currently study French and Spanish at Queen's University Belfast. Languages were always my favourite subjects at Cookstown High School, thanks to the highly talented staff in the MFL department, who made every lesson incredibly engaging and enjoyable.

Choosing to study languages at university is the best decision that I have ever made as it has allowed me to gain an invaluable skillset that can be applied to any career pathway. However, the highlight of my university career has undoubtedly been my year abroad where I spent a year living in... *wait for it*... MALLORCA! I absolutely loved working as an English Language Assistant in a primary school where I helped the kids to improve their English through fun games and activities. Also, with a flexible work schedule of only three days per week, I had the opportunity to spend the rest of my time travelling and exploring the sunny Spanish island!

So, if you're wondering if you should study a language, my advice would be "¡hazlo!" "fais-le!"

"One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way." -Frank Smith



Music

Exam Board: CCEA

Course Summary

Music at A-level aims to provide students with a breadth of learning experiences which will develop creativity, deepen knowledge and foster cultural development.

The course has three units in AS and again in A2, focusing on Listening and Appraising, Composing and Performing.

It is not necessary to have studied Music at GCSE level, but a pass in Grade 5 theory is recommended. Musicians should have completed a minimum of Grade 4 in practical for AS and Grade 6 for A2.

Students are encouraged to go to concerts, opera, ballet or any other musical event which will expand their experience.

Music is a useful subject for accessing any course at University, including science-based subjects such as Medicine and Dentistry. Some of the transferable skills from Music, such as self-discipline, fine-motor skills and team-work particularly suit these courses.



Unit Outlines

AS 1: Performing

AS 2: Composing

AS 3: Responding to Music

Test of Aural Perception (1 hour)

Written examination (2 hours)

A2 1: Performing

A2 2: Composing

A2 3: Responding to Music

Test of Aural Perception (1 hour 15 minutes)

Written examination (2 hours)

Career Pathways in Music

- Teaching
- Recording and producing
- Radio/TV broadcasting
- Sound production/engineering
- Music Therapy
- Music Journalist
- Instrument technician (piano tuner, instrument maker/repairer)
- Performer
- Composer (film/TV music, jingles, songwriter, computer games etc.)

Past Pupil Profile: Leah

In 6th Form, I studied Music, History and Religious Studies. I have decided to keep Music on as I want to teach Music in a secondary school in the future. I play violin, viola and I am currently studying for my ATCL in violin performance.

I enjoy playing in church and improvising along with other musicians. In AS and A2 Music we encounter a wide range of composers and styles of Music as well as composition and performance tasks. These have helped to prepare me for the next steps I want to take. I feel that I have benefitted from studying my favourite subject to this level and it has shown me that I want to follow it through at university, to become a secondary Music teacher in the future.



Extra-Curricular Music

String Group, Senior Girls' Choir, Chamber Choir, Concert Band, School Productions, solo opportunities throughout the school year as various events in school and the local community.

Musical Programme for Prize Day, Remembrance Commemoration, Annual Carol Service, Easter Service, Spring Concert, KS3 Celebration of Achievement.

Rehearsals are scheduled before school, during break-times and after school.

BTEC Sport

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Sport

What is the BTEC National Extended Certificate in Sport?

A BTEC Extended Certificate is a two year vocational course that would normally be studied alongside a range of traditional A level programmes or BTEC Subsidiary Diplomas. The Extended Certificate is the equivalent to one A Level, and carries a maximum of 120 UCAS points.

In the BTEC Extended Certificate in Sport you will study four units over two years covering a range of topics. These will be:

Year 1: Anatomy and Physiology Fitness Training and Programming

Year 2: Professional Development in the Sports Industry, Applications of Fitness Testing

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed through a wide variety of assessment methods.

Two units will be externally assessed, including one written exam and one pre-release task, which will be set and marked by Pearson.

The remaining units will be internally assessed using methods such as written reports, presentations and log books.

Is a BTEC in Sport suitable for me?

The award is suitable for students who enjoy sport but do not want to specialise in one area. You will need to have an enthusiasm for sport, both theoretically and practically.

Will universities accept this course?

Lots of universities accept BTEC Sport as an direct equivalent to A levels.

Last year, BTEC Sport graduates gained places in :

- Queens University to study Finance
- Loughborough University to study Economics
- Stranmillis College for Teaching
- Magee College for Nursing

How much practical sport will I complete?

It involves sports and practical activities to help with the understanding of the theory.

YOU ARE NOT ASSESSED ON YOUR PRACTICAL ABILITY OR PERFORMANCES.

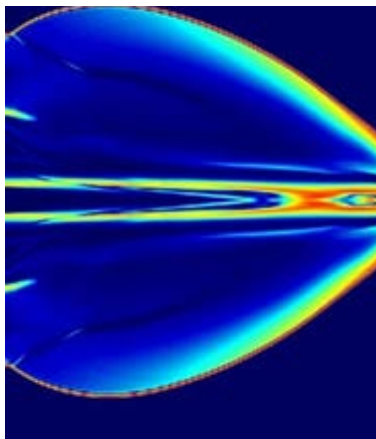
Results

For the last two years we have achieved 100% Distinction and Distinction* grades for all our students. This is the equivalent of B/A in A-level subjects.



Physics

Exam Board: CCEA



Studying Physics at Cookstown High School is the next step towards a wide variety of rewarding careers. Physics provides a broad training in skills valued by all employers: an ability to grasp concepts quickly, a determination to find coherent answers, along with problem solving, analytical, mathematical and IT skills.

Even if you decide that you do not want to work in any physics-related industry, the skills and knowledge that you develop by studying Physics will help you in whichever area you choose. Studying Physics is a good way of keeping your options open.



CCEA Physics - AS LEVEL

- AS 1: Forces, Energy and Electricity
(1 hr 45 min exam - 40% of AS / 16% of GCE)
- AS 2: Waves, Photons and Astronomy
(1 hr 45 min exam - 40% of AS / 16% of GCE)
- AS 3: Practical Techniques and Data Analysis
Students complete an externally assessed practical examination. This involves manipulating equipment to gather results in four 15min practical investigations.
(1 hr exam)
Students complete a written examination requiring the analysis of given results.
(1 hr exam)
(2 × 1 hr exams - 20% of AS / 8% of GCE)

CCEA Physics - A LEVEL

- A2 1: Deformation of Solids, Thermal Physics, Circular Motion, Oscillations and Atomic & Nuclear Physics
(2 hr exam - 40% of A2 / 24% of GCE)
- A2 2: Fields, Capacitors and Particle Physics
(2 hr exam - 40% of A2 / 24% of GCE)
- A2 3: Practical Techniques and Data Analysis
Students complete an externally assessed practical examination. This involves manipulating equipment to gather results in two 30min practical investigations.
(1 hr exam)
Students complete a written examination requiring the analysis of given results.
(1 hr exam)
(2 × 1 hr exams - 20% of A2 / 12% of GCE)



Past Pupil Profile: Courtney

A-level Physics was enjoyable with a wide range of topics to keep you interested. Real life applications and everyday scenarios made Physics easier to understand. Also, the variety of practicals that were undertaken were a nice break from the theory.

Mathematical skills from Physics like rearranging equations are important. Also, skills such as time management from practicals have been applicable as you can only spend a limited time with patients. No doubt I will keep using knowledge and skills from Physics throughout my degree and future career.

Career options:

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| - Medicine | - Energy production | - Technology | - Computing |
| - Medical technology | - Education | - Food science | - Software design |
| - Research | - Scientific journalism | - Engineering | - Nanotechnology |
| - Dentistry | - Renewable energy | - Imaging | - Aerospace |
| - Veterinary | - Meteorology | - Patent Law | - Physicist |

Technology and Design

Exam board: CCEA

Content	Assessment	Weightings
AS 1: Compulsory: Design and Materials Product Design	One external written examination	50% of AS 20% of A level
AS 2: Coursework: Product Development	Students complete one task, producing a practical outcome with a design folder	50% of AS 20% of A level
A2 1: Product Design	External written examination 2 hours	30% of A level
A2 2: Coursework: Product - design and Manufacture	Students complete one task, producing a practical outcome with a design folder.	30% of A level



Past Pupil Profile: Jordan

Queens University course: Aerospace Engineering

Design & Technology at A-level was a great practical subject, that broadened my understanding of materials, manufacturing and design, it allowed me to gain hands on skills that you simply do not gain from other subjects. The A2 coursework was a lot of work, but work that prepared me for university projects, such as aircraft design, wing spar design & build project and a trebuchet project.

It was great to be able to start with a blank canvas, and from that develop ideas and concepts. This creative thought and practical design has helped me develop immensely as a designer.

Being able to look at form and function of products to understand the compromises made to achieve an aesthetically pleasing product that could be manufactured and used with ease. Writing, presentation, CAD and time management skills that I have gained from A level Technology and Design have helped me extensively in my Degree so far.

I would highly recommend this subject to anyone wanting to go down the engineering or design route. Like anything you get out what you put in. So if you try your best, you can be sure that this subject will be a very good stepping stone to a bright future in engineering or the like.



Collaborative Courses with Holy Trinity College



Agriculture

BTEC National

Equivalent to one A' Level

Exam Board: Pearson

Course description: Four units of which three are mandatory and one is external. Mandatory content (83%). External assessment (33%).

This qualification offers an engaging programme to support learners who want to pursue a career in the agriculture sector. It is intended as a Tech Level qualification. This size of qualification allows learners to study related and complementary qualifications alongside it, without duplication of content. The qualification can prepare learners for a range of apprenticeships in the agriculture sector, or direct entry to roles such as trainee agricultural technician or general farm worker. When taken alongside further Level 3 qualifications, it supports progression to a range of higher education courses in agriculture or agricultural sciences.

Unit	Summary of Content	GLH	Type	How Assessed
1	Professional Working Responsibilities	120	Mandatory	External
28	Applied Agriculture Farming Practice	120	Mandatory and Synoptic	Internal
4	Work Experience in the Land-based Sectors	60	Mandatory	Internal
5	Estate Skills	60	Optional	Internal
8	Land-based Machinery Operations	60	Optional	Internal

Career pathway:

Farm Owners/Managers, Consultants/Technical Advisors, Teachers/Lecturers, Journalists, Researchers, Farm Liaison Representatives.

Sociology

Equivalent to one A' Level

Exam Board: AQA



Entrance Requirements:

Minimum of Grade B in English language or literature

Minimum of C* in GCSE Maths

Course description:

A Level Sociology is a really interesting subject, through which you will learn lots of surprising things about the society we live in. For example, why is it easier for children of wealthy people to pass their exams? Is it because they are more intelligent? NO! Why are most primary school head teachers men, when there are hardly any male teachers in primary schools? Why is it that a song you dislike when you first hear it becomes your favourite song two weeks later? Why do women get paid much less than men for the same type of work? Why do we usually obey complete strangers when they tell us what to do? Why do some people get locked up in jail while others get away with all sorts of badness? Why is it ok for America to kill thousands of people in other countries? These are just some of the tricky issues we deal with in the weird and wonderful world of Sociology! So, if you are a person who does a bit of thinking and you want to know what really goes on in your world, this is the subject for you. Sociology is an extremely successful subject in Holy Trinity College. We enjoy very high GCSE and A' Level grades, which can greatly assist students to get into University. If you are a thinking person, who tries to take a critical look behind the things you see and hear, then Sociology can open your eyes for you in an enjoyable and very useful way. It could be your passport to a great career.

AS Level Sociology (1 year)

	Unit	Assessment
AS1	Education with Methods in Context: Education. Methods in Context. Research Methods	1½ hour examination In May of Year 13 - 50% AS Level
AS2	Research Methods and Topics in Sociology: Research Methods. Families and Households	1½ hour examination in May of Year 13 - 50% AS Level

A2 Level Sociology (2 years)

	Unit	Assessment
AS1	Education with Theory and Methods: Education. Methods in Context. Theory and Methods.	2 hour examination In May/ June of Year 14 - 33.3% A Level
AS2	Topics in Sociology: Families and Households. Plus 1 option from Beliefs in Society. Global Development. The Media. Stratification and Differentiation	2 hour examination in May/June of Year 14 - 33.3% AS Level
A2 3	Crime and Deviance with Theory and Methods: Crime and Deviance. Theory and Methods	2 hour examination in May/June of Year 14 - 33.3% AS Level

*Performance in AS Sociology does not contribute to A Level grade

Career pathway: Social Work, Nursing, Law, Policing, Journalism, Media Presenting, Personnel and Teaching.







Excellence - Opportunity - Support

www.cookstownhighschool.org