



**LOUGHBOROUGH**  
Amherst School



## Sixth Form

Option Choices 2022-2024



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# Introduction to Sixth Form

## Introduction to the Sixth Form from the Head

Welcome to Amherst Sixth Form. You are joining a uniquely friendly and close-knit community, where a stress on academic ambition goes hand-in-hand with an emphasis on working together as leaders of the School community and discovering new interests and talents.

Our Sixth Formers enjoy the best of both worlds, with a small friendly community but with access to an impressively wide range of A Levels across STEM subjects, humanities, the arts, and the social sciences.

All the subjects offered here at GSE are also available at A Level and you can also choose from Drama, Politics, Economics, Classics, Latin, Classical Greek, Design and Technology, Music Technology, German and Psychology.

Our Sixth Form enjoys some of the best 'value added' (that is, improvement between original predicted grades and final achieved grades) in the Midlands, and most of our graduates go on to highly sought-after degree courses at Russell and 1994 Group universities. Our UCAS support is second to none, and we also have a fantastic track record of helping our most academically ambitious students achieve places at Oxford and Cambridge. Whatever your further education ambitions, you can receive one-on-one advice and support with personal statements, references and interview and test preparation from members of staff with the experience to best help you. In addition, we have recently appointed a new specialist careers advisor, and are constantly expanding our provision in this area.

You are supported throughout your studies by our occasional workshops and by our unique Minerva learning culture, that aims to help you develop a powerful toolkit of work and emotional skills that will give you the edge in life beyond the Sixth Form.

The minimum entry requirement for our Sixth Form is five GCSE at Grade 5, but individual A Level subjects can carry a higher entrance requirement (such as a minimum of Grade 6 for languages or sciences). For details of the particular requirements for your choice of A Levels, please talk with **Mr Lin** (Assistant Head Academic / [x.lin@lsf.org](mailto:x.lin@lsf.org)) or **Mr Vastenavondt** (Head of Sixth Form / [m.vastenavondt@lsf.org](mailto:m.vastenavondt@lsf.org))

But life in our Sixth Form is about much more than academics. It is about embracing a community and a way of life that celebrates individual differences and the joys of community and ensures that everyone leaves us with the warmest of memories and a strong set of friends for life. Your social hub is our well-appointed Sixth Form kitchen and common room (complete with famous chandelier) and the Sixth Form study rooms on the floor below, but you also have access to a wide range of facilities, from the gym and dance studio at the new Parkin Sports Centre, through to a newly expanded library, playing fields, drama studios and one of the finest Music centres in the country.

On Thursday afternoons you get to choose from a wide range of enrichment activities, from the Army, Navy and Air Force Cadet Corps through to the Prue Leith Cookery Course. There is also the opportunity to enhance your UCAS profile and extend your academic skills by pursuing an Extended Project Qualification in a topic of your own choosing. Across the rest of the week, you can also select from a wide choice of super-curricular activities, such as Politics Society, Debating, Eco Committee, various musical ensembles and drama productions, and a wide choice of sporting, STEM and craft activities.

The social life is rich, with a Snow Ball at Christmas and a leavers ball in the summer term, along with occasional treats such as the Sixth Form trip to London and social events with the other LSF Sixth Forms. And you can always propose and help plan new social activities.

Opportunities for leadership are numerous. You can put yourself forward for a place in our Prefect Team, with positions ranging from leadership of pastoral and spiritual life through to sporting life and environmental policy. You can aim for advancement in the ranks of the CCF or a leading position in one of our many super-curricular societies, train for your Duke of Edinburgh expedition, or explore your entrepreneurial skills within Young Enterprise.



Finally, spiritual life is an important part of our community ethos. We welcome people of all faiths and none, but we live by the belief that all people are children of God, and all are uniquely precious. Ours is a community where the warmth and spiritual values all around you can help you to really grow as a person and discover depths of confidence, self-belief and happiness that will surprise you.

Whether you are joining our Sixth Form from our own Year 11 or from another school, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to you. I look forward to working with you and sharing in your journey through this most exciting time of life.



**Julian Murphy**  
Head



## Introduction to the Sixth Form from the Head of Sixth Form

Welcome to Loughborough Amherst School Sixth Form. It's a pleasure to welcome you to our extended family.

I have the great pleasure of leading the Amherst School Sixth Form. Post-16 education is a very important hinge point in the formation of young adults and we here at Amherst put the success of each individual at the very centre of all that we do. The job market today is constantly in flux and as countless educators and authors agree, many jobs of tomorrow will wildly differ from those on offer today. We believe we prepare our students to best navigate this unknown landscape. Here at Amherst, we achieve this by working with you to ensure you achieve your academic potential, and by fostering skills, such as independent learning and communication, which are transferable to your future careers. So, whether you are a current student or are looking at joining us from another school, I am confident that this decision will have a positive impact on your life.

Amherst is a wonderful and unique place. Our functional yet cosy Sixth Form area set above the chapel in the old convent building provides a sanctuary with plenty of room for focus. The Sixth Form common room is a hub of activity and friendship. We are small and this is where Amherst shines. I know each student and care about every single person's future, whether that be Oxbridge dreams, a Russell Group university, a degree apprenticeship at UBS, or even a planned gap year abroad. The school provides small class sizes, a higher level of teacher attention and strong relationships with parents and carers. We have a learning culture which is driven by a strong teaching staff that are passionate about their subject and have a proven track record of adding value to student outcomes. I just ask that you put in the hard graft as an investment in your own future. Our dedicated and experienced Sixth Form tutor team are here to help you with study skills, futures pathway planning and university applications either in the UK or abroad. On top of that, we are a part of the Loughborough Schools Foundation which opens the door to varied enrichment opportunities and world-class music programmes; the choice is yours.

Come and spend some time with us and have a feel of the place for yourself. I look forward to showing you around and working with you on your future.



**Marc Vastenavondt**  
Head of Sixth Form



## Life in Amherst Sixth Form - The Students' Perspective

The Sixth Form at Loughborough Amherst School is unique, memorable and shapes us all for life after LSF. Here at Amherst we are supported thoroughly throughout our journey of becoming young adults, whilst gaining the best out of our education. The importance of faith in our School helps us respect everyone for who they are and brings us together in congregational worship and mass.

Our smaller class sizes and the possibility for one to one education, combined with our experienced, devoted teachers, proves that the learning culture here at Amherst is efficient and effective. With the resources from the Senior School still available to our Sixth Form, we have the constant guidance from Learning Support which is a key aspect of our School. The mix of boys and girls in our lessons allows us to have a well-rounded understanding of life outside school, preparing us to interact comfortably and be respectful to all we meet. Whilst our extensive range of academic subjects across all three senior schools in the Foundation guides us through our studies, our variety of extra-curricular activities here at Amherst aid us in developing our creativity and confidence.

Amherst's Sixth Form area facilitates both our studying and our social life. Our range of study rooms within our Sixth Form will ensure that the space and equipment to meet your study needs will be available, for example the access to silent, independent and computer study rooms. Our large, comfortable common room with extensive facilities such as a projector, modern kitchen, games table and the new addition of wii sports, is shared between Years 12 and 13. This allows for both years to socialise and relax with friends during break and lunch times, helping us to build bridges between the two years and ensuring an inclusive, welcoming Sixth Form. This space also increases our independence, and provides us with the responsibilities that comes from using and looking after a kitchen and shared spaces.

A beneficial factor of coming to the Sixth Form is the time we spend away from our studies on a Thursday afternoon, participating in extra-curricular activities. These include the options of the Combined Cadet Force, Voluntary Service Unit and Leith's Cookery School, as well as options that are tailored to your learning such as EPQ, Financing and Creative Writing. All of these options encourage us to explore outside the classroom and teach us things that assist our personal development.

In Year 13 you are also provided with the opportunity to become a prefect. The roles include a range of responsibilities to help the school community and be a role model to younger years. Our roles allow us to have genuine input with decisions that are being made whilst also helping to organise school wide charity and formal events, for example our fundraising sports matches and the renowned Snow Ball.

The Sixth Form experience here at Amherst is one never to be forgotten, paired with your studies the social life and emphasis on independence creates a positive, vibrant atmosphere which we hope you will all be able to experience too.

Thank you.

### The Senior Prefect Team







## Sixth Form study options

We are coming up to the time when you need to start making decisions about the future of your education and which subjects you would like to continue to study beyond Year 11 and towards A Levels or diplomas. This booklet contains some brief information about all the subjects on offer at Sixth Form; there are also videos explaining a little more on our website. Do take a look, and do talk to your teachers about your subject choices.

## How do we get more information?

The choices you make now can make a big difference to the direction your life can take post-school. We advise looking beyond the next two years, though, and thinking ahead to where you might like to be and what you might like to be doing once you leave school. You can **make an appointment to speak to Mr Marc Vastenavondt**, our Head of Sixth Form, to discuss which paths you might like to consider and what actions you need to take now.

There are some combinations of A Levels that are best suited to particular courses and careers, and so if you already have an idea of the sort of thing that you would like to be doing after you leave school, please **do your research** before you choose your options.

We are hosting an **A Level Options Evening from 18:00 – 20:00 on Thursday 1 December** where teachers will be available for you to discuss the different subject courses. If your chosen subject is not represented at this evening, please investigate the course using the booklet and let me know if you would like me to put you in touch with the teacher.

## Cross-Foundation Subjects

We offer the great majority of Sixth Form academic subjects within Amherst. However, as part of the Loughborough Schools Foundation, we are also able to offer a number of further subjects at Sixth Form, for which the teaching is routinely shared across the Foundation. Lessons for particular subjects therefore take place at the Grammar School or High School; this is signposted in the subject information sheets.

## What next?

You may have initially declared your Option Choices with the registrar, but we appreciate that these can change. We will contact you again at the start of the Spring Term to see if that is the case and if you have additional requests you would like us to consider (e.g. a reduction of subjects or a definite fourth A Level). In February, after the mock exam season, you will then be asked to confirm your 'final provisional choices' once the Options Blocks are defined. This will be a Foundation-wide endeavour to enable us to create a timetable that will accommodate the vast majority of people's wishes. At this point, you may have a clearer idea of exactly which Options will best suit you and your post A Level aims and you will also have a clearer idea of exactly where you need to focus your academic endeavours between now and the start of the Sixth Form.

Access to any course is, of course, dependent on meeting the minimum required entry standard for that course, and so your final choices for A Level may not be formally confirmed until after your GCSE results.



**Xinhai Lin**  
Assistant Head Academic





## A Typical Timetable

Most students will choose 3 A Level subjects and study each for 10 periods a week. All students will have a single lesson of PSHE covering themes such as Relationships, Living in the wider world and Health & Wellbeing.

In line with our catholic ethos, all students in the Sixth Form will have a single lesson of General RE. These lessons will equip students with the ability to investigate and learn more about different world faiths, the Catholic Mass, theology and philosophy.

In addition, they will have Tuesday afternoon dedicated to their Health and Wellbeing and on a Thursday afternoon, students will choose an extension course or enrichment activity.

### Sample Sixth Form Timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
08:15				String Quartet	
08:40	Registration S006 Dr S Wilson				
08:50	Congers	Form Time	House Assembly	Book Club	Spiritual Life
09:10	Block A: Independent Study	Block B : English Lit	Block D: Business	Block C: Politics LGS	PSHCE
09:40					Block B: English Lit
10:15					
10:45	Morning Break				
11:05	Block B: English Lit	Block C Politics LGS	Block B: English Lit	Block D: Business	Block A: Independent Study
11:35					
12:10	Block C: Politics LGS	Cello Lesson Music Dept	Religious Ed	Block A: Independent Study	Block D: Business
12:40		Independent Study			
13:10	Lunch				
13:30		Knitting Club			Politics Society LGS
14:20	Registration S006 Dr S Wilson				
14:25	Block D: Business	Games	Block A: Independent Study	Enrichment: EPQ	Block C: Politics LGS
14:55					
15:25					
15:55	End of lessons				
After School	After-School Study Justham Library	After-School Study Justham Library	Bus	Symphony Orchestra Recital Hall	Bus



## #I AMherst

The hashtag 'I AMherst' runs throughout our school into Sixth Form because our Amherst Sixth Form is so much more than 3 A Levels.

## Form Time

We have a dedicated Sixth Form tutor team who are experienced in the specialist areas of Sixth Form support – the transition from GCSE to A Level, UCAS and Futures planning. Outstanding Support comes in many forms and is adapted to the individual needs of the particular student to help them flourish from pupil to student.

The form time rota includes, 'Congers' in the chapel, Group Tutor time to share notices, discuss concerns or worries, House Assemblies, Book Club and Spiritual Life. The tutor and tutee have dedicated 1:1 support sessions built into their timetable.

Form time is an important opportunity to build relationships outside of your subjects and develop interpersonal skills.

## Academic Extension & Enrichment Opportunities

If you ask students what they like about Sixth Form Life at Amherst, they frequently highlight Thursday Afternoon. We are proud of our small school but are delighted to be able to offer a wide array of enrichment opportunities for students to participate in. These additional courses and activities broaden their experiences and develop their personal skills.

### Types of Activities

- Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)\*
- London Institute of Banking & Finance (LIBF)\*
- Peter Jones Tycoon Programme
- Leiths Cookery School
- Combined Cadet Force (CCF)
- Voluntary Service Unit (VSU)
- Sign Language
- Sports Leadership
- Level 3 Core Maths\*

\*Academic Extension Courses



## Combined Cadet Force

The Combined Cadet Force (CCF) is very popular with students from the Sixth Form. CCF includes Army Cadets, Navy Cadets and Airforce Cadets and is essentially cadet training for the armed forces. Students take part in a range of activities depending on the force they have joined. Navy students learn to sail from the very basics of tying knots to sailing small craft. Airforce students have the chance to learn the skills required to take pilot licences and the opportunity to take part in glider flights. Army students learn to shoot rifles and understand the basics of military engagement.

Common to all of them is the chance to experience a military ethos and the pomp and pageant that comes with it, with full dress uniform and military parades. CCF gives students amazing opportunities and experiences but it also challenges them in ways that simply can't happen in the classroom. Whether that be camping or physical training, CCF really allows students to push themselves in a safe and welcoming environment.

CCF is run across Loughborough Schools Foundation.



## Academic Extension

### EPQ

We offer the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) which provides further academic stretch and challenge alongside A Level studies and also helps to evidence a genuine interest in a specific area (which is useful for UCAS/university applications). At Amherst we timetable the weekly research lessons with an experienced and passionate teacher which leads to outstanding results.

### Certificate in Finance (LIBF)

The LIBF qualification introduces students to the impact of finance on the economy and encourages them to consider how this can affect businesses and individuals. Through this student's develop knowledge and a valuable range of applied and transferable skills. It provides a foundation for further study in business and finance related disciplines.

LIBF is taught across Loughborough Schools Foundation.

**Consider what you might choose and why and how what you do might enhance your CV and/or prepare you for your next step and the future as you firm up progression plans.**

## The Sixth Form Hub

The Amherst main school building is a former convent building which is rich in heritage. We are lucky to have some quirky rooms with their own tales – apparently some rooms were once used as evacuation rooms for babies during the war whilst other rooms were dorms in the boarding school. We have sympathetically updated an entire area for exclusive use for Sixth Form study rooms.

On the top floor we have a modern common room complete with a chandelier and fully equipped modern kitchen for pupils to relax in during break and lunch times.

The Sixth Form School Day starts at 08:40 and ends at 15:55. One Sixth Form privilege is being allowed off site during lunch breaks since study periods are used for independent study. Students are expected to be in school all day.

## Health and Wellbeing

All Sixth form students take part in a Games programme on Tuesday afternoon. Sport and Physical activity is a fundamental part of the LAS Sixth Form experience for all our students. Our Sixth Form Health and Wellbeing programme offers our students the opportunity to choose either a competitive or non-competitive pathway, or a combination of the two. This flexibility and range of choice allows students to participate in a wide variety of sports and activities and gives them autonomy over the choices that they make throughout the two Sixth Form years. Popular activities include fitness classes, badminton, football and netball.

We are very excited to be able to offer our students the opportunity to access the new Parkin Gym during their time at School.

We have our very own Matron, School Counsellor and large experienced Learning Support department.

## Leadership Opportunities

Perhaps the most sought after positions of student leadership are in the Prefect Team. Embedded in the tradition of the school we have the House System which also offers leadership opportunities to be a House Captain.



## Futures

The Careers Service at Loughborough Amherst School helps students progress, whether they are interested in University, an apprenticeship, employment or volunteering or studying abroad. We ensure that all students have access to a wide range of careers education, advice and guidance to meet their individual needs. We support students by working with them to develop the employability skills that will enable them to succeed.

### Activities we offer include:

1:1 careers guidance

Applications, CV and cover letter support as well as mock interviews for higher and degree apprenticeships as well as holiday and gap year employment

Attending careers Fairs and University Exhibitions

UCAS support

Volunteering and work experience opportunities

Help and guidance on work experience through our Alumni, partners and contacts Network

**Marc Vastenavondt**  
Head of Sixth Form



# Subject Summaries

## Art and Design

A creative thought process is becoming more sought after by employers in the UK and not just for creative industries. The skills that are not only learnt but fostered through studying Art and Design are transferable for many aspects of your adult life. Studying Art and Design at A level will develop your skills in:

- Analysis
- Communication and expression of your ideas.
- Problem solving
- Observing and recording with discipline and accuracy
- Project development and presentation skills
- Research

## Biology

The study of Biology encourages you to appreciate the natural world around you. It gives you an in-depth understanding of how organisms function, how they evolve, why we become unwell and how cutting-edge medical techniques are developed in order to eliminate disease. Biology will develop abilities in problem solving, logical and critical thinking and analytical skills. The A Level course will give you the confidence to work independently and collaboratively and encourage you to develop the ability to debate controversial ethical issues.

## Business

With a focus on helping you to become a good decision maker, you'll learn essential managerial skills, alongside techniques to help you become an analytical problem solver. These skills are all highly sought after and valued in a wide range of careers.

## Chemistry

The study of Chemistry develops your abilities to think logically, problem solve and apply your knowledge to unfamiliar situations. Throughout the course you will complete lots of skill based practical activities which are designed to fulfil and exceed the requirements of the Practical Endorsement. The experiments also develop your confidence working as part of a team and encourage you to turn your hand to project managing activities. You will be encouraged to relate your knowledge of Chemistry to current events in the world around you and report back to the class interesting articles that you have researched.

## Classical Civilisation

The influence of the classical world is all around us. We are all familiar with Greek and Roman myths and legends – Hollywood loves stories like the fall of Troy – but the influence of these two cultures on our everyday lives is wider than that. For example, the Greeks gave us democracy and theatre; the Romans brought us roads and baths. Classical Civilisation gives you the opportunity to study the literature and culture of the ancient Greeks and Romans, reading the works of famous authors such as Homer, Virgil, Aristophanes and Sophocles, learning about their lives and religious beliefs and customs, and enabling you to assess the contribution made by these two great civilisations to our lives today.

Students studying Classical Civilisation will be expected to enhance their understanding by participating in study days, museum trips and theatre trips. There are also regular trips abroad for those interested.



## Classical Greek

The ancient Greeks continue to fascinate us. Their achievements in so many areas were remarkable, and their influence can still be observed today in myriad areas from literature and art, to philosophy and religion, politics, mathematics and medicine. The A Level Classical Greek course is intellectually rigorous and challenging, but it is also immensely rewarding, offering students the opportunity to further their linguistic proficiency while also delving deeper, via the study and exploration of the set texts, into the fascinating history and culture of the ancient Greeks. In learning more about the ancient Greeks, their attitudes, beliefs and customs, we come to learn more about ourselves and realise that, despite the time lapse of over two and a half millennia, humans and the human condition have not really changed that much at all.

## Computer Science

The most important aspect of Computer Science is problem solving, an essential skill for life. Students study the design, development and analysis of software and hardware used to solve problems in a variety of contexts. Because computers solve problems to serve people, there is a significant human side to Computer Science as well.

Computer Science also links very closely with Mathematics. For those who have a love for Mathematics they will also find the problem solving, programming and logic involved in Computer is ideally suited to their skillset.

## Design and Technology

Design and Technology heavily influences the world around us - product and industrial designers create the everyday products we use, architects design the buildings we live and work in, and engineers develop a vast array of functional devices that allow society to operate. All of these careers stem from a problem that needs to be solved and thinking of creative ways in which to achieve this - this is at the heart of Design and Technology, as it encourages pupils to develop working solutions for a whole host of problems by using a variety of skills. Critical thinking involving analysis and evaluation, visually communicating ideas to others, and practical work to create working prototypes are only a few examples of the skills pupils who study the subject can develop. The subject draws together skills from a broad range of disciplines including Physics, Mathematics, History and Art, and consequently requires pupils to develop their knowledge and abilities in numerous areas, which can ultimately lead to a wide range of careers.

## Drama and Theatre Studies

You may be keen on acting, writing or on the visual and technical side of theatre and wish to develop your skills in some or all these areas. The qualification is designed to enable you to acquire a knowledge and understanding of the language of drama and theatre as well as to develop your performing and analytical skills. It also has excellent transferable skills such as:

- to work with rigour;
- to communicate effectively;
- to work collaboratively;
- to use approaches from a range of disciplines;
- to connect your studies to the world around you.

It is also great fun! There are many organised trips to the theatre and visiting practitioners. These will incur extra costs but provide invaluable knowledge and experiences to inform your own practice.



## Economics

Economics is about choice and the impact of our choices on each other. It relates to every aspect of our lives, from the decisions we make as individuals or families to the structures created by governments and firms. An economic way of thinking can help you make better choices.

Economics is the subject for you if you enjoy debating economic issues such as inequality, immigration and how we should pay for healthcare. You will use and interpret data to analyse economic problems and discuss alternative courses of action. You will also keep up to date with national and international trends. We expect to take you to the Economics In Action conference at Warwick University (this incurs a small additional cost, which is added to your fee bill), and will encourage you to take part in competitions such as the Student Investor Challenge and the Royal Economic Society essay competition. We will also arrange to attend relevant public lectures at local universities.

## English Literature

Choosing to study English Literature post-16 enables you to build on the skills and expertise you have already developed up to Year 11, whilst also learning new skills and gaining a wide breadth of knowledge that is relevant to many aspects of the world we live in today. Higher education institutions look favourably on candidates who have studied English Literature. Such students are notorious for being objective, analytical, empathetic and, perhaps more crucially, able to communicate effectively in both speech and writing. It is therefore an excellent choice for those wishing to go into fields such as law, teaching, journalism, publishing/marketing and the media. However, many medics, accountants and engineers also opt to pursue the subject beyond GCSE due to its academic rigour.



## Food Science and Nutrition

Each unit within this qualification has an applied purpose which acts as a focus for the learning in the unit, and students are assessed through a combination of exams and controlled assessment. Students have their lessons in a dedicated theory classroom and state-of-the-art kitchen, both of which are excellently equipped, and allow teachers to bring the subject to life.

The controlled assessment usually appeals to students who enjoy producing work over a period of time and like to show off their creative flair. The examined components provide the opportunity for students to demonstrate their theoretical knowledge. Organisational skills are important for success, as students must bring their ingredients to each required practical lesson.

## French

Having an A Level in French will also open many doors to you after school and university and will be hugely valued by employers, whether or not you end up directly using your language skills.

If you do want to pursue languages as a career, there are lots of things you can go on to do. Here are just a few examples: translation and interpreting, marketing & sales, journalism & broadcasting, tourism & hospitality, diplomatic services, civil service, international business & finance, international law and publishing.

## Geography

Geography is all around us. It is about the world in which we live and there has never been a more important time to study how and why our world is changing. This diverse subject provides the opportunity to learn about these changes which continually affect us and our surroundings.



## German

Studying German to A Level is a huge plus in our increasingly international world. It is the most spoken native language in Europe and it is one of the most useful languages to learn in the worlds of business and innovation. It is also famous for being the language of poets, musicians and thinkers – think of Beethoven, Mozart, Bach, Goethe, Brecht, Kafka, Marx, Nietzsche and Einstein, to name but a few. Over one hundred Nobel Prizes have gone to brilliant Germans for accomplishments in physics, medicine, chemistry, literature and other areas. Germany itself is also one of the most powerful economies in the world, and is renowned for its success in engineering and technology.

You will study a range of topics, including those that emphasise the cultural and social issues in German-speaking countries. You will continue to build on the solid foundations of grammar you have built at GCSE level, and will also explore some books and films in the language. You will enjoy the satisfaction of developing much greater fluency at A Level and will quickly notice that you are able to express yourself in a much broader range of situations than you could at GCSE. You will even find that you can access a range of authentic language on your own, including films, newspaper articles and novels.

## History

History is not just about what has happened in the past. It is about what different people think happened and how they explain it. This vibrant and dynamic subject helps you to understand today's world and how it has been shaped into the place we see today.

## Latin

Some of the greatest works of literature, history, philosophy and science were written in Latin. Moreover, the legacy of the Roman world - its language, literature and culture - is all around us; from the influence of Latin on languages such as English, French, Spanish and Italian, to its presence in our legal and political systems; the influence of Roman culture and society on western literature, from Shakespeare to JK Rowling; and so much more.

Latin is a demanding A Level subject - this is one of many reasons why it is valued so highly by universities and employers alike - but it is also a very rewarding one. It cultivates precision of thought, develops students' appreciation of their own language and culture, and fosters a deeper understanding of and engagement with literature through the study and critical appreciation of the set texts. Forget about learning a language simply to pass vocabulary tests or to translate grammar sentences. By reading these texts in the original language, you will be able to see inside the minds of Roman poets, orators, historians and/or philosophers. Your privileged entry into this fascinating world is what makes studying Latin at A Level so rewarding and we hope that you will learn to share at least some of the excitement and enthusiasm that your Classics teachers feel for this subject.

## Mathematics/Further Mathematics

Mathematics is the study of abstract patterns and problem solving. It is the development of another language in which we communicate concepts, situations and ideas. It is this 'abstract' nature that means that its methods and results are applicable in almost all aspects of our physical world. Mathematics is the language of the scientific world and heavily supports many other subjects. It is one of the most desired subjects for the widest range of University courses and employers; Mathematicians are problem solvers, logicians, numerically astute and accurate, making them eminently employable in a wide range of fields.

## Music

Music A Level is an incredibly diverse course, encompassing a variety of practical and academic approaches to the study of music. The varied nature of the course enables students to develop highly desirable skills in areas such as independent learning, self-management, teamwork, problem solving, communication and creativity. Music A Level can be a pathway to almost any degree course. Taught in mixed classes across all three senior schools in our state-of-the-art facilities, the additional support for any musician at the Loughborough Schools Foundation is unrivalled. In addition to the timetabled allocation (10 periods a week) most students will be entitled to a repertoire session (half an hour a week) supporting performance skills. There are also numerous ensembles and choirs available for students to access, which all play a big part in developing any musician, and should be seen as a must for an A Level musician.



## Music Technology

The Music Technology A Level course provides students with a grounding in both the theory and history of Music Technology and its practical application through a range of coursework-based tasks. Pupils will learn to sequence, record and arrange using modern, professional-standard technology. This course has an emphasis on practical projects making use of our top-of-the-range recording studio.

## Physical Education

Studying A Level Physical Education will give you a fantastic insight into the amazing world of sports performance. Not only will you have the chance to perform or coach a sport through the non-exam assessment component, you will also develop a wide-ranging knowledge into the how and why of physical activity and sport. The combination of physical performance and academic challenge provides an exciting opportunity for students. You can perform, and then through the academic study improve your performance or coaching through application of the theory.

Physical Education is studied through a range of different contexts and the impact it has on both ours and other's everyday lives. You will learn the reasons why we do things, why some people outperform others, mentally and physically. You will also delve into the ethical considerations behind the use of drugs and the influence that modern technology is having in and on physical activity and sport.

## Physics

The study of Physics enables you to satisfy your curiosity of the universe. During the course you will study the foundations of classical Physics but also develop your understanding of the quantum world. The concepts are presented in a context that relates to the ever-changing technological world around us. Practical investigation forms a large part of the course and you will develop many transferrable skills such as problem solving, critical thinking and data analysis. The A Level course will allow you to apply your mathematical expertise to relatable physical phenomena.

## Politics

Few subjects are more central to your everyday life than 'government and politics'. Politics dominates domestic and foreign news. Political decisions determine how you are educated, housed, cared for in hospital, kept secure from crime and, regardless of your hopes and aspirations for the 20 future, it will shape the society you inherit as adults. In short Politics is arguably THE definitive study of the human condition; self-interested, but social creatures, we seek security and order through complex systems of governance and government.

Ultimately it studies how we organise, cooperate, and seek to settle conflict. This is a discursive subject that requires you to develop an interest in current affairs. In Politics you'll study the real world and develop skills to make sense of that world in a mature co-educational environment that will support your preparation for undergraduate study and beyond.

## Psychology

Psychology is essentially the study of people, the mind and behaviour. We study diverse areas such as obedience, attachment, memory, criminal behaviour and psychological disorders. Degree choices and careers include specialisms such as clinical, educational, forensic, counselling, sport, and occupational psychologists.



## Religious Studies

A Level Religious Studies allows you to reflect on some of the most important questions people are faced with. Through the study of Philosophy of Religion, Religion and Ethics and Christian Beliefs, ancient and modern theories are explored and analysed within a modern context. The RS course is designed to develop and enhance core transferable skills: Communication and literacy skills- studying RS A Level involves essay writing and debate. You will learn how to communicate your thoughts clearly and create structured arguments. Analytical and critical thinking skills- you will gain excellent analytical and critical thinking skills from looking closely at different theories and beliefs. Both of these are key skills that employers look for. Interpersonal skills- Religious Studies will enable you to gain a deeper understanding of society, this will help you to better understand, and relate to people from different walks of life. Moving forward into the world of work and a career. Religious Studies can be a useful subject for a wide range of careers, especially those that require you to work with the public or involve helping people. Some of these include Youth worker, Police officer, Journalist, Counsellor and Primary and Secondary Teacher.

## Spanish

An A Level in Spanish will go well with any combination of subjects at university. It will also make it easier for you to consider studying abroad, which could be a much cheaper option to consider. Having an A Level in Spanish will also open many doors to you after school and university and will be hugely valued by employers, whether or not you end up directly using your language skills.

If you do want to pursue languages as a career, there are lots of things you can go on to do. Here are just a few examples: translation and interpreting services, marketing & sales, journalism & broadcasting, tourism & hospitality, diplomatic services, civil service, international business & finance, international law or publishing.





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